

THE Anchor News

Serving the Central Texas Community

Celebrating 15 Years!

MARCH 2018

Volume 15 • No. 8

Free



Justice is just the Petty way

Since she was a youth, De-Andrea Petty had a passion and a calling to help others. At a very young age she decided she would become an attorney. The daughter of Annie Petty of Waco, Texas and the late Derrick Pyburn of McGregor, Texas, Petty attended elementary and middle school in Marlin, Texas, and she high school at Texas Christian Academy, in Waco, Texas.

Petty received her Bachelor's degree from Baylor University in 2013. During her time at Baylor, she interned as a policy analyst at the Texas State Capitol, in the Texas Legislative Internship Program under Senator Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, TX. As a policy analyst in the office of former Representative Lon Burnam, D-Fort Worth, TX, Petty read and analyzed each criminal bill that went through the Criminal Jurisprudence committee. She also worked at Texas Appleseed in Austin, Texas, where she researched laws that focused on the school to prison pipeline and attended special



DeANDRA PETTY

session hearings at the Capitol.

Petty received her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas in 2016. During her time in law school she interned at the Harris County District Attorney's Office and The Charles Brown Law Firm. At the Harris County District Attorney's Office, she conducted Restitution, Injury and Punishment (RIP) calls, which

entailed calling complainants and witnesses of juvenile delinquent conduct. In addition, she was responsible for overseeing the court docket for the 315th court. At the Charles Brown Law Firm, Petty drafted legal memorandums dealing with family and criminal law as well as motions for divorces, transfer of venues and withdraw of counsel.

In October of 2017, Petty opened the Law Office of De-Andrea Petty, in Waco, Texas touting the motto that "Justice Is Just The Petty Way."

"Whether you have made mistakes as a youth or an adult, everyone deserves justice as well as a second chance. You need an attorney who is zealous in ensuring you receive the best representation possible," Petty explains.

The Law Office of DeAndrea Petty is also here to help you with child support, child custody "SAPCRs" and divorce cases. She believes that fa-

See **PETTY** pg. 6

Are you ready for Juneteenth Waco?

BY SOPHIA STROTHER

Did you know that Waco is now the place to be on Juneteenth Weekend? We are so excited to announce Empowerment Driven by Knowledge Coalition is hosting the 7th Annual Juneteenth Family Fun Day Weekend Extravaganza Friday, June 15th – Sunday, June 17th! This weekend will provide an opportunity to participate in a variety of festive events that create an atmosphere celebrating African American heritage and independence while promoting



SOPHIA STROTHER

education and unity.

Thanks to a generous grant from Creative Waco we are introducing two new events to our annual Saturday flagship event creating the Juneteenth Weekend Extravaganza. Friday, June 15th at 7 p.m. Footprintz Dance will host the first annual Mr. & Miss Juneteenth Scholarship Pageant at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre. FREE for the family, this event will allow McLennan County juniors and seniors to show-

See **JUNETEENTH** pg. 9

Dwayne Banks seeks Waco City Council, District 1 Seat

Nearly three decades ago, when it was not so popular to have a business on Elm, Dwayne and Marilyn Banks had a vision. As a matter of fact, back then Elm Avenue was frowned upon for its prostitutes, drug dealing and violent bars. Yes, Elm Avenue was the last place to put a business, especially a gift shop. Who would come to the store? Who would protect the merchandise after hours?

While many entrepreneurs would not dare take such a chance on Elm Avenue, Banks was not convinced that it was not time to give up on the historical landmark known as Elm Avenue. He had hopes, dreams, and a clear vision that it could once again be a thriving business location. He and Marilyn believed having a business in the area could make a difference in the community, and in November, 1989, they opened the doors of Marilyn's Gift Gallery and Sound World at 818 Elm Avenue. Nearing their 30th anniversary, the gift store has become a thriving part of the East Waco community.

As a 29-year resident and business owner in the Historic Elm Avenue and downtown district, Banks has a long held passion for revitalization and development of East Waco. Thus, he is seeking the Waco City Council, District 1 seat in the upcoming election. He has been pivotal in addressing neighborhood and communi-



DWAYNE BANKS

ty concerns, so much so that his place of business has been dubbed the "unfunded" Community Center. Banks and his wife have been examples to the East Waco Community of hard work, positivity, and longevity in business and community through participating in various community efforts and projects, but mainly because of their years of investment in this previously blighted area.

Banks was a strong supporter of the late City Councilman Wilbert Austin. "I would like to continue to fulfill Rev. Austin's vision and efforts to revitalize District 1."

Banks says he is excited about all of the many possibilities for revitalizing East Waco. "I feel blessed to be a part of it and I want to work for the continuation of development and the betterment of District 1 and Waco."

He has served on var-

See **BANKS** 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.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR...

Oh gives thanks unto the Lord, for this is a great day to have a great day, "the day that the Lord has made." No matter what the situation is, more than likely, and under normal circumstances, it is not a bad day, not if you write your blessings on one side of the paper and the "NOT SO GOOD" things on the other side. More than likely, under normal every day conditions, the first list, for just one day, will be longer than the second list. Don't let the short list describe your long day. You can praise your way to the victory or whine to your defeat. I'm just saying.

Former Woodway residents establish Massey Meditation Grove: Dedication Set for 2 p.m., April 12

WOODWAY TX (March 29, 2018) – The public is invited to the dedication of the newest attraction at the Carleen Bright Arboretum (CBA) – The Massey Meditation Grove – a ¾-acre sanctuary of serenity bounded by a creek and split rail fencing and populated by Texas trees and shrubs, crushed granite footpaths and attractive benches.

The event, set for 2 p.m., Thursday, April 12, will feature brief comments by city leaders and the benefactors, followed by a reception in Whitehall Center at the Arboretum. Location is the intersection of Bosque Boulevard and Estates Drive, 1.3 miles from U.S. Hwy. 84.

The 16-acre Arboretum (<http://www.woodway-texas.com/carleen-bright-arboretum/>), carved out of native woodland and meadows, is already a popular retreat for nature lovers, master gardeners, walkers/hikers, picnickers and wedding-bound couples. Open daily without fee, it was recently mentioned in *The Boston Globe*.

"Since its establishment in 1999, the Arboretum has been blessed with many individual and community partnerships in its careful development as a family venue," said Janet Schaffer, Director of the City's Arboretum, Tourism, and Recreational Services.

"To such wonderful people as the McLennan County Master Gardeners, Cactus & Succulent Society, Central Texas Herb Society and Waco Rose Society who help maintain our beauti-

**RONDA DALE & PRESTON KIRK**

ful gardens, and many private benefactors, we now add Preston and Ronda Dale (Massey) Kirk of Spicewood, TX," Schaffer said.

The project, more than a year in the making, honors Ronda's parents, Rondal M. and Mildred T. (Armstrong) Massey, both deceased. The Masseys were lifetime residents of Waco and Woodway. He was an amateur Waco tennis champion and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in WWII. Both worked for the U.S. Postal Service and loved nature, particularly trees.

"Our goal was to provide a natural setting that welcomes all to find solace, redemption and renewal," said Kirk, a former journalist and PR-marketing executive who grew up in Bellmead, TX. "We want Massey Meditation Grove to be a place where visitors can unplug from their devices and reconnect with their own thoughts, aspirations or higher power amidst nature."

Ronda Kirk, who has worked for federal and state agencies and run her own bed-and-breakfast and a gourmet cookie store, added, "I hope it becomes an ideal place for prayer, reflection and inspiration."

The Kirks, who met at and graduated from Baylor University, married at Woodway Baptist Church in 1968. They operated Kirk Public Relations for 32 years and are now part-time actors.

Depending on weather, the reception will be at Whitehall Center at the Arboretum, a replica of the historic Whitehall Church, or its adjacent 1100-sq.-ft. terraced patio. The Center features beautiful stained glass and has hosted festivals, weddings, society meetings, business luncheons, art exhibits and memorials.

ORNAMENTAL ARCH, LANDSCAPING, 'RECYCLED' BENCHES

Massey Meditation Grove lies within the northwestern extent of the Arboretum, just beyond the amphitheater and covered gazebo. It is bordered on the front side by the Todd Willis Nature Trail. The Grove's completion brings the CBA's total site development to nearly nine acres.

A nine-foot tall, steel ornamental arch, designed and fabricated by Noah Smith of Lone Star Iron Works in Elm Mott, TX, greets Grove visitors. Master Blacksmith Caleb Nolen of Homestead Forge in Elm Mott hand-crafted decorative leaves for the impressive portico that represents trees newly planted in the Grove.

Travis Williams of Fitzgerald's in Woodway is responsible for landscape design, irrigation, pathways and trees added to the elm and ash juniper on the site: live oak, Mexican sycamore, pecan, Texas red bud, Monterrey and bur oak trees. Other plants include pink muhly grass, possum haw, Indian hawthorn, glossy abelia, Turks cap and new gold lantana.

Grove guests can relax on numerous mold and mildew-resistant garden benches made from recycled HDPE plastic. "The furniture is made from recycled milk jugs and assorted plastics," said Brigette Glatte, manager of the Backyard & Patio Store in Woodway.

Background: Carleen Bright Arboretum is known as the "hidden jewel of Woodway," a 6.6-square-mile suburb of Waco, with about 9,000 residents. It boasts a certified Monarch Way-station, pond with babbling waterfall, rose garden, two McLennan County Master Gardener demonstration gardens – the Texas Superstar Bed and Trailside Gardens – and much more. The 10,000-s.f. Pavilion features a Great Hall for special events and a lobby that doubles as an art gallery and gathering space.

For more information or for interviews, contact Janet Schaffer, Director of Arboretum, Tourism and Recreational Services, City of Woodway, 1 Pavilion Way, Woodway, TX 76712, 254-399-9204, jschaffer@woodwaymail.org; or Preston F. Kirk, APR, Spicewood TX, 512-940-4402, prestonkirkactorpoet@gmail.com.

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.

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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.

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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

Subscriptions are \$36 a year (12 issues) and can be paid by check or money order. Send all correspondences to *The Anchor News*, P.O. Box 23534, Waco, Texas 76702-3534 or email to theanchornews@aol.com.

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WANDA B. GUNTER

Contributing Writer

SCOTT KNAPEK

Design/Layout

STAFF

OPEN LETTER FROM ANDREA BAREFIELD...

Candidate Andrea Jackson Barefield, leading with truth, vision and voice

I am your candidate for Waco City Council District 1. I have been able to sit at the knee of so many political giants in my life. I learned what responsibility you have when you are elevated to be the first Black Treasury Secretary Azie Taylor Martin. I learned that no matter what confines you physically, your intelligence and fearlessness can transcend any other barriers from your path from the Honorable Barbara Jordan. I learned that you cannot be weary in well doing from Ms. Sadie Harper.

I don't remember ever NOT seeing Ms. Harper at the polls at Carver Park. Her steadfastness is a lesson that was well received. I learned (from mom but proven by Pat Chisholm Miller) that titles don't mean anything. Administrative Assistant on paper actually means Chief Operating Officer in the real world, and Pat has worked diligently with Precinct 2's CEO, Commissioner Gibson for 22 years in governing and managing this precinct.

I learned a LOT from Mae Jackson. I learned what real love for a city and its people looks like. I also learned that relationships will build bridges that empty words will not. I learned that sometimes we need to spend more time doing than talking, and those actions don't always need to be advertised. Time is over for trying to get credit for work that is yet undone. A lot of time people are tirelessly working, and the public knows nothing about it.

Someone asked what I have done for the community when he found out that I was running. Let me tell you about the work I am doing in the community. I am on the Executive Council for Waco NAACP, serving as the chapter's vice president and economic engagement committee chairwoman. As economic engagement chair, I have led our effort to work with local banks on their now publicized discrimination practices in lending to people of color. I have organized home buying semi-

nars in the community and will be hosting a workshop on heirship called "Keeping It in the Family" that will educate on how not to lose property when family members pass away. I am Arts and Letters co-chair for Waco Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. I am a member of Jack and Jill of America and a part of the Creative Waco Task Force that helped get Waco designated as a cultural arts district.

I am on the Economic Development subcommittee for the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce Public Policy committee. My goal there is to encourage them to make Diversity and Inclusion a priority for themselves and businesses they incentivize to come to Waco. I also serve on the community boards of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, Waco Civic Theatre, Waco ISD Foundation. I am also a member of the Community Visioning Board—foremother of what we know today as Prosper Waco. So, you may not see me out in the community, but know this, I am working on your behalf.

I am working for you when I sit at the table where equitable economic development for our community is being discussed and insist on making it a priority. I am working for you when I make sure that all of our established small businesses are getting the same resources and exposure to incentives. I am working for you when I ensure the ability for women and girls to get quality health care – whether they can afford it or not. I am working on your behalf when I generate money for our teachers to be recognized and our students exposed to experiences that they otherwise wouldn't get. My job is the work—not the acknowledgement.

Voters must select an individual who knows, loves, and will serve District One as Councilman Austin did. Voters must elect an individual who will be committed to addressing the eco-



ANDREA BAREFIELD

conomic challenges faced by the people of District 1, including the high poverty rate, lack of jobs, disproportionate high employment, and lack of public transportation. The next city council member for District 1 must ensure that it is not forgotten or overlooked as the economic fortunes of Waco improve. I am that person. I am asking for your vote, because I am prepared to tackle these obstacles with Truth, Vision, and Voice.

Truth: At this point in our country, truth is more important than ever. I will speak truth to power to make sure that the residents of District One are aware of all the resources that are available from the City. I will fight for transparency in the City's process so that residents get clear information and know who to go to with their problems and con-

cerns. Wacoans have seen our city make decisions that could be detrimental to the livelihoods of her citizens and we sat and watched it happen. We watched it happen, because we were unaware of how to make our voice heard. We need readily available ACCESS to information and a clear path to impacting the process. I will make sure that happens.

Vision: Waco is growing. Our city is expanding and East Waco is officially on the radar. How the development occurs should be done WITH the community at the table and not development done TO the community without its voice being heard. Now we all know that where there is no vision, the people perish. I understand the growth plans for Waco and will work to ensure that life-long residents of East Waco don't get priced out of living in their own neighborhoods in the process. We can have development without losing our historic value. We can grow without negatively gentrifying our neighborhoods. Knowledge of resources will strengthen our ability to grow and develop more small businesses from within our community. We need someone at the table who understands economic growth and development, has small business acumen and knows how government works. I am that person.

Voice: There is power in our voice. Now is the time to use it. There has

been growth all over this city. Yet, for over three decades, the growth of East Waco has been stymied. We make small strides, then go through periods of stagnation. It is time for leadership that will not let our District be silenced. Our children, our young adults and our seniors need us to stand now and make our voices heard. We must demand equitable economic development in the companies that we bring to Waco. We must say that companies must pay a living wage and have growth opportunities within the organization so that young people don't have to leave Waco to make a living. Skills gap is a term used often to say that the workers here don't have the skills necessary to work in the companies that we want to attract. We must increase our relationship with WISD, TSTC, and MCC to ensure that what our students need to know to erase this "skills gap" is being provided. If elected, it will be my priority to continue the improvements to transit and to work with all three Chambers of Commerce to insure equitable economic development and training.

I am in position and ready to continue this work. I have been placed, am prepared, and stand Day 1 ready to represent District 1.

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SUBMITTED BY
J.L. CRAWFORD,
SENIOR MANAGER

A recent study revealed that nearly 60 million Americans have some type of legal issue. According to the information reported, these working Americans dealt with at least one legal issue in the last year. However, a high percentage of these people could not afford the assistance of an attorney to help them with their dire situations. The highest area of needs included auto and traffic problems, specifically accidents and tickets. Another high need area included family issues, such as child support, adoption and divorce. A third area involved trust funds, wills, estates, and rental contracts. One particular problem that is sweeping the nation is Identity Theft.

Look at the list below (from <http://www.legalshield.com/top25legalissues/>). If you are experiencing or have experienced or could experience one of the issues on the list, you need to give me a call, so I can help you "live more and



J.L. CRAWFORD

worry less."

- Automobile accident
- Identity theft
- Execution of a contract
- Inherited property
- Secured a home mortgage/refinanced home
- Filed bankruptcy
- Divorce
- Friend who owes you money files for bankruptcy
- Speeding ticket or traffic violation
- Injured someone accidentally

- Prepared a will
- Leased a vehicle
- Marriage
- Challenged a will
- Leased an apartment or home or bought a time share
- Creditor taking legal action
- Set up a trust
- Adoption of a child/Child Support
- Became executor of parents' estate
- Property was damaged while in storage
- Was subpoenaed
- Dog bit someone
- Vehicle damaged while parked on street
- Sued by tenant

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PART 1 OF A 2-PART SERIES...

Getting the Most from your bank

BY: REGINA MARTINEZ,
VICE PRESIDENT
INCOMMONS BANK



Have you ever really thought about how your bank fits your needs as you grow? What you need when you are twenty and single is much different from what you need to start a business or pay for your kids' college. Getting the most from your bank helps grow your wealth and financial stability.

20's: You've likely accumulated some credit card and school loan debt, but you probably don't have a solid credit history or score. Look for a bank that offers financial education tools, and a banker to sit down with you and discuss ways to improve credit scores and perhaps consolidate your debt into one easy payment. Look into checking accounts that offer low (or no) fees so your money goes further.

Work with your banker to automatically deposit into a savings account emergency fund. As a general rule, your goal should be to have 6 months of living expenses socked away in case of a job loss or medical emergency.

Develop a budget. Write down where your money goes for a month and you will be surprised! Look at the monthly expenses like rent and utilities, but don't forget about the cash you spend weekly on non-essential items like coffee or lunch. Set a budget and only spend what you can afford each week. You'll thank yourself later!

A long-term relationship with a trusted banker helps them know what your goals and dreams are. Your banker should be a resource where you can go for help. If not, you may be at the wrong bank.

30's: This age is a mixed bag for many. Assuming you may be starting a family, look for a bank

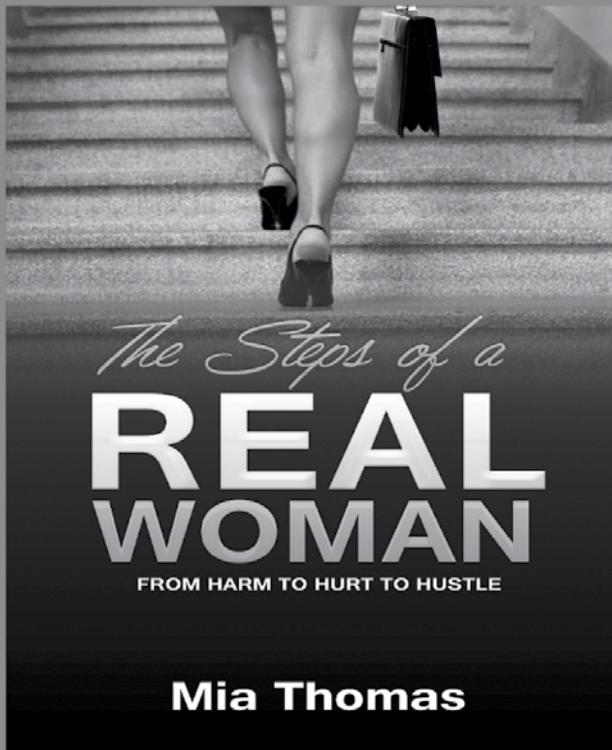

REGINA MARTINEZ

that offers accounts that pay high interest on money you can save for your kids' education. The time-value of money lets you see it grow every month. \$100/month in a high-interest savings account can result in \$25,000 when your child is ready to enroll. Have a different goal? Check out our website and find out how much money you need to save to reach it. www.incommonsbank.com/services-tools/tools/financial-calculators.html.

What about a new house or car? Work with your banker to determine how much you need as a down payment and how to achieve that amount. What is your credit rating? Did you know your credit rating affects not only how much you pay for a loan, but also affects if you are hired for a job, or how much you pay for insurance?

If your business doesn't offer a retirement plan, look into a Roth IRA or other alternatives. Your bank can offer these services for individuals. Remember the time-value of money and get started now. Unfortunately, half of all Americans have nothing put away for retirement. (CNBC, 6/13/17). Experts suggest by age 50, you should have five times your annual salary saved.

See next month's issue for the next part in this series. 40's and 50's.

The Steps of a
REAL WOMAN
FROM HARM TO HURT TO HUSTLE

Mia Thomas

MIA THOMAS, AUTHOR, CERTIFIED LIFE COACH AND ENTREPRENEUR

The Steps of a Real Woman is based on real life experiences and obstacles that the Author went through to become a better woman by embracing Christ. It is a source to learning how to forgive others, yourself, and to love and accept yourself as you are. For those of you that are struggling and feeling frazzled beyond belief - this book will show you how to remove worries, ease trying times, and show you how, by loving and trusting God, to empower yourself to live your best life.

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Art on Elm: An east Waco pop-up art exhibition

February 7, 2018 – Waco, TX – Cultural Arts of Waco, in partnership with NeighborWorks Waco, is pleased to announce the seventh annual Art on Elm Avenue, a free pop-up art exhibition on historic Elm Avenue featuring local artists, street performers, arts & craft vendors, and arts activities.

An opportunity for East Waco to thrive and to show its artistic side, Art on Elm Avenue 2018 will be held on Saturday, April 7th, at the corner of Elm Avenue and Dallas Street, near the location of Lula Jane's. This exciting pop-up art exhibition opens with

a colorful preview party – Splash on the Color! - to be held on the evening of Friday, April 6th, featuring the opening of the juried artist exhibition.

New this year, Elm Tea Fest will include tea vendors, tea tastings, guest speakers, and more. This one-of-a-kind festival will also offer the opportunity to attend a ticketed afternoon tea, including traditional delicious treats. Also this year, Art on Elm Avenue has the opportunity to be a part of Navy Week. Waco was chosen as one of 15 cities around the country to participate. The United States Navy

Brass Quintet will be performing at noon on the day of the festival. The Quintet serves as musical ambassador for the Navy around the country.

Save the Date Friday, April 6, 2018 – Splash on the Color! Preview Party Brazos E (Brazos Event Center – 520 Elm Avenue) | 6:30 – 8:30 PM · Preview the Art on Elm Avenue juried art exhibition, meet the artists, and enjoy drinks, food and music! Tickets will be \$20 per person.

Saturday, April 7, 2018 – Art on Elm Avenue Elm Avenue | 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

· Anticipate an abundance

of art, handcrafted goods, and street performers featuring. Includes special events – Elm Tea Fest and The United States Navy Brass Quintet. Come to admire the art; stay to enjoy the rest! FREE and open to the public.

Call for Artists Juried Exhibition

· Art on Elm Avenue invites artists living and working in Texas to apply for entry; Waco-area artists especially encouraged to apply. The juried exhibition is open to all artists and mediums, with a focus on the artist's experience of their local community. Exhibition will be previewed

at Splash on the Color fundraiser and preview party on Friday, April 6, 2018 and displayed free during Art on Elm on April 7, 2018. All accepted work must remain installed for the duration of the exhibition.

· To Apply: Online application available at artonelm.org/artists/exhibition-gallery. Artists may submit up to three works for inclusion in the juried exhibition. There is no fee for submission. Please apply by March 23, 2018. Contact doreen@wacoartsfest.

See **ART ON ELM**, pg. 9

Church Directory

High Point Church



www.highpointchurchwaco.com

WEEKLY SERVICE
Every Sunday
10:30 a.m.

Children's Church
Youth Church
Nursery

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.

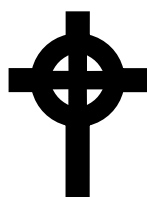
609 N. 5th Street • Waco, Texas 76701
(254) 753-0772

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.
Waco, TX 76707

Church: (254) 754-2102
Mobile: (254) 498-1707



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Students lean on community for tutoring

Now at the midway point, the Lean on Me Mondays Community STAAR Test Tutoring Program is seeing increases in its number of volunteers and students. "The second week of tutoring our numbers doubled, the third week our numbers increased significantly, and now that we are providing transportation, we expect our numbers to grow even more," declared Dr. Peaches Henry, president of the Waco NAACP. "We are certainly anticipating improvements in the areas of math and reading with the extra help that is being offered through our many community volunteers. Students have been engaged, and they appear eager and excited about these learning opportunities," Jocelyn Pierce, retired principal and president of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, noted.

People from all over McLennan County are coming out to volunteer, recognizing as Alicia Ross put it, "any failing school is far too costly... and as a community, we simply can't afford it." The LOMM volunteers include current and retired principals, current and former teachers, professors, counselors, daycare workers, fraternities, sororities, church members, community advocates, and NAACPers. Volunteers are helping in every capacity: tutoring, signing students in and out, setting up tables and chairs, serving as runners, cheerleading, and even sharpening pencils. Cumulatively, volunteers have clocked over 200 hours, said Elizabeth Ligawa who has been tracking volunteer hours for LOMM.

Individuals from all walks

of life are contributing to the LOMM effort. "The community has been waiting on a chance like this to let our children know that we support them and have faith in them," declared one volunteer. "It is great to see them excited about learning." Mrs. Louise Gillum, whose church has provided transportation for LOMM, declared, "My heart was warmed to see how excited the children were when I picked them up."

One volunteer canceled his spring break trip to Las Vegas to be present for LOMM, declaring "My students will be depending on me to be there." After spending the day in the classroom, teachers are coming out to help at LOMM. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, whose brothers are already volunteering at a school, is also coming out to LOMM. Phi Delta Kappa, whose members have been working at J. H. Hines Elementary since 2016, are playing a major role in organizing LOMM.

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority are also volunteering. Waco ISD Child Nutrition Services is providing meals for students. Living Word Church of God in Christ is providing transportation. The local Texas State Teachers' Association, Prosper Waco, and individuals have also helped the program.

"Our tutors are doing a fantastic job with our children. I watched the Waco Fire Chief's wife Rosemarie Tatum work with a group of children on angles. She made me

want to learn angles again," declared Henry. At the second LOMM, Marian Wilson, fifth grade teacher at J. H. Hines, did not want to stop. "We've got two more problems. We're going to knock those out. Then we'll stop," Wilson said when informed that it was time to go. Even principals are tutoring. Indian Springs assistant principal Elijah Barefield tutored seventh grade math. J. H. Hines principal Julie Sapaugh dropped by LOMM two Mondays running to encourage her students.

"I am grateful for everyone who has contributed their time and talents to make this a very positive and worthwhile experience that I believe will benefit and enhance the educational foundations of all the students who are taking advantage of these sessions," Pierce said. "Lean on Me Mondays is an awesome opportunity for volunteers to give back to the community, while helping students become better prepared in the classroom before, during and after the STAAR Test. We are investing in our future," Rose Freeman said. "One of the students we tutor might be the one who helps her school hit the mark for success," said Justin Rice. "This is what it looks like when the village pulls together--everyone working together for the common goal of helping our children be successful," declared Henry.

The positive results of LOMM are already manifest. As a result of LOMM, declares Henry, "we want students to be excited about

learning, to realize that learning takes place in and out of school, to develop a narrative of self-confidence, and to know that the community supports them." Students are developing relationships with community members and realizing that the community supports them in their academic endeavors. "Their faces light up when they see the tutor who has been working with them." Students even showed up for tutoring during spring break. "Students are getting exposure to various helpful strategies that they may utilize to perform not only better in their classes, but also on district assessments and on the upcoming STAAR Tests," explained Pierce.

The organizers of LOMM plan to reward participating students. At the end of each Monday's tutoring, students have received a small incentive. However, at the end of the seven-week period, plans for a major celebration are under way. Each student will receive a reward at the end of the program. Stu-

dents who have attended multiple Mondays will be entered in a drawing for grand prizes. "We want to celebrate academic effort and achievement with as much fanfare as we celebrate athletic and artistic endeavors," Henry said. The NAACP is currently accepting contributions for the celebration which will take place on Saturday, April 7.

Organizations and individuals who would like to support the LOMM celebration, may send contributions to the Waco NAACP; PO Box 20511; Waco, TX 76702.

Lean on Me Mondays Tutoring will continue through Monday, March 26 at the Dewey Park Community Center at 925 N. Ninth St. from 5:30PM-7:30PM. All students are welcome. Dinner will be provided.

The Waco NAACP meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Texas Rangers Education Center at 6:30PM. All are welcome to join the Waco NAACP by visiting the website at waconaacp.org or via PayPal using the email address waconaacp@gmail.com.

PETTY

Continued from page one

milial relationships are important especially when it comes to parents and their relationships with their children. Petty also believes that divorces do not have to be a fight to the end, but an intermission for the start of a new beginning.

Petty is the maternal granddaughter of Sara Petty and the late Dorrice Petty of Marlin, paternal granddaughter of

Verda Pyburn and the late Arthur Pyburn, McGregor, Texas, and the niece of Gregory Petty, Cindy Shepard and Byron Pyburn.

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Unto you this day a Savior is born (The answer to failing democracies)

BY MATTHEW REED

Luke 2:11 says "For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." The solution to our democracy's problem is simple: adopt and teach the doctrine of Christ. A savior is one who saves a people from their troubles: 2 Kings 13:5 And the LORD gave Israel a savior, so that they went out from under the hand of the Syrians: and the children of Israel dwelt in their tents, as beforetime.

Because their King Jehoahaz continued to do as his predecessor who did evil and caused Israel to sin, the Lord was angry and brought judgment upon Israel, but as soon as Jehoahaz sought the Lord, he was heard of the Lord and he sent Israel a savior.

If we in this democracy would elect leaders that would seek the Lord for solutions, we would become a unified people and continue to attain to greatness that would baffle the world. What we have today in America is different administrations that continue in the same old hog wash. So we keep doing the same thing looking for a different solution. That's the definition of insanity. And they are there because of us the people. You see in this democracy our leaders are voted in.

When you talk about the Government you are the government. As much we want to blame the politicians in Washington, we put them there. The insanity we see is ours not theirs; they are actually doing your bidding; we are getting what we bought—a pig in a poke. There is help—a savior Christ the Lord. We need a savior, and have one in the person of Jesus the Christ sent unto all men by God. But as is written in God's word, to some it's foolishness and to others a stumbling block (1 Corinthians 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block and unto the Greeks foolishness).

But I thank God that to people who believe He is the power and wisdom of God (24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks,



PASTOR MATTHEW AND HELEN REED

Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God). In Nehemiah 9, we can discern God our savior sending us saviors as we repent and call on him (Nehemiah 9:27 Therefore thou delivered them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou heard them from heaven; and according to thy manifold mercies thou gave them saviors, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies).

There are many more examples as to what God is saying and doing when he said,



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"unto you this day a savior is born." We have help and there is hope for our democracy; it is in the persons of

Jesus Christ and God's doctrine that he brought to us from God. You say we have this doctrine and you are

right but this doctrine has to be rightly divided. This is where the fly gets in the buttermilk.

Gospel artist Myron Williams to perform in Waco in April

Save the date for "A Night of Worship," with Dr. Myron Williams, Serena Joy, and Pastor Daron Farmer. The event is planned for April 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Harvest Time Revival Center.

Williams is the President and CEO of the independent gospel label, Flow Records which produced highly successful projects such as *A Piece of My Passion*, *Gospel Goes Classical*, *Made to Worship*, and the latest offering *More Passion*. Known as one of gospel music's most sought after producers, his distinctive sound and writing style has placed Flow Record's projects at the top of the Billboard Charts since its inception over 4 years ago.

Williams, long time music director for Juanita Bynum Ministries, is credited with the music and sound fans of Flow Records have grown to love. A renowned worship and praise leader, he found a way to harness the power and intensity of a praise service and capture the feeling on a track. This is why his production and writing skills are utilized by some of gospel music's biggest recording artist including T.D. Jakes, Kim Burrell, Marvin Sapp, DFW Mass Choir, Karen Clark-Sheard, and former Flow Records artist Juanita Bynum of which he produced 7 chart



DR. MYRON WILLIAMS

topping CD's.

A successful recording artist in his own right, Williams' first release on Flow Records Made to Worship debuted at #9 on the Billboard Gospel Charts

and stayed in the top 10 for several weeks.

Williams originally entered the industry as a member of MDM & Voices, with brother Demarcus more than 10 years ago. They became favorites on local gospel radio programs in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. His big break came when he recorded the lead on the single "When My Season Comes," which was on the Grammy Award winning project by Potter's House. From that point his gift as a vocalist, producer, and writer has been in demand.

A loving father, husband and spiritual mentor too many, Williams resides in the Dallas/Ft Worth area. Information taken from <http://myronwilliamsministries.com/> For more information, contact BMB Ministries and Productions, 254-733-8876.

BANKS

Continued from page one

ious boards and committees, such as TIF, Waco Vision 20/20, and the Waco Visitors and Tourism board. Part of the Community Leadership Institute for Neighbor Works, which initiated mural paintings on buildings in the Histor-

ic Elm Avenue, Banks presently serves on the Historic and Landmark and Preservation board. He is a member of Second Missionary Baptist Church in Waco, under the leadership of Pastor Nika and First Lady Beverly Davis.

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- Mitch's Corner Stop
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- Public Library off Austin Street
- Public Library in the Target Shopping Center
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ART ON ELM

Continued from page five

org with any questions or concerns, or at 254-723-6830.

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· Art on Elm Avenue invites artists living and working in Texas to apply for entry; Waco-area artists especially encouraged to apply. Vendor space is open to all exhibitors for the Art on Elm Avenue main event on April 7, 2018.

· To Apply: Online application available at artonelm.org/artists/arts-craft-market/. There is a \$50 fee for submission. Please apply by March 23, 2018. Contact doreen@wacoartsfest.org with any questions or concerns,

or at 254-723-6830.

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· Art on Elm Avenue invites exhibitors and artists living and working in Texas to apply for entry; Waco-area exhibitors especially encouraged to apply. Vendor space is open to all exhibitors for the Art on Elm Avenue main event on April 7, 2018.

· To Apply: Online application at artonelm.org/tea-vendors/. There is a \$75 fee for submission. Please apply by March 23, 2018. Contact doreen@wacoartsfest.org with any questions or concerns, or at 254-723-6830.

JUNETEENTH

Continued from page one

case their various talents for a chance to win several scholarships and college supplies. The Empowerment Coalition has teamed up with Phi Beta Sigma Waco Chapter, who will be sponsoring all of the scholarships! The second new event will be Sunday, June 17th, with the Juneteenth Father's Day Gospel Blowout at 2 p.m. on MLK Blvd. A phenomenal line up of artists is slated to perform, including Grammy nominated gospel artist Myron Butler with hits like "Set Me Free," The Levites, Levallois Hamilton, The Waco Community Choir, and the Morning Glory Choir and more. Mark your calendar and plan to celebrate the men in your life at the FREE first annual Juneteenth Father's Day Gospel Blowout Concert.

The highly anticipated flagship event is Juneteenth Family Fun Day, located at the Brazos Park East, on Saturday, June 16th featuring critically acclaimed 90's national recording R&B group Dru Hill and blues sensation Bigg Robb, plus additional acts being added. The flagship event attracts over 5,000 families and is considered the largest celebration in Central Texas dedicated to "Entertaining, Encouraging and Empowering" African Americans to put their health and families FIRST through the appreciation of performing arts and access to community resources. Families will enjoy LIVE entertainment, MEGA Kids Zone, health and community resources and vendors from all over Texas. Gates open at 3:00 p.m. and tickets are only \$15.00 per person before May 1st. After May 1, tick-

ets are \$25.00 per person. For children 12 and under, admission is FREE. Tickets are available at Marilyn's Gift Gallery, Floyd's Audio, Look at Me Now Barbershop in Waco and Obsessions by Carolyn in Killeen. You can also visit edkc.ticketleap.com/juneteenth-family-fun-day to purchase your tickets online. This event is only made possible by the support of the community and sponsors EDKC, 94.5 The Beat, City of Waco, Baylor University, McLennan Community College, Jesse Britt Automotive and Providence Healthcare Network.

For more information on sponsorships, exhibiting or tickets, call Sophia Strother, at 254.495.5556.

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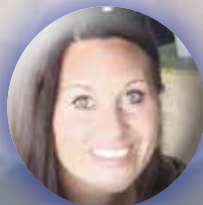
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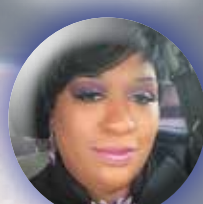
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Conflicts and resolutions can go hand in hand

BY MONA DUNKIN

With so many different personality traits interacting, conflict may seem inevitable. Take heart; it does not have to be permanent. Conflicts can be resolved. Resolve comes from a Latin word meaning "to loosen." Thus, conflict is solved when we loosen our grip on being right or having it 'my way.' Make relationship more important than being right.

I define conflict as "having opposing views without grace." It does not matter with whom the opposing views are (you with you, you with your heritage, you and God, you and another) conflict ceases to be conflict when seasoned with grace.

Conflict happens through

unchallenged beliefs. To blindly accept hand-me-down lore as the only viable way closes one's mind to the wondrous variety of humanity. It is okay to identify with one's culture, just not to the exclusion of others. Each ethnicity has valid worth.

Everything has a trade-off. In all relationships there is give and take for the good of the whole. I could have a fulfilled life without ever playing "Hi-Ho Cheerio" again. Because I love my grandchildren, I lay my preference aside for their benefit. While I may not be excited about the game, I am thoroughly involved in building the relationship.

Choose your battles. When you do engage, stick with the issue at hand. Do



MONA DUNKIN

not ambush with a "stack attack." Bringing up past transgressions as evidence for present conflict does nothing to bring resolution. State your position but have no point to prove. Use "I" statements. Communicate from your view.

Choose your attitude. Never take the position "I am right and you are wrong." Be open to the fact that you could be wrong. Even if you are right in facts, you could be wrong in attitude. Let your words be seasoned with grace. There is a difference in an answer and a comeback. A comeback engenders strife whereas an answer gives or asks for information.

Take comments seriously, but not personally. Take yourself out of the middle; be objective. Focus on the problem, not the personality. When do you want to know that the boat won't float? There may be genuine value in the information given. Leave the emotions behind. Listen to the words rather than presumed hidden agen-

da. If the encounter turns ugly, back off, take the high road by choosing to not be offended.

Participate in the wonderful dance of life. For the sake of relationship, agree to disagree while continuing to hold the person in high regard. Know when to let go. Choose to flow. As my jitterbugging arthritic friend proclaimed, "You can't be uptight when you're dancing."

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 April 27-29. Call me today. 254-749-6594



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BOOK REVIEW...

All over but the Shoutin' by Rick Bragg

BY JIM MCKEOWN

Rick Bragg's memoir, *All over but the Shoutin'*, is a detailed look into the poverty of Alabama in the 50s. Bragg was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for feature writing in 1996. He is a national correspondent for *The New York Times*. He lives in Atlanta Georgia. As the jacket accurately points out, this story is a "haunting, harrowing, gloriously moving recollection of a life on the American margin." Lots of times I ignore these blurbs before I read a book, but this one completely and concisely sums up the sad story of poverty in America.

This memoir is heart-wrenching to say the least. The poverty of people in Alabama—as bad as it was—was still not as bad as the African-Americans in the same time and place. Rick Bragg's story is of his long-suffering mother, Margaret, and his brothers Sam and Mark. Charles, the father, was an alcoholic, who appeared in and out of the lives of his family. He never offered any help to the wife and children, and only occasionally saw his sons. Bragg writes, "Anyone could tell it who had a momma who went eighteen years without a new dress so that her sons could have school clothes, who picked cotton in other people's fields



JIM MCKEOWN

and ironed other people's clothes and cleaned the mess in other people's houses, so that her children didn't have to live on welfare alone so that one of them could climb up her backbone and escape the poverty and hopelessness that ringed them, free and clean" (xii). Bragg claims, "This is no sob story. While you will read words laced with bitterness and killing anger and vicious envy, words of violence and sadness and, hopefully, dark humor, you will not read much whining. Not on her part, certainly, because she does not know how" (xiii). This is a portrait of one of the strongest women I have ever read about much less encountered.

Bragg also mentions the plight of African-Americans as well. He writes, "White people had it hard, and black people had it harder than that, because what are the table scraps to nothing? This was not the genteel and parochial South, where monied whites felt they owed some generations-old debt to their black neighbors because their great-great-grandfather owned their great-great-grandfather. No one I knew ever had a mammy. This was two separate states, both wanting and desperate, kept separate by hard men who hid their faces under hoods and their deeds under some twisted interpretation of the Bible, and kicked the living shit out of anyone who thought it should be different. Even into my own youth, the orange fires of shacks and crosses lit up the evening sky. It seems a cliché now, to see it on movie screens. At the time. It burned my eyes" (4-5). As I read this passage, I recalled the all too recent image of white supremacists marching with torches, shouting racial epithets.

Rick Bragg's bitter portrayal of poverty in the deep south is heart-wrenching and difficult to turn away. It proves the axiom that when some people are oppressed, many others are likewise. Racism is a cancer we must eradicate. *All over but the Shoutin'* is a story only the most hard-hearted can ignore. We will never have justice or peace, until everyone knows justice and peace.

Waco's Serena Joy to perform with Myron Williams in April

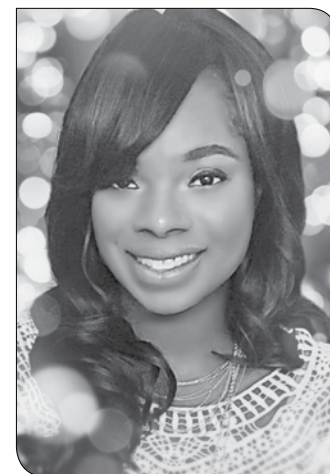
Save the date for "A Night of Worship," with Dr. Myron Williams. Waco's singers Serena Joy and Pastor Daron Farmer will share the stage for this special evening. The event is planned for April 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Harvest Time Revival Center, where Farmer is the pastor.

Joy is an anointed gospel music singer, songwriter, entrepreneur, and speaker. She is a native of Cleveland, Ohio but now resides in Central Texas. Serena came on the scene with her debut album "Merry Christmas" in 2010 with the very profound and heartfelt "Celebrating You", which showcased the writing skills, passion and vocal ability of a young lady in love with the Lord.

Joy is a multi-gifted artist who is also a registered nurse of 12 years, and has seen the hand of God perform miracles of healing through her singing in the hospital setting. In her words, "Every gift and ability bestowed on man is given to glorify God with, and I choose to be available in every capacity to be used by Him. I just want to please Him."

Joy has ministered across the United States as well as overseas. She travelled with several musical groups and was regularly involved with community functions in her home state of Ohio and in Georgia.

At the close of 2016, Joy released her sophomore album titled *Faith, Love, and Worship*, featuring "No One Compares to U," which has received widespread recognition



SERENA JOY

among her audience. In December of 2017, she released a vibrant and hopeful "We Worship You," a widely received song with a strong international vibe. Joy's music is diverse and she is able to blend in any Christian music setting. All of her music is available on all online music stores.

The Editor of *This Is That*, an online Christian magazine, since 2015, she is a worship leader at her home church and is currently writing her first book and on a new album, with both scheduled to be released this year. She is set to share the stage with both Grammy & Stellar Award winners, as well as continue in her pursuit of sharing the love of God in all that she produces.

Serena is a dedicated and hardworking young lady whose primary focus is to be an instrument of good, whether in song, healing, writing, or otherwise, according to God's Word, hoping to lead some to salvation.

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We are all God's creation, but we are not all His children, Part 3

BY RUBY MCCRAY

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

If you haven't read the previous parts of this series, I ask that you log on to: www.theanchornews.com, click Archives, then click the month of the current issue.

I can't begin to express just how much God loves each and every one of His creation. However, His creating us doesn't automatically make us His children—only His creation. I've heard pastors, preachers, evangelists, apostles, etc. say that we are all God's children, and no matter what one does, how badly one acts, He still loves you. Yes, it's true that God loves all souls, but the souls that continually sin and disobey God's Word will go to hell. Their father is the devil.

Some argue that we were not created by God; but their argument doesn't negate the fact. "In the beginning the Word [Jesus] already existed. The Word [Jesus] was with God, and the Word [Jesus] was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him and for him (Colossians 1:15-17). The Word

[Jesus] gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it" (John 1:1-5).

Just because you congregate regularly with other professing believers in Jesus Christ, or every time your church building's doors are opened, doesn't automatically make you God's child. The demons believe in the existence of God and even tremble at the mention of His name (James 2:19), but they are not God's children. They even go to all of the church buildings all of the time, looking for vulnerable people (Job 1:6; 2:1, 2; 1 Peter 5:6-9); still, they are not God's children.

"For the time is come that judgement must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear (1 Peter 4:17, 18, King James Version)? God's children make up His house. Rebellious and disobedient church-goers are the ungodly who also call Jesus, Lord. Sinners are those who have never made a conscientious decision to make Je-



EVANGELIST
RUBY MCCRAY

sus Christ the Lord of their lives. The following quote is in Red letters in the Bible because Jesus is speaking:

"Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. On judgement day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name. But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws'" (Matthew 7:21-23).

I'm using the third person

singular pronoun because years ago, I dealt with and settled this issue in my own life; I want to make sure that you do the same. When I say, "YOU," it's difficult to think that I'm talking to everybody else except "YOU." I want you to know without doubt that you are a Child of God. Mankind can tell you anything, but they can neither put you in heaven nor in hell. You need to know for yourself where you are going.

Look at this analogy: you have a landlord. First, you saw and liked the house. You expressed your desire to the owner that you wanted to rent. You were given a contract that you first read to see if you agreed to the terms written. You agreed, signed and dated it. It states that no heavy items are to be mounted on the walls. You can't close in the existing doors and window in order to place them in the walls of your choice. You cannot repaint or panel any of the rooms, plus some other terms listed in the contract. Nothing can be done without another written and signed agreement by you and the Landlord. He/she leaves the property in your care and goes away. You pay your rent on time and sometimes early. It is as-

sumed that all is well, so there is no need for the landlord to return soon (Matthew 24:45-51).

One day, the Landlord returns to find that you've converted the double car garage into another room, closed off one unnecessary door, enlarged a window and put all white paneling in all of the rooms. The Landlord didn't know that you were a carpenter and your wife, an interior decorator. The place is immaculately stunning; even the landscaped is different and everyone who sees it is appalled. You never diminished your rent; yet the Landlord is FURIOUS! Why? You did many good things, but you broke his/her laws. You are kicked out, and it's just like you were never known.

All Scripture is taken from the New Living Translation unless otherwise stated. Please join in next month as we continue to expound on this 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 rubbyacorm@yahoo.com or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.



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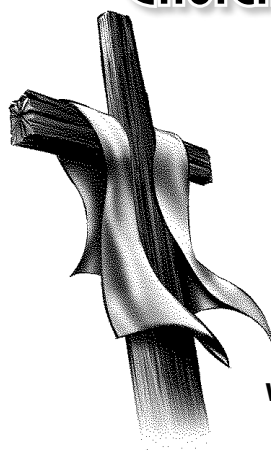
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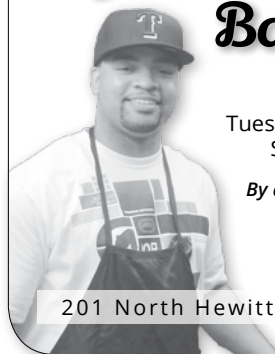
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BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

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

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Phone: 254.458.9254
Facebook: Wanda Gunter
E-mail: wbgunter@hotmail.com



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500 N. Valley Mills Dr.
Waco, TX 76710

Bus.: (254) 776-0000
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Early Voting Times and Dates

April 23, 2018 through Friday, April 27, 2018	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
April 28, 2018	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
April 30, 2018 through Tuesday, May 1, 2018	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

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