

The COM Chronicle

ALL ABOUT COM

Written and Pictorial Updates

History of New Years!

Words of Encouragement

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." –MLK Jr.

Every step we take; we have faith that the ground is in front of us. Our brains don't even have to think with each step that it might fall onto the edge of the earth. When we take risks, we aren't sure if the ground will stay beneath our feet but we cannot fear. If we fear the unknown or the unsought, we would stay in the same place forever. Even as a child, we must expand our wings and embrace new things, and as an adult taking their own future unto our own hands and reaching for a goal can create fear.

<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/m/martinluth105087.html>

Speaking holds Productivity

Simplicity is key to acing tests (considering that we are on to a brand new semester). Let's start with a simple tip that is guaranteed to be foolproof. When studying your notes or newfound information in order to get a better understanding of what you are studying, I advise you to speak it out loud. It has been said that if you read information out loud you're 50% more likely to retain that information. Reading out loud allows you to differentiate between what you actually understand and don't understand, which is why it is so effective.

-Kereece

Most people celebrate New Year's Eve and New Year's Day with a bang and some celebratory parties. Do we really know why? It seems to be just something everyone does. We either sit in the family room with our families and watch the ball drop at Times Square or party our little hearts out, but what were other traditions before this?

The earliest known celebration was in Babylon about 4,000 years ago. The celebration took place when there was an equal amount of light as there was dark, in late March, which started the New Year. The celebration was turned into a large religious festival called Akitu that also celebrated the sky god Marduk's victory over Tiamat, an evil sea goddess.

It also served as the new date for kings to be crowned or current king's divinity to be renewed.

January 1st became New Year's Day when Julius Caesar implemented the Julian Calendar, adding the months Januarius and Februarius. Januarius was named after Janus and this was to celebrate him.

So to answer my own question, yes, New Years has always been a celebration. Before it was to celebrate gods and kings but now it's to celebrate the refresher that all of us get. New Year, New Me. We get to forget all the bad, remember the good, and plan for better in the future. So everyone, plan for a better future this year, make a vow to procrastinate a little less, work just a little bit harder on your grades. There is no regret in bettering yourself, we weren't the only ones to think it either.

<http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/new-years>

Beauty Tips | Akira Birdow

With the new year beginning and school starting back up, it's kind of hard to get up at 6:00 in the morning and do some Grammy awards makeup. It's all about keeping it natural and something quick that takes less than five minutes to do.

Beauty Tip

A small amount of concealer under any dark circles or dark marks, some mascara, and eyeliner and a highlight color in your inner corner to make your eyes pop and look more awake. Or if you're just feeling lazy and not in the mood, there is nothing wrong with going all the way natural and wearing none at all because naked beauty is the best beauty.

Superbowl Match Ups

Teams	Scores
Steelers vs Bengals	18 -16
Broncos vs Steelers	27 - 34
Chiefs vs Texans	27 – 20
Chiefs vs Patriots	41 - 14
Broncos vs Partiotics	20 - 18
Seahawks vs Vikings	38 - 7
Seahawks vs Panthers	23 - 27
Packers vs Redskins	35 - 18
Cardinals vs Packers	38 - 8
Cardinals vs Panthers	15 - 49
SUPERBOWL (Panthers vs Broncos)	Broncos for the win with a score of 24 - 10

Fashion Tips | Shardania Johnson

As the new year rolls in and we begin a new chapter, so does new fashion. That doesn't necessarily mean that you have to go out and buy a new wardrobe, but just try something different. If you're used to wearing a particular outfit, try to mix and match it with something else. For instance, if you're used to wearing plaid shirts with some khaki pants, try the M&M (mix and match) method and wear that plaid shirt with maybe a skirt or different colored jeans. You could also try to dig out that old "rinky-dink" shirt that you never liked wearing and try to spice it up with a little pizzazz.

Lastly, one thing you should keep in mind for the new year and beyond is not to worry about what others have to say about you. This is the time for you to actually let your clothes do the talking and to not worry about fitting in with the crowd. Your New Year's Resolution should be to stand out and be your own person!



Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell

Imarii Sheppard, Book Review

Rainbow Powell's first novel "Eleanor and Park" published in 2013 is the story of misfits Eleanor and Park living in Omaha, Nebraska in 1986. Eleanor is a "big girl" with fiery red hair; the kids have even nicknamed her Big Red, and Park a half-Korean boy. Everything changes when they meet on a school bus on Eleanor's first day at her new school. They gradually form a connection through comic books and mixtapes of 80's music, which creates a spark that ignites a love story.

Eleanor's home life isn't the best; she shares a single room along with all of her younger siblings and lives in fear of her alcoholic and abusive stepfather. She's also so poor that she can't even afford to buy a toothbrush or new batteries for her Walkman.

On the other hand, Park, who is actually quite popular, is separated from the "popular crowd" because of his race and love of music and comic books. On the first day of school, Eleanor is forced to sit down next to him on the bus. Over time, she begins reading his comics over his shoulder. Then after noticing her interest in the comics he lends them to her. They soon bond over their similar taste in music. Eventually, they begin holding hands on the rides to and from school. Park's love of hand-holding is so intense that he says "Holding Eleanor's hand was like holding a butterfly, or a heartbeat."

Every romance novel has its given obstacle, whether it is "I already have a boyfriend, or our parents would never allow it."

In "Eleanor and Park" the obstacle is the world itself. The world cannot know how a relationship between the popular Korean kid and "Big Red" could ever be. The world cannot allow Eleanor a boyfriend of any kind, because she's poor and fat and dresses funny. It also cannot allow Park a girlfriend because he likes wearing eyeliner, and everyone knows that's gay. The world is the obstacle, as it always is when you're 16 and truly in love.

"Eleanor was right. She never looked nice. She looked like art, and art wasn't supposed to look nice; it was supposed to make you feel something."

— **Rainbow Rowell, "Eleanor & Park"**

Letter from the Editor

Hello all, hopefully you have been thinking about what we, as the newspaper, can do for you and our school. This semester is a fresh start. We have already been planning for the future as well as our contribution to the school. We now have a Facebook and an Instagram. Follow us, interact with us. You can even use us as something on your volunteer section of your transcript. We plan on having some opportunities off campus to help people, like baking foods for hospice patients and delivering them.

Our intention for this semester is to be much more active by actually putting out newspapers as well as hosting different events. We even have a pretty big fundraiser that we are co-sponsoring toward the end of the semester. Let's just say, that day people won't be themselves. So stay tuned, give us some articles that you'd like to see in the paper. Submit some ideas for segments that we can use to make the paper better! We appreciate you and hope to see you at our events!

Send us suggestions and/or questions!

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