



Ned Hickson

Dating at an oxygen bar could lead to heavy breathing

It all started with bottled water. That's when we, the consumers, put our collective feet down and cried out in a united voice that there was a little thing called The Law of Supply and Demand! And that we'd be willing to break that law for the chance to purchase an already free and abundant earthly element if it came in a squeeze bottle. The latest trend is oxygen, which can now be purchased at a growing number of hip "Oxygen Bars" around the country. To prepare for your first venture, you must visualize

the atmosphere of an oxygen bar. [Pause here to catch clever irony of last sentence] [Thank you for waiting.] Picture a singles bar with attractive people all sitting around conversing. Now, take the wine glasses and beer bottles from these people, and replace them with plastic oxygen tubes draped over their ears. Add to this sexually charged atmosphere the constant hum of an oxygen pump... and there you have it! The terminal-care ward on "Grey's Anatomy." OK, that's the visual. Now let's work on etiquette. To begin with, flatulating into the end of someone's oxygen tube is not considered an acceptable "ice-breaker."

Though there are many scent options to choose from, that is not one of them. Also, nothing exposes a first-timer faster than asking for the "smoking section" at an oxygen bar... Come to think of it, that's not entirely true. The fastest way is actually not asking — and just lighting up. For you single men out there, remember that the whole purpose of breathing 97 percent pure oxygen is to clarify and revitalize thinking. So pick-up lines that may have sounded clever after four beers at a singles bar now sound something like: "I wish I were a Jedi Knight. Can I live under your couch?" So instead, try one of these

savvy lines to entice a prospective date at an oxygen bar: 1) "Excuse me, is this nose-piece taken?" 2) "Can I buy you another minute of air?" Or 3) "This reminds me; whatever happened to the group 'Air Supply'?" As with any new and exciting trend, knowing the correct terminology and etiquette are crucial. Just as you wouldn't enter a biker bar and ask for a "Zima," you wouldn't want to ruin your first oxygen-bar experience by asking for a nose cannelloni instead of a cannula; while one will blow oxygen through your nostrils, the other will blow ricotta cheese. So, let's get started by cov-

ering some basic terminology: • *Cannula* — A stylish, plastic tube that delivers oxygen to your nose. • *Host* — Someone carrying an illness that can be spread by sneezing on someone else's cannula (or cannelloni, for that matter). • *Ebola* — A deadly, incurable virus made famous by the movie "Outbreak," in which Dustin Hoffman contracts the virus after trying to pick up on an infected monkey at a Peruvian oxygen bar. • *Life insurance* — A policy that will pay your loved ones should you contract the Ebola virus from a cannula (or even a cannelloni). • *Swizzle stick* — The act of writing a humor column about oxygen bars. If you're nervous about

taking the first step into this new trend, remember that it's actually been around for a long time. Japan, for example, has had oxygen bars for almost 40 years. Mexico, California's down-wind neighbor, opened its first oxygen bar 20 years ago — which, coincidentally, is right about the time Ross Perot started complaining about that "Giant sucking sound." Lastly, if all else fails, just hold on to your cannula. And don't forget to breathe. Ned is a syndicated columnist with News Media Corporation. His book, "Humor at the Speed of Life," is available online at Port Hole Publications, Amazon Books and Barnes & Noble. Write to him at nedhickson@icloud.com

Rotary donates to Yachats Youth, Family program

The Florence Rotary Club presented a check in the amount of \$815 to the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program (YYFAP) to help pay for raised flower beds in its community garden. With support from individuals and organizations like Rotary, YYFAP has successfully grown starts from seeds. The seedlings were planted in the garden and have been watered and tended by kids, staff and volunteers. The garden has broccoli, kale, chard, fava beans, oregano, chives and carrots. The garden also provides radishes, broccoli and kale for snacks during the afterschool program. Anything extra will be donated to the Yachats Food Pantry. Anyone interested in helping with the garden can visit www.yachatsyouth.org for more information.



Rotary president Sadie Ward, YYFAP president Michelle Korgan, YYFAP executive director Alice Beck and Rotary president-elect Crystal Farnsworth.

Happy 50th Birthday **Loni**
Love— Mom, Paul, Megan, Brian and rest of the family

Trudie, Denyse, Shelby and Lalitha

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3 Bdrm, 3 Ba 2675 sq ft
\$375,000 BH7001 ML#15108133

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Why wait? Get started building your special home on this .58 acre lot. Enjoy coastal living & the sounds of the ocean in this subdivision of upscale homes.
\$99,900 BH7025 ML#15273508

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Looking for a great lot to build your dream home? Beautiful .28 acre corner lot in subdivision of fine homes.
\$52,500 BH7024 ML#15676519

PRICE REDUCED
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\$49,900 BH6689 ML#14336191

PRICE REDUCED
Great weekend or full time living in Coast Village!
1 Bdrm, 1 Ba 596 sq ft
\$96,900 BH6980 ML#15316305

FEATURED LISTING
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3 Bdrm, 2 Full/2 Half Ba 3536 sq ft
\$725,000 BH7009 ML#15113592

FEATURED LISTING
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