

# Anchor News

WACO PEOPLE: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Serving the Central  
Texas Community  
*Celebrating 16 Years!*

MARCH 2019

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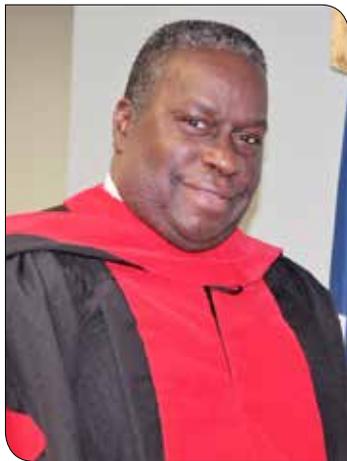
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## Frank Rush shares gifts in the church and the courtroom

Bishop Dr. Frank A. Rush is well-known in ministry and in the legal profession. For over thirty years he has been the pastor of Houston Praise and Worship Center. His wife, Dr. JoAnn Vallie Rush, a former NBC news anchor, is the co-pastor. Rush oversees three other church locations: Conroe, Spring, and Nairobi, Kenya. He has been a criminal and family attorney for well over 30 years. A familiar face at the Harris County Courthouse, Rush is well-respected throughout the city of Houston. He is licensed to practice law in both the state and federal courts, with current emphasis on helping his clients avoid or overcome foreclosure.

Rush grew up in Waco, Texas. A 1970 graduate of A.J. Moore High, Rush's leadership skills were apparent during his years in high school as he was president of his class.



**BISHOP FRANK RUSH,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

He ranked fourth among the graduates and received a scholarship to attend Texas Southern University.

While at Texas Southern University, he received a Crown-Zellerbach Scholarship to attend the University of California at Berkeley. He graduated from Berkeley

with dual degrees in English and African American studies. Then he returned to Houston on a Herbert Lehman Scholarship, obtaining a law degree from TSU Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Rush was also president of his law school class. Later, he interned at Gulf Oil Corporation.

Rush is senior pastor and founder of Houston Praise and Worship Center and founder of the Bishop's Circle, a pastoral and minister's training school. He is also recognized by the State of Texas as a Senior Religious Advisor.

Rush has written a leadership training program for Houston ISD students in 8th grade through high school. In addition, he has received three honorary doctorates, a Doctorate of Divinity from St.

See **RUSH**, pg. 10

## Former Wacoan named Fort Bend County Constable

Houston Attorney Frank A. Rush, formerly of Waco, remembers Daryl L. Smith Sr. as the little boy who grew up in Waco, Texas on Turner Street. That little boy was recently elected a Fort Bend County constable.

Smith began his law enforcement career in 1991 with Missouri City Police Department as a public safety officer and was certified as both a police officer and a firefighter. During his 27 year tenure in the Missouri City Police Department, Smith was promoted through the ranks of Corporal, Sergeant and Commander of Squad for day shift patrol. He supervised patrol and investigative assignments that included crime scenes, criminal investigations, proper-



**DARYL L. SMITH**

ty and evidence, crime prevention and tactical operations.

Smith holds a Master Peace

Officer Certification from TCOLE - the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. To promote crime prevention, he is a citizen contact for local community Crime Watch Programs and advisor to several homeowners' associations. Other notable credentials include being a recipient of the Missouri City Police Department Combat Cross, being honored with a special flag that had been flown over the U.S. Capitol by Congressman Al Green's office and hailed as a hero by the Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation for bravery during a 2001 bank robbery shootout. Although wounded, Smith foiled the attempt of two

See **SMITH**, pg. 8

## Sharri Pyburn representing a change!

A product of McGregor, Texas, Sharri Pyburn is the Chief Deputy at Precinct 2 McLennan County Constable's Office in Waco. She has worked directly under the elected Constable John W. Johnson since 2009. She has held the position since 2013 where she is responsible for the service and enforcement of civil citations, writs, and orders that are issued from local and other jurisdictions by the Civil and Criminal Court System. She manages the daily operations of the office as well as supervisory duties. She started her career in corrections at McLennan County Sheriff's Department where she worked for 15 years in the jail division. Holding the rank of Corporal, she was a jail training officer. She currently is an adjunct instructor at McLennan Community College where she teaches in the Law Enforcement Academy and continuing education of police officers. She will be instructing at the Heart of Texas Council of Governments for the training of law enforcement officers.

Pyburn earned a master's degree in criminal justice in leadership and management from Sam Houston State University and a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in criminal justice from Tarleton State University. She also has an Associate of Applied Science degree in legal assistant from El Paso Community College.

She is a 2011 gradu-



**SHARRI PYBURN**

ate from the Texas Constable's Leadership College at the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas, a 2008 graduate from the McLennan Community College Law Enforcement Academy and the first recipient of the Jim White Memorial Law Enforcement Scholarship in 2005. She holds a Civil Process Proficiency Certificate, peace officer's license, jailer's license, courtroom security certification, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Instructor's Proficiency Certification, licensed chemical dependency counselor certification, telecommunication system operator, and terminal agency coordinator.

Still, she is convinced that her most important achievement in her life is her faith. She is a member of East Third Street Church of Christ in McGregor. The daughter of William and Sharon Nance, Pyburn also

See **PYBURN**, pg. 7



Photo by Any Given Day Photography

### J.L. AND LINDA CRAWFORD

A co-owner of *The Anchor News*, J.L. Crawford is the director of operations for the paper. He is also an instructor at McLennan Community College, a Bible teacher, and a LegalShield Senior Manager. Linda Crawford is co-owner and editor of *The Anchor News*. She is an instructor at McLennan Community College, a Bible teacher and a conference, workshop and motivational speaker.

#### FROM THE EDITOR...

Inspired by Mr. James McCoy of Waco and Bishop Frank Rush of Houston, the March issue of *The Anchor News* is entitled, "Waco People: Where are they now?" As you read through the pages of this issue, hopefully, you will find the articles to be informative, entertaining, and apropos. Perhaps you will say, "Oh, I know him," or "Hey, I graduated with her," or maybe, "That's my child! I am so proud!" At any rate, whatever your reaction is to this issue, I hope it is a good one.

## From the desk of Angelina College advisor, Jovvanta Mason

I was born and raised in Waco, Texas, Son of Mrs. Leslie Mason-Davis. My family was mainly concentrated in Trendwood and Estella Maxey during my younger years and what is referred to as "across the tracks" during my pivotal adolescent years. It was during these years that J.H. Hines, Doris Miller, West Avenue, and G.W. Carver Academy shaped my education. I am a proud product of Waco High School Class of 2013!

My experiences in my social and educational surroundings molded my academic and professional trajectory. I became a witness early to what mainstream America would consider the 'typical Black experience.' Aspects of what is considered 'the struggle' were ever present. However, I was fortunate and blessed to have family that ensured me that better was possible. "It can make you or break you." I was determined to be unbroken.

Not only did my family have an immediate impact on my successes, but educators and others were critical, namely, Lois McDowell (J.H. Hines), Archie Hatten (J.H. Hines), James Miller, Joyce Young, and Paula Cross of St. Paul AME, Maurice Walker and the late Dr. Willie Clayton of West Avenue Elementary, Natasha Christian, Early Farley, James Stewart of Waco High, and James McCoy a close mentor.

Because of these people,



JOVVANTA MASON

I was able not only to realize my academic and intellectual abilities, but they served as examples that someone who looked like me could do something other than occupy street corners. They made me understand that I did not have to buy into the game that so many young Black men succumb to.

In May of 2017, I received a bachelor's degree in history from Prairie View A&M University, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Today, I serve as an academic advisor at

Angelina College in Lufkin, Texas where I try to instill those same principles in underserved and underrepresented student populations. I will complete my master's in education administration in May of this year. I plan to start my doctoral studies in educational leadership and policy this August. My ultimate goal is to be able to return to Waco and serve my community through education. Waco has given me so much; it is only right that I give something back.

## Wacoan Jeremy Davis starts mentor program for youth

Wacoan, Jeremy Davis, is the founder of Mentor Waco, a collaboration of like-minded individuals coming together to guide and further enhance the young minds of Waco, Texas and the surrounding areas. Davis founded Mentor Waco with the vision of providing guidance, motivation, and support for youth while serving as a role model and assisting them academically. In addition, those in the program

The son of a preacher, Davis learned early in life how to serve and make a difference in people's lives through his actions. As a young man, he has been a mentee in various programs that taught him the importance of servanthood, etiquette, character and integrity. Graduating from Midway High in 2013, he attended Stephen F. Austin, where he pledged Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraterni-



MICHAEL MCCOY

ty. He received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award in 2018 and was part of Black Men for Bernie, one of the largest grassroots organizations during the 2016 presidential election.

Davis taught at Standing Rock Indian reservation during the standoff of the pipeline and is currently a behavioral specialist aide at

Tennysen Middle School. Despite being a fairly new organization, Mentor Waco has already made an impact on the participants' academic progress. In addition, the organization has participated in a number of service activities, including planting a garden for the homeless community.

Mentor Waco is geared toward building each individual's character, whether it's academically such as with tutoring or book clubs, professionally, such as public speaking and research assignments, or socially, such as creating a brotherhood within. Davis is excited that he can see much improve in those in the program. He believes Mentor Waco is his calling, and many other agree. Those who know Jeremy best say there is only one word to describe him—"servant."

# THE Anchor News



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#### 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 AND 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

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## Attorney DeAndrea Petty serves community and surrounding areas

DeAndrea Petty, a native of Marlin, Texas, is the daughter of Annie Petty of Marlin and the late Derrick Pyburn of McGregor, Texas. She received her BA in political science, with a minor in criminal justice from Baylor University in May of 2013. Petty received her Juris Doctorate from South Texas College of Law, in Houston, Texas in May of 2016 and was admitted into the Texas State Bar as a licensed attorney in November of 2016.



**DeANDREA PETTY**

Even as a very young child, Petty had a strong passion to help others, especially those who are in need of a second chance. This passion has led her on her journey as a criminal defense attorney. Petty feels that each individual is more than his/her past or current situation. Petty also has a passion for bringing families together. While

working as an attorney Ad Litem in CPS cases, Petty has the best opportunity to help keep families together.

"Everyone needs someone who cares as well as someone who has their best interest at heart," says Petty.

As an attorney, Petty does all she can to ensure her clients are heard. Malcolm X stated, "A man that stands

for nothing will fall for anything." Petty feels that if she does not stand for her community as well as for her clients, then not only will the community and clients be susceptible to fall for anything, but she will have fallen as well.

This small town girl is making a name for herself. For your legal needs, contact Attorney DeAndrea Petty, where "Justice is Just the Petty Way."

To schedule your next consultation please visit The Law Office's website at <https://deandrapetty.wixsite.com/attorneydpetty> or call 254.640.6829.

The Office is conveniently located at 1701 Columbus Avenue, Waco, Texas 76701

Also, likes us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/lawofficeofdeandrapetty>.

## Waco's Jesse Sneed still making his mark

Jesse Sneed was born and raised in East Waco by way of Trendwood apartments. While living in Trendwood, as a child he didn't really dream much. Sneed explained, "Where I'm from, there really weren't many positive surroundings. Not many people in the neighborhood were graduating from high school, let alone attending college."



**JESSE SNEED**

Sneed lost his mother to illness when he was not even out of high school. He and his brother never shared their mom's sickness. Instead, they took care of her and each other. The family experienced many hardships and setbacks, but a college visit changed Jesse's life.

Sneed began to use the troubles and challenges as motivation and went on to graduate from Waco High School, Class of 2006. Today, Sneed holds a master's degree in human development and psychoeducational studies from Howard University and a bachelor's from Prairie View A&M University. He is currently attending the University of Southern California (USC) pursuing his doctoral degree in organizational change and leadership.

Sneed is the founder of a 501(c3) non-profit edu-

cational organization called J.E.S.S.E Foundation, Just Empowering Student Success through Education, which helps prepare Waco students for a new school year, providing them with school supplies, haircuts, and food.

In 2015, Sneed's efforts earned him a place on Pacific Standard Magazine's "The Top 30 Thinkers Under 30" rising stars whose careers promise to make a lasting mark. The year prior, he was profiled on HBCUbuzz.com's Top 30 under 30 for giving back to underserved communities. Sneed currently resides and works for the Division of State Initiatives for the Washington, District of Columbia (DC) Government.

## Wacoan, J.L. "Fish" Crawford, pushes education

A Waco native, J.L. Crawford holds two associate degrees from McLennan Community College and an associates from the International School of Theology. Though he attended Prairie View A & M University for 3 years during his younger days, he earned his bachelor's degree from Tarleton State University and his master's degree from Walden University. J.L. has been an adjunct instructor in the Integrated Reading and Writing program at McLennan Community College in Waco for nearly ten years. To the GW Carver community of the 60's, he is known as Fish.



**J.L. CRAWFORD**

Crawford is passionate about education, believing that age should not be a deciding factor in going back to school. He returned to college to receive his bachelor's degree at age 55 and finished at age 57. He graduated with his master's degree the day before his 65th birthday. He was an honor student during his entire time as a returning non-traditional student. It is not unusual to hear him say to a

stranger, "Did you go to college?" or to an older person, "You need to get back in school." He uses his own testimony as a lead-in into the conversation.

Crawford is very active in the community. He is part of a husband/wife publishing team, as he and his wife, Linda, own the community newspaper, The Anchor News. They will soon celebrate its 17th anniversary in Waco and surrounding cities. He is a member of High Point Church in Waco, where Rev. John Rambeau is the pastor and Crawford

is one of the financial officers and a life group leader. He is a member of the local branch of the NAACP, serving on the scholarship committee, a member of the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce, where he formerly served on the Education Committee, and a member of the Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity. In addition, he is one of the communications directors for the Willow Grove Cemetery Association, the treasurer for the GW Carver High School Class of '66, and a volunteer with Shepherd's Heart. Crawford has received a number of awards. He received the 2017 Men of Valor award, the 2017 NAACP Community Service Award, and was a 2018 NISOD nominee, (a national organization promoting professional development and teaching excellence.)

He and his wife have 4 adult children, 6 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 3 daughters-in-law and one son-in-law. Of all of his accomplishments, Crawford says he is most thankful to be a child of the Most High God.

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## Wacoan Rachel Pate continues to serve community

Rachel E. Pate is a native Wacoan and University High School alum. Growing up in South Waco, Pate enjoyed playing in Southern Little League, being a Girl Scout, participating in school sports and spending time outdoors in her grandmother's yard and garden. With her mother, Linda, being a Sunday School teacher and now evangelist, Pate accepted Christ at an early age.

She was very active on her church's junior usher board, in youth ministry, briefly leading youth meeting classes. Some of her fondest memories of growing up in Waco are being surrounded by her large, extended family for reunions and Juneteenth gatherings; her mother is one of eleven siblings who all hail from Waco.

Pate currently serves as the Vice President of Membership Development for the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce and is a founding/current



**RACHEL PATE**

Board Member of Start-Up Waco. She's also a proud mom of a son, a lifelong member of Toliver Chapel, a graduate of the Leadership Plenty Institute, lover of the great outdoors, an avid basketball fan and a dedicated wearer of Converse's Chuck Taylor shoes. Pate's favorite scripture is Romans 8:31- "...If God be for us, then who can stand against us?"

## From the desk of former Wacoan, Jesse L. Nemons

I was born in Waco, TX at Hillcrest Hospital. I attended schools in Waco ISD and graduated from Waco High School in 1996. I lived in Waco with my parent,s Jesse and Barbara Nemons, and my sisters LaToya and Jessica. I have two wonderful sons Jesse Nemons III the musician and Jackson Nemons the athlete.

I received a bachelor's in health & human performance as well as a master's in educational counseling from Prairie View A&M University. I currently attend University of Houston pursuing my M.B.A in strategic management. My current position is District Manager II for Stage Stores in Houston, TX. I have spent the last 20 years working in the retail management field.

After college I planned to relocate to Dallas to further



**JESSE L. NEMONS**

my career opportunities closer to home, yet the stars didn't align, and Houston became my home. I have grown to love life in the Big City of Houston.

Academically, I am interested in writing, specifically self-help and motivational

books. I'd like my next career to revolve around writing and teaching, which I fondly call "the art of elevation," for I believe in the uplifting power of words to induce change personally and globally. The capacity of words to inspire has impressed me so much, giving me the challenge of using my life lessons to help others.

My ambitions have always been centered around being the best I can be in every level of life, while motivating, inspiring and blessing others I encounter in my travels. My hobbies include reading, traveling, motivational speaking, weight training and coaching. My vision is for the power of one to become reality. We all need to understand the power of mentorship, emotional intelligence, mental health as well as the role of the community.

## Michael McCoy named first African American Dougherty County Administrator

Growing up on Pine Street in Waco with his parents, James and Eleanor McCoy, by way of his grandmother, who lived on Hood Street, Michael A. McCoy was a product of the East Waco and North Waco cultures. A graduate of Waco High, he is now a resident of Albany, Georgia, where he recently celebrated a historic first.

On Monday, January 7, 2019, the Dougherty County Commission announced McCoy as Dougherty County administrator, the first Af-



**MICHAEL MCCOY**

frican American to ever gain this distinction. Commissioner Victor Edwards made the motion and Commissioner Lamar Hudgins seconded it. Chairman Chris Cohilas and Commissioners Lamar Hudgins, Victor Edwards, Clinton Johnson, Russell Gray and Anthony Jones endorsed him.

McCoy's service to Dougherty County began more than 20 years ago at the County Landfill. He later became the solid waste director. This position utilized skills he learned securing his bachelor's degree at Prairie View A & M University. When McCoy was later tapped to serve as Interim Dougherty County Adminis-

trator, his supervisor Richard Crowdis, noted the same leadership and organizational skills that McCoy learned when he earned his master's degree in public administration at Clark Atlanta University. These skills coalesced in January 2017 when two devastating storms hit Albany and injured Crowdis, sidelining him from work.

McCoy worked diligently with multijurisdictional entities within a high-pressured environment to address the critical needs of the community via the Emergency Operations Center. In May 2018, his efforts were recognized. Among the 22 entries received, American Public Works Association, Georgia Chapter, named McCoy the Administrative Manager of the Year by the American Public Works Association, Georgia Chapter.

Dougherty County welcomes McCoy's professionalism and demonstrated community service as he assists the county in moving forward to a brighter future. McCoy and his wife, Mona, are the proud parents of two Dougherty County public school students, Myles and Madison.

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## National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Hosts Hidden Figures Project STEM Symposium



**DR. GWENDOLYN BOYD, PHI DELTA KAPPA MEMBERS, AND HIDDEN FIGURES SCHOLARS.**

**BY PEACHES HENRY,  
GAMMA UPSILON  
REPORTER**

Recently, the Gamma Upsilon chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa hosted the Hidden Figures Project Symposium: Celebrating Women in STEM in conjunction with Transformation Waco and Waco ISD. Over 50 girls, representing the five Waco ISD middle schools, participated in the STEM symposium which marked the midway point in the Hidden Figures STEM Project which began in September. The project focused on science, technology, engineering, and math or STEM. The Hidden Figures scholars, as the young women were called, participated in science activities, listened to a panel of all-female engineers, and heard a keynote address from nationally renowned engineer Gwendolyn Boyd.

Phi Delta Kappa designed the Hidden Figures Project to encourage girls to excel in STEM subjects and eventually to pursue STEM careers. Traditionally, girls do as well or better than boys in STEM subjects from the elementary years through middle school. Studies show that from the middle school years through high school, girls' performances in STEM begin to fall. The Hidden Figures Project was developed to prevent this drop off for Waco ISD middle school girls.

From October to February, the program focused on providing scholars with mentors, a book study, and experience in the STEM fields. Scholars participated in a Saturday book study, engaged with female mentors, and competed in both their campus histo-

ry fairs and the Heart of Texas Regional History Fair. Together with their mentors, the scholars read Margot Lee Shetterly's *Hidden Figures: The Untold True Story of Four African-American Women Who Helped Launch Our Nation into Space*. "We wanted the scholars to know that women, especially women of color, have excelled in STEM professions for decades," stated Syrenthia Rice, one of the Hidden Figures mentors.

The STEM Symposium marked the halfway point in the program which runs through May. Students and faculty from Greater Waco Advanced Manufacturing Academy (GWAMA), Greater Waco Advanced Health Care Academy (GWAHCA), and University High's Academy of Health Sciences guided scholars through science activities that included rocketry, circuit labs, crime scene investigation, nursing simulation, and a drone obstacle course. "These activities were designed to give scholars a taste of the many STEM professions available to them," explained Jocelyn Pierce, president of Phi Delta Kappa.

Following the science activities, the scholars listened to a panel of engineers discuss their educational and professional experiences. During the catered lunch, scholars engaged with female STEM professionals who served as table leaders. Professions represented included nursing, chemistry, physics, engineering, science education, forensic science, and food science among others. The professionals talked to the scholars about their careers and experiences.

The symposium also provided scholars an opportu-

nity to showcase their talents. During the symposium, scholars who qualified for the Heart of Texas Regional History Fair were recognized. Twenty-nine scholars participated in the regional fair. Of those who made it to regional competition, Hidden Figures Scholars garnered three special awards: the Baylor Law School Award, The Links Special Award, and the Waco Hispanic Museum Award. One group of scholars won third place at the regional contest.

The event culminated with the keynote speaker, Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd, the first African-American female to earn an M.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Yale University. The former Alabama State University president, Boyd is a prominent advocate for STEM. She encouraged the scholars to find their passion and work at it, never allowing anyone to tell them that they cannot pursue any profession. Boyd shared details about her upbringing, especially the fact that she grew up in what was called the "projects" in Birmingham, Alabama. She shared a promise she made to her mother on the day she died. "Promise me that you will continue to get good grades, and you will grow up to be somebody," her mother said. Boyd has spent her life keeping that promise.

At the conclusion of the symposium, the scholars learned of activities planned for the rest of the year. Scholars will go on a college visit to Prairie A & M University, participate in Texas State Technical College's Challenger Learning Center, visit SpaceX just outside Waco, and attend a showing of the film *Hidden Figures* at the Hippodrome.

## Former Wacoan, James Martin, called Houston's Charisma Coach

James D. Martin, II is an author, professional speaker, etiquette consultant and corporate trainer. Known around Houston as the "Charisma Coach," he specializes in personal development training for male college students and young boys. In his training, he helps the participants understand how the dynamics of image and etiquette can provide them with unparalleled levels of influence and success.



**JAMES D. MARTIN II**

With years of experience as a speaker, etiquette coach, and trainer, he has transformed the lives of many individuals leading them to various levels of personal accomplishments. Though he is well known in his field, Martin had humble beginnings. He grew up on North 22nd Street in Waco. He was part of the first graduating class of the consolidated Jefferson Moore, Richfield and Waco High Schools, the Class of 87.

Martin holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Houston. He is the founder of J. Dorthen Martin, a personal consulting company based in Houston, TX. He has a passion for mentoring and is the etiquette instructor for the Boy's Rites of Passage program at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church. A member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc, Martin is an advisor for Guide Right, the fraternity's mentor program. In addition, he is the etiquette consultant for the Southwestern

Province of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and the attire coach for Suits for Sons, Inc.

Martin is the author of *The Charisma Principles: 80 Essential Messages for Men*. He is also a corporate trainer for a health-care management company. "God has placed me in an awesome position to be able to teach young men the importance of etiquette, character, courtesy and chivalry." In addition, Martin enjoys providing corporate employees with tools and information necessary to perform their jobs effectively though personal and professional development seminars and workshops.

Martin is quick to give God the glory and his parents the credit for leading him in the right directions. "My parents always provided what I needed and supported me in my endeavors. They ensured that I attended church and received a strong spiritual foundation." Martin and his wife, Devona, have two children, Chase and Nia.

*DeAndrea S. Petty*  
Attorney at Law

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## Nanetta Brooks soon to release her book, *To God be the Glory, Part 2*

BY W.B. GUNTER

*Continued from the February issue of The Anchor.*

"At last, we all made it to safety. Physically, we were okay, but everyone was stressed," Nanetta remembers. The loss of property, income, schools, businesses, and suddenly having to start over under life threatening conditions caused the onset of PTSD. We all went to the doctor's office because I was seeking help for my family. My husband and I had just retired. I didn't feel sick. After



NANETTA BROOKS

the doctor asked to see me, that's when the realization of my own stress caught up to me. I was prescribed medication for pain and anxiety or nerve pills." Brooks began to reflect on her experiences and move forward towards healing. It was not going to be easy. There were some hard truths, deep wounds, and tough decisions to be made.

As stated in the beginning, there were some dominoes that she had to be okay with losing. Brooks, not knowing exactly where to begin, just spoke the words, "My hus-

band was 11 years older than I was. When I began school, he was on his way out of school. By the time I finished, he already had a family. In the time we were together, we suffered bankruptcy. He had three other families to support. I had three kids. My 22-year old was the best joy out of our marriage. It occurred to me that I spent 28 years of wasted time, wasted years. I say that because I suffered verbal abuse, being locked out of my own home, and terror. One night, my husband was so disrespectful that I left wearing nothing more than a t-shirt and short shorts. He laughed and ridiculed me.

I was working at a major hospital training others how to cook. Some of the individuals had spent time in prison. The stress on the job was minimal, but the stress at home was too much. I was trying to keep peace. He wanted all of the income to come to him. I was asked to take over the care of his 17 year old.

One morning around 3:00 am, I woke up only to find my husband working under the hood of the car. I'm not sure what he was doing, but I left at 5:00 AM. I learned later that he called my family to notify them that they needed to get to the hospital because I went under an 18 Wheeler with my car and died at work. When I arrived at the job, the engine of the car stopped. The mechanic told me about the damage under the hood."

The time came when my husband was no longer able to drink alcohol. The lines between right and wrong began to blur. According to Brooks, "A lot of the mental illness issues previously covered up by alcohol were exposed and in 2010, things began to deteriorate. In 2010, he pulled a gun on me because he convinced himself that I was leaving him. In the midst of his rage through the barrel of a gun, I tried to negotiate with him. Finally, I just had to shut up and play dead after he shot me. My 14-year old son was in Dallas during that time. I needed him to be away from all of the turmoil and chaos at home. That incident is one of those dominoes. I let it go, but I can't forget it. I speak only from my experiences. The truth is, going forward don't come easy. Pray!"

*To God Be the Glory*, uncovers the veil of silence plaguing families. By writing the book, Nanetta Brooks learned a lot about herself, her faith, her resilience, and so much more. The sacrifices in writing the book have created some friction among those close to Brooks. She states, "My children worry about what may be revealed. In spite of everything, I'm blessed. My kids have finished school. One of my children said, "Mama needs to keep her secrets in the closet," but Brooks decided it was time to break the generational silence that covers the cycle of mental illness. By allowing the silence and secrecy, hiding mental illness will continue to be accepted; it will continue in isolation. The symptoms of the illness can manifest in the form of abuse, violence, chaotic and self-destructive behaviors when allowed to remain untreated. Brooks says it best. "Generational silence when left untreated covers the cycle of mental illness, but it will continue eating away at families. Two years after being shot, I received a call from another family member who told me his father killed his mother. My son feels there is a "curse" on him, and another family member suffered at the hands of violence. The silence is what kills, not seeking help. I write this book because like I tell my children, you never know who needs to hear what you're hiding.

God's been good to me, through the bitter and the sweet. This book comes from grieving, being up all night, and by the time I finished writing, it's undeniable, God is Real! At one time, I wondered what had I done to deserve this. We aren't allowed to ask why or question God's will, but the answer came, and it is, because I was the chosen one. I had to come out of the darkness and into the light. No one wants to walk in my shoes and I won't walk in anyone else's shoes. I've seen so many stories flood out of my life through this writing process. I see more women coming into the light."

*Nanetta Brooks is available for interviews, speaking engagements and workshops. Book her now before the book is released. Send her a message or text at 254-458-0556.*



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# The greatest of these is love

BY MONA DUNKIN

Although the “Love Celebration” month has passed, the concept of loving and being loved never goes away. Flowers wilt, candy is eaten, balloons pop and the cuddly stuffed animals lose their luster and song. Life can be disappointing when the attention wanes.

Love is complicated.

Which brings us to this month’s article. The greatest of what is love? The Apostle Paul was looking at qualities valued in leaders and parents and ordinary folk like you and me. After a long discourse on being charitable – i.e. loving - he concluded with “And now abides faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity.” (I Corinthians 13)

**It’s all Greek to me.** As if love was not complicated enough, we Americans use the word love to express our affection for everything from people to popcorn to places to puzzles to pets. The Greek

language has different words for different loving emotions.

“Eros” (cupid) is the romantic love, “Phileo” is friendship or brotherly love and “Stoic” is the kind of love for whatever is left over - things, places, activities, chocolate. There is also “Agape” love which is God’s kind. A love that is unconditional, eternal and healing.

**Love, passive and active.** The Hebrew language has two words for love and both are in the present active tense. “Ahab” is choosing to love from afar with the intent to pursue and to woo. Ahab love is hopeful. “Hessedh” is choosing to love and to keep-on-loving whether received or rejected. Hessedh love is steadfast and eternal.

**Faith, hope, love.** The Apostle Paul gave a benchmark for us mortals to use to measure our romantic and brotherly love. He said outrageous things such as; “Love is kind. Love does not envy. Love does not get puffed up or pouty. Love does not al-



MONA DUNKIN

ways have to have its own way. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things.” (I Corinthians 13)

**A flip of the coin.** In meditating, I like to look at words from all sides. To observe the direct meaning as well as seeing what is inferred. One day in measuring myself by Paul’s love yardstick I noticed two phrases coupled together. “Love is long-suffering and is kind.”

It dawned on me that I had that long-suffering to a fine art. I could roll my eyes and sigh deeply and it was so obvious I was suffering in my patience. But Paul concluded with “and is kind.” Oh no! In my suffering, I was not so kind.

**Give me a break.** It hit me like a ton of bricks. I said out loud to God, “Surely You jest! Are You telling me You expect me to be kind to my mother-in-law?!” (Or mate, or child, or boss or neighbor; you fill in the blank. Especially when they....)

Another word for love is “charity”. “Charity” is used instead of “love” in that passage in the King James Bible translation. I like that. I find

in some incidents that it is easier to be charitable than it is to be loving. I am learning to be kind to the lovely and the unlovely alike. To overlook bad attitudes and respond in kindness to irritants or rudeness or disrespect.

**Charity begins at home.** Garland and I married fifty-two ago February 24th. I am humbled by the fact that this guy loves me and keeps on loving me. Opposites attract. Over time, that refreshing opposite way of seeing life from the way you view life becomes stale. Irritating. Wrong. Often opposites attack. Let’s be charitable.

**How to be charitable.** The hormonal passive love of Eros and Ahab may draw a couple together, but it is the active, on-going, over-and-over choosing to love of Hessedh that keeps a family together. And it is the friendship of Phileo love and the fun-seeking-shared-interests of Stoic love that makes the relationship enjoyable. It grows into the love that “endures all things” – hardships,

grief, difficulties – and “believes all things” – sees the good in the midst of the not-so-good. A love that is in it for the long haul. A commitment with no escape clause.

Fifty-two years and counting for Garland and me. It has been quite difficult at times. It has also been a wonderful, magical adventure and the road ahead looks promising. A love that lasts is one rooted in friendship and mutual respect.

It’s a lifetime and counting for genuine Agape love and me. Because I am the willing benefactor of God’s universal blessings and unconditional love, I am able to accept myself as I am and be charitable to others as they are.

*For all your speaking and training needs, contact Mona Dunkin, Motivational Speaker and Personal Success Coach, monadunkin@gmail.com www.monadunkin.com.” Basic Intensive Training, Introduction of Choice Theory Psychology scheduled in Waco, Tx for March 22-24, 2019 Call me today. 254-749-6594 .*

## PYBURN

Continued from page one

has a son, Byon Jr. She loves volunteering for the LaVega Jr. Police Academy, taking part in the Beverly Hills Elections and being a member of Real Talk with Real women group with Mia Thomas. She is an avid basketball fan and has a genuine interest in supporting and encouraging our youth in positive activities. One of her most memorable accomplishments is being a member

of the Southern Little League Committee which achieved the construction of a new concession stand and improving the baseball complex as well as watching our boys win State in 2010.

Pyburn lives by the motto: “Treat people how you want to be treated. Talk to people the way you want to be talked to.” Respect is earned, not given, says Pyburn.

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## SMITH | Continued from page one

masked men from succeeding in robbing a prominent bank in Fort Bend County.

Smith was elected Fort Bend County Precinct 2 Constable in November 2018 where he oversees a department of 52 employees— 4 command staff, 25 deputies, 17 reserve deputies and 6 administration staff. The mission of the Precinct 2 Constable's Office is to serve. "We are commit-

ted to serve our diverse community by standing together in partnership building and enhancing mutual trust."

Smith's vision and focus is to enhance his motto of "Serving Our Community" by providing an exemplary level of service to the citizens in Precinct 2 by forging a lasting bond with community leaders, school administrators, homeowners' association board

members and business owners.

A former Wacoan, Smith is the proud father of two children and grandfather of six. He is active in the Fort Bend County community as a school mentor and Little League Volunteer. Smith enjoys horseback riding, hunting and fishing as lifelong hobbies. He is a member of several community service organizations, including the NAACP.

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## Avoiding dangers of the flu for older adults

(NewsUSA) - It's the time of year everyone dreads: flu season.

Last season, more than 900,000 people were hospitalized due to the flu or flu complications, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). People over the age of 65 are at greater risk for these complications, making up about 85 percent of seasonal flu-related deaths and hospitalizations last year.

Experts say nearly half (48.5 percent) of senior hospitalizations could, in fact, be avoided if proper preventative steps are taken, according to research from Home Instead, Inc. Here are tips to avoid the dangers of the flu:

- Consider a flu vaccine for your loved one. If you choose to get the flu shot, the best time to get one is before flu season is in full swing. For the best protection, the vaccine should not be limited to just older adults. Caregivers and family members also need to stay healthy to protect older loved ones.

- Take daily preventative measures. It might sound simple, but washing your hands and avoiding those who are sick can go a long way. The CDC lists seven healthy habits to stop germs, including not touching your eyes, nose or mouth and sanitizing properly.

- Encourage physical activity for those who are able. Moderate exercise boosts the immune system and can reduce the risk of a cold, according to Harvard Health. Even in frigid

winter temperatures, activities such as a walk at a community recreation center or simple strength training exercises at home, using household items and body weight, can boost immunity.

- Pay attention to the signs and symptoms. Frequently check in on loved ones. Pay close attention to symptoms and changes in their appearance or demeanor. Encourage regular doctor visits to help keep minor symptoms from turning into more serious issues. And it's important to know all symptoms of the flu and get treatment as soon as possible.

- Take extra precautions to prevent hospitalizations. Simple steps, such as acknowledging symptoms of illness when they first appear, reducing risks of falls around the home and maintaining a healthy diet can all have a substantial impact on protecting older adults from hospitalization and further infection.

For more information on staying healthy this flu season, including the "5 Ways to Prevent Senior Hospitalizations" guide, visit [www.preventseniorhospitalizations.com](http://www.preventseniorhospitalizations.com), or find a Home Instead office near you at [www.homeinstead.com/state](http://www.homeinstead.com/state).

FROM THE EDITOR...

## Mother's Day is around the corner

(NewsUSA) - Mom. Just the mention of the word can spark memories of love, warmth and kindness. It's why a day has been designated just for her, honoring all that she's done. Trying to decipher what to give "the woman who has everything," however, can be a challenge. Experts agree, saying there is a tremendous amount of pressure to find the perfect gift (I'm talking to you, Hallmark), when in reality, most just want to know that they're cherished. So, what says love to one of the -- if not the most -- important women in your life? Read on for some ideas on how to create a precious moment for mom on her special day. \* Give the gift of time. Anyone can take mom

out for a nice meal -- the restaurant business counts on it. But a real treat might be to show her off for some alone time to her favorite book or clothing store (maybe with a gift card in hand) while you stay home and cook and clean for her. This way, she gets the best of both worlds -- no chores for a day, and time to herself with a little pocket money to boot. \* Write down some heartfelt words. Be it in poem, story or a letter, moms love the written word. For added panache, tuck this on a tray with a homemade breakfast (in bed, of course), a handpicked flower in a vase, and you can count on a few tears. Or place a special "Mom Ad" in The Anchor News. Call us.

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-Mrs. Sue Connor

Text 254-715-8943 for signings and information.

## Turn it down

**SUBMITTED BY LINDA MCDONALD, ABR, CRS, GRI, PMN, SRS, TRLP COLDWELL BANKER APEX, REALTORS**

If there's one thing you can count on when you own a home, it's the arrival of the energy bill each month. One homeowner's energy cost will be higher or lower than the next, but there are easy ways to save a little money each month.

1. Use the dishwasher. Dishwashers, especially Energy Star appliances, are more efficient than washing dishes by hand. It's also important to load your dishwasher as effectively as possible, so check your manual for the best way. If you don't own a dishwasher, save water by turning the tap on only when you need to rinse.

2. Unplug idle electronics. Electronics and appliances still use standby energy even when not in use. Since unplugging every cord in your home is not feasible, consider using power strips with multiple plugs that you can turn off and on with the flip of a switch.

3. Circulate air with fans. Even with central air conditioning, it can be tricky to keep every room at a steady tem-



**LINDA MCDONALD**

perature on hot days. Position standing fans to circulate air throughout your home, rather than lowering the AC thermostat temperature. If you have ceiling fans, make sure they're circulating in the correct direction: counter-clockwise during the summer—so air is being pushed down—and clockwise in the winter.

4. Measure laundry loads. Washing clothes in cold water instead of warm saves energy. And make sure there's enough space inside the dryer for hot air to circulate, or you could end up running two cycles.

Call Linda McDonald, "The Real Estate Lady," for all of your real estate needs: Coldwell Banker/Apex Realtors, 254-855-1717.

## RUSH | Continued from page one

Thomas Christian College in Florida, and two doctorates, in theology and divinity from St. Raphael Christian University in Louisiana.

Very concerned about urban renewal, Rush is an active community leader, a

role model, a youth mentor and the author of *How Christians Should Handle Stress*. The Rushes have two adult children, Gerren and Cherish and two young grandchildren. Gerren and Cherish are actively involved in ministry.

## Know possible dangers of co-signing

**SUBMITTED BY J.L. CRAWFORD, SENIOR MANAGER**

Co-signing on a loan involves a lot more than just your signature. When you co-sign a loan you put your credit history and personal assets on the line. Though it may be difficult to say no to a friend or family member it is important to make sure you fully understand the risk you are taking before you co-sign a loan. Your LegalShield provider law firm can review the terms of the loan before you sign.

- You are responsible for paying back the loan. Consider that any number of emergency situations could cause the borrower to miss or stop making payments altogether. If the primary borrower cannot pay the loan, you will be responsible. Make sure you are prepared to pay off the loan before you co-sign.

- Know the laws where you live. Some laws allow the lender to collect from the co-signer if the primary borrower misses a single payment. In some instances the lender may be able to go after you even if the primary borrower dies. Before you sign make sure you know the law where you live. Call your LegalShield provider law firm to learn more.

- Review the terms of the loan carefully before you sign. Read the loan documents. Make sure you know the interest rate, duration and terms of the loan. Retain copies of all of the loan documents and copies of checks used to make payment on the loan. Have your LegalShield provider law firm review any



**J.L. CRAWFORD**

loan terms before you sign.

- Do not be afraid to negotiate with the lender. As a co-borrower you may be able to negotiate the terms of the loan including the interest rate, potential late fees and payment dates. Require the lender to notify you if a single payment is missed so you can address problems quickly.

- Failure to pay the loan will damage your credit. In many cases co-borrowers are required because the primary borrower has poor credit. While timely payments on the loan will improve the primary borrower's credit score,

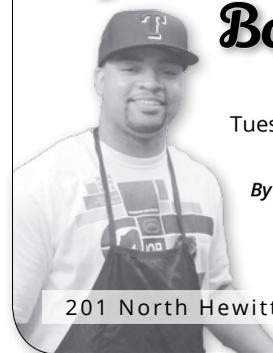
consider how late payments will hurt your rating. A drop in your credit score could prevent you from getting other types of credit or increase the interest rates you receive from lenders

- If the primary borrower defaults on the loan be proactive. If you receive a notice to make payment on a loan you co-signed do not wait to contact the lender. You may be able to negotiate a settlement directly with the lender. If the lender is forced to take legal action you may end up on the hook for court costs, late charges and attorney fees. If you need assistance

If you do not yet have an IDShield membership visit [www.idshield.com](http://www.idshield.com) to learn more. *LegalShield can help you with your legal issues. Preexisting problems are covered, so give me a call at 254-717-4927. Hurry. With LegalShield, "...we can help you worry less and live more."* Please see the ad in this issue of *The Anchor News*. J.L. Crawford, Senior Manager.

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Linda McDonald, ABR

# Health and Wellness Q & A

**WITH HEALTH SPECIALIST,  
JERRY SNIDER**

As the owner of All in Health and Wellness, I'm excited to offer a Health Q&A column for the readers of *The Anchor News*.

**QUESTION:**

I'm at an age (mid-50s) where I've almost given up on being healthy. There are certain diseases in my family history that I know I am just simply going to have to deal with in the next few years. I like my lifestyle but don't look forward to taking medicine to keep doing what I do. Am I stuck or is there a healthy way to prevent me from falling into my family history? Thanks, Alfred

**ANSWER:**

Hi Alfred,  
This is not just a great question but it's one that many people over 40 years old start to think about. Most people in their 40's and beyond have either lost a parent or are watching them deal with



**JERRY SNIDER**

health issues. This is a very real part of everyday life for almost all Americans. So how do you change it?

Statistically, 81% of Americans take at least 1 prescription medication a week. The flip side is the vast majority of medications are not meant to be taken long term. The issue at hand is as a society we focus too much on the quick fix or the least difficult solution. Taking a medication only takes a few seconds where

lifestyle changes to prevent needing the medication take more time and discipline.

When you get into the science of diseases passed through families, you find that the genes for the disease are present but in effect you have to turn them on. Something you do to your body must activate the genes in order for the disease to show up. Given that, there are also things you can do to prevent those genes from being turned on and thereby the disease will not show up in you.

Let's just look at two options research shows might just prevent chronic disease from showing up in your life. Hydration and Sleep.

As much as 75% of Americans live in a state of dehydration. Leading doctors estimate that 50-80% of chronic diseases could be cured by simply being hydrated properly. Having a proper amount of hydration is critical to removing toxins from your body. Start drinking more water!

Most Americans have a sleep deprivation of 20,000 hours (over 2 years) by the time they are 40 years old. Sleep is vital to your cells. When your body is at full rest for the appropriate amount of time (8 hours for adults) your cells get the opportunity to heal, strengthen, and regenerate. This does not include time spent relaxing on the couch watching TV. Get some sleep!

These are two very simple

ideas to put into your daily routine. Remember that prevention is always better than repairing after your health falls apart.

Have a question for Jerry? Send it to [jerry@allinhealthandwellness.com](mailto:jerry@allinhealthandwellness.com).

Visit the site [www.allinhealthandwellness.com](http://www.allinhealthandwellness.com) to learn more about Jerry Snider. You can also purchase his book *Confidence* through Health on Amazon.

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## Author Linda Mason Crawford shares excerpt from her book, *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine*

All chapters begin with one of her 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 for \$15.99. You can also go to [lindacrawford.org](http://lindacrawford.org) to order there. *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 back yard 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



LINDA MASON CRAWFORD

my boy was spending the night with a friend. It was pitch-black dark outside, as I had no time to flip on the outside lights. I just need-

ed 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 hatchback, 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 our 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>.

## Doris Miller Memorial Park

DORIS MILLER MEMORIAL PARK, INC. is located at 4800 Bellmead Drive, Waco, Texas 76705. The cemetery is owned and operated by Janice Matthews.

The Cemetery was established in 1949. The first burial was that of Doris Miller's father, Connery Miller. The Cemetery is named in honor of Doris Miller, the WWII hero. It has been under the present ownership since 2001.

The Cemetery is located on 16 acres with 12 garden to serve your needs. Family plots and monuments are available on terms. When you make your selection here, you have paid to the deceased your highest tribute.

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### DORIS MILLER MEMORIAL PARK, INC.

P.O. Box 154276 | Waco, Texas 76715  
Phone 254 799-5800 | (Fax) 254 799-0355  
E-Mail: [dorismiller27@hotmail.com](mailto:dorismiller27@hotmail.com)



# Tips for the home buying process

**BY: REGINA MARTINEZ,  
VICE PRESIDENT  
INCOMMONS BANK**

Purchasing or moving into a new home is an exciting process. Use the following tips to make the dream of homeownership easier for you:

**GET YOUR FINANCES IN ORDER**

- Reduce debt; a lender typically wants your debt-to-income to be no more than 42% of your income.
- Develop a habit of pay-

ing off your credit cards every month.

- Clean up your credit report.
- Get your down payment together. Typically a down payment is 5% to 20% of the purchase price of the house.

**GET PRE-QUALIFIED WITH A LENDER**

- Now that you have determined what you can afford and your finances are in order, the next step is to arrange financing. Getting pre-qualified lets you know how much house you can af-



**REGINA MARTINEZ**

ford. By submitting an application, basic information is collected and a credit report is obtained and reviewed.

- Preliminary documentation will be requested and reviewed to verify the information you provided on your application.
- The lender will then review the results with you and answer any questions you may have.

**BEGIN LOOKING FOR YOUR DREAM HOME:**

- Find a good real estate agent. They will provide you a market analysis to show you how much a house is really worth and help you avoid paying too much.
- Think about the location and neighborhood you would like to be in.
- Create a list of the

things you will want in your new home.

**FINAL STEP**

- Execute a Purchase Contract.
- Your lender will then order an appraisal and title commitment. Once received, your loan is prepared for closing.
- 3 days prior to closing you will receive a Closing Disclosure containing closing costs associated with the home buying process.
- Buyer and seller sign all documents and funds are disbursed per the Purchase Contract.
- You get the keys to your DREAM HOME!

## Church Directory

### High Point Church



www.highpointchurchwaco.com

<b>WEEKLY SERVICE</b> Every Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<i>Children's Church Youth Church Nursery</i>
---	---

Hollywood Theater | Highway 84 | Woodway, Texas  
**John Rambeau, Senior Pastor**

### Temple of Christ Church

*Matthew Reed Ministries, Inc.*



**Sunday School:** 10 a.m.  
**Worship:** 11:15 a.m.  
**Evening:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Monday Bible Study:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday Prayer Worship:** 7:00 p.m.

609 N. 5th Street • Waco, Texas 76701  
(254) 753-0772

### Temple of Deliverance Ministries



**Sunday Worship**  
10:00 a.m.  
**Tuesday Bible Study**  
7:00 p.m.



Apostle  
Sadie L. Henderson  
Overseer

1121 N. 18th St.  
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**Linda McDonald | (254) 855-1717**  
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# You must forgive if you want to be forgiven, Part 3

BY RUBY MCCRAY

*Continued from the February issue of The Anchor News.*

If you haven't read parts 1 and 2 of this series, I ask that you log on to: [www.theanchornews.com](http://www.theanchornews.com) and click Archives. Then click the month of January.

It is so easy to want to be forgiven when we wrong others, but it's not quite so easy to forgive those who have wronged us. We sometimes justify our reasoning not to forgive, but will think the reasoning of those who don't want to forgive us is trivial.

One day, Peter, sensing that he had knocked the ball out of the park, asked Jesus how many times he should forgive a person who sins against him. He answered his own question with a suggested number that he thought would impress Jesus. He said, "Seven times" (Matthew 18:21)? Jesus said, "No, not seven times, but seventy times seven." (Matthew 18:22) He also said that if a person sins against us seven times in one day, then turns and ask for forgiveness, we should forgive him. (Luke 17:3, 4)

In order for Peter to under-

stand, Jesus told him [us] the following parable: "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned—to pay the debt.

"But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

"But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.

"His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.

"When some of the other servants saw this, they were



EVANGELIST  
RUBY MCCRAY

very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.

"That's what my heavenly Father will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart" (Matthew

18:23-35).

I'm going to say that the first servant represents me. There's no way that I can calculate the cost in money to pay for the sins that I've committed; you, either. First, I was born a sinner because of Adam (Psalm 51:5; 1 Corinthians 15:21, 22). Then I had the nerve to knowingly rebel against God's laws, committing more sins (John 14:15, 21, 23, 24).

Since I could never pay for my sins, God sent His only begotten Son to die in my place (John 3:16). He paid my [your] sin debt with His precious blood. He was mocked, ridiculed, beaten beyond recognition and nailed to the cross, between two thieves, to die an excruciatingly painful death. All I had to do was confess my sins (1 John 1:8-10), repent and turn from my wicked ways (Mark 16:15, 16), receive Jesus as my Lord and Savior, and be baptized in His name (Acts 2:38). Then my millions of dollar debt was paid in full.

Now, if someone treats me very badly, it matters not how many times. I have to forgive him! Why? Because, what people do to me in comparison to what I did to Jesus is like the few

thousands, whereas mine is like the millions. Each time I had a difficult time forgiving, I could always hear Jesus say in my spirit, "Has anyone done more to you than what you've done to me, Jesus, the Christ?" My answer has always been, "NO!" Oh, yes! I still have altercations with individuals, but you'll never know it if THEY don't tell you.

"If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins" (Matthew 6:14, 15).

Precious people, SIN cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven; therefore, you must forgive so that your SINS won't be put back on you. We must confess each time we commit a new sin, repent and turn from it.

All Scripture is taken from the New Living Translation Bible. This concludes the three-part series. You may not believe me, but...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](mailto:rubyacorm@yahoo.com) or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.*

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**New Fashions Arriving!**

## From the Desk of Dr. Sandra Henry

The Cattleya Foundation of Hope is hosting its Second Annual Spring Rainbow Tea at the Dewey Center in Waco, Texas, 2-4 pm. The Master Gardener has provided us with His Helper, the Holy Spirit, to walk with us as He shares His truth with us on Saturday, April 6, 2019.

We are coming together on this journey to give Glory to God, to honor and encourage cancer survivors, and to ask for financial seeds of support for our Cattleya Transportation Program, a program that assists cancer survivors in need of transportation to and from their doctor appointments and medical treatments. We escort them to their appointments or provide them with a Waco Transit System bus pass, once they have completed a criteria application for processing. Our clients are referred to us from Scott and White Hillcrest Medical Center, McClinton Cancer Center.

I am a breast cancer survivor and I am four years cancer free. I am abundantly aware of the blessings and favor that God has given to me and my family. His Will has allowed me to continue my life journey and I am pas-



**DR. SANDRA HENRY**

sionately committed to serving cancer survivors in their plight for a life free of cancer one day at a time.

Every cancer survivor has a story to tell and every story is unique. In Cattleya, there are several members who are cancer survivors with heartfelt stories that have encouraged others. We care about cancer survivors! Our keynote speaker, Rochonda Farmer-Neal, Director of Government Relations, Baylor University, is an organ recipient and she has an amazing story of God's love to share with all of us.

Please join us for a time filled with hope, joy and love. Please don't miss this opportunity to meet some inspiring and courageous cancer survivors.

## Forget not all His benefits

BY MATTHEW REED

When you are evangelizing make sure you highlight God's benefits, everyone likes benefits. David in psalm103 wrote(Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:) These are some of the benefits he pointed out(Psalm103:3 Who forgives all thine iniquities; who heals all thy diseases; 4 Who redeems thy life from destruction; who crowns thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5 Who satisfies thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's [everyone desires to be youthful] .6 The LORD executes righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

If you are working with an individual that believes in God but has not made a decision for God, scriptures 3-4 are a very liberal package and hard to refuse. For those believers that have fallen away. We have this (Isaiah 44:22) I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee. Or Malachi 3:7-12 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, says the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed



**PASTOR MATTHEW AND LADY HELEN REED**

me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, says the LORD of hosts. 12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, says the LORD

of hosts. Now Jesus would say it like this: (Mark 1:15) The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

We should point out that God is not like man. In His efforts to save man he is very liberal. In the ways of righteousness He is very conservative. Tell them our God has more than one dimension. Carnally minded individuals cannot teach the way of God. They have to be spiritually minded. The carnal mind will always be enmity to God. You see at the end of the day God's mind is to save the souls of those that are lost. Remember this: if you are going to do God's bidding you can't be influenced by the world.

## Save the Date!

**FOURTH ANNUAL A CELEBRATION OF LIFE EVENT & FUNDRAISER**

*Saturday, August 31, 2019 | 6-8 p.m.*

*Lee Lockwood Library & Museum*

*2901 W. Waco Dr. | Waco, TX*

**\$25 DONATION**

*Catered Dinner Provided | Door Prizes*

*—Keynote Speaker—*

**Pastor Ruby Minnit**

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## WHERE CAN I PICK UP AN ANCHOR?



**—WACO—**

Many Area Churches  
Bebrick Collision  
Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce  
Doris Miller Y  
Hillcrest Chiropractic and Wellness Center  
Lula Jane's  
Marilyn's Gift Gallery  
Mitch's Corner Stop  
Public Library off South 18th Street  
Public Library off Austin Street  
Public Library in the Target Shopping Center  
Sascee's  
Texas Star Properties  
(Pro-Life Office on Waco Drive)

Tony DeMaria's Bar-B-Que

**—HEWITT—**

IGA  
Hillcrest Clinic

**—KILLEEN/HARKER HEIGHTS—**

Fay's Gift City  
Geechies  
George's Auto  
Glendora's  
Harker Heights Driving School  
The Jewelry Lady  
Village Co-op  
City of Waco Water Department  
Public Library on Elm  
County Records Building  
NeighborWorks  
7-11 Convenient Stores on Clear Creek Rd and Fort Hood St.  
So Fresh So Clean Barbershop

Mais Souffle Bistro  
Ruth's Chicken and Waffles  
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Nutone Cleaners

## BOOK REVIEW...

# Tambourines to Glory by Langston Hughes

BY JIM MCKEOWN

When a trusted book-club-buddy suggested *Tambourines to Glory*, I was—as frequently happens—curious about a novel I knew nothing about. When I learned the author was Langston Hughes, I was puzzled. I did not know he wrote a novel. My experience with him was limited to a collection of over 700 pages of powerful poetry.

According to the jacket, “Langston Hughes, one of America’s leading authors and poets, has long been interested in the gospel church, and particularly in religious music in the gospel manner. As a child he was often moved by the sermons of Negro ministers and the spirituals and syncopated songs of the gospel congregations. He is the author of the lyrics for the popular modern spiritual, ‘At the Feet of Jesus.’ He also wrote the libretto for Esther, full-length opera by Jan Meyerowitz, and the lyrics for Kurt Weill’s Broadway show, *Street Scene*.” Few things excite me more than discovering a new side to a well-known poet. I immediately dropped a few other things I was reading to acquaint myself with Langston Hughes, the

novelist.

Mr. Hughes wrote, “*Tambourines to Glory* is an urban folk tale set against a back ground of colored independence, unorthodox churches which have sprung up all over Harlem in the last decade. It is in no sense an attack on organized religion, or on cults as such, but is a fictional exposé of certain ways in which religion is misused in large city communities today by various types of unscrupulous leaders who might be called ‘gospel racketeers,’ praying upon the gullibility of simple people.”

Laura Reed and Essie Belle Johnson live in a tenement in Harlem. They have no jobs and plenty of time to spare. They decide to begin preaching on sidewalks to raise some money. Hughes writes, “When the sap rises in the trees, it’s spring,” said Laura. “Babes and boys start holding conferences to which actions speak louder than words. Aw, do it to me, lover!” // “I wish you would not talk that way, Laura, and you supposed to be preparing yourself for the ministry.” // “I’m a she-male minister,” said Laura, “and there ain’t nothing in the Bible says male nor female shall not make love. Fact is, Essie, the very first book is just



JIM MCKEOWN

full of begats, which runs from Genesis through to Tabulations.’ // ‘Revelations,’ said Essie. I read the Bible when I were a child.’ // ‘Which were a long time ago,’ murmured Laura. // ‘Just because I’m a few years older than you,’ said Essie, ‘you don’t need to reflect on it. But if we’re gonna start them meetings we been talking about, you ought to start reading up in the Bible.’” (39).

Laura and Essie begin preaching, and slowly they gather fol-

lowers. In addition to their flock, some interesting characters join the church. Birdy Lee was an elderly woman, who has an amazing talent on the trap drum. She ignites the congregation. Deacon Crow-For-Day is a passionate confessor, and rather suddenly, the women find they have a theater with over a thousand seats. The three women fill the church every Sunday, and the cash begins to pile up.

Here is a sample of Laura’s preaching. “It were Palm Sunday when I got the call,” preached Laura. “I were setting in my room with Sister Essie here, and I heard a voice just as loud saying, ‘Take up the Cross and follow Me, go out unto the highways and byways and save souls, go to the curbstones and gutters and rescue the lost, approach the river of sin and pull out the drowning.’ Oh, I were drowning once, friends, but now I’m saved. I were down there in sin’s gutter lower than a snake’s belly—now look at me!” (43). Unfortunately, a snake slithers into the congregation in the form of Big-Eyed Buddy, a handsome and charming man. He works for a numbers racketeer and begins using the church as a front for play-

ing numbers.

Hughes writes, “He just walked down the aisle out of nowhere, confronted Laura, and spoke. ‘I saw you on the curb before you moved off the street into this church, and you certainly looked good to me.’ // ‘I did not observe you in the services tonight, did?’ asked Laura. She went toward the switch to turn out the altar lights. // ‘No, I just wandered in after things was over. I saw the people going out. I wondered where you had disappeared to off of Lenox Avenue. I traced you here.’ // ‘The Reed Sisters is flattered.’ // ‘No sisters to it. It’s you I’m talking to. Maybe I could ride you somewhere, now that your night’s work is done.’ // ‘You got a car?’ // ‘I can call a taxi.’ // ‘I usually go for a little drink after services,’ smiled Laura” (80). You might think you already know what happens next, but I am fairly certain you will be surprised.

Langston Hughes, the poet, can also spin a tale with moments of laughter, and serious moments as well, *Tambourines to Glory* will have you thinking. I can see the nodding heads in the pews.

*Dr. Jim McKeown is an English professor at McLennan Community College in Waco.*

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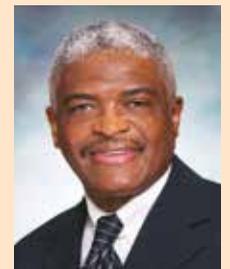
## BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday at 7 p.m.

## CONTACT INFO.

Church - (254) 772-1371

E-Mail - twolcc@grandecom.net

Nelson R. Henley, Sr.  
Pastor & Founder

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