

Anchor News

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Former Alabama State President to speak at banquet

Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd will be the speaker for the Waco NAACP's Scholarship Banquet to be held on Saturday, February 23 at 7 PM at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. Boyd is an engineer, a powerful preacher, a social activist and a prominent advocate for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education. Boyd earned her B.S. from Alabama State University with a major in mathematics and a double minor in physics and music. She received a fellowship and was the first African-American female to earn a M. S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Yale University. She has earned both a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity degrees from Howard University.

Boyd's professional career of more than three decades at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory was highlighted by exemplar



REV. DR. GWENDOLYN BOYD

ry leadership and dedicated service as part of engineering teams. She reported directly to the president of Johns Hopkins University serving as chair of the Johns Hopkins Diversity Leadership Council from 2001-2014.

Boyd returned to her alma mater in 2014 and for three years served as the fourteenth

and first female president of Alabama State University. Highlights of her presidency included getting the university its very first engineering degree program with approval for a BS in biomedical engineering. She and her team got the university removed from SACSCOC warning status for previous financial instability. The largest freshman class was documented during her tenure.

Boyd is a nationally recognized champion of education, especially as it relates to STEM disciplines. She was nominated by President Barack Obama and received U.S. Senate confirmation to serve as a trustee to the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation in 2009 and later to serve on the President's Advisory Commis-

See **BOYD** pg. 10

Moody-Ramirez named new journalism department chair

BY EMMA WHITAKER,
REPORTER

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Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez has accepted the position of new department chair for the Department of Journalism, Public Relations and News Media at Baylor University. She is starting her new position this summer after Dr. Sara Stone retires on May 31.

The application process, while tough, was worth it when Moody-Ramirez received notice Jan. 16 that her appointment was official.

"I am very excited. Anyone who knows me knows that I love the journalism department, my students, my colleagues, and am so excited for this next step in my life," Moody-Ramirez said.

As the previous graduate program director, she is accustomed to recruiting new students as she strives to maintain and gain a strong Baylor community. Her vision includes branding, extending Baylor journalism department's social media presence, and creating a potential online graduate program.

"We have former students who would love to get a degree, but they no longer live in Waco. An online program would be very attractive to them," Moody-Ramirez said.

Moody-Ramirez desires the continuity of the journalism department and will oversee its accreditation. She is doing a number of things to stay on top of her new position. She is meeting with the Accrediting Council on



DR. MIA MOODY-RAMIREZ

Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACE-JMC) to familiarize herself with the accreditation process.

She is also participating in the Institute of Diverse Leadership, which offers training for women and people of color who want to go into leadership positions, and taking a one week trip to Howard University. There, as training for her new position, Moody-Ramirez will shadow the university's administration. In addition, she will go to Houston to attend the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication Administrative Conference.

Moody-Ramirez is working closely with Stone to get a sense of the job. They have discussed the future of the department, from decisions of personnel and curriculum to the process of scheduling courses.

"There are so many things

See **RAMIREZ** pg. 12

Midway Administrator Awarded State Scholarship

The Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) has named the 2019 recipients of its Johnny L. Veselka Scholarship which the organization has awarded annually since 2014 to outstanding doctoral students pursuing careers in educational leadership, with particular emphasis on the superintendency.

Recipients were awarded a \$2,500 scholarship during the TASA Midwinter Conference in Austin Jan. 27-30. Courtney Jerkins, coordinator of elementary science/social studies and English learners for Midway ISD in Woodway, was among the recipients. She is working toward her doctorate in educational leadership from Baylor University.

"I am pursuing the superintendency because it is a culmi-



COURTNEY JERKINS

nation of all of the things that have shaped my life thus far," Jerkins explained. "A desire to

serve others, a passion for education, a desire to support students and teachers, and now a desire to work with entire communities to promote student success."

Jerkins is convinced that her experiences will be tools that she "will use as a superintendent. I know that I will need a vision for the district and a strategic plan to ensure the vision is realized. I know that working with other and providing opportunities for shared leadership will be an important part of motivating stakeholders to work toward the vision." Continuing, Jerkins admits that she has a lot to learn.

See **JERKINS** pg. 5



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 Letter from the Commissioner

Happy New Year and thank you again! As the newly elected County Commissioner for Precinct 2, I am extremely humbled and proud to begin this year as your representative on the McLennan County Commissioners Court. There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind. As a community, as a precinct, and as a county, we made history with the first elected woman to serve on the McLennan County Commissioners Court. However, most notable are the 23 years of experience that have prepared me for this moment. I am thankful to Commissioner Lester Gibson for his decision to hire me on July 19, 1995 and thankful to you, the community, for your votes of confidence on November 6, 2018.



PATRICIA CHISOLM MILLER

As we stand at this precipice looking out into our new day, I am truly inspired by the prospects of the future. The culmination of many years of economic development planning is coming to bare in our city and county. With the focus on East Waco by way of Elm Street, it is mandatory that we are familiar with the growth plans for our neighborhoods. As I stated during the campaign, I intend to monitor the effectiveness of our economic development programs. I applaud the inclusionary TIF grants given last year for the creation of a "model block" on Elm Street. TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Program was developed as an economic development strategy for assisting in the development or redevelopment of economically distressed or blighted areas of a municipality where such development would not occur solely through private investment within a reasonably foreseeable future. It is invigorating to see us participating in the rebuilding of our Historic Elm Street.

Jobs, Jobs, Jobs. It is not lost on me, the urgency in which many of you expressed the

need for quality pay jobs. A sincere, productive discussion must take place relative to jobs, quality pay, and the citizens of McLennan County. Recent reporting states that Texas ranks #2 in America's top states for business, yet we rank #23 in median household income. As I stated on the campaign trail, it will be my goal to respect our business leaders while working to ensure that people who work a 40-hour week earns enough to meet their basic needs.

I am truly excited about 2019. Each new year is a new beginning—another chance to learn more about ourselves, to care more about others, to laugh more than we did, to accomplish more than we thought we could, to be more than we thought we would be, and to be more than we were before.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to represent a community that is so engaged with its growth and development. In 1968, after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, better known as the Kerner Commission, delivered a report to President Lyndon Johnson, pulling together a comprehensive array of data to assess the specific economic and social inequities confronting African Americans in 1968. Those included educational attainment, unemployment, wages and income, family wealth, health, and incarceration. 50 years after the Kerner Commission, data reflects that African Americans are better off in many ways but are still disadvantaged by racial inequality. One of the not so

surprising summations of the commission is the fact that African American elected representation played a crucial part in the gains of African Americans over the past 50 years.

As an engaged, focused community, advancement is our true path forward. The election of the first woman to the Commissioners Court, who happens to be African American, serves as the final shattering of that glass ceiling in county government. Women and minorities now excel at all elected levels of county government in McLennan County.

According to U.S. Census figures, African Americans make up 15% of the total U.S. population – with 52% women and 48% men. By percentage, among all women, African American women have a higher participation rate in the labor force. However, by percentage, among all women, more African American women are unemployed and living below the poverty level. African American women earn \$5,000 less than the median earning for all women and trail behind in white collar and blue-collar occupations, exceeding only in the area of service occupational jobs. That being said, African American women have made great strides in the area of educational attainment. America is the place where education is the true equalizer.

Politics is not for the faint at heart, but if it is your calling, the door of opportunity is open waiting on your talents, and that makes me truly proud.

In Deep Appreciation,
Commissioner Patricia Chisolm Miller, Precinct 2

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 shoo 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.

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.

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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

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Dorsey-Keatts Funeral Home celebrates nearly a century

"Quality made us famous; service made us grow." That's the Dorsey-Keatts Funeral Home's motto. I.E. Dorsey founded Dorsey-Keatts nearly 97 years ago in 1922 in Marlin, Texas. Ten years later, the Mexia location opened with Leon Dorsey as president and A. Faye (Kitty) Dorsey as the bookkeeper. In 1936 the Cameron location opened and in 1951, the Waco location opened, and was operated by Harrison Dorsey. 13 years later, in 1964, the Hillsboro location opened.



JANICE MATTHEWS

After the death of Leon Dorsey in 1985, the Board elected Robert D. Dorsey, Sr., as president of the Dorsey-Keatts Funeral Homes, Inc. During this same time period, Janice Matthews joined the business, and later became the first African American female in Waco to become a licensed embalmer. Prior to the funeral services business, Matthews was in law enforcement.

"However," she said, "I knew since I was six years old that I wanted to be an embalmer."

With time, Matthews became co-owner of Dorsey-Keatts and is the funeral director of the Mexia, Marlin and Cameron facilities. She is also the owner of Doris Miller Memorial Park.

Matthews is past president of the Independent Funeral Directors Association of Texas (IFDA). She is a member of several related organizations, such as the 100 Black Women of Funeral Services and the Epsilon Nu Delta Fraternity, to name a few. In 2009, her IFDA of Texas peers honored her, naming her the "Professional of The Year."

Matthews sees herself as a strong woman who puts her trust in God. Being a business owner involves great sacrifices, she says, and tenacious determination. "Still," she continues, "through it all, I know my God will see me through. He promised that

'weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.'"

A member of Pleasant Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Matthews is married to Rev. Lonnie Matthews. They have 3 adult children, 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Dorsey-Keatts Funeral Home staff is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. Pre-funeral arrangements are available as well as cremation services.

Midway students advance to state cooking competition



PICTURED ARE MIDWAY SENIORS (IN CENTER) RIFKA HACKER AND DQ CARTER, ALONG WITH ARAMARK REPRESENTATIVES (LEFT TO RIGHT) COLTON LAWRENCE, NICK HOCKSTRA AND RUDY FRETT.

Congrats to Midway High School Panther Chef Winners DQ Carter and Rifka Hacker. Their "Garden of Eden" dish advances the senior duo to the Aramark's state cooking competition called Lone Star Chef at Minute Maid Park in Houston. Their team, The Riff Raff's, created a Barbados-inspired chicken rice bowl with curry-based sauce. Moments before the competition, the students learned about selections of secret ingredients they were required to incorporate into their dish. Rifka and DQ chose turmeric and orange juice.

"From the first practice and consultation, Rifka and DQ had

a great concept for their dish," said Aramark Executive Chef Rudy Frett. "I'm from St. Thomas so I know this style of food

and authentic island flavors. They nailed it. I think they have great chance of winning at Minute Maid."

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"Be my Valentine." It's all about relationship

BY MONA DUNKIN

From the cradle to the grave, one of the most basic universal human needs is love and belonging. Relationship is being accepted for who we are, feeling like we "fit in," and that we matter. It is the mutual exchange of genuine caring and flow of ideas. Relationship is being esteemed as valuable and that your input counts. Relationship is akin to relate, meaning to connect, to understand, to be a part of. No matter the venue, from home life, to the workforce, salesmanship, community involvement, government, law enforcement, or to breakthrough science like Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity, it is all about the state or quality of relating.

Einstein's Theory of Relativity applied to physics, and the same principles apply to human relation-



MONA DUNKIN

ships. 1) the laws of love and belonging are the same in any system regardless of its velocity. 2) light (conscience) is a constant, independent source of the system. 3) an entity flowing in successful relationships, to a passive observer, appears to have happened with little or no effort.

Relationship is about people skills. People skills is about healthy tension.

1. Choose to respect others, while earning respect from them. It's more about you than them.

2. The only person you can control is you, but do you? Things over which you have control includes your words, your attitudes, your facial expressions, your actions, your thoughts, your choices, your feelings, your schedule, your spending, your whereabouts, your associations. If you do not set the tone and pace of your life, then someone else will set it for you.

Feelings? Yes, you can control your feelings, but it starts with controlling your thoughts and actions. It is easier to think and act yourself into feeling differently, than it is to feel yourself into thinking or acting differently.

3. You are always influencing

others, either positively or negatively. Once words are harshly uttered - even if true - enormous damage has occurred in the relationship. Choose to be a positive influence by remaining pleasant, even in a difficult situation. Hold the person in high regard as a human being with infinite worth and value, even if you disagree with his/her ideas or politics. Find something good in each person and in every situation. See problems as solvable and as a challenge to build godly character in you.

4. Discover the door-way to communication. Your attitudes and behaviors create a door-way to you as well as away from you. If someone behaves according to your specifications, it equals an open door. If the person interacts (intentionally or unintentionally) against your specifications, your door closes - partially, all the way or locked and bolted. Set the pace as the relationship builder by choosing to adjust your style so the result is open communication, win/win relationships, and lessening or removal of tension.

5. Provide an inclusive, accepting environment that gives room to grow. The tension here is that acceptance does not mean approval. Many relationships are harmed by failure to accept the person as he is because of disapproval of how he thinks or behaves. Trying to make this person change results in resistance. As relationship is built, the other person is in a greater position to receive your vast wisdom.

6. You do not have to attend every argument to which you are invited. You do not have to acknowledge or try to correct every comment, behavior or attitude. Ignore as much bad behavior as possible and commend acceptable behavior. Accentuating the positive sets the environment to empower eliminating the negative. As Ann Landers says, "Just because a donkey brays, does not mean you have to acknowledge him." But you do need to be kind to him.

DON'T COPE. OVERCOME: Power is the know-how to make things happen. Authority is the license to make things happen. Relationship is the ability to influence to make things happen. Influence supersedes power and authority in effective relationships to make things happen.

For all your speaking and training needs, contact Mona Dunkin, Motivational Speaker and Personal Success Coach, 254-749-6594 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.

Nanetta Brooks soon to release her book, *To God be the Glory, Part 1*

BY W.B. GUNTER

Candid. Authentic. Resilient. These are only a few words to describe the life lessons put on paper by author, Nanetta Brooks. In her soon to be released book, *To God Be The Glory*, Brooks takes the reader on a compelling journey filled with trials and unexpected triumphs. Brooks states, "It's a story that grows from cotton to cotton; a testimony of life lessons, survival, and the effects it has on kids and their decisions."

Brooks, while standing on the courthouse steps on Martin Luther King Jr.'s holiday, recalled how she was impacted in a way that inspired her to move towards writing her testimony.

"My pastor inspired me. We were talking. I was given words in my hand in the form of dominoes. They were being piled on and began to fall. I tried to pick them up, when the pastor said, "Drop it, and let the dead rest." As the dominoes fell, I was trying to hold on to them and I realized the dominoes were a representation of a past that I was holding, but the truth is, it was holding me back. When I got home, I had to let go, so I let it go."

Brooks continued, by explaining what she'd been holding on to that needed to be released. She said she was the strong one holding things together. "My brother needed help. I have a child with special needs. Then Hurricane Katrina hit. It became apparent that my husband needed more help than anyone of us, and life took its toll on him. That was a struggle."

Brooks was living in Mississippi. Her daughter was stationed at Fort Hood, and Hurricane Katrina was on the way. Her family of sisters, brothers, children, cousins all had to seek higher ground. "There were 12 people in a 2 bedroom apartment. That's a lot of personalities under one roof. It was hard for most of the family." During



NANETTA BROOKS

this time, Brooks learned how to live off of the land, be in the wilderness, and how to survive in nature as a girl. "We lived off of the land; we were free. For some of the others, it was extremely difficult. And, in the midst of the chaos and seeking shelter, there were reports of prison break outs. We had to leave."

As the storm approached, leaving the area along the Gulf became more difficult. Brooks explained, "We got out with \$500, in 3 cars between us, and all 12 of us. Before we left to travel to safety, I sat on a sofa in the living room of the apartment to pray while everyone else was in the kitchen preparing, packing, and talking. As I was praying, I heard my grandfather's voice say, 'Get up. Go into the kitchen.' I really needed to be alone and didn't want to go. I just needed to be alone. Again, he said, 'Get up and go to the kitchen.' I hesitated. I didn't want to go, but after some resistance, I finally got up and reluctantly moved towards the kitchen. Suddenly and without warning, a large pine tree that had been uprooted crashed right through the window landing on the sofa in the very spot where I had been sitting. That was the last day the family spent in the apartment with relatives."

To be Continued in the March Issue of The Anchor News.

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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 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 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 needed to get out. Once inside my car, I let out a sigh, unaware that I had been holding my breath. Quickly locking the car doors, I knew I was on my way. The car was run down and bent up, but it was my path to freedom tonight and my only means of transportation. I'll never forget it. It was a gray and black Toyota, well...a fading gray and a fading black, a hatchback, about 8 years old at the time, and a stick. Ha! A stick. That could be a

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



LINDA MASON CRAWFORD

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>.

JERKINS

Continued from page one

"I am eager to use the tools I have and gain new ones as I continue on this journey."

The scholarship recognizes the leadership of Dr. Johnny L. Veselka, who dedicated nearly 44 years of service to the association, including 32 years as TASA's executive director.

Jerkins received her BA in Anthropology from Yale University, her master's in curriculum, instruction, and assessment from Jones International University, and is currently working on her doctorate in education administration at Baylor University.

While many may label Jerkins

as an overachiever, those who know her well are not surprised at all about her recent accomplishments. She has been walking in this path since she was in elementary school. She was the Valedictorian of her 8th and 12th grade graduating classes. When she was a junior in high school, the City of Hamden awarded her the Young Black Notables Award, and she went on to receive the Gates Millennium Scholar, a National Merit Commended Scholar and a membership in Teach for America.

Jerkins and her husband of 10 years have three children.

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
- Glendor'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
- Divine Radiance Healthy Hair Care Services
- Butler's BBQ
- Bobby B's Soulfood Restaurant

—MCGREGOR—

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The arrival: preparation is everything!

BY W.B. GUNTER

The day has finally arrived. It's the day the world's greatest novel will be written, the masterpiece of a lifetime will be created, and each one of us will now become the change we always envisioned. That feeling of total completion is like pure bliss, and the dream of a brand new reality is within reach. Goals set, or at least talked about years ago, are within grasp, and here it is, today, that long awaited, one day—the one day when it all happens.

If only dreams fell into existence that easily. The realities of life happen. Goals change; plans alter, and priorities shift. Little by little, opportunities of what could have been become distant dreams of impossibilities, fading in a sea of wishes and lost hopes. If any of this sounds familiar, today you have arrived at one day. It is in this moment where you dig in and retrieve what may have been lost or set aside.

Whatever the path, destination awaits. Make a plan by dedicating at least 15 minutes daily to your craft, reviewing, compiling past works, and sitting with it. Check your supplies, improve your skills, and value the time you're using. Tell others of your plans so they understand your need for personal growth. Write daily goals down to remain focused. Celebrate the small successes. Each week, assess accomplishments, adjust schedules as needed to increase the 15 minutes. Most importantly, be passionate about what it is you're doing.

Once you establish a routine, continue working the plan. When it's time, you'll know what deadlines will be



W.B. GUNTER

needed. Meet individuals who share the same interests. There are social media groups, blogs, video conferences, and various avenues for networking like 190/35 Art Community. Look into local writers and art guilds, cultural centers, studios, and places where people study performances and perfect skills. Be proud of the journey. You must nurture creativity and allow it to develop.

When you complete the first phases, let people experience them. Choose an audience. Audiences come in all sizes, from an intimate group of friends and family, to a large mass of people and online audiences. Trust yourself. Decide your time limit and materials, and set a date on the calendar. Feedback is a necessary part of every endeavor. All of it has value, even when it's unflattering, provided it is about the presentation. When you believe in your project, so will others. The time and effort put into your work will be reflected, so always strive for excellence.

Arrive at that long awaited one day, with the assurance, confidence, and expectations you always knew were possible.



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Baylor University and McLennan Community College solidify partnership with new 'Baylor Bound' transfer agreement

WACO, Texas (Jan. 29, 2019) – Baylor University and McLennan Community College solidified their partnership with the signing of a new Baylor Bound transfer agreement that will help students transfer more easily between the two institutions and continue to expand educational opportunities for young people across the region.

Baylor President Linda A. Livingstone and MCC President Johnette McKown signed the partnership agreement during a ceremony today on the MCC campus in Waco.

(Find this story and high-resolution images for download from today's ceremony at www.baylor.edu/news.)

"Many of our students seek a faith-based education, and this partnership helps make that possible in an affordable way at a great university," President McKown said. "Having the opportunity to stay in their hometown means more students will choose to remain in Waco and McLennan County, and seamless transfer helps make this possible."

The Baylor Bound program will serve highly motivated students from MCC who, upon meeting the

program's criteria, will transfer to Baylor to complete their baccalaureate degrees.

"Over the years, Baylor University and McLennan Community College have been collectively joining efforts to enhance educational opportunities for students in Central Texas. Today's Baylor Bound signing represents our continued commitment and strengthening our partnership for years to come," President Livingstone said. "I look forward to the program assisting students to become successful Baylor graduates who contribute to the world in meaningful and impactful ways."

Participants in the new Baylor Bound program are offered opportunities to apply for specific scholarship programs, such as the Baylor MAC Scholarship, Baylor-MCC Cooperative Scholarships, Baylor-Waco Foundation/MAC Grants and the MCC Transfer Student Engagement Scholarship, which provides \$3,000 per year.

Additionally, Baylor Bound participants have access to Baylor academic advisors who help students navigate the transfer process and specialized Major Academic Planners or MAPS, which provide detailed informa-

tion related to what classes students should take to maximize their time at MCC and Baylor. Baylor transfer staff will be available at specific times throughout the semester at MCC to answer transfer students' questions and "MCC Ambassadors," who began at MCC and have already transferred to Baylor, will serve as peer mentors.

Interested students can submit their intent to transfer to Baylor by completing the Transfer Interest Form while enrolled as a full-time MCC student.

"In 2013, Baylor and MCC partnered together to create Baylor Bound, which was designed to provide MCC students with a more direct path to transfer to

Baylor," said Sinda Vanderpool, Ph.D., associate vice provost for academic enrollment management at Baylor. "Over the years, some facets of this partnership have changed, but there are two things that will remain the same—a deep commitment to one another and a deep commitment to helping students succeed."

First Baptist Church, NBC

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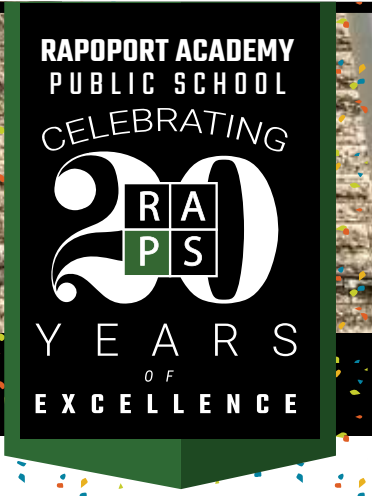
Morning Worship
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Sunday Evening
6:00 PM

Monday Bible Study
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

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The class of 2018 earned 13 associate degrees, 1,117 college credit hours, and a total of \$2,683,296 in scholarships, awards, and grants.



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 -Mrs. Sue Connor

Text 254-715-8943 for signings and information.

BOYD | Continued from page one

sion on Educational Excellence for African Americans in 2014.

Boyd was elected to serve from 2000-2004 as the 22nd National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., an international organization of more than 250,000 members. Known as the "Science and Technology President," she helped to establish technology in all facets of the sorority's activities and administration. In 2013, she served as chair of the sorority's Centennial Celebration, which involved organizing a year-long series of events culminating in a Washington, D.C.-based convention that drew more than 40,000 participants from around the world. She is chair emeritus of the sorority's National Social Action Commission.

Boyd has been awarded two honorary doctorates; Congressional recognitions; 28 "Keys to the City"; a Key to the "State of Florida"; declaration of Gwendolyn E. Boyd Day in eight cities; leadership awards, and

professional awards for her achievements in the fields of engineering and higher education. She is a member of the Capital City Chapter of the Links, Inc., the Washington DC Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Leadership Greater Washington. Boyd is an ordained itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She serves on the ministerial staff of Ebenezer AME Church in Fort Washington, Md.

Tickets for the NAACP Scholarship Banquet are \$50 each and \$400 for a table of 8. Tickets-holders will have access to the Sports Hall of Fame prior to the banquet. Individuals wishing to purchase tickets may do so via the chapter's PayPal account using the email address wacnaacp@gmail.com, via CashApp using the handle \$WacoNAACP, by check to PO Box 20511; Waco, 76702 or in person from members of the NAACP. To reserve a ticket, text 254-733-5261, or email wacnaacp@gmail.com.

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Tax identity theft awareness

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

On average, it takes more than 200 hours and 6 months for a victim of identity theft to restore their identity on their own. In 2015, there were more than 780 reported data breaches, compromising the identities of nearly 170 million people. The number of victims continues to rise each year. One key piece of personal information sought by ID thieves is your Social Security Number (Social Insurance Number in Canada). Now is the time to familiarize yourself with the risk of ID Theft and take steps to protect your personal financial information. LegalShield and IDShield offer these top tips to protect your personal information and prevent identity theft in 2017:

STOP BEFORE YOU SHARE

If you are asked for sensitive information, such as a Social Security Number, ask why it is needed and what systems are in place to protect it.

Be wary of sharing personal information over the phone or email, especially if you've received an unsolicited communication (even if you do regular business with the organization).

WATCH THE WI-FI

A thief can sit at a popular Wi-Fi location such as a coffee shop and set up a fake hotspot. Any unprotected data sent over a fake Wi-Fi network can be saved to the thief's computer. Use a virtual private network (VPN) connection whenever possible.

**BE SECURITY SAVVY
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Share personal informa-

**J.L. CRAWFORD**

tion sparingly on social media sites.

Explore privacy settings for your profile and control who gets to see the information you post.

**SAFEGUARD YOUR
STATEMENTS**

Shred and dispose of any bank statements, tax documents or other mail that contains personal information.

If available, disable mailed statements and review statements through a secure network.

SECURE A SERVICE

Not all identity protection services are equal, so when

selecting a protection service, consumers should look for services that offer web monitoring, credit monitoring and restoration.

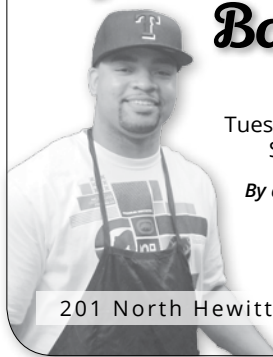
IDShield is a product of LegalShield, which provides comprehensive identity protection, proactive consultations and monitoring to restoration in the event of identity theft. It is the only identity theft protection service with a network of licensed private investigators, a five-million-dollar service guarantee and 24/7 access to service.

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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:

Hi Jerry, I've struggled to keep my healthy resolutions for 2019. How can I get back on track? Thanks, Tina

ANSWER:

Hi Tina,

It's great that you decided to live a healthier life in 2019. I don't know where you started from but there is always room to be healthier - no matter how old you are when you start.

A resolution to be healthy is a lifestyle change. Change is hard simply because we are admitting that the old way didn't work. The first step in truly changing is letting go of the past, unsuccessful habits.

Habits is just what they are. Living a healthy lifestyle (making good food de-



JERRY SNIDER

isions, exercising, positive thinking) is easy, except that it's not. Our society makes it very difficult to be healthy with all the temptations out there. Breaking these habits that have been around for years takes some pretty serious determination.

Here are a few tools to help you keep focused on turning that healthy change into lifelong habits:

- Right down your reason for being healthy. Put the

paper somewhere you will see it multiple times a day.

- Read that reason out-loud every morning. It may help to do this while looking in a mirror.

- Tell your reason to those that support you the most, your inner circle of family & friends. Make sure these individuals are 100% behind you at all times.

- Meditate daily on your

reason. Start with 30 seconds a day and build up to 1-3 minutes.

Although changing habits is considered one of the hardest things to do, I believe it's not that difficult. As long as you tell yourself that it's not difficult. Mind over matter is a very real thing. If you believe you can change to a healthier lifestyle, you will accomplish it.

I believe in you! I know you can do it! Once you achieve it, write me back and let me know.

Have a question for Jerry? Send it to jerry@allin-healthandwellness.com.

Visit the site www.allin-healthandwellness.com to learn more about Jerry Snider. You can also purchase his book *Confidence* through Health on Amazon.

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Waco Community Choir nominated for 2019 Stellar Gospel Award

The Waco Community Choir, along with Gospel giant, Brent Jones, has been nominated for a 2019 Stellar Award. Nominated in the category of Contemporary Choir of the Year for the song and CD, *Open Your Mouth and Say Something*, the choir will attend the 34th Annual Stellar Gospel Awards from March 28th-30th in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Waco Community Choir will also perform on the Hezekiah Walker Gospel Fest Show on Saturday, March 30th in Las Vegas. Jones and the Choir, along with record producer James Roberson of JDI Records, made the recording live February 10th 2018 in Waco, Texas at The Victorious Life Church.

Additionally, the Waco Community Choir has also been nominated as Community Choir

of the Year at this year's Texas Gospel Music Excellence Awards to be held in Houston, Texas from February 14th through February, 17th.

The Waco Community Choir was formed in September 2012 under the leadership of Minister Thomas Brooks, director and Rhonda Davis Cooper, assistant director, with the assistance of New Seasons Productions and President Sheila Brown.

The Choir will be traveling to Las Vegas on March 28th and will have a number of fund raising events in the next few weeks to help offset expenses. The public may donate at its website: www.wacochoir.org (via PayPal and Venmo) or you may contact us via email at: wacochoir@gmail.com. You may also contact any WCC Choir Member.



RAMIREZ

Continued from page one

that Dr. Stone has already started that we want to continue," Moody-Ramirez said. "She is wonderful. I am very happy to follow in her footsteps."

With two faculty members leaving and the department needing to find a new graduate program director, Moody-Ramirez will not get a honeymoon period; however, Stone is confident that she is up for the challenge.

"I'm delighted that Mia has been named the new chair of the department and I think she'll do a great job. I'm also so proud of our department for having strong women leaders and am pleased that the university saw fit to replace a woman chair with another woman chair!" she said. "I think it's a win for our department, I think it's a win for our university, and I think she certainly deserves the

opportunity to use her leadership skills.

Moody-Ramirez will continue to be the adviser of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) as that organization is dear to her heart. NABJ is an organization of journalists, students and media-related professionals that provides quality programs and services and advocates on behalf of black journalists worldwide according to its website.

Because of her love for teaching, Moody-Ramirez will continue to teach at least one class per semester, and while her job as chair will require much time and devotion, she still eagerly desires to further her personal and academic research. Moreover, she is writing two book chapters and journal articles, along with mentoring graduate and undergraduate students.

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the Coldwell Banker brand, McDonald has all the tools needed to successfully market any home.

Having helped hundreds of families either purchase or sale a home, she has a loyal clientele base that can attest to her market savvy. McDonald believes that to provide exceptional service for her clients, she needs to continually improve her skills. As such, she is constantly expanding her real estate education to encompass cutting edge credentials.



LINDA McDONALD

During her years in real estate, she has served in sev-

eral professional positions, such as the past president of Waco Association of Realtors, and she continues to serve in her community.

McDonald's passion to serve is evident by the fact that her clients refer to her as a "family friend." She volunteers for Meals on Wheels and serves on the boards of NeighborWorks Waco and Central Texas African-American Chamber of Commerce. She is an active member of the Waco Chapter of The Links, Inc. and Antioch Baptist Church.

McDonald has extensive experience and accreditations in helping first time

home buyers, investors, relocation and new construction clients. She also has the expertise to work with clients in the Short Sale Process in an effort to save their credit from the foreclosure process. Having earned a name for herself in the real estate world, she prides herself in doing an exceptional job, listening to her clients and establishing trust as a relationship is built.

McDonald serves China Spring, Hewitt, Lorena, McGregor, Waco, and Woodway. McDonald's office is located at 500 N Valley Mills Drive in Waco, Texas. Visit her there or call 254-855-1717.

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You must forgive if you want to be forgiven, Part 2

BY RUBY MCCRAY

Continued from the January issue of The Anchor News.

If you haven't read part 1 of this series, I ask that you log on to: www.theanchornews.com, 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 will justify our reasoning not to forgive, but will think the reasoning of those who don't want to forgive us is trivial.

Years ago when my children, who are almost 50-years-young, were living at home, I'd often say, "I want to be like Jesus." One day I heard this conversation in my spirit that Jesus and I were having. I've told it to so many people, even on one of my YouTube teachings. Now, I want to share it with you in "MINI" form. When He'd ask me questions, I'd answer most of them using Scripture to assure Him that I understood what He was saying. However, I summarized the Chapters that are listed. It went something like this:

Jesus: Ruby, you want to be like me?

Ruby: Yes, Sir, Jesus, I want to be just like you.

Jesus: Every Jesus must have a Judas.

Ruby: I don't want a Judas; I just want to be like You.

Jesus: How would you know that you were like me if you didn't have a Judas to put you through tests?

Tests?

Ruby: Surely there has to be a better way!

Jesus: Do you think I knew the kind of death that I'd die while I was still in heaven with My Father?

Ruby: Yes, Sir, I knew because Isaiah said... (Isaiah 53:1-12); yet, you gave up everything to become like us so that we can become like you (2 Corinthians 8:9).

Jesus: Do you think that I knew who my betrayal would be?

Ruby: Yes, Sir, because You said that You chose twelve disciples, and one is a devil (John 6:70-71)

Jesus: Out of the twelve that I chose, do you know which disciple loved me more.

Ruby: Yes, Sir, Lord; also, all of the other disciples knew because he was always clinging to you, and You committed



EVANGELIST
RUBY MCCRAY

Your mother into his care while You were hanging on the cross (John 13:21-30; 19:5-27; 21:20-23). Much of this is also recorded in Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Jesus: Do you know that Judas was the treasurer for our group, although he was a thief, because he was a devil?

Ruby: Yes, Sir, I knew that, because he was so upset when Mary poured the expensive perfume on your body anointing it for burial. He wanted to sell it so that he could steal some of the money (John 12:1-6).

Jesus: If you had an enemy who would cause you to get

the kind of treatment that I got, would your best friend know who he /she was?

They spit in my face, slapped me, pulled out my beard (Isaiah 50:5, 6), put a wreath of thorns on my head for a crown (John 19:2, 3), and finally beat me with such hatred that my body was beyond human recognition (Isaiah 52:13-15).

Then they made me carry My heavy cross on my wounded body where they nailed my hands and feet while I lay flat on the ground (John 19:16-22). They had to lift the cross upright with my agonizing body still nailed to it. I hang there all of that time, and when I told them that I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar on a sponge which I refused after tasting it (John 19:28-30).

Ruby: I'm sure he/she would know along with many others. Even if I never voiced it, my actions would betray me.

Jesus: My best friend didn't know. Nobody knew, because I so love everybody—even my enemies (John 3:16; Romans 5:6-11). When I was hanging on the cross, I looked out at all of my Enemies, (including you), and I asked my Father to forgive them, and you, because

you didn't know what you were doing (Luke 23:34). In conclusion, until you can so love your enemies to the extent that your relatives and best friends won't know who they are by the atmosphere you provide for your enemies, you will not be like me.

Jesus was in the world that He made (John 1:1-5; Colossians 1:15-17); He allowed mankind to do that to Him. He could have spoken, and all of his enemies would have died. Remember when they went looking for Him in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus asked for whom were they looking? They said for Jesus of Nazareth. When He said, I AM he, all of the soldiers fell backward to the ground (John 18:4-7).

All Scripture is taken from the New Living Translation unless otherwise stated. Please join me in March as we conclude this 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 or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.



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What's going on? A country at war with itself

BY LINDA DAVIS

We are living in a time like none I've ever experienced. I haven't lived very long as I am slowly just now creeping up on 50. Still, as with many of you, I find myself asking, "What in the world is going on?"

With chaos over a border wall, the Government actually shut down for the longest time in American history! I can't imagine not receiving a pay check for well over a month. This is all a reminder that we must always put our trust in God, not our jobs, nor people. Americans could not feed their families nor pay their bills because the President insists on receiving the funds to build a border wall to keep out illegal immigrants, most of whom officials claim are drug and human traffickers, polluting this country with crime.

I don't condone criminals flooding into our country, of course, but many immigrants—women, children,

and the elderly— often flee their country in hopes of finding refuge for themselves and their families; I do empathize with them. I can't begin to imagine what conditions these immigrants must face in their poverty ridden environment, where famine and crime run rapid and women and girls are raped and impregnated at alarming rates. What in the world is going on?

Natural disasters are occurring everywhere, often simultaneously. No longer are we hearing just reports of seasonal hurricanes, or a few tornados that touch down, but we are witnessing massive wild fires, mudslides, and heavy blizzards, with days and weeks of power outages, as a result. People are not only losing their homes and property, but they are also losing their lives. What in the world is going on?

Public shooting in malls, churches, and schools-- what has the world come



LINDA DAVIS

to? When I attended public school we rarely had lock down drills. The drills were in the event that we had an intruder. We never had drills that taught students what to do in the event that a fellow classmate decided to open fire during class! Meetings weren't held to discuss which teachers would carry hand guns -- just in case! If a classmate had a beef with a fellow classmate, we would fight it out on the school yard, after the school bell rung. Whoever won - won, and whoever lost- lost; that

was the end of it. No one had ill thoughts of shooting up the school! Whenever there was a bomb threat, we took full advantage of that short time to stand along the school fence and chill with our friends. We already knew it was a fake bomb scare, because we didn't have people blowing up buildings. But today, what in the world is going on?

The safest place a person should feel, other than home, is a place of worship -- the church house. More than ever, our country is in need our prayers and support! We need God to take the wheel, because we can't do it alone! Our country is under attack, and the enemy is trying to bring division. Everyone is at odds, and can't seem to agree on political issues. The National Rifle Association seems to have the advantage whenever there's talk regarding better gun control. Regardless of the senseless massacres taking place in American every

day, nothing is being done to fix the problem. Tell me, please, what in the world is going on?

We've come too far as a nation to turn back now! Our countries leaders, forefathers and ancestors, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Rosa Parks, JFK, W. E. B. Du Bois, former President Barack Obama, and many other nameless souls we'll never know, have sacrificed too much for us to throw in the towel. We must continue to vote and make our voice heard; we must not stand by on the sidelines and allow others to unravel everything honorable and noteworthy that our leaders vowed, and worked tirelessly to enforce. With their spirit embedded within us, we must continue to fight hatred, bitterness, and ignorance with more diligence, more patience, more understanding, and more love.

We must be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

The main thang is not to forget the main thang

BY MATTHEW REED

In all our labors for good and the causes of God, we some times get so caught up that we forget the main thang. I publish the following scripture to remind us of what is of utmost importance, the saving of our souls. We get so carried away that we forget these times are temporal. We lose sight of the fact that we are sojourning here. None of the things happening are eternal; they will pass as time slips away and eternity begins. By reading the scriptures below I hope we will get focused on the main thang and that's the saving of souls. All of the work that we do for God in the name of Jesus is important. Whether it be saving unborn babies or the preaching of the Gospel that men would repent and return to God. As a matter of fact, a person who has repented and turned to God will not abort babies, steal, lie or commit any other sin. I wouldn't lessen the preaching of God's word. It is the most important thing to mankind. There is nothing



PASTOR MATTHEW AND LADY HELEN REED

more important. Nothing! It Is The Main Thang!

Luke15:1Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.

2 And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

3 And he spake this parable

unto them, saying,

4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

5 And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

8 Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she

lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

9 And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

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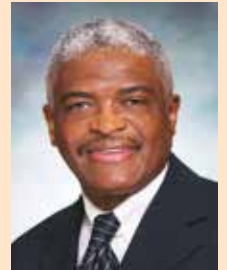
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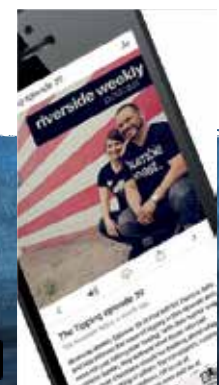
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