

THE Anchor News

Serving the Central Texas Community *Celebrating 18 Years!*

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Free



TNT (Tracy and Tre') spread togetherness in the land

If you have been in Waco for any length of time, you have probably heard of the power couple, TNT, to be more specific, Tracy and Tre' Baldwin. They are known for their solid marriage, love for people, and passion for the success of marriages.

But the unity hasn't always been there, says Tre'. In the beginning, he didn't like Tracy Butler very much, and it seems, that for Tracy, there was no love lost on her end either. "We didn't like each other very much," explained Tre'. "But something switched in my head and my heart, and I reached out to her." When Tre' asked Tracy out, she said, "Yes."

Their first date was at Common Grounds at Baylor. After they talked, Tre' discovered that his feelings for Tracy had changed, and now the rest is history. This year the Baldwins celebrate 11 years of marriage, three children (Camden, Camielle, and Campbell) and a dynamic ministry.



TRACY AND TRE' BALDWIN

Tracy enjoys laughing with her husband, all things related to Bible-journaling, watching her children play sports, cooking, earrings, and shoes! More important, she loves helping women better understanding God's Word. Tracy has worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs for 12 years and is also the Women's Pastor and interim Children's Pastor at Victorious Life Church in Waco, where Dr. Lloyd Ziegler

is the pastor. Tracy loves using Bible journaling and Bible mapping to enhance her relationship with Jesus. She likes to dive into the Word and break down the Scriptures to make them more personal and applicable. Since she enjoys sharing with others, she offers her Scriptures & Scribbles Bible study journaling classes for women who want to increase their understanding of the Word and invest in their relationship with Jesus.

Tre' has been Victorious Life's Associate Pastor since 2017. His responsibilities include leading student ministries, assisting with the new members course, developing curriculum for discipleship classes, meeting with leaders and strategizing plans to implement into the church. Tre' also

See **BALDWIN** pg. 3

Barefield re-elected to the Waco City Council, representing District 1

Andrea Barefield was recently re-elected to the Waco City Council, representing District 1. She is the Executive Director of the Texas Brazos Trail Region, part of the Texas Heritage Trails Program. Texas Brazos Trail's mission is to educate, engage and promote cultural and heritage tourism in the 18 county Texas Brazos Trail Region. Before joining the Region, Barefield was the Main Street Manager for City Center Waco. There, she was able to develop, cultivate and grow a sense of community in Downtown Waco through historic preservation, economic development, and placemaking.

Barefield was elected to serve on the Waco City Council representing District 1 in 2018 and is currently Mayor Pro Tem. She serves on the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Museum board and the Airport Advisory board. She continues her love for working with young people by serving as Council Liaison for the Waco Youth Council. She is coaching them in civic leadership training and helping them cultivate special projects like recycling and educating other young people about their carbon footprint.



ANDREA BAREFIELD

She serves on the Texas Downtown Association Board, Waco ISD Foundation Board, Prosper Waco Board, Creative Waco Cultural Arts Task Force, NAACP Executive Committee as 2nd Vice President and Economic Engagement Chair, Communities in Schools Board, StartUp Waco Board, Community Visioning Board and Texas Lyceum. Barefield is also a proud member of the Waco Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Barefield has a public relations degree from Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, where she met husband Elijah. They have been happily married for 18 years and have two beautiful sons, Drew and Jaxon.

Over the span of his educational career, Ward has never forgotten his elementary school environment. There was consistency from everyone within the school to have high expectations for each student in the building, regardless of race and economic means. In his reflection about

his childhood, Ward realized he was no different from any other kid living in the projects. It was the level of involvement of his mother and the high expectations of the school he attended that made the difference.

See **WARD**, pg. 16

Introducing Waco native, Dr. Kermit D. Ward

BY MARY EVANS

On November 6, 2020, at the University of Texas in Austin, Dr. Kermit D. Ward successfully defended his dissertation entitled "A Phenomenological Analysis of How District Leaders and Middle School Principals Use Title I Funds at the Campus Level".

But the road to that honorable title did not come easy. Kermit is a proud product of poverty. He uses the word "proud" because he says there is nothing to be ashamed about where "you come from.



DR. KERMIT D. WARD

It's the destination that makes the humble beginnings worth honoring--- respecting and remembering," says Ward.

Coming from a single-parent household and living in project housing made things a bit difficult for Ward. But his late mother, Robbie, had great vision for her son's future. She enrolled him in an elementary school across town that was inaccessible to his project-housed playmates. Later, Ward realized her decision made a huge difference in the quality of education he received in the early stages of his life.



Photo by Any Given Day Photography

J.L. AND LINDA CRAWFORD

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

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A time for Thanksgiving: All things work for good

BY LINDA CRAWFORD

What an awesome time for this country. But this time means a lot to me personally also. It is so different from last year. At this time a year ago, I was in Baylor Scott and White at Hillcrest Hospital. November 7th was my second day, the beginning of what has been a long journey. The morning before, November 6th, I sensed the right side of my body going numb, starting from the top of my head. Numbness traveled down my right side, my arm, my hand, my leg, my foot, and slowly, to my dismay, I went down, legs twisted under a body of now, dead weight. My husband heard my desperate cry and my banging on the metal trash can. As I called his name, he came running, and through his strength, God's and my own, JL literally dragged my limp body from the bathroom to the bed. A hospital admission and several tests later revealed a stroke, leaving me confused, bedridden, and paralyzed on my right side.

How could this be? I was not in pain. My speech was not slurred and my face was not disfigured. Everything seemed like a nightmare, literally, but my husband and I finally came to the conclusion that in the end, God would use this experience for my "good." No, we did not say or believe that God gave me a stroke or that God made me paralyzed, but we were convinced that "good" would come of this situation. And so it did.

The next day the doctor came in and said he had some news that may seem bad but actually was "good." The bad news was that tests revealed an aneurysm in my heart, that on a blow scale of 6.0, was already 5.8. He continued that the "good" news was that they caught it before it killed me and that open heart surgery would save my life. So....with much prayer and physical therapy, I learned to walk again and with a January 6th open heart surgery, I am yet alive.

I am so thankful for my husband, my son, Ray, and my daughter, Stasha. I am so thankful for my MCC colleagues and my church friends, for Pastor John Rambeau and his wife, Sherri. Throughout the first few months of this journey, I was never alone. I would open my eyes and my husband would be there. After the stroke and after the surgery, I would wake up in the mornings and my daughter would be sitting by my bed after driving in from Tulsa. ..again. After the surgery, I would wake up in the afternoon only to find that my son had flown in from Colorado Springs....again. After I went home, every week at 6:45 a.m. the doorbell would ring. My friend and colleague, Arvis, was there to sit with me while my husband went to teach his classes. And when my husband went to his weekly doctor's appointments and to church on Sundays, my friend and church member, Lovie, rang the doorbell at 9:00 a.m. She was there to sit with me. Even on the few days that these

ladies couldn't come, there were others: Cindy, and Julie and Priscilla, and Linda, and I could go on and on.

God really did work things for my "good." So many things touched my heart and changed my view of life and people forever. When I was in the hospital after the stroke, my college roommate from the 70s, would show up in my room. Mary, who now lives in Harker Heights, would drive down to check on me, always bringing gifts, good cheer and awesome college memories. My beautician, Anita, came to the hospital to do my hair, and nurses told me they had never had a patient who received so many flowers that it became a challenge to find a spot for them in the room. I continuously received gifts, flowers and visits from my family, my Waco friends, my MCC colleagues, High Point church members, my Cattleys sisters. But it was during the wee hours of the morning that I secretly wrestled with feelings of being alone and uselessuntil my friend, Mayra, brought me a Snow White stuffed lamb. Out of the blue, she said, "This represents the Lamb of God. He can sleep with you and remind you that you are never alone."

The "good" didn't stop there. Friends constantly brought food to our house or had dinners delivered. I am so used to having a house full of people for any occasion, especially Thanksgiving. Last Thanksgiving, however, for the first time in years, I was not able to have people over. My

husband says I always cook for a hundred people, but this time I couldn't cook for myself, let alone others. I was sad, but not for long. Little did I know that my friends, Courtenay and Leon, would be coming from Rockwall to make and serve us Thanksgiving dinner using my traditional menu and my personal recipes.

Two months later, on the morning of the surgery, I had to be in Temple at Scott and White at 4:00 a.m. Who knew that my sweet husband would not have to sit in the waiting room alone...that our son and his wife, Jodie, would fly in to sit with him-- at 4 in the morning? Who knew that our daughter would drive in to sit with her Pops and to be with me in recovery? Who knew that Arvis would miss her first work day of the semester to be there for me, or that my associate pastor, JB, would make his way to Temple to wait? Who knew? Who knew that my sister-cousins, Delois and Helen, would call me everyday since then just to check on me or that my childhood classmate, Gary, and my brother, Kenneth, would continue to call on a regular basis to see how I am doing?

My body is healing because of God's grace and promises and because of the very best medical team. My heart and mind are healing because I realize that God has put so many amazing people in my life. I am convinced that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

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

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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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BALDWIN | Continued from page one



THE BALDWIN FAMILY

leads overseas and domestic outreach teams. People say that Tre' doesn't meet a stranger! Coaching his son's sporting events, playing the bass, working puzzles, and building model cars with his son are just some of his hobbies. In addition, he has a strong passion for people and meeting them where they are in Christ so that he can help them have a better relationship with the Lord. He makes himself available, and he is supportive, honest, and relatable. He believes that people want to know that they are valuable so he works hard to make connections with people so that they feel just that—valuable.

"People really do remember how you make them feel," explains Tre'. One of his other loves is helping to build churches and leaders. "I help build leaders by providing them with tools and encouragement to better equip them to grow. I do that through mentorship and classes providing curriculum and practices to incorporate in their ministries."

Tracy and Tre' get excited about doing ministry together. They have dedicated their marriage to helping other marriages flourish. One of their main sources of sharing is the book, *5 Love Languages* by Gary Chapman.

"Learning how to love one another the way we need to be loved has made a tremendous impact in our marriage," says Tre'.

"And we love sharing that we are each other's best friend," Tracy adds.

During their counseling sessions, they offer honest reflection. Tre' says they are continually reminded that so many people aren't taught how to have healthy and happy marriages. "We are consistently looking for ways to make more of our marriage and we love to share what we find."

They both agree that they believe in the importance of making intentional time for one another and that's how they attack their marriage ministry. Their show, TNT, goes live on Facebook every other Tuesday.

Bellmead's Jasmine Neal wins council seat over incumbent

Jasmine Neal recently saw victory in the race against William (Bill) Ridings for the City of Bellmead Council Member - Place 4 position. She won with 61.1% of the vote while Ridings, the incumbent, received 38.9% of the votes. Voters cast 223 votes for Neal and 142 for Ridings.

Neal was born and raised in Waco, Texas and is a proud graduate of University High School. She earned a bachelor of Business in Management degree from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, and is currently working on a master's of Business Administration degree at Tarleton State University.

Neal embarked upon an entrepreneurial career as a small business owner when her grandmother, the late Dr. Evelyn Thompson-Neal passed the torch, hoping to continue her legacy at Young Expression Childcare, LLC in Bellmead. Neal currently works as Director of Operations and has been affiliated with the company for over 10 years. By applying business principles to many civic and non-profit organizations, Neal has been involved in several successful ventures.

Commissioner Patricia Miller is very pleased with the outcome of the race. Miller is the McLennan County Commissioner for Precinct 2. Looking



JASMINE NEAL

over the political landscape of McLennan County, Miller said she was reminded of the words of former president Bill Clinton. "Citizen

service is the very American idea that we meet our challenges not as isolated individuals but as members of a true community, with all of us working together. Our mission is nothing less than to spark a renewed sense of obligation, a new sense of duty, a new season of service."

For Miller, "The candidacy and victory for Council Lady Elect Jasmine Neal imbues a sense of pride, that all women and minorities may see public office as a viable avenue for their talents, input, and vision. I congratulate her and wish her well and look forward to working with her on behalf of the citizens of the City of Bellmead and McLennan County.

As a team-oriented leader, Neal enjoys motivating people to meet their goals and exceed their expectations.

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Meet Paula Hutchings-Sanders

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STAFF FEATURE --- We're continuing with those features on our employees that help you get to know us! Meet Paula Hutchings-Sanders! Paula works for the Landfill in the Solid Waste Department as a Customer Service Representative. She's been with the City for seven years. She is pictured here with her sweet family (mom, dad, son Alex, daughter Taylor and grandson).

Paula's job consists of operating the scale house, billing, adjustments, creating charge accounts, training, scanning and basic office duties. Before working at the landfill, she never really thought about how our trash was handled. She has learned about all the regulations involved with running a compliant operation and how it serves our area. With her job, she loves meeting new people and visiting with all the area contractors that use the landfill.

Paula is originally from Dallas and moved to Waco when she was younger graduating from Richfield High (Class of 1983). She then attended Massey Business School in Corpus Christi. Her father retired from M&M Mars, and they call him the (Doer), because anything that needs to be repaired at her parents' home or hers, he is the man! Her mother is the best mother/friend as well as grandmother and great grandmother there is! She is always will-



PAULA HUTCHINGS-SANDERS

ing to help anyone in need and loves to shop. Her youngest son Alex, who is pictured is a Fitness Trainer and has been working out as long as she can remember. Her other son Tramaine is a jack-of-all-trades and is also a handy man. Her daughter Taylor is a graduate of Texas Tech, an RN and has worked in that field for about two years. She made Paula a proud mother because she was on the Dean's list AND graduated Summa Cum Laude. And of course, the pets! They have, Melo, a Maltese and Nina Jane, their Pit Bull.

Concerts in the park are Paula's favorite City event. And a fun fact, Paula used to be in a motorcycle club and rode a sports bike? She loves the outdoors and her most interesting job was working in fast food at the age of eighteen. We appreciate what you do for the City, Paula and your excellent customer service! #workforwaco



Waco is a city on the move. I've never known our city to remain stagnant, but something feels new, exciting, daring and bold. District One is the epicenter of this movement. I am honored to have had a front row seat to a transformation of a community that has worked hard to survive and has had the audacity to thrive. I often speak of District One using the words Truth, Vision and Voice. These three words embody District One's will to push forward and its destiny to pull through.

TRUTH

Every community has a story, but District One's can best be described as a legacy. Driving down Elm Avenue, Clifton Street and Waco Drive fills me with childhood memories of bustling corridors of small businesses leading to a bastion of higher education, Paul Quinn College. Many things have changed, but so many more remain the same. The unchanged truth about District One is the mighty entrepreneurial spirit that runs through it. As City Councilwoman and Mayor Pro Tem, I am dedicated to sharing that truth, when and wherever I can. In return, I am equally committed to transparency. Being truthful to the residents and constituency of District One, regarding the City's plans for and responses to our community, is a must. Truth telling resulted in non-compliant property owners making improvements to liv-

From the desk of Andrea Barefield, Mayor Pro Tem, Waco



ANDREA BAREFIELD

ing conditions for District One residents or facing legal consequences. Truth telling brought forth the development of equity policies for the City of Waco, so that we all have a seat at the table of opportunity and growth.

VISION

District One sees itself as worthy of this city's best efforts. I have tried to champion this vision and bring it to fruition. I have called for an Equitable Economic Development Plan that includes resources for all chambers to benefit our community. The vision has brought forth tangible results, such as increased local incentive funding and working with developers to ensure the soul of our community is kept intact. Additionally, the first full-service bank in District One, since the 1930s, is now open,

on Elm Avenue, for our community's convenience.

VOICE

Ultimately, truth can't speak itself and visions don't work until people do. I wholeheartedly accept these challenges on behalf of District One. I am humbled to have been given this opportunity to be the voice of District One's purpose and passion, but I don't take this responsibility for granted. I have initiated City Hall 101, a learning track for citizen engagement, because my voice isn't the only one that needs to be heard. I host quarterly On the One Community Conversations to make sure I hear, understand and fight for the needs and wishes of District One. Additionally, I partner with other local elected officials to pursue seamless delivery of information and resources to our communities.

Together, we've gotten a lot accomplished, but there is still much to do. The advancement of District One continues to be my priority. Advancement builds access to capital. It creates more pathways to workforce development and education. It provides more affordable housing. From McLain Stadium to the Elm Avenue corridor to Cameron Park to MCC and TSTC - District One has Truth, Vision, and Voice to guide us through this moment of building bridges from our historically rich past to our dynamic future. I am raising my own children in the city that nurtured my hopes and dreams.

I am honored and delighted that my fellow citizens of District One continue to trust me to provide Truth, Vision and Voice on their behalf. I will do my very best to maintain this trust and to bring to fruition our hopes and plans for District One and the City of Waco.

This article was first shared on the Act Locally Waco Facebook page in November, 2020. Act Locally Waco is a website that keeps Waco informed of what is happening in the area. With over 10,000 Facebook subscribers, Act Locally Waco is making its impact on the city. For more information or to subscribe to Act Locally, visit <https://www.actlocallywaco.org>.

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The December issue of The Anchor News will be the "Christmas in The Anchor Business Issue," and YOUR business can be featured! Submit an article about your business (up to 300 words, typed in an email or word document), along with a headshot (required), and email it to theanchornews@aol.com no later than December 3. Hurry—spaces are limited, and are on a first-come, first-serve basis (there will be no reserved spaces)!

Author Linda Mason Crawford shares excerpt from her book, *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine*

All chapters begin with one of her own “true-story” personal narratives that she later connects to a point that is relevant to this journey called destiny. The book is an easy read. Several readers have told her that they couldn’t put it down once they started. It is available on Amazon.com for \$15.99. You can also go to lindacrawford.org to order there. *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine* is sure to open your heart to receive healing, encouragement, and a different outlook on life.

CHAPTER 1: THIS TOO SHALL PASS, BUT WHEN?

I was almost out of breath by the time I made it to the car. Though it was just a few feet away, it seemed like 100 miles. I had parked my car in the back yard to hide it from the bank. Let’s face it. It was an old piece of stick-shift junk, but it was all I had, and I was behind on the payments. But tonight, in my panic to get out of the house, maybe the backyard wasn’t so smart. Dressed in a gown, house shoes, and a thin jacket, I gripped the keys that were pinned inside my bra. Oh yes, my bra. That was the safest place to keep my valuables, like my car keys and what little money I had. I had learned

a lot in my 29 years. With lightning speed, I dashed out the backdoor, tripping over the threshold, but still holding my balance and determination. Thank God my boy was spending the night with a friend. It was pitch-black dark outside, as I had no time to flip on the outside lights. I just needed to get out. Once inside my car, I let out a sigh, unaware that I had been holding my breath. Quickly locking the car doors, I knew I was on my way. The car was run down and bent up, but it was my path to freedom tonight and my only means of transportation. I’ll never forget it. It was a gray and black Toyota, well....a fading gray and a fading black, a hatchback, about 8 years old at the time, and a stick. Ha! A stick. That could be a holdup since I was still in the learning stage, but I could handle it. I tried to crank the old trap, but it just clicked. I tried again, combining my efforts with a plea. “Please God, I need my car!” Just as the motor turned over, I heard that dreadful sound, a swatch-type sound, like an old screen door dragging. My God! He knew I was going to try to get away. He knew, so he had unlocked the hatch back, ahead of time! He was in the back



LINDA MASON CRAWFORD

so fast; all I could do was bite my lip and jerk forward. “Stop the car, Lynn, and give me the money!” he yelled, as he swiftly crawled into the back seat. He lurched through the bucket seats so fast that my head literally seemed to spin, like the girl in the Exorcist. Grabbing the steering wheel, he yelled again, “Gimme the money, Lynn!” The Exorcist...I was sure that his voice changed. But tonight...no, not tonight. I kept driving, the car swerving across into the other the lane and back again as he, too, gripped the wheel. We came

within inches of hitting a minivan. I saw head lights of an 18 wheeler that we also barely missed as we sped into the oncoming traffic. Hands pinned to the wheel, I was driving to my pastor’s house, and no one was stopping me. That was the life I lived for most of my 16 years of marriage to a crack addict, one that was much different from my single days of the quiet, country, church girl. I had never touched drugs in my life. I smoked only one cigarette that nearly killed me. And here I was, 29 years old, married to a drug addict. I had so many similar stories to contend with, jumping fences to get my car back from the drug dealers, standing toe-to-toe and nose-to-nose with dealers who threatened to kill me if I didn’t leave them alone about getting my car back, knocks on the door in the middle of the night from thugs demanding money my husband owed them, stealing my own car back and driving backwards, trying to miss the flying bullets. You name it; I just about dealt with it. Many times over the years, I walked into my house to find that every piece of furniture and every appliance was gone—sold in exchange for drugs. I remem-

ber waking up one Christmas Day to find that my babies’ gifts were gone, sold for drugs. Once, I frantically searched the streets of Tampa because my husband put our 6-year-old out of the car since it was “too dangerous to take him to the crack house,” he said. This was before the days of cell phones. I don’t even remember how I found my baby boy. I could go on and on, but the only thing that matters is that one day, I accepted the truth that I had to forgive if I expected to move on with my life. I have since come to grips with the truth, that my now ex-husband was a good person, who loved people. When he was straight, he would give away his last. When he was not, he would take another person’s last. I literally saw him take his shirt off and give it away. Once he pulled off his watch and gave it away, and then took my watch and gave it away, too. He had a heart of gold, but in addiction, he was the devil. Still, I had to find a way to forgive. I owed it to myself, my children, and my God.

To order *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine*, paste the following into your browser: <https://www.amazon.com/Destiny-Glass-Linda-Mason-Crawford/dp/069211761X>.

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | INSPIRING & ENCOURAGING | KINDLE CUSTOMER

(Reviewed in the United States on August 20, 2019)

“I absolutely love this book! I could not put it down and read it in two days. There is so much good stuff in this book that I am reading it again. It is inspiring, encouraging and will bless you.”

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS FIVE STARS | AMAZON CUSTOMER

(Reviewed in the United States on May 21, 2018)

“This is an amazing book. It is entertaining, compelling and convicting. A definite must-read for everyone!”

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | EASY READ AND APPLICABLE TO MY LIFE

(Reviewed in the United States on March 27, 2019)

“After *God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine*, I felt like I could take the author’s response to certain circumstances and apply to my own life. Each chapter is a life learning lesson of praising God through hard times, and walking into God’s plan for my life. It may appear as an easy read, because I read it in one day my first time reading it. Then I had the opportunity to re-read and breakdown each chapter week by week.”

Rey

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | EXCELLENT BOOK

(Reviewed in the United States on June 13, 2020)

“This is an amazing book. I found it helpful in navigating my fear of not reaching my full potential. It helped me understand how I can have a positive God-ordained destiny. Excellent work!”

Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez



**GOD, DESTINY, AND A GLASS OF WINE
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Finances during a pandemic

(NewsUSA) - Sponsored Content - Now that the initial shock of the pandemic has started to wear off, it's time to take a step back and really start planning. Everyone is living through an unprecedented time. The uncertainty surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic is enough to rattle even the strictest saver. Things may feel that they are all out of your control, so focus on what you can control. First things first. Listen to healthcare professionals

and follow guidelines to protect yourself and others. If you are financially impacted by Covid-19 for any reason, there are steps you can take to help minimize that impact.

Even if you have not yet been financially impacted by the current state of events, it is vital to either reassess your household budget or create one if you have not already. Involve your family in this as much as you can. Just letting your family know you

are thinking about the crisis and how you will respond can be enough to help ease some of the anxiety around the unknown. When you are looking at your crisis budget, identify which expenses are absolutely necessary and which are not. It is best to make the hard decisions now, even if you have a savings account built up, rather than wait until you are forced to make those decisions.

Focus on your rent or mortgage first. You need to



RICHARD KRUGER

keep a roof over your head if at all possible. With a situation as fluid as this, it is important to realize that there are resources available to help if needed and that those resources could change. If you are ever in a situation in which you are unable to pay your rent or mortgage, contact your landlord or mortgage provider right away. Once you have the rent and mortgage covered, then move on to food, utilities, and down on to the

more non-essential items.

In the event you are unable to make a debt payment, make sure you contact the creditor as soon as you know you will miss the payment. During this difficult time, many creditors are expanding the options available to those unable to make their monthly payments.

If you feel lost when it comes to making a budget, as many do, please reach out to a Certified Credit Counselor at Family Credit Management. Family Credit Management is a nonprofit credit counseling agency that has been helping consumers in difficult financial situations for more than 23 years. Reach out for a no-strings attached budget review from an objective professional by calling 1-800-994-3328 and selecting option 1.

For more in-depth tips and resources, please visit www.familycredit.org/covid19. For your StateFarm insurance needs, see my ad (Richard Kruger) in this issue of The Anchor News.



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Fall home maintenance tips

**SUBMITTED BY
LINDA McDONALD**

Winter will be here before you know it. Prepare your home for the change of seasons with the following home maintenance tips. Heating tune-up – Ensure your heating system is ready to go when the temperatures drop. Schedule an HVAC system tune-up with a professional. Clean the gutters – Avoid damage to the exterior of your home by clearing your gutters and down-spouts so they're free of leaves and debris. Protect outdoor furniture – To maintain the longevity of your outdoor furniture, invest in weather-proof furniture covers or bring the furniture inside until the weather improves. Trim the trees – Trim tree branches to avoid potential broken limbs. An arborist can help to identify the trees and shrubs that pose the most risk of breakage during storms and heavy wind. Replace batteries – Safeguard your home by changing the batteries in



LINDA McDONALD

all the smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Remember to test these alarms monthly. Lawn care – Minimize lawn damage caused by winter weather by fertilizing it in the fall. This will protect your lawn and help it grow quickly in the spring.

Call Linda McDonald, ABR, CRS, GRI, PMN, SRS, TRLP, "The Real Estate Lady," for all of your real estate needs: Coldwell Banker/Apex Realtors, 254-855-1717.

What a time to be alive!

BY MONA DUNKIN

RLook around at all that is going on - pandemic, political unrest, social issues, environmental concerns, storms, depletion, weather changes, an uncertain future - worldwide - cosmic-sized transition.

In unrest, we all receive some sort of guidance as to what to do, or not do, or how to do. With this input, we are faced with choices. As much as we may not want to admit it, the world situation today is the end-product of our collective choices. As difficult as it may be to see and to understand, all conditions were met for it - whichever it you may be focusing on - to happen or it would not have happened. That statement matches the laws of cause and effect, attraction, gravity, and physics from relativity (macro) to quantum (micro).

Why do I suggest it's a great time to be alive? This is fertile ground to develop empathy, show love, and to help heal a hurting world. Not only are we all in this together now, but we have been in it together from the beginning of time. Whether from history, Holy Scriptures, fables, or fairy tales, it has always been we, us, they, them, and our, knowing and not knowing.

Only now, we know that we do not know.

It is a great time to live in the mystery of faith. To survive - nay to thrive - by embracing learning and growing. My daughter shared that in reading a book on the Holocaust, she found deep com-



MONA DUNKIN

passion for those suffering such atrocities and separation, and great admiration of their faith and courage, while finding resolve and strength to face current situations. To stand in amazement of God's presence that grants peace. Makes you think doesn't it.

"When we cannot change a situation, we are challenged to change our self." Viktor Frankl

It is a great time to go deep and find peace regardless of upheaval. To embrace challenge irrespective of seeming insurmountable odds. Allowing God to witness our pain and extend caring brings relief and lightens the load.

In being together, please do so with cooperation, and with the absence of reward or punishment.

It is a great time to choose not to be offended. When someone offends you, connect with him or her. When you offend someone, connect with him or her. Bot-

tom line, you are responsible for reconnecting from either side of the offense. Seek to understand and clarify. If needed, agree to disagree while remaining connected. Always esteem yourself and others.

Fr. Richard Rohr of the Center for Action and Meditation recently did a series on Order, Disorder and Reorder. I share my understanding of his three-week series.

Order: Everyone is born into a family or community that becomes a container of culture, values, tradition, custom, family loyalties, authority, boundaries, and morality. While not perfect, these avenues gave security, predictability, impulse control, and ego structure need before going out into the chaos of real life. The healthier the nurturing stage, the more one grows up naturally and receive freedom to be accepting of others.

Disorder - Nothing stays fixed. Life is about constant disruptions. Earthly illusions of "happily ever after" show themselves. Humanity tends to do things their own way, whether in being true to self or in rebellion. Hurt people hurt people.

Reorder - Acceptance. One cannot effectively deal with what has happened or is happening if one does not accept the situation for what it is. Acceptance allows freedom to consider probabilities from another point of view. There may be more than one way to skin a catfish. Acceptance takes the

facts as they are - not as I think they should be. Acceptance releases creativity that is life-giving and sustainable. Whole people heal people. Acceptance is wholeness amid brokenness.

In my own life I find that knowledge is not the problem. Action is. Spirit is. Compassion is. May the following confession strike accord that resonates in our being and inspires us to graciously respond. Together let us come to a moral conclusion for the good of the whole.

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what

has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change, open to us a future in which we can be changed and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, Through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen. Quoted from Brian McLaren, Finding Our Way Again, Chapter 11, Communal Practices

For all your speaking and training needs, contact Mona Dunkin, Motivational Speaker and Personal Success Coach, monadunkin@gmail.com www.monadunkin.com." Basic Intensive Training, Introduction of Choice Theory Psychology scheduled in Waco, Tx Call today. 254-749-6594.



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Bartering is back in Coronavirus economy

(NewsUSA) - The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, continues to impact the economy in many ways, one of which has been the surge in popularity of the barter economy.

Bartering, the trade system of choice in the Middle Ages, is back with a modern twist. Social networks now feature posts from friends and neighbors looking to swap staples such as eggs, toilet paper, and hand sanitizer. Businesses are getting on board with barter, too.

One business utilizing the concept of bartering in an innovative way is BizX, a Seattle-area company that has reported a notable increase in traffic on its website as more businesses pursue barter options.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately one-third of the global economy was non-cash, according to BizX cofounder and CEO Bob Bagga.

"In today's economy, right now, the challenge we are running into is people don't have cash and cash has dried up really quickly," he explains.

"But they have a lot of stuff, a lot of capacity, so the idea is how do you turn what you have into what you need? That's where our company can come in to help."

BizX is a business community including more than 7,000 business owners who buy and sell among themselves using their own barter community currency,

BizX dollars, which are equal in value to U.S. dollars. BizX dollars are used to record all transactions, and these transactions are posted to members' accounts as credits or debits. It's a win-win situation, the members gain new customers, and they buy what they need without spending cash.

The benefits of BizX are especially relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic, when businesses are adapting their models and forecasts day-to-day and seeking to conserve cash.

When a business joins the BizX network, they will be marketed to thousands of other members who will pay for goods and services in BizX dollars.

It's not complicated for new members to get moving fast. Business owners can get into the swing easily after a 30-minute phone call with an account manager to identify inventory and discuss how BizX can work for them.

The BizX network is available to businesses of all sizes and types, and the current network includes such diverse clients as Habitat for Humanity, the San Francisco 49ers football team, and Holiday Inn Express, as well as a variety of small business owners, including florists, accountants, lawyers, dentists and many more.

Visit bizx.com for more information about how BizX can help your business weather the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

How your business can survive the Coronavirus

(NewsUSA) - As the world has hit the metaphorical panic button during the rise of Coronavirus (Covid-19) cases worldwide, the daily reality for people and businesses is rapidly changing.

Practically overnight, businesses have been forced out of the comfort zone of face-to-face contact, now having to heavily rely on digital platforms. Businesses, especially, are struggling with figuring out how to survive by using digital communication techniques.

With the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and government officials emphasizing "social distancing and mandatory nonessential business closures," technology such as live video conferencing, chat boxes, and email will be the basis for millions of Americans for their jobs, schooling, and everyday communication. So, with so many players in the game, how can businesses continue to function successfully?

Higher Images, a 20-year-old full-service digital marketing agency located in

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is helping organizations, businesses, and the community re-imagine what their lives and work-life will look like through web-based technology and mobile devices.

President and CEO of Higher Images, Bryan Thornberg, says, "Rather than going into crisis mode, businesses should take this as an opportunity to expand their knowledge and reach. With many more people relying on digital communication, this is an ideal opportunity for businesses to break boundaries and try new techniques when connecting with clients."

Thornberg and his team want to help people not just survive this crisis but to thrive during it and come out with an organization and business model stronger than ever.

Thornberg has already been able to impact his clients by thinking outside the box and recommending the usage of technology such as live feeds and Facetime.

For example, a hot tub distributor - a business that relies on their retail loca-

tion for sales - took the recommendation of Thornberg and is now offering live video conferencing for customers to do live demonstrations of products and make purchases.

Higher Images also urges businesses to utilize their existing websites to drive business: for example, adding a chat-box function to their website for customer communication, allowing organizations to respond to clients in real-time from the convenience of a cell phone or office computer from any location in the world.

With higher internet traffic, this is also a key time for organizations to utilize search engine marketing, Google ads, and mobile in-app advertising technology such as Webtracker, which geo-fences homes to enhance brand visibility. Strategizing with a digital marketing company like Higher Images will provide businesses with the tools they need to succeed.

Visit www.howcanmy-business-survive-the-coronavirus.com for more information.

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | INSPIRING & ENCOURAGING | KINDLE CUSTOMER

(Reviewed in the United States on August 20, 2019)

"I absolutely love this book! I could not put it down and read it in two days. There is so much good stuff in this book that I am reading it again. It is inspiring, encouraging and will bless you."

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS FIVE STARS | AMAZON CUSTOMER

(Reviewed in the United States on May 21, 2018)

"This is an amazing book. It is entertaining, compelling and convicting. A definite must-read for everyone!"

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | EASY READ AND APPLICABLE TO MY LIFE

(Reviewed in the United States on March 27, 2019)

"After God, Destiny, and a Glass of Wine, I felt like I could take the author's response to certain circumstances and apply to my own life. Each chapter is a life learning lesson of praising God through hard times, and walking into God's plan for my life. It may appear as an easy read, because I read it in one day my first time reading it. Then I had the opportunity to re-read and breakdown each chapter week by week."

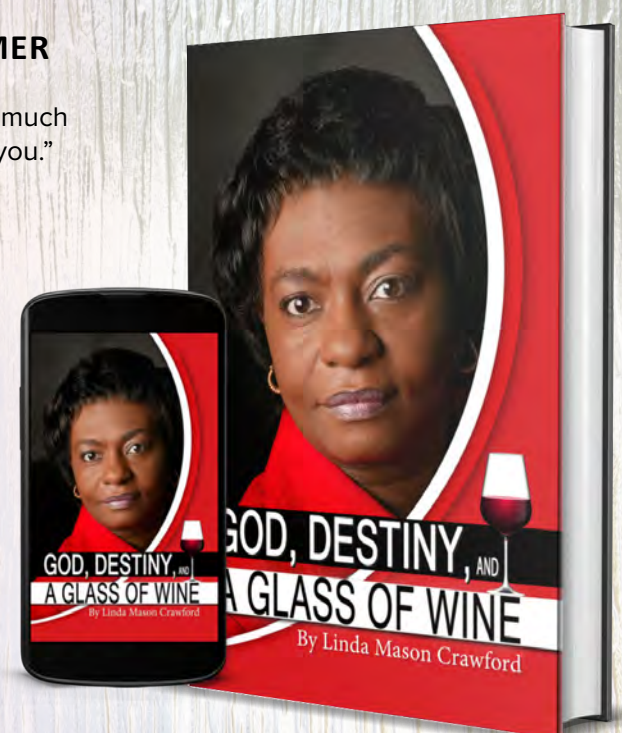
Rey

5.0 OUT OF 5 STARS | EXCELLENT BOOK

(Reviewed in the United States on June 13, 2020)

"This is an amazing book. I found it helpful in navigating my fear of not reaching my full potential. It helped me understand how I can have a positive God-ordained destiny. Excellent work!"

Dr. Mia Moody-Ramirez



**GOD, DESTINY, AND A GLASS OF WINE
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Honoring our veterans: a different perspective

BY ROBERT RUSH, SR.

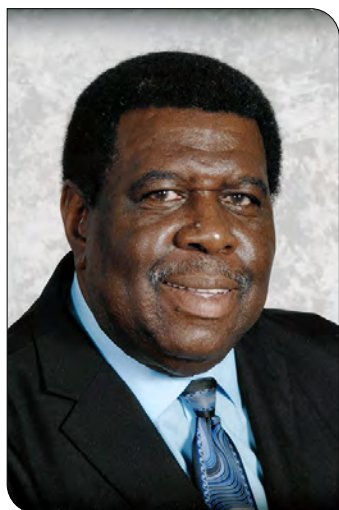
My brother, Frank, recently sent me a link to an article about the history making event of the navy. The article is entitled "A Military 1st: A Supercarrier Is Named After An African American Sailor." He correctly thought I would particularly be interested as a retired sailor. He was more than correct.

The article goes on to explain that the event was particularly amazing because super carriers are normally named after U. S. presidents, not enlisted sailors and especially not enlisted 'Black' sailors. Well, you should be proud to know that according to the article, a supercarrier now on the drawing boards will be christened the USS Doris Miller, after our own Doris Miller from Waco, Texas. That is an awesome honor.

Following is a link to the article. I found it to be intriguing reading, for many reasons: <https://www.npr.org/2020/09/29/917816651/a-military-first-a-supercarrier-is-named-after-an-african-american-sailor>.

After reading the article, I thanked Frank and decided to expound on the story some, providing a brief historical update on Blacks in the navy since the days of the heroic actions of Doris Miller. I would like to share that with you.

As covered in the article, the heroic actions of Doris Miller in the heat of battle demonstrated to many that Blacks could do more in service to our country than just be messmen or stewards, who took care of naval officers by laying out their clothes, shining their shoes and serving their meals. That's almost all we were allowed to do at the time in 1941. Even touching the guns and firing them as Doris Miller did was against the regulations at that time. However, his actions caused many senior military and non-military leaders to rethink how Blacks were being used in the navy. The impact of what he had done started the navy to



ROBERT RUSH, SR.

training Black sailors for other rates/jobs such as gunner's mate, radioman and radar operator. It even started them to think about the idea of having a Black naval officer.

Projecting the story a little forward in history, the navy decided to give the idea of making Black officers a try. First the navy experimented in 1944 by selecting 16 enlisted Blacks to be secluded and trained to become naval officers. This ultimately led to the Golden 13, first group of Black naval officers (12 commissioned officers and 1 Warrant Officer). Seems the navy just arbitrarily chose 13 of the 16 though all of them excelled and passed all of the tests. One claim was that by doing so, it kept the commissioning percentage in line with the other commissioning sources.

Later, in 1945, the esteemed Naval Academy admitted six Blacks into its halls as midshipmen, including Wesley Brown. The five men who came before Brown as Midshipmen were chased out of the academy altogether. (No reason was given in the source articles). So, Brown was the first to make it to graduation/commissioning in 1949. From there he forged a successful 25-year naval career, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

Fast forward again and the navy tried another experiment. They experimented with commissioning Black officers into the navy through a traditional HBCU. They tried

this in 1968, choosing Prairie View A&M as that HBCU, out of three HBCUs that were being considered. That's how PV got its NROTC unit, of which I (from Waco, TX) became an original member in 1968, my freshman year there.

To complete the unit, in addition to our freshman class, they allowed some upper-class army ROTC students to switch over to the NROTC. The first class of the PV NROTC graduated and received their commission in 1970. There were 13 of them. They chose to revive the moniker, the Golden 13. That class set records for performance during their time in service, yielding 6 or 7 O-6 and above officers (i.e., naval Captains and Admirals) out of that class. This was and remains today to be an unprecedented percentage for the whole navy's commissioning sources, including the Naval Academy.

My class graduated in 1972 as the first, full 4-year class from the historic unit. After 20 years of active service, I retired in 1992 as a Lieutenant Commander (O-4). We all celebrated the unit's history back in 2018 at the 50th Anniversary ceremony of the PV NROTC unit. Johnitha and Rashaad supported me by attending the event with me. They got the opportunity to see and hear about the proud history of our unit. They also got to meet my best friend from my active days in the navy, CWO4 Dean Johnson, who has since gone to be with our Lord and Maker. As an aside, some others of you may remember meeting Dean. He and his wife Karen came to Waco to support me at Mary's funeral.

How about that for fitting the Doris Miller story into an even larger story with even more personal and Waco relevance? Coincidental to us, especially considering I never planned to have anything to do with the military. Not coincidental to God, who has blessed me all along the way and continues to do so each and every day.

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The Law Office of DeAndrea Petty is here to help you with your criminal cases, child support, divorce, obtaining your driver's license or occupational driver's license, tickets, juvenile cases, or federal cases. Attorney Petty mainly practices in Bosque, Falls, Hill, and McLennan Counties. However, if you have cases in Dallas, Austin, or Bryan College Station Attorney Petty can help you there as well.

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2. If you are like Johnnie Taylor and you do not want to just give probation your "Last Two Dollars" and you want to see about getting released from probation early.
3. Lastly, if you are on the phone with your friend like



ATTORNEY DEANDREA PETTY

"What's Poppin? I got a brand new whip; just hopped in. Oh but I ain't got no license. Now I am getting stopped and I am about to spend holiday locked up in County.

If any of the above apply you then call Law Office of DeAndrea Petty at 254.640.6829 or email us at attorneydpetty@yahoo.com.

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Nelson R. Henley, Sr.
Pastor & Founder

Identity thieves target pcs, laptops and stored data devices

SUBMITTED BY J.L. CRAWFORD, SENIOR MANAGER

(NewsUSA) - Electronics this year are expected to be among the top-five gifts American consumers will give -- ranging from PCs and laptops to iPhones, PDAs and cell phones. This growing affinity for consumer electronics and subsequent reliance on stored data devices to place confidential data -- tax returns, client

and personnel information, phone numbers, addresses and photos -- presents two mounting challenges for the American consumer: identity theft and electronic waste.

nexGren, Inc. (pronounced "nex-green"), a new technology innovation company, recently launched DiskEraser, a consumer product that completely erases data from computer hard drives, making them safe for donation, re-use or



J.L. CRAWFORD

recycling. New to the consumer marketplace, DiskEraser's patented technology -- available for both Mac and PC systems -- has already been approved, used and proven effective by the U.S. Department of Defense to remove "secure" sensitive information from their end-of-life PCs and laptops.

There are currently more than 100 million computers and laptops stored in offices, attics, basements and garages throughout the U.S. And if these devices don't have their data properly removed before disposal, identity thieves can use them to find personal information.

"Many people fall under the false assumption that by simply deleting all files or reformatting the hard drive, the computer is free of all important data," said Dr. Joe Fergus, founder and CEO of nexGren. "However, deleting files isn't nearly enough. The information remains ac-

cessible on the hard drive and can be misused if it falls into the wrong hands."

Identity thieves often prey upon lost, stolen or abandoned computers. In 2008, more than 10 million Americans experienced identity theft. It can take up to several years to correct the problem. And it reaches far beyond households. The cost to U.S. corporations over the last five years exceeded \$60 billion. DiskEraser was developed to help combat this problem.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cites consumer electronic waste as growing two to three times faster than any other waste stream. Stored data devices are constructed with lead, mercury, cadmium, barium and other compounds that represent hazards to human health and environmental safety if not disposed of appropriately.

nexGren aims to slow that stream of waste by offering a nationwide recycling ser-

vice, which is a critical part of the company's overall green initiative. Soon consumers will be able to send their old computers to nexGren for data removal and recycling with peace of mind and the knowledge that they have disposed of their computers in an environmentally responsible way.

If you're one of the many giving someone a PC or laptop, you should consider giving a second gift -- DiskEraser.

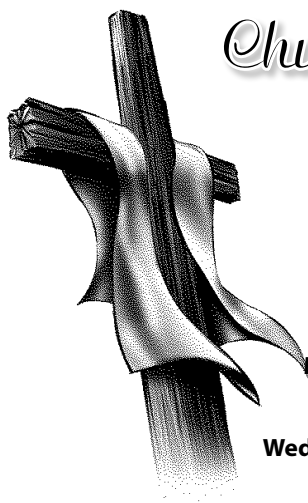
For more information, visit www.nexgren.com. For protection against identity theft, call me about LegalShield. It's affordable and available right now.

LegalShield can help you with your legal issues. Pre-existing 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, Senior Manager.

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Linda McDonald, ABR

Looking at the holiday season from a nutritional standpoint

BY JERRY SNIDER

As the owner of All In Health and Wellness, I'm excited to offer a Health Q&A column for the readers of the Anchor News.

It's November, which means we are in the midst of the holiday season. This year will likely look a little different than past years, but I imagine many of us will still find ourselves celebrating some of our traditional meals with family and friends.

If you take the holiday season and look at it from a nutritional standpoint, the danger zone is from Halloween and Valentine's Day. Halloween is traditionally a holiday revolving around candy. This starts us down a path of processed sugar consumption. Sometimes that Halloween candy can last through to Thanksgiving.

Now, the traditions around Thanksgiving have a lot of great parts to them but one of the bad things about the fourth Thursday in November is that many Americans overeat on this day, and sometimes the whole weekend. This overeating usually includes a fair amount of sugar filled pies.

Then we hit into the truly poor



JERRY SNIDER

nutritional season in December where we consume sugar filled desserts, Christmas cookies, chocolate, and candy canes, almost without thought. Couple that with our spending fewer hours each week spent exercising because of the cold weather and shorter daylight hours. In December, health is thought of as something you'll get to in the new year. That's a dangerous approach to the season. Many Americans gain weight during this time that will rarely be worked off in the future.

Typically, there is a renewed interest in exercise and healthy eating come January 1st each

year. Unfortunately, statistics show this only lasts for about 20 days and then it's back to the sugar as we lead up to the biggest chocolate holiday of the year - Valentine's Day. By mid-February you've likely put back on whatever weight you lost during those first 20 days of January.

So there it is, in four months of the year you do enough damage to your body through poor nutrition to put you on the path to chronic disease.

Before you say "dude this is depressing" or "this doesn't really happen", this is exactly the

life cycle I was on years ago before God woke me up to my true calling. I had the head knowledge about health but wasn't applying it to my life. You see, between 1998 and 2015 I gained 50 pounds. It took some effort and time, of course, but by the end of 2017 I had finally lost all that weight I gained. Now, I keep it off by not falling for the sugar temptations of the holiday season.

I know it's hard, but it can be done. Bypass the candy at Halloween. Stick to one plate of food at Thanksgiving dinner.

Don't eat every candy cane in sight. And buy your spouse flowers and a card instead of chocolate for Valentine's Day. That's not necessarily normal, but it will help you win your health back. And for that you and your family will be grateful.

Have a question for Jerry? Send it to jerry@allinhealthandwellness.com. To learn more about Jerry Snider, visit www.allinhealthandwellness.com. You can also purchase his book *Confidence Through Health* on Amazon.

Make Money for Christmas!

FEATURE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE ANCHOR'S DECEMBER ISSUE JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS SALES—FOR FREE!

The December issue of The Anchor News will be the "Christmas in The Anchor Business Issue," and YOUR business can be featured! Submit an article about your business (up to 300 words, typed in an email or word document), along with a headshot (required), and email it to theanchornews@aol.com no later than December 3. Hurry—spaces are limited, and are on a first-come, first-serve basis (there will be no reserved spaces)!

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Walking in divine health and blessings, Part 15

BY RUBY MCCRAY

Continued from the October issue of The Anchor News.

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers" (3 John 2).

To review the precious articles, please go to: www.theanchornews.com, click Archives, then the year and finally the months.

I ended last month's article by saying that there are so many children with so many sicknesses and diseases. Some are severely handicapped due to NO fault of their own. Why, because sin carries a penalty that has to be paid by somebody, just as King David's household had to pay for his sins. They didn't do it; even the baby had to die.

When God said no adultery and no premarital sexual sins, (fornication), that's exactly what He means. Please hear me well! I'm not pointing a finger at anybody, because I have such in my own household; that doesn't make it right. We who know better have an obligation and a responsibility to speak the truth in love. As a matter of fact, God said that when we warn a person about his/her sin and they won't change, they will die

in their sins, but we will not be held responsible. But if we see and do not warn them, they will die in their sins, but their BLOOD will be on our HANDS. Ezekiel 3:17-19; 33:1-6

Ezekiel 3:17-19 says, "Son of man, I have appointed you as a watchman for Israel. Whenever you receive a message from me, warn people immediately. If I warn the wicked, saying, 'You are under the penalty of death,' but you fail to deliver the warning, they will die in their sins. And I will hold you responsible for their deaths. If you warn them and they refuse to repent and keep on sinning, they will die in their sins. But you will have saved yourself because you obeyed me."

Every professing Child of God has this mandate. We are all watchmen on the wall; we are all ambassadors of God, reconciling the people of the world back to Him through Jesus Christ according to 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.

Precious people, can't you see why we need the Word of God, the Bible, back in ALL of our CLASSROOMS, Pre-K through University? All of us are not studying the Word of God as we are commanded in 2 Timothy 2:15, and all of us certainly



EVANGELIST
RUBY MCCRAY

are not teaching our household the Word of God. That's why we are in such a mess; everybody is doing what they think is right in their own eyes according to Proverbs 16:25, but the end of those ways bring death.

Solomon said in Proverbs 19:3 that we ruin our lives with our own foolishness and then have the nerve to get mad at God. He told us in Proverbs 3:5-7 that we are not to depend on our own intellect, but to acknowledge Him in ALL of our ways and He will lead and direct us in the proper paths.

We saw in last month's article how the innocent members

of King David's household had to suffer because of his sins, now we will look at other households that had to suffer because of the sins of a few.

Daniel was a man who loved, honored and obeyed God. Although he was a slave in Babylon during the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar and King Darius, God gave him favor and caused him to be promoted, because he also honored and obeyed his Slave Owners.

In the Book of Daniel, Chapter 6, we can read that King Darius divided the kingdom into 130 provinces and chose high officials to rule over each province. He chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise them and protect his interests. Because of Daniel's great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire. The two officials and high officers began searching for a way to bring him down. They were natural-born Babylonians and Daniel was a slave; yet he was supervisor over them. They couldn't find a thing in which to accuse him to the king except he prayed to God three times daily. They devised an evil scheme to have the king sign a decree to throw anyone who asked anything of a human or a god in

thirty days to be thrown into the Lions' Den.

Daniel learned that the decree had been signed into law, but he still went home, went to his upstairs room, opened his window toward Jerusalem, knelt on his knees and prayed as usual, 1 Kings 8:44-53. The officials hurriedly told the king which cause him much grief because he so loved Daniel. He tried to think of ways to free him to no avail. Daniel was thrown into the den of hungry lions, and the king could neither eat nor sleep at all.

He went early the next morning to the lions' den, call out to Daniel, and Daniel answered. King Darius had him taken out, but had all who concocted the plot, along with their wives and children, thrown into the lions' den. The hungry lions leaped on them and tore them apart before they could hit the floor.

Please join me in December for the conclusion as we prove that it is SIN that gives the devil LEGAL RIGHTS. You may not believe me, but...just what if I'm right! 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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Seeking to be a partaker of God's divine nature

BY MATTHEW REED

Our goal as Christians should be to become partakers of God's divine nature. This is feasible according to scripture 2nd Peter 1:4, which says, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

When one thinks of great opportunities, this one ranks up there with the opportunity to be saved, the opportunity to have one's sins forgiven to be a son or daughter of God. In our Christian walk, this should be a thing that we aspire to. For in this we will experience the power of God. This aspiration calls for forsaking all others and aligning one's self with the will of God;



PASTOR MATTHEW AND LADY HELEN REED

as a matter of fact any of the opportunities that God has made available to us calls for this kind of dedication.

I am writing this article hoping that it might inspire someone to desire to reach this attainable goal. It is time we

in the church challenge ourselves to reach these spiritual goals. Just as we set goals in the natural, we should set spiritual goals. The early New Testament church disciples were partakers of God's divine nature; they achieved this sta-

tus by living holy, sanctified lives.

After all, if we are going to exemplify God and the truth of God's word we will have to reach these mild stones of spiritual life. There is no need to wonder how we, being mere men, can attain unto this, for God has given us the ability by his promises. Live for the promises of God through Jesus and you will get there. Because of the crisis that the world is in today, it is our duty to strive to be more than a statuesque Christian. It's time

that our Christian walk becomes more than about us and our needs. It's time that our Christian walk be about the Glory of God, the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. It's time for the church of today to grow up. We must challenge ourselves to be a partaker of God's divine nature! To become more God like each individual will have to bare his or her cross. You can't wait on politicians to bring about the will of God. It is encumbering upon you and me, the Christians to do so.

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7:00 p.m.



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Overseer

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

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DORIS MILLER MEMORIAL PARK, INC. is located at 4800 Bellmead Drive, Waco, Texas 76705. The cemetery is owned and operated by Janice Matthews.

The Cemetery was established in 1949. The first burial was that of Doris Miller's father, Connery Miller. The Cemetery is named in honor of Doris Miller, the WWII hero. It has been under the present ownership since 2001.

The Cemetery is located on 16 acres with 12 garden to serve your needs. Family plots and monuments are available on terms. When you make your selection here, you have paid to the deceased your highest tribute.

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Make Money for Christmas!

The December issue of The Anchor News will be the "Christmas in The Anchor Business Issue," and YOUR business can be featured! Submit an article about your business (up to 300 words, typed in an email or word document), along with a headshot (required), and email it to theanchornews@aol.com no later than December 3. Hurry—spaces are limited, and are on a first-come, first-serve basis (there will be no reserved spaces)!

Margaret Ivory offers assistance with Medicare

For 37 years, Margaret Ivory has taught lessons on and marketed health insurance products that have helped to enhance the lives of her many clients. Her practice, Ivory and Associates, currently specializes in Medicare Advantage, Prescription Drug Plans and Medicare Supplement products. Her eBook, "What is Medicare?" has its place on the Kindle Best Sellers List in the Medicare and Medicaid category. 2014 - 2019, she turned this book into an online e-Course entitled "Medicare Made Easy Tutorial." Now, you can access



MARGARET IVORY

this information by calling 602-580-9299, using the Access Code: 1050813# along with the Reference Number: 1. Info line is available 24 hours/ 7 days a week. Previously, she was awarded the Agent Elite status with Humana Insurance Company for the quality of care given to her clients. As a broker, she represents all three plans in McLennan County so the best plan may be obtained by her clientele. Her main occupational goal is to educate baby boomers and seniors so that they know what insurance they have and why they have what they have.

Ivory was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and resides in Waco, Texas where her husband of 41 years, Dr. Leon Ivory, has served as pulpit minister for the past 25 years at Hood Street Church of Christ in Waco, Texas. Ivory is a graduate of Southwestern Christian College and The Business and Finance Institute. For 40 years, Ivory has taught Sunday School, Wednesday night Bible classes, and private home Bible studies. She has been the keynote speaker at ladies' retreats, ladies' day programs, marriage workshops, state lecture-ships and fundraising banquets. For her community service, Southwestern Christian College awarded her with the 2004 Image Award for Leadership, but the service that she is most proud of is Ruth's Promise, which is a ministry in Kenya named after her mother in which elderly Christians are taken care of with housekeeping, laundry and daily meals.

Ivory serves as the fundraiser director for this ministry while Kenyan Christians offer the hands-on care for these wonderful individuals. You may meet them at ruthspromise.weebly.com. Her main spiritual goal is to educate children and adults about God's will for them on earth and in heaven.

For ministry assistance or for Medicare Plan appointments, please contact her at 254-523-8978.



Notice of Chapter Elections

On November 30, 2020 (via Zoom), the election of officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee of the Waco NAACP will take place. Polls will open from 7:30PM-11:30PM. In order to vote in a Branch election, one must be a member in good standing of the branch 30 days prior to the election. A form of identification is required.

Should a run-off be necessary that election shall occur on December 14, 2020 (via Zoom) from 7:30PM-8:30M. Run-off elections shall be conducted not less than ten (10) days after the original election.

We look forward to your participation in these activities.

Mrs. Delicia LeBlanc, Secretary

I Came to Believe

- There Really is a God
- Humanity is One Family
- Women and Men are Equal
- Our Families are Important
- It's Okay to Think for Yourself
- Science and Religion Can Agree
- Our Souls are Immortal
- Economic and Environmental Problems can be Solved by Spiritual Principles
- World Peace is Dawning
- My Efforts Count

So I Became a Bahá'í



The Local Spiritual Assembly of the of Waco
wacobahaiacenter.org (254) 300-4949 www.bahai.org

The Waco Bahá'ís invite you to join us for a study of ***Reflections on the Life of the Spirit***, beginning Monday, Nov. 23rd at 7PM via Zoom!

Please register by calling (254) 717-7903 or (254) 300-4949 or email jo@welterfamily.org or mjabqman@gmail.com

What you don't know about chiropractors may surprise you

(NewsUSA) - Sponsored News - You know how comforting it is to see a degree framed on the wall when you visit some professional's office?

Well, next time you consult a doctor of chiropractic, get ready to feel very, very comforted.

That's because his or her degree attests to the rigorous training -- a minimum of seven years of higher education, including clinical patient management -- that doctors of chiropractic must complete. Not everyone, though, apparently realizes what that means in terms of better health outcomes for patients.

"Doctors of chiropractic are not only trained in problems dealing with the spine, but are formally educated in clinical examination and diagnosis -- with a focus on conservative health care interventions for the well-being of the whole person," explains Sherry McAllister, DC, executive vice president of the not-for-profit Foundation for Chiropractic Progress.

Among the required coursework:

* Basic sciences of anatomy, physiology, neurology, biomechanics, microbiology and pathology.

* Ethics and integrity.



DR. SHAMONICA TRUNELL

* Clinical sciences, including nutrition, rehabilitation and therapeutic procedures.

* Research methodology.

The importance of quality education for chiropractors was recognized as early as 1935, when the National Chiropractic Association created a Committee on Educational Standards. That ultimately led to the formation of the Council on Chiropractic Education, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the accrediting agency for schools' educational and clinical programs leading to the award of a doctor of chiropractic degree.

"They must also serve a rigorous clinical internship," explains Dr. McAllister.

Learn more at F4CP.com. To make an appointment with Dr. Trunell in Waco, call 254-754-4000.

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FEATURE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE ANCHOR'S DECEMBER ISSUE JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS SALES—FOR FREE!

The December issue of The Anchor News will be the "Christmas in The Anchor Business Issue," and YOUR business can be featured! Submit an article about your business (up to 300 words, typed in an email or word document), along with a headshot (required), and email it to theanchornews@aol.com no later than December 3. Hurry—spaces are limited, and are on a first-come, first-serve basis (there will be no reserved spaces)!

WARD

Continued from page one

For those reasons, Ward chose to focus his professional career exclusively in the areas of low-performing Title One schools. His goal is to work in the most adverse environments to reverse the life trajectories of students who resembled himself. He successfully led and turned two middle schools into great schools. Both schools that were under the supervision of TEA monitors.

Along the way Ward realized all students didn't have access into higher academic classes. He purposely led professional development opportunities that advocated for the participation of low social economic and minority students into higher academic programs. His work in this area increased minority students' participation and performance in AP classes. In 2015, Ward's accomplishments led the College board to name him

1 of 13 college board fellows nationally.

Broad and diverse, Ward's career in education spans two decades, rising from educator to assistant principal to Freshman Academy principal to middle school principal to high school principal to superintendent. Since 2017, Ward has had the distinct honor of leading Clarksville ISD as its Superintendent of Schools.

Ward dedicates his achievements to his ancestors, friends, and supporters who continue to empower, inspire, and motivate him, not only to exist, but to also be exceptionally excellent and transcendent in achieving his dreams. He hopes that his testimony of a black male first-generation college graduate raised in project housing by a single parent will encourage others to never give up on their dreams and strive for greatness.



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