

The Bagpiper

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Reporting Freeman's news since 2009

Volume 6, Issue 4



VALENTINE'S DAY

& HOW TO SURVIVE IT

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What to wear on Valentine's Day

By Arieanna Hoisington
Staff Writer

Are you stressed or confused on what you should wear for Valentine's Day? Well stress no more; here are some ideas from going on a causal dinner date with some friends to a romantic dinner date with your boyfriend or girlfriend.

For a movie date on Valentine's Day, you probably don't want to dress up too much, but you also don't want to look too casual. When going to the movies, you could wear clothing like a nice pair of jeans with a cute shirt, preferably red, along with an appealing pair of shoes and a nice pair of earrings. And for guys, a nice pair of jeans, along with a nice t-shirt. And remember, girls like it when a guy smells good.

Freshman Megan Stark's ideal date and outfit would be ice skating along with a nice dinner to end the night.

"I wouldn't want something to romantic, but something fun and memorable," Stark explained. "I would wear a pair of leggings along with a cozy sweater keep me warm."

When going to dinner, you might want to wear something more dressy. An example



Photo by Arieanna Hoisington

A cute and casual outfit that works great for a simple date.



Photo by Arieanna Hoisington

Pearls and diamond earrings are a very elegant jewelry choice for a fancier dinner .

would be a black dress that isn't too revealing with a snazzy pair of red flats. Add some jewelry that highlights your natural beauty to this ensemble, such as a pair of diamond studs and a pearl bracelet.

Senior Isaac Stokoe's ideal date would "revolve around good food, and a lot of it, along with cheesy romantic comedy movies." He also added that for a dinner date he would wear "a nice tucked in button up shirt, along with slacks and black dress shoes."

If it's hard to find a perfect outfit, and you have no idea what to wear, clothing stores such as Kohl's, Macy's, and JC Penny have Valentine's Day sales that will help save money in your pocket and give you a cute outfit to wear.

If going on a friend-filled night, and just going out on the town, for a girl wear some nice jeans, along with a shirt that shows your beauty. A good example could be a dark pair of jeans, with some converse and a colorful shirt. For a guy, wear something simple such as a nice colored shirt, with a dark colored pair of jeans, and a pair of shoes that isn't too dressed up.

Another great way to find you perfect outfits for your night out would be Pinterest. Pinterest helps to save money and find very up-to-date outfit! Ideas on Pinterest would help you design an outfit that fits your personality, and along with helping you save a few extra dollars

What should you do for Valentine's Day??

The Riverfront Park Ice Palace is a classic date idea. Open through March the ice palace is open for your perfect date. The prices are \$5 for 13 and over, \$3.50 for youth, senior, and military, and \$3.50 for skate rental. The Riverfront Ice Palace also has food, but probably not the ambiance you may be looking for the full date. But the Ice Palace is a good place to start or finish the date. Specials include \$2 Thursdays, \$1 Wednesdays with College ID, and \$5 After School Special including skate rental.



Photo Illustration by Katie Ophus

Skates from the Riverfront Park Ice Palace.

The International Auto Show is coming to Spokane February 13-15: Friday (10am- 8pm), Saturday (9am-8pm), Sunday (10am-6pm). Prices for the auto show are not that expensive: \$7 for adults, \$6 for ages 62 and over, kids under 12 are free. Hosted at the Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, it could be an awesome place to walk around if you and your date are into cars or are just looking for something unusual to do with interesting things to look at.



Photo Illustration by Katie Ophus

Demonstrating her awesome yoga skills by balancing on a hydrant.

A good way to kick start your Valentine's Day this year would be a relaxing and free stress reliever. The Lululemon Athletica studio will be featuring complimentary yoga classes at 8:30am. This is a free class with great instructors and would be a great trial run for yoga if you have never done it before.

Learn how to do some seriously good salsa moves at Simply Dance Studio on Saturday, February 14. The lessons are from 8:15- 9:15pm on February 14, but you end up till dancing till 1am. They are drop-in lessons, so you do not need to call ahead. The whole night only costs \$5. If you enjoy it, you can come back for their weekly Saturday salsa.

What are you planning for Valentine's Day?

Freshman Jason Ophus: Taking my girlfriend out to the movies.

Mr. Smith: I'm going to a wrestling match. Because this happens almost every year, so my wife and I have a date night before post season starts, and go to dinner and a movie.

Senior Ben Sharpe: Getting a heart shaped pizza and taking it to my girlfriend's to hang out.

Senior Hannah Williamson: Going on a fancy date. I don't know where yet, but I get to dress fancy.

Sophomore Morgan Lang: My family and I leave for Hawaii a couple days before, so I'll be sitting on a beach.

Ms. Robinson: Going shopping and seeing where the day takes me.

Mrs. Troup: I'm going to Milford's for dinner. We do it every year. Then, I'm going to make him take a painting class with me.



Rating: PG

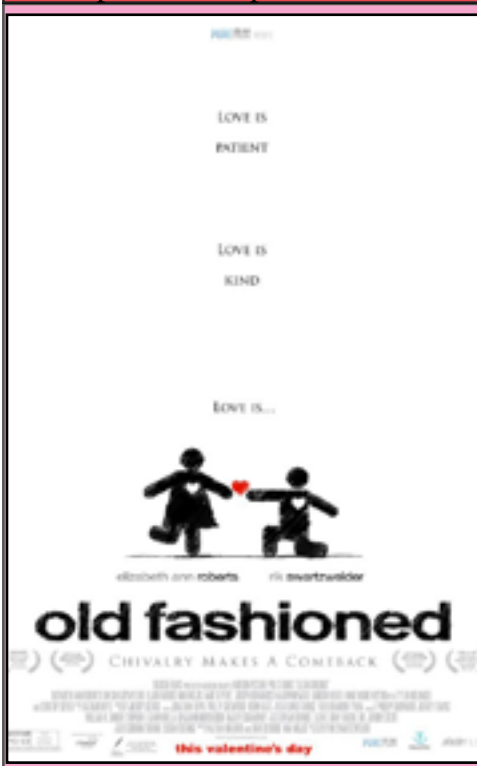
Genre: Comedy/Adventure

Summary: Paddington (voiced by Ben Wishaw) tells the story of a young Peruvian bear’s amusing misadventures in London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he realizes that the city life isn’t what he had imagined. He then meets the Brown family, who read the label around his neck that says “Please look after this bear. Thank you,” and offer to take him in temporarily. It seems like his luck has changed until a museum taxidermist spots Paddington’s rarity.

Rating: PG

Genre: Comedy/Adventure

Summary: A pirate named Burger-Beard (voiced by Antonio Banderas) is searching for the final page of a magical book that makes any evil plan he writes come true, which just so happens to be the Krabby Patty secret formula. When he successfully steals the formula, the entire city of Bikini Bottom is in danger. SpongeBob (voiced by Tom Kenny) and his gang then have to go on a quest that brings them to the surface, in our dimension. In order to get the recipe back and save their home, they must retrieve the book and change into superheroes to fight Burger-Beard and his super villain pirate crew.



Rating: PG-13

Genre: Drama

Summary: Former frat boy and present antique shop owner Clay Walsh (Rik Swartzwelder) became notorious for his outdated theories of love and romance and his devout belief in God. Then, a free-spirited woman named Amber Hewson (Elizabeth Roberts) drifts into town and rents the apartment above his shop. Amber finds herself taken aback at her fascination to his strong faith and noble ideas, which are new and intriguing to her. And although Clay tries to fight it, he just can’t resist being attracted to her spontaneous and passionate embrace of life. Can Clay step out from behind his personal theories and Amber get past her own fears and deep wounds as the two of them, together, attempt the impossible: an “old-fashioned” and God-honoring courtship in contemporary America.



Rating: PG-13

Genre: Sci-fi/Thriller

Summary: A brilliant teenager and his friends discover secret blueprint plans of a time machine, and build it; however, there are major consequences from their selfish actions that end up harming people and putting their lives in danger.

Rating: PG-13

Genre: Drama

Summary: Alice Howland (Julianne Moore) is a happily married woman with three grown children and a renowned linguistics professor who starts to forget words. She then receives a devastating diagnosis of early on-set Alzheimer’s disease causing Alice and her family to have their bonds tested.



Rating: PG-13

Genre: Action

Summary: Ex-covert operative Bryan Mills (Liam Neeson) is accused of a cold-blooded murder of his ex-wife which he never committed or witnessed. Consumed with rage, he goes on the run to escape the CIA, FBI and police who are dead-set on tracking him down. Mills brings out his ‘particular set of skills’ to find the true killer, clear his name, and protect the only thing he has left: his daughter.

Rating: PG-13

Genre: Horror

Summary: 40 years after the first haunting at Eel Marsh House, a group of orphan children have been evacuated from WWII London and arrive at the assumed safe-house, awakening the house’s darkest inhabitant. Caretaker Eve (Phoebe Fox) starts to sense that the house is not what it appears to be when children begin to disappear. When the house becomes obviously haunted, Eve asks a handsome pilot (Jeremy Irvine) to help investigate what is happening. Eve soon discovers that it may not be a coincidence that she has come to reside in the house occupied by the Woman in Black.



Want to land a Valentine's Date? Try one of these ideas.

By Ileanna Hansen
Staff Writer

Some of you wonder “How can I not be lonely on Valentine’s day, stuck at home watching Netflix and eating whatever I can find in the fridge?”

Well it’s quite simple—go talk to a girl or guy. Confidence is very important it; really shows opposite sex that you’re willing to make a new friend.

-For a guy take a shower because you will smell nice and ladies like it when you smell like a man.

-As for a girl, good hygiene is very important as well for multiple reasons, no one likes greasy hair, if you smell nice, who doesn’t like that?

-Know if he/she is taken or not. Being rejected can hurt, but it’s one of those things that you just say “Well it’s her/his loss.” and then move on.

-Sometimes when a person isn’t that interested, he or she might drops hints like, trying to avoid you, making accuses on leaving or having to do something else.

-Guys suit up! You have to dress nicely. Many girls seem to like it when guys wear beanies or snapbacks. Another thing would maybe be like a pair of jeans doesn’t really matter what brand. Something else you could wear is a suit, like a tie and the whole package. Also wearing a basic t-shirt can work.

Quote
Konner Forshag senior-A sweatshirt and some jeans
-A thing to wear for a girl really depends on her personality, but mostly good things to wear is a dress or a sweater.
-Walk up to a girl or guy giving eye contact. She or he will then know that she or he is the target.

-Introduce yourself.
-Compliment her or his on what she is wearing or use a pickup line. Even just saying hello is a start.

Quote
Erynn Waite senior- you just ask a guy out. You give them a present on the date when you go out
- Having a wingman is a good idea, but make sure he is reliable.

These are just some of the things you can do when asking for a date for Valentine’s Day.

You must remember that confidence is a very important thing that everyone needs to have. Some people like it when you’re shy, but it doesn’t mean that it will work to get a date.

Most girls like it when the guy is funny and can make you laugh. When you’re sweet and someone who would treat her right. Trust and loyalty are important thing as well.

‘A rose by any other name would smell as sweet,’ but will it get you in trouble?

By Pia Longinotti
Adviser

On Valentine’s Day the rose is king of flowers. Thousands of men rush out to buy roses for their sweethearts to show their love. Few of them actually know the dangerous message they might be sending to a significant other simply due to a poor color choice. To help you stave off a poorly considered subliminal message, *The Bagpiper* staff has put together a guide to help you choose the right shade for your message of love.

- Red:** Love, Beauty, Courage and Respect, Romantic Love, Congratulations, “I Love You”, “Job Well Done”, Sincere Love, Respect, Courage & Passion
- Dark Red:**Unconscious beauty
- Red (Single):** “I Love You”
- Deep Burgundy:** Unconscious Beauty
- White:** Purity, Innocence, Silence, Secrecy, Reverence, Humility, Youthfulness, “I am worthy of you”, Heavenly
- Pink:** Appreciation, “Thank you”, Grace, Perfect Happiness, Admiration, Gentleness, “Please Believe Me”
- Dark Pink:** Appreciation, Gratitude, “Thank You”
- Light Pink:** Admiration, Sympathy, Gentleness, Grace, Gladness, Joy, Sweetness
- Yellow:** Joy, Gladness, Friendship, Delight, Promise of a new beginning, Welcome Back, Remember Me, Jealousy, “I care”
- Yellow with Red Tip:** Friendship, Falling in Love
- Orange:** Desire, Enthusiasm
- Red and White:** Given together, these signify unity
- Red and Yellow:** Jovial and Happy Feelings
- Peach:** Appreciation, Closing the deal, Let’s get together, Sincerity, Gratitude
- Pale Peach:** Modesty
- Coral:** Desire
- Lavender:** Love at first sight, Enchantment
- Orange:** Enthusiasm, Desire, Fascination
- Black:** Death, Farewell
- Blue:** The unattainable, the impossible
- Thornless Rose:** “Love at first sight”
- Red Rosebud:** Symbolic of purity and loveliness
- White Rosebud:** Symbolic of girlhood
- Single- any color:** Simplicity, Gratitude



Photo Illustration by Pia Longinotti

What to get your love on Valentine’s Day?

By JoElla King
Staff Writer

With the approaching Valentine’s Day season, you may be worried about what to get your guy. When questioned what they wanted for Valentine’s Day, some males from different grades had some interesting answers.

“Chocolates, every guy likes chocolate,” freshman Brandon Iris explained of his gift choice.

According to ashers.blog which has been reviewing chocolate for years, “Sea Salt Caramels are a staple chocolate confection that can be the hit of your Valentine’s Day gifting.”

Even though chocolates are a common gift, it’s something most guys enjoy. Nothing’s better than chocolates; they’re always a good call.

Along with chocolates, food was a popular answer. On laweekly.com, they say that “Valentine’s Day is fast approaching, thus it is time to book reservations at your favorite swank restaurant.”

Most guys would rather spend their time eating KFC or Jack in the Box than spend their money on a fancy restaurant, so why not try giving them a gift card to their favorite place? It’s a safe call and pleasant gift that any guy would love from his Valentine.

“Food, like Taco bell!” sophomore Chance Halstead exclaimed enthusiastically.

The things that the guys shockingly said was that they would like to have are giant teddy bears.

“I want a teddy bear for Valentine’s day,” senior Damar Sewell explained.

On ftd.com, they claim that “Teddy bears are perfect for birthdays, get well gifts, romantic gifts or just because.”

As surprising as this is, it seems like some guys just want something to cuddle with at night.

Another thing that the males wanted were hats. “I want a snapback that will actually fit my head,” senior Peyton Smetana said.

Online statistics show that the number one place to buy snapbacks or any other type of male hat is at Zumiez. They have all different types of styles and sizes which won’t make it difficult to find a hat for your guy.

Last is the gift that’s easiest to give your guy. “I want true love,” sophomore Ryan Worley shyly explained.

Even if you may feel like you need to get your boyfriend a gift that you buy, sometimes it’s not required. Most guys don’t mind what you get them, they just want to spend the day with you.

By Isaac Stokoe
Editor

Valentine’s Day is known for being the day of love-when we can celebrate and show our appreciation of another human being. Having many different traditions around the world, one might associate this day with chocolates, teddy bears, and roses.

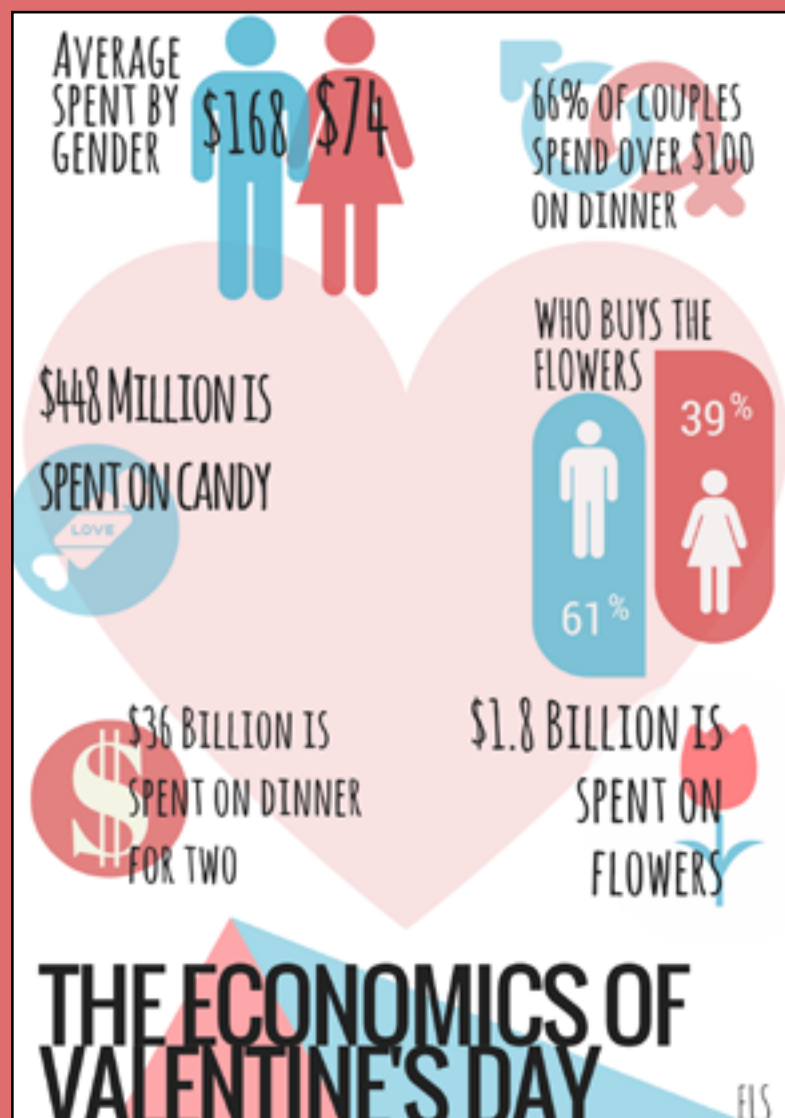
The true questions for the gentlemen out there are: Are chocolates going to cut it this year? Can you put off making the dinner reservation another day, and is she even going to want to get dressed up for a romantic dinner? What else could possibly be done for this lighthearted day of love?

Remember that sometimes experiences and memories are going to be more meaningful (and fun) than a card and a dinner date. Maybe plan ahead and take your valentine on a scenic drive throughout the country followed by a picnic. Take in the sights and smells with your significant other as you cruise across a beautiful landscape and then have a romantic lunch, laughing and cuddling underneath the blue sky. If the cold makes it to frightening to go outside, cuddling up near a fireplace with cocoa and laughs is probably your best bet for a romantic date.

Jewelry is always a great choice to give your beautiful date, but maybe something with a little more heart might be a better way to shock and awe. Find out her interests, hobbies, what makes her happy and then put together a themed gift basket. If she has a favorite movie, get her a copy of the dvd, plus add in a copy of the book it’s based on and a movie poster. Alternatively, build a music-based basket which includes her some clothing from her favorite band along with its newest CD. Going the extra mile to find what she appreciates and loves, and getting something for her that she has an emotional attachment to will always be a good way to make the person you love happy.

“Oh my love is like a red, red rose that’s newly sprung in June. Oh my love is like the melody that’s sweetly played in tune” (Robert Burns). Indeed the rose is most commonly known for being given during Valentine’s Day. On average, 198 million roses are grown for Valentine’s Day every year with men purchasing about 75% of the 110 million sold in the US alone (ProFlowers).

This year gentlemen, ask yourselves if this is going to be the right choice for your loved one. Is her favorite flower the rose? If yes, then go join the masses and purchase a beautiful bouquet of strikingly red roses. If not, maybe find out what her favorite flower is. Instead of buying her a bouquet of flowers that will sit in a vase until they wilt away, maybe buy her the plant instead. You’ll be a true gentleman for getting her favorite flower and earn extra points for it not dying.



BLOEM. CHOCOLATES. FLOWERS. PAPERIE.

Address:

808 W. Main Ave. Suite 241, River Park Square
 Spokane, WA 99201 (2nd level Macy's corridor)

Phone:

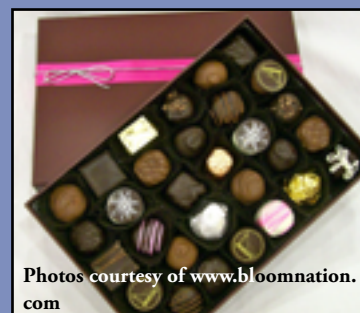
(509) 456-8466

Hours:

Mon.- Fri. : 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Saturday : 9:30 am - 8:00 pm

Sunday : CLOSED



Photos courtesy of www.bloomnation.com

The assorted box of truffles is priced at \$40.00

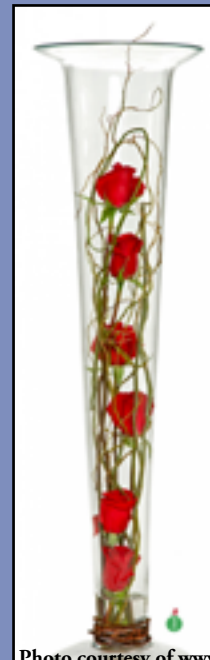


Photo courtesy of www.bloomnation.com

This glass of roses can be purchased at the price of \$75.00

Hallett's Chocolate Factory

Address:

621 W. Mallon
 Spokane, WA
 Phone: (509) 324-2424

Hours: Monday-Friday ~

9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Saturday ~ 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Sunday ~ 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Address: 6704 N. Nevada

Spokane, WA 99208

Phone: (509) 474-0899

Hours: Monday-Friday ~ 8:00 am -

6:00 pm Saturday-

Sunday ~ 10:00 am

- 5:00 pm



Chocolate covered cherries. Priced

8 oz Gourmet

Chocolate

Assortment.

Priced at 4.99

Chocolate Apothecary

Bruttles

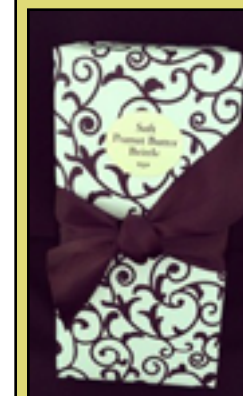
Address: 828 W. Sprague Ave.
 Spokane, WA 99201

Phone: (509) 642-2394

Hours: Monday-Saturday ~

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sunday ~ CLOSED



12 oz
 soft
 peanut
 brittle.
 Priced at
 \$12.25

16 pc
 assorted
 carmel.
 Priced
 at
 \$14.50



Dark chocolate cara-
 mallow. Priced at
 \$1.75

Think bigger than just dinner and a movie on Valentine's Day

By Kori Thurman
Staff Writer

Are you struggling to plan a romantic evening out with the one you love? Who wants to only go out for a boring dinner and movie? Nobody! You may think it is hard to come up with good ideas that are fun, romantic, and affordable, but it's not hard at all. Here are some unusual ideas to help you for your perfect Valentine's outing.

You can most likely agree that the most popular thing to do on Valentine's Day is to go out for dinner, and maybe catch a movie. But don't you think that doing the same thing every year could get boring?

First, start off with something simple such as going on a picnic or having a nice evening walk with the people you choose to spend this day with. Outdoor picnics are very fun, but in some cases the weather can be bad. If this happens, try to have an indoor picnic. Indoor picnics can be very romantic. You could have your indoor picnic in your living room, perhaps by a fireplace. If you are struggling with items to pack for your picnic, then think romantic. Try packing chocolate-covered strawberries for dessert. For your main meal, you could pack some traditional picnic finger foods such as fried chicken along with salads, fruits and vegetables for your dinner.

Other things you can do indoors include a bowling date, or mini-golf. You could go to places such as, Bumper Bowling, Valley Bowl, or Hugo's on the Hill. A really good place for mini golfing is Triple Play. Prices for bowling are usually between \$1.00-\$4.00 per person plus a \$3.00 shoe rental, or \$30.00



Photo by Kori Thurman

per hour/per lane.

"If I were to have a date on Valentine's Day, I would go ice-skating and walk around downtown," freshman Jackson Clark said.

Ice skating can be either romantic as for a date, or just a fun way to hang with your friends. But, make sure to bundle up.

"I am most likely going to hang out with my girlfriends," freshman Ailsa Hansen said of her plans. "Maybe go ice-skating or watch Netflix. It's the day before my best friend Kori's birthday so I will most likely be with her."

Another idea could be planning a scavenger hunt. The good thing about this idea is you could do this for your loved one or your friends. Have the clues be things such as "Go where we had our first date." or "Where did we first meet?" Then to end the hunt, have your partner end up at a nice restaurant for a romantic meal. This is a way to make dinner out seem more fun! If you are going to do this

for a friend, consider questions about each other, for example "Where is our favorite place to hang out together?" Or,

"What is the first thing we ever did together?"

Now you are probably wondering what you should do if you don't have a date. Some ideas you could do are have a game night with your family or friends, or most importantly, hang out with the ones you love. It is very important that you are not alone on Valentine's Day or else you could find yourself in a sad position.

One thing I would make sure of if you are alone is to not surround yourself with people who do have dates on Valentine's Day. Make sure to hang out with people that are in the same place as you. You don't want to be around people who are going to brag and make this holiday unenjoyable.

As you can see, there is a very long list of things that you could do to make this Valentine's Day the best one yet! And remember to have fun!

VALENTINE'S DAY AROUND THE WORLD

JAN. 25 (WALES)

ST. DWYNWEN'S DAY IN WALES, IS THE BIGGEST ROMANTIC HOLIDAY WHICH COMMEMORATES ST. DWYNWEN, THE PATRON SAINT OF WELSH LOVERS.

FEB. 29 (UK)

TRADITIONALLY, LEAP DAY IS THE ONLY DAY THAT WOMEN CAN PROPOSE -- AND IF HER SUITOR REFUSES HER, HE HAS TO GIVE HER A GIFT SUCH AS MONEY, A NEW DRESS, OR EVEN A DOZEN PAIRS OF GLOVES.

APRIL 23 (CATALONIA)

THIS DAY IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE DAY OF THE ROSE AND THE DAY OF THE BOOK. HISTORICALLY, MEN GAVE WOMEN ROSES, AND WOMEN GAVE MEN BOOKS. COINCIDENTALLY, THIS DAY MARKS THE DEATH OF LITERARY GREATS MIGUEL DE CERVANTES, AUTHOR OF "DON QUIXOTE," AND WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

MAR. 14 (South Korea & Japan)

ON WHITE DAY, COUPLES CELEBRATE TWO "VALENTINE'S DAYS." ON FEBRUARY 14TH, WOMEN GIVE CHOCOLATE TO MEN AND THE FOLLOWING MONTH ON WHITE DAY, MEN RECIPROCATE BY GIVING NON-CHOCOLATE CANDY.

NOV. 11 (SOUTH KOREA)

PEPERO DAY IS WHEN YOUNG COUPLES EXCHANGE PEPERO COOKIES OR OTHER GIFTS. IN SOUTH KOREA, THE 14TH OF EVERY MONTH MARKS A ROMANTIC EVENT.

FEB. 24 (ROMANIA)

DRAGOBETE IS A HOLIDAY WHERE YOUNG COUPLES TRADITIONALLY EXCHANGE SPRING FLOWERS. IT IS ALSO A HOLIDAY TO CELEBRATE THE END OF WINTER AND THE START OF SPRING.

AUG. 13 (CHINA)

THIS YEAR CHINESE VALENTINE'S DAY FALLS ON AUGUST 13TH. THE FAIRYTALE IS A STORY OF FORBIDDEN LOVE: A YOUNG COWHERD FAILS IN LOVE WITH A FAIRY, BUT THEY'RE CRUELLY SEPARATED BY THE MILKY WAY. ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF THE SEVENTH MONTH OF THE LUNAR YEAR, MAGPIES FORM A BRIDGE SO THEY MAY BE REUNITED ONE NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

<http://www.nowareinna.com/festive/valworld.html>

ELS

Alone for Valentine's Day? Make the most of it!

By Hanna Hansen
Staff Writer

Are you worried about spending your Valentine's Day alone?

Being single isn't always bad. You just have to find the good things about it and look on the positive side, such as knowing that no one can tell you what you can or can't do, or not having to stress about what to get your significant other.

If you're alone for Valentine's Day, it's natural to feel bad that you don't have anyone. But, that's not the answer! Truly, there are millions of people out there in the same position you are. There are many things you can do by yourself that are very fun. Choose one of these ideas so you can enjoy your Valentine's Day!

The first thing you can definitely do is to reward yourself with a treat because of the holiday. You could have some chocolate, ice cream, cookies- whatever you feel in the mood for that day. I would suggest making the best of the situation you're in and turning your Valentine's Day into one that you will remember!

One option is to go out with some of your other single friends, and do something extremely fun with them that will make you forget about being dateless.

"You could go ice skating because it's good for spending time with your friends, or you might meet someone new too," freshman Michael Coumont said.

Doing something fun and out-of-the-ordinary can make your problems disappear for a while.

"When you are hanging out and hav-

ing fun with your friends, it makes you forget about the problems you're having because you are laughing and having a good time," freshman Arieanna Hoisington explained.

If you're a girl, you and your friends could dress up really fancy, and go out for a fun night! You could go out for a formal dinner, and after dinner, go have a movie marathon with dessert.

If you're a guy, then you and your friends could get together for a guy's night. Meet up to play video games, watch movies, go out to dinner, or whatever you guys feel like doing.

Another good thing to do by yourself is watch Netflix; I mean who doesn't enjoy a good show on Netflix?

"You could go buy yourself some ice cream or chocolate, and watch a marathon of a new show," freshman Jackson Condrey suggested.

You can eat some popcorn and have a laidback night. Don't watch any movies about love or romance because they will most likely make you feel worse about being dateless.

As you can see, there are many things to



Photo by Hanna Hansen

do if you are alone on Valentine's Day. There are so many others in the same place that you are in, and such a wide variety of things to do. So forget about being alone and go spend some quality time with some friends doing what you love.



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

Romance novelist Nicholas Sparks gets divorced

By
Grace Tesch
Staff Writer

Romance author Nicholas sparks wrote in The Notebook , “The first time you fall in love, it changes you forever and no matter how hard you try, that feeling just never goes away.”

Well that feeling went away for Sparks and his wife, Cathy. After a long 25 years of marriage, the Sparks have filed for divorce. The couple met at college 1989, and have had 5 kids together.

Sparks is best known as an author but has also produced films, and has been a screenwriter . Nine out of seventeen of Sparks’ novels have been made into films such as The Notebook .

So the question is, why did a man who has made living on romances have a failing marriage? You would think his marriage would be best because of his background.

As Sparks once said in an interview with eHarmony in 2012, “All the female characters in my story have elements of my wife.”

So what is going on with his marriage? I guess we will never fully know the answer because Sparks and his wife have refused to speak to the press in order to protect their five children.

Another question is will his fans base decrease? As the student voice Shilo Stuart,

“I think his fans will go down, and I will not continue to read his books after I have heard this news.”

Will people still trust his

books?

Every word that he has said, does he believe in them?

“Marriage is about becoming a team.”

Sparks said to (nicholas sparks) “You’re going to spend the rest of your life learning about each other, and every now and then, things blow up.

But the beauty of marriage is that if you picked the right person and you both love each other, you’ll figure out a way to get through it.”

Are Sparks’ words fraud? Well, that’s for you to decide. As student voice Shilo Stuart states,

“I feel conflicted that it’s bad for his image since he does right romance novels.”

Is it really any different that the authors of parenting books who are childless, Even if Sparks’ books are fictional romances.

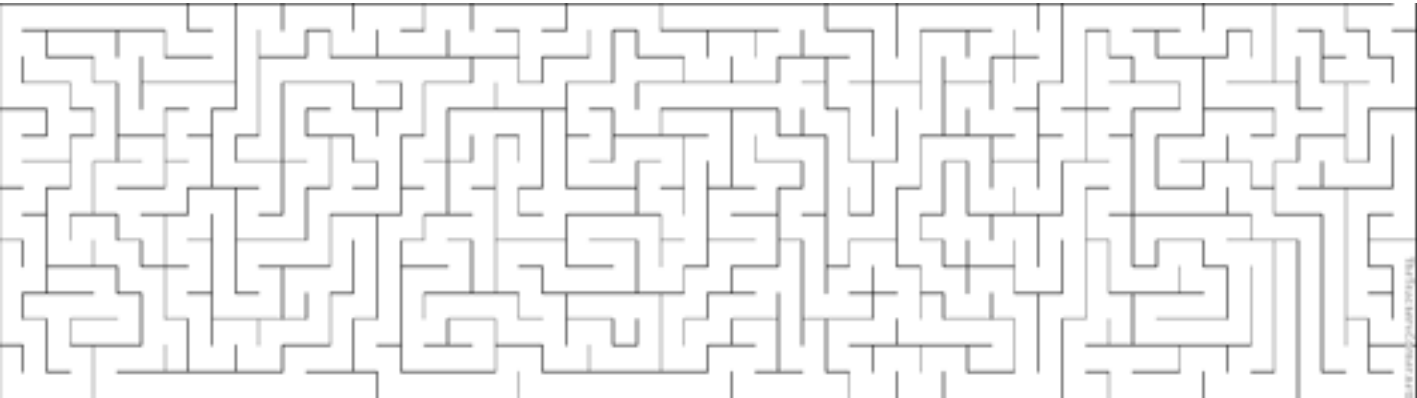
“For all Nicholas Sparks’ fans or hopeless romantics, this news is probably especially heartbreaking. (droulia)

As student voice again Shilo Stuart states,

“I think all the hopeless romantics are all feeling sad and I believe they won’t continue to read his books.”

If Sparks, of all people can’t find his soul mate, can any of us?”

Can you find love?



Start

End

Valentine's Day: it hasn't always been chocolate and roses

By Kelly Wright
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day. We celebrate it every year. But what do we really know about it?

Currently, Valentine's Day is celebrated in honor of St. Valentine, the Roman Priest that illegally wed people in 3rd Century Rome.

The first actual “Valentine's Day” was supposedly a feast in the middle of February, specifically February 15 , started by the Christian church in order to try and Christianize the Pagan holiday known as Lupercalia.

According to HistoryChannel.com, Lupercalia was fertility festival that was also dedicated to the Roman God of Agriculture, Faunus, and Rome's founders, Romulus and Remus. At this festival, people would first gather at a sacred cave where Romulus and Remus were believed to be cared for by a she-wolf or lupa. At this cave, they would sacrifice a dog for purification and a goat for fertility. They would then cut the goat hide into strips and dip it into the sacrificial blood of the dog.

What they did next was quite odd for today's standards. They would go onto the streets with the blood-dipped hide and would (gently) slap women and the crop fields. If not already odd enough, the Roman women would welcome the touch of the hides because it was believed at that time that it would make them more fertile. After all of the slapping, the young women in the city of Rome would put their names in a giant urn and the city's bachelors would all choose a name and



Young Roman women would put their names on paper in the urn and the single men of the city would pick a name from the urn and would then be paired with that woman.



Shrine of Saint Valentine in Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church in Dublin, Ireland.

become paired for the year with his chosen woman. These matches would often end up as marriages.

Now back to the chocolate and roses I mentioned at the beginning. According to Sadie Rothman of humanist.org, the Lupercalia festival was banned in 496 AD, and the holiday was moved to February 14, where it would be known as St. Valentine's Day.

The gifts of chocolate and roses were courtesy of playwrights William Shakespeare and Geoffrey Chaucer, who romanticized the day. Their toned-down version of the holiday swiftly gained popularity throughout the world, gaining popularity in Britain, then the rest of Europe, and the pilgrims brought it over to America.

Fast forward a few centuries, Hallmark began producing greeting cards for Valentine's Day in 1913.

More facts

Now that you know the background of Valentine's Day, here are some Valentine's Day Tidbits (facts. randomhistory.com).

The oldest known Valentine was a poem written by Charles, Duke of Orleans in 1415 to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London.

Valentine's Day became an official holiday in the U.S. in the 1850's.

Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in the late 1800's.

Americans spend around \$277 million on Valentine cards every year, second only to Christmas.

The first American Valentine was produced in 1834 by New York engraver Robert Elton.

A kiss on Valentine's Day is considered to bring good luck all year.

Foods to avoid on Valentine's Day (or any date)

By Hannah Storro
Staff Writer

There's one day of the year that you want to be with your beloved and do something special for them like a romantic dinner. However, there are some foods that you might want to avoid for Valentine's Day.

Everyone should know that green stuff always sticks to your teeth. One of those would be spinach. Okay, so picture yourself having a romantic evening at a fancy restaurant. You think nothing can ruin this special time, but then he says something funny and you smile. Uh oh! You got a couple of chunks of spinach in your teeth, and you don't even know until you get home. Talk about embarrassing!

He probably didn't want to tell you since he could've been embarrassed to say anything, or you were having a good time and he didn't want to ruin your night. This can happen to you. So, don't order anything that could get stuck in your teeth, like spinach, because this will ruin your chance of impressing that special someone. Maybe, bring a small container of floss, just in case you get something stuck in your teeth.

Do you like crab or lobster? Please, do not eat it on Valentine's Day. I'm not saying that it's bad, as it tastes great, but do you want to see your date ripping apart a creature from under the sea? Also, don't forget that when you crack that shell, all of that fishy-smelling juice squirts all over. So, say you put on one of those bibs to protect your shirt, that wouldn't be cute. Then, one big crack—squirt—and your date's best shirt smells like a dead fish for the rest of the night.

Beans...I don't need to say anymore. Just eat them at home. Eat them alone. I don't think any of us want our dates to have an upset stomach or have to pass gas because that's what beans do. Your mom or dad has probably told you before that beans give you gas, so just don't eat them on your date.

Spicy foods can sometimes be pretty hot to eat depending on which sauce you order on your food. If you start to use your napkin



Illustration by Hannah Storro

Don't eat spinach because of the risk of it getting in your teeth .

as a sweat rag, then it's probably too hot to eat. I recommend that you don't order something spicy unless you can handle it; otherwise, you'll be sitting there like a sweating pig. Mexican and Indian food are the same, so say no to that or, if you aren't careful, you could have a river flowing out of your nose.

I don't see garlic as a big problem, but onions I do. Both garlic and onions will give you bad breathe for the rest of the day, and you wouldn't want to talk to your date with the smell of onions or garlic. If it gets to the point where your date keeps his or her distance from you for the night, it means your breathe is that bad. Taking some mints wouldn't be a bad idea, just in case.

People like to eat chicken wings, right? But not on your date. Wings are off-limits when you're eating because you will get barbecue sauce all over your face which will make you look like a pig's face covered in its food. Chicken wings are also very greasy, and you always have a temptation to touch your face or your hair. Just don't eat chicken wings or any kind of chicken you can pick up. Please keep your hands and face clean so you don't look like an idiot in front of your date.

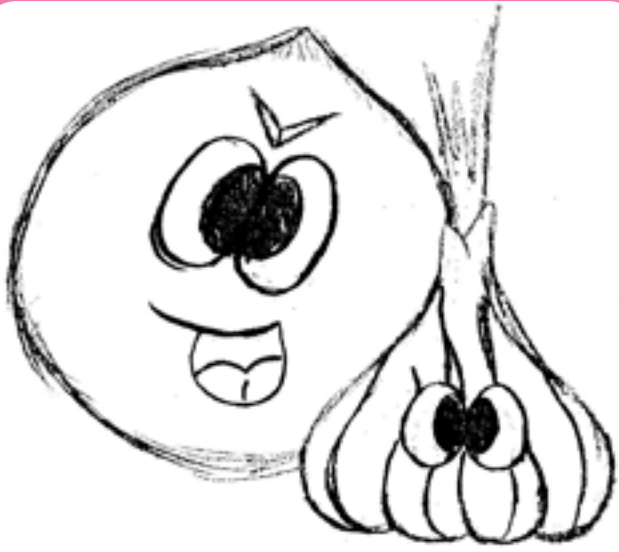


Illustration by Hannah Storro

Onions and Garlic plotting to give you bad breath for your date

What never to do on a date

By Haley James
Staff Writer

There are many things you can do on a date that can immediately make a girl no longer interested in you, and that is never fun. Here are all the things not to do on a date so when you go on your romantic Valentine's date, you will have a good time during the occasion and afterwards. When you're with your special someone don't expect them to pay, don't bring her or him on an overly expensive date, don't overinvest, don't grill her or him, or in other words, don't ask them so many questions, don't argue, don't brag about yourself, and make sure you aren't negative.

When it comes to money and paying, it can become very awkward on who is paying. Don't bring up the money; it might make your man or woman feel uncomfortable and the moment can become very awkward, so just wait until you get the bill. Then when you get the bill, just offer to pay for it or maybe you both can split the price.

Don't bring your special someone on an overly expensive date; a lot of people will be turned off by this. They might think that there date is trying to buy their affection, which isn't attractive at all. They also might feel overly anxious and might not know how to react. They might also feel bad about all the money you spent on her or him, and they could take advantage, start to like you because you spend a lot of money on her. You can take them out on a nice, classy date, just don't go overboard.

Don't overinvest, don't go all out especially if it's your first date; this might make your valentine feel very uncomfortable because they know that he or she hasn't earned the value you are placing on them. This might make your admirer think that you're desperate.

Never grill your beloved. No one wants to feel like they are on a job interview, and he or she might feel a little uncomfortable and awkward when they are being asked a million questions like how



Illustration by Haley James

Two people enjoying a date (that's going really well).

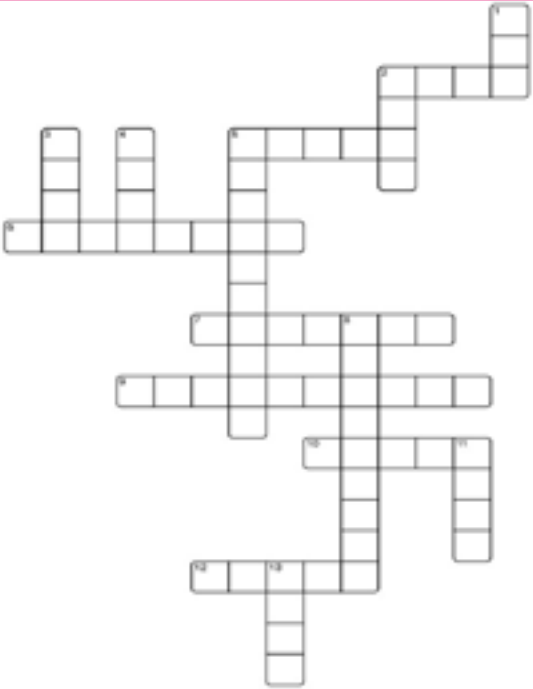
many siblings do you have or what was your past relationship like? You want your date to be fun and not boring like a job interview, and make sure you talk a little about yourself. Make sure you keep your darling entertained and keep the date interesting- one they won't forget.

You probably shouldn't argue with your date because it most likely won't end well. Every once in a while you can disagree, but don't let that ruin your day. Plus, a woman or man always likes to feel right so just let the disagreement go. Maybe explain to them why you disagree, but also hear her side because you don't want to get her mad you want a second date, right?

Never brag about yourself. No one likes a bragger. It just shows that you are full of yourself, and it can show that you are probably selfish. Plus, you want to learn about your date. No one wants to sit and just watch you talk about yourself. They probably would like to speak. So just make sure to talk a little about yourself, but make sure she is talking. Also, have a nice conversation with her.

Make sure you aren't negative, be positive. If you aren't positive, you might make your date feel bad. Being negative can easily ruin an occasion. Make sure you are having fun and don't point out all the bad things.

Now you know what not to do on a date, guys don't mess up. Have fun, don't be negative, don't brag, don't argue, and don't grill, don't overinvest, and make sure you follow my instructions. Hope everyone has a good Valentine's Day and has a nice date.



Across

- 2. Something you wear on your finger
- 5. Kids exchange these on Valentines Day
- 6. A piece of jewelry worn around ones neck
- 7. Did the mail man leave any valentines in your_____?
- 9. A safe place to store jewelry
- 10. Bow and_____.
- 12. Son of Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love

Down

- 1. In "XOXOXO" the O stands for what?
- 2. The most popular flower for Valentine's
- Day
- 3. "I _____ you!"
- 4. Valentine's Day color
- 5. I received a full box of
- 8. ..And girlfriend
- 11. Husband and
- 13. Something a poet writes

16 Happy Valentine's Day

A E L P U O C M K L B K F T X Y Z D U U
C C O B O Y F R I E N D U V J S A V F K
I P I H S N O I T A L E R N E E S C D F
K L J H I S Y I P F V Y O U N E O H U P
W R T K H E N I T N E L A V S H S X M H
C J H I D V K R C E J Y Y S P C D S N H
A G X S R E V E R O F V E H E A R T S E
C I L S H A H L S W S R A R R C L R W C
F F Z C L R O S E S D Q D O S L O G Y N
F T E C U T E U P E A W E Z Y R N C K A
L S L A M I N A D E F F U T S I D O Y M
O P S K R R L E T T E R S H T O D N R O
W E I E N F X T H P P N G A O Z R C L R
E U X T B D C Z E D O Y K F E G E E E M
R H E T A L O C O H C S E N L N S R W O
S U X Z Q B V U E N E X U A Y I S T E V
T R E S S E D Y O C V G X S H T U F J I
S O Z O Q D N E I R F L R I G A P S Z E
R E N N I D L N P V N L O V E D L Y R S
A D S V D D A N C I N G S D N E I R F D

BOYFRIEND
CHEESY
CHOCOLATE
CONCERT
COUPLE
CUTE
DANCING
DATING
DESSERT
DINNER

DRESSES
DRESSUP
FLOWERS
FOOD
FOREVER
FRIENDS
GIFTS
GIRLFRIEND
HEARTS
ICE SKATING

JEWELRY
KISS
LETTERS
LOVE
MOVIES
RELATIONSHIP
ROMANCE
ROSES
STUFFED ANIMAL
VALENTINE