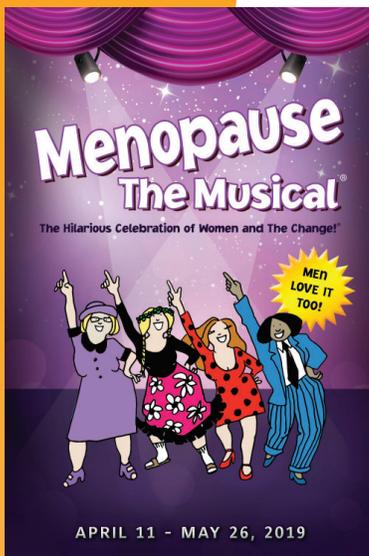


A Musical Everyone Can Relate To!



I'm not sure that I've ever seen a show that had more laughs coming from the audience.

— Ed Flesch

I FIRST SAW MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL A LITTLE OVER 15 YEARS AGO OFF-BROADWAY IN NEW YORK CITY. THE HOUSE WAS PACKED AND ROCKED WITH LAUGHTER. WHEN I SAW MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL RECENTLY IN LAS VEGAS (WHERE IT HAS BEEN PLAYING TO FULL HOUSES FOR 17 YEARS) THE WALLS ONCE AGAIN REVERBERATED WITH THE SOUND OF HEARTY LAUGHS. I'M NOT SURE THAT I'VE EVER SEEN A SHOW THAT HAD MORE LAUGHS COMING FROM THE AUDIENCE.

The one thing that every comedy has to have is relatability. You have to be able to relate to the people and the story that is on that stage. MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL is one of the most relatable shows I've ever seen. Women who are experiencing or have already experienced that change of life relate to every single moment of this light-hearted show and as they watch the four women onstage meet their individual and collective challenges they laugh with recognition and appreciation. And it's not just women who've been through the change who love the show. The young women in the audience when I saw the show last week were laughing as hard or harder as their older counterparts. And the men! When I saw the show years ago I was one of two men in the sold out theatre. But this time the house was filled with men. Almost half the folks in the audience were men and they were laughing harder than the women.

Everyone – including the men and the young women – has either experienced this time of life themselves or know someone – a wife,

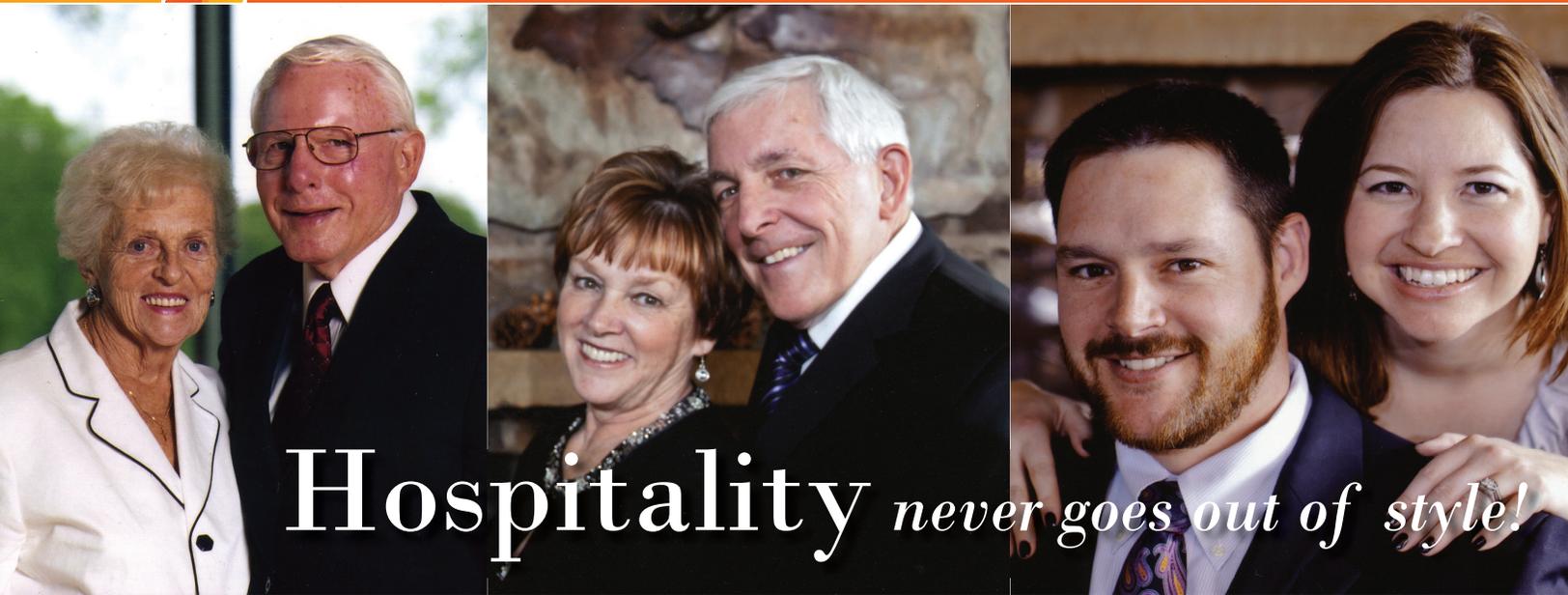
a mother, a sister, an aunt – who has gone through it and in many cases feel as though they have gone through it with them. The chance to laugh at themselves is a truly rare gift.

Now that, my friends, is relatability. It is the thing that every comedy strives for but few reach as successfully as MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL.

Oh, and one more thing. As the title says, it is a musical and the songs are delightful, tuneful, charming, and funny. No, not just funny – in many cases hilarious.

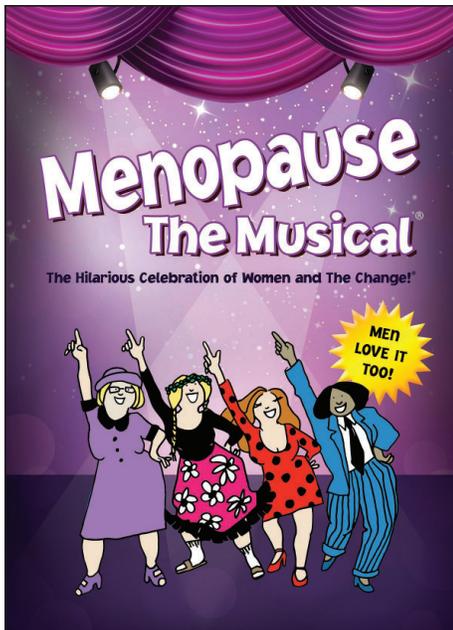
So if you are on the fence about whether you want to see MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL – if you are wondering if it is for you, let me tell you – it is! If this show can make this somewhat jaded, sixty something theatre director laugh out loud the way I did then it is truly a show for everyone!! Don't miss it.

Ed Flesch



Hospitality *never goes out of style!*

COME JOIN THE SISTERHOOD! MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL FOLLOWS FOUR WOMEN SHOPPING FOR LINGERIE AT A BLOOMINGDALE'S SALE BUT THAT'S NOT ALL THEY HAVE IN COMMON. THE REST INVOLVES HOT FLASHES, MEMORY LOSS, NIGHT SWEATS, AND CHOCOLATE CRAVINGS. THIS HILARIOUS MUSICAL PARODY SET TO TUNES FROM THE 60'S, 70'S, AND 80'S WILL DEFINITELY GET YOU LAUGHING!



For starters, the song parodies include the hilarious numbers "Stayin' Awake," "My Husband Sleeps Tonight," and "Puff, My God I'm Draggin'." That's just part of what inspires reviewer comments like this one from the Idaho Statesman: ". . . those who have seen it start giggling like schoolgirls as they try to describe it."

Now the longest running scripted musical in Las Vegas history, nearly 11 million people in 13 countries have attended this musical. The show even won the Las Vegas Entertainer of the Year award in 2016. The Las Vegas Review Journal reported "Dollar for Dollar . . . It's the best show in town!"



Longest running scripted musical in Las Vegas history.



Here are a few more review headlines from across the country.

"It's impossible not to laugh." - The New York Times

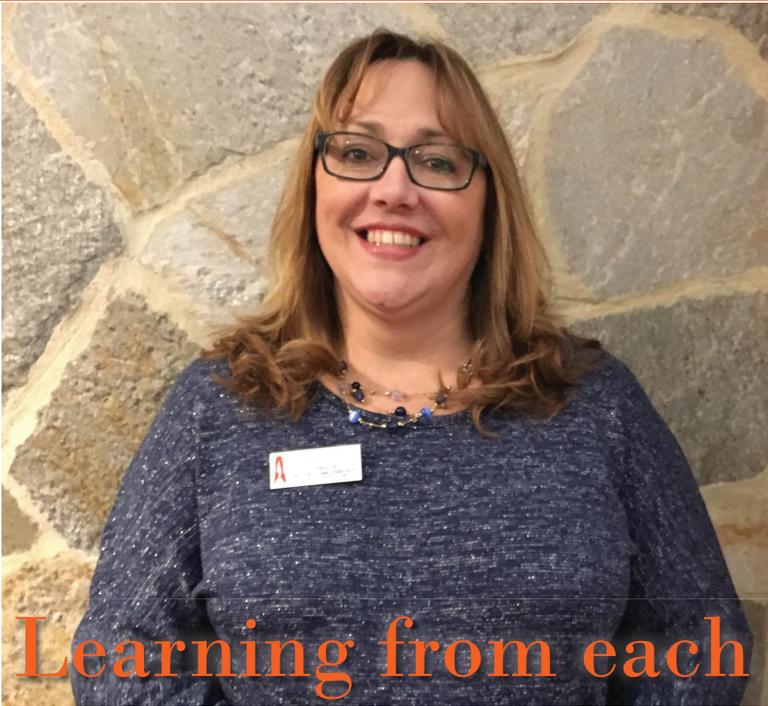
"A celebration of real women!" - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"You'll love it. It's hilarious. Go see it." - Joy Behar, The View

"Fresh, funny and simply terrific!" - LA Times

Medical experts say that stress reduction is advised for women who are going through The Change. MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL celebrates this time in a woman's life with laughter and sisterhood. I remember taking the ladies from our box office staff to the show several years ago in Milwaukee and they certainly had a good time. I'd never seen them laugh so hard. We look forward to sharing this show with you, too!

Rita Flynn



Learning from each other

“I've been blessed with a lot of good people in my life and just want to help keep The Fireside in their busy lives.”
– Lori Becker

LORI BECKER WORKS BOTH ENDS OF RESERVATIONS AT THE FIRESIDE, AS STAFF AND AS A GROUP LEADER

Lori Becker has lived in Fort Atkinson all of her life and grew up with The Fireside in a variety of ways. In the early years, her family would come out for dinner and do some shopping in the adjacent artist shop. After the theatre was added in 1978, Lori visited The Fireside with field trips from school as well as with her family. She recalled seeing FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, ANYTHING GOES, and some of the Hawaiian revues. Once she started dating her husband, Kevin, she attended many times with his family since Grandpa Yerges was a friend of Dick Klopocic. They continue the tradition with their own children.

When Lori finished school she worked in an office setting in a few local companies, at Jonas Office Products, and at Fort HealthCare. She was forced to stop working for several years while she learned to manage her Fibromyalgia symptoms. Then in 2013, wanting to get back into an office setting, she applied for a position in our Box Office where her friendly manner and efficient service made her an instant hit with our guests. She remains on our part time staff for occasional shifts, but for the last couple of years has worked as the secretary for a private school in Jefferson where she really loves working with the kids.

Wanting to maintain her connection here and share her love of The Fireside with friends, Lori started bringing small groups in 2016. Lori has a lot of friends, and she loves to plan activities for them. She also felt that everyone else needed to share her affection for Steve Watts and our live band revues! Using our season sign-up sheet she gets a feel for which other shows her friends would like to see. Based on that, she'll book for the most popular ones and start working on getting enough people to qualify for the group rates for 18 or more people. That helps make it more affordable for everyone, plus they can enjoy the camaraderie of a group event, get to spend time together, often meet new people and expand everyone's circle of friends. In Lori's book that's a win-win for everyone!

When Lori plans an adventure for her friends or family, the main ingredient is fun. She and Kevin have a tricked out Badger fan bus that can take 18 people just about anywhere, including (of course) Camp Randall Stadium for Badger football games and Lambeau Field for Packer games. A picture of their gang and the bus was even used by Travel Wisconsin last year in their tourism campaign promoting the state's motto of "fun."

In 2018, Lori branched out from planning friend outings and brought groups of grade 5 - 8 choir students from her school job to see NEWSIES and ELF THE MUSICAL. She's looking at three shows for 2019, THAT'S WHAT I CALL ROCK 'N ROLL, ANNIE, and A CHRISTMAS STORY, but is pretty sure the ladies will also want to include MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL. With The Fireside's flexible group booking plan, she can save 25 seats for just \$1.00 each while she waits for everyone to sign up, and they won't be left out when our most popular shows sell out. She's also working on her high school class reunion.

"You just have to stay organized and do something you love," Lori remarked. "Watch your deadlines and see what works for you. For me it was sharing The Fireside with my dearest friends. What could be more fun than that?" Lori - we couldn't agree more!



Engineering The Sounds of Live Theatre



Brian Hrpcek was born and raised in Racine, WI and made his first connection to The Fireside while a student at UW Parkside in Kenosha. (The Fireside contracts with Parkside for construction and installation of our props and scenery in the longest running public-private partnership with any school in the UW System.) Although he was a computer science major, Brian enjoyed extracurricular work with the theatre program learning all things technical from set building to lighting. After college, he worked as a Technical Director for two Racine High Schools - Washington Park and William Horlick. He's also done a lot of work with the Racine Theatre Guild, mostly in lighting and scenery.

Theatre (of course!) was much more fun than computer science so Brian has chosen to concentrate on that for his career. "Now I'm an engineer who makes art," Brian noted. "There's far more job satisfaction for me, plus it keeps my technical skills sharp since half of the audio runs through a computer."

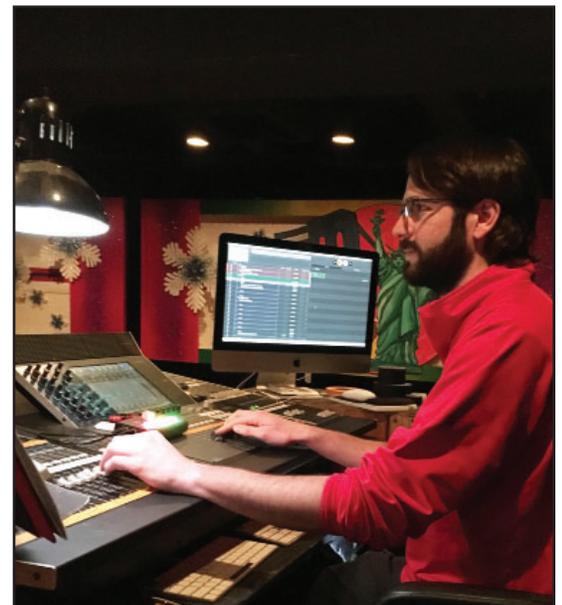
Brian joined our technical staff as Sound Engineer on April 6, 2018 - just

three days before tech week for 42ND STREET. He jumped in with both feet and truly hit the ground running. At The Fireside, the sound is run from a spot at the back of section Y which has eleven rows. The sound engineer is responsible for both mixing the show (adjusting the volume balance between the music and the singers) and bringing in the music precisely on cue. The actors need to know that as they go about their performance when it's time to start singing they can just "go" and their music will be there. That means Brian has to watch with an eagle eye and know, for example, that when a singer reaches a certain point in the dialogue and moves their right arm in a particular way then that's his signal to start the music. When he started just before 42ND STREET he only had a handful of rehearsals to get that all down. Seems a bit miraculous to me!

Brian is enjoying the challenge of engineering sound "in the round." Ours is a unique space with one big difference being the short distance between the actors and the sound speakers. Already in his short time here he has upgraded our wireless microphone system and done some other housekeeping to create a clearer, more accurate sound. He's also working on a long range plan for future upgrades. Brian has already been recognized for his contribution by receiving our Associate of the Show award for the run of GREASE - both for his initiatives and his assistance with solving a technical issue we were having with some lighting equipment.

Brian was quick to praise the rest of the tech staff and our Stage Manager, MJ Bernhardt. It's especially good to enjoy the people you work with when we get to those work weeks that are a

bit longer than usual. While a normal week can be 35 - 40 hours, you add ten more when we add Friday shows for the holiday season and other busy shows, and rehearsal weeks when you're both performing the current show and rehearsing the next can be 70 - 80 hour weeks. As for tech week, Brian says "We won't go there. It's long, but we love what we do!"



A former Boy Scout, Brian has volunteered with the organization in a leadership role for twelve years. He's worked as a camp director at the Robert S. Lyle Scout Reservation and the Ed Bryant Scout Reservation. Other activities there include lifeguarding, teaching nature classes, and as a certified COPE director teaching rock climbing.

Brian's favorite show so far has been Disney's THE LITTLE MERMAID. He's a big fan of the musical GODSPELL and would love to see that here someday. We're very pleased to have him here and invite you to give a fresh listen to the nuances of great sound next time you're here. Know there's someone at the back of the theatre helping to make that magic happen just for you!

Inside the Kitchen

with Chef Mike



Happy New Year, everyone! I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and are ready for a new year of fabulous dinners for each of your trips to The Fireside this year.

Right now we're looking ahead to springtime and a great menu for the run of MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL. We'll start off with a crowd favorite - the Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad. This salad has been well received by our guests before so I know you're going to love it.

The main entree is our popular Chicken Monterey. I may have mentioned this before, but the chicken we use is all natural, cage-free, with no antibiotics. This is a very healthy and delicious chicken breast dressed up with our Spinach and Artichoke Spread which definitely enriches the flavor. Then it's topped with a Jarlsberg Swiss Cheese and presented on an Irish Mustard Sauce. On the side, you'll enjoy Yukon Gold Potato Wedges and Fresh Julienne Vegetables.

The finale for this meal, and another crowd favorite, is our Pecan Turtle Ball Sundae. We use our Homemade Vanilla Bean Frozen Custard, scooped and hand rolled in Roasted Pecans, served on Chocolate Sauce and striped with Caramel. To finish it off we add an Almond Lace Wand dipped in Chocolate! Wow - doesn't that sound yummy!!


Executive Chef

SEE WHAT'S COOKING

Menu



MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL

Featured Menu - April 11 - May 26, 2019

Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday Matinees,
Saturday Evenings*, and Sunday MIDDAYS.

Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad

Fresh Cauliflower and Broccoli Buds, Red Onion, Dried Cranberries, Grated Cheddar Cheese, Jones Cherrywood Smoked Bacon Chips, and Pine Nuts folded into Creamy Mayo Vinaigrette and presented on Flowering Kale.

Freshly Baked Breads from our Artisan Bakery

Chicken Monterey

Skinless Breast of Chicken, dipped in egg, lightly breaded with Panko Crumbs, sauteed to a golden brown, topped with a blend of Spinach, Artichoke, Parmesan, Monterey Jack, and Cream Cheese, finished with Jarlsberg Swiss Cheese and presented on an Irish Mustard Sauce. Served with Yukon Gold Potato Wedges and Fresh Julienne Vegetables.

Pecan Turtle Ball Sundae

Homemade Vanilla Bean Custard rolled in Roasted Ground Pecans served on Chocolate Sauce and striped with Caramel. Garnished with an Almond Lace Wand dipped in Chocolate.

Coffee, Tea and Milk

The Thursday Evening Signature Buffet begins with our Signature Salad topped with Papaya Chutney Dressing and served with Freshly Baked Breads. Enjoy two special entree selections in addition to Beef Tenderloin and Roast Turkey from the Carving Station, Barbecued Pork Back Ribs, Chicken Tenderloin Tempura with Brandied Apricot Sauce, Beer Batter Fried Cod, Shrimp and Scallops Fusilli with Tomato Butter Sauce, Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Sweet Potato Soufflé, Whipped Idaho Potatoes and Roasted Farm Fresh Vegetables. Pecan Turtle Ball Sundae for dessert plus coffee, tea and milk are included.

The Sunday Matinee Brunch begins with an assortment of Quick Breads and Pastries from our Bakery to enjoy with a homemade Fresh Fruit Smoothie. We'll be carving Jones Corned Beef Brisket and Roast Turkey Breast along with the buffet of Eggs Benedict on Jones Canadian Bacon, Miniature Individual Quiche, Crisp Bacon, Maple Sausage Links, Chicken Tenderloin Tempura with Brandied Apricot Sauce, Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Bread Pudding, Breakfast Potatoes, a featured Beef Tenderloin dish, and Roasted Farm Fresh Vegetables. Pecan Turtle Ball Sundae for dessert plus coffee, tea and milk are included.

*Saturday Evening's menu also includes an Appetizer course.

2019 Season

Jean's Corner of the World



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Here's hoping you had a wonderful Christmas and that your New Year is already full of joy. We will miss the holiday spirit, the Christmas decorations and Buddy, The Elf, but the energy of these Country Music tribute artists is getting us all pumped up for an exciting season!

As you know by now, Gay Spangler has retired from full time work. We have convinced her to stay with us as an on-call staffer for when she starts to miss us. We'll probably miss her more, but we can't let her stay away forever. Here's a recap of our current group sales team so you know who's who.

For personal help with any of your bookings, call me at 800-477-9505 or email groupsales@firesidetheatre.com.

Tanya is still working two mornings a week. Franki, you met at the last Group Leader Party, works Monday thru Friday taking incoming calls plus handles payments so if you have not worked with her yet you certainly will. She is super nice, funny and a great asset to our group team. Erica, who you also met at the Group Leader party, is learning group sales so along with Julie Ankomeus will be here to help you on the weekends.

New to our team is Joni Rader who will be calling many of you that we have not heard from recently to introduce herself, check in, make sure you have our 2019 exciting season and hopefully tempting you to book. She has experience in calling, loves The Fireside and is looking forward to talking to all of you and getting to know you. She will update your information, especially emails, send you any material you may want then forward your call to Franki, Tanya or me to answer questions or book for you. Welcome Joni.

The show brochures detailing the meals and the 2019 Marketing Catalog are available online at www.firesidetheatre.com or by email or mail. Let us know how we can help!

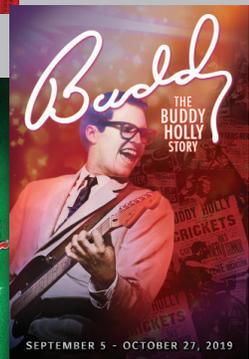
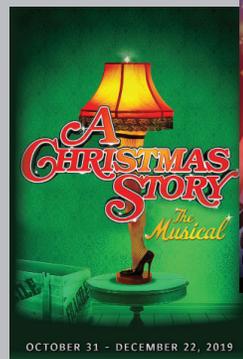
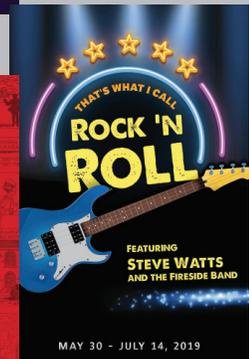
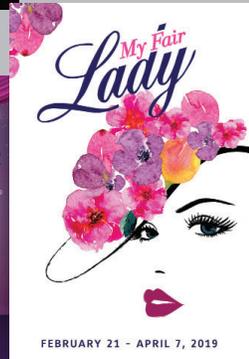
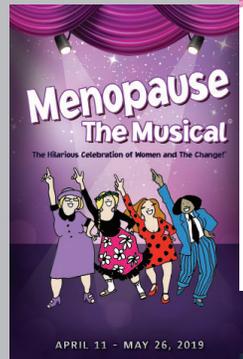
Jean Spangler
Box Office and Sales Manager



A NOTE FROM FRANKI - By now most of you have had a chance to hear my voice when you call group sales. With Gay retiring at the end of December, she has been training me to take over her role. I appreciate you all being so patient during this transition as I learn all the ins and outs of group sales. I have informed Gay that she is #1 on my speed dial. I know with time I will get to know each and every one of you as well as Gay has. I look forward to getting to know you all and making your visit to The Fireside a most enjoyable experience!



Promotional materials can be ordered through Group Sales or online at our web site. We look forward to helping you promote your trips to The Fireside.





Springtime Is All About The Flowers!

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS! YOUR VISIT TO THE FIRESIDE FOR MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL THIS APRIL AND MAY IS A PERFECT TIME TO FILL YOUR LIFE WITH FLOWERS. CYPRESS HOME'S NEW "NATURES VITALITY" LINE IS BURSTING WITH COLOR AND ADDS A JOYFUL LOOK TO ANY HOME. THESE ARE EXCEPTIONAL HOME DECOR PRODUCTS KNOWN FOR THEIR QUALITY, BEAUTY, AND FUNCTIONALITY. THEY'RE JUST PART OF THE ABUNDANCE OF WONDERFUL FLORAL ITEMS YOU'LL FIND IN OUR SHOPS.



Natures Vitality

It's unlikely you'll find a more complete and diverse selection of garden flags anywhere else than The Fireside, including many beautiful floral designs. We're also pleased to introduce a new line of hooked indoor/outdoor pillows and rugs that we know you're going to love!





Menopause The Musical®

SAVE NOW! CALL 800-477-9505
WWW.FIRESIDETHEATRE.COM
groupsales@firesidetheatre.com

Groups are our specialty - visit early to get the best discount!

What is a group?

At The Fireside, there are many benefits for any group of 18 or more people attending a performance. You can hold seating with a small deposit while you finalize your exact count, due a few weeks before your visit. You'll also qualify for a discounted ticket price and your meal gratuity is included.

For weekday matinees, 18 paid tickets earns a complimentary package, for all other shows it's every 21st ticket. There is plenty of safe, free parking on-site for coaches. The Fireside is accessible to guests with disabilities; just let us know what special needs you have when making reservations.

- You can save over 20% with a group booking over individual ticket prices.
- The three-course dinner and show for groups of 18 or more in 2019 is \$73.80 (\$69.95 tax exempt) per person.
- **PREMIER GROUP RATE** offers an additional discount of \$3.00 per person when your group attends a performance of **MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL** from April 11 - May 5, 2019.
- **2019 Premier Group Rate is \$70.63 (\$66.95 tax exempt) per person.**
- The four-course Saturday Night Group rate in 2019 is \$78.02 (\$73.95 tax exempt) per person. For rates on optional entree selections call Group Sales.
- **2019 Premier Saturday Night Group Rate is \$74.85 (\$70.95 tax exempt) per person.**
- 2019 Youth Group Rates for ages 14 and under with the youth meal are offered at \$52.70 (\$49.95 tax exempt) per youth.
- 2019 School Group Rates are available for Mid-Week matinees as low as \$64.95 tax exempt rate per student. Chaperones qualify for the Group Rate.