

THE Anchor News

Serving the Central Texas Community

Celebrating 12 Years!

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Free

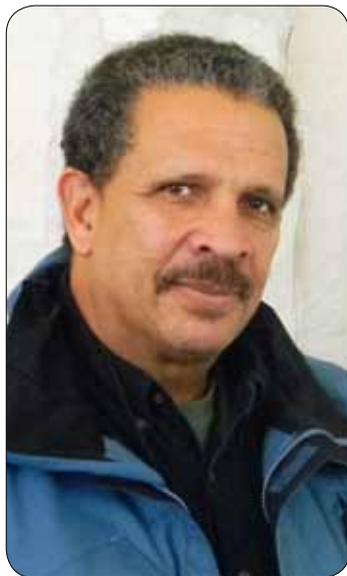


For art's sake: Promoting art in Killeen

BY W.B. GUNTER

When it comes to promoting art in Central Texas and especially in Killeen, there is one name you need to know, and that's Charles Wilson. Wilson seeks out artists who are willing to exhibit their art publically at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center. "I am interested in creating a family friendly environment for art. Art demonstrates the health of a community. I met a patron in Waco who expressed that she could not live in a town without art."

Over the last 5 years or more, has help develop consistency when presenting the works of individual artists. "There has to be opportunities for encouragement and the development of art and artist. Initially, my goal was to showcase local artists. I would start by asking artists present the public with an exhibit. At first, there was some hesitation. Whether it was fear



CHARLES WILSON

of being critiqued, a lack of confidence, or stepping out comfort zones, I'd encourage artists to at least try. After-all, what will you do with the art, leave it sitting in a closet?"

"My goal for the next 5 years is to bring in more competitions. In some instances,

competitions may be intimidating. Being critiqued or seeing your art go unnoticed can make people feel uncomfortable. Competitions, should spur creativity. I'd like to have competitions for art, but it has to be the right one. Only the artist can decide if it's right. For a competition to be enriching, there has to be something behind it. Competitions must allow the art to exist for art's sake. The main goal of an art competition is to promote art." With 5 years of experience behind him, plans on developing competitions that, "will develop and accelerate art in the community. Schools and school districts will be inclusive. Temple College has a great art department and a healthy environment for building an art culture. We can do the same for Killeen and surrounding areas. With imagination, you can do a lot,

See **KILLEEN ART** pg. 3

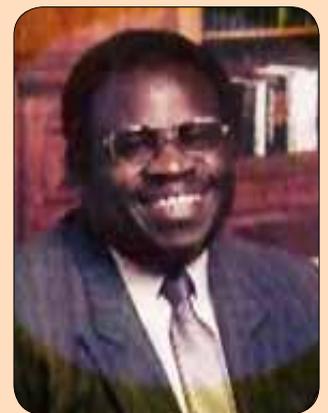
Sickle Cell Anemia Association receives community support

The Anchor News is excited to be involved with this year's Sickle Cell Telethon. The annual Central Texas Sickle Cell Anemia Association Telethon scheduled for Saturday, January 17, 2015 will air on KWKT-TV FOX 44 from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m.

Sickle Cell Disease is fatal, as a result of deprivation of oxygen and lack of nourishment of organs, which causes them to weaken and become unable to fight infections. It is a painful disease that has no outward appearance. Individuals suffering from the ravages of the disease are often met with indifference or scorn because teachers and employers are not aware of the symptoms and the outcomes of the disease. Often, people do not understand the serious implications of Sickle Cell Disease, and think of it as affecting only African-Americans. In fact, it affects individuals of Greek, Sicilian, Italian, Indian, Arab and Hispanic descent, as well as African-Americans.

This event has obtained support from many local media outlets such as KISS FM Radio Announcer "Melz" will co-host along with Rev. Israel Montgomery at the Killeen Collection site - Killeen Civic & Conference Center, Rooms 5 & 6. Television stations KXXV-TV AND KWKT-FOX 44 have joined forces to allow us to present a 5 hour "Live" Broadcast.

Olivia Laborde, from KCEN-TV will co-host the Waco site along with D.J. Batman a radio announcer



REV. GENE CARTER

from radio station 94.5 "The Beat", and "Anchor News" newspaper owners, J.L. and Linda Crawford, will assist with hosting this event. Waco High School students will serve as greeters and hostesses and help with "live hosting."

Approximately one in 40 individuals has the Sickle Cell Trait and one in 400 has full-blown Sickle Cell Disease. Approximately 95% of the families seen by the CTSCAA have incomes below the federal poverty guidelines, most likely because more affluent families are likely to be employed in positions that have medical insurance through which children are automatically covered. Insured families receive services from other sources. Low-income families are more likely to not have access to health insurance, resulting in the need for them to seek services from any source possible. Fortunately CTSCAA is available and knowledgeable of other community resources.

See **TELETHON** pg. 2

Sascee's - Soule of the Brazos, southern style food coming soon

BY LINDA CRAWFORD

Pretty sure you have eaten her food before, and if you have, you are still talking about it. Marsha Marsha Marsha Catering owned by Marcia Neal, has been the talk of the town for a number of years, and now, she's giving you something else to talk about. It's called Sascee's.

"I call it Soule of the Brazos, southern style food," said Neal. Located at 416 Franklin Avenue, a few blocks from the Convention Center, across from the water department, Sascee's



MARCIA NEAL

will be open Wednesdays through Sunday and until 2:00 in the morning on weekends.

Licensed through the State of Texas, Neal is a certified health food handler, and with 20 years of restaurant experience, she touts her superb customer satisfaction and her ability to multi-task because "being super busy is the norm for me," she said.

"I love serving great food, and giving the customer the best service they ever expe-

See **NEAL** pg. 5



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 Independent Associate. Linda Crawford is co-owner and editor of *The Anchor News*. She is an instructor at McLennan Community College, a Bible teacher and a conference, workshop and motivational speaker.

From the editor...

In 2014, The Anchor News celebrated 12 years in the community. What a blessing! We are so honored to be able to represent Waco, Texas and surrounding cities. 2015! Wow! God is good, and so are you--our faithful readers, advertisers, columnists, distributors, etc., and those who allow us to put our paper in your churches and places of business. As we highlight some of our top stories of 2014 and introduce new information for 2015, we hope you enjoy this month's Anchor, the first issue of the year.

January 19 is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday

Martin Luther King, Jr., originally Michael Luther King, was born January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia, to Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. Both King, Sr. and Alberta preached at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, as King Jr. would later do himself. He had an older sister, named Willie Christine, and a younger brother, named Albert Daniel.

King was exceptionally bright, enrolling at Morehouse College at only fifteen years old. There, he learned a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology. He then earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from the Crozer Theological School, before beginning his doctoral studies in Systematic Theology at Boston University. There he received his Ph.D. in 1955. While in Boston, King also met and married Coretta Scott King, with whom he would have two children.

In 1954, King accepted his first position as a full-time pastor at the Dexter Avenue

Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. By this point, at the age of 24, he was an executive committee member for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In December of 1955, King helped form the Montgomery Improvement Association, and took charge of the first major non-violent protest of the civil rights movement, the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The boycott was called in response to the arrest of a woman named Rosa Parks, who refused to forfeit her seat on a bus to a white man. The boycott lasted for 382 days, only ending when the Supreme Court declared the forced segregation of buses unconstitutional.

Soon afterwards, in 1957, King was elected president of the newly formed Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), which provided a ideological and organizational foundation for the growing American Civil Rights Movement. He implanted



Photo Credit--Bettman and Corbis

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

into the SCLC moral ideas and techniques based on Christianity and the non-violent teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. For more than a decade, he spoke at thousands of locations about civil rights and social justice, as well as writing five books and several articles on the topic. He organized many demonstrations advocating desegregation, labor rights, and the

dismantling of prejudice Jim Crow laws.

King's actions cast him and the Civil Rights Movement into the public eye, becoming the focus of contemporary media attention. In particular, the Birmingham protests, which he organized, and the March on Washington for which he represented the SCLC and delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, both during 1963, sparked a great deal of controversy. The March on Washington, organized by the so-called Big Six organizations of the Civil Rights Movement, ended up a resounding success. The next year, King was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace. He was the youngest recipient in the history of the award.

On April 4, 1968, King was shot and killed while standing on a balcony outside his motel room in Memphis, Tennessee. The next day, he had been scheduled to lead a protest by the city's garbage workers. Though a man named James Earl Ray was accused of plead guilty to the crime, the exact circumstances surrounding his death have been shrouded in mystery.

Since his death, Martin Luther King, Jr. has been recognized as one of the greatest advocates for universal civil rights in history, as well as one of the most remarkable modern orators. He is perhaps the most recognizable figure of the Civil Rights Movement, and has posthumously received many awards and recognitions, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

TELETHON | Continued from page one

es. Other common medical expenses are wheelchairs, walkers, and prescriptions (which may not be covered by Medicaid), and supplemental foods.

"I have given 31 years of my life trying to make living easier for those who are suffering with Sickle Cell Disease," said Rev. Gene Carter, Executive Director of the Waco organization. "Now, I need your help; please make a donation to help

us fight this disease. Your donation could save the life of a child."

Temple, Texas will have a collection site for the first time. Bishop D.S. McBride, Pastor of Grace Temple Ministries located at 801 South 13th Street & Avenue H has opened their doors so that individuals in Temple and surrounding areas can come to Grace Temple and drop off their donations from

12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. Robert Martin is the area coordinator for Temple - Central Texas Sickle Cell Anemia Association.

Every citizen is urged to participate in this effort. The goal for the telethon this year is \$50,000.

Donations can be mailed to: Sickle Cell, P.O. Box 881, Waco, TX 76703.

For more information call 254-752-3441.

THE Anchor News



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PURPOSE

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

POLICY

Anchored on the principles of scripture, Anchor News will at

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

LETTERS AND ARTICLES POLICY

The comments and opinions of our readers are welcomed. Letters

and articles should be e-mailed. Letters should be no longer than 200 words and must include a name and phone number. Article submissions should be no longer than 450 words and should include an original head shot (in jpeg format) along with your name, address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, space, potentially libelous material and copyright infringement. We also reserve the right to refuse derogatory, irrelevant and malicious submissions.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

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STAFF

KILLEEN ART

Continued from page one

and I envision 3 Dimensional works in the Civic Center.”

Wilson understands the time constraints, unusual hours, and the flexible thought patterns of artists. He is a professional artist and photographer, married to professional artist, Sheri Wilson. says, as he smiles, “She is an inspiration and she makes my life wonderful.” The Wilsons are very supportive of one another, and encourage all artists to step out and let art happen.

If you are an artist, or know of an artist be encour-

aging. Art touches the soul in ways that are immeasurable and not always understood. Contact Wilson via email at photoart50@yahoo.com. Participate in the Take 190 Writer’s and Artist’s Festival. Apply online at www.gkcc.com. Schedule a trip to the Killeen Civic and Conference Center on W.S. Young Dr., Visit the CAC, in Temple. Register for competitions and festivals, and meet up in June for another exhibit. The year is young. Share your vision and live the dream. It’s time to move forward.

Godly wisdom changes things

BY MATTHEW REED

Godly wisdom curtails situations like Ferguson, Iraq and Iran Etc. In order to gain insight to this wisdom it is necessary to understand two laws of the many laws that exist in the universe in which we live--the law of alienation and the law of provocation. Let’s begin by getting a definition of the root words of these laws.

Provoke: to cause the occurrence of (a feeling or action) : to make (something) happen : to cause (a person or animal) to become angry, violent, etc., to arouse to a feeling or ac-



PASTOR AND MRS. REED

loud offensive music, when you speak profane language, when you strong arm people and steal, when you disregard authority and laws of the land etc. etc. you become obnoxious, alienating yourself from the rest of the population and provoke them to action. This is a good time to address excessive force and looting and burning (you provoked me and you expect me to react according to some rule you made up).

Now you can't understand my actions; evidently you've never been angry. At the end of the day in the heat of the moment everything goes. On this point parents are not doing their job of raising their children to live in society and are to be blamed. All of mankind is the problem and walking in the wisdom of God is the answer. When we understand the laws of reigning, the laws of life, then will we reign and have life until then we will merely live and exist!

If we live Godly, citizens will not provoke the police and the police will not provoke its citizens I bring to your remembrance the law of gravity. This will help you to understand all other laws. Going someplace involves the law of motion. To make a friend, one must show himself friendly; this is the law. Every individual that desires benefits have to work the laws of the thing he or she desires! You may not like this truth, but you will repent or perish.

Remember a fool does in the end what a wise man does in the beginning. Of this I am sure. The conclusion of the matter, Mr. Legislator, Mr. Judge, Mr. Enforcement officer and Mr. General Population, is that we will all have to line up with the laws of life to have life and with the laws of peace to have peace.

These laws and the instructions to operate them are found in the word of God. Proverbs 4:5 says, “Get wisdom, get understanding: forget [it] not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.6 Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. 7 Wisdom [is] the principal thing; [therefore] get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. 8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honor, when thou dost embrace her.” Amen!

tion, to incite to anger, to stir up purposely <provoke a fight> Alienate: to make (someone) unfriendly : to cause (someone) to stop being friendly, helpful, etc., towards you; to make unfriendly, hostile, or indifferent especially where attachment formerly existed, to cause to be withdrawn or diverted. Ephesians 4:18 says Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart (mind): Colossians 1:21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in [your] mind by wicked works. Hebrews 3:15 While it is said, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

When you're obnoxious (unpleasant in a way that makes people feel offended, annoyed, or disgusted)you set in motion the laws of provocation and alienation. In all unwanted situations I find everyone involved to be guilty of actions that bring about the manifestation of these laws. You can't continually discriminate in the enforcing of the laws, judge unrighteous judgment, and perpetuate unfair treatment, murder a certain faction of the population without alienating and provoking those people into action.

For one to say I don't understand is to admit ignorance or insensitivity. Now you begin to see that legislators, judges, enforcement officers and the general population are not without fault. On the other hand when you dress with your pants hanging to a point where people can see your underwear, when you play

Food | Entertainment | Silent Auction

WACO NAACP Annual Banquet

Uniting for Justice: We Won't Go Back

with speaker:
Civil Rights Attorney David Richards

Saturday,
February 28, 2015 | 7PM
Paul Quinn Campus
1020 Elm St. Waco, TX 76704

Ticket Prices:
\$300 Table | \$35 Individuals
\$30 NAACP Members

To purchase tickets, contact Dr. Peaches Henry
at waconaacp@gmail.com or any NAACP member.

L&M Productions & Road to Damascus, Inc. Presents

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Valentines Day Event

Saturday, February 14, 2015

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THE
Anchor News

L&M
Productions

NEAL | Continued from page one

rienced."

From banquets to weddings, she can be responsible for organizing the events from decorating the venue to seating guests, to serving and preparing the food, to cleaning up and then setting-up for the next event.

Whether a business meeting, a family reunion, an elegant wedding, a church or corporate luncheon, a birthday party, or a business anniversary celebration, Neal promises to make any occasion a memorable one, and now she can give her customers a place to have their event.

For two decades she has strived to provide added value to clients by maintaining a high level of quality services. "I tailor my services and menus to accommodate the client's special wants and needs." According to Neal, she uses only the freshest ingredients in her dishes.

Neal credits TSTC's Dr. Frances Worthy as the

person who pushed her and inspired her to believe in herself. "During my time in food service at TSTC, she kept telling me that my food was so good that I needed to step out into my own business."

No job is too small or too large for a catered event and Sascee's is just an added bonus for that southern food appetite. Neal hopes to attract everyone, the young, the old, Baylor students, MCC students, TSTC students, faculty, businesses, you name it, she says.

"After all, you can get pizza, sandwiches, and Mexican food just about anywhere, but for collard greens, meat loaf, fried chicken, mac and cheese, beans and cornbread, not to mention peach cobbler, butter pound cake, banana pudding, and Jazz, you will need to come downtown to Sascee's."

For more information on the upcoming Grand Opening, please contact Marcia Neal at 254-652-1924.

Temple of Christ Church

Matthew Reed Ministries Inc.

609 N. 5th St., Waco, TX. 76701 • (254) 753-0772

Church Services

Sunday School
10:00 AM

Morning Worship
11:15 AM

Sunday Evening
6:00 PM

Monday Bible Study
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Wednesday Prayer Worship
7:00 PM

Pastor Matthew Reed and Wife Helen

How-to's of meditation

BY MONA DUNKIN

Stop doing in 2015 and start being. Here's how.

Meditation is not another thing to do. It is an invitation to stop doing. It is an invitation to be true to you. Unfamiliar things seem strange, new things seem awkward and anything untried remains foreign. Here are suggestions for the practice of meditation.

Find a focal point. Concentrate on something constant and easily accessible - like your breath. Inhale deeply through your nose, taking the air all the way down into your diaphragm. Hold the breath for 2-3 seconds then exhale through pursed lips. This simple act promotes mindfulness of the moment. It releases the trauma of yesterday without rehearsing the tension of tomorrow. It also changes the chemical compounds in your body.

Picture it. We breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide. Imagine the fresh oxygen circulating through every cell in your body picking up toxins and being released with an exhale. Put color into it. Breathe in relaxing blue and breathe out grey stress. Breathe in sunshine yellow and breathe out blackened depression. Direct the breath to an area of tension and - like WD40 - imaging it releasing the hold and setting free.

Find the secret place. The human condition regrets yesterday and worries about tomorrow, thus failing to



MONA DUNKIN

live in the present. For a few minutes deliberately set aside the noise around you - people talking, the buzz of traffic, a ringing phone. For a few minutes deliberately set aside the noise inside you - the to-do list, the looming deadline, the guilt. Go inside yourself; to your interior. Go to the God-spot within you, the one placed there at the moment of your conception.

Melt tension. Meditation has been clinically proven to reduce levels of cortisol in the body. Cortisol is the culprit that holds negative stress in the body. It is the "fight-flight" chemical that keeps one revved up, unable to flow. Cortisol is also the hormone attributed to "cravings" as well as the storage of food into belly fat.

Discover serenity. Medi-

tation has been shown in studies to decrease stress and increase production of endorphins, the brain's "happy drug". When endorphins are activated through quiet reflection a spirit of thankfulness overtakes stress; an over-all-good feeling settles in.

Become wholly integrated. We are a composite whole and cannot divide ourselves from ourselves. Through consistence practice of meditation the mind's irrational rationalizations and judgmental justifications begin to slip away and truth becomes real. You made an unwise decision, you are not stupid. It is a difficult situation, it is not horrible. He made a bad choice, he is not the devil personified. She was harsh, she is not evil incarnate. With frequent times of quiet reflection, the mind chatter is calmed. You learn to just be, and that is enough. You learn to let frustrations float away.

As with exercise and healthy eating, meditation results are not as immediate as one might wish but they do work. And it is well worth the effort; paying off like compound interest. (5/11/492)

Invite Mona to speak to your group. Whether business, organizational, civic or faith-based, you will be entertained with her humor, challenged by her gift of uncommon insights and motivated by her thought provoking poems. mona@solutionprinciples.com www.monadunkin.com.

Mission Waco Jubilee Theater's "A Woman Called Truth" planned for January 23-25

"Well, children, where there's so much racket, there must be something out of kilter." So begins Sojourner Truth's historic "Ain't I a Woman?" speech; words which reverberate over a century to speak to us about racism and sexism today in the stirring final scene of the play. "A Woman Called Truth, chronicles the

life of this remarkable woman from the day she is sold away from her family as a young girl, through her struggle to free herself and her son, to her emergence as a popular and respected figure advocating abolition and women's rights. Throughout her life, Sojourner Truth came upon injustice and fought it with

uncommon clear-sightedness, courage, and wit. A Woman Called Truth combines her actual words with authentic slave songs, spirituals, and folk songs of the period.

Come see Mission Waco Jubilee Theatre's next production "A Woman Called Truth." It is a play for the entire family. See the ad in this issue.

Enroll now in the Affordable Care Act

**BY CONGRESSWOMAN
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) has allowed more than 10.3 million Americans to gain access to quality, affordable health insurance. Prior to enacting the ACA, nearly 5 million Texans, representing 32 percent of the state's population, were uninsured, leaving them without access to routine care and vulnerable to high health care costs.

The legislation, enacted in 2010, has expanded access to healthcare for people in Texas who were able to enroll in the Federally-Facilitated Marketplace since Texas did not establish a StateBased Marketplace. Nationwide, the ACA has insured more than 20 million Americans since its inception.

The current enrollment period for those seeking coverage for themselves and their

families will end on February 15th. It is imperative that uninsured individuals apply before the deadline. In Texas, the Affordable Care Act helped more than 700,000 individuals gain health insurance during the first open enrollment period. The number of covered individuals and families will

only continue to rise during the current open enrollment period. Enrollment in the Texas exchange is more than significant. The number of people who have signed up helped to make Texas the second largest of the Federally-Facilitated Marketplace states. Only Florida has seen more enrollments out of the federally-run exchanges. Nationwide, the number of uninsured adults has decreased by 26 percent and consumers have saved \$9 billion since 2011 as insurance companies are now required to spend at least 80 percent of every pre-



**CONGRESSWOMAN
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

mium dollar they receive on quality health care.

Under the Affordable Care Act, Medicare enrollees have seen their prescription costs decrease dramatically, with a total savings of nearly \$733,987,739. During 2013, 296,015 seniors in Texas saved an average of \$916 per

beneficiary. In 2013, 37.2 million people and more than 2.4 million Texans used one or more free preventive services.

While the number of people enrolled through the health exchanges has increased, the number of people in our state who are not covered is unacceptable. Unfortunately, low-income individuals are the most impacted by the state's refusal to expand Medicaid. I am certain that when

President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the Medicare and Medicaid programs into law 50 years ago this July, he did not envision that health insurance for the most vulnerable of our population would become so politicized and rejected by state governments.

The Affordable Care Act provided a significant opportunity for states to take it upon themselves to expand

health coverage to low-income residents. Unfortunately, many states declined to accept this opportunity. If Texas chose to expand Medicaid, about 1,208,000 additional uninsured individuals would gain access to health insurance. Since Texas and 22 other states refuse to expand Medicaid, 5.4 million people will be uninsured in 2016. The District of Columbia and 26 states seized this opportunity during 2013 and allowed 8.6 million people to gain coverage under expanded Medicaid.

I strongly urge Governor-elect Greg Abbott to work to find a solution for Medicaid, and I hope to work with him in the future. I also encourage my constituents and all Texas residents to explore their options during the current open enrollment period which ends on February 15, 2015. There is still plenty of time for you to choose a plan that will protect you and your families.

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

2015 - A new year for America

BY RON OLIPHANT

I am getting ready for The United States of America was formed in 1776, and that simply means we have over three hundred years of history to take a look at. It is said "we must have a good understanding of the past in order to deal wisely with the future." It is a new year and only fitting to start with the beginning of a revolutionary war and the beginning of a new nation.

In 1776, the continental congress proclaimed the name of the new nation to be the United States. Declaring independence, the fledgling country would brace for a fight because the 'British were coming.' From 1775 to 1783 we fought for freedom from British rule. In the early years there were only thirteen states long the Atlantic coast. As you know, we would grow as a country; immigrants began to flood our borders in search of a new and better life.

George Washington became our first president and the future looked bright. Cities developed and grew as we spread into the west, East and South. Underneath the promise of prosperity another problem lingered. Before Americans ever wrote the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution, slaves were being used to work plantations and tend to the daily needs of the well to do. This practice of human bondage would eventually haunt the country and divide it into free states and slave states. Slaves were predominantly men and women of African descent, and as the years would pass, pressures of political and so-



RON OLIPHANT

cial differences had created a stressful relationship between the two sections of our country. The issue of slavery would spark a war. The northern states wanted slavery abolished and the South refused to let go of cheap labor. Also the belief that a black person was equal to any other free born citizen and should be given rights as a citizen was not accepted. The Civil war was fought in America. The Civil War was fought from 1861 to 1865. Brother fought brother and homes were divided over the issue of slavery. Over six hundred thousand people died and in 1865, the thirteenth amendment abolished slavery.

The next hundred years would introduce segregation and black code laws. The African American would be abused by the very system that had granted them freedom. The country was divided by race. If you were colored, which is the term used at the time, African Americans had to go to separate public fa-

cilities, schools and drink from different fountains. Although African American's had shared in the stress of two world wars, the military and Federal Institutions were also segregated. The 1960's would bring about marches and protest. A civil rights movement that would lead to the death of several leaders moved congress to desegregate the nation. In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act, and change that would enable a country to move into a positive direction, would begin.

In 1965 our country entered the Vietnam war. This would be yet another dark spot in our history. Many protested the war and a peace and love revolution begin. The upside was great music celebrated at places like Woodstock. The down side was drug experimentation that changed a society. The war ended and many of the flower children went and finished college, landed good jobs and moved into suburban neighborhoods.

A new generation would be born in the 1970's and eventually it became cool to be black. We slowly drifted away from racial issues and it quickly became a country on the move. The new generation that would grow up in the 70's and 80's knew little about Jim Crow, and if you were a racist it was something your parents taught you to be. Technology advancements and economic stability would produce good times for all. There was a stock market crash in the 1980's but we bounced back.

The 1990's brought in another generation. This generation would see computers advance and cell phones become a normal accessory. Mixed couples would grow to be a normal thing and eventually, they would elect the first black president. At this moment, we have racism trying to raise its ugly head. Some policemen, though not the majority, have been killing unarmed blacks and the cases have been publicized nationally. This too shall pass and laws will be put in place to protect our citizens from men who may go too far wearing the badge. Can we move forward into a prosperous, peaceful future? I believe we can if we decide to love each other and heal instead of hurt.

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And these signs shall follow them that believe, Part 1

BY RUBY MCCRAY

"After Jesus rose from the dead early on Sunday morning, the first person who saw him was Mary Magdalene, the woman from whom he had cast out seven demons. She went to the disciples, who were grieving and weeping, and told them what had happened. But when she told them that Jesus was alive and she had seen him, they didn't believe her.

"Afterward he appeared in a different form to two of his followers who were walking from Jerusalem into the country. They rushed back to tell the others, but no one believed them.

"Still later he appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating together. He rebuked them for their stubborn unbelief because they refused to believe those who had seen him after he had been raised from the dead.

"And then he told them, 'Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.

"These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They

will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.'

"When the Lord Jesus finished talking with them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord working through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs'" (Mark 16:9-20).

Notice all the unbelief. Jesus said that signs would follow all those that believe because He would be working through them. He further said, "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father" (John 14:12). I don't believe that He is referring to superseding His works in quality but in quantity. There are so many professing Christians in the world today, and sometimes our next door neighbors don't even know if we are followers of Jesus Christ. He only chose twelve and one was a devil (John 6:70, 71). Look how they impacted the world!

I have two wonderful pastors who walk the walk and talk the talk. I've been discussing this with them. I openly confessed to them that I'm determined to do whatever it takes for me to get to the place that I'm sup-



EVANGELIST
RUBY MCCRAY

posed to be in The Lord Jesus Christ in order to do the works that He's expecting me to do. I've confessed to The Lord that I've not been the team player that He had expected. Now, I'm openly confessing that to you. But I declare and repent—I'm turning around. Yes, I'm very conscious about living holy and not bringing shame to the Christian faith, and I truly believe that everybody who knows me knows my convictions. But that's not all there is to this walk. I'm ready for The Lord to confirm His word through me with signs following.

Why am I saying this? Although I don't watch television, not even the news, I am able to select what I want to read and hear on Yahoo whenever I log on to check my email. Can my fellow Christians agree with me that if all of us had been doing

what Jesus commissioned us to do before He left the earth that we wouldn't still be dealing with Ferguson, Missouri? We probably wouldn't have had a Ferguson. It wouldn't be legal to murder babies in the womb, neither for same sex to marry. There wouldn't be near the corruption in Washington. Yes, we would always have some problems, but not of this magnitude. North America is so morally depraved that she doesn't even resemble the same continent that I knew over forty years ago when my children were born.

I now plead with my sisters and brothers in the faith. Let us live holy lives before the world (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14), and truly be lights in this darkness (Matthew 5:14-16) so that men, women, boys and girls will be able to escape the traps of the devil (2 Timothy 2:22-26). Let us stop trying to live

in both worlds, profaning Jesus' great name (Romans 2:1-29). Let us study our Bibles so that we will be able to answer their questions according to the Word of God instead of our opinions (2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Peter 3:15). If you know that you're not ready to be sold out to Jesus (Luke 14:25-35), why not leave the church's buildings and stop detouring through them, on your way to hell (Revelation 3:15-22)?

Finally, our military forces are not declaring war on each other; let us denominations stop fighting each other; let's fight the devil (Ephesians 6:10-20). 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 rubyacorm@yahoo.com or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.*

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(NewsUSA) - Most of us would consider many alternatives to having to undergo surgery or to be dependent on medication to find relief from back pain, sciatica, neck pain or chronic headaches.

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If you've never been to a chiropractor, here's what to expect:

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DR. SHAMONICA TRUNELL-MORGAN

pelvis and perhaps a laboratory analysis of blood and urine samples.

- A posture test designed to check for abnormalities like a shoulder or hip that's higher than the other.

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- "Chiropractors recognize that even something as simple as your posture and sleep habits can affect your health," says Dr. Gerard Clum of the not-for-profit Foundation for Chiropractic Progress. "And their focus is on helping your body maximize your ability to heal and resist disease rather than just treating the symptoms of an injury or disease."

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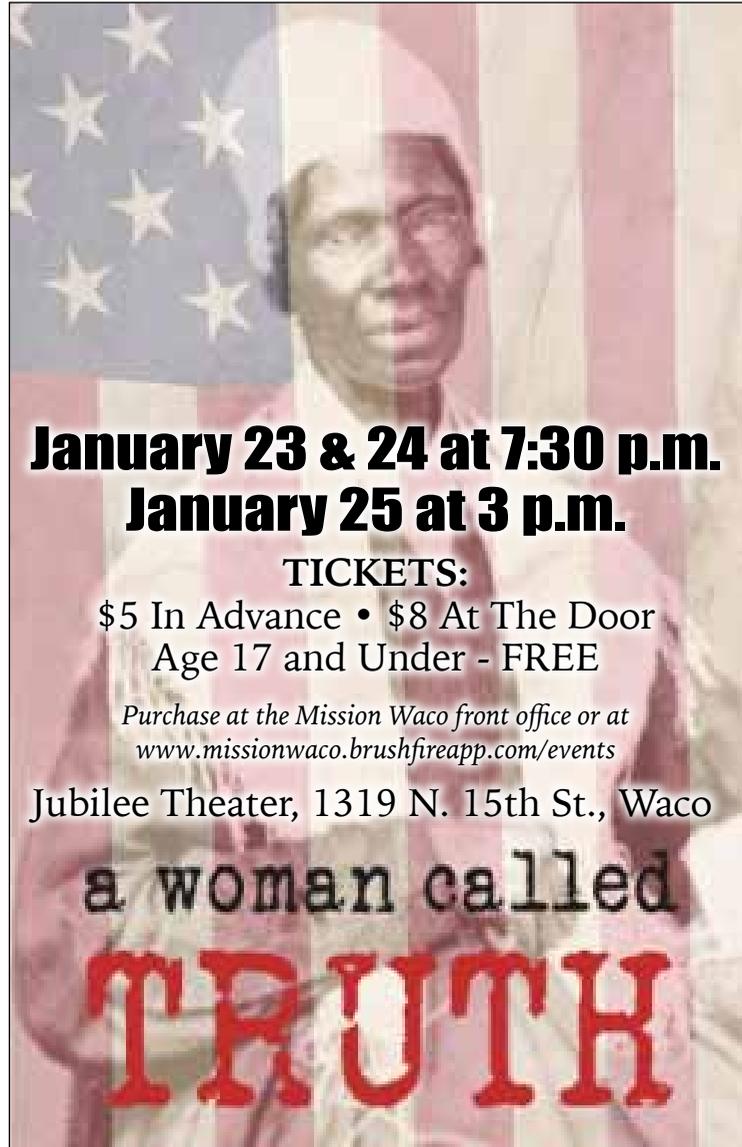


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Six legal tips for selecting the right contractor

J. L. CRAWFORD,
 LEGALSHIELD INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATE

LegalShield provider law firms frequently assist members involved in disputes with contractors. For every unprofessional contractor, there are many contractors who do great work and communicate well with their clients. The best way to avoid disputes is to pick the best contractor for the job. These tips may help you make the right choice for your next repair or home improvement project. If you need assistance dealing with a contractor, call your LegalShield provider law firm.

Avoid taking the lowest bid without considering other important factors. Receiving only one bid for an expensive project or only considering the lowest bid, is asking for trouble. Some contractors will underbid a project so you will hire them and bypass contractors with more realistic bids. A bid should breakdown the cost for materials, labor, fees for licenses or permits as well as the contractor's profit margin.

Check the contractor's ref-



J.L. CRAWFORD

erences. Request the names and phone numbers of the owners of the last three projects completed by the contractor, then contact the owners and ask them about their experience with the contractor. If possible, visit at least one of the projects and closely inspect the detail work on the job. It may be helpful to visit a current worksite to see how the contractor works and how careful they are with the homeowner's property. A chaotic and disorganized worksite is a major red flag.

Confirm the contractor is licensed and insured. Make sure the license authorizes the contractor to perform the specific work you are hiring them to perform. You should also ask to see a copy of his or her insurance policy and bond.

Ask for a detailed written estimate of the cost and scope of the work before

agreeing to anything. Always incorporate the estimate into a concise, clearly worded agreement describing the work to be performed and the price. It should include a time frame for the work to be completed and a "hold back" provision that permits you to withhold a portion of the final payment until the work is completed and all governmental inspections are passed. You and the contractor should both sign the agreement.

For large projects or renovations utilize a payment schedule. Contractors who request a large sum upfront to begin work may have financial difficulties or be apprehensive about the quality of their own work. A payment schedule allows you to pay a sum upfront, and then make additional payments as certain milestones or dates are met.

Your LegalShield provider law firm can help review your contractor agreement. Call your provider law firm before you sign a contract or if you have any questions. *If you need assistance, call your LegalShield provider law firm and speak with an attorney. LegalShield can help you with your legal issues. Preexisting problems are covered, so give me a call at 254-717-4927. Hurry. With LegalShield, "... we can help you worry less and live more." Please see the ad in this issue of The Anchor News. J.L. Crawford, Independent Associate.*

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Minority-owned businesses still underrepresented in state procurement

BY NICOLE JAMES SCOTT
TEXAS PUBLISHERS
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After conducting a disparity study in 2009, the Texas Comptroller's office concluded special programs to secure procurement for Historically Underutilized Businesses are still necessary. It went on to affirm its commitment to ensure state agencies make a concerted effort to utilize HUBs for contracts in construction, professional and consulting services and commodities purchases. All state agencies, medical and health facilities, and institutions of higher learning were included in the study.

The following primary points highlighted in the study to confirm disparity were as such:

- Statistical disparities by race, ethnicity and gender classification in current HUB utilization, particularly in prime contracting;

- Statistical disparities by race, ethnicity and gender classification in the private marketplace, particularly in the area of utilization of women and minority-owned firms in commercial construction;

- Statistical disparities in firm earnings by race, ethnicity and gender classification, even after controlling for capacity-related factors; and

- Anecdotal testimony of disparate treatment as presented by business owners in interviews, surveys, public hearings and focus groups.

The more than 200 state agencies and institutions of higher education have a cumulative multi-billion dollar annual budget. A great source of that revenue is generated from 60 different taxes and fees. Taxes and fees such as property tax, sales tax, cigarette tax, alcohol tax, hotel tax, various motor vehicle taxes that all citizens of the state pay. For the fiscal year of 2013, the comptroller's office collected

close to \$48 billion in taxes alone. So what is the connection and what does this have to do with state agencies? If you drive a car, buy alcohol, smoke cigarettes, own property or patronize hotels, then you are contributing to that whopping \$48 billion the state collects to fund various state agencies such as the Department of Transportation, and Public Utility Commission and institutions like Sam Houston State, Texas A&M and University of Texas just to name a few.

In essence, these agencies and institutions belong to the communities and should in kind serve those communities. So when the Department of Health and Human Services advertises in the medical journals and fails to do so in African American newspapers, it is a great disservice. It is the Black Press that is the pipeline of communication into the African American community where the prevalence of diseases such as diabetes and strokes are twice that of Whites. African Americans have the highest age-adjusted heart disease death rate and African Americans have the highest hospitalization rate of all ethnicities. In the interest of serving the African American community the Department of Health and Human Services is remiss in bypassing Black newspapers.

But it's not just the Black Press that is underrepresented when it comes to state procurement and contracting. According to the 2014 annual HUB report, \$15,113,071,094 was awarded to non-HUBs, compared to \$2,060,862,969 awarded to HUBs. Asian Pacific, Black, Hispanic, Native American, woman-owned and service-disabled veterans constitute HUBs.

All state agencies and institutions are required to keep annual reporting of their expenditures. There is a special report generated specifically to detail how much fund-

ing and bids are awarded to HUBs. Just to provide a few examples of the inequality that exists, the University of Texas Health and Science Center's 2013 report listed 42 out of 559 bids/proposals that were awarded to HUBs, 25 of which went to women. In fiscal year 2013, the Department of Transportation contracted a paltry 4.82 percent of its construction contracts with HUBs. The same year, the Public Utility Commission awarded 250 contracts of which 90 went to HUBs. Of those 90, 26 went to Asian males, two African American males, seven Hispanic males, one Hispanic female and one Native American male. The remaining 53 were awarded to women. The Alcoholic Beverage Commission awarded 1,600 contracts. The breakdown of those contracts were as follows: one Asian male, one Asian female, six African American males, 49 Hispanic males, one Hispanic female, two Native American males and 246 women. These are just four examples but the pattern is consistent among the majority of agencies and institutions. Moreover, most often many of the contracts that are awarded primarily go to women who are neither Asian, African American, Hispanic or members of any ethnic group.

The issue at hand is not about set asides, diversity or even affirmative action; albeit groups that have been historically excluded should receive special consideration. However, HUBs contribute and put into the collective pot, so to speak, just as much as other businesses. Any procurement HUBs receive from state agencies are not only deserved but also earned. We are not talking about handouts or charitable contributions. In viewing the above chart, suffice it to say HUBs are clearly not receiving their fair slice of the pie. Not by a long shot.

A life in Christ: His healing waters, Part 1

BY PAM TURNER

Franklin D. Roosevelt, America's 32nd president, ranked in history as the third greatest president, was elected president four times, and served from 1932 until his death in April 1945. Prior to becoming President he had a huge set back in August 1921 when he was beset by Infantile Paralysis, POLIO. One of the most dreaded disease of the early 20th century. There was such a stigma attached to polio, when a family member contacted the disease some families would find it hard to cope and the victim could be shut off in the house or institutionalized. Polio was a highly contagious viral disease that could cause paralysis or death. Medical officials wanted to blame it on a filthy urban environment, bad hygiene, and poverty. Slum dwelling immigrants were being held responsible out of ignorance and fear. Therefore it was an embarrassment to have a family member with this disease.

FDR's mother Sarah con-

stantly doted over him since he was a baby, and when he was struck down and confined to his room and a wheel chair she was ready to encourage him to give up his dream of politics and remain there. However, Eleanor his wife refused to allow this to happen and for the first time in her marriage she stood up to her mother-in-law. She realized if her husband didn't put up a fight and accepted defeat he would die. She rolled up her sleeve and went to work to keep Franklin's name out in the political arena. Meeting other women who were involved in politics, becoming a public speaker, which at first was somewhat hard since she could be extremely shy. With time and a lot of hard work, Eleanor became one of the nation's most outspoken political figures for human rights.

Now dealing with polio, and the possibility of never walking, and seeing his dream of one day becoming president in jeopardy, Franklin began to deal with depression. Each day he would exercise his swivel-



PAM TURNER

ing leg muscles in hopes of one day walking again. It was a given fact that Americans would never elect a cripple to lead the nation. Most would say he was given a political death sentence. With a household consisting of six children, and a doting mother and wife who were constantly at odds over his care, Franklin purchased a rundown houseboat, named it the Lorooca and headed for the water's off the coast of Florida.

He then surrounded himself with friends who enjoyed care free days of fishing and swimming. Being out on the water helped him to overcome his mental depression.

The desire to one day walk and continue his political career continued to burn within Franklin and upon hearing of miracle healing waters in Warm Springs, Ga., he packed up and headed to check it out in 1924. Again he was seeking water for his issues. He immediately fell in love with the area and especially the residents of Warm Springs. His relationship with these residents helped to prepare him to help bring the nation out of the great depression. Polio had filled him with warmth and love for the sick and hurting. Even though the water brought him relief and relaxation, Franklin never got the use of his legs back. He was able to master the illusion that he was walking, with the help of braces, a strong upper body, cane in his right hand, and someone very strong on his left side to hold him up. 80 percent

of Americans never knew he was crippled and he was elected president by a land slide.

Franklin had a love for the water, and sought healing from water from his house boat off the coast of Florida, and the warm waters in Georgia. I wish he would of tried the HEALING WATERS Jesus provides.

Prior to Franklin contracting polio, he had returned from a trip from Washington. Eleanor upon unpacking his luggage found a stack of loves letters written to him by her personal secretary Lucy Mercer. Franklin admitted to the affair, and promised to end the relationship. He and Eleanor would never share the intimacy of marriage again. Broken hearted, each afternoon Eleanor would find herself alone beneath a monument near the Lincoln Memorial. It was a bronze statue of an unknown woman who had committed suicide. I wish she would have checked out the healing waters Jesus provides.

To be continued in the February issue.

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MCC to offer home maintenance series

BY GABRIELA
GATLIN COLMAN

McLennan Community Programs is delighted to offer a home maintenance series taught by John Alexander, owner of Casita Construction Services. John has a passion for empowering homeowners with the skills to maintain and improve their own homes. Students can take all of the courses in the series or choose which would benefit them most.

General Repairs; February 21; 1-5 pm. This first session teaches students how to do basic home repairs including how to patch a hole in the drywall, securely hang fixtures on a wall, replace a door knob, fix a latch that sticks, protect your home from termites, and do simple weatherization.

Plumbing; March 21; 1-5 pm. This second session teaches students how to fix basic plumbing problems including how to fix a leaky toi-

let, repair a sink drain pipe, replace a faucet and track down a slow leak.

Electrical; April 18; 1-5 pm. This third session teaches students how to safely perform minor electrical repairs including how to hang a ceiling fan, install a light and replace an electrical outlet or light switch, and troubleshoot simple electrical problems.

Weatherization; May 16; 1-5 pm. This fourth session teaches students how to weatherize and improve energy efficiency at home. Topics cover how a home works as a system, how to prioritize energy efficiency and how to make simple weatherization improvements for your home.

All classes are held in the Waco Habitat for Humanity office located at 220 N. 11th St and each course costs \$35. These hands-on courses have limited seating and fill up quickly. Please call 299-8888 for more information or to register.

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Top Anchor Stories From 2014

From April 2014...

Sam Harrion, taking the engineering challenge bit by bit

BY LINDA CRAWFORD

When you were 17 years old, could you honestly say that calculus was your favorite subject? Could you say that you thrived off engineering concepts? I mean, who does that?

Meet Samuel Harrion, Jr. He touts a 3.7 GPA. He is in the top 10% of 333 graduating seniors at University High School in Waco. He is a calculus and engineering concepts whiz, and he loves horses and taking care of animals. The son of Lauveta Green of Waco and Samuel Harrion, Sr. of Mississippi, Harrion sports a list of accomplishments and achievements during his nearly 18 years.

Born on December 4th 1996, Harrion is the oldest of three other siblings—Wade, Sydney and Chandler. His mother is more than proud of her son. She says he is destined to make an impact in a positive way because he is from “generations of greatness.” Lauveta believes her own mother deserves first place in the line of greatness because she gave birth to 12 children, with Lauveta being the youngest.

According to Lauveta, her son has always been a high achiever. He started his sports activities at a young age as a little league baseball player, learned to play the drums, acquired years of training in Taekwondo and has the karate belts to show for it. He was the lead tutor for ninth graders when he was only a seventh grader, and he spearheaded a campaign to help his mother begin a healthier lifestyle. Did I mention his current 3.7 GPA?

A member of the National Honor Society, National Society of High School Scholars, JROTC, Interact Club and a constant high academic achiever, Harrion plays the steel drums, is involved in community service projects such as Highway Clean-up, Feed My Sheep and Relay for Life and runs track and plays football for Univer-

sity. He is an active member of Carver Park Full Gospel Baptist Church where he is a volunteer video specialist with the media ministry.

One of the most impressive facts about Harrion is he loves calculus and engineering. According to a U.S. Department of Education (<http://www.ed.gov/stem>) reports, the “United States has become a global leader, in large part, through the genius and hard work of its scientists, engineers and innovators. Yet today, that position is threatened as comparatively few American students pursue expertise in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)—and



SAM HARRION

by an inadequate pipeline of teachers skilled in those sub-

jects.”

Many students confess their weakness in the fields science, technology, math and engineering, but Harrion confesses that calculus and engineering concepts are his favorites. He credits his instructors, Michael Stahl and Jeff Cunningham for their enthusiasm in teaching him these subjects. Graduating from University High School on June 7th, 2014, Harrion has been accepted at the University of Texas at Arlington this fall 2014, where he will major in aerospace engineering with a focus on aeronautics.

An air of prestige follows those in the field of engineering. Harrion is so excited that his siblings are following his

lead, especially Sydney, who wants to be an engineer of design in animation.

Harrion has great plans for the future. Not only does he intend to make a name for himself as an engineer, but his ultimate goal is to own a business, creating his own ground and air transportation models. Harrion is such a blessed and humble young man, and he doesn't want to go to the top alone.

How will he become one of the most generous philanthropists of his time? He is dedicated to helping those in poverty get a college degree.

“If they are willing to work hard, I will provide the funds. That's my ultimate goal.”

From September 2014...

Maxwell named Killeen's Teacher of the Year

BY WB GUNTER

John Maxell has been named Killeen Independent School District's Teacher of the Year. A Manor Middle School math teacher, Maxwell touts the philosophy that we should “Love kids and be passionate.” He believes it is important that “teachers come to school every day excited.”

At a recent back to school rally, Maxwell, along with other panel members, encouraged parents to stand beside their children and work together with teachers to ensure success and high levels of achievement.

“We all have a responsibility—the students, parents, and teachers. The children we have are a fearless generation. They are ambitious when it comes to performing and expressing themselves publicly using the Internet and social networks, but may lack the tools needed to cope with failures.”

Maxwell explained that rather than be devastated to the point of giving up and



JOHN MAXWELL

believing as if they somehow can't recover, we as a community need children to see that, “failure is a means to success. Failure cannot be taken personally. You figure out what went wrong, make the adjustments, and succeed.”

He went on to say, “Parents are responsible for having children prepared and ready to learn. All of the adults need to be on the same page so children won't use one against the other.

That same principle applies to education. Be a united front, be committed, and have trust.”

Teachers want students to do well. Parents have to trust that their children will be treated well. “As a father of 4, who has school aged children, if I wouldn't do it to my child, I wouldn't do it to yours.”

Math can be a difficult subject for some children. Maxwell instills in his students that they are capable of knowing anything. By the time some students leave primary grades, they have been mathematically defeated. Maxwell says he must “get them where they need to be. First, they have to know what to do, Second, they have to know what they did, was done well. Students must then be empowered by not depending on validation.”

“Math is simple. It tells you to do something. It tells you to add, subtract, divide, and solve a problem. You must follow directions. What makes math difficult is not being able to follow directions.” Maxwell shared the following scenario.

A parent says to a child, “I don't want anyone coming to the house when I'm not at home.” The parent leaves. The child's friend comes over and that child allows the friend to visit anyway. That child has just made a decision knowing it was wrong. The child got what he or she wanted; however he/she ignored the direction and the long term consequence of not following directions leads that child to second guessing every decision.

“Once children cross boundaries, every right decision will be second guessed, and their abilities to follow simple instructions with confidence will show up academically.”

John Maxwell has taught math at Manor Middle School for 9 years. He is from New Orleans, and Texas has embraced him and his family. He notes that there are many rewards to teaching.

“One is when my kids come back, grown up, and mature, and I get to listen to them to speak and give a fresh perspective.”

Top Anchor Stories From 2014

From May 2014...

Trevio Washington heads to Howard on \$180,000 scholarship

BY LINDA CRAWFORD

How often does an \$80,000 scholarship come along? And how often does it turn out to be one hundred thousand dollars more?

Talk to Midway senior, Trevio Washington. That is exactly what happened. "The information we received before the awards ceremony was that it was an \$80,000 scholarship," Public Information Coordinator Traci Marlin told the Anchor. "Then, that night, it turned out to be \$180,000!" Washington received the Frederick C. Branch Leadership Scholarship, which covers all of Washington's expenses to any historically black college or university. He chose Howard in Washington, D.C.

Washington, who carries a lot of responsibility for an 18 year old, is a cadet captain and commanding company officer with Midway High's JROTC. He remembers the exact moment when he knew what he wanted to be when he grew up. "I was 7 years old," he said, "and I saw a Marine Corp recruiting commercial. The Marine was dressed in a blue uniform. I remember saying, 'I want that uniform,' but my parents told me there was more to it than just wanting the uniform."

Since he was so young, his parents, Tomeka Womack and Nelson Washington, Jr., didn't talk very much about the Marines. But Washington did his research over the years and was in regular contact with Marines and veterans. He found that he liked the values that the Corp set forth. They correlated with what his parents taught him as a lifestyle. The Marines, like his parents, believed in excellence, hard work, and perseverance. But what Washington loved most was the emphasis on leadership. No one is too small; no one is too big. "Everyone is a leader," said Washington. Being a Marine became his goal, a goal that paved the way for a \$180,000 scholarship to Howard.

"This has been an amazing journey," said his mother. "You have no idea. Trevio has made

parenting so easy. In the natural, he isn't even supposed to be here, but God said differently. He was a very sick baby," Womack explained, "and he nearly died several times. Still, he was just a good baby. When he was two or three, I could come in from work, tired and put him in the bed beside me while I took a nap. I would wake up two hours later, and he was still right there in the bed, looking around, just being obedient."

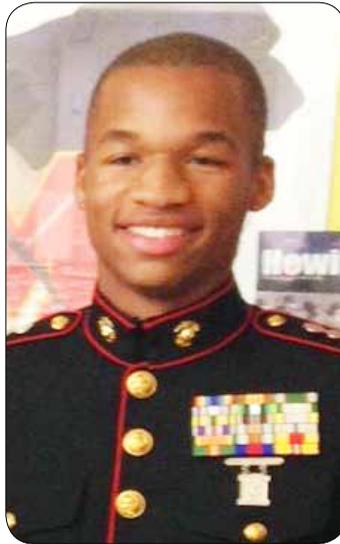
Womack shared her story of how she and Nelson became parents when they were really just kids themselves, and though they never married, they maintained a good relationship because they wanted to be very involved in their son's life.

Washington has always been responsible, intelligent, inquisitive, and focused. Womack recalled his first grade teacher, Mrs. Margaret Thompson, who said, "I wouldn't be surprised if this boy became the President of the United States one day."

Womack continued, "He's never been into any trouble, and he is so respectful. I work a lot of hours, and he is always conscientious of taking care of me of making things easy for me. Even when he has forms from school to be filled out, he fills them out and gives them to me to sign. When the typical teenager is out partying or just hanging out, Trevio is at home figuring out how he is going to pay for this or that. He's just different, so mature for his age."

Trevio's father, Nelson, likes to think that maybe he has had something to do with Washington's mindset as well. "He's just been an amazing kid. He is much more responsible than I was at his age, but I have tried to share with him the importance of learning from my mistakes, and not from his own."

Nelson paused. "I've made a lot of mistakes. I was a follower in my younger days and not a leader, but I have tried to instill in my son that he should be his own person. I have tried to help him realize that what seems really cool at the moment is prob-



TREVIO WASHINGTON

ably just a fad that will go away. But education, it will last. I'm just elated that it seems he has listened to me and to the others who have spoken into his life."

Womack feels blessed that Trevio has had a number of people rooting for him. She was just a teen when she gave birth to Trevio, but she married Paul Womack when she was in her early 20's. "Even though our marriage didn't make it, Paul was another strong, positive influence in Trevio's life as well. Trevio was just a baby when Paul and I married, but Paul believed in him and gave him guidance."

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jeff Fisher, the head of Midway's MCJROTC, echoed Washington's parents. "When I came on board at Midway, I heard one junior cadet's name over and over. Trevio deserves this scholarship." The Fredrick C. Branch Leadership Scholarship is named in honor of the first African American Marine Corps officer who was commissioned as a second lieutenant. "You don't have to be African American to receive this scholarship," Fisher continued, "but you do have to be accepted at one of the 17 historically black institutions." This year, as the cadet captain and commanding company officer, Washington leads over 86 other cadets at Midway.

"What makes him so special," said Fisher, "is the fact that he is grounded. That's a testament to his parents. They

have expectations for him, and he knows that if he doesn't live up to those expectations, there are consequences. The family is established and they gave me a product that does not require me to do very much."

One would still have to wonder how a 17, and now 18-year-old, can lead a team of other teenagers? It goes back to the Marines' emphasis on leadership for all, said Washington. "I give them respect. I don't try to belittle anyone. They realize that one day they could be in my shoes. How do they want to be treated? The bottom line is no one is better than the other. At the end of the day, we are all students."

Washington confesses that there were many times when

he doubted himself, but his parents and mentors gave him hope and encouragement. Womack says her son's life has not been an easy one. "He has never done teenager stuff, and he spent most of his senior year trying to figure out how to pay for college."

Washington applied for the scholarship two times before. Womack explained that he actually accepted a \$10,000 scholarship from another school, and even though his heart was set on Howard, "he didn't complain." His tuition, books, room and board, food, etc. will all be covered. In addition, he will receive a monthly stipend. A polit-

See **TREVIO**, pg. 17

From June 2014...

NeighborWorks week kicks off with a bang

BY HONEY JENKINS

NeighborWorks Waco held its annual NeighborWorks on Saturday, June 7. NeighborWorks Week is an opportunity for volunteers, community organizations, and neighborhood residents to unite together in service and in celebration.

This year, NeighborWorks Week worked on the site of our future development, Legacy Square, in East Waco. Local volunteers and community leaders gathered at 7:30am to form work teams at the site of the former RL Smith Elementary. The teams were spread out through the surrounding neighborhood to complete projects which included trimming limbs, hauling away debris, other general upkeep and any special requests provided by the neighborhood residents.

"It was a great day to be working in the neighborhood for the betterment of the community and we're glad to be a



EULA JACKSON

part of it," said NeighborWorks Waco President and CEO Roy Nash.

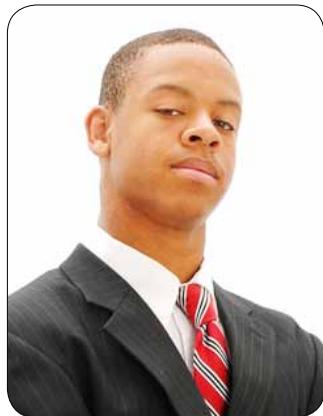
After the projects were completed, lunch was provided for all of the volunteers in East Waco Park. Many community members enjoyed working, eating and celebrating throughout the day.

For more information about NeighborWorks Waco or NeighborWorks Week visit our website at nw-waco.org.

Top Anchor Stories From 2014

From February 2014...

Nika L.J. Davis, Jr., signs with West Point



NIKA L.J. DAVIS, JR.

"When he began football as a little leaguer, I, like most dads, yelled and screamed for him," explained a local pastor, referring to his son.

This little leaguer played on a team that lost every game during the team's first year. Being very upset about the losses, his dad asked him if he, too, was upset that the team was not winning.

The little boy replied, "Dad, I'm just glad to be on the team."

That incident was many, many years ago, and the boy's football playing days have certainly taken a more positive turn. Son of Dr. Nika and Beverly Davis, Nika L.J. Davis, Jr. is now an 18-year-old, Super Centex linebacker at Waco High and a member of the Power Lifting Team. Most recently, all of his years of playing football and studying hard have paid off as he signed with the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York. Davis, an honor student, will play football for USMA as he pursues his dream of being a cardiologist while serving his country.

At Waco High, Davis serves as the president of the National Honor Society, is a member of Academic Achievers and is ranked in the top 5% of his class.

According to the Academy's official website (www.usma.edu/),

"Each year, thousands of high school students apply for admission to USMA, but only a few are accepted. Being accepted for admission to the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point is an exceptional honor reserved for our nation's most exceptional students. But it takes more than excellent grades to be accepted for admission. USMA also wants leaders who are physically fit and of outstanding character. Those who are selected to attend USMA receive a college education that is unparalleled ..."

The college's description seems to have been written with Davis in mind. He is known for being a young man of integrity, discipline, godly character and yes, physical fitness. Davis is also described as a quiet but strong young man who is a positive role model for the younger boys and girls at his church, Second Missionary Baptist Church. At Second Baptist, where his father is the pastor, Davis shares the love and gospel of Jesus Christ in a very powerful way through his Ministry of Mime. He is also an active member of the Youth Choir, BTU, Sunday Church School, Youth Bible Study, and the Media Ministry Team.

In preparation for his future, Davis spends a portion of his summers shadowing a well-known cardiologist, Dr. Johnson Glover in Houston, TX. Davis, who will major in biology, has also attended leadership conferences for high school students who want to become a doctor. He has two sisters, Shekinah and Samayim.

One of the most prestigious schools in the nation, West Point touts ranks that include two United States presidents, many famous generals, and nearly a hundred Medal of Honor recipients.

From March 2014...

Robert Morgan's book, *Chronicles of Faith*, available March 24th

BY LINDA CRAWFORD

When he joined the U.S. Navy over two decades ago, Robert Morgan had no idea that his decision would have an impact on him today. As a sailor, he explained, he quickly realized that he needed something to help him cope with the many months at sea. He turned to writing short story fiction, and as a result, will soon release his first book, *Chronicles of Faith*.

With his passion for reading, Morgan can easily get lost in an interesting book. During his Navy stint, he found that he could also get lost in his writing. The process has always been so easy for him, even as a child. Where others struggled with writing assignments, Morgan found the tasks quite inspiring. With a matchless imagination, he could turn the longest, most boring assignment into an interesting and intriguing story.

Not surprising, especially since his favorite author is Florida native Zora Neal Hurston. Hurston has been called The Storyteller of the 20th century, churning out folklore and eccentric material in her novels and short stories. Her writing style relies on the use of Black dialect, figurative and very descriptive language, as well as biblical references. Morgan's work is very similar.

His first attempts at writing came about for his own satisfaction. He loved making up stories and colorful characters. He loved reading about his own characters and getting to know them, but when his mother was diagnosed with Cancer several years ago, he began blogging, sharing his imagination with his mother. At the time, he lived in Seattle and his mother lived in Dallas.

"In order for me to be closer to her, I started a blog. My mother would read my blog and tell me time and time again that I could write a book. So in a sense my mother influenced me to write." But his oldest



ROBERT MORGAN

sister, Carolyn, is also Morgan's fan. "She has been telling me for as long as I can remember that she thinks I am the greatest man ever. That type of support and influence deserves the title of my biggest fan."

Born in Denver, Colorado, Morgan was just two years old when his family moved to Winfield, Louisiana. He has always heard that there is some truth in fiction, and his work is no different, he said.

"*Chronicles of Faith* was written with my hometown in mind. I often thought back to my childhood and how being raised in a small town helped mold me into the man I am today. I came up with the character [Faith] af-

ter revisiting the classic Huckleberry Finn. I thought to myself that I could write a story with wit and laughter that could get a message across too."

Faith is raised in a single-parent household with other siblings. Very adventurous and naive, he learns many lessons, among them, that everyone in his neighborhood, the Bottom, is not necessarily a neighbor.

Since the author has several other books in the making, his fan list is bound to increase, and while Morgan gives his biggest fan position to his sister, I, too, am quite a fan of his writing. I edited one draft of *Chronicles of Faith*, and I will tell you that you should not start reading unless you have plenty of time to finish the book in one sitting. You will, and I repeat, you will discover that you can't put it down.

Morgan's expectations are quite clear. "I want to leave my readers with a sense of belonging. I want them to be interested in the characters enough to care about them and to somehow gleam a lesson from my writings."

You will find *Chronicles of Faith* (\$11.99) on Barnes and Noble shelves as early as March 24th or check it out at Amazon.com.

TREVIO

Continued from page sixteen

ical science major, Washington plans to eventually become a military judge.

He was in regular contact with a Dallas Marine who was associated with the scholarship. She later told Womack that she knew all along Washington would eventually receive the scholarship. "She said there is just something different about him. This lady talked about how he didn't talk to people like a typical teenager. She even checked out his Facebook page and was impressed by his "grown-up" type posts."

And while the family admits

they were disappointed when he didn't receive the scholarship before, Womack is glad their college worries are over. "We didn't know that God was working it out all the time."

Now, as Washington begins a new Chapter in his life, his mother's focus right now is on the fact that he will not have to go to college and work long hours on a job. "I did that while I was in nursing school," explained Womack, "and it's not fun." An LVN at the VA in Waco, Womack continues to work long hours, but she is ecstatic that her baby won't have too, at least not for a while.

Top Anchor Stories From 2014

From July 2014...

Book signing for Mary Evans set for Saturday, 19

What began as a handful of beatnik hopefuls soon turned into a standing room only crowd. Who would have known that careful planning, word of mouth and online promotion would draw so many people with like interests to a small weekly poetry reading event? Who knew at that time that such a humble beginning was actually the Genesis for a July 19th book signing?

For Mary E. Evans, aka Maryee, a return home to Waco, Texas nine years ago from Orange County, California to begin a long desired career in writing seemed daunting at best. With no desire to return to Corporate America, where she spent almost 10 years working, her resolution was to simply substitute teach, re-learn Waco, and write.

By the end of 2005, the desire to find others who were interested in expressing themselves in creative outlets led Evans and her sister, Jennifer, to organize and host Open Mic Poetry at Beatnix Coffee House on Lake Shore Drive. It was during that time in 2006, that Evans, as the host, wrote a random poem. She recounted to fellow poets how odd the poem was, but as host, she shared it weekly as one of her "signature" poems and to warm up the mic.

With an infectious cadence, the poem, "Thunder and Lightning," led the Thursday evening crowd to give Evans the same and consistent feedback, simply, that she needed to "turn the poem into a picture book for children."

Thus, the seed was planted. Her efforts did not go without challenges, and for six and a half years, Evans searched for just the right illustrator. Luis Peres, who lives in Portugal, skillfully and colorfully brought the characters to life.

"He nailed it," said Evans, with excitement in her voice, bringing to life a huge acoustic sound wave and a gigantic spark of static electricity.

Thunder and Lightning, is a tale of two fictional characters who get into a huge fight on a dim, dark Saturday night! Follow their battle to see how they whimsically banter back and forth as the clouds and the stars cheer them on. Find out "Who won the fight? Who won the fight? Who knocked who out of sight?"

Thunder and Lightning opens the doors to science, English, math, music, and art, giving children a fun way to overcome their fears about thunder and lightning. Because of the surprising literary devices woven into the story, critics cannot wait until *Thunder and Lightning* is in the hands of every teacher at all



MARY EVANS

grade levels, as well as in every library across the globe!

Evans' debut book reading and signing is scheduled for Saturday, July 19, 2014 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the West Waco Library and Genealogy Center at 5301 Bosque Blvd. Visit www.facebook.com/thunderandlightningpicturebook for more information on the book signing. For those who cannot attend, the book is available online at Amazon.com.

About Mary Evans—Evans currently teaches middle school math at Brazos High Credit Recovery in Waco ISD and is a member of Antioch Community Church where Jimmy Seibert is Pastor. God has

given her two additional children's books, 5 screen plays, a pre-teen series, a historical love story, a devotional, and a book of poetry.

She is a talented lyricist, having written dozens of songs, mostly Christian praise and worship. Plan to attend the recording of her children's choir song, "Salvation" based on Romans 10:9-10, which will be recorded "live" at The Christian House of Prayer in Killeen, TX. James Brandon Baggett of RhemaLife Productions is overseeing the project.

To book Evans to read her children's picture book or to speak to your local organization please contact her at maryee09@yahoo.com.

From May 2014...

Waco's first full-service, low-cost, walk-in wedding chapel opens on June 7

It's the only service of its kind in the Waco area. A small wedding chapel and event center, Waco Weddings and Events specializes in low-cost, intimate wedding ceremonies for as few as two or as many as 50 guests. Through the facility's range of economically-friendly packages, owner and event planner, Shelli Oliphant, is sure to match every bride's budget and dreams. Oliphant and staff even offer specials for couples renewing their vows as well.

Services offered are varied. The list of choices include a fully decorated facility, full wedding ceremony/vow renewals, an ordained minister, a reception, which includes the bride's cake, drink, and food choices, music, optional color choices, wedding stationery, and full-service referrals to hairstylists, wedding attire shops, photographers, travel agen-



SHELLI OLIPHANT

cies, florists, and much more.

Waco Weddings and Events also offers additional package deals for special events such as bridal and baby showers, anniversaries, bachelor and bachelorette parties and milestone birthdays. Whether it's a first

wedding, a renewal of vows, or a special birthday, Oliphant promises that every detail of your event will be an enjoyable and memorable experience that is also economical.

Conceived with the intention of being an asset to couples who would otherwise go to the courthouse or who chose not to have a wedding because of the expense involved, Waco Weddings and Events has evolved into a multi-purpose facility.

"I specifically included the vow renewal service, hoping to help celebrate couple's original vows and encourage them to stay together in a world where divorce seems to be the norm," explained Oliphant.

Wedding packages start as low as \$500 for the Diamond Package up to \$3000 for the Ruby Package, with other packages in between. All include a wedding coord-

inator, a minister, music, and a reception. Couples can even purchase the "Wedding Add-on Package," which includes extras such as stationery, invitations, and save the date cards.

Located in historic East Waco at 713 Elm Street, Waco Weddings and Events extends services to residents in McLennan, Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Hill, and Limestone Counties, and the facility is available for hourly rentals. Same day service is available during regular business hours or couples can schedule walk-in services months in advance, and every package offers a convenient payment plan.

Plan to attend the grand opening on June 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information and details on packages, please visit www.wacoweddingsandevents.com or call (254) 304-1295.

Top Anchor Stories From 2014

From November 2014...

New trustee Earl Stinnett appointed at MCC

The McLennan Community College Board of Trustees have appointed Earl Stinnett, Sr. of Waco to the vacant District 2 position recently vacated by Mr. Don Hay, who resigned in September for health reasons and passed away on Sunday, October 25.

Stinnett works for the City of Waco. He is President of the Waco Basketball Officials Chapter, a member of the Texas Recreation and Parks Society, a Board member for the Texas Association of Sports Officials, and a member of the Waco Disproportionality Committee. He has been an advisor for the Waco Youth Council for the past 10 years and a member of the District Quality Improvement Council for La Vega ISD. He is a licensed childcare director and the recipient of the 2009 Frank Fallon Volunteer Award.

"I feel a need to give back to the Greater Waco community and to MCC. Both of



EARL STINNETT

my children, a sister, brother, and I have received degrees and/or taken classes at MCC. I understand the influence that MCC has on the lives of young people and how it impacts Waco's economy, workforce, and overall quality of life," states Stinnett.

District 2 includes pre-

cincts 55, 58, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 81, 83, 84, and 85. Don Hay was first elected to the Board on May 8, 1990. Stinnett will take the

oath of office as a newly appointed Board member at 7 p.m. during a regular Board meeting at the Northwood House at McLennan Com-

munity College located at 1609 College Drive.

For more information, call 299-8640 or e-mail lwilhelmi@mcclennan.edu.

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NAACP and EnrollAmerica to host health insurance event

On Sunday January 25 from 1:30PM to 5PM, the Waco NAACP and Enroll-

America will host an information and enrollment event at Carver Park Bap-

tist Church. The enrollment period for enrollment through Marketplace health insurance plans is now open. The 2015 deadline for enrollment is February 15 over a month earlier than it was in 2014. Trained presenters will give information on insurance options that are available as well as financial help that most Texans qualify for to help them get covered and will be on hand to answer questions at the event. Afterwards individuals will be able to consult privately with certified application counselors who will have computers to help

them enroll in health insurance on the spot.

Marketplace health insurance plans are private insurance plans accepted by healthcare providers in the Waco area.

Most applicants qualify for financial aid to pay for insurance and copays. No one can be denied or charged more for pre-existing conditions such as cancer, diabetes, asthma, or high blood pressure. Under the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), health insurance plans are required to cover doctor and hospital visits, prescriptions and lab fees, free check-ups and cancer screenings, mental and behavioral health services, dental and vision for pediatric plans and in some adult plans, and maternity and newborn care.

Those eligible to enroll in the Marketplace are US citizens who are not eligible for Medicare, legal residents, and documented im-

migrants. Individuals who want to enroll during the January 25 event should bring the following information about their household (the people included on their income taxes):

- Social Security Numbers, or immigration documents, for members of your household
- Policy numbers for any current health insurance plans covering members of your household
- An estimate of your expected 2015 household income (modified adjusted gross)

For an estimate on what a Marketplace insurance plan might cost you, visit www.getcoveredamerica.org. Call 254-405-2576 for more information on how you can get covered.

For information on the healthcare session at Carver Park Baptist Church, call 254-799-2766 or contact the Waco NAACP at naacp@gmail.com.

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Bus: 254-776-4593 Fax: 254-230-0673
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1211999



THE WORD OF LIFE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
www.thewordoflifewaco.com

LOCATION
824 Longfellow Dr., Waco, TX 76710

WORSHIP SERVICE
Sunday at 10 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY
Wednesday at 7 p.m.

CONTACT INFO.
Church - (254) 772-1371
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Nelson R. Henley, Sr.
Pastor & Founder