



A NEWSLETTER FOR TOWNE LAKE RESIDENTS

FEBRUARY 2016

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

Top Three Tips To Be Remembered In *Any* Situation

Rule Number One: Must Have Clean Humor

Networking. This will either sound exciting to you or send a shudder up your spine. Whether you are a spouse wondering what in the world you are going to talk about at the next office get together outside of business or wondering how you can stand out in the crowd of other entrepreneurs, here are Rules to Successful Networking that may help smooth your nerves.

Nothing says stay away from me faster than a bad, tasteless joke, or worse, to have someone remember you for the wrong reasons. It is hard to find clean jokes to make everyone smile and for certain have someone else remember you as they repeat a clean joke when they get home or at the office the next day to get a few laughs.

So when "Want to hear a dirty joke?" has everyone leaning in.... say, "Actually, I do have one (Dramatic pause or have everyone lean in....)

"White horse.....fell in the mud.....and got dirty! Argh. Argh. Say "Oh yes, you are groaning, but I'll bet you'll find yourself repeating it somewhere down the line!"

Laugh or Groan. Hey, someone will fall for this joke. Okay, Okay, you'll just have to know your audience, but when it was my job a long time ago to find good, clean jokes I really, really found out how hard it was to FIND a good, clean joke. At networking events, you'll have only a few minutes and all heads turn when you hear laughter, right? Here is one that I bet you'll repeat at least once!

Best Clean Joke

The local sheriff was looking for a deputy, so a young woman (or gentleman), went in to try out for the job.

"Okay," the sheriff drawled. "What is 1 and 1?"

"Eleven," she/he replied.

The sheriff thought to himself, "That's not what I meant, but that is right."

"What two days of the week start with the letter "T"?"

"Today and tomorrow."

He was again surprised that the young woman/man supplied a correct answer that he had never thought of himself.

"Now, listen carefully: Who killed Abraham Lincoln?"

The young woman (or gentleman) looked a little surprised herself/himself, then thought really hard for a minute and finally admitted, "I don't know."

"Well, why don't you go home and work on that one for a while?"

So, the young woman (or gentleman) excitedly met with her/his friends, and they just couldn't wait to hear the results of the interview.

The young woman(or gentleman) was excited beyond belief. "It went great! First day on the job and I'm already working on a murder case!"

At least start the chuckling yourself. Go ahead be bold and say a joke anyway. A clean joke.

Second Best Clean Joke ...

A jock and a geek were applying for the same job. The boss said, "Boys, you need to take a test before you can get this job."

So they took the test and the next day they came back to see who the boss chose. "Well, he said, "Both of you got the same score except I'm going to choose the geek."

The jock complained, "Don't you think that's unfair?"

"Well," the boss said, "Let me tell you what happened. Both of your papers were right all the way through until the last question came up, and the geek answered, "I don't know," and then when I looked at your paper, you answered,

"Me either!"

When the chuckling subsides, say "I only have two jokes". I am always looking for another one to trade up, has anyone heard something funny lately?

Rule Number Two: Be Interesting

To be remembered as someone who IS interesting, you'll have to

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ARTICLE INFO

The *Tribune* is mailed monthly to all Towne Lake residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to townelake@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

Cypress-Tomball Democrats February Meeting

The Cypress-Tomball Democrats monthly meeting for the month of February will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Everybody is welcome to attend the meeting and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The meetings foster great fellowship and feature informative guest speakers. For further information, visit the website www.cytomdems.com; contact Glenn Etienne at cytomdems@yahoo.com; Follow us on Facebook at Cypress- Tomball Democrats.



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BE interested in other people. Yes, it pays to have something to add to the conversation, and you'll be forearmed after reading the rules of Networking above. Have a few questions ready in case there is a pause in the conversation.

What keeps you occupied outside of your business? This question will help you gain common ground or something interesting to write about in your follow up note.

Have you seen any good movies lately? Did you see? See, this is where you will sound interesting.

That was terrible aboutDid you see it on the news this morning?

What are your thoughts on ?

Getting other people to talk about themselves and their interests ultimately makes you more interesting.

Your mission: look in the newspaper, look at your local networking clubs and go make some new clients, friends or even dates! You don't have to be a Toastmaster to feel comfortable in new environments.

Oh, a Bonus Rule. Keep your nails nice. Keep your nails nice. Whether handing your business card over to your next big client or holding a drink (preferably soda), you'll be sending a message that you think about yourself as much as you'll care about them as an account.

Rule Number Three: Remember Names

Actually, Rule Number Three: Remember Names should be Rule Number One. Remembering names is crucial. Asking for a business card. Ask how they spell it. Except for the easy, easy names. Try "Is that Linda with an "i" or a "y"? Making up a rhyme, word association, movie association, actor association. Be deliberate and really slow to repeat their names in your head or at least in re-working the introduction. "My pleasure to meet you, Linda". You'll already be thinking of your next question, so please think slowly on remembering someone's name. As crazy as it sounds, try saying "Linda, Linda, Banana Fanna Bo Binda Fee Fi Bo Binda, Linda" (ahem, in your head, please). Anything works. ;You'll surely brighten someone's day and impress them with your Savant-mindedness. Don't use this if you wind up saying "My pleasure to meet you, BInda"? or worse "Bimba".

Linda Bates is a Freelance Writer who has been writing and volunteering in the Houston area community since BEFORE the word "Apple" actually meant fruit.



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DAR

The wonderful ladies of the Elisha Roberts Chapter, NSDAR (National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution), would like to extend an invitation to local females (18 and older) to attend our next meeting. We meet the third Thursday of each month, Sept-May at the Richard and Meg Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd, Cypress, TX 77433. We are friendly, family oriented, and diverse in ages, and promote patriotism, education, and historic preservation. Membership is based on the requirement that you can prove direct lineal descent from someone who fought in the American Revolution or provided any type of aid, but it is not required up front to attend meetings if you're interested, as we will help you research your ancestry!

For more information, please contact the chapter Regent, Melinda Sims at melinda@mazzaroth.net.

We look forward to meeting you!



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THE PLAIDS RETURN FROM THE AFTERLIFE TO PERFORM AT THE HOUSTON FAMILY ARTS CENTER

Stuart Ross's Off-Broadway Musical "Forever Plaid" is being resurrected on the HFAC Garza Main Stage

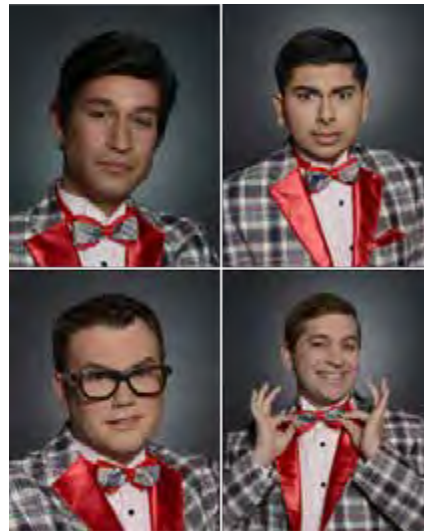
Stuart Ross's, "Forever Plaid", is one of the most internationally popular Off-Broadway musicals to hit the stage, and it's coming to the Houston Family Arts Center. This nostalgic, 50's revue opens on the Garza Main Stage January 29, 2016 – February 21, 2016.

"What is amazing about this show," says director Eric Domuret "is how it makes me feel. So many memories, successes, and life experiences have come from this show. This show and its legacy preserves so perfectly the heart of the generation of the 1950s that had big dreams and felt their decency and hard work was enough to get them there. What better way to preserve it than experiencing it, and making it take hold in the here and now in the hearts of a new generation. What makes this production unique is how much it is like the original production from the early 90s. The original Plaids have handed down their direction, traditions, and intricacies that cannot be discovered outside of this legacy. This is what is being brought to HFAC."

Frankie, Jinx, Sparky, and Smudge are The Plaids. One the way to their first big gig, their cherry red '54 Mercury collided with a school bus, and The Plaids were killed instantly. Now, they've come back to Earth for one final performance. Don't miss this charmingly fun show as The Plaids' sing some of the greatest hits of the 1950's including: "Three Coins in the Fountain," "Chain Gang," and "Heart and Soul" to name just a few!

The guardian angels of The Plaids' are Eric Domuret (director/choreographer), Jesse Lozano (music director), Michael Montgomery (producer), Mary Balest (costume design), Amelia Templeton (scenic design), Ron Putterman (lighting design), David Dean (sound design), Alex Brokmeyer (stage manager), and Mitch Lawyer (bassist).

The posthumous harmonic quartet includes: Eduardo Tercero



(Frankie), Daniel Rosales (Jinx), Brian Chambers (Sparky), and Taylor Fisher (Smudge). Fisher has appeared in several HFAC shows recently as The Baker in "Into the Woods," John Adams in "1776," and Javert in "Les Miserable." Tercero, Rosales, and Chambers are all newcomers to the Garza Mainstage. Eduardo Tercero is known in the Houston opera community for his vocal work with the Houston

Chamber Choir, Houston Symphony, and Ars Lyrica. Daniel Rosales is a recent musical theatre graduate from Sam Houston State University and has been seen at Stages Repertory Theatre and the former Masquerade Theatre. Brian Chambers is a director and teacher for the Cypress Academy of Performing Arts.

Performances of "Forever Plaid" are Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 3 p.m., January 29th – February 21st on the HFAC Garza Main Stage. Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased online at www.houstonfac.com, or by phone at (281) 587-6100. Special pricing is available for groups of 10 or more.

Performance Location:

Houston Family Arts Center Garza Main Stage
10760 Grant Road, Houston, TX 77070

(Located in NW Houston, easily accessible from SH 249 and SH 290)

Performances:

Friday, February 12th at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 13th at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 14th at 3:00 p.m.
Friday, February 5th at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, February 19th at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 6th at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 20th at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 7th at 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 21st at 3:00 p.m.

Ticket Prices:

Adults: \$26
Seniors (65+): \$22
Students (3-18): \$15



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About Houston Family Arts Center
Houston Family Arts Center (HFAC), founded in 2005, is a not-for-profit performing arts and educational organization, with a passion for entertaining, enlightening and engaging audiences in Texas. Recent winner in seven categories for the Broadway World Houston Awards, HFAC has also been named Houston's "Best Gem of a Theater" by the Houston Press and "Best Arts and Entertainment" by the "Best of the Northwest" Readers' Choice awards. HFAC is a proud winner of the prestigious national American Association of Community Theatre Twink Lynch Organizational Award. HFAC produces a broad mix of classics, comedies, dramas, musicals and new works. Through its award-winning Actors Academy, HFAC offers acting and singing classes, and provides performance opportunities for all ages. To purchase tickets, sign up for auditions or classes, or for more information, please visit www.houstonfac.com or call HFAC at (281) 587-6100.



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Finding Connection

Do you remember your last first date? I know, for many of you that seems like it was eons ago! Take a minute and try to recall what went through your mind.

For most of us, there were thoughts of, "What if he doesn't think I'm pretty?" Or, "Will he think I'm smart enough? ...Funny? What if he thinks I'm boring?" Take your pick, and fill in the description. Male or female, old or young, we've all worried about these things at some point.

Every self-help book tells you that you need to love yourself before you can make a connection with another person. But how? How do you learn to find that connection within yourself so that you can learn to find connections with others?

For me, it was when I began working with horses. I learned a few simple, but profound, facts about horses. Horses don't judge, and are not impressed by a pretty face. They don't care about the car you drive, what your job is, or how much money you make. There are no concerns about race, sexuality, or religion. All a horse wants to know is, "Can I trust you to keep me safe?" and, "What's in it for me?"

These amazing creatures are incredibly similar to humans in that

they instinctively crave the connection formed with other beings. Through my journey into the world of Natural Horsemanship, I learned that horses are deeply intuitive creatures who can read you just by reading your body language and intent.

Working with these creatures teaches you so much about yourself.

For instance, working with a creature that weighs over 1000 lbs. makes you feel strong and confident. When a horse chooses to interact with you, you feel honored and special. When a horse offers you his trust, you feel love. And, if you mess up or make a mistake? Well, horses are the consummate teachers of forgiveness. They don't hold grudges or cast blame. They just move on. Really, there's a lesson in life everyone should learn.

Learning to love yourself is imperative to finding and establishing connections with others. Learning how to love yourself is a journey in itself. Begin your journey this month, and enjoy the ride.

Tara Chatterson works at Five Horses, LLC in Waller, Texas. To find out more about how horses can help you and your relationships, check out the natural horsemanship program, as well as the equine-assisted learning workshops provided here: www.fivehorses.com

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