

Views Around The Lake

by Cindy Klopsteck

Pink has become personal. Of course, there's a baby's cute pink cheeks, lovely soft petals on a fragrant pink rose and even pink poodle skirts from days gone by. And you may think of this first full month of autumn in terms of Halloween orange and the bright colors of fall foliage, but don't be mistaken - pink is the ubiquitous color of October, celebrating National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

We see pink ribbons and bracelets, pink advertising, pink T-shirts and caps everywhere. We see local walks and relays and national marathons.

When a former school friend of mine returned to this area, we reacquainted our friendship after many years, sharing our past, present and future in frequent talks.

Within a few months she shared even more with me - she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

The color pink became very personal to me.

On Saturday, October 21, I walked in honor of my friend, who has completed all her chemotherapy, surgery and radiation, hoping and praying for a clean bill of health in December.

I participated in the 4th Annual Walk for the Cure, the 5K walk sponsored by Rice Medical Center and the City of Eagle Lake.

Gathering at the community center before 8 a.m., I was among a number of determined walkers, some with umbrellas and rain gear in hand, ready to face the misty morning drizzle.

But the women and men who braved the elements felt it to be of little discomfort in comparison to the trials endured by those we were representing.

Current statistics show that one in three women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. Walking among some ladies Saturday morning, it was frightening to think in those terms - realizing that one-third of our group could be targeted.

Breast cancer is not a gender-specific disease either. It was therefore rewarding to have not only former cancer patients walking, but also men in quiet but significant representation.

The only disappointment of the morning was the lower than expected turnout for such a worthy cause.

Susan Hernandez, event coordinator, reinforced the fact that the walk was for cancer awareness in general, not just breast cancer. "Cancer touches everyone," she stated. "Everyone in Eagle Lake has been affected by some family member, friend or acquaintance who has cancer."

The startling realization of this came as the walkers completed forms to list the names of persons we were walking "in honor of" or "in memory of". In both cases, I could have written several names.

Those we remembered and named will be recognized on a specially decorated pink-ribboned Christmas tree in the Rice Medical Center lobby this holiday season.

All proceeds from the walk are donated to the Rice Medical Center Breast Cancer Awareness Fund.

Last year, funds were able to cover 10% of the monies needed for a new mammography machine.

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GREATER RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 234-2423 or 758-3745.

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.

BEREA CLADIC: 623 Maple Avenue, Eagle Lake; 234-2130.

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.

GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylar, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears, Pastor; 979-478-2169.

EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST: 527 N. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Chris Thacker, Pastor; 234-2571.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-5795.

IGLESIA BAUTISTIA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.

GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Thomas Kuykendall; 705 Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.

WRIGHT GROVE BAPTIST: Rev. T.J. Cunningham Jr.; Altair.

PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 Seaholm, Eagle Lake; Rev. Coby Shorter Jr.; 234-3735.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake; 234-3437.

ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.

SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST: FM 2437; Rev. Jim Dunn, Pastor; 234-3136.

WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor; 234-3800.

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) 6 p.m. Saturday (English), Rev. Robert E. Guerra, 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.

LISIE UNITED METHODIST: J. L. Craft, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.

ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellar 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 Aguilar, 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: Interdenominational 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.

ASSEMBLEA DE DIOS HOSANNA: 403 East Main, Eagle Lake; 979-732-1966; Pastor Romero Rodriguez Jr.

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

"Do not believe every spirit,
but test the spirits to see whether
they are of God for many false
prophets have gone out into the
world."

- I John 4:1

Submitted by Neddy Phillips

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Obituary

Oliver Pettus, Sr.

Oliver passed away on Wednesday, October 18.

He was born May 13, 1934 in Eagle Lake the son of Elvold Leroy and Idessa Dancy Pettus.

Oliver was a member of White Cloud Baptist Church and was employed by Farmer Supply Co. as a truck driver.

His mother preceded him in death.

Siblings include, Frank Pettus and Betty Jean (Pettus) McClain.

He leaves to cherish his memory, five children, Oliver Thomas (Renee), Malcolm Thomas (Marsha), Edward Thomas (Eva), and Raymond Thomas, all of Eagle Lake, and Odessa Thomas of Columbus; a very special cousin, Nadine Robinson of Texas City; grandchildren, Terrance Jackson (Amber), Terrell Jackson, Edward Thomas, Jr., Jerrell Thomas, Jonathan Thomas, Edricka Thomas, Sonya Fields, Macesly, Machelea and Malcolm Thomas, Jr., Oshanae Black, Odrick Thomas, Shun Thomas, LaQuendra and Quentin Thomas, Desmond Thomas, Dashae and Daquisha Collins, Wendy Brown (Jerry); great grandchildren, Destinee and Terrance Jackson, Jacumuna Boone, Jerrien and Javien Brown, Tarris, Taj and Trichelle Fields; other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, October 21 at 11 a.m. from White Cloud Baptist Church with Pastor Obie Rhodes, officiating. Interment followed in Rising Star Cemetery in Eagle Lake. Final arrangements were entrusted to Ben Davis Funeral Home in Columbus.

Pallbearers were Oscar Brooks, Dewayne Davis, Cordis Upson, Jr., Victor Davis, Sr., Norman Henderson, Jr., Joe Dancy, Dennis Davis and Kevin Henderson, Sr.

Honorary pallbearers were Robert Davis, Willie Dancy, Malcolm Thomas, Sr., Edward Thomas, Sr., Sam Dancy, Quentin Thomas, David Henderson, Desmond Thomas, Edward Thomas, Jr., Jonathan Thomas, Jerrell Thomas, Terrance Jackson, Terrell Jackson, Odrick Thomas, Shun Thomas, Malcolm Thomas, Jr. and Raymond Thomas.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

John Leonard Staten, Jr.

John Leonard Staten, Jr. went to be with the Lord on Monday morning, October 16.

He was born December 10, 1945 in Sugar Land, the son of John L. Staten, Sr. and Beatrice Robinson.

John worked as Executive Chef for Jo Jo's Restaurant.

His parents; and a sister, Irene Russell, preceded him in death.

John leaves to cherish his memory a loving sister, Hattie B. Wilson; brothers, Donald L. Hall and Jackie Robinson; children, Gregory Staten of Los Angeles, California, LaFonda Staten and Keith Ross of Houston, Toni Middleton of Pearland, John Wright and Tonya Wright of El Campo; former wives, Joice Strawder and Nan McGrew; a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were held Friday, October 20 at 1 p.m. from St. Paul United Methodist Church in Columbus with Rev. Martin Williams, officiating. Interment followed in Willing Workers Cemetery in Columbus. Final arrangements were entrusted to Ben Davis Funeral Home in Columbus.

Pallbearers were Henry Ford, Kirk Glen, Alex Marshall, Ronald Russell, David Tillman and Don Walker.

Honorary pallbearers were Keith Ross, Gregory Staten and John Wright.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Nesbitt Library Slates
Cemetery Tour

For the fourth consecutive year, people from Columbus' history will figuratively rise from the dead and greet people at their gravesites at the Nesbitt Memorial Library's Live Oaks and Dead Folks cemetery tour.

This year's tours will be on Friday, Nov. 3, and Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Odd Fellows Rest Cemetery in Columbus. Tours begin at 7 p.m. and leave every 10 minutes thereafter.

The cast will feature some of the best performers from previous years, including Cathy Blymyer, Toni Burns, Libby Flint, Bob Gillespie, Paulina Kearney, Bill Mosley, Bob Pickens, Laura Ann Rau, Ernest Mae Seaholm, and Tracey Wegenhoft. There will also be newcomers like Gary Chandler and Roxanne Hartley.

Also joining the cast for this tour is the well-known Western outlaw historian Chuck Parsons. Parsons published an article about one of the characters on the tour, James W. Guynn, and agreed to portray him.

Other characters on the tour include Carrie Grobe, whose husband defended a man accused of the largest murder in Colorado County history, Betty Hurr, a school teacher whose husband and son met similar tragic deaths, Clara Kollmann, whose daughter's murder precipitated a double lynching, and Clara Madison, a music teacher who kept a secret about her family her entire life.

Some of the stories are connected to others. One of the characters killed two men. He and the two men he killed, and his son, are all on the tour. Other characters will tell of scandals, suicides, and World War II adventures.

Bill Stein, who wrote the script and put the tour together, commented "Columbus has had its share of interesting characters. We believe that everybody should have the chance to meet them, even if they are dead. We want everybody who comes to get at least one good laugh, and to learn at least one interesting thing about the history of the town."

The Odd Fellows Rest Cemetery is located on the north side of Montezuma Street in Columbus, near its intersection with Speaksville Road. The tour should take about an hour and a half.

Tickets for the tour are available at the Nesbitt Memorial Library, 529 Washington Street, Columbus, and cost \$10 each. Persons who attend should expect to walk about the length of four city blocks. Advance tickets are recommended, but tickets will also likely be available at the cemetery. All proceeds go to benefit the library.

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