

The Grapevine



I am the vine, ye are the branches . . . (John 15:1)

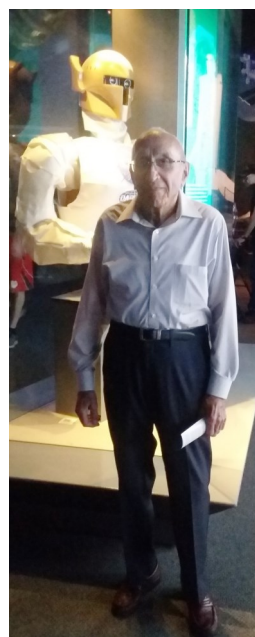


Houston, There Is No Problem!



⇐ Group photo as we begin our NASA experience.

Orton Lamb, former WWII pilot knew ⇒ the first seven astronauts. He watched the first space flight on television with the astronauts' wives. He remembers when they begun building NASA and this was his first visit! Here he poses with a space suit.



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From inside the shuttle and Challenger, we explored space. After several hours, and we didn't see everything, Tookie's was the place to go for great food and to discuss our adventures. Our residents had no problem having a good time!

Witnessing The Power Of A Moment

By Melba J. Hamilton



Petra President & Bill Vinson

I was walking down the hall and noticed outside the window a memory care resident sitting outside with a staff member. Then I stopped and noticed they shared the same rhythm. They would talk and then look at the trees and grass. They were on one accord. I kept wondering what they were talking about. I couldn't help but notice the

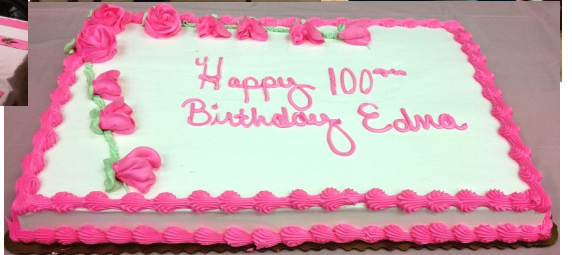
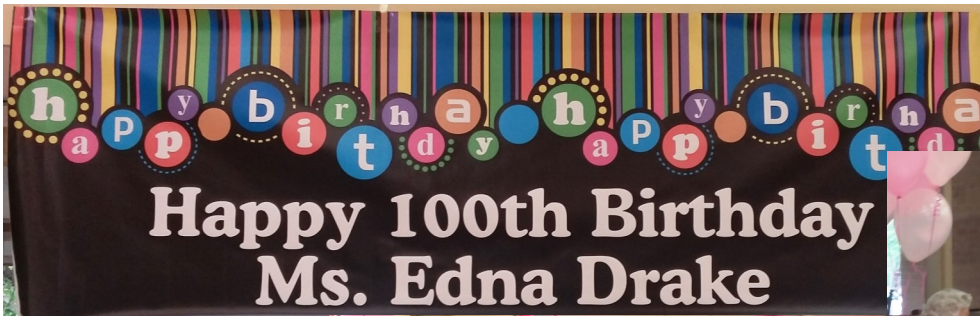
peace between them and surrounding them. Through that window, I took a couple of pictures of this moment. Petra looked up, smiled and waved. Mr. Vinson looked up and the contentment on his face spoke volumes. That's when I knew I was witnessing the power of that moment.

Sitting on that bench among the rustling trees with the warmth of the sun on his face was exactly what this resident needed. They were the only ones outside in the courtyard. I knew that taking the photos through the window would diminish the quality of them. However, capturing the value of quality, person centered care was more important.

Then in an unspoken moment of unity, they both rose and began walking back inside. She didn't take his hand to guide him. She didn't make an effort to persuade him to go back inside.



They both simply began walking back inside. Then I got it! He mirrored her movements and state of being. She sensed what he needed and became that. Alzheimer and dementia can erase the ability to say what you really need. How wonderful is it to have someone who can sense it! ✚



SJH celebrated Ms. Drake's birthday in rousing style! According to her, the key to living so long is to eat your vegetables.

Standing On The Outside Looking In

If someone who knew absolutely nothing about Christianity was standing on the outside looking in at our faith, what would they see? Having just celebrated Easter and as many acknowledge Lent with sacrifices, this is among the holiest of seasons. The outsiders probably witnessed numerous people buying new Easter outfits and some attending church for the first time since last Easter. Would they wonder if the Easter Bunny was Jesus? They would then hear lots of discussion about



what some would give up for lent. Would they think meat, chocolate or ice cream is Jesus?

Paul recounted what Jesus did the days after His resurrection: *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day*

according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. (1Cor. 15:3-9)

Paul, for many years was such an outsider. He persecuted those who believed Christ was the Messiah. How many “Pauls” did you encounter during the Easter Egg Hunt or while shopping for the new outfit? Did you offer to give “Paul”, an annual church goer, a ride to service?

The outsider is likely to see Christians that miss occasional opportunities to lift up His name. People who sometimes focus on things that may seem to have little to do with Christianity. Even with the example of the birth, life and resurrection of Christ, still struggle to joyfully embrace that circle of life for ourselves. Yet, He calls us a royal priesthood. He proudly

proclaims that we are made in His image and likeness.

Bragging on us like we are perfect!

Loving us like we get it right every day!

He spent His 40 days confirming that He is who He said He was. He didn't talk of regret for sacrificing His life but the victory in doing so. Could He not see our imperfections? Is it possible that He didn't know we'd sometimes do the wrong thing? Seeing and knowing it all He chose and chooses to love us without conditions. From the position of standing on the outside looking in, our faith won't be perfect, but that's not the story. The victory is that the outsider, out of curiosity or in search of, is looking in. ✚



Mother's Day Dinner

Sunday, May 8th @ Noon; SJH Dining Room

Beef Tenderloin/au jus
Fresh Mashed Potatoes Fresh Green Beans
Mixed Green Salad/Drg Dinner Rolls/Marg.
Mother's Day Dessert

Cost: \$15.00



To make your reservations call 281-425-1225



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“Curious that we spend more time congratulating people who have succeeded than encouraging people who have not.” — Neil deGrasse Tyson



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Articles, suggestions and other noteworthy submissions are due by the 20th of each month for the upcoming issue of The Grapevine. Please send via email to Melba Hamilton at melba@stjameshouse.org. We reserve the right to edit for content and/or length.

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