

Anita Parham Adair, 1939 - 2018



A once-familiar sight along Bluff Drive, Anita surveyed the island on her golf cart. People waved and greeted her. She knew everyone. Then, one day she parked her golf cart and seemed to vanish.

In September 2018 she was scheduled for back surgery, but pre-op tests revealed suspicious liver cells. Surgery was cancelled. The Whipple procedure, also known as a Pancreaticoduodenectomy, was successfully performed. She progressed nicely in rehab.

After days in the hospital, she informed her doctor that if he didn't release her soon, she would "walk the paint off these hospital floors!" Dr. Senkowski recognized her impatience as a positive sign. Home she went to her beloved Isle of Hope.

In November her legs began to swell and eventually they were about twice their normal size. It took the doctors until January to determine exactly what was causing the swelling. It seems that her protein level was extremely low and that was what caused it.

Then followed long days at home with her legs elevated - not this dynamic lady's life-style. Not at all!

Anita had planned to fire up her computer again and resume sending messages to her long loyal list of locals on the Wymberley Neighborhood Watch. She began this service in 2003.

Her email messages from Samsgrande ceased when she became ill. They had kept 1800 people on her list informed of garage sales, suspicious cars, events at the marina, meetings with county commissioners, pool and playground activities, the Isle of Hope Music and Art Show, and more.

They kept everyone current with road closings, lost dogs, baby owls fallen out of nests,

(continued on page 12)

Another Hero Passes

After I announced our new feature "Hope's Hero" in the last issue of the Isle of Hope News, I got an email from long-time Isle of Hope resident, Polly Cooper. She said Anita Adair fit the bill perfectly and offered to interview her and write an article. I thought if she's on the top of Polly's list, she must be a real hero. And as an editor, the thought of IOH's "writer-in-residence" telling the story of the "Mayor of Isle of Hope" put a big smile on my face.

Before I received the draft from Polly (which Anita was in the process of reviewing), I got an email telling me Anita had been rushed to the ER with a health issue. Unfortunately, days later she passed away, and the article intended to highlight her heroic efforts on behalf of IOH became a tribute to her and her legacy.

I only met Anita a few times. The first time was at the

opening of the new Isle of Hope School. (That was the first time I met Sammy Moore, camera in hand, too.) My introduction to Anita came with the caveat, that if I ever wanted to know what was going on around the island, Anita was the one to go to. "Just look for her cruising around the island on her golf cart and make sure you get on the email list."

I went to Anita's memorial service and learned a lot about her as friends and family shared their stories. A caregiver and friend (who I assume was her home health care worker) said that Anita was not just her employer, but her friend as tears fell from her eyes. Then, a fellow fireman, Marc Wilson, who had grown up on Mrs. Anita's street shared the story of how she had kept all the neighborhood kids in line back-in-the-day. But more than that Mrs. Anita had loved and cared for them like a "second mom."

Anita had that same maternal instinct toward the Isle of Hope community. She worked tirelessly to protect it and make it a better place to live. Anita loved this little slice of heaven. One of the best ways we can carry on her legacy is to serve this unique community with the same gusto she embodied.

It's been a tough year. Sammy and now Anita, two of Isle of Hope's biggest Heroes, moved on in 2018. Savannah Sara shared this on Facebook after Anita died.

"When Sammy passed I said he was the fabric of Isle of Hope. Now losing my dear friend Anita I will say she was the 'stitches' that held the fabric of Isle of Hope together. I and all of us have been blessed to know her and be cradled in her watchful eyes and heart."

Amen and Rest in Peace Mrs. Anita...



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Sammy Keeps Giving

Hospice Savannah's Facebook page lit up when pictures were posted of beloved Isle of Hope resident Sammy Moore's last act of kindness. As many readers know, Sammy was a tremendous advocate for Hospice Savannah and spent the last months of his life under their care.

On the last day of July, Michael Gross, Sammy's caregiver and the executor of his will, fulfilled Sammy's final wishes by donating the proceeds from the sale of his home to the not-for-profit hospice.

It seemed fitting that Elizabeth Thompson, the attorney for the closing, wore a Chris Robert's "Sammy" shirt and that the home's new owner, Kathy Wright, will get to return to her beloved Isle of Hope and be close to her parents, Noel and Ruthie, the patriarch and matriarch of the Bluff. Furthermore, Kathy had been a phenomenally caring Hospice Savannah homecare nurse for many years.

Jamey Espina, VP of Hos-



Pictured: Michael Gross & Beth Logan of Hospice Savannah

pice Savannah's Foundation, was overwhelmed by Sammy's generosity and immediately reached out to Michael to decide on a fitting way for Sammy to be honored. "We have naming opportunities at Hospice House," says Jamey, "It felt (continued on page 14)



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A promotional image for Savannah PowerYoga. It features a woman in a blue tank top in the foreground, with other people in the background. The text includes the Savannah PowerYoga logo, the SPRY MIND+BODY logo, and the main text: "TRANSFORM & RENEW 40 Days to a New You Yoga | Meditation | Inquiry | Nutrition September 29th - November 7th | savannahpoweryoga.com".

Hope Arbor: A Welcome Respite

Written by Lauren Brantley

*"And now in my old age,
don't set me aside. Don't
abandon me when my
strength is failing."*

Psalms 71:9

I recently saw a friend who I noticed looked tired and solemn the last few times I saw her. As we talked, she broke down crying. Caring for her aging parent with memory issues had taken a toll on her and her husband. Fortunately, I had just visited Hope Arbor, a ministry of the Isle of Hope United Methodist Church, and learned more about the group from Brooke Chambers who heads up the program. Thankfully, I was

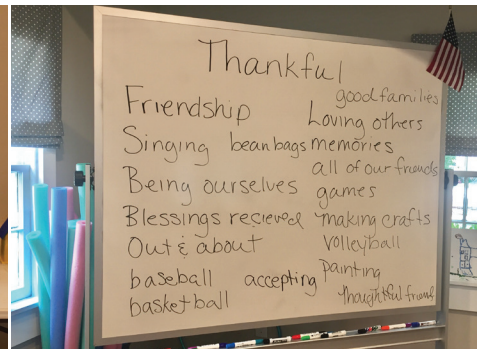


Artwork

able to tell my friend about it.

What is Hope Arbor? It is a Respite Ministry that gives caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia a break while bringing fun and laughter to those who suffer from memory loss diseases.

What stuck out to me as I



Devotions

talked with Brooke and the volunteers at Hope Arbor is the dignity they provide those they serve. The highest compliment I can pay them is to say that I would feel entirely confident about bringing my own parents to Hope Arbor if they faced memory issues.

I toured the facility, looked
(continued on page 11)





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Isle of Hope Art & Music Fest Coming Soon

The 2018 Isle of Hope Art & Music Fest takes place on Saturday, October 20 and is packed full of skilled musicians, talented arts and crafts vendors, mouthwatering food, fun kids activities and more. You can come and enjoy it all for free on Isle of Hope, with event hubs at the Isle of Hope Marina, Bluff Drive and Paxton Park. All arts and crafts vendors are based out of Savannah and its immediate surroundings and all bands have Savannah roots – a truly local event to be enjoyed by all ages.

We have a wide local food offering coordinated by our partner, the Savannah Food Truck Association, that will have some delicious food to please anyone attending: Chazitos Latin Cuisine, Hong Kong Foodie To Go, Dark Shark Taco Attack, Bow Tie BBQ, Molly McPhersons, Bojangles, Kona Ice, Big Boy Cookies, The Big Cheese and others.



Kids will get to enjoy the new playground equipment in Paxton Park on Isle of Hope, as well as games (continued on page 10)

We have over 100 arts and crafts vendors that will participate this year, many returning and many new to the show – a great way to get your art eye candy taken care off and your shopping for any occasion done. A full list is available on the Isle of Hope Historical Association website (iohha.com).

Some of the music talent not to be missed this year: Monkey Man (a Rolling Stones cover band), Free Spirits Trio, The Isaac Smith Band, Andrew Gill and Ember City with many more to be announced.

We are extremely lucky to welcome Austin Quattlebaum to our Marina stage during his home visit to Isle of Hope – you know you cannot miss that performance!



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10/26 Claxton

Islands

8/24 Metter
8/31 Calvary
9/7 SE Bulloch
9/14 Beach
9/21 Groves
9/28 Jenkins
10/5 At Johnson
10/11 BC
10/25 Savannah
11/1 Windsor Forest

Jenkins

8/17 New Hampstead
8/24 S Effingham
9/7 Savannah
9/14 Johnson
9/21 Windsor Forest
9/28 Islands
10/6 SE Bulloch
10/13 Beach
10/19 Groves
11/3 BC

Benedictine

8/18 Burke County
9/7 Blessed Trinity
9/14 Groves
9/21 Savannah
9/27 Johnson
10/5 Windsor Forest
10/11 Islands
10/19 SE Bulloch
10/26 Beach
11/03 Jenkins

Calvary Day School

8/24 Johnson
8/31 Islands
9/14 Treutlen
9/21 MCA
9/28 St. Johns, Charleston, SC
10/5 SCP
10/12 Claxton
10/19 Portal
10/26 SCD

Country Day School

8/24 Stratford Academy
8/31 Johnson
9/7 At Bryan Co
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9/28 At Claxton
10/5 At MCA
10/12 Portal
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Isle of Hope Art & Music Fest

(continued from page 7)

presented by Mathnasium and The Savannah Food Truck Association.

Cold beverages will be available for purchase from the Isle of Hope Marina bars located in the Marina and Paxton Park.

Many more details will follow as we get close to the event and will be shared on our Facebook page and the website.

This festival is completely funded by registration fees and by local companies/individual contributions for which we are very grateful. Of course, this festival would not be possible without the kindness of our residents letting us impose on their homes, street, churches and school.

HISTORY

The Isle of Hope Art & Music Fest finds its roots in its first festival 18 years ago organized by the Isle of Hope Art Guild. It took place in the Wright Family front yard on historic Bluff Drive. The Fest expanded into the Isle of Hope Marina over time and in 2011. During the island's 275th anniversary event, a parade, live music, Isle of Hope knowledge history spot accompanied the annual art show and a new



tradition was started.

Residents loved having their beloved island turn into a hot spot for music and culture and requested its return in some format. So the current Isle of Hope Art & Music Fest—spanning over the Isle of Hope Marina, Bluff Drive and Paxton Park areas—came to exist.

Isle of Hope Art & Music Fest

Saturday, October 20, 2018

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<http://www.iohha.com/art-music-fest>

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Hope Arbor

(continued from page 4)
at the artwork, and heard about the "Joy in the ment" choir. It all sounded so fun and uplifting. I could almost see the folks having a great time -- and their caregivers' relief and joy knowing their loved ones had a safe, inviting place to laugh, move, sing and express themselves.

Hope Arbor is designed around the unique needs of adults with mild-to-severe memory loss. Every 30 minutes, they switch from activities that nourish the mind and soul, including listening to music, creating art, exercising, singing, eating lunch, and participat-

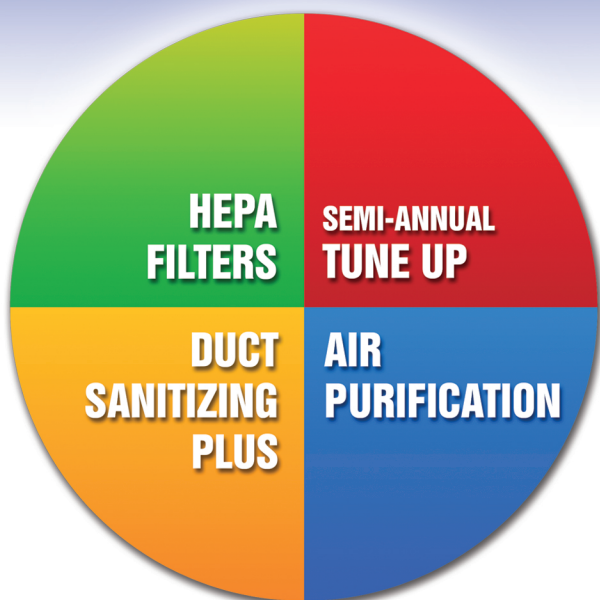
ing in a devotion that gives them the opportunity to talk and be heard. They enjoy a space specially created for them.

Here's what one caregiver had to say: "We just can't say enough about the wonderful ministry of Hope Arbor! The volunteers are such a special group that give their smiles, love, and encouragement from their hearts. The friendships and activities give our loved one a sense of purpose that brings her joy for the week. What a blessing also that the caregivers receive ideas, resources, and understanding. We are so thankful for Hope Arbor!"

This one-of-a-kind program is made possible by caring, trained volunteers who spend time each month helping with the activities and making new friends. I was genuinely impressed and touched by the thought and resources that had been set aside to serve those who are easily overlooked.

One volunteer described her experience this way: "I so look forward to coming! We have mini-concerts by musicians coming in some days. It is amazing how the participants blossom over time, physically and socially."

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Anita

(continued from the cover)

car break-ins, hurricane warnings, con-artists posing as landscapers, and perhaps a free ping pong table. What a joy to have this service!

Noel Wright said, "I call her message system... Isle of Hope Tom Toms!"

"I've only been out in my golf cart six times since September," she lamented. "I miss Sammy Moore. He always told me our two red golf carts needed to chat and we did....we'd chat on the bluff for hours!" Sammy and Anita knew all the news on the island. Sadly, Sammy passed away earlier this year.

Anita and her late husband Mickey were married 58 years. Mickey was a stevedore for 44 years with Smith and Kelly Shipping Company. He served as captain of the Isle of Hope Volunteer Fire Department for 34 years.

After attending nursing school at Grady Hospital in Atlanta, they moved permanently to IOH in 1965. She worked for ophthalmologists Harry Duncan, Franklin Bousquet and Lane Reeves. Soon Richard Schulze, Sr. joined the practice and she became his head nurse. When Richard Schulze, Jr.

joined his dad's practice in 1995, she became his clinical manager. "I ran him and I ran the office," she laughed. "I called him Critter! He was 3 years old when I started working for his daddy. I practically raised him."

Anita retired in 2001 and became involved with the Wymberley Garden Club. "We kept the entrance to Richmond Avenue clean and planted nice flowers."

She continued, "We kept the causeway clean. Picked up trash. Pruned bushes. Ten palms died. The club replaced four and others got donated. I'm not afraid to knock on doors to raise money!"

Noel Wright, who moved

to IOH in 1944 when roads were dirt and Wymberley was a forest, his private playground, added, "Anita has been a staunch supporter of the IOH Fire Department and organized supper for all the firemen monthly - a real morale booster for the volunteers."

Al Quante suggested Anita form a women's auxiliary club for the fire department. "No... heck...I want to be a hose draggin', water scootin' fireman, I told him!"

She added, "Once there was a fire in the woods on Hopecrest Avenue. Marc Wilson, assistant chief now and a city fireman, was a baby in a basket back then.

I took him along on the firetruck. When we got (continued on next page)

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Anita

there, I hung him in his basket on the side of the truck so I could watch him. Regina Wilson did the hose draggin' and water scootin' and put the fire out."

"When I get back to the real world, I'm gonna call another neighborhood meeting at the Baptist Church and ask Chief Jeff Hadley, our new police chief, to come. Islanders are anxious to get to know him."

Chief Hadley remarked, "When I took this new job, I was told ...you gotta go meet Ms. Adair. They call her the mayor of Isle of Hope."

He did just that. "When you have citizens in your community who care about its future, it's a blessing. If we had 1000 Anita Adairs, we'd be lucky. She'll speak up, without filters, to fight for a good cause," he continued.

She was the connection between the police and the community. Local police officers say she made their jobs easier and had reduced crime.

In 2015, with Anita at the helm, work began to allow golf carts on local streets. Volunteers knocked on doors to gather signatures of property owners to make the island golf cart friendly. Commissioner Helen Stone

praised her and residents for their efforts.

Jack Lee, another IOH favorite said, "Here's wishing you a fast recovery, Anita, and a fast return to your beat."

She was scheduled for two more epidurals and was optimistic. "It's not what I want to do...sit inside my house all day. I want to get back into the real world!"

As much as everyone wanted Anita back in her red golf cart patrolling the bluff, it was sadly not to be. She passed away on July 13, 2018 following surgery to repair a torn aorta. Another memorable person has gone from our island. So many residents on Isle of Hope will miss her terribly. She cared for this community by being a vocal proponent time and time again. She will not be forgotten.

Thanks to Polly Wyly Cooper who wrote this tribute to Anita.



We strive to enrich the lives of adults with memory loss through fellowship and engaging activities, while providing resources and support for families and caregivers in the Savannah community.

For registered participants, Hope Arbor Respite Ministry operates Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am -2pm. We have music, exercise, games, a hot lunch, and great friendship!

Hope Arbor is \$40.00 per day and participants must be independent in the following: walking, toileting, eating, and enjoy being in a group.



Join us Tuesday mornings at 10:15 for our Caregiver Care Group located in room 226 in the Greenhouse. This is a support group offered for any family caregiver in the Savannah area. Experience fellowship with other caregivers while gaining tools and insights on how to better care for yourself while caring for your loved one.

*For more info, contact Brooke Chambers at Isle of Hope UMC
bchambers@iohumc.com
355-8527*

Sammy

(continued from page 3)

appropriate to name the large conference room at Hospice House the 'Sammy Moore Community Room'." In addition to its own educational in-services and board meetings, the hospice strives to make the room available to community organizations in need of a

place to meet.

"Sammy loved the community and he loved Hospice Savannah," says Jamey, "This way we can gather and remember him always. We will be printing and framing several of his beautiful photographs of Isle of Hope for either the meeting room or Art Gallery space."

Hospice Savannah sincerely thanks the island's residents for their love and support and will inform Isle of Hope News readers once plans for the Sammy Moore Community Room are finalized.

Beth Logan, Director of Marketing and Volunteer Services



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