



News

- Local news
- National news
- Opinion
- Money
- Sports
- Obituaries
- For the record
- Entertainment
- Neighbors
- Forums
- Photos
- **Life**
 - Health
 - Travel

Story Search

-
- Archive search
- Sponsored by: 

Specials

- PNJ store
- Coupons
- Business Directories
- Outdoor Showcase
- Newcomer's Guide

News Partners

- Business Journal
- Gosport
- The Pelican
- FindaHome

ADVERTISEMENT



Free Online Slideshows, Real KODAK Prints and Photo Goodies

Save 20% on your order

KodakEasyShare**Gallery**

Published - February, 3, 2006

PreDating: Six minutes to discover a possible love match

Kris Thoma

@PensacolaNewsJournal.com

All it takes is six minutes, and that's all you get.

To go on a speed date, that is.

Cupid.com will conduct PreDating, also referred to as speed dating, Wednesday at Zea restaurant on Gregory Street. Participants will get six minutes to chat with each person and are guaranteed to meet at least 12 members of the opposite sex.

Jeff Ferris, 43, thinks six minutes is enough.

"If I meet a woman, and we're talking, six minutes can be a very long time or it can fly by," he said. "If it flies by then you know you've clicked."

The concept behind PreDating -- that chemistry can be realized within the first few minutes -- makes it possible to avoid wasting an entire evening with one lousy date.

- Print
- Email
- Bookmark
- Forum
- Subscribe

Text Size: [A](#) [A](#)
A



zoom

It's obvious who the singles are during lunch hour at Dharma Blue in downtown Pensacola. If you're busy and not having luck in the dating world, check out Cupid.com's speed-dating sessions. Justina and Antonio Royster, a happily married couple, share a kiss while single diners stay busy.
KarenaCawthon@PensacolaNewsJournal.com

[Request a reprint of this photo](#)

PreDating, part 2

Next week: The Life section will report on the PreDating event and the experiences of some of the participants, including Karoline Myers and Jeff Ferris.

Want to go? WHAT: Cupid.com PreDating.

- Family on the Coast

Giveaways

- Enter here to win!
- Ice Pilots
- Silver Screen

Bring an open mind

Lori Lacquement, event coordinator for Cupid.com in Pensacola, said participants should keep an open mind.

"You might not make a love match, but you could make a friend," she said. "It never hurts to meet a friend, and that friend might know someone you might be interested in. It's a way to expand your social circle."

PreDaters should consider the event as 12 first dates and should dress accordingly.

"If you need to bring moral support, you can do that, and your friends can wait at the bar," Lacquement said. "We want to make it really comfortable."

How it works

At the event, each participant will receive a card where they can jot notes about each date and express their interest as a "Yes" or "No." After the event, participants will take their scorecards home and can enter the information into Cupid.com.

Participants will get a short break between every third date. There will be a curtain in between the PreDaters and the general public.

Within two to three days, participants will learn via e-mail which, if any, possible daters they match -- in other words, both of you are interested.

"Odds are you'll have one or more matches," Lacquement said. "More than two-thirds of PreDaters match at least one person."

Lacquement said the most successful PreDaters ask questions that get straight to the point.

Avoid the generic, such as "Where do you live?"

WHEN: Wednesday (limited availability). Events start at 6:20 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Zea, 605 E. Gregory St., Pensacola.

COST: \$35 if registered by Monday, \$40 afterward.

DETAILS: Visit Cupid.com/precedating to sign up. There you'll also find information about future PreDating events, set for Feb. 22 and March 21.

Did you know?

Cupid.com is attempting to make the Guinness Book of World Records with the world's largest speed-dating event. Singles from throughout the country will attend speed-dating events simultaneously in their local areas on Wednesday. Pensacola is one of more than 80 cities in the United States and Canada, where events are scheduled.

ADVERTISEMENT



ADVERTISEMENT

"Think about the things that are important to you," she said.
"Talk to your friends and family before you come to the event to brainstorm."

The most important thing? Be yourself, but keep in mind that you might want to avoid vulgar language or embarrassing, sexually explicit questions, Lacquement said. It could offend someone.

Prepare your strategy

Karoline Myers, 31, of Pensacola already is thinking about the questions she'll ask on Wednesday. She believes responses to questions like "What do you do when you're home alone?" and "What makes you laugh?" will let her know if the person is someone she'd like to see romantically.

"I can definitely tell in just a few minutes if I've clicked with somebody or not," said Myers, a first-time speed dater. "I think it's a great way for people to stay out of bars and meet other people."

Ferris, who travels frequently for his job, agrees.

"I've never done this before," he said. "I'm just going to wing it."



Partners: Jobs: CareerBuilder.com | Cars: Cars.com | Apartments: Apartments.com | Shopping: ShopLocal.com

Copyright © 1997-2006 the Pensacola News Journal, Pensacola Florida.
Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), updated June 7, 2005.