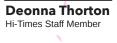
THS Recognizes Breast Cancer Awareness Month





On Friday October 22nd after you were diagnosed? Tupelo High School celebrated I have been amazed at the support that I have the last home game with a Pink been shown. It is very easy to get down and out Out theme. While the football when going through chemotherapy and radiation. game and pep rally were fun, the importance of However, I am very blessed, and it seemed that ev-Pink Out and why it's crucial to celebrate Breast ery time I was about to have a pity party I received Cancer awareness month should be remembered. a text, call, or something else to show me that I am not alone in this fight. Also, I am not a very patient "There's so many people who have been affected person and slaving cancer is not done quickly. My by breast cancer. Our students have family mempatience, my attitude, and my mental, emotional, bers, friends. And we just want to show our supand physical health have all been tested; however, port. So it's really important that we all show our I feel confident that I am slaying cancer.

support of the survivors and the ones who have lost their battle" said Ms. Sherry McGaughy, of Student Services for CTE.

The entire CTE department participated by making t shirts that were hung in the hall of I building all month signifying "hanging cancer out to dry."

There are many types of chemotherapy and some are more aggressive than others. I took four types of chemotherapy: two were specific to my type of breast cancer, considered to have less side effects, Tupelo High Students and staff also recognize one and two that were strong and had the physical side of our strong teachers in remission. Dr. Beth Blaneffects that you see in movies. Unfortunately, I not ton, Ed.D is the Pre-AP English I teacher for Tupelo only had the physical side effects of taxotere and High School and has been for seven years. Over the carboplatin but the two "milder" chemos that were years she has been teaching at THS, she is revered specific to my cancer damaged my heart and resultas a passionate teacher. Last year, Dr.Blanton aned in me having to stop all treatments. Thankfully, nounced that she was diagnosed with Breast Canwhen the tumor was removed, the tumor showed cer; notwithstanding, this did not dissuade her pasno sign of residual cancer so the four initial treatsion for education. Dr. Blanton even proceeded to ments had been successful. My cardiologist, oncolfocus her concern on her students rather than her ogist, and surgeon are working together to make sure that my heart function returns to normal and to make sure that I am cancer free by January. Why do you believe it's important to have stu-

dents at THS participate in breast cancer aware-

Even though breast cancer is treatable and has a high survival rate, early detection increases the rate of successfully beating cancer. Therefore, emphasis placed on yearly mammograms and routine screenings are important.

What is one thing you wish you knew before you started treatment?

That is a hard question; I was basically clueless in my knowledge of breast cancer before I started treatments. I didn't even know that there were multiple types of breast cancer.









What is your biggest self-discovery or revelation

What was the most difficult part of your journe and how did you overcome it?

Why do you think pink out is important? Pink out is important because there's so many people who have been affected by breast cancer. Our students have family members, friends. And we just want to show our support. So it's really important that we all show our support of the survivors and the ones who have lost their battle.