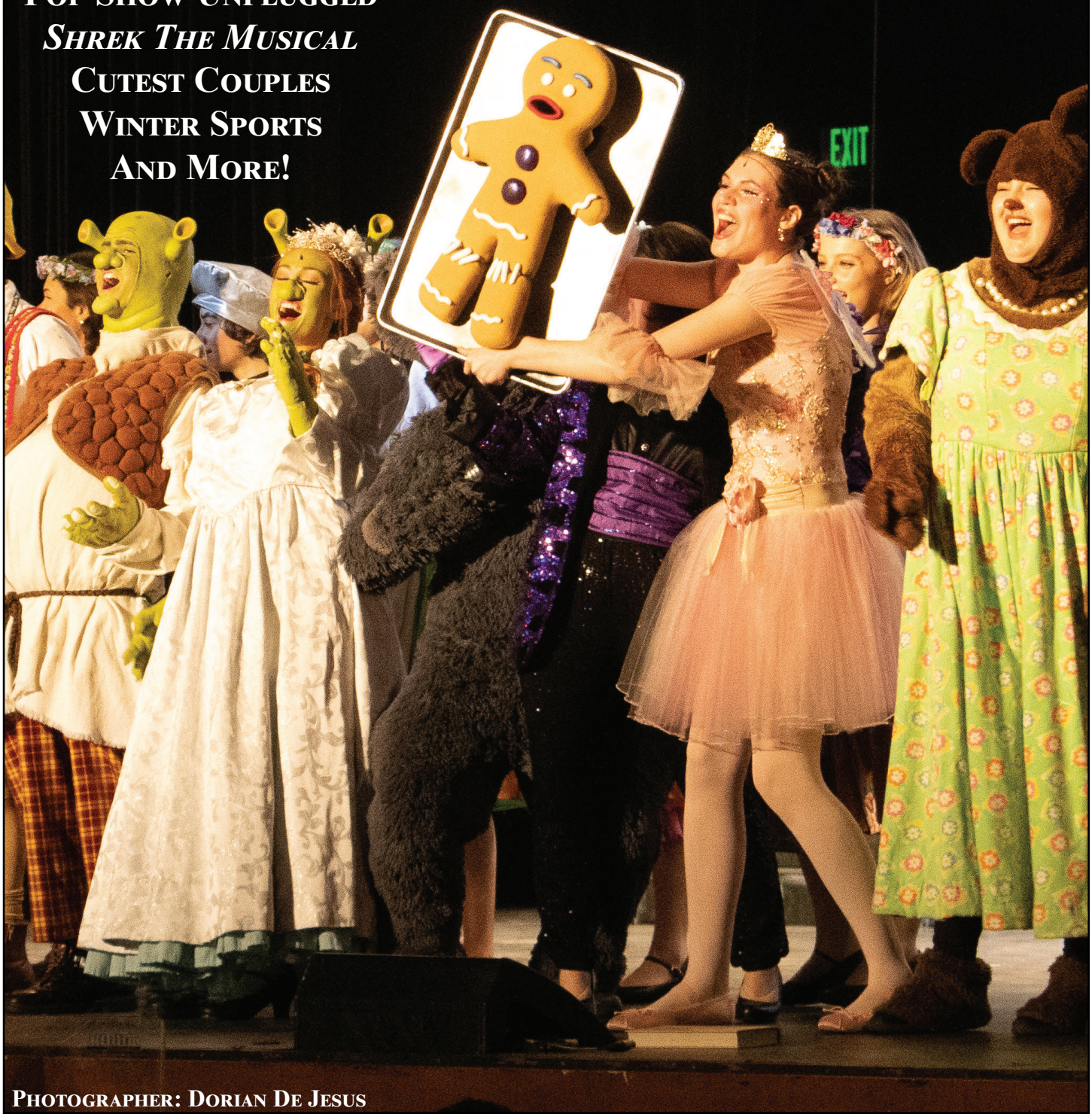
The Paw Print

February 2024 - Volume LXXIV, Issue IV

Student Newspaper of John Burroughs High School
1920 W. Clark Ave., Burbank, CA 91506

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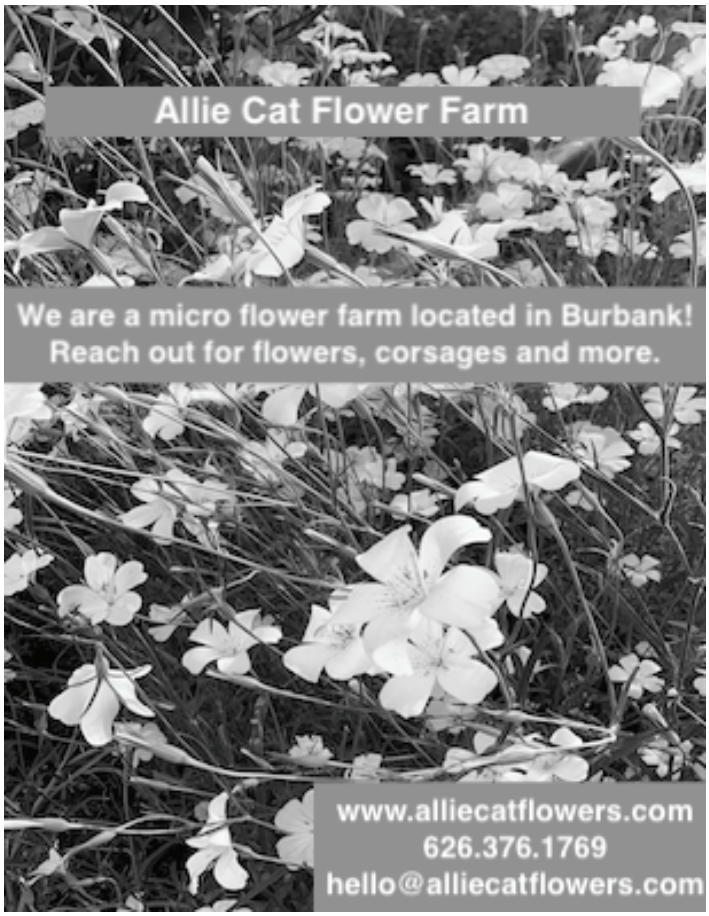
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Upcoming Dates

February 14th	Valentines Day
February 19th	Presidents Day (No School!)
February 23rd	Last Day To Buy Grad Nite Tickets
February 23rd-25th	Pop Show!
March 4th-8th	Kindness Week
March 11th	Prom Tickets On Sale
March 18th-22ns	Spring Break!

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Shrek The Musical

By Jack Nothomb
Cub Reporter

A hush fell over the theater as assistant director Scout Purdy introduced us to the much anticipated, school play *Shrek the Musical*. You could tell people had been waiting for months to see this production. As the opening curtain rose a mixed feeling of excitement came over us.

As a much anticipated production, the theater was packed with students, family, and fans of the JBHS Drama Program. There was a long line just waiting to get tickets outside the door. It was the first JBHS Drama production I had attended in months and it did not fail to exceed my expectations for a high school play, as the productions here at JBHS always do.

Makabe Ganey starred as Shrek. For his first time being the main character in a musical drama he filled the shoes set for him well. His well-timed remarks and overall character was a great part of the show and added a great comedic effect to the show.

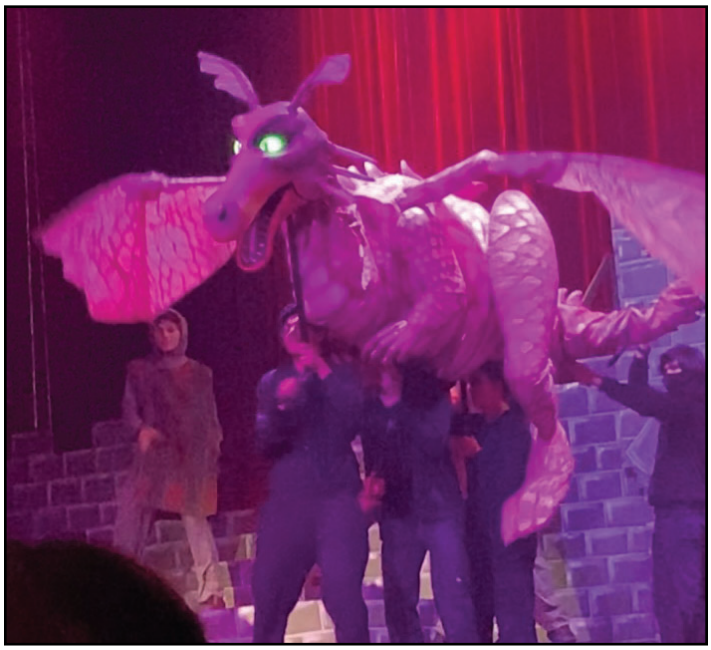
Emerson Riley provided great vocals and acting prowess as Fiona. She filled her role over abundantly well and may in fact be one of the most talented actresses we have produced at Burroughs.

Junior Silas Schulz, who was in the play as one of the Three Pigs and Pied Piper, has nothing but good things to say about her, "Emerson captivates the audience and myself every night. Her acting, dancing, acting, and vocal abilities are all in one immensely impressive."

It was Mauricio Lara who, as the character Donkey, perhaps provided the most well rounded character in terms of comedy and development. He develops a real repertoire with the audience and helps keep us entertained and connected throughout the show. He even gave some jokes reminiscent of the original Eddie Murphy character.

Luke Pirruccelllo, playing Lord Farquaad, gave us everything we need Lord Farquaad to be. He was both laughable and pathetic, but in the ways Lord Farquaad needs to be. The costume put together for him was really quite excellent, as he really showed tremendous guile and raw talent when playing his part.





However, it was really Emma Kata who stole the show as the Dragon. Their powerful and moving voice provided a real backtrack for the play to build off of. Each one of the songs she participated in really held the audience captive in awe. They breathed new life into a character we previously knew without voice or development. It would be really no surprise if we see them go onto great things in acting and musical production in the near future.



The whole feeling around the play was great according to the various actors that were involved. Lana Dadekian, a talented actress who is playing the Shoemaker's Elf, says "*Shrek the Musical* was so fun to perform in, the great overall message was just to be who you are."

Eli Romsa, one of the Three Pigs, said "I'm extremely glad I got to be a part of such an amazing project, it couldn't have been any better and I'm so glad my friends made me audition for my part."

The band members of the pit also had a blast taking part in the play. "It was great fun," said Luke Martinez, a Senior here at JBHS who played flute and piccolo in the pit. The band provided great backing and thematic music throughout the play and it wouldn't have been possible without them for it to have been nearly as good as it was. They played hard and strong throughout the whole play.

The costumes and makeup were a great part of the show. It really helped to have a Shrek who just looked like the real Shrek, and the Lord Farquaad costume was excellently put together. Indigo Kennedy, who put together the costumes, did a really great job this time around.

It would be wrong to continue without mentioning those that helped build the set and helped to prepare the show. The likes of Reagan Wever, Alejandro Ramirez, Sarah Bishoff and more helped to build the set. The set itself was one of the best and most impressive yet. Henry Dellosa helped to operate the Dragon puppet which was a fantastic addition to the show and to the overall ambiance of what the show was trying to and succeeded in accomplishing.

Overall, *Shrek the Musical* was a great watch. It leaves no doubt in my mind, and many others, that we have one of the best Drama programs in all of California, and perhaps even are peerless on the national level. Those who participated have well earned a standing ovation.

Pop Show Unplugged

By Zoe Belknap
Guest Reporter

Every year, selected students from the JBHS VMA join together with Powerhouse director Jen Ounjin and many talented instrumentalists to create a beautiful acoustic show at the Colony Theater here in Burbank called Pop Show: Unplugged. For years, Choir students at Burroughs have created their own acts to perform at Pop Show, the VMA's biggest performance of the year that takes place in late February. But, after years of having to reject thousands of beautiful student-played quiet songs, Mr. Jennings and Jen Ounjin decided to make a second Pop Show solely dedicated to highlighting the talents of the program's students in a more casual, intimate setting.

2024's Pop Show: Unplugged began unlike any other before and, for the first time, included Dance Pro. Led by Sound Sensations' Ella Sage, twelve bearded singers performed the song "Man of Constant Sorrow," from the 2000 comedy starring Goerge Clooney *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?* The dancers were accompanied by Megan Harkins on guitar and Dan Scoville on the piano, who, of course, also wore long fake beards to match the dancers. This act was a fan favorite among many of the audience members who didn't expect to be greeted by fake beards and overalls.

This was followed by Powerhouse Junior Lana Dadkeian performing Tori Kelly's 2015 song "Dear No One," with her acoustic guitar. Then, on piano, Senior Bea Park sang a beautiful rendition of "Manhattan" by Sara Bareilles. Bea was followed by Junior Silas Schulz and Senior Makabe Ganey singing a beautiful duet called "More Than Words" by the band Extreme.

Then, Sound Sensations Sophomore Melanie Fierro sang her original song, "I Love You" relenting about unrequited love that, combined with her heart wrenching lyrics and beautiful voice, stood out to the directors among the sea of guitar ballots that auditioned for the show. This is Melanie's second year performing a solo in Unplugged, but first time performing an original.

Melanie told reporters at *The Paw Print* that, "Pop Show: Unplugged was exciting but I didn't feel too nervous because it was a really chill and intimate venue. I was just thankful to share my original song with such an amazing crowd and fellow choir members."

Melanie was followed by Powerhouse Senior Noah Castiel who performed the Stevie Wonder song "Ordinary Pain" with backup singers Emerson Riley, Bianca Manganaan, and Clementine Toronto. Noah accompanied himself seamlessly with the piano, but not before endearingly mentioning how he, "doesn't play piano, [he] just really likes this song."

Powerhouse Sophomore Rose Hemmingway and Powerhouse Senior Olivia Zenetis then performed Madison Beer's 2023 song "Ryder" which they dedicated to their brothers.

Rose and Olivia were then followed by Muses, an a capella group composed of students in Sound Sensations, JBHS' Advanced Treble Choir. Introduced by director and Sound Sensations Sophomore Jillian Pirrucello, they performed a lovely arrangement "Yesterday" by the Beatles.

Powerhouse Seniors Emerson Riley and Luke Pirrucello then performed an incredibly beautiful and sweet acoustic cover of Cindy Lauper's 1983 hit "Time After Time." They were then followed by Powerhouse's Emma Kata performing popular modern jazz singer Laufey's song "While You Were Sleeping."

Sound Sensations' Chloe Ritmiller then performed Adele's "Daydreamer" followed by Claire Dore, who is also in Sound Sensations, performing Fiona Apple's "Paper Bag." Claire noted before beautifully playing and singing the song that this is her "first and last" Pop Show: Unplugged, because she had resisted joining choir until her Senior year.

Then, the three Freshmen in Sound Sensations this year, Ella Hukle, Alessi Umali, and Sutton Schiff, performed Olivia Rodrigo's 2023 hit "Lacy ‘’ from her most recent album, Guts. This breathtaking arrangement of this song was accompanied by the incomparable Megan Harkins on guitar.

NeoChromatics, Powerhouse's elite a capella group, then performed a heavenly arrangement of Daniel Caesar with soloist Cruz Martin. NeoChromatics was followed by another Laufey song, "Magnolia," performed by Sound Sensations Junior Jasmine Dobie.

Rebecca Giedt and James Cunha followed Jasmine with an endearing rendition of "Me and Julio Down by the Schoolyard" by Paul Simon. Powerhouse Sophomore and first year JBHS Choir student Evan Baker then sang Elton John's "Your Song."

Powerhouse Seniors Emerson Riley, Danielle Bax, Bea Park, and Emma Kata then sang a gorgeous rendition of "New Kind of Love" by Frou Frou (Imogen Heap), each sporting matching friendship bracelets made by Bea Park, who also played piano for the act.

They were then followed by Sound Waves boys James Cunha, Declan Chinn, Fabian Sanchez, Jasper Jemison, Arthur Zurita, and Phoenix Erguiza singing the Harry Styles Harry's House deepcut "Boyfriends." When introducing the act, Sound Waves Freshman Declan Chinn noted how special the experience of putting this act together was for them and how happy they are to be representing the boys of Sound Waves in a show like this.

Powerhouse Senior and JBHS VMA newcomer Olivia Zenetis then performed Alicia Keys' "If I Ain't' Got You." She was followed by Kelly Hagan and Cruz Martin, both Powerhouse Seniors, performing "Saving all my Love For You" by Whitney Houston.

To close out the show, Haratch Kistinian, Makabe Ganey, and Mauracio Lara performed Jimmy Buffet's classic "Margaritaville," with the entire cast of the show coming out at the end to take a bow.

This Pop Show: Unplugged was packed with incredible performances by many incredibly talented vocalists, instrumentalists, and dancers. To see more of that plus the show choir sets these students have been working hard on, make sure to come to Pop Show 45 on February 23, 24, and 25!

Valentine's

1 year 9 months ago, I saw you. Your lopsided smile, the crinkle in your eyes. A brush against your palm and you were stuck in my mind. I'd think of you all day. 636 days ago, you told me you loved me. I didn't know it, but I loved you too. I know I love you now. 55,209,600 seconds ago, a new beginning started. One filled with love, and laughter and honesty- one that has molded me into someone I hope you're proud to call yours. I love you, Jacob Bowers.

Yours, Sarah Eichwald

To: Jolie LeRoy

From: Issabella Copano

Hi Jolie! You got me an ad last year so here's yours! So glad you still like me even though all I do is roast you. Sorry. Hope Texas treats you well and here's to the rest of senior year! Love ya!

Music Is Instrumental

By James Reid
Editor In Chief

For the City of Burbank, arguably no night is bigger than the annual "Big Game" between John Burroughs High School (JBHS) and Burbank High School (BHS) football. This rivalry has dominated the city for generations, and has led to some of our proudest and most historic traditions. But now, a new tradition is emerging, one that unites our city instead of dividing it: Music is Instrumental. A charity show, the performance brings together the best students of BHS' and JBHS' performing arts programs to raise money for arts education in Burbank schools.

Amid looming budget cuts that threaten arts education in many school districts throughout the country, it's no secret that protecting these programs is a fundamental concern for many students who call these programs home. Among them is Chelsea Walker, a JBHS Senior currently serving as the President of the JBHS Instrumental Music Association. "I've loved every moment that I've played music at school, starting from kindergarten in elementary school, to middle school band at Huerta," she said. "Moving on to high school, I think



it's just been such an important part of my life, and it has really to express myself as a person, and I'm very grateful for the opportunities I've had."

The show was first presented in 2023, and since then, has come to represent the friendship and cooperation between our two schools. Many students, such as Junior Mela Gainer of Burroughs, love the opportunity to perform alongside their friends and colleagues from BHS. "It was really cool to be able to interact with people from Burbank High's Jazz Band, and I met so many cool people," she said. "Just being able to play combined songs with them was great, we don't often do that, and Music is Instrumental is the one time we get to do that."

The show, which is presented in the Wolfson Auditorium at BHS, is quite popular amongst BHS students as well. According to Sean Cuevas, a BHS Senior who serves as President of the BHS IMA, "As a Burbank High student, it was very exciting to work alongside the many talented musicians from JBHS. Quickly befriending many of them, it was a wonderful experience to perform with them from the many rehearsals to even the [Music is Instrumental] Concert."

Although performed by the students, the music itself was another draw from the crowd. The set list, primarily composed of music from film and television, featured a diverse selection of music from composers such as John Williams and Giuseppe Verdi. The performers themselves loved this set list, with JBHS Junior Sophia Surratt saying "the music is really challenging, and it's really fun to do challenging music because it allows you to see your full potential."

For the Seniors in the show, it was an undoubtedly bittersweet occasion. As one of the final shows they will play in high school, and likely the last alongside BHS students, this performance is a quite sentimental for many Seniors, especially those that have been in IMA for multiple years. Luke Martinez, a JBHS Senior, said "It's such a wonderful experience that has actually changed me as a musician, and I'm going to miss it moving forward."

Of the many high school traditions celebrated in Burbank, Music is Instrumental has established itself as one of the most unique. Rather than embrace generations-old rivalries, the show brings together performing arts students from all over Burbank with one goal; raising money to save the future of arts education.

Ursa Major Horoscopes

Aries (March 21-April 19): In this month of love you will find a matching suitor that will treat you with affection and kindness.
Taurus (April 20-May 20): You can look out for love this Valentine's Day with both Venus and Jupiter blessing your relationships, asking you to trust in the power of love.
Gemini (May 21-June 20): This Valentine's Day you will stumble upon an obstacle that will eventually lead you to happiness and your soulmate
Cancer (June 21-July 22): An unanticipated lover longs for your affection, what you most desire is right in front of you. Good things in the way of love are coming your way if you have patience and remember to wear your heart on your sleeve. Let your adventurous spirit take the lead this Valentine's Day, remember to not fear the unknown and to instead indulge in it and savor it.
Leo (July 23-August 22): You will be inspired to make your relationship a serious one.
Virgo (August 23-September 22): A special offer will come your way in the next 24 hours. Whether it finds you in the form of a new romance or a raise at work, good things are on their way. Your spirit guides compel you to keep your mind and heart open to new possibilities. A new chapter in your life is coming up, and the universe wants you to dive head first into the unknown in order to reap the benefits of starting fresh. It is important to stay present and connected at this time.
Libra (September 23-October 22): February is your month! Someone will come into your life and you will become close with someone you never expected. Be sure to keep your hopes up and pursue your own happiness, you don't need someone else to do it for you.
Scorpio (October 23-November 21): Let your nurturing instincts guide you this Valentine's Day. Create a cozy setting for you and your loved one to share your emotions openly. Your ability to connect emotionally will strengthen your relationship, making this day a beautiful celebration. Don't be afraid to express your feelings boldly.
Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Don't try to control everything, let romance happen naturally
Capricorn (December 22-January 19): Your secret admirer will reveal themselves to you tonight when you least expect it.
Aquarius (January 20-February 18): Embrace your passion and love for your significant other on Valentine's Day.
Pisces (February 19-March 20): Don't get caught up in conversations with your ex.

-Journalism Staff Astrologers

Maddie Mateo And Finn Robinson

By James Reid
Editor In Chief

It's that time of year, Bears! Spring is drawing nearer, the flowers are beginning to bloom, and for many JBHS couples, love is in the air! One of these couples is Senior Maddie Mateo and Junior Finn Robinson, two students who fell head over heels for each other in the most quintessentially Burroughs fashion; backstage on a Drama production!

Although the two were vaguely familiar with one another, they truly connected for the first time during the rehearsals of *She Kills Monsters* by JBHS Drama in Spring 2023. "I was an actor," said Finn, "And I was Tech [Crew] for it," followed Maddie.

While they now (literally) finish each other's sentences, their first introduction to one another was just as much a perfect romcom moment. "When I first met him, he had recently injured himself by falling on the stage, so my first impression of him was 'hey your band-aid is bleeding,'" said Maddie. Pretty soon after, Finn confessed his feelings for her, but the two weren't official just yet.



"About two or three weeks into knowing each other, I came over to her fourth period Drama class because I wasn't doing anything, and so we sat outside and had a little conversation, and I was like 'hey, I think I like you, what do you feel?'" said Finn. "And then she didn't give me an answer for like the next week, because she was like 'I'm gonna think about it.'"

Evidently things worked out for them, and now they've been going strong for almost a year! "Our first date was Barnes and Noble," said Maddie. "It turned into a picnic at the park afterwards." Since then, they spend every free moment together, and love to participate in a variety of activities with one another. "We watch a lot of movies and just comment on them," said Maddie. "Definitely the sort of 'binge-type' couple, we'll just sit down and watch Netflix for a couple hours, it's nice," added Finn.

Before going too far, Maddie and Finn did what is often one of the most intimidating things for new couples; meeting each other's families. But for Maddie and Finn, this typically stressful experience ran like clockwork. "Meeting his family was very fun because I like his little sister, and even though both of our families are very different, I had some stuff in common with his dad," said Maddie. "My sister seems to love her more than I do," Finn added, jokingly. "But yeah, meeting her family for the first time was really good, her mom's very nice, very social, so it was sort of easy connecting with her."

While meeting each other's families went well, meeting each other's friends arguably went even better. "Well now he's in my friend group," said Maddie. "I know some of his friends, but I haven't met like his old friend group, but they're very nice and very sweet." "Most of my friends are from the Drama Department or Choir Department, so she most knows them from doing Tech Crew stuff," said Finn. "Her friends honestly were very kind, very welcoming… there's something for everyone in her friend group, you can sit down and have a nice conversation, you can 'gamble' pencils, or you can sit down and geek out about something. It's a very nice mix."

We are so grateful to have wonderful couples like Maddie and Finn in our Burroughs community, and can't imagine life here without them. We wish them the best with their upcoming Drama shows, and know that they will do outstanding. Thank you so much Maddie and Finn, and have a great Valentine's Day!

Luke Pirruccello And Emerson Riley

By Josie Robinson
Cub Reporter

Among John Burroughs' Powerhouse Choir is power couple Emerson Riley and Luke Pirruccello. The pair are both Seniors and have been together since April of last year, and have guided each other both on and off the stage.

When asked what their favorite thing about each other was, both smiled as Luke proclaimed there were "so many things" to choose from. While Emerson admires Luke for his "passion for music and music education" since it shows he has a, "big heart," Luke loves, "her smile," "her lighthearted humor," and how "genuinely kind she is" to everyone she meets. However, both express immense gratitude for the support each other provides, especially Senior year is a challenging one.

Both Luke and Emerson are involved in their fair share of per-



formances throughout their time at Burroughs. More recently, Emerson played a major role in Burroughs on Broadway's production of *Jekyll and Hyde* as Emma Carew. Luke has also played roles throughout Powerhouse and specialty acts in both Burroughs on Broadway and the Burroughs Winter Show.

For the future they both hope to further pursue theater beyond high school. Emerson hopes to attend either Texas State or University of Michigan for college to study Musical Theater and become a performer. Luke wants to study Music Education at Indiana University, Cal State Long Beach, or University of Michigan in the hopes of becoming a choral teacher.

Off the stage, Emerson enjoys crafts and scuba diving while Luke celebrates Frank Sinatra and learning world history.

While the two have known each other since the start of their Junior year, they didn't get together until New Year's, as the two were both attending a 2022 New Years Party that night. While they did establish their feelings for each other, they were willing to wait until they were both ready for a relationship. However, all of their friends were in unanimous support of their relationship throughout it all. They then got together officially in April of 2023 for Prom, and have of course been happily together since! They've grown closer together from then on; however, their relationship undoubtedly flourished over this last summer, as both Emerson and Luke partook in the SongBook Academy intensive in Carmel Indiana. The program focuses on introducing high school students into the larger world of performing arts, and is where Emerson was given the opportunity to become an Ambassador for the program.

As the year continues on, they're excited for whatever future brings them, especially as new opportunities arise for their Senior Year! Have a Happy Valentine's Day!

Liliana Mendez and Andrew Villaseñor

By Myah Pearl
Cub Reporter

Valentine's Day is almost here and students are preparing to celebrate with someone special. Let's shine some light on some of the couples of John Burroughs High School.

Liliana Mendez and Andrew Villaseñor are both Seniors at John Burroughs. They met in Mr. Manoukian's class during their Junior year. They have been an official couple since early November of 2023. Liliana Mendez is a Link Crew Leader as well as an LA County Fire Explorer.



In her free time, she likes to skateboard and participates as a member of the Latinos Unidos Club here at JBHS. Meanwhile, Andrew enjoys lifting and playing video games.

"When I first saw him, I thought he was cute and goofy looking," said Mendez. Andrew's first impression of her was that she was cute but at the time, he didn't think much of it. Regardless, Liliana kept "shooting her shot" according to both her and her boyfriend.

Villaseñor asked Mendez out after school in front of all their friends. The couple stated that they were the ones who pressured them into dating. Although they were originally pressured into their relationship they also said they're grateful for it.

The couple normally goes on park dates and have picnics. They enjoy talking to each other about how their day went. Eventually they were able to bond over their love for gaming.

"I don't like dating but he changed that for me," said Mendez. In the time that they've known each other they've managed to bring out different sides of each other that they both adore. Andrew's favorite thing about Liliana is her eyes. Liliana's favorite thing about Andrew is his smile. Their song is "Sweet/I Thought You Wanted To Dance" by Tyler, the Creator.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Gabi DeSimone And Riley Fitzgerald

By Mia Damiani
Cub Reporter

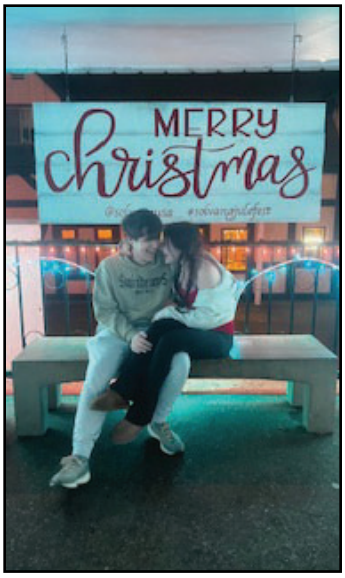
Gabi DeSimone, current Valedictorian of the Senior class, embarked on an unconventional love story this past semester. Through being faced with her childhood enemy, she made a new best friend.

Gabi and Riley met outside of Centennial Hall at UCLA during the beginning of December.

Gabi's brother, Dominic DeSimone is a current Freshman at UCLA. Upon one of her routine visits this past October, Gabi was waiting outside of her brother's dorm so they could get lunch together as usual.

She was taken by surprise when a butterfly flew around her and landed on her nose. " I couldn't help but scream, it was so embarrassing. I've always had a huge fear of butterflies growing up and it's the weirdest thing ever," Gabi confessed when reflecting on the moment that sparked her love story.

Gabi said it wasn't until after she had won the treacherous fight with the butterfly that she noticed a guy she had never seen before was violently laughing at her. "I immediately thought she was adorable and had to get her number. Growing up I hated butterflies and looking at her reminded me of my childhood fear" Riley Fitzgerald shared as he recalled a great deal of laughter.



The two shared a long laugh that led to several texts and a first date later they were dating. Their story is truly hilarious and definitely created an original first impression. "I can't wait to tell our kids one day how Gabi and I's shared hatred of butterflies led to the greatest thing in my life."

Gabi DeSimone and Riley Fitzgerald have now been dating for just over a month.

Riley and Gabi have shared many adventures together. Some of their most memorable dates have been game night at Dave and Busters in Hollywood and going to see the Chicago Bears.

During Christmas break Gabi even flew out to Riley's Home town in Illinois where she got to experience Chicago style pizza and box seats for the Chicago Bears.

Although the commute to UCLA is not always easy, Gabi and Riley cite their distance as the reason for their spontaneous adventures. "There is so much in between Burbank and Westwood that we always find ourselves doing something cool on a Friday night" reported Gabi.

Gabi and Riley both plan to stay together during college and put in lots of effort to make their long distance relationship work. Gabi is currently committed to Wellesley College in Boston and Riley is transferring to Arizona State University in March. However, the couple plans to spend plenty of time together during summer and the rest of their time off from school.

During summer they plan to meet up with one of their best friends and spend some time in her Jersey Shore Beach House for several weeks. They both plan to work over the summer together and save up money for the upcoming school year.

Although distance often creates barriers between people, Gabi and Riley's love story is extremely inspirational. Their dedication to each other is extremely sweet. "I feel incredibly lucky to be starting this new chapter in my life with someone I care so much about," stated Gabi.

Their story is a reminder that the best relationships start in the most unexpected places. The next time you see a butterfly, think twice about who's around you.

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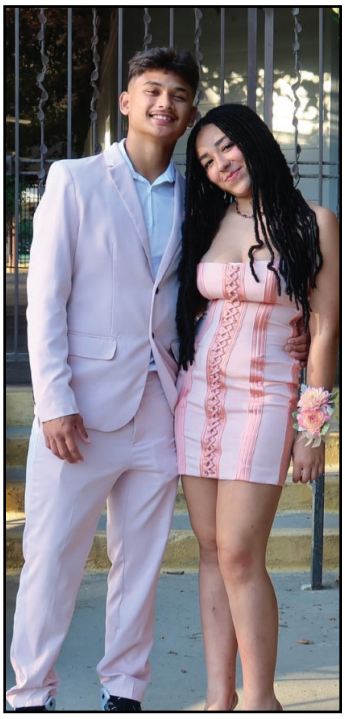
Cece Abbey And Ethan Hubbell

By David Romero
Cub Reporter

In a world where connections are formed in the most unexpected places, the story of Cece Abbey and Ethan Hubbell unfolds as a testament to the serendipity of love. They stand as a beacon of devotion and compatibility, a couple whose journey is adorned with moments of sweetness and understanding.

Cece Abbey, an active member of GMJB and a College Peer Mentor, met Ethan Hubbell, a dedicated football player, in the unlikeliest of settings - Mr. Piper's first period AP US History class. Their initial impressions were distinct yet complementary. Cece found Ethan to be initially quiet and reserved, while Ethan was captivated by Cece's vivaciousness.

Their love story began to bloom when Ethan, drawn to Cece's charm, asked her out through a simple yet heartfelt text message.



Since December 30, 2022, they have embarked on a beautiful journey, celebrating their love and cherishing every moment together.

Their first date was at Tally Rand, a place familiar to Ethan due to his roots in Burbank. It was a new experience for Cece, and the evening became a cherished memory, sparking the flame of their affection. The allure of their connection lies in the appreciation they hold for each other's qualities. Cece was drawn to Ethan's sweetness, while Ethan admired Cece's independence and strength.

Their shared interests became the foundation of their bond. They relish going out for meals and cozy movie nights, finding joy in simple moments spent together. Their common taste in music, TV shows, and deep-rooted family values further solidify their compatibility."Kerosene Yues Tunor" holds a special place in their hearts as their song, symbolizing the depth of their emotions and the harmony in their relationship.

Meeting each other's families was a nerve-wracking but ultimately heartwarming experience. Cece found Ethan's parents to be welcoming, dispelling her initial fears. Ethan, too, navigated the initial nervousness of meeting Cece's family and now cherishes their bond.

Their acceptance of each other's friends further accentuates their compatibility. Cece was acquainted with most of Ethan's friends before their relationship, and Ethan finds Cece's friends to be easy-going and affable.

In the tale of Cece Abbey and Ethan Hubbell, love blossomed from unexpected encounters and flourished through shared values, understanding, and affection. Their story serves as a testament to the beauty of finding love in the simplest yet most profound moments of life. Together, they continue to paint a picture of unwavering devotion and adoration, inspiring others with the purity of their love.

Tawnie Ohrt And Patrick Lima

By Narrissa Wareebor
Cub Reporter

There are multiple couples in this school but there is no better bond than Senior Tawnie Ohrt and Junior Patrick Lima. This couple is seen together everywhere they go and they're basically a whole. If you saw one of them walking around you'd be confused as to where the other one was.

Tawnie and Patrick had met when Tawnie was a Sophomore and Patrick was a Freshman. They've always been really close friends so when they made things official it felt natural because they knew the connection they had was different than the others.

Being just friends for two years, they always had a thing for each other whether they were talking to each other or not. Once they reconnected, Ohrt says that it was a "when you know you know" situation where it was just meant to be.



You would've expected them to already be close considering the amount of time they knew each other but there were always new things to learn about each other and they continuously got closer and closer everyday. Times matched perfectly because Homecoming was just around the corner.

Patrick had been planning to ask Tawnie to Homecoming and knew the perfect place and time to do it. Being the supportive guy he is, he showed up to cheer Tawnie on for her rivalry volleyball game at Burbank High School. After the Bears won, Tawnie thought she couldn't have been any happier until she turned around to see Patrick there, holding a poster asking her to Homecoming.

Besides big events like Homecoming, the two like to spend their time together in many different ways. They never even have to be actively doing something in order to enjoy their time together because each other's presence is all they really need. But if they were to go out, their favorite things to do together are just going to each other's houses to bake, watch movies, play games, and simply have long conversations.

If they were to get out and leave the house, their number one place to go to is Cheesecake Factory. This is their favorite go-to place to eat because it is affordable with the same feeling of going somewhere fancy.

When it comes to constantly seeing each other literally every single day, they're obviously going to have to have a good bond with each other's families. They both feel that they have already been very welcomed into their homes.

Their parents support each other very much. For example, when Patrick brought up the fact that he wanted to start his own brand, Tawnie's mom immediately stepped in and helped him, showing him an immense amount of love, care, and just overall support.

Over the years, they've built their trust and love for each other to the point where they are practically inseparable. There is never a dull moment and they believe and hope to see a long and happy future together.

Jimena Menendez And Elvis Moreno

By Eve Wild
Cub Reporter

Jimena Menendez and Elvis Moreno are both Seniors who for sure are one of the cutest couples attending John Burroughs High School. Jimena is seventeen and is on the John Burroughs Dance Team and Elvis is seventeen on the John Burroughs Baseball Team.

They both met Sophomore year in English class and Jimena's first impression of Elvis was that he was really sweet, while Elvis' first impression of Jimena was that she was very pretty.



To make things official, Elvis decided to take Jimena out for dinner and asked her to be his girlfriend, which marked their anniversary on May 14. They have been together for a year and a half. One of their most memorable moments was their first date where they went mini golfing and getting to know each other the rest of the night. Both of them were extremely comfortable around one another from the beginning and found that their conversations flowed easily.

Jimena and Elvis' favorite thing to do together would be to cook/bake and go out at night.

Jimena's favorite thing about Elvis is his smile and Elvis loves her eyes. Both of them share a similarity with admiring animals and being very family-orientated. Their song is "Pink Matter" by Frank Ocean.

When it comes to families, Jimena and Elvis found meeting each other's families to be great and both families were very welcoming. Now, they both spend a lot of time with each other's families and have grown a close bond.

Jimena Menendez states, "I like all his friends. I think they are really funny." On the same note, Elvis Moreno states, 'I like Jimena's friends too, they have always been nice to me."

Overall, Jimena and Elvis are a very strong couple who have stayed by one another for almost two years and continue to create everlasting memories.

Cecile And Joepete

By Leslie Witrago Hernandez
Cub Reporter

Joepete, eighteen, and Cecile, seventeen, have been together for two years and eight months.

They met at the Burbank mall and Cecile's first impression of Joepete was that he was really considerate and cute, while Joepete's first impression of her was that she was really pretty so that made him super nervous. That same day they met he asked her out since they already knew each other from talking.

Their first date was at the Burbank mall.

Cecile's mom wanted to meet Joepete as well because she didn't know him. Joepete was intimidated and a little nervous meeting her, then when Ceclie met his parents she thought it was really nice meeting them and they really liked her .

Cecile first knew she liked him when he would write her really sweet paragraphs saying how much he enjoyed talking to her. Joepete first knew he liked her when she showed that she cared about him and he liked that her personality matched his and that they also shared a lot of interests.

This couple likes playing video games together, getting Starbucks, and going for drives. Joepete's favorite thing about his girlfriend is how funny and caring she is, and that she is like a little version of him. Now Cecile's favorite thing about him is how patient he is with her and how much he really cares about her. She also likes how he is very thoughtful and respectful towards her.



The couple have a lot of similarities but the main thing is their sense of humor and that they like playing video games. Cecile and Joepete share friends so they get along really well.

Finally this couple has a song and it Everyday by ASAP Rocky.

George And Laila

By Noah Garay
Cub Reporter

Seniors George and Laila are one of the cutest couples here at John Burroughs High School.

They are both Seniors here, Now onto the personalities of these two people. George is a humorous guy, he loves telling jokes to all his friends, and he is also a very nice and friendly person and Laila is a very kind-hearted person and she is also friendly with a lot of people here at school.

George is eighteen years old, he likes to go to the gym, his future plans are to learn film education.

He met Laila in 8th grade and at first, he was curious about Laila's character and he was the one to ask her out. They have been together for eleven months and their first date was at a movie theater.

The moment he knew that he liked her was when he found out that she cared for him. The activities that they like to do together is watch movies and his favorite thing about her is her eyes.

The things that they have in common is that they are both funny and the song that they have in common is called "Johnny Guitar." He was unsure when he went to meet her parents and he is cool with her friends.



Now onto Laila, She is seventeen, she likes to crochet, and her future plans are to go to college.

She met George in the 8th grade, and her first impression of him was that she thought he was a little weird. The first thing that she liked about him was his personality. Her favorite thing about him is his humor and the thing that they also have in common is that they have the same music taste.

When she met his parents it was nerve racking, and she thinks that his friends are cool.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Chloe Alonzo And Kennedy Gramajo

By Allie Hunt
Sports Editor

This Valentine's season, John Burroughs High School is bursting with loving couples such as Chloe Alonzo and Kennedy Gramajo. Chloe, a seventeen year old Senior here at JBHS is an avid photographer and has a special love for animals considering her eight cats and two dogs. Kennedy is also seventeen and a Senior at the school, but he likes to skateboard and listen to music.

The two Seniors met in their tenth grade English class with Mrs. Mayes. As for first impressions, Chloe honestly said, "I thought he was kinda weird because he asked me to rate his pants." Really, Kennedy had had his eye on her and had finally worked up the courage to go talk to her and of course show off his brown corduroy pants. In the end, Chloe gave him an eight out of ten, "to be nice but not too nice."

Kennedy's first impression of Chloe was, "I thought she had really pretty eyes, that's what drew me



in.." He also believed she would be shy, but quickly after they started talking, Kennedy realized she only is when she wants to be.

When discussing who made the first move, Chloe definitively claimed the position as she described how she walked up to Kennedy after English class to ask him if he was single. Of course, Kennedy didn't see this as a sign of interest initially because he thought she was asking for a friend. Later, Kennedy asked Chloe on their first date outside of school to see if she wanted to do something together for Valentine's Day. This lovely couple has been together for almost two years with their anniversary on March 14th, 2022.

Chloe and Kennedy's first date was the day after Valentine's Day at the Burbank Mall where they "walked around, browsed Barnes and Noble, and got to know each other." After Kennedy's influence, they now share a very similar music taste. Their songs are, "Promises" by Hardrock and "Something Stupid" by Frank and Nancy Sinatra.

Now that Kennedy has recently purchased his first car, he is looking forward to taking Chloe to all the places she's always wanted to go to but couldn't before, like Seattle. Additionally, they are very excited for Prom this May!

When it came to meeting Kennedy's family Chloe was nervous since she had never met any of her partners' family before but now she has a good relationship with his Mom and sisters. Kennedy, similarly, was extremely intimidated to meet Chloe's mom because he was trying really hard to make a good impression.

New friendship has also come from their relationship. When asked what Chloe thought of Kennedy's friends, she claims she didn't like them at first but now she does. Additionally, Chloe's friends quickly became Kennedy's friends, for which he is very grateful.

Looking forward to the future, Chloe and Kennedy are enthusiastic about growing together. Chloe would love to work in digital marketing and own a cat cafe one day. Kennedy on the other hand has a "passion for fashion" and is currently developing a clothing line which he hopes to expand while he attends college.

With so much love in the air here at John Burroughs High School, *The Paw Print* is happy to see so many beautiful couples. Happy early anniversary to Chloe and Kennedy and we wish them the best of luck on all future endeavors.

Ava Hunt and Staas Ellis

By Stephanie Hernandez
Editor In Chief

Senior Ava Hunt, and Staas Ellis, CSUN Freshman and Burroughs alumni, have been together almost one year! March 29, 2023, marks their anniversary, and their shared choir backgrounds fuel their relationship. These two are clearly in tune with each other.

Extremely involved here at Burroughs, Ava has been in Choir since her Freshman year, starting her Choir career in Sound Waves. In her Sophomore year, she joined both Sound Sensations and Decibelles and moved on to Powerhouse her Senior year.

Similar to Ava, Staas was in the Burroughs Choir program for all four years. He was in Sound Waves for two years and Powerhouse for two years.

The two met during Ava's Freshman year and Staas's Sophomore year. Ava recounts, "We were in Sound Waves together when school was on Zoom back in 2020. The Choir shows were weird



because they were videos of each student dancing in their homes, edited to make it look like a choir performing together. In one of the videos from that year, Staas and I were edited to look like we were dancing together."

On their first impressions, Staas said, "I thought she was nice and cute, but a bit strange. To be honest, my perspective hasn't changed much."

Ava, similarly, had a positive first impression, "I thought he seemed like a nice person. He was very energetic."

As Ava recalls, Staas asked out Ava first, "I had set my phone down for a few minutes, and when I came back to it, Staas had tried to call me multiple times and had texted me asking if I was as excited for Choir Nationals. Even though we had been talking for a few weeks, I thought there was no way he liked me, so I assumed his multiple attempts at calling me were all mistakes. I responded to his text message, and he then told me he had feelings for me and wanted you to know if I felt the same way, and of course I did."

Their first official date was the dinner cruise all of the choir kids attended during their Boston trip, serving as both a memorable date and a celebration of their win.

When hanging out, the two love to "watch movies, play phone games, and drink coffee. We also love to go to Disneyland together! I'd say it's one of my favorite things to do with him," Ava shared.

Luckily, the two also get along with each other's friends, with Choir providing a common ground for them, with Ava frequently hanging out with Staas' friends and Staas enjoying hanging out with Ava's good friends, Seniors Bianca Manganaan, Gianna DeSimone, and Sebastian Luckenbach. Both described each other's friend groups as "very nice and easy to hang out with."

Similar to each other's friends, both Ava and Staas have great relationships with each other's parents; as Ava describes, "Staas' family and I get along very well, and I know my parents love Staas, so meeting each other's parents has gone really well."

Though the two have yet to pick out their 'own' song, Ava and Staas are an adorable couple!

Happy Valentine's Day, and Go Bears!

Alexzander Valenzuela And Bella Severo

By Chase Kardosh
Cub Reporter

One of the cutest couples, if not the cutest, is Alexzander Valenzuela and Bella Severo.

Alex is a Senior football star here at John Burroughs and Bella is a Senior ASB member at our rival school Burbank High. Alex and Bella started off as just friends who soon turned into a couple.

Going to different middle schools, Alex and Bella were not always close but when high school started, they began to hang around the same mutual friends and began to slowly become friends throughout the year.

Starting around Junior year, Alex and Bella became best friends and this is when they both say they knew they were the right person for each other. Alex and Bella have officially been together for a few months now. Alex officially asked Bella to be his girlfriend after one of his football games where he surprised Bella with a sign and flowers. That same night he asked Bella to Homecoming which she also said yes to.



Bella says her first impression of Alex is that he's "so charismatic" and can always put a smile on everyone's faces. She states she remembers how funny it was the first time he came over and met her family and immediately her entire family including her little brother loved Alex right away.

Alex's first impression of Bella is "how sweet she is" and the "warmth in her heart." Alex tells how one of his many favorite things about her is not only are they dating, but it is as if they are best friends too so they never get bored of each other and love being in each other's company.

Some things Alex and Bella enjoy doing together are going to the beach, going on late night drives, dinner dates at their favorite Mexican restaurant, Don Cuco, and movie nights at each other's houses.

Alex does not know where he will be attending school in the fall and neither does Bella but one thing they do know is that the distance between them won't separate them one bit.

A favorite memory they share is one day where they spent the entire day together from morning till night. Alex reminisced about how Bella picked him up in the morning and from there they started their day by going on a beautiful hike through Stough Canyon. After that, they went out for some lunch, followed by shopping together at the Americana in Glendale. After that they went to the beach just in time to watch the sunset with each other from one of their favorite view spots in Malibu. After this they ended the night off with a movie night at Alex's followed by some night swimming.

Alex and Bella seem to have a spark that never dies. They both say that no matter what they do, they enjoy it as long as they are doing it together. This includes working out together, doing homework together, and even small stuff like doing chores with each other.

As previously mentioned, Alex and Bella both went to Homecoming together. Alex asked Bella with a big sign and a bouquet of flowers. They spent the night dancing together and having fun with each other and both of their mutual friends. After Homecoming they went to an after party together in the Burbank hills.

Alexzander Valenzuela and Bella Severo are no doubt one of the cutest couples around who we are sure will have a promising and exciting future together.

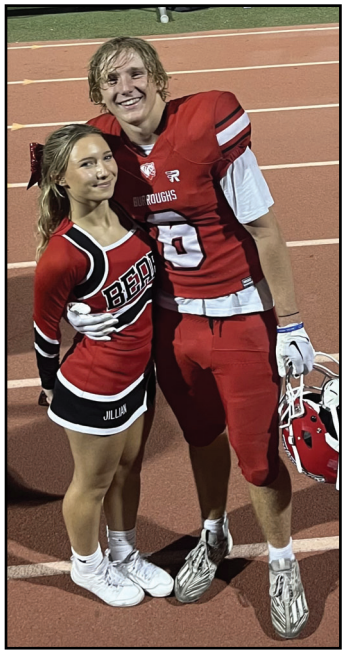
Jake Scozzola And Jillian Kolb

By Ryan Hernandez
Cub Reporter

The cutest couple around is no doubt Jake Scozzola and Jillian Kolb. She calls Jake "my love" and he calls her Jill. Jake is a Senior Football Captain who recently just won Team MVP and Jillian is a cheerleader who also is a part of Dance Pro.

They met in middle school at John Muir Middle School in the 8th grade. Jake's first impression of her was that she was easy to talk to. He asked her out at the Burbank mall with flowers Freshman year of high school and it's been going great ever since as they've been together for so long and have spent almost everyday together since.

They have been dating for three years and six months since August, despite going to two different schools to start off as Jake went to Notre Dame and Jillian went to Burbank High and they transferred



over to John Burroughs Junior year of high school. Their first date was ice skating as the highlight of the day was Jake falling and Jillian helping him up and after that he had to use the helper to get across the ring. Jillian started showing interest in Jake and every time they talked he started to like her more and more.

They love to go on hikes and long drives while listening to music and spending time together.

Jillian is supportive of Jake as she takes videos and pictures of all of his accomplishments and football clips when possible.

Jake's favorite thing about her is how passionate she is about everything she does and how passionate she is about the relationship. Her favorites things about him are how interested he is into her as a person and not just her physical attributes. He also loves how they communicate and will always talk things out. They both love animals and find a way to love all the same activities. They will learn one thing for each other and start doing it together.

Jake and Jillian share a special song with each other and it's called "Here with Me" as they listen to it all the time and it's very special every single time they listen to it.

Both of their families got along very well and they were so easy to talk to. They both love each other's parents and both families are very comfortable with each other. After time she started feeling like a part of his family and more like it was a second home. Her parents thought he was like a charming prince and the sweetest boy in the world. Now their moms are best friends and they spend holidays together.

They both like all of their friends and will hangout with both of their friend groups without it being a problem. Their best friends both started dating each other so all four of them are a really tight group.

Harrison Leahy and Camille Chanut

By Evelyn McNally
Cub Reporter

Meet Harrison Leahy and Camille Chanut, an amazingly sweet couple here at John Burroughs. Harrison and Camille are both Seniors here at our school. As far as passions go, Harrison and Camille both have exciting things they're involved or interested in. Harrison, eighteen, is interested in directing, acting and going to film school, while also being involved with College Peer Mentors here at JBHS. Camille, seventeen, is president of the French Honors Society.

The couple met in school, and during AE in the quad. Soon after that, they started talking more and something clicked. Camille still recalls her first impression of Harrison. Camille remembers that she picked up that he was funny, but his humor was niche and in the best ways "confusing." The two formed a strong friendship, and found themselves hanging out a lot with each other. Eventually they both knew they liked each other, and the rest is history.

They officially started dating on November 29th, 2021. They described that their usual "dates"



were more casual, consisting of things like going over to each other's houses or going to the park. Camille knew that she liked Harrison because of their pure connection as close friends. And Harrison knew he liked her because of how caring and loving she is. Harrison added that they have a sort of "Yin and Yang" relationship, that compliments each other.

Harrison and Camille spend lots of time together. One thing that they love doing with each other is eating and enjoying different foods. They also play tennis sometimes and go to the gym. Camille also added that sometimes Harrison will "Do his homework and I'll just sit there and sing along to music." It's safe to say that the couple values their time with each other, whether it's a mundane task, or fun activity.

When asked about his favorite thing about Camille, Harrison said that he finds that she's always right. And that she's not afraid to "Call things out" while also having a passion for her opinions, which he really appreciates. As for Camille, she said that her favorite thing about Harrison was that he's "very loyal in a way where he'll defend what I think" and she values that about their relationship.

The couple shared that on the outside, they may not look like they have much in common. However internally, they see eye-to-eye a lot. Camille explained that on the outside, they both have personalities that relate to each other in a way of being "easy going." The couple does not have one specific song that they can pinpoint for themselves, but they both share a love for ABBA.

Regarding the matter of meeting each other's parents, Harrison added that it was "totally fine!" and that it was a positive experience. Camille said she was surprised when he met her dad, as her dad is an eccentric, and expected more of a jokingly dramatic interaction. Camille claimed that Harrison's parents were very nice, and she saw a link between Harrison's jokester personality, and where he got it from.

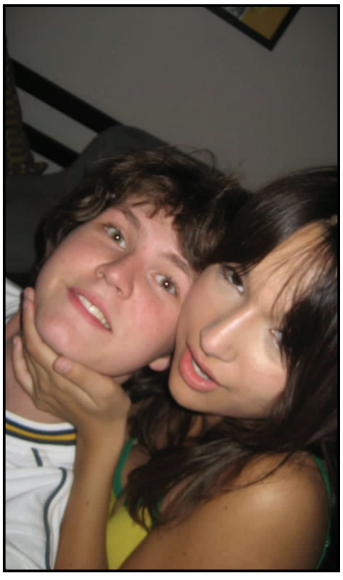
The pair generally share the same group of friends, and added they have met new friends together too. Overall, the couple is undoubtedly perfect for each other, and you can see their amazing connection just by being around them. Here at *The Paw Print,* we wish Camille and Harrison the best, and hope they enjoy their future endeavors as a couple here at John Burroughs High School.

Alia Kostecka and Makabe Ganey

By Elizabeth Browngardt
Cub Reporter

Alia and Makabe are a cute JBHS couple! Alia Kostecka is a Senior here at JBHS who's in Track and Field. Her boyfriend, Makabe Ganey, is a Senior who is in Choir and Drama. They are both involved in extra school curriculums and clubs. The two make a great pair despite not having much in common. "The reason we like one another is because we're so different," Alia explained.

They met at school this year in Ms. Hacker's AP Economics class. Before then, they had never talked. In the class, he sat in front of Alia. She liked his sense of humor and enjoyed talking to him. Makabe thought she was really cute and wanted to get to know her, he explained. Their friendship in the



class grew and eventually they became inseparable outside of class as well.

Makabe asked her out face-to-face while hanging out and they had their first date at Priscilla's Gourmet Coffee House in Toluca Lake and have been going out ever since. Their anniversary is October 24, 2023 and they've been together for quite some time now.

This couple loves to spend time with one another. Since Makabe is involved in multiple school activities he has a busy schedule throughout the week. When he has time, however, they usually hang out around three times a week. When they are together they love to listen to music with each other. They share the same music taste and listen to a lot of Deftones and Slowdive.

After getting to know one another's personalities, Alia expressed how he makes her the happiest she's ever been and she cherishes their connection. Makabe admires Alia's style and all the great times they spent together. "We look forward to all the memories and experiences we will share together in the future," Makabe stated.

They both like each other's families and friends. They get along with each other's friends very well and think they're funny. He was initiated first going to her house because he really wanted to make a good impression on her family.

Overall, Makabe and Alia are such a wholesome and adorable couple. They can't imagine either of them with any other person and the couple always knew they had undeniable chemistry and were bound to end up together.

Victoria Argumedo and Aiden Ratliff

By June Elmore
Cub Reporter

Seniors Victoria Argumedo and Aiden Ratliff have been dating since their Sophomore year at John Burroughs, going steady for about two and a half years. Victoria and Aiden met in their Biology class Sophomore year. They talked a little prior to dating but began dating quickly after meeting.

As far as first impressions go, Victoria stated that she was "kinda annoyed with [Aiden]at first because he would talk in class." She said that she later found it to be cute. Victoria said that his eyes were one of the things that initially attracted her to him. She went on to say that one of their first conversations centered around him wanting to paint his shoes and asking Victoria for advice. She suggested that he paint them "tan, pink, and green like Tyler [the Creator] colors."

When asked about his initial feelings about Victoria, Aiden stated, "I just thought she was really cute and when I first talked to her we were talking about Tyler the Creator and we start[ed] talking more during Covid testing in the gym." He said that he immediately thought "her eyes were pretty." He explained, "That was at the time where we only wore masks so there was not much we could really



see. So I saw her eyes and started talking to her more." Aiden went on to say, "talking to her more and talking to her in general attracted me to her."

Victoria said that one of their first times meeting during Covid testing in the gym she "acted like [she] didn't know his name because [she] didn't want to be weird." Victoria explained that she had already looked at Aiden's Instagram because she had heard from a friend that he thought she was cute.

As far as the initial proposal of a first date goes, Victoria and Aiden have two different stories. Aiden states that he initially went up to her to return a hair tie she had loaned him and to ask for help with Biology homework and then ended up asking for her Snapchat handle. However, Victoria's side of the story differs a little. She stated that he asked for her Instagram handle not Snapchat handle. Victoria had already blocked Aiden to make it look like she had not been viewing his story and had to hide this from him when he asked for her handle. She instead gave him her Snapchat so he wouldn't see she had him blocked.

Though they had previously hung out in groups, Aiden and Victoria's first official date was at Finney's Crafthouse, a family owned tavern located near the Burbank mall.

Victoria and Aiden like to go to Cheesecake Factory and watch movies together when they're not in school. They often watch 2000's comedies and superhero movies. "Usually we're eating or spending time with each other's families and going out," said Victoria. The couple explained that meeting each other's families made both of them nervous initially. "I was nervous at first but once I actually started getting to know them it was cool," said Aiden.

When asked about their feelings about each other's friends Victoria said, "I've grown to care about [Aiden's friends.] They've become my friends over time." Aiden shared similar admiration for Victoria's friends, "her friends are cool."

They share a love for music, having many artists in common such as Steve Lacy, Tyler the Creator, and Frank Ocean. When asked if they had "a song," they both agreed on "See You Again" by Tyler the Creator. Victoria also explained that part of their connection comes from shared life experiences.

When asked about her favorite thing about Aiden, Victoria said, "He's really nice and really sweet to everyone. Even with people he doesn't know he's so sweet." Aiden stated that "I just like how sweet and protective she is." He went on to cite a time in Biology class when someone called Aiden annoying and Victoria stuck up for him.

In her free time Victoria volunteers in the Burbank community. This year she is taking AP Psychology, which she said is "really fun," and Art class. Aiden is taking AP Statistics, Photo 2, and Psychology with Victoria.

Here's to Victoria and Aiden! Wishing them both a great final year at Burroughs together.

Karly Geris And Kara Aldana

By Zoe Reid
Cub Reporter

Karly Geris is a current John Burroughs High School Senior who is dating Kara Aldana Pere, who graduated last year. Karly works at Raising Canes and Kara works at the Gap and a go-kart racing venue called K1.

The pair has been dating for a year and four months and are still very happy together. July 29th is their anniversary.

They love spending time together! Even though they no longer attend school together, they see each other almost every day.

They absolutely love going on dates to the movies and going to dinner. Their favorite restaurant is Granville.



In the summer, the two of them enjoy visits to the beach, and fun days at the fair. The Santa Monica Pier is a favorite of theirs because it combines these two things.

In the winter, Karly and Kara like going ice skating together. They say that it is a fun Christmas time activity and puts them in the Holiday spirit.

Kara adores Karly's dog Henry and Karly loves Kara's dogs Bella and Sumo. They love taking the dogs on walks together, and say that the three are best friends.

Karly and Kara met each other at school, and ultimately connected through mutual friends. However, as they got closer, they realized that they actually used to play on the same soccer team together when they were kids.

Kara ended up asking Karly out, and for the couple's first date, they went to see the movie Elvis starring Austin Butler. The two shared candy and had a great time!

Their first impressions of each other were the same. They both thought the other one was very cute and pretty.

Karly and Kara share their love for music, food, and sports. They enjoy singing in the car together, especially to their favorite song "Baby" by Justin Bieber.

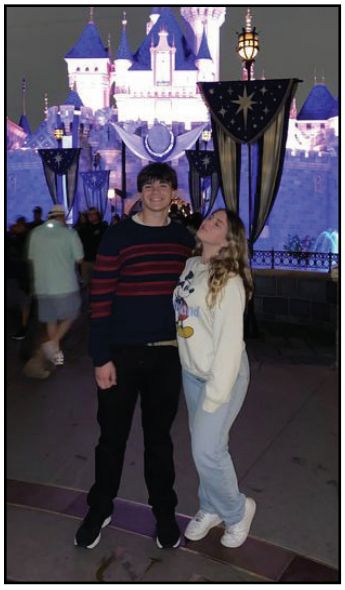
The couple loves each other very much and enjoys the cherished time they spend together. Karly says her favorite thing about Kara is her laugh, and Kara's favorite thing about Karly are her eyes.

James Kaiser And Simone DiGiacomo

By Dorian De Jesus
Cub Photographer

A popular couple on our campus here at John Burroughs High School is James Kaiser and Simone DiGiacomo. They had the same classes back in elementary school but had not truly met yet. At the end of Sophomore year they were part of the same friend group. This would lead to them talking to each other and hanging out more. Simone recently turned eighteen as of January and is an active member of the Dance team. She has been in Dance Production for two years.

They had made plans to hang out after James had attended one of Simone's Dance shows. At the end of their Sophomore year they hung out for the first time in May of 2022. This was not their first



date, however as they "had many first dates," according to Simone. They also went to go see *The Bob's Burgers Movie* in theaters as an unofficial first date. They say their official first date was spent at the Americana. After hanging out during the summer of Sophomore year they had a great time bowling at Pickwick Bowling Alley here in Burbank. With the sun setting, they spent the rest of the day throwing rocks into the LA River.

James would later go on to ask Simone to Homecoming in their Junior year. James Kaiser was on the John Burroughs Varsity Football team at the time. In an interview with James on why he was attracted to her, he had stated "I thought she was some like extremely smart person who was like shy." After an interview with Simone on why she was attracted to him, she had said "My first impression was that he was very outgoing and he had a great sense of humor."

James and Simone are both involved in school activities as James was on the Varsity Football team and Simone is on the Dance team. They like each other very much as they like each other's personalities.

James said when he was meeting Simone's parents they liked him because he was "smooth,." Simone was very welcomed by Jame's parents.

They feel like a very good match as they are to this day part of the same friend group.

While James doesn't plan on going to college, Simone wants to go to a university and study business.

Happy Valentine's Day to James and Simone! You two are an amazing couple!

James Chamchuen and Justine Hamac

By Kayla Cabral
Cub Photographer, Cartoonist

Here at John Burroughs High School we have many different couples, but one of the cutest is James Chamchuen and Justine Hamac. James is a Senior here at John Burroughs High School and is seventeen years old. He plays Football and Volleyball in his free time and is looking forward to going to college.

Justine is also a Senior here at John Burroughs and is seventeen as well. She is Varsity Golf Captain here at John Burroughs High School and plans to go to a four year college and major in Psychology. James and Justine met each other through Justine's best friend.

James' first impression of Justine was he thought she was very pretty but mean and Justine's first Impression of James was she thought he was mean and intimidating.

They officially became a couple after hanging out one day after school and James just decided to finally ask the question he told Justine "Oh my gosh I forgot to ask you if you want to be my girlfriend" and Justine said "Yes." From then on they've become in-



separable.

Their first date was at the Burbank mall and they went to an arcade in the mall called Round One.

Although there were some awkward moments, Justine thought it was a really cute date and James thought it was really fun.

James knew he liked Justine when he could tell they had the same sense of humor and got along very quickly. He also admired her confidence and strength and how she always makes things look easy.

Justine said she knew she liked James when he would constantly hang out with her even though he was busy he always made time for her. She thought he had a great sense of humor and it was really easy for him to make her laugh.

When James met Justine's parents he was a little awkward with them but ended up getting along with them quite well.

When Justine met James parents for the first time she was super nervous she even started shaking but she ended up getting along with his parents very well and it all went great.

Justine says her favorite thing about James is his kind eyes and sense of humor. James' favorite thing about Justine is her immaculate smile.

James and Justine are also a great match for each other because they have so many things in common. They both like the same foods like sushi, boba and ice cream, and their humor is exactly alike.

James and Justine love hanging out together. When they hang out they sometimes get food or go to get boba at a local boba shop like Boba Time.

Another thing they do is watch movies usually at home but occasionally at the theater too. Most of the time when they hangout they usually lay around or just relax with each other.

James says that he gets along very well with Justine's friends because they're nice and funny. Justine says she gets along with James' friends as well because they're chill.

James says that Justine's favorite song is "20191009 I like her" by Mac Demarco. Justine says James' favorite song is "Love" by Keisha Cole. But they have a lot of the same music taste like they both like R&B and Rap music.

Their favorite artists are Daniel Caesar, Brent Faiyaz, J. Cole, Drake and Steve Lacy. The top song that they love to listen to together is called "Superpowers" by Daniel Caesar.

Their anniversary date is April 14th, and they have been together for almost ten months. Their relationship is very strong and loving; they even have nicknames for each other like Pookatron and Pookie.

James and Justine will continue to strive as a powerful couple and still will be considered one of the cutest couples here at John Burroughs High School.

Happy Valentine's Day, Bears!

Hector Uribe and Mia Tejeda

By Meleyna Merino
Cub Reporter

It is that time of the year where cute couples are all around us! Here at John Burroughs we have a lot of contenders for the cutest couples, but one of the cutest couples are Seniors Mia Tejeda and Hector Uribe

Mia Tejeda is eighteen and is on the Latinos Unidos Board devoting her time to publicity, in Medical Academy, and is a first year on the JBHS Dance Team. Hector Uribe is seventeen years old and he played soccer here at Burroughs for two years.

Mia and Hector met at school. Mia says that they were both very shy at first but she really liked his personality and thought he was cute so he sparked her interest. While Hector also said she was shy he thought she was really nice and cute.



The night Hector asked Mia out was on June 16, 2022 when he took her out on a date to Mortons Steak house in Woodland Hills. They got dessert which said "Will you be my girlfriend" and gave her a heart necklace. Hector said he called the restaurant in advance and asked them to put roses on their table and when he asked her to be his girlfriend she said yes immediately and gave her the heart necklace.

Ever since that night they have been dating for a year and a half. They said their first date was a double date with their two friends where they went to the Burbank mall. Mia said she was very nervous in the beginning but she ended up having a lot of fun. Hector said he was also very nervous. He even turned down Mia's offer to give him a ride because he was so nervous he had his mom take him. But, he said they both ended up having a really good time going to different stores and trying on a bunch of clothes.

Mia said the moment she realized that she really liked him was when she saw him and her mom get along really well. She said that her mom is an important person in her life so seeing him get along with her mom so well made her really happy and made her realize that she liked him. What made Hector really like Mia was seeing how sweet she was to his little brother.

Hector and Mia said they really like going to the movies together and concerts since they have the same music taste. Their favorite thing about each other is also each other's smiles.

Mia says their special song is "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You" by Lauryn Hill while Hector says their favorite song is "Congratulations" by Mac Miller.

Meeting the parents was also really nerve wracking for both of them. Mia said she met Hector's mom on their second date and she was really nervous but when she met her she was really nice and they are now really close. She met his dad the day he asked her to be his girlfriend. She was also really nervous but it went well.

Hector said that he met her mom when she took them to mini golf and he said that she was really nice. Hector met Mia's dad the day he asked her to be his girlfriend and was really nervous and at first her dad was serious but now is very talkative.

They both get along well with each other's friends. Mia says she thinks his friends are nice but don't really talk to them often. Hector says he likes Mia's friends and says they're very nice. Hector is now close to one of Mia's best friends.

Mia and Hector are for sure one of the cutest couples here at Burroughs and now you have gotten to know a little bit more about these seniors. We here at *The Paw Print* wish them the best.

Emma Kata And Samuel Svonkin

By River Torres
Cub Reporter

In a school chock-full of teenage romance, let's examine one particular couple at JBHS that stands out among the Cutest Couples: Emma Kata and Samuel Svonkin.

They both met during their Sophomore year in their AP Physics class, though it was not an instant connection. "I sat in front of my friend because he was the only person I knew and Sam saw me and sat down next to me because he thought I looked cool," Emma explains. "We didn't talk for, like, a few months because […] he never said anything to me until I said something to him first. I said 'I like your eyeliner' to him and that's what sparked our relationship."



"Oh, they made every move. Every move that has pushed this relationship forward has been them." Sam said about Emma.

This kind of reaction continued when it came to meeting each other's parents as well. "The first time I was over at their house was a blur because I was so anxious," Sam said. "I'm close with their family now but I was just scared and did not talk and did not do anything." This was not so much the case with Emma though, who goes on to tell us how warm and inviting Mrs. Svonkin was during their first meeting.

Beyond their individual achievements as members of our choir and a small business owner, it is their shared values that truly brought Emma and Samuel together. They both understand the importance of balance and support in a relationship. "We work like such a unit together," Emma says.

Sam tells us that, "one of my favorite things [about them] is their ability to ground me when I'm being crazy."

As we celebrate Emma Kata and Samuel Svonkin in this year's Valentine's Day issue, let us not only admire the love they share but also recognize the genuine friendship that serves as its foundation. May their story inspire others to pursue love with an open heart, and may their legacy continue to thrive long after they leave the halls of John Burroughs High School.

Emma, Sam, congratulations on your 2nd anniversary on December 13th, we hope there are many more to come!

William Lopez Munoz And Roger Thomsen

By John Anderegg
Cub Reporter

Among the cutest couples on campus are two Seniors, William Lopez Munoz and Roger Thomsen. The pair first met in their Sophomore year in Mr. Riley's World History class when they were sat a row away from each other.

Will's first impression of Roger was that he looked dangerous and "I liked that," while Roger's first impression of Will was a bit rocky, switching from funny to annoying then back to funny and eventually cute.

Their first date was technically when the two went to a Chick-fil-A, though they weren't aware of their feelings for each other at the time.



Will first knew that he had fallen for Roger when "Roger had said that he only likes me as a friend and I said I was totally okay with that. Then later that night I said that I really liked him and that's kind of when we both fell in love with each other." They started dating on December 2nd, 2022 after they kissed on Will's roof.

The two enjoy watching movies and playing board games together.

Will's favorite thing about Roger is "how kind and caring he is. He really spends his time to get to know people and has a great personality." Roger had a bit of trouble picking just one thing about Will, stating "I don't know if I could really come to a conclusion about what I like most about Will. Like he said about me, he's such a caring person to me. He's also just such an impressive person to me. He's constantly working on at least four projects at once and putting his all into all of them. I love the way his brain works. He's incredibly funny too. He's also hot. I'll say it."

One similarity the two have is their long hair, though Will's is curly while Roger's is more straight. According to Will, "One time someone told us 'siblings or dating' and I just was like, no."

Meeting parents and friends was pretty simple for them. The two had already been in the same group of friends prior to going out with each other. Roger gets along well with Will's family, stating "I love Melissa and Sebastian Lopez Munoz. They're cool and they like me."

Happy Valentine's Day to William and Roger!

Charm Pamintuan and Riley Quigley

By Jaylyn Barjolo
Cub Reporter

All over campus you can spot many cute couples, including Senior Charm Pamintuan and Sophomore Riley Quigley.

Charm is currently seventeen, she's also President of Poetry Out Loud, Pigmented Poetry, and the Nursing Club. She has also played lacrosse and is currently on the JBHS Dance Team. In the future, she is hoping to go to a Liberal Arts school and study Humanities following a Pre-med Track.

Riley is fifteen and is the President of SAGA, K-Pop club, and the Vice President of the Asian Culture Club. She is also on the JBHS Dance Team.

Charm and Riley met during their team meeting for Dance Team in early April, and they officially started talking in late July. After a while, Charm thought it was officially time and asked Riley out on her birthday August 21st.



Their first date was at a Korean BBQ restaurant Moodaepo. It was really romantic and Charm paid for dinner while Riley paid for dessert at the ice cream parlor SomiSomi which serves soft serve ice cream.

Charm first knew she liked Riley when they went karaoking together with a mutual friend group. "She had outgoing energy and she was very charismatic."

Riley thought that Charm was dedicated and hardworking during her performance last year at Hip Hop Explosion, and later, developed a crush.

Because they are both on the Dance Team, they spend a lot of time together after school. "One thing we like to do together before practice is to go get food at McDonalds or Canes," said Riley.

Both Riley and Charm had some kind words to say about one another. Charm shared, "I think Riley is the sweetest person I've ever gotten the pleasure to meet. She genuinely knows how to make me smile, she's considerate of everyone around her too, not just me. I genuinely feel like I can be myself around her; if anything I'm lucky."

Riley said,"They are so genuinely sweet and kind and before they were my partner they were a really good friend. They care about everyone and everything and it's so heartwarming, I am so lucky to call them mine."

As for both of their families, they don't know about one another, and they've seen each other's parents peripherally, but haven't officially met each other's parents yet.

However, they are very excited to take the next step and meet each other's family officially.

As for friends, they like to keep a small circle, however, they really respect each other's friends and life outside of each other. They truly see each other as best friends and have each other's backs. "It's us against the world" they state.

Let's congratulate Charm and Riley on their relationship, and wish them the best for their future.

Happy Valentine's Day, Bears!

Happy Valentine's Day To All Our Cutest Couples From *The Paw Print*

Cheer Team Southern Section Championships

By Shalini Pathak
Cub Reporter

John Burroughs Cheer Team is kicking off the new year with their competition season. From cheering on Football, Basketball, Baseball and even Volleyball, the Cheer team takes no break as they jump into the world of competition.

Coaches Alyssa, Tristan and Mark lead the team into success along with the team's captains.

The Captains of Junior Varsity are Olivia Black, Georgia Brasfield and Nia Askerneese. These three Girls are Sophomores here at John Burroughs High School and have done Cheer for previous years including cheering for their previous school Dolores Huerta Middle School.

Now that they are Bears these girls continue to set an amazing example for the team as they enter comp season.

The Varsity Captains are Korie Martin, Natalie (Nat) Kesaryan and



Morgan White. These girls were picked for the prestigious role of representing the sport of cheer and the spirit of Burroughs at this school. Each of these captains are Seniors. They are experienced and talented cheerleaders who truthfully do bring the spirit of school alive just like the rest of JBHS Cheer.

So far, Junior Varsity has had Two competitions and on the horizon are seeking out two more. One at the LA Convention Center and One at Knotts Berry Farm! Varsity was in Las Vegas last month for nationals.

At CIF Southern Section Championships they achieved CIF-SS D2 Coed Runner-up 2024. Varsity attended JAMZ nationals in Las Vegas Nevada and hit zero.

In a routine the cheerleaders hit their stunts, tumbling, jumps, dance, and performance. If a team does so successfully and is not given any deductions from the judging panel, then they have zero deductions or have hit zero.

Our school's Cheer program has recently added onto the already strong standing sport and expanded the horizons into the ever growing word of stunt cheer.

Stunt cheer focuses on the technical and athletic components of cheer, including partner stunts, pyramids, basket tosses, group jumps and tumbling.

You can enter a single stunt group usually consisting of four people: two bases, one backspot and a flyer.

Our JBHS Cheer team has continued the legacy of making this school proud and literally leading us to spirit and cheer.

The cheerleaders at this school are always people to look up to and remember how talented and dedicated those leaders are.

Huge congratulations to JBHS Cheer on their big win!

Go Bears!

Boys Basketball

By Meleyna Merino
Cub Reporter

The 2023-2024 Varsity Boys Basketball season is nearing the end. The boys have had a rocky season but they plan to end it with a bang.

The boys had a tournament during winter break in Santa Barbara. Sierra Canyon was Burroughs' first opponent. Sierra Canyon is a very strong competitor but the boys gave it their all but unfortunately lost 92-46. They put up a good fight again against Chatsworth but lost 95-76.

The Bears ended up winning their next two games in this tournament one against Righetti where the score was 76-62. All the boys performed well this game but top scorers were Junior Captain Jagger Topp with 19 points, Senior Captain Chase Kardosh with 11 points, Landon Everhart with 14 points,and Omar Payind with 16 points. The other game was against Santa Paula beating them 73-63. Top scorers being Junior Captain Jagger Topp with 15 points, Jacob Samontina with 27 points, and Senior Captain Chase Kardosh with 16 points.

Their next game was January 2nd against South Pasadena. South Pasadena is a strong competitor making this game very exciting. The Bears managed to pull out an exciting win with the score being 79-78 Bears.

All of the boys performed well and pulled their weight in this game, but top scorers were Jagger Topp with 14 points, Chase Kardosh with 20 points, and Omar Payind with 15 points.

The next couple of games were a little rough for the Bears. They fought hard against Muir on January 4th with Chase Kardosh hitting 37 points and Jagger Topp with 25 points but ended up losing 84-89.

Next game was on January 6th against Bravo, the Bears unfortunately lost, the score being really close with a score of 72-70.

The Bears also lost to Arcadia which is a very strong team on January 8th. The Bears lost 84-66.

For the next two games the Bears pulled out a couple of wins. One was a very exciting game against Glendale. The two teams battled for the winning spot on the court and the Bears pulled out a win 67-66.

The lead scorers of the game were Jagger Topp with 14 points, Chase Kardosh with 21 points, and Landon Everhart with 18 points.

The Bears pulled out another close win against our rival team Burbank. The game was exciting with both teams going back and forth on the scoreboard but the boys managed to pull through and win against The Bulldogs with the score being 74-73.

Chase Kardosh scored the most points with 27 points, Jacob Samontina scoring 18 points, and Landon Everhart scoring 24 points.

The next couple of games were a little rough for the Bears. They lost against a very strong team, Arcadia with the score being 70-54.

They also fought hard against Pasadena but ended up coming short with the score being 68-42.

The Bears ended up losing again against Crescenta Valley with the score being 75-54 but the night wasn't all bad Senior Captain Chase Kardosh hit the 1,000 point mark. This is a rare thing to happen to a Burroughs player so congrats to Chase Kardosh.

The most recent game the Bears have played was against Hoover on the 26th the boys won with another one shot game, they won 67-63.

Top scorers being Chase Kardosh with 17 points, Landon Everhart with 18 points, and Arthur Grabrieylan with 13 points. This was the Bears Senior Night so it was really a great win, Senior Arthur Gabrieylan scored the game winning shot.

The game on February 1st was probably the most important game of the season. It was against our rival Burbank. Burroughs showed up and beat Burbank for the second time this season.

Our Players did amazing, top scorers were Junior Landon Everhart with 21 points, Senior Captain Chase Kardosh with 15 points and Senior Omar Payind with 18 points.

The Varsity Boys Basketball team has had a rocky season but have continued to prevail. They'll continue into postseason playoffs starting against Costa Mesa on February 7th 7PM. Go Bears!

Girls Water Polo

By Narrissa Wareebor
Cub Reporter

The Girls Varsity Water Polo Team started the beginning of winter break strong with a win against Hoover High School. They kept their lead throughout the whole game, ending it off with a score of 14 - 4.

After the game against Hoover High School, the Bears took on Crescenta Valley knowing it would be a competitive team. On January 11, 2024 at John Burroughs High School, the Bears faced a loss but according to Junior Olivia Dominguez, this wasn't considered a bad thing. This loss taught them a lesson and had them prepared for the next time they were going to play Crescenta Valley.

On January 25, 2024, the Girls Varsity Water Polo Team was able to have a comeback against Crescenta Valley with a strong win and a score of 11 - 8. This was an extremely exhilarating game and all players worked their hardest to take the win. Sophomore Morgan Wright was able to score back hands from set, helping the rest of the team be able to see the open girls on the opposing team. This gave everyone an opportunity to shoot and score catching CV off guard while the Bears took the lead.

Another exciting game was of course, the long awaited rivalry game against Burbank High School. The Bears held their lead high ending the game with a whole ten points and Burbank with only two. After the seven minute period, the score was already 6 - 0 with Junior Ava Tomlinson, Sophomore Morgan Wright, and Sophomore Derika Berenguer all scoring twice. Continuing onto rest of the game, there were two solo goals scored by Junior Olivia Dominquez and Senior Ana Zubkoff. This kept them up at 8 - 1 during the halftime mark. Senior Siahni Suarez was able to close off the game with the last two goals.

The day of the Burbank vs. Burroughs game, the Bears celebrated their Senior Night giving a warm thank you to all their Seniors that helped become a great role model for all the underclassmen.

These wins were well deserved knowing how hard the Bears have worked throughout the whole season. Each game was just another lesson to learn and to bring onto the next. Their pre-season shaped them into the athletic players they are now because of the amount of conditioning they had to go through in order for them to keep up a stable stamina. They had to train how to not get so tired because of how most players will be playing most of the game without many breaks.

Girls Basketball

By Noah Frenkel
Cub Reporter

We are nearing the end of the Varsity Girls 2023-2024 Basketball season. These girls have had an amazing season so far and we expect them to continue.

The Bears played the Hoover Tornadoes on December 21, 2024 at Hoover. The Bears killed the Hoover Tornadoes with a score of 50-2. Top scorers from Burroughs were Elizabeth Amoroso with 12 points, the top rebounders were Mariam Fahs with 5 rebounds and Ashley Martin with 4. The Burroughs defense played great holding Hoover to one lay up.

The Bears played the Holy Martyrs on December 22, 2024 at home. The Bears came up with the win with a score of 49-33. The top scorers was Clair Hackney with 18 points and Elizabeth Amoroso with 12 points, The top rebounder was Elizabeth Amoroso with 7 rebounds.

The Bears played Notre Dame home on December 28, 2024 and unfortunately came up short with a score of 36-47.

The Bears bounced back after their loss against Notre Dame and on the same day destroyed Santa Monica at 49-16. The top scorer, Claire Hackney with 12 points and the top rebounder, Valentina Morales with 9 total rebounds. The Burroughs defense played great holding Santa Monica to only 16 points

The Bears played and beat Trinity Classical Academy on December 29, 2024. The top scorers were, Mariam Fahs with 14 points and Elizabeth Amoroso with 11 points, the top rebounders were Ashley Martin and Valentina Morales with both 8 rebounds.

The Bears played Shalhevet Firehawks on December 30 at home and won with a score of 46-41. The top scorer was Claire Hackney with 14 points, and the top rebounder was Mariam Fahs with 8 rebounds. The Bears played a really good offense against the Firehawks.

The Burroughs Bears played Muir on January 4, 2024 at Muir. The Bears came on top with a score of 67-37. The top scorers Mariam Fahs with 15 points and Jessica Mena with 10 points. The top rebounders were Mariam Fahs with 7 rebounds and Elizabeth Amoroso with 5 rebounds. Burroughs played an amazing offense scoring almost double of Muir's points.

The girls had another great win against Glendale. The girls once again triumphed and beat Glendale 49-39. The top scorers were Izzy Amoroso with 11 points, Mariam Fahs with 13 points, and Jessica Mena with 8 points.

The girls also crushed our rival, Burbank. The game was exciting with the Bulldogs being our rival but it was a blowout with the Bears winning 61-32. The top scorers were Claire Hackney with 12 points, Alyssa Pracha with 11 points, and Izzy Amoroso with 11 points.

Arcadia was also beaten by the Bears the score was an incredible 54-9 Bears. The score was truly a reflection of how the girls are truly at the top of their game. Top scorers of the night were Izzy Amoroso with 11 points, Mariam Fahs, with 11 points, and Valentina Morales with 8 points.

The Bears pulled out another great win against Pasadena on January 19th continuing their eight game winning streak. They beat Pasadena 45-35. Top scorers were Jessica Mena, with 9 points, and both Mariam Fhas and Valentina Morales with 11 points.

Ending their amazing winning streak the Bears unfortunately lost to Alemany. The game was tense. The Bears put up a good fight but lost during overtime with the score being 48-43.

They also lost against Crescenta Valley but again the Bears fought hard, the score was 59-36.

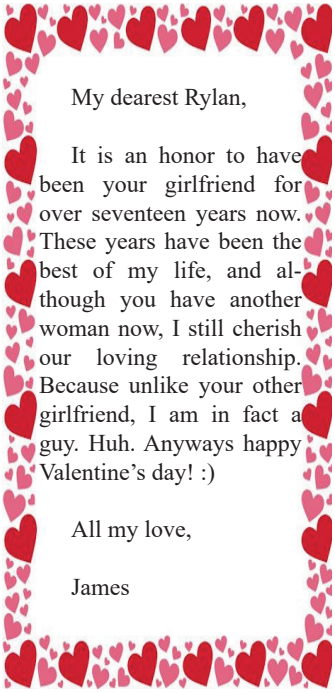
But, the Bears soon pulled out a win against Hoover on January 26th. The Bears had an amazing game with the score being 64-14.

Then the Bears played against Chaminade on January 27. The Bears had a close game but lost unfortunately with the score being 55-44.

The next game the girls played was on Feb.1st against our rivals Burbank. The girls stepped up to the plate and destroyed the Bulldogs. The score was 53-17. Top scorers was Junior Mariam Fahs with 19 points, Ashley Martin with 10 points, and Izzy Amoroso with 8 points.

The girls have had an amazing season. We here at *The Paw Print* cannot wait to see how the Varsity Girls Basketball team finish out their season and can't wait to see what they do at playoffs.

Go Bears!



Boys Soccer

By Allie Hunt
Sports Editor

Here at John Burroughs High School, the winter sports season is well underway and our varsity boys soccer team is no exception. With nineteen games down and three more to go the team is closer than ever and ready to take on the rest of their season.

To kick off their season, the Bears faced off against West Ranch High School on Tuesday, November 28th, 2023 at home. At the end of a very close game, Burroughs lost by one with a score of 4-3.

Bouncing back quickly, the boys next took on Schurr High School. On Saturday, December 2nd, 2023, the non-conference game took place on Burroughs' home turf. After another close game, Burroughs came out on top with a score of 2-1.

Despite the game not counting towards their conference record, the Bears showed up and gave their full effort to pull out the win. With the first win of the season under their belt, the team was ready for their next games.

Back to their conference games, the boys soccer team played Glendale High School on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023 at home. Unfortunately, the game ended in a tough loss with a score of 7-0.

Next up, on Friday, December 8th, 2023, Burroughs had another home game against Arcadia High. Once again the game was a close call with a final score of 2-1 with the Bears on top.

The following week, on Tuesday, December 12th, 2023, the soccer team traveled to Pasadena High School for their next match up. In the end Burroughs lost in a difficult game with a score of 5-2.

Back at home for another conference game on Friday, December 15th, 2023 the Bears played Crescenta Valley High School. After a tough, hard fought game, Burroughs took a loss with a score of 3-0.

Coming off of two losses, the team traveled to Hoover High on Thursday, December 21st, 2023 hungry for a win. With a dominating performance, the Bears did just that and pulled out a win with a score of 4-2.

Coming back in the new year, on Thursday, January 4th, 2023, the Bears had an away game against Muir High School. The boys held the game and didn't allow Muir to even score and took the win with a final score of 3-0.

When asked about their season, captain Frank Hernandez pointed to this game as a very important moment for the team. "I remember the win against Muir was really special to me because it was the first win of 2023 and we started to figure out who we were as a team and came closer as teammates."

Facing off once again against Glendale High School, Burroughs traveled to their home field on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024. Coming off a hard loss against Glendale last time, the Bears improved their game and final score but still took a loss with a score of 4-1.

Back on their home turf, Burrough was ready for their rivalry game against Burbank High on Friday, January 12th, 2024. The Bears took on the Bulldogs in a very exciting game in which Burroughs came out on top and took the win with a score of 3-0.

Next up, on Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, the team went away to play Arcadia High School. In the end, the close game resulted in a loss for Burroughs with a score of 1-0.

In their most recent home game, the Bears took on Pasadena on Friday, January 19th, 2024. In a hard fought game, the boys ended up taking a loss with a score of 4-3.

Finally, Burroughs traveled to Crescenta Valley High School to play their team again on Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024. The Bears took another loss but improved their score against CV with a final of 1-0.

Go Bears!

Girls Soccer

By Stephanie Hernandez
Editor In Chief

Under the instruction of coaches Brady Riggs and Robert Sanchez, the Girls' Soccer team has been able to thrive during their current season!

Team captain Senior Nadia Aguilar also helps to lead the team into success. As a captain, she hopes to make sure "the girls are having fun," while also "helping them learn and develop as a player."

Nadia plays attacking midfield and outside forward. As captain of the team, she is extremely well-versed in the sport, having played soccer since she was four years old.

The team currently stands with a 8-5 record in League and a 8-7 record overall--they're currently in third place in League. This season for the girls' team has proven victorious with the Bears thrashing the competition.

During the first half of their season in December, the Girls' beat Pasadena 6-2 and Hoover 9-0. The Bears have also experienced a few losses though, having suffered a 4-0 defeat to Crescenta Valley and a 3-1 to Arcadia.

Regardless, the team has [persevered, and made an excellent showing for themselves every time they take the pitch.

The back half of their season has proven to be just as successful! The Bears reigned supreme against Muir in their January 4th game, winning 2-0, and Glendale 12-0 on January 9.

On maintaining motivation through the most recent games, Senior Megan Harkins, comments "We've all played hard together this season. The potential of our soccer program is flourishing and I'm really glad to be a part of the team. I've met a lot of friends throughout my time on the team which helps too. Though it's hard to balance school and soccer and things like that, I always have a great time playing with the team."

The team's game on January 26 was another big win for the girls with a win against Hoover of 6-1 with Samantha Sizemore scoring three goals, Nadia Aguilar scoring two goals, and Geneva Keifer scoring one goal.

Their game on January 30 against Muir led to another victory for the Bears with a final score of 2-0! Nadia chalks their recent successes to their "regular practices in pre seasons and the team bonding we did to make sure the team is friends on and off the field."

The team, especially Nadia, is looking forward to finishing the season off strong. Nadia explains "I think this year, our team is definitely well rounded. A lot of the players play at the same level, making us a strong team. Our biggest opponents in the League are Arcadia and Crescenta Valley for sure. They're both very good teams but I think that we're going to be able to pull through and do great playing our first round of CIF."

Other Seniors on the team echo Nadia's appreciation for the teamwork. Senior Jailyn Turner who plays right striker remarks "The season is going really well. All of us are playing our hearts out and we're super compatible as a team. Compared to last year, we've definitely grown as a team."

The girls pulled out another success during their game on February 1st where they beat Burbank 3-0.

Overall, the Girls' Soccer season has gone extremely well! Congratulations to the entire team.

Go Bears!

To everyone who I hang out with on a daily basis, thanks for that. You guys are usually there when I ask for something which is nice. Like All-4-One said in their 1994 hit, "I swear by the moon and the stars, I'll be there," and I feel as though you embody that a good amount of the time.

- Stephanie

Best Ways to Ask Out Your Valentine

By Kylee Johnson
Cub Reporter

Valentine's Day is a globally celebrated holiday where you can show just how much you love someone. Gifts are given, hugs are exchanged, and love is in the air.

However, not everyone has that special someone with whom they can share this special day. If you're in this position, but there's someone that you would like to celebrate this day with, here are some of the best ways you can ask out your Valentine.

This first way might be a little obvious to some: just ask them out! This won't take a lot of planning, but it will take a lot of courage. However, if you are someone who just likes to cut to the chase, this is a good option for you.

Straight-up asking someone to be your valentine is definitely going to be a nerve-wracking experience. Therefore, you can ask some friends for support and maybe even advice. Don't stress yourself out though, this is supposed to be a fun and exciting day.

When you're going to ask someone out, you can't just show up empty handed! You can buy them their favorite candy, bring flowers, or something that is important to the two of you, like an inside joke.

Another way you can ask someone to be your Valentine is giving them a special and heartfelt gift. However, you don't always have to break the bank to give someone a gift. Smaller (and cheaper!) gifts are perfectly fine to give to someone that you care about.

Some typical presents to give are teddy bears, boxes of chocolates, jewelry, and flowers. It doesn't really matter how much you spend when buying gifts, it just matters how much effort is put into the gesture.

Making something to give to someone is a really nice way to show that you care. A card is a great example of a handmade present. You can customize and decorate it by writing a sweet message inside. Buying cards from the store is a time-saver and it also shows that you care.

Some other gifts can be more artsy, like DIY paper flowers, or even a drawing or painting that you make. There are lots of different tutorials you can find to create handmade presents. Get creative, putting time and effort into whatever you make is really important.

Next, if you want a slightly less stressful way to ask someone out, you can message them over the phone. You can text them, or reach out over Instagram. Just make sure to start a friendly conversation before asking, as you want them to feel comfortable.

There are a lot of funny and cute ways to ask them out, like using emojis, puns, or jokes. You don't always have to ask the usual question of "Will you be my valentine?" You can come up with some fun ways to ask someone to be your valentine.

Always remember that no matter what you do, there's a possibility that you will get turned down. But don't worry, rejection is a perfectly normal part of life. It's what helps us grow as humans.

Don't let the fear of rejection get in your way of going after someone or something that you want. It's really great to put yourself out there, because you never know what kind of opportunities will come from taking big risks.

Good luck when asking someone to be your Valentine! Although it can be a pretty nerve-wracking thing to do, it can also be a fun and exciting experience for both you and your crush.

No matter the outcome of your day, remember to have fun and have a Happy Valentine's Day!

Worst Ways To Ask Someone Out

By Jaylyn Barjolo
Cub Reporter

John Burrough students, as we transition into the season of love, this is your opportunity to give someone your first impression. Valentine's Day celebrates the connection between you and your partner, whether it be a significant other or just a friend. Here are some of the worst ways you can ask someone out on this special day

Starting with Social Media, although this is a good platform to start getting to know one interests, it gives off a lazy persona. You want to show them that you care and want to pursue them instead of making them question your intentions.

Speaking of intentions, don't have a friend ask on your behalf, it shows a lack of confidence and might become a turn-off to the person you ask. But also a lack of interest, so as a reminder when you're asking someone out sometimes you have to shoot your shot before you can score.

Preceding onto grand gestures, although grand gestures can be displayed as something romantic, make sure you know how your significant other might feel if they got asked in front of a group of people. It could make a person uncomfortable and as if they're obligated to say yes. Instead, you should take your gesture behind closed doors and ask them privately where they feel less nervous or obligated.

Another way you should ask someone out is by being assertive. Don't ask someone out if they have either said or shown to you that they have no interest in being in a relationship. Not only is this disrespectful to the other person's boundaries, but this can also push them away and make them feel uncomfortable.

You also shouldn't ask by assumption, don't assume that because you are in a relationship your significant other doesn't want to be asked to be your valentine. Sometimes people want to feel appreciated and special, so make sure to remember the little things and ask anyway.

On another note, you shouldn't ask someone out in front of your parents. Not only does it create an uncomfortable atmosphere, but you also have to see the prying glares from the other parent. The other person will most likely say no because of that fact.

While notes can be a cute thing, it's better to ask in person. This way the moment is more personal and shows that you're mature enough to go up to them. So instead of giving them a note, take what you wrote down and say it face to face.

On the other hand, you shouldn't ask someone out because someone told you to, it makes it seem like a practical joke. It shows that you don't like the person you are asking, and that you don't care about them.

As you can see, here are the worst ways to ask someone out, take these tips and tricks to ask out your Valentine in the month of love.

The Absolute Worst Valentine's Gift

By Ryan Hernandez
Cub Reporter

Valentine's Day, a celebration of love and affection, often involves the exchange of sweet gestures and gifts of affection. However ,there is a lot of candy, but there exists a notorious contender for the title of the worst Valentine's Day candy – the infamous "Chalky Hearts."

These chalky, pastel-colored confections have not been a favorite of romantic couples for generations. Resembling tiny, heart-shaped tablets, they lack the luster and allure of more delectable treats. The taste, a blend of sugar and artificial flavors, leaves an indelible mark on one's taste buds – and not in a good way.

One cannot overlook the texture of Chalky Hearts. Far from the smooth, melting goodness of quality chocolates, these candies have a powdery, crumbly consistency. Biting into them is taking to consuming a sugary pebble, an experience that can make even the most ardent candy enthusiast question their choices.

Beyond their bad taste and texture, Chalky Hearts are notorious for their clichéd and unimaginative messages. While some may appreciate the traditional expressions of love, the simplistic phrases on these candies, such as "Be Mine" or "Love You," lack the charm and creativity expected on Valentine's Day. It's as if the candy manufacturers ran out of inspiration, settling for the mundane.

The packaging of Chalky Hearts does little to redeem their reputation. Often encased in flimsy, transparent plastic, these candies lack the glamour associated with other Valentine's Day sweets. The absence of vibrant colors or enticing imagery contributes to their overall lack of appeal, making them an unimpressive gift choice for the day dedicated to romance.

In conclusion, while Valentine's Day is meant to be a time of sweetness and affection, the presence of Chalky Hearts threatens to cast a pall over this celebration of love. Their subpar taste, uninspiring messages, and lackluster presentation make them the undeniable pariah of Valentine's Day candies. As we exchange tokens of affection, let us spare ourselves and our loved ones the disappointment that comes with these chalky abominations and instead opt for confections that truly embody the spirit of love and indulgence.

Valentine's Day Gifts To Avoid

By David Romero
Cub Reporter

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate love, affection, and connection with that special someone in your life. However, not all gifts are created equal, and some can leave your loved one questioning your judgment and their decision to be with you. In this lighthearted exploration, we'll dive into the realm of disastrous Valentine's Day gifts that should be avoided at all costs.

Last-Minute Gas Station Roses: While spontaneity can be charming, grabbing a wilted bunch of roses from a gas station on your way home screams "procrastination" rather than thoughtfulness. Plan ahead and show your significant other that you put effort into selecting a meaningful gift.

DIY Coupon Book: The idea of a coupon book seems sweet at first, but unless you're a professional graphic designer, your homemade version might come off as more cringe-worthy than cute. Coupons like "One Free Hug" or "Redeem for a Kiss" could leave your partner questioning your creativity and effort.

Gym Membership: Implying that your partner needs to shed a few pounds is a surefire way to dampen the romantic atmosphere. Opting for a gym membership as a Valentine's Day gift sends the wrong message about your intentions and could lead to hurt feelings.

Cleaning Supplies: While practical gifts can be appreciated, Valentine's Day is not the time to give your partner a vacuum cleaner or a set of cleaning supplies. Save the household items for more mundane occasions and focus on romantic gestures that express your love.

Generic Gift Cards: A generic gift card to a fast-food restaurant or a discount store may save you from the hassle of choosing a specific gift, but it also suggests a lack of effort and personalization. Show your thoughtfulness by selecting a gift that reflects your partner's interests and preferences.

A Self-Help Book: Presenting your significant other with a self-help book, especially one on relationship advice, can be interpreted as a passive-aggressive move. Instead of subtly suggesting improvements, focus on celebrating the positive aspects of your relationship.

A Framed Photo of Yourself: While confidence is attractive, gifting a framed photo of yourself might come off as a tad narcissistic. Instead, choose a sentimental photo that captures a special moment you've shared together, emphasizing the bond you share.

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate love, so it's crucial to choose gifts that reflect your affection and consideration for your partner. Avoiding the pitfalls of these disastrous gift ideas will not only preserve the romantic atmosphere but also strengthen your connection with your loved one. Remember, it's the thought and effort that count the most, so choose wisely and make this Valentine's Day one to remember for all the right reasons.

Celebrate Valentine's Day Without A Date

By Zoe Reid
Cub Reporter

Valentine's Day is a day for couples to spend time together and make lifelong memories. Despite the day being one filled with joy for many people, it can also feel very lonely for those who don't have a "special someone".

It is very important to remember that even though Valentine's Day revolves around romantic connections, other connections can be just as meaningful and worthy of celebration as well. Love comes in many different forms, and should be cherished regardless of whether or not it is romantic.

There are many ways you can show your love for all of the special people in your life on February 14th. Spending quality time with friends and family is always a great way to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day can be a great day to show your family how much you love them. If you don't have a dinner date on February 14, don't worry! You can still celebrate the holiday by going out for a nice family dinner and showing your appreciation for your loved ones.

Going to a restaurant together can be fun and delicious, but also pricey. A great alternative is cooking a homemade meal for your family. This could be a good group activity as well, and could encourage meaningful conversations and bonding time.

Baking desserts for your friends and family is another festive thing to do. It can be fun to experiment in the kitchen and it is also a very thoughtful thing to do for your loved ones.

Regardless of your skill level when it comes to baking, it is a great idea to try something new to show your appreciation for your friends and family. Look for a recipe that seems up your alley and have fun with it!

If baking from scratch still seems too daunting, you can always simply decorate premade cookies. This is also a fun activity to do in a group setting and you can even have a cookie decorating contest.

It is also always nice to give your relatives a nice text or a call on valentines day to remind them that you love them. This is especially true if they live farther away, and you don't see them too often.

Valentine's Day can also be a great time to get together with some friends and appreciate your platonic relationships. Friendships can be just as fulfilling as relationships, and it is so important to express your love and appreciation for your friends.

One fun idea is to take a picnic to the beach! Appreciate the nature all around us by taking some sweets and a blanket to the coast for a great day. Even though this time of year can get a little bit chilly, a pretty sunset on the water never goes out of season.

Something else you could do with a buddy is go see a silly romcom! Laughing at a fun and festive movie could be the perfect antidote to a single Valentine's Day.

Finally, you could even have a cozy at home movie night with your friends. Get a bunch of yummy sweets and food and cuddle up with your besties for a fun night.

There are so many ways that you can celebrate with your friends! Even if you aren't coupled up for February, you can still go out and have fun with the people who mean the most to you.

Take a solo trip to the grocery store or CVS and buy yourself some sweets to show yourself some love. You can put on some comfy pajamas, bake some cookies and watch a movie for a relaxing Valentine's day celebration.

While it can be fun to go out for Valentine's Day with friends or family, it is important to remember to cherish your relationship with yourself. A self care day for Valentine's Day can be just the remedy to a broken heart.

What Flowers To Get For Valentine's Day

By John Anderegg
Cub Reporter

For those who don't enjoy a simple red rose, Valentine's Day bouquets can be hard to decide on. Luckily, many different flowers have romantic connotations! Flower language was popular in Victorian England, but can still be sweet when used today.

If you're a secret admirer, white acacias and gardenias represent secret love. But be careful with gardenias, they are also commonly used in wedding bouquets due to their other meanings of luck, purity, and love.

If your Valentine is a bit more platonic, yellow orchids, pear blossoms, Peruvian lilies, yellow roses, yellow spider lilies, and pink tulips all have meanings related to friendship. Yellow roses are also a good option for a friend or lover you might have upset, as they are known to be apology flowers.

If you celebrate Valentine's with your family as well as a partner, pink carnations are known to symbolize a mother's love, and azaleas, bluebells, pink hydrangeas, and dark pink roses represent gratitude towards loved ones.

For a partner, there are many different flowers to pick from. Amaryllis means love and beauty. Ambrosia might be a good way to let an admirer know you feel the same way as it stands for reciprocated love. Red and white carnations both have romantic meanings, with red being passionate and white being pure. Green carnations might also be a popular choice for queer couples, as it was once a symbol exchanged by followers of Oscar Wilde. Another popular choice for queer couples might be purple violets which stand for lesbian love. Red and white chrysanthemums are both romantic, with the same distinctions as carnations (red for passion and white for purity). While forget-me-nots are clearly a symbol of remembrance, they also stand for true love. Jasmine represents unconditional love and wealth, a good energy to bring to a relationship you hope to be long-lasting. If they are your first love, a purple lily is perfect for you. Red and green orchids mean love and blue and white ones mean beauty. Primroses are another good option for somebody you want to be with long-term as they stand for eternal love. Rainflowers are a nice way to return feelings for someone, meaning that you love them back. Red, yellow, and orange tulips all represent different kinds of love. Red is undying and passionate, yellow is desperate, and orange is true love.

While red roses might be a bit basic, they are still a good option along with other types of roses. Blue, violet, and thornless roses represent love at first sight, light pink and coral roses represent desire and passion, and burgundy roses represent beauty.

If you want to manifest your relationship as being long-term, myrtle and orange blossom symbolize luck in marriage.

Happy Valentine's Day, Bears!

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