

THE COLONIAL

A woman with dark skin is shown in profile, facing right. She is wearing a vibrant red headscarf with a bold black and gold pattern. Her hair is pulled back, and she is wearing large, textured gold hoop earrings. Her makeup includes bright pink lipstick and shimmering pink and gold eye makeup. The background is a soft-focus arrangement of large, layered pink paper flowers, creating a romantic and artistic atmosphere.

VOLUME 85
EDITION 6

AROMANTIC VALENTINE'S

HOW DO NON-ROMANTICS
CELEBRATE ROMANTIC HOLIDAYS?

BLACK HISTORY

READ ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF COLOR THAT HAVE SHAPED US ALL

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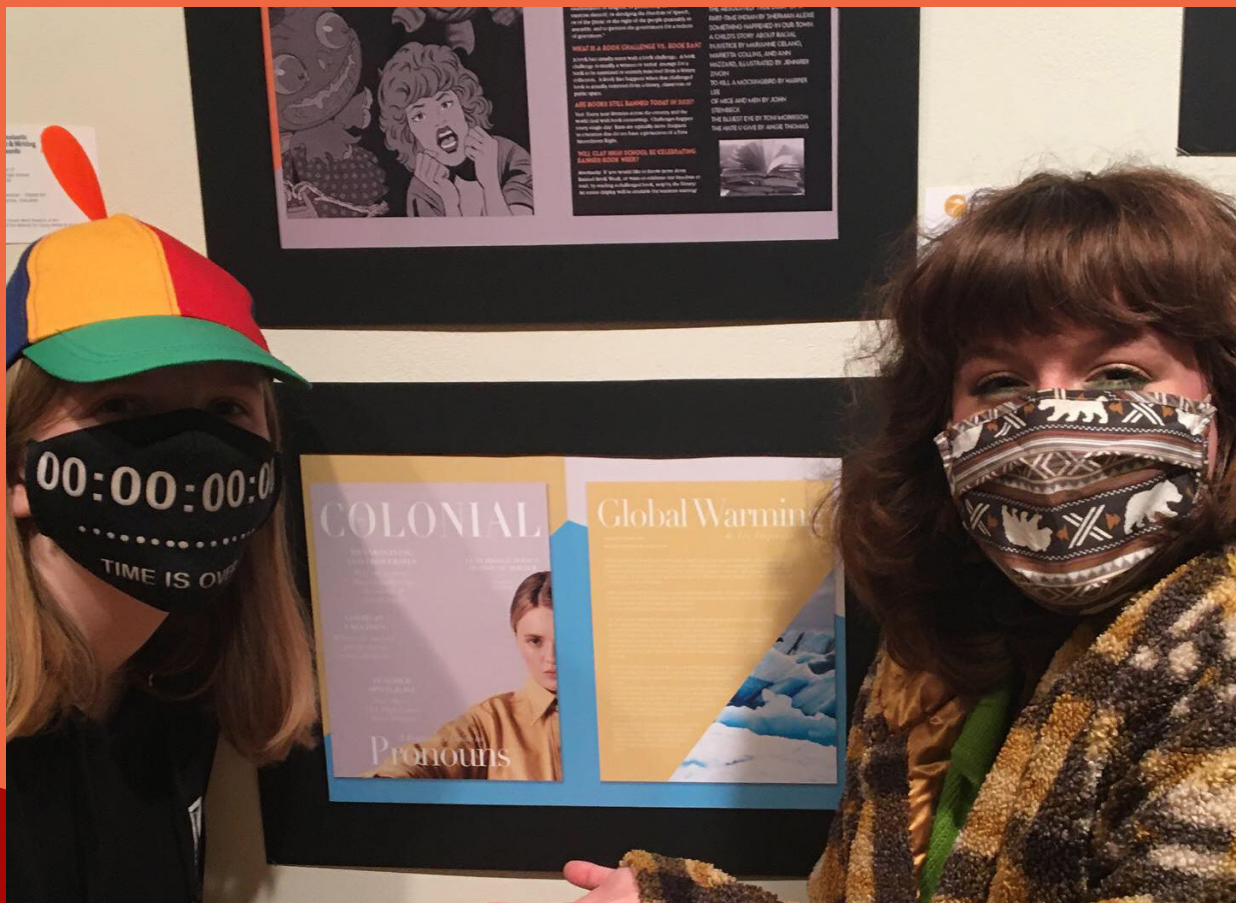
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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY, COLONIALS! THIS IS THE COLONIAL'S FIRST OFFICIAL EDITION OF THE NEW YEAR AND NEW SEMESTER. WE HOPE THAT YOUR SECOND SEMESTER IS GOING WELL, AND THAT YOU ENJOY OUR NEW EDITION! WE HAVE MANY LOVE-FILLED AND ROMANTIC ARTICLES LINED UP FOR YOU ALL TO READ. LEARN ABOUT ACE-ROMANTIC VIEWS ON VALENTINE'S DAY, LEARN ABOUT BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN-DEPTH FROM STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVES, AND EVEN ABOUT HOW COVID-19 CONTINUES TO AFFECT SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. READ ON FOR MORE INFORMATION!

VIA LARGENT, THE COLONIAL'S GRAPHIC DESIGNER, WON MULTIPLE AWARDS FOR HER DESIGNS OF THE COLONIAL NEWSPAPER AT THE SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS! YOU CAN VIEW HER WORK AT THE SOUTH BEND MUSEUM OF ART NOW.



RAMBLING THROUGH JANUARY SKIES

MR. SWEENEY

A FAIRLY QUIET MONTH DURING WHICH DAYLIGHT LENGTH INCREASES AND DARKNESS LENGTH DECREASES

The Sun begins to rise earlier on January 11th and continues to do so for the rest of the month. It sets later each day from January 1st to January 31st. Daylight length increases and darkness length decreases every day, all month. Daylight increase and darkness decrease averages about a minute or two each day but, overall, you will still see more darkness than daylight during each January day. The noon Sun will gain altitude and noon shadows will shorten during the month. During January the Sun will still rise and set south of east and west but is traveling northward. This gives rise to an earlier sunrise, a later sunset, more daylight, less darkness, a higher noon Sun and shorter noon shadows during the month.

From January 1st until January 31st you gain 49 minutes of daylight. From January 1st until January 31st you lose 49 minutes of darkness. The altitude of the noon Sun is 25° and 03 degrees on January 1st. The altitude of the noon Sun is 31° and 04 degrees on January 31st. During January the Moon will be New on the 2nd, 1st Quarter on the 9th, Full on the 17th and Last or 3rd Quarter on the 25th. The Moon will be at Perigee closest to Earth on the 1st, at Apogee farthest from Earth on the 14th and at Perigee again on the 30th.

Venus and Mars will be your January morning stars in that order from east to west. Saturn and Jupiter will be your January evening stars in that order from west to east. The constellation of Orion is a few degrees west of due south and halfway up about midnight. Betelgeuse is in the east shoulder and Rigel is in the west foot.

JANUARY'S FULL WOLF MOON

Amid the zero cold and deep snows of midwinter, wolf packs howled hungrily outside villages. It was also known as the Old Moon or the Moon after Yule. In some tribes this was the Full Snow Moon; most applied that name to the next moon.

JANUARY 2022 EVENTS

On January 4th the Earth passes through perihelion, its closest point to the Sun for 2022.

So - may your skies always be clear, may your eyes always look upward and, no matter how you believe, may you always "feel" the beauty and mysteries of the Universe!



PHOTO PROVIDED BY FUTURECDN.NET

ASK A COLONIAL

MICHAEL SCHMANSKI, 2024



**TYLER LARGENT
JUNIOR**

"Johanna's grandma."



**SOPHIA BRESTELLI
FRESHMAN**

"Optimus prime."



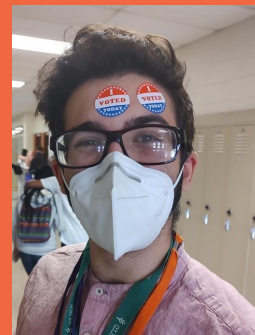
**RYLEN BOYETT
FRESHMAN**

"I'm alone."



**VICTORIA MONTGOMERY
FRESHMAN**

"Danny di Vito."



**ANDREW HANSON
SENIOR**

"Arianna Botello."



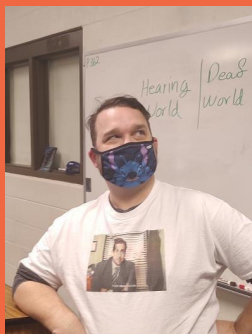
**ARIANNA BOTELLO
JUNIOR**

"Andrew Hanson."



**CHRSTIAN DAVIS
SOPHOMORE**

"Arele Esparza."



**MR. FECHER
ENG AND SPAN TEACHER**

"My wife."



**JANIYAH TOLBERT
JUNIOR**

"Michael B. Jordan."



**MS. RONFELDT
ORCHESTRA TEACHER**

"Bogart."

WHO IS YOUR VALENTINE?

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MICHAEL SCHMANSKI

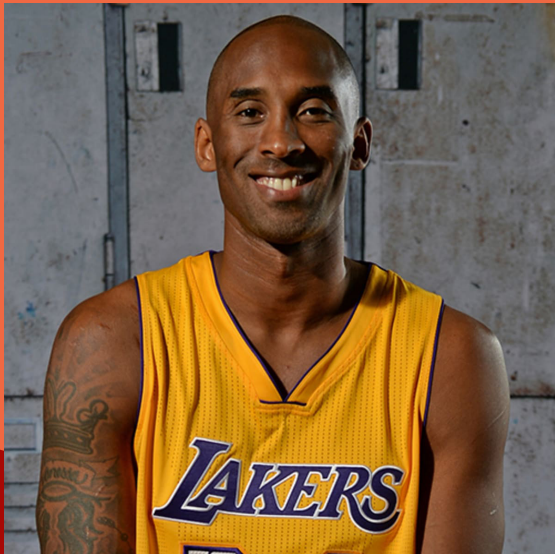
CELEBRITY DEATHS

ARIANNA BOTELLO, 2023

KOBE BRYANT

AUGUST 23, 1978 – JANUARY 26, 2020

Kobe Bryant was an American professional basketball player and was known as a shooting guard in his 20 year career with the Los Angeles Lakers in the National Basketball Association (NBA). In the NBA, he started out with playing in a team called Charlotte Hornets in 1996, but later he was then traded for Lakers and became the second youngest NBA player in history. The cause of his death occurred in January 26, 2020 which was Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter, Gianna Bryant, were traveling to a girls basketball game in a helicopter, which crashed and killed 9 people aboard.



CHADWICK BOSEMAN

NOVEMBER 29, 1976 – AUGUST 28, 2020

Chadwick Boseman was an American actor known for being Jackie Robinson in *42* (2013), James Brown in *Get on Up* (2014), and superhero Black Panther in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. He attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. while receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts in directing and attended the British American Drama Academy in Oxford, England. He was ready for his superhero closeup role in the movie *Black Panther* and the film was released in February of 2018, winning an Academy Award nomination for Best Picture. The cause of death for Chadwick Boseman was stage III colon cancer in 2016 and battled with it for four years until it became stage IV.

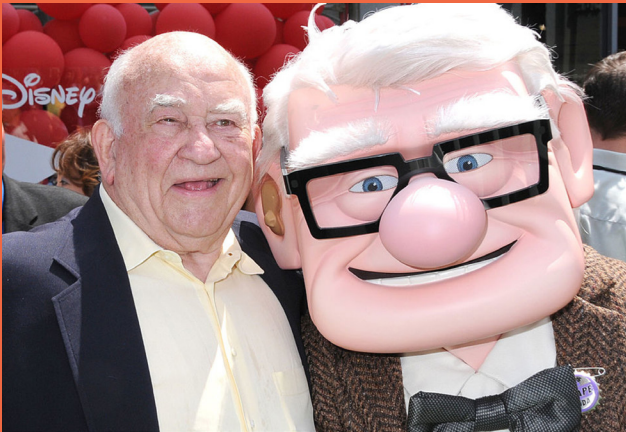


PHOTOS PROVIDED BY BIOGRAPHY.COM, NYTIMES.COM

ED ASNER

NOVEMBER 15, 1929 – AUGUST 29, 2021

Ed Asner was an American actor best known for a gruff-but-lovable newsman in Lou Grand and television sitcom 'The Mary Tyler Moore Show.' After serving in the U.S. Army in the 1950s he wanted to do acting, so his career started by attending the show The Mary Tyler Moore Show in the 1970s and Asner won Emmy Awards seven times due to his performances. He would be also known as Santa Claus in 2003 comedy film Elf, starring Will Ferrell, and Disney Pixar Up by playing as a character by the name of Carl Fredrickson in 2009. The cause of death for Ed Asner was natural causes on August 29th 2021.



BOB SAGET

MAY 17, 1956 – JANUARY 9, 2022

Bob Saget was a comedic TV actor who started his success in the sitcom series 'Full House'. Saget was determined to find his greatest success after doing a humorous show The Morning Program on CBS, so he joined an American television sitcom called Full House and reached to the top 20s in 1987 due to being a natural fit for network Friday nights family entertainment due to the amount of humorous jokes. In the 90's, he hosted the show America's Funniest Home Videos which is a reality show about viewers submitting video clips to win cash money. The cause of death for Bob Saget is allegedly a blow to the head, according to the autopsy that was released. He passed away in Orlando, Florida on January 9th, 2022.



BETTY WHITE

JANUARY 17, 1922 – DECEMBER 31, 2021

Betty Marion White-Ludden was an American actress and comedian. In the popular 1980s sitcom The Golden Girls, White played the sweet and naive character Rose Nylund and the show won numerous awards. After the show was finished in 1992, she later appeared in a spin-off called the Golden Palace and The John Larroquette Show in 1996. She would have better luck as a guest star if she appeared on a lot of television series. The death of Betty White would be from natural causes at the age of 99 before New Years and she would have been 100 years old on January 17th, 2022.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ISAAC HUDDLESTON, 2024 AND CHAMARIE GREER, 2024

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY USATODAY.COM, BIOGRAPHY.COM, WIKIPEDIA
COMMONS, BLACKBOOKCLUBCHICAGO, PEXELS.COM

Black History Month is a celebration highlighting black accomplishments throughout U.S history. The celebration was started in February of 1976 by Carter G. Woodson. He believed that Black Americans should be educated on the history of Black Culture. He felt that black history was “overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them.” In honor of Black History Month here are 10 black icons from America.

Black history month is celebrated to remind us of the accomplishments of black Americans. They have made a lot of impact on U.S. history and we wouldn't be where we are today without them.



JESSE OWENS

An African American track and field runner who has acquired 4 gold medals during his career. He played in long jumps and sprints. People call him one of the greatest athletes in track and field history.



MAE C. JEMISON

On June 4, 1987, Mae Jemison became the primary African American woman to be admitted into NASA's astronaut educational program. On September 12, 1992, Jemison finally flew into space with six other astronauts aboard the Endeavour on mission STS47, becoming the first black woman to do so. She has also been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and the International Space Hall of Fame.



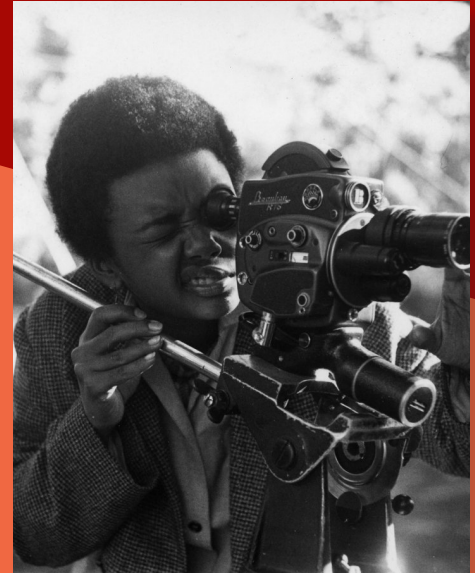
CLAUDETTE COLVIN

At the age of 15 Claudette refused to give up her seat to a white person. She did this months before Rosa Parks. The bus driver told her to get up and she refused saying that it was in her right. Although she is less known than other people, she played a huge role in the bus boycotts in Alabama.



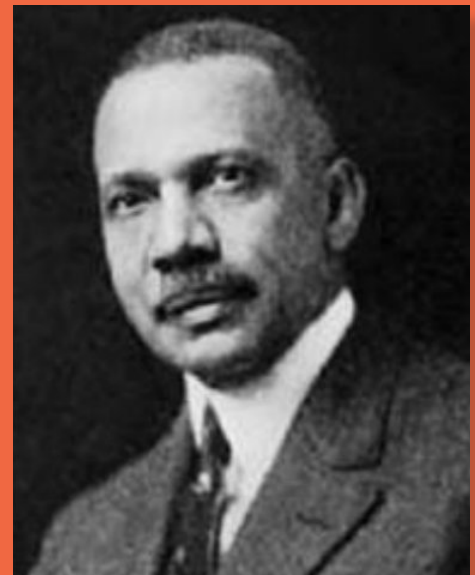
SARA GOMEZ

Sara Gómez hailed from the Havana neighborhood of Guanabacoa, which is traditionally called one in every of the epicenters of Afro-Cuban popular culture. After working as a journalist, she joined the newly-established Instituto Cubano del Arte e Industria Cinematográficos (ICAIC) in 1961 and was one in all only two black filmmakers at the time, and for several years it's only woman director. She directed several short documentaries that brought a critical perspective toward Cuban revolutionary society, specifically the position of ladies and Afro-Cubans, and introduced important cinematic conversations.



JESSE BINGA

Jesse Binga was Chicago's first black banker. He was a true estate maven, a community leader, and a millionaire. Binga was even more complex because the Bronzeville neighborhood he worked to lift up, As a "missionary" for black wealth, Binga put aside his quieter personal leanings to convert the worth of the "double duty dollar" and expand the limits of the Black Belt



MADAM C.J. WALKER

Madam C. J. Walker was "The first Black woman millionaire in America" and made her fortune because of her homemade line of hair care products for Black women. The self-made millionaire used her fortune to find scholarships for ladies at the Tuskegee Institute and donated large parts of her wealth to the NAACP, the Black YMCA and other charities.



SWAN RECORDS

Based in Harlem, New York, Swan Records was founded in 1921 by Harry Pace, as the record division of Pace Phonographic Corporation by Harry Pace. Swan Records was the primary black-owned recording company that sold musical style to black audiences. Black Swan Records specialized in jazz and blues recordings but it also became the primary company to record black classical musicians.



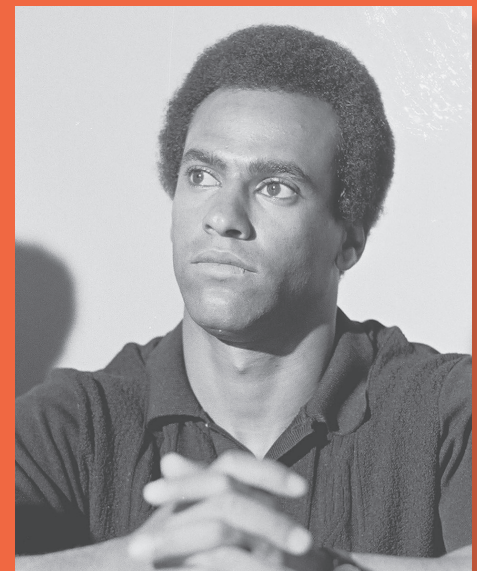
SPIKE LEE

Shelton Jackson "Spike" Lee was born on March 20, 1957 is an American theater director, producer, screenwriter, actor, and professor. His production company, 40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks, has produced over 35 films since 1983. He made his directorial debut with *She's Gotta Have It* (1986). He has since written and directed such films as *Do the proper Thing* (1989), *Mo' Better Blues* (1990), *Malaria* (1991), *Civil Rights Worker* (1992), *Crooklyn* (1994), *Clockers* (1995), *25th Hour* (2002), *Inside Man* (2006), *Chi-Raq* (2015), *BlackKkKlansman* (2018) and *Da 5 Bloods* (2020). Lee also acted in ten of his films.



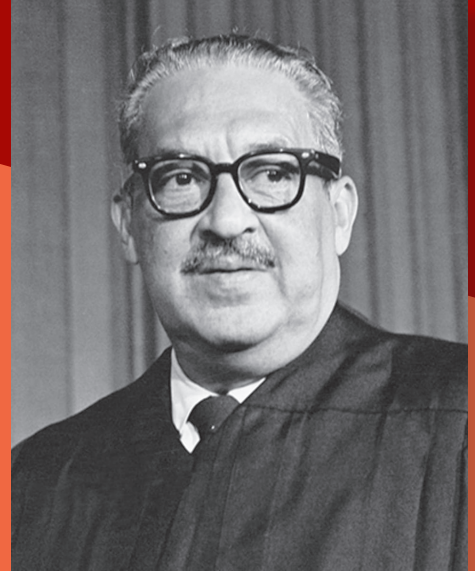
HUEY P. NEWTON

A Black revolutionist and the co-founder of the Black Panthers. After the disbandment of the Black Panther Party he was caught in a Cocaine addiction. After facing many charges and being in and out of prison, Newton was killed. Shot in the head 3 times.



MARSHALL THURGOOD

Marshall Thurgood was an American lawyer and civil rights activist who served as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the U.S. from October 1967 until October 1991. Marshall was the Court's first African-American justice. Before his judicial service, he successfully argued several cases before the Supreme Court, including *Brown v. Board of Education*.



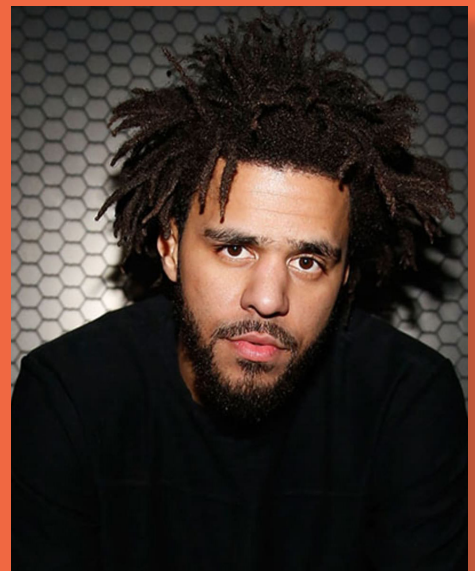
RUBY BRIDGES

At the young age of 6, Ruby Bridges became the first black person to integrate an all white school in Louisiana. She was met with a mob of people shouting racial slurs at her, and someone even held a coffin with a black doll in it. President Eisenhower even had to call in troops to escort her through the mob. She now has a foundation called the Ruby Bridges Foundation. The mission statement is to end racism and all forms of bullying through integration and education.



J. COLE

Known as one of the greatest artists in rap history. He is in the debate of who's the greatest next to Kendrick Lamar and Drake. He has 6 studio albums. Cole grew up in Fayetteville, North Carolina. His career started by him rapping about his hardships in life and in the rap game.



AROMANTIC VALENTINES DAY

CHARLOTTE GRIFFITH, 2024

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY PEXELS.COM

From an early age, Mariela knew that romantic relationships weren't for her. "I remember in middle school I got weird looks for being the only girl who had zero wishes for a husband or children of my own." She recalled. When she discovered the LGBTQ+ community, she discovered words to describe how she'd always felt.

"I think I just stumbled upon both terms while I was browsing the internet one day," Mariela said when asked. "After looking up their definitions I went 'oh, that's me.'" Now 15 years old, Mariela identifies as asexual and aromantic.

According to the University of Oxford LGBTQ+ society, asexuality is "an orientation that is defined by a lack of sexual attraction. Aromanticism is likewise, "an orientation that is defined by a lack of romantic attraction. Today more people than ever identify as ace, aro, or both. Those who experience sexual or romantic attraction are referred to as "allosexual" and "alloromantic".

The existence of such an identity seems almost countercultural. After all, our society is obsessed with romance. From the marriage industry to senior prom to forced romantic subplots and fandom shipping, our society seems in many ways to revolve around the concepts of love and sex. Case in point? Valentine's Day.

"I do think it's given too much attention and too much airtime," Noah writes. Noah is asexual and on the aromantic spectrum, and he thinks Valentine's Day needs to take it down a couple notches.

"Walk into a store anytime between New Year's and Valentine's itself, and what do you see? Roses and hearts absolutely everywhere. It only reinforces the message of 'Romance is awesome! Everybody should experience it! Go out and find the love of your life, and then you'll be happy!'"

Ace and aro people often face pressure from family, friends, and strangers to pursue romance and sex. Around Valentine's Day, the pressure can become overwhelming.

"My family telling me how one day I'll have my own family [with] a husband and children is to this day something that continues to make me feel uneasy," Mariela says. "Someone in particular once told me that life is meaningless if you can't find yourself a partner and reproduce. To that, I can only say 'bullcrap!'"



Corbin, a 17 year old Florida high school student recalled struggling with feelings of guilt before realizing he was ace. “I thought that I was emotionless and selfish because I didn’t feel connected to any human like this.” In high-school, an environment where relationships, especially sexual ones, are so valued, it was easy for Corbin to believe that something was wrong with him.

“I was horrified that I would have to do that.” Corbin said on the subject. “That society expected me to have sex with my partner, but it would feel like kissing a wall.”

It is important to remember that all individuals, aromantic individuals in particular, still feel and experience love. It’s the absence of romantic attraction that defines the aromantic experience, just as the absence of sexual attraction defines the asexual experience. It is not the absence of love. Society is all too quick to equate love to romance and sex, when they are separate (albeit often overlapping) concepts. Maybe it’s not time for your single friend to ‘meet someone.’ Maybe it’s time for society to understand the different definitions of love.

“Love has many meanings.” Mariela said when asked. “For me, it’s a strong connection to someone or something. It doesn’t necessarily have to be romantic in any way.”

“In my opinion, romance is over emphasized in American culture at the expense of platonic relationships.” Noah wrote. “Love is a conscious decision to sacrifice for someone else.”

“I really only connect on a deep emotional level.” Corbin told me in his interview. “[My girlfriend and I] just like to be around each other, and, honestly, even if we aren’t connected that way physically, we are much more connected emotionally.”

At the end of the day, the definitions of love are endless, as is its spectrum; No matter your definition, it is an essential and diverse part of the human experience, and one to be celebrated- in all of its forms.



CHOCOLATE COVERED PRETZELS

The homemade touch of this recipe can provide you with an opportunity to make a cliché valentine's gift a little bit more meaningful for your valentine.

For this recipe you will need:

- Mini pretzels (any brand works but the hard kind is better)
- Melting chocolate or regular bar chocolate (you can use bar chocolate but melting chocolate is colored allowing more opportunities for decoration/personalization)
- A bowl for melting the chocolate in
- A microwave or a pot
- A baking sheet or a dish
- Parchment paper or tinfoil

First, get some chocolate and lightly break or chop it up into smaller pieces if it's a bar of chocolate. Then get a bowl and put the chocolate inside of it. If you are using a microwave to melt the chocolate, microwave the chocolate in 15-second intervals, stirring in between so it does not burn. If you are doing the double boiler method, you should get a bowl that can withstand heat, like a glass or metal bowl. Get a pot and put about 2 inches of water in it, then put the bowl inside the pot without letting it touch the water. Turn the heat on low to slowly melt the chocolate. Once your chocolate is melted, get out your baking dish lined with parchment or tin foil. Use a fork or a pair of tongs to dip the pretzels in the melted chocolate. Lay the chocolate-covered pretzels on the baking dish to cool. Repeat until you reach your desired amount of pretzels. Optionally you can plate them or serve as is.



MICHAEL SCHMANSKI, 2024

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MICHAEL SCHMANSKI

DRIVING SAFELY IN SNOWY WEATHER

Going into the new year with snow is almost a must in South Bend, so we need to be prepared for what weather conditions may be thrown at you. Especially with the young drivers that maybe have no winter driving experience. Some tips to stay safe while driving in the snow include:

- Before leaving home, see about the driving conditions. Safe drivers know the weather and its limits. If the weather is bad remember: Ice and Snow? Take your time, or simply don't go.
- Remove any snow on your vehicle's windows, lights, brake lights, and signals. Confirm you'll be able to see and be seen.
- Check your vehicle's tires, wiper blades, fluids, lights, belts, and hoses. A breakdown is bad on a decent day and dangerous on a bad-weather day.
- Leave lots of time to achieve your destination safely. It's not worth putting yourself in an exceedingly dangerous situation just to air time.
- Keep a basic winter survival kit in your vehicle, including a flashlight, batteries, blanket, snacks, water, gloves, and boots. Load your car with winter travel gear, including chain, ice scraper/snow brush, jumper cables, and road flares.
- Drivers often aren't prepared for winter driving and forget to require some time. Remember to drive well below the posted ordinance and leave lots of room between cars.
- Roads that appear dry may very well be slippery – and dangerous. Take some time when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges, or shady areas – all are hot spots for black ice.
- Stay attentive and reduce speed. Know what's happening around you.
- On snow and ice, go slowly, regardless of what variety of vehicles you drive. Whether you've got an SUV with four-wheel drive, you will not be ready to stop any faster, or maintain control any better, once you lose traction. Four-wheel drive may get you going faster, but it won't facilitate your stop sooner.
- Give snowplows room to figure. The plows are wide and may cross the centerline or shoulder. Don't tailgate and take a look to not pass. If you need to pass, take extreme caution and watch out for the snow cloud.
- Snowplows travel below the posted regulation. Be patient. Allow lots of time to abate.
- A snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. you will see them, but they don't always see you. Keep your distance and await sudden stops or turns.
- When driving on ice and snow, don't use a controller and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers.
- When merging into traffic, take some time. Sudden movements can cause your vehicle to slip.
- Keep in mind what's happening around you. Actions by other vehicles will warn you of problems more quickly, and provide you that split-second of additional time to react safely.
- Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and never put on the brakes. If you've got anti-lock brakes, press the pedal down firmly and hold it. If you don't have anti-lock brakes, gently pump the pedal. Either way, give yourself lots of room to prevent.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE VALENTINES DAY

In the United States, we celebrate Valentine's Day every February 14th. Each year, billions of people celebrate this love-filled holiday by purchasing flowers, candies, and even engagement rings. However, not everyone celebrates Valentine's Day. Some countries, like Russia, Iran, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia have even gone to the extent of banning Valentine's Day. Some countries, like Brazil, have their own version of Valentine's Day.

Anna Stastna, a foreign exchange student here at Clay High School, has come to the United States from the Czech Republic, a country in Europe right next to Germany. In the Czech Republic, they do celebrate Valentine's day on February 14th. However, they also have a holiday called "Love Day" which is celebrated on May 1st. The Czech Republic celebrates Valentine's day similar to the United States, however, it is mostly younger people celebrating. Older or middle-aged citizens of the Czech Republic don't celebrate the day, finding it unnecessary and ridiculous, like a commercial trap. Also similar to the United States, Valentine's Day is often used to show someone their true feelings. When asked how Anna herself celebrated Valentine's Day and her thoughts and feelings on the holiday, this is what she had to say.

"My Valentine's Day is pretty normal....last year I wrote letters and bought chocolates for my closest friends. We had so much fun! Some couples may go out for a nice day, but my friends and I don't do anything too special. I have to say I don't mind Valentine's day. Even though I think you should show your love every day, it's nice to have one special moment in the year when you can remind yourself of who you love. I don't blame all of the people who don't like it for the commercial aspect. But buying flowers for your girlfriend or your boyfriend won't kill anybody."

Honngaeol (Ted) Jun, another foreign exchange student here at Clay High School, has come to the United States from South Korea, a country in eastern Asia. Valentine's Day is celebrated a little bit differently in South Korea. In fact, Valentine's day is one of the 12 "love days" celebrated on the 14th of every month in South Korea. There are different themes, such as White day or Black day, Hug day, even a Diary day. On February 14th in South Korea, women often give men candies and chocolate as a sign of adoration

and affection. Usually, men return the favor the following month on the 14th. The other 11 "love days" each have different celebrations. White Day, March 14th, is the time when a man shows his adoration and affection. The name White Day comes from the number of white gifts given, like flowers, lingerie, and white chocolate. On Black Day, April 14th, single citizens of South Korea celebrate this holiday by eating Jjajangmeon, a Korean black bean noodle dish. There are other "love days" such as Diary Day (January), Rose Day (May), Kiss Day (June), Silver Day (July), Green Day (August), Photo Day (September), Wine Day (October), Movie Day (November), and Hug Day (December). Ted doesn't really do anything to celebrate Valentine's Day, however, his favorite part of the holiday is the friendship and chocolate.

Other countries, like Argentina, Bulgaria, Romania, South Africa, St. Valentin, Denmark, France, Wales, China, England, the Philippines, and Italy all celebrate a version of Valentine's Day. While they might not celebrate how Americans do, it is still used as a day to cherish loved ones. All over the world people use Valentine's Day to show their affection to loved ones and partners. Single or taken, you can still celebrate Valentine's Day. From buying yourself a heart-shaped pizza to celebrating with a partner at a candle-lit dinner, Valentine's Day is a day to not only love others but yourself.



MAGNETIC ATTRactions

