



THE LEXINGTON CONCORD

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The Origin of the Song: Fruitcake



By: Ivy

Fruitcake: a cake containing dried fruit and nuts. Fruitcake is a traditional dish around the holiday season, but in the community of Lexington, the word “Fruitcake” has come to have a different meaning. Everyone knows the hilarious song “Fruitcake” sung by the Lexington High School show choir “Fire’N’Ice”. (Watch Fire’N’Ice perform the song [here.](#)) The comical lyrics combined with the outrageous charisma and choreography of the group has made this song a seasonal favorite, and well known tradition of the Lexington Music Department. Everyone knows of it, but does anyone know where it originated from? One man might. Retired Lexington High School and Lexington Junior High choir director, Mr. Dawson, may have the answer. When asked where the song originated, he said: “I began teaching at Lexington in the fall of 1986. “Fruitcake” was already being sung by Fire’N’Ice when I arrived. The kids insisted that we sing it. Except for a couple years during the 90’s, it has been a tradition for the Holiday Concert.” As you can see, the song “Fruitcake” has been around for quite some time. If Mr. Dawson didn’t bring out this hilarious tradition, who did? Thus the mystery of the song “Fruitcake” continues.

Note from the IT editor

Federal law says that schools can only use first names when referring to minors on the internet. So you will see the authors and anyone else mentioned by first name only, sorry for any confusion this might cause.

New Video Interview

Check out our first video Interview. Dil. interviewed Mr. Van Dyke asking him about the changes that have occurred at LHS in past 8 years. Check it out [here.](#) It is really fascinating.



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Quick Tech Tip:

If you are working on a group project use your student OneDrive accounts and the whole group can work on the same file at the same time in real time.

You can access it by going to the Lexington Home page > Parents and Students > Student Email > login with your school computer login > OneDrive > create the files you need > then click share in the upper right > type in the person(s) name click share > have them check their school email (by clicking Outlook where you clicked OneDrive earlier) then you can all collaborate on the same document at the same time

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* Please note, due to problems in the Microsoft Edge browser the links will not load correctly. Please use Google Chrome for the best experi-

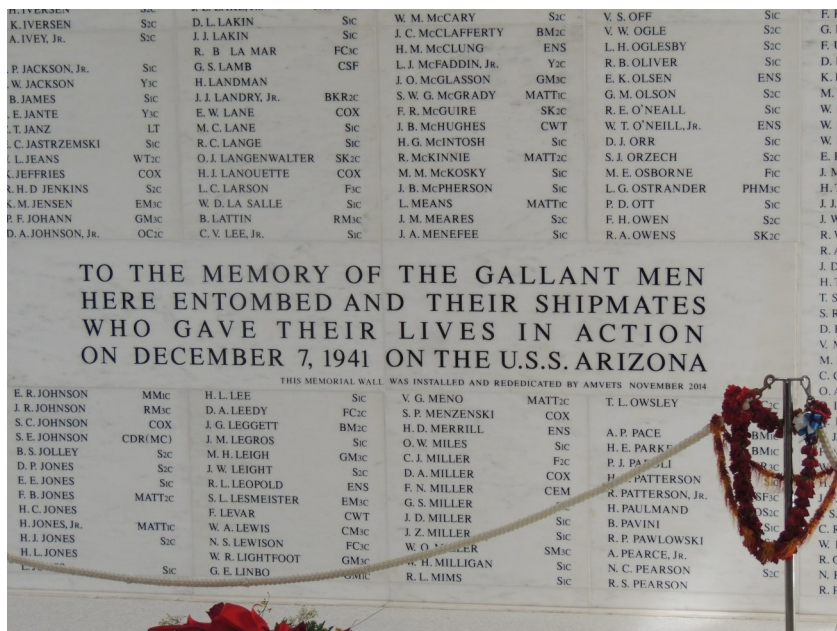
Columns

75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor

By Alley

At 7:48 AM (HAST) on December 7th, 1941, Japan began its two-hour long attack on Pearl Harbor and six other military bases on the Hawaiian island of Oahu. The surprise attack took the lives of 2,403 Americans and left 1,178 wounded. This event drew the United States of America into the Second World War.

The 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor is being celebrated with eleven days of events and festivities on the island of Oahu. To find out more of the commemoration, click [here](#).



Every year, on December 7th the attack on Pearl Harbor is nationally recognized and remembered. This December marks the 75th anniversary since the tragic day. The men and women killed during the attack are remembered in honor of their sacrifice. The day consists of reflection, remembrance, and understanding. 71 years of peace between the U.S. and Japan is also celebrated.

75 years later, the U.S.S. Arizona still bleeds from the attack. The ship was bombed excessively during the attack,



and sunken to its final resting place. The vessel continues to leak two to nine quarts of oil daily. A memorial has been dedicated to the ship and all the lives resting with it. The U.S.S. Arizona Memorial, located on the water above the ship, pays tribute to the historical event. Learn more of the memorial [here](#).

Culture

What is an Art Movement? : Pop Art Edition

By Vipa

Pop Art is art pertaining to popular culture. It was the visual art movement that had a giant sense of optimism during the post World War II boom of the 1950's and 60's. It had begun with the internationalization of pop music and young culture. This was personified by Elvis Presley and the Beatles. Pop art was bold, young, fresh, and hostile to the already artistic establishment. It included different styles of art, but the common thread was an interest in mass media, mass production, and mass culture.



The word 'POP' was first patented in the 1950's by a British art critic, named Lawrence Alloway, to describe a new form of art that was inspired by the imagery of pop culture. British pop artists had focused their attention on the mass imagery of pop culture which they used as a challenge in the face of the establishment. Pop art in America evolved in a slightly different way than in England. American pop art was both a development and a reaction against Abstract Expressionism paintings. Some pop art made us perceive and really question an objects real reality.



Andy Warhol is a well known artist for his association with pop art. Warhol inhabited the spirit of American pop culture and elevated the imagery to museum status. Warhol saw this production as a representation of contemporary America, stating: "art is what you can get away with." His most notable art is his Campbell's Soup Can. He did exactly what he wanted with his talent and creativity, and in the end he got away with being the figure head of pop art.



Culture

Chile

By Vipra

Chile can be found in the southern region of South America bordering the South Pacific Ocean between Argentina and Peru. Before the arrival of the Spanish in the 16th century, the Inca's ruled the northern region of Chile while the Mapuche inhabited central and southern Chile. Chile is a country filled with stunning scenery and natural beauty—viewing its wonders on a computer screen does not do justice!



Easter Islands

One of the most visited places in Chile is the Easter Islands. To its earliest inhabitants, the stones are known as Rapa Nui. The island was called Paaseiland, or Easter Island, by Dutch explorers in honor of the day of their arrival in 1722. Easter Island is most known for the dramatic array of about 900 giant stone figures that date back centuries ago. There has been much speculation about the exact purpose of the statues, the role they played in the ancient civilization of Easter Island, and the way they may have been constructed and transported.

Geysers Del Tatio

Geysers Del Tatio is a geothermal field located in the Andes mountain range. The geysers are the highest of the world at 4,320 meters. They are produced by the high temperatures of their watery craters and offer a unique spectacle of the Chilean desert.

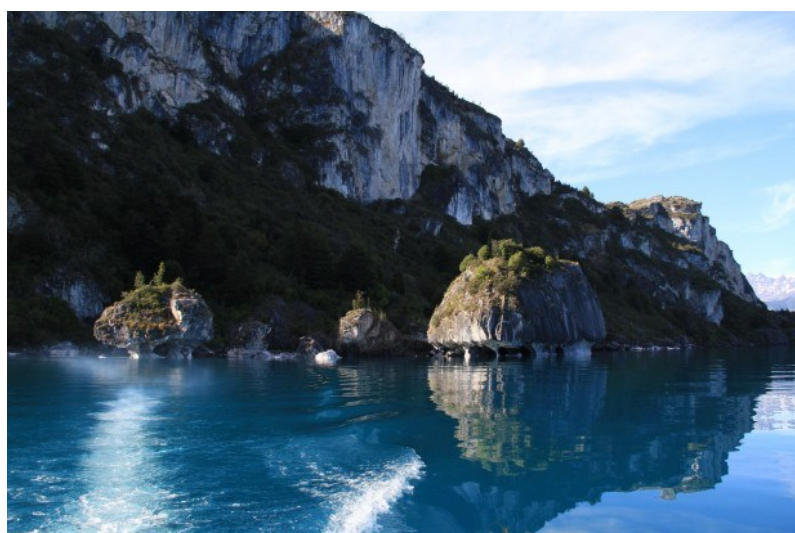


Atacama Desert, Chile

The Atacama Desert is a plateau in South America, covering a 1,600 mile strip of land on the Pacific Coast, west of the Andes Mountains. The desert is the driest desert of the world, and rarely sees rain. It has the largest supply of sodium nitrate. Soil samples from this region are very similar to samples from Mars. For this reason, NASA uses this desert for testing instruments for missions to the red planet.

Marble Caves

The Cuevas de Mármol, or Marble Caves, are located on a peninsula of solid marble bordering Lake General Carrera (a remote glacial lake that spans the Chile-Argentina border). It was formed by 6,000 plus years of waves washing up against and eroding the calcium carbonate of the rocks. The smooth hues of blue of the cavern walls are a reflection of the lakes water. This place can only be accessible by boat.



Culture

What the Holidays Have Become

By Morgan

The holidays are the best time of the year. You are off from work or school and you get to wake up at one in the afternoon because you binged an entire series on Netflix the night before. You get to parade from one family member's house to next and demolish mashed potatoes and more deserts than you really ought to intake. You have an excuse to buy the newest laptop because it only cost a third that it normally would, even if it would risk possibly getting stamped on at Best Buy. It sounds pretty great, right?

Wait- that doesn't sound right. That's not what the holidays are about, but, unfortunately, that is what they have become. The holidays are supposed to be time to reconcile with love ones, appreciate the purpose of the occasion, and share a common interest. They are designed to bring unity because of a historical event or boost morality. Thanksgiving speaks of being grateful for the things that we are blessed to have. Why is this only for one day in which we show thankfulness? Why is it just one day that we show our gratefulness and not the whole year? That is the problem; we have limited ourselves to a single day when we should share gratitude all year long.

Although if we solve that one issue, we still face another. Americans have always prided themselves on the money they have earned as blue collared workers, and, with that, they also pride ourselves on the excess they are able to have. It's not just the workers who know it; the markets do, too. When come the holidays, the markets glamourize and romanticize the time, as well as their products that must go hand-in-hand in order for you to cherish the splendid holiday. We have become so wrapped up in these things and products and the extraordinary deals, we forget what it all really means. The bargains are nice, indeed, but isn't there so much more than just numbers on a price tag?

There is nothing wrong with relaxing and kicking back on time off, but we still need to be conscientious of what these special times mean. Appreciate the time with your family, appreciate the festive foods, but be most appreciative of the meaning that these holidays hold. Maybe if we do, the holidays can become so much more.

Christmas in Mansfield

By Leah

Currently the Mansfield Art Center is hosting a Holiday exhibition. The exhibit is filled with artwork done by local artists in spirit of both the seasonal festivities and just simple creativity. The show features amazing homemade gifts including; jewelry, paintings, glasswork, ceramics, woodwork, and much more. It's a great activity to engage in with friends and family and listen to jolly holiday tunes while experiencing local culture. The Holiday Fair is open from November 19th to

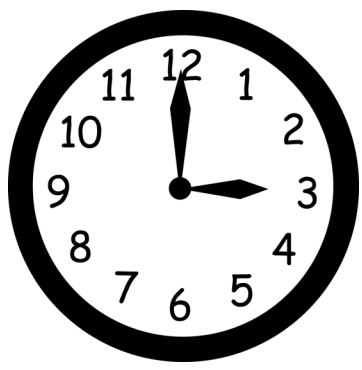


December 30th and starts at 11:00 am each morning and ends at 5:00 pm. No need to worry about money, the art show is completely free to enjoy. So come and be delighted by one of a kind gifts and unique craftsmanship and indulge yourself in the Christmas spirit.

For more details visit the Mansfield Art Center website.

http://mansfieldartcenter.org/event/holiday-fair-2016-2/?instance_id=45

(Photo exported from the Mansfield Art Center website)



Life

A Minute with a Minutemen



Blair is an employee at Rancho Fiesta and juggles her school work with her work schedule. Blair is an avid skier in the wintertime. She also enjoys to read and to shop—if you’ve ever seen her you would know this, due to her awesome everyday style. Aside from all of that, Blair is a true Lex football fan! “I’m really proud of how far the seniors have come,” says Blair. She has done a fantastic job going to the games and supporting the boys this whole season.

Jarrett plays baseball in the spring, but stays busy throughout the rest of the year. Not only is he a Minuteman supporter, but also a Michigan, Cavs, Browns, and Indians fan too. “I really love watching sports. I was extremely depressed when the Indians lost, but it was still pretty cool how they got that far!” says Jarrett. He also comments that he is very excited for the Lexington football team and has attended every single game. Jarrett wishes to give a shout out to the Cross Country and Volleyball teams whose seasons went well. “If high school has taught me one thing, I would say it is definitely: to stay away from fake people,” Jarrett tells us. We asked his opinion on the newspaper and he replied, “It’s a great idea! It’ll be nice to read what other students write, and hear the news in the school.”



Meeting with Mikaela we got to get her opinion on high school relationships. “High school is only 4 years of your life, so don’t spend it worrying about the wrong things,” she said. Mikaela tells us that she works at Warrior Pizza while trying to also focus on her schoolwork. She also spends her time hanging out with friends, attending her church’s youth group, and listening to music. We asked her how her year is going and she responded, “It’s a lot better than last year. I’ve learned that friends change constantly and you’re the only one ever truly there for yourself.”

Shelby was asked what her favorite part of high school is and she replied: “My favorite part is the freedom.” She tells us that the teachers are cool and she likes how they know her because of her brothers being previous students of theirs. Shelby is fortunate enough to go to high school with her cousin, Demi. “It’s cool to have a cousin go to the same school as me, as someone to look up to and go to for advice,” says Shelby. With not being into playing or watching sports, Shelby finds interest in other things such as writing, reading, and shopping.

Brock is a member of the Lexington boy’s golf team. He loves high school and already has plans for his future. “I plan to go to college after high school, and I want to major in business. I haven’t decided on specifics yet,” he says. Family is definitely an important priority to Brock. He tells us, “My family has a lot of different traditions that we do around Christmas time.” Brock and his family go to Chicago before Christmas every year, and they go to his grandma’s house every year on Christmas Day.

Katie is involved in Key Club, Spanish Club, and is a member of Yearbook. Katie’s favorite Christmas traditions are opening one gift before she goes to church on Christmas Eve and then eating dinner at Rancho. When her and her family are done eating, they go to back to their home and watch the Polar Express. “My favorite part of Christmas is that everyone seems to be in good spirits. It’s a good time to appreciate and spend time with your friends and family,” she says. Family is very important to Katie. She tells us, “at the end of the day family will always be there for you.” Katie plans to attend a relatively small college close to home. Katie has already began making plans for after high school. We asked her what she plans to major in and she said, “maybe something in investigative journalism, because I really enjoy yearbook, but I also am considering law.”

Owen is his class president, plays football and baseball, is a part of Leadership Council, works at Gionino’s, and enjoys to spend quality time with friends and family. Some traditions that Owen’s family have for Christmas is to sit around the tree listening to Christmas music. “It’s been a great year and it helped that we had a phenomenal football season!” says Owen. He says he is looking into attending Ohio University and majoring in Pre-Law. Owen says that he enjoys having a sibling at the school with him to help guide through things. High school has gone by like the blink of an eye, but Owen says he is excited and ready for college! Some advice Owen gives to freshmen is: “take advantage of your freshman year, because it will be foundation for the rest of your high school career.” [continued on next page](#)

Life

A Minute with a Minutemen Cont.

From last page Austin attends the high school 1st through 3rd period while attending classes at the local college branch. He adds he is having an enjoyable school year. He participated in soccer and also plays baseball in the spring. Austin's friends are very important to him as well is family. He is signed to Ashland University to play baseball. He will be teammates with a very good friend of his that graduated two years ago from Lex. Austin's advice for freshmen is: "keep your grades up and be on people's good side."

Write on

Write-On is an afterschool club that focuses on creative writing. Although the club is supervised by Mrs. Nixon, three/four year members lead the activities. Write-On offers students the chance to read and improve their writing in an open and judgement free environment. Write-On is partnering with the Lexington Concord and will publish some of Write-On participants' best works.

My Guitar

Anonymous

As soon as my fingers touch the strings
I am released from everything
When I play with my soft nimble hands
I know there's something in my command
Rhythms crafted with sweet simple grace
Send all of my sorrows to a far-away place
Her pegs and strings and all extend
To show that I have a fragile friend
She sings with my motions-
Stays with my speed
This musical friendship
Is all that I need
Sometimes when I'm hurting and feeling off track
I show her my heart-ache and she sings it right back
In short, her whispers with every chord
Leave me better than I was before
AS soon as my heart-strings are back in their place,
I whisper a thank-you and slip her back in her case

Life

The Tradition of Light Up Lexington

By Miriam

November 28, 2016 was the 35th annual Light Up Lexington ceremony in the Lexington Village Square. The main event is the Lexington Mayor's speech before the countdown that turns on all the Christmas lights decorating the square. The Lexington High School's choir and jazz band provide music for the evening. A school bus stationed near the square doubled as a drop off for toys to be donated to Toy Time and The Salvation Army.



As tradition, Santa rides in a fire truck to the square. The face of the children brightly display their excitement. In recent years, Kleerview Farm has displayed reindeer. The Nativity scene located in front of the State Farm Insurance office is a yearly exhibit. A huge part of the celebration is the elementary poster contest. Students in grades first through fourth from every Lexington elementary school create a promotional poster for Light Up Lexington. The top five posters are voted on by the community then the winners are announced by the Mayor during the celebration. The night is a tradition unique to the Village of Lexington and looked forward to by the whole community.



Life

Professional Day at Lexington High School

by Alley

Professional Day was hosted at Lexington High School on the 22nd of November. The day began for students with an introduction from a member of the Lexington Board of Education, who introduced an employee from R+L Carriers and a representative from

The Eyes of Freedom: Lima Company Memorial—<http://www.limacompanymemorial.org>. From there students carried on their days with three panels of choice. Sessions included:

Healthcare Specialists, Nursing, Fire and Rescue, Creative Arts, Business, Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, and many more. Students were introduced to professionals from each field of work and were able to listen to the skilled individuals of the panels. The men and women explained their job titles, how they came to their position, and answered any questions asked by students. After attending the

three panels of choice, all students attended a military panel. All branches of the military, except the Marines, were represented. Students were able to hear from each branch— of the differences between each and the different benefits provided by each. Although each representative would argue his/her branch is the best, the agreed phrase: “we’re all on the same team.” The military panel, combined with the others, allowed students to learn of the broad spectrum of opportunities their futures hold and of the many different routes they may go. The sessions were concluded with a Human Resources (HR) panel. Here students heard of characteristics employers look in potential employees, problems within the current workforce (specifically tardiness to work), and the abundance of job openings happening in consequence to the retirement of the “Baby Boomer” generation. The day was concluded with displays. Replicas of The Eyes of Freedom: Lima Company Memorial paintings were on display in the court yard along with an impressively technological-decked out trailer from R+L Carriers. The military had tables set up in the high school’s library where students could personally meet with military personnel and receive more information from a desired branch. High school students were able to leave school and begin their Thanksgiving break with an abundance of information pertaining to their futures in mind.





Music



Color Guard

Halftime during a football game is dedicated to the duo of the marching band and the color guard. The Lexington Color Guard—or the Guard—are the individuals twirling flags and rifles. The Guard spends the days at band camp learning work and drill spots alongside the instrumentalists of the marching band. Hours are spent outside in the blistering heat in the parking lot of the high school on cloudless days—not the most ideal. Spinning in the rain cannot be described any better. The rain causes props to become wet and slippery, and difficult to use. Fingers become cold and numb on the almost-freezing nights of the football games in the later part of the season. Since the hands are vital for twirling and moves, the bitter cold hurts. The love for the Guard by some is deep enough to face these situations.

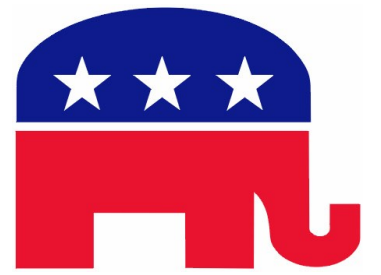


Color Guard

Each section of the band has a section leader (some have more than one). Section leaders can be defined by their title: the leader of the section. The differing sections of the band include: brass, woodwinds, drumline, etc. The color guard is its own section. Sam and Abby are the two section leaders (captains) for the Lexington Color Guard. When asking Sam why she wanted to join color guard, she responded: "I joined because I used to spin baton and since the two activities are kind of similar, I thought why not try it out." Abby was questioned why she tried out to be one of the captains and she answered: "I wanted to show Emily (the color guard instructor) what I have and try to make a good impression. I want to help people in the Guard as much as I can." This year the Guard won "Best in Class A Auxiliary" and "Best Overall Auxiliary" at Grove City. The Lexington Color Guard has a great reputation and has had many successes. The future for the Guard can be predicted to have more achievements and to continue to get better.



Politics



Let the Recounting of Votes Begin

By Grant

Three weeks have passed since the presidential election occurred, resulting in Donald Trump becoming our 45th president. Even though Trump is to be inaugurated in a little over a month, the amount of uncertainty is still unusually high. A new wrinkle in this election saga has just been added. Jill Stein, of the Green Party, raised over 5 million dollars to have the votes recounted in the state of Wisconsin. Now, this should seem a little odd considering Stein has no real shot at overcoming Clinton, Trump, or even Gary Johnson to become the next president. Yet, because Stein's went through with her voting recount, the Clinton team has hopped on board.

According to the New York Times, the Democratic nominee's campaign said they will join the recount. On top of that, Clinton's team would partake in recounts in Michigan and Pennsylvania if Stein did so as well. However, Mrs. Clinton seems to be contradicting herself. In the last presidential debate Trump would not say if he would accept the results of the election in the event his campaign lost. In response to that, Hillary Clinton said, "That's horrifying." She then continued to wax and wane about accepting results and recognizing how our democracy works. She even said, "I for one am appalled that somebody... would take that position." So here we are, six weeks after Clinton said those things and her campaign is participating in a recount. In a year where the presidential candidates made a mockery of themselves by saying outlandish things and tripping over previous statements, this seems quite fitting.



Sports

“The Brilliant Brotherhood”

“The Brilliant Brotherhood”

Overall it was a fantastic season for militia; one to remember. They ended the record-setting 2016 season with Lexington’s longest tournament run ever, making this whole community proud. They came a long way in 4 years, starting with a 0-10 record and ending with a 9-4 record, as co-OCC champions.



The success didn’t just come to them easy either. It came because of hard work and determination year-round, along with countless hours in the weight room and off-season training. In fact, there was no off-season for these seniors for the past 4 years. At the beginning of this long journey, the football team received little support, while going 1-19 in the span of two seasons. However, those two seasons only made the team stronger, having no other option other than to believe in each other, eventually creating a “brotherhood”. This brotherhood soon grew resilient, and improved greatly the next season, going 6-4. They were finally able to reap the benefits of the four years of hard work their last season, becoming the best post-season team in the history of minutemen football.

Cory – “So these past four years have been some of the most memorable years for sure. We went through a journey that most will never say they went through. It was incredible to see things turn around in our program along with the community. This senior season saw more spirit each game than ever before. The lack of support that we got two years ago was devastating but to see everything turn around and get overwhelming support in the end was awesome. What I’ll miss most is spending so much time with my teammates. The brotherhood that we formed will never be forgotten by me. I will also greatly miss playing under those Friday (and Saturday) night lights. That was by far the best feeling and to do it with those guys that I did it with only made it so much better.”



Logan – “The four years with these guys has been unreal. This season was a culmination of four years of hard work. I know it is cliché, but this really is a family. There is really no one who doesn’t get along. I mean, you know you have a great bond when practice has been over for half an hour and everyone is still in the locker room just messing around having fun. Those are the moments I will miss the most.”



Written by Lauren and Harrison