



The Texas Prince Hall Freemason



Official Publication of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Texas



***"ONE FLAG, ONE LAND, ONE
HEART, ONE HAND, ONE
NATION, EVERMORE."***

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

Table Of Contents

Page 2. Table Of Contents
Page 3. MWPHGLOTX, Elected Grand Lodge Officers
Page 4. Self Control
Page 5. Bayou City #228, Christmas in July
Page 6. P.O.T.S #324, Back to School Giveaway
Page 7. T.H.K #45, Fly Fishing
Page 9. Pride Of Killeen #620, Fall Festival
Page 13. T.H.K #45 Host
Quarterly District meeting
Page 15. JNO G. Lewis Lodge #622
The soul of my footprint
Page 17. T.H.K #45
Visits Robert Burns #127 AF&AM
PAGE 18. T.H.K#45
Annual Father's Day Luncheon
Page 19. T.H.K #45
Youth Leadership Summit
Page 21. Pride of Killeen #620
Quarterly adopt street clean-up
Page 22. Pride of Killeen #620
Packing the polls Voting Day
Page 23. Distract 24, Inaugural Golf Tournament
Page 26. Distract 24
Celebrate Prince Hall Americanism Day
Page 27. Buffalo Soldiers KOP
Council explore AI with chatgpt.
Page 29. Granville C. Coggs #668
Uplifting the community
Page 31. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas begins G.W.
Carver Vocational High Restoration Project
Page 34. Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter Officers
Page 35. NWCGC, Breast Cancer Awareness
Page 36. NWCGC, Voters registration initiative
Page 40. NWCGC, 27th Annual Youth Session HTX
Page 42. ROYAL Eminence of Texas Inaugural GALA
Page 43. NWCG Chapter 2024 Mid-Winter
Page 48. NWCG Chapter Observes Domestic Violence
Awareness
Page 49. Xiomara Guild #5
Page 50. Xiomara Guild #5 & Queen Makeda Court #4,
Joint Deputy Retreat
Page 51. Leora O'Guild #35
Joint Meetings
Page 55. MWPHGLOTX
2024 Mid-Winter Session
Page. 66 The Grand High Court Conducts " A Class of
its own"

The Texas Prince Hall Freemason

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2023-2024



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Frank D. Jackson
R.W. Grand Senior Warden



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Self Control

**He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like
a city that is broken down, and without walls.
Proverbs 25:28**

It is not hard to tear down someone who can easily be pushed to anger. Someone whose temper has got the better of them is like a city that has been left unguarded; you can steal their joy and ruin their day with the most minor of attacks. They have not rooted themselves in the promises of God and are not taking hold of the strength the Holy Spirit offers to them.

In direct contrast, someone who has self control and who is not easily angered is like a protected city. They have mastered their emotions and finds their identity in God. They cannot lose their joy by feeble attempts from their enemies. They are strong and well founded.

Please help me grow in maturity and teach me self control, dear Lord. When others try to cut me down, bring to my mind your words. Give me patience and kindness. May I repay evil with good. Amen.

Greetings Brethren,

The above came from my daily bible reading and I was moved to share with you. Keep this in mind when you allow someone to push your buttons and cause you to react in a negative manner. If you are in control of yourself, then you are the one in control and not someone else. I know that this is easier said than to do at times. But if you are truly the captain of your soul, then be the Captain. When you allow someone else to cause you to react, then they are in control of you and not you. Place that wall around yourself and keep yourself in due bounds with all mankind.

Fraternally Your,

Michael T. Anderson
MWGM

Grand Lodge www.mwphglotx.org
Library Museum www.wmcpnm.com

Bayou City No. 228

District 15A



Christmas? In July? Why Not!



Coming on the heels of a devastating hurricane that caused millions of dollars and damage, death, and left millions without power for days, the members of Bayou City Lodge No. 228 and Sanderson Commandery No. 2 organized efforts to bring a little joy and happiness to the

residents of the Salvation Army. The "Christmas in July" program allows us to provide toys, diapers, wipes, toiletries, and other goods to families currently facing hardships during the summer months. This year's effort marks one of the biggest since the pandemic.

Bayou City Lodge and Sanderson Commandery would like to thank the Masonic houses and orders who participated or donated to make this blessing possible:

- Magnolia No. 3
- True Square No. 108
- True Level No. 226
- Logos No. 659
- John Henri Burch Chapter No. 2, HRAM
- Perfection Council No. 9, R&SM
- Valley of the Kings No. 12, R&SM
- Xiomara Guild No. 5
- Queen Makeda No. 5, LOCOP

Officers

Worshipful Master	Damon H. Mattox
Senior Warden	Michael Roberts
Junior Warden	Christopher Pryor
Senior Deacon	Kelsey Griffith
Junior Deacon	Joshua Kearney



Bayou City No.228

District 15-A

FAITH. HOPE. CHARITY.

BAYOU CITY DELIVERS FOR AREA STUDENTS



AUGUST 31--August means the end of a long summer break for children. Across our country, families are shopping for clothes, school supplies and preparing for their student(s) to return to campus. A family's economic situation can sometimes hinder the ability for parents/guardians to provide the basic tools needed for student success. Under the

leadership of Worshipful Master Damon H. Mattox, Bayou City Lodge No. 228 stepped up and conducted their annual "*Backpack Drive*" for students who attend Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, where Rev. James A. Jones, Jr. presides. This year brothers delivered 43 backpacks the students will need to start their year off right.

Rev. Jones said, "It's a real blessing what this masonic lodge does for our church families. Some of our most economically disadvantaged families look forward to receiving these wonderful backpacks. I'm thankful Bayou City lodge continues to partner with us in addressing community needs."

WM Mattox said, "Parents have enough to worry about as their children prepare for a new school year. Whatever freemasonry can do to help lessen the economic stress for families, the brothers of Bayou City will step up and answer the call."

Officers

Worshipful Master	Damon H. Mattox
Senior Warden	Michael Roberts
Junior Warden	Christopher Pryor
Senior Deacon	Kelsey Griffith
Junior Deacon	Joshua Kearney



Bayou City No. 228

District 15A



Bayou City Delivers Comfort, Relief During Summer Months



Jones, Jr. presides.

Texas heat can be unbearable during the summer and many struggle to keep their families cool during these tortuous months. Under the leadership of Worshipful Master Damon H. Mattox, the brothers of Bayou City Lodge No. 228 in Houston, TX donated and presented 31 box fans to historic Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, where Reverend James A.

The annual lodge activity affords the church an opportunity to address the needs of the community. WM Mattox said, "Many children live in homes without air conditioning or fans. Each year elderly Americans fall victim to heat-related illnesses and death. If Bayou City can play a part in helping a child stay cool or prevent a senior from succumbing to the summer heat, then it is our duty as Freemasons to do so."

Officers

Worshipful Master Damon H. Mattox

Senior Warden Michael Roberts

Junior Warden Christopher Pryor

Senior Deacon Kelsey Griffith

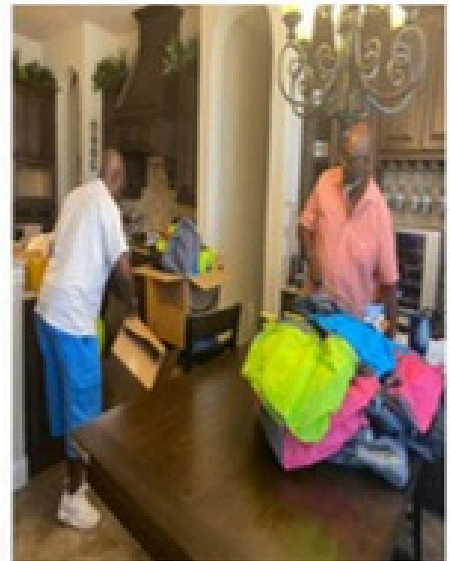
Junior Deacon Joshua Kearney



Pride of The South Lodge No. 324 Partners with American Legion Post 838 and Unity Unlimited – Dione Sims to Hosts Back to School Giveaway for the Community

By Darrell Bell, Worshipful Master Pride of The South Lodge No. 324, District 20

Fort Worth, TX - On Saturday, August 10, 2024, Pride of the South Lodge #324 out of District 20, American Legion Post 838, and Unity Unlimited – Dione Sims, conducted our annual Back to School drive at the American Legion Post 838 Fort Worth, TX from 12-5pm. The event was great as the members had an opportunity to fellowship with the parents and children while they ate, danced to music with DJ Greg from the post, and picked up their backpacks which included school supplies. Through building relationships, we stress the importance of growth and understanding that the person you are looking at in the mirror is not a finished product, as we are all striving for greatness! While it is imperative to meet people where they are, it is equally as important to express our abundance of joy we see in these kid's faces whether providing donations or giving of time. Therefore, remember that we all start as that rough surface, and in time with life lessons, and experience, our surfaces tend to get a little smoother; henceforth, enabling us to be a better person than we were the previous day. In retrospect, being a part of the community and working as mentors is our way of giving back to our young leaders that are coming behind us. As our day comes to an end, we reflect on the gift that the Lord has given us: time, as that is our most precious asset!



Fly-Fishing with T.H.K. No. 45

Story by Byron Evans, II, Junior Warden

Georgetown Texas-Worshipful Master Derrick White of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 tasked Junior Warden Byron Evans, II with establishing a Lodge Social Calendar geared toward membership retention, family participation, and public engagement. The Social Calendar for the lodge included events like the Thomas H. Keithley Public Meet and Greet, birthday celebrations held at McMaster Athletic Complex and Mansfield Dam Park, a Father's Day Luncheon, and Marching in the Round Rock Independence Day Parade. These events were held to fulfill the objectives set out by Worshipful Derrick White.



On Saturday, July 27, 2024, from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM, the brothers of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No.45, along with family members, gathered at the San Gabriel River located at 604 Morrow Street Georgetown, TX 78626 to participate in fly-fishing.



This event was held at the San Gabriel River that flows through Georgetown, Texas in Williamson County. There, the members of T.H.K. No. 45 along with their family members were given an opportunity to come out and participate in fly fishing, fellowship with other members and their families, relax and enjoy the day. The members of T.H.K. No. 45 invited their sons out to teach them all the elements of fly-fishing and to sharpen the skills of those who already knew how to do it. As members of T.H.K. No. 45 began to fish, the wives socialized with other members and their families. The Fly-Fishing event featured a gazebo for sitting and shade (though not needed for the beautiful Saturday morning), a Bluetooth speaker to soundtrack the day, a grill for burgers, hot dogs, sausages, and some finger-licking good barbecue chicken, and of course, some beverages to wash it all down. The members of T.H.K. No. 45 and their families had a few bites but ended up with a turtle and some unforgettable memories.



PRIDE OF KILLEEN #620
PRESENTS

SPOOKY HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHT

OCTOBER
30TH



AT 6PM

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FRIGHTS, FUN,
AND TREATS! WE'LL HAVE:

- 🍿 MOVIES UNDER THE MOONLIGHT
- 🌭 HOT DOGS, CHIPS, DRINKS, AND
POPCORN TO KEEP YOU FUELED
- 🍬 TONS OF CANDY FOR ALL THE LITTLE
GHOST AND GOBLINS

410 N. 8TH STREET
KILLEEN TEXAS 76543



Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 FALL FESTIVAL 30 OCTOBER 2024

Story by: SW David Goffney



The Brothers of Pride of Killeen Lodge No. 620 hosted and participated in a Fall Festival for the local youth in our community on 30 October 2024 from 6-9 pm at the lodge hall located at 410 N. 8th Street in Downtown Killeen, Texas. The event was designed as a safe, family-friendly celebration for the community's youth, featuring a variety of activities such as pumpkin painting, a costume contest, carnival games, face painting, and a variety of games enjoyed by the youth.

The members of Pride of Killeen #620 provided refreshments, including hot dogs, chili, nachos, chips, juice, and fall-themed treats. Approximately 25-30 children and their families attended, giving positive feedback for the enjoyable and safe environment.

After the games and the meal were concluded, the lodge provided the youth and some adults with a viewing of the recently released Halloween movie "Beetlejuice 2."

Members provided plenty of popcorn for one and all to enjoy with their movie, followed by a viewing of Michael Jackson's Thriller video. By this time, it was getting close for the youth to head home and prepare for the next school day. Pride of Killeen No. 620 sent them home with bags filled with candy and snacks.

The members present, their wives, and friends showed up to ensure the event had a festive atmosphere. This event's success was made possible by dedicated volunteers, including Lodge members and the "620 Wives." The Pride of Killeen Lodge looks forward to hosting similar community events in the future.



Members of District 24 attend 25th Annual K.O.P. Youth Conference Written by WM Adrian Davenport, POK Lodge No. 620

Pride of Killeen Lodge No. 620 sent six representatives from the lodge to assist in a weekend of mentorship at the University of Houston Clear Lake, Texas. The target audience was The Most Venerable Thomas H. Routt Grand Council, Order of the Knights of Pythagoras, a Youth Organization sponsored by Prince Hall Masons of Texas. The K.O.P. is a community-based mentoring organization that trains young men in the areas of leadership, responsibility, and brotherhood, empowering the next generation of leaders. The organization takes young men between the ages of 9 - 20 and helps them become the future leaders of tomorrow. The lodge and District No. 24 sponsored 22 area youth from the Killeen area.



Upon arrival, the youth were warmly welcomed by the Admission Staff of the University of Houston Clear Lake, who provided them with a comprehensive tour of the campus. Following the tour, the young men enjoyed dinner before participating in a workshop focused on pursuing a career at NASA Space Center Houston. The evening culminated in an Investiture Ceremony, presided over by senior youth leaders from the Grand Council. Throughout the weekend, the participants were expected to adhere to high standards of attire and conduct.



The workshops covered a range of topics, including Financial Literacy, Coding, Etiquette, Robotic Training and Demonstration, as well as an Oratorical Competition, which was won by one of our area-sponsored youths. However, the weekend was not solely dedicated to academic pursuits; the participants also had the opportunity to tour the Johnson Space Center (NASA) and the Challenger 7 Memorial Park, providing them with insight into the life of an astronaut. In addition, a basketball tournament and a bowling competition allowed the young men to engage in friendly rivalry, fostering camaraderie among the area youth and their newfound friends.



The conference concluded with a dinner and an awards presentation honoring the winners of various events. In attendance was the Honorable Michael T. Anderson, the twenty-second Grand Master of the Prince Hall Masons of Texas. Looking ahead, the National Youth Conference is set to take place next year in Charlotte, North Carolina, with the Sir Knights of Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 proudly supporting and promoting the brand of Prince Hall Masonry in Texas.

Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 Hosts District 24 Quarterly Meeting

Story by Byron Evans II, Junior Warden

Round Rock, Texas – On October 19, 2024, the Brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas, District No. 24, convened at Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 for their quarterly meeting. The significance of this gathering lies in the fact that it was held at the lodge's new location.

Situated on the welcoming Masonic Way, the new home of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 is a charming neighborhood in Round Rock, Texas. This location showcases an impressive array of Masonic history, featuring structures that resonate with ancient traditions. Additionally, for this quarterly meeting, District 24 made a generous donation to the local community, selecting The Black Families and Parents Collective as the recipient.

The meeting wrapped up with the brothers enjoying refreshments and fellowship in the commons area of the new venue. The delicious refreshments were prepared by the brothers of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 and included:

Barbecued Shredded Chicken
Barbecued Pulled Pork
Kielbasa Beef Sausages
Potato Salad

And a special highlight, Brother Past Master David Featherston's Baked Beans.



Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 Partners with Round Rock Cemetery Association

Round Rock, Texas – August 24, 2024

Brothers of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 gathered on August 24, 2024, at the Round Rock Cemetery, located at 1100 Sam Bass Road, Round Rock, Texas 78681, to reflect on a key initiative for the 2024-2025 Masonic year. One of the core goals set by Worshipful Master Derrick White is to enhance the Lodge's involvement in the local community, particularly in acknowledging the contributions of Prince Hall Masons who actively serve in Williamson County. As part of this objective, the Lodge organized several significant events, including the Thomas H. Keithley March for Independence, which was a prominent feature of the Round Rock Independence Day Parade. This event marked a pivotal moment in the community's engagement with Freemasonry, culminating in a heartfelt gathering at the Freedman's Slave Cemetery, where the brothers who participated in the parade gathered for a moment of reflection.

During this gathering, Junior Warden Byron Evans II shared important details about the early stages of a partnership between the Round Rock Cemetery Association and Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45, focusing on a shared commitment to preserving the history and contributions of the community, particularly those with ties to African American history. The significance of the Freedman's Slave Cemetery resonated deeply with the brothers present, reinforcing the importance of their involvement in fostering historical and cultural awareness.

This collaboration between the Lodge and the Round Rock Cemetery Association exemplifies the Masonic principle of community service, as well as the Lodge's commitment to recognizing and honoring the legacy of Prince Hall Masons and their enduring contributions to the region.

The meeting between the Lodge and the Round Rock Cemetery Association on August 24, 2024, marked a significant milestone in the partnership between the two organizations. The primary purpose of the meeting was to establish a formal framework for their collaboration, ensuring both long-term support and sustainable care for the Freedman's Slave Cemetery at Round Rock Cemetery.

During the session, the two organizations worked together to finalize the following key agreements:

1. Memorandum of Understanding
2. Terms for Fundraising
3. Conditions for Groundskeeping

The meeting concluded with a pivotal moment: the Round Rock Cemetery Association officially relinquished a detailed map of the Round Rock Cemetery to the Lodge. This map specifically outlines the area of responsibility for the Lodge within the cemetery, which the two groups walked and surveyed together. This shared walkthrough not only deepened their understanding of the site but also reinforced the Lodge's role in maintaining and caring for the cemetery's historical significance. Additionally, the meeting culminated in the designation of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 as official committee members of the Round Rock Cemetery Association.



Story by: Byron Evans II, Junior Warden



The Soul of My Footprint (TSOMF)

At JNO G. Lewis Lodge #622, the principle of serving others is central to our Masonic endeavors. This value deeply resonates with our Past Master, Brother Patrick Garrett. As a committed Prince Hall Affiliated Freemason, Brother Garrett consistently exemplifies the fundamental principles of our fraternity: charity, brotherly love, and service. However, his impact goes far beyond our lodge, making waves on an international level through his work with The Soul of My Footprint (TSOMF).



In addition to his esteemed role as a Past Master, Brother Garrett actively serves on the board of TSOMF, a non-profit organization based in Columbus, Georgia. Founded by Alfie Jelks in 2000 and officially established as a non-profit in 2012, TSOMF is dedicated to delivering essential supplies, including medicine, clothing, and basic care items, to the residents of Jinja, Uganda. The organization's humanitarian initiatives provide transformative support to disadvantaged communities in one of the globe's most impoverished areas. Furthermore, TSOMF awards statewide scholarships to academically talented high school seniors who are pursuing degrees in science, social services, education, theology, or non-profit work, fostering the development of future leaders who are committed to making a positive impact.

Brother Garrett's continued involvement with TSOMF exemplifies his commitment to both local and global service. His most recent trip to Uganda was a powerful success, delivering much-needed supplies and, more importantly, hope to countless families and children. This selfless work is a shining example of the Masonic principles of charity and relief. Through his efforts, Brother Garrett has become a beacon of light to those in need, far beyond the borders of our community.

As a lodge under the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas, led by the Honorable Grand Master Michael T. Anderson, we take pride in supporting Brother Garrett's humanitarian work. The foundation laid by our Grand Lodge and the founders of JNO G. Lewis Lodge #622 continues to inspire our legacy of service and brotherhood. It is this foundation that empowers brethren like Brother Garrett to extend their influence across the globe, living out our Masonic values in profound and far-reaching ways.



Written by Junior Steward of JNO G. Lewis Lodge #622, Michael J. Valasquez

We encourage all brethren and supporters to join us in supporting Brother Garrett’s ongoing efforts with TSOMF. By contributing to organizations like TSOMF, we fulfill our obligation to spread light and extend charity, not just to our immediate community but to the most vulnerable around the world. This international support effort reflects the very heart of Freemasonry, reminding us that charity knows no boundaries.

Let us honor the principles of Freemasonry and the legacy of our lodge by continuing to serve with open hearts, ever committed to uplifting humanity. Together, we can extend the love and light of our craft across the globe, embodying the true spirit of Freemasonry.

For those interested in contributing or learning more about TSOMF and how to support Brother Garrett’s mission, please visit their website at www.tsomf.org. In the words of our Masonic teachings, “Charity is the bond that unites men in brotherly love.”

Let us extend that love to all who need it, both near and far.

As we follow in the footsteps of great Prince Hall Masons like Brother Patrick Garrett, let us remember that our actions, like our Masonic footprint, leave an enduring mark on the world. Through our charitable work, we illuminate even the darkest corners, bringing hope and light where it is needed most.

Let there be light.

Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No.45 Visits Robert Burns No.127, AF&AM

Story by: Byron Evans II, Junior Warden

Round Rock, Texas - Worshipful Master Derrick White's initiative to enhance the presence of Prince Hall Masons in Round Rock, Texas, and the surrounding areas is gaining momentum.

On October 26, 2024, members of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 visited Robert Burns Lodge No. 127 AF&AM. This meeting provided Prince Hall Masons with a firsthand look at how Ancient Free and Accepted Masons conduct their gatherings, allowing them to observe both the similarities and subtle differences between the lodges. This event marked a significant opportunity for Prince Hall Masons to connect with their Ancient Free and Accepted counterparts.

Following their meetings, Robert Burns Lodge No. 127 AF&AM holds a session called "Harmony," where brothers can enjoy refreshments while participating in fellowship and listening to a Masonic lecture. "Harmony" took place at Freda's Seafood Grille, located in North Austin's Pecan Park at 10903 Pecan Park Blvd., Austin, TX 78750.

The Masonic lecture, titled "The Winding Staircase," was presented by Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden Dr. Jim Rumsey. Meeting a Grand Lodge of Texas Mason, especially one who holds a grand lodge office, enriched our experience. The lecture beautifully and thoroughly explored each step of the winding staircase—a key symbol in Masonic teachings. Each step was illustrated with lessons, such as the notion of "music": not merely a source of entertainment, but a means for the creator to measure time and harmony.



Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 Annual Father's Day Luncheon

Story by: Byron Evans II, Junior Warden

Round Rock, Texas – June 8, 2024

On June 8, 2024, the Brothers of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 came together to celebrate fatherhood at their annual Father's Day Luncheon, a cherished tradition aimed at honoring fathers in the Round Rock, Texas community. The event provided a warm and welcoming environment for fathers to connect with one another, share experiences, and bond with their sons, who represent the next generation of fathers.

This year's Father's Day Luncheon was filled with insightful speeches, delicious appetizers, and engaging prize giveaways, creating a memorable occasion for all in attendance. The event featured two compelling speakers, each presenting on topics relevant to fatherhood and the role of men in shaping future generations:

1. **A Father's Voice and Influence** – This talk focused on the profound impact fathers have on their children's lives, offering reflections on how a father's words, actions, and presence influence their sons and daughters.
2. **An Ode to the Militant Father: Duty and Civilian** – The second speaker addressed the balance that fathers often strike between their duties to family, community, and country, exploring the dual roles fathers play in both their domestic and civic responsibilities.

In appreciation of their contributions, both speakers were honored with plaques in recognition of their wisdom and thoughtfulness.

The event also included three rounds of raffles, where attendees had the chance to win various gifts.

Beyond the speakers and prizes, the luncheon provided a unique opportunity for us to extend our fellowship with one another. The event served not only as a celebration of fathers, but also as a time to reinforce the bonds of brotherly love and unity that form the foundation of the Lodge.

The fellowship and shared experiences served as a reminder of the importance of support and solidarity in the journey of fatherhood. The Father's Day Luncheon remains a cornerstone event for the Lodge, allowing fathers to come together in celebration while also fostering a deeper sense of camaraderie, respect, and love among the Brothers of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45.



Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 Inaugural Young Men's Youth Leadership Summit

Story by: Byron Evans II, Junior Warden

Round Rock, Texas – For the 2024-2025 Masonic year, Worshipful Master Derrick White of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 aims to enhance community involvement and raise awareness of the Prince Hall Masons serving Williamson County and its surrounding areas. These goals led to events like the Thomas H. Keithley Social and Meet and Greet, hosted at the beautiful Kalahari Resort in the Cinco Ninos Restaurant and Bar, as well as participation in the March for Independence during the Round Rock Independence Day parade.

This time, the highlight was the Inaugural Young Men's Youth Leadership Summit.

On Saturday, August 17, 2024, from 2 PM to 4 PM, brothers from Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 convened at the Round Rock Opportunity Center, located at 931 Luther Peterson Pl, Round Rock, Texas 78665.

This event was an opportunity for Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45 to directly impact the next generation of men in the Williamson County area. This event also served as a further fulfillment of Worshipful Master Derrick White's agenda of increasing the acknowledgment of the Prince Hall Freemasons who currently and actively serve the communities of Williamson county. Also in attendance were brothers from Mount Bonnell Lodge #2, Lyons Junior Lodge #290, and panhellenic organizations: Omega Psi Phi, Beta Sigma, and Iota Phi Theta, along with the 100 Black Men and Women of Round Rock, Texas. The event registered over 50 young men and over 30 volunteers.



The procession of the event was:

1. Introduction and Lecture of Prince Hall Freemasonry and welcome from Thomas H. Keithley Lodge #45.
2. Breakout sessions for the 50-plus young men divided into 4 groups to rotate through the following sessions:
 - Relationships in the Social Place, Real-World and Virtual
 - The Impact of Our Influences, on Our Mental Health
 - Financial Fitness and Exercises
 - Professional Presentation of Self
3. Conclusion and Discussion of The Parent-Student Relationship

The event concluded with catered refreshments, giveaway bags, and memories stored in the minds of all in attendance!



Pride of Killeen Lodge No.620 Quarterly Adopt a Street Clean -Up

Story written by: Brother Walter G. Alvarado

Charity involves our efforts to support others in our communities, whether through financial contributions or by dedicating our valuable time. In the midst of our hectic lives, filled with commitments to family, church, and friends, finding time to volunteer can be challenging. However, the rewards of community service are significant, and as a volunteer, you may find the benefits to be even more enriching for yourself.

The event took place on Saturday, October 26, 2024, on a lovely sunny fall day. Members of Pride of Killeen No. 620 came together to engage in one of our community service activities. Following a circle of prayer, the members donned gloves and grabbed trash bags before starting our quarterly street clean-up on our designated route. We began at the intersection of 10th Street and Avenue C in Downtown Killeen, Texas. From there, we continued down Avenue C until we reached the corner of Avenue C and Gilmore Street, covering approximately three miles. We focused on cleaning from sidewalk to sidewalk, ensuring we respected private property boundaries. By the end of our efforts, we had collected 2.5 bags of trash and returned to the lodge for donuts, socializing, and a closing prayer.



In closing, community service has many benefits. Beside accomplishing the mission, it helps the individual gain a sense of worth by helping others, reduces stress, maintain a healthy mindset, and provided a sense of purpose. While it is true that the more you volunteer, the more benefits you will experience; volunteering does not have to involve a long-term commitment or take a huge amount of time out of your busy day. Giving in even simple ways, can help a community, build ties, and perhaps even make new friends.

Pride of Killeen Lodge No. 620 Packing the Polls Voting Day

Story by: PM Kenneth B. Jones Sr.



Killeen, TX: On October 22, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Brothers of Pride of Killeen Lodge #620 organized and participated in Pack the Polls Day. This event coincided with the early voting period for this year's Presidential Election. Held at the Dock Jackson Professional Learning Center, located at 902 Reverend R. A. Abercrombie Drive, this polling site was chosen for its location in Killeen's historically black Marlboro neighborhood and its namesake, a former member of Pride of Killeen #620, Reverend R. A. Abercrombie.

The namesake on the building was the 1st Black teacher and Principal in the city of Killeen. Members of the lodge and family members came out to cast their vote on this very important Presidential election with many divisive and polarizing candidates on the ballots that would affect many in our communities, the entire state of Texas and this nation. Worshipful Master Adrian Davenport stated, "We may have been small in numbers, but our voice was heard loud and clear on this day."

The members present, their wives, and friends showed up and made their votes count at this event. There was a line, but it went smoothly at the voting polls on this day. The voting clerk staff was very courteous and provided the assistance necessary for all to vote in a timely manner. "I got my I voted sticker and will pass the word", Worshipful Master Adrian Davenport stated. "The lodge plans to Pack the Polls again at the next voting opportunity."

District 24 Inaugural Golf Tournament

Written by, PM Darryl Murray, New Light No. 242, Committee Chairperson



Salado TX-The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas (MWPHGLOTX) District #24 held its much-anticipated golf tournament on October 5, 2024, at the scenic Mill Creek Golf Course in Salado, Texas. This inaugural event brought together participants from various lodges, supporters, and golf enthusiasts in the area for a day of camaraderie, competition, and charity.



Event Highlights:

The tournament kicked off under perfect weather conditions, with clear skies and mild temperatures that made for an enjoyable day on the course. Mill Creek's 27-hole championship golf layout, known for its beautiful views and challenging design, provided the perfect backdrop for the event. The well-manicured greens and fairways offered an exciting challenge to both amateur and seasoned golfers alike. Participants teed off at 8:00 a.m., following an opening ceremony where the district's leadership and PM Darryl Murray (New Light #242) Golf tournament committee chairman welcomed attendees, thanked sponsors, and highlighted the purpose of the event. District #24's, District Deputy Grand Master Tommy Levi Sr. (Nolan Creek #227), expressed his appreciation for everyone who participated, noting that the tournament aimed to not only bring members of the community together but also to raise funds for local charities and scholarships benefiting local students.

Friendly Competition and Prizes:

Teams of golfers engaged in friendly rivalry, vying for awards in various categories such as longest drive, closest to the pin, and overall best team score. The atmosphere was both jovial and competitive, with participants demonstrating their skills throughout the course.

This year, Team #6, consisting of Gary Connor, Michael Martin, Derrick White, and Cameron Wilson, excelled with a remarkable performance, earning them the prestigious first-place trophy. Individual honors were also awarded, with PM Richard Williams from Nolan Creek #227 clinching the longest drive and closest to the pin titles.



Sponsors, including local businesses, Prince Hall masons and Prince Hall affiliated lodges, played a significant role in making the event a success. Their contributions helped fund the tournament and ensure that all proceeds from registration fees and donations could go directly to charitable causes.



A Day to Remember:

As the tournament ended, participants gathered for a closing ceremony and awards presentation, where trophies and prizes were distributed. District #24 leadership expressed their gratitude to all attendees, volunteers, and sponsors for their unwavering support and participation.

Overall, the 2024 MWPHGLOTX District #24 Golf Tournament was a resounding success. It not only offered a fun and competitive day of golf but also reinforced District # 24's commitment to serving the community.

"We are incredibly thankful to everyone who came out to support this event," said DDGM Tommy Levi. "This tournament exemplifies what we stand for—Faith, Hope, and charity. We're looking forward to making next year's event even bigger and better."



District 24 of MWPHGLO Texas Celebrate Prince Hall Americanism Day

Story By: Anthony R. Davis, Worshipful Master,
Mount Bonnell Lodge No. 2



Pflugerville, TX – On September 15, 2024, Mount Bonnell Lodge No. 2 celebrated Prince Hall Americanism Day at St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church in Pflugerville, TX. Sponsored by District 24, the event honored the founder, Prince Hall, and highlighted his significance to Masons and Americans worldwide. Our guest speaker for the occasion was SDDGM Cedric Mitchell, one of our esteemed members.

All nine lodges in District 24 (Mt. Bonnell No.2, Eureka No.30, T.H.K. No.45, St. James No.71, Nolan Creek No.227, New Light No.242, Lyons Jr. No.290, POK No.620, Roger Hughes No.624) were present, along with other concordant, appendant, and adoptive bodies of the Prince Hall Masonic order.

The City of Pflugerville, the Area Prince Hall Masons, and St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church extended a warm welcome to everyone and enjoyed the service together.



Buffalo Soldiers Knights of Pythagoras Council No. 20 Explore AI with ChatGPT

*PM Dr. Ashley Moye, Senior Advisor, District 23 - Granville C. Coggs Lodge 668
SW Matthew Ursery, Knight Recorder District 23, Pride of San Marcos Lodge 494*

CIBOLO, TEXAS – In an exciting step towards embracing technology, a group of 13 youth club members recently attended a class on artificial intelligence (AI) and learned how to use ChatGPT, a powerful AI language model developed by OpenAI. The class provided by Nick McGinnis, CDO & Founder, Nathan Golter, CEO & Founder of LeadAura Incorporated, was a mix of exploration, discovery, and hands-on creativity. As part of the session, the students built their own bot designed to find Minecraft cheat codes, sparking a wave of enthusiasm and curiosity about the world of AI and its potential uses.

Artificial intelligence, or AI, refers to machines designed to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence. These tasks include problem-solving, recognizing patterns, learning from data, and even understanding and generating natural language. AI models like ChatGPT can interpret and respond to human language, making them versatile tools for tasks like answering questions, writing, and even holding conversations.

ChatGPT, specifically, is a language model trained by OpenAI on a diverse range of internet text. Its design enables it to respond to user prompts in a conversational, human-like way. Whether the prompt is a math question, a creative writing prompt, or a programming challenge, ChatGPT can provide informative, creative, or even humorous responses. The youth club members found this particularly fascinating as it opened the door to creating tools and programs, like their Minecraft cheat code bot, that can perform specific tasks based on user queries.



Creating the Minecraft Cheat Code Bot

For the hands-on part of their lesson, the group decided to put their new knowledge of AI and ChatGPT to the test by creating a bot capable of finding Minecraft cheat codes. Minecraft, a popular sandbox video game, includes various “cheats” or special commands that players can use to enhance gameplay, discover resources, or add new elements to the game.

Using ChatGPT’s language capabilities, the students took sequential steps to program a bot that would respond to queries for specific Minecraft cheat codes. For instance, users could ask the bot for commands to summon creatures, change weather, or access special items, and the bot would provide the relevant code. Building the bot taught the students about prompt engineering, a key concept in using language models like ChatGPT effectively. They learned how to design questions and commands that the bot could interpret to give accurate answers.

A Future Fueled by AI and Innovation

The training facilitators also provided helpful insights into potential for young people to leverage AI like ChatGPT extends far beyond just fun projects like Minecraft bots. The Buffalo Soldier Council No. 20’s venture into AI with their Minecraft cheat code bot is a small but significant example of how young people can use technology to explore their interests and grow their skills. By learning about AI and creating tools that integrate ChatGPT, today’s youth can empower themselves to take on challenges, build creative solutions, and even generate income. As AI technology becomes more accessible, the opportunities for young people to innovate and contribute to the future of technology will only continue to grow.

Their journey into AI reflects the potential for new generations to lead the way, blending creativity and technology to shape the future. With resources like ChatGPT at their fingertips, youth today have the tools to become not only the consumers of technology but also its creators, entrepreneurs, and pioneers.

Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668: Uplifting the Community Through Education, Youth, and Holiday Initiatives

Niel Harris, Worshipful Master

CIBOLO, TX – Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 has remained steadfast in its commitment to community service, launching impactful initiatives aimed at supporting local students, families, and those in need. Through educational programs, youth activities, and holiday outreach, the Lodge continues to be a pillar of support and hope in the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City and San Antonio communities.

Back-to-School Support for SCUCISD Students

As the school year approached, Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 partnered with community supporters and social workers to provide much-needed back-to-school supplies for students in the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District (SCUCISD). With a donation of supplies and a monetary contribution to the district, the Lodge ensured that students started the year with the tools they needed to succeed. This initiative underscores the Lodge's dedication to educational success, as members worked with community partners to bridge gaps and support the district's families.

Youth Bike Donation Brings Joy to Local Children

The Lodge extended its community outreach with a Youth Bike Donation initiative, donating six brand-new bicycles to local children. This effort aimed to bring smiles and promote physical activity among the youth. The Lodge collaborated with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Gamma Alpha Chi Zeta Chapter, highlighting the collective impact of organizations working together for the greater good. Through this initiative, Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 brought joy to families and exemplified the importance of investing in the community's future.

Thanksgiving Support for the Homeless

This Thanksgiving, the Lodge partnered with Dr. Krystal Cross and her team at *A Chicago Bite* restaurant, along with *Church Under the Bridge*, to provide meals for the homeless. As part of this initiative, Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 donated four turkeys to *A Chicago Bite*, enabling the restaurant to prepare Thanksgiving dinners for those in need. This donation reflects the Lodge's core values of service and compassion, as members joined forces with local businesses and organizations to bring warmth and nourishment to the less fortunate.

The Lodge's Thanksgiving efforts with *A Chicago Bite* and *Church Under the Bridge* embody its motto, "Service for the Greater Good," illustrating how community partnerships can create lasting change. Dr. Cross's dedication to feeding and supporting the homeless, with the Lodge's support, shows the power of collaboration in addressing community needs.

A Legacy of Service and Commitment

Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 has continually demonstrated its commitment to making a positive impact through education, youth programs, and outreach to the underserved. By supporting local students, providing opportunities for children, and bringing comfort to those in need during the holidays, the Lodge is making a meaningful difference in the lives of San Antonio and Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City residents.

These initiatives underscore the Lodge's dedication to uplifting the community, fostering hope, and creating a legacy of service that inspires future generations. Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668's ongoing efforts showcase the positive impact that compassionate leadership and community-focused actions can have on society.

Warmth for the Elderly in Cibolo Community

On November 9, 2024, Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 continued its outreach by donating 116 pairs of new socks to elderly residents in the Cibolo community. This simple yet thoughtful act was designed to provide comfort and warmth for seniors, especially as the colder months approach. The Lodge's focus on caring for all age groups within the community exemplifies its commitment to supporting vulnerable populations and ensuring that every resident feels valued and cared for.



Granville C. Coggs Lodge #668 supports Schertz, Cibolo, Universal City ISD in their back-to-school drive.



Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas Begin G. W. Carver Vocational High Restoration Project

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas (Julius Rosenwald) George Washington Carver Vocational High Restoration Project

Cliff Massey, District Deputy District 23 (PHA), Cibolo, Texas



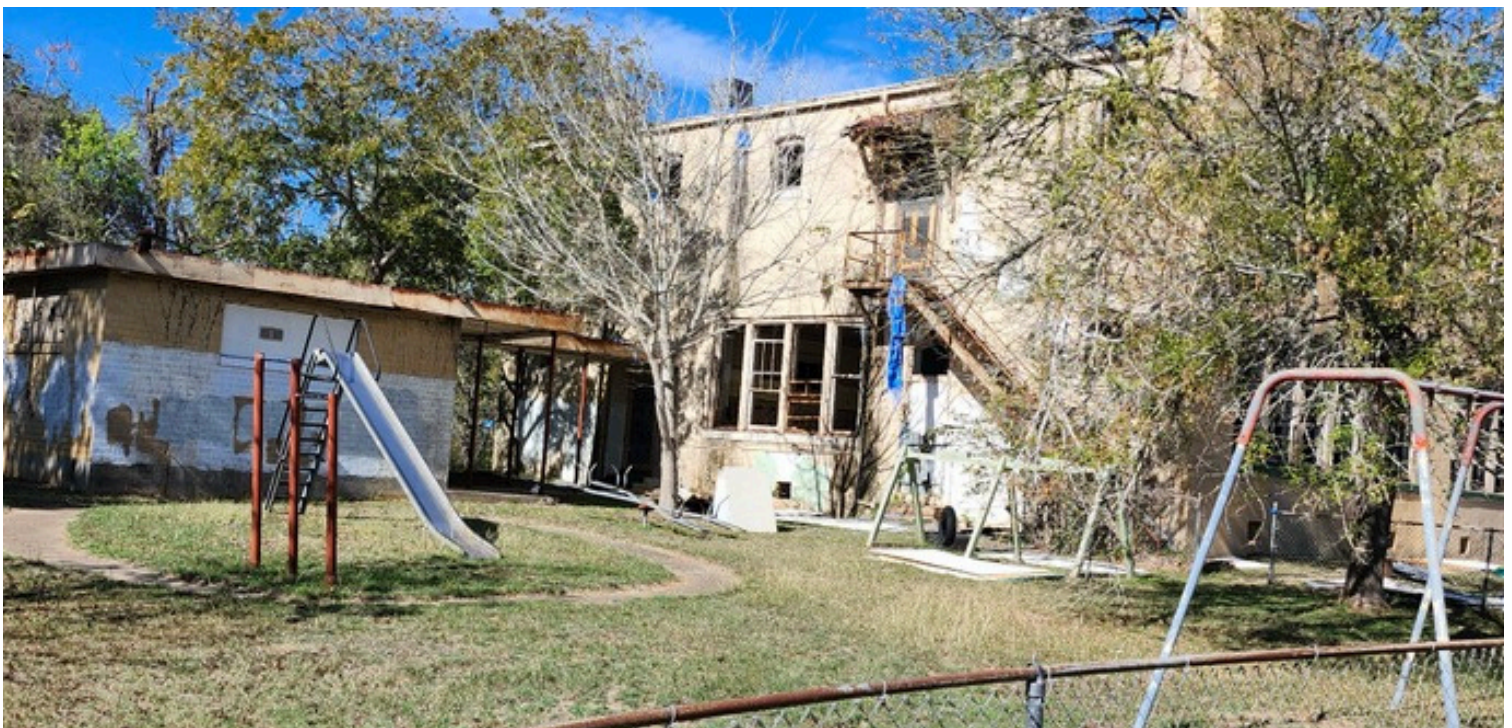
Lockhart, Texas. After years of delays, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas (MWPHGLOTX) restoration project is finally moving forward with a sense of fulfillment. After years of planning and securing funding, The MWPHGLOTX started the first phase of the (Julius Rosenwald) George Washington Carver Vocational High Restoration Project on November 22nd, 2024, thanks to a three-million-dollar allocation from Texas Legislature.

The initiative to restore the building, which educated and served Black students in Lockhart from 1934 to 1964, is known as the Julius Rosenwald George Washington Carver Vocational High School Restoration Project. This project is supported by the MWPHGLOTX and aims to honor Julius Rosenwald, a philanthropist who financed over 5,000 schools for rural Black children in the South, and George Washington Carver, an esteemed scientist and educator who influenced many of the vocational courses offered at the school.

The MWPHGLOTX Steering Committee has selected Carter Design and Associates, an Austin-based firm led by Donna D. Carter, FAIA, to develop a detailed project plan for restoring the George Washington Carver Vocational High School building. Specializing in architectural planning and restoration, CDA has experience revitalizing historic sites like the Ethiopian Star Lodge #308 in Snook, Texas. Their expertise in combining revitalization, historic preservation, and new construction makes them the ideal choice for our project.

We will maintain historical accuracy to preserve our building's original character. Grand Master Michael T. Anderson expressed his excitement that the project is starting after six years of planning. We selected the right firm and are confident in our direction. We will adhere to phased plans and partner with the community to determine the building's final state. This project is expected to take a minimum of 18 to 24 months.

The Prince Hall Charitable Foundation Committee is collaborating with various stakeholders to secure additional funding for the revitalization of the historic Carver Vocational High School and the surrounding area. This effort aims to memorialize the grounds, preserve the school's history, and rejuvenate Prince Hall Masonry in Lockhart and nearby areas.



Community leaders have been crucial for our progress. Ms. Hatti Carter has kept us informed about building activities, serving as a vital link for MWPHGLOTX's local engagements. Hatti, Past Master Homer Williams, Royal Feast Lodge #214, and Shirley Williams have long been involved in initiatives to revitalize their former school. All expressed their happiness at witnessing this high honor for the school and local community. Hatti said, "My soul is rejoicing" as I witness this day.

Our Lockhart Steering committee is chaired by Willie High Coleman, Chairman of the PHCF, under the direction of Grand Master Michael T. Anderson. The Steering Committee includes Deputy Grand Master Big Bryce Hardin, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden Frank Jackson, Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden Ronald Gerac, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary T. C. Bittle, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer Robert Datcher, Right Worshipful Grand Auditor Sam Hobbs Jr., Right Worshipful Grand Auditor Joseph Thomas III, *Worshipful* Otho Wilbur Sr., and Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master, District 23, Cliff Massey. Contact for the committee is lockhartprojectcommittee@mwphglotx.org.

“WE” are one step closer to memorializing the grounds, preserving the history of Carver Vocational High School, and revitalizing Prince Hall Masonry in the Lockhart and surrounding areas. All Master Masons within our jurisdiction should take great pride in our collective efforts, future endeavors, and the enthusiasm surrounding this building and the Lockhart, Texas community.

NORRIS WRIGHT CUNEY GRAND CHAPTER

ELECTED GRAND OFFICERS

2024-2025

WWW.NWCGC.ORG



Tracy Gardner
Grand Worthy Matron



Phillip Edwards, II
Grand Worthy Patron



Marvin Dave
Grand Associate Patron



Trina Powell
Grand Associate Matron



Shontell Jackson
Grand Secretary



Talya J. Stroman
Grand Treasurer



Rhonda K. Davis
Grand Conductress



April Shaw
Grand Associate Conductress



Willie Foreman
Grand Board Member



Diane Adams
Grand Board Member



Johnnie McMillian
Grand Board Member



Octavioir Washington
Grand Board Member

Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter Embraces Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness

In a vibrant display of solidarity and awareness, members of the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter wore pink in their October chapter meeting to honor Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This deed aims to highlight the importance of breast cancer education, support survivors, and pay tribute to those who have lost their battle with the disease.

Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter and its constituent chapters continue to promote its ongoing initiative to encourage annual breast exams. Which will help increase early detection rates and improve outcomes for those affected by breast cancer.

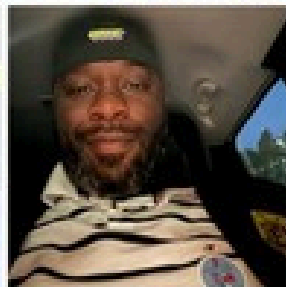
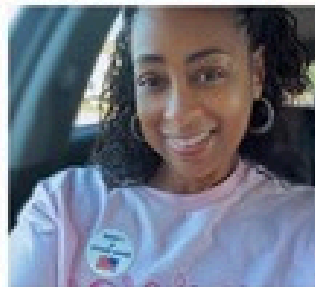
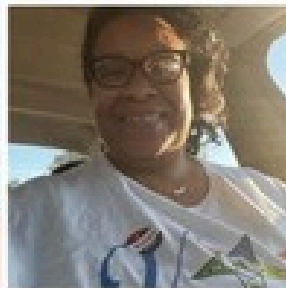
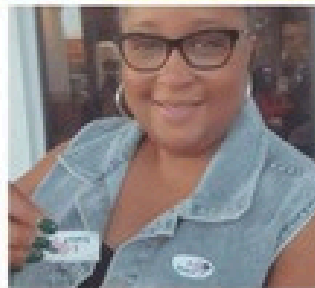
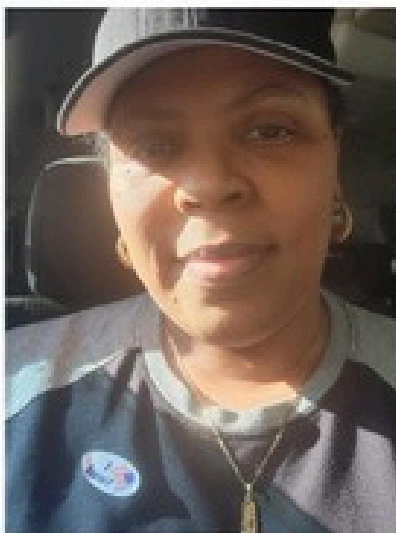
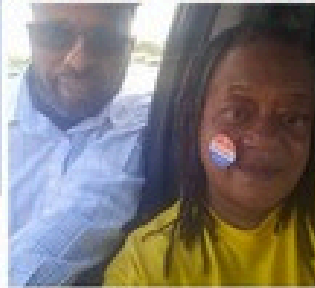
Through these concerted efforts and vibrant displays of unity, the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter stands as a beacon of hope and action in the fight against breast cancer.





Voter Registration & Get out and Vote Initiative 2024 Aug 2024-Nov 2024

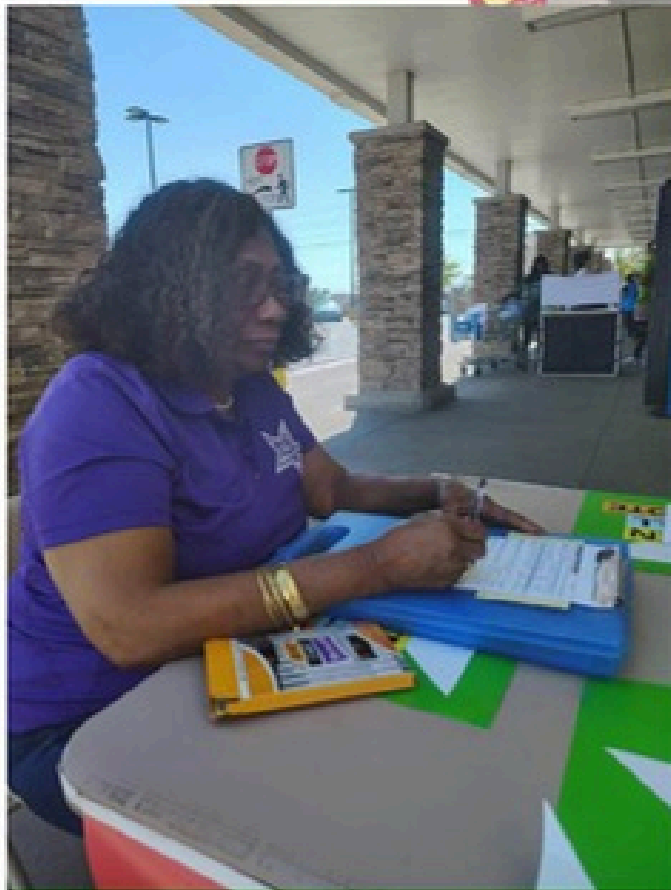
The members of Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter launched the Voter Registration & Get Out and Vote Initiative for 2024 across the state of Texas with great success! Members prepared in the various counties by becoming Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar to help ensure that every eligible citizen had the opportunity to participate in the democratic process by registering to vote. The regions were tasked with organizing various Voter Registration Drives with the chapters within the various communities to lead up to the NWC GC Statewide Voter Registration Drive and follow through until Election Day.

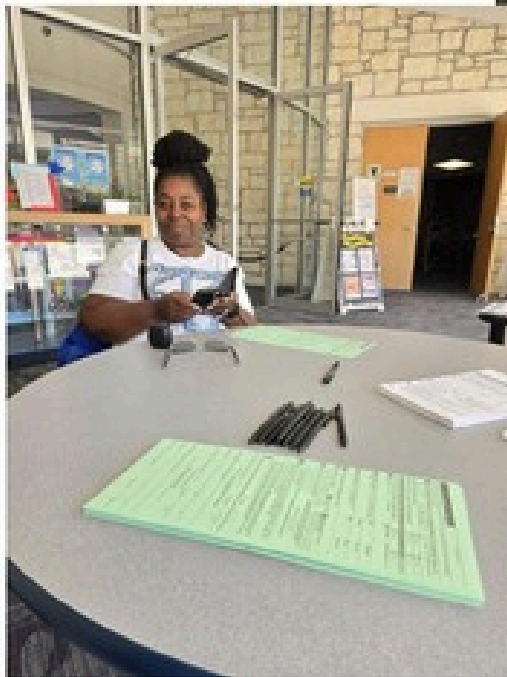


"Working Together Works" is our forever motto and this could not have been completed without the help of our other sister organizations – Heroines of Jericho, LOCOP, Guild, Golden Circle and our dedicated brothers of the MWPHGLOfTX !



We fulfilled our initiative and registered 800+ citizens to vote! Some areas went above and beyond by participating in various panels and discussions around Voter Information, United Front Caravans with churches and other organizations to drive/march to the polls, participated with multi service centers & local little league local little league football organizations to set up a voter registration booth, transporting senior citizens to the polls.





"The right to vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool or instrument we have in a democratic society. And We must use it." - The Late Congressman John Robert Lewis

As we continue the good fight, please remember that although the results of this 2024 Presidential Election has been determined – we must continue on and show up to vote – EVERY YEAR – EVERY ELECTION to include your local/state elections!

On behalf of Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter & The 2024 Voting Initiative Committee – We thank each member, organization and community that assisted with this initiative.

Sis. Rhonda Kaye Davis - NWCGC Grand Conductress
 Sis. April Shaw – NWCGC Grand Associate Conductress
 Bro. Phillip Edwards – NWCGC Grand Worthy Patron
 Bro. Marvin Dave – NWCGC Grand Associate Patron
 All Regional Directors & Members of NWCGC

NORRIS WRIGHT CUNEY GRAND YOUTH FRATERNITY 27TH ANNUAL YOUTH SESSION HOUSTON, TX

The 27th Annual Youth Session of the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Youth Fraternity was held in Houston, TX, from July 26-28, 2024. Friday evening commenced with the introduction of our Grand Youth Fraternity's leader, Chekesha Ferrell. With active youth members from across Texas gathered, the evening began by recognizing their dedication in the classroom, community, and social activities. Kudos to Yellow Rose of Texas YF members, Princess Jana Brown, and J'Niah Brown, as well as Stanley R. Gibson members, Jamaya West, and Iain Young, for exhibiting outstanding leadership traits and being recognized as NWCGYF RockStars. We continue to encourage sponsors to foster an environment where our youth can be recognized for all they do and achieve, allowing them to grow into confident and productive adults within their communities.



Later that evening, we honored our seniors, who have been integral members of their youth fraternities and served their communities with utmost commitment. Princess Matron Alyse Shephard of Houston Dynasty YF will attend Florida A&M University, Princess Associate Matron A'nylah Barrett of Stanley R. Gibson YF will attend Tuskegee University, and Princess Taylor Watts of Houston Dynasty YF will continue her education at a higher learning institution upon accepting a program.

The 2024 Youth Fraternity of the Year was awarded to Houston Dynasty YF. This outstanding youth fraternity worked on various initiatives throughout Harris County. The Houston Dynasty YF is led by Taia Smith, who was named the 2024 Sponsor of the Year.

The night concluded with the introduction of youth fraternities, their members, and sponsors, special guest NWCGC 2024 Grand Queen, and the NWCGC elected officers.

Saturday morning, the NWC Grand Youth Fraternity opened with a ritualistic ceremony. The youth and sponsors collaborated to perfect the changes made to the opening. We initiated four new youth members into the fraternity, who are a valuable addition, and we eagerly anticipate their growth. Reports were presented, and officers were appointed for the upcoming year. We look forward to what the future holds with our new youth leaders.



We extend our gratitude to the host fraternity, Houston Dynasty, and Magnolia Lodge #3, for providing lunch to all members, sponsors, and parents. Your unwavering support is appreciated.

Saturday afternoon, youth fraternity members, sponsors, and parents headed to the Houston Food Bank. Together, we assembled care packages to be distributed to those in need. This display of unity was inspiring, with participants ranging from 4 to 70 years old. This effort alone was a lesson to our youth that there is no age requirement to serve. We completed 31 pallets, 2,480 boxes, totaling 34,720 meals. **JOB WELL DONE!**



Our youth leaders also traveled to Clear Lake, TX to bring greetings to the Knights of Pythagoras in celebration of their 25 years.

The night concluded with a movie, pizza, popcorn, and a PJ party.

The session wrapped up on Sunday with a worship service. The message from Rev. Johnnie White III was well received as we all journeyed back to our respective destinations.



NWCGC Clothing Drive

Successful effort. All bins were filled.

Thank you

*Royal Eminence of Texas
Requests the Honor of Your Presence at*



DALLAS MARRIOTT SUITES MEDICAL / MARKET CENTER

2493 N Stemmons Fwy, Dallas, TX 75207



Black Tie / Formal Attire is required



Purchase tickets via this QR code

We are delighted to extend a formal invitation to the Inaugural Gala of the Royal Eminence of Texas. This distinguished event promises an evening of sophistication, purpose, and unity as we gather to address "The Crisis in Black Education" and honor the dedicated trailblazers championing this critical cause.

Join us in our shared mission to foster community and bring attention to this vital issue.

For tickets, please reach out to us at royaleminenceoftexa@gmail.com.

For further inquiries regarding the event, feel free to contact us at the same email address.

Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter 2024 Mid-Winter Session

The recent Mid-Winter Session, which took place on November 8-9, 2024, was truly memorable.

The evening event, "OES Game of Thrones," focused on games, enjoyment, and camaraderie, setting an energetic and inviting atmosphere for the entire session. The fun kicked off with a game called "Pass the Purse," skillfully led by PGWM Eula Bell.

Members, unaware of the surprises in store, found themselves pleasantly delighted as the game progressed, creating a laid-back and enjoyable vibe that carried through the night's festivities.

The games, expertly facilitated by Sisters Shanna Hawkins, De'Onna Washington, and Juanyce Wilson, served as the ideal introduction, enabling our members to connect and bond in a cheerful and relaxed setting.



The atmosphere was filled with laughter and a spirit of friendly competition as participants took part in various games that tested their OES knowledge and encouraged teamwork. The opening on Friday not only set a positive tone but also established a foundation for a weekend filled with meaningful interactions and strengthened connections.

The following morning, the session adopted a more formal tone as our Regional Directors and District Deputy Grand Matrons commenced day two in a ritualistic fashion, demonstrating their leadership and commitment to the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter. Their flawless execution of the opening highlighted the significance of study and discipline, motivating everyone present to embody these values in their Chapter, District, and Jurisdiction efforts.

The workshop encompassed a series of engaging and informative demonstrations conducted by Grand Conductress Rhonda Davis and Grand Associate Conductress April Shaw. These were designed to be somewhat interactive and catered to the diverse needs and clarifications to the members. The workshop addressed a range of topics which encouraged leadership development, effective communication, and inclusion, providing basic insights and correct practices for the membership which left them with a deeper understanding and renewed sense of purpose that can be applied to their respective roles.





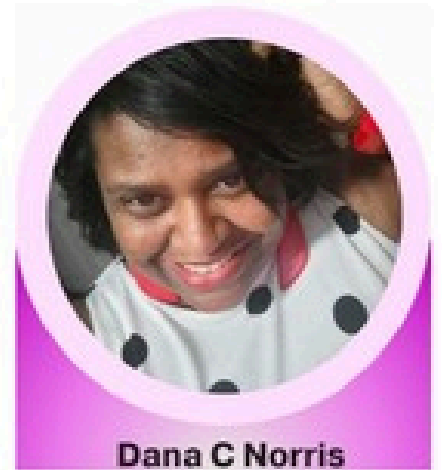




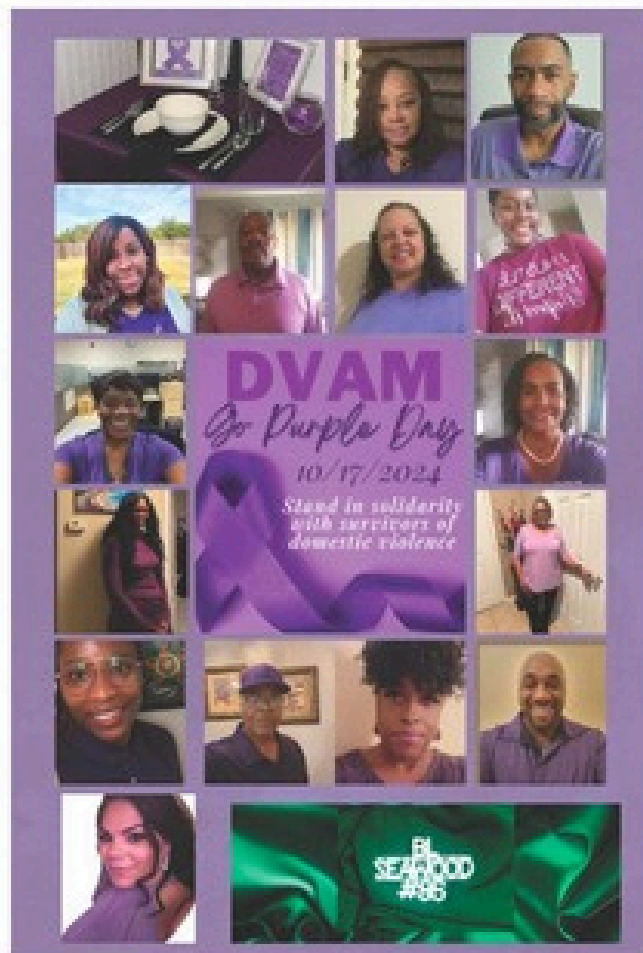
Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter Observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Chapter (NWCGC) hosted a virtual event aimed at educating and empowering its members. The Zoom session featured an insightful presentation by Worthy Matron Dana C. Norris of Stars of Faith #66, who focused on the critical issue of understanding domestic violence.

Worthy Matron Norris's presentation highlighted the multifaceted nature of domestic violence, encompassing physical, emotional, and psychological abuse. She emphasized the importance of recognizing the signs of domestic violence and understanding the profound impact it can have on individuals and families.



Dana C Norris



The event also served as a platform to shed light on the resources available for those affected by domestic violence.

By hosting events like this, NWCGC aims to empower their members with the knowledge and tools needed to combat domestic violence and support those in need.



For more information or assistance, here is a key outreach contact:

- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

Together, we can make a difference and bring hope to those affected by domestic violence.

Xiomara Guild #5



(From L-Right: Princess Alicia Shepherd, Princess MeShandaPhillips, Princess Captain Julicia Minor, Pastor West. Past Princess Captain Stacy Vincent, Princess Taia Smith, Past Princess Captain Ima Ekanem, Past District Deputy Princess De'Edra Bond-Hodrick, Royal Advisor Joseph Cooper)

Texas City/Houston, Texas- Xiomara Guild #5 celebrated the Lone Star Grand Guild's Founder Day on June 9, 2024 at the Church Without Walls Queenston campus. The service of the day was officiated by Pastor Ralph West II. Immediately following the service Xiomara #5 officers and members joined together for fellowship at Orleans Kitchen in Katy, TX. June's services at The Church Without Walls highlights educational accomplishments from all areas of education. Xiomara Guild #5 had the pleasure of Miss Alyse Shepherd, Grand Princess of the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Youth Fraternity and Houston Dynasty Youth Fraternity to fellowship with us as well. Ms. Alyse will be heading to Florida A&M University this fall and we wish her much success in her educational endeavors.

XIOMARA #5 AND QUEEN MAKEDA COURT #4 JOINT DEPUTY RETREAT



Texas City/Houston, Texas- Xiomara Guild #5 celebrated the Lone Star Grand Guild's Founder Day on June 9, 2024 at the Church Without Walls Queenston campus. The service of the day was officiated by Pastor Ralph West II. Immediately following the service Xiomara #5 officers and members joined together for fellowship at Orleans Kitchen in Katy, TX. June's services at The Church Without Walls highlights educational accomplishments from all areas of education. Xiomara Guild #5 had the pleasure of Miss Alyse Shepherd, Grand Princess of the Norris Wright Cuney Grand Youth Fraternity and Houston Dynasty Youth Fraternity to fellowship with us as well. Ms. Alyse will be heading to Florida A&M University this fall and we wish her much success in her educational endeavors.



LEORA O' Guild NO 35

Leora O' Guild #35 had a joint meeting with Flowers of Alamo Guild #8 and Alamo Commandery #7 on August 13, 2024. It was an honor to have our special guests.



Training Session Ft. Worth, TX Sept. 2024

Past Grand Princess Captain Latrice Davis, Princess Gwen McGee, and newly initiated member Princess Patricia Ford-Ritcherson.



Congratulations to Leora O' Guild #35 Election Officers for 2024-2025!

PC Polly Emerson APC Betty Sanders 1st Lt Patricia Ford-Ritcherson
2nd Lt Cassandra Robinson-Gossett Treasurer Gwen McGee
Secretary Latrice Davis
Chaplin Dezella Marshall Cross Bearer Rosie McCollum
Inspectress Gladys Smith
Inner Sentinel Dorothy Jenkins and Special Deputy Diane Shepard-Hill



St. Cecil Guild #2 Year at a Glance

By: Pr. Jacquetta Jackson

In December 2023, PC Monica Stoglin and St. Cecil Guild #2 kicked off its 2024 administration with a bang by supporting St. Cecil Commandery's Annual Christmas Toast. Shortly after, in February 2024 marked the 94th Lone Star Grand Guild Conclave which was held in Spring, Tx. where our very own Grand Princess Captain Monique Calbert presided. St. Cecil showed up and showed out. This year, Pr. 1st Lt. Jacquetta Jackson represented as the 2024 Grand Queen contestant. The coronation was held Feb 3rd and Pr. 1st Lt. Jacquetta Jackson was crowned 2024 Grand Queen.



During the month of June 2024, St. Cecil showed support in recognition of Juneteenth during the June meeting. July brought about a busy month starting with the North Texas Deputies, where members convened in Tyler Texas for a day of bonding, fellowship and bracelets making. We also participated in the North Texas Regional Training. On August 4, 2024, to start the school year off right, St. Cecil #2 donated apples, juice, snacks, pull ups, and pop tarts to the Ft. Worth Save Our Children Learning Center.



The month of September was one for the books. On the 8th, St. Cecil Guild #2 and St. Cecil Commandery joined forces again to host its annual Soul Food Cookout. Quickly following the cookout was the 19th Annual Training Conference and Black and White Banquet held in Ft. Worth Texas. Special Dep. Patina Alexander was recognized for doing the most community service and Grand Queen, 1st. Lt. Jacquetta Jackson was presented an award, With Honor and Deep Appreciation from Grand Deputy Benitris Edwards for her hard work and dedication as the LSGG Grand Deputy Assistant for 2024.



March 2024, St. Cecil assisted in the Feed the City Arlington community service. 1023 sandwiches were made in the effort to feed the families in need. St. Cecil finished out the month by teaming up with St. Cecil Commandery #5 to host Easter festivities for the kids at New Providence Baptist Church in Ft. Worth. The children colored and decorated eggs, which was used in the Easter Egg hunt. The kids were very excited and truly enjoyed themselves.



Rounding out the year, St. Cecil showed support by wearing pink during the October monthly meeting for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In addition, hosted a 50 Shades of Pink Banquet on October 19. During the months of October



and November we welcomed to the Guild, a total of 4 new members, Pr. RoShona Anderson, Pr. Yvonne Sion-Smith, Pr. Jackie Henderson, and Pr. Kalondia McCain "Neasy". With the new year around the corner, we look forward to hosting York Rite Weekend 2025 in Ft. Worth, Texas under the leadership of our very own Grand Princess Captain, Monique Calbert.

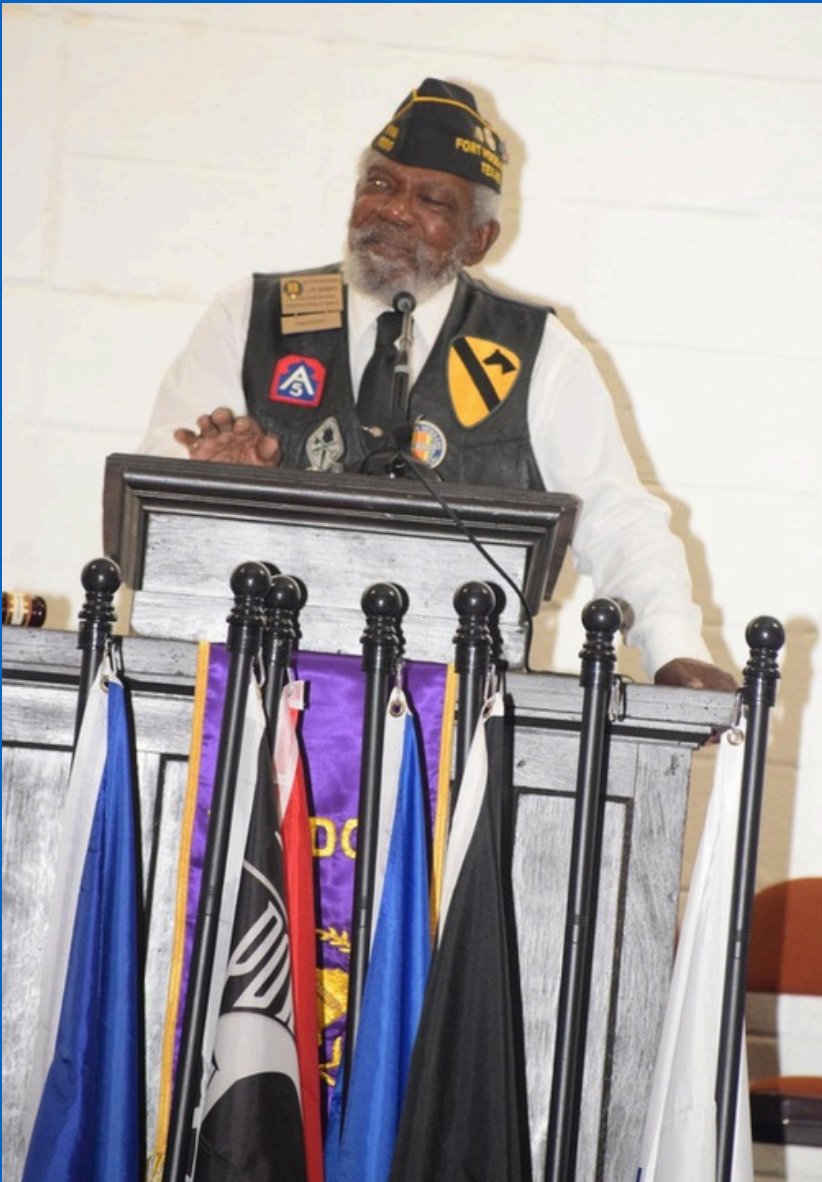


Pr. RoShona Anderson Pr. Jackie Henderson Pr. Kalonnia "Neasy" McCain
Pr. Yvonne Sion-Smith

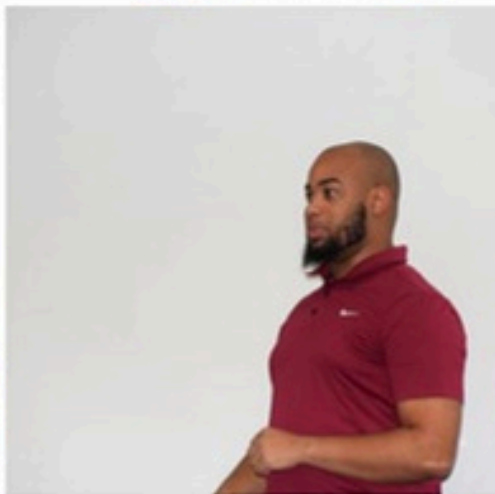
MWPHGLOTX

Mid-Winter

Photos provide by Edwin D. Moore























The Grand High Court Conducts “A Class of its Own”

Author Unknown



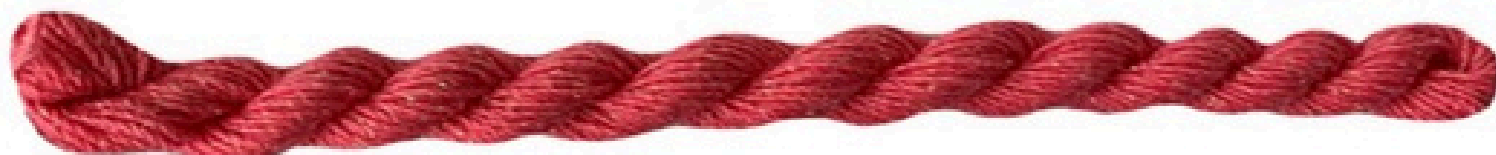
FRISCO, TEXAS - Introducing the 1st Past Most Ancient Matron Degree class for the Grand High Court Heroines of Jericho. These ladies have served as the Most Ancient Matron of their court and now have had the privilege to be a part of history by being the first class to receive the PMAM degree during Grand Session 2024. Congratulations ladies, you deserve it!



Community Unity: HOJ Courts and Masons Support Homeless Charity in San Marcos

By Her. Debra Overton

San Marcos, TX – Members of the Venus Armbrister and Josephine Roberts HOJ Courts, along with Masons of District 23, gathered for a joint church service, demonstrating unity and compassion within the community. In addition to attending the service together, they left a generous donation to the church's charity fund, which supports local initiatives for the homeless. Their combined efforts reflect a strong commitment to aiding those in need and fostering community support.



Heroines of Venus Armbrister Court Bring Hope with "Shoes for Orphans" Drive in Lockhart

By Her. Debra Overton

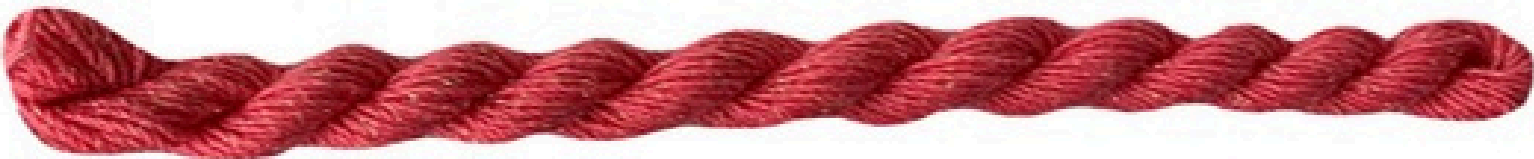
Lockhart, Texas- the Heroines of Venus Armbrister Court generously organized a "Shoes for Orphans" drive at First Baptist Church, aiming to provide essential support and encouragement to children in need. Through their initiative, the members of the court collected and donated new shoes for orphans, ensuring that these children have comfortable and sturdy footwear for daily life and school. This drive is a testament to the court's mission of service and compassion, demonstrating their commitment to making a positive difference in their community by uplifting and caring for vulnerable children.



Josephine Roberts No. 510 Court Raffles School-Ready Backpacks to Support San Marcos Students

By Her. Debra Overton

Josephine Roberts Court No. 510 is hosting a raffle to support students in San Marcos by providing backpacks filled with essential school supplies and fun extras. Members will be selling tickets for a chance to win a boy's or girl's backpack, each packed with a variety of items including socks, folders, ink pens, pencils, gloves, and small blankets. Other goodies include beanies, spiral notebooks, key rings, diaries, wallets, scarves, and peppermint candies. The girls' backpack will also contain bows, nail polish, a purse, and a 2025 calendar, while both backpacks will include a set of note cards. This raffle is a fantastic way to equip students with everything they need for the school year!



J. Harvey Casey #537

**VOTER REGISTRATION
DRIVE**

Monday, October 7, 2024,
the Heroines from J. Harvey
Casey volunteered with the
Dallas County Elections
Department to register
Dallas County residents to
vote.



Centennial Court #500 is On the Move

By: Her. Jacquetta Jackson, Sr. Matron

Fort Worth, TX - Centennial Court #500 has had an impactful and eventful year under the guidance of Most Ancient Matron Patina Alexander! The efforts to bring awareness to mental health by incorporating symbolic gestures, like wearing green, highlight the Court's dedication to addressing critical societal issues. With mental health being such a pressing concern, your initiative undoubtedly sets an example for other organizations.

The Court's strong presence at the 140th Grand High Court session and regional training showcases a commendable commitment to leadership, education, and representation within the Heroine of Jericho community. Congratulations to PMAM Irma Cothron, Peggy Nuttroy, and Prince Judie on receiving the distinguished title of Honorary Past Grand Most Ancient Matron—what an incredible honor!

As the organization looks ahead to 2025, it's clear that Centennial Court #500 is making strides in growth and excellence. Best wishes for continued success and opportunities to make a meaningful difference!



JOINT MASONIC BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE: E.L. Downing Court #237, HOJ/LaBrent U Epps #3 Youth Palace Participate

Angela Colón-Allison, MAM- Most Ancient Matron

Back to School Drive BLESSING! New Light Lodge #242, E.L. Downing #237, HOJ, LaBrent U Epps #3, B.L. Seawood #86, OES, New Star Light #5, OES, South Central Guild #39

Killeen, TX - TEAMWORK, MAKES THE DREAM WORK! This is exactly what these masonic organization did! On August 10, 2024, a joint Masonic Back to School Drive was held to provide the Greater Killeen community with school supplies, Back Packs, paper, pens, folders, crayons, notebooks and a small snack! A great time was had, and it was an AMAZING sight to see the smiles that were on a few families' faces!

2ND ANNUAL
BACK TO SCHOOL
BACKPACK DRIVE

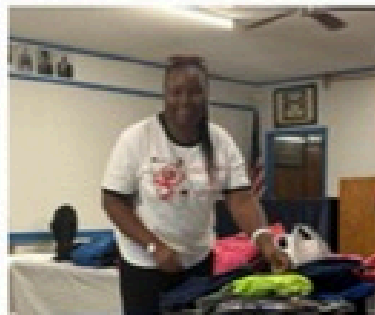


Joint Backpack Donation
New Light Lodge #242
E. L. Downing Court 237
New Starlight Chapter #5
B.L. Seawood Chapter #86
South Central Guild #39



Back 2 School Backpack
Donation
Saturday 10 August
Location

New Light Lodge #242
304 South 40th Street
Killeen TX 76543
10:00am to 12:00pm



THANK YOU
FOR
INVESTING
IN OUR
EDUCATION!



Magnolia Court #28 Hosts the Inspiring Derek L. Clayton Prayer Breakfast

By. DDGMAM Sonya Wilkes

El Paso, Texas - On a memorable morning October 26th, 2024, Magnolia Court #28 gathered for the annual Derek L. Clayton Prayer Breakfast, a cherished event that brought members, friends, and leaders together for fellowship, reflection, and celebration. Hosted in a warm and inviting atmosphere, the breakfast was prepared with care by Joe F. Paige Chapter #149, who provided a delicious spread enjoyed by all.

The event featured an inspiring keynote address by Dr. Butler, who highlighted the strength and significance of three great women from the Bible, weaving stories of faith, resilience, and wisdom that resonated deeply with everyone present. Dr. Butler's words reminded attendees of the power of grace and courage, sparking a powerful spirit of unity and reflection within the gathering.

Magnolia Court #28 was also honored by a special visit from Grand Most Ancient Matron R. Lucille Samuel. Her presence underscored the importance of the occasion, bringing a sense of pride and encouragement to the attendees. Additionally, District Deputy Grand Most Ancient Matron Sonya Wilkes accepted a warm welcome from Most Ancient Matron Joy Cowins, who delivered a beautiful and heartfelt greeting that set a gracious tone for the day.

Serving as Mistress of Ceremony, Heroine Rochelle Cottingham skillfully guided the program, ensuring a seamless flow of events and adding her own warmth and charm to the proceedings. The breakfast not only celebrated faith but also community, with wonderful door prizes adding a touch of excitement and appreciation to the day.

The Derek L. Clayton Prayer Breakfast was a resounding success, leaving all who attended uplifted, inspired, and deeply connected. Magnolia Court #28 looks forward to continuing this tradition, bringing faith and fellowship to the community for years to come.



Magnolia Court #28 Supports Local Students with School Supplies & Backpack Giveaway at Third Generation Karate Studio

By District Deputy Grand Most Ancient Matron Sonya Wilkes

El Paso, Texas - Magnolia Court #28 recently held a heartfelt back-to-school rally at the Third Generation Karate Studio, making a meaningful impact on young students as they prepared for the upcoming school year. In the spirit of community support, the Heroines and Court Directors of Magnolia Court #28 came together to generously donate school supplies and fill backpacks, ensuring that each student received the tools needed to start the academic year strong.

The rally was more than just a giveaway; it was a true celebration. Families gathered for a pizza party, providing a joyful atmosphere that encouraged connection and camaraderie among students, parents, and supporters alike. The event highlighted the values of both education and community, fostering a spirit of excitement and support as the children geared up for school.

Adding to the sense of pride and encouragement, Worshipful Joshua Bernard Samuel and Grand Most Ancient Matron R. Lucille Samuel took the opportunity to present certificates of achievement to several outstanding students. The awards recognized their hard work and dedication, leaving each recipient beaming with pride. These special acknowledgments added a touch of ceremony to the day, showing the students that their efforts and accomplishments were valued and celebrated.

The back-to-school rally exemplified the dedication of Magnolia Court #28 to uplifting and supporting the community, especially its youth. Through the donation of school supplies, shared meals, and the acknowledgment of student achievements, Magnolia Court #28 left a lasting positive impact on the students and families of Third Generation Karate Studio. The Court is grateful for the chance to make a difference and looks forward to continuing this annual tradition, bringing encouragement and resources to local students each year.



Pink Day Celebration in Point Blank, Texas



Story and Pictures by Most Ancient Matron Corrine Horn
Edited by Heroine Yvonne Shuler, PhD, CP

POINT BLANK, TX - The community of Point Blank, Texas, celebrated **Pink Day** on the second Sunday of October 2024 in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness. This event was established as a non-paid holiday in 2014 by the late mayor of Point Blank. The inaugural theme, "**Real Men Wear Pink,**" set the tone for the ongoing mission: to support individuals battling breast cancer and remind them they are not alone.

Pink Day was founded in 2014 by Most Ancient Matron Corrine Horn. This year, the 2024 recipient of the event's support is Ms. Shannon Brown, who is courageously facing stage 4 triple-negative breast cancer.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to everyone who supported this cause, including the **Heroines of Jericho Silver Stone Court #65** of Point Blank.



Sisters Supporting Sisters

Silver Stone Court #65, Point Blank, TX attended the Masonic Services for Regina Paulette Flora - HPMAGM September 27, 2024, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Mrs. Regina wore many hats and wore them well. We met her in June 2024 at our Heroines of Jericho Prince Hall Affiliation Grand Session in Frisco, TX. Thank you to Oklahoma for showing Texas some love. We enjoyed attending the beautiful service. Silver Stone pictured with Jamila Jackson the daughter of HPMAGM and MAGM Celois Coulter - Flowers.



Rebecca Court No. 2 Host the 3rd Annual Veterans Day Prayer Breakfast

Author Unknown

San Antonio, TX - Thank you to all our family members, friends, officers, and members who came out to support the 3rd Annual Veterans Day Prayer Breakfast and Salute to Our Heroes on Saturday, November 2, 2024.

We presented a check for \$500 to Soldiers' Angels, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that supports local military personnel and their families, made possible by the proceeds from this event.



MSgt Raven Mirabeau (Ret) USAF, a Deacon at Mt. Zion First Baptist Church, and Shelina Hardwick-Moses, a Military Key Spouse and Resiliency Assistance Trainer, were the featured guest speakers. PMAM Karen Allen-Mirabeau served as the Mistress of Ceremonies and provided a lesson on the origin of Veterans Day.



Willie's Peak and MOCOP KIDS Spread Holiday Joy with Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

*Story and Pictures by Heroine Annice Brawley, Queen
Edited by Heroine Yvonne Shuler, PhD, CP*

Ambrister Court #17, Luling, Texas
Willie's Peak Youth Palace

Luling, Texas - Willie's Peak partnered with MOCOP KIDS and donated four shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse. This marks our second year of building shoeboxes for kids. Though the shoeboxes are packed filled with items that children will enjoy; it is not just about giving material gifts. We pack these shoeboxes with the hope that the children who receive them will accept the Ultimate Gift, Jesus Christ, as their Lord and Savior!

"Donating to charity is a deeply fulfilling experience that often brings a sense of warmth and purpose. There's a unique joy in knowing that a simple act on your part can create positive change for someone else, whether it's helping provide food, shelter, education, or medical care. It brings a sense of connection to the larger community, reminding you that even small contributions can collectively make a huge impact." (Quote by Stephanie Espinosa, Willie's Peak Princess)



Keep the Cheer, Cut the Stress: A Guide to Holiday Wellness



Practical tips to stay balanced during the festive season

The holiday season is a time for joy, celebration, and connection. But with the festivities often come added responsibilities—planning gatherings, shopping, traveling, or simply balancing the usual routine with seasonal events. It's no wonder stress can creep in. The good news is that you can navigate the season with a calmer mindset by focusing on self-care and prioritization.

Here are some tips to help you make the most of the holidays:

- 1. Plan and Set Boundaries:** The key to managing a busy schedule is preparation. Take a moment to list your top priorities—whether it's spending quality time with loved ones, volunteering, or simply relaxing. Saying "no" to additional commitments when your plate is full is an act of self-care, not selfishness.
- 2. Stick to a Budget:** The holidays don't have to break the bank. Set a realistic budget for gifts, meals, and activities, and stick to it. Focus on meaningful gestures, like handwritten notes or homemade treats, rather than overspending.
- 3. Stay Active and Eat Mindfully:** While the season often brings indulgent treats, balance is key. Incorporate movement into your day, whether that's a quick walk, stretching, or dancing to your favorite music. Enjoy seasonal foods but listen to your body's hunger cues to avoid overindulgence.
- 4. Practice Gratitude:** Gratitude shifts your focus from what's stressful to what's fulfilling. Consider keeping a gratitude journal to capture the small moments that bring joy, whether it's a kind word from a friend or a peaceful moment by yourself.
- 5. Carve Out Time for Rest:** With so much to do, rest is often overlooked. Prioritize downtime, even if it's just 15 minutes to read a book, meditate, or enjoy a cup of tea.



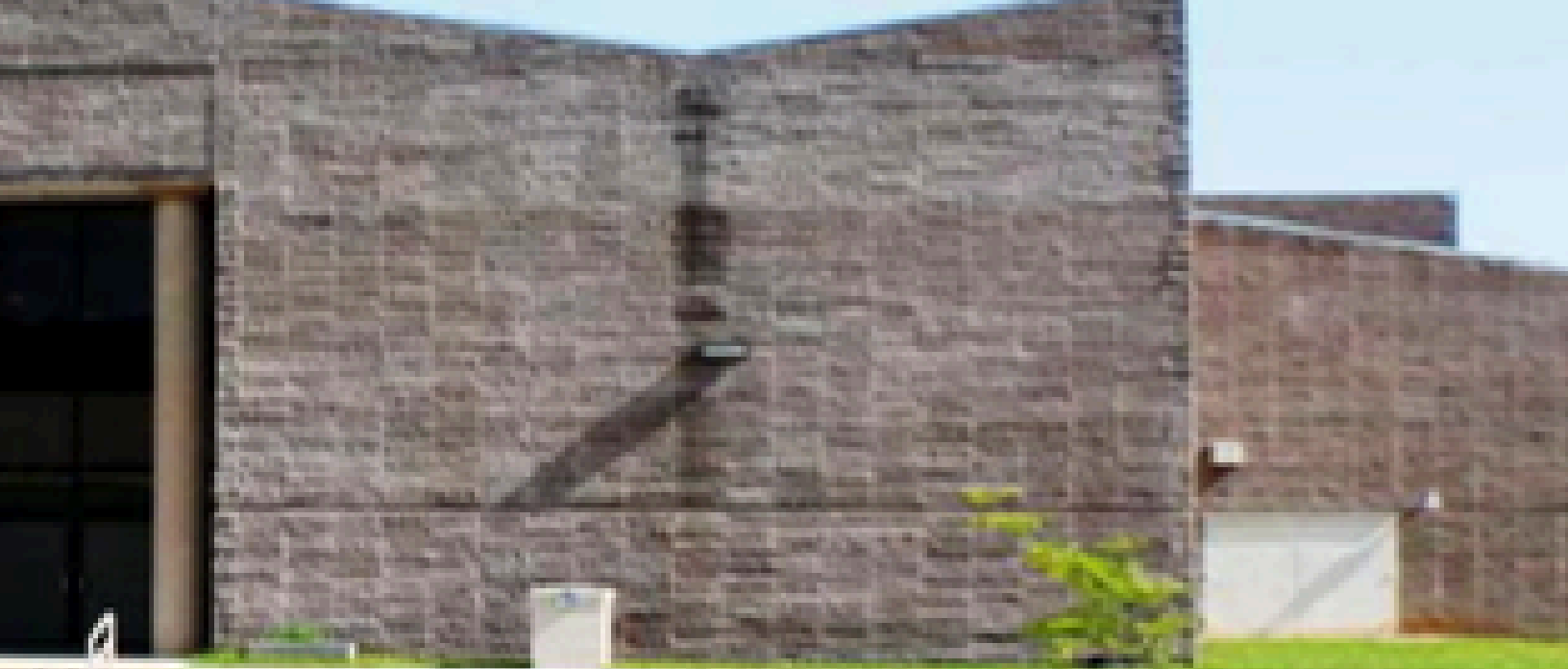
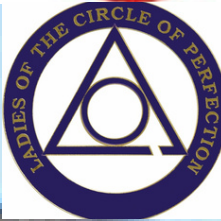
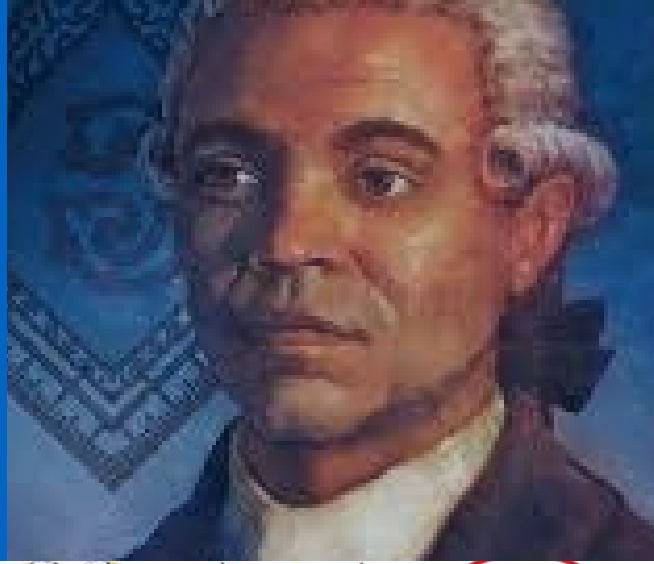
- **Unplug to Recharge:** Set aside time each day to disconnect from screens and reconnect with the people and moments around you.
- **Breathe and Reset:** When you feel overwhelmed, pause and take five deep breaths. Inhale calm, exhale tension.
- **Ask for Support:** Whether it's sharing tasks or simply venting to a friend, remember you're not alone.
- **Focus on What You Can Control:** Let go of the pressure to make everything perfect. Shift your energy toward what brings joy and meaning, and embrace imperfections—they often create the most memorable moments.



This holiday season, give yourself the gift of balance and perspective. Let go of perfection, cherish the meaningful moments, and remember that it's okay to prioritize your well-being. After all, the best way to spread joy is to take care of yourself first.

T.P.H.F.M

THE TEXAS PRINCE HALL FREEMASON



The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Texas

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