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The Love Issue

News
HISTORY OF VALENTINE’S DAY

Arts & Culture
BEHIND THE SCENES AT HAVEN’S CANDIES

Perspectives
THE SCIENCE OF ATTRACTION

Community
WHAT DOES LOVE MEAN TO USM STUDENTS?

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Bar and clubs are usually the stereotypical hot spots to pick up women and with Valentine’s Day around the corner, the nightlife in Portland is sure to be filled with thirsty dudes looking for some last minute love. But how do women feel about that?

Based on the experiences of several female students the general consensus is grim: a good portion of men are over-aggressive creeps when it comes to their strategies for scoring dates.

“I’m sure every girl has been hit on, one way or another, in a creepy fashion,” said Nicole Downing, a sophomore art major.

According to Downing, “creepy behavior,” can be anything from prolonged stares, the use of pick-up lines, to unwanted touching and grabbing. From the accounts of female students, these behaviors happen far too often and can discourage girls from feeling comfortable in the dating scene.

“Men suck,” said Sarah Morrette, a senior communication major in a simulated pickup line ever.”

“Going through a lot of rejection isn’t even an excuse for the behavior,” said Zahn. “I’ve learned to not even put myself in those situations, it isn’t my duty to take responsibility for those actions.”

Despite the cheesiness of pick-up lines, some girls enjoy them, but only if they’re humorous enough.

“I kind of like them because they make me chuckle,” said Anderson. “A sense of humor can go a long way with me.”

Rylee Doiron, a musical theatre graduate, told a bar story about a guy who improvised a line based on the drink that she ordered. The guy who improvised a line based on the drink that she ordered.

“Girls are on their guard a bit more,” said Owen. “Men don’t know what it’s like on their end.”

Owens said that if somebody expresses disinterest in him at a bar, then he immediately stops flirting to avoid coming across as weird or creepy.

While Rohde spoke out against pick-up lines and simply hitting on girls, he did say that he’s been persistent on occasion when trying to win a girl’s favor.

“I try to read the vibe a girl is throwing at me,” said Rohde. “If she says no in a serious manner, I’ll back off. But if it’s a playful no, then I might try to persist.”

Anderson offered some advice to anyone looking to find a Valentine’s love within Portland’s bar and club scene and said to approach a girl and compliment her, but about something other than her physicality.

“If she’s wearing a nice dress, say something about it, because that girl probably spent a long time picking that dress out,” said Anderson. “All ladies love compliments.”

Francis Flisiuk / Managing Editor

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Managing Editor

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The lesser known history of Valentine’s Day

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor

Overpriced roses and heart shaped pieces of plastic have adorned department store shelves, signifying that the ancient fertility festival of Lupercalia is almost upon us. But of course, most modern Americans know it as Valentine’s Day.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 62% of American adults celebrated the holiday of love and romance last year, but how many are aware of its pagan and later Christian origins?

After stopping to ask this question to about 25 students in the Woodbury Campus Center last week, the air of uncertainty surrounding the holiday’s beginning was tangible. Most students responded with, “I think it has something to do with St. Valentine did some stuff at one time. I’m sorry, I don’t really know.”

“The only thing that comes to my mind is baby cupid shooting arrows,” said Christina Cook, a first year social work graduate student. “Like St. Valentine did some stuff at one time. I’m sorry, I don’t really know.”

“The day of the holiday in its current form, I think it has something to do with St. Valentine,” but not much else.

“It was a religious day right?” said Christina Cook, a first year social work graduate student. “Like St. Valentine did some stuff at one time. I’m sorry, I don’t really know.”

“Valentine’s Day was a different sort of celebration. Luperca – lia back in Roman times, it was a different sort of celebration. Lupercalia, as it was called back then, was celebrated by sacrificing animals and whipping naked women with their hides in a drunken revelry. The holiday didn’t get its name until 400 A.D. Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14 the day to honor two men, both named Valentine, who were executed by the Romans 100 years prior. The Pope wanted a Christian holiday to honor the church but didn’t want to upset the then huge populace of pagans. So Pope Gelasius simply changed the name of Lupercalia to Valentine’s Day in homage to the two bishops who were imprisoned and tortured in Rome before they died as martyrs. However, according to the Roman Martyrology, there’s only one person listed as Saint Valentine.”

By the medieval era of the late 1300s the holiday was first associated with love and romance, spurred on by the works of Geoffrey Chaucer and William Shakespeare. But according to Libby Bischof, a history professor at USM, the Valentine’s Day rituals and symbols that we’re used to didn’t really gain popularity until the 17th and 18th century. After Europe embraced the idea of sending each other Valentines, the tradition carried over to America.

“As you might imagine, the British colonists brought over the tradition of card exchange with them to the New World,” said Bischof. “Libby Bischof collects vintage Valentine’s Day cards from the late 19th century for personal pleasure and for her history students to examine. Bischof said that it is evident from her historic collection where we get our classic symbols of cherubs, hearts, flowers and doves. The cards were highly ornate, with soft tones of pinks, reds and blues and layered with lace and images of Victorian era scenes.

“Much like the women of the time were overdressed with ruffles and lace, these Valentine’s Day cards were way overdone,” said Bischof. “But I love card exchange.”

Bischof said that people living in the Victorian era, which lasted from 1837-1901, were more sentimental than the current generation and spent their Valentine’s Day sending gifts and detailed artistic stationeries to not just their romantic desires, but also to their friends and family.

“Today the honor of my Valentine is usually reserved for somebody’s boyfriend or girlfriend,” said Bischof. “Friendships were more intimate back then.”

From the pop up art work, to the romantic verses and handwritten notes to even the envelopes they were sent in, these messages of love followed a structured format, but without lacking in creativity and meaning.

“The 1700s there were actual manuals and coded social behaviors on what you should put into a Valentine’s Day card,” said Bischof. Even the direction and angle of the stamp carried some sort of sentiment and meaning. For example a crooked stamp might mean that your intentions are to transcend being friends and start courting.

The art of the handwritten note and the act of making things from scratch in general is something that Bischof believes has for the most part, taken a back seat in modern society. “Times have changed,” said Bischof. “There’s no handmade touch anymore, when taking the time and sentiment is important. It would be a nice thing if we could do more of it, but it’s gone by the wayside a little, partially from laziness and partially the demands of our time.”

According to Bischof, Valentine’s Day rituals have altered to a point where the holiday is more commercialized and people feel pressured to spend a lot of their money funding a billion dollar industry. And while according to U.S. Postal Service, 150 million Valentine’s Day cards were sent through the mail last year, most were mass produced.

“Nowadays I’m sure it’s more common to make a Facebook post and tag your significant other in it,” said Bischof. “There was more genuine care behind the Victorian practices, that may have just been filtered out now.”

Emily Maynard, a community planning and development graduate, used to keep fostering the older card exchange tradition as an R.A. on campus by leaving Valentine’s Day cards under residents’ doors. She believes that handmade a card and sending it through the mail shows a lot of initiative, but is simply a hobby for some people.

“But that card in the mail has definitely been almost phased out by modern society,” said Maynard. “My parent will send me a card. But I probably won’t send one back.”

“I might send out one card,” said Brandon Owens, a recreation and sports management graduate. “I think most students have an idea of their Valentine’s Day celebration as not just a card. Some of Libby Bischof’s private collection of vintage Valentine’s Day cards from the 19th century, when the mass sending of love messages gained popularity. One card reads: “When thou art near, the rose doth seem less fair, the lily pale is shorn of baff its grace, I only see the glory of thy hair. I only know the beauty of thy face, thy presence gladdens like the vernal year, and it is always May, when thou art near.”

The only thing that comes to my mind is baby cupid shooting arrows. I don’t think most students have an idea about the religious foundations of certain holidays.

Rona Sayed, International business major

Francis Flisiuk
Managing Editor
Brian Gordon  
Free Press Staff

The first of the three prospective USM presidents, Jose "Zito" Sartarelli, met with student leaders, faculty and staff Thursday to introduce himself and answer questions about his vision for USM.

"Job one is enrollment. You have to fix enrollment. Job two is fundraising. Fundraising takes time, three to five years," Sartarelli said. "USM has great bones but absolutely needs a new vision."

Throughout the day Sartarelli was vocally adamant about recruitment and getting enrollment up by marketing to students.

"That dream of ‘build it and they will come’ – that doesn’t work anymore, you have to go out and sell it," said Sartarelli. "We have to sell abroad and nationally – make our classrooms more diverse."

"I have coined a slogan already, ‘USM Rising’. Rising enrollment. Rising community engagement’," Sartarelli said.

The student senate ate lunch with Sartarelli and were all concerned about what his take of the "metropolitan university model" would be. Sartarelli’s vision entails not just reaching out to local businesses but a global reach. He would like to raise our student population from hovering around 7,000 to 10,000 and have international students be 10% of that.

He would like to raise our student enrollment. Job one to get our numbers up, it doesn’t make up.

"If we do not reach out to you, you have a reason to be upset," said Sartarelli. "I’m not a person who closes the door. I do a lot of managing by walking around, floor to floor."

Lucinda Cole, associate professor of English and director of women and gender studies noted the board of trustees is in charge of the budget right now and asked what Sartarelli would do if that was still the case and he was the president.

"If I’m coming in with my hands tied behind back, I’m not coming here; I’m not interested," said Sartarelli, noting that he wants to have full control of USM’s budget.

"No one is going to cry for us if we close. We need to get them [the state government] to care about us by being a valuable resource. I would love to be president and take the university to a new level."

The other presidential candidates will be on campus this week; Dr. Glenn Cummings will visit the 9th and 10th and Dr. Harvey Kesselman the 12th and 13th.

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Police Beat  

Selections from the USM Department of Public Safety  

Police logs are edited for grammar and style. They can be found at usm.maine.edu/police/campus-crime-log.

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First presidency finalist visits

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Wednesday, January 21

I got a hangover to do some late night welding  

1:24 a.m. - Reported unauthorized entry into a building. Attempted theft, under investigation.

Welding Shop, 45 University Way

"What? Is this not a reasonable place to park?"  

7:46 p.m. - Suspicious activity. Vehicle parked in a non parking area.

Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

Black-eyes, concussions and missing teeth up the wazhow!  

10:04 p.m. - Subject transported to hospital following medical emergency.

Ice Arena, 55 Campus Ave.

Thursday, January 22

It's Thirsty Thursday Bub, relax  

11:19 p.m. - Disturbance. Assistance to residential life for loud party.

Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

Friday, January 23

Pick-pocket targets drunk freshmen  

12:01 a.m. - Suspicious activity. Item removed from individual.

Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

You rolled the bones and lost  

7:12 p.m. - Summons issued to Joseph A. Zukowski, 22 of Portland for suspended registration and a warning for stop sign violation.

Parking Lot P3, 34 Bedford St.

Sunday, January 25

Whiskey on a Sunday  

1:39 a.m. - Report of subjects yelling, unable to locate.

Philippi Hall, 19 Campus Ave.

Yelling "Fire!" in a crowded theater  

5:44 p.m. - Fire alarm activated due to light smoke and odor in building. Check by Gorham Fire Department and determined to be an issue with the HVAC system.

Upton Hastings Hall, 52 University Way

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Monday, January 26

Don’t panic! It’s only a button  

10:26 a.m. - Security alarm. Accidental trip of panic button.

Law Building, 246 Deering Ave.

Tuesday, January 27

But it’s my turn to sleep with the binky!  

1:52 a.m. - Assisted with a roommate conflict, all set.

Peace restored.

Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.

Late night puker wakes the dorm  

3:42 a.m. - Disturbance. Assisted residential life with a call.

Upperclass Hall, 25 Husky Dr.
Haven’s handcrafts their chocolate treats

Inside the store, employees are preparing for the upcoming holiday.

Valentine’s day is often associated with the typical romantic gestures of dinner dates, sending roses and seeing a romantic comedy to wrap up a cliche date night. One of the most typical gifts of romance, chocolate, is being produced all over the world. At Haven’s in Westbrook, the smell of freshly melted chocolate lingers in the air as customers walk in prepared to buy their loved ones that something special.

Art Dillon, a self-proclaimed master candy maker, is one of the many people working hard to create the variety of chocolate products sold at Haven’s. He explained that this time of year there are a lot of people who come into the store looking for chocolate for that special someone in their lives.

“People love chocolate because it makes them feel really good. It has good endorphins, it has antioxidants and when eaten in moderation it’s good for you,” said Dillon.

Within the store, glass windows give customers a behind-the-scenes look at the production of their favorite treats. Employees poured cream centers into starch holdings, which mold them to be covered in chocolate in the morning once it has cooled.

“Candy making itself is usually a 24 hour process. In an average day, one person can pack about 150 pounds of chocolate in an eight hour time span,” said Dillon. “A lot of work goes into making our chocolates.”

In a large mixing container out back, candy makers melt hot, bubbling caramel to a sweet simmer. Once it’s done mixing, employees will take the hot caramel and put it into impressions until it cools. As everyone hurried around making chocolate delights, Dillon explained that as a business, they have to think ahead to future holidays.

“Our company wholesales so we’re busy pretty much year round. Retail sales go up substantially during the holidays,” said Dillon. “We always have to be thinking ahead. We’re thinking about Easter right now and we finished all of our Valentine’s Day stuff last week, except for dipping strawberries.”

Some of their most popular items this time of year are the chocolate hearts, cherry cordials, turtles, sea salt caramels, toffee and butter crunch. Dillon explained that everything except the gummy products and foiled items that the customer can purchase is made right in store.

“Before I started here, I used to think that chocolate was expensive. Now that I work here, I’ve seen the labor that goes into making all the product,” said Dillon. “Everything is hand-packed. I thought it would be automated and machine driven. The amount of packaging and inventory that has to be kept on hand is crazy.”

Dillon explained that out of all the chocolate that is made at Haven’s, his favorite will always be the almond bark.

“Almond bark is basically hand-tempered chocolate with almonds put in it,” said Dillon. “It looks like tree bark but it tastes so good.”

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor
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Top left: Employees pour melted chocolate into molding trays.
Bottom left: Art Dillon stands by the store’s handmade product stand.
Top right: Employees mold chocolate bunnies in preparation for Easter.
Bottom right: Caramel is melted down and mixed until it’s ready. The next day, it will be cool enough to make caramel strips and package.
### Local Top 5:

#### Alternative Valentine’s Day dates in Portland

**Contributor:** Kristin Ouellette

1. **“80 Shades of Awesome” at Portland City Music Hall on Congress Street**

   Time to pull out your mom’s old pumps and rummage through thrift shops for a pair of legwarmers - and leather pants, if you so choose. Grab your significant other or friends and come dance away at Portland City Music Hall with The Awesome, presenting “80 Shades of Awesome.”

2. **Couples Guided Tour at Wadsworth-Longfellow house on Congress Street**

   Many couples feel great warmth from being able to learn something together. As Henry Wadsworth Longfellow once said, “Love keeps the cold out better than a cloak.” In celebration of Valentine’s Day, the Wadsworth-Longfellow House on Congress Street is hosting a love-themed tour. Bring your special someone out to Congress Street and listen to tour guides talk about things like 17th Century courtship rituals, as well as the Longfellow family’s many romances, heartbreaks and marriages. Tours are taking place between February 5 and 14 and reservations are filling up quick so be sure to book early!

3. **7th Annual Valentines Day Public Dance at Maplewood Dance Center**

   Looking for somewhere fun, upbeat and unique to take your date this Valentine’s Day? Why not kick it high school style and head over to the 7th Annual Valentine Public Dance. This exciting event is happening on Valentines Day at the Maplewood Dance Center. The dress code is Dressy Casual to tux and ball gown, so pull out your best attire and get dolled-up for a great night of dancing with your special someone. Listen to the sounds of the Carmine Terracciano Band, presented by Tony Boffa Music. Maplewood Dance Center is the largest ballroom dance floor in Maine and is located on Warren Avenue. The dance lasts from 8:00-11:00 p.m.

4. **Portland Ballet presents: “Boy Meets Girl” at the Maplewood Dance Center**

   Do you envision a classy, upscale romance with your significant other? If you want to make Valentine’s Day a memorable night for your love, why not take them to the Portland Ballet Studio Theater? Throughout February, Portland Ballet is presenting “Boy Meets Girl” a beautiful show that will leave you and your love smiling. Watch dancers glide across the stage and enjoy an array of fantasizing music to accompany the show. If you want a night that will be undeniably classic and memorable, it is highly recommended that you check out this lovely show.

5. **Flatbread Company on Commercial Street**

   If you and your lover are foodies, Portland is the perfect city to feed your taste buds with any kind of food imaginable. One restaurant in particular, Flatbread Company on Commercial Street in Portland, is unique in flavors and atmosphere. After you order from the wide selection of delicious and interesting flatbread pizzas, gaze out the window with your love and watch the amazing sights of the New England seafaring atmosphere. At this restaurant, your food is prepared right in front of you. Treat your significant other, your mom and dad or a few friends to this delicious restaurant that strays far from the typical “dinner and a movie.”

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### What caught your eyes and ears this week?

**What makes it premium?** We’re not entirely sure, but we aren’t about to turn down free, potentially super-porn because we’re being cynics. Whether you’re looking to spice up the bedroom with your partner after a romantic evening, get the ball rolling with a new flame or need some self-love while the movie your streaming is buffering for the 17th time, a visit to the world’s most popular porn connect can’t possibly be a bad choice.

If you choose to have a sexier Valentine’s Day, be sure to rate, appreciate and use us as a reference if you end up subscribing. We probably get rewards points or something for that.

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**Art & Culture**

The Awesome, presenting “80 Shades of Awesome.” - a parody of the popular novel “50 Shades of Grey.” Hailing from Portland, these performers are guaranteed to re-surface everything you loved about the 80’s (or what you imagine the 80s to have been like!)

Love is a dog from hell. No tru- er words were ever put to paper. Shakespeare ain’t got nothing on Bukowski when it comes to love. This skid-row poet laureate knows a thing or two about amour. Ladies of the night and weathered old hags, Buk’s been with them all and appre- ciated their worn corners like an old book. No date for the fraud-oldiay? Curl up with my man and have a laugh at our bad luck being human. This is poetry for people who don’t like poetry because it reads like short stories. “Our educational sys- tem tells us, that we can all be, big- ass winners. It hasn’t told us about the gutters, or the suicides, or the horror of one person, aching in one place alone.”

“...you boys can keep your virgins give me hot old women in high heels with ashes that forgot to get old.”

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**What do you know of a fun Portland Event?**

Tell us on Twitter @USMFreePress

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**Arts & Culture Editor**

Kristen Ouellette

**Free Press Staff**

- Brian Gordon

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**Pornhub**

Pornhub, arguably the most cus- tomer friendly company on the planet, makes its premium content and features entirely free on Valentine’s Day.

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**Pornhub Premium**

Pornhub Premium

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Students choose love over gifts

With Valentine’s Day upon us, it can seem impossible to escape the reddish-pinkish glow that radiates from the aisles of supermarkets, the commercials on TV and the smiles of happy couples. Everyone celebrates the season of love differently. Some shower their loved ones in stereotypical delights like boxed chocolate and stuffed animals, while others take a less traditional route.

“I think the basis of Valentine’s Day is about love and showing you care. But, I mean, the gifts are something everyone thinks about,” said Christina Balsomo, a freshman political science major at USM.

How does this one day out of the year hold so much weight in the ways of love? For finance major Molly Upton and her boyfriend Sean McCauley, a Portland local, it is an important day of celebration. The pair plans to venture to DiMillos, a restaurant in a yacht on the Portland Harbor, and then watch Dexter. Upton has a different view on the gift giving aspect of the holiday.

“I personally love giving gifts because it makes my day making others happy and feel appreciated,” explained Upton. “I tell Sean he doesn’t need to get me anything because being with him and having him in my life is more than enough.”

Nick Johnston, a sophomore computer science major and Anora Morton, a sophomore psychology major are celebrating their second Valentine’s Day together. This year, they are opting for something more low-key. They plan to buy each other pajamas, watch action movies and eat burritos.

“Last year, we got dressed up and went out to dinner which was weird and zero love. The people that come in late at night on the 13th, throwing Valentine’s Day gifts. “You don’t have to buy your significant other anything. A gift could be something as simple as a backrub or a massage. It’s the thought that should count,” said Upton.

Balsomo agreed, saying that her parents always made each other homemade gifts for Valentine’s day.

“One Valentine’s Day my dad got out of work late, so my mom made 50 little cut out paper heart that lead to our room. On each of them she wrote something that she loved about him. It’s really easy to show that you care,” she explained.

Whether you buy your sweetheart a dozen red roses and a box of expensive chocolates or make a gift of your own, may your Valentine’s Day be truly lovely.

Dora Thompson 
Free Press Staff

Prices for Valentine’s Day gifts are expensive and many students think that handmade gifts are a better choice to show their significant other how much they care.

“Sometimes selling people Valentine’s Day stuff is heartwarming, like when an older gentleman buys a card for his wife. I love it,” said Morris. “Other times it just seems like customizers are buying out of pure obligation and zero love. The people that come in late at night on the 13th, throwing something together just because society says they have to.”

Upton offers advice so folks don’t have to rely on supermarkets to show that they care.

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Free Press Staff

Prices for Valentine’s Day gifts are expensive and many students think that handmade gifts are a better choice to show their significant other how much they care.

“Sometimes selling people Valentine’s Day stuff is heartwarming, like when an older gentleman buys a card for his wife. I love it,” said Morris. “Other times it just seems like customizers are buying out of pure obligation and zero love. The people that come in late at night on the 13th, throwing something together just because society says they have to.”

Upton offers advice so folks don’t have to rely on supermarkets to show that they care.

“Don’t have to buy your significant other anything. A gift could be something as simple as a backrub or a massage. It’s the thought that should count,” said Upton.

Balsomo agreed, saying that her parents always made each other homemade gifts for Valentine’s day.

“One Valentine’s Day my dad got out of work late, so my mom made 50 little cut out paper heart that lead to our room. On each of them she wrote something that she loved about him. It’s really easy to show that you care,” she explained.

Whether you buy your sweetheart a dozen red roses and a box of expensive chocolates or make a gift of your own, may your Valentine’s Day be truly lovely.
Make Valentine’s Day whatever you’d like; with respect of course.

Love. That’s what Valentine’s Day is all about. But love doesn’t necessarily mean that you have to dedicate one day of the year to your significant other. Love can be for a boyfriend, a parent, a sibling or a friend. It’s subjective, so you don’t have to give in to the intense commercialization of the emotion and feel pressured to find romance.

Sure, there’s a day set aside for you to spend extravagant amounts of money on gifts for your significant other. But you don’t have to dress up. You don’t have to buy flowers or candy. Valentine’s Day is not a day designed to sell trinkets, nor is it a recognized national holiday. The commercialization of the emotion and relationship is the real celebration. The Valentine’s Day card companies actually came into being after the Civil War when there was a need to sell something.

So what is Valentine’s Day? It’s a day that can be what you want it to be. You can try to spend some respectful and loving time with loved ones. You can try to give your significant other the attention that they deserve. You can try to spend time with family. It’s your day to appreciate those we encounter in day to day life. There are more ways to show appreciation than a romantic date night.

There are more ways to show appreciation. Take a moment to appreciate the hard work of others. You could help to make the day a success for your co-workers. You could help to make someone’s day. You don’t need to spend money on someone to make them feel loved. You don’t need to buy flowers or candy to make someone feel special.

Ultimately, Valentine’s Day is all about love. That’s what Valentine’s Day is all about. It’s all about love. But love doesn’t have to be something that you have to do. It’s not a day that you have to celebrate. You don’t have to go out of your way to make someone feel loved.

We’re paying students and we’re not sure how we feel pressured to commercialize the emotion and relationship. We’re not sure how we feel pressured to make someone feel special.

Can we handle another snow day?

If there’s one more snow day, we’re not sure how students are going to get what they’re paying for out of their courses. It’s becoming difficult to keep focused and stay concentrated on our studies with constant interruptions. It’s not the only day that we’re forced to trudge through the snow and slush. We’re forced to trudge through the snow and slush.

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Pheromones dictate attraction

Have you ever wondered what makes you attracted to someone else? Is it just physical appearance and interpersonal experiences? Or is it something more... scientific?

Studies involving osmology, the science of smell research, has observed that men and women are attracted to each other via selective chemical signals. Pheromones are chemicals that transmit signals between sexes. There are several studies that have shown that when released by the body, certain pheromones can attract potential partners.

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Our Opinion is written and reviewed by the Free Press editorial board.

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The Free Press welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from the USM community. Letters to the editor may not exceed 400 words and should not exceed 700 words without prior approval. The Free Press reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for length, clarity and readability. Letters to the editor may not exceed 400 words and should not exceed 700 words without prior approval. The Free Press reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for length, clarity and readability.

We will not accept discriminatory content.

If you’d like; with respect of course.

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Aries
March 21-April 19
A new hobby or interest presents itself. Take advantage of an opportunity to increase your skills.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
A day for fantasies and fairy tales with family. Indulge your imagination and enjoy the world of magic and make-believe.

Gemini
May 21-June 20
Have you hugged your kids today? Demonstrating your affection physically is a good idea. Get a little TLC yourself too.

Cancer
June 21-July 22
Today the watchwords are safe, sane and sensible. Any financial moves should be very practical. Use your common sense.

Leo
July 23-August 22
You’re “up” today with more faith, optimism and confidence. You take direct action to advance truth, religion, education, or values.

Libra
September 23-October 22
You may leave your current vocational position, or just think about it, planning for the future. Avoid boredom with new tasks.

Sagittarius
November 22-December 21
You find yourself much more upbeat, positive, and energized than usual. You are ready to enjoy life!

Scorpio
October 23-November 21
Today you can be more patient and practical than usual at work. Common sense and stability are watchwords.

Sagittarius
November 22-December 21
You find yourself much more upbeat, positive, and energized than usual. You are ready to enjoy life!

Capricorn
December 22-January 20
If you listen closely today, you’ll hear a clue about what to get someone near and dear for next birthday.

Aquarius
January 20-February 18
Beware of too much self-assurance or too much self-sacrifice. Be moderate, don’t give too much nor expect too much from those you love.

Pisces
February 19-March 20
You may leave your current vocational position, or just think about it, planning for the future. Avoid boredom with new tasks.

Standards vary by issue and are reviewed on a 5-point scale.

Crossword

Across
1. Indian beast of burden
5. Acts in a company’s range
10. Author Martin or Kingsley
14. Collar
15. Mosquito grill
16. Scandinavian goddess of fate
17. Woman’s statement after marriage
19. Quiet exercise
20. Drum used to accompany a dance
21. Small floor covering
22. Small batteries
23. Small batteries
26. Where St. Paul preached
27. Not just a kilo
32. __, proverbs
33. Treasure chest
34. Source with force
35. Trip to Mexico
40. Get ready for surgery
42. Monkeys in movies
43. Like confetti
44. Fake plantings
47. Sullies with Sultar
48. Unlikely planned Parenthood member
51. Volleyball player
54. Cancel a correction
55. Practice Zen
56. IMs offerings of the 70s
62. Author/lecturer Kovel
63. Jimmy Buffett fan
66. Signs of summer
81. Oscar’s coastline
86. ‘Ennio Pavia’ singer
90. Kevin
91. Goldilocks of “Hill Street Blues”
91. Regina’s pen

Down
1. Time gap
2. Old comic strip character kid
3. Hardly a genius
4. Get rid of
5. Stable serving
6. I’m not worth my age
7. Notice
8. Swat team
9. Designed for group singing
10. All inclusive location
11. Roger of “The Sadies” TV series
12. Militant Zionist group in Palestine
13. juicy risks
14. 1992 film
15. Off con
16. 1937 TV show
17. 1975 TV show
18. Rough” writing
19. Of heart
20. Org. for middle citizens
21. Discussing burning
22. Street in Denver
23. Victoria’s copper center
24. 1975 TV show
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71. 1975 TV show

Sudoku

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 x 9-square grid subdivided into nine 3 x 3 boxes. Some of the squares contain numbers. The object is to fill the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.

Cryptogram

Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

P CBPOL WXX
KWNLZCKWXX
JXQWZDN OZI KPKN
GBPXZ JXQWPOH.
CBZG’DZ WXGWQN
IDPKKXPOH.

And here is your hint:
G = W

Puzzles

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The solution to last issue’s crossword

Weekly Horoscope

great
good
average
alright
difficult

Two stars mean great potential, while a five-star rating means it’s a lock.

February 9, 2015

Great

Libra
September 23-October 22

Creative and originality is highlighted. You can find new solutions and arrive at answers others could not see.

Scorpio
October 23-November 21

Today you can be more patient and practical than usual at work. Common sense and stability are watchwords.

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February 19-March 20

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$3.00 OFF
any large pizza
Community Spotlight: What does love mean to USM

Valentine’s Day is a way to show the people in your life that you love and care about them. Everyone’s definition of affection is different based on their own experiences with love.

“To me, love is a deeper mutual connection between two people,” said senior environmental science major Jackie Allen. “I grew up surrounded by a caring family and friends and I base my definition of love from my experiences of growing up in a loving family.”

Although Allen believes Valentine’s Day is a way for big businesses to make more money, she also believes that it’s still important to show the people in your life the ways you care for them.

“I show the people in my life that I love them by always being there. I give advice where it’s needed and listen to people if they want to talk,” said Allen. “There are definitely different types of love though. You love your family different than you love your partner. There are so many ways to define love that sometimes they overlap.”

Junior communication major Forest Gates believes that it is important to love other people regardless of their flaws. He elaborated and said that it’s important to love and care for others in the way that you would want to be cared for.

“There are guys out there that wait all year to show their lovey-dovey sides to their girlfriends, and that isn’t fine — but celebrating your relationship shouldn’t be confined to one day,” said Gates. “It’s an awesome day to have a celebration for, but it should be a love we express everyday.”

Freshman art major Kayleigh Verrell-Peters agreed, and said that there should be more than one day dedicated to love than just have one day that people focus all the romance on.

“I think it’s the little things that count,” said Verrell-Peters. “I am really close with my older sister and both my parents. I grew up in a family where we would always say ‘I love you’ before hanging up on the phone, which is a really important way I show them I care.”

Verrell-Peters believes that whoever your love is, celebrating Valentine’s day can be made that much more special by being in their presence. To Gates, it is important that people remember to love the people around you and to, most importantly, love yourself.

“I think it’s important to know we’re not perfect and sometimes we’ll fail in loving one another, but to do the best we can just to will for another person’s well-being is important,” said Gates. “Just love, love love.”

For more events:
www.usm.maine.edu/events

Krysteana Scribner
Arts & Culture Editor

Sophomore communication major Jul Heale defines love as being limitless.

Freshman forward Brett Norman glides across the ice in a loss to UMass Boston last Friday.

Patrick Higgins / Free Press Staff

For more photos, visit our website and Facebook page

Featured Photo:

Local Events

Friday, February 13

Petit déjeuner du vendredi
7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
The Language Exchange, 80 Exchange St, Portland

Wild Hearts Can’t Be Broken:
Love Poetry Aloud at PPL
5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Portland Public Library, Lewis Gallery, 5 Monument Square, Portland
BECOME THE NEXT:

➢ Editor-in-Chief
➢ Managing Editor
➢ Design Director

A lot of our editors will be graduating and moving on next semester. Do you have the skills to take the lead?

Start working for us today to get ahead. Email editor@usmfreepress.org for more info.

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