Colt Spectrum

Clear Fork High School

Winter 2021 --- Volume 32, Issue 1

Take a Look At a Good Book.

During the cold and snowy winter cuddling up with a book and blanket is an all time favorite! Teen Read Week is quickly approaching, on December 13th through the 17th, with games, prizes, and lots of fun! Play games to earn tickets and enter yourself in a drawing for amazing prizes. Earn additional tickets by completing Winter Bingo cards. Here are some book recommendations to help complete your bingo cards!

The Throne of Glass trilogy by Sarah Maas- "It's my favorite because you fall in love with the

character and the author is a genius at world building"
- Mrs. Myers

<u>Delirium</u> by Lauren Oliver- "I love the sense of danger and romance" - Mrs. Mottayaw

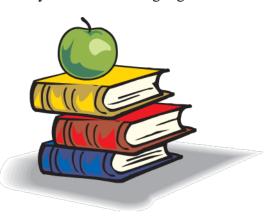
Dash and Lily's Book of Dares by David Levithan & Rachel Cohn- "I liked the character's personalities and it was an overall really good book!"-Zoe Daniels, 10

Bethlehem by Karen Kelly- "I liked Bethlehem because of how deeply the author got into the characters' and didn't just skim

over their personalities and traits."- Maddie McKenna, 10

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen- "I liked hatchet because it's about a hatchet, fire, snow, and survival so who wouldn't like it?"- Mr. Beans

By: Savanna Wolfgang



Do You Hear What I Hear?

Ready to listen to Christmas music nonstop? Clear Fork High School's music programs are always very busy around this time of year. Those who attended the concerts received some *major* Christmas cheer.

Artisans and Concert Choir performed on December 8th at the high school. When we met before the concerts, Choir Director Mr. Jancura expected the concert to go well, which they did. "Concert nights are only stressful if the ensembles aren't prepared to give their performances. This year, I have little stress leading into the concert season," he shared. In addition, the Artisans performed at the Yule Log Lighting on December 2nd in Bellville.

Mr. Jancura and his students prepared for the holiday concerts all school year. He was very excited for some of the

songs his students performed "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" is one of his favorites. This song was performed by the Concert Choir and brought "the poetry to life in a unique way," Mr. Jancura described. Another one of his favorites was

"That's Christmas to Me." It was sung by the Artisans. This acapella song was chosen by the senior members of the group. Mr. Jancura said it "enables the Artisans to display their unique talents, features soloists throughout the song, and the text conjures up images of the holidays with family."

By: Zoe Daniels



NEW/SWITCHED TEACHERS

This year many familiar faces of the Clear Fork staff have taken on new positions. As well as the handful of new staff members, a few of our favorite administrators have switched things up recently. Mrs. Golden, Mr. Constance, Mr. Gottfried, and Mrs. Kochheiser can all be found in new positions for the 2021-2022 school year.

Former English teacher, Mrs. Golden became the new College Resource and Test Preparation Coordinator. This means that while Golden will no longer be teaching English classes, she now holds ACT prep classes and offers guidance and resources to students of all grade levels. If you need to see an unofficial transcript, get some test-taking or college advice, you can find Mrs. Golden in room 112. When asked what she enjoys about being a teacher, Golden said, "I genuinely like other people and love to talk. I love to read and learn new things and want to share that knowledge with others. I also knew I wanted to coach and be involved in sports."

Following Mrs. Lantz's retirement last year, Mrs.

Kochheiser took over as the second high school secretary, leaving behind her old job as tech director. After a 17 years of keeping Clear Fork's technology running, Mrs. Kochheiser loves her new job as secretary, "I love working with Mrs. Barr, and I love

working with the high school staff and the administration here because I know everybody, because I used to do the other job. I love the kids. So, it's a good job," she explained.

After Mrs. Kochheiser left, the position of tech director was open. So, previous middle school technology teacher, Mr. Constance took the job. According to Constance, adequate technology is very important for education. Constance said, "My favorite thing about being the tech director is pretty much everything. I like working with students and teachers along with other staff. As well as trying to maximize our use of technology and help make sure that we're staying on the front end of technology and not falling behind."

Mr. Gottfried started his Clear Fork teaching career as a high school math teacher, but he eventually became the Athletic Director. But, in 2021 he decided to continue teaching math. Mr. Gottfried describes his motivations as follows, "I have always had a passion for kids, whether that is teaching or coaching. Being able to help shape their life in a positive way is the greatest reward for me."

By: Haley Cotton

December Delights

The holidays give us a special opportunity to rest and relax, but they also allow us to come together with family and friends to create fun and exciting experiences. Enjoy these holiday activities and make some special memories!

- -Gingerbread house/cookie contest
- -Build a snowman
- -Get cozy with some hot chocolate, sit by the fire, and watch a Christmas movie
- -Read a Christmas book
- -Drive through the town to see all the Christmas lights
- -Go sledding/skiing/ snowboarding

These are only a few of the fun and exciting things to do over the holidays. Have fun with these festivities!

By: Christina Carroll

"28 Fun Christmas Activities in 2021." Minted, 4 Aug. 2021. https://www.minted.com/lp/christmas-activities.



ACT STUDY TIPS: THE ACT IS COMING UP SOON!

All juniors will be required to take the ACT on December 11, before Christmas break, so here are some study tips for juniors and anyone else who chooses to take the test this year.

Tip #1: If you haven't started studying yet, start as soon as possible.

Tip #2: Know what you'll be tested on. You can practice tests from previous years, and read summaries of the general types of questions that will be on the test on act.org to get a better idea of what they're testing you for.

Tip #3: Don't just use practice tests for practice questions, also use them to familiarize yourself with the way directions and questions will be worded.

Tip #4: The test will be timed, so to get the most questions right, skip questions that are taking you too long, you can always go back to them later. And, although you shouldn't let these questions take up too much time, it's still better to guess than to leave them blank.

Tip #5: Use process of elimination.

Tip #6: Read the questions before reading the passage.

Tip #7: Prepare the night before: Make sure to get enough sleep, eat some breakfast, and stay hydrated.

Tip #8: Remember that your test scores do not define you and you can retake the test later.

By: Haley Cotton

Looking to showcase your special talents?
The Clear Fork Talent Show is coming up soon.
Auditions will be held early in the new year, so if you're a singer, dancer, performer, or generally funny person, prepare your talents now. If you have questions, contact Miss Keating in room 106.

Mele Kalikimaka!

While many students stay home for the holidays, these few are jet-setting to celebrate. We have Clear Fork students travelling to Tennessee, Florida, and even Hawaii!

Freshman Logan Pfleiderer is travelling to Galinburg, Tennessee with her parents and siblings. They plan to see mountains, Christmas lights, and make memories as a family. Logan is excited to "just see how pretty it's going to be because it's breathtaking; it is so amazing there," she shared. Although she prefers to spend Christmas at home, Tennessee is "a great place to spend time with family and make so many memories!" Logan exclaimed.

Another student, Sophomore Samantha Hunt, is excited to explore a different part of Florida. "I have not been to this specific place in Florida but I have been to Florida before," Sam explained. She and her family will spend the holiday at a beach house in Santa Rosa. They normally spend Christmas morning at home, but leave after lunch to arrive at their destination. Although she likes being in Florida for the holidays, Sam says, "I prefer Christmas Day at home, so that I am able to be with the rest of my family that doesn't go on vacation with us."

The Fitzsimmons family is also travelling to Florida. Senior Sarah Fitzsimmons and her family, including her two younger sisters, are going to Sanibel Island, Florida. Although Sarah prefers to spend Christmas at home like they normally do, she is very excited to be out of town again. "Last year we traveled more than usual and we haven't been out of the state this year since summer break," she explained. They plan to walk along the beach and collect seashells. They are pretty familiar with this part of Florida because they have gone multiple times. "I love it everytime that we go. It is always so sunny in Florida and collecting sea shells is fun," Sarah said.

Finally, Sophomore Jack Dudley is travelling to Hawaii with his parents, siblings, uncle, and grandma. Out of their many planned activities, Jack says he is the most excited for surfing "because it's an activity that I would like to get better at because there are such big waves in Hawaii," Jack said. They are also planning to go off-roading, snorkel, and see Pearl Harbor. "I prefer spending time at home with family because it's time you will never get back, but it's nice to have a change every once and a while," Jack shared. By: Zoe Daniels



Tis the Season

As the holidays roll around, giving back to others becomes even more special. Some of the best ways to give back don't cost any money at all.

For example:

- -Help your neighbors out with anything they might need, such as shoveling the driveway, bringing their groceries inside, or even babysitting their kids.
 -Volunteer locally at the Bellville Neighborhood Outreach Center and local churches
- -Write a letter or Christmas card to sick people in the hospital.
- Look through your home and find things you can donate to those in need.

Little acts of kindness can brighten anyone's day! It's important to be kind and give back to those around you and the holidays are the perfect time to do so. By: Christina Carroll

Creative, HMG. "The Importance of Giving Back during the Holiday Season." <u>The DAVIS</u> <u>Companies</u>, 30 Nov. 2017, https://www.daviscos.com/the-importance-of-giving-back-during-the-holiday-season/.

~ List of Upcoming Events ~

Here's a list of all the upcoming events to keep you caught up on the latest highschool events, support your school and community! By: Kiley Howell

12-13 through 12-17

FFA Giving Tree: Donate new or gently used winter gear such as hats, gloves, scarves, coats, etc. Place the items on or under the tree in the cafeteria.

<u>Teen Read Week</u>: Enjoy fun and reading in the library. Stop in and get your Bingo Card

12-14

High School Concert and Jazz Band @7:00 Come join the Clear Fork Band for some holiday music to your ears!

High School Musical Tryouts-Once Upon A Mattress @ 3-4:30

Spirit Day - Christmas Color Wars
Freshmen and Sophomores- Wear Green
Juniors and Seniors- Wear Red

12-15

Varsity Boys Wrestling @ Galion -6:00

High School Musical Tryouts-Once Upon a Mattress @3-4:30

Spirit Day - Christmas Movie Character

High School Teen Read Lock-In-

After School until 4:00 Get Comfy in the library and read by the virtual fireplace with a cup of hot cocoa!

12-16

Girls Basketball vs Pleasant -6:00

Spirit Day - Dress in all White

12-17

Boys Basketball @ Pleasant -6:00

Friday Spirit Week- Ugly Christmas Sweater

12-18

Girls Basketball @ Marion Harding -6:00

12-21

Boys Basketball vs Marion Harding -6:00

12-22

Start of Winter Break

Dodgeball Tournament

Girls Basketball vs Lexington -6:00

12-23

Boys Basketball vs Northmor -6:00

12-28

Girls Basketball @ Fredericktown -6:00

12-29

JV Boys Wrestling @ West Holmes- 10:00

Boys Basketball vs Fredericktown -6:00

12-30

Girls Basketball vs Shelby -6:00

12-31

End of Winter Break- Come back on Jan. 3

What Christmas Decorations You Have Say About You

It's hard for anyone to not love Christmas. Loving the holiday comes with many different types of decorating styles. What those styles are, may have more to do with your personality than you might think. By: Kayleigh Walker



If you're the person who decorates your car for Christmas, it's definitely your favorite holiday. You probably also love to watch Hallmark movies.



Having a little **Christmas tree in** your room means you undoubtedly have a different set of decorations for each holiday. There was probably a post on social media for each set as well.



Multicolored lights may be used for a vintage look. If not, you may just be a person who doesn't mind the chaos of the different colors and enjoys wearing brighter colored clothes.



If you prefer the white Christmas lights, you might appreciate things on the classic side. Most likely, keeping things simple and minimalistic is normal for you.

The Traditions That Shaped Us

While Christmas can mean many different things for many different people, everyone usually has similar ways of celebrating this holiday. Some of these traditions can be influenced by where you live, your religion, and even what kind of family you have. However, here in the Valley, Christmas is not taken lightly. The tradition that kicks off the beginning of the Christmas season is arguably Christmas in the Valley. Whenever the signs go up for Christmas in the Valley it seems to really kick start that holiday feel for the town. Speaking of things that put people in the Christmas spirit, it is usually sometime right after Thanksgiving that it becomes noticeable that Christmas trees start to go up. It seems that one of the most important and greatest Christmas traditions is picking out a tree with your family. Even if you use the same fake Christmas tree that's been in your basement for years it is still incredibly fun and heart warming getting it set up and decorated with family. Now,

trees are not the only thing that gets decked out for the holiday season. It is absolutely mind blowing driving past some of these houses that just go all out for the holiday, especially when a decoration here and a decoration there is enough for most houses. Lastly, for the part you have all been waiting for, Christmas food! There is nothing better than eating your favorite Christmas treat and sitting by the fire opening presents, but not to forget the great tradition of Christmas ham that is always

something to look forward to as well. So, you may relate to these traditions, or you may not. The point is that everyone has a special way of celebrating the holidays. However you choose to celebrate it, the important thing is to make the memories count.

By: Maddie McKenna



5 Shows to Binge Watch on Netflix over Break

When it comes to Netflix, almost everyone can say they have binged watched a show at least once. It doesn't matter if it was a Netflix original or something they've already watched before. There are multiple different genres on Netflix too, so there are many different movies and shows for people of all ages. The top 5 shows to binge watch over break are:

Outer Banks-

Outer Banks is a teen show with romance, drama, thrill, and action. It has cliffhangers that leave you shocked and wondering what might happen next. This show follows five best friends on an adventure to find a "myth." They struggle with each other and have many obstacles, but it won't stop them trying to find what they are looking for. Will they find it?

Stranger Things-

Stranger Things is a show for the more sci-fi and gorey kind of people. This show follows a young girl and the hardships with her dangerous power. She learns how to control it and use it for the better instead of the worse. She also meets amazing friends and people along the way that help her become a normal kid. Fuller House-

Fuller House is a very good show to watch with your family. It is very funny, and the cast is very similar to Full House. Fuller House follows the same story as Full House. DJ recently lost her husband and has three kids to raise on her own, but her kids, sister, uncles, aunt, and best friend are all there for her. The Flash-

The Flash is a sci- fi show, but it also has romance, friendship, and comedy in it. This show is perfect to binge watch with the family, and is very hard to stop watching. The Flash and his team fight bad guys and try to keep peace in Central City. There are many obstacles along the way that keep them from restoring the peace in Central City, but they always find a way to make everything better, even if it means sacrificing their own lives.

Alexa and Katie-

Alexa and Katie is a family show that follows a teenage girl who has cancer. Alexa goes through all kinds of treatments and chemo throughout summer break, and gets the good news that she can go to school with her best friend, Katie. Although this was some good news for Alexa, she wasn't allowed to do some of the things that she used to be able to do. Her friends and family help her through her ups and downs, and she never misses a second of fun.

By: Avary Wine

Order your 2022 year book now! The earlier you buy, the lower your price will be. If you'd like to purchase your 2021-2022 yearbook, fill out an order form outside Miss Keating's classroom ASAP for the lowest price possible.

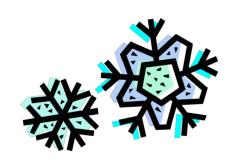
Top Ten Things That are Trending

What are the top ten things trending right now? This question is very broad, especially in 2021, and can have a wide variety of answers. Listed below are the top ten things trending right now based on observation.

- 1. Zodiac Signs- Social media has had a big impact on the usage of zodiac signs. There are 12 zodiac signs in all: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, and Pisces. All of the signs have characteristics and can actually impact how someone views another person.
- 2. <u>Tik Tok</u>- The many different sounds and dances of Tik Tok are heard and used all over the world today. Tik Tok started getting famous in late 2019 and early 2020 when the lockdown began. Since then, it has grown and become even more popular with more and more people getting the app every day.
- 3. Skin Care Items- As the years go on, people have become more aware of how they look. If someone's skin is blotchy and red, they usually want to get rid of it. That's when skin care items like body butters, moisturizers, face rollers, face masks, etc. come in handy.
- 4. Mom Jeans- When it comes to style, people have definitely brought back many things from the 80's and 90's. One of those things being mom jeans. Mom jeans are way more comfortable than skinny jeans, and can even be worn on a lazy day. They can come in many different colors and can be ripped to add a little more style.
- 5. <u>Air Force 1s</u>- Air Force 1s are very nice shoes that can go with any sort of outfit. It doesn't matter if someone dresses down or dresses up, they can make any outfit look good. Air Force 1s can be custom made with any colors or designs that a person likes. The custom Air Force 1s add more spice and color to an outfit.
- 6. <u>Long Nails</u>- Getting manicures has always been a thing that people have done, but as of 2020 and 2021 more people have been getting long nail extensions. Not the normal long nail extensions, but very long extensions. Getting nails done with brighter colors and crazy designs has been more popular in 2021.

- 7. <u>Piercings</u>- Piercings can go anywhere on the body and becoming trendy. Some of the most popular places to pierce are the cartilage of ears, belly buttons, and noses.
- 8. <u>Big Vintage Tees</u>- Big vintage tees are very comfortable and usually go over leggings or jeans. Vintage tees usually have old logos or print on them that make any outfit look effortless and cute. Some vintage tees are so long that they can be worn as a dress. Although they might not be able to be worn to a fancy dinner, they can make a super cute outfit for school or going out at night with friends.
- 9. <u>LED Lights</u>- LED lights can bring color and brightness to any room, and can even make a room look bigger. People have made their rooms look cool by changing the LEDs look to like lightning under clouds, or a sunset. There are multiple different colors to the lights, and the colors can flash from one to the next. The buttons on the remote control can customize a color as well.
- 10. <u>Hairstyles</u>- Mullets and perms are big hairstyles going around, and it's a flashback to the 80's and 90's. It started off with mullets. Everyone I knew had a mullet or was getting a mullet. Then everyone started talking about perms, so one thing led to another and before I knew it, everyone had a perm on top of a mullet. Clipped up hair is a lazy hairstyle for good hair days. The clip can be any color to match an outfit and can vary in size according to how much hair a person has. If someone is going for a more sophisticated look, they would roll up their hair very tight and use the big clip. If someone was going for a half up-half down look, they would use the smaller clip. Clips make any lazy day a whole lot better.

By: Avary Wine



A Holiday Movie Just For You

During this time of year, there are many different ways to get into the holiday spirit. One of the most popular ways to do so is enjoying Christmas movies! People have different tastes in movies, but classic Christmas movies can be found in several genres.

For example, if you are looking for a good laugh, while still getting the warm Christmas feeling, *Home Alone* and *A* Christmas Story are great options. These movies just have a way of putting a smile on your face, for adults and kids alike. In Home Alone we see main character Kevin go through the hilariously unimaginable task of using self made traps to keep two intruders out of his home while his family is on vacation. In poor Ralphie's case, throughout A Christmas Story we watch how he not only struggles against the torments of his bully, but also the unwillingness of his father to get him his ideal Christmas gift, a Red Ryder Carbine Action 200-shot Range Model air rifle. Both main characters of these movies. Kevin and Ralphie, are the perfect mix of mischief and Christmas that people can't help but love.

However, if you are more of a traditional Christmas movie lover, that enjoys the movies with a more sentimental tone, then something like *The Polar Express* just might be the one for you. This movie has a great, yet annoying, way of making you smile and maybe even shed a couple tears.

When we go through the journey of "Hero boy" (or the name Chris, which is only mentioned in the books) aboard *The Polar Express* it is incredible to watch the belief being restored in him along with the friendships he makes. This movie really shows you how hope can change a person's attitude and outlook on life.

Now, you cannot possibly forget about the infamous romance movies played annually for the Christmas season. If you enjoy a good romance and are all about a fairytale ending, The Princess Switch is the perfect movie for you. This movie is capable of giving you that warm Christmas feeling, while also maybe making you shake your head at the cheesy lines of characters. This movie is centered around the life of a duchess (Lady Margaret) switched lives with a woman from Chicago (Stacy) after bumping into her at a major baking competition. By the way, they just so happen to look identical to her. However, things start getting more out of hand than expected when they start to fall for each other's partners. Ultimately the lesson is that changing identities is never a good idea.

So, whether you prefer comedy over the classics, romance over sentimental, or something with all of these things combined, the Christmas spirit can be appreciated in all movie forms.

By: Maddie McKenna

The Classic Christmas Rom-Com

Picture this, spending the perfect snowy day inside watching your favorite rom-com. As many Christmas Hallmark movies go, the girl visits her hometown in the country because her family's tree farm is going under. She has to leave her work and boyfriend at her new place in the city. As she continues helping her family, she meets the rustic, stubborn man she will soon fall in love with and live happily ever after. Though the plot of these movies are fairly easy to guess, there are still some good Hallmark movies that give that warm, fuzzy feeling around the holidays. The top four movies guaranteed to make you laugh, and cringe a little, are all right here.

The Flight Before Christmas, 2015

If you're skeptical about the traditional rom-com, this is a great movie for you. As two strangers meet on a plane that gets delayed by a snowstorm, they're forced to land in Montana. The delay forces them to share a room at a bed-and-breakfast. Of course, it happens to be on Christmas Eve. Overall, it's a great movie that has a different, more unique, take on classic romantic comedy.

You Me & the Christmas Trees, 2021

If you absolutely love the classic Hallmark plot, you're in luck. As Jack, the Christmas tree farmer, begins losing his trees to disease, he has to call in Olivia, the evergreen expert. As they save the trees, they begin to fall in love. This new movie is a bit cheesy, but has a great general feel.

Holiday in Handcuffs, 2007

With the sarcasm and the wild storyline, this movie truly brings the comedy to rom-coms. Trudie is working as a waitress, feeling down about failing in her career. As she feels the pressure to bring home the perfect date for Christmas, she decides to kidnap one of her customers. The movie has a fantastic plot and steers away from the repetitive Hallmark stereotype.

Boyfriends of Christmas Past, 2021

This movie may be perfect for those who are hopeless romantics. Continuing with the cheesy rom-com scenarios, this movie has a classic feel. Lauren learns to open her heart to her best friend, but only with the ghostly guidance of her past four boyfriends. This new movie has a good, quality theme and gets the audience laughing.

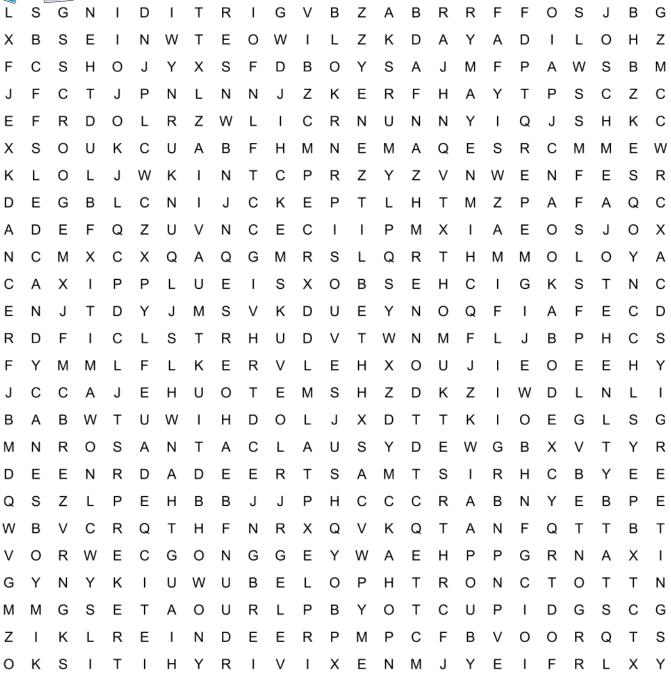
By: Kayleigh Walker

Created by: Kiley Howell



Complete this word search to get you in the Christmas spirit!

Happy Holidays!



CELEBRATE
HOLIDAY
STOCKINGS
MISTLETOE
ELVES
SLED
RUDOLPH
DASHER

SNOW
PARTY
TIDINGS
WREATH
JOLLY
SLEIGHBELLS
COMET
DONNER

FROSTY
SCROOGE
CANDYCANES
CHRISTMASTREE
NORTHPOLE
SANTACLAUS
CUPID
PRANCER

GREETINGS SEASON EGGNOG CHIMNEY REINDEER BLITZEN DANCER VIXEN



2022 Yearbook

Name	Grade
Paid in Full Prices Increase throughout the year \$65 - August 1 - October 29, 2021 \$75 - October 30, 2021 - January 14, 2022 \$85 - January 15 - March 18, 2022 \$95 - March 19 - June 1, 2022	buy early & save!
Down Payment (1/2 the current price)	3
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