

Views Around The Lake by Cindy Klopsteck

Obituaries

My most vivid memory - he loved to dance. And I was fortunate for some 40 years that he shared his expertise with me every time we occasionally met with dance music filtering through the air around us.

As a few of us stood together talking, we remembered small, different things. Most of us had not seen each other in several years. It was nice to see some faces from the past, but it certainly was not the kind of class reunion we wanted. We were all attending a rosary/vigil for a friend who, as far as we could all remember, was the first person who had attended the majority of our school years with us and died from our high school graduation class. Looking around at each other, we were feeling so much older than when we all were last together rushing through a school hallway in tardy route to class and lockers, laughing and cutting up in a school parking lot or yelling in support of our team at a Friday night football game. I've heard from older friends that this is one that hits you hard - not only was he a good guy, a good husband, father and grandfather, but he was our age - way too young to be leaving a family who already missed his big smile and kind ways.

"He was always a real gentleman," remembered my long-time friend standing solemnly next to me."

"He liked to dance. We danced through high school and he never failed to ask me for a dance if we ran into each other at a wedding or something," I offered.

My friend says her mother talked with him just this past week in town and he had told her that he needed to get in touch with her daughter to make plans for a class reunion. We had successfully held a ten year and then a twenty year, but for some reason never got around to enjoying a thirty year. Now it has been 37 years since graduation and we're all feeling guilty for not reuniting.

In addition to the few old friends gathered together, I had recently gotten in contact with another long-lost high school pal who re-entered my life after years of travelling and living in different locations. We've shared a number of recent conversations, pleasantly discovered we have a number of common interests and are planning to meet often. Individual or joint reunions can be satisfying, rewarding and oddly peaceful after years of separation.

This past week, as I looked at the bright, fresh faces of the recent Rice graduates pictured in the Headlight, I reflected on the anticipation, hopes and plans of recent high school graduates. If they happen to read this, they will feel a world apart from

someone in their mid-fifties considering a 38 year class reunion and sadly accepting the departure of a fellow classmate. I know, because I was there, like them, in 1969 and at that time would have never seen any future comparison at all. No recent graduate can comprehend the speed at which the years will fly by.

My father died in his mid-fifties and, though I knew at the time it was too young an age for me to lose him, I

was then in my early 20's and, though I expected my parents to live well into their 70's, I remember thinking that he was at least an "older" age. Funny thing, but it doesn't seem an older age now. Someone dies of a heart attack at 55 and you lived through the same events of the 60's and 70's and loved the same music and knew the same people, and you look around at your friends and just know this is way too young.

So we'll plan our reunion for early 2007 and dedicate it to the memory of Franklin Novicke. And when we speak of him we'll all remember various fun and crazy events we shared in our lives - those kind of high school moments that you fondly recall with a smile and a laugh. And if he could share a thought with us now, there's no doubt in my mind what it would be: Have that reunion. Live life to the fullest. Keep dancing.



Ann Williams Olson

On May 29, Ann Williams Olson, 51, ended her courageous 20-month battle with brain cancer in Houston to walk in the Heavenly light with her Lord and Savior surrounded by her family as she departed to enter God's Kingdom.

Ann was born April 17, 1955 in Eagle Lake to John and Charlyne Frnka Williams of Garwood.

A 1973 graduate of Rice High School in Altair she was the first female president of the Student Council. In 1977 she received her Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Texas, Austin and was a member of the Pi Beta Chi business sorority.

Ann is a partner in the general contracting firm of SpawMaxwell where her responsibility is over the Human Resources.

She is a Life Member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and has just qualified as a Lifetime Committeeman on the Souvenir Program Committee where she served for 25 years. She was also a member of the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo and had served on the Calf Scramble Committee.

She is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Houston, and Daughters of the American Revolution. A former President of the School Board at St. Jerome School, and President of Chambers County MUD.

Ann actively supported her son's scouting career that resulted in his earning his Eagle Scout in 2005. Her love of the outdoors included traveling throughout Texas as well as the mountain and coastal states to hunt and fish.

Ann is a Life Member and Habitat Partner Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Along with her husband she co-founded and co-chaired (1988-1992) the Houston RMEF Chapter.

Besides her parents Ann is survived by her husband of 22-1/2 years Bill L. Olson; and son, Bill L. "Billy" Olson, Jr., both of Houston; step daughter, Leigh Thurman and husband, Rob, of Cleveland Ohio; brothers, George Williams and wife, Barbara, of Garwood and Richard Williams and wife, Laura, of The Woodlands; along with numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Pallbearers were Tom Forney, Dave Freeman, Buck Payne, John Schneider, Dr. Russell Thomas, and Leroy Taylor.

Honorary pallbearers were Ann's partners and co-workers SpawMaxwell Company.

The family received friends the afternoon of Wednesday May 31, and concluded with an evening rosary at 7:30 p.m. at Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus.

A celebration of life and mass was held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada at 11 a.m. on Thursday June 1. Burial followed at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Nada.

The family extends sincere appreciation to Dr. Victor Levin and the brain cancer team at M.D. Anderson, neurosurgeon Dr. Mahmood Moradi and neuro-ICU team Memorial City Hospital, and American Hospice for their exceptional care.

Those desiring to make a donation to honor Ann may do so to M.D. Anderson Brain and Spine Research, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, American Hospice or charity of your choice.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss

Sheridan News

By Velma Kutzer

The Sheridan Memorial Library will hold their summer reading program for pre-school thru sixth grade students.

A fun packed hour of reading, crafts, refreshments and more. The program started on June 6 from 10 to 11 a.m. Even if you miss the first one there are still three more days to have lots of fun (June 13, 20, 27).

Don't miss out on all the fun!

Graduation for 14 eighth graders from Sheridan was held Thursday

June 1. The student entered the gym to the music "Pomp and Circumstance" played on the piano by Ida Haines.

Guest speaker was Mack Botard, a graduate of Sheridan High School.

Principal Larry Varley presented diplomas to the following: Thomas Benton, Jessica Cason, Jessica Hill, Alan Huggins, Jr., Jesse Johnson, Haley Jones, Jennifer McDonald, Rachael Moore Cody Munoz, Jacob Munoz, Garrett Neubauer, Adrian Rangel, Britnee Raybon and Kelcey

Zickuhr.

Kindergarten graduation was held May 31. Seventeen students from Mrs. Foe's Class received their long awaited diplomas.

Candidates for graduation were Hunter Anselmo, Hank Barker, Clayton Botard, Jacob Chavez, Layne Dierschke, William Dugger, Aaron Dunn, Ronnie Ellis, Kristen Garza, Barrett Hinze, Brooklyn Jackson, Michael Kalisek, Michaela Kuchar, Kaitlynn Miller, Blake Robinson, Tia Sexton and Kaitlyn Willbern.

USDA Announces \$20 Million In Grants

Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development, Thomas C. Dorr, announced the availability of \$20 million in grants to rural communities to strengthen distance learning and telemedicine programs in rural America.

"The specialized health care and enhanced educational opportunities brought by modern technologies saves lives and promotes opportunities essential to the advancement of rural areas," said Dorr.

"USDA Rural Development's funding for distance learning and telemedicine will help to bring technology into rural America to build strong and vibrant communities."

"Distance learning and telemedicine systems are powerful tools for rural Texas," said Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development Texas State Director.

"Through technology, students and families can participate in classes not previously available to them, and people who live in rural areas can ac-

cess expanded health care options."

In Fiscal Year 2005, Texas was awarded nearly \$2.5 million to be distributed through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program.

The education projects helped schools provide students with advanced educational tools.

Distance learning projects provide funding for computers and internet connections in schools and libraries.

The vast array of study options available to rural students through distance learning technologies literally brings the world to their doorstep.

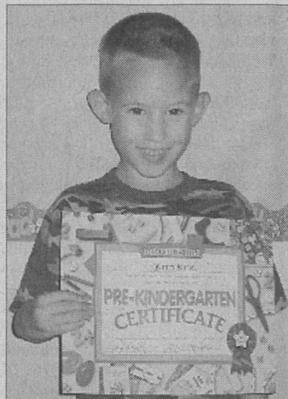
Telemedicine projects are providing new and improved healthcare services beginning with patient diagnosis, through surgical procedures, and post-operative treatment.

Applications for the \$20 million in grants must be received by June 12 and will compete nationally for funding.

The application guide and materials can be obtained online at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm> or by contacting the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program at (202) 720-0413.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life.

For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the State Office at (254) 742-9700 or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.



Five-year-old James Kutzer has faced a major obstacle in his life, but he hasn't let that get him down. Having had open-heart surgery and another surgery looming ahead of him, he recently completed Pre-K with several honors. He was the only student in his class with perfect attendance and received the certificate for the student with the most S.M.A.R.T awards. James is looking for to be in Kindergarten at Sheridan and is the son of Justin and Christy Kutzer of Sheridan.

Magician Slated For Summer Read Program June 14

Check out this line-up! We have a team of all-stars this year who want to share their favorite books with your young readers. Along the way everyone will be learning a few things

about number sets, graphs, fractions, and ratios.

But don't let the subject matter fool you. This is the one time that 5 X 45 = 1. Five crazy characters over forty-five minutes equals one rip-roaring good time!

If your readers love sports or if you want to reward with a sports-based theme, then you have got to take advantage of "Learning: The Sport of Champions".

Characters include: The tortoise (from The Tortoise and the Hare), David Hopperfield (the puppet version), and of course Livingston Rat who always steals the show. Come meet all these players and their new teammates as they prepare for an all-star season!

Come see Julian Franklin, the magician, on June 14 at 1:30 p.m. for the Summer Reading Program at Wintermann Library. Registration is open for children age 4 - 6th grade. The opening party is June 7 at 10:30 a.m. and programs continue until July 12th.

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Caution When Purchasing Foreign Drugs

Many Americans struggling with the rising cost of prescriptions drugs are purchasing their medicines from pharmacies in Canada, Mexico and elsewhere around the world. It is estimated that one million Americans obtain prescription medications outside the United States. Although this practice may offer lower prices in some instances, it is not without hazards. Recently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a warning regarding buying prescription medications abroad due to the risk of receiving the wrong medication.

In the U.S., 7 out of 10 prescriptions are written using the brand name as opposed to generic. An FDA investigation found that many foreign medications, although marketed under the same or similar-sounding brand names as those in the United States, contain different active ingredients. A search produced 18 products with the same or similar brand names in the US and other countries that did not contain the same ingredients. For example, in the US the drug Flomax® contains tamsulosin and is used to treat enlarged prostates. In Italy, Flomax® contains morniflumate, an anti-inflammatory. Errors can be minimized by following physician orders and filling prescriptions at licensed US pharmacies. More information on filling prescriptions abroad can be found at the FDA website - www.fda.gov.

JUNE SPECIALS

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 GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community, Co. Rd. 141; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor; 234-2581.
 MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; Rev. H.O. Williams, Pastor; 234-5813.
 LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Eagle Lake; Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.
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 ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840.
 CHRISTIAN CITY FELLOWSHIP: 1140 Meyer, Sealy; Rusty Griffin, Pastor.
 THE DAY OF PENTECOST APOSTOLISTIC REVIVAL RISING STAR: FM 102 South, Matthews; 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion), Rev. R.L. Carter Sr. 979-478-2169.
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 FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-5795.
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 GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Thomas Kuykendall; 705 Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.
 WRIGHT GROVE BAPTIST: Rev. T.J. Cunningham Jr.; Altair.
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 CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake; 234-3437.
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 CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan.

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.
 CHRIST OUR REDEEMER-Charismatic: Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor; 979-478-7534 or 478-6512.
 HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.
 CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary: 308 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; 8 a.m. (Español), 10 a.m. (English), Rev. Eddie Winkler, P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.
 ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Rev. Joseph Koebel; 758-3218.
 GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richard, Pastor; 234-3381.
 LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. worship.
 LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: J. L. Craft, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.
 ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sells Jr. Lay-Pastor.
 UNITED METHODIST: 200 W. Prairie; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m.
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: 106 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; 234-3368.
 VINE OF THE LORD: 1300 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Paul Aguiar, Pastor; 234-7543.
 CrossRoad ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 510 Wallace, East Bernard; Pastor George Kutach; 979-335-7706.
 THE CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 W. St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.
 CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus; Lynn Wilson, Minister.
 THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Interdenomination Christian Fellowship; 1225 Eagle Lake Road, Sealy, Frank Lucas, Pastor; 979-885-1225.
 SOUTH POINT BAPTIST CHURCH: 6407 Hwy 71-S, Garwood; 979-758-3039; Pastor Dave Curry.
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 BIBLE TRUTH APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Corner of S. Wharton & E. First St., El Campo; Pastor Larry T. Smith, 979-543-2331.

Bible Verse of The Week

"Trust in the Lord and do good so you will dwell in the land and enjoy security."
 — Psalms 37:3
 Submitted by Neddy Phillips

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