

The truth  
is out  
there

John Miller was a printer. He printed the London Evening Post and the London Courant. Being a printer in England was not an easy job, especially if you disagreed with the king. Miller was outspoken about government corruption, voiced his pro-American views and longed for freedom of the press. Miller was charged with libel several times from 1769 to 1780 and was jailed — also several times.



INKLINGS

LYNDA  
ABEGG

Henry Laurens, an American rice planter from South Carolina, had sailed to Holland on behalf of Congress to secure funds for the Revolutionary War. As he was returning, his vessel was captured at sea by the British, and Laurens was imprisoned in the Tower of London. When Miller criticized the poor treatment of the South Carolina statesman in

his newspaper, he was sentenced to one year in jail. When Miller was released, he decided it was time to pack up his printing press and leave. Laurens wrote him a letter of recommendation, and Miller eventually settled in Charleston, established the SC Gazette and General Advertiser and served as the official state printer.

Laurens was held prisoner for about a year. The Battle of Yorktown, in October 1781, was an American victory that led to the surrender and capture of Cornwallis and his army. Laurens was traded for Cornwallis in a prisoner exchange.

Miller moved his family to Pendleton around 1785 and founded Miller's Weekly Messenger. Miller had found his American dream — a free press. A free press that was built on the truth.

George Washington was truthful. When his father asked who cut down the cherry tree, he said, "I cannot tell a lie, I did." Some scholars say the story about the cherry tree is just a myth. But I like to think it is true. However, the rumor that Washington's dentures were made from wood is false.

Not everyone was truthful, of course. Benedict Arnold was a hero of the American Revolutionary War until he became one of the most abominable traitors in history. He lied to Washington. But I prefer to focus on people who are truthful. People of integrity.

Abraham Lincoln was known as "Honest Abe" — because he was scrupulously honest. He earned his reputation for integrity and worked hard to maintain his status as an honest politician and lawyer. Imagine that. An honest politician.

From 1962 to 1981, Walter Cronkite was referred to as "the most trusted man in America." As anchorman and managing editor for CBS News, he delivered the news in a straightforward manner for 19 years. There was no cable news, satellite dishes or podcasts. Just a 30-minute news broadcast — and Cronkite. He ended each newscast with "and that's the way it is." Cronkite didn't tell the viewers if he liked the news or had an opinion about it, or even if it was important. He just told it like it was — it was up to the viewer to process it.

People look back on the '60s with nostalgia — not only did Cronkite tell us the news "the way it is," but they had "The Andy Griffith Show" to demonstrate "how" it is. The TV show was about a small-town sheriff in the town of Mayberry. His deputy, Barney Fife, kept the bullet for his gun in his top pocket, and Otis, the town drunk, locked himself into his cell every Saturday night. They were the kind of good, honest folk who tuned in to CBS to hear Cronkite say "and that's the way it is." Oh, the good old days.

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NORM CANNADA | THE JOURNAL

Doctors, cancer survivors and others involved in the annual Pass the Purse event gathered Wednesday afternoon at the Prisma Health Cancer Institute in Seneca to celebrate the announcement that the April event raised \$115,418 to support local cancer patients. The amount raised tops the previous high of \$110,000 raised last year.

Pass the Purse raises \$115,418 to support cancer patients

BY NORM CANNADA  
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — About three dozen cancer survivors, doctors and community supporters attended an announcement at the Prisma Health Cancer Institute in Seneca on Wednesday afternoon to get the final total amount raised during the annual Pass the Purse fundraising event last month.

The April event raised \$115,418 — the largest amount to date — for the program that supports local cancer patient needs.

The final number, announced by Oconee Memorial Foundation manager Cortni Nations, was about \$5,000 more than the previous high a year ago.

"It's overwhelming and it's humbling to know that our community gives so generously," Nations said. "We live in a great place where people want to support this work. They believe in it, and it is humbling to know that we are the beneficiary of their generosity."

Foundation events planner Tammy Larsen said she has "watched this evolve for the past 13 years."

"These women come out and they are having a good time, but they are here for a cause," she said. "And it is a fun, fun time."

'IT WARMS MY HEART'

Three-time cancer survivor Lynn Dobson called the efforts to support cancer patients "inspirational."

"It warms my heart that people are giving, and they see it and they see we're such a philanthropic community," she said.

Nations said money raised from the annual event goes directly to supporting patients in the local area with care packages for patients going through treatment, survivorship support, a monthly survivor support group, gas cards, transportation to and from treatment and additional needs for patients.

"Fuel for the fight" is what I like to say for helping in-



SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Participants in last month's Pass the Purse fundraiser to support cancer patients wore "Roaring '20s" costumes as they made their bids.

digent needs," she said. "We established a yoga program to provide yoga to survivors that launched last year. We're continuing that this year with these donations."

Patti Cason and her daughter, Melissa Cason Custer, said the effort is drawing more women each year.

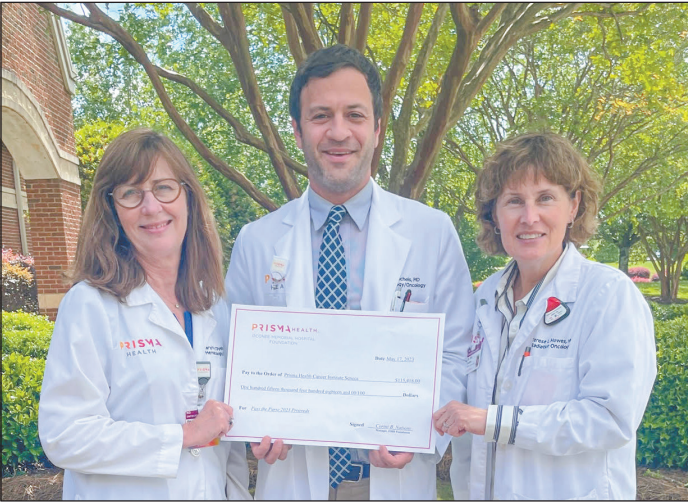
"It's infectious," Cason said. "We always are trying to grow the group, and so now we've got women in philanthropy participating that never knew that before. It sells out like that. We need a bigger venue. The center needs it, and the foundation is there to meet needs."

The annual designer purse auction drew 250 women in April.

"We have a silent auction with purse packages and a live auction with those packages and accessories and trips and all the fun things, and then we do a 'paddle raise' at the very end where they can pledge their outright support," Cason said. "I'm just really grateful for the support."

Three oncologist at the cancer institute — Dr. Karyn M. Dyehouse (hematology/oncology), Dr. Ross Michels (hematology/oncology) and Dr. Terese Howes (radiation oncology) — were presented the ceremonial check at the event on Wednesday afternoon.

"It reinforces all the great work that we know we're



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From left, Dr. Karyn M. Dyehouse, Dr. Ross Michels and Dr. Terese Howes, all with the Prisma Health Cancer Institute in Seneca, hold a replica check for the \$115,418 raised during the Pass the Purse fundraiser to support cancer patients.

doing here and our dedication to the community, and to see the community get to give back is really rewarding," Dyehouse said. "It's so inspirational, too, what we do and why we do what we do."

"I agree about having the support of the community, because that's what we're here for," Howes added. "It's a relatively small town. Everything we can offer here rivals everything (in larger communities). You don't have to travel to Greenville for state-of-the-art and top-notch care. The support that everyone's showing with the fundraising I think matches that. They're acknowledging what we do."

Michels called the support "humbling."

"It's humbling to see such a show of support from the community," he said. "All three of us are here and only here exclusively for this community. It is inspiring to see this show of support."

"Thanks for your support for us, but it's support for our patients, some who are less fortunate. And like Courtney said, no one should have to miss out on treatment because they have difficulty with transportation or cost of therapy, extra dietitian needs, all of it."

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