

THE Anchor News

Serving the Central
Texas Community

-2016 Pearls Edition-

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Free



Author Mary Evans to co-emcee An Evening Anchored In Pearls

Native Wacoan, Mary E. Evans is returning to co-emcee a community event, An Evening Anchored in Pearls, hosted by J.L. and Linda Crawford, owners of The Anchor News. Lively, witty and funny, this author, poet, educator and motivational speaker is honored to recognize the strength behind local pastors in the community and surrounding cities.

Since her first public work, Thunder and Lightning debuted May 2014, Evans has been busy promoting the book through speaking engagements, school visits, and social media. In the past two years, Evans has had guest speaker/author visits in various elementary and middle schools in Killeen



MARY E. EVANS

ISD and Waco ISD, Rapaport Academy, and many other organizations, such as The Art Center of Waco, Art on Elm, Hastings, Barnes & Nobles, National Black Book

Festival, and Houston's Ronald McDonald Children's Festival, to name a few.

A member of SCBWI (Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators), the publication of Evans's Amazon.com's 5-STAR Rated picture book, Thunder and Lightning is just the beginning. Evans's next project is a pre-teen series called Shay's Stories. It is about a little girl, Shaytaqualita Nichole Ervin, who journals about her life at school and home. Think Diary of A Wimpy Kid, Urbanstyle. Smart, witty, and funny, Shay is sure to win the hearts of many young children who may find it a chal-

See **EVANS** pg. 11

LaRue Dorsey to do stand up at An Evening Anchored in Pearls

When people mention Mrs. LaRue Gilbert Dorsey's name, it is usually in the context of her being an educator as she completed 62 years of teaching. However, she is a woman of many talents. Some people are not aware that "She's got jokes," said Gale Edwards, who has known Dorsey for as long as she can remember. Many others agree. One of her friends said, "Mrs. Dorsey will have you cracking up." Still another said, "You look at Mrs. Dorsey and you just don't expect her to have you laughing, but she is funny." Word has it that Dorsey will show off her skills doing standup at An



LARUE DORSEY

Evening Anchored in Pearls, scheduled for May 14th, 6:00

at the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum, 2801 W. Waco Drive.

Born in Waco to Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Gilbert, Dorsey graduated from A. J. Moore High in 1949. She received a bachelor's degree from Mary Allen College and a master of education degree from Texas Southern University.

She is hoping that her boys and girls will "excel as academic achievers with dedication and determination."

Dorsey considers it a privilege to have taught so many

See **DORSEY** pg. 15

Mayra Vargas to co-emcee An Evening Anchored in Pearls

She is a wife, mother, minister and business owner. A native Wacoan, Mayra Vargas will again, co-emcee The Anchor News event, An Evening Anchored in Pearls, which is planned for May 14th at 6:00 at the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum. The hosts, Anchor News owners, J.L. and Linda Crawford, will honor 19 area first ladies.

Vargas is married to the man of her dreams, Gustavo (Gus) A. Vargas. They have three boys, Adan, 12, Isaac, 9, and Noah, 3. Vargas has been a member at First Spanish Assembly of God Church with Pastors Frank and Evangeline Alvarado since 2004. She served in the church administration department, choir department, Children's Sunday School department and as the youth pastor. Currently, Vargas is part of the ministry staff team. Vargas, is a humble devoted Christian woman with a great love for her family and love and passion to help others.

Vargas was the youth pastor at First Spanish Assembly of God Church from 2011 until recently. In the beginning of her journey, she hesitated to accept the challenge. However, guided by God's Spirit and the wisdom of her pastor, Vargas bravely stepped into the position. Her role as a youth pastor helped her teach young people the love of the gospel of Jesus Christ, not only by her words but by her actions. Vargas believes that



MAYRA VARGAS

her involvement in ministry has taught her and still continues, through the now ministry staff team, to develop her public speaking skills for the honor and glory of God.

A licensed realtor since 2010, Vargas is also pursuing her degree in child psychology. Her long term goal is to help troubled children cope with traumas and to show them the love of God through her profession. Her vision is to encourage them to get an education and become young men and young women filled with God's spirit. She wants to encourage them to help other people come to Jesus through them and through their choice of profession. "Our country needs doctors, lawyers, teachers, preachers, law enforcement, judges, etc. who are filled with the Spirit of God to make a change in a dying world," Vargas said. She will continue with her education at McLen-

See **VARGAS** pg. 17



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J.L. AND LINDA CRAWFORD

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

From the Crawfords...

As we approach The Anchor News' 14th Anniversary in the community, we are so excited. This weekend, we began our celebrations by honoring 19 first ladies in Waco and surrounding cities. We call them the "Pearls of the Community." If you are reading this at the Lee Lockwood Library and Museum, it means you are experiencing the ambience of this occasion along with us. What an evening! Thank you Waco, Woodway, Temple, Cameron, Harker Heights, Marlin, Rosebud, and so many others for your support. You are awesome!

"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Darlene Witcher, New Life Christian Fellowship

First Lady Darlene Swain Witcher is a native of Texas, and the First Lady of New Life Christian Fellowship in Waco, Texas. She is married to Dr. Jovaster G. Witcher, and this September will celebrate a 33rd wedding anniversary. She is a proud mother of four beautiful daughters: Desiree Witcher Gipson, (Timothy Gipson), Dominique Witcher Harrison (Marquis Harrison), Jocelyn, and Jasmine. She has two sweet grandchildren, Grandmother of Serenity Mariah (age 4) and Desean Marcel Gipson (age 3) of San Antonio, Tx.

Dr. Jovaster and Darlene Witcher have served the community through the New Jerusalem (now New Life Christian Fellowship) for over twenty three years. Witcher has served in numerous positions throughout the years, such as secretary, youth president, coordinator, teacher, administrator, manager, customer relations, sales clerk, and title clerk, to name a few positions. Her greatest delight and calling is to encourage people throughout life's journey by upholding them through the word of the Lord. It is the place of God's Calling that she has a Master's Degree in Pastoral Counseling through the



DARLENE SWAIN WITCHER

Minnesota School of Theology and a Bachelors Degree from the Sonship School of the Firstborn under the Leadership of Bishop Nate Holcomb, Christian House Of Prayer Killeen, Texas.

She also was the administrator of Speak The Word School of Ministry-Waco for five years, and along with her husband, operated Spirit of Love Preschool for ten years. She is currently working part-time in the La Vega Junior High School-GDC ACE Program. She has always been about relationship and strong family commitment. Simply stated on many occasions, she says, "True love is everything; it is not a second hand emotion, but put as priority, it is a first class relationship (DSW)".

First Lady Cynthia Bever, Church on the Rock

First Lady Cynthia Bever is from Groesbeck, TX. She is married to Pastor Billy (Sonny) Bever, and just celebrated their thirty-ninth anniversary this May. Together they have pastored Church on The Rock, Groesbeck for twenty-five years. The Bevers have two sons, Donnie Bever and Sonny Bever, and a daughter-in-love, Sonny's wife, Erin. The joy of their hearts are their five grandchildren Tyler, Cadence, Jace, Kasey and Kyle.

Bever gave her life to Jesus in 1979 and has never looked back. Her mother died when she was only three years old. She married at the young age of sixteen and was widowed at twenty-one. Coming out of a life of pain and addiction, she has known tragedy but today, she gladly declares that Jesus redeems it all. "He doesn't waste any of it," says Bever.

In her twenty-five years of pastoring, Bever has worked in almost every area of the church, even though at times she has felt completely unequipped. Her heart has always been especially drawn to hurting children. She helped establish the church's bus program and food pantry out of her desire to reach the families of those children. While she



CYNTHIA BEVER

loves the church, Bever feels the greatest reward is in the highways and byways; she is passionate about reaching souls for Christ outside the walls of the church and this passion has led her to launch a jail ministry and Life Recovery group.

Bever's hunger for the Word and a passion for revival have been the driving forces in her life. Her favorite past time is studying the Word on her couch alone with the Lord, or worshipping with her son on his guitar in her living room. She also greatly enjoys spending time with her family and spoiling anyone who walks through her front door. Bever's greatest love besides her family is winning people to Christ.

THE Anchor News



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PURPOSE

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

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Anchored on the principles of scripture, Anchor News will at

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

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

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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.

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"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Pastor Veronica Trejo-Evans, Fountain of Life Church

Pastor Veronica Trejo-Evans accepted Christ in her early teenage years at a youth convention. In her adult life, when she recommitted her life to Christ in her late 20's, she confessed to be a servant of Jesus Christ until her dying day. She took on the mantra "For God I live and for God I die," based on Philippians 1:21 "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

The personal testimony and calling on Veronica's life is to be a living testimony of the transformation that only God can perform regardless of one's history. With her own transformation and unparalleled redemption of God at hand, she sees the



VERONICA TREJO-EVANS

need to discover, develop, and deploy other women and their gifts. She cherishes the opportunity to give a

word from God to anyone who listens.

Her passion is to facilitate outreach events and conferences that minister to the total family. She is an integral part in every auxiliary of the ministry in which she serves, helping members find their gifts and exercise their talents in the body of Christ.

"Pastor V," as her members call her, was born and raised in Waco, Texas, where she co-founded the Fountain of Life Church in 2008, with her husband, Pastor Cyrus Evans. They have been married for eight beautiful years. Alongside her husband, she has three small sons: CJ who is 7, Caleb who is 5 and one angel that was called to heaven by the name of Caden who would have been 3. She has embraced her call to serve, reach the nations, and positively impact the lives of those they lead and encounter.

First Lady Lisa Dixon, Greater Harvest Assembly COGIC

First Lady Lisa Dixon is a native of Waco. She is married to Pastor Allen Dixon, Sr., and they have five beautiful children. Dixon is a faithful member of Greater Harvest Assembly COGIC where she serves faithfully along side her husband.

Currently, she serves as the Women's Department Chairlady, equipping and empowering the Women of God to move into their divine purpose and destiny. Dixon is a mighty prayer warrior and believes this is one of the best weapons for the Saints of God. She believes that prayer prevails power over any circumstance or situation.

She is a woman of great faith and believes in standing on the word of God and will only speak what He is saying. Therefore, she declares that in the midst of all that is going on in this world, she will not be moved from her faith in God. She holds on to her



LISA DIXON

favorite scripture Psalms 103: 1-3 and encourages herself to praise the Lord wholeheartedly and never forget the things He has done.

Most importantly, of all of the character traits that she possesses, Dixon is a servant of the Most High God. She is a woman who loves God with all her heart and is willing to be used for His Glory!

First Lady Jacqueline Abercrombie, New Zion Baptist Church

Jacqueline Patrice Buhl Abercrombie was born July 15, 1964 to the late Rev. Carl Buhl Sr. and Ella Buhl. She is the fifth child born to this union along with six other siblings. Jacqueline has another, Lisa Daniels Drake, whom she loves very much.

Abercrombie married her high school sweetheart Rev. Darrell W. Abercrombie on June 30, 1984. They have one beautiful daughter, LaTorsha, a lovely son-in-law, Joseph (Tatu) Richard and a grandson, Joseph Richard II, whom Jacqueline adores.

Abercrombie exceeded all of her goals as a licensed beautician so she retired after 31 years. Now as a minister of God, her goal is to seek the lost and serve them by teaching the word of God. She started singing at the age of seven in her dad's church St. Paul Baptist in Rosebud. She continued singing when he became pastor of Zion Hill Baptist. As a teenager, she sang in numerous choirs, ministering to others through songs, as well as through the word of God.

Abercrombie has served



JACKIE ABERCROMBIE

as a Sunday School teacher at Greater New Life, a Youth Director at Zion Hill and New Zion Baptist in Elm Mott, Texas. She is currently teaching Baptist Training Union to the adult class at New Zion and she sings with The Voices of New Zion and the Sanctuary Choir.

Abercrombie aspires to write a Christian book. She has a calling to visit Israel and Africa to explore the things and places in the Bible she has read about and teaches on.

Congratulations

Pastor Pearl Veronica Evans!



"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue." Prov. 31:26

We love you, Pastor V!
Fountain of Life Church

"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Alexia (Lexi) English, Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church

Alexia English, affectionately known as "Lexi," currently works in the Center for Global Engagement at Baylor University as the Semester Study Abroad Program Coordinator and has held this position since December 2012. Prior to working in Study Abroad, English worked as an International Student Program Coordinator and held that position since 2003. In the spring of 2008, English was elected to Baylor's Staff Council and served on the council for three academic years.

While English was on Staff Council, she was appointed to the Campus Diversity Committee and served as Chairperson for four years. Even though she no longer serves on Staff Council (and she is not the chairperson), she is still actively involved with the Campus Diversity Committee. She has also been a co-advisor for the Heavenly Voices Gospel Choir at Baylor University since 2005.

English received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Baylor University in 2006 where she majored in Speech Communication and minored in



LEXI ENGLISH

Child and Family Studies. She is currently working toward her Master of Arts in Apologetics through Houston Baptist University and expects to graduate in May of 2017.

English is the First Lady of Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church, Waco, Texas. Greater Bosqueville is a small church that celebrated 150 years of existence in 2015. Over the span of seven years, English has made several significant contributions to serving the members of the church, help-

ing them grow spiritually. She developed and coordinates the current ministry to the youth in the church, serves on various committees, leads in planning church activities, and directs all of the choirs in the church.

During the academic year, English serves as a weekly volunteer with Portraits Inc. where she works with youth from the community who are learning various art forms (drama, dance, singing, poetry) from college students.

She has been married to Pastor Ronald English for 12 years. They have two sons, and she serves as a surrogate mother to a host of Baylor students (present and alumni) who lovingly call her "Mama English." She loves to travel and has been fortunate to have international experiences to more than 13 countries. Each experience has allowed her to experience the beauty of God's workmanship in every country. English is also a proud member of the local graduate chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. where she actively serves the greater Waco community.

First Lady Lowanda Massingill Sias, Zion Hill Baptist Church

Known as a worshiper, mentor, and vessel of grace are the characteristics of this dynamic Woman of God, Lowanda Massingill Sias, a native of Marlin, Texas, is the daughter of the late Willie Mae Cheeves, the wife of Pastor Waylon D. Sias Sr. She is the First Lady of Zion Hill Baptist Church in Waco, Texas.

Sias accepted the Lord at an early age and united with Davis Chapel United Methodist Church, where she served as church secretary for 25 years and as a past lay leader. She resigned her position in 2007 when she married Pastor Waylon D. Sias Sr. and united with Marlin Missionary Baptist Church. She served at this church faithfully until they were called to the Zion Hill Baptist Church, in Waco.

She grew up in the Marlin community and graduated in 1981 from Marlin High School in Marlin, Texas. Sias continued her education at McLennan Community College, in Waco, Texas and graduated with an associate degree in General Studies in 2000.

She was employed for 11 years as Deputy District Clerk for Falls County. For the past 23 years, she has been employed at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, currently working as the law librarian at the Hobby Unit.

Being a Woman of Favor, the First Lady has received numerous accolades and awards. From 1994-2015, she was the youngest elected School Board member in the history of Marlin ISD. From 2001-2015, she served as President, making her the only woman to ever hold that position. She resigned when she moved to Waco, Texas. At the end of her reign, Mar-



LOWANDA SIAS

lin ISD honored her for her faithful years of service. She was also honored as "A Woman of Distinction" from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Sias has served as a Girl Scout Leader, a member of the NAACP, a member of MUMD (Ministers United For Ministerial Development), a member of the Missionary Baptist Convention of Texas.

Even though Sias has been recognized by many, her most celebrated accomplishment is being the wife of the talented and anointed Pastor Waylon D. Sias Sr., the proud mother of 5 children, Darian, Nicole, Sophie, Taushey, the late Waylon Jr., the grandmother of 7 grandchildren and the sister of Alton and Tamula Cheeves. People describe Sias as a Christian woman who loves God, family and her Church. She has made it her life's mission to work hard to help everyone with her love, wisdom and compassion.

Sias is a highly respected, greatly loved, anointed servant of God who is worthy of double honor, one whom God is not through with yet.

First Lady Lexi English...

...an Adored Woman of God, Esteemed by the love of her life, her sons, and her GBBC family and friends! Congratulations First Lady Lexi! We are in "AWE" of you as a 2016 Honoree of An Evening Anchored in Pearls!

We love you!

Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church
6802 Logue Lane | Waco, Texas 76708
Min. R. L. English, Pastor



"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Sandra Hooks, *LovingKindness Ministries, Inc.*

Sandra Hooks is the wife of Donald Hooks, Pastor of LovingKindness Ministries. Pastor and First Lady Hooks have been married for 34 years, and counting. She is a native of the Central Texas area, and a proud mother of three Sons, and seven grand sugars.

Hooks continued her educational studies by attending Texas State Technical College, Speak The Word School of Ministry and Sonship School of the First Born under the leadership of Bishop Nate Holcomb, The Cathedral of Central Texas, Christian House of Prayer in Killeen Texas.

Hooks administers the Love of Christ in all she does for the body of Christ, and takes special care to make all feel welcome. She



SANDRA HOOKS

is grateful and thankful to God for all He has done in her life. Her favorite scripture is Psalm 34:1: "I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

First Lady Beverly Davis, *Second Missionary Baptist Church*

Beverly Davis is the first lady of Second Missionary Baptist Church, where she proudly serves with her husband and pastor, Dr. Nika L.J. Davis. Her love for God is evident in her humble nature and her ministry to the congregation and community. She is an active force in Second Baptist Ministries, currently serving as the Youth Choir Director and Youth Sunday School out Reach Coordinator.

First Lady Davis is the lovely mother of three beautiful children, Nika Jr., Samayim, and Shekinah. Beverly is the youngest of four siblings.

She is a graduate of Nacogdoches High School, attended Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, Texas A & M Commerce, Commerce, Texas, and is a licensed social worker in the state of



BEVERLY DAVIS

Texas. By trade, she is the Expansion Manager for the Child Inc. Early Head Start Program in Austin, Texas.

A natural born leader, Davis she touches a heart before she asks for a hand. As an untiring

servant at S.M.B.C., she labors as a youth leader and works alongside her husband in other ministerial capacities.

Davis is one of God's prized possessions, a beautiful example of a woman, a first lady, a minister's wife, a mother, teacher, and a leader. First Lady Davis is an embodiment of unconditional love, devoted to the service of all humanity.

She has several favorites. Her favorite scripture is Psalms 27:1-2 "The Lord is my light and my Salvation: whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life: whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell." Davis loves the words of Tim Duncan: "Good, Better, Best, Never let it rest until your good is better and your better is best."

Congratulations!

The Second Baptist Church Youth Department and Friendships Circle would like to congratulate Sister Beverly Davis on being a 2016 Pearl!

We love you!

"Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Prov. 31:28



"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Linda Jefferson Brown, *True Vine Worship Center*

First Lady Linda Jefferson Brown is married to Pastor Donald Brown. They are founders of True Vine Worship Center in Waco, which they began three years ago. Brown says, "I enjoy singing in our church choir. It gives me great joy to sing the gospel." She wears many hats in the house of the Lord. She is the Mission President, and she started a young adult group for women to come together to be empowered by one another. GOD'S GOSPEL GIRLS encourages young ladies of all races and origins, teaching them the practicalities of life while living for the Lord.

Brown enjoys helping people. She worked in the healthcare field for over 24 years and the last three years, she has worked for Baylor Scott and White Home Care and Hospice. Most importantly, she loves being around her family. "Family is very important to me because at the end of the day, all we have is family." She is the mother of four grown children and 11 wonderful grandchildren.



LINDA JEFFERSON BROWN

She looks forward to her Friday night dates with her husband, usually popcorn and a movie. "The simple life," she calls it.

This First Lady loves Exodus 14:14: "The Lord shall fight for you and ye shall hold your peace," and Philippians 3:14: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of Jesus."

First Lady Sheila Ross, *Abundant Love Fellowship Church*

Lady Shelia Ross is the Co-Founder of the Abundant Love Fellowship Church in Robinson, Texas. She is a loving First Lady who stands proudly alongside her husband, Dr. Edward L. Ross, doing what God has commissioned them to do.

She was born and raised in Waco, Texas. Her parents are Rev. and Mrs. Albert Nichols and the late Joel Berry, Sr. In 1982, she married the love of her life. God blessed them with three children: Da'Mon Rashad (deceased), Candice Scherrie, and Christian Jamaal.

Ross and her husband encouraged their children to develop a personal relationship with the Lord, by sharing their ministry tools and the benefits of having a Christ-based life. This meant that sometimes they had to stand differently in their parenting and make sacrifices or rules that were unpopular. However, being led by the Holy Spirit, she and Pastor Ross raised a family that is not only committed to the ministry, but



SHEILA ROSS

most importantly, stands and lives for Christ.

While having the privilege to serve as First Lady of many years, Ross has had to wear many different hats. In addition to supporting her husband, she has worked with the music ministry, the youth ministry, the Women's Ministry, and the church's Special Events and Planning Committees.

Of the varied hats she wears, she especially enjoys mentoring wives as they partner with their husbands to answer the "Call of Pastoral Ministry."

First Lady Ross's primary goal is Kingdom Building through in-reach and outreach opportunities within her church and community. She believes that we are joined together as Christians to help others through teaching, living, and growing from the abundance of God's Holy Word. She hopes to nurture individuals so that they are empowered to live lives of destiny, purpose, commitment, and love before their family and friends. One of her favorite phrases is, "Don't just talk about it, but be about it!" She believes a person cannot serve without action.

One of her favorite passages in the Bible is Psalm 139. It always reminds her of God's provision for her life, encourages her with His purpose over her life, and reassures her of His promises to her life.

First Lady Vickietta Bledsoe, *St. John Missionary Baptist Church*

This "PK" is the fourth of six children, born to the parents of the late, Superintendent Lonnie D. and Missionary Verda Benson. Vickietta Bledsoe is a woman called and chosen of God, for Kingdom work and worship. She, along with her husband, Pastor Darrick D. Bledsoe, Sr. serve as spiritual leaders at the St. John Missionary Baptist Church, where her husband is senior pastor and she is the First Lady.

Bledsoe's life is dedicated to being a living example and an encourager to women, men, and children, to help foster a "spirit-filled" life, full of both potential and untapped power. She has more than a decade of teaching and counseling ministries, which enables her to reach others with her humor, warmth, transparency, and inner strength.

She is a loving and supportive wife, caring mother, able teacher, encouraging speaker, beautiful role model, and a great mentor. She enjoys reading, but most of all, she thrives in fulfilling the Will of God, recognizing



VICKIETTA BLEDSOE

it as her main purpose in life. Vicki strongly believes denomination has no bearing on her mandate or her anointing.

Lady V, as she is affectionately referred to, has been happily married for 1 1/2 years to her sweetheart, Pastor Darrick. They are the proud parents of five children, Shimeath, Marcus, Jeremy, Brandon, and Darrick II, and are proud grandparents of 14 grandchildren.

First Lady Eula Brown, *Children of God Created for Glory Worship Center*

First Lady Minister Eula Brown is a Waco native, married to the Founder/Pastor of Children of God Created for Glory Worship Center, Pastor Larry D. Brown. Brown was born Eula Ross to the proud parents of Leslie (deceased) and Zelma Ross. She is the 3rd of four siblings. She and Pastor Brown have a total of two sons, five daughters, and 25 grandchildren.

She graduated from Richfield High and received her associate degree in Business Management from McLennan Community College. She is retired from the State of Texas with 27 years of service.

First Lady Brown is a licensed and ordained minister and is presently serving with her husband in ministry. She has been and is blessed of God to serve as a bible teacher, speaker at conferences, retreats, and workshops. She is the founder of what was once a local women's support group that has now advanced to a ministry "Created for Glory Ministries." Created for



EULA BROWN

Glory Ministry is designed for everyone and particularly women. The scripture teaches us that we were created for God's glory. It teaches simple biblical principles for a deeper walk with God. It takes the simplicity of God's creation and shows us through the word of God, his glory for us. Isaiah 43:7 says "Even everyone that is called by my name: for I

have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him."

She and Pastor Brown married in 2002 and in 2004 God gave Pastor Brown a vision to start a church. Both were licensed and ordained ministers called by God with specific ministries. Pastor Brown's message to the world is we are Children of God, and First Lady's message is we are created for God's glory, and together, led of the Lord, the name given for the church was born - Children of God Created for Glory Worship Center. Brown serves with her husband in ministry for every believer to know who they are in Christ, to know their purpose, and to know their reason for their hope in him—for the backslider an open door, for the believer to grow in their faith walk with Jesus, for leaders a school of training and learning, and for the sick, shut-in, homeless, orphans and widows a ministry to meet their needs.

"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Susan Haines, *River of Life Christian Center*

First Lady Susan Haines was born into a Christian home – many years ago! Her father was in the Air Force so they traveled to many states in her young years, finally settling in Washington State upon his retirement. Haines has always attended church regularly and has been very involved. She even toyed with the idea of foreign missions!

In 1979, she had the honor to marry a sweet "Texas boy" whom she met at a Single Adult Retreat in Washington, where he was serving as a summer missionary to a church in the area. They moved to San Francisco where he started seminary while she worked in the city. He transferred to Ft. Worth after one year and finished his schooling there.

While still in seminary they began pastoring a small church near Crawford. Over their 36 years of marriage,



SUSAN HAINES

they have pastored in eight churches, including their present church, River of Life Christian Center in Rusk, TX.

Haines has served in all of these churches wherever needed, but always focused on singing and worship. God has enlarged her ministry to also include marriage counseling, teaching in the ministry school in their church,

overseeing the children's ministry and handling the church finances.

Haines says, "It is our heart to see every member find their place of service, whether in or outside the church walls. We want to see unity among all believers, tearing down walls of denominationalism, racism, and past church hurts. We want to model the love of God to all we encounter, and encourage those in our body to do the same. Love conquers!"

The Haineses have three wonderful daughters, living in Waco, Palestine, and Jacksonville. They also enjoy their two grandsons ages 4 years and 6 months.

"What a privilege to serve our God who provides wisdom, strength, and fulfillment," says Haines. "I look forward to many joyful and adventurous years ahead!"

First Lady Miriam Sandoval, *Maranatha Church*

Pastor First Lady Miriam Sandoval was born in Seguin, Texas but has resided in the Bellmead/Waco area for the last 44 years. She was born to parents who had migrated from Mexico to the United States in search of a better life for themselves and the children they would later have. A few years after they entered into the country, they were granted residency status.

Sandoval is the middle child of three sisters and one brother. It was in her early adolescent age that she came to know Jesus through an aunt, a believer, who was visiting from Mexico and seeking to attend to church while in Waco. She invited the family to attend with her. Sandoval gave her life to Jesus at the age of 13 and has attended church and been faithfully active ever since.

As a young lady she was involved in the youth and praise ministry and winning souls for Christ. She has known her husband, Mario Sandoval, since junior high and had the privilege of evangelizing him for two years until he gave his life to Jesus. They married one year after graduation from high school.

They have two daughters, Kayla, 28, and Amanda, 26. Both daughters are single, living at home, working full time in the church ministry with their parents. Kayla leads the praise and worship at the church and was



MIRIAM SANDOVAL

blessed last year to release her first musical CD- I Am Amazed while Amanda, a graduate of Wade College in Dallas and TSTC in Waco with a graphics design degree, heads the graphic design department at the church and leads the college department ministry.

The couple founded Maranatha Church in November 1991. Sandoval is the founder of The Virtuous Ministry which is the ladies ministry in her church. The Virtuous Woman holds yearly women's conferences having received an attendance up to 700 women. She also holds yearly women's conferences in Monclova, Mexico working with a team of local pastors. She has travelled to different cities and countries sharing God's Word. Her desire is to freely give that which she has freely received.

Former First Lady Mamie Jo Bragg Lee Hall, *East Waco Cumberland Presbyterian Church*

An educator with more than forty (40) years of successful experience in full life cycle educating and preparing great minds, Former First Lady Mamie Hall has a proven ability to foster great leaders and high ranking decision makers. Hall is married to the Rev. Elton C. Hall, former pastor of East Waco Cumberland Presbyterian Church-Waco. After many many, years, the Halls recently retired from the role of pastors.

Hall has taught school for over thirty (30) years in the Waco Independent School District, ten (10) years in the La Vega Independent School District, and two (2) years for the Waco State Home, which is currently the Waco Center for Youth.

She grew up in Chidester, Arkansas as the second child of thirteen children in a small



MAMIE HALL

neighborhood of close knit community. She learned early in life what it meant to just be a child and how to respect and relate to others. Hall graduated from Pleasant Hill High School where her family pressured her to be the best. She graduated at the top of

her class. Hall received a B.S. degree in elementary education and a minor in English/Reading from Paul Quinn College-Waco with further studies at Tarleton State University Stephenville, Texas and Texas Wesleyan University in Ft. Worth, Texas. It was then that she developed a passion for helping others with a focus on topics such as students with learning and reading difficulties. She began her teaching career as a counseling houseparent supervising and arranging activities to ensure proper, mental, physical, social, and spiritual development.

Hall is currently a servant of the church and community and shows it through serving as the president of the Missionary Society, educational director of the Church and Youth Department at East

Waco Cumberland Church in America, Vice President of the Brazos River Presbytery's Missionary Society, and Secretary of the Texas Synod Missionary Society of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (C.P.C.A.). Hall is also serving as a director on the board of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home Denton, Texas and a Supple-

mental Instruction Teacher (SIT) @ Waco ISD.

Hall has served as First Lady for a number of congregations. Hall was also the First Lady of the City of Bellmead and the Texas Association of Black City Council Members. The Halls have three wonderful children: Mia, Elton Jr., Shameka (Steve) and a most loved grandson, Stephen.

"An Evening Anchored In Pearls" Honorees

First Lady Lisa Drake, Dream Center Waco

Minister Lisa Drake is married to Rev. Timothy Drake. She is the First Lady of Dream Center Waco, where her husband is the pastor. Drake is a graduate of Speak the Word School of Ministry, under the canopy of the Minnesota Graduate School of Theology with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies; She has been a licensed minister for over 12 years with earned college hours in the field of evangelism. Drake has been blessed to travel within the United States and abroad, participating in team ministry.



LISA DRAKE

Drake founded the Women In Crisis Networking Together organization, an organization that addresses practical issues that women face and fosters an environment for healing the hurts. She ministers through sharing her personal testimony of the faithfulness of God to

bring anybody back to a saving place, even after drifting away.

She has a keen anointing that recognizes the need for the Body of Christ to be equipped to do Kingdom Business and boldly leads them into practical stratagems through intercessory prayer. Having served as instructor at the Mantle Bible

Institute—a prayer and prophetic school of St. Louis, MO, Drake has a heart for equipping and training others to reach their highest potential in Christ and fulfill their destiny.

Drake's style of evangelism is electrifying as she challenges individuals in an encouraging way, calling them to a greater commitment to Christ. She is a prophetic evangelist with a teaching ministry that is designed to bring clarity to the Body of Christ through her concise and practical demonstrations of the word of God... "Line upon Line." She has been personally mentored under the watchful eye of Prophetess Janice Mixon and has received an impartation to minister prophetically with precision and accuracy.

The Drakes have 6 children, 11 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

First Lady Jacqueline Valera Smith Burton, Lovely Hope Baptist Church

Pearl Honoree Jacqueline Valera Smith Burton, known as First Lady Burton, is a native of Waco, Texas. She was born to the late Clyde C. Smith and Ora Mae Hawkins Smith on January 30, 1966.



JACQUELINE BURTON

She is married to the love of her life and best friend, Pastor Gary Lynn Burton. While obligations to ministerial commitments are a priority, First Lady Burton ensures that her covenant relationships are well maintained. She serves as a faithful and devoted wife to her husband, the church and a loving mother to Greg Whaley. She has six grandchildren: Nivea, Reyna, Adrian, Aiyannah, Giovanni and Y Adrian. She has a host of godchildren and nieces and nephews.

In June 2010 Reverend Burton and First Lady Burton were called by God to be the Pastor and First Lady of Lovely Hope Baptist church in the beautiful city of Hubbard Texas. Together they bring biblical wisdom, compassion, and integrity to the Lovely Hope family.

As the First Lady, Burton has set an awesome example of how to grow in god-

liness and modesty. One of her favorite scriptures is Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

Burton wears many hats. She serves as Lovely Hope's women's ministry spiritual advisor; she serves on the usher's unit and as the sanctuary choir director; she is also youth spiritual advisor, and president of the deaconess and minister's wives unit. Her prayer is that if she can bring one soul to Jesus Christ, then her living will not be in vain.

First Lady Louise Gail Watts Gillum, Living Word Church of God in Christ

Born in Augusta, Georgia to James and Lubertha Watts, Louise Gail Watts Gillum is the 6th child of seven children. Gillum is married to Elder Dr. Gilbert Gillum Jr. They have three children: Audrey Lane, Amy Gillum, and Edmond Robert-Gillum. The Gillums also have three grandchildren, Jayla Lane, Jaden Gillum and Jabez Robert.



GAIL GILLUM

Gillum is a graduate of Augusta Technical College and Midwest Bible College. She currently attends Central Texas College of Theology and McLennan Community College. Gillum is the Director of the Living Word Christian Academy and Child Care Center.

She attends Living Word Church of God in Christ where she is the First Lady

under her husband Superintendent Gilbert Gillum Jr. She also serves as the National Hospitality Coordinator for the Church of God

in Christ, representing the state of Texas. Gillum also serves in many roles inside her church.

She serves as a missionary, a member of the Supervisor of Women, a Sunday school teacher, prayer warrior, and many more ministry minded projects. She was instrumental in starting children's church at Living Word COGIC, Respite Care for children with disabilities and their siblings, and for starting a young women's ministry, later to be named SOW for Sisters of Worth.

Gillum's favorite scripture is Psalms 138:8: "The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever: forsake not the works of thine own hands."

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Friday's seafood is still cooking

BY RON OLIPHANT

It was hump day and I found myself staring at the menu in Friday's Seafood. Now, this is something that is silly for me to do because I always get the catfish atchafalaya. They smother the fish and white rice with craw-fish etouffee. Just thinking about it, moves me like some old blues song. I love the dish.

Sometimes when my money is low, I just settle for the number thirteen, Catfish and fries. I might mix it up and try a little gumbo or maybe get a slice of that rich chocolate cake. Then, I try to figure out how I am going to hide it from the kids, when I get home. I am going to get them a pizza and I am not wrong for that. They do not appreciate fine, Louisiana cuisine like I do. I relax and smell rich seasoning while listening to Zydeco music. It dawned on me that I had



RON OLIPHANT

been periodically staring at this menu on the wall, for nearly three years.

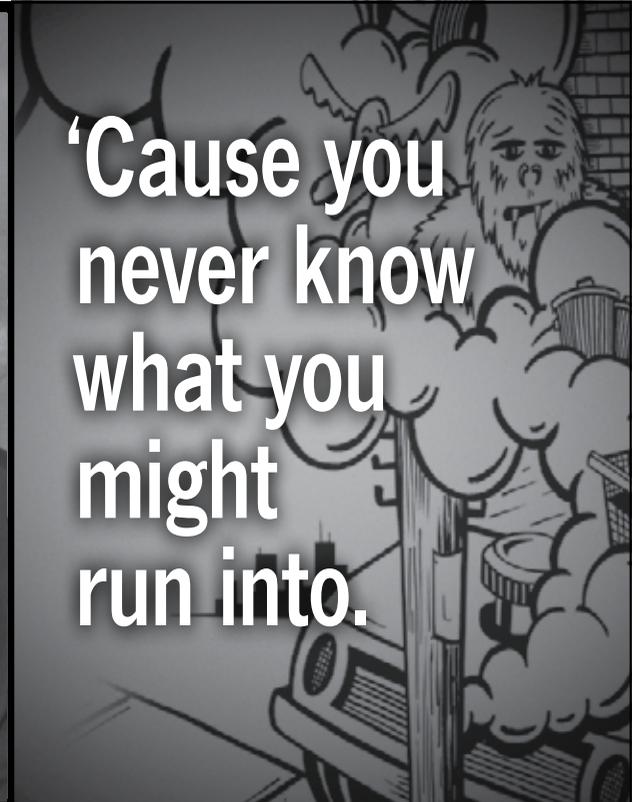
The owner Friday Hawkins opened the doors of her restaurant on Good Friday in 2013. Since that time the number of customers has grown and the items offered on the menu

has changed slightly to accommodate various hunger pains. They sell fresh fish you can take home and cook yourself. You can special order oysters, swordfish, grouper etc. Her husband Roy, insisted he was

not the owner, just a food taster, but every time I go there he is working. Friday's Seafood was awarded business of the year, last year, by the Waco Black Chamber of Commerce.

Located on New Dallas

hwy in, Bellmead, they are open Tuesday through Saturday until seven o'clock. Every Year they host a crawfish boil in support of the festivals held in Louisiana. This year it will be held on May 21st at the restaurant.



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Local family makes handmade, all-natural products

Discover Ava Michelle bath salts and sugar scrubs made in Waco, and Texas Jack Rabbit Candles. These products are guaranteed to awaken your senses and enhance the mood of your atmosphere, said Misti Anderson, who is one of three owners of this family business.

Ricky Anderson started Anderson Candle Décor from his home in 2011, making tea lights, wax squares containers,

and now candles in over 50 different scents. "Our scents are rich, inviting and proven to be of great quality," Ricky explained.

All products are handmade, all natural, and safe for the body. Shawn, Ricky's brother, and his wife, Misti, came on board and soon discovered the candles and sheabutter opened their eyes to other needs.. They then added Ava Michelle body

products, such as lotions, body scrubs, sprays, soaps, and other items.

In naming the product line, they chose Shawn and Misti's granddaughter and youngest daughter's middle name, thus Ava Michelle. "We chose that name because it seemed to have a certain twist to it or a uniqueness that helped us represent our unique family business," said Misti.

While Ricky continues to make the candles, shea butter and the wax squares for the burners, Misti and Shawn make the body products and the sprays. They all still have full time jobs but spend time outside of their jobs creating and researching to come up with new things or to enhance the products that they currently have.

Now they have help from other family members as well who help them sell the products and get the word out. The entire family uses the products to test them and keep them of excellent quality.

"We don't want anything out on the market that doesn't represent us well," explained Shawn, "and we have been told that all of our fragrances last a long time and the products work very well."

At Anderson Candle Décor, the family uses only the best of all natural dead sea salts and natural oils. With so many things polluting the air, Misti said, "our bodies need to be refreshed."

The soaps are made from goat's milk and shea, making the products good for eczema, blemishes and dry skin. The scrubs are excellent for exfoliating and putting the needed oils back in the skin. The products are now in the Waco and Dallas/Ft. Worth areas.



RICKY, SHAWN AND MISTI ANDERSON

To purchase the products visit the Anderson Candle Décor website, their Facebook page or

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Jessie Washington memorial set

The McLennan County community will mark the centenary of the Jessie Washington Lynching with a community-wide ceremony this Sunday, May 15 at 2PM at the Bledsoe Miller Center. It will be a solemn program during which members of Jesse's family will be present and offer a few words.

The City of Waco will offer a proclamation. The names of other lynching victims in Central Texas will be called as well. All are encouraged to come witness this historically significant event in the life of our community!

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EVANS

Continued from page one

lence growing up in poverty. Evans's goal is to engage an audience of reluctant reader children of color to develop a love of reading while following Shay's life adventures growing up in "Small Town USA."

Evans's passions lie in education, community relations, the arts, and sharing her faith. A middle math school teacher in Waco ISD, Evans will be graduating with her Masters in Educational Administration with Principal Certification this August 2016 from Baylor University.

Believing in "writing the vision and making it plain," her future aspiration is to found her own school, Mary Evans Academy, right here in Waco, Texas. A mentor to many young people, Evans has a no-nonsense approach that speaks love and truth to teens who often have no positive role models in their lives. Always connected to the community in some way, Evans is a past member of the Friends of the Library Board and is currently a Board of Director for the Central Texas Genealogical Society.

She is a member of Antioch Community Church, where she serves with the children's desk ministry and is co-life group leader with her sister Jennifer.

Evans's main focus is getting her picture book in circulation in local, state and nationwide public and school libraries. Thunder and Lightning is available for check out at the Waco McLennan County and McGinley Memorial Library. For speaking or reading requests, contact her at 714-366-8270 or at thunderandlightningpicturebook@gmail.com. Purchase the book on line via Amazon or at Barnes & Noble. Visit the official website at www.thunderandlightningpicturebook.com.

In her spare time, Evans enjoys writing, blogging, photography, technology, public speaking and spending time with her long haired Dachshund, Faith Elizabeth.

All men are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, Part 5

BY RUBY MCCRAY

Continued from the April issue of The Anchor.

I'm beginning by asking you not to read this in a mean-spirited tone. Abortion is such a touchy subject and needs to be addressed in the light of God's Word. Since He created everything in the heavens, earth, under the earth and even you and me (Genesis 1:26, 27; Colossians 1:15, -17), He knows everything about us, and has given us His Constitution (the Bible) by which we can live the abundant life (John 10:10). He will never change His rules to accommodate us (Matthew 5:17-20); we have to obey what He has already said (1 Peter 3:8-12).

For a better understanding of this article, please read the previous ones at: www.theanchornews.com, click "ARCHIVES" at the top to find the months and years. All of the recorded Scriptures are from the New Living Translation Holy Bible unless otherwise stated. In your Bible, please read the Scriptural passages recorded or let at least let your smart device read them from the free downloaded Bible app. We have no excuse to remain in the darkness pleading ignorance (Proverbs 23:11, 12).

It matters not how long

we've believed the wrong; when we come to the knowledge of the truth, we must walk in that truth (Ephesians 4:20-32). It's not easy to admit when we're wrong, especially when we've believed a lie for so long.

I remember when I was in the fourth grade and my dear friend told me that there was no Santa Clause! I knew that she was going to burn in hell if she didn't quit telling such lies. That wasn't good enough! She told me that there was no Easter Bunny, and be sure to ask my mommy when I got home. I couldn't wait for school to end that day. Time I saw my mommy, I rattled off all that my friend had said. My mom neither confirmed nor denied it; but the look on her face said it all while she was trying to console my hurt by asking me, "Who told you that?" "What do you believe?" Etc.

My mom was only carrying on the tradition that was handed down to her: baking all of the cakes and pies on Christmas Eve for Santa to have a slice of each, then the rest was for the family. We had to get to sleep early so that Santa would leave our toys and not put pepper in our eyes, etc.

Oh, our front yard was graced with beautiful Easter



EVANGELIST
RUBY MCCRAY

Lilies! The Easter Bunny never failed to bring so many beautifully colored eggs that we would find before Resurrection day ended. They would be everywhere; but rest assuredly, there would be plenty in the lilies!

It hurt me so badly to know that all of that good fun was a lie; I made up my mind that my children would never get to know Santa and Easter Bunny. That's the way I envision Pro-Choice people. Many have come into the knowledge of the truth, but it's too painful to face reality, so they continue to perpetuate the lie. Some are doing like what I did about Santa and Easter Bunny—straightening out the

lie. And some are still walking in darkness concerning the gospel of life, because the god of this world has blinded their minds to the truth (2 Corinthians 4:3, 4).

I had planned to leave this Baby for my last article, but I'm compelled to talk about Him now. Thousands of years before He was born, the prophets of old spoke about Him, as well as His cousin. "And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He [Jesus] will strike your head, and you will strike his [satan's] heel" (Genesis 3:15).

"...Listen well, you royal family of David! Isn't it enough to exhaust human patience? Must you exhaust the patience of my God as well? All right then, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us')" (Isaiah 7:13, 14). That Baby was born thousands of years later.

"This is how Jesus the Mes-

siah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit... And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:18, 21). If Mary had had an abortion, she would have aborted JESUS!

Should the Lord delay His coming, you must join us in June as we continue our study about JESUS, the SAVIOR of the entire human race.

Please go to You Tube, type: Ruby McCray Please Let Me Live. Listen to the song that supports this series and tell your friends about it. You may not believe me; but...just what if I'm right?

Evangelist Ruby McCray is the founder of A City of Refuge Ministries. For questions or comments e-mail rubbyacorm@yahoo.com or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.

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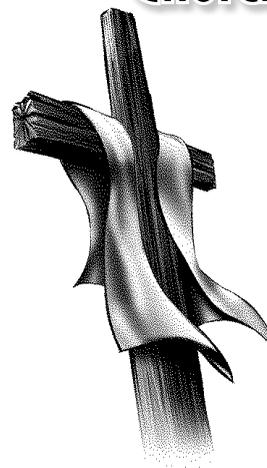
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The weakness of democracy

BY MATTHEW REED

The weakness of our democracy is that we have left the word of God on which it was founded. The problem is we the people (we are the weakness). We go about making new laws when the problem is no one keeps the one that exist. You can make laws until the end of time. They won't profit until we start to keep them. God's law as perfect as it is, was weak through the flesh. (Romans 8:3 for what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh,).

What is the purpose of this article? I'm glad you asked. First since there is no confusion in Christ we are confused as to why our democracy is not working as well as it has in the past. In the word of God we find the answers. The purpose for this article is to turn the church from seeking and following

politicians, talk show hosts and other ungodly voices and return once again to the voice of God. The solution is not political; it's spiritual. It's time for the church to take its place at the head of the table. We can't influence people when we look, do and act just like the people we are trying to influence.

God bears witness to the word of his disciples during the beginning of the New Testament church. He continues to bear witness to the truth today. Men may never accept the truth that we write or speak but God will. God will also bear witness to the fact that we are his disciples today with signs and wonders if we live right. Quite frankly that is to whom I look to for a witness and he's not going to witness a lie. On our money we have in God we trust; that's a lie. There is no proof of such in our life style or the way

we administer our laws. In the courts, there is not very much justice for the poor. The scales are tilted to favor the affluent. That's not God. [Acts 10:34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: Ephesians 6:9 neither is there respect of persons with him. 1st Peter 1:17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judges according to every man's work, We were commanded in John 7:24 Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment]. When a majority of the population including the church does not take heed to this doctrine we can take "In God we trust" off the money. We the church are the light of this world, our country, and our politicians and if we don't model God's plan so that God can bear witness, the world, our



PASTOR AND MRS. REED

country, our politicians are going to become confused. They will no longer know right from wrong. That's where we are today. When the church takes the lead again by right and powerful

living, the world the country the politicians will follow; they have no choice.

Here in America we want democracy to work but we are not willing to do what it takes to make it work. Amen!



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The REAL behind reality therapy

BY MONA DUNKIN

It is mind boggling to think that neurological fact asserts that one's brain cannot tell the difference in an event from the past and current thoughts about that event. Continual musing over hurts of the past is as if one is reliving them now. Today.

Since all of our body works as an integrated whole, the emotions stay stirred up in mentally and physically unhealthy and unhappy ways.

And that affects our body. And here we go 'round the mulberry bush – only it's not fun.

Old school is for clients to get in touch with childhood traumas and other past hurts and work through them. What are the results? The results may or may not drag yesterday into today. The results may or may not lead to little to no change. The results may or may not give spurts of relief with long term staying stuck.

New school via Reality



MONA DUNKIN

Therapy is to live today today. Don't wallow in the past. Live in the NOW.

Delve into your creative system for the real you just waiting to be unleashed. You know the one - the one without all that baggage.

Engage your free-will and choose. You may or may not

experience a deep sigh of relief.

You may or may not be able to move past the past. You may or may not have an epiphany that ushers in mental health and happiness.

But here's the amazing thing. You get to choose. So be good to you.

Self-evaluate your results. Continue when effective. Regroup and re-plan when not so effective. Live. Laugh. Love. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat.

Or at least it is new school for those of us who have been blessed to learn about Dr. William Glasser and his amazingly simple strategies for blowing the (often referred to and seldom effective) common sense out of the tub and replacing it with personal responsibility.

Are you interested in learning more? Contact Mona Dunkin 254-749-6594 or mona@monadunkin.com Check out www.wglasser.com for a variety of training venues.

children who have graduated from college and have gone on to become professionals.

She has received many, many awards over the years: Waco People (Making a Difference Award), Jack & Jill Educational Award, National Professional Who's Who, Golden Apple Award, Home Town Hero, Girl Scout Council Award, National Women's History Award, Community Service Award, Free and Accepted Masons District Award, Champions of Christian Service, Volunteer Award for Mission Waco, and City Council Award, to name a few.

She has volunteered at just as many organizations: Freeman Center, Am I my Brother's Keeper, Women's Prison in Marlin, President of Oakwood Neighborhood Association, church clerk and Sunday School teacher and Missions President at Antioch Baptist Church, the Steering Committee for March of Dimes, nursing homes and as a Waco City Council Representative for District I.

DORSEY

Continued from page one

"God has been very kind to me," says Dorsey. "He has blessed me to live a very productive and long life. I am Grateful! To God Be the Glory for all that He has done for me."

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Understanding your credit card's terms and conditions

**J. L. CRAWFORD,
LEGALSHIELD SENIOR
MANAGER**

(From Legal News, Issue 9) Underneath the low introductory interest rates, rewards programs and bonuses, credit card offers also include terms and conditions. The terms and conditions are notoriously long and difficult to read, but those terms could have a major impact on your financial future. Before you sign up for a new card make sure you understand what you are getting

into. If you need assistance reviewing a credit card agreement or have any questions, call your LegalShield provider law firm today.

Introductory Interest Rates – A “Low Introductory Interest Rate” is a great way to sign up new card users. The rates are temporary and may increase dramatically once the initial term expires, locking you into exorbitant payments that may bury you financially. Before accepting any credit card, make sure you understand the potential interest rates both

during and after the introductory period. Make sure you also understand how late payments or exceeding your limit could drive the rate up.

• **Other Interest Rates** – Be aware that rates may vary for cash advances or balance transfers. These increased interest rates are in addition to fees that may also be charged for these services.

• **Due Dates** – Know when your payments are due and the penalty for late payment. Make sure you understand the due date for your payments, what constitutes a late payment and the penalties and interest imposed for late payments.

• **Payment Options** – You may be able to pay online, by phone or by mail. Some options may carry fees, while others do not. Understand the options and only use the ones that do not impose a separate fee.

• **Credit Limit** – Your credit limit is the maximum debt you are authorized to carry on



J.L. CRAWFORD

your credit card account. Your credit card company may offer you the option of exceeding your credit limit, but may impose substantial fees for doing so. These fees can accumulate quickly and can result in fee debt larger than your credit debt. Exceeding your limit may also be reported to credit agencies and substantially

damage your credit score.

• **Fees** – In addition to late fees and over limit fees, your credit card company may also charge annual fees, foreign transaction fees, fees for balance transfers, use of ATMs and other actions. Know all of the potential fees and avoid them whenever possible.

• **Rewards Programs** – A rewards program may be a great incentive for a new card. Cash back, gift cards and airline miles are great perks, but make sure you understand the limitations. Are there blackout dates or exclusions for certain destinations? Do the rewards expire? Make sure you understand the rewards program, particularly if it is the reason you are signing up for the card.

Is your challenge listed above? 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.” J.L. Crawford, LegalShield Senior Manager.

Church Directory

High Point Church



SERVICE TIMES:

Early Service ~ 9:30 a.m.
Second Service ~ 11:00 a.m.

Children's church and
nursery available at
11 a.m. service

4600 Sanger Ave. in Waco (Texas Christian Academy Building)
John Rambeau, Senior Pastor

Temple of Christ Church

Matthew Reed Ministries, Inc.

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Worship: 11:15 a.m.

Evening: 6:00 p.m.

Monday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Worship: 7:00 p.m.

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(254) 753-0772



Temple of Deliverance

Ministries

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10:00 a.m.

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7:00 p.m.



Apostle
Sadie L. Henderson
Overseer

1121 N. 18th St.
Waco, TX 76707

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

Rotary skeet shoot scheduled for June 4

A Browning BPS pump-action shotgun valued at \$600 is the prize for the Top Shot at the Northwest Waco Rotary Club “Aim High for Education” Skeet Shoot on June 4 at Waco Skeet

and Trap Club.

The event, sponsored by Redwoods, Inc., is the Rotary club's major fundraiser for the year. Proceeds will enable the club to continue sponsoring the

Early Act First Knight (www.eafk.org) character education program at Parkdale Elementary School, as well as scholarships at MCC and TSTC. Since the Rotary club began sponsoring the EAFK program at Parkdale in 2015, behavior referrals have dropped by more than 75 percent. Students are rewarded for practicing good behavior and traits like honesty, compassion and kindness.

Continental breakfast and check-in for the skeet shoot begin at 8:30 a.m.; rounds begin at 9:30 a.m. Lunch catered by Uncle Dan's is included. In addition to the Top Shot prize, prizes from Cabela's will be awarded to the 1st and 2nd-place teams. Participant cost is \$125 per gun. All competing teams will be 4-shooter; singles and pairs will be grouped to make a team.

Register online by May 27 at <http://bit.ly/1qsLLFt> or contact Michelle Holland at 254-366-5361 or email michelle_holland@baylor.edu.

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Why a growth plan?

BY MARSELO
"SELO" LOZANO



MARSELO "SELO" LOZANO

Ever notice how adults in life seem to be immature in their thoughts and behavior? Many times as parents and leaders of our home and community we fail because of our own immaturity. As adults and leaders we are here to train and develop our children and others around us. However often as parents and leaders we don't always believe in or take time for personal growth and development.

Too often we get so involved with life we make excuses or are so focused on the growth of others we fail to grow ourselves. Often we get frustrated with those we try to lead never really understanding we maybe the ones stunting emotional, physical, spiritual and intellectual growth. John C. Maxwell says, "A 6 leader will only lead those of a caliber of 5 or below." Essentially saying as parents and leaders in the community we can never lead someone where we have not been or teach what we don't know.

Often in our life we find ourselves struggling or becoming complaisant, and comfortable.

The challenge for us as parents, leaders and as an individual's is to grow past our current understanding. This is when we should begin to put together a plan to grow and develop further in your walk of life.

I believe growth is not automatic nor is it an easy task when we often have habits in non growth. However to grow we must create new habits. I always challenge myself and others around me with some simple questions: Who are you listening to? What book are you reading? What was the last workshop or class have you attended? Then challenge them with a 3, 6, and 12 month plan to help them be a better spouse, parent, employee leader, pastor and the change needed in their own world. Below is a list of these areas in which I believe every person should have increase in.

AREAS TO GROW

Spiritual - Relationship W/

Christ, Prayer, bible study, devotional, church involvement.

Read Books

Listen to teaching (MP3/Podcast/videos)

Attend Classes/Workshops

Mental - Job related, leadership, further development in talents and gifts.

Read Books

Listen to teaching (MP3/Podcast/videos)

Attend Classes/Workshops

Emotional - Forgiveness, submission, humility, discipline and our love walk.

Read Books

Listen to teaching (MP3/Podcast/videos)

Attend Classes/Workshops

Physical - Diet, exercise, healing

Read Books

Listen to teaching (MP3/Podcast/videos)

Attend Classes/Workshops, workout plan.

Financial - Tithing, giving, saving, investing.

Read Books

Listen to teaching (MP3/Podcast/videos)

Attend Classes/Workshops

Social - Whom are you serving and discipling church

Read Books

Listen to teaching (MP3/Podcast/videos)

Attend Classes/Workshops

The More You Know

"If you read only one book per month, that will put you into the top 1% of income earners in our society." - Brian Tracy

25% of people have not read a book in the last year.

46% of adults score the lowest two levels of literacy.

Most people just don't read. Half of adults are basically illiterate because they don't read enough. Reading one hour per day in your

chosen field can make you an expert within 4 to 5 years.

"The average American spends 101 minutes a day driving." - Harvard Health Watch Study

Most of us spend our time doing things that don't add value, wisdom, and understanding to others or us as individuals. What do you spend your time doing?

How most people spend their time daily:

Watching TV — 3 to 4 hours

Browsing the web — 1 to 2 hours

Using social media — 1 to 2 hours

Playing video games (or game apps) — 2 to 3 hours

Driving in a car — 1 hour 41min

From:

<http://www.pickthebrain.com/blog/habit-will-put-top-1-experts-money-makers/>

Tips for growth

* Identify 1 hour every day where you can eliminate or reduce one of your time-wasting activities.

* Create a daily "Read for 1 hour" calendar reminder. * Go find books to start reading (buy physical or ebooks)

* Make it really hard to ignore reading books.

* Stack books next to your bed, kitchen & coffee table.

* Let your mobile devices battery die and read a hard copy book.

* Read every day for an hour

* Listen to audio books and teaching on CDs, Podcast or MP3. as you drive.

* APPLY AND SHARE WHAT YOU LEARN!

Marselo "Selo" Lozano has been around the block a few times. His experience gives him a trusted voice in helping youth leaders understand how to reach and raise the fu-

ture generations. Don't hesitate to contact Marselo and Mia Lozano. They are quality people, and they'll help you reach the young people of your community. Contact them at 254.756.1240 or P.O. Box 423 Waco, TX 76703.

VARGAS

Continued from page one

nan Community College, then transfer to Southwestern Assemblies of God University.

The Vargases are owners of a thriving roofing and construction business, AmeTex Roofing, formerly, Central Texas Xtreme Roofing. They are well known for being people of integrity. They have been serving the community and surrounding cities since 2012, steadily growing their business through Gus's extensive experience in the field and through establishing solid trustworthy relationships.. "Our goal is to make honest money. We will not ever

take advantage of people," explained Vargas. "If it needs fixing we will tell you; if it doesn't, we will tell you."

Gus comes from a line of roofers; in fact, he has been in the roofing industry since he was 12.. The Vargases currently specialize in a variety of work—roofing, siding, fencing, painting, concrete, carpentry, and general handyman work. For more information, please call (254) 776-1100 or (254) 717-7473 or visit the business at 1421 Lawrence Drive. Visit the website at <http://www.ametexroofing.com/>.

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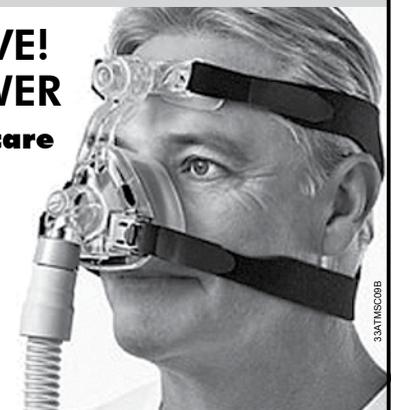
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A life in Christ - God's loving mercy

BY PAM TURNER

Many remember the story of Jonah and the whale from our Sunday school classes when we were young. God instructed Jonah to go to the wicked city of Nineveh and warn the inhabitants that His judgment was coming and that the city would be destroyed. A prophet of the northern kingdom of Israel, Jonah refused to go to Nineveh. Instead, he went to Joppa and boarded a ship headed for Tarshish, which was in the opposite direction. Jonah lived in Palestine and Nineveh would have been a 500 mile journey; instead he chose to sail to Tarshish, 2500 miles west of Palestine. Sometimes in our lives we hear from God and we know what His will is; however, we really want to serve God in our own way, so we head west, 2500 miles away from His will.

Once Jonah was out to sea, a huge storm arose, causing the ship to go up and down, back and forth, on the verge of sinking. To stay

afloat the sailors tossed everything overboard hoping to stay afloat, but the storm still raged. Finally, the sailors cast lots to see who was responsible for their calamity. It fell on Jonah, who then had to explain how he was running from God, disobeying his command to go to Nineveh. Then he instructed the sailors to toss him overboard. When they did, the sea immediately grew calm. Seeing how great Jonah's God was, they offered sacrifices and made vows to Him.

God showed His mercy by calming the sea, making a bad situation a good one by welcoming these men into His kingdom. A great fish then came and swallowed Jonah up. Imagine what a mess Jonah was in. Jonah prayed for 3 days and nights, crying out to God for His mercy and forgiveness. Then God showed His great mercy and commanded the fish to spit or vomit Jonah up on dry land. He could have been spit up a mile from shore, having to swim for dry land. We see God's forgiveness when



PAM TURNER

He commands Jonah the 2nd time to go to Nineveh; this time Jonah obeys. We serve a God of second chances when we repent and ask for forgiveness, because we all mess up in our own ways.

Recently I took a step of faith and resigned from a job I've had for nearly 33 years. It was not a big step, however, because I was pursuing another job that looked very promising. It wasn't long until I realized I was going just the

opposite direction of what God has planned in my life. No matter how much I prayed and asked if taking this job was His will, I just couldn't seem to get a true peace about it. It was as if I was in boat rocking back and forth, because I was not going in the direction God had planned for me.

Once Jonah reached Nineveh, he went throughout the city preaching that God would be destroying the city in 40 days. As soon as the people heard this message they began to repent, and again God showed what a merciful God He is, forgiving Nineveh. God had given Jonah a second chance in but when he realized God was merciful and was not going to bring His wrath upon these people, he went to the edge of the city and camped out because he was agitated with God for not going through with the destruction. Jonah surely had a short memory, just like I do when things in life don't go as I want them to. I seem to forget about the good things He has done for me, like dying on

the cross so that when I make a mistake, all I have to do is ask for his forgiveness. Just let someone offend me and I'm ready for God to send hell fire and brimstone on their head, forgetting about my own mistakes.

The story of Jonah continues to show us the many mercies that God extended to Jonah, and His word is full of His love and kindness, like the sick who cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" He extended His mercy and healed them.

Today, you may feel like you are be headed in the wrong direction, and you want to get things right with God, or perhaps you've never met Him. He's been on that wrong journey with you all the way, but He's ready to turn you around and set your life on the right path. All you have to do is open your heart and invite Him in. Forgiveness and a new life are just a decision away. May God Bless You. Pamela Turner is a freelance writer and a member of High Point Church in Waco.



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Don't overlook these important matters when buying your first home

BY LINDA MCDONALD

Planning to buy your first home? What an exciting time! While you may have already considered some of the benefits and responsibilities of the journey you're about to take, make sure you consider these items as well.

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE

There are assistance programs that provide lower loan rates or down payment assistance for qualified applicants. Before you assume that you don't qualify for an assistance program, find out. The criteria often include income limits, but not always. In addition to many first-time homebuyer programs, other options apply to military personnel, teachers, and first responders. Some programs also are available based on the type of property, such as a home that requires repairs. You can search tx-homeprograms.org and talk to your Texas Realtor to see if you qualify for any assistance.

THE LOAN ISN'T YOUR ONLY EXPENSE

You may know that in addition to your loan payments, you will also be paying property taxes. Your lender will also require you to buy homeowners insurance. You may even be responsible for flood insurance, depending on the risk in your area.

In addition to the items your lender requires, don't forget other expenses that come along with homeownership. If this will be your first home with a yard, you'll need lawn and garden equipment—or funds to pay someone else to mow and garden. And when you have to replace a leaking



LINDA MCDONALD

faucet or a worn-out roof, you are now the one footing those bills.

GETTING AN ACCEPTED OFFER IS JUST THE BEGINNING

It's a great feeling when you find a home you want, draw up an offer, and the seller says yes. Keep in mind, though, there are still many steps before you can call that home your own. And depending on what happens during inspections, a title search, an appraisal, and other key actions, you could be looking at even more steps, such as amendments and repairs.

Your Texas Realtor can give you guidance for the many considerations you will face as you become a first-time homeowner. Working closely with a professional is the best way to ensure you don't overlook anything important. To learn more about buying, selling, and leasing property in Texas, visit texasrealestate.com. Linda McDonald is President of the Waco Association of Realtors and is associated with Coldwell Banker Jim Stewart Realtors.

Broken Silence

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS



Wanda B. Gunter

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I AM A TEXAS REALTOR



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Jim Stewart, Realtors

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