

# THE Anchor News

Serving the Central Texas Community  
Celebrating 15 Years!

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Free



## Pat Chisolm-Miller announces run for County Commissioner, Precinct 2

"To every man there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered a chance to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talents." These are the words of Sir Winston Churchill, words that Patricia "Pat" Chisolm-Miller has taken to heart. Chisolm-Miller has served the constituents of Precinct 2 and McLennan County as Commissioner Lester Gibson's administrative assistant for the past 22 years. The Commissioner's position will be vacated on December 31, 2018 when Gibson retires after serving 28 years, and as many have hoped, Chisolm-Miller will step up to run for McLennan County Commissioner Precinct 2.

"I feel like Churchill's words were spoken just for me for



PAT CHISOLM-MILLER

this moment for this opportunity," said Chisolm-Miller, who handles all administrative functions for the office, including the management of the precinct's \$2.8 million personnel and operating budget. Chisolm-Miller oversees all

purchases and capital outlay investments, facilitates new hires and employment separations, and provides research/data analysis support. She is now asking the residents of McLennan County, Precinct 2, to allow her to serve them as their county commissioner.

Born to Mr. & Mrs. John and Arthur Lee Chisolm, she is the middle daughter. Her father, John Oliver Chisolm, was a veteran of the Korean War and while stationed at Fort Hood met her mother, Arthur Lee Brown, a 1945 graduate of A.J. Moore High School and a 1949 graduate of Jarvis Christian College. Chisolm-Miller's parents moved to Brooklyn, New York where she was born. At the age of 10, Chisolm-Miller

See **MILLER** pg. 4

## Dr. Tyrha M. Lindsey-Warren joins Baylor marketing faculty

BY KATHLEEN DELVA, L.A.I. COMMUNICATIONS

Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business welcomes Dr. Tyrha M. Lindsey Warren as its new Clinical Assistant Professor of Marketing. An award-winning communications executive and published marketing scholar, Lindsey-Warren will be teaching classes devoted to advertising and digital marketing as well as serving as an advisor to the business school's acclaimed Center for Sports, Sponsorships, and Sales.

"It is a great honor to come to Baylor and join the esteemed Faculty in the business school," said Lindsey-Warren. "I am thrilled and so blessed to have the opportunity to bring my experiences in industry and academia to share with my students as well as with the Baylor community."

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Lindsey-Warren has over fifteen years of experience working in marketing and communications in Corporate America, entertainment, advertising, and non-profit arenas for such firms as Quincy Jones\*David Salzman Entertainment, NBC, Creative Artists Agency, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the United States Tennis Association, the International Faith and Family Film Festival at MegaFest, and UniWorld Group.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Radio/



DR. TYRHA M. LINDSEY-WARREN

TV/Film and a Certificate in Musical Theater from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and her Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degree, with a concentration in marketing, from the Peter F. Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California. Her Ph.D. in marketing is from Rutgers Business School in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

As a Consumer Behavior Scholar, Lindsey-Warren's research streams are rooted in "empowered storytelling," which are narratives that exude the emotion of empowerment, and their impact on marketing behaviors, including purchase intentions; multicultural marketing and communications; "health edu-tainment" and its effects on Millennials' attitudes and behaviors; emotional contagion (Word-of-Mouth) for

See **WARREN** pg. 5

## Killeen resident against symbol of oppression as retail item

BY DANIELL RIDER

My voice has always been strong, purposeful, and resounding. To some, I am referenced as being, one of those "strong black women." What's often overlooked is that I am a person that's wrapped inside of strength, the pride of heritage, and determination to stand for what is right. I am a human being with certain inalienable rights. Among the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness is freedom of speech. My ancestors were not considered in the rights set forth by the United States Constitution; they bled,



DANIELL RIDER

fought, and died for my free-

dom. Contrary to popular belief, it is MY first amendment right to freedom of speech. Recently many people across the Nation exercised their first amendment right, in a blaze of hate filled online messages which went viral. As previously stated freedom of speech is every American right, but as my mother always said, "It's not what you say, but how you say it."

A couple of weeks ago, while shopping, I walked by a retail item of raw cotton. My initial thought was shock. Being from

See **RIDER** pg. 3



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.

# The costliest sounds...free speech and silence

BY WANDA GUNTER

Our forefathers of long ago do not live in the here and now, nor could they have foreseen or imagined a future where the cost of free speech, even in silence, is treated as if it were an act of treason. In recent years, people who dared to stand up for what they believed in have lost careers, rights to privacy, safety, friends, family, freedom, and the respect of others. It's usually after media attention that conversations spark awareness. Suddenly, an increased circle of influence surrounds the cause, as individuals gain recognition, respect, and

enough backing to legislate for change. But, just how socially detrimental is a protest when one dares to shine a light on a situation? At what point does a peaceful protest or an awareness for change become a threat to civility?

Martin Luther King Jr., stood at the forefront of many protests, boycotts, and in Selma, Alabama. He knelt down in protest to pray, along with other protesters before being arrested in 1965. Though often cited as a great and wonderful example of leadership today, that wasn't the national view of how he was seen. Almost every act of protest has been considered radical. Colin Kaepernick, like Dr. King, protested by taking a knee during the playing of the "National Anthem." Public response was not always in favor, partly because of his job as a football player.

From sit-in to boycotts, freedom rides, to a movement called, Black Lives Matter, exhibiting the audacity to stand strong, and alone, for the salvation of others, has been met with ridicule and targeted hatred. Social media has added fuel and massive well documented flames of rhetoric and threats. Social media has become a vehicle for enlightening and extending an awareness of issues. To speak freely, is a costly sound. But what good is a voice that refuses to be heard? Why have courage, then cower in fear so intense it causes one to lack the power to stand, or the will to

**WANDA GUNTER**

move forward? Being popular and part of an in crowd serves the crowd, not the individual.

In Killeen, one woman was offended by something she confronted while shopping. She made the business owner aware of her feelings in a letter and reached out on social media to share an opinion. Instead of empathy, she received countless messages of hate filled responses and threats. Though her experiences were personal, they sparked a conversation heard around the world. The backlash of terror from strangers speaks volumes about personal ethics, the nature of personal accountability, and civility. Agreeing to disagree shows maturity. Being able to listen and communicate about an issue allows fair-minded and objective conversations to take place without being confrontational. When Daniell Rid-

er made an attempt to open the dialog on social media, she was confronted with a deep seated anger marinated by generational racism.

When conversations are communicated with the lack of personal accountability on social media, what messages about one's character are being received about an individual who preys on others when they believe no one can identify who they are? How do children learn to confront issues in a healthy way when the model of discourse is that of belligerence, violence, and fear? Just how costly is the right to free speech, even when the sound is absolute silence? What is the resonance of actions?

Daniell Rider serves the Central Texas community on many levels. She mentors youth, actively participates in activities. Danielle Rider is a mother who saw something, said something, and did something. For that, she was targeted. When Rider entered a store, she saw something peculiarly disturbing to her. It sat on her consciousness and surfaced thoughts into words. She is a writer with a voice that insightfully speaks through the eyes and hearts of many. Her pen, unknowingly, pierced directly into the core values of what was presumed hidden so deeply that its cry was heard all over the world. Its wounds were exposed like an infection of hate-filled secretions that had festered for generations. My heart is saddened.

## Letter to the Editor...

Dear Anchor News:

I am writing to thank you for the valuable and important work that you do in the community. *The Anchor News* proudly carries on the long tradition of African-American journalism by providing valuable information to and about the community. When much of the media only features African-Americans when the news is sensationally negative, *The Anchor News* publishes the "good stuff." I eagerly await getting *The Anchor News* each month, because I know that I will learn about the many positive aspects of the African-American community. *The Anchor News* includes stories on local entrepreneurs and businesspeople. Also, you include stories that speak to our spiritual lives. I look forward with anticipation to your annual education issue when I know

I'll learn about the outstanding academic achievements of young people at every level. You let the community know what is going on in the social and political arenas as well. At this dire time in our nation's history, you are a voice that citizens know will provide them trustworthy information. Without a doubt, *The Anchor News* is a treasure to the Waco community. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Peaches Henry  
Faithful reader

**DR. PEACHES HENRY**

# THE Anchor News



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

#### PURPOSE

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

#### POLICY

Anchored on the principles of scripture, *Anchor News* will at

no time publish information that is potentially libelous material or intentionally malicious, derogatory or irrelevant.

#### EDITORIAL POLICY

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

#### LETTERS 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.

#### ADVERTISING RATES

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Advisor

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Contributing Writer

#### SCOTT KNAPEK

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STAFF

## RIDER | Continued from page one

California, and living in Texas for more than 13 years, I have never seen raw cotton displayed as décor. Admittedly I remained bewildered by the thought of raw cotton on display as a retail item. While the insensitivity of the retail item disheartened me, it was also offensive that in 2017, symbolisms of oppression are considered decoration. Racist images fly free and stand tall, while raw cotton is used as decoration, in a nation built on the backs of slaves. For most outspoken blacks in America willing to take a stand, we are urged to "get over it." Get over slavery, get over systematic oppression, and forget about the horrors our ancestors were forced to endure. We are urged to for-

get about the past, and look to the future; unfortunately, as our eyes seek a future of change we consistently see remnants of the very past we are told to forget about. The entire thought of wanting my people to forget a very real and bitter past, while embracing the symbolism of the bitterness is hypocritical. In my opinion, raw cotton is not a decoration. To display it as a decorative item, in my opinion, is offensive and insensitive because its history is filled with negative connotations of slavery.

I chose to reach out to the retailer and express my thoughts of their merchandise. As a consumer, everyday people go online and rate their experiences with stars on Like scales. I

shared my opinion regarding the sale of raw cotton as décor. By the next morning, this opinion had gone viral; on this day, one woman's opinion became the fuel which ignited the simmering hate of racism in our Nation. From the comfort of homes, and behind digital cell phone keyboards, college students, white collar workers, voices from corporate America, educators, Christians, and other individuals which represent our Nation joined together in a barrage of racial slurs, death threats, demeaning words, insults, and defamation of character regarding my opinion over raw cotton retail.

For stating my opinion, one man writes "U are the down fall of America, I hope u get your (expletive) beat by a cop." Another lady exclaims, "Without slavery your (expletive deleted) would still be in Africa." While others wished a hate group would attack me in the street, others suggested that I come pick cotton in their fields for a life experience. My opinion never swayed. The viral attack of racism I experienced by cyber bullies spewing hate over the internet continues to this very day. I am now even more convicted to my opinion that raw cotton, along with other symbols of slavery and oppression of people in this country, has far greater meaning than the materialistic items which represent them. The symbols speak loudly of the approval of systematic oppression, racial division, lynching, and other forms of hate, in a country where black people are still being mistreated, murdered in the street, as others escape accountability. For our troubles, we are told to just be grateful. I refuse.

I will stand up. I will speak out.

My voice today, is strengthened by the hopes and dreams of my ancestors which had no voice, those who died so that I could live free, and speak for them. I do not regret expressing myself. I will not remain silent when faced with disrespect, whether through symbol, word, or deed. I speak, so that my daughter knows the power of her words and thoughts; I speak so that my son knows his voice can change the world. The Bible says "the power of life and death is in the tongue (Proverbs 18:21). I choose to speak life.

What I have learned through this experience is that racism is alive. It did not dissi-

## Meet Farmers Insurance agent, Josh McCraw

A graduate of Tarleton State University, Josh McCraw, 24, secured his insurance license and is now an agent with McCraw Insurance Agency located at 10324 China Spring Rd. Suite B, Waco, TX. 76708.

The McCraw Insurance Agency is a full-service agency with the ability to serve the State of Texas with Farmers Insurance products. Although the agents are able to provide their products and services to anyone in the State, they concentrate their marketing efforts to the Central Texas area.

McCraw enjoys serving those living and working in the communities within McLennan, Bosque, Hill, Limestone, Falls, Bell, Coryell, and Hamilton Counties. The McCraw agency provides many Farmers Insurance products with discounts, including affinity discounts to those who are currently active or retired as educators, architects, engineers, accountants, nurses, doctors, law enforcement, firemen, military, and other vocations.

"I am willing and able to provide assistance and help you determine the best protection for your home and auto insurance needs," says McCraw. He explains that being a Farmers agent also allows him to provide com-



**JOSH McCRAW**

mercial insurance. McCraw specializes in providing insurance to adequately protect local business owners from commercial perils.

The Farmers commercial appetite includes auto body shops, barber shops, hair salons, nail salons, restaurants, churches, and retail stores just to name a few. McCraw has a passion for customer service and has found that providing protection for his clients and their assets is very rewarding for him. "I look forward to meeting you and insuring your most prized possessions." Please call McCraw at (254) 754-7677 or feel free to stop by his office for a personalized insurance quote.

"Together," says McCraw, "we will determine just how much money you can save with Farmers Insurance and the McCraw Agency!"

pate after people held in slavery were freed. It continues to simmer and festers in our nation's institutions waiting for a reason to flare up and attack. With one opinion, a hornet's nest was stirred and the buzz of racism was heard nationally. In the end, I still value freedom of speech. I value opinions expressed respectfully, and peacefully to support the quest for understanding. While I wholeheartedly disagree with raw cotton as a display, others have a right to love it. My opinion does not devalue another person's views. However, I will not be bullied into silence. After all I am wrapped in strength, pride for my culture, and determination. My ancestors bled, fought, and died for my right to be a "strong black woman."

To contact Daniell Rider, please send emails to TruDream510@gmail.com.

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## MILLER

Continued from page one

er moved to Waco, McLennan County, Texas, and has been a resident of the community ever since. She attended the former Richfield High School and East Texas State University and has been a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated since 1979.

The political science major's true passion in life is service. During her tenure in the McLennan County Commissioners Office, Chisolm-Miller has worn many hats. She has functioned as the field operative and administrative support on both the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs McLennan County Mart ISD Athletic Complex Grant and the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs Housing Rehabilitation Grant.

The Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs McLennan County Mart ISD Athletic Complex Project was a collaboration between Mart ISD and McLennan County. Chisolm-Miller served on the initial review committee, which assessed the feasibility of the project mechanisms and submitted its recommendation to the McLennan County Commissioners Court. Road and Bridge crewmen from Precinct 2 were instrumental in laying out much of the complex's design. The regional complex provides sports and recreational facilities in Mart and Eastern McLennan Coun-

ty.

The Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs Rehabilitation Grant allowed for funds to make major home repairs for senior citizens on limited income living in the Lincoln City area. This project renovated 16 homes and provided jobs for local and minority contractors and sub-contractors.

Chisolm-Miller also assisted in the acquisition of information used for the Texas Parks & Wildlife State Boating Access Program Grant. The grant was finally approved for June of 2018, and will be used for enhancements at the Tradinghouse Lake Park.

One of her first committee assignments upon her hire in the Commissioners' Office was to serve on the McLennan County Enterprise Community Development Commission, a partnership of cities within McLennan County which applied for an Enterprise Zone Grant made available during the Clinton Administration. The grant allowed for cities and counties to focus on urban areas within their boundaries that were under utilized and under developed. One of the major accomplishments from this endeavor was the formation of Neighborhood LINC's or Light in Neighborhood Commons, entities that created or enhanced neighborhood associations.

Prior to coming to the Commissioners' Office in 1995, Chisolm-Miller worked for the Texas State Technical College Waco Women's Resource Center Carl D. Perkins Formula Funding Project Texas Grant. The grant funded by the state of Texas under the governorship of Ann Richards as a "welfare to work" program provided childcare stipends for women pursuing "non traditional" degrees from TSTC Waco.

Chisolm-Miller's long history of community service and civic engagement have shaped her campaign philosophy. When she is elected, one of the first things on her task list is to work toward higher wages for the residents of McLennan County while also maintaining active, progressive business/employment growth. She will begin discussions regarding the program agreement for the Waco McLennan County Economic Development Fund. This fund, established via an alliance of McLennan County, the City of Waco, and the Waco Industrial Foundation, focuses on the recruitment and retention/expansion of businesses in the Waco, McLennan County, Texas area. In order to be eligible for these funds, businesses agree to a minimum hourly wage established in the program agreement. This hourly wage amount has not been adjusted in over fifteen years. Chisolm-Miller says she wants to be instrumental in changing that.

She will also advocate for education of the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Program. TIF 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. The zones cover portions of commercial properties in East Waco, North Waco, South Waco, and downtown. Chisolm-Miller wants to see corporative work with the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce and the Cen-Tex Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for the provision of education and logistic support to small and minority businesses and all aspiring business owners.

She is excited about the economic expansion possibilities of McLennan County especially the current project in Mart, Eastern McLennan County, Texas. As a recipient of USDA Rural Development Funding, the City plans to upgrade the water facility.

Chisolm-Miller is also encouraged by the county's receiving over 190 acres of park land from Luminant. The county has leased the land for \$1 a year since 1969 and will now take ownership. Luminant's energy generation facility at Tradinghouse has been a community partner in McLennan County since the early 1950s. Chisolm-Miller feels that with full ownership of this land, the county's vision for tourism and park development can be seriously explored and enhanced.

When she is elected, the former Fred Batts Leadership Luncheon facilitator will continue to encourage community meetings and updates. "Through the years," said Chisolm-Miller, "I have seen the importance of having a consistent venue for minority leadership to interact with all local area leaders. This is not only beneficial but essential to the overall growth of our county."

A recipient of the Delta Upsilon Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta's Community Service Award for Governmental Affairs, Chisolm-Miller currently serves on the Live Oak Classical School Community Outreach and Engagement Committee. She is a past Vice Chair of the Community Race Relations Coalition Board of Directors and has served as a member of the Eastern Waco Development Corporation Board of Directors, Compassion Ministries Board of Directors, United Way Allocations Committee, and the Women's Resource Center Advisory Board. Having served as the McLennan County representative to the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District, she now represents Commissioner Gibson, in his absence, on that district board.

A member of Toliver Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for over 50 years, Chisolm-Miller is active in the Sanctuary Choir, Celestial Voices Choir, Womens' Chorus, and as a Junior High School Sunday School teacher.

Married to Robert Miller, Sr., she is a mom, grandmother, great-grandmother, and a loving aunt. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and listening to music. Her most memorable book is The Prayer of Jabez by Bruce Wilkinson.

Churchill's statement, "To every man there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered a chance to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talents," is indeed one of Chisolm-Miller's favorite quotes, and while many agree with these words, explains Chisolm-Miller, the last part of the quote is sometimes overlooked. "What a tragedy if that moment finds [a man or woman] unprepared or unqualified for that which would be his finest hour."

Having spent the past 22 years preparing for this moment, Chisolm-Miller believes she is the most qualified to serve as the McLennan County Commissioner for Precinct 2.

She is ready for this moment, she is asking for the chance to share her talents, and she is confident that with God, she will excel as County Commissioner, Precinct 2.

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WARREN

Continued from page one

Millennials and movies; and embodied cognition. She is published in the current Palgrave-Macmillan UK book titled, Entertainment Values, and has an upcoming article in the Journal of Advertising Research dedicated to multicultural consumers and their television consumption.

She speaks nationally on the topics of cross-cultural marketing, effective communications, public relations, and multicultural fundraising. She has done so for Amer-

icans for the Arts, Broward County (FL) for the Arts and The Junior League, to name a few.

Lindsey-Warren has also received numerous awards including the 2017 Rutgers University Dissertation Fellowship, the 2014 American Marketing Association's Valuing Diversity PhD Scholarship as well as recognized by the American Marketing Association's as a 2014 Sheth Consortium Fellow. She has been recognized by The Network

Journal magazine's 40 Under Forty, the YWCA of White Plains, New York People To Watch honor, and The Cincinnati Herald newspaper's Nefertiti Award.

Her volunteer board affiliations include serving as the President of the Marketing Doctoral Students Association for the PhD Project; a Board of Director/Treasurer for the leading HIV/AIDS agency for women of color called, Iris House (Harlem, New York); and Board Mem-

ber for Jazz Forum Arts (Westchester County, New York). Lindsey-Warren is a former Board of Director for the United Way Foundation of Greater Cincinnati, the Tony Award-Winning Crossroads Theatre as well as for the Cincinnati Arts Consortium. She has also worked with the YWCA, New York Chapter of the Coalition of 100 Black Women and Women in Communications, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and the Greater Hudson Valley (NY) chapter of

The LINKS, Inc.

Lindsey-Warren is also a professional jazz singer who has opened for the likes of Gospel singer Jonathan Butler, Kirk Whalum, and Pieces of a Dream as well as performed at the Blue Note music clubs in Japan, the Sugar Bar in New York City, the New Brunswick Jazz Project, and the Norwalk Jazz Festival. Lindsey-Warren is newly married to Sidney L. Warren, a successful restaurant entrepreneur.

# Church Directory

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www.highpointchurchwaco.com

<b>WEEKLY SERVICE</b> Every Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<i>Children's Church Youth Church Nursery</i>
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Hollywood Theater | Highway 84 | Woodway, Texas  
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*Matthew Reed Ministries, Inc.*



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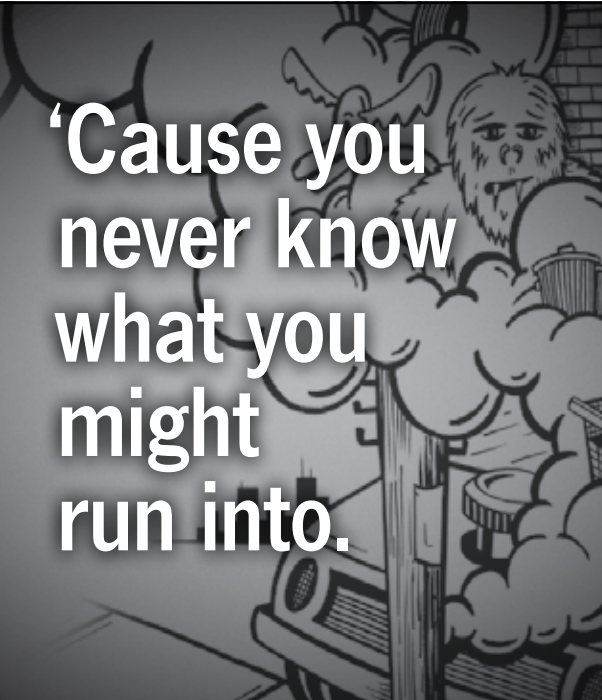
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## An Uncertain Future

BY MONA DUNKIN

We are living in perilous times. The news is filled with tornadoes, tsunamis, rampant fires and earthquakes, not to mention homeland violence and worldwide wars. Truth is, all of us are facing an uncertain future. With coverage of disasters we now know that we don't know what tomorrow holds.

Good fear, bad fear. Sometimes fear is a good place to start. Healthy fear causes one to think about what to do next; to plan ahead. It also forces us to let go of false securities and come to terms with what really matters in life.

What you cannot control. The list of things one cannot control is long and includes: the weather, another person, the past, time, the economy and how my favored team plays. What things might you have tried to control that have proven futile?

What you can control. The only thing within your control is you and your response to things/people that you cannot control. Things over which you have control includes your words, your attitudes, your facial expressions, your actions, your thoughts, your choices, your dress, your esteem, your feelings, your schedule, what



MONA DUNKIN

you spend, where you go and with whom you associate.

Did I say you could control your 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 and acting differently.

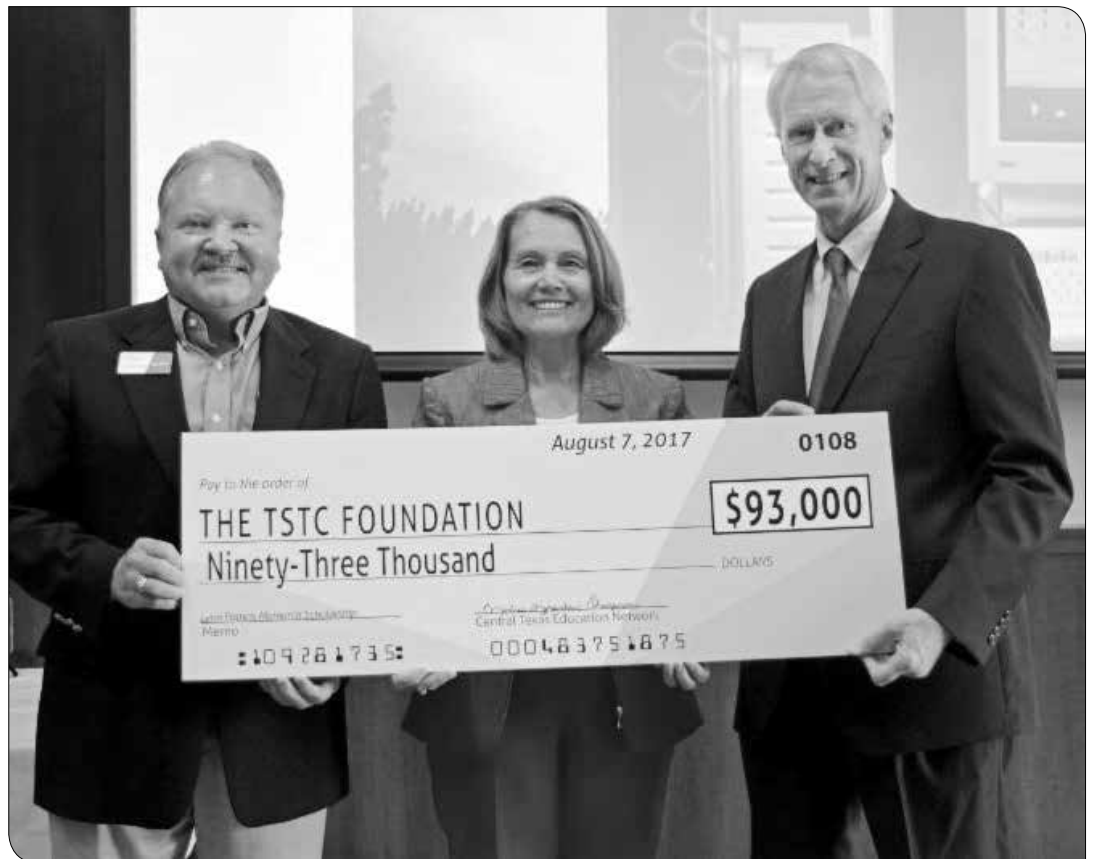
Go with gratitude. You also control your perception of life and situations. You will never forget what you have lost; be thankful for what you have left. Even if the remains of a tragedy are slim, you have your life. You have blessed memories of those lost. You have a change to start over and afresh. You have talents and abilities to employ. You have love to share and experience to give.

Have compassion for you and for others. George Washington Carver shared how to develop empathy: "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong, because someday in your life you will have been all of these."

Do not allow circumstances to beat you down. Allow difficulties to be your tutor to learn life lessons. Have faith in God and trust things to work out. Faith and trust go hand in hand. Faith strives to bring to pass what has not happened yet. Trust rests in the end results. Have faith in yourself, but not too much as to cause it to be a liability.

Mona Dunkin is a Motivational Speaker, Corporate Trainer and Personal Success Coach. Read past articles at [www.monadunkin.blogspot.com](http://www.monadunkin.blogspot.com). Contact her 254-749-6594 [mona@monadunkin.com](mailto:mona@monadunkin.com).

## Area Technology Consortium Gives to TSTC Scholarship



ELTON STUCKLY JR., EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER AT TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE (LEFT), (CENTER) MARLENE ZIPPERLEN, CHAIRWOMAN OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS EDUCATION NETWORK AND (RIGHT) JOHN FRANCIS, BROTHER OF FORMER TSTC DIRECTOR OF NETWORK SERVICES LYNN R. FRANCIS, STAND WITH A CEREMONIAL CHECK FOR THE LYNN R. FRANCIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP.

BY DANIEL PERRY,  
TSTC COMMUNICATIONS  
DIRECTOR

The Central Texas Education Network, a regional technology consortium that included school districts, hospitals, libraries and Texas State Technical College, recently donated \$93,000 to the Lynn R. Francis Memorial Scholarship.

CTEN, which was created in 1994, is disbanding and used remaining operating funds to make the gift to the longtime TSTC scholarship.

"Connectivity could not have helped without TSTC and Lynn," said Marlene Zipperlen, CTEN's chairwoman. "It was a collaboration when there weren't a lot of collaborations going on."

The scholarship honors the life of Lynn R. Francis, TSTC's director of network services, who died in a motorcycle accident on Feb. 25, 2001. The scholarship will be available for awarding in fall 2018 for graduating high school seniors in the Axtell, Bruceville-Eddy, Cameron, China Spring, Gholson, Itasca, Mexia and West school districts planning to attend TSTC in Waco, said Karen Beach, director of

donor retention for The TSTC Foundation. Students whose parents work for the Hillcrest Baylor Scott and White Hospital, Falls Community Hospital, the Waco-McLennan County Library and the Hillsboro City Library are also eligible, according to information from The TSTC Foundation.

Francis was instrumental in developing the technical college's networks for interactive video, telephones and fiber-optic campus data.

"In the early '90s, then-president Don Goodwin called on Lynn Francis, the CMT (Computer Maintenance Technology) graduate and instructor, to develop the TSTC computer network to replace the piecemeal chaos that separated campus PCs," according to the March

15, 2001 edition of the Tech Times.

Francis grew up during TSTC's early days as the James Connally Technical Institute as his parents were part of the faculty. He received an associate degree in computer maintenance technology from Texas State Technical Institute (now TSTC) in 1987.

Francis was an avid motorcyclist.

"From bikes to bikers, and everyone in between, the people who will miss the soft-spoken, Harley-riding TSTC instructor and director spread from Waco to Denver, Little Rock to San Francisco ... and beyond," according to the Tech Times.

For more information on Texas State Technical College, go to [tstc.edu](http://tstc.edu).



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# 11 Midway Students Recognized by National Merit Program



**MIDWAY HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES ELEVEN NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM RECOGNITIONS. THEY ARE (LEFT TO RIGHT) WILL STAMEY (COMMENDED SCHOLAR), ISABEL ECHEVARRIA (NATIONAL HISPANIC SCHOLAR), STEVEN ACEVEDO COLON (NATIONAL HISPANIC SCHOLAR), KYLIE TERRY (NATIONAL HISPANIC SCHOLAR), ANDY KANZ (SEMIFINALIST), EMMA GARZA (NATIONAL HISPANIC SCHOLAR), CHRISTOPHER LEE (COMMENDED SCHOLAR), JESSICA SAIN (NATIONAL HISPANIC SCHOLAR), SARAH HALL (COMMENDED SCHOLAR), HAYOUNG PARK (COMMENDED SCHOLAR), AND HANXING KUANG (SEMIFINALIST).**

**BY TRACI MARLIN,  
PIO, MISD**

Midway High School students have a legacy of outstanding performance in standardized testing, ranking above both state and national averages on both the SAT and ACT. This year's seniors are no exception. Eleven students have received notice of recognition through the National Merit Program, and two students have been named National Merit Semifinalists. Finalists will be named in February 2018.

Congratulations to Midway High School's National Merit Semifinalists, Andy Kanz and Hanxing Kuang.

**Andy Kanz** is the son of Robin and Ken Kanz of Woodway. He is Blue Crew Captain, a four-year All-Region Choir member, an AP Scholar with Distinction, and National Spanish Exam Honoree. Andy is involved in National Honor Society, theater, choir, and chess club. He plans to attend Baylor University to major in Film and Digital Media.

**Hanxing Kuang** is the son of Lingjiang Tu and Weidong Kuang of Waco. Hanxing is a national qualifier, state quarterfinalist, district Top Speaker, and MHS Captain in Policy Debate. As Varsity Tennis Captain, Hanxing helped lead the team to four consecutive district titles and three consecutive area titles in Team Tennis. He was an All-District selection in both singles and doubles

during team tennis season. During the individual season, Hanxing was district champion in doubles and a regional quarterfinalist. He is also Science Captain in UIL Academics and President of National Honor Society. Hanxing plans to attend Yale or University of Texas and major in Physics.

Four Midway High School students were named National Merit Commended Scholars, ranking in the top five percent of the nation: Sarah Hall, Christopher Lee, Hayoung Park, and Will Stamey.

**Sarah Hall** is the daughter of Darcy and Donna-Mae Hall of McGregor. Sarah is the founder of Harpistry, a member of the American Harp Society, and performs in the Midway High School Varsity Orchestra and Waco Symphony Youth Orchestra. She is a Historic Waco Foundation Belle, three-year Spirit of Midway recipient, National Honor Society member, and HOSA member. In college, Sarah plans to double major in biology (molecular medicine and molecular genetics) and harp performance.

**Christopher Lee** is the son of Myeongwoo Lee and Yongsin Kim of McGregor. He is a National Spanish Exam silver medalist. He actively competes for the Midway High School Varsity Swim Team, UIL Academics, and UIL Speech and Debate. Christopher has served as a member of the Humanitarian Club and Caritas volunteer. Upon gradu-

ation, he plans to attend the University of Texas or Baylor University to major in Computer Science.

**Hayoung Park** is the daughter of Jungjun Park and Mina Park of Woodway. She earned an AP Scholar Award, ILPC Individual Achievement Award in Computer Art, and Edith Fox King Journalism Contest awards in Layout and in Graphics/Photo Illustration. Hayoung is an active member of National Honor Society, Midway Orchestra, Waco Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the youth group at Fellowship Bible Church. She plans to attend Baylor University, majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

**Will Stamey** is the son of James and Anndrea Stamey of Woodway. As a member of Midway High School Meistersingers and Chamber Singers, he earned a UIL State Solo 1 Rating and was All Region Choir three years. Will is an AP Scholar, will be a four-year Spirit of Midway Award recipient, and performs with the MCC Electric Guitar Ensemble. Upon graduation, Will plans to attend Baylor University or major in Business or Computer Science.

The College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) identifies academically outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students who score in the top 5,000 from over 250,000 Hispanic/Latino juniors who take the PSAT/NMSQT. Congratula-

tions to Midway's five National Hispanic Recognition Scholars, Steven Acevedo Colon, Isabel Echevarria, Emma Garza, Jessica Sain, and Kylie Terry.

**Steven V. Acevedo Colon** is the son of Dollyvette Colon and Vidal Acevedo of Woodway. Steven is a National Hispanic Scholar, High School Aerospace Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors, and National Finalist in the Software Engineering Team for Business Professional of America. His leadership activities include serving as Robotics and Engineering Club President, Computer Science Club President, Theoretical Physics Club Vice President, and a Business Professionals of America Leadership Officer. Steven is also a member of National Honors Society and the Chess Club. He plans to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), pursuing a degree in Material Sciences and Engineering or Electrical Engineering.

**Isabel Echevarria** is the daughter of José and Sarah Echevarria of Hewitt. She is a National Merit Hispanic Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, Band head section leader, and Seminary president. Isabel is an active member of Spanish National Honor Society, National Honor Society, Songs for Seniors, Student Council, and Spanish Club. Upon graduation, Isabel will attend Brigham Young University and major in Education.

**Emma Garza** is the daughter of Lisa and Octavio Garza of Waco. She is a national recipient of the Emperor Science Award for cancer research, an AP Scholar, a National Hispanic Scholar, and two-time state finalist in Forensic Science (HOSA). Emma is HOSA President and has served as vice president and historian. She is also a member of National Honor Society. Upon graduation, she plans to major in Biology at Duke University or Rice University, then pursue a graduate degree.

**Jessica Sain** is the daughter of Jerry and Annette Sain of Woodway. Jessica is an AP Distinguished Scholar. She is actively involved in National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Spanish Club, PALS, MPACT, and serves in the Cameron Park Zoo Crew. Following graduation, she plans to attend either Texas A&M or TCU in order to pursue a degree in Genetics and minor in Spanish.

**Kylie Terry** is the daughter of William and Kristina Terry of Hewitt. She is a NASA High School Aerospace Scholar and founding member of Schrodinger's Lounge, Midway High School's Theoretical Physics Club. While working two jobs, she has also been involved in National Honor Society. Kylie plans to attend University of Texas at Austin to double major in Physics and Astronomy and minor in mathematics, then pursue at least one doctoral degree.



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## Protecting seniors online from scams, hacks and tax fraud

(NewsUSA) - The vast majority of seniors today are using the Internet at least once a week to check email, pay bills online and keep in touch via social media. But all that time online puts them at risk for scams and hacks, such as tax fraud.

In fact, a new survey by Home Instead, Inc., franchisor of the Home Instead Senior Care network, found that 67 percent of surveyed older adults have been the victim of an online scam or hack.

Encouraging seniors to practice cyber security can go a long way toward protecting their identity and sensitive financial information. Home Instead collaborated with the National Cyber Security Alliance to create Protect Seniors Online, available at [www.ProtectSeniorsOnline.com](http://www.ProtectSeniorsOnline.com), a free resource that educates older adults about cybersecurity. Here, seniors can test their cybersecurity skills with the "Can You Spot an Online Scam?" quiz.

Older adults can take the following steps now to protect themselves online:

\*Password protect and secure devices, accounts. Lock all devices (including computers, tablets and smartphones) with secure passwords in case devices are lost or stolen.

\*Think before clicking. When faced with an urgent request --

like emails asking for money -- think before clicking or get a second opinion. Clicking on links is often how scammers get personal information. When in doubt, trash an unusual message.

\*Share with care. More than half (51 percent) of seniors surveyed by Home Instead use social media to stay connected. Use care when sharing personal information, adjust privacy settings to limit who can see your information, and turn off location sharing.

\*Use security software. Install anti-virus and anti-spyware software and program it to run regularly. And be wary of pop-up ads or emails, many of which contain malware that can infect computers.

\*Log out. Log out of apps and websites when you are finished. Leaving apps and websites open on computer screens could make you vulnerable to security and privacy risks.

\*Recommend support. Older adults who live alone may need help from a trusted source -- such as a family member, tech-savvy friend or professional caregiver -- to serve as a second set of eyes.

To explore additional Protect Seniors Online resources, including the interactive quiz, visit [www.ProtectSeniorsOnline.com](http://www.ProtectSeniorsOnline.com)

A Home Instead office near you can be found by visiting [www.homeinstead.com/state](http://www.homeinstead.com/state).

## Meet Kersten Goodwin, your Executive Council Agent with New York Life

At the age of 21, Kersten Gonce Goodwin graduated from the University of Mary Hardin Baylor with a bachelor's degree in clinical psychology. She has been on the move ever since. She joined New York Life a few short months later, and after seven years of courtship with the love of her life, she and Kyle married in November of 2016!

Last month, Goodwin officially became an executive council agent with New York Life. For this company, this position is huge! It means she is in the top 5% of the company across the country. Cur-



KERSTEN GOODWIN

rently, Goodwin is an Ambassador of the Hewitt Chamber, the secretary for BARK (Bosque Animal Res-

cue Kennels), a member of the Valley Mills Chamber, a member of the Clifton Chamber, visitor host of the Central Texas Top Flight BNI Chapter and recently became a volunteer with the Central Texas YMCA and CareNet.

Goodwin's mindset is to volunteer for the good. "My thought," she said, "is that if I give all of my heart to someone, an organization, a community, then I have made a difference. I may spread myself thin, but my heart feels good and that is how I operate my business— heart and hustle."

## Football Helmet Safety in Three Simple Steps

(NewsUSA) - As the high school and college football seasons heat up, the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) is encouraging parents, coaches and athletes to refresh their knowledge on helmet safety and safe play.

Keep these three simple

steps in mind:

1. Know Your Helmet There are no concussion-proof helmets. No football helmet completely prevents all head injuries, including concussions.

A concussion is a complex event that involves a variety of factors. Advertising or other media claims that a particular helmet is anti-concussion or concussion-proof are not supported by research and can be misleading and dangerous.

Avoid relying on any single data point, rating or measurement when considering helmet options.

Proper fit is critical. Helmets are designed for safety and performance based on proper fit, specifically contact with the head. Ask your athlete how the helmet feels -- helmets should not be too tight or too loose. Find fitting and wearing instructions through the CDC Foundation at [www.cdcfoundation.org/HeadsUp](http://www.cdcfoundation.org/HeadsUp).

Look for the logo on the back of the helmet that reads, "Meets NOCSAE Standard." The NOCSAE logo signifies that a helmet model has passed the most rigorous, science-based performance standards in the world.

Do not alter or change your football helmet. Adding accessories and removing padding can alter how the helmet was intended to func-

tion and potentially interfere with its performance.

2. Maintain Your Helmet Helmets should be reconditioned and recertified to the NOCSAE standard on a regular basis. Helmets that have been recertified will have a label inside the helmet indicating the name of the recertifying company and the date of recertification. If you have doubts, ask your coach or school administrator about their policy for reconditioning and recertification.

Replace the helmet after 10 years.

3. Prioritize Safe Play Football helmets are just one part of helping to protect against head injuries. Use proper blocking and tackling techniques and demand enforcement of rules that prohibit players from leading with their helmets to hit other players.

Know the signs and symptoms of concussions -- which can include headache, nausea, confusion, dizziness and memory difficulties -- and encourage everyone to report any and all symptoms. If a concussion has been diagnosed, athletes should not return to play until cleared by medically trained experts following return-to-play guidelines. Remember: if in doubt, sit it out.

For more information visit [www.NOCSAE.org](http://www.NOCSAE.org).



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# How to Recognize And Avoid Identity Theft Scams

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

(NewsUSA) - Across the nation, identity thieves are using legitimate information to scam honest taxpayers, and frequently posing as the IRS to do so. So, what can you do?

The IRS is taking this seriously, and has created the IRS Identity Theft Protection Unit to address the growing problem. However, being aware of some of the most common scams can help protect you from having your personal information used to commit fraud or other crimes.

**Phony IRS emails.** In a "phishing" scam, an official-looking email shows an IRS logo that lures the consumer to a website that requests personal and financial information, such as a Social Security number, bank account, or credit card numbers. In truth, the IRS does not send out unsolicited emails and does not use email to ask for detailed personal or financial infor-

mation such as PIN numbers, passwords or similar secret access information for credit cards or bank accounts. The only genuine IRS website is [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**Refund scam.** In a refund scam, a bogus e-mail tells the recipient that he or she is eligible to receive a federal tax refund for a given amount (often \$63.80) and sends the recipient to a website to complete a form to submit the tax refund request. The form then asks for personal and financial information. In fact, the IRS does not notify taxpayers of refunds via e-mail.

**Antifraud Commission scam.** In this case, the scammer sends an email stating the IRS "Antifraud Commission" has found that someone tried to pay their taxes through the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System, or EFTPS, using the email recipient's credit card. As a result, some of the recipient's money was lost and the remaining funds were blocked. The e-mail includes a link that



**J.L. CRAWFORD**

sends the recipient to a website where he or she is directed to enter personal and financial information in order to unblock their funds. Don't take the bait! The IRS does not have an antifraud commission.

Get help. A taxpayer who believes they may have received a fraudulent or otherwise questionable communication related to taxes should

contact a licensed tax professional. Enrolled agents (EAs) are America's tax experts. They are the only federally licensed tax practitioners who specialize in taxation and also have unlimited rights to represent taxpayers before the IRS. That means that if you get a letter from the IRS, or worse, are audited or are the target of a collection action, your EA can speak directly to the IRS on your behalf. Find an EA in

your area on the directory at [www.naea.org](http://www.naea.org). Call me for information on LegalShield's inexpensive identity theft plan.

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# Living for godly reward

BY MATTHEW REED

Reward is compensation or something given for services rendered or for good behavior. In the world you can merit a reward, but there is no guarantee you will receive it, but in God what you merit you shall receive. For example, in John 3 the reward and the merit are for believing on Jesus (John 3:15) the word says, "That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." This scripture came first because all of the rewards and any merits that are expected of God are contingent upon whether you have received and believed Jesus the Christ as your Lord.

In Matthew 5:11 we find a reward is merited when men revile, persecute and speak evil against you falsely because of Jesus. In Matt 5:12 we are promised that our reward is great in heaven. In Matthew 5:44-46 we

are instructed that in loving those that hate us is merit for reward. We conclude this from Matt 5:46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? Do not even the publicans the same? In loving those who hate us, we look like Jesus and we please God.

You should know that God always heard Jesus because Jesus did always those things that pleased God. We lose our heavenly reward when we do alms for men to see. Matt 6:1 says "Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven." There is a reward for receiving the profit of God; there is a reward for receiving the righteous. Matt 10:41 says, "He that receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receives a righteous man in the name of

a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

In Matthew 16:24-26 Jesus instructs us in the vanity of great gains without God. He assures us that dying to one's self and following after Christ in this present life is greater gain. There are times when walking as a man or woman of God we can't see the blessedness of it. In these times we must turn to the word of God for consolation and strength to continue the journey and understand that the reward is in our future Matt 16:27 says, "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works."

What I hope to accom-



PASTOR MATTHEW AND HELEN REED

plish with this month's message is to remind you and me that there is reward in

living a holy, sanctified life in Christ Jesus. Live for the reward. Amen!



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## Meet Magnolia Realtor, Aaron Young

Aaron Young is blessed to work with one of the best well known companies in America - Magnolia Realty. The interest in Waco has increased due to the interest in the show. Magnolia Realty is a full service company serving the needs of Waco, Woodway, Hewitt, Robinson, Lorena, China Spring, and the general central Texas region.

Aaron wants to make your home buying experience to bring you the best value, informative, and enjoyable. We at Magnolia believe that home is a place for you and your family to unplug, connect, dream, and be together. We believe in "Doing Good Work That Matters."

Aaron Young has been serving in the real estate field all of his life. Grew up helping his father manage his rentals, flips, land, and



AARON YOUNG

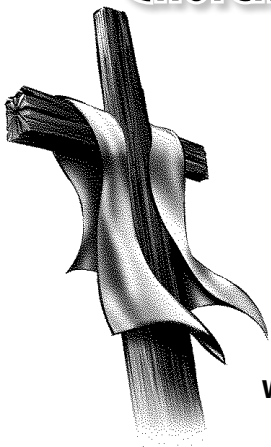
home sales. It is in his blood! He began his own real estate career in 2003. He has experienced every kind of real estate deal. He would enjoy helping you to sell your home or place your family into your next dream home. Feel free to log onto his high tech search site at [aaron.waco.magnoliarealty.com](http://aaron.waco.magnoliarealty.com).

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11:15 AM

**Sunday Evening**  
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**Wednesday Prayer Worship**  
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# I will never leave you, nor forsake you! Part 4

BY RUBY MCCRAY

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

Every Scriptural reference will be taken from the New Living Translation of the Holy Bible. The subject of this series is a portion of the Scripture taken from Hebrews, Chapter 13, and Verse 5.

If you haven't read the beginning of this series, please log on to: [www.theanchornews.com](http://www.theanchornews.com), click Archives, then click the month of July, its beginning. I'm presenting a Biblical point of view.

God is in covenant with His Children (Galatians 3:6, 7); and He will not and cannot break it. If we break it, there is no covenant to keep. Some people still say that once they've become a Christian, they'll always be a Christian, it matters not how they live. Some of us are taking the "GRACE" issue a bit too far. This is what Paul had to say about it.

"Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? Or

have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives" (Romans 6:1-4). Please finish reading the Chapter. It so eloquently explains whether or not one is a Christian.

There are two things that God doesn't remember: our past righteousness and our past sins. Ezekiel records it in Chapters 3, 18 and 33. Let's examine a portion of Chapter 33.

"Once again a message came to me from the LORD: 'Son of man, give your people this message: When I bring an army against a country, the people of that land choose one of their own to be a watchman. When the watchman sees the enemy coming, he sounds the alarm to warn the people. Then if those who hear the alarm refuse to take action, it is their own fault if they die. They heard the alarm but ignored it, so the responsibility is theirs. If they had listened to the warning, they would have saved their lives.



EVANGELIST  
RUBY MCCRAY

But if the watchman sees the enemy coming and doesn't sound the alarm to warn the people, he is responsible for their captivity. They will die in their sins, but I will hold the watchman responsible for their deaths.'

"Now, son of man, I am making you a watchman for the people of Israel [America]. Therefore, listen to what I say and warn them for me. If I announce that some wicked people are sure to die and you fail to tell them to change their ways, then they will die in their

sins, and I will hold you responsible for their deaths. But if you warn them to repent and they don't repent, they will die in their sins, but you will have saved yourself.

"Son of man, give the people of Israel [America] this message: You are saying, 'Our sins are heavy upon us; we are wasting away! How can we survive? As surely as I live, says the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of wicked people. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live. Turn! Turn from your wickedness, O people of Israel [America]! Why should you die?'

"Son of Man, give your people this message: The righteous behavior of righteous people will not save them if they turn to sin, nor will the wicked behavior of wicked people destroy them, if they repent and turn from their sins. When I tell righteous people that they will live, but then they sin, expecting their past righteousness to save them, then none of their righteous acts will be remembered. I will destroy them for their sins. And suppose I tell some wicked people that they will surely die, but then they

turn from their sins and do what is just and right. For instance, they might give back a debtor's security, return what they have stolen, and obey my life-giving laws, no longer doing what is evil. If they do this, then they will surely live and not die. None of their past sins will be brought up again, for they have done what is just and right, and they will surely live.

"You people are saying, 'The Lord isn't doing what's right, but it is they who are not doing what's right. For again I say, when righteous people turn away from their righteous behavior and turn to evil, they will die. But if wicked people turn from their wickedness and do what is just and right, they will live. O people of Israel [America], you are saying, 'The Lord isn't doing what's right.' But I judge each of you according to your deeds'" (Ezekiel 33:1-20). 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](mailto:rubbyacorm@yahoo.com) or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.*



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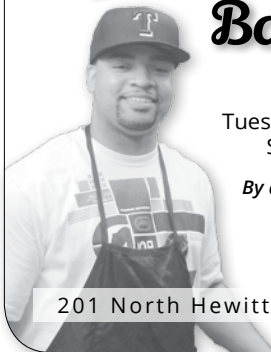
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Linda McDonald, ABR

## Local organization delivers baby blankets to storm victims

BY DEBORAH DAVISON

Babies don't stop coming even if disasters are demanding total attention from adults. The three massive hurricanes in the past two months that hit Texas, Louisiana, Puerto Rico, and other Caribbean islands have demanded much from the victims and those trying to help them. Tons of goods, 24-hour-days of services, and thousands of volunteers to assist government workers are still needed.

Specific items are sometimes simply overlooked in the rush to help all the people. For example, new baby blankets, especially for newborns but also for toddlers and young children, are not an immediate thought for donations. A group of Waco businesses and individuals, however, has joined together to provide new and soft baby blankets to the disaster victims.

Deborah Davison, one of the organizers of "Covering the Children," explained that each blanket, which must be new but which can be purchased or homemade, will have a special logo sewn onto it before shipment. That logo is a Texas flag with a heart in place of

the star and "Jeremiah 29:11" embroidered on the flag. The Biblical verse assures that "God does have a plan for every person." She said more than 100 blankets have been donated in the past two weeks.

A Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/CoveringTheChildren>, explains the guidelines for donating the blankets. Drop off sites are also listed.

Area individuals, groups, and businesses supporting the charitable program include Antioch Community Church, QTI Promotional & Apparel/Aztec Promotional Group, Keith Ace Hardware-China Spring, Praco Gun and Pawn, Bosqueville Elementary with Monica James' kindergarten class, Julie Willis, and Kristi Tidmore.

Davison can be contacted at [DeborahDavison@CoveringTheChildren@gmail.com](mailto:DeborahDavison@CoveringTheChildren@gmail.com). She added, "These blankets are being offered with a special love and Texas spirit. When the babies and families snuggle with their new soft blankets, we hope they can feel that love and spirit from our community."

Contact Person for information: Deborah Davison, [CoveringTheChildren@gmail.com](mailto:CoveringTheChildren@gmail.com), 254-640-2122.

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