

Views Around The Lake

by Cindy Klopsteck

“Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.”

– Winston Churchill
I personally plan to fail a lot in 2008. Now that's setting a high

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Would like to thank God first of all for the entry, “Heaven's Express Train Ride” in the Chamber's Christmas Parade (placing Best Commercial). Also thank you to the following people who made it all possible: my husband and my dad, Joe Cardenas, Sr., who worked long hours to make it happen; Tony Cardenas who welded what we needed.
May God bless each and every one for their support.

goal, I realize, but this will challenge me. And, Mr. Churchill, when I fail it will be with enthusiasm.

I plan to take chances, risk - dare. This will surely cause me failure at times. But there will, hopefully, also be moments of success.

I decided to pull out my list of 2007 goals made with much deep thought and extensive internal inventory on January 01, 2007.

This was the first year I had not used the concrete, ever-formidable-sounding word “resolution.”

I had decided instead to make goals, what Webster describes as “the end toward which effort is directed.” Out of six definitions for “goal”, only this one does not directly pertain to a game or sports.

The key word in that definition is probably “effort.” You can't succeed in your goals, in your life

- in anything - without generating some effort.

Even with a definite tendency toward sports, I think I'm still using the right word - I want to “meet” my “goals” in 2008, not “make” “resolutions.”

Of the ten goals for 2007 that I had listed, here's the sad breakdown, which reveals my questionable efforts:

Achieved: One.
Partially Achieved: Five. (Anywhere from a quarter to a half accomplished - stuff like painting several rooms in my house--well, I did paint half of them, just never finished, so that's a half achievement).

Not Achieved: Four. (In most cases here, did not even touch or come close to consideration of attainment).

So, see, I'm already on the road

to failure before '08 even begins. Can one be a success at failure?

I hope not, but if risking at life means failure upon failure, I endorse taking that risk...with enthusiasm.

So some of my new goals for 2008 will be old ones - never met-revised and hopefully revisited.

I'll add some new ones and next year I'll check my status again.

It's a never-ending circle of chances taken and changes seen...but that what new years and growth are all about.

“Take chances, make mistakes. That's how you grow. Pain nourishes your courage. You have to fail in order to practice being brave.”

–Mary Tyler Moore

Stephens Family Holds Christmas Sing-A-Long

The Stephens family continued their Sing-A-Long tradition that began in the 1960's on Friday, December 7.

About 90 guests enjoyed singing Christmas carols, old and new, and many old popular favorites.

While the music was going on, many guests were listening to the Rice Raider football play-off game on the radio.

There was entertainment for all - food, open bar, and a lot of conversation renewing old friendships as well as the singing.

Musicians were Floyd Spenrath, cornet; Jim Blackburn of Stephenville, clarinet; Major Benge, guitar; Draper Stephens, drums; Cynthia Sunderman, Sandra Benge, Sharon Webb, and Patty Ann LaTouf, flute.

Everyone left anticipating the 2008 Sing-A-Long.

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How To Make New Year's Resolutions Stick

Every year millions of Americans compile their lists of New Year's resolutions and the same things always make the grade -- everybody wants to break bad habits, get healthier and save more money.

However, a few days or weeks after we set these goals many of us slip back to our old ways and that list falls by the wayside.

When it comes to saving money, a few simple steps can make it easier to meet your financial goals and stick to your resolutions all year long. By changing some small spending habits you can put yourself on the road to saving more money.

“Saving money doesn't have to be hard. The less you spend on things you don't need, the more you get to spend on things you really want. It's all about setting priorities, choosing your expenses, and saving that money you don't spend,” says Michael McAuliffe, president of Family Credit Management Service (FCMS), a non-profit consumer credit counseling agency.

“Too often goals of homeownership, debt-free living, or

Obituaries

Manuel Samora, Jr.
Manuel Samora, Jr., 88, of Wharton passed away Monday, December 17, at Gulf Coast Medical Center.

He was born in Corsicana, Texas on August 27, 1919 the son of the late Manuel Samora, Sr. and Rafaela Samora.

Mr. Samora was a resident of Eagle Lake since 1952. He married Mary Rivera on June 2, 1945 and she preceded him in death on March 12, 2004.

He was a ranch hand and an outdoorsman who enjoyed working with cattle.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, December 20, at the Chapel of the Wharton Funeral Home with John Singleton officiating. Cremation followed the service.

Survivors include daughters, Odelia Galvan and Betty Soto both of Eagle Lake; sons, Donald Samora of Eagle Lake and David Samora and wife, Janie, of Garland; sister, Angela DeLeon of Porter, Texas, brothers, Peter Samora of Florida, Jimmy Samora of San Antonio, John Samora, and Paul Samora both of Victoria. Numerous grandchildren also survive.

If desiring, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 204 Second Street, Wharton Texas 77488.

Funeral services are under the direction of the Wharton Funeral Home.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Annie Lou McTear
In the midst of the early morning hours on Tuesday, December 18, at 10:50 a.m., the angels of obedience swayed through the home of 1427 Hunters Park Drive and entered her room. In the twilight of a second, He slipped an invitation under her pillow, the golden encryption immediately illuminated the holiness revealing its contents: “Annie Lou McTear; the magistrate of Grace and Mercy has requested your presence in the New Jerusalem you will enter into the realms of unimaginable joy and perpetual care.”

Irene and Ira Christal were blessed on Christmas Day 1920 with a beautiful baby girl. They named her Annie Lou Christal. She was one of eight children. Born in Eagle Lake, Annie laid her foundation at Mount Olive Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. B.F. Langham. She loved her church and the Lord until her demise.

She resided in Eagle Lake for the majority of her life, graduating from E.H. Henry High School.

During the later 30s (May 28, 1939), Annie Lou united in holy matrimony with Charlie McTear. To this union two sons were born.

She was a devoted employee for many years for the Stuart and Wintermann families.

“Pig” as she was affectionately known by many, was devoted mother, grandmother, sister and aunt and was loved by all.

She was very friendly and outspoken and her spirit and memories will forever remain in the heart of all whose lives she touched.

Her heavenly entrance will be greeted by her parents; her husband; and her son, Charlie “Tute”, and her seven siblings.

The family of Annie Lou celebrates the harvest of her labor and enjoyed the time God gave her.

She leaves to forever cherish her memories her son, Herman McTear (Carol); a devoted granddaughter, Yolanda Turner, Deanna McTear and Carlin McTear; great-grandchildren, Dane McTear, Charles Turner, Kiara McTear, Avery McTear, Quintin Pop, Kristin Hemphill, Kolbe McTear, Dominick McTear; and one great-great grandson, Dane McTear, Jr.; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends to mourn her passing and celebrate her life.

Celebration services were held Saturday, December 22 at 11 a.m. at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Eagle Lake with Rev. Thomas Kuykendall officiating.

The Earthly remains await the Glorious Resurrection while being entombed in the Eagle Lake Cemetery North. Arrangements entrusted to Ben Davis Funeral Home in Columbus.

Pallbearers were Moses Woodard, Ray Brown, Rev. Melvin R. Carter, Alex Woolridge, Byron N. Rowe and Lonnie R. Flowers.

Honorary pallbearers were Gregory Hemphill, Herman McTear, Charles (C.J.) Turner, Quintin Pope, Carlin A. McTear, Avery M. McTear, Dane S. McTear, Kolbe McTear, and Albert Christal, Jr.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



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Restless Leg Syndrome Treatment
Restless leg syndrome (RLS) is an uncomfortable sensation in the legs that occurs while a person is sitting or lying down. Individuals affected by this condition feel the need to get up and move around in order to alleviate the sensation. This condition may interfere with sleep. Signs and symptoms include leg twitching at night, including involuntary flexing and extension of the legs while sleeping. Twitching or kicking movements may occur hundreds of times throughout the night, and in more severe cases may also occur during waking hours. Symptoms tend to be experienced more commonly at night, and insomnia can result. Although the cause of RSL is unknown, it may be caused by an imbalance of dopamine in the brain.
Medications used to treat Parkinson's disease, such as *pramipexole* (Mirapex) and *ropinirole* (Requip), have an effect on the level of dopamine in the brain, and can lead to a decrease in leg movement. Opioid type drugs such as *Percocet* (acetaminophen and oxycodone) and *Vicodin* (hydrocodone and acetaminophen) may alleviate symptoms, however carry an addictive potential at higher doses. Benzodiazepines are a type of medication that help to improve nighttime sleeping, however do not affect the leg movements.

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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.
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. Kevin Collison, Pastor; 234-2571.
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-5795.
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GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Dave Curry; 709 N. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.
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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 F. Guerra, P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Fr. Joe Vrana; 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 Seller 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: 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.
ASEMBLA 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.-non-denominational.

Bible Verse of The Week

“God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.”

–Psalms 67:1-2
Submitted by Donna Samora

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