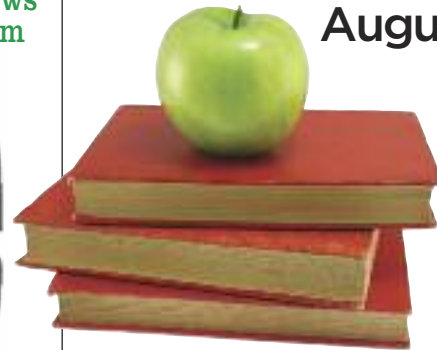




Festivals Abound | PAGE 20

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CELEBRATING FAITH, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY IN KANSAS CITY

VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 8

August 2016

FREE—TAKE ONE!

► ELECTION ANALYSIS

## What you don't know about Eric Greitens

Questions arise about liberal past and campaign cash

by **John Wright** | Metro Voice

Eric Greitens—a lifelong Democrat with liberal alliances—claims to have recently become a conservative and is running for governor of Missouri as a Republican.



**GREITENS**

■ Greitens has raised big money—about \$9 million—with most of it received from out-of-state, including \$1 million from an alleged owner of a sex-slave that he allegedly held 13-years.

■ As he projects power as a former Navy SEAL, other SEALs say he has misrepresented, falsified and exaggerated his military

■ See **MONEY** page 11

## FINDING 'REFUGE'

River of Refuge has turned a once-abandoned hospital into a model for transitional housing

by **Charlene Aaron**

Mario Glynn enjoys raising his seven children from the comfort of his new four-bedroom apartment, a big change from where the single dad and his kids once lived after they lost their home.

"We ended up moving in with a friend in a one bedroom apartment," Glynn said.

Glynn's family is one of several that live at River of Refuge in Raytown, a transitional housing facility for the working poor.

Pastor John Wiley is the force behind the program.

### River of Refuge: From Dream to Reality

In 2009 Wiley told CBN News about his

■ See **FINDING 'REFUGE'** page 22

## U.S. senator gives trio of powerful speeches on race



Tim Scott shares his solutions to racial strife, urges families to sit down over dinner to hear each other's experiences

The U.S. Senate's only black Republican said that ending racial discord starts with breaking bread together.

"I have experienced what's possible when the family talks," Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., said July 14.

"I think this is incredibly important that while our problems appear in black and white, our solutions are black and white."

This marked Scott's third speech in a week in response to the multiple racially charged shootings across the nation, including the killing of eight police officers within one week.

In his final address, Scott said while the government can do more, ultimately it cannot force Americans to resolve their differences. He said ending racial strife in America has no simple solution, but listening to

**Scott, who has been pulled over seven times within one year, says he does not know many African-American men who do not have a similar story to tell, regardless of income level or profession.**

■ See **TIM SCOTT** page 23



# 'I saw myself surrounded with flames'

Plane crash survivor's miraculous tale of faith

by **Stephanie Riggs**

On July 19, 1989, Helen Young Hayes boarded United Airlines flight 232 in Denver, bound for Chicago. That flight never made it. It suffered catastrophic failure of its tail-mounted engine and crashed in Sioux City, Iowa.

Miraculously, Hayes survived. Now she's publically sharing her remarkable story of faith.

"I remember every minute of it as vividly as if it were last week!" Hayes told CBN News.

The harrowing experience tested the faith of the successful money manager seated in row 9, seat B.

Armed with faith, she prayed the impossible: that God literally guide the pilots' hands as they attempted to land a DC-10 with no hydraulic assistance — something that had never been done before.

"Just as I figured out that something was wrong, the captain came on again and he said, 'Ladies and gentlemen, we will not be making it to Chicago after all. We have sustained tail damage to our plane. We are going to attempt an emergency landing in Sioux City, Iowa, in 35 minutes and I'm not gonna kid you folks -- it's gonna be

rough," she recalled.

"The plane was just careening about. I looked up and as I was being thrown around in my seat I saw myself surrounded with flames and for that moment, for the first time, I was afraid," she continued.

"And I thought, 'Dear God, don't let me be burned,' and then the flames passed and suddenly we were somersaulting over and tumbling upside down and then we slid to a stop. All I could hear was the sound of crackling and sizzling and burning," she recalled.

"I could hear passengers moaning and I was hanging upside down and I thought, 'Well, what do I do now?' because this is not what we had rehearsed. This is not what I expected," she said.



HAYES

Hayes, one of 185 people who survived, said she knew she was on that flight for a reason.

"I was on the plane because, unbeknownst to me, the pilot's hands needed guidance and so a prayer was put in me that I just prayed," she told CBN News.

So, what exactly did she pray?

"The first thing that came to mind was the pilots' hands," she said. "I closed my eyes and I just prayed for pilots and I asked the Lord to give them guidance and wisdom and show them what to do. And I believe my prayer was answered that day."

"For the first time in aviation history the plane -- a plane that was not steerable and had no elevators, so it doesn't have the ability to go up and down and it does not have breaks and landing gear -- a completely unsteerable plane was brought to the runway," she continued.

"And while they expected that no one would survive, 185 people lived! I know that's why I was on the plane," she concluded.

So, where did Hayes get her faith?

"I had grown up believing in the salvation of Jesus through my mother and attending our local Catholic church," Hayes told CBN News.

"But there's part of me that always wondered ever since I was a little girl what I believe in prove to be real to me when I needed (it) the most," she said. "And when I am sitting at the edge of eternity, will I be afraid and will God be real to me?"

The July, 1989 crash of United Airlines flight 232 in Sioux City, Ia claimed the lives of many and haunts the memories of survivor Helen Young Hayes.



"And so what was decided for me on July 19, 1989, was, yes, all of that is more real than anything else," Hayes said.

It was her relationship with Jesus that really helped her through life's storms — to live a life bigger than she ever could have imagined.

"I think it's really from knowing who the person of Jesus Christ is and we learn about Him through Scripture, through what He said to what He did," Hayes explained.

"We learn about Him in community. We learn about Him through the

lives and experiences of other people and then by just spending time with Him.

Undaunted by her brush with death 17 years earlier, Hayes has since racked up a million airline miles.

"I have hit the million-mile mark!" she exclaimed. "I have looked death in the eye and sat and glanced over the edge of eternity and I have to say, I believe that death is nothing to fear because I know that this life will just usher in the next life... the real life. It's graduation day. Yes, it's graduation day!"

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## newsbriefs

### Christian dating site agrees to play gay matchmaker

(WNS)—ChristianMingle, a dating website targeting Christian singles, has agreed to open its matchmaking service to clients seeking same-sex relationships. The agreement came as part of a settlement in a lawsuit filed by two gay men who claimed the company's focus on heterosexual relationships discriminated against them. Conservatives denounced the decision as a strike against religious liberty and an unnecessary interference in private business. "Early on in their quest to legalize homosexual marriage, advocates assured us that it would not infringe on the rights of others, especially people of faith," Carrie Gordon Earll, vice president of public policy at Focus on the Family, said. "From dating sites and adoption agencies to small businesses, it's clear today that people of faith are being forced to compromise or risk financial ruin."

### CDC: African-American teens are embracing abstinence

(WNS)—African-American teens are having less sex, according to recent analysis of data collected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The percentage of African-American teens who report they have never had sex rose from 18.5 in 1991 to 51.5 percent in 2015. The jump was even steeper for males. In 1991, barely 1 in 10 were not sexually active; in 2015 it was more than 4 in 10. The results are "astounding," according to experts. While the overall number of American teens who report they have never had sex also increased in the last 25 years, the increase for African-American male teens is nearly 10 times greater—a 28 percent increase for American teens and a 246 percent increase for African-American male teens since 1991. "The increase is both unprecedented and enormously greater than any other ethnicity," said the abstinence advocacy group Ascend, formerly known as the National Abstinence Education Association.



### DOE refuses to talk about transgender school restroom rules

(WNS)—The Obama administration is refusing to cooperate with lawmakers who want Department of Education (DOE) officials to answer questions about its recent transgender restroom directive. DOE representatives testified before a Senate subcommittee on July 6 to explain the controversial "guidance" issued to all public schools. A joint letter from DOE and the Department of Justice directed schools to allow students to use the restroom of their choice—regardless of their biological sex—or risk losing federal funding. This week DOE officials told Sen. James Lankford, R-Okla., chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, they will not be able to make the hearing and offered no explanation or alternative dates.



### Complaints against Dallas police at a low

((WNS)—In the hours before at least one sniper shot and killed five Dallas police officers during a stunning ambush the night of July 7, demonstrators marched peacefully and mingled cordially with officers patrolling the downtown streets. It was one of several demonstrations in cities across the country, where hundreds gathered to protest the recent shooting deaths of two black men by white police officers in Louisiana and Minnesota. Earlier in the evening, the Dallas Police Department tweeted a photo of a demonstrator smiling with police in a crowded park. The protester carried a sign reading: "No Justice, No Peace," but he looked at ease with the officers on duty. It was one of the tragic ironies of the horror that followed: Shootings by police officers in Dallas have dropped by 40 percent in the last year. And complaints of excessive force dropped to a nearly 20-year low. (In 2009, the department recorded 147 complaints. Near the end of last year, it reported 13.)



## Missouri lawmaker predicts legislature will override governor's veto of ID bill

The sponsor of a bill requiring Missourians to submit a photo ID before voting predicts the legislature will override Gov. Jay Nixon's veto in September. State Sen. Will Kraus (R-Lee's Summit) notes the Missouri Senate passed his bill 24-8 in May. The Missouri House approved Kraus' bill 112-38 in May. An override requires a two-thirds vote in both chambers, which means at least 23 votes in the Senate and 109 in the House.

"I fully believe there will be 24 people voting to override, or at least 23. As we get closer to veto session, we'll make sure that everybody plans to attend and we'll double-check and make sure that nobody has changed their mind," says

Kraus.

The bill would not take effect unless a constitutional amendment is adopted in November that would ask voters if Missourians should be required to provide an ID to vote.

Kraus says his bill will protect the integrity of elections.

Nixon says Missouri already has strong protections in place to prevent voter fraud. Nixon also says Kraus' bill would disproportionately impact seniors and those with disabilities.



**"I fully believe there will be 24 people voting to override, or at least 23."**

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**Carly Fiorina** was a candidate in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, where she was a formidable voice for the unborn. She was the only presidential candidate invited to speak at the March for Life, the largest pro-life gathering in the country. Fiorina says "I ran in California as a proud pro-life conservative, and you don't do that unless you really mean it."



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# It's a "spiritual battle," says KC Police chief

## Hundreds gather at KCPD East Patrol for prayer after police shootings

by **Dwight Widaman**

On Sunday, July 10, hundreds of people of different races, denominations and economic status, came together and filled the Kansas City East Patrol Campus gymnasium at 26th and Paseo Boulevard. The standing-room-only crowd was unified in passionate and heartfelt prayer.

The prayer event was organized by the Citywide Prayer Movement, Elevate KC, Concerned Clergy Coalition and Baptist Ministers Union. The gathering was one of several grassroots events across the area and joined hundreds nationwide coming just days after the tragic deaths of five police officers in Dallas.

A week later—on Sunday, July 17—three police officers were tragically

shot in Baton Rouge, LA. The gunman, Gavin Long, was a former Marine and shot the officer in an ambush-style shooting before he was shot in a gun battle with police. Long was resident of Kansas City.

Sadly, the Kansas City connection to police shootings continued two days later on July 19, when Captain Robert D. Melton of the Kansas City, Kan. PD was gunned down in the line of duty.

After weeks of violence across the county, from the June 12 ISIS-inspired night club shooting in Orlando that left 49 dead to police shootings throughout the nation, many have sought opportunities to pray for victims and call for unity and an end to the violence.

**Pastors pray for KC Police Chief Forté**



Memorials for fallen police officers are all too common this summer. During the prayer meeting, police officers—including Kansas City Police Chief Darryl Forté—cried out to God to stop the violence.

"It is a spiritual battle we are fighting," Forté said to a roar of approval from the hundreds of faithful in the audience. It may have been the first time that the head of a major U.S. city police force acknowledged that the struggle is beyond guns and racism.

Forté also said changes need to be made in the KCPD. "We've done a lot of things wrong," Forté said adding there's a need to recognize threats accurately, versus someone reaching for a wallet or phone—things that can cause officers to respond with force.

"So we have to train better, we're not bad people, but we have to train better," Forté said.

He also touted the implementation of the department's tactical disengagement program, which teaches of-

Estimates are that upwards of 600 people filled the gymnasium of the East Patrol Campus. The crowd sang, prayed and cried over recent violence.



ficers to create a protective distance up to 30 feet from a threatening suspect and communicate with that suspect and think about the proper way to proceed.

After Forté spoke, he joined the audience to pray for the victims of violence, their families and for the officers in the Kansas City Police Department.

The police and faith communities are looking at all options to help stem the tide of violence and distrust between various communities and the police. Consequently, it was announced that the KCPD would be

seeking pastors for ride-alongs on patrols. The goal would be to allow pastors a perspective from that of the police officer but also make the pastors and their considerable clout visible in some of the city's most dangerous and at-risk areas.

David Freeman said "young black man fear what happened to Alton Sterling and Philando Castile and that it could happen to them."

"It makes me angry what has happened and I want to channel that anger into something positive." Freeman said he was looking to find some inspiration at the prayer meeting.

## Kansas Board of Education opposes directive

The Kansas State Board of Education is refusing to enact the transgender directive issued in May by the U.S. Dept. of Education and the U.S. Dept. of Justice.

The action follows the Kansas Senate passing, by 30-to-8, a resolution opposing the Obama administration's guidance on transgender students' bathroom use. The resolution said state and local officials, and not federal officials, should decide school policy and that the directive threatens students' privacy and safety.

Steve Brunk of Family Alliance Policy of Kansas says the state board's belief is that local public school districts have better insight into students' needs.

"And can respect the dignity and privacy of all students and not have them mandated from the federal level," he says.

In a letter sent nationwide to public schools, the federal government claimed that requiring transgender students to use a same-sex restroom and locker room violates Title IX. That is the 1972 law that bans discrimination against women on school campuses.

A month after that letter went out, the Kansas state board is faced with the threat of losing \$479 million in federal aid, a tactic that federal officials have

used against other states and local school districts.

Brunk predicts that threat is just that—a threat—and won't happen.

"While it's been threatened, we think that money is intact," he says. "No school organization has lost Title IX funding over something like this."

While the state school board pushes back, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt is also suing the federal government over the direc-



**SCHMIDT**

tive.

Officials from 11 U.S. states—Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin—sued the Obama administration, calling its directive "a massive social experiment." Mississippi's Republican governor said.

"In our federal system of government, not every decision needs to be handed down from Washington, and this is a matter best left to state or local authorities, including school boards, as it traditionally has been—and as the law requires," Schmidt said in a press release.

## Christian tour looking for a church to host a concert

A Christian hip-hop music tour titled "The Good News Tour," featuring Canadian Christian recording artist Dru Bex, is seeking Kansas City-area churches or venues in which to perform.

Since entering into the ministry of music, Dru Bex has toured North America with one simple but focused message—"I want people to know who God is to me and who he wants to be to the person listening to my music" says Dru Bex.

Now Dru Bex is back with his debut solo album "The Good Album" gain-



ing popularity on his first major headlining tour "The Good News Tour." Concert attendees can expect an electrifying show with new music from

Dru Bex, fused with the Gospel

Exceed Talent Agency, which represents the group, says it is looking for churches, ministries and/or organizations that are as passionate as they are in sharpening the Church as well as ministering to new believers in a powerful way.

If your church or group is interested in hosting them in the Kansas City area on, or around, Sept. 4, call (515) 681-4006.

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## Five prayers for the school year



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### mythoughts

One of the best ways you can prepare your children this year as they go back to school is through prayer. And praying Scripture over them is one of the most powerful ways to pray. Here are five back to school prayers you can pray for your kids and grandkids:

**Prayers for Peace (Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:6-7; Romans 5:1).** Lord, I pray that my kids (grandkids) will experience the peace of God this year that exceeds all understanding. I pray they will not worry about things they cannot control, but that You will guard their hearts and minds and keep them trusting in You. I pray they will not only enjoy the peace of God, but peace with God. I pray they will develop a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving as they look to You daily for their needs. I pray that You will give them the capacity for joy that bubbles up from Your peace.

**Prayers for Protection (2 Thesalonians 3:3; Psalm 46:1; John**



**17:15; Psalm 91).** Lord, I pray Your emotional, physical, and spiritual protection over my kids (grandkids). Keep evil far from them, and help them to trust You as their refuge and strength. I pray You will guard their minds from harmful instruction, and grant them discernment to recognize truth. I pray You will make them strong and courageous in the presence of danger, recognizing that You have overcome and will set right all injustice and wrong one day. Help them to find rest in Your shadow, as they live in the spiritual shelter You provide for them. Let them know that the only safe place is in Jesus, and that their home on earth is only temporary.

**Prayers for Purity (Psalm 51:10; Mathew 5:8; 1 Timothy 1:5; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Psalm 19:14).**

Lord, I pray that You will create in my kids (grandkids) a clean heart and that You would constantly renew a right spirit within them, keeping their thoughts and actions pure and motivated by love. Guard them from temptation, and let them know You are always faithful to give them a way out and help to endure. May the words of their mouths and the meditations of their hearts always please you and edify others.

**Prayers for Passion (Psalm 42:1; Matthew 22:37-39; John 13:34-35).** Lord, I pray that my kids (grandkids) will develop a passion for the things of God. I pray they will hunger and thirst for You and Your Word and will love You with all of their heart, soul, and mind. Give them com-

■ See FIVE PRAYERS page 10



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# 7 STEPS TO A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR

by **Dr. Bob Barnes**

Before any big event, wise people make thorough preparations. Whether it's a wedding, a vacation or a new career, we want to be prepared for whatever comes our way.

In the same way, wise parents plan ahead for their child's success. Instead of playing defense and taking on each battle as it comes, it is mandatory to plan ahead. Here are seven steps to help your child's school year get off to a great start

and a successful finish. These steps will also help your family get along when the stress of school hits.

## STEP NUMBER 7:

Decide the bedtime routine. Pick a bedtime for each child and the routine that needs to take place. This is a great time to sit on the side of each child's bed and spend 15 minutes downloading their day. Send them off to sleep knowing you care.

## STEP NUMBER 6:

If you have a morning dawdler, require him or her to pack their backpack the night before. Avoid morning arguments by having your child set out tomorrow's school clothes before they go to bed. For those attending schools that do not use uniforms, this is also the time for the parents to decide what kinds of clothes are unacceptable for school. These are discussions and decisions better dealt with the night before.

## STEP NUMBER 5:

Begin the school year with a predetermined homework plan. Choose the time and location for homework. Your students can earn more independence as the year progresses, but for now start them in one location and pick the time they must be at the table. This is also the time to pick the consequence for not being on time at that pre-determined location. Sound unreasonable? Their boss will expect them to arrive at meetings on time. This discipline might save their future job.

## STEP NUMBER 4:

Establish a month-at-a-glance family calendar, as well as a one month calendar for each child. This will help the child begin to learn time management. It will also help the family realize just how many activities they are committing to. Put the due dates for long-term assignments, such as science projects and book reports, on both calendars. Then count back an appropriate amount of days from those due dates so

adequate time can be set aside to read the required books and work on the projects. Rushing to finish a project at the last minute doesn't teach a child anything but stress management. A calendar will show the family and child that you really don't have time to say "yes" to everything.

## STEP NUMBER 3:

With everything else there is to do, decide ahead of time that each week will include a family Night. Make this a night where an hour or two is set aside for games. Obviously this time is for more than games. Give your children the opportunity to feel like they're part of something special: a family.

## STEP NUMBER 2:

Decide ahead of time what your priority activities are going to be. On Wednesday night, is church a priority over other activities? If you make these decisions at the beginning of the year it will prepare your children to say no to other unimportant activities. It will also teach the child that time management decisions are all part of bigger priorities. Your children will still ask if they can do extracurricular activities on previously planned nights, but in their hearts they will already know your answer.

## STEP NUMBER 1:

Use breakfast time to set a mood; don't just use it for eating. There are

three kinds of nourishment your child needs every morning. The most significant is spiritual nourishment.

Second is family enrichment and the last is actual food. If it was just about food, you could hand them a health bar as they go out the door. Breakfast is a time for the family to sit for 20 minutes and eat together. This is the perfect time for a parent to read a short passage from the Bible, discuss it and then pray before


everyone goes off to fight the battle. Setting aside time to read a Bible passage is the most important investment a parent can make. Why else do you think it's so hard to actually do?

Minutes spent together reading the Bible and praying helps send the children out the door with the realization they actually belong to something even bigger than their family. They belong to God. This will go a long ways when they have those moments of feeling alone and without value.

This is the time to jump out front and decide that you will take control of your family time rather than spend another school year racing to catch up.

Dr. Robert Barnes is the president of Sheridan House Family Ministries. He and his wife, Rosemary, are authors and speakers on marriage and family issues. Need more information? Order the Dr. Bob Barnes' book "Read for Responsibility" from Sheridan House at [www.SheridanHouse.org](http://www.SheridanHouse.org).

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# Back-to-school made simple

by **Stephanie Boothe**

When my daughter first started day-care, she was terrified of being cared for by someone who wasn't family. It was a rough transition. Our family turned to prayer to help her feel safe. And now, almost three years later, I say a prayer every morning in the car with my now-first grader. We ask God to watch out for her – to give her confidence in the tasks presented, to help her to be nice to her

friends and listen to her teachers.

I'm happy this is a tradition we continue as she's growing. Not just because prayer is such a vital part to our Christian walk, but I think it's a daily reminder to her - as she prepares for first grade and all the years to come - that God is with us every minute of every day.

Too bad a prayer alone isn't enough to get her ready for school. Getting a child ready to go back to school, though,



doesn't have to be stressful. It just takes a little advanced planning.

I'm far from an expert and I probably have a lot more back-to-school shopping seasons before I can become a seasoned veteran. But I have some experience between shopping for my own child and helping my niece get ready for the new school year.

Here's a quick list of what I've learned, and remember it's not just about filling lists and closets.

**10** Don't be married to one store. Sure, you may find the perfect tennis shoes at one store, but "buy one get one half off" means very different things between

stores. We learned that the hard way this year. After buying socks and underwear at one store, we realized the third store had the same items for a fraction of the cost. We also learned that the store with the best deal on pencils doesn't have a great selection of backpacks and lunchboxes (and another tip, those metal water bottles that match the lunch boxes leak. You can get a better, plastic version for about \$5 at a dollar store).

**9** Brands don't really matter when you're talking about supplies. You can buy the exact same markers from a generic brand as you can the name brand. I will amend this to say I don't think there is a better

crayon than Crayola (I love coloring, and there is a difference), but the 24-pack of Crayola crayons are only 50 cents. Try filling as much as you can on your lists from the dollar store.

**8** You don't need a whole new wardrobe every fall. We purchased an insane amount of new clothes for our daughter to start kindergarten. Some of the items she still hasn't worn. This year we bought her one brand new outfit to wear on the first day of school (and it was on clearance). I'm not even sure what all she has in her closet at this point, but I'm sure it will feel like an all new wardrobe once we go

■ See **SCHOOL** page 21

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## CONSIDER THE MANY ADVANTAGES OF DISTANCE LEARNING

Most Christian universities have opportunities for distance learning. Distance learning is gaining prominence among students eager to upgrade themselves for better career prospects. According to the U.S. Department of Education's National Forum on Education Statistics, virtual education is now part of the planning agenda of most organizations concerned with education and training.

The quality of distance learning has greatly improved in the past few years, as both students and educators have become more comfortable with the technology and as stories of best practices have been shared and duplicated.

While quality has increased substantially (and while many inferior programs have failed), it is still prudent to verify that the distance learning organization is fully accredited by the appropriate agencies. One valuable resource is AccreditedOnlineColleges.org. The goal



of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality.

Accreditation in the United States involves non-governmental entities as well as governmental agencies.

Distance learning features a number of advantages. Perhaps the most relevant benefit involves the flexibility of when and where you participate. Other advantages include:

■ Accessibility for those living away from the training center

■ No waste of time or other resources in transport, commuting to a central location for each class

■ Flexibility to study in any convenient location with an Internet connection

■ Self-paced learning:

- Quickly browse materials you have already mastered, and concentrate time and effort in areas containing new information and / or skills

- Study materials at a personal speed and intensity, without having to wait for slower pace of the average classroom

- Flexibility to join conversations in the bulletin board areas at any hour, and to review your classmates' comments since the previous visit

■ Just-in-time learning; more opportunities to study the most current material available

■ Flexibility for those with irregular work schedules

■ Accessibility for those with restricted mobility (e.g., handicapped, injured, elderly)

■ Accessibility for those with family responsibilities (e.g., parents with young children at home)

Recent research has shown that the most significant factor helping students to succeed -- or not -- in Web-based classes has been their ability to manage time.

The more successful students reported spending 2 to 3 hours regularly each week for each hour of credit for a class. For example, a 4-hour credit class required a minimum of at least 8 to 12 hours of work each week of the semester to complete all requirements.

Without class lectures to spur a quick burst of activity to complete a project, for example, some students procrastinated through weeks of the semester, only to find themselves so far behind that they could never recover. Experts strongly recommend that you devise a typical weekly schedule so that you will have a general guide for allocating appropriate time to study.

## Students share experiences

Getting started and pursuing a college education can seem like a daunting task, particularly if your job, location, time, and home responsibilities make attending a classroom challenging. However, when you take a step beyond the traditional classroom environment and consider distance education, the possibilities expand dramatically.

When several students who chose the online path to professional development shared their insights and experiences, they dispelled a few myths about distance learning. As you read their views, your ideas about trying distance learning may change, too.

We asked Gwen Ridley Robertson, a family child care provider, why she chose online [education] and her answer was simple, "I'm in my home all day and work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and online is so convenient. If I tried to get to class, by the time I drove and found a place to park, I would always be late."

Other students had different reasons for choosing distance learning. As a military spouse, Donna Britt travels with her husband and was not able to complete a degree at any one location. Jean Wright and Kathy Rogers both work fulltime and have families, one with high school age children and one with small children. Jean also lives in a rural location.

### The Student Experience

These four people pursued degrees and expectations about what the courses would be like varied.

Gwen, who received her A.A., is now starting a B.A. degree. She did not expect the level of involvement she found. "I expected only e-mail communication, but the teachers helped me network beyond my own course with others and instructors were available to talk by phone."

Donna Britt, who received her Ed.D in Management of Programs in Child and Youth Services said what she discovered exceeded her expectations. "I realized that I can develop strong relationships with my fellow students without seeing them," she said. "Online courses opened up a whole new world of learning."

Jean Wright expected to be self-directed and to stay on schedule. She was pleasantly surprised that her expectations were easy to meet.

■ See STUDENTS page 10

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# Online classes take dedication, planning, discipline

In general, successful online learners are...

- Good independent learners
- Disciplined about finishing class work
- Comfortable with technology
- Proficient readers with good comprehension
- Comfortable communicating online with professors and peers

## Getting ready for class

Review the Honor Code, attendance policies, inclement weather guidelines, and other policies.

## Technical planning

Make sure your computer is ready for online classes. Test your audio and video using the tools provided by technical support.

About a week before the semester starts, log into school's student management system with your ID and password to make sure you can access it. Your professor may upload your class before the semester starts, so you can explore the class space as well.

## Set up your study space

Create a comfortable and quiet space where you can study regularly. Keep distractions and noise to a minimum. Put all your supplies--textbooks, notepaper, pens, etc.--in one place that's easy to access. If you don't have a good place to study at home, consider studying at a nearby library or in a quiet place at work.

Plan on spending 8-10 hours per week for each online class you're taking.

## Locate online resources

Online schools have a lot of tools and resources to help you succeed in your studies, from tutoring to writing help and library services. Check out these resources before classes begin.

## During the Semester

Check your syllabus for details about the class schedule, assignments and exams, textbooks, grading criteria, and contact details for your professor. If you're not sure about something, contact your professor right away.

## Online class behavior

Schools want all students to have an opportunity to listen, learn, and participate in classes. To make this happen, they ask students certain guidelines and codes of conduct.

## Tips for emailing your professor

In online courses, it's more important than ever to stay in contact with your professor. If you have technical difficulty, a family emergency, or any other issues that interfere with your ability to attend class or meet assignment deadlines, contact your professor as soon as possible to let them know.

Always use your school email account to contact your professor or any other school office.

Include the course ID in your email



subject line, like "ACCT 301 assignment question".

## Use your time well

Make a schedule on a calendar or planner that includes due dates for assignments and exams. Schedule specific times to complete class work or study before exams. Don't wait to the last minute to submit your assignments!

## Study and homework tips

It helps to have a regular study time each day. Try to study in the same place, too. If you study for long periods, take a break each hour.

Don't procrastinate! Stick to your schedule. If you run into any trouble, contact your instructor as soon as possible.

Create a folder on your computer and name it with your course ID, like ACCT 301. Save all your assignments in that folder. If your professor does not have a specific file naming convention for assignments, use file names that will be clear to you. If you have to email a file to your professor, include your course ID and last name in the file name.

## STUDENTS

continued from page 8

Kathy Rogers, who also is earning her degree in Early Childhood Education, said the video lectures that were part of her class enhanced the readings. "While watching the videos, I felt like I was a live participant in the class," she said, "because the readings and assignments fit together perfectly on the video."

Each student learned new computer skills including new software, like spreadsheets and how to download and upload assignments to the Web site. "I learned to adapt to the way each professor distributed materials and returned papers just like a student in a face-to-face class does," she said. In addition to learning new computer skills, Donna also became a more focused writer. "I had to be precise when I wrote," she said "because there are no visual clues or opportunities to clarify ideas through speech."

Time management became a family activity in Gwen's house. "Sometimes I did my homework with my children after supper," she said. This practice validated what she told them about their need to develop good study habits. "I have to study and so do you is the message," she continued, "and my children saw the pay-off when I received my degree."

## Challenges Faced By Students

There were two primary challenges faced by these students:

Time management—Kathy remarked, "It is important to stick to your plan and not good to fall behind. The professors give you a realistic timeline and the class Web sites have all the assignments and discussion topics listed."

Participating in the student teaching process online differed from traditional classrooms—Jean said: "My mentor, who also worked in my agency, videotaped me in the classroom doing a specific activity. I sent the videotape to my professor who posted it on the Web site. Then I watched it with my mentor and professor and they offered feedback."

## FIVE PRAYERS

continued from page 5

passionate and generous hearts to love others as much as You love them. I pray they will always work and study with excellence, but that You will help them desire a servant spirit of greatness, rather than a worldly lust for success. I pray they will fall in love with Jesus over and over again.

**Prayers for Perspective (Galatians 2:20; Matthew 28:18-20; Philippians 1:21; Colossians 3:1-2; Ephesians 3:17-20).** Lord, I pray that my kids (grandkids) will develop an eternal perspective and purpose, not an earthly one. Help them to see life—and every challenge—through Your eyes, eager and unafraid to share with others the good news of Jesus wherever they go. I pray that they will set their minds on things above, not just what's going on here, and that they will be rooted and grounded in Your love. I pray they will come to understand the extent of Your own love for them—that it surpasses all the head knowledge they will acquire in school. I pray they



## Insights

Students reflected about their distance learning experience. They realized that they have learned that:

They have the ability to succeed in an online environment.

Some people are independent learners—"In a traditional classroom, I probably would have been quiet and participated less in the discussion. But online there is no pressure to be called on, or worry that you will not be heard. I can participate in a different way—there is no time limit and I have access to the discussion all the time." (Gwen)

## Advice for Potential Students

All the students agreed that distance learning was an enriching experience. They recommended:

- Trying an online course to see if you like it. Take a moment and review the self-assessment for online learning. This is one tool to help you decide if you want to try a course or earn a degree online.
- Asking for help with technology. The staff at school and people in technical support will be available to offer help with the online system.
- Being disciplined and carrying out assignments.
- Budgeting your time and asking your family to respect your time.

There are an ever-growing number of students nationwide who are taking online courses and reporting that the experience has enabled them to learn and also taught them something even more valuable—a better understanding about their own ability to succeed in the changing educational arena of higher education.

—From "Student Views of Distance Learning." HHS/ACF/OHS.


will be filled up with You from morning 'til night.

## Other Prayers for Your Kids.


These are only sample prayers, and hopefully easy ones to remember. They are by no means exhaustive. Find your own Scripture promise or principle and pray those things daily for your kids or grandkids. But don't confine your praying to the first few weeks of school. Your children and grandchildren need your prayers all year long—as long as you or they live. It's the best protection You can give Your children or grandchildren! When we pray Scripture, God listens! And we can always know those prayers are in His will.

Rebecca Barlow Jordan is a bestselling inspirational author and speaker who loves to share God's encouragement with others. She has authored or co-authored numerous books, including the *Courage for the Chicken Hearted* series and the *Daily in Your Presence* series. She has also published articles in numerous publications and has sold hundreds of greeting cards. She blogs at [www.rebeccabarlowjordan.com](http://www.rebeccabarlowjordan.com).

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## ELECTION SPECIAL

## Greitens' past questioned

## FROM PAGE 1

service, violating their Navy SEAL ethos and oath as "Silent Professionals."

■ Missouri Right to Life endorsed his three Republican opponents—John Brunner, Catherine Hanaway and Peter Kinder—but did not endorse Greitens and is urging their supporters to not vote for him.

■ Greitens opposed a Religious Freedom Amendment that all of his Republican opponents supported.

If you've been listening to radio, watching TV or surfing the Internet, you may have heard or seen his commercials and videos projecting a show of power and strength as a former Navy SEAL. From TV commercial showing him working out in a gym and beating a punching bag to blowing up Tannerite with an M4 rifle to pictures and footage of his two years during which he served as a Navy SEAL, Eric Greitens is everywhere.

As a St. Louis resident and former Rhodes Scholar, Navy SEAL, White House Fellow, author and founder of the non-profit, The Mission Continues—serving returning veterans—Greitens is a newcomer to the Missouri political scene and a fundraising juggernaut. He calls himself a "conservative outsider" on a mission to challenge career politicians, fight corruption and root out political insiders and lobbyists whom, he says, have been controlling Jefferson City for decades.

### "I Was Raised as a Democrat"

Greitens, by his own admission, grew up a Democrat. In 2010, Greitens was courted by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) to run against U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (R) for the open seat that was being vacated by retiring former Senator Kit Bond. Greitens also attended the 2008 Democratic National

Convention. He drove to Denver with former Missouri Governor Bob Holden (D). Patriots for America contends that in their Navy SEAL community there are many who see Greitens as a political opportunist. They quote Holden, Greiten's friend, as saying he thought Greiten's party switch was driven by Koster's lock on the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 2016. "To me, an Eric Greitens and a Donald Trump aren't in the same party," Holden said. "I think Eric made the calculation that the best way to become governor is to be the Republican nominee."

In an op-ed published July 13th of last year at foxnews.com, Greitens wrote, "I am a conservative Republican, but I didn't start out that way. I was raised as a Democrat." While many conservative Republicans in Missouri have accepted Greiten's party switch as sincere, others are wary of his recent history espousing liberal ideals.

According to the Patriots for America website at ericgreitens.com, quoting Politico, "Democrats remember Greitens supporting a House majority that was developing Obamacare." New York Congressman Steve Israel, who was the DCCC's recruiting chairman for the 2010 election cycle, said of Greitens, "He was totally in line with Democratic values."

In his 2009 book, *The Heart and the Fist: The Education of a Humanitarian, the Making of a Navy SEAL*, Greitens—who is Jewish—compares the Palestinian cause to the U.S. civil rights movement. Some observers think Greitens sees the Missouri governorship as a potential stepping stone to higher office. His positions on Israel—given his questionable comparison of the Palestinians' plight to the U.S. civil rights movement—might become an issue, if he wins the primary, especially given the strong support of

the Republican Party for Israel.

### Big Money from Out-of-State Donors

Ten days out from the Republican primary, Greitens has raised about \$9 million. On July 18th, the Greiten's campaign reported to the MEC at mec.mo.gov the single largest campaign contribution in Missouri state political history. A Washington, DC based federal Super PAC gave the Greitens for Missouri candidate committee a \$1,975,000 contribution.

Kevin McDermott of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported on stltoday.com June 20th that the "SEALs for Truth, which was registered as a federal Super PAC in mid June, reported having no money on hand as of June 30th...Any money the committee receives after June 30th doesn't have to be reported until the third-quarter report, due Oct. 15th," long after the primary on August 2nd.

McDermott continues by saying, "In other words, the group received the \$1.975 million during roughly two weeks between July 1 and Monday [July 18th] when it donated the cash to Greitens."

The Post-Dispatch reported that "federal records list the name of the Treasurer, Nicholas Britt, for SEALs for Truth, with a Washington, D.C. post-office box, but a Creve Coeur phone number."

### Dirty Money from Alleged Sex Offender

Greitens received a \$1 million campaign contribution from Silicon Valley California-based venture capitalist, Michael Goguen. He is accused in a \$40 million lawsuit of allegedly sexually abusing a woman which the lawsuit contends he held as a sex-slave for 13 years, beginning from when she was in her early 20s. Far from appearing as a frivolous lawsuit, numerous



news reports claim she has already been paid \$10 million by Goguen as alleged hush money.

Former presidential candidate, John Kasich, who received a \$250,000 contribution from Goguen in March, returned the contribution within hours of the story breaking. Greitens, however, has refused to return his \$1 million contribution he received from Goguen, saying he did not want to "pre-judge the outcome of the lawsuit."

During a gubernatorial debate televised throughout the State on July 12th, Greitens accused Brunner of being behind the Patriots for America website at ericgriens.com. Greitens told Brunner "take responsibility for what you did." The developer of the Patriots for America website is a contractor for the Brunner campaign, which his campaign has admitted. Brunner, a former Marine, fired back during the debate by saying, "I had nothing to do with that Navy SEAL video."

Brunner also ended his closing statement at the debate by responding to Greitens, saying, "I refuse to be lectured by a guy who took one-million-dollars from the owner of a teenage sex slave. Eric, is there anyone you won't take money from? Have you no shame?"

### Navy SEALs Oppose Greitens Candidacy

A group of 16 former Navy SEALs—made up of some who claimed to have served with Greitens—developed and reportedly con-

tributed to a website named Patriots for America. Its Internet address is ericgriens.com, a misspell of Greiten's last name with the "i" before the "e." Greiten's official campaign website is ericgreitens.com with the "e" before the "i."

The Patriots for America's mobile website homepage states "THIS AUGUST, ANYONE BUT GREITENS" and features a YouTube video titled, Eric Greitens: The Heart and the Myth. The video questions the veracity and truthfulness of some portions of Greiten's accounts of his military service. Greitens countered by releasing a video of his own posted on his campaign website at ericgreitens.com.

"Patriots for America is comprised of veterans from three different branches of service and was shocked to discover that the web of lies told by Eric Greitens reaches beyond his flip flopping political positions to a falsified and exaggerated military past."

Navy SEALs within the group say they oppose Greiten's candidacy, in part, because he violated their oath as "silent professionals." They explain that their ethos or creed is to not exploit their service for personal or political gain.

### Missouri Right to Life Says "NO!" to Greitens

Greiten's campaign has issued a statement that Missouri should "promote life, protect innocent life and defend life." He also said, "I am opposed to embryonic stem cell research."

Yet, on July 13th, Greiten's received a

■ See GREITENS page 12

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## VOTE on or before Aug. 2

Early voting continues thru Aug. 2nd.



# Missouri voters to fill 5 seats

Missouri voters will go to polls in the Aug. 2 primary to choose their party's nominees for the general election on Nov. 8. Five open seats — governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general and treasurer are up for grabs.

With two-term Gov. Jay Nixon (D) term limited, Attorney General Chris Koster (D) is the front-runner for the



Democratic nomination, with no serious competition. Koster is a former county prosecutor and state senator from Cass County who switched parties before running for attorney general.

On the Republican side, four candidates are vying for gubernatorial nomination — two candidates with political experience and two outsiders. Three-term Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder and former House Speaker Catherine Hanaway bring political experience and solid conservative records to the race.



The outsiders are John Brunner and Eric Greitens. Brunner is a businessman and former Marine who narrowly lost the Republican primary for the U.S. Senate in 2012 to former Congressman Todd Akin, who was later defeated by Sen. Claire McCaskill.

Eric Greitens, a lifelong Democrat until recently, is a former Rhodes Scholar, White House Fellow, author and Navy SEAL. He later founded The Mission Continues, a non-profit organization that serves returning veterans. After attending the Democratic National Convention in 2008, he considered a Senate run in 2010 as a Democrat against Sen. Roy Blunt. Greitens says he became a conservative in recent years. He calls himself a “conservative outsider” on a mission to challenge career politicians and lobbyists whom he says have controlled Jefferson City for decades.

Bob Holden, a former Missouri

governor, is friends with Greitens, and it is reported they drove to the 2008 Democratic National Convention together. Patriots for America, a group of Navy SEALs, opposes Greitens' candidacy on its website at ericgreitens.com, according to a Politico report. Holden believed Greitens' party switch was driven by Koster's lock on the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 2016. “I think Eric made the calculation that the best way to become governor is to be the Republican nominee,” he said.

Despite his newcomer status as an outsider and his Democrat pedigree, Greitens leads all gubernatorial candidates in fundraising, having amassed almost \$9 million leading up to the primary. Most contributions have come from out of state, including a \$1 million donation from California-based venture capitalist, Michael Goguen. According to multiple media reports, he is being sued for allegedly holding a former stripper as a sex-slave for 13 years. Former presidential candidate John Kasich returned a \$250,000 contribution to Goguen, but Greitens has refused to return his \$1 million, saying he “didn't want to pre-judge the outcome of the lawsuit.”

Penny Pritzker, President Obama's secretary of commerce, contributed \$25,000 to Greitens' campaign. Her cousin, Jenny Pritzker, who is called the world's first transgender billionaire, contributed \$50,000 to Greitens. Sheldon Adelson, Las Vegas casino

and hotelier billionaire, contributed \$200,000 to the campaign. Greitens says he is “opposed to embryonic stem cell research” but accepted a \$100,000 campaign contribution from Julian Robertson, a New York-based hedge fund manager who has been a major supporter of embryonic stem cell research.

## GREITENS

continued from page 11

\$100,000 campaign contribution from Julian Robertson, a New York-based hedge fund manager who has been a major supporter of embryonic stem cell research.

On July 22nd Missouri Right to Life sent their ad appearing in this issue of the Metro Voice to their supporters, emphatically urging those on their statewide distribution list to not vote for Greitens. MRL's Legislative Liaison, Susan Klein, told the Metro Voice that Greitens did not respond to their candidate survey or repeated requests to meet before MRL's deadline for their PAC to make endorsements. Brunner, Hanaway and Kinder all received endorsements from the Missouri Right to Life PAC. Greitens did not.

## Opposed Religious Freedom Amendment

Greitens was also the only Republican candidate for governor to come out in opposition to Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 39, a proposed amendment to the State Constitution. Kinder, Hanaway and Brunner all went on the record in support of it. The amendment passed the Senate after a 39-hour filibuster by Democ-



rat and Minister Tommie Pierson, Sr. Mike Parson, a former state representative and county sheriff faces conservative Republican Bev Randles. If elected, she would be the first African-American elected to statewide office in Missouri. Both Parson and Randles are endorsed by Missouri Right to Life.

Secretary of state is an open seat being vacated by Jason Kander, who is running for the U.S. Senate against incumbent Sen. Roy Blunt. Will Kraus of Lee's Summit, faces political newcomer Jay Ashcroft. Kraus is state senator for eastern Jackson and an officer in the Missouri National Guard. He also is a former state representative. Ashcroft lost a state senate race in 2014. He is the son of John Ashcroft, former governor, U.S. senator and attorney general. Both Kraus and Ashcroft are endorsed by Missouri Right to Life. On the Democratic side, Robin Smith, former news anchor

and reporter in St. Louis, is running against Bill Clinton Young and MD Rabbi Alam, both of Kansas City.



The Republican primary for attorney general is one of the most fiercely contested in the state. State Sen. Kurt Schaefer, a lawyer and former prosecutor who worked in the Missouri attorney general's office, faces Josh Hawley. He is a law professor at the University of Missouri and a lawyer who was a part of the team that prepared and argued the winning Hobby Lobby case before the U.S. Supreme Court. Both Schaefer and Hawley are endorsed by Missouri Right to Life.



On the Democrat side, former Cass County Prosecutor Teresa Hensley faces St. Louis County Assessor Jake Zimmerman. He is a former state representative and worked as deputy chief counsel to Holden, as well as having served as a deputy attorney general.

In the race for State Treasurer, state Sen. Eric Schmitt is unopposed in the Republican primary. On the Democratic side, former state Rep. Judy Baker of Columbia faces Kansas Citian, Pat Contreras. He is a former diplomat in the U.S. State Department and has worked under Presidents George W. Bush and Obama. Baker is a former regional director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the Obama administration. Schmitt is endorsed by Missouri Right to Life.

—By John Wright, special to MV

## Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee says No! No to Eric Greitens for Governor!

Missouri Right to Life PAC's many requests for a survey expressing his positions on pro-life issues and a meeting with him were ignored.

He may say he's pro-life. Missouri Right to Life PAC says, “Prove it!”

Why wouldn't you talk with those who fight to protect me?



Nominate a proven pro-lifer for Governor in the August 2nd Republican primary.

John Brunner (R)  
Catherine Hanaway (R)  
Peter Kinder (R)



Paid for by Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee, Patricia Skain Treasurer. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.

rats, but failed in a House committee. It would have prohibited the state from imposing penalties on a religious organization whose officials act in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief concerning same sex marriage, which includes the refusal to perform a same sex marriage ceremony.

The measure would have also protected businesses from penalty that decline to provide goods of expression or artistic creation for a wedding ceremony. Supporters of HJR 39 cited businesses that have been fined by state agencies in other states in excess of \$100,000 for refusing to provide services for same sex marriages. Opponents feared HJR 39, if enacted, would become a license for discrimination against the LGBT community.

## Republican Rambo or Democrat Imposter?

One longtime conservative Republican, speaking on condition of anonymity, labeled Greitens a “fake” and “fraud” in his candidacy. “Greitens is politically ambitious imposter, exploiting his honorable military service and is falsely masquerading as a conservative to try and steal the Republican primary from real conservative candidates.”

With 10 days left before the primary, Greitens has come from behind

to take the lead, according to the most recent poll by Remington Research Group conducted on July 7th and 8th. He will be hard pressed to hold that lead among Republican primary voters without the endorsement of Missouri Right to Life. He also has liberal baggage to carry from his recent political past, including being the lone Republican candidate for governor to oppose the proposed Religious Freedom Amendment. Some of the liberals and litigated in his donor base may also dissuade Republican primary voters from supporting his candidacy on August 2nd.

An astute and longtime insider in Missouri politics wryly observed the irony—that “if Greitens wins the primary, the race for governor will be a Republican who used to be a Democrat (Greitens) facing a Democrat who used to be a Republican (Koster).”

—John Wright—a free-lance writer, analyst and commentator—is a contributor to the Metro Voice. He is not affiliated with any candidate, candidate committee, political action committee or super PAC.

READ OUR COMMENTARY ON  
THE GREITENS CAMPAIGN  
CONTROVERSEY:  
METROVOICENEWS.COM



SCHAEFER



ATTORNEY GENERAL

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“Strong families. Religious freedom. Respect for the value of every individual human life. These are the values that have made our country and our state strong. I’ll fight to preserve them.”

*Kurt*

- ✓ As Chairman of the Missouri Senate’s Committee on the Sanctity of Life, Kurt has led the fight to defund Planned Parenthood, stopped abortions in Columbia, and secured record funding for alternatives to abortion programs.
- ✓ Kurt has voted to protect the religious freedoms of business owners and religious student groups on Missouri college campuses and sponsored legislation to protect the conscience rights of pastors and religious organizations.
- ✓ Kurt has consistently stood up for home school families, defending the right of parents to educate their children free of government interference and the right of homeschooled kids to participate in extracurricular activities.

**VOTE KURT SCHAEFER | ATTORNEY GENERAL | August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

SchaeferForMissouri.com



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# the events calendar

Compiled by Anita Widaman

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Calendar!**

**Metro Voice, PO Box 1114  
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[metrovoicecalendar@gmail.com](mailto:metrovoicecalendar@gmail.com)**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your item must be in by the 3rd Wednesday of each month for following month's issue.

**Family Events, Christian Concerts, Theatre, Youth Events, Meetings, Clubs, Bible Studies, Family Fun, Speakers and More!**

## CONCERTS

**POSITIVE HITS TOUR.** August 3, 7:00 pm. First Baptist Raytown, 10500 E. 350 Hwy., Raytown, MO 64138. Danny Gokey, Passion featuring Kristian Stanfill, Capital Kings, and Hollyn. 876-353-1994.

**THE DIXIE MELODY BOYS.** August 5, 7:00 pm. First Christian Church Kearney, 2152 S. Jefferson St., Kearney, MO 64060. 816-628-6653.

**ONE CHURCH KC'S NIGHT OF WORSHIP.** August 6, 7:00 pm. Legacy Park Amphitheater, Lee's Summit, MO. Admission is free, asking to bring a non-perishable item to donate to our partner Harvesters.

**PHIL & PAM MORGAN CONCERT.** August 14, 7:00 pm. Church of Christ, 101 S Lincoln St., Fontana, KS. 913-849-3570.

**SPECIAL GUEST C. DAVID SMART.** August 14. Leawood Baptist Church, 8200 State Line, Leawood, KS. 913-649-0100.

**NEWSBOYS & HAWK NELSON.** August 18. Missouri State Fair, 2503 W. 16th St., Sedalia, MO 65301. 800-422-FAIR (3247).

**THE BLACKWOOD BROTHERS QUARTET.** August 26, 7:00 pm. First Christian Church Kearney, 2152 S. Jefferson St., Kearney, MO 64060. 816-628-6653.



**SEP 8 GAITHER VOCAL BAND - 7 P.M. FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RAYTOWN, 10500 E. STATE RTE 350, RAYTOWN, MO**

**GAITHER VOCAL BAND.** September 8, 7:00 pm. First Baptist Church Raytown, 10500 E. State Rte 350, Raytown, MO 64138. 816-353-1994

**NEHEMIAH FEST X.** September 16-18. Smith's Fork Park @ Smithville Lake, 1601 DD Hwy, Smithville, MO. Free Admission, music, food, disk golf tournament, vendors petting zoo, camping. Christian Music & Camping Festival 50 bands 4 stages. [nehemiah-fest.com](http://nehemiah-fest.com).

**SWEET SPIRIT & FRIENDS MUSIC OUTREACH.**

September 17, 6:00 pm. Moment of Truth Church, 310 Rondulph Rd., Claycomo, MO. Special guests: Desperation Church Praise Team. 6:00 pm food, music begins 7:00 pm. Come on by and bring a friend. Everyone needs a little encouragement from time to time. 816-452-4426.

**LOOKING FOR AMERICA TOUR SWITCHFOOT, RELIENT K.** September 20, 7:00 pm. Uptown Theater, 3700 Broadway St., Kansas City, MO 64111. 816-753-8665.

**BIG DADDY WEAWE.** October 29. First Baptist Raytown, 10500 E. 350 Hwy., Raytown, MO 64138.

**SOUTHERN GOSPEL**  
(Call for groups)

**ALPHA OMEGA CHRISTIAN MUSIC ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING, PRAYER, DEVOTION, POTLUCK AND JAM. FIRST FRIDAY,** 7pm. 10035 E. Westport Rd., Indep., MO 64052.

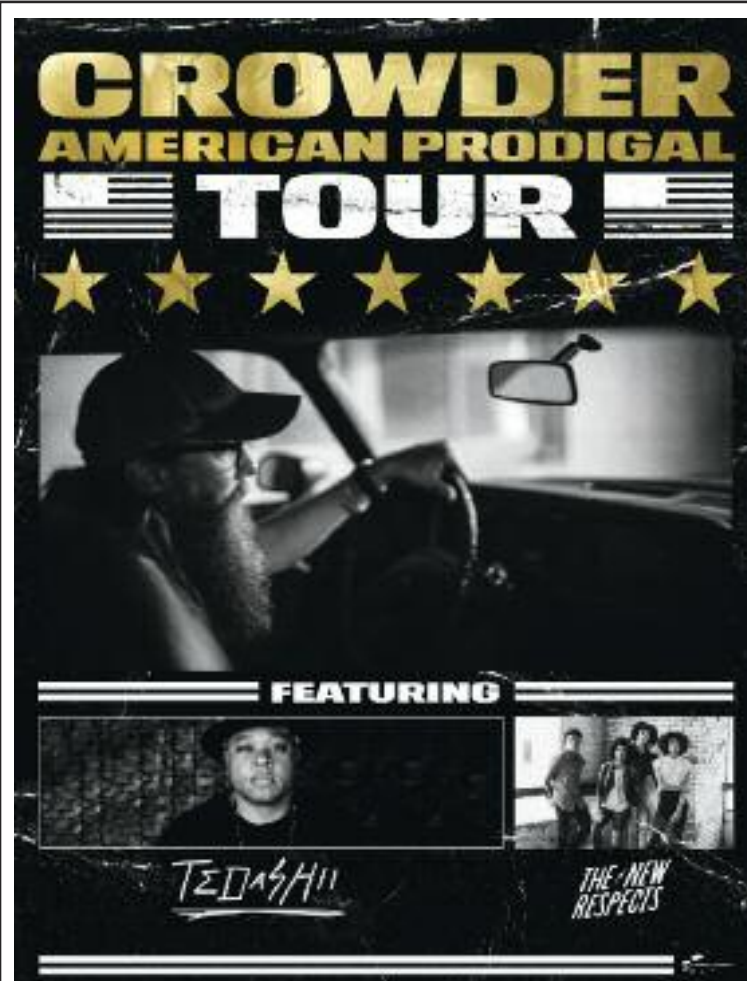
**MO-KAN GOSPEL MUSIC ASSOCIATION POTLUCK AND JAM. FOURTH FRIDAY** (except for Nov. & Dec. when we meet on the 3rd Fri.). Northland Christian Church, 6120 NE 48th St., KCMO. 913-432-0359.

**PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE CHURCH, SECOND SATURDAY,** 6pm. 341 S. 72nd St., Kansas City, KS 66111. Praise and Worship songs of Zion. 913-334-1009.

**CGMA NW MO CHAPTER MEETING, GOSPEL MUSIC AND POTLUCK. SECOND SATURDAY.** Faith Assembly of God Church, South 13 Hwy, Polo, MO. Travel North on I-35 North, go North of Liberty to the Polo/Lathrop Exit. Turn right onto 116 Hwy. Go 12 miles to 13 Hwy. Turn left and go ¼ mile. [peg-cla@msn.com](mailto:peg-cla@msn.com).

**MOMENT OF TRUTH BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH. THIRD SATURDAY** in January, May, September &

■ calendar continued on next page



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October, 7pm. 310 Randolph Rd, Claycomo, MO. Gospel music sing. 816-452-4426.

**RADIANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD. LAST SUNDAY,** 6:30 p.m. Hwy. 33, Kearney, MO. Open mike. Gospel sing.

**GOSPEL JAMBOREE. SECOND THURSDAY,** 7 p.m. Life Christian Center, 1650 E Langsford Road, Lee's Summit, MO. 816-878-4694.

**PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH. SECOND SUNDAY,** 6 p.m. Pot luck dinner at 5 p.m. Paradise Missouri. 816-591-1020.

## CLASSES, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES

**EVANGELISM CLASS.** Through September 13, 7:00 pm. Harmony Vineyard Church, 600 NE 46th St.,

Kansas City, MO 64116. Sponsored by My Father's Eyes. 8 week class, Tuesday's from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. Features Biblical Basis for evangelism with emphases on practicum. The goal is to help create a lifestyle of evangelism in every participant and see people saved throughout our city. 817-714-6427.

**AVOID PROBATE.** August 2, 7:00 pm. Lewis Living Trust Center. 700 NE Langsford, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. 816-524-3200.

**23RD ANNUAL FAMILY OF GOD CONVENTION.** August 2-5, 7:00 pm nightly & August 7, 11:00 am & 4:00 pm. Faith Temple Church, 1162 SW Lincoln St., Topeka, KS. Sponsored by New Life Fellowship, Inc. Guest speakers: Bishop Milton C. Woods, Detroit, MI; Bishop Jeronn C. Williams, Decatur, GA; Bishop James H. Everett, Irvington, NJ. 785-235-1834.

**DEEP SEA ADVENTURE!! VACATION BIBLE**



**AUG 6, 21**  
**HEALTH SEMINAR 3:00 PM. BELTON WELLNESS CENTER, 16400 N. MULLEN RD., BELTON, MISSOURI**

**SCHOOL.** August 3-5, 6:30-8:00 pm. St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene, 8500 E. 80th Ter., Kansas City, MO. Children ages 3 years (potty-trained)-6th grade are invited to attend. There will be a closing program for the children and their families Sunday, August 7. For more information call Christy at 816-806-1263. 816-830-3784.

**GOD OF THIS CITY MISSION TO AMERICA.** August 6, 6:00 pm & August 7, 10:30 am & 6:00 pm. Church on the Rock Outreach Center, 1700 SW Market St., Lee's Summit, MO. Free and open to the public. Don't miss these great services! Special Speakers: Pastor Kenny Johnson on the 6th, Pastor Hensley on 7th AM, Armond Morales of the Imperials. 816-246-7625.

**HEALTH SEMINAR.** August 6 & August 20, 3:00 PM. Belton Wellness Center, 16400 N Mullen Rd, Belton, Missouri 64012. The simplest and easiest things you can do to achieve better health. Spon. by Kansas City Central Seventh-day Adventist Church. (563) 271-0476

**INFG VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION.** August 11th 3:00 pm-6:00 pm. Crown Pointe Church, 5950 NE Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO. Are you looking for a meaningful way to use your skills and talents to help others? Our Volunteer orientation presents an overview of areas of services that individuals can serve through If Not For Grace Ministries which provides healing and restoration classes also retreats for the abortion wounded. Contact Richard at rbit-terman@infg.org.

**THE MOST REWARDING CHALLENGE: AN IN-**

**TRODUCTION TO FOSTER PARENTING.** August 11, 6:00-7:00 pm. Ray County Library, 215 E Lexington St., Richmond, MO 64085. Nearly 3,000 kids in Northwest Missouri have been traumatized by abuse and neglect. Every one of them needs a caring and nurturing home. Find out how you can help kids in your own back yard by becoming a foster parent.

**EXODUS CRY ABOLITION SUMMIT.** August 11-13, 1:00 pm. Westside Family Church, 8500 Woodsonia Dr., Lenexa, KS 66227. Encounter the Lord's heart for justice and learn how you can fight sex trafficking in our community. Speakers: Benjamin Nolot, John El-dredge, Naomi Zacharias, Dr. Dan Allender, Rebecca Bender, and others. Worship Leaders: Misty Edwards, Jon Thurlow, Jaye Thomas, Jonas Park, and Brenton Dowdy. 816-398-7490.

**SIDEWALK COUNSELOR TRAINING.** August 13, 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Sponsored by 40 Days for Life. For more information contact Sally at forty-dayskc@gmail.com.

**HOW TO HOMESCHOOL WORKSHOP.** August 13, 9:30 am-12:30 pm. Antioch Library, 8700 Shawnee Mission Pkwy., Merriam, KS 66202. Sponsored by

■ calendar continued on next page

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Midwest Parent Educators. All parents interested in homeschooling are welcome (no need to register). Learn from experienced homeschool veterans as they share from personal experience, answer your questions and encourage you in your journey. No childcare is available. 913-599-0311.

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT SEMINAR.** August 14, 2016, 10:00 AM. KCC SDA Church, 14651 Peterson Rd., Kansas City, Missouri 64149. Training for volunteers wanting to help in times of disaster as part of local emergency management teams. Spon. by Kansas City Central Seventh-day Adventist Church. (563) 271-0476

**AVOID PROBATE.** August 18, 7:00 pm. Lewis Living Trust Center. 700 NE Langsford, Lee's Summit, MO 64063. 816-524-3200.

**THE MOST REWARDING CHALLENGE: AN INTRODUCTION TO FOSTER PARENTING.** August 18, 6:00-7:00 pm. Marshall Church of the Nazarene, 782 W. North St., Marshall, MO 65340. Nearly 3,000 kids in Northwest Missouri have been traumatized by abuse and neglect. Every one of them needs a caring and nurturing home. Find out how you can help kids in your own back yard by becoming a foster parent.

**OLDER ADULT CRIME PREVENTION SPEAKER.** August 18, 1:00 pm-2:00 pm. Jewish Community Campus Heritage Center, 5801 W. 115th St., Overland Park, KS 66211. Hear from Brett Leathers of the Leawood Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit. He will discuss personal safety, identity theft, banking precautions, elder abuse and more. The talk will be followed by a Q&A period. This event co-sponsored by JFS and the J's Heritage Center. 913-327-8250.

**CHRISTIAN MAGICIANS TRAINING CONFERENCE.** August 19-20, 4:00 pm. First Baptist Church of Shawnee, 11400 Johnson Dr., Shawnee, KS 66203. This is a FREE training conference teaching faith based skills and object lesson utilizing Magic, Clowning, Puppets, Skits, Balloons, Face Painting and much more! Don't miss this unique and fun opportunity to learn how to witness effectively in your community. 913-236-8808.

**THE MOST REWARDING CHALLENGE: AN INTRODUCTION TO FOSTER PARENTING.** August 25, 6:00-7:00 pm. FosterAdopt Connect HQ, 18600 E. 37th Terr., Independence, MO 64057. Nearly 3,000 kids in Northwest Missouri have been traumatized by abuse and neglect. Every one of them needs a caring and nurturing home. Find out how you can help kids in your own back yard by becoming a foster parent.

**THE ART OF MARRIAGE.** August 26, 7:00 pm & August 27, 4:00 pm. Crossroads Christian Church, 5855 Renner Rd., Shawnee, KS 66217. 6 session video event. Your marriage and the marriages around you are colored by personalities, passions, and experiences. Making marriage work is a divinely inspired art form. 319-325-0729

**THE MAIN EVENT - MEN'S CONFERENCE.** August 26 & 27. First Baptist Raytown, 10500 E. 350 Hwy., Raytown, MO 64138. 2016 Speakers: TC Stallings, Johnny Hunt, Jonathan Evans, The Benham Brothers, Travis Rosen, Jimmy Sites, Donnie Smith, Brad Stine, and Steven Miller. God crated men on purpose with a purpose! Will you accept your God given challenge to be involved in His mission?

**KC TRUTH CONFERENCE.** August 27, 9:00 am. Lenexa Christian Center, 17500 W. 87th St. Pkwy., Lenexa, KS 66219. Special speaker Josh McDowell and special music by American Idol finalist Phil Stacey. Answering tough questions about the Christian faith and focusing on Apologetics.

**EVANGELIST RENEE MOORE.** August 28, 10:30

am & 6:30 pm. Church on the Rock Outreach Center, 1700 SW Market St., Lee's Summit, MO. After suffering a traumatic brain injury resulting in a near death experience at the age of 3, Renee was healed 17 years later of debilitating seizures, a miracle verified by doctors reports. She offers a message of hope and healing through anointed preaching and singing. 816-246-7625.

**MOUNTAIN TOP MARRIAGE OZARK MOUNTAIN RETREAT.** September 2-5. Honeysuckle Inn & Conference Center, 3598 Shepherd of the Hill Expressway, Branson, MO. \$339.00/per couple. Teachers - Roger and Laureen Traver.

www.mountaintopmarriages.org and 719-471-9072.

**VALUES VOTER SUMMIT.** September 9-11. Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. Informative Breakouts, Exhibits, Student Mixer, Book Signings, Faith, Family, & Freedom Gala. 1-877-372-2808.

**GOOD NEWS CLUB TEAM ORIENTATION.** September 10, 9-4:00 p.m. (8:30 a.m. registration begins.) Shawnee Bible Church, 12921 W. 61st St., Shawnee, KS. Registration is required by phone (816) 358-1138 or e-mail: staff@cef-gkca.org.

**9-WEEK VIDEO COURSE JOURNEY TO FINANCIAL PEACE.** September 11, 2:00 pm-3:00 pm (Sundays). Pisgah Baptist Church, 1.5 miles east of Excelsior Springs on Highway 10. Cost: \$95 per person or per couple for materials.

**SUCCESS DISCOVER THE SECRETS TO ACHIEVING MORE.** September 13, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. John Knox Pavilion, Lee's Summit, MO. Unlock 20 exciting principles, principles that propel ordinary people to do the extraordinary. Two ways to register: 1-800-588-0166 and finchsuccess.com/seminars.

**2016 MIDWEST REGIONAL CHURCH ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE.** September 22 & 23. Lenexa Baptist Church, 15320 W. 87th St., Pkwy.,

Lenexa, KS 66219. 3E is a two day event that will Educate church leaders and administrators on relevant topics in church administration. It will better equip participants to lead their ministry with competency and integrity. Finally, the event will encourage you in your calling as leaders and administrators. 816-382-3050.

**GOOD NEWS CLUB TEAM ORIENTATION.** September 24, 9-4:00 p.m. (8:30 a.m. registration begins.) Blue Ridge Bible Church, 8524 Blue Ridge Blvd., Kansas City, MO. Registration is required by phone (816) 358-1138 or e-mail: staff@cef-gkca.org.

**BRILLIANCE IGNITE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.** September 30-October 1. Lenexa Christian Center, 17500 W. 87th St. Pkwy., Lenexa, KS.

**ALLIANCE FOR LIFE CONFERENCE 2016.** October 30-November 1. Ramada Plaza Hotel, Oasis Convention Center, 2546 N. Glenstone, Springfield, MO 65803. Speakers Lori DeVillez and Scott Klusendorf. You will be learning from pro-life peers on topics that will enhance, equip and rejuvenate your focus and purpose as a dream bigger for your ministry. 816-806-4168.

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

**NEW LOCATION.** Saturdays 10:00 am. Or HaOlam Messianic Congregation, 9898 W. 95th St., Overland Park, KS (between Antioch & Hwy 69) Shabbat Service. Everyone welcome. 913-383-8448.

**CHARITY GOLF TOURAMENT.** August 1, 10:00 am-6:00 pm. Country Club of Leawood, 12700 Overbrook Rd., Leawood, KS 66212. www.missionsouthside.org or 913-530-4387.

**DISCOVER MCA.** August 2, 6:00 pm. Maranatha Academy, 6926 Lackman Rd., Shawnee, KS.

**MISSOURI PRIMARY ELECTION.** August 2, 2016.

Vote!

**KANSAS PRIMARY ELECTION.** August 2, 2016 Vote!

**10th ANNUAL TENNESSEE TOWN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT.** August 6, 9:00 am. King's Court, 11th & Munson, Topeka, KS. Register team: Arturo Lassiter at 785-969-2826.

**FIDDLER ON THE ROOF.** August 12 & 13, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm. Goppert Theatre, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, MO 64145. \$15.00 advanced ticket at ojc.us/event or \$20.00 at the door. Fundraising production for the Orphan Justice Center. 816-405-9605.

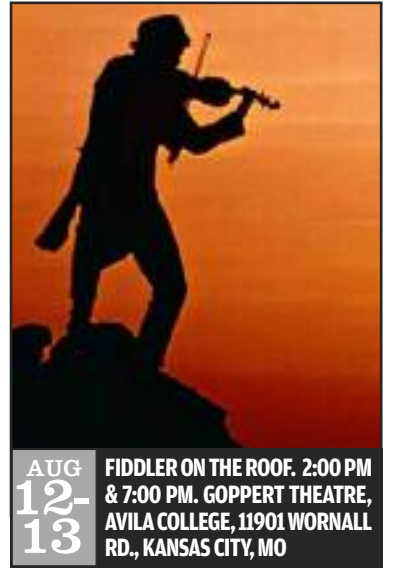
**LOVE'S OUTREACH COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION.** August 13, 10:00 am-11:00 am. Church on the Rock Outreach Center 1700 SW Market St., Lee's Summit, MO. Free food for families in need. Valid ID and proof of residency needed to participate. Free and open to the public. 816-246-7625.

**BOOK CLUB.** August 13, 10:00 am. Avondale UMC, 3101 NE Winn Rd., Kansas City, MO. Discuss Miss Bungle's Book by D.E. Stevenson.

**BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACKS.** August 14, 2016, 10:30 AM. Leawood Baptist Church, 8200 State Line Road, Leawood, KS 66206. Leawood Baptist Church is providing school supplies and backpacks for students, as well as gift cards for teachers and administrators at our regular worship service August 14th, 10:30 a.m. After our service, everyone attending is invited for a cookout! Come and be blessed! (913) 649-0100 www.leawoodbaptist.com

**THE JACOMO CHORALE IS RECRUITING FOR ADDITIONAL SINGERS.** The Choral, celebrating its 34th year, resumes practice August 18 at 7PM at Mission Woods Community of Christ church, Duncan Rd., Blue Springs. The first concert will be on October 22, repeated on Oct 23. For additional information, please contact Nancy White at (816) 560-9148.

**OLDER ADULT CRIME PREVENTION SPEAKER.** August 18, 1:00 pm-2:00 pm. Jewish Community Campus Heritage Center, 5801 W. 115th St., Overland Park, KS 66211. Hear from Brett Leathers of the Leawood Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit. He will discuss personal safety, identity theft, banking precautions, elder abuse and more. The talk will



be followed by a Q&A period. This event co-sponsored by JFS and the J's Heritage Center. 913-327-8250.

**R(UN) FOR ONE 5K.** August 20, 8:00 am. NE 31st St., Topeka, KS 66617. Sponsored by Lifeline Children's Services. Join us for a 5K to support (Un)adopted, a ministry of Lifeline Children's Services. There's food and fun for the whole family so register today. 785-783-4577.

**AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS PARENT INFO MEETING.** August 23, 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. Plaza Heights Baptist Church, 1500 SW Clark Rd., Blue Springs, MO 64015. Premier National character development organization for young women that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. 816-805-8808.

**SOUTH KANSAS CITY AGLOW.** August 24, 9:30 am. Grandview Assembly of God, 12400 Grandview Rd., Grandview, MO 64030. Guest speaker Sheila Benzon, Biblical Counselor will be sharing. 816-966-1033.

**DINNER AND A SHOW.** August 26, 6:30 pm. Abundant Life Church (Old Sanctuary), 414 SW Persels

■ calendar continued on next page

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**QUILT-RS & CRAFT-RS MARKET.** August 27, 9:00 am. Hillside Christian Church, 900 N.E. Vivion Rd., Kansas City, MO 64118. Sponsored by Hillside Christian Church Women's Ministry. Cleaning out craft space? Destashing your maker supplies? Know you're never going to finish that art project you started years ago? SELL IT AT A GARAGE SALE FOR QUILTERS & CRAFTERS RIGHT HERE IN CLAY COUNTY. 816-547-1150.

**VITAE FOUNDATION BANQUET.** September 9, 7:00 pm. Overland Park Convention Center, 6000 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS. Special guest Carly Fiorina.

**RIDES FOR LIVES: CAR, TRUCK, & BIKE SHOW.** September 10, 9:30 am-4:30 pm. First Baptist Raytown, 10500 E. 350 Hwy., Raytown, MO 64138. Benefit for Hope Network, Mission of Hope Clinic, and Children's Mercy Hospital. 816-353-1994.

**MISSOURI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME 2016 APPLE FESTIVAL.** September 12, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. First Baptist Church, 58 Hwy. & South Washington St., Raymore, MO. Handmade quilt & craft auction. Homemade craft sales, great FREE Children's area with games, crafts, prizes, and face painting. Food including breakfast, lunch and a variety of apple treats. Live Christian Entertainment most activities will be indoors! 1-800-264-622.

**SWEET LIFE DESSERT COMEDY THEATRE.** September 17, 6:00 pm. Fellowship Of Grace Parkville,



AUG  
12

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8501 Tom Watson Pkwy., Parkville, MO 64152. 1-800-965-9324.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH KANSAS CITY 100TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT & CELEBRATION.** September 17. First Baptist Church North Kansas City, 2205 Iron St., North Kansas City, MO. General Admission \$25. Featuring: Phil Keaggy, Cindy Morgan, and Randy Stonehill. 1-816-842-1175.

**KC FAMILY FEST.** September 18, 12:00 pm-4:00 pm. Westside Family Church, 8500 Woodsonia Dr., Lenexa, KS 66227. Free community festival for families! Bring your whole crew for acres of rides, inflatable's, games and activities for all ages. Enjoy music, kiddie rides and lots of family-friendly fun! Lunch will be available from the best Food Trucks in KC! 913-638-5047.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE.** September 28-November 6. Overland Park, KS. Take a stand for life. Our Community will take part in 40 Days for Life ... a groundbreaking, coordinated international mobilized. We pray that, with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city - and beyond.

**14TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT.** September 29. Creekmoor Golf Course, Raymore, MO. Sponsored by Teaching God's Infinite Wisdom. 816-525-6339.

## FINE ARTS

**THE DAWNING OF AQUARIUS.** Through August 7. Quality Hill Playhouse, 303 W. 10th St., Kansas City, MO. Single tickets are \$36. Put the Songs of the 8-Track Era Center Stage. 816-421-1700.

**MADAGASCAR A MUSICAL ADVENTURE.** Through August 7. Coterie Theatre Crown Center, 2450 Grand Ave., Kansas City, MO 64108. A new musical of the much-loved madcap journey from New York's Central Park Zoo to the beaches of Madagascar. 816-474-6552.

**LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD - A DOLL'S TALE.** August 6. Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Rd., Independence, MO 64052. 816-833-9777.

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECNICOLOR DREAMCOAT.** August 12, 8:00 pm. Legacy Park Outdoor Amphitheatre, Lee's Summit, MO. Family Special 4 for \$44, Senior/Student \$12.00, Adult \$15.00. Presented by Summit Theatre Group.

**FIDDLER ON THE ROOF.** August 12 & 13, 2:00 pm

& 7:00 pm. Goppert Theatre, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, MO 64145. \$15.00 advanced ticket at [ojc.us/event](http://ojc.us/event) or \$20.00 at the door. Fundraising production for the Orphan Justice Center. 816-405-9605.

**KANSAS CITY SYMPHONY PRESENTS "POPS IN THE PARK".** September 5, 7:00 pm. Shawnee Mission Park, 7710 Renner Rd., Shawnee, KS 66219. Free. Program filled with familiar classics and fun movie music. Bring your family and friends, plus

blankets. 816-471-0400.

**EVITA.** September 9-October 2. Spencer Theatre, 4949 Cherry St., Kansas City, MO 64110. This rock opera explores the role of women in politics, the power of populism and the romantic rags-to-riches story of Evita's life and charity work. 816-235-1453.

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# entertainment

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## The making of the future president of the United States

Two documentaries look at background of Clinton and Trump and the development of their philosophies

entertainment

by Dwight Widaman

With just three months left before the November elections, two documentaries shed light on each of the candidates—albeit from decidedly partisan point of view.

The most recent film opened on July 22 to packed audiences around the country. New York Times best-selling author and notable filmmaker Dinesh D'Souza's *Hillary's America: The Secret History of the Democratic Party*, is a biopic of not only Democrat nominee Hillary Clinton, but the history of the Democrat Party that most voters have never heard. *Hillary's America* reveals disreputable facts about Hillary and the secret history of the Democratic Party and Hillary's combative rise as presidential candidate.

The 100-minute film, which movie industry observers speculate will be this year's best performing documentary at



**The Making of Donald Trump.**

the box office, uses narrative elements mixed with interviews to present a complete picture of the history of the Democratic Party, starting with slave-owning President Andrew Jackson and guiding viewers through Margaret Sanger's founding of Planned Parenthood and up to President Woodrow Wilson, who screened the Ku Klux Klan-glorifying movie *The Birth of a Nation* at the White House.

Vanderbilt University professor Carol Swain, who plays a significant part in the film, said "I would like to see this film reach as many people as possible, especially minorities who are convinced the Democratic party is a party of equality, liberation, civil rights, and economic mobility. Once they watch the film I am hopeful it will encourage them to research additional information on these important issues".

Sam Adams is no fan of D'Souza or his other documentaries but says D'Souza shows himself digging into the Democratic Party's past by "infiltrating a fictitious museum ... furtively taking an elevator to the basement, and ignoring the 'Keep Out: Authorized Personnel Only' sign at the end of a dimly lit corri-

dor.

"...He runs down Democrats' history of supporting slavery, from the Civil War through the end of Jim Crow, we see him pulling a set of manacles from a banker's box," says Adams who writes for "The Wrap".

Adams asserts that what D'Souza has discovered is readily available to those who want to invest countless hours discovering for themselves. But isn't that what documentaries are for? Discovering for the viewer what the viewer does not have the time or resources to discover on their own?

Professor Swain believes the film's greatest enlightenment is the connection between abortion and racism.

"To me the greatest Civil Rights issue of our time is the abortion of millions of black babies". According to the "Guttmacher Institute's data on abortion,



**Hillary's America.**

the number of abortions in the United States since 1973 is estimated at 57 million. Of the 57 million babies aborted since 1973, "+/- 31% have been black.

Swain gives the documentary much of its intellectual basis in fact. Says D'Souza about her work, "Carol Swain played a critical role in 'Hillary's America.' She

presented with clarity and intellectual authority the role of the Democratic Party in undermining civil rights the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries."

The movie contains reenactments with actors playing real-life politicians and historical characters, including "Dallas" actress Rebekah Turner as Hillary Clinton, Michael Clemmons as President Barack Obama and Don Taylor as Lincoln.

Long-time Democrat and liberal movie critic Roger Ebert panned the documentary but refused to defend Clinton

in his review.

"It utterly fails at its mission of being the ultimate Hillary Clinton takedown by never laying a single glove on her. This is especially astounding, as even those inclined to support her could probably name a couple of things she has done in her years in the spotlight that are legitimately questionable," he said.

### Donald Trump

The other documentary that takes a no-hold barred look at a candidate is The History Channel's "Breaking History: The Making of Donald Trump." The film hasn't been aired for a while but you can search for it on Youtube and find the 1:45 minute film easily accessible.

While Trump supporters and many conservatives might consider it biased, the documentary acknowledges both the foibles and great success that America's most famous businessman counts in his resume both professionally and personally.

There is no lack of people who absolutely despise Donald J. Trump and the documentary gives them ample opportunity to share their views. But, unlike D'-

■ See DOCUMENTARY page 19

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August is Back to School! On the first day of school, take a picture of your kiddo holding a chalkboard with the grade they are going into this year. Take another picture at the end of the year to compare. Make sure to post the pictures to Facebook or Instagram for safekeeping. Chalkboards are inexpensive on amazon or at craft stores.

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## DOCUMENTARY

continued from page 18

Souza's "Hillary's America," the History Channel's "Breaking History" allows both sides of the man to be explored. Those who know him most personally share their view of him as a knowledgeable and loveable personality. Trump, they say, is the only man who can get the country back on track. For them, all you have to do is look at his children to determine his character.

Even the mainstream media covering the Republican convention in late July, exploded with accolades about how pleasant, hard-working, successful—and yes, normal—Trump's children are. For however people see Trump as flamboyant and excessive, his family is NOT the selfie-crazed, media obsessed Kardashian family. As for Trump's personal habits, viewers will be surprised to learn that Trump has never smoked or drank—a personal trait that would make many Christians blush.

"Breaking History" was filmed at the height of Trump's rise to the political stratosphere.

And while giving the viewer insight on his most controversial statements and detractors, it investigates the good

and the bad of the family business and how his own father's empire came to be. The documentary explores Trump's three marriages, business dealings and media run-ins—all the while giving you a sense of "Oh, yeah, I remember that," type of feeling when seeing old clips.

Trump may be the first reality TV star having been in the media for four decades with appearances on Letterman long before Trump headed up his own reality show "The Apprentice". From Oprah to every major news show, Trump has made his mark on America's media culture.

The film documents that rise. You see a Donald Trump that, amazingly isn't much changed from that of the late 1980s. You get a sense that Trump believes what he says, doesn't put on airs to make you believe he is someone other than he is.

He is still as brash today as in 1988. Same hair, same smile. Those clips from 30 and 40 years ago are amazingly prescient to his speeches today.

Surprisingly, "Breaking History" is not a hit job on Trump. Neither does it gloss over Trump's many failures. It is an honest assessment of who recent polls show may be the next leader of the free world.

## Lecrae takes on Christians who don't want him to talk about race

Outspoken Christian rapper Lecrae is making waves once again by voicing his thoughts on race relations in America. This time the music artist is taking on other Christians who believe he shouldn't use his platform to talk about race and instead focus solely on spreading the Gospel.

In an Instagram message posted last month, Lecrae included a photo that read: "I Won't Keep Calm I Have a Black Son," and spoke directly to Christians who try to steer clear of addressing the nation's growing racial tensions.

"Christians saying that 'preaching the gospel is all we need' ignore how sin affects infrastructures and societal systems,"



Lecrae wrote.

The songwriter insinuated that fight-

■ See LACRAE page 21

# metro VOICE

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# Festivals abound across the region, providing fun and fellowship for the entire family

by **Anita Widaman**

As people anticipate cooler temperatures, one activity that will finally bring them back out of the house as summer ends are the numerous festivals that Celebrate America take place across our

area. Check out my picks for this year's "must attend" events.

## KANSAS FESTIVALS GREATER ANDOVER DAYS

Sept. 29 – Oct. 2, Andover, KS  
andoverks.com

The festival includes a food court, KidFest, 5K fun run, parade, fishing clinic, car show, business expo / craft fair, carnival, ice cream social, live entertainment and a fireworks show in Central Park. This year's event will once again include a Friday night tailgate

## Walnut Valley Festival



party featuring Radioflyer and a Saturday evening concert featuring Lucky People.

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

Oct. 8, Junction City, KS  
hildebrandfarmsdairy.com

Join us for a day full of fun activities! Highlights of the event include a picnic lunch, live music, tours of the farm, hay rack rides, kids' play area, Kansas product sampling and educational demonstrations. This is a free event.

## JAMMIN' IN JC BLUES & BBQ FESTIVAL

Sept. 23 & 24, Junction City, KS  
www.jammininjc.com

Blues and BBQ...it's a winning combination! Music will fill the air when the Jammin' in JC Blues & BBQ Festival brings Texas Style Blues and a four category BBQ contest to historic downtown Junction City. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets! No alcohol, coolers or pets are allowed.

## KC FAMILY FEST

Sept. 18, Lenexa, KS  
Westsidefamilychurch.com

Everyone is invited to this free community-wide festival for families. Bring your whole crew for acres of rides, gigantic inflatables, games and activities for all ages. Enjoy music and DJs, teen zone, kiddie rides and lots of family-friendly fun! Lunch will be available from the best food trucks in KC.

## LENEXA SPINACH FESTIVAL

Sept. 10, Lenexa, KS  
lenexa.com/parks/festivals\_spinach.html  
Lenexa was hailed as the "Spinach Capital of the World" during the 1930s. We celebrate that part of our history

with the annual Spinach Festival, a fun, family-oriented event that draws thousands of visitors from all over the area. It's a fun-filled day of food, music, entertainment, arts and antique vendors.

## LITTLE BALKANS DAYS

Sept. 2 – 4, Pittsburg, KS  
littlebalkansfestival.com

The premier annual festival in Pittsburg, KS celebrates the community's culture, heritage and history. Three days of various events, activities, entertainment and vendors in downtown Pittsburg. Vendors set up on Broadway from 4th to 7th street.

## PAXICO BLUES FESTIVAL

Sept. 17, Paxico, KS  
www.paxicobluesfest.com

Music, community, a rural good time for more than a decade! Big-city blues, dancing, local food, antique dealers, and live music from morning to night.

## SHAWNEE INDIAN MISSION FALL FESTIVAL

Oct. 8 & 9, Fairway, KS  
kshs.org/p/shawnee-indian-mission

The Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival features living history demonstrations, craft areas, children's activities, and food booths, as well as live entertainment, including authentic Native American dancers.

## WALNUT VALLEY FESTIVAL

Sept. 14 – 18, Winfield, KS  
wvfest.com

Visitors come not only to enjoy the music but to be a part of the festival, either through the continuous campground jam sessions or as a contestant in one of the eight different acoustic instrument contests. It also includes various food vendors and a large juried arts and crafts show

## MISSOURI FESTIVALS

ANNUAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL  
Oct. 8 & 9, Arrow Rock, MO

■ See FESTIVALS next page

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## Alan R. Jones, CPA

414 Remington Plaza Court  
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Member  
AICPA



## FESTIVALS

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arrowrock.org

This year's festival features lost-art crafts demonstrated and sold by costumed artisans; live music and entertainment; great food; and the historic ambiance you won't find anywhere else! Join us on Sunday for an old-fashioned, non-denominational worship service at the historic Christian Church.

### AUTUMN DAZE ARTS, CRAFTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sep. 15-17, Branson, MO  
<http://downtownbranson.org>

The entertainment stage will feature free live music from some of Branson's finest entertainers! Crafters and artists from many states around the country



will participate. Many vendors will be demonstrating their techniques!

### APPLE FESTIVAL

Sept. 10, Raymore, MO  
[MBCH.org](http://MBCH.org)

The Apple Festival is an annual fundraising and family fun event that benefits the children of Missouri Baptist Children's Home.

Crafts, quilts, children's area and apple-related foods of all

kinds are just a few of the many reasons why the Apple Festival is a day full of fun, food and fellowship for the entire family. A variety of handmade crafts and quilts are donated to the Children's Home from all over the state to be auctioned and sold at the festival.

### DOGTOBER FEST

Oct. 16, Blue Springs, MO  
[makeyourdayhere.com](http://makeyourdayhere.com)

This is the perfect afternoon

for dog lovers and their humans. Event highlights include the Halloween costume contest, agility fun run, dock diving, Frisbee competition, obedience obstacle courses, dog/owner look-alike contest, and the Blessing of the Animals.

### HERITAGE DAYS

Oct. 15 & 16, Warsaw, MO  
[www.warsawchamberofcommerce.com](http://www.warsawchamberofcommerce.com)

More than 230 modern day crafters exhibit their handmade items in the Community Building and on Drake Harbor. Then take the bus to the Harry S. Truman Visitor's Center for the Kaysinger Bluff Pioneer Assoc. Heritage days, and learn about blacksmithing, bee keeping, apple butter making, branding, wood carving and more!

### MISSOURI TOWN 1855 FESTIVAL OF ARTS, CRAFTS AND MUSIC

Oct. 1 & 2, Lee's Summit, MO  
[mo-jacksoncountyparks.civicplus.com](http://mo-jacksoncountyparks.civicplus.com)

Celebrate the arrival of fall at Missouri Town 1855! Enjoy 1850s music and dance, horse drawn buggy rides, hot-spiced cider, children's games, period arts and crafts, and fun-filled hay rides. Now in its 40th year, the Missouri Town 1855 Fall Festival is one of our region's longest running consecutive festivals!

### MAPLE LEAF FESTIVAL

Oct. 1-29, Carthage, MO  
[www.carthagemapleleaf.com](http://www.carthagemapleleaf.com)

Festival offers family style fun in a home town atmosphere. Numerous events are scheduled

throughout the day to entertain young and young at heart, including: Willie Arthur Smith's Marching Cobras; an art and crafts festival; car and dog shows; quilt show; food vendors; and live entertainment, a 5K/10K; beauty pageants; baby and toddler contests; dog skill competition; a gospel sing; a lip-syncing competition and more!

### OLDE TYME APPLE FESTIVAL

Oct. 1, Versailles, MO  
[versailleschamber.com](http://versailleschamber.com)

This year's theme is Jumpin' and Jivin' to the 1940s. Festival includes pie baking contest, vendors, car show, music, 5K, golf tournament, parade, fun zone for kids, tractor and engine display, and more!

## SCHOOL

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through it.

7 Plan ahead. Sure, my daughter's shoe size grew overnight, but I discovered some of the shoes we bought last year still fit well enough for now. It's the same with a lot of her clothes. She's an in-between size, so I can keep her in a lot of the items she had last year. Be sure to go through last year's clothes before heading to the stores. Do some cost comparisons online to see which stores have the best deals.

6 Don't focus on personalized supplies. When our daughter started kindergarten, we wanted her to have the best of everything. The coolest pencils and the best markers. Then we realized they're not just for her. Many school districts will share supplies with the entire classroom. So those amazing My Little Pony tissues you bought are going to

go in a pile that the entire classroom can use.

5 Don't forget the consignment sales. Sure every store will start having end of summer sales and you can get cute T-shirts for \$6 on sale, but with consignment sales you can often find an entire outfit for that price. There are children's consignment sales twice a year in Kansas City, and there are several different ones all over the metro. Parents can find great deals on shoes and clothes. We hit all of the sales each time they come around – in the spring and the fall. It takes some digging because some of the items are still priced high, but almost every sale also has a 50 percent off day. My daughter is probably 85 percent clothed by these sales.

4 Remember the daycare rules too. We're in a situation that requires us to have before-and after-school care for our daughter. We take her to daycare, and they drive her to school and pick her up. Daycare

rules say that she has to have her feet completely covered to play on the playground. While it's not realistic to assume my daughter – who may just be the next big fashionista – will wear tennis shoes every day of the year, I had to make sure she had a pair of shoes at daycare that would allow her to play outside with her friends.

3 Consider sending a sack lunch. I had no idea how much hot lunches cost when I was in school. Mom just gave me lunch money and I could eat lunch. What I learned last year is I can send my daughter a sack lunch every day for two weeks for less than paying the hot lunch every day for one week. Now, we did decide to put some money in her lunch account so we have that option on mornings that we just can't get our act together, but a lunchable, an apple sauce and a juice box (or one of the aforementioned water bottles) comes out to less than \$10 a week. We alternate between lunchables and PB&J for

a little variety.

2 Get ready for the fundraisers. I had no idea how many times I'd have to hit up my friends and co-workers in kindergarten. While it's not part of back to school shopping, it's an important part of the school year. And if you have a child in sports, those fundraisers hit back to back all year. It's OK to not do all of them. Our school asks families who don't want to participate to donate a certain amount and opt out of them for the entire year. Just remember all those PTA activities that makes school so much fun have to be funded somehow.

1 Start a dialogue early with the teachers. As soon as I knew who my daughter's teacher was last year, I immediately looked her up on Facebook. I googled her. I wanted to know as much about the person who would be molding her mind for the next year. I did the same for her summer school teacher. I also

sent emails as soon as she was assigned a teacher. My daughter has been through a lot of heartbreak and it's important to me that her teachers know what she's faced in six short years. Every teacher has been thankful for the upfront information. As she gets more involved in her school, and we know more of the teachers, I won't have to tell her story so much, and I'll have more knowledge of the teachers as we spend more time at the school.

## BONUS:

Several organizations around Kansas City collect school supplies for families who can't afford it. Don't forget those families in need as you're school shopping. Consider filling an extra school supply list and donating it. It's a great way to teach children the importance of giving back.

## LACRAE

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ing racism not only requires preaching biblical truths, but further actions like making changes to some of the nation's structures and to the powers that be.

"True faith stands up for the oppressed and the broken," he wrote. "Obviously, many can't see the systemic effects of racism and abused authority. Many can't see that racism has stained this country because they are privileged to not see it."

Lecrae was blunt when he wrote, "They [some members of the white community] project blame on themselves when they see these kinds of posts. You assume my anger is at white people and not white supremacy."

The Grammy Award-winner im-

plored fans and followers to heed his point that racism is operating within many of the nation's infrastructures and that it must be killed at the root.

In a seemingly two-pronged approach the Texas native also published an op-ed in Billboard magazine in which he asserted that humility is a path toward racial harmony.

Still, in his Instagram post, the rapper urged followers to strongly consider his position.

"If you ever trusted in anything I've said, if you've used my words to stir your hope or joy, then trust that same voice now. This [racism] is an

epidemic that school books or church services haven't taught you."

Lecrae concluded his post with the defiant message, "And listen if you really, really hate this post you are always free to unfollow me. I'll still love you."

## NEW RELEASE HAS NOSTALGIC FEEL



**D.C. JEANES**  
Metro Voice  
music critic

## musicscene

For fans of late-70's/early-80's rock, like me, the upcoming release by The Union of Sinners and Saints should be welcome news to many listeners. Led John Schlitt, lead singer of Petra (1986-2005), and Billy Smiley, guitarist, singer, and founding member of Whiteheart, the band's first release will include rerecorded versions of hits from both former groups, as well as some new songs. The CD will be available only at Lifeway Stores, but can also be downloaded at iTunes, Amazon, etc.

Other artists recording and touring



with the band this summer are Jason Fowler (recently produced by Smiley), and Anthony Sallee, who played bass with Whiteheart.

"The idea of a new project really intrigued Billy and me. With our histories, it only made sense to feature Petra and Whiteheart favorites along with some of the new songs we were writing in the studio," Schlitt said, "We're all sinners, and it's only through the blood of Christ that we can be called saints. Christ is our union. Thus, the band's name..."

John Schlitt will also be performing at Nehemiah Fest in Smithville, in September.

Speaking of Nehemiah Fest, the music festival-that's-really-a-ministry,

Nehemiah Fest X will be coming to Smithville Lake Park September 16-18. The festival will include over forty bands, including Bread of Stone, 9th Hour, Alex Sons, and Bearing Armor, to name a few. The musical genres spread across four stages varies from bluegrass and Gospel, rap and rhythm and blues, to intense metal worship, and it's all free! Other events include fishing, petting zoo for the kids, and supporting Christian vendors from all over the region.

Metro Voice was able to catch up with the very busy founder of Nehemiah Fest, David Lin (actually, we interrupted him during a meeting!), and got a brief lowdown on this year's festival. There are going to be some great new artists coming through from all over the country, as well as some new contributions from Liberty and nearby. The concerts are all free and it would be well worth your time to get as much in as you can in such a short time. Please visit [nehemiahfest.com/](http://nehemiahfest.com/) for more information on location and showtimes.



## FINDING 'REFUGE'

continued from page 1

dream of turning the vacant Park Lane Hospital into transitional housing for the homeless, many of whom had been living in pay-by-the-week motels. The hospital had been vacant for 10 years.

Wiley's dream recently became a reality when the first families moved in.

"It feels surreal, you know seven years of believing it was possible," he said. "We've helped hundreds and hundreds of families over seven years but we couldn't bring them here and give them a transitional place. But now we can so here we are in a former 150,000-square-foot hospital dedicated to families living in homeless."

Wiley said the journey of transforming the abandoned building into apartments for needy families was long and hard but worth it.

"There were many nights where halfway through this project I'd wake up in the middle of the night thinking what have I done because we had so many obstacles that seemed to be in the way. But over seven years I've watched obstacle after obstacle become removed," he

recalled.

"And so what it's done for me personally, it's changed my faith. And love compelled me to not talk way, to not give up, and to persevere so I say that it was love that caused me to push on," he said.

Families at River of Refuge live rent and utility free during their entire stay as a team of case workers provide them financial counseling.

While learning to break the cycle of homelessness, they can also save money and pay off debts.

An on-site pantry allows families to restock their kitchens with non-perishable food and there's a used clothing store where they can shop for clothing.

Program Director Stephanie Keck said rising unemployment and utility costs have forced many families out of their own homes, creating demand for programs like River of Refuge.

She said after opening in May, there is already a waiting list to get into the program.

"Within the first 24 hours I had close to 30 people calling for help," Keck said. "Just in that first 24 hours and we still get on average probably 20 people a



week asking for help. This morning I had six people asking, 'Can I apply for your program?'"

Michelle Robinson moved to Kansas City from Florida with her husband and two small children. Shortly after arriving, her husband's job fell through and River of Refuge gave was able to give them a lifeline.

"We were living in a hotel before here and the length of time just drained our savings and it was a matter of a week we were going to be in our van," Robinson said. "So it was by the grace of God that I found this place and were able to move in here and have a roof over our head."

### Miraculous Giving

Wiley makes it very clear that the

massive project was completed by a host of volunteers, generous donors, and churches.

"So much has happened where I had the idea of doing this but really it's not about me but all the people that have donated and believed in it," he said. "We had one company donate \$1.2 million for a new roof, all the materials, all the labor. Another company came and did \$300,000 to build out the 11 units."

"We had the UMKC, University of Missouri - Kansas City, gave us over 200 bunk beds, donated the first week we opened the hospital," Wiley added.

The Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) also played a huge role in the project. When CBN's Gordon Robertson saw Wiley's story on The 700 Club he invited him to CBN to learn more about the project.

Wiley left the meeting with encouragement and the largest donation River of Refuge had received at that time.

"That gift that CBN gave grew and grew and grew and it's grown to be worth millions now of other contributions," Wiley said. "I think about the CBN partners that the families that are living here now and the hundreds of children and the families that will come here for decades to come will all be touched because of the generosity of CBN and its donors."

Meanwhile, Glynn admitted that he initially felt skeptical about the organization.

"I didn't even believe it was real," Glynn said. "When I got in here I was sitting here waiting on like, 'What's the

catch? Are we gonna have to stand on the corner and sell candy or something to stay?'"

"But it wasn't a catch here they just genuinely want to see people do better," she said.

### A Thankful Family

For that reason Glynn's children expressed heartfelt gratitude for Wiley and all those who made it possible for their family to live at River of Refuge.

"Most of all it's not a lot of weight on my daddy because when we had to keep moving around, he had to pay the rent. And now here you don't have to pay rent but you have to save up money for your next house," 12-year-old My'Angel Glynn said.

"I think there's, like, not even enough breath in my body how many thank you's they deserve for what they have helped us with and done for us," Dakota Glynn explained.

For now, 11 apartment units are complete and River of Refuge needs more financial help before it can bring in more families.

In the meantime, Wiley wants other pastors across the country to know that it doesn't take a lot of money to love a community in need.

"What you have is the most incredible gift -- love attracts a crowd," Wiley explained. "I challenge my friends who love Jesus: Go find a motel family and don't try to fix all their problems. Just become their friends. Ask them what they need. Open your living room, open your checkbook. Love the people you see."



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(from left) Jim Daly, Focus On The Family; Chuck Swindoll, Insight For Living; John MacArthur, Grace To You; June Hunt, Hope In The Night; Al Hain, Truth For Life; Tony Evans, The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans; James MacDonald, Walk In The Word; David Jeremiah, Turning Point; Adrian Rogers, Love With Finding; Crawford Loritts, Legacy Moments; And More! Visit BBN Online for Program Schedule.

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## NEEDED: REGISTERED NURSE.

Life Choice Center For Women, a pregnancy resource center in Harrisonville, MO, is seeking a Registered Nurse with administrative experience to serve as Nurse Manager. This is currently a part-time position with the potential to become full-time. Contact Linda at 816-887-5100 or email [director@lifechoicecenter.org](mailto:director@lifechoicecenter.org) for additional information.

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## TIM SCOTT

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one another is a good start.

On July 11, Scott spoke on the importance of supporting police officers during this time. And on July 13, Scott shared his own encounters with police in a deeply personal and painful account of how he's been profiled because of the color of his skin, even as a U.S. senator.

Scott revealed law enforcement officers have pulled him over seven times during the span of one year as an elected member of Congress: "Was I speeding sometimes? Sure. But the vast majority of the time, I was pulled over for nothing more than driving a new car in the wrong neighborhood or some other reason just as trivial."

He later told of a time when a U.S. Capitol Police officer stopped him, assuming Scott was impersonating a member of Congress. Scott said a guard told him, "The pin, I know. You, I don't. Show me your ID."

"Later that evening, I received a phone call from his supervisor apologizing for that behavior," Scott said. "That is at least the third phone call that I've received from a supervisor or the chief of police since

I've been in the Senate."

Scott added he does not know many African-American men who do not have a similar story to tell, regardless of income level or profession.

His speeches stem from the recent police killings of two black men in Louisiana and Minnesota, both caught on video. During a peaceful protest in Dallas the following week, a gunman opened fire on police, killing five officers and wounding seven others. The shooter also wounded two civilians.

Scott's colleagues praised his messages. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. said that Scott is an outstanding speaker. "We've all been listening."

McConnell's counterpart agreed. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., remarked after Scott's speech that he is tremendously impressed with his positive outlook despite troubling experiences, and praised his empathy as Americans grieve.

Scott proposed several ideas to help restore the trust between the African-American community and police officers. He said more officers need to wear body cameras so the American people can see the whole story. But he also advocated a police

shooting tracking system and said officers need better de-escalation training.

But Scott said real healing starts when families join together over a meal to have hard conversations.

"I'll continue to reach out to all my colleagues and my friends who may not look like me, who may have a different philosophy than I do, so that I can understand their hopes, their dreams, and their frustrations," Scott said. "Because listening is

important and as we look around at our nation, it appears to me that we haven't done nearly enough listening to each other."

One of Scott's best friends in the Senate, Sen. James Lankford, R-Okla., said he's been asking people all week if their family has ever had a family of a different race over to their house for dinner: "I was shocked by how many said no."

Together, Scott and Lankford are issu-

ing a new challenge they call "Sunday Solutions," asking families of different races to share a meal together and hear each other's stories.

"We need one family from one race with another family from another race together. Not at a restaurant, but at somebody's house having conversations around the dinner table," Lankford told me. "That's where we start to make repairs."

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