



# THE SPRESS

## SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL

### Hidden treasures of November

CALLIE HEYNES

Many people recognize November as National Veterans and Military Month. What many people don't know is how and why this month came to be. November was chosen as National Veterans Month in honor of November 11, 1919, signaling the end of World War I. Along with this, Veterans Day commemorates all veterans, including living and deceased, unlike Memorial Day.

However, the lesser known dates of November tend to be more bizarre. Such holidays like Deviled Egg Day, November 2, or Eat a Cranberry Day, November 23, are examples of the more Ludacris holidays. Many may not consider Deviled Egg Day to be a legit holiday because there is no documentation confirming this date to be a "National" holiday. Still, food lovers from around the world would disagree. On the other hand National Eat a Cranberry day is credited to the fact that cranberry sauce is considered an indispensable part of a traditional Thanksgiving meal.

While National Veterans and Military Month are important, there are still many outlandish holidays that many would consider to be hidden treasures of November. Deviled Egg Day and Eat a Cranberry Day are just two examples of these dates.

### An inside look at Drama Club

EMBER CARMICHAEL

Kaitlyn Karrenbauer, Drama Club president, describes the upcoming production of "Clue" as being about "Murder and blackmail... Many people die."

The fall play is based on the board game "Clue," if you have ever played the game, there will be a lot of characters you'll recognize. The cast has put in a lot of work into memorizing lines, but that is not the only part of drama club. Kaitlyn states, "A majority of drama club is behind the scenes work; building the sets, running the show from behind the scenes, working the lights, microphones, and occasionally cameras." The whole crew works together to put on the plays you watch, without realizing how much time it takes.

Starting in drama club, Kaitlyn recommends to "Talk to people and be involved. Everyone appreciates when a member goes to tech or fundraising events." It is important to make sure you do your part when you're in Drama Club, or starting up.

"Drama club is the club that puts on plays and musicals every year. It consists of actors who practice for months leading up to the show, and tech crew who do a variety of things such as light design, sound production, building the sets, and making sure the show runs smoothly behind the scenes," says Kaitlyn. Drama Club has many people who help out and do their parts, but they can never get enough help! If you join Drama Club, you can feel the accomplishment of being successful and being able to bond with other people.

Even if you are not going to join, we strongly encourage you to go watch the play! Play times are Thursday, November 18 at 7:30 PM, Saturday, November 20 at 2 PM and 7:30 PM, Sunday, November 21 at 2 PM.

### Building your future

TESSA LETTIE

Do you feel like the classes you are taking in school aren't going to build your future? A lot of people feel like that, and they are now enrolled in the Steel Center program South Park offers to all students in grades 10-12. Along with South Park, 10 other districts give their students the opportunity to go to Steel Center. Steel Center is a multi-program for future working careers and technical education. There are 18 classes and programs that Steel Center provides. Highly common programs that are recognized are Building Trades and Maintenance, Carpentry, Cosmetology, and Health Assistants. When asked about attending the school, a student from the Cosmetology Department said they would still go to Steel Center but would consider a different trade.

Overall, students are advised to think hard and look into the program before signing up and going to the open houses. To learn more about the program and to enhance your interest, talk to your guidance counselor or visit their website at <https://www.steelcentertech.com/>

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Foreign language at South Park High School

AVA TURLEY

South Park High School offers two different language courses students can choose from throughout their high school career, German and Spanish. Both offer learning not only about the language but also about the cultures, traditions, and history of the native country.

Aside from the obvious benefit of being able to speak and write in a foreign language, students studying a foreign language often find that it helps them become better learners and better at skills like memorization, reading, and spelling. “Foreign language makes you a better all-around thinker and it helps you learn in all of your classes,” says Mrs. Schemm (better known as Frau), the German teacher at South Park High School.

Mrs. Sciullo, one of the Spanish teachers at South Park High School, also spoke about how foreign language is beneficial to high school students. According to Mrs. Sciullo, studying a foreign language encourages students “to think of things in another manner, which will help them in the future.” Foreign languages help students broaden their mindset and help when going into college along with future employment. “Later in their lives, they will get chosen for jobs over people who do not speak another language,” says Frau. Many colleges and universities prefer applicants who have completed at least two years of a foreign language, and even those who don’t, a foreign language makes a nice addition to a college application or employment application. Employers look for workers who are well-rounded and go the extra mile in both the workspace and the classroom. “Learning a foreign language is one of the best things high schoolers can do to advance their learning,” says Mrs. Sciullo. Therefore, if you haven’t already added a foreign language to your schedule, consider the many benefits of doing so.

EDITORIAL

Could pushing back start times improve student education?

SAVANNAH BOOTH

Could pushing back start times improve student education? In South Park High School, students start homeroom at 7:25 am and first period starts at 7: 42. I believe that this could be challenging for students because waking up early is a challenge in itself. I feel that if start times were pushed back, students would feel more motivated to learn. Studies from rand.org states that teenagers need 8 to 10 hours a night and only go to sleep around 11pm. However, most teens in the United States wake up around 6 am, forcing teens to wake up before their biological rhythms.

Our principle, Dr. Palmer, was asked his opinion on if he believes that if we didn’t go to school early, kids would be more open to learning? Dr. Palmer identifies for some yes, in others no. “It is difficult to lump every students feelings with a broad stroke as every student functions differently.” When considering test scores and start time, Dr. Palmer states his “main concern is students mastering the content.” If start times were pushed back, Dr. Palmer can imagine challenges such as reconfiguring bell schedules, school running into practice time, and busing.

With busing being a possible obstacle, I feel as though it would not be an issue. I feel that busses would still be able to pick up students and driver’s schedules would not be negatively impacted. I also believe that student’s schedules wouldn’t be an issue. If times were pushed back, our schedules should still be the same, just different time frames. Overall, I think the benefit of pushing back start times could really improve South Park High Schools curriculum. Students could be well rested, enjoy learning, and want to come to school. Test scores would go up, improving South Park.

SPHS Pops Concert

PHOTOS BY EMBER CARMICHAEL



CONCERT REVIEW

Harry Styles stealing hearts

MEGAN BEAM

Harry Styles, former One Direction singer, is currently on his “Love On Tour.” He recently performed at PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh. He sang a total of 17 songs at the concert. It was a wonderful and emotional experience to see him in person. He played “What Makes You Beautiful” by One Direction, “Adore You,” and “Watermelon Sugar,” which are well known songs. He played some of his songs that may be lesser known to the average listener, such as “Fine Line,” “Only Angel,” and “She.” To a Harry Styles fan, the songs are familiar. He transitioned from “Treat People With Kindness” into “What Makes You Beautiful” and from “Two Ghosts” into “Falling” without a break. The concert was great, however the lines for merch were really long, and it was extremely expensive. The “Love On Tour” will conclude on November 20, 2021 in Los Angeles, California at The Forum.



Photos by Megan Beam

ENTERTAINMENT

Squid Game: A social media storm

PAIGE KELLY

“Squid Game”, a Korean Drama, has taken social media by storm the past few weeks. The show has been on Netflix for some time, but only recently caught on with audiences through popularity on various social platforms.

The popular KDrama involves a multitude of persons vying for a chance to win a prize by playing children’s games... with a twist. The first episode, titled “Red Light, Green Light” gives the audience a dark ambiance for the rest of the 9-episode series. The intensity of most horror films is incomparable to the Netflix series which is widely loved by its viewers. However, “Squid Game” is recommended for more mature audiences, as well as those not faint of heart.

Many influencers flocked to social media to promote “Squid Game”, which resulted in costumes, creations, and cooking related to the show. An episode three feature, dalgona candy, a popular Korean delicacy, has been created within thousands of American households.

I feel that “Squid Game” was riveting and ingenious. The writing for the show grips your attention and holds it the entire series. The wardrobe design is simple but informative to the story. Character development was obvious and impressive. The plot answered questions, yet suspense left the audience curious for more. “Squid Game” is a highly recommended watch.

HEALTH

Flu season

DAISHA BRISCO

If you are getting sick from the flu, stay home and avoid close contact with people who are already sick. To stay healthy during flu season, you can get flu vaccination or you can wash your hands more often. To prevent the flu, people could eat more fruits, vegetables, and healthy foods. Working out and sleeping more could also help prevent the flu. The side effects after getting the flu shot are headaches, fevers, nausea, and muscle aches.

Cartoon



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