

The Spotlight

February 2021

Vol. 70

Issue 3

Articles

What not to do on Valentine's Day

Zodiac Signs

Black History Month

Bachelor and Bachelorette

Reasons behind the Valentine's Day Heart

Students on the Job: COVID

Safe ways to celebrate the New Year

Sports Pick-Up Lines

Black History Month

By Ellie Goetz

Black History Month is an important time to celebrate and learn about the history of African Americans. Around Cleveland, there are many locations regarding the history of African Americans. If you wish to learn about the history in your backyard, keep reading!

1)Baseball Heritage Museum: The first location is perfect for sports fans. The museum features sports memorabilia regarding the diverse history of baseball. There are endless exhibits, uniforms, stories, photographs, and more. It is located at League Park, the former stadium of the Cleveland Indians.

2)Cozad-Bates House: This is a location associated with the underground railroad. This structure is the only pre-Civil War house that remains in University Circle. The structure housed slaves from the South during their journey to Canada. The house's code name was "Station Hope" for the enslaved people and abolitionists.

3)Don's Pomeroy House: This former house now restaurant is located in Strongsville. Dating back to 1837, this house has a history of accommodating slaves. The slaves would hide in the cellar and frequently be transported in carts of hay that would lead them to a boat on its way to Canada.

4)Jesse Owens Monument: This monument features a statue of former Olympic athlete Jesse Owens. Owens ran track and became the first athlete in history to earn four gold medals at the Olympics. In 1936 at the Berlin Olympics, Owens' accomplishments angered racist Adolf Hitler so greatly that he left the stadium early. Both on and off the field, Owens' courage and kindness led him to be one of the most remembered athletes of his time.

These are just a few of many locations dedicated to history among African Americans in the Cleveland area. Try to visit at least one location to learn and experience something new!

Valentine's Activities...And why they're kind-of bad

By Katie Cleary and Hadley Allen

Giving roses

We already know you spent like \$20.00 on that bouquet. I don't know why the people who came up with Valentine's Day chose such an expensive flower. In some places, a dozen long-stemmed roses can cost up to \$97.00. Only 1 stem can be 4-6 dollars around Valentine's Day. Like, come on... Also they die in like a week? Here's a great gift to symbolize our love: hurts to hold and dies out in a week.

Asking out people you don't even know

Forget stranger danger, apparently. Valentine's Day is the perfect excuse to ask out just anyone. Literally anyone. However, no one ever seems to acknowledge just how weird this is. In a world where online dating is at an all-time high, just make sure you've passed through the talking stage before you fully meet someone you found online or barely know.

Awful conversation hearts that nobody likes

They taste like chalk and the messages on them are barely even readable sometimes. These will go uneaten. What even is the flavor?! CHALK DUST?! These have the absolute opposite effect of what they're intended to do. If you want to tell someone that you don't love them, give them a box of these. In general, we think this is pretty self-explanatory.

Secret admirers

This is just kind-of creepy. If you have the courage to write "Secret Admirer" on something, you definitely have the courage to go up to them and talk. This one kind of gave us You, from Netflix, vibes. This behavior has been going on far too long. This is constantly romanticized in movies, but in real life, the person you're targeting will gossip about this to all their friends...and not in a positive light. It'll immediately turn into a full-on Riverdale episode, which is a well-known dumpster fire.

Writing really bad love poems

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
These need to be stopped,
Yes we're talking about you.

This trend needs to be dropped,
There's more to explore
These poems were literally invented
Back in 1784 (let's move on)

They're never deep,
And always half-hearted
Someone please remind me
Why this trend started?

And the fact they barely rhyme
Is just a little bonus
Please don't confess your love like this
You're not Nick Jonas

-Your secret admirers



Story Behind the Valentine's Heart

By Claire Wiggernhorn

Heart candies, Heart-shaped chocolate, heart this, and heart that. Why is the heart shape so big on Valentine's Day? The popular heart shape was first made in the Medieval times. In fact, according to Time magazine, the heart-shape is similar to the heart of birds or reptiles more than anything else. Back in those days, the Catholic Church forbade people to perform surgery or anything, so they assumed birds and reptiles were the same as humans. In medieval times, romantic love began to grow on people. Poems also were getting popular so of course many love poems were written. They needed an image to go along with these poems so the well-known heart-shape was made. According to history.com, some professors of medieval literature say that the idea for the shape of the well-known heart comes from two human hearts bonded together with love, but no one is quite sure. While the true origin will forever be unknown, we know that the iconic shape isn't going anywhere any time soon. So, embrace the popular shape and buy a box of chocolate!

Winter Sports-Best Pickup Lines

By Rachel Korba and Cassie Schmidt

This Valentine's Day, we decided to reach out to the most competitive “players” in the school, hoping they could give us some advice. Here are our Bulldogs best pickup lines:

Girls Basketball: Yo



Wrestling: Are you a loan because you sure have my interest.



Hockey: Are you a zamboni because you sure clean up nice.



Boys Basketball: I dish out a couple assists a game, but I've never passed a dime like you.



Bowling: You're a strike in my mind.



Swim & Dive: You must be a flip turn because I am head over heels for you!



Gymnastics: I just got a 0.8 deduction from falling for you ;)



Cheer: Can you teach me the counts? Specifically, the counts to your heart.

2021 Love Horoscopes By Sam Gaba

Aries (March 21-April 19)

You come off strong to those around you, and while some may find it endearing, others, well...not. Rejection was never a consideration for you, but try to think about it this time. Not all opportunities presented are opportunities you should take.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Sometimes people have to consider all aspects of a situation before they make an important decision, and this season that applies to you. Is this old age or just an extremely long talking stage? Are you procrastinating defining something because you crave perfection? Don't be scared to state what you want. 2021 is about you, not them!

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

It's time to lower your standards. At this point, if you haven't settled already, it's too late. That talking stage has lasted way too long to be called anything other than the friendzone. Sorry!

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Someone feels misunderstood this season! You've been seeking a soulmate, haven't you? But don't worry, this period will end with celebration and smiles. Let's all raise a glass...to being single!

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Somebody's after you. Let's be honest for a minute, you're a Leo. Do you need the validation that everybody already wants you? This season it's a special radical character who's chasing you, and you're about to surprise them with an answer they weren't expecting!

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Oh, so you're the one they're whispering about in the halls! Defined by a past fling or a nasty public on-and-off relationship, you're fed up. With everything. There's a new relationship waiting for you this season. Start looking in a place where you struggle. A difficult class, maybe?

Libra (September 23-October 22)

Fake faces lead to fake personalities! You need to start being honest with yourself in order to commit to a relationship that is authentic. Somebody you've been involved with in the past is circling back, but not in the way you think. Take their advice.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

It's no secret that you keep too many secrets. There's an emotional rollercoaster heading your way this season, since you tend to lean toward that "all or nothing" mentality. Expect the unexpected because you definitely won't see this coming!

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Yikes, someone's attracted the attention of someone they'd rather avoid! You thought you stuck them in the friendzone, but somehow they've duped themselves into believing it's something else. Not pointing fingers, but it's definitely an Aquarius...

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Let's just say it: you're unromantic, even when you're not trying to be. It's who you are. So let's shy away from repeating patterns this season...maybe it's best if you stay single. If there's anything you learned from last year, it's that you're better off alone.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Tsk tsk, you're not a very trustworthy one, are you? You're surrounded by drama, and this season a relationship is about to flare up...for the worse. Heed this warning, and fix it before there's a real problem. Communication is key!

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

It's time for a major change in your love life. A confession will hit you by surprise this season, so take advantage of this opportunity. This is the right person, this is the right time, don't worry. Spend less time worrying and more time planning your first date!

Students on the Job: COVID Edition

By Katie Gareau

This school year has brought about many changes for both students and staff. Many of our students at Olmsted Falls High School also work and have felt the impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on their work lives as well. As a working student, I know that I have had to be flexible to change this year, whether it was in relation to work or school. I thought it would be insightful to ask others about the impact that Covid-19 has had on their lives during this crazy year.

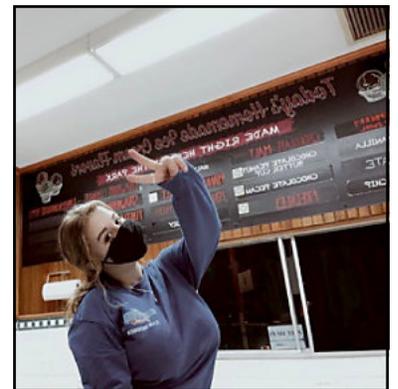
Senior Annie Gutschow discussed how her year has been impacted while working at Chick-fil-A and continuing her school year. Annie explained how Chick-fil-A now only functions as a drive thru restaurant out of concern for the safety of all patrons and employees. As many other restaurants found, they have had to increase their sanitation and, of course, mandate gloves and masks at all times. She also explained, “We have been extremely short-staffed this year and being a drive thru leader in a drive thru only restaurant has caused me to be at work more hours than I am during a typical school year. That has affected the amount of time I have for homework and other school related activities.” As many other students have found, not being in person has caused many managers to tag on additional hours. This often cuts into students' personal time and much of the time that would usually be spent on homework. Annie is on the completely remote track this school year. She explained that although she would prefer an in-person mode of learning, she has found the remote option to fit with her comfort level during such a crazy year.

Madison Podojil is a junior

who works at Swings-N-Things during the warmer seasons. Working at an arcade and entertainment park during Covid-19 required some adjustments to be made in order to ensure the safety of all involved. She explained how “Covid Cleaners” were assigned to clean the gameroom and ensure the area was sanitized. Madison did not find the balance between school and work this year to be overly challenging. Swings-N-Things has reduced hours during the school week, which helped with reducing Madison’s stress about balancing school and work. She was able to work weekends before Swings-N-Things closed for the season until March. When discussing which mode of learning is best for her, Madison described, “I think hybrid is the most effective for me! I learn better in person, but I still like working in a comfortable living space when I am home. Both in-person and remote learning have their pros and cons!” So despite many of the challenges that this year has thrown her way, Madison has been keeping up with changes and trying her best to be positive about the situation.

Senior Emma LaRosa has been working at American Eagle during Covid-19 and shared how her school year has been affected at both work and school. Because Emma works in retail, she felt that she hasn’t seen as many drastic changes this year. However, she added that the adjustments may not seem as extreme because she has gotten so used to them. The staff at American Eagle has taken some of the more obvious precautions including extra sanitation and wearing extra masks. However, Emma explained

that an additional unforeseen challenge has been communication with customers. She can no longer read lips or get close to customers to hear them, which can be a challenge at times. Emma has had fewer classes at Olmsted Falls this year, which has allowed her to balance work and school fairly easily. However, she also explained that she could understand the frustration while trying to create that balance this year. She misses being in person all the time because, as a hands on learner, in-person is a very important aspect of her education. However, Emma said, “Currently I wish that we were all online so that everyone was in the same place. It’s challenging to pick up where you left off a week ago, or just get back in a learning mindset after teaching yourself 2-3 days.” Although Emma has felt that she has been able to adjust throughout the semester, she still misses that “normal” that we all crave.



Will You Accept this Rose?

By Cathy Doherty

With Valentine's Day around the corner, students are scrambling to find their one true love...or something like that, right? I interviewed eight eligible bachelors and bachelorettes of Olmsted Falls High School and asked them some of life's most important questions.

Bachelorette #1: Mikayla Ellis

Grade: Senior

Pick three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

"Outgoing, respectful, and fun."

Out of everywhere in the world, where would you like to take a potential significant other on a date and why?

"Probably skydiving, that'd be fun."

Toilet paper, under or over?

"Over. Literally over."

Is cereal soup?

"No. It's cereal."

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

"You must be debt, because my interest in you is growing."



Bachelorette #2: Lindsey LaPinta

Grade: Senior

Pick three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

"Kind, respectful, and Matthew McConaughey."

Out of everywhere in the world, where would you like to take a potential significant other on a date and why?

"Easy. Amish Country. I got my dog there so if we wanted to get one of those together we could, and they have the best cookies."

Toilet paper, under or over?

"Over!! Any other answer is illegal."

Is cereal soup?

"Cereal is definitely not soup."

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

"Drake would call you and me God's Plan ;)"



Bachelorette #3: Kristina Hess

Grade: Junior

Three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

"Kind, funny, and optimistic."

Out of everywhere in the world, where is your ideal date and why?

"The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. I love looking at pictures from the Met Gala, so being able to see where it is hosted would be lots of fun. Also, we would have lots of time to talk and get to know each other."

Toilet paper, under or over?

"Over!!"

Is cereal soup?

"I don't think so."

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

"If I could rearrange the alphabet, I'd put 'U' and 'I' together."



Bachelorette #4: Bailey Boyle

Grade: Junior

Three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

“Funny, caring, and outgoing.”

Out of everywhere in the world, where is your ideal date and why?

“I would probably pick Times Square during Christmas time. I have always wanted to see the huge Christmas tree, and I think it would be fun to skate in the little ice rink right in front of it. Basically recreating a Hallmark Christmas movie.”

Toilet paper, under or over?

“Definitely over!”

Is cereal soup?

“No, cereal is cereal.”

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

“I think there’s something wrong with my cell phone; it doesn’t have your number in it.”



Bachelor #1: Sean Dougher

Grade: Senior

Pick three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

“Smart, easy going, mega pretty.”

Out of everywhere in the world, where would you like to take a potential significant other on a date and why?

“If I could take a girl anywhere on a date, I would definitely take her to Rolling Loud in Miami FL. Because warm weather + loud music + pretty girl = str8 path to marriage.”

Toilet paper, under or over?

“Always under. NEVER over.”

Is cereal soup?

“Dictionary.com defines soup as, ‘a liquid food made by boiling or simmering meat, fish, or vegetables with various added ingredients.’ Cereal definitely ain’t that.”

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

“I usually go for 8s, but I’ll settle for a 10.”



**CONTINUED
ON NEXT
PAGE.....**

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Bachelor/Bachelorette Cont.

Bachelor #2: Ian England

Grade: Junior

Pick three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

“Cute, funny, and smart.”

Out of everywhere in the world, where would you like to take a potential significant other on a date and why?

“Dave and Busters for sure, but I got banned from there soooo...”

Toilet paper, under or over?

“Over.”

Is cereal soup?

“What’s the definition of soup?”

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

Ian gave us a 368 word answer to this question in which he reflected on the true meaning of love; he ended with this: “...So basically what I’m trying to say is...Are you lightning? Because I wanna make you McQueen. Kachow!”



Bachelor #3: Ali Awad

Grade: Senior

Out of everywhere in the world, where would you like to take a potential significant other on a date and why?

“Dave n Busters because they got food and games there.”

Toilet paper, under or over?

“Over; if not, you’re weird.”

Is cereal soup?

“No, that’s like saying a hot dog is a sandwich.”

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

“Do you believe in love at first sight- or should I walk by again?”



Bachelor #4: Justin Rice

Grade: Sophomore

Pick three adjectives to describe your ideal partner:

“Brown hair, likes Star Wars, isn’t annoying.”

Out of everywhere in the world, where would you like to take a potential significant other on a date and why?

“Lake Como, Italy.”

Toilet paper, under or over?

“Definitely over, if you do anything else then you’re a psychopath.”

Is cereal soup?

“Is rice wheat?”

Finally, shoot us with your cheesiest pick up line.

“Are you a parking ticket? Because you’ve got ‘fine’ written all over you.”

