

THE Anchor NEWS

FREE! | JUNE 2025 VOLUME 22, NUMBER 11

THE THREE JOHNSONS

—RICHARD JOHNSON—

Richard Johnson has been married to Erica Johnson since October 1988. They met in Austin, TX while stationed at Bergstrom Air Force Base, now called Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Richard was born in Beloit, WI and after graduating high school, Richard joined the United States Air Force in 1977 and honorably served in Logistics for 23 years of service before retiring in 2000.

While serving, Richard re-



RICHARD JOHNSON

ceived numerous awards and medals to include the Meritorious Service Medal. Richard served in some great locations such as Omaha, NE; Shreveport, LA; Keflavik, Iceland; Austin, TX; and Albuquerque, NM. After retirement, Richard made the decision to be a stay-at-home dad to he and Erica's two sons, Mason and Marcus, while Erica continued to serve in the Air Force. In 2004, the Johnson family moved to Waco.

—MARCUS JOHNSON—

Marcus Johnson is the youngest son of Richard and Erica. He was born in 1996 in Albuquerque, NM. Marcus was too young to remember Albuquerque, but he does have fond memories of Okinawa Japan and still keeps in touch with some of his childhood friends from there. While in Okinawa, Marcus started playing soccer.

After moving to Waco, he continued to play soc-



MARCUS JOHNSON

cer with the H.O.T. Soccer league and excelled as a defender, where he helped lead his team to tournament wins. After Marcus started high school at Midway, he shined as a varsity football cornerback and was a team member with the Accounting Club. He accepted a partial football scholarship with Tarleton State University and graduated with his BBA in Finance. Marcus works at Prime 135.

—MASON JOHNSON—

Mason Johnson is Richard and Erica's oldest child. He was born in Albuquerque, NM where both Richard and Erica were serving in the Air Force. Mason was born in 1994 and has fond memories of his time there and in Okinawa, Japan. Mason still has friends from his time in Okinawa.

After moving to Waco, Mason developed a passion

for filming short movies with his friends. However, after he started high school, his interests shifted to running cross-country track with the Midway High School track team. After graduating from high school, Mason attended McLennan Community College and received his associate's degree in liberal arts. Mason is a partner with HEB.



MASON JOHNSON

THE MCCRAYS

—JOEL MCCRAY—

Joel McCray is a producer, performing artist, music educator, and composer born and raised in the small town of Riesel, Texas. His journey with music began early—according to his mother, Ruby H. McCray, Joel was already playing recognizable melodies at just 18 months old. By age six, he became one of the first students at her music studio, where, from 1976 to 1988, she trained him in both classical and gospel music. This early instruction laid the foundation for everything he does today.

One of Joel's earliest and most significant challenges was balanc-



JOEL MCCRAY

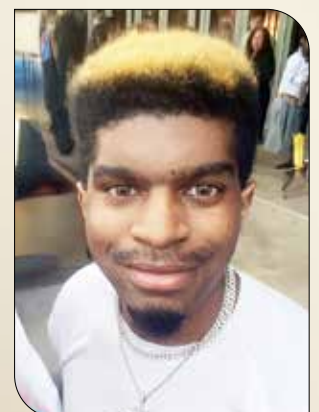
ing his desire to pursue music professionally with

SEE **JOEL**, PG. 3

—NICHOLAS MCCRAY—

Nicholas McCray describes himself as someone striving to live by God's example—a young man committed to building a future rooted in love, faith, and integrity. One of his greatest goals at this stage of life is to grow and maintain a lasting, healthy relationship. Since childhood, he has dreamed of being with one person for life—someone to love, honor, and grow with. Now that he has found that person, his focus is on strengthening their bond each day and doing everything possible to make the relationship thrive.

One of the greatest challenges Nicholas has faced is self-doubt. Thoughts like "Am I enough?" or "What if someone else could do more?" have occasionally



NICHOLAS MCCRAY

crept in. But even in those moments, he finds peace in knowing that what they share is real and rooted in something deeper than emotion. He trusts that

SEE **NICHOLAS**, PG. 2

**J.L. & LINDA CRAWFORD**

Co-owner of *The Anchor News*, J.L. Crawford is the director of operations for the paper. He has retired from teaching at McLennan Community College. J.L. is a Bible teacher, and a LegalShield Senior Manager. Linda Crawford is co-owner and editor of *The Anchor News*. She is a retired professor at McLennan Community College, a Bible teacher and a conference, workshop and motivational speaker. Linda also owns Enjoy the Journey Life Coaching Service.

WHY THIS 160TH JUNETEENTH DAY MATTERS

BY CHARLES PERKINS

Anchor News is the first major newspaper in Waco to publish my discovery of 11 pioneer African American Freedom Colonies in McLennan County (1865-1895).

Although this is significant, the more significant factor was when the Freedmen's Bureau (3 March 1865) became the first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) statute passed into law by Congress. This revelation signals the importance of maintaining national DEI programs and why it must remain at the forefront of American consciousness.

Congress in 1865 used the Freedmen's Bureau as the principle agency to manage the transition of four million former slaves from the Southern States (60,000 in McLennan County) into American society. Our first DEI program stands in stark contrast with the recent Executive Orders redefining DEI as any doctrine or policy that favors the hiring of Black, brown, white women, disabled and non-binary

**CHARLES PERKINS**

people (LGBTQ+). By redefining DEI, leaders are in essence subverting the original purpose of DEI and perpetuating their own anti-DEI discrimination.

DEI covers more than just race and gender and it annoys me to see how some leaders are abusing it. Surely they are aware how DEI programs were instituted to help better assimilate disenfranchised

communities of color into the American mainstream, which historically faced unequal opportunities and didn't feel the sense of belonging after decades of humiliating Black Codes, Jim Crow laws, and racial animus. Scaling back DEI programs is not in the best interest of this nation and more and more people should have the courage to say so. I thank God, that thousands of Black Americans were recruited under the banner of DEI in the early 1970s.

The current trend to undo DEI is reminiscent of the commitment by pro-Slavery agitators in 1870 to close down the Freedmen's Bureau. Also, many of the early historical records, contributions, and efforts of numerous under-served minorities and under-represented communities have long been lost, ignored or erased. This trend is becoming worse because so many have endorsed the concept "that history is written by the winners."

Those who quickly embrace

complacency and are reluctant to take the time to discern fundamental truths will easily succumb to this trend. Too many Americans are content to follow along, in order to get along. They are unaware of the inherent dangers and long-term consequences lying ahead due to complacency, inaction and indifference.

My hope is that millions of people will no longer turn a blind eye to this trend.

A renowned Black historian, Brent Leggs once lamented: "I realize that these stories would all be erased from memory if I didn't act to protect them." I fully concur. It is my desire that every citizen will take immediate action to preserve and protect DEI.

Individually and collectively we can make a difference to help preserve our national heritage—the good, bad, and ugly. It is in our power to make this upcoming Juneteenth, a day that will never to be taken for granted, marginalized or forgotten.

NICHOLAS | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

From the Editor...

FATHER'S DAY

This Father's Day, we honor the strength, love, and legacy of fathers everywhere. Whether biological, spiritual, or chosen, fathers shape our futures with their presence and wisdom. As we celebrate them,

let us also remember those who've passed on their light.

Be sure to enjoy the heartfelt father/son articles in this issue—they're sure to inspire and uplift.

Happy Father's Day from all of us at *The Anchor News*!

God brought them together and fully believes they will remain together—until death do them part.

From his parents, Nicholas has learned the value of standards and principles—treating others with respect, living by God's example, and showing kindness. From his friends, he has learned the importance of expressing emotions openly rather than holding everything

inside.

His faith in Christ has shaped every part of his journey. Although he has experienced moments of doubt, Nicholas continues to strive to follow the path God has laid before him. He draws direction from God's truth and finds purpose in His love.

If Nicholas could leave a legacy, it would be to raise children who live by God's example. In

a world where values are often compromised, he believes that teaching children to walk with God is one of the greatest gifts a parent can pass down.

Nicholas is the son of Joel and Bridget McCray and the grandson of Ruby H. McCray. He is currently entering his senior year at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he is studying Accounting and maintaining a GPA above 3.5.



The Anchor News is a free, monthly publication of Crawford Publishing, E-T-C, located in Waco, Texas, (254) 715-8943. All rights reserved.

PURPOSE

The Anchor News, dedicated to serving the community and surrounding areas, focuses on positive news and accomplishments of minorities.

POLICY

Anchored on the principles of scripture, *Anchor News* will at no time publish information that is potentially libelous material or intentionally malicious, derogatory or irrelevant.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Signed opinion articles do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial staff. Unsigned editorials

reflect the opinions of the editor.

LETTERS & ARTICLES POLICY

The comments and opinions of our readers are welcomed. Letters and articles should be e-mailed. Letters should be no longer than 200 words and must include a name and phone number. Article submissions should be no longer than 450 words and should include an original head shot (in jpeg

format) along with your name, address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, space, potentially libelous material and copyright infringement. We also reserve the right to refuse derogatory, irrelevant and malicious submissions.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are \$49 a year (12 issues) and can be paid by check or money order. Send all correspondences to *The Anchor News*, P.O. box 24014, Waco, Texas 76702, or email to theanchornews@aol.com.

ADVERTISING RATES

To request advertising rates, contact the office at (254) 715-8943 or visit theanchornews.org.

ANCHOR STAFF

LINDA CRAWFORD
Editor-In-Chief/Owner

STASHA AUSTIN MALONE
Associate Editor

FAITH WEAVER
Editor

J.L. CRAWFORD
Director of Operations/Owner

RAY AUSTIN
Website Designer

GALE EDWARDS
Advisor

WANDA B. GUNTER
Contributing Writer

SCOTT NEFF
Design/Layout

THE HARRISON FAMILY

REV DR. GEORGE HARRISON, SR.

Rev. Dr. George R. Harrison, Sr. has faithfully served as the Pastor of The First Baptist Church, NBC, for over 38 years. He has also served as Moderator of the Willow Grove Baptist District Association for 25 years.

Dr. Harrison has contributed to Baylor University in various roles since 1987 and currently serves as the Church Relations Officer for Truett Theological Seminary. He has also served as Cultural Liaison and Director for the City of Waco, Waco ISD, and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

In addition to his pastoral and academic work, Dr. Harrison is the founder of Optimum Impact, a professional staff development or-



REV DR. GEORGE HARRISON, SR

ganization through which he has trained numerous companies and schools. He is a published author, respected lecturer, gifted teacher, and devoted Christian mentor.

GEORGE ROGERS HARRISON, JR.

George R. Harrison, Jr. is a proud native of Belton, Texas and a 1993 high school graduate who ranked in the top 3% of his class. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Finance from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in 2000.

He is the devoted father of three wonderful children: Langston A. Harrison, Princeton K. Harrison, and Brooklyn R. Harrison. George currently serves as the Accounting Controller for an established private company in Dallas, Texas.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, George is a licensed minister who loves God and values his family deeply. In his



GEORGE R. HARRISON, JR.

spare time, he enjoys spending quality time with his children, having fun, laughing, and playing video games.

DAVID B. HARRISON



DAVID B. HARRISON

David served as a Civic leader in the Philippines, where he resides with his wife, Jocelyn and daughter Meadow. David served as a police officer for The City of Bellmead and served his country. He is a retired US Army Master Sgt.

REV. MARTIN HARRISON

Rev. Martin Harrison is the youngest son of Dr. George R. Harrison, Sr., a longtime pastor and servant of Jesus Christ. Born in Temple, Texas, Rev. Harrison was raised in both the Baptist and Methodist traditions. He has been married to Janine Harrison for 22 years and is a proud father of two daughters and grandfather to two grandchildren.

Since 2017, Rev. Harrison has served as a military chaplain, where he has been blessed to minister to both God and country. He currently serves the military



REV. MARTIN HARRISON

community at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

the responsibility of providing for his family and honoring God through his gifts. Struggling with the moral tension between sacred and secular music, he chose to pause his musical path and take another route.

In 1988, Joel earned a track scholarship to the University of Texas at Arlington. While completing his BBA in Finance, he became an NCAA All-American athlete and conference champion. That experience showed him how discipline, creativity, and drive could co-exist.

After college, Joel worked for seven years as a commercial underwriter for a major bank in the Dallas-Fort Worth

area. Although he found professional success, his heart remained with music. He eventually returned to it—first as a worship leader and music minister, and later full-time as an educator, producer, and performer.

To date, Joel has produced 15 original projects, collaborated with smooth jazz artist Joseph Vincelli, and performed with musical legends such as Kirk Franklin, Kirk Whalum, Darren Rahn, and Peter White. Whether in gospel, jazz, or fusion, his goal is always to bring authenticity and heart to every note.

Currently, he performs regularly, teaches private music lessons, serves as Music Director at Word of Truth Family Church in Arlington, and works with The Artist Outreach in Dallas.

Joel's lifelong mission is to help others live a 3-D life: to Dream, Develop, and Deliver. He believes that anyone with God-given vision in their heart and skill in their hands can build a legacy that blesses generations. He attributes his blessings to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, his mother Ruby, and his children, expressing a deep sense of gratitude for each.

JOEL | CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BROKEN SILENCE *Books & Publications*

WWW.BROKENSILENCEBOOKS.COM

PHONE: 254.458.9254

FACEBOOK: Wanda Gunter

E-MAIL: wbgunter@hotmail.com

P.O. Box 2873 • Harker Heights, Texas 76548



WANDA B. GUNTER

Author, Artist &
Contributing writer
for *The Anchor News*

*We will put your
business in the streets!*

**ADVERTISE IN
THE ANCHOR!**

ADVERTISE HERE!

The Importance of Educating Women and Girls



The conclusion is that women have been outdistanced through lack of education and facilities for learning. If given the same educational opportunities or courses of study, they would develop the same capacities and abilities as men.

The Promulgation of Universal Peace --'Abdu'l-Bahá

To learn more about
the Bahá'í Faith,
call (254) 717-7903
or visit wacobahais.com



bahai.org/beliefs/

WANDA B. GUNTER: A PILLAR OF SERVICE IN HARKER HEIGHTS

In the heart of Harker Heights, Texas, Wanda B. Gunter stands as a beacon of community service and leadership. Her unwavering commitment to civic engagement and uplifting others has left an indelible mark on the city.

Wanda's journey in community involvement began decades ago, rooted in a deep-seated belief in the power of collective action. She has been instrumental in organizing local events, from neighborhood clean-ups to educational workshops, fostering a



WANDA B. GUNTER

sense of unity and purpose among residents.

Beyond event organization, Wanda has served on various city committees, offering her insights and advocating for policies that promote inclusivity and growth. Her leadership style, characterized by

empathy and determination, has inspired many to take active roles in community development.

One of Wanda's notable initiatives includes mentoring young adults, guiding them towards educational and professional opportunities. Her dedication to youth empowerment has not only transformed individual lives but also strengthened the community's future.

In recognition of her tireless efforts, Wanda has received accolades from local organizations, celebrating her as a true community champion. Her legacy serves as a testament to the profound impact one individual can have through dedication and service.

Wanda B. Gunter's story is a shining example of how passion and perseverance can drive meaningful change, making Harker Heights a better place for all its residents.

ADVERTISE
IN THE
ANCHOR
NEWS
TODAY!

NEW PATIENT SPECIAL

\$150

INCLUDES:

- X-RAYS
- DOC EXAM
- NERVE SCAN
- THERAPY
- 30 MIN MASSAGE
- CHIROPRACTIC ADJUSTMENT



HILLCREST CHIROPRACTIC

CALL NOW

(254) 754-4000

EDUCATION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

BY MICHAEL JONES

Aghast and incensed, people around the world rooted for young Malala Yousafzai, the 14-year-old Afghan girl who fought for her life after an attempted assassination by the Taliban. They feared the young lady because she dared to speak for the rights of girls to attend school. The Taliban's fear of the teenager proves the potential power of educated girls and women.

In 1912, on a visit to the United States, one of the founders of the Bahá'í faith, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, told a women's suffrage group:

"It is well established in history that wherever women have not participated in human affairs the outcomes have never attained a state of completion. ...Jesus Christ had twelve disciples and among them the woman Mary Magdalene. Judas Iscariot had betrayed Jesus, and after the crucifixion the remaining eleven disciples were wavering and undecided. The Gospels indicate that the one who comforted them and did much to reinvigorate their faith was Mary Magdalene."

'Abdu'l-Bahá also addressed the situation which still persists today in some so-



MICHAEL JONES

cieties, as in the Taliban-held areas of Afghanistan:

"The difference in capability between men and women is due entirely to opportunity and education. Heretofore women have been denied the right and privilege of equal development. If equal opportunity be granted women, there is no doubt they would be the peers of men."

When 'Abdu'l-Bahá visited North America, women had not yet gained the vote, had not made many inroads in the workplace or had the right to own property or sign contracts. Most societies did not yet understand the importance

of educating women, and many considered it a luxury. If people couldn't afford higher education for all their children, the schooling automatically went to the boys. But 'Abdu'l-Bahá saw it very differently:

"Education holds an important place in the new order of things. The education of each child is compulsory. If there is not money enough in a family to educate both the girl and the boy the money must be

dedicated to the girl's education, for she is the potential mother. If there are no parents, the community must educate the child. In addition to this widespread education each child must be taught a profession, art, or trade, so that every member of the community is enabled to earn his own livelihood."

Bahá'í teachings recommend universal, compulsory education for all children,

with special focus on educating and training girls. As mothers and as persons taking their place in all areas of the working world, including in their own homes, educated girls and women play an essential part in every progressive society.

To learn more, please visit our local Bahá'í website at wacobahais.org or the global information site at bahai.org/beliefs.

WHY YOU NEED A LOCAL REAL ESTATE AGENT YOU CAN TRUST

BY LINDA MCDONALD

Whether you're buying your first home or selling the family house, having a local real estate agent you trust makes all the difference. A good agent brings more than just listings—they bring knowledge of the neighborhood, insight on market trends, and a network of trusted contacts to help smooth the process.

Local agents know what



LINDA MCDONALD
REALTOR, CRS, GRI, PMN, SRS

streets are rising in value, what school zones are in demand, and how to navigate city regulations. Most importantly, a trustworthy agent is your advocate—someone who listens, negotiates for your best interest, and helps you make wise decisions every step of the way.

In real estate, relationships matter. Make sure yours starts with trust. I hope I have earned the trust of this community.



You deserve

affordable legal and identity theft protection.

Unexpected legal questions and identity theft issues arise every day, and with LegalShield on your side, you will have access to experienced law firms and attorneys as well as licensed investigators skilled in identity theft monitoring and restoration. No matter how traumatic or trivial the issue, you'll have the power to get legal and identity theft advice and services when you need them, all so you can worry less and live more.

Join over 1.4 million members and protect yourself today with LegalShield.

J L Crawford
Senior Manager
254-717-4927
jlcford500@aol.com
www.legalshieldassociate.com/jlcrawford



This is a general overview of our legal plan and/or identity theft plan coverage for illustration purposes only. See a plan contract for your state of residence for complete terms, coverage, amounts, conditions and exclusions.



REALITY THERAPY SEMINAR WACO, TEXAS

Classes are Conducted through Zoom

You will learn:

- Effective self-control
- Resolve conflict in self and with others
- Create optimal environment for change
- Tools for healthy relationships
- Instills hope
- Transfer skills into all aspect of life

Who will benefit:

- Counselors and Therapists
- Social Workers
- Educators and Administrators
- Criminal Justice
- Health Care Professionals
- Business Leaders
- Pastoral and Parents
- Individuals



Mona Dunkin
254-749-6594
monadunkin@gmail.com

Conducted under the auspices of
Glasser Institute for Choice Theory

BABY-STEPS TO SUCCESS

BY MONA DUNKIN

Is there an intimidating situation in your life? Are you ready to take baby steps toward success? May I help you?

Here's the deal: Your body is the vehicle through which you travel the roads of life. It is a composite whole—many vital parts working together for your health, happiness, and success. Just as a car cannot function without a motor, we, too, have internal motivators that literally drive us to make one choice or another.

Dr. William Glasser refers to this internal motor as our basic needs—survival, love and belonging, power, freedom, and fun. These needs are genetically encoded into our physical being.

Have you ever struggled to start something—maybe a car, a motorcycle, or a lawnmower? You kept turning the key, kicking the pedal, or pulling the rope, hoping to generate just enough energy to fire the spark plugs and ignite the engine. Once it starts, you can go where you want to go.

You worked hard to get it going because you knew something inside that machine would respond if triggered properly. That's exactly what a motivator does. A motivator taps into your internal needs, playing the strings of your soul, influencing you to write your own music and sing your own song.



MONA DUNKIN

Sometimes, it's you trying to motivate yourself. Do you kick yourself to do this or that—or to make up for what you didn't do? The genetic encoding is there, but the formula for fulfillment might not be.

Worse still, do you find yourself "kicking" others for what they did or didn't do? The genetic wiring is present, but the formula for effective relationships may be missing.

It's not that others haven't tried to motivate us—or that we haven't tried to motivate them. The encoding is there, but the method of giving and receiving information effectively may be lacking.

Here's the bottom line: You are the best counselor you will ever have.

Here's the challenge: You must take time—no, you must make time—to quietly listen to the voice of your wise heart.

But it doesn't stop there. It takes more than listening—it takes action.

Just as a baby takes fledgling steps, falling is no big deal. With a parent's encouragement, the baby smiles and tries again. In your own journey of personal development, take on both roles—the determined learner and the encouraging parent.

As you take baby steps toward success, do not let discouragement knock you down. When you misstep, be your own cheerleader. Get up, dust off, and get back on track. It's okay to look awkward—we all do it from time to time.

Mona Dunkin, RT/CT/LM, Basic Instructor and Practicum Supervisor, William Glasser Institute, Motivational Speaker and Trainer monadunkin@gmail.com.

JESUS CAME AND PREACHED PEACE



PASTOR MATTHEW
AND LADY HELEN REED

BY MATTHEW REED

Jesus came and preached peace between Jew and Gentile, in direct opposition to what the Church is preaching today. Never once in His ministry did He take sides. We learn from the New Covenant that God is no respecter of persons.

In Acts 10:34, it is written: "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh

ETJ Life Coaching

ENJOY THE JOURNEY

ETJ PREPAID PACKAGES:
ONE 1-HOUR SESSION
\$90.⁰⁰

Other pre-paid special rates
available upon request



Linda Crawford
CERTIFIED LIFE COACH
(254) 715-8943 | etjlifecoaching.org
HILLCREST CHIROPRACTIC
WELLNESS CLINIC
4209 Bellmead Drive | Bellmead, TX 76705

VIRTUAL | FACE-TO-FACE | OFFICE LOCATION (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

SEE REED, PG. 13

FRIENDS of THE ANCHOR *Club!*

A BIG THANKS TO THESE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES FOR DONATING TO HELP KEEP THE ANCHOR NEWS ON THE SHELVES EACH MONTH!

- Pastor Darrell & Jackie Abercrombie
- Dr. Chidi and Dr. Allison Achilefu
- Pastors Richard & Sandra Allen
- Misti Anderson, Anderson Candle Decor
- Ray Austin
- Councilwoman Andrea Barefield
- J. Michael Beard
- Pastor Sabrina Beck
- Kay Bell, Passion Garden
- Dwayne & Marilyn Banks, Marilyn's Gift Gallery
- Pastor Dr. Mary Bethel
- Anthony & Sharon Betters
- Bible Way Church
- Tashita Bibles
- Grace Manning Blackwell
- Dr. Cheryl D. Bohde
- Essie Brooks
- Jacki L. Brown
- Nathaniel & Rolanda Burns
- Professor John E & Dr. Joyce Thomas-Campbell, Life Cathedral
- Kim Carr
- Melvin & Lisa Carter
- Janet Cheeves, Christian Brothers Moving Service
- Mrs. C. Coleman-DeVault
- Gil Collins-Heflin, GG's Flower Hut, LLC
- Rick & Sue Connor
- Ceola Coston
- Teresa Courtney, Over the Top Creations
- Larry & Lovie Cuffee
- Robert Cummings
- LaTonya Curl
- Jeremy and Courtney Davis
- Pastor Timothy & Lisa Drake
- Dr. Rodney L. Duckett, Founder IMPAC OUT-REACH
- Mona Dunkin, Faculty, Glasser Inst. of Choice Theory
- Congressman & Mrs. Chet Edwards
- Lexi English
- Author Mary Evans
- Richard Evans and Dr. Jacqueline Evans
- Suzan Falkner, DBA Scrumptious Quisine
- Cerise Franklin
- Bishop Lonnie & Gail Garrett
- Attorney Jamie Goble
- Rotunda Goldsberry
- Regina Green
- Keith & Tracy Guillory, LITWaco
- Dexter Hall
- Pastor Nelson & Tina Henley
- Sherry Harris
- Dr. George and Min. Marva Harrison
- Dr. Peaches Henry, President, Waco NAACP
- Dr. Sandra L.M. Henry, Especially for You by Joslin & Associates
- Leon & Courtenay Hicks
- Dr. Jimmy D. & Dr. Pamela Hytchie-Hunter
- Dr. Patricia Iglehart, JUST AS I AM MINISTRIES, INC.
- Brenda Johnson, RN
- Mrs. Erica C. Johnson
- LaKechia Johnson
- Lenoy & LaJuana Jones
- Doris Jordan & Floyd's Audio Capitol
- Ms. Evelyn Jordan
- Lovie & Henrietta Langston
- Shirley M. Langston
- Author Brenda Lee
- Dr. Tyrha Lindsey Warren, Lindsey & Assoc. International Communications
- Pat London, Insurors of TX Insurance Agent
- KeSha Lopez
- Dr. Carol A. Lowe
- The Malones
- Gloria Mann
- Norman Manning
- Lisa Martin, Realtor, Better Homes & Garden Real Estate, Edwards & Assoc.
- Janice Matthews
- Dave McCarroll & Linda Dulin
- Jara McCoy
- Orva McCoy, 2Pickle'd Gourmet Flavored Pickles
- Ruby H. McCray
- Linda McDonald, Realtor, Coldwell Banker Apex
- Lois McDowell, McDowell Funeral Home, LLC
- Iris Miles
- Robert Miller
- Apostle Fanny Minnitt, Author, Speaker, Media, Veteran
- Mia Moody-Ramirez, Ph.D.
- John & Marcia Neal, Sascee's
- Cheryl Nichols
- Dr. & Mrs. Ofobuike Okani
- Pastor Carl Oliver, Pleasant Olive Baptist Church, Malone, TX
- Rev. & Mrs. CJ Oliver
- R.E. Pate & Family
- Pastor Annise Payne
- Mr. Charles Perkins
- Dr. Scheherazade Perkins
- Attorney DeAndrea Petty
- Michael, Jocelyn, & Jessica Pierce
- Ms. Lucy Price
- Sharri Pyburn
- Doreen Ravenscroft
- Pastor and Mrs. Matt Reed
- Syrenthia Tillman Rice
- Anita Rice, Motions
- Chuck & Lucille Scarborough
- Aida Scott
- Dr. Arvis Scott
- Attorney Erin Shank
- Lowanda Sias
- Pastor Waylon Sias, Sr.
- Viviana Smith
- Toria Smith-Loughridge
- Susie Snell
- Bishop Tyran Snell
- Pastor Carlton and Joyce Stimpson
- Bobby & Rosemarie Tatum
- Temple of Christ
- Gloria Thomas
- Stephanie Tolbert, Fluff, Wash & Fold
- Sam and Kim Torres
- Dr. Shamonica Trunell, Hillcrest Chiropractic
- Rodrick & Alta Vann
- Gus & Mayra Vargas
- Mary Nell Wagner
- Marcus Ward, General Sales Manager, Mike Terry Ford
- Lisa Ware
- Kathy Washington
- JW Watkins
- Pastor Vincent and Tonja Carpenter
- Evangelist Larrye D. Weaver, Good Samaritan Missionary Baptist Church
- Linda Weaver, Franklin Signature Properties
- Dr. Tim & Jo Welter
- Shenequa Williams
- Debra Wilson
- Marian Wilson
- Dr. Cynthia Wise
- Pastor Jovaster & Darlene Witcher
- Dr. Frances Worthey
- Don Wright
- Patricia Young

You can join The Anchor Club via CashApp (\$LindaMasonCrawford), by PayPal or credit card at www.theanchornews.org (click DONATE), or by sending a check or money order to: The Anchor News, P.O. Box 24014, Waco, TX 76702. Sponsors' name or business will appear on the Friends of the Anchor Club page.

GOD, DESTINY AND A GLASS OF WINE, AN EASY READ AND PERFECT GIFT

The best gift sometimes comes in a small package. Such is the case with *God, Destiny and a Glass of Wine*. All chapters begin with one of Linda Crawford's own "true-story" personal narratives that she later connects to a point that is relevant to this journey called destiny. The book is an easy read. Several readers have told her that they couldn't put it down once they started. It is available on Amazon.com. *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine* is sure to open your heart to receive healing, encouragement, and a different outlook on life.

Chapter 1: This Too Shall Pass, but When?

I was almost out of breath by the time I made it to the car. Though it was just a few feet away, it seemed like 100 miles. I

had parked my car in the backyard to hide it from the bank. Let's face it. It was an old piece of stick-shift junk, but it was all I had, and I was behind on the payments. But tonight, in my panic to get out of the house, maybe the backyard wasn't so smart. Dressed in a gown, house shoes, and a thin jacket, I gripped the keys that were pinned inside my bra. Oh yes, my bra. That was the safest place to keep my valuables, like my car keys and what little money I had. I had learned a lot in my 29 years. With lightning speed, I dashed out the backdoor, tripping over the threshold, but still holding my balance and determination. Thank God my boy was spending the night with a friend. It was pitch-black dark outside, as I had no time to flip



LINDA MASON CRAWFORD

on the outside lights. I just needed to get out. Once inside my car, I let out a sigh, unaware that I had been holding my breath. Quickly locking the car doors, I knew I was on my way. The car was run down and bent up, but it was my path to freedom tonight and my only means of transportation. I'll never forget it. It was a gray and black Toyota, well...a fading gray and a fading black, a hatchback, about 8 years old at the time, and a stick. Ha! A stick. That could be a holdup since I was still in the learning stage, but I could handle it. I tried to crank the old trap, but it just clicked. I tried again, combining my efforts with a plea. "Please God, I need my car!" Just as the motor turned over, I heard that dreadful sound, a swatch-type sound, like an old screen door dragging. My God! He knew I was going to try to get away. He knew, so he had

unlocked the hatch back, ahead of time! He was in the back so fast; all I could do was bite my lip and jerk forward. "Stop the car, Lynn, and give me the money!" he yelled, as he swiftly crawled into the back seat. He lurched through the bucket seats so fast that my head literally seemed to spin, like the girl in the Exorcist. Grabbing the steering wheel, he yelled again, "Gimme the money, Lynn!" The Exorcist...I was sure that his voice changed. But tonight...no, not tonight. I kept driving, the car swerving across into the other the lane and back again as he, too, gripped the wheel. We came within inches of hitting a minivan. I saw head lights of an 18 wheeler that we also barely missed as we sped into the on-coming traffic. Hands pinned to the wheel, I was driving to my pastor's house, and no one was stopping me. That was the life I lived for most of my 16 years of marriage to a crack addict, one that was much different from my single days of the quiet, country, church girl. I had never touched drugs in my life. I smoked only one cigarette that nearly killed me. And here I was, 29 years old, married to a drug addict. I had so many similar stories to contend with, jumping fences to get my car back from the drug dealers, standing toe-to-toe and nose-to-nose with dealers who threatened to kill me if I didn't leave them alone about getting my car back, knocks on the door in the middle of the night from thugs demanding money my husband owed them, stealing my

own car back and driving backwards, trying to miss the flying bullets. You name it; I just about dealt with it. Many times over the years, I walked into my house to find that every piece of furniture and every appliance was gone—sold in exchange for drugs. I remember waking up one Christmas Day to find that my babies' gifts were gone, sold for drugs. Once, I frantically searched the streets of Tampa because my husband put out my 6-year-old out of the car since it was "too dangerous to take him to the crack house," he said. This was before the days of cell phones. I don't even remember how I found my baby boy. I could go on and on, but the only thing that matters is that one day, I accepted the truth that I had to forgive if I expected to move on with my life. I have since come to grips with the truth, that my now ex-husband was a good person, who loved people. When he was straight, he would give away his last. When he was not, he would take another person's last. I literally saw him take his shirt off and give it away. Once he pulled off his watch and gave it away, and then took my watch and gave it away, too. He had a heart of gold, but in addiction, he was the devil. Still, I had to find a way to forgive. I owed it to myself, my children, and my God.

To order *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine*, paste the following into your browser: <https://www.amazon.com/Destiny-Glass-Linda-Mason-Crawford/dp/069211761X>.

Castle Heights Bijoux Event Center

**WEDDINGS | REHEARSAL DINNERS
REUNIONS | PARTIES**

INCLUDED IN RENTAL:

Caterer's Kitchen | Tables & Chiavari Chairs
Unlimited Nugget Ice | Packages Available

For reservations call (254) 498-1015 or (254) 498-3770

2500 Washington Avenue | Waco, Texas
www.castleheightsbijoux.com

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | INSPIRING & ENCOURAGING | KINDLE CUSTOMER

(Reviewed in the United States on August 20, 2019)

"I absolutely love this book! I could not put it down and read it in two days. There is so much good stuff in this book that I am reading it again. It is inspiring, encouraging and will bless you."

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS FIVE STARS | AMAZON CUSTOMER

(Reviewed in the United States on May 21, 2018)

"This is an amazing book. It is entertaining, compelling and convicting. A definite must-read for everyone!"

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | EASY READ AND APPLICABLE TO MY LIFE

(Reviewed in the United States on March 27, 2019)

"After *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine*, I felt like I could take the author's response to certain circumstances and apply to my own life. Each chapter is a life learning lesson of praising God through hard times, and walking into God's plan for my life. It may appear as an easy read, because I read it in one day my first time reading it. Then I had the opportunity to re-read and breakdown each chapter week by week."

Rey

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | EXCELLENT BOOK

(Reviewed in the United States on June 13, 2020)

"This is an amazing book. I found it helpful in navigating my fear of not reaching my full potential. It helped me understand how I can have a positive God-ordained destiny. Excellent work!"

Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez



**GOD, DESTINY, AND A GLASS OF WINE
AVAILABLE ON AMAZON**

PLACE A COLOR AD IN THE ANCHOR TODAY!

- Restaurants
- Businesses
- Merchandise
- Sales
- Churches
- Garage Sales
- School Events
- Birthday Ads
- Anniversaries
- Weddings
- New Arrivals
- Obituaries

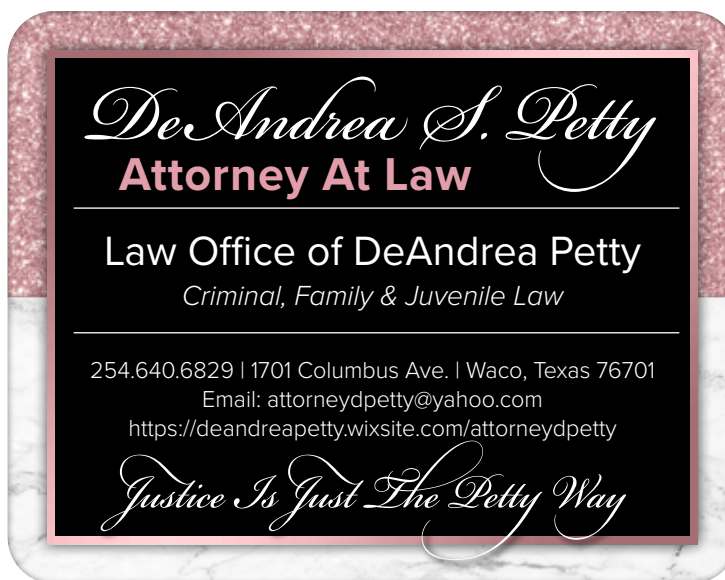
— CALL —
254.715.8943



ametex
ROOFING & HOME
IMPROVEMENT

www.ametexroofing.com
info@ametexroofing.com

OFFICE NUMBERS:
(254) 294-8002
(254) 776-1100



DeAndrea S. Petty
Attorney At Law

Law Office of DeAndrea Petty
Criminal, Family & Juvenile Law

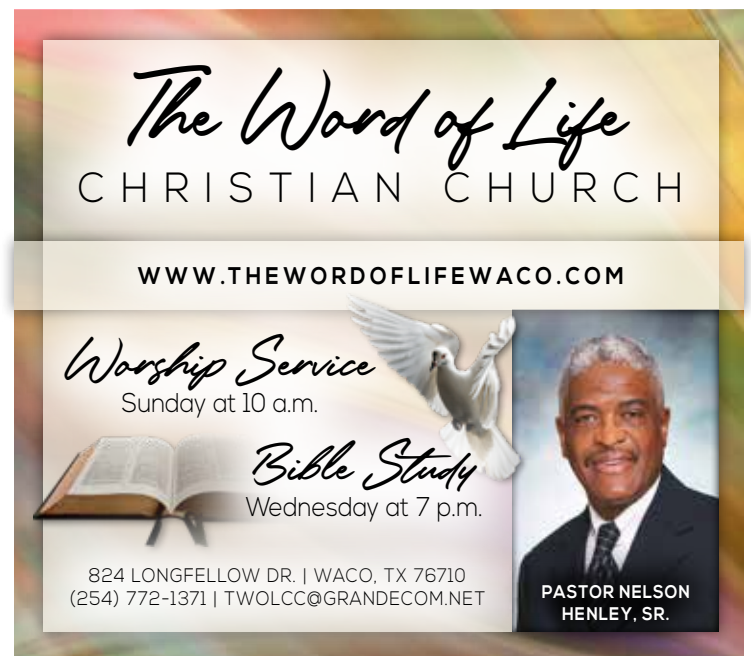
254.640.6829 | 1701 Columbus Ave. | Waco, Texas 76701
Email: attorneydpetty@yahoo.com
https://deandreapetty.wixsite.com/attorneydpetty

Justice Is Just The Petty Way



Medicare
ANNUAL ENROLLMENT

MARGARET IVORY 254-313-7413



The Word of Life
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

WWW.THEWORDOFLIFEWACO.COM

Worship Service
Sunday at 10 a.m.

Bible Study
Wednesday at 7 p.m.

824 LONGFELLOW DR. | WACO, TX 76710
(254) 772-1371 | TWOLCC@GRANDECOM.NET

PASTOR NELSON
HENLEY, SR.

YOUR BUSINESS IS OUR BUSINESS



BUILDING BRIDGES WITH
ENTREPRENEURS ACROSS WACO

McGregor
401 S. Main St.

South Bosque
27000 W. Hwy. 84

Triangle Tower
510 N. Valley Mills Dr.

Downtown Waco
901 S. 8th St.

East Waco
715 Elm Ave.



Your Bank for Life
Since 1889

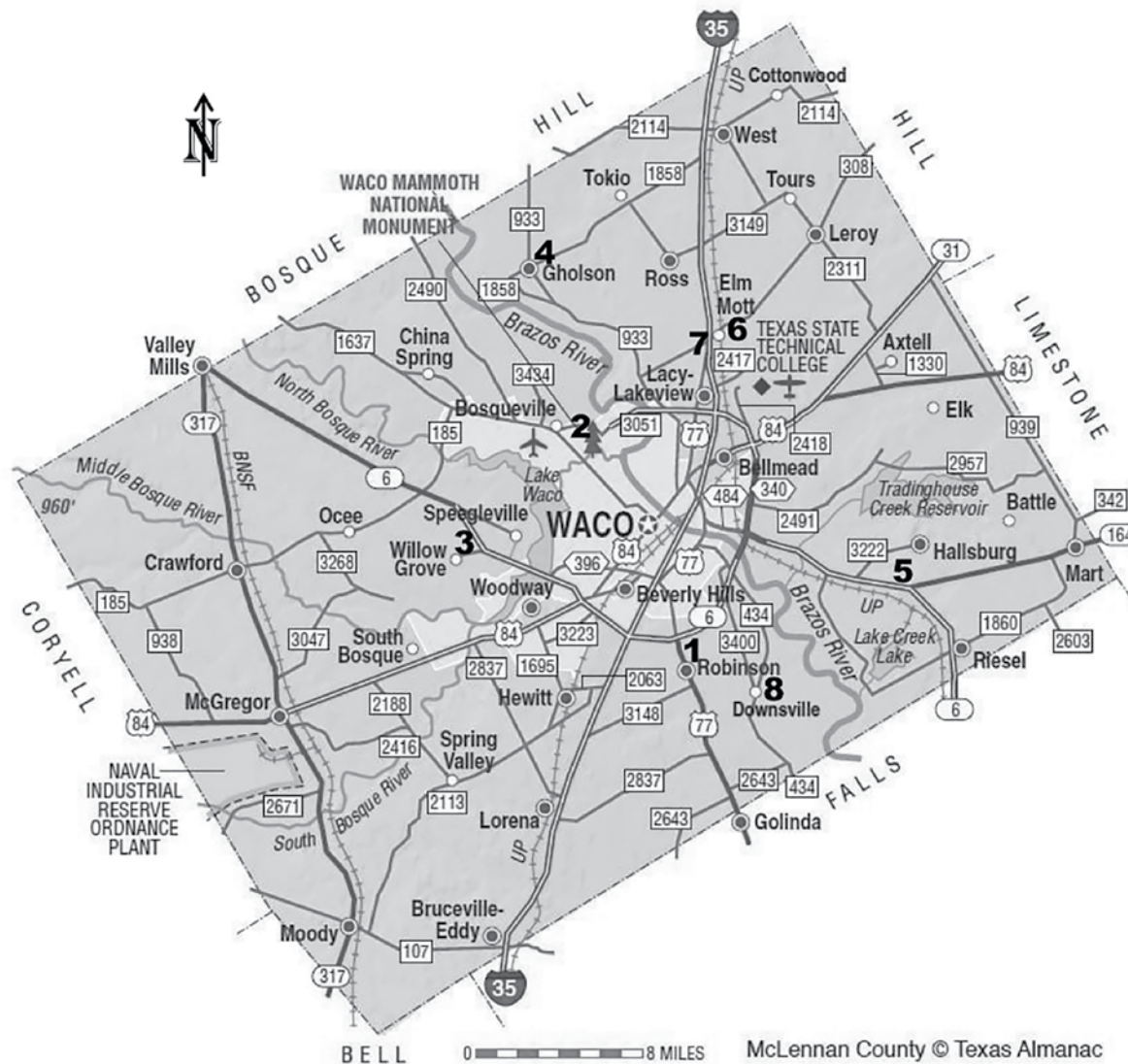
tfnbt.com
Tel: 254-840-2836



BLACK FREEDOM COLONIES IN MCLENNAN COUNTY

By Charles L. Perkins

Map of Black Freedom Colonies in McLennan County
(1850 to 1889)



No person of African descent is now alive when Major General Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3, which officially announced the end of slavery in Texas on 19 June 1865. Church historian, Charles Perkins, a five-year member of the McLennan County Historical Commission (MCHC) received endorsement from the Commission to reveal

the entire untold-story of the early African American settlers in Waco and McLennan County. Eleven newly established freedom colonies began between 1865 and 1899 consisting of 27 African American Churches (four denominations). Each freedom colony was anchored by three signature elements: at least one church, a colored pub-

lic school, and a permanent cemetery. Mr. Perkins observed that these early settlements succeeded mainly because they closely duplicated the Freedmen's Bureau (3 Mar 1865 - Jun 1870), which was the nation's first Congressional DEI program designed for the education and transition of four million formerly enslaved people after Emancipation.

CHART OF BLACK FREEDOM COLONIES IN MCLENNAN COUNTY (1850 – 1899)

Community	Churches	School	Cemeteries	Homecoming & Juneteenth	Bell	Store	Masonic Hall
1. Robinsonville (1852)	Robinsonville	Inactive	Robinson Cemetery (1882)	Yes, Yes	No	No	Inactive
2. Greater Bosqueville (1865)	Greater Bosqueville	Inactive	Greater Bosqueville Cemetery (1870) Kimmonsville Cem. moved here (1940s)	Yes, Yes	No	No	Inactive
3. Willow Grove (1871)	Willow Grove	Inactive	Willow Grove Cemetery (1880)	Yes, Yes	Yes	Inactive	Inactive
4. Gholson (1872)	Pleasant Grove	Inactive	Pleasant Grove Cemetery (1872)	Yes, Yes	Yes	No	Inactive
5. Harrison's Switch (1873)	Pilgrim Rest BC (1870) Goshen CPCA (1897) Holder's Chapel AME (1887)	Inactive Inactive No	Pilgrim Rest Cemetery (1870) Goshen Cemetery (1890?)	Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes	No No No	Inactive Inactive No	Inactive No No
6. Elm Mott (1874)	Bush Chapel CPCA (1874) New Zion MBC (1887) New Hope MBC (1889)	Inactive No No	Elm Mott Cemetery (1874)	Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes	No Yes Yes	No No No	Inactive No No
7. Chalk Bluff (1881)	Zion Hill MBC (1881) (relocated to Waco in 1971)	Inactive	Zion Hill Memorial Cemetery (1881)	Yes, Yes	No	No	No
8. Downsville (1866)	Mt. Pleasant MBC (1866) Mt. Olive MBC (1884) Mt. Zion MBC ** (1898)	Inactive Inactive Inactive	Mt. Pleasant Cemetery (1866) Mt. Olive Cemetery (1884) Mt. Zion Cemetery (1898 - Closed)	Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes	Yes Yes No	No No No	Inactive Inactive No
9. North Waco (1865)	New Hope MBC (1866) Mt. Zion UMC * (1866) Lover's Leap BC (1865) St. Paul AME (1891) Edwards Chapel AME (1896)	No Inactive No Inactive No	Lover's Leap Cemetery (1865) Lake Waco displaced Kimmonsville 1940s Cobbs-Walker Cemetery (Private-Closed, 1853)	Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes	No No No No No	No No No No No	Inactive Inactive No No No
10. South Waco (1874)	Bracks Chapel UMC * (1876) St. James UMC (1874) (relocated to East Waco in 2016)	No Inactive	First Street Cemetery (1852) (First opened to Blacks in 1882)	Yes, Yes Yes, Yes	No No	No No	No No
11. East Waco (1872) (Second Baptist moved from South Waco to East Waco in 2004)	East Waco CPCA (1874) Toliver Chapel MBC (1895) St. Luke AME (1886) Pleasant Olive MBC (1885) Second Baptist MBC (1879) Pleasant Grove MBC (1872) (on Waco Loop 340)	No No No Inactive No Inactive	Greenwood Cemetery (1875) Doris Miller Memorial Cemetery (1950s)	Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes Yes, Yes	Yes No No No Yes Yes	No No No No No No	No Inactive No No No Inactive

* Consolidated into a single church, called "One Fellowship UMC," on 15 Jan 2015 in South Waco

** Mt. Zion MBC moved from Downsville to 3325 Bosque Blvd in north Waco on 1 May 2011

Compiled by: Charles L. Perkins, Sr.
MCHC Secretary-Treasurer

STAY STRONG AND WELL: SUMMER HEALTH TIPS

BY JERRY SNIDER

Summer is a beautiful time for barbecues, vacations, and family fun—but it also brings unique health challenges. With higher temperatures and more time outdoors, it's important to care for your body and mind intentionally.

First, hydration is key. In the heat, your body loses fluids quickly, so drink plenty of water—even if you're not thirsty. Add slices of lemon, cucumber, or mint to make it more refreshing.

Second, protect your skin. Use sunscreen with at least SPF 30 and reapply often, especially if you're swimming or sweating. Wear hats and light, long-sleeved clothing for added protection.

Third, move your body, but



JERRY SNIDER

do it wisely. Early mornings or evenings are best for outdoor activity, when the sun is less intense. Even a brisk walk or light gardening counts as movement.

Lastly, nourish your body

with seasonal fruits and vegetables. Summer produce—like watermelon, berries, cucumbers, and tomatoes—is packed with vitamins and helps keep you cool and energized.

Don't forget your mental health. Take breaks, unplug from screens, and enjoy nature. A rested mind supports a healthy body.

This summer, a few smart choices can help you feel your best all season long. Here's to your health!

Have a health question for Jerry? Send it to jerry@allinhealthandwellness.com.

Jerry Snider is an exercise physiologist, health coach, and owner of All In Health and Wellness. He has authored two books available on Amazon: No More Sugar Coating and Confidence Through Health, and is the host of the podcast Confidence Through Health. Visit www.allinhealthandwellness.com to learn more about Jerry Snider.

ALL CHURCHES!

Only
\$50!

(REG. \$90)

**RUN THIS MONTHLY
BLACK AND WHITE AD IN
THE CHURCH DIRECTORY
OR IN ANOTHER SPACE,
YOUR PREFERENCE.**

CONTACT (254) 715-8943

Business DIRECTORY

RASHAD "Chip" Davis

THE GOLDEN SHEAR

HOURS:
Tuesday - Friday, 10-6
Saturday, 8-3

By appointment only

**SPECIAL!
\$3.00 OFF FOR
FIRST-TIME
CUSTOMERS!**

511 N. Hewitt Dr. • 254.300.4155



Richard Kruger
Agent, ChFC® CLU®

7213 New Sanger Ave
Waco, TX 76712-7927
Bus: 254-776-4593
Fax: 254-230-0673
www.rkruger.com

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

ADVERTISE
IN THE
ANCHOR
NEWS
TODAY!



Linda McDonald
REALTOR®,
CRS, GRI, PMN, SRS
*Integrity, Trust,
Experience*

CELL: (254) 855-1717

LINDAMCDONALDREALTOR@GMAIL.COM

LMCDONALD@CBWACO.COM

Linda McDonald
REALTOR®,
CRS, GRI, PMN, SRS



*Integrity, Trust,
Experience*



COLDWELL BANKER
APEX, REALTORS®

18 OFFICES SERVING TEXAS

CELL: (254) 855-1717

LINDAMCDONALDREALTOR@GMAIL.COM

LMCDONALD@CBWACO.COM

NO MORE
SUGAR
COATING

Finding Your Happiness in a Crowded World



JERRY SNIDER

All In
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CONFIDENCE
THROUGH
HEALTH

Live the
Healthy Lifestyle
God Designed



Transformation Starts Here

Gain Confidence

**Build a Healthier Body
Enjoy a Happier Life**

For Adults

- Nutrition Guidance
- Exercise Prescriptions
- Weekly Coaching Sessions

For Athletes

- Sports Conditioning
- Running Form
- Speed Training
- Endurance Training
- Increasing Vertical

www.allinhealthandwellness.com

WHY LEGALSHIELD IS WORTH HAVING BEFORE YOU NEED IT

BY J.L. CRAWFORD,
LEGALSHIELD,
SENIOR MANAGER

Too often, people wait until a crisis strikes before they seek legal help. Whether it's a landlord dispute, identity theft, a traffic ticket, or the need to prepare a will—legal issues rarely give advance notice. That's where LegalShield comes in.

LegalShield offers affordable access to qualified attorneys for a wide range of everyday legal matters. For a low monthly fee, members can get legal advice, have contracts reviewed, letters written on their behalf, and even receive courtroom representation in covered situations. The best part? You don't have to search for a lawyer or worry about hourly rates—you just



J.L. CRAWFORD

pick up the phone.

Imagine having an attorney review a contractor agreement before you sign it. Or hav-

ing help writing a will before an emergency makes it urgent. With LegalShield, peace of mind is proactive—not reactive.

LegalShield also offers identity theft protection through ID-Shield, which monitors your credit, alerts you to threats, and helps restore your identity if it's ever stolen.

Too many families and small business owners overlook legal protection until it's too late. But like insurance, legal coverage is something you hope you never need—but you'll be glad you have it if you do.

Be protected, not panicked. Consider exploring LegalShield now, so when life happens, you'll already be covered.

For more information, visit www.legalshield.com. Or call me at 254 717-4927.

REED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

righteousness, is accepted with him.

36 The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (He is Lord of all:)"

Ephesians 2 teaches that Christ came and abolished those things that separated (kept apart) the Jew and the Gentile:

Ephesians 2:14 – "For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;"

15 – "Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in Himself of twain one new man, so making peace;"

God's plan in this New Covenant is to save all His creation. He has concluded that

all have sinned. Being a just God, He now offers salvation to all mankind. The plan is to reconcile both Jew and Gentile in one body—the Church, the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 2:16 – "And that He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby."

Knowing God's plan, Jesus came and preached peace to all:

Ephesians 2:17 – "And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh."

The problem we're having today is that the Church—contrary to Scripture—is promoting war and having respect of persons. It is not the charge of the Church to promote war, nor to show favoritism when it comes to the Gospel. The mandate of the Church is preach peace. Amen!

RASHAD "Chip" Davis

Barber on Duty at

The Golden Shear

HOURS:

Tuesday - Friday, 10-6
Saturday, 8-3

- By Appointment Only -

**\$3.00 OFF FOR
FIRST-TIME
CUSTOMERS!**

511 N. Hewitt Dr. • 254.300.4155

ADVERTISE
IN THE
ANCHOR
NEWS
TODAY!

ADVERTISE HERE!

Greater Love I.M.E. CHURCH

1800 Sanger Ave., Waco, TX | Bishop Ruby Minnit, Pastor

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 10:30 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP – 11:30 a.m.
BIBLE STUDY – Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

Seasonal Special

RUN A COLOR AD THIS SIZE
FOR ONLY \$75!

(Reg. price – \$120. Now through December 2025)

Temple of Christ — C H U R C H —

MATTHEW REED MINISTRIES, INC.

1710 Monte Vista • Waco, TX 76777 • (254) 753-0772

Church Services

SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 a.m.

MORNING WORSHIP
11:15 a.m.

SUNDAY EVENING
6:00 p.m.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
PRAYER WORSHIP
7:00 p.m.

Pastor Matthew Reed and wife, Helen

YOUR CONFESSIONS BECOME YOUR POSSESSIONS. PART 1

BY EVANGELIST
RUBY MCCRAY

You may log on to www.theanchornews.org to view more articles.

Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit." We will either eat the fruit of death by speaking negatively or the fruit of life by speaking positively. This is from the NKJV (New King James Version) of the Bible. Let's see how the NLT (New Living Translation) states it.

"The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences."

I love to talk; but I love to talk about the right things. As a matter of fact, once I passed the age of 50, I stopped adding "old" to the numbers. I added "young" to the numbers, and I still do as of today.

Precious people, please stop owning sicknesses: "My arthritis, my cancer, my weakness, my this and my that." If you keep owning it, it won't leave you. If it does leave, it'll no doubt return. Why? Because you're prone to make statements like, "When I had

MY cancer, etc." "My cancer came back." It's not yours. Let's see what Acts 10: 38 says about sicknesses.

"And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil for God was with him." Those sick people were oppressed by whom? Yes, you're right; by the devil!

Many of us try to lay all our ills on Jesus, God and Holy Spirit, but Matthew 14:14 says, "Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and had compassion on them, and healed their sick."

Isaiah, looking forward toward the cross confessed in Chapter 53, Verse 5,

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed," (NKJV). Here's how the (NLT) states it.

"But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed." Let's see how Peter says it looking back toward the cross after Jesus'



EVG. RUBY MCCRAY

crucifixion in 1 Peter 2:24, "He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead in sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed."

If the prophet Isaiah, and the apostle Peter said that we were and are healed, why do we continue confessing that we are not by claiming sicknesses? Let's be like the woman who had finally gotten sick and tired of being sick and tired of the condition that was plaguing her.

The leader of a synagogue came to ask Jesus if he would go to his house to raise his daughter from the dead. As He

was on his way to their house, "Just then a woman who had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding came up behind him. She touched the fringe of his robe, for she thought, 'If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.'"

Jesus turned around, and when he saw her, he said, 'Daughter, be encouraged! Your faith has made you well.' And the woman was healed at that moment." Matthew 9:19-22 There is a more vivid account of this same event recorded in Luke 8:43-48. Since Luke was a physician, I think he painted a clearer picture of this incident. I suggest that you read it, too.

The woman spoke life, and life is what she received. It took a lot of faith to do what she did. She knew that she was ceremonially unclean and was not supposed to be in contact with anyone. Every person that touched her, or she touched would also be ceremonially unclean. Yet, she said that she was going to touch the hem of Jesus' garment which would automatically make Him ceremonially unclean. He would have to wash his clothes and take a bath. You'll need to read Le-

viticus 15 and pay closer attention to Verses 19-33 to understand that law. The New Living Translation will give you a much clearer explanation.

Let's close with Jesus telling us to make positive confessions in faith as recorded in Mark 11:22-24. "Have faith in God. For assuredly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore, I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."

You must use your voice to speak. Did you notice that Jesus said that we will have whatever we "SAY" in faith? He didn't say that we will have whatever we "THINK" about.

Please join me in July as we continue this study. You may not believe me...just what if I'm right!

Evangelist Ruby McCray is the founder of A City of Refuge Ministries. For questions or comments e-mail rubyacorm@yahoo.com or write to: A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.

FOR THAT *Elegant Touch* IN FASHIONS, VISIT...

*Marilyn's
Gift Gallery*



818 Elm Avenue | Waco, Texas 76704
(254) 755-8218

*New
fashions
arriving!*

- Jewelry & Hats
- Perfume Oils
- Suits & Fashions
- African American & Christian Apparel



Owners
Dwayne &
Marilyn Banks

BLACK WALL STREET

BY MARGARET IVORY

I'm from Oklahoma City, and I first learned about the Tulsa Race Massacre—what happened to Black Wall Street—while working in my high school library. I was filing away Mrs. Clara Luper's thesis when I decided to sit down and read it. What she wrote shook me. The librarian saw my reaction and encouraged me to keep reading. She even told my teachers I'd be helping her all day, just so I could finish it.

When I got home, I asked my mother if it was true. She quietly said yes, and explained

that they were told never to speak about it. It was painful truth buried in silence.

What I learned was devastating. In 1921, the thriving Black community of Greenwood in Tulsa—known as Black Wall Street—was attacked by a white mob. Sparked by a false accusation against a young Black man, the violence exploded.

Over a span of about 18 hours, more than 1,200 Black-owned homes and businesses were burned to the ground. Planes flew overhead, dropping firebombs on homes



MARGARET IVORY
and churches. Innocent men,

women, and children were murdered in cold blood—historians estimated 300+ Black people were killed, and thousands more were left homeless. The police and city officials did nothing to stop it—in many cases, they actively participated.

This was not just a riot—it was a massacre and a deliberate act of racial terrorism, targeting Black prosperity and self-sufficiency.

Remarkably, three survivors of that atrocity lived to be over 100 years old and took their case to court seeking justice.

But in yet another disgraceful act, a racist female judge dismissed the case, refusing to grant any reparations. As if the lives lost and the community destroyed meant nothing.

Despite what public figures like Trump and Harris might claim, racism is still deeply rooted in America. The legacy of Black Wall Street is not just a story of tragedy, but of resilience—and a reminder of how far we still have to go.

Margaret Ivory - Medicare Plans Broker. About to go on Medicare? Call me at 254-313-7413.

Church DIRECTORY

Place an ad in the Anchor Today!

- Restaurants
- Businesses
- Merchandise
- Sales
- Churches
- Garage Sales
- Fundraisers
- School Events
- Birthday Ads
- Anniversaries
- Weddings
- New Arrivals
- Obituaries

We do it all!

**Call
715-8943**

Tree of Life NDC
1612 Austin Avenue, Suite A | Waco, Texas 76701
Pastor/Founder – RT Allen | Co Pastor – Sandra Allen

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:30
MORNING WORSHIP – 10:30
WEDNESDAY INTERCESSORY PRAYER – 6 to 6:30
BIBLE STUDY – 6:30 to 7:45

254-339-9375

HIGH POINT CHURCH
www.highpointchurchwaco.com

SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:30 A.M.

JOHN RAMBEAU, SENIOR PASTOR

WACO HIPPODROME : 714 AUSTIN AVE : WACO, TEXAS

BETHEL BREATH OF LIFE Ministries Church

SERVICE TIMES:
Sunday School – 9 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship – 10 a.m.
Tuesday Night Bible Study – 7 p.m.
Friday Night Prayer – 6 to 7 p.m.
Monday through Friday Prayer – 6 a.m.
All services except Monday through Friday 6 a.m. prayer are both in the church and on our virtual platform.

JOIN US AT LINK
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/203878837>
The access code is 203878837
Or dial in to 1-646-749-3122.
Access code: 203878837

2300 SCHWERTNER DRIVE | KILLEEN, TEXAS 76543

Rising Star MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1408 EAST WACO DRIVE | WACO, TEXAS 76704

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
11:30 a.m.

PASTOR ROBERT CUMMINGS

Temple of Christ — CHURCH —

SUNDAY SCHOOL10:00 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP11:15 a.m.
SUNDAY EVENING.....6:00 p.m.
MON. BIBLE STUDY.....7:00 p.m.
WED. PRAYER WORSHIP...7:00 p.m.

1710 Monte Vista • Waco, TX 76777 • (254) 753-0772

MATTHEW REED MINISTRIES, INC.

The Word of Life CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Worship Service Bible Study
Sunday at 10 a.m. Wednesday at 7 p.m.

WWW.THEWORDOFLIFEWACO.COM
824 LONGFELLOW DR. | WACO, TX 76710
(254) 772-1371 | TWOLCC@GRANDECOM.NET
PASTOR NELSON HENLEY, SR.

TEXAS' LEGACY *of* STRENGTH —AND— RESILIENCE



William 'Uncle Buck' Manning, born enslaved in 1826, became the founder of the Willow Grove Community in 1871. He was accompanied by A.W. Crawford, who passed for white and purchased land that he divided among Black family members, helping to establish a secure foundation for African Americans in the region.



Mr. L. M. Hutchinson, principal of the all-Black Downsville HS in Downsville, TX, circa 1948



McLennan County has produced remarkable African American leaders. Kelvin Manning, NASA Acting Director, leads Kennedy Space Center. Walter Abercrombie, standout Baylor athlete and NFL player, now leads Baylor's alumni outreach. Beasley Reece Jr., former NFL player, became an Emmy-winning broadcaster. Their achievements reflect Waco's enduring legacy of excellence.



As a Waco native, Walter Abercrombie was a standout running back at Waco University HS. At Baylor, he set many new records as a halfback. Then he spent five years playing with the Pittsburgh Steelers and two years with the Philadelphia Eagles. In 2006, Abercrombie received Baylor's Distinguished Black Alumni Award. He still resides in Waco with his Wife, Kim. They have four children.



Beasley Reece, Jr., born 1954, attended La Vega HS. After his retirement from 9 years as a defensive back in the NFL. He served as the lead sports anchor and Sports Director at CBC 3 from 1998 - 2015. His broadcasting awards include five Emmy Awards and 12 Associated Press awards, including his live performance at the Super Bowl in 2005. He and His wife reside in Lumberton, NJ with their two children.



Opal Lee, known as the 'Grandmother of Juneteenth,' walked across America to raise awareness for the holiday. In 2024, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Her lifelong advocacy led to the national recognition of Juneteenth, a cause rooted in Texas history and the spirit of liberation.

