



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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(Continued from Cover)

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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NEW WEBSITE

Lakes of Fairhaven has a new community website. Please visit it at www.lakesoffairhavenHOA.org and register to get emails on HOA info and upcoming LOF announcements.

Lakes of Fairhaven Homeowners' Association, Inc.

Home Page

The Lakes of Fairhaven Homeowners' Association is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to maintaining & enhancing the quality of life for all residents of the Lakes of Fairhaven community. We are currently in the process of completing our new website and will be launching it soon. In the meantime, we will continue to provide you with the latest news and information about our community.

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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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“Learning to WIN with ABWA: The Ins and Outs of Working in WIN”

Luncheon Details

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Networking 11a.m.; Luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m.
Sterling Country Club, 16500 Houston National Blvd.,
Houston, TX 77095

Costs \$25 with advanced reservations; \$30 at the door

At the February 25 Cy-Fair Express Network Luncheon, attendees will learn about working in and through WIN (Women’s Instructional Network). They will learn more about how to update member profiles, upload items to WIN, and also learn about other scholarship opportunities. Members are encouraged to bring their laptops and/or tablets, and hotspot connection to actively participate in the presentation.

This month’s CYFEN meeting begins with networking at 11 a.m. followed with a prompt 11:30 a.m. start of the program. Luncheons are held at the Sterling Country Club, 16500 Houston National Blvd.

About Cy-Fair Express Network (CYFEN)

Now over 50 members strong, Cy-Fair Express Network’s vision is to be a community and national leader for the support of professional women by providing a nurturing environment for business development, networking, education and mentoring. Our members have opportunities to pursue excellence and achieve both local and national recognition. CYFEN is part of the national organization of American Business Women’s Association (ABWA), for more information go to www.CYFEN.org.

About American Business Women’s Association (ABWA)

Founded in 1949, ABWA provides business training and networking opportunities for women of diverse occupations and backgrounds. ABWA has dedicated 60 years to women’s education, workplace skills and career development training. For more information, visit, www.abwa.org.



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TENNIS TIPS

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Fernando Velasco



Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand, forehand volley, and the two handed backhand volley. In this issue, I will give you instructions on how to execute the serve, considered as the most important stroke, since the player has complete control of the game at this time. In these pictures, Adolfo Gonzalez, one of the tennis pros at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, demonstrates the proper form and technique for a right-handed player. For a left-handed player, the instructions will be the opposite hands.

Step 1: Ready Position: The body is sideways with the right hand holding the end of the racket in a forehand grip position and the left hand is holding the ball under the throat of the racket. The left arm is slightly straight and the ball is held with the thumb, index finger and middle finger. This allows for a consistent toss without using the wrist and/or elbow. Feet are a shoulder width apart and the body is in equal balance. For beginners, it is okay to change the grip slightly toward the forehand grip. As the player gets more advanced, the continental grip will be a better one to give more spin on the ball.

Step 2: Back Swing: The left arm comes down and the right arm follows it. It is vital to slow down the motions to allow for both of

the arms to have good balance in the front and behind the body. Notice that the hand is in the process of tossing the ball in front of the body and the left wrist is bent down. It is imperative to have a good consistent toss since it will dictate the success or failure of the serve.

Step 3: Point of contact: Once the player is ready to hit the ball, the right arm will force the racket toward the point of contact, while the left hand will come down toward the body. This allows for the "snap" of the wrist to accelerate and bring the ball down. Notice that the point of contact is slightly higher than then center of the racket. Eyes are still focused on the point of the contact and will be ready to look down as soon as the ball leaves the frame. The right hip is extended to allow the body to extend up.

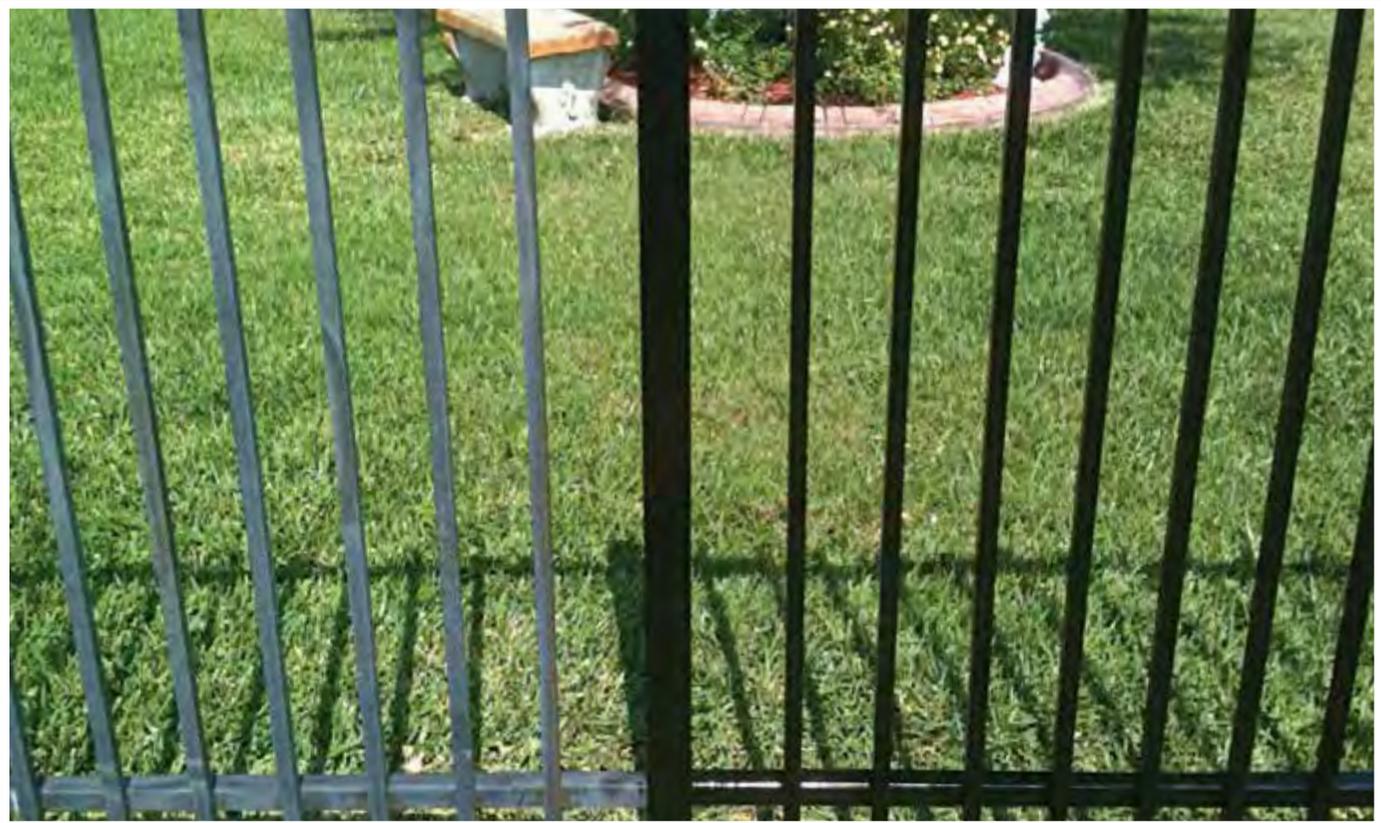
Step 4: Follow Through: The racket speed will extend to the left side of the body. The right foot is coming forward and is pointing toward the net. The trunk is straight and eyes are focused on the direction of the ball. At this point the player will take the split step and will jump either behind the base line to rally with the opponent or will move toward the net to serve and volley.

Look for in the next Newsletter: The Half Volley

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8TH Annual Salute to Our Heroes Gala

On February 13, 2016, the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation (CFEF) will hold its 8th Annual Salute to Our Heroes Gala at the Omni Houston Hotel Westside. Joe Myers Ford Lincoln is generously underwriting this gala that honors the brave men and women who have served to protect our freedom and liberty. Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center Hospital and North Cypress Medical Center are Major General Sponsors for Salute to Our Heroes. The evening will include a Missing Man Table and Honors Ceremony to honor our missing loved ones [or missing comrades in arms, for veterans].

Gerald Coffee is the guest speaker. Captain Coffee served our country as a naval officer for 28 years; much of that service was as one of the longest held prisoners of war in the communist prisons of North Vietnam. His military decorations include the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars, the Air Medal, two Purple Hearts, and the Vietnam Service Medal with



13 stars.

Salute to Our Heroes has raised more than half a million dollars over the past seven years. Proceeds from this event have funded three endowed scholarships for students graduating from the Cypress Fairbanks ISD.

CFEF was established in 1970 as a non-profit to raise money to fund a scholarship for high school graduates in the area. Over the past 45 years, the Foundation has grown tremendously through the efforts of the Board of Trustees and the generosity of the Cy-Fair Community. The Foundation has awarded more than \$6 million in scholarships to 1300 graduating seniors. CFEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, all contributions are tax deductible, as allowed by the law.

Sponsorships and tickets are available for Salute to Our Heroes

Tickets: \$100 individual; \$50 veterans

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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

(Continued on Page 13)



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(Continued from Page 12)

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

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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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.

Cy-Fair Republican Women



Meet February 9th, 10:30 AM - Noon.
(Second Tuesday each month)

Meeting is \$3 -- Meeting w/Lunch at Noon is \$20.

Hearthstone Country Club, 7615 Ameswood, Houston, TX 77095.

Our speakers will be Constable candidates for Precincts 4 and 5 and State Representative for District 130.

Invite your friends and join us for fellowship and getting to know our candidates.

Please RSVP to www.cfrw.net by 2/2/16.

CANDIDATE FORUM on January 28th at 6:30 at Hearthstone CC will include many candidates from the judicial races, county attorney, railroad commission, and sheriff who will be on the ballot for the March 1 Primary. All are welcome!

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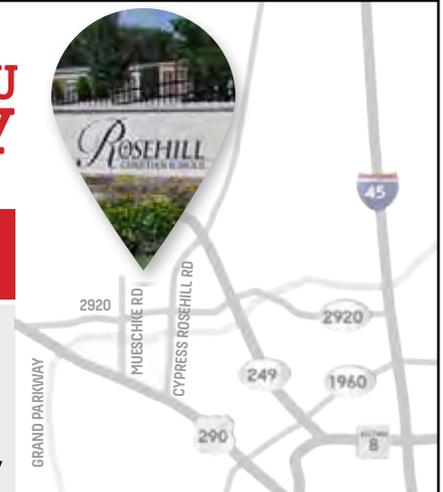
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WITH US!**

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Come visit! SCHOOL PREVIEW February 18th at 6:30 p.m.

R
ROSEHILL



BECAUSE THE JOURNEY MATTERS





Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:

Peel, Inc. - Kids Club
308 Meadowlark St
Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/Peellnc.

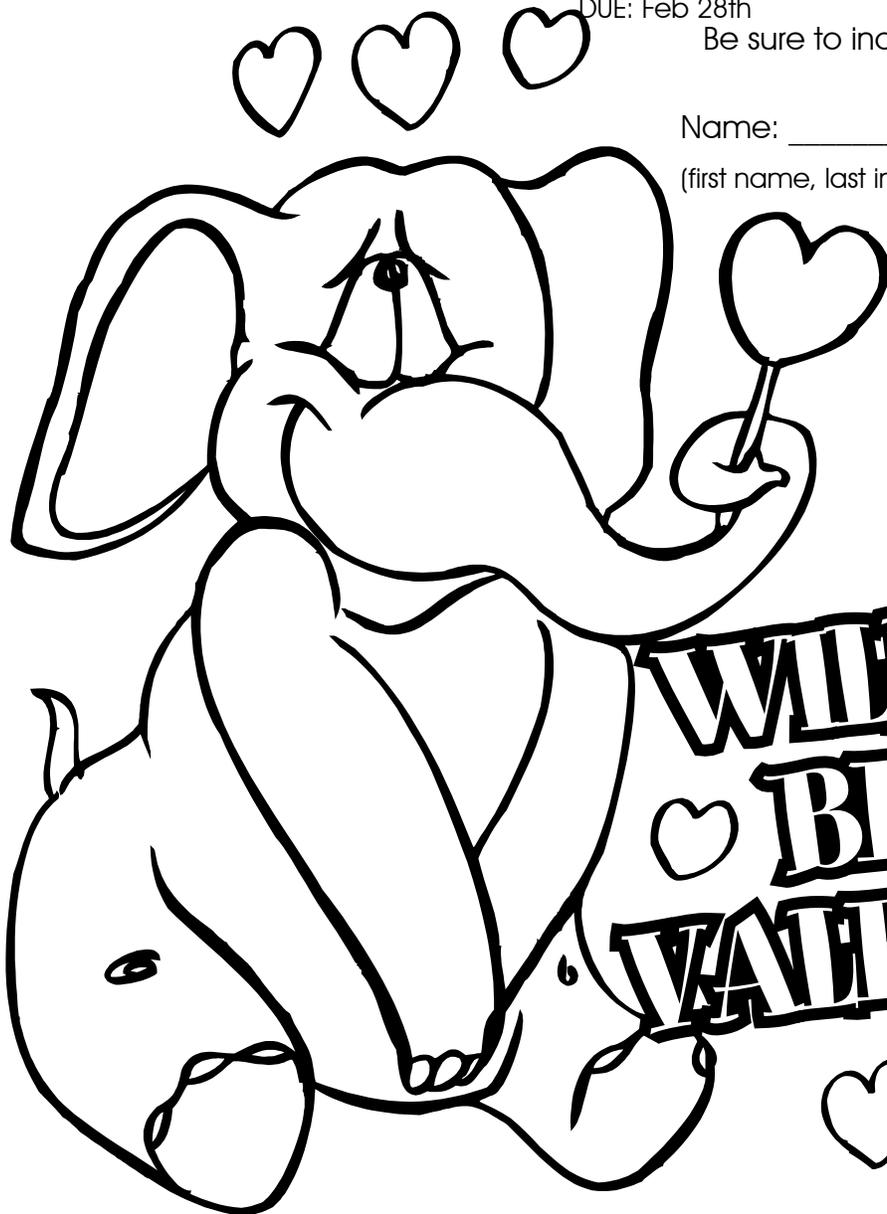
DUE: Feb 28th

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name: _____

(first name, last initial)

Age: _____



**WILL YOU
BE MY
VALENTINE?**



FH

Selling Your Home In Lakes of Fairhaven?

*Put the Mike Schroeder Team
 to work for you!!*



- Marketing on multiple websites for 24/7 exposure of your home.
- The Mike Schroeder Team has over 30 years of combined real estate experience.
- The market is HOT, homes are selling at a record pace and we would be honored to sell your home.
- Flexible commission plans

Lakes of Fairhaven Year-to-Date Sales Report

	Mar '15	Apr '15	May '15	June '15	July '15	Aug '15	Sept '15	Oct '15	Nov '15	Dec '15
\$500,000 and above	1	2	3	1	3	5	2	1	1	3
\$451,000--\$499,999	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
\$351,000--\$450,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$276,000--\$350,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$231,000--\$275,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$201,000--\$230,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$200,999 and below	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	2	3	1	4	5	2	1	1	3
Highest \$/sq ft	\$117.05	\$121.96	\$138.76	\$142.26	\$140.34	\$140.39	\$126.03	\$139.39	\$108.15	\$147.30

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*"Celebrating 23 years of
 selling homes in Cypress"*