

Weekly Message Weekly Message



Greetings special friends,
Many of you are winding down your football season while others are headed to playoffs. Thank goodness we have a true fall weather around the country to keep us in a football mood.

Here are some thoughts for the day:

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“To be happy is easy enough if we give ourselves, forgive others, and live with thanksgiving.”

Joseph Fort Newton (1880-1950) Clergyman and writer

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“Nowadays, we think of a philanthropist as someone who donates big sums of money, yet the word, is derived from two Greek words, *philos* (loving) and *anthropos* (man): loving man. All of us are capable of being philanthropists. We can give of ourselves.”

author unknown

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“The mistakes we aren’t allowed to make in our youth, we make later on in life – at greater cost and with less benefit.”

author unknown

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“Language makes culture, and we make a rotten culture when we abuse words.”

Cynthia Ozick, writer

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Here is a great idea that was passed on by one of the area Fire Departments. When someone is in an accident and cannot speak for themselves, it is important to know who to contact immediately. The Fire Department recommends that everyone program onto their cell phones a number (or numbers) listed as **“I.C.E.”** This means, **“in case of emergency,”** they would automatically call this number to get in touch with a family member or someone that will need to know you are in an accident. I have programmed three numbers including my husband’s phone, and my two sons phone. This may be a saving grace for you or your family in case of emergency. Have everyone in your family do the same.

This week I had the chance to speak to about 150 of the student leaders of an area high school. I used the list below of some general rules for life written by Charles Sykes. They can apply to any of us and I hope that you find the knowledge and humor in the list that I did.

Have a wonderful week, and, as always, please *keep in touch!*

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Sincerely,

Joyce E. Pennington, Pres. CEO

American Dance/Drill Team

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800/462-5719



Welcome to Real Life



Charles Sykes is the author of DUMBING DOWN OUR KIDS. He volunteered for high school and college graduates a list of things he did not learn in school. In his book, he talks about how the liberal, feel-good, politically correct garbage has created a generation of kids with no concept of reality and set them up for failure in the real world.

Rule 1 -- Life is not fair; get used to it.

Rule 2 -- The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something before you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3 -- You will not make 100 thousand dollars a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice president with an expense account until you *earn* both.

Rule 4 -- If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure.

Rule 5 -- Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents

had a different word for burger-flipping; they called it opportunity.

Rule 6 -- If you screw up, it's not your parents' fault so don't whine about your mistakes. Learn from them.

Rule 7 -- Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way paying your bills, cleaning your room, and listening to you tell them how idealistic you are. So before you save the rain forest from the blood-sucking parasites of your parents' generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

Rule 8 -- Your school may have done away with winners and losers but life has not. In some schools they have abolished failing grades, they'll give you as many times as you want to get the right answer. This, of course, bears not the slightest resemblance to anything in real life.

Rule 9 -- Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off, and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself. Do that on your own time.

Rule 10 -- Television is not real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

Rule 11 -- Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.