

Shopping for the Best Semi-Formal Dresses

By Jeanne Longobardi

Strapless? Beaded? What color?

Many of these questions will be running through the minds of those who plan to attend any type of semi-formal dance this year. It isn’t easy to find a dress that you will absolutely love, especially when you don’t want to empty your bank account. However, there are many places to go to search for that perfect dress!

If you’re the type of girl who doesn’t feel like trying on a million dresses and you know how your body is and what sizes you wear, then online shopping may be a great approach for you! One particular website that has a wide variety, all the newest trends, and makes finding a dress super easy is www.Promgirl.com. At this website, a shopper can narrow down a search by color, price, body type, style of dress and more! The site makes it easy to pick a dress, get it shipped and then there’s even an option to look at shoes, clutches and accessories. Online shopping can be a quick and easy alternative to going out to different stores. Buyers should keep in mind that different designers do make their dresses differently so without hesitation I highly recommend buying the dress in the next size up, or at least looking at the sizing chart. If you’re spending money on your dress, you want it to actually fit you. The only down side is the dress could be a little too big and at this point you could make an appointment with a seamstress if you can’t sew and get it taken in or hemmed.

A local boutique, “DeRailed,” located on 125 in Kingston, NH, features a few different popular designers. Going into DeRailed is a relaxing and exciting experience. During the prom season, DeRailed features the newest trends and lines of prom dresses. For the semi-formal dance, someone can go to DeRailed and Jo, the owner, will help find you the dress you want! If she doesn’t have it in the shop, she will measure you and then order your dress. DeRailed always writes down your name, dress, and what school you attend so that way nobody else has the same dress as you. The boutique is a little on the pricier side of things but the experience is relaxing, upbeat and fun!

Keep in mind, while finding a dress the theme of the dance, what colors you like on yourself and the shape of the dress that will flatter your body. Whether you order your dress online, buy it from a store or even borrow it from a friend, the night will still be one to remember.



Will You Go to Semi with Me?

By Colleen Shea

Is your junior semi-formal coming up and you still haven’t found a date? It would be in your best interest to start thinking of ideas.

Whether you’re a junior boy or girl, this is your chance to get creative. If your crush since seventh grade is a year older than you, why not go out on a limb and ask them to be your date? They’ll most likely want to be able to go to this dance, and you’ll have a night you won’t forget. It doesn’t matter what gender you are, a girl can still ask a guy to be their date and vise versa.

An example of a creative way of asking was Molly Wilmot’s idea. Captain of the cheer team, Molly Wilmot, organized her team to have all of the flyers hold up signs that read “Mike Murphy will you go to semi with me?” Shortly after this Mike Murphy, the team’s captain, gave Molly the thumbs up and ran over to the cheer team. He said yes and then kissed her. The crowd went wild, and this was a night the two will not forget.

Although you now have high standards to live up to, you can still make your proposal one to remember. Some examples could include surprising a girl with flowers at her house or asking your date over dinner at their favorite restaurant. Also, you could write on their car with window paint and spell out “semi?”

Another example of a recent proposal was used by Corey Mills when he asked his girlfriend, Cassie Lee. He carved semi into a pumpkin and then gave it to Cassie. This was a good idea due to the fact it was so close to Halloween, and also how he made an effort to impress her.

Overall, it is a good idea to keep in mind the way you are planning on asking someone to semi! If you and your date are not into that kind of stuff you can always go with the traditional route and simply ask your date or send a text message. Even though this is a simple way of asking someone, I do not recommend it if you are trying to make your significant other in fact, feel significant! Best of luck and I hope you look great at the dance!



Throwback Video Game Review

By Ben Schena

There are so many “new” video games out today that it can be challenging to find the best one. It is also very expensive to buy the video games and consoles; you could end up spending over \$400. There is a much better way to play great games without the hefty price tag. So many old video games out there that are so much fun to play and you can lose track of time playing.The game I am reviewing is *007: Nightfire*, released in 2002 for the Playstation 2. *Nightfire* has so much to offer, from a rich campaign filled with entertaining missions to a multiplayer that is great for relaxing with your friends.

The multiplayer is where this game really shines; you fight snow guards and black ninjas who attack you in a fort or castle. You fight these enemies with a state-of-the-art arsenal at your disposal. From pulse laser rifles to controllable mini tanks and mini choppers, this game is entertaining on all levels .

This is what student Lucas Appleton had to say about *NightFire*: “Although I did not play many video games as a kid, I can certainly remember staying up late with my friends and getting so into it that I would punch them for excitement.”

Student Brian Lonergan had a few words to say about *NightFire*, “I would spend hours glued to the screen, not being able to put down the controller: it was like playing a masterpiece.”

007: NightFire costs \$8-15 depending on the condition of the game, and as for the PS2, you can find those for about \$20 at your nearest GameStop or pawn shop. If you want cheap, endless fun,, buy this game.



My Pal Jacob

By Nick Fawcett

I notice different things about kids in this school, but there is this one kid I enjoy seeing every day...His name is Jacob. Jacob has Downs Syndrome and has trouble speaking. Every time I walk into room 309, he forgets everyone else and comes right to me to give me a hug while wearing a huge smile on his face.

Jacob can understand me when we talk and I know some sign language as well. I am telling you right now that he is one of the reasons I come to school. He knows when I am happy or sad because he has a special gift. He can sense how you are feeling! When something is wrong, he will come over and give me a hug and pat my head. When I tell him I am okay, he grunts and says, "Alright," then gives me a high five.

It is amazing the way he carries those feelings, yet he is always cheerful and cares about people. If I am standing in a crowd of people, I am sure that he would be able to find me real easy. I'm telling you, he looks up to me and I feel like a big brother to him.

Every time Jacob gives me a hug, he looks right in my eyes with a big smile on his face and sees me...he knows I am there for him no matter what.



The Great Debate: ISIS

Back East

By Blake Hammond

A man kneels blindfolded and silent in a ring of kevlar vests bearing rifles and smart phones. The leader parades around him, holding a pistol in the air, declaring the man an apostate; someone who has renounced a religious belief. They coordinate the filming, who will get what angle, and for a minute, you believe it to be fiction; as if all they were going to shoot was a film. But the angles are established, the red lights on the smart phones come on and the recording begins. There's a pop and the apostate isn't kneeling anymore. You see him fall but soon the camera is overwhelmed by the flailing arms and joyous chants of the men celebrating themselves.

This is a new wave of millennial violence. ISIS has existed since the late 90's as a contingent of Al-Qaeda, but only in 2013 did it break away, change its name, and begin the chain of violence of late that has gained it so much notoriety. This collection of ultra-violent reactionary kids is rampaging throughout the Middle East, beheading journalists and expatriates such as James Foley and Steven Sotloff. They're murdering non-muslims, stoning women to death, crucifying people, and establishing slave markets; giving captured Yazidi women and children to its soldiers as rewards for fighting. It's horrifying; a new generation committing old world atrocities. And it goes beyond religious fundamentalism.

ISIS is attracting foreigners from around the Western world; angry and misguided teenagers are heading to Iraq and Syria to join ISIS. Most of them aren't Muslims, or weren't before they joined. These kids don't see it as a religious war, just an outlet where they can have the kind of power nobody should ever have. Two British citizens that joined ISIS ordered Islam for Dummies shortly before they left, so they obviously didn't know enough about Islam before making the decision to join ISIS. This isn't even religious fundamentalism; this is nonsense. They've murdered more than journalists in the name of fighting Western influence; however more often than not the journalists are there out of love for the region, writing for much the same purpose that ISIS claims as their motive for beheading them. It's violence on a disturbing and horrifying scale that needs to be stopped for the good of everyone. It's a hindrance to humanity, and there's no reason why action should not be taken.



Isolationists say there should be none. To them and their closed minds, as long as ISIS doesn't attack us here at home, there isn't an issue. But ISIS has announced plans to attack the US, and when this happened, the West finally vowed to take action. It's sickening that it took that long; that all the people in the world who had the capacity to stop this scourge of violence ignored it because it didn't affect them. Nothing will ever get better as long as we ignore things until it starts to affect us. That's what happened in both world wars; we ignore situations abroad until they run rampant and affect us negatively. So, by the time we get involved, the fan is already entirely soiled.

Choosing to ignore this affront to humanity is an atrocity equal to those of ISIS; it's ignorant and closed minded. At the moment, all assistance in the region is limited to air support. The West is hesitant to commit ground troops to the effort, understandably. Obama announced recently that the US may train Syrian militias to fight ISIS; but these fighters are more concerned with fighting their own civil war against Assad, and not so much with combating ISIS.

ISIS is quickly growing. In the wake of US-led air strikes, they have broken up into smaller groups but continue to push forward in force towards the Turkish border. By this point, the US should have learned its lesson that when foreign conflicts of impending impact upon the US take place, it's better to get involved earlier on than later. The unfortunate thing is, we've gotten ourselves into numerous foreign conflicts recently, mostly in this same region, and all ended badly. All were handled horribly, and were unnecessary. Now that there is a legitimate reason to step in and stop this wave of ultraviolence, we are hesitant. If we continue to wait, it will only become harder to quell.

Foreign Policy: The ISIS Situation

By Lucas Appleton

Irish philosopher and political theorist Edmund Burke once said, "Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it."

This well-known quote has never been more applicable to America's situation than it is now. As ISIS, an extreme faction of Sunni Muslims, rises in the East, America is faced with a difficult choice. Should we go and fight or stay home and protect ourselves? The American people have been berated with sickening reports of violence perpetrated by the new extremist Muslim faction. Stories of beheadings, rape, torture and genocide fill the airwaves. In the heat of the moment, it may seem like the right course of action would be to swoop in, kill the bad guys and save the day. But this issue takes more than an emotional knee-jerk reaction. In order to make an educated decision on what to do about these ruthless killers, one must look into history for the answers.

For the greater part of the 20th century, the United States has kept an interventionist foreign policy, using military force to bend other countries to our interests. One such example was Vietnam.



The United States got involved in Vietnam to stop the spread of communism for fear that if one country became communist, more would follow. It seemed that the only answer was to send combat troops to stop communism in its tracks. 58,300 dead Americans and \$770 billion dollars later, however, Vietnam still became a communist nation.

Another example of interventionism backfiring was in Iraq, where ISIS is currently operating, in 2003. America perceived Iraq to be a threat and sought to remove the dictator Saddam Hussein from power in hopes of creating a peaceful nation that wasn't a hot bed for radical Islamists. Once more, the US faced heavy losses totaling 4,425 dead Americans and adding a whopping \$1.7 trillion dollars to the national debt. For all of the American lives lost and money wasted, Iraq still ended up becoming a breeding ground for radical Islam.

The moral of the story is that when America gets involved in foreign conflicts, it rarely works out as intended. Many people will pander to the emotional side of America by showing ruthless killings and other atrocities committed by ISIS. However, for the person who holds reason in high regard, the answer is not to get involved in this foreign affair but to strengthen the homeland by using our military might to defend us rather than attack them. Getting involved with ISIS will only perpetuate the cycle that has caused our country turmoil for years.

My Sister's Closet Two

My Sister's Closet Two offers students and staff FREE, gently used, clean clothing.

Located in Room 400, stop by before and after school.

Donations always accepted.

Looking for more information?
Please contact Mrs. Brenda Laycock in the Assistant Principal's Office or by email at brenda.laycock@timberlane.net.



O.W.L.S. OF THE MONTH

Offer your best
Work cooperatively
Lend a helping hand
Speak and act respectfully

Eric Moulton for his honesty and desire to help out a fellow Owl.

Derek Ingalls for demonstrating compassion towards a peer.

Owen Sweet and Nick Pigott for doing the right thing when no one else was looking.

Bethany Weiss who always has a smile on her face and is so upbeat while doing hall duty.

Steven Morin for displaying honesty and helping out a peer.

Kaylee Silva for turning in a lost phone.

Bobby Merrill and Mr. James Kelly for creating a cool new club for the Timberlane community.

Nick Moore for his never-ending, helpful advice.

Senora Allen for her cheerful outlook and her positive reinforcement.

Student Council, Mr. Constantineau, Mr. Dube, Mr. Strange, and Mr. Leary for helping out with the Day of Compassion hosted by Timberlane at Sanborn High School.

Mrs. Kristen LeFebvre for her positive demeanor, hard work and for being a good role-model for her students.

Michael Scipione for putting his best effort forward in everything he does.

Ms. Kay Tombarello for her amazing work in the Assistant Principal's office and with Timberlane's Troops!

Joe Margarecci for his humor, positive demeanor and insightful interpretations of literature.

All of the students and staff who have worked tirelessly to raise money, clothing, and food for families within our community.

Mrs. Brenda Laycock for her vibrant personality, bright smile, and her efforts to give back to the school and greater Timberlane community.

Ashley Warren, Allie Rogers, Kansas Ferguson, Bailey Schott, Amanda Savina and Kiley Broadhurst for going above and beyond with their projects!

Mr. Jeff Shaw and the Video Production for their hard work on Mrs. Czyz's special project!

Mrs. Czyz's sophomores who took time out of their day to help, demonstrating what it means to be a true Owl- putting others before yourself!

