

## LOVE IS IN THE . . .

Tomorrow is Valentine's Day: the day of lovers, chocolate bon-bons, fresh cut red roses and pink candlelit dinners. Oh, right — that was pre-children! Nowadays pink is the color of the whites when I accidentally put a red sock in, red is the color of the cranberry juice spilled on the carpet, and chocolate bon-bons — well, some things don't change.

Parental responsibility takes Valentine's Day to a new level. As a newlywed, love is that doe-eyed, butterfly-stomach feeling that makes you do crazy things like pick up and move across the country to be with that special someone. When your first child arrives on the scene, however, you are hit full force in the face with an emotion so strong that it invades every cell of your being. It makes you do even crazier things, like forego careers to make sure your child grows up in a safe environment, put aside that desire you've always had to skydive because you wouldn't want to leave your child motherless and buy three different styles of jeans for your child when you really wanted to spend the money on that new silk Ann Taylor shirt. The dictionary definition of this is selflessness, but we parents all call it love.

It's always good to take Valentine's Day to reconnect with your partner, but that leaves your kids out of the mix. Children learn what they see, and unless you're looking to raise the ire of any future daughter-in-law, now is the time to teach by example. Tell your pre-teens that love doesn't have to involve smooching and hugs, so they don't have to worry about cooties. You can also tell your teens that, but you will be warning them instead of comforting them.

Instead of going out with your spouse to a romantic, high-priced dinner, have the family make a fun dinner together. Valentine's Day morning tell everyone to think of something special about each member of the family, something they appreciate or like about them. Some people will be harder than others, so that's why you have to give them the whole day!



Before dinner have everyone write down their special thing about each person on a slip of paper. Label an envelope for each family member, and put the slips of paper in the respective envelopes.

Now comes time for dinner. You can make heart-shaped pizzas by buying the roll-out pizza dough in the dairy case at the supermarket. No sense going crazy with the whole "homemade pizza dough" thing tonight. This is as much your night as everyone else's! When using the pre-made dough, you can cut away the excess part or shape it into a heart after rolling it out onto the pizza pan. Mozzarella cheese is a good white and red bell peppers make a good red! Pepperonis are also sort of red, but as a vegetarian that's not an option for me. Let everyone get into the act by making their own personalized favorite pizza.

Dessert is easy. Sugar cookies cut out with a heart-shaped cookie cutter. While the pizzas are cooking, roll out the dough on a cutting board on the kitchen table. Let everyone take turns cutting out their hearts and decorating them. Toddlers love this! Each family member can make a special cookie for each person.

When you take the pizzas out, put the cookies in. Set the timer! You don't want to burn up all the cookies. Valentine's Day is not about black hearts, at least not in this scenario. That's for the late teen, early 20s part of life.

Sit down to your Valentine's Day pizza. Take turns trying each other's pizzas and sharing. Once the cookies are done, take them out and sit them in the middle of the table. Decorate them with sprinkles and frosting. Don't worry about the mess.

Now comes the true Valentine's Day present. Let everyone begin to open their envelopes, and take turns reading the slips of paper.

Valentine's Day is about love, and love can be shown in any number of ways. Sometimes the ones we love the most are the ones we don't tell. Use this Valentine's Day to remind each family member how much they mean to you, to each other and to the family unit as a whole. You can even throw in a few hugs and smooches if you're child will let you! ■

*Continued from previous page*

## ALMOST, MAINE

November 5 - 22

Directed by Jane Kurakula  
Performed upstairs at the Methodist church

This play received great acclaim off Broadway. It is a comedy about what happens at nine o'clock at night, in nine different places in the town of Almost, Maine.

There will be three or four different directors and around twenty different actors will grace the stage. This production is being used as a vehicle to help bring in aspiring actors from the community. The TWN is encouraging Nantucketers who may not have acted before, but who want to give it a try. It is set in a workshop forum, with casting in September.

## KIDS/FAMILY HOLIDAY SHOW

December 5 - 21

To be announced

## GREASE: THE MUSICAL

August 6 - 27

Directed by Roberta Esposito  
Performed at the Bennett Hall Playhouse

Grease is one show that doesn't need a preview, I think everyone has seen or at least heard about this production. What is interesting is that, since 'Grease' is still playing on Broadway, the rights for this play have only been released to three theatre troops and Nantucket is lucky to be one of them. Jordana Fleischut says, "This is the play of the summer." She also went on to say that the TWN will be bringing in a resident company for this (and several other plays), but there will

La Dolce  
Notte  
Italian Night  
Every Tuesday



**A PERFECT VALENTINE'S DATE**  
DINNER AND A MOVIE AT THE STARLIGHT

**LUNCH & DINNER**  
**SERVED 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Lunch Served 11:30am ~ 5pm  
Dinner Served 5-9pm Sun-Thurs, Fri and Sat 'till 10pm

MOVIE HOTLINE: 508.228.4435 • DINNER RESERVATIONS: 508.228.4479  
All movie dates and times are subject to change without notice.

1 NORTH UNION STREET WWW.STARLIGHTNANTUCKET.COM  
\* TICKETS ON SALE 1 HR BEFORE SHOWTIME OR RESERVED WITH DINNER \*



## Identify This

Georgen Gilliam Charnes

The Nantucket Historical Association houses the most complete visual record of Nantucket history in existence. The image here is from our collections, and may be one we cannot identify, wish for more information about or just want to see if people can identify. Many more images are available for viewing and identification at [www.nha.org](http://www.nha.org).



*If you know the where this house is, or if you would like to see a larger image for examination, email: [georgen@nha.org](mailto:georgen@nha.org) or call 508.228.1894, ext. 301, by Friday noon.*

*Last week's image featured 82 Main Street, at the corner of Ray's Court, and was identified by Betsy Tyler, John McLaughlin, Don Harris, Robert Young, Trisha Murphy, Jim Lydon, David Barham, Richard Austin, Peyson Potter, the girls from Island Lumber, Charley Walters, Milly Lou Smith, Eileen McGrath, Thomas Dunham, Richard Mack, Barbara Vigneau, Mimi Jones, Grace Yates, Adrienne McCalley, Joseph Topham, Lydia Graves, and Joan Larrabee.*



also be auditions for Nantucket High School students grades ten and up. This provides an amazing opportunity for up and coming actors to work with professionals and form bonds with actors from across the country.

## Pinocchio

August 12, 19 and the 26

Directed by Roberta Esposito  
Performed at the Bennett Hall Playhouse

This is not exactly the traditional story, it's 'Pinocchio' with a sea-side twist. The actors will be from the resident company and also local children. Auditions will be held on April 26th and 27th.

## THE LITTLE MERMAID

August 14, 21 and 28

Directed by Roberta Esposito  
Performed at the Bennett Hall Playhouse

This story is not the Disney adaptation, it is based on the original Hans Christian Anderson version. This production will also include the resident company along with island youths. Auditions will be held on April 26th and 27th.

*Auditions for TWN open summer casting call Sunday April 27, Monday April 28, and Tuesday April 29. ■*