

THE GMS GAZETTE

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HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

BY ERIN BASS

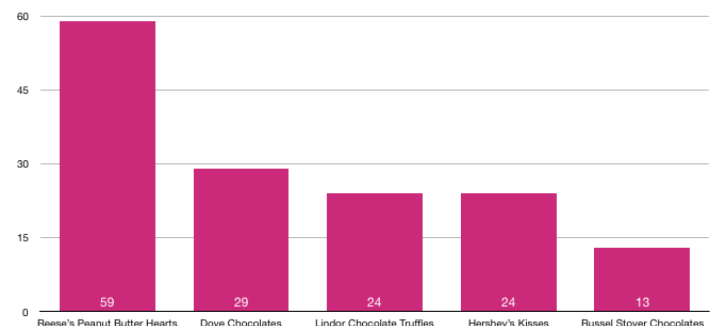
Valentine's Day is a day of love, happiness, and hope, but was it always? There are many legends surrounding this ever so popular holiday. According to the text, during the third Roman century Emperor Claudius II, in order to make better soldiers, forbade young men from getting married. He believed that people without families fought better.

A priest believed to be named St. Valentine continued to perform these covert marriages for young couples. After being caught, Claudius II ordered for him to be executed. Some believe that while he was in jail, he fell for the guard's daughter and sent the first Valentine's Day card. However, was this actually the origin of Valentine's Day? Next time you buy your significant other a box of chocolates or a bouquet of beautiful roses remember the origin Valentine's Day.

VALENTINE'S DAY CANDY

BY PEYTON BROOKS AND LILY GRONAU

58 million pounds of chocolate will be purchased during the week of Valentine's Day. We were curious which chocolate our middle school liked the most; so we surveyed 155 students and faculty from the middle school. The results were very interesting, and we didn't expect the winner to be what it was. The first place choice was Reese's Peanut Butter Hearts. Fifty- Nine people chose the peanut butter hearts as their favorite chocolate candy. We thought that Russel Stover or Lindor were going to win instead of the peanut butter hearts. The top five candies are listed in the chart below:



GALENTINE'S DAY

BY RYLEE BROOKS AND CLAIRE STEVENS

“What's Galentine's Day you ask? Let me let the fictitious woman who started it all explain it: "Oh it's only the best day of the year. Every February 13th, my lady friends and I leave our husbands and our boyfriends at home, and we just come and kick it, breakfast-style. Ladies celebrating ladies.” This is a quote made by Leslie Knope



from the show Parks and Rec. This holiday started out as a fantasy, but has come

to life! Over the many episodes of Parks and Rec, Leslie Knope celebrates Galentine's Day in three episodes. She gets a group of her close friends together and they go out and eat breakfast food, mainly waffles; talk, gossip; and give gifts, all from Leslie. Ms. Drenick, like Leslie, loves waffles. Ms. Drenick has been celebrating Galentine's Day for the last four or five years. She meets up with her friends and they eat waffles and celebrate with each other. When asked why she celebrates Galentine's Day, Ms. Drenick said that she likes waffles. When the girls from Parks and Rec get together for Galentine's Day, gifts are usually given. For Ms. Drenick's Galentine's Day Parties, they sometimes give little gifts to each other. “Like gifts from the Target Dollar Spot,” says Ms. Drenick. Galentine's Day is a time for friends to get together and celebrate each other. So instead of celebrating Valentine's Day this year, try celebrating Galentine's Day!

CONVERSATION HEARTS

BY CLAIRE STEVENS

As of 2019 the Sweethearts company NECCO, closed their doors. For the first time in over 153 years we had to survive Valentine's Day without the little hearts made out of what tastes like

flavored chalk! NECCO takes around eleven months to produce over 8 billion candy hearts. Sadly, last year NECCO ran out of time and was not able to produce any sweethearts.

This year, though, we may be able to enjoy the sugary hearts of our



childhood. In

my opinion the Sweethearts need to stay gone. Even though they've been a Valentine's Day staple for years, nobody likes the taste of them. In a pole taken by our eight grade journalism class out of 155 students in the middle school, only 5 people voted for Sweethearts as their favorite Valentine's Day candy. That just goes to show you how much people hate Sweethearts! They were gone last year and everyone survived, so I think we will be ok to live without them forever. However, even though I don't like them doesn't mean that other people might.

For those of you looking forward to Sweethearts, you have reason to celebrate. This year conversation hearts will be making a comeback, but they won't be as chatty as they used to be. They will be missing some of their signature sayings. In an article from the huffington post, Courtney Iseman says that when they opened a box of Sweethearts, they could barely find a “Be Mine” heart. Even though I'm not looking forward to the little hearts, some people are. So this year you should celebrate Valentine's Day to the fullest with the conversation hearts of our childhood.

7TH GRADE BASKETBALL

BY AINSLEY NORTON

The seventh grade boys basketball team finished off their 2020 season at Columbus on Monday night. Their overall record ended as 4-9. Assistant Coach, Mr. Clevenger, said, “At the start of the season the boys were not very familiar with basketball in general but over the

course of the season they have come to learn the game. In all honesty there is room for much



improvement, but these boys do work hard so I would expect to see that improvement over the next couple of years.” He also said that their best game was one that they won against Columbus, who ended third in the league. It was a

non league game, but Girard was able to actually hit their shots and rebound. The seventh grade boys ended their season strong going 1-1 in the end of the year league tournament. Mr. Clevenger thought that they finished the season on a positive note by beating St. Mary’s and playing well against Baxter on the final night of the year.

TRIBUTE TO KOBE BRYANT

BY BAILEY BRADSHAW

On January 26, Kobe Bryant was killed in a tragic helicopter crash. This incident stunned the world and left many people grieving. Kobe Bryant was not only one of the greatest basketball players of all time, but he was a very inspirational person that many people looked up to. He was a husband and a loving father of four girls. His 13 year old daughter, Gianna (Gigi), was killed in the helicopter alongside Kobe, as did seven others. They were headed to a basketball tournament for Gigi. He left behind his wife, Vanessa, his daughters, Natalia, 17, Bianka, 3, and Capri, 7 months.

In honor of Kobe, thousands of people gathered around Staples Center, where Bryant played his 20 years in the NBA. People placed Kobe’s jerseys and pictures of him outside the Staples center. Not only was his family devastated, but so were the people that looked up to him. He

impacted many lives, and he changed how many people looked at the game

of basketball. Both Kobe and Gianna’s memorial will be February 24 in honor of Kobe’s Lakers basketball number.



CAN LOVE TRULY REWRITE THE PAST?

BY AINSLEY NORTON

Has someone ever given you the best of them? The book, *The Best of Me*, by Nicholas Sparks proves to you that it is possible. Many people refuse to read books by Nicholas Sparks claiming that they are too mushy for them. Although, I highly recommend you try one out before you decide you will never read another. *The Best of Me* is a great book for Nicholas Sparks beginners—it will leave you begging for more. It relays the message that your childhood doesn’t define you and that true love could be right around the corner. The two main characters, Amanda Collier and Dawson Cole, high school sweethearts, are reunited 25 years later wondering what their past really meant. While reading this page-turner you will be questioned; can love truly rewrite the past?

THE GREATEST SEQUEL: A REVIEW OF THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

BY MATTHEW CHILDERS

The Empire Strikes Back. How do I start? I’m pretty sure most to not everyone has at least heard of this movie. Regarded as one of the greatest Star Wars movies it captivated audiences ever since its release. Today Star Wars

is in a great place with movies and TV shows being made. I now look back on the past films and gaze upon their wonder. So why not look at the greatest of them. This is my review/breakdown of the film. The movie starts off on the desolate, cold ice planet Hoth. The rebels have a base and after an imperial probe droid falls onto the planet Luke Skywalker gets attacked later freeing himself from the icy cave of a giant monster. After cutting off the monster's arm he runs into the nighttime blizzard passing out. He gets rescued by Han Solo and he builds a shelter for the night after putting Luke in the dead tauntaun to keep Luke alive. After the both are brought back to the base in the morning Han Solo and Chewbacca destroy the probe droid and the empire are coming for the rebels. They send out ATAT walkers to destroy them. After overwhelming the rebels they flee. Luke goes to the swamp planet of Dagobah to find Yoda and train to become a Jedi. Meanwhile Princess Leia, Han, Chewie, and C3P0 are trying to outrun the empire that's hot on their tail. They hide in an asteroid cave but it turns out it's no cave and they barely escape the jaws of a giant space snake. Then they go to Bespin to fix their ship and greet Lando Calrissian. But unknown to our heroes a mysterious bounty hunter Boba Fett is on their tail... That was part of the movie and I will let you go watch the rest to experience the amazing story. Compared to A New Hope, The Empire Strikes Back expands on the universe of Star Wars and provides much more emotion from the first. The best part of this movie is at the end when the Heroes lose. It provides a sense that they are not invincible and keeps the tension high for the final movie, Return Of the Jedi, to resolve. And that's why it's not only the greatest sequel but the greatest Star Wars movie.

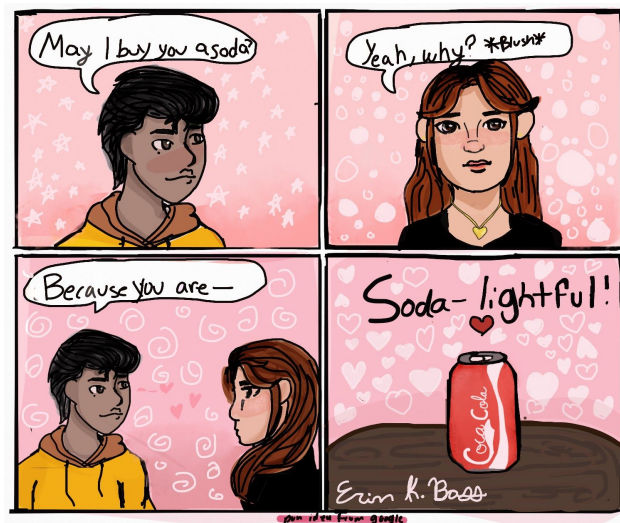
IS VALENTINE'S A WASTE OF TIME?

BY CARLY REIF

Valentine's Day is a holiday that some people, typically those in a relationship, enjoy and celebrate elaborately. However, those who aren't in a relationship can see valentines as a waste of time and money. According to Business Insider, last year Americans spent \$20.7 billion on gifts for Valentine's Day! This is crazy considering only 51% of Americans actually celebrated the holiday. Personally, I could live without Valentine's Day. Though it can be a fun holiday to celebrate, we shouldn't be spending \$20.7 billion on the holiday. Whenever I was in elementary school, Valentine's Day was one of my favorite holidays. Now, I feel as if we were to celebrate Valentine's we should celebrate the history of it over the gift exchanges. Valentine's Day is a holiday that I believe we shouldn't celebrate considering what some people spend on their loved ones. We also shouldn't just celebrate our loved ones one day a year, but we should show our appreciation everyday no matter how simple it is.

COMIC

BY ERIN BASS



PICK-UP LINE CONTEST

WHEN ASKED FOR THEIR CHEESIEST PICK-UP LINES, HERE IS WHAT GMS CAME UP WITH...

**ARE YOU A CHARGER? BECAUSE I'M DYING WITHOUT YOU.
PEYTON BROOKS, 8TH GRADE**

**ON A SCALE OF 1-10, YOU'RE A 9 AND I'M THE 1 YOU NEED.
BAILEY BRADSHAW, 8TH GRADE**

**I'M LEARNING ABOUT IMPORTANT DATES IN HISTORY. WANNA BE ONE OF THEM?
MASON ADOLPH, 6TH GRADE**

**I THOUGHT HAPPINESS STARTS WITH "H." WHY DOES MINE START WITH "U?"
MEGAN BENNET, 6TH GRADE**

**ARE YOU A TRIANGLE? CAUSE YOU'RE ACUTE ONE.
RAYLEEA RUSSELL, 6TH GRADE**