

The Pirate Journal

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The History of Valentine's Day

Shelby Isburg

People all over the United States celebrate a day full of love with candy, stuffed animals, and flowers on February 14. While a lot of people are thinking about what they're going to get their crush or partner, they usually don't think about the history of Valentine's Day. This day is full of many different stories.

Even though many people know who St. Valentine is, people still don't know why we associate love with him. Valentine was a priest in third century Rome. The emperor Claudius thought single men were better for the army, so he outlawed marriage. Valentine thought that this law was unjust and continued to perform marriages for young couples. When Claudius found out about this, he ordered Valentine be put to death. This isn't the only story though. Many people believe he was imprisoned and fell in love with his jailer's daughter. She used to visit him while he was in confinement. Before his death, he allegedly wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine."

At the end of the fifth century Pope Gelasius announced February 14 as Valentine's Day. It wasn't associated with love until years later and is now a widely celebrated holiday.

Groundhog Day

Kassidy Dyer

Groundhog Day, February second, is a day where a groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil sees if we will be having an early spring or a longer winter based on if he sees his shadow or not; this year—he saw it. It happens on the second because that's the day he will climb out of his marmot hole from hibernation. If he sees his shadow, it means there will be a longer winter; if he doesn't see his shadow, warmer weather is just around the corner. This tradition has been practiced for 132 years in the United States and happens in Pennsylvania annually.



This year, Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog, saw his shadow. That's right—six more long weeks of winter. For three consecutive years, Punxsutawney Phil has predicted that there will be a longer winter. Geremi Roshau says, "Honestly, I don't really care about winter because I just chill and hang out with friends. The outside doesn't affect me but I hope it gets over soon so my dog can go play outside and exercise because he's fat."



Making Buddies

Lainey Aasby

To eliminate loneliness and promote caring in the Highmore-Harrold School District, the St. Mary's Foundation donated a buddy bench. In York, Pennsylvania, as a first grader, Christian Buck saw some of his friends and knew they felt lonely. So he came up with the "buddy bench," an area where kids can sit and wait for classmates to invite them to play and find game potential friends. Buck hopes the bench will help "grow our dream circle of friends."

There is a buddy bench located on the playground west of Highmore's Elementary. Mrs. Bergeson, Highmore's counselor said "The buddy bench is a good place for kids to go when they need someone to play with. It lets the other kids know they need a friend."

The third grade class agreed the buddy bench was working on the playground and uses it on a regular basis. Having this bench is great for the playground social aspect as its continuing to be used and helps kids make friends in a fun and new way.

State Snow Queen Competition creates lasting memories



Halle Kroepelin

Highmore's Snow Queen, Shantay Werdel, attended Snow Queen's state competition in Aberdeen.

Shantay Werdel won Highmore's local snow queen contest and was very proud to be representing the community in the best way. State Snow Queen was held in Aberdeen, with 28 other local contest winners. Shantay and the other contestants spent three days in Aberdeen doing different activities and preparing for coronation.

The three days in Aberdeen were very well spent. Shantay, along with the other contestants, got to do team building, lots of networking with people from other festivals all around the country, spent a day with a little snow princess, and went roller blading, which Shantay commented was "very dangerous." Each girl was assigned a little snow princess and got to

spend a day with them. They went out to eat and went to a museum before coronation later that night. At coronation the little snow princesses came on stage and were introduced. Along with these activities Shantay and the other girls got to work on their interviews. Each queen got to room with another queen during these three days. Shantay got to share a room with Teanna Pawlowski, Miss Miller. She was happy to be able to be with somebody she knew.

Shantay was one vote away from being Miss Congeniality at the state competition. She also placed sixth in the overall competition. Shantay will take away many friends and life lessons from this experience. Shantay said, "My favorite part about state snow queen was being able to make such good friends and have an exciting weekend." Miss Highmore represented the community very well at the state competition.

Dear Pete (The Pirate)

Valentine's Edition

Dear Pete:

How should I ask someone to prom?

Sincerely,

Nervous Student

Dear Nervous Student,

For girls, something that's super under-rated is getting her flowers. This may seem old fashioned, but if you get a pretty arrangement, she's definitely going to be impressed. If it's possible, do it in person! They're more likely to say yes in person rather than over social media. For boys, they can be harder to impress. Try to relate it to something they like, maybe a video game or their favorite sport. A lot of boys are interested in The Walking Dead, you could use a pun like, "David, use your 'brains' and go to prom with me!" Most importantly, make your prom-posal sincere. Sincerely,

Pete

Dear Pete:

There's this girl I like who doesn't like me back. What do I do?

Sincerely,

Wondering Guy

Dear Wondering Guy,

When girls don't like you back, typically it's because they're hung up on someone else, or have a boyfriend. However, a lot of the fight is being patient for her or another girl to realize your self-worth, and just how funny and cool you really can be! She might be in the same spot, pining over a guy who doesn't like her back, so try to see it from her point of view as well. There's nothing I can say to help her like you. You shouldn't have to change yourself, and you should never feel like you're not good enough for love and affection. Someone will come along and you might not even think of the other girl ever again, so don't sweat it now. You've got plenty of time to find the right person!

Sincerely,

Pete

Dear Pete: What should I do if I'm single on Valentine's Day?

Sincerely,

Single Student

Dear Single Student,

If you're single on Valentine's Day, something to consider doing is relaxing. That doesn't mean just sitting around eating hot Cheetos and watching Netflix. Take a bath, use some aroma therapy oils, and buy a bath bomb. Maybe use a facemask, or a lip scrub! The "Calm" App has some very therapeutic sounds, such as rainfall, and a campfire, or running streams. Treat yourself! Go out with your other single friends, maybe go see a movie, (nothing romantic, this will only build on your Single Sadness) or go bowling. Then go to a pet store and/or dog shelter, and surround yourself with adorable puppies and kittens. This will almost always lift your mood. Then at the end of the day, you can go home and end the day with some games on your Xbox or PlayStation and play online with some of your online friends.

Sincerely,

Pete

The Word on Wind Towers

Velvet Jessen

There is a potential that the residents of Hyde County may be gaining a new source of energy and revenue in the form of wind towers. Hyde County was approached multiple months ago about an opportunity to receive wind towers. The Hyde County Commissioners have held multiple public meetings about the wind towers, and what they may bring. No decision has yet been made, but it seems to be coming closer to the decision.

Wind towers are 65 meters tall and a green energy source. The wind towers produce energy by using the air in an opposite direction to what it's blowing to catch the wind. The wind when caught will spin the generator which produces the energy. The energy then goes underground to be processed and distributed.

The negative effects of the wind towers are that some birds may fly into the wings of the wind towers. Another problem for some of the blinking red lights on top of the towers. The main problem with the blinking lights is that people think they look tacky or are afraid that the lights will be too bright at night around the houses. Another problem with the wind towers' lights is brought up by Chesney Effling

who says "I think the wind towers are unsafe because if the lights were to malfunction at night then planes could crash into them, or if anything else goes wrong in the towers they could be dangerous."

If the wind tower motion is passed, then there would be 27 wind towers placed in Hyde County. These towers, according to Casey Willis, the PM for Triple H, will generate anywhere from two to four megawatts each, which is enough to power 1000 homes. The wind towers also come with a tax benefit for Hyde County, which would make the taxes go down by one percent. The tax benefits would also go to the school. The people who receive wind towers would also receive compensation. Another benefit is brought by Karsi Peterson who says, "I am for the wind towers because they are good for the environment and they would provide more jobs for people."



Question of the Month

Taylor Chavez

Taylor Chavez asked the students: "What job would you be terrible at and why?"



Sydney Marso: "A junior high teacher because I can't stand that age group."



Dylan McDonnell: "I would not be a good janitor, because I don't think I would be very good at it."



Shiloa Bale: "I could never work in an office because you literally sit behind a desk all day and do nothing."



Oakley Jandreau: "I would be really bad at being a lawyer because I would have personal opinions. Also, I am not motivated to find facts."

Good Luck to the Lady Pirates and Pirates at the Region 2B Tournaments and to the Bandits going to State

Kroepelin Air of Highmore is proud to sponsor the Pirate Journal for the students of the Highmore-Harrold School District! Contact Kroepelin Air, 852-2030, for all your aerial application needs!

