

the COLONIAL

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Photos Submitted By Students

Counselor's
Corner

Band Meets
Pete

Spooktacular
Costumes

Ask A
Colonial

Time
Management

Dunkin Vs.
Starbucks

Fashion

A Note from the Editors



New feature added to The Colonial! By clicking the bookmarks on the bottom of our cover, it will take you to the story! Thank you so much for the feedback; We are always looking for new ways to improve.

If you would like to be featured on The Colonial's Front Page
send your school spirit pictures to Kyla Andrews:
email: kyla79667@students.sbcsc.k12.in.us

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Counselor's Corner

BY MRS. KATIE BUDA

Hi students, welcome back to Counselor's Corner!

We wanted to take some time today to outline how grades work in high school, especially for new students and 9th graders. Each of you have received progress reports already, which are given halfway through each 9-week term. Each term is 9 weeks long, and there are four each year. Term 1 and 2 (along with the final exam for each class), are made into a Semester 1 grade. There are two semesters per year. Term 3 and 4 (and the final exams for each class) factor into a Semester 2 grade. Report cards come out at the end of each

term, you will receive four report cards (one for each term),

but those grades do not end up on your transcript. Your transcript is a record of your high school grades, GPA, class rank, courses taken, etc. It's a really important document that's needed for college and entering the workforce after high school! The grades that go on a transcript are your Semester grades. So your cumulative GPA will change after each semester, NOT after every term.

Your 9th grade year is incredibly important to establish a high GPA. The longer you are in high school, the less your GPA moves up or down as you continue to take more classes each year. So stay strong in 9th grade, as it'll be really hard to dig

your way out of a low GPA if you start out low. Utilize study tables after school in the media center, ask your teachers for help, ask your counselor for assistance to find outside tutoring resources, as well. We are here for you!

Yours in education,
Clay Counseling



PHOTO BY SOPHIE RIDENOUR

The Book Nook Reviews Strangers Assume My Girlfriend is My Nurse

BY MRS. ANGIE BITNER

For this issue of the Book Nook, I will review the memoir "Strangers Assume My Girlfriend is My Nurse" by Shane Burcaw. This is the second book written by Burcaw, who has written a successful blog for several years. He also has a YouTube channel that stars he and his girlfriend (Squirmy and Grubs).

Upon first glance of this memoir, readers would assume that each chapter is about his day-to-day life living with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. However, there is so much more to this story than what meets the eye. Spinal Muscular Atrophy is a genetic muscular disorder that targets the muscles used for movement. The muscles normally worsen with age. What the reader quickly discovers is that these humorous stories are actually about learning to let your guard down, the importance of family, and the deep connection we all have with love.

Readers will quickly realize that Burcaw tackles his disability with fierce humor, which is what drew me to this reading this book. One chapter talks extensively about using his expensive wheelchair to navigate the beach to finally see the ocean.

Another discusses his fear of being alone, and not being able to save himself from intruders. Eventually Burcaw discusses the relationship between he and his girlfriend, Hannah. Again, on the surface their relationship seems different, however, it isn't different at all. The stories of their lives and their travels, are truthful, light-hearted, and based on a mutual love and respect.

I would recommend "Strangers Assume My Girlfriend is My Nurse." I love that Burcaw tackles situations that on the

surface seem a little controversial. But in truth the book is honest, real and raw. It is a fairly short memoir and moves very quickly. It is a great book to just sit back and relax with. Trust me, you'll laugh!

Both of Burcaw's memoirs are available for checkout in the Clay High School Library



PHOTO BY MORGAN TRINDLE

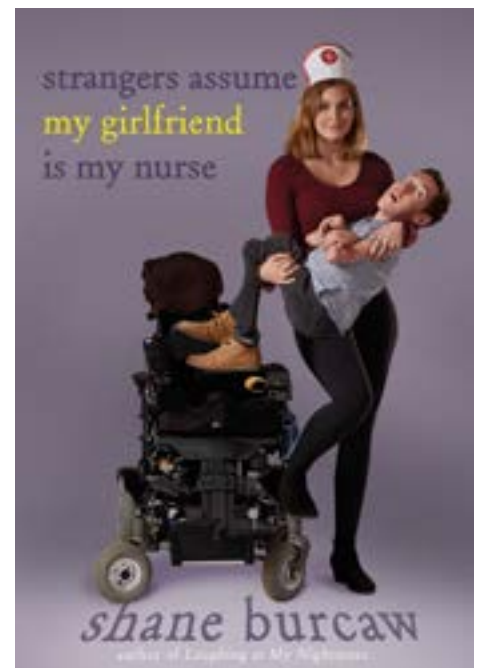


PHOTO FROM GOOGLE

Band Meets Pete

BY BRAYDON DUKES '20



On September 22, our school's marching band traveled to Des Moines, Iowa, to play for Mayor Pete Buttigieg's Democratic Campaign. The traditional annual Polk County Steak Fry was held during this event. It gave attendees

a chance to hear firsthand from each of the 17 Democratic Candidates that were in attendance. The students had an unprecedented experience. "It felt great. I enjoyed playing to a huge crowd because it gave us a lot of exposure."

all around the world." said Shamar. Thirty-two students and five chaperones traveled to the event.



claimed senior drummer Shamar Edwards. Bus fees and food were all paid by Pete Buttigieg's campaign. "I had an unforgettable experience. I enjoyed traveling to a state that I have never been to before, and socializing with people from



PHOTOS BY
SHANNON NEWMAN



What Happened With the Area 51 Raid?

By OWEN CONYERS '20



If you've used the internet at all over the past few months, you've likely heard of a joke Facebook event titled "Storm Area 51, They Can't Stop All of Us." The event in question was created on June 27th and jokingly proposed a raid of the military base for the purpose of finding aliens and other similar motives. This event's list of supposed future attendees quickly skyrocketed from the thousands to millions long before the posted date of the raid, September 20th. However, when the day of the raid finally came, only about 150 of these attendees made it. And instead of a triumphant race into the facility, military personnel faced down a crowd of people who simply stood around the main gate, miles from the facility itself. For months, millions of people had raved and posted countless memes of this event only for it to simply fizzle out into a mere shadow of its promised size. So what happened?

Unfortunately for those who were expecting a high turnout, the incredibly vast majority of those who signed up for the event simply did so as a joke. In fact, the entire raid was supposed to simply be a joke as stated by the creator of the event, Matty Roberts, who denounced the authenticity of the event and denied his involvement in any possible ar-

rests or deaths. Although the event was an obvious joke, the amount of publicity the event garnered would imply that many more people than 150 should have shown up to take part in the raid for a variety of reasons, such as to simply gain publicity. However, this never happened for a few reasons.

The most important thing to note when it comes to the reasons behind the lack of attendees is the fact that the hype behind the event had simply died down since its announcement on June 27th. With how quickly new content and memes are created on social media, #StormArea51 simply couldn't keep up and faded from the public eye over the course of three months. This also led to a lack of internet celebrities attending to gain publicity, with those who claimed to be attending changing their minds in favor of keeping up with more popular memes and trends. More speculative reasons could include bribes and agreements from the US government to not continue promoting the event as well as the fact that the raid was on a weekday, limiting potential attendees to those who weren't working or in school.

This outcome may have been disappointing, but we still got more out of this fiasco than just the raid. At

the same time of the raid, a music concert called "Alienstock," after delays and several issues, reportedly succeeded in operating; apparently drawing in hundreds of attendees. And unlike the proposed storming, nobody was shot down by the US Air Force. In fact, very few people were even arrested during the raid and other similar events. So in the end, there were no casualties and thousands of people had a grand old time with this meme, creating hundreds upon hundreds of fun videos and images to share with friends and family. So what's not to like? Maybe we didn't steal any treasure from Area 51, but when it comes to widespread internet movements, the internet has once again proven that the real treasure was the memes we made along the way.





Looking for a fun scare this spooky season? Come down to Niles Scream Park, one of the top haunted attractions in the country, a great place to take your friends and enjoy the scream fest. Each year six major attractions are professionally designed and

rebuilt to provide you with an unforgettable experience. There are several new and absolutely terrifying attractions within the scream park this year. The N'awlins Nightmare is a journey through the dark streets of New Orleans where you have the chance to witness

the queen of voodoo after sunset. Deadwood, an attraction that holds the tales of fame and fortune during the gold rush, but along with that comes the murder and mayhem brought by unsavory visitors. The Escape Rooms put you and your group of friends in a horrifying scenario that you must work together to overcome within five minutes. A few other hair raising attractions are the Field of Screams, the Niles Haunted House, Hooded, Museum, and the Dark Terrortory Haunted Hayride. But the Scream Park isn't all scare, because while you're trembling in fear it'll all be for a great cause. The Park is a non-profit community project that donates raised money to local groups and charities as well as funds and scholarships for students at Niles. Since 1996, at least \$1,900,000 has been raised with the help of around 150-200 volunteers per night to staff the attractions.

PHOTOS FROM GOOGLE



Spook-Tacular Costumes For The Spooky Season!

By MORGAN TRINDLE, "22

PHOTOS FROM GOOGLE

Halloween is coming up, which means it's time for pumpkin carving, picking apples, and haunted houses. But most importantly, it's time for dressing up in some killer costumes to show off your Halloween spirit. With our school dance approaching, you might be stuck on what costume to wear. Here are this season's go-to Halloween costumes that will make you the center of attention.



CLOWNS

A classic frightful outfit is Pennywise from the hit movie IT, or any clown for that matter. Clowns can be cute (or terrifying) and Halloween is the perfect season for a mixture of both. Clowns might be the most popular outfit, but it's still a good first choice, or even a backup.



STRANGER THINGS

Since Stranger Things has been on Netflix, its characters clothes have been known for

showing up in some kind of store near you. It's been pretty popular ever since the first season aired on Netflix. Eleven's season one outfit is perfect, or even her third season one. It gives off an 80's vibe, so it's perfect for any party.



THE OFFICE

If you're more on the simple side of costumes and don't want to overdo it, The Office is the way to go. It's also another popular show on Netflix. You can even make the costume at home! Just throw on a suit, vest, fix up your hair, throw on some glasses, and boom! You're Dwight Schrute. Besides cutting out holes of a bed sheet and saying boo, The Office is one of the most easiest and least expensive outfits for the season.



MARVEL

Another famous costume is anything Marvel related. Endgame made a quick uprising in the box office, leaving some amazing ideas for a costume. It can be a concept for the whole family! Those Halloween pic-

tures are going to be great with your Iron Man suit, or your Spiderman attire.



DC UNIVERSE

We can't forget about the DC universe. Joker's outfit alone is quite thrilling, but it fits in well with the mood of Halloween. You and a friend can dress up as Batman and Joker! There are so many choices you can pick from, the list is endless.



DISNEY

And to top it all off, Disney is such an endearing turn for the holiday. Get the family together and dress up as the Incredibles, or even dress up the little ones as Boo from Monsters Inc. or Miguel from Coco. Disney costumes are a great way to get your kids into the spirit, puts a super cute turn on Halloween, and gets the media saying "aw" in every comment on your parents Instagram post.



NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD



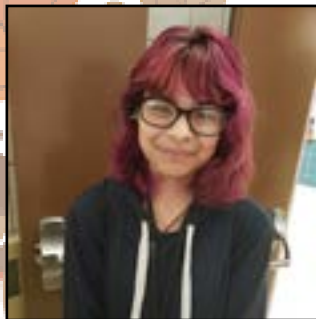
OCT 15
7-10 PM

AUXILIARY GYM
TICKETS \$5
MORP DANCE
FREE FOOD & DRINKS

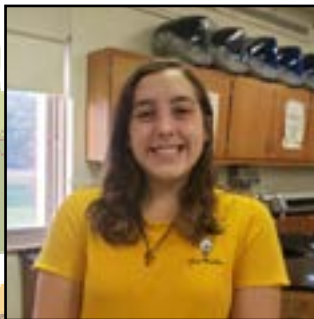


Ask a Colonial:

What are you doing over fall break?

**Montserrat Olvera, 09**

"Probably just sleep in I guess."

**Gina Leyba, 11**

"I'm going to Salem, Massachusetts with my mom."

**Aran Tuxans, 12**

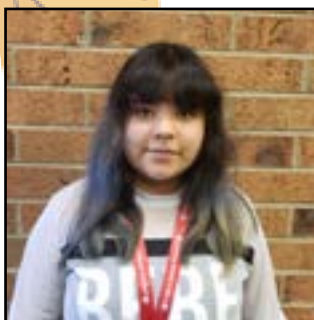
"I don't know."

**Tarvaris Johnson, 11**

"Go out of town."

**Kylie Downey, 11**

"Having my birthday... the first day of fall weekend... five day weekend for my birthday."

**Maria Flores, 09**

"I'm going to be with my family and eat food...."

**Shawn Stewart, 10**

"Being with my family and play basketball."

**John Keley, 11**

"I'm gonna be mostly probably play the game."

**Taylor McClung, 10**

"I plan on spending it with my boo and thang you feel me and going to work."

**Elliot Garrett, 11**

"Probably just go on walks and maybe hang out with friends."

**Alexander Hiens, 11**

"Birthday celebration."

**Efren Huizar, 09**

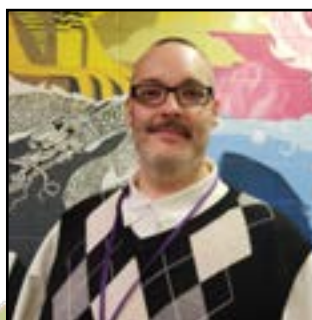
"Just chill."

**Mrs. Conrad**

"...I'm a new teacher...going to... lesson plan and I'm in school... going to be doing homework .. maybe hang out with my mom."

**Mrs. King-o'Blenis**

"Oh, I'm going up north with my husband at our friend's lake cottage."

**Mr. Murray**

"Honestly, it's kind of boring but I honestly live for that. Probably catching up on Netflix."

**Mr. Mood**

"If we have cross country runners qualify for state we'll go to New Haven if we don't then we'll go to Mammoth Cave, Kentucky."

Thi Bui, A Colonial Immigrant

By OLIVIA LARGENT, '22

If you have ever moved schools, you understand the struggle. Having to make new friends, meeting new teachers, having new classes. Now, imagine that you had to move schools in a foreign country that speaks a language you do not speak. That is what Thi Bui, a junior, has gone through this year.

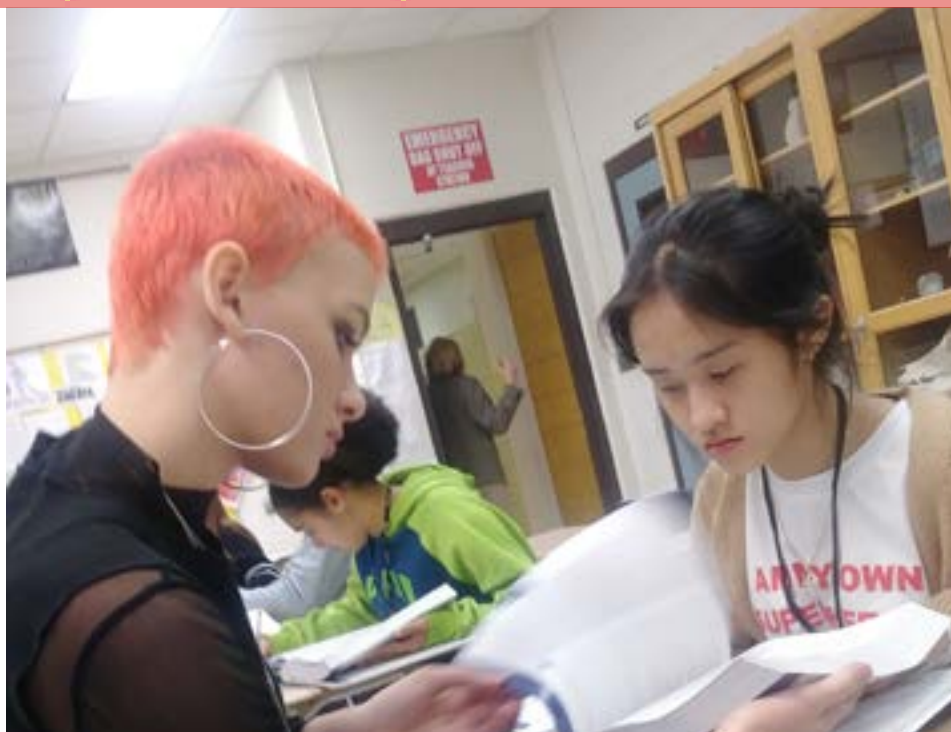
Thi is an immigrant, who moved to the United States from Vietnam almost a month ago. "I lived in Vietnam for 16 years," she says. "We moved to the U.S. because my grandmother lives here." Thi spoke minimal English, and did not know many people from the United States. She currently lives here with her family, and she attends Clay with her sister, Nhi Bui.

"The first day of school was scary," Thi says. "There are so many people here, and sometimes it is hard to understand them." Since Thi is from Vietnam, she speaks primarily Vietnamese. She had lived there almost her entire life. She has had to learn her English by being surrounded by other people who speak it. She does not have the opportunity to take English as a language class. This obstacle makes it harder for her in other classes, however, she has proven that nothing is too difficult for her!

When she came to Clay, she was greeted with smiles and new friends that walk her to her classes and to help translate. One of them is Lilly Vreugdenhil. She and Thi share two classes together, and have become good friends since Thi's arrival. Thi absolutely loves Clay, and is proud to be a Colonial. Thi is extremely excited for what the United States has in store for her.

Say "Hi" to Thi when you see her in the hall

PHOTOS BY OLIVIA LARGENT



Rambling thru October 2019 AD Skies

Highlighting a Lower Sun, Less Daylight and More Darkness

So what does October 2019 have to offer us astronomically? Each day the Sun, on its journey southward, climbs higher in our sky during the period of time we measure as sunrise to noon. It is at its highest at “noon” for all day. From noon to sunset it drops in altitude in our sky. During October the noon Sun will decrease in altitude and noon shadows will increase in length. By Halloween the noon Sun will be about 340 above the due south point of our horizon.

On October 1st the Sun will rise in South Bend about 7:41am and set about 7:26pm. At the end of this month (on Halloween) it will rise about 8:16am and set about 6:39pm. Daylight will last for about 11 hours and 45 minutes on the 1st. By the 31st the amount of daylight will decrease to about 10 hours and 23 minutes. What you lose in daylight each day you gain in darkness in order to maintain a 24 hour “day”. Because the Sun continues to rise and set further south of east and west each day of this month, you will continue to lose daylight and gain darkness and length of darkness will be greater than length of daylight.

The Moon will be in its 1st Quarter phase on October 5th, Full on the 13th, 3rd Quarter on the 21st and New on the 27th. Yes there will be a Full Moon on Friday

the 13th. The Waxing Crescent Moon, along with the planets Saturn and Jupiter, will grace the skies in the southwest after sunset the evening of October 31st. The Moon will be at Apogee (furthest from Earth) on the 10th and will be at Perigee (closest to Earth) on the 26th. October’s Full Moon was called the Hunter’s Moon because this was the time to hunt in preparation for winter.

Mars is your October “morning star”. The October “evening stars” will be Venus, Jupiter and Saturn in that order from west to east. As was true last month a variety of nighttime constellations will be visible, from Scorpius in the west after sunset to Orion in the east before sunrise. You can still enjoy such bright as Antares in Scorpius and Betelgeuse and Rigel

in Orion.

Don’t forget to check out Polaris, the Big Dipper, the Little Dipper, the King, the Queen and the Dragon in your northern sky.

Closing Thought: People are prisoners of their phones. That’s why they are called “cell” phones.

So: May your skies always be clear, may your eyes always look upward. . .and, no matter how you believe, may you always “feel” the beauty and mysteries of the Universe.

Edmund C. Sweeney Jr.,
Earth and Space Science
Clay High School



TimeManagement

By LYDIA TALCOTT '21

Students these days are no strangers to balancing their work. Between assignments, jobs, and any sports or other after school activities, most are pretty swamped. You can usually expect homework in all your classes, and you're already getting home late because of practice or rehearsal. On top of that, you may be expected to have a job. Teens are recommended to get nine hours of sleep each night, but researchers say teenagers are getting closer to seven. I could even argue that they're getting less, as I'm sure most students you ask will tell you they're getting far fewer than seven hours of sleep. So, how do you do it? How do you manage all your obligations?

"There is no time, so you have to make time," says Heidi Hodges, '20/'21, who is planning to graduate early. This means she is doing both junior- and senior-level work, alongside participating in One Acts and being a soccer captain. Between all the different activities she's a part of after school, she finds she rarely has time at home to do school work before it gets late. This means staying up later or waking up earlier just to complete one day's school work. This, of course, cuts into that aforementioned sleep schedule, which Heidi can attest is slim at best. Pushing your sleep back or cutting it short is common for most teens, as the time they're left with after school is rare-



ly enough to be able to complete everything they have to that night.

Rob Hunt, '20, finds solace in to-do lists and schedules. He says that he has a document listing all the work he needs to do for his classes, and it's always an open tab on his computer. Rob has a myriad of out-of-school obligations, including soccer, theatre, spirit club, student council, and a job at Martin's. Because of this busy schedule, he finds it best to plan out his school work and figure out what he needs to do and when. Rob also says he gets around seven to eight hours of sleep, which is about average, and even almost the recommended amount. In terms of the workload overall, Rob thinks it pretty manageable, as long as you commit to planning it out and not procrastinating.

This gives rise to that question about students' workloads, and whether they are over-assigned. As many teachers will tell you, stu-

dents sign up for these classes and their amount of school work, and of course teachers are allowed to assign as much work as they see fit. While this is true, many students will argue that their teachers are simply not aware of how much work they are receiving from their other classes. Because of this, planning and scheduling becomes key. You have to identify the work that absolutely needs to be done and when, and be able to find time to sleep and take care of yourself between working on what you've been assigned. Many students even turn to doing some of their work at school, either before classes start or during lunch, or really whatever free moment they have. You could argue that the homework isn't even homework anymore, in the most basic definition of the word. But between everything students are expected to balance in order to be a "well-rounded" student, can you really blame them?



Dunkin Vs. Starbucks

BY CHLOE MONSMA '20



In my opinion—it's an age old question, which establishment serves better hot joe! Coffee is subjective, it completely depends on the person's preference of sweet, bitter, hot or cold, but one thing isn't subjective; quality. Starbucks consistently has wonderful service, performing at top quality 99.9% of the time, however the price of this service will want to make you run way. A visit to starbucks often costs over \$7.00 for a cup of coffee! Starbucks also has a history of being stingy with the amount of coffee it gives to its customers by giving its employees a fill line that is most certainly not at the top of the cup. Dunkin' Donuts counters this by giving the full amount of coffee for nearly 30% less! Dunkin' has much quicker service as well, but is it worth the below average work ethic towards customers? Employees are often rude towards customers and treat them with poor service, not to mention the coffee frequently tastes like creamer with 0.1% coffee. So, which is better? The answer is whatever you prefer... let me know what you think.

PHOTOS FROM GOOGLE



BY ESSENCE WILLIAMS '20



Stereotype fashion. What is it, and where exactly did it come from? First, what exactly is

stereotype fashion? We see it mostly of what they wear in movies, and sometimes even in real life. The nerds, the jocks, the popular kids, the stoners, the preppies, and more. What kind of clothes do you normally see these stereotypes wearing? Let's start off with "nerds," since it's the easiest of the stereotypes and more well known.

Nerds wear glasses, first and foremost. The glasses are usually oversized and even if they are wearing glasses, a lot of the time they're squinting. Khaki pants worn with black loafers, or dress shoes, and a nice ironed shirt. Of course you don't see this stereotype a lot in real life, but in the movies you do. Usually the so called nerds in class dress just like you, for example a hoodie and leggings with some old sneakers.

What about the "stoners?" This stereotype usually sports darker colors, baggy clothes, shaggy hair, and they most likely smell like marijuana. The most iconic T.V. appearance of the stoner look in my memory would absolutely have to be Shaggy from Scooby Doo. He fits the exact stereotype of how a stoner might dress.

Next, popular kids. We associate them more with people like the girls from Mean Girls. High fashion designer clothes, nice makeup, a good hair do, and the newest accessories complete the look. Sometimes, they're a little rude— in movies that is. In real life, they'll probably be some of the nicest kids you could meet, and are pretty normal.

What I'm trying to say is, all of these are just stereotypes. The ones who might be nerds, or stoners, or popular kids or WHATEVER, they dress like you, talk like you and act like you. So instead of associating people with stereotypes, let's judge them by their personalities.

