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THE TOPEKA EASTER PARADE AND FAMILY FUN FAIR • April 4



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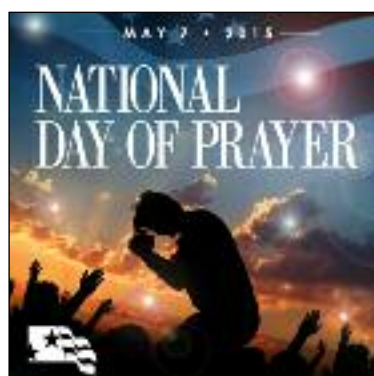
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Grace Community Church - Overbrook

See inside back cover!

2015 National Day of Prayer
theme: "Lord, hear our cry."



by **Dwight Widaman**

The 64th annual National Day of Prayer, May 7, will have profound significance for our country. It is an unprecedented opportunity to see the Lord's healing and renewing power made manifest as we call on citizens to humbly come before His throne.

The theme for 2015 is "Lord, Hear Our Cry", emphasizing the need for individuals, corporately and individually, to place their faith in the unfailing character of their Creator, who is sovereign over all governments, authorities, and men. To further highlight the theme, the National Day of Prayer organization has chosen I Kings 8:28 as their scripture for this year: "Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day."

Honorary Chairman, Dr. Jack

■ Please see PRAYER page 4

Seeking God's Heart

What does it mean to be a woman after God's own heart?

by **Kharissa Forte**



Known for her anointed vocal ability as a Gaither Homecoming artist, Lynda Randle is also passionate about connecting women through worship. For that reason, Randle created the Woman after God's Own Heart conference, which returns to Kansas next month.

A weekend event, the conference was created eight years ago with the biblical story of David as its premise.

"After all of his sins, all of the mistakes David made, God said, 'He is still a man after my own heart,'" she explained. "God's desire for the heart of His children is for us to be focused toward him. In my own life, I've blown it many times, but I want to be a woman after God's own heart. And there's security in knowing that God loves us unconditionally. My hope is to see women come together as one to find purpose and passion for living a vibrant Christian life."

This year, the conference falls on Mother's Day Weekend. Randle says it's an opportunity for ladies from all over the region and nation, from all walks of life and ethnic backgrounds, to join together in worship and common purpose.

"This event is designed to give women a

■ Please see RANDLE page 9

Many will miss humor, witness of retiring Senate chaplain

TOPEKAN HAS BEEN RHYMING PRAYERS FOR OVER 30 YEARS

by **Tobin Perry**

TOPEKA, Kan. (BP) -- Humor, poetry, God and state legislatures don't seem like a match made in heaven, unless you've been anywhere near the Kansas State Senate for the past three decades.

That's thanks to Fred Hollomon, the Georgia native who served for 31 years as chaplain of Kansas' upper house. After kicking off state senate sessions for most of the past three decades with his poetic and humorous prayers, Hollomon retired at the end of the last legislative session.

Hollomon, 88, started his now famous tradition of mixing humor and rhyme with his prayers soon after getting flack for his first prayer. Two people complained it was too long.

"I've found that people will read or follow you when you're rhyming because they want to see how it ends," said



Hollomon, who was a North American Mission Board endorsed chaplain.

Born in Georgia and raised in Alabama during the Great Depression, Hollomon's call to ministry didn't come until after he had begun a career in banking. Unfulfilled in that role, he talked to his pastor, who pointed him toward ministry. After graduating from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and serving as a pastor in Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas, he was asked to serve as an aide in the Kansas State House and later in the state senate.

In 1979, as the small church he pastored in Kansas grew large enough to ask him to serve full-time, the state senate president asked him to be the institution's chaplain. Except for a three-year absence in the early 1980s when he stepped aside to pastor a church near Kansas City, he served faith-

■ Please see CHAPLAIN page 3

TOPEKA EASTER PARADE AND FUN FAIR APRIL 4

Organizers of the Topeka Easter Parade & Family Fun Fair say they expect this year's event to be even bigger than last year. The 2nd annual event is sponsored by Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5).

"Lots of new folks are wanting to be in the parade this year, and we also have a lot of new vendor and game booths lined up for our second go-round" said Drew Walker, parade coordinator and C5 boardmember. "And from the feedback we've been getting, we expect a bigger crowd attending this year as well."

This year's event will take place on

■ Please see EASTER PARADE page 4

CWA names new State Director



Barbara Saldivar (seated) with Denise Cochran of the CWA Topeka chapter and Senator Garrett Love

Concerned Women for America of Kansas recently announced the appointment of Barbara Saldivar as the new Kansas State Director. Leading the state organization, Saldivar will work to protect and promote Biblical values through prayer, education and action in Kansas. CWA's seven core issues are sanctity of life, religious liberty, marriage and family, sexual exploitation, education, national sovereignty and support for Israel. For more information or to join the efforts of CWA, contact the state office at (785) 286-3432 or e-mail Saldivar at bakerbarb54130@gmail.com.

KANSAS PASSES BAN ON DISMEMBERMENT ABORTION

By a vote of 98 -26, the Kansas House on March 25 passed landmark pro-life legislation, Senate Bill 95, "The Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act."

Kansans For Life Executive Director Mary Kay Culp thanked legislators for their diligence in tackling the issue and enacting a Constitutionally sound law that will stop a horrific procedure.

After the introduction of the bill in January by lead sponsor Sen. Garrett Love (R-Montezuma) and 24 Senate co-sponsors, the bill generated immediate grass-roots support and passed the Kansas Senate, 31-9. SB 95 now heads to Gov. Sam Brownback, who has promised his signature.

SB 95 bans a particularly gruesome abortion method in which a living unborn child in her mother's womb is ripped apart by an abortionist using sharp metal tools. In the words of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, the unborn child "dies just as a human adult or child would: It bleeds to death as it is torn limb from limb." (Stenberg v. Carhart)

Model language for SB 95 was provided by the National Right to Life Committee, which made this bill its top state legislative priority.

SB 95 was carried on the House floor by seasoned pro-lifer Rep. Steve Brunk (R-Wichita), chair of the Federal & State Affairs committee which held the hearing on the measure. He was assisted on legal questions by another pro-life leader, Rep. John Rubin (R-Shawnee),



KFL senior lobbyist Jeanne Gawdun congratulates Reps. Brunk, Hutchins & Rubin after SB 95 passage

chair of the Corrections & Juvenile Justice committee.

Pro-life Rep. Becky Hutchins (R-Holton) spoke up for the victim of dismemberment abortion, the "living" unborn child. Then she talked about the "three D's" associated with such abortions, (depravity, devaluation, and desensitization) as admitted by former abortionist George Flesh:

"Tearing a developed fetus apart, limb by limb, is an act of depravity that society should not permit. We cannot afford such a devaluation of human life, nor the desensitization of medical personnel it requires."

In the 42 years since Roe v. Wade was handed down, the Supreme Court has consistently asserted that States have compelling interests in regulating abortion to preserve the integrity of the medical profession and show respect for the unborn child.

"States also have an interest in forbidding medical procedures which, in the State's reasonable determination, might cause the medical profession or society

as a whole to become insensitive, even disdainful, to life, including life in the human fetus." (Stenberg v. Carhart)

Although the Court (in the 2000 Stenberg v Carhart ruling) did not uphold Nebraska's ban on partial-birth abortions, in 2007 it did uphold the federal ban on partial-birth abortions in Gonzales v. Carhart. In both Stenberg and Gonzales, the justices closely examined the gruesome methods of both partial-birth and D&E/ dismemberment abortions.

"Those who oppose abortion would agree, indeed would insist, that both procedures [partial-birth and D&E] are subject to the most severe moral condemnation, condemnation reserved for the most repulsive human conduct." (Stenberg v. Carhart)

In Stenberg, Justice John Paul Stevens, an abortion supporter, comparing partial-birth abortion to dismemberment abortion in 2000 wrote, "that the State furthers any legitimate interest by banning one but not the other, is simply irrational." (Stenberg v. Carhart)

Justice Ruth Bader-Ginsburg, also an abortion supporter, said in Gonzales that both methods "could equally be characterized as 'brutal, involving as it does 'tear[ing] [a fetus] apart' and 'rip[ping] off' its limbs.'" (Stenberg v. Carhart)

The simple truth is D&E dismemberment abortions are as brutal as the partial-birth abortion method, which is now illegal in the United States.

Life Lessons From a Little One

MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

by **Jessica S. Hosman**

One of Zechariah's dreams came true a few weeks back when my Daddy came to stay with us. Since I'm from Pennsylvania and the majority of my family still lives east, it is only once or twice a year that my son gets to see many of them. My Dad has had some health challenges in recent months but it's inspiring to see how his little buddy now takes care of him. His four-year old "nurse" is always making sure he eats his fruits and vegetables and never forsakes to ensure his cane is close by.

One of Daddy's challenges is a painful hip that causes him to walk with a limp. It was that limp which sparked a memorable conversation between them that I was blessed to overhear in part from the other room. I couldn't see the encounter unfold but I imagined my son sitting in the chair and patiently looking intently as his Pap-Pap slowly shuffled into the room. As he came closer, Zechariah comforted him with a sweet sincerity in his voice by saying, "Jesus has a new body waiting for you, Pap-Pap... He is going to give it to you when you go to live with Him." With those genuine and compassionate words, my heart melted. I didn't hear another word of the conversation; but I didn't need to.

There are a lot of us like my Daddy

who live every day in pain. Whether it is physical or emotional, it hurts just the same. It is my belief that God wants to heal every hurt and

remove every pain from each one of us. Yet some of us still live with it every day of our lives. That doesn't mean God doesn't care. He longs to see each one of us living an abundant life and that's why my son is



Jessica Hosman

correct, there is great newness that awaits us all. That's easy to lose sight of when we're attempting to walk through life with crippling pain in our heart or flesh, but it's truth that can breathe hope into our lives for tomorrow.

Jesus died but He also arose. When we put our trust in the One who overcame death, we can know that He's walking with us and will never leave us in the place we now stand. The promise that He has for our lives is great.

It's the promise of victory, the promise of life and the promise of Him.

Regardless of the reason you may be limping through life right now, this season will not last forever. Be encouraged in knowing that there is a loving Savior who cared enough to lay down His life for you. You will arise from the pit of ashes and experience beauty. Your mourning will turn into dancing and your sorrow will turn into joy. Don't lose sight of the promises God has for you. Your life still makes a difference and new victory awaits.



Tim Scott takes over as Pastor of Community Church

by **Carolyn Cogswell**

Less than a year after his father, Tommy Scott, celebrated 50 years in ministry and 12 years as pastor of Community Church, 1819 S.W. 21st, his son Tim, having served for over 9 years as associate pastor, became senior pastor of the church.

Each pastor has his own calling, style, and experiences from which to draw. However, one characteristic of both the elder and the younger Scott is the conviction that whatever direction they take, it should clearly be God's determination and not their own. In this transition, the mantle did not automatically fall on Tim.

When the elders were notified in mid-summer of 2014 of Pastor Tommy's decision to return to evangelistic work and to move back to Oklahoma, they naturally met to pray about his successor. The decision was left in God's hands. There had been no prior discussion about who would be the pastor if or when a change should occur.

When, after prayer, the elders approached the younger Scott about what they believed the Holy Spirit had shown them, it was not a matter of whether or not he was interested or would he like to have the job.

"It's not my decision," Tim said. "It's God's." And since he has taken the position, the same theme has prevailed.

"I'm not concerned about growing a megachurch," he said. "But what I am



interested in is that we find and do the will of God. I'm interested in a healthy church."

"We are all builders," he said. "Co-laborers with Him building His house...It's not up to you to figure out how to get it done, it's up to us to stay close to God."


While serving as Associate Pastor, Tim taught the Bible in his home for many years and wrote the Bible studies for the other home groups. During the time he taught the Bible studies he also led worship with the guitar. Home groups at Community consist of food and fellowship, worship and Bible study.

Besides teaching the Bible, Pastor Tim plays music, sings and writes worship songs. Before assuming the responsibility of Senior Pastor, he

played the bass guitar and sang harmony on the worship team for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night services. Currently, he is involved in music ministry primarily on Wednesday evenings and has introduced a couple of his original worship songs to the congregation.

Many congregants have said that the transition from Pastor Tommy to Pastor Tim has been amazingly smooth. Though their styles are distinctively different, no one is complaining. Pastor Tim has said, "We will grow together," and, along with his wife, Misty, and young family, Abigail, Isaac, Andrew and Rebekah, everyone is looking forward to just that.

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CHAPLAIN

continued from page 1

fully as the senate's chaplain ever since. Officially, Hollomon's chaplain duties included only the opening prayer of the senate each day it was in session. While he could leave after that prayer, he saw what he did as a ministry and many days spent time with legislators and senate staff getting to know them and counseling them when needed. In past years Hollomon held weekly prayer meetings at the senate and performed weddings and funerals for senators. Yet his ministry touched far more than just the senators. For three decades he ministered to senate secretaries, doormen, lobbyists and security personnel, among

David prayed in rhyme, too." Since his prayers were printed in the senate journal, he wrote them out every day -- a practice he had not done before becoming a chaplain. In 2005, he published a collection of the prayers in a book titled "Uncommon Prayers." In recent years, Hollomon has had a regular column in the Topeka Metro Voice highlighting an original prayer each month. He also delivered a rhyming prayer at a Pastor's Appreciation Luncheon sponsored by Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce. One of the most famous of the prayers got national radio exposure during his first month in the senate. A reporter heard the prayer and asked if he could get a copy of it. Hollomon thought little of the prayer until a neighbor heard it on the radio. The



Fred Holloman reads a prayer at the podium of the Kansas State Senate. Hollomon recently retired after serving as the senate chaplain for 31 years.

others. State senates around the nation do chaplaincy in their own way. Some have a different chaplain come in each session to deliver the opening prayer. "I don't like that near as well," Hollomon said. "You don't get acquainted that way. I think it's a mistake to have different guys pop in all the time. I think if you get someone who enjoys it and does a fairly good job of it, you should keep him or her." Yet it's the creative prayers that Hollomon became known for around the state. Newspapers began quoting him and interviewing him about the prayers soon after he began using them during the 1979 legislative session. "Reporters started interviewing me soon after I started doing it," Hollomon said. "They did it for two reasons. First, I was doing it differently than anyone else they'd ever heard pray, and second, I prayed rhymes. I reminded them that

prayer was read on the Paul Harvey Show. Hollomon's humor was part of all aspects of his ministry. A few years ago, the Nebraska state legislature made news because some were questioning the constitutionality of paying chaplains. He said, "Before I prayed one day, I said, 'I understand our sister state to the north is having trouble paying a chaplain. Southern Baptists have done a good job of raising funds all their lives.' I just held up an offering plate. Of course, I got a pretty good response." Despite the objections of many throughout the years, Hollomon remained committed to ending his prayers by invoking the name of Jesus. A quick Internet search of Hollomon's name turns up a variety of mentions of this practice by groups urging a more strict separation of church and state. "I never quit doing that even though I got a lot of criticism about it," Hollomon said. "I did it as a witness."

Chaplain's Corner

Uncommon Prayers



Fred S. Hollomon
Chaplain Emeritus
Kansas Senate

Prayers like this may be found in my Book of Uncommon Prayers at Book Boutique at the Library, Wolfe's Camera Shop, the State Capital, and my Web site, fsh-kschap.org

Heavenly Father,

When things are looking dreary,
and the light is hard to see.
When others turn to deep despair,
Help me turn to Thee.

When people I had trusted
Turned their backs on me,
Don't let me turn to bitterness,
Help me turn to Thee.

When trying to negotiate
And no can agree,
While others lose their temper,
Help me turn to Thee.

When the walls are closing in
And I'm struggling to get free,
While others push the panic button,
Help me turn to Thee.

**I Pray in the Name of Jesus Christ
AMEN**

Feaker asked God to 'Show up like You did in the Bible'

by **Carolyn Cogswell**

Keynote speaker Rev. Barry Feaker, said he hoped the nearly 900 attending the 54th Annual Kansas Prayer Breakfast on March 18 did not come "to hear me," but "because you recognize the importance of God in our lives. He cares about you because He created you and loves you immensely."



Feaker, Topeka Rescue Mission's Executive Director, and all who participated demonstrated the theme of coming together in God's name, including the New Testament reading of Matthew 14:13-21 by State Representative Tom Burroughs (D), minority leader of the Kansas House of Representatives.

The website of the Kansas Prayer Breakfast invites "leaders in government, business, education and industry" to the annual event. Kansas Governor Sam Brownback invited God.

"We've got a motto - 'In God We Trust,'" he said. "We believe it... He's blessed us... Let's invite him to the meeting!" The governor, sounding more and more like a tent revivalist, read the Amplified Bible version of John 14:27.

"Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]" John 14:27 (Amplified)

He also exhorted all in attendance and the whole state of Kansas to focus on the good things that are happening in the state.

"I'd like this entire state to be a tabernacle of praise!" he said. "We've got a great state!"

After concluding his welcome to the meeting, Feaker offered Brownback a job in chapel service at the Rescue Mission (when he's through being governor) and invited Loving Abiding Church of God in Christ Pastor Richard Rounds to come pray there any time.

Feaker told the history of the Topeka Rescue Mission from its beginning in 1953 in "a room on 4th Street" with "a Bible in one hand and a loaf of bread in

the other" and a vision of, "Let's bring 'em off the street, let's give 'em something to eat, let's give 'em the good news about Jesus."

Without the aid of government funds the Mission has expanded from approximately 50 beds to 286 beds and is in the process of completing a \$3.8 million building project. Currently Feaker is overseeing a \$12 million expansion project to create additional shelter space, expand the dining capacity and include a medical clinic. How did it happen?

"Through prayer," Feaker said.

Feaker, after coming to Christ at a Billy Graham crusade in Kansas City, said he told God, "I've read about You. I've heard about You, but would you put me somewhere where You can show up like You did in the Bible?" In November 1986, he became executive director of the Topeka Rescue Mission.

Feaker shared inspirational stories that appear in his book *In the Darkness, a Light Still Shines*, available locally and on Amazon.com.

His first day on the job Feaker said someone called and told him, "There's a drunk coming your way with his pants down around his ankles." It turned out the "drunk" was suffering a disability. He needed help pulling up his pants and he needed a belt. Feaker provided him a belt, helped him pull his pants up and never saw the "drunk" again.

One day Cecil Dane, the cook at the time, reported there was no meat for sandwiches. There was plenty of bread, chips and mustard but no meat.

"Let's pray," Dane said. Feaker began to pray for "meat." Dane said, "You have to be more specific. You can do more

with ground beef than with pot roast." Shortly after they prayed for "ground beef" they got a phone call from a store in Carbondale saying they had over-ordered and asking them if they could use 900 pounds of ground beef.

That was just one miracle where God "showed up."

A volunteer named Don said he would work for the mission but, "Don't talk to me about God." Feaker said he would not, but said, "He may talk to you." One day, Don asked Feaker to give him money to buy some shredded lettuce, as they had everything needed for the evening meal except lettuce. But before he could get out the door, a woman came in with a donation consisting of nothing but a bag of shredded lettuce.

"God's doing something in Topeka, Kansas. If you want to do something with God, come on."

"Thank you, ma'am," Don said simply. Later, Feaker said, he had the privilege of leading Don to Jesus Christ.

"When our back is up against the wall we have to partner with God," Feaker said. "With God all things are possible."

After the meeting, Feaker said, "God's doing something in Topeka, Kansas. If you want to do something with God, come on." Referring to the story of Jesus inviting Peter to walk on water in Matthew 14, he said, "Get off the bench and get in the game."

The governor later said he was most impressed with Feaker's "hometown miracles," and described the prayer breakfast as an "encouraging event for everyone to get together."

Information about the Kansas Prayer Breakfast can be found at www.kansasprayerbreakfast.net. Information about the history, volunteer opportunities and current needs at The Topeka Rescue Mission is available at trmonline.org.

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Reading Roadmap Boosts Learning

By Jackie Mader

A program aimed at improving 3rd grade reading scores in rural schools has shown promising results in one Kansas district, with more students on track to meet 4th grade reading goals and fewer students requiring intensive reading interventions, according to a study by the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research.

The Kansas Reading Roadmap initiative, which rolled out in early 2014, includes a summer and afterschool reading intervention program, family engagement initiatives, and training to help educators analyze student data and learn about research-based reading programs.

In the Pittsburg school district, which serves about 1,400 students



in southeast Kansas, 138 students have participated in afterschool reading interventions, and 172 students have been served by the summer reading program. The University of Kansas study found that since the program was introduced, the percentage of students requiring intensive reading intervention has dropped sharply.

The initiative, which launched in 45 schools last year, targets rural and semi-rural schools in Kansas. Half of all public schools in Kansas are rural, and more than 28 percent of students in the state attend those schools. Nearly 40 percent of rural students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, according to the Rural School and Community Trust.

EASTER PARADE

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Saturday, April 4th. The Parade itself will start at 10:30 a.m., while the Fun Fair will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Staging for the parade will start at 9 a.m. in the pool parking lot. The Parade will move around inside Gage Park, and signs will mark the route so that people can determine the best viewing spots.

The Family Fun Fair consists of activities geared toward children and families, as well as booths, exhibits, bands, etc., including activities such as Easter egg

crosses, empty tombs and Biblical characters, fulfilling the purpose of reminding observers of the true meaning of the holiday. Others featured more of a fun-loving, lighthearted theme, including classic cars, boats, big trucks and other types of motorized and walking entries, including pageant queens, military groups and sports teams.

It was estimated that last year's event was attended by several thousand people, as dozens of churches, businesses and non-profit organizations took part in the parade and fun fair.

Other sponsors making the event possible include NuSound Hearing Center,



hunts, children's games, scavenger hunts, facepainting, and similar other activities in and around Big Gage Shelter and the Children's Party House in Animal Land Playground.

Once again two different Easter Egg hunts are planned, at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., in the Animal Land playground, as dozens of children will search for several thousand eggs hidden in the area.

Many of the floats in last year's parade had a definite Easter flavor, featuring

Metro Voice News, WIBW, Topeka Health & Wellness Magazine, Knox Signs & Graphics, Solid Rock Sound Machine, WREN Radio, Bethel Community Church, Damsel in Defense and the Kansas Koyotes.

For more information, email info@C5Alive.org or call 785-640-6399. Updated details can be found at TopekaEasterParade.com or on Facebook at "2015 Topeka Easter Parade & Fun Fair."

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Adopt Kansas Kids works to connect foster and approved adoptive families with children throughout Kansas who need adoption. This service is provided by the Kansas Children's Service League through a contract with the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF).

Winners for 2015 Longest Married Couple Project Announced

Christian Newswire -- The 2015 national and state winners of the fifth annual Longest Married Couple Project, sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME), the original faith-based marriage enrichment program in this country, were announced recently.

"We are truly excited and amazed at the number of couples married 70 years or more and there were several with 60 plus years of marriage," explained Ron and Judy Pekny, the United States Leadership Team for WWME. The Peknys serve with Fr. Rocky Grimard as the U.S. Leadership Team.

The 2015 longest married couple in the United States, based on the nominations submitted, is Dale & Alice Rockey of Olathe, KS. They are married over 81 years, having made their marriage vows on Dec. 29, 1933. They met in a small Nebraska town when they were teenagers. They were dating other people, but one Sunday Dale spotted Alice on the street and asked if she would like to go for a ride. The rest, as the Rockeys say, is history – marriage history. The Peknys honored Mr. & Mrs. Rockey in a special ceremony in their hometown of Olathe at the Good Samaritan Society recently. Last year, the Rockeys won state honors as longest married, but were not eligible to compete in that category this year.

The Rockeys say the secret to their long and happy marriage is they tell each other all of the time that they



love each other. They were nominated by their son Tom, who said "They're a beautiful couple. You don't see them together without holding hands."

The State winners from Kansas for 2015 were Pat & Helen Olmsted, Beatie, KS, married December 27, 1943 (71 years). The Missouri winners were Martin & Vera Mosbauer, Independence, MO, married June 24, 1939 (75 years).

This year one of the winning couples, specifically from Texas, is known to many – they are Former President George H.W. and Barbara Bush. They were nominated in early January 2015 just as they were celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary.

Winners of the project are automatically made members of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Longest Married Couple Project Alumni group. Couples cannot succeed themselves each year as either national or state winners, thus giving an opportunity to honor other longest married couples across the country.

The Peknys also pointed out that the project is based on nominations received from October 15th the previous year to January 10th of the current year.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers married couples the opportunity to spend time together away from the busyness of the world to focus on each other. It offers tools for building and maintaining a strong, Christian marriage in today's world. To learn more about Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends go online to wwme.org or contact the WWME Office at 909/332-7309.

PRAYER

continued from page 1

Graham, wrote a special prayer to be simultaneously read throughout the nation at 11 a.m. (CDT). This recitation will create a huge wave of prayer, flowing from one coast to the other, illustrating the unity of God's people and acknowledging His dominion over the circumstances facing us.

Millions of people will gather to pray at thousands of events facilitated by our volunteer coordinators and people just like you!

We hope you'll join with millions of believers across the nation again as we seek to bring more communities than ever before together in prayer. As a way of assisting you, NDP has assembled a variety of resources that describe how to organize and publicize citywide prayer breakfasts, worship services, and rallies.

These materials also present creative ideas geared toward helping individuals and families to establish meaningful devotional times.

If you have any questions after reviewing these items, please don't hesitate to contact NDP staff at (800) 444-8828.

During the month of April Kansas City's City Wide Prayer organization, made up of hundreds of area pastors, will post information on local and regional events.

Visit www.citywideprayerkc.com.

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Should I help? Not yet



DAVE RAMSEY
Financial author, radio host, television personality, and motivational speaker

davesays

Dear Dave,
My daughter is in her late twenties, and she has a good job making \$50,000 a year. The other day, she told me she has \$15,000 in credit card debt and has financed an expensive car she's upside down on. Her apartment in Omaha costs \$600 a month, and she is asking for help to get out of the hole. We tried to teach her how to handle money, but apparently it didn't work. How do you think I should handle this situation?

- Cindy

Dear Cindy,
Here's what I would tell her if she were my kid in that situation. First, I'm not paying for your problem to go away. I'd tell her to sell the car and get a cheap little beater. She'll have to get a small loan to cover the difference, but it will rid her of a car payment. And hey, a little bit of debt is better than a whole lot of debt — especially when the debt is on something that's going down in value. After that, she can get a part-time job and work her tail off until she cleans up the mess she made.

I know all this sounds harsh, but this girl had a good thing going and she screwed it up by being impulsive and immature. Think about it; she's making \$50,000 a year, and only \$7,200 of that was going toward rent. Her taxes aren't that much, so where's the rest of the money going? I'm guessing a



big chunk is being wasted on restaurants, goofing off and other stuff she doesn't really need.

Let her wallow in it and worry about things for while first, though. Then, if she's willing to accept responsibility for her actions, and she starts working hard toward handling her money wisely, you might help her out once in a while. Every time she pays off \$1,000, you could add \$500 to the next payment. But I'd test her resolve first to see if she wants it badly enough!

- DAVE

Four reasons why you need to know your retirement number



CHRIS HOGAN
Financial planner, speaker

mythoughts

People love to throw around numbers when they talk about retirement. How many times have you heard that 52 percent of Americans have only \$10,000 saved for retirement? Or that

33 percent of workers are putting off retirement until after age 65, and 10 percent don't plan to retire at all?

While those numbers give us a good idea of the scope of our nation's retirement problem, they're not going to help anyone actually change their retirement outlook.

The only number that can accomplish that is your number — your own, personal retirement savings goal that will allow you to live out your dream retirement.

That number is so important. First, to even begin calculating your retirement number, you have to decide what kind of life you want to live in retirement. Do you want to travel? Start a business? Help your grandkids with college? There's no wrong answer, but you do need to think about how much money your dream retirement will take and then boil that down to a monthly income amount.

Second, by having this discussion and agreeing on what your dream retirement looks like, you and your spouse now become a team. You're working together, sacrificing together if necessary, so you can reach a goal both of you have decided is worth the effort.

There's nothing sadder than a couple who's facing retirement with no money and no dream, simply because they never sat down to talk about their future!

Third, by focusing on your retirement number, you stop thinking about retirement as an age. Retirement doesn't begin at some magical age like 65 or 70. It begins when you have enough money to enjoy the life you're dreaming about — whether that's at age 50, 73 or 82.

Fourth, your retirement number gives you a solid starting place for your retirement plan. Millions of people don't save for their future because they think they'll have to give up too much today. They don't make a plan.

And as the numbers show, they're going to be in trouble.

But numbers change when people do. When you have a real plan and work that plan with real effort, you'll get real results.

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Should Christians support a Palestinian state?

metro
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LUKE MOON

Business Manager for the Institute on Religion & Democracy in Washington, D.C. and an ordained Southern Baptist minister.

myopinion

Israeli elections are over and the big story is Benjamin Netanyahu's stunning come-from-behind win to secure his fourth term as prime minister. Exit polls showed Netanyahu's center-right Likud party just one seat ahead of the main challenger, the Zionist Union, and pundits and pollsters were forecasting his imminent demise all the way to the end. At last count, however, he and the Likud gained a decisive victory with 29 parliamentary seats compared to Zionist Union's 24. The Joint Arab List, a slate of Arab-Israeli candidates, came in third.

But as Netanyahu begins the difficult task of building a governing coalition, he remains haunted, both now and for years to come, by remarks that he made during the final days of his campaign. In most nations, campaign chatter is chalked up to politicking and gamesmanship; but Israel is not like most nations. Seen by some as evidence of God's faithfulness and by others as the source of all that is wrong in the world, Israel lives in a media spotlight that is truly unique.

Thus, it was not surprising when Foggy Bottom, Brussels, and the glittering halls of Amnesty International erupted in a mighty uproar after Netanyahu declared that, under his leadership, there would be no Palestinian state. Many observers saw it as a reversal of his now-famous 2009 speech at Bar Ilan University in which he accepted the idea of a two-state solution.

To be fair, Netanyahu was not making an unequivocal declaration so much as he was answering a question posed by a journalist and using the answer to undermine his opponent and score points with his

base. The exchange was posted on NRG, a Hebrew language website, and translated by the Times of Israel.

"If you are prime minister, there will be no Palestinian state?" Netanyahu answered, "Indeed." Expounding, he said, "I think anyone who is going to establish a Palestinian State and to evacuate the territory is giving radical Islam a staging ground against the State of Israel."

Netanyahu then reminded the audience of the last two prime ministers from the left who offered land-for-peace deals. "The left is doing this, burying its head in the sand time after time."

To anyone who follows the conflict closely and spends time with actual Palestinians and Israelis, this statement will come as no surprise. I rarely find anyone, either in Israel or the territories, who still supports a two-state solution to the conflict.

Last year, when Jerusalem Post editor Caroline Glick was promoting her book on why Israel should annex Judea and Samaria to reach a one-state solution, I asked several prominent Palestinian Christian activists for their take. To my great surprise, most of them agreed with her. It is a rare moment indeed when Jewish and Palestinian nationalists agree, and although both sides disagree on the details, their basic accord suggests that Netanyahu may be more in touch with sentiments in the street than pundits give him credit for.

There are still many Palestinians who would like to see Israel driven into the sea, but there are many who look longingly at the opportunities available to their Arab brothers and sisters inside Israel proper. Palestinians in the territories have not voted in nearly 10 years, and are forced to endure either the corrupt autocracy of Mahmoud Abbas in the West Bank or the Islamic thugocracy of Hamas in Gaza. Meanwhile, Arab-Israelis went to the polls Tuesday and pulled off an astounding victory.

Sadly, this disparity of democratic opportunity will be lost on foreign powers. The US and EU are committed to a

two-state solution come hell or high water. The Obama administration, having worked hard to unseat Netanyahu, will now use his statements as an opportunity to further antagonize Israel and coddle the Palestinian leadership. Many more European states will be emboldened to recognize the legal fiction of a Palestinian state even as Jews in their midst suffer from rising and increasingly violent anti-Semitism.

International NGOs will be even worse. Organizations like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch will double down on their historic condemnation of Israel's behavior. They will ignore incessant cries for Israel's destruction echoing from various quarters and instead use Netanyahu's statement to paint Israel as an unwilling partner for peace.

As the cries for the establishment of a Palestinian state grow louder, Christians and advocates for real justice and peace should be prudent and wise. We simply cannot advocate for the establishment of a Palestinian state that has committed itself to the rejection of basic human rights. Even now, religious minorities, such as Christians, who do not support the ruling regime are frequently subjected to harassment. Journalists who try to document abuse of Palestinians by the Palestinian Authority are attacked. It is a capital offense for an Arab to sell land to a Jew. The PA has pledged that a future Palestinian state will be free of all Jews.

It is outrageous on the basis of human rights to advocate for a state that has promised, and proven, it will trample on human rights without apology.

Christians must also reject the recognition of a state that is committed to the obliteration of the Jewish people. Hamas,



a terrorist organization that regularly proclaims its desire to destroy Israel, is currently ruling the Gaza Strip and is in a power-sharing arrangement with the PA government of Mahmoud Abbas. Christians should see this as detestable. For too long Christians have participated in the killing of Jews either actively, as in the Crusades, or passively, as in the Holocaust. It is an abhorrent part of our history that must not become part of our future.

Christians should support the idea of a Palestinian state, but only if that state commits to promoting liberty and justice for everyone and living peacefully beside the Jewish state of Israel.

Netanyahu's victory will be difficult for those who believe that trading land for peace will work. But his reluctance to participate in the establishment of an unjust state next-door is wholly appropriate and in line with what many Israelis and Palestinians actually think.

The sooner the US and the EU recognize this, the sooner real peace will be achieved.

Luke Moon is the Director of the *Philos Project* (philosproject.org) which strives to create positive Christian engagement in the Middle East.

#NOMOREPROFANITY!



CLINT DECKER

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

hopefortoday

Clay Center, Kan. – The other day I was listening to a talk radio show when I heard the host say, "What the h__ll do they think they are doing?" I said to myself, "I don't want to listen to language like that!" and changed the station. Then one evening I was watching a TV show and one of the characters said, "Just quit b__ching about your friend and go talk to her." There I was again changing channels.

According to an Associated Press

survey from several years ago, 64% of Americans confess to using profanity. Personally, I think it is higher. Let me ask, should this be seen as a problem in society? It should be because it demonstrates that nearly a super-majority of America's population has a Mt. Everest-sized character problem. Here are three evidences that profanity is about character.

- 1) Anger-driven. When someone rattles off a series of explicatives cutting people down like a weed-eater - it is about character.
- 2) Vulgar humor. When someone feels compelled to include gutter-language in every joke - it is about character.
- 3) Thoughtlessness. When someone spews forth their sewer-mouth around young children, true ladies and gentlemen and in general public settings (like

social media) - it is about character.

I want to challenge us as a society to raise our standards. Let us start a hash tag campaign #nomoreprofanity to raise awareness



Jesus is a model for raising standards through His famous Sermon on the

Mount. He once said, "Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil." (Matthew 5:37) This means to keep our language simple and clean and if we have a problem with profanity it is because we have a problem with our heart.

Changing how we speak can be difficult, if we do it on our own. However, if we call upon Jesus and ask Him to change our heart, then He will touch our lips too. May Jesus be our hope for today and our standard for living.

Clint Decker is President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc. Contact him at cdecker@greatawakenings.org.

MARRIED.... WITH CHILDREN

by **Tony Perkins**

They say that children should be seen and not heard. And in the homosexual community, that's taken on new meaning for kids raised in same-sex families. Now, years later, those same children have grown up - and what they have to say about their experience is a powerful rebuke of the domestic arrangements their parents are fighting for.

Earlier this month, four adults stepped out of the shadows, taking a tremendous risk to tell their moving - and sometimes harrowing - stories in briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court. That courage is breeding more courage, as others come forward to share, as only they can, what this drive to redefine the family has forgotten: the children.

In a compelling and eloquent letter to her moms for *The Federalist*, Heather Barwick says she is "letting (herself) out of the closet." "I don't support gay marriage," she confesses. "But it might not be for the reasons that you think. It's not because you're gay. I love you, so much. It's because

of the nature of the same-sex relationship itself." Growing up, she says, and even into her 20s, she defended same-sex "marriage."

"It's only with some time and distance from my childhood," she explains, "that I'm able to reflect on my experiences and recognize the long-term consequences that same-sex parenting had on me. And it's only now, as I watch my children loving and being loved by their father each day, that I can see the beauty and wisdom in traditional marriage and parenting."

Gay marriage doesn't just redefine marriage, but also parenting. It promotes and normalizes a family structure that necessarily denies us something precious and foundational. It denies us something we need and long for, while at the same time tells us that we don't need what we naturally crave. That we will be okay. But we're not. We're hurting... It's not just me. There are so many of us. Many of us are too scared to speak up and tell you about our hurt and pain, because for whatever reason it

feels like you're not listening. That you don't want to hear. If we say we are hurting because we were raised by same-sex parents, we are either ignored or labeled a hater. This isn't about hate at all. I know that you really have been hated and that you really have been hurt... But that's not me. That's not us.



Videographers Fast-Forward to Marriage Fight

by **Tony Perkins**

A pair of Ohio videographers are getting a close-up of religious intolerance, thanks to a clash with local activists. Like a growing number of Americans, Courtney Schmackers is finding out firsthand what's really behind the redefinition of marriage. Last month, the owner of Next Door Stories got what most Christian wedding vendors are starting to dread: an inquiry from a same-sex couple.

The email asked if they could schedule an appointment to talk with the videographers about filming their upcoming same-sex "wedding." In a scene that's played out all across the country, Courtney sent a polite response suggesting that they try another production company. "Thank you for reaching out about wedding videography... Unfortunately at this time, I do not offer services for same-sex weddings, but thank you for your inquiry!"

Instead of respecting the owners' beliefs and finding another videographer, the women went to the press to exact revenge. In an interview with CNN, the couple kick-started their campaign to put Next Door Studios out of business. "I couldn't believe it," Jean Moffit said. "I thought this was a tight-knit community. We wanted to support local commerce and to get that kind of response was astounding." After much thought, the couple told reporters that

they'd filed a complaint with the Bexley Chamber of Commerce to make Schmacker pay for exercising her constitutional rights. "It is our hope," they said, "that... (going) public will spearhead some much needed overdue (legislation)."

And unfortunately, we know exactly what kind of legislation they mean. This is the same play-book that's been used in Houston, Springfield, Fayetteville, Utah, and others to kick down the door between government and religious liberty. Under the umbrella of these sexual orientation-gender identity (SOGI) ordinances, cities are quietly ushering in a fierce government crackdown on men and women of faith.

Of course, the interesting part of Courtney's story is that it's taking place in Ohio -- one of the few states where natural marriage is still law and "sexual orientation" isn't included in its anti-discrimination policy. But already, the Bexley Chamber is setting the wheels in motion for an ordinance that it could use to attack the beliefs of business owners. According to a spokesman, the board wants to "ensure this does not happen again. The Chamber Board believes that discrimination in any form is wrong and should not be tolerated... We (have begun) the process of rewriting our policies and guidelines."



For Courtney, the nightmare is just beginning. But, like so many brave Americans in cake shops, classrooms, and courtrooms, she's standing firm in her faith. "I made a business decision based on my spiritual beliefs and the biblical definition of marriage because I thought that I had a right to do that. Unfortunately, I gave the wrong answer to the wrong person, who decided to make a private issue into a public platform, and now I am fully experiencing the consequences. I am sorry you had to be exposed to it, and I'm open to any and all conversation regarding it."

Courtney's story will be one of countless others if the Supreme Court imposes same-sex "marriage" on the entire nation. These activists aren't after a "live-and-let-live" policy. They're on a march to force all Americans to celebrate and affirm what they do under the penalty of law.



DEAR EDITOR,

In the March 2015 issue of *Metro Voice*, you included a small article about House of Ruth; the new discipleship home in Topeka. This house plans to offer a stable environment for women who are being released from jail or prison. I am very interested in learning more about this home, as I work with women that meet that criteria and most times they are searching for both direction and stability. I appreciate that you included the information about the other homes operating under the same umbrella; it will be a great resource for me, as I also work with men who find themselves in the similar situations. While I am pleased that the house will offer a place to call home for six women—I wish it were

larger—but with minimal financial support, I realize they are doing the best they can. There are so many women (and men) who struggle to reintegrate into the community following incarceration, and I appreciate you bringing to our attention this wonderful facility.

*Tricia McCourt, Human Services student
Washburn University*

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*Michael Driver, CPA
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TRUTH MATTERS

The truth is, Governor Brownback and most Kansas legislators have worked hard to get more money into K-12 classrooms and have increased funding to educate our children each of the last

four years. Claims that funds for schools have been cut, supposedly causing test scores to drop, schools to close, class sizes to go up and college tuition to increase are totally false.

Yes, there was a large reduction of \$419 million to fund Kansas schools in 2009 when Mark Parkinson was Governor. The 2008 Great Recession hit Americans hard and state tax revenues dropped like a rock. Then, in 2011, the Federal government stopped sending emergency TARP funds to all states.

The Kansas Legislature made up the \$219 million in Federal cuts by raising the amount spent from state tax revenues by \$223 million. Brownback signed that budget bill.

But, our Legislators have consistently appropriated over 50% of all state funds for K-12 schools. This means that Kansas is already 4th in the nation and well above the percentage of state funding for school districts as compared to near-by states such as Missouri @ 34.9%, Nebraska @ 30.4%, Oklahoma @ 30.4%, Colorado @ 39.1%, and Texas @ 41.7%.

In addition, since 1998, taxpayers have dou-

bled the amount spent to educate Kansas children. This school year, the average is over \$13,000 per student.

After the Montoy school finance Supreme Court decision in 2005, the Legislature appropriated \$1.1 billion more for Kansas school districts to spend. Most of that money was used to hire over 6,000 new employees. Only 40% were teachers. The rest were administrators and noninstructional staff.

In addition to this massive increase in State funds, Kansas school districts are sitting on \$800 million more of our tax dollars in their bank accounts. So, claims that funding for schools have been cut are simply not true.

Now for the rest of the story!! Even with twice as much being spent, national test scores for Kansas students have remained flat during the past 15 years. This spring, only 31% have a composite score on their ACT test high enough to be ready for college. Also, national NAEP test results show that just one third of Kansas students are at grade level in reading and math. A fourth of our students drop out before high school graduation.

To improve student performance, Brownback and key Republican legislators have sponsored bills to increase reading skills by third grade and to fund all-day kindergarten. They also tried to fix the broken school finance formula so more money gets into the classroom. But these bills did not pass.

Fortunately, the very successful program initiated by Brownback to teach employable career skills was passed by the Legislature. As a result, enrollment has quadrupled to enable thousands of Kansas students to qualify for well-paying jobs right out of high school.

Airing false ads, suing the state legislature for more money and repeating the same misinformation over-and-over does a great disservice to every student, parent, voter and taxpayer in Kansas. The next time you hear a Kansas politician claim that they are going to "restore funding for schools", ask them how much more they are going to raise your taxes to get the same results.

*Dr. Walt Chappell, Wichita
Former Kansas State Board of Ed. Member*

What Americans ask in prayer

Americans tend to be self-focused in their prayer life, asking God for personal desires more often than people in crisis or the unsaved, according to a recent survey from Nashville-based LifeWay Research.

"Most people pray when they need the red phone for help," says Ed Stetzer, executive director of LifeWay Research. "But their prayer life isn't a habit rooted in a relationship with God."

John Maempa, director of the AG Office of Prayer and Spiritual Care, says, "While for many people praying tends to be a pragmatic means to an end, according to Scripture we are invited to ask for things we need and perhaps even want (Psalm 37:4; Matthew 6:33; 7:7; etc.). However, the key to effective prayer is relationship — drawing close to God so He can draw close to us."

In the online survey, Americans spend the most time focusing on friends and family (82 percent of all respondents) as well as their own problems (74 percent). Just over half (54 percent) pray for good things to happen in their life, while more than one third (36 percent) ask God to bless them with future prosperity.

"James Nicodem, in his book 'Prayer Coach,' states that

Jesus readily responds to our prayers when we 'start to value our relationship more than our requests; until we want more of Him than we want from Him.'" Maempa observes.

"When we're in proper alignment with God's relationally, we are more inclined to pray His will than focus on things we want."

But not all prayers are self-centered. Americans say they also spend time petitioning God about their own sin (42 percent), those in natural disasters (38 percent), people of other religions or no faith (20 percent), and government leaders (12 percent).

And as Jesus' taught, 41 percent say they have prayed for those who mistreat them while 37 percent acknowledge praying for enemies.

On the other hand, 21 percent admit to asking God to win a lottery, 13 percent have sought the Almighty's help for their favorite team to win a game, and 7 percent have wanted God's favor in finding a good parking space.

About half of Americans (48 percent) say they pray at least every day, while a third (31 percent) say they pray repeatedly during the day.



Volunteering is changing the face of America

April marks a commemoration that is changing our nation: As part of National Volunteer Month, National Volunteer Week is April 12-18. It's about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. The National Points of Light Foundation says, "It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals."

National Volunteer Week is about taking action and encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change – discovering and actively demonstrating their collective power to make a difference.

National Volunteer Week, a program of Points of Light, was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week. In fact, volunteering has become so important during this week that it has spread to fill the other three weeks of the month!

A federal study shows that one in four Americans volunteered through an organization and two-thirds helped their neighbors in 2014.

The annual Volunteering and Civic Life in America research, released last December by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC), shows that service to others continues to be a priority for millions of Americans.

"We are calling on Americans to volunteer in their communities, and to invite their friends and families to join them," said Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "Volunteers enrich our communities and keep our nation strong. Service also connects us with our neighbors and provides a chance to use our skills for the common good. There are so many ways we can make a

Supporting National Volunteer Month

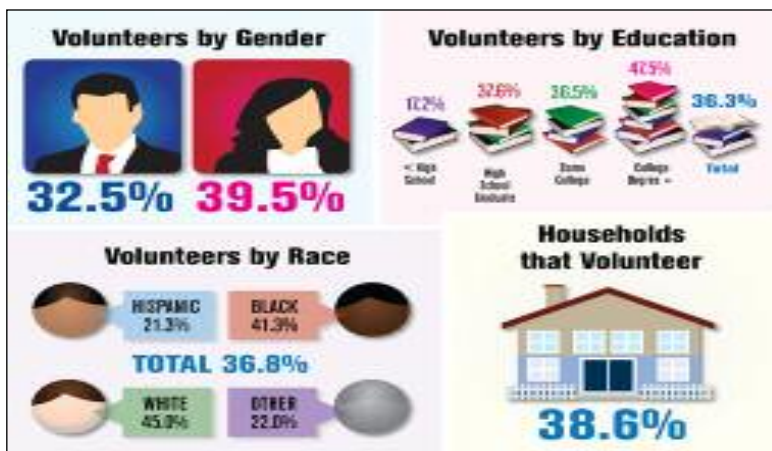


difference for those in need, during the holiday season and throughout the entire year."

This year's report found that 62.6 million adults (25.4 percent) volunteered through an organization in 2013. Altogether, Americans volunteered nearly 7.7 billion hours last year. The estimated value of this volunteer service is nearly \$173 billion, based on the independent sector's estimate of the

report found that two-thirds (68.5 percent) of Americans have dinner with their family virtually every day, while three in four (75.7 percent) see or hear from friends and family at least a few times a week, and more than a third (36.3 percent) are involved in a school, civic, recreational, religious, or other organization.

Other reports show that individuals who attend church are a majority of



average value of a volunteer hour.

In addition, more than 138 million Americans (62.5 percent) also engaged in informal volunteering in their communities, helping neighbors with such tasks as watching each other's children, helping with shopping, or house sitting. Other civic health indicators from the

those volunteering across the nation.

"The civic health of our country is strong when people trust and help their neighbors and engage with their government," said Ilir Zherka, executive director of the National Conference on Citizenship.

"Civic engagement is essential to the life of our country. That's why all sectors of society from non-profits, to businesses, to our government must redouble their efforts to promote greater connections among Americans."

The research shows that overall rate of volunteering is slightly lower than the previous year yet remains strong and stable, and that Americans' commitment to volunteering spans across generations.

Kansas continues to combat immigration action

By Fred Lucas

The recent federal court ruling halting President Barack Obama's unilateral action to shield 5 million illegal immigrants from deportation presents a perfect opportunity for states to act, said Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach.

Kansas is among the 26 states in the lawsuit seeking to overturn Obama's executive action. Kobach is optimistic about the bill passing in a Republican legislature and getting the signature of Republican Gov. Sam Brownback.

Kobach, who before taking office in Kansas was an author of the Arizona immigration law, said he has consulted lawmakers from a dozen other states about legislation to confront Obama's executive action.

"This is a true constitutional crisis we are in now," Kobach said. "The executive branch has seized power from Congress and ordered federal agents to disobey federal law. If the executive branch gets away with this, it would leave in tatters our constitutional system."

Kansas wins victory in Voter ID ruling

Kansas won another big victory in federal court on March 18. The state of Kansas, along with Arizona, sued the federal Election Assistance Commission arguing that the feds cannot create a loophole in the states' proof-of-citizenship requirement for registering to vote.

A U.S. District Court judge ruled that Arizona and Kansas can require anyone registering to vote to prove their citizenship and the federal Election Assistance Commission cannot block them.

"This is a huge victory for the states of Kansas and Arizona, and for the whole cause of states' rights," said Kansas Secretary of State Kris W. Kobach, who led the challenge. "We've seen so many defeats recently in areas where the federal government has been encroaching on states' authorities, and this time the good guys won."

The judge ordered the federal agency to "immediately" change the federal registration form to include the proof of citizenship requirement.

Kansas sees strong job growth with updated numbers

Updated numbers released earlier this month by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) confirm strong private sector job growth in Kansas, and show Kansas second in the region for private sector job growth, trailing only Colorado.

"Private sector jobs help grow our economy, providing employment for Kansans and contributing to the quality of life in their communities," said Governor Brownback. "These corrected numbers show that our tax policy is working, bringing jobs and people to Kansas. We also see this confirmed in the record number of new business filings for the past year."

GET INVOLVED

Craigslist

Many smaller churches and organizations use Craigslist to get the word out on their volunteer needs. Plus groups are looking for donations such as old computers, eyeglasses and more. Just look for the Volunteer section.

Habitat For Humanity

www.topekahabitat.org
Don't be shy! Anyone can help build a house for a family! All skills welcome! Habitat relies heavily on the faith community for assistance.

Lions Club International

The world's largest organization of volunteers. Lions focus on their local communities, providing sight and hearing tests for kids, supplying eye glasses to children who cannot afford them and hearing aids to the elderly plus scholarships for graduating seniors. International projects include clean water and more! Contact www.lionsclubs.org

Local Organizations

Whether it is your community's food pantry or the city's clean-up day, volunteering is just around the corner from your house. There's no excuse not to be involved in improving the life of your community and neighbors. Call your city hall for information.

Metro Voice

Each month Metro Voice publishes volunteer needs of area organizations. In November we publish a Ministry Needs Guide in which local groups share their volunteer needs. In addition, many pro-life organizations need volunteers for counseling and other responsibilities in helping young pregnant women with no where to turn. See the archives of previous issues online for more information on these great organizations.

Ministries to the homeless and families in need

Salvation Army, Topeka Rescue Mission and many other local organizations.

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RANDLE

continued from page 1

chance to be spiritually revived—to recharge their batteries. Women generally wear lots of hats in their daily life and tend to take care of themselves last of all, but not on this weekend, we want you to come and be served,” Randle stated.

This energizing weekend is for moms and daughters, wives and girlfriends to come worship, to laugh, to cry, and to learn what it really means to be a woman after God’s own heart she said.

Randle is a Dove Award winning musician whose soulful music and testimony promises to shower attendees with encouragement and hope throughout the weekend. Randle was born in the inner city of Washington, D.C. as the middle child of seven. She has shared that while she is blessed to have had the privilege of being raised in a Christian home, that she still experienced a tumultuous and painful childhood. Although her parents, Nathel and Maxine Tait, taught her and her siblings the love of Christ very early on, and despite being led to the Lord at the young age of 12, it would be years later before she really experienced the freedom from bondage that only God could give. Music became a way out of pain and heartache for Randle and as a result of this God-given gift, many doors of opportunity have opened up for her.

you will laugh so hard you may cry at the hilarious comedy of Miss Puddin. Her down-to-earth humor and southern style will keep you smiling.

There will also be an opportunity for participants to share what’s on their hearts.

“We’re doing eight pop-up testimonies,” Randle said. “Eight women will get to share five minute testimonies.”

Randle added that it’s one thing when women get to hear other people speak, but it’s a whole different experience when the woman sitting next to them expresses her testimony.

Contrary to popular belief, the confer-



ence is not related to Elizabeth George’s book A Woman after God’s Own.

“This conference was something that God just dropped into my spirit and it was about six or seven months later that someone brought the book to my attention,” Randle said.

Randle noted that she hasn’t read the book yet, in order to make sure that ideas and activities for the conference stay original. She said she would be very interested in teaming up with George for a collaborative event in the future.

A Woman after God’s Own Heart conference will be held on Mother’s Day weekend: Friday, May 8, 6pm and Saturday, May 9 from 9am to 3pm. The conference will be held at College Church of the Nazarene in Olathe.

Tickets are \$50 and are available at LyndaRandle.com. For group ticket rates, call 816-792-5353. Scholarships are also available.



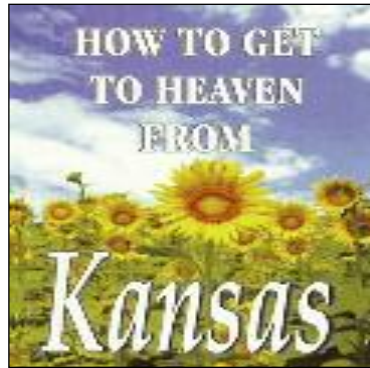
One of those opportunities was to serve other women through this conference and she’s brought several other well-known sisters in Christ along for the journey.

Joining Randle will be legendary gospel singer Delores ‘Mom’ Winans, known also as the Matriarch of the first family of gospel music. She is a Grammy nominated singer and is recognized for her wit and wisdom. As a mother of ten and grandmother of 24, she inspires women across the nation who hear her testimony.

Get ready to move in your seat or on your feet because taking the stage on Saturday is Babbie Mason, daughter of a Baptist preacher and an award-winning singer, songwriter, teacher and TV talk show host. Her contributions to Gospel music earned her a place in The Christian Music Hall of Fame.

Motivational speaker Anne Beiler founder of Auntie Anne’s Pretzels (located in 23 countries) delivers her testimony of trials and triumphs. Hear her story “Twist of Faith” as she shares the joys, heartaches, successes and failures in her life.

Finally, Randle encourages women to get their tissues ready because, she says,



More important than living in KANSAS is where you will live forever. Just as you would look at a map of KANSAS to find your way, so you must look at the Bible to find your way to heaven. The Bible says, “Narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Matt. 7:14). Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (Jn. 14:6). Jesus is the only way to Heaven and He gave these directions on getting there.

1. Realize you are a sinner. Everyone starts the same place spiritually. “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of god.” (Rom. 3:23). Sin’s penalty keeps you out of Heaven and condemns you to Hell, separating you from God. Romans 6:23 says, “The wages of sin is death.” Sin brings both physical & spiritual death. “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.” (Rev. 20:14).

2. Realize Jesus paid the penalty. Jesus Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection provided a way for you to go to heaven and restore your relationship with God. “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8). Since Jesus, God’s Son, was the only One who could pay for our sin, He is the only Way to Heaven.

3. Repent of your sin and receive Jesus as your Savior. In order to go to Heaven from KANSAS, or anywhere else, you must accept Christ by calling on Him in prayer. He tells us in Romans 10:13, “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Use the following prayer, or one similar to it, to receive Him now:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe that you died and rose again for me. Please forgive me of my sin, become Lord of my life, and take me to heaven when I die. I am trusting you completely, and in nothing I can do. Thank you Jesus! Amen.

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Relationships Focus of Three-Church Alliance

by **Carolyn Cogswell**

Pastor Phil Hollis, 64, who died March 13 in a motorcycle crash, had been part of a move to join forces with two other churches. The move is still on, according to Pastor Calley Russell of Higher Ground Church, 813 S. Kansas Ave.

Russell said the initial plan involved Pastors J.D. and Calley Russell of Higher Ground Church, Pastor Mike Shinkle of Open Way Full Gospel Church, 200 NW Gordon St., and Hollis, pastor of Faith Family Life Fellowship, 3710 NW Topeka Blvd. The work is called Beth-Kavod, which is Hebrew for “House of Honor and Glory,” she said.

The original churches will maintain their current locations, but had a joint

meeting to kick off the alliance at 10:00 a.m. Sunday March 22 at faith Family Life Fellowship.

J.D. said that about three months ago the leaders of the three churches began praying about and planning the union, “to bring together a mature body of believers, to create mature sons through relationship.”

Calley said the vision of the union is “a celebration of the kingdom of God, a place of honoring His sons and daughters.” And actually, this coming together is for anyone who wants to be part, she said.

J.D. said he was asking for prayer for this coming together of churches.

“Different groups want different things,” he said.

Integrity Insurance expands services

As of Monday March 3, 2015 Integrity Insurance Agency, Inc.; 2047 SW Topeka Blvd (Harley Town) Topeka, KS has partnered with Couri Insurance Associates of Waukesha, WI.

Integrity Insurance Agency, which just celebrated its 4-year anniversary is now partnering with over 250 other agencies. Recognized as the oldest and most successful associate agency group in the Midwest, Couri now operates in 11 states, helping people and businesses from Nevada to Michigan protect their lives, property and businesses.

Integrity Insurance, through this partnership with Couri now has access

to more than 50 quality carriers, including some of the most well-known names in the industry. Though still the same agency, with the same name and the same owners, they are now able to provide many more choices and access many more options for clients.

Integrity Insurance owners Marshall and Jan Madill are inviting all clients, friends and anyone that is just the neighborhood to stop in to just say “Hi” and share a cup of coffee. They also want to assure every one of their clients that there will be only positive benefits from this move.

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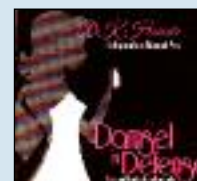


Fun Fair open 9:00 am - 3:00 pm near Big Gage Shelterhouse! Praise Bands & Dance Troupes will perform!
Craft stations, Facepainting, Easter Photos, Games & more! • Magician T.A. Hamilton performs live on stage!
Food, drinks & snacks available! Easter Egg Hunts at 9:00 am & 1:00 pm in AnimalLand Playground!

For booth & parade information: info@C5Alive.org or www.TopekaEasterParade.com

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Resurrection article keeps on going

By Randy Wright - Original article was printed in last month's Metro Voice



"Why doesn't somebody do something?" Ever ask that question? Maybe that "somebody" should be you. The results might surprise you. Perhaps this story of God at work will encourage you.

A few weeks before Easter in 1971, I began to wonder why no one had published an article on evidences for Jesus' resurrection in our university newspaper, the Duke Chronicle. I was in my

final year at Duke and had been following God for about three years. Our campus considered itself intellectually sophisticated, I reasoned. The resurrection evidences were sound; students and professors needed to know this.

"Why doesn't someone write this article?" I grumbled to myself. Then I began to wonder, "Maybe I should write it."

Incorporating insights from my mentor, Bob Prall, and others, I wrote the article and took it to the editor, who was Jewish. He read it as we sat in his office; I prayed silently that he would run it. After a few minutes, he looked up and asked, "Can we put this phrase in italics?" - referring to the punch line at the end of the evidences: "Christ is risen." While I had been praying, he had already decided to use it.

It ran opposite the editorial page. Encouraged by this reception, I approached the local city newspaper late one afternoon, but encountered a lone editor on deadline who was too busy to talk. Next door, I showed the article to the local radio station manager, who very warmly invited me to record it in his studio for broadcast that weekend.

God had used my efforts to spread His word - and the truth that Jesus lives - via the mainstream, secular media. This excited me. But I had no idea what lay ahead.

The Lord began to use other versions of the short article. Campus Crusade for Christ published it in a newspaper distributed at their Expo '72 music festival where an estimated 150,000 attended. Later CCC used it in a nationally-circulated outreach publication. Students and campus workers worldwide used reprints as conversation starters.

Local newspapers small and large in the US ran it. Over time - now four decades and counting - it's taken on a life of its own. The fact that Easter keeps rolling around each year certainly helps. The Manila Bulletin, in the Philippines, published it in their Easter Sunday edition (250,000 circulation). The Salvation Army ran it in their Easter War Cry magazine (1.2 million circulation). The American Tract Society turned it into an outreach pamphlet in English and Chinese.

Now it's on the web and has been used by websites all over the world.

God gets the credit for all this, of course. He did the raising; I simply told the story, as have many others.

So, the next time you find yourself grouching about "Why doesn't somebody do something?" - be careful. God may have a task ahead for you. You never know where it might lead.

EASTER EVENT SCHEDULE



HE IS RISEN! EASTER CONCERT IN LITURGICAL DANCE - Apr. 1, 7pm, at TPAC. No charge, but a freewill donation will be taken. Presented by Barbara's Conservatory of Dance Liturgical dancers and Cleargold Worship Dance. Celebrate the true reason for the Easter season with a beautiful night of music and dance sure to delight all ages

TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR - Apr. 4, 9am-3:30pm, Gage Park. Topeka's second annual Easter parade will move around inside Gage Park at 10:30am. Family Fun Fair at Big Gage Shelter House will include vendor booths, children's games, egg hunts, food, face-painting, and more between 9am & 3pm. Christian bands will perform nearby. For info: info@C5Alive.org or 640-6399.

THE TOPEKA PASSION PLAY - Mar. 26-28 & Apr. 1-4, 7pm. Doors at 6pm. Fairlawn Church of the Nazarene, 713 SW Fairlawn. Free. For info: 272-6322 or info@fairlawnnaz.org

EASTER SERVICES at Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene, 3501 SW Wanamaker:
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Apr. 2, 6:30pm
GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Apr. 3, 6:30pm
EASTER EGG HUNT - Apr. 4, 11am,
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE - Apr. 5, 7am; add'l services at 8:30 & 9:45 & 11

THE EASTER CANTATA - Mar. 29, 10:30am. Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N Kansas Ave. For info: 286-0467 or bbctopeka.org or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH EASTER SERVICES - Apr. 4, 5pm & Apr. 5, 9:15am & 11am, held at TPAC.

EASTER SERVICES - Apr. 5, 8:30am and 11am, First Southern Baptist Church, 19th & Gage.

EASTER SERVICES - Apr. 5 Sunrise Service 6:30am at the Cross on the West lawn of GCC, Grace Community Church, Overbook. Fellowship breakfast follows. Sunday School & Worship Service at 10:15am.

LENT SERVICES - Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; Lenten Meal at 5:45, Worship at 7pm.
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Apr. 2, 12noon & 7:30pm.
GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Apr. 3, 12noon & 7:30pm.
EASTER SERVICE - Apr. 5: 6:30 Sunrise; 7am Easter Breakfast; 8am Traditional; 9:30am Contemporary; 11am Worship, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Apr. 3, 7:30-8:30pm, Topeka Bible Church, College Building Auditorium

LENT SERVICES - Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; Service at 12:15pm, Lenten Meal at 5:30, Worship at 7pm
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Apr. 2, 12:15pm & 7pm
GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Apr. 3, 12:15 noon & 7pm
EASTER SERVICE - Apr. 5: 8:15am & 11am, St. John's Lutheran Church, 901 SW Fillmore

LENT SERVICES - Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; Lenten Meal at 6pm, Worship at 7pm
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Apr. 2, 7pm, Calvary Lutheran Ch., 4211 NW Topeka Ave
GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP - Apr. 3, 7pm
EASTER SERVICE - Apr. 5: 7:30 Sunrise; 9am Easter Breakfast; 10:30am Festival Worship, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4211 NW Topeka Avenue

LENT SERVICES - Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; Lenten Meal at 6pm, Worship at 7pm, Christ Lutheran Church, 3509 Burlingame Rd

EASTER SERVICES - Apr. 5, at 8:30 and 11 AM., First Southern Baptist Ch, 19th & Gage.

EASTER SERVICES - Fellowship Bible Church:
 Saturday April 4th, 5:00pm
 Sunday April 5th, 9:15am & 11:00am, held at TPAC.

EASTER SERVICES - Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N Kansas Ave:
EASTER CANTATA - March 29th - 10:30 AM
EASTER SUNDAY, April 5, 10:30 AM - The Chosen People Ministry present the 'Jewish Passover Meal'

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South-side BBQ Restaurant Open Seven Days a Week

The Southern Star Cafe, at 5900 S.W. Topeka Blvd., locally owned by Topeka restaurateur Mark Janice, is now open seven days a week. The barbecue-oriented restaurant features an open, airy and family-friendly atmosphere, and is open for lunch and dinner the other six days of the week.

"We offer high-quality, St. Louis-style ribs, as well as brisket, ham and turkey," Janice said. "If you're planning a party

let us provide the food - Wings, Ribs, and BBQ!"

The Southern Star also offers hand-breaded Chicken Fried Steak, chicken tenders, burgers and salads. Janice says meats are smoked daily at the restaurant for a fresher product.

"Our goal is to serve great food at a great price," Janice said. "We're a little out of the way, but



it's worth the drive!"

Janice has worked in the food service industry for 16 years in Topeka (most recently on Wanamaker).

Hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; and 11-3 on Sundays

and Mondays.

Janice offers custom catering as well, and has purchased a brand new mobile food trailer. It's equipped with a full kitchen and will be used at various events around the city in the coming months.

You can call ahead if you like, at 862-7427, or email the restaurant at thesouthernstarcafe@gmail.com. The website is thesouthernstarcafe.com. The Southern Star Cafe can also be found on facebook.



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CONCERTS

TOPEKA ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM - First Sat. of ea. month, 3-5pm, Potwin Presbyterian Church (enter south door), 400 S.W. Washburn. Information: 286-0227 or hagen1525@gmail.com.

CHRIS TOMLIN IN CONCERT WITH TENTH AVENUE NORTH AND REND COLLECTIVE - Mar. 27, 7pm, Independence Event Center, 19100 E. Valley View Parkway in Independence, Mo. Tickets are \$34, \$24 and \$17.50. For more information, call (800) 745-3000 or visit www.ticketmasater.com.

FLINT HILLS CHORUS AND CHAMBER ENSEMBLE - Mar. 29, 2pm, First UMC, 600 Lincoln, Wamego.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH - Mar. 29, 2pm, First United Methodist Church, 600 Lincoln in Wamego. Flint Hills Chorus and Chamber Ensemble of more than 80 people will be accompanied by an orchestral ensemble. The performance date will be Palm Sunday.

MUSIC, JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED - Mar. 29, 3-5pm, First United Methodist Church, 600 SW Topeka Blvd. Free concert with physician performers. 231-1330

FOUR CELTIC VOICES - Apr. 11, 7:30pm-10pm, White Concert Hall - Washburn University, 17th and Jewell. Celeste Ray, Maria Banks, Carol Crittenden and Alison Crossley joined forces to create a vibrant, vivacious and fresh Celtic group.. \$35. www.topekacca.org

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET - Apr. 13, 7:30pm, McCain Auditorium, Kansas State University. \$24.50-\$79. For info: ksu.edu/mccain

CROSBY LANE IN CONCERT - Apr 18, 6pm, Cornerstone Community Church, 7620 SW 21st St. Free-will donation. For more info: crosbylane.com

RED ROOTS IN CONCERT - June 7, 6pm, Cornerstone Community Church, 7620 SW 21st St. For info: thered-roots.com

SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS - every second Saturday, takes place at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 SE California. Call 266-4979.

FREE WEEKLY COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Sundays at 10am sharp, at Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 900 block of NE Oakland, followed by church services at 10:45am with Pastor John Menkvelde - which is in turn followed at noon by The Hope House FREE Community Food & Clothing Bank.

BINGO AT FAIRLAWN HEIGHTS ASSISTED LIVING - 3:00PM, 1st Saturday of every month, facilitator: Pastor Carole

INTERSECT STUDENT MINISTRIES PANCAKE FEED - Mar. 1, 8:30-11am, Wanamaker Woods Nazarene Church, 3501 SW Wana

LIFESTEST - First Thursday of the month, 10am-

12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Seniors ministering to seniors - celebrating with fellowship, fun, food, learning & entertainment. Potluck luncheon at noon. If transportation is needed, call 354-4994 or 478-1729

FISH DINNER - March 27, 5:30 to 7 pm, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 1750 S.W. Stone. The suggested donation is \$8 for those who are age 11 and older; \$5 for children ages 4-10; and free for children ages 3 and younger. There is a maximum cost of \$30 per household. The menu includes: fried and baked fish, fried popcorn shrimp, hush puppies, waffle fries, baked potato, coleslaw and dessert.

FRIDAY FISH FRY - March 27, 4-7 pm, Sacred Heart Catholic Church Hall, 312 NE Freeman Ave. Adults, \$8.50; 12 & under, \$4. Fish or Shrimp. Take-out available, 234-6727. SacredHeartStJosephCatholic.org

SPRING THRIFT SALE - Mar. 27, 8:30-2 & Mar. 28, 8:30-12. University United Methodist Church, 1621 S.W. College. Baked goods also will be available.

THE EASTER CANTATA: AMAZING GRACE - Mar. 29, 10:30am, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N Kansas Ave. For info: 286-0467 or bbctopeka.org or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH EASTER SERVICES at TPAC - Apr. 4, 5pm & Apr. 5, 9:15am & 11am.

THE CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES PRESENTS THE JEWISH PASSOVER MEAL - Apr. 5, 10:30am, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N Kansas Ave. For info: 286-0467 or bbctopeka.org or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - Apr. 19, Grace Community Church, 310 E. 8th St (Hwy 56), Overbrook, KS. Worship service at 10:15am. Breakfast & lunch served by Youth Ministry.

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR - Apr. 25, 8am-2pm, Seaman Church, 2036 NW Taylor. Benefiting youth group. Breakfast served 8-10am. For info: 34-8777

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

GROWTHCLUB - Apr. 2, 8am-4pm, Topeka Country Club. How to Sell Without Selling. Workshop and 90-day planning. Presented by ActionCOACH business coaching. \$97. Contact 408-5927 or 90DayPlanning.com.

MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR - Apr. 8, 6:30pm, 2951 SW woodside Dr. For info: Crystal 286-6402

EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE - Apr. 10, 9am-5pm & Apr. 11, 9am-5pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Conference designed to help adoptive and foster parents, ministry leaders, churches, and professionals better understand how to connect with "children from hard places." Registration and info: 783-4577 or lifelinechild.org/event

CHERISH LIFE WOMEN'S ENCOUNTER - Apr. 10, 7-9pm & Apr. 11, 9am-2:30pm, Topeka First Assembly, 500 SW

27th. Featuring Mary James, who has led worship for Dr. David Jeremiah and shared music at events with Kay Arthur, Kirk Cameron & more. Hear her story of overcoming and her inspirational music. Tickets \$25 at First Assembly, FarmHouse Family, Mission Hill, Heritage Country churches & LifeWay Bookstore and HyVee. heritagecountry.org

SMALL BUSINESS LEGAL ISSUES WORKSHOP - Apr. 15, 6-8pm. Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. Free. For info: 234-3235

WOMEN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART CONFERENCE - May 8, 6pm, May 9, 9am. College Church of the Nazarene, 2020 E Sheridan, Olathe.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS - NOTO arts district. Jewelry arts, antiques, fine crafts, and flea market items.

MEDICARE MONDAYS - First Monday of every month starting July 7, 1-3pm. Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library (Menninger Room 206),

SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION BOOTH - Every Sat., 1am - 2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker

MEDICARE MONDAYS - First Monday of every month starting July 7, 1-3pm. Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library (Menninger Room 206), 1515 SW 10th. Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or nhoni@tscpl.org

LADIES' EXERCISE - Tuesday evenings 7-8 pm & Friday mornings 8-9 am, First Baptist, 129 w 15th St., Lyndon. free active support! fat burning, strength, fitness. Contact Sheri 207-0380 or pamperedchefsheri@live.com

DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET - Saturday's Apr. 11 through Nov. 2, 7:30am-noon, 12th and Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower, home-baked goods and more.

SAFE STREETS COALITION MEETING - First Wed. of the month, 11:45am-1pm, Great Overland Station. For info: 266-4606 or jwilson@safestreeets.org

MONTHLY MOOSE MARKET - Second Saturday, 8am-12pm, Moose Lodge, 1901 N. Kansas Av. Free to shop, \$4 for pancakes. For info: 250-6788

THE TOPEKA PASSION PLAY - Mar. 26-28 & Apr. 1-4, 7pm. Doors at 6pm, Fairlawn Church of the Nazarene, 713 SW Fairlawn. Free. For info: 272-6322 or info@fairlawnmaz.org

MOMS EVERYDAY EXPO - Mar. 28, 11am-4pm, West Ridge Mall. For info: meg.heston@wibw.com

GOVERNOR'S EASTER EGG HUNT - Mar. 28, 10am-12pm, Cedar Crest, One SW Cedar Crest Rd.

3rd ANNUAL BRIGHTER FUTURES HEALTH FAIR - Mar. 28, 10am-2pm, Big Gage Shelter House. Fun events, 1 K family run, demonstrations, information, & contests. Many area vendors will promote healthy lifestyle messages, products & organizations. For booth info call Topeka Youth Project 273-4141

HE IS RISEN! EASTER CONCERT IN LITURGICAL DANCE - Apr. 1, 7pm, at TPAC, No charge, but a freewill donation will be taken. Presented by Barbara's Conservatory of Dance Liturgical dancers and Cleargold Worship Dance. Celebrate the true reason for the Easter season with a beautiful night of music and dance sure to delight all ages

TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR - Apr. 4, 9am-3pm, Gage Park. Topeka's second annual Easter parade will move around inside Gage Park at 10:30am. Family Fun Fair in & around Big Gage Shelter House will include vendor booths, children's games, egg hunts, food, face-painting, and more between 9am & 3pm. Christian bands will perform nearby. For info: www.TopekaEasterParade.com, info@C5Alive.org or 640-6399.

REAL ENCOUNTER "THE MAIN EVENT" - Apr. 8, 6:42pm, Highland Park High School. Real Encounter uses motor-cycle stunts and BMX Stunt Bikes in their Gospel Outreach. This group was on national TV shows 5 different times, including Americas Got Talent. There will be a drawing for free bicycles. RealEncounter.org

ANNUAL TULIP TIME FESTIVAL - Apr. 10-26. Over 100,000 tulips & daffodils in bloom at three locations: Old Prairie Town at Historic Ward-Meade Site, 124 NW Fillmore; Ted Enslay Gardens at Lake Shawnee, SE 37th and West Edge Rd; Doran Rock Garden at Gage Park, 601 SW Gage Blvd. For group tours & other info: john.bell@sncu.us or 368-2439

ADVENTURE'S IN LEARNING - SPRING SESSION - Apr. 10, 17, 24 & May 1, 9am-12, First Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar Ave. Shepherd's Center of Topeka's pro-



APR 4 TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR, APR. 4, GAGE PARK

gram for those over 55. Participants choose from four different classes on health, religion, news & current events, people & places, community, the arts, and library wisdom, offered at 9am. At 10:00 brunch is served. At 10:30, second class begins. At 11:30, participants choose between a musical performance in the sanctuary or exercise in the gym. For info: 267-0248

MS WALK 2015 - Apr. 11, 7am, Lake Shawnee Shelter House 2 for registration and at Shelter House 1 for gathering and lunch and activities. There will be a short route - 3.2 miles (5K) for those who want to run or walk. Silent auction, contests.

SEVENTH ANNUAL HERITAGE CHRISTIAN 5K RUN/WALK AND PANCAKE FEED - Apr. 11, Crestview Community Ctr; Shunga Trail. Registration 8-8:45, 5k at 9, Fun Run at 9:10. \$20 Registration includes t-shirt and pancake feed ticket. Prizes for top three runners. \$5 donation for pancake feed, 8:30-11.

BRIDGE2BRIDGE 5K - Apr. 18, 10am. \$25 pre-registration before Apr. 17, 8am. \$35 at-event registration, 9am.

ADULT LITERACY OPEN HOUSE - Apr. 18, 3-4pm. Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, Lingo Rm. 121. For info: lkhammer@cox.net

DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN AWARENESS DAY 5K WALK/RUN - Apr. 18, 8:30am - 12pm, Heartland Park Topeka, 7530 SW Topeka Blvd. www.unitedwaytopeka.org/dec5k 785-273-4804

BALLET MIDWEST'S CINDERELLA - Apr. 18 at 8pm & Apr. 19 at 3pm, Topeka Performing Arts Center. Two performances featuring talented, local dancers; a delightful, comedic ballet following the grace of the beautiful Cinderella and the antics of the silly stepsisters! An enchanting event for the whole family to see this charming fairytale come to life as Cinderella's dreams come true! Relive the magic and happily ever after! If the shoe fits...wear it! Tickets available through Barbara's Conservatory of Dance, TPAC Box Office, &

Ticketmaster. \$10 Student, \$14 Senior, \$18 Adult, and \$50 Family Pack (2 adults & 2 students)

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM BLINTZE BRUNCH - Apr. 19, 9am. 4200 Munson. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Traditional Jewish food, silent auction, bake sale, and prize drawings. For info: 272-6040 or office@tbstopeka.org

COMBAT AIR MUSEUM'S ANNUAL PANCAKE FEED, Apr. 25, 7am-12pm, Combat Air Museum, 6700 SW Topeka Blvd. Feast on all-you-can-eat pancakes and enjoy a variety of entertainment. Tour the museum's extensive display of aircraft, artifacts and military aviation art.

FLINT HILLS FESTIVAL - Apr. 26, 12-6pm, Flint Hills Discovery Center, 315 S 3rd St, Manhattan. Music and activities. For info: 587-2726 or flinthillsdiscovery.org

ANNUAL CIVIC LUNCHEON - Apr. 27, 11:30am-1pm, Downtown Ramada. The Salvation Army shares its annual report and stories of those who have been helped, and shares plans for the future. Special Guest: International Performing Artist Jodi Beach.

ZUMBATHON - May 1, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church basement, 201 NE Chandler. Fundraiser to benefit Midland Care (Hospice) Suggested donation \$5. Vendors welcome: \$10 - pay in advance thru Paypal: Vettegirl.45@gmail.com

GLOBAL FOUNDATION FOR PEACE THROUGH SOCCER - May 2. Designed to help Hispanic-Latino youth in the inner city. Equipment and food provided. Free. For info and to sign up for the clinic or to volunteer: globalsoccerpeace.org

MARCH OF DIMES MARCH FOR BABIES - May 2, 11am-1pm, Kansas Statehouse, 300 SW 10th. Get fit while helping improve the lives of babies! Join family teams, company teams and people walking with friends for a great cause: to make a difference for families in our community. Participants will start at the Kansas State Capitol and take a stroll through downtown Topeka

CRAFT AND VENDOR FAIR

Saturday, April 25th • 8am - 2pm

Seaman Community Church
Fellowship Hall (east side of bldg.)
2036 NW Taylor • 354-8777

Serving light breakfast 8-10am
Bake/Craft Sale 8am-2pm





Runners and walkers are invited to participate in our

7th Annual Heritage Christian School 5K Run & Family Fun Run With Pancake Feed

Join us in running for health, fun, and to raise money for Heritage Christian School.

Crestview Community Center; Shunga Trail
Saturday, April 11, 2015
Registration: 8:00AM-8:45AM
Time: 5K to begin at 9:00AM, Fun Run at 9:10
\$30 Registration includes a t-shirt and ticket to the pancake feed. Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 finishers!

Pancake Feed
Crestview Community Center
8:30AM-11:00AM
Pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee will be served for a minimum \$5.00/person donation at the door.



Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce

Promoting and Supporting:

- Christian Businesses & Organizations
- Excellence in Products & Services
- Christian Values and Ideals

Topeka area business people, united by their faith in Jesus Christ, making a positive impact in our community, through networking and community service

Membership open to all Christian businesses, non-profits, churches & individuals!
Luncheons & Tradeshows & some other events open to the general public!

- C5Alive POWER Luncheons - (2nd Thur. ea. mo.)
- Apr. 9, 11:30-1, at **Topeka Zoo - Gary Clarke Edu. Center. Speaker: Andrea Engstrom of ActionCOACH. Learn to build your business! Open to the Public!** **Free zoo admission included!**
- **RSVP to info@C5Alive.org or 640-6399.**
- **Easter Parade & Fun Fair Apr. 4, Gage Park.**

Contact us for vendor space & parade entries!



Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/C5Alive

For info: www.C5Alive.org or info@C5Alive.org



Andrea Engstrom

where business will be awaiting for special March of Dimes activities. Walk at 11am, Registration at 10am. marchofdimes.org/kansas/events or 228-0084

YOUTH FOR CHRIST GOLF CLASSIC - May 4, 12:30 pm shotgun, Lake Shawnee Golf Course. Registration: 11:30am. \$100 per person for a 4-man team; includes lunch. Several sponsorship levels available. Awards follow tourney. Call 232-8296.

TIBA GOLF CHALLENGE - May 8, 1:00pm shotgun, Shawnee Country Club/GreatLife. Four-person scramble, registration at noon. \$50 per player includes lunch, drinks, gift bag. Sponsorships available. Call 234-3235 or email jkirmse@educationalcu.org.

LIFEHOUSE'S 21ST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT - May 22, 11am Registration, 12:30 shotgun, Shawnee Country Club. 4 person scramble includes: Carts, Green fees, Prizes, Player gifts, Lunch, and Refreshments! \$75/person, \$300/team. www.lifehousesecac.com

RIDE FOR THE FALLEN - May 23, 8am. VA Hospital, 21st & Gage. For info: contact@militaryveteranproject.org

FAMILY-FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

BROWN V. BOARD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE - Daily, 9am-5pm, 1515 SE Monroe. Located in the former all-black Monroe School. Free admission. For info: 354-4273 or www.nps.gov/bnvb/.

CEDAR CREST, official residence of the KS Governor - Mon., 1pm-3pm, with tours on the half hour, 1 SW Cedar Crest Rd. Free adm. For info: 296-3636.

COMBAT AIR MUSEUM - Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-4:30pm; Sun. noon-4:30pm, Hanger 602, Forbes Field. For info: 862-3303 or combatairmuseum.org.

CURTIS HOUSE MUSEUM - Every Sat., 11am-3pm; by appointment other times, 1101 SW Topeka Blvd. Former mansion of Charles Curtis, 31st Vice President of the US, and the only one of American Indian heritage. Cost \$5. For info: 357-1371 or 597-5380.

CONSTITUTION HALL - Wed.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm, National Landmark, Kansas State Historic Site, Civil War History: Famous LeCompton Constitution, 319 Elmore, LeCompton. For info: 887-6520 or consthall@kshs.org; or kshs.org/constitutionhall.

GREAT OVERLAND STATION - Railroad museum, education center, veterans memorial and more. 701 N. Kansas Avenue. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm; Sun 1-4pm. Closed on Sundays in Jan. & Feb. Adm: \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children age 3-12. For info: 232-5533 or greatoverlandstation.com.

HISTORIC RITCHIE HOUSE - Tour the oldest remaining home in Topeka (built 1856-57). 1116 Madison. Admission free. 10am-2pm; weaving demonstrations, games, food & more.

HOLLEY MILITARY MUSEUM - Downtown Ramada Inn. Featuring 5 galleries, named after world leaders. Featuring World War II artifacts, Air Force One exhibit, Kansas War Heroes, Space, Vietnam & more. Cost: Free. 10am-8pm daily.

KANSAS NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM - Forbes Field. For hours & info: 862-1020.

KANSAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday, 1 - 5 p.m. Sunday. 6425 SW 6th Avenue. 785-272-8681, kshs.org/museum

KANSAS STATE CAPITOL - Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm, SW 10th & Jackson St. Tours provided. Dome Tours M-F 10:30am-4:15pm. Info: 296-3966 or kshs.org/capitol.

OLD PRAIRIE TOWN - 1st & Clay. Open Mon.-Sat., 10am-4pm; Sun. 12-4pm. Daily guided tours: M-F 10am, 12 & 2pm; Sat. Sun. 12 & 2pm. 368-2441.

ROEBKE HOUSE MUSEUM - 216 New York, Holton. For info: 364-4991.

TERRITORIAL CAPITAL MUSEUM - Wed.-Sat., 11am-4pm; Sun., 1-5pm, National Register Site, 3 floors of Civil War and Victorian Artifacts, President Eisenhower's parents' marriage site: 640 E. Woodson Ave., LeCompton. For info: 887-6148 or lanemuseum@aol.com or lecomptonkansas.com.

TOPEKA ZOO - Gage Blvd. between 6th & 10th St. Zoo hours 9am-5pm. Birthday Parties available - choose from two separate party packages; parties last two hours. For info: 368-9180 or topekazoo.com.

MEETINGS & CLASSES

C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON - Apr. 9, 11:30am-1pm, at Topeka Zoo in Gary Clarke Edu. Ctr. Featured Speaker will be Andrea Engstrom with ActionCOACH. Come learn how to build your business! We will also hear from Brendan Wiley for an update on the zoo. Free admission to the zoo is included with lunch!

- Cost: \$10 for C5 members & first-time guests who RSVP, \$12 at the door

- \$15 for non-members & repeat guests.

- Please RSVP to info@C5Alive.org, so we know how much food is needed!

Open to the public - Put POWER in your life with great food, great speakers and great company! Invite a friend to join you!

WOMEN'S CONNECTION "DARE TO HOPE" LUNCHEON - Apr. 9, 11:30am, Ramada Inn, Jefferson Room, 420 SE 6th. Entertainment includes music by Jessica Matheis. Heidi Nelson and Brittney Vogel will sell handcrafted bags and jewelry made by women freed from trafficking. Inspirational message by Sherry Sims, Tulsa OK, cancer survivor, author and over comer of domestic abuse. \$14.00 including lunch. RSVP by 10am Apr. 6: Ann at 266-1522 or Jeanie at 233-1387.

SATURDAY WOMEN'S CONNECTION "DARE TO HOPE" LUNCHEON - Apr. 11, 10am, T&SC Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. Event Cost including meal: \$14. RSVPs by Apr. 6: Arlene, 233-0701 or email: leidacloud@cox.net. Alicia Whitmore, Health Promotion coordinator with Rebound Physical Therapy, will show ways to keep active, balanced and strong. Music by Margie Medlen. Sherry Sims, Tulsa, Ok., shares an unforgettable story of hope & healing. Sherry is a breast cancer survivor, over-comer of domestic abuse and author of "More Than A Survivor." She has been featured on TV shows, women's events and conferences.

WOMEN'S CLUB OF TOPEKA - Apr. 2, 11am, Luncheon at Noon. General Assembly at 5221 SW West Dr. RSVP to 273-6978. Meditation: Kim Scruggs. Program: Nursing Scholarship.

Apr. 16, 10:15am, Music: Melodears. Program: Nancy Perry. Luncheon at Noon

MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP - now meeting every Tuesday, 6:30pm at McDonald's, 11th & Kansas Ave. Christian fellowship & praise. All are welcome. For info: Richard Wilson at 338-3072.

DADDY'S GIRLS EMPOWERMENT MEETINGS - Weekly at various times and locations. Daddy's Girls*Inc. is a faith based non-profit organization that encourages young ladies to make wise choices by providing biblically based education and mentoring. Enjoy hanging out with other young ladies striving to reach their highest potential through the power of JESUS CHRIST! Remember: Modest is still the hottest and Virgin is still His standard! Contact us to find a meeting location near you: (785) 969-0491, daddysgirlsinc.com; daddysgirlsinc@gmail.com

ADULT SINGLES MEETING - Sunday's, 6:30 pm, Countryside United Methodist Church parlor, 3221 SW Burlingame Rd., north entrance.

TOPEKA TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB - 3rd Sun. of each month, 7pm, Papan's Landing Senior Center, 618 NW

Paramore St. Family Memberships include Husband, Wife, Children and Grandchildren up to 18 yrs. This a place to meet old and new friends to discuss all aspects of Metal Detecting, club business, plus socializing and entertainment.

SURRENDERING THE SECRET - Hurting from an Abortion? God extends His love and forgiveness to all. Studies are now forming to help people begin the process of reconciling with God, themselves and others. This completely confidential group will meet weekly for 8 weeks. The study will help you to heal by experiencing freedom from not being able to forgive yourself from guilt and shame. There is hope! There is forgiveness! If this is something you are ready to do, call Trudy at 785-817-1577 or Diane at 785-249-6416.

SONS OF THUNDER - First Thurs. 6:30-9:30pm at Crestview Shelter House, featuring an invited speaker, food and fellowship. For info: 256-0728 or go to facebook Northeast Kansas Sons of Thunder. Freewill donation.

STEP UP - BUILDING THE SMART STEP-FAMILY - Every Sun. 11am, Northland Christian Church, Room 4, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Focusing on the challenges facing step-families and blended families. Contact Thomas Munker at 249-3054 for info.

TRAIL LIFE & AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS TROUPS - Every Mon. 6pm, Cornerstone Community Church, 7620 SW 21st. Faith-based scouting programs are kids age 5-18. Register online at cornerstonetopeka.com. For info: 478-2929.

INNOVATIVE NETWORKING GROUP OF TOPEKA - every other Wed. 11:20am - 12:30pm. www.INGTopeka.com go to Event page to see future meetings, locations and register to attend. If you do not like a whole lot of rules and costs, this group is for you!

CAPITAL CITY NETWORKING GROUP - every Thur, 7:30am, Jayhawk Tower - www.ccng-online.com. Membership cost \$37.50 a quarter.

TIBA NETWORKING GROUP - 2nd Tues, 11:30a.m.-1 p.m. MUST RSVP: Lunch is \$10. www.topekatiba.org

I.N.G. WOMAN'S CHAPTER NETWORKING GROUP - every 2nd Sat., 11am. Bring your business cards, catalogs, a guest and join in the fun! - No fees. INGTopeka.com

DEAF WORSHIP SERVICE - 3rd Sun., 3pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage. Also, every Sun. 9:30am service is interpreted.

ADULT SINGLES MEETING - Sunday's, 6:30 pm, Countryside United Methodist Church parlor, 3221 SW Burlingame Rd., north entrance.

FAMILY EXPERIENCE (FX) - Every Sun., 6:01pm, Fairlawn Church of Nazarene, 730 Fairlawn Rd. A time of high intensity, action packed, skit mania, worship music all centered around the word of God for 45 minutes. A free family worship event. For info: Emily Moore, 272-6322 or fxthelawn@gmail.com.

LADIES' SMALL GROUP - Every Sun., 6pm, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Studying the book of Esther, using the DVD series "It's Tough Being a Woman" by Beth Moore. All welcome. Info: 286-0467.

THE FORCE (Students Taking Action) - 1st Mon. & 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, Safe Streets, 2209 SW 29th St. A group committed to being alcohol & drug free. Associate with like-minded peers, plan activities & get involved in the community. Youth ages 12-18 are invited. 266-4606.

HEARTLAND HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS - 2nd Mon., 11:45am-1pm. Promoting neighborhood well-being by mobilizing people, ideas & resources. 233-1365.

POINT MAN AND HOME FRONT OF SHAWNEE CO - 1st, 3rd & 5th Tues. of each month, 6-8pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1101 SW Mulvane, Potluck dinner begins at 6:10 PM. A Bible study and support group for military & veterans and their wives, moms and sisters. Contact David or Jacque Ankenman at 249-8359 or 221-1739.

TOPEKA LINCOLN CLUB - 1st Tue. of month, 7pm, Topeka Public Library. Discussing our greatest President, Abraham Lincoln, and his times. The public is welcome. For info, contact Kirk Nystrom 235-6977.

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA (CWA) - 3rd Tue., 10am-12noon, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. 224-7126 or cwatopeka@giantcomm.net.

OUR LADY OF THE FAITHFUL - Every 1st Tues., 6:30pm Mass followed by Dinner, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. A Catholic group for those in their 20-30s. For info: Michelle Ann 580-3071 or ourladyofthefairful@gmail.com. All events are also posted on Facebook at "Ourladyofthefairful."

SUNRISE OPTIMIST CLUB - Every Tue., 6:30am, Sunrise Optimist Complex, 720 NW 50th St. Info: 246-1291.

O.W.L.S. (Older Wise Loving Saints) - meets the second Tuesday of the month. Location varies and can be found at www.fairfamilylife.com

S.W.A.G. (Spiritual Warriors Anointed by God) youth group - Wed at 7:00 p.m. 3710 NW Topeka Blvd.

AWANA - Every Wed., 6-8pm, First Southern Baptist Church, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 272-0443.

AWANA - Every Wed., 6:30pm, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 286-0467.

AWANA - Every Wed., 6:30-8pm, Auburn Christian Church. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 256-2515.

MACHINE EMBROIDERY CLUB - 1st Wed., 9am-2:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th Street (south doors). To teach each other, enjoy fellowship & complete projects. Call Anne 271-1567.

SAFE STREETS MEETING - 1st Wed., 11:45am, Golf Park Blvd, 2 blocks west of Adams. Info: 266-4606.

STUDENT IMPACT - Every Wed., 6-8pm, First Southern Baptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Youth games, teaching, worship, small groups. For info: 272-0443.

TGIW: "TEACHING GOD'S INFINITE WISDOM" MEN'S STUDY - Every Wed., 6:15am, Lawrence Wesleyan Church, 3705 Clinton Parkway. Affiliated with CharacterCounts.com. David Scheib, 865-5258 or dvscheib@sunflower.com.

BIBLE STUDY - every Thur. 1pm-3pm in the Prayer Rm at Faith Family Life Centre, 3710 NW Topeka Blvd.

CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE - Every Thurs. 7-9pm, First Southern Baptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Worship for college students.

LIFE FEST - 1st Thurs., 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Celebrate Senior Life. For info: 273-2811.

OPERATION BACKPACK - 1st Thurs., 6pm, Lyman Learning Center, Lyman and N. Kansas Ave. Volunteers

gather to assemble Weekend Snack Sacks for low-income students. Sponsored by Topeka North Outreach. For info: 286-1370.

IMOM - 1st & 3rd Thurs., 9-11:30am, Topeka Bible Church Fellowship Hall, 1135 SW College. For all moms, helping them to be intentional! For info: 234-5545.

SINGLES BIBLE STUDY - 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7pm, Heartland Worship Center Church of God, 1401 NW Harrison. For info: 232-5503.

FULL GOSPEL BUSINESSMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - 3rd Thurs., 6pm meal, 7pm meeting, Coyote Canyon, Huntoon & Wanamaker. Kirk Nystrom, 235-6977.

BIBLES AND BOOTS: Chapter of Cowboys for Christ Fellowship - 3rd Thurs., 7:30pm, Wamego. Call for location. All welcome, no membership dues, livestock ownership not required. Fellowship & fun! Doug Palmer, Pres. 410-9097, or Dave Boyd, V.P. 364-2779.

TOPEKA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - 4th Thurs., 7pm, Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th St. No program in Nov. or Dec. Promotes & stimulates the education, knowledge & interest of the membership & the public in family history, genealogical records & research. For info: 233-5762 or tgestopeka.org.

KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP MEETING - 3rd Thu., 11:30am, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Christian financial professionals: Financial Planners, Accountants, Attorney's & Insurance Agents invited to attend. For info: kingdomadvisors.org or Jim Hanna, james.c.hanna@ampf.com or 357-6278 x19.

TOPEKA (Downtown) OPTIMIST CLUB - Every Fri., noon, Top of the Tower. Serving the youth of Topeka. Anyone welcome. 272-1099 or fostern60@yahoo.com.

VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS - Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For info: 286-1370.

A GOOD YARN CLUB - 2nd & 4th Sat., 9-11am, Wanamaker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wanamaker. Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Info: Debby, 215-4889, ddhenrikson@cox.net

BIBLE QUIZZING - 1st Sat. Learn God's Word & have fun with area Christian youth age 9-19. YFC/YEA style quizzing & rules. 913-593-6427; biblequizzing.org

MONTHLY SCORE MEETING - 1st Sat., 8-9:30am, Washburn Tech, 5724 SW Huntoon (enter east doors facing Huntoon). No RSVP or fee. Small business owners are invited to a Breakfast Roundtable discussion with (Service Corps of Retired Executives. 234-3049.

TOPEKA LOVE AGLOW - Once a month on Sat. morning. A time of worship, prayer and encountering God. Call Tawny Barton at 785-409-0232 or Linda Williams at 785-267-0600 for details.

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FREE ENGLISH CLASSES – Every Sat. 9-10:30am, Central Congregational Church, 1248 SW Buchanan. For info: 235-2376.

RUSSIAN HOUSE OF PRAYER – Every Sat., 4pm, Williamstown Assembly of God, 1225 Oak St., Perry/Williamstown. For info: 597-5228.

SINGLES PLAY CARDS SR. – 1st Sat., 6-9pm, St. Peter's UMC, NW 35th & Hwy 75

SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION & EDUCATION BOOTH – every Sat. 11am-2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker.

UPPER ROOM COMMUNITY – second Sat., 10 am, Capitol Building

SUPPORT GROUPS

MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT Groups: Building A, 200 SW Frazier Circle. **Every Mon., 4-5pm:** 12 Week Adult Group for Recent Loss **1st and 3rd Thu., 10:30am & 5:30pm**—Ongoing Adult Group **1st and 3rd Thu., 5:30pm:** Ongoing Young Adult Group (4-18 years of age) For All Groups: Call for start dates and info packet. Group and individual grief support available upon request. For info: 785-232-2044 ext.341

ABORTION RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUPS – A 12-step Restoring Joy recovery journey for women. Providing services for women & men who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome. For info: Kay Lyn, 272-6212.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS – for friends & families of alcoholics. For info: 785-409-3072 or topekaanon.org

PURSUIT FOR SEXUAL PURITY – Men struggling with pornography & sexual addiction. This bible study/accountability group uses the Pure Desire book by Ted Roberts. For info: Hunter Ruch, Topeka Bible Church, 234-5545 or hruch@topekabiblechurch.org.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUPS – Monthly support group meetings for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. For info: Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter, 271-1844 or email cindy.miller@alz.org.

"BETRAYED HEART" support group/Bible study – For women whose husbands struggle with pornography addictions or have had affairs. Videos & workbook will give you hope for your marriage & emotional healing. For info: Jane Goble, 478-9605.

BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE – NE Kansas Chapter (B.A.C.A.) 3rd Sun., 4 pm American Legion, 3800 SE Michigan. Open to the public. For info: 817-5801.

FRIENDS WITH M.S. – 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. (Enter East door). A Multiple Sclerosis support group. Donna, 266-7383.

BOUNCE BACK SELF-HELP – 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. For those living with multiple sclerosis. For info: 273-0799.

INCARCERATED PERSONS & FAMILIES – 1st Mon.,

6:30-7:30pm, YMCA, 421 Van Buren. 286-2329.

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS BEREAVED PARENTS GROUP – Meets 4th Monday in Formation classroom at Most Pure Heart of Mary, 17th & Stone. Discussion starts at 7pm with fellowship & refreshments at 8:30. For info: Susan 272-4895

OVERCOMERS OUTREACH – Every Mon., 7-8:30pm, Wanamaker Woods Church, 3501 SW Wanamaker Rd. A bridge between traditional church and traditional 12 step meetings. 409-9111; wcnovercomers@gmail.com.

GRIEF SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES – Sponsored by Heartland Hospice for those dealing with death or major loss: **1st Mon., 5:30-7:30pm**, Individual appointments; other times are available. Call Terry Frizzell directly at (785)230-6730. **3rd Thurs., 11am**, Lunch After Loss, Paisano's Ristorante, Fleming Place, SW 10th & Gage Blvd., Dutch treat luncheon to meet new friends who have sat where you are sitting. Reservations 271-6500.

OVEREATERS / UNDEREATERS ANONYMOUS:

MON., 7pm – Westminster Presbyterian, south door, upstairs in Library; 233-6724.

WED., 7pm – St. Francis Hospital meeting room 6, 2nd floor; 234-8020.

SAT., 9am – St. Francis Hospital meeting room 8, 2nd floor; 862-2326.

For info: 357-8774; sunflowerintergroup.aa.org.

CHRIST-CENTERED SUPPORT GROUP – "Strong Tower" 12 step recovery program – Tue., 7pm, 1331 SW Harrison. Currently discussing the book "Living Free in Christ." For info: Tony, 620-366-1427.

NAMI TOPEKA – Every 2nd Tue., 6:45pm, lower level of Valeo, 330 SW Oakley. If door is locked, call 608-1317 to get in. The 1st hour is often a discussion of an important topic or video. The 2nd hour is usually a support talk time, w/ separate consumer & family groups. 608-1317.

GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP – 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp., 1700 SW 7th. Join for support, information, etc. For info: Sharla, 286-2329; Jennie (English/Spanish) 231-0763.

THE GREATER TOPEKA MULTIPLE MYELOMA – 3rd Tue., 7-8:30pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th St. & Gage Blvd. Open to Multiple Myeloma patients, their family members & friends. Share support, information, & friendship. For info: Donna, 903-918-9553.

"HEALING AFTER THE SUICIDE OF A LOVED ONE" ("HEAL") – or Survivors of Suicide" (SOS). 1st & 3rd Tue., 7-8:30pm, Pozee Education Center of Stormont Vail Hospital, 1505 SW 8th St. Serving anyone who has lost a loved one by suicide.

PRISON OUTREACH MINISTRY – Every Tue., 7-9pm, Topeka Women's Prison, 815 Rice Rd. Reaching out to those who can't come in, finding freedom behind bars, inspiring inmates to seek salvation during a difficult

time. Providing support & guidance through the Holy Spirit to offer strength. Director: Don Garner. 286-0489 or faithfamilylifeministries@gmail.com.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS – Every Wed, 7pm, St. Francis Hospital, meeting room #8.

JAYHAWK AREA AGENCY ON AGING – 4th Wed., 1pm, Rosehill Place Clubhouse. Monthly support group for caregivers of seniors. For info: 235-1367 ext.30.

MOMS-IN-TOUCH PRAYER GROUP – Every Wed., 2:30-3:30pm, Library at Cair Paravel-Latin School. Experience God's power through prayer as we lift our students, teachers, staff, administrators & board up to the Lord. For info: 357-0369.

DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS – locations and times:

TUE. – 7-8:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Cost \$15. Scholarships available. Also DC4K(DivorceCare for Kids) and Single & Parenting beginning May 13. For info: 273-2811

WED. – 6:30pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1101 SW Mulvane. Cost: \$15. Child care provided. For info: 379-0505 or www.divorcecare.org.

WED. – 6:45 – 8:45pm, Walnut View Christian Church, 3634 SE 37th St. Cost: \$10 registration (scholarships available). Video seminar series featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on divorce and recovery topics, combined with support group discussion of the materials. Free child care children up to fifth grade. Info: 266-7550 or walnutviewcc@att.net. divorcecare.org.

NAMI WASHBURN – 4th Thurs., 6-8pm, Spirit Building Room, University United Methodist Church, 1621 SW College Ave. NAMI is a student-run, student-led organization that provides mental health support, education, & advocacy in the Washburn University setting. A support group is also available during this time.

PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP – 1st Thurs., 7pm, 2nd floor conf. room of the cancer unit at St Francis Hospital. For info: 266-9533.

NICOTINE ANONYMOUS – Every Fri., 6:30pm, Town & Country Christian Church Renaissance Room, 4925 SW 29th St., use west door cross red foot bridge. A fellowship of men & women helping each other to live free of nicotine. No fees. 402-321-486; Laboomaha@att.net.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – Every Fri., 6pm, 1912 Gage Blvd. A Christ centered program, based on 8 principles found in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Applying these Biblical principles, become free from addictive & dysfunctional behaviors. 220-0017 or crtopeka.org.

TOPEKA NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP – For families & friends who are affected by someone else's narcotic addiction. Every Sat. – 1005 SW 10th, next to Oxford House, noon-1:15 pm. www.naranonmidwest.org

COVENANT KEEPERS – 3rd Sat. Group for people who want to see their marriage saved when their spouse wants out. For info: 816-453-0884 or 816-966-0927.

Kansas sees record number of new businesses formed

Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach recently released the Annual Business Formation Report, showing another all-time record was set in the number of new businesses formed. For the past five years there has been growth in domestic filings and total entities in existence.

"The formation of new businesses is a leading economic indicator that suggests future years will see additional tax revenue and jobs created," Secretary Kobach remarked. "This gives me optimism about the Kansas economy in years ahead."

The 2014 figure of 15,780 is the all time record for the state of Kansas in the number of new businesses formed in any calendar year. This record is not associated with any increase in dissolutions or forfeitures. The number of dissolutions has remained relatively constant over the last four years. The number of forfeitures is at a seven year low.

Most Kansans work for small businesses, with 10 or fewer employees. The more than 500,000 small businesses in Kansas help drive the state's economy, while contributing to their local communities.

Salvation Army Civic Luncheon to feature Jodi Beach

International recording artist Jodi Beach will be the guest performer for The Salvation Army's 2nd Annual Civic Luncheon on Monday, April 27. It's a different approach to a civic luncheon, acknowledges Beverly Peterson, director of development. She states, "It provides information and personal refreshment at the same time." The event will be held at the Downtown Ramada from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. The organization is looking for corporate sponsors that support the mission and ministry of The Salvation Army. As one of two fundraisers throughout the year, the goal is to raise \$15,000 that will go toward providing services for those in need.

The civic luncheon will launch the 2014 annual report of program information, statistical and financial accounting, and human interest stories of those individuals and families served this past year.

Through an original song written by Ms. Beach, "You Are Not Alone," the theme this year is "You are not alone...The Salvation Army is here for you." She will conclude with a special rendering of a famous song indicative of Kansas that leads us "over the rainbow."

For more information call 861-7908 or Beverly.peterson@usc.salvationarmy.org.

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CINDERELLA RETURNS DISNEY TO ROOTS OF VIRTUOUS STORIES

entertainment

 by **Adam R. Holz**

Many a fairy tale concludes with, "And they lived happily ever after." Fewer begin from such a place. But for Ella, life was indeed enchanted.

Growing up in a sprawling country mansion, her days consist of communicating with her animal friends (especially four mice living in the house) and basking in the delight of her doting parents. But then Ella's mother falls mortally ill. On her death bed, she beckons Ella close to tell her "a great secret that will see you through all the trials life has to offer: Have courage and be kind."

As the years roll by, Ella and her father, a merchant, make a good effort to enjoy life together. But melancholy fills his heart, a longing for companionship. And so, when he meets a beautiful widow with two daughters about Ella's age, it seems a perfect opportunity for a second chapter of familial bliss.

Except that it isn't.

You already know that Lady Tremaine is as cruel as her daughters are vain. And when Ella's father dies on a journey, the teen girl is left with lit-

tle more in this world than the concepts of courage and kindness her mother bequeathed to her.

And the previously unhopd-for love of a charming prince, of course!

Ella's girlhood home is as happy as it could possibly be. She enjoys the love of two parents who cherish her completely. It's a beautiful picture of familial affirmation and affection, and it's an environment in which Ella's soul flourishes.

After Ella's father meets Lady Tremaine and admits to his daughter that he's considering marrying her, he asks Ella, "Do you think I might be allowed a second chance at happiness?" Ella bravely encourages her father to pursue that chance.

A servant delivers Ella's father's last tender message to his daughter, saying, "To the end, he spoke only of you, miss. And your mother."

Ella then turns her attention to dutifully serving her stepmother, paying little heed to her own wishes and desires as she fervently tries to live up to her mother's dying wish for her.

On that fateful day when Ella meets the prince, he is hunting a massive stag.

Ella — who's

film411

DIRECTOR
KENNETH BRANAGH (JACK RYAN: SHADOW RECRUIT, THOR)
DISTRIBUTOR
WALT DISNEY
RATED PG

been "talking" to his target—convinces him that the glorious beast has more living to do. It's not the anti-hunting message that's the big positive here, I should note. Rather, it's Ella's overarching urging that "we must simply have courage and be kind, mustn't we?" And her further insistence that "just because it's done doesn't mean it should be done" gets extrapolated, later, to the subject of forced marriages for the sake of financial and political enrichment.

Indeed, the prince gradually reveals his noble character in part by his unshakable willingness to marry Ella, a commoner with no dowry or royal influence to offer him. And he shares a strong, loving relationship with his father, too, one that improves as the movie goes on.

If Walt Disney were he still around, would be proud of what the caretakers of his fabled legacy have done with the 2015 live-action version of Cinderella. It's



Lily James (Downton Abbey) and Kate Blanchett star in Disney's Cinderella.

largely true to the original 1950 animated movie's mood and story. And where it deviates and expands upon it, it does so in ways that add nuance and depth.

In other words, this is not a fractured fairy tale as so many are in this new century. The film repeatedly emphasizes kindness and courage, which culminate in Ella graciously forgiving her wicked stepmother. It's something that gives this version of a story that's been around for several centuries an unexpectedly virtuous resonance.

Certainly Downton Abbey star Lily James is a vision of radiant beauty as Ella. But her outward beauty is poignantly augmented by an inner kindness and courage, things she manages to hold on

to despite the abuses heaped upon her by her stepmother and stepsisters. The result is a thoroughly delightful engagement with a time-worn tale we all know so well.

The magical fairy godmother is still a central part of this story, of course. And parents of would-be princesses should calculate the body-image and modesty issues raised by the quite low-cut costumes and painfully corseted torsos. (What does this say about the female form and girls' intrinsic worth, after all?) But given this more mindfully mature take on Ella's romance with the prince, there are fewer issues with starry-eyed love-at-first-sight romance than in some other fairy tales.

Christ's freedom shines in Mike Farris' Grammy-winning album

(WNS)--Mike Farris' Grammy-winning album Shine For All The People is the answer to those who view God as a cosmic Grinch (and Christians as His fun-squelching minions). With horns galore, a monster groove, and unbridled jubilation, the album is basically one giant celebration—and a well-earned one at that.

Farris wrestled with serious drug addiction for much of his adult life, including a cocaine overdose, according to an interview with CBN. After rededicating his life to God, he experienced powerful deliverance from the drug addiction, but then a back injury and subsequent surgery led to an addiction to pain medication. Finally, after much soul searching, three and half years ago Farris found himself truly sober for the first time since he was a kid. Little wonder, then, that freedom shines from every corner of this album.

Sometimes it's the general call for men to "break all the chains," such as in the rousing '60s anthem, "How It Feels To Be Free." Sometimes it's the spiritual freedom conveyed by a hymn such as "Sparrow," in which Farris manages to be both reverent and joyous with the help of a ragtime

piano and a Dixieland motif.

But freedom isn't just a lyrical



theme. It oozes from the album's every pore, implicit in the luxurious horn arrangements and the fuel-injected attack of outstanding musicianship. Most of all, freedom reigns in the passion and power of Farris' soulful singing, which is a cross of Van Morrison, Aaron Neville, and a coyote howling in the bayou.

"River Jordan" is the album's opening powerhouse, featuring extravagant horn arrangements that yank the listener in by the collar. Funky drums keep the song grounded while a bass digs down to solemnize the lonely, bitter-sweet moment of our final pilgrimage to that better land.

"Jonah And The Whale" recalls the high stepping, keyboard grooves of Booker T. and the MG's with some humor thrown in. Most folks will identify with Farris' conclusion regarding Jonah's adventure: "Sometimes I get that old funny feeling / I feel that same old whale swallowed me." Swinging horn blasts and vocal call and responses stir excitement, but the real inspiration is Farris' gritty, experience-driven goal to "walk with the Father in glory / go on and tell my story / tell the whole world ... about my victory."

Farris won this year's Grammy for Best Roots Gospel Album and it's no wonder. Chock full of hand-clapping, finger-snapping goodness, Shine For All The People is like something that popped right out of the Tennessee hills—a natural and inevitable force from what Flannery O'Connor called the "Christ-haunted South." Yet Farris (who is from Tennessee) ensures the album is less Christ haunted than Christ embodied. Unlike so many rock-oriented artists who mine the gospel heritage, Farris obviously believes the lyrics he sings. This makes the album far more satisfying and spares believers the labor of parsing out a great perform-

ance from a lackluster spiritual commitment.

Farris ends well with an almost Beatnik rendition of "This Little Light." Bongos and a stand-up bass prove marvelously suited to the song's simple faith message, and a full band eventually joins in for a hearty jam session. The song is also an apt metaphor for Farris' musical approach. He lets the beauty of these songs shine through, adding jazz, rock, and blues layers to accen-



to their strengths rather than distract from them. The result is a feast for the ears and a feast for the spirit—at once shiny and new yet as comfortable as an old shoe.

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Farm Hands

Also coming, May 8, the Farm Hands Bluegrass Quartet will be presenting a night of ministry in music and community outreach at DeSoto United Methodist Church, with artists Larry Inman and Danney Williams opening. Led by multi-award winning and Grand Ol' Opry veteran musicians (including GRAMMY nominations, and 2014 Album of the Year) Tim Graves, Daryl



Mosley, Keith Tew and Bennie Boling, this will be a night any country and Gospel fan won't want to miss. You can check out their music at farmhandsquartet.com!



D.C. Jeanes
Metro Voice
Music Critic

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For more information and tickets, please visit DeSotoUMC.org.

Contemporary Christian rock band Grandeur has been producing and performing for the last few years, and are in the process of releasing their sophomore album. Based out of Blue Springs (lead singer Chad Toney resides in Liberty), the quartet released their debut in 2013, and have since been performing throughout the Missouri-Kansas area. They've even had a chance to perform with heavy-hitters (and heavy metal) Project 86.

With a unique fusion of 70s-era hard rock and modern worship and alternative

leanings, Grandeur's first release was a collection of edgy calls to serve God and folk-infused worship.

Lyrically, the band pulls from the Word, while also allowing their personal struggles and histories influence the past behind their work. Metro Voice has been invited to look behind the album covers and stage performances to see the men that make up Grandeur.

The 70s sound comparisons aren't

from Kansas "back when they were really popular."

For more information, check them out at grandeurband.com.

Big Daddy Weave

Big Daddy Weave will be in Kansas City on their Beautiful Offerings Tour, Sunday May 17.

With special guests Jason Gray, Citizen Way and Lauren Daigle, this will be a night of celebration and worship. Metro Voice recently got the opportunity to talk with Big Daddy's Mike Weaver, about the tour, about worship, and the friends they get to tour with.

"This tour has been awesome; I'm a big fan of all of them," Weaver said of the bands' tour-mates. Through the struggles of the tour, they all developed a strong friendship and admiration for each other's work.

"[Jason Gray's] songs are amazing and real," he said, pointing out Gray struggles with verbal communication, but when he connects with the listeners at his performances, it is a powerful experience. "When he finished telling his story that first night, I was fighting back tears, y'know?"

He is equally enamored with the guys from Citizen Way.

Grandeur Band rehearses for upcoming gigs.



accidental, either. Of the four members, only their drummer is under the age of 30, and the other guys have had their hands in the music industry for quite a few years. Bass player Robbie Cairnes has performed with the likes of Tina Turner and has a history playing with the guys

Rosenberg's Third Target: Is it fiction or non-fiction?

What would happen if the terrorist group, ISIS, acquired weapons of mass destruction?

That's the premise of The Third Target, a new novel by Middle East analyst and bestselling author Joel Rosenberg.

In it Rosenberg weaves the fictitious tale of J.B. Collins, a New York Times correspondent who risks everything by slipping into Syria to interview the commander of the brutal jihadist army.

Ultimately, Collins finds himself faced with a decision that could cost him his career – or his life.

Rosenberg cautions that his latest book is meant to be more than entertaining, but should serve as a warning to U.S. leaders against the dangers of complacency.

"Too many political leaders in

Washington are becoming complacent about how serious a threat ISIS really is, and the stakes," he told Fox News.

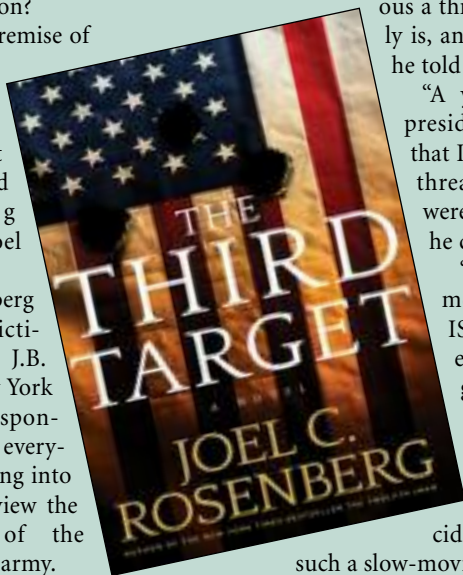
"A year ago the president told us that ISIS was not a threat, that they were a 'JV' team," he continued.

"Last summer, he said ISIS was engaged in genocide."

"Well, okay, if they are engaged in genocide, why is this

such a slow-moving process of defeating them?" Rosenberg challenged.

"What The Third Target does — fictionally — is take us into a world in which they are not defeated, in which they capture chemical weapons, and then all hell breaks loose, far worse than what we currently see," he said.



Langley's CD 'Break These Walls Down' a Game Changer

by **Carolyn Cogswell**

Caution! If you don't want to worship God don't listen to this cd. If you don't want the Lord to touch you, stay away from it. On the other hand, if you want to experience worship that allows King Jesus to rock your world, open up your heart and enter into the throne room. Mitch Langley's new CD, Break These Walls Down could be a game changer for you.

At first I wondered if the title cut, "Break These Walls Down" was about breaking down the walls of division in the church. About 20 years ago David Ruis addressed that issue in "Break Dividing Walls." This song presents a more personal cry of the believer asking the Lord to break down our individual, interior walls of resistance that still remain, even though we have given Him the key to our lives.

A song of testimony, "When I First Believed," has the power to endure much like "Love Lifted Me" or "Down At The Cross." Note: I have snipped out a few lyric samples that represent a theme running through the cd – the contrast of life in the world versus life in relationship with Christ.

When I was broken down
In need of healing
I fell down on my knees
And started praying

In my self-righteous days
My deeds were full of shame
They could not satisfy
The emptiness inside...

This song, as others on the cd, declares that the world does not satis-

fy, but Jesus Christ who died and rose again, forgives our sin and make us pure and whole. Our job then is to be a "revolutionary."

On "Revolutionary" Langley sings,

What is this darkness over man?

Has it come from the one who didn't win?

I will overcome by the blood of the Lamb.

I want more than this word gives.

Nothing compares to knowing you, Lord...

I am hoping for Your great might

To come and win this unseen fight

Your power come

move in me

You're all that I will ever need
This life is Yours for all to see
I bear the cross for Your glory
to be a revolutionary...

The title cut, "Break These Walls Down" appears as number 6 on the cd, and by that time I was ready to fall down on my knees. I don't know about you. The beautiful cello introduction takes the listener to a quiet place of whole-hearted surrendered worship. Wonderful dynamics in this tune along with the lyric speak of trusting God no matter what you might be going through.

Through all of the tears the hurt and pain

I'm learning to let You lead the way
Though I can't see or touch your face

I'm trusting in what Your word proclaims

Break these walls down
To build them back up
I'm no longer satisfied
With the things this world holds
I want to be set apart for you

"This is the second time they are on tour with us. Great music, by some great guys. We've had a lot of fun with them."

"She is incredible, a world-class voice and a world-class person," speaking of Lauren Daigle, mentioning the moment they met her she was "instantly our little sister."

When asked about the tour and the meaning behind it, Weaver got personal.

"I've really struggled with the issue of self-worth... never felt like I was good enough. A few years ago, Jesus really confronted me about that. We are created for Him and we can bless His heart by praising him."

"This is a really cool opportunity for all of us to worship God together. You'll hear some radio favorites then join us during the second half of the evening as we all worship together, as beautiful offerings. After the performance, we get to spend some time praying for, and over, people."

This performance will also be a fundraiser for a local KC family hoping to bring their son home, from China. If you've read much from me, you know how important adoption is to me (domestic and international).

For more information, please visit Facebook and look up "A Mama and Baba for JiaJia."

In everything I say and do
Break these walls down
Break these walls down
Break these walls down in me

This new cd will moves you in much the same way Langley's first cd, 'Grace Defines Me' did, calls us to worship and to let God make us fishers of men. Katie Hook's beautiful harmonies and lead vocal on "Risen King," and cello provided by Melanie Nyberg, touch you where you didn't know you could be touched. As a worship leader (at Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Langley naturally focuses on worshipping and relating to the living God and inviting the listener to enter into that experience.

And you get that sense listening to this cd. Not like you're at a "concert," or being entertained or having something on in the background, but rather being transported into the courts of our God. I don't believe anyone who listens with their heart and responds to this cd will be the same afterwards.

There are 10 songs on this cd, including two familiar worship songs, "This is Amazing Grace" and "In Christ Alone." Not saying the originals aren't great, but there's just something about the authenticity on this CD.

Words that stand alone form the foundation of great songs, but there is something about music that touches us like nothing else. The combination of great lyrics and beautiful, memorable melodies are the stuff of powerful music, and since it exalts our great God and Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, this cd is an accomplishment of which I'm sure our loving Lord is pleased. Keep 'em comin', Mitch. May multitudes be touched and blessed and drawn closer to God through your music.



YOUNG AT HEART HOW SENIORS ARE STAYING CONNECTED

(Family Features) For seniors, keeping in touch with friends, family and caregivers is important to maintain an active social life and remain independent. The number of seniors — and the need to find creative ways to be mindful of their care — is on the rise. With nearly seven million Americans providing support as long-distance caregivers, according to the National Institute on Aging, staying in touch is especially important.

Nurture relationships

Email, cell phones and texting are some of the ways technology is helping people stay connected today. These tools can be especially useful for seniors living away from friends and family or for those who aren't able to travel as much as they used to.

One affordable option is a complete phone system, such as VTech CareLine, which has no monthly fee. Offering a wearable pendant, one-button or voice-activated dialing, big buttons and volume booster, CareLine has features designed with seniors in mind. For more information about keeping seniors safely connected via a phone system, visit www.vtechphones.com/careline.

Going places

Seniors today are staying active, spending time with friends and family outside of their home, rekindling old passions and exploring new activities that keep them on the move. Even for seniors who aren't able to be as active, changes in scenery, like a neighborhood walk or visit to the park, are great ways to get

fresh air, uplift spirits and live a healthier life.

Since transportation can sometimes be a challenge, especially for seniors who rely on caregivers who work full-time, there are numerous organizations that provide transportation resources for seniors to assist in getting them safely to doctor's appointments, organized activities at local community centers, shopping excursions and more.

Your local Area Agency on Aging is a good resource to begin researching options in your area. Find your local agency at www.n4a.org.

Selecting a Senior Phone

A phone system can provide valuable security and peace of mind for seniors living alone and the loved ones who are responsible for their

care. To get the maximum benefit of a phone system designed for seniors, experts recommend shopping for the following features:

Voice amplification

Conversations are easier to hear and understand when you can adjust the volume of incoming sound. Look for units that can be adjusted by up to 40 decibels.

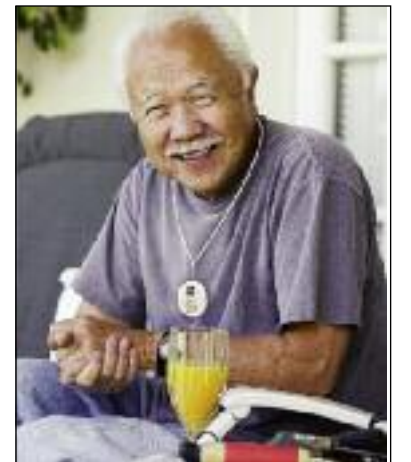
Caller ID announce

Hearing who is calling announced through the speakerphone prevents the risk of falls or other injuries associated with running to catch a ringing phone.

Help Create Connections

Helping an elderly person who lives alone stay connected with others can play a major role in that senior's quality of life. As a caregiver, you can help foster those connections by:

- Coordinating a rotating visitor



schedule with friends and family.

- Asking others to make regular calls to check in and chat.
- Researching local senior programs, such as classes, shopping excursions or fitness programs.
- Identifying resources such as transportation services that are available to help seniors get out and about.

“SPRING” INTO A STRESS-FREE RETIREMENT

By Bill Holthaus

April has arrived, and spring is here! As we say “goodbye” to winter weather hardships and “hello” to gardens budding with vibrant color, we welcome the season by celebrating Stress Awareness Month.

Did you know that stress, also called the “silent killer,” could cause heart disease and high blood pressure? Recognizing the sources of stress is the best way to understand how you can start eliminating factors in your life that put unnecessary strain on your body and mind.

Social Security wants to make your retirement planning as stress-free as possible, which is why we have a number of online tools available for you. You can create your own secure, personal my Social Security account from the comfort of your living room and avoid unpleasant traffic and a possible long wait in one of our field offices. Once you have a my Social Security account, you can view your Social Security Statement, verify your earnings record, and find out what to expect in monthly benefits if you retire at ages 62, 67, or 70. Once you begin receiving Social Security benefits, you can use my Social Security to check your benefit information, change your address and phone number, change your electronic payment method, and obtain an instant benefit verification letter and replacement SSA-1099/1042S.

You can easily sign up for my Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

If you're thinking about retiring at an age not shown on your Statement, reduce the stress of the unknown by using our Retirement Estimator. The Retirement Estimator allows you to calculate your potential future Social Security benefits by changing variables such as retirement dates and future earnings. You may discover that you'd rather wait another year or two before you retire to earn a higher benefit. Or, you might see that this is the season for you to kiss that work stress goodbye and retire right now. To get instant, personalized estimates of your

future benefits, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

When you decide it's time to start receiving your retirement benefits, the application process is far less stressful now that you're prepared. You can securely apply online without picking up the phone or leaving your house. Simply go to www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline, and, in as little as 15 minutes, you can breeze through our online retirement application.

Our website and online tools are always available. You can enjoy

Social Security's stress-free retirement planning tools any time of the year, giving you more time to enjoy these warmer months. Doesn't that put a spring in your step?



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SOCIAL SECURITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

of December 2015, the sixth full month of disability, and you would receive your first benefit payment in January 2016.

Question:

I know I shouldn't carry my Social Security card with me, and I always keep it in a safe place. Somehow, I lost it. How do I get a replacement card?

Answer:

As long as you know your Social Security number, you probably don't need a replacement. For most purposes, your number is your card. If you do need to get a replacement, you can do so for free. Although you can't apply for a card online, you can learn what identification documents you'll need, and you can fill out the replacement card application at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.



Answer:

You can receive Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62. Keep in mind that if you retire at age 62, we'll reduce your benefits by as much as 30 percent of what you'd get if you wait until your full retirement age. If you wait until your full retirement age (66 for people born between 1943 and 1954), you'll get your full benefit. You can also wait until age 70 to start your benefits. Then, we'll increase your benefit because you earned delayed retirement credits.

When you're ready to apply for retirement benefits, use our online retirement application, the quickest, easiest, and most convenient way to apply. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/retireonline.

RETIREMENT

Question:

I've been planning my retirement throughout my career, and I'm finally nearing the age when I can stop working. What is the earliest age I can start receiving Social Security retirement benefits?

Question:

I want to make sure I have enough credits to receive Social Security retirement benefits when I need them. How can I get a record of my Social Security earnings?

Answer:

The best way for you to check whether you have earned enough credits (40 total, equaling 10 years of work) is to open a free my Social Security account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount to review your Social Security Statement any time you want.

Once you create an account, you can:

- Keep track of your earnings to make sure your benefit is calculated correctly. The amount of your payment is based on your lifetime earnings;
- Get an estimate of your future benefits if you are still working;
- Get a replacement 1099 or 1042S.
- Get a letter with proof of your benefits if you currently receive them; and
- Manage your benefits:
 - o Change your address; and
 - o Start or change your direct deposit.

Accessing my Social Security is quick, convenient, and secure, and you can do it from the comfort of your home.

DISABILITY

Question:

I am very happy that I was just approved to receive disability benefits. How long will it be before I get my first payment?

Answer:

If you're eligible for Social Security disability benefits, there is a five-month waiting period before your benefits begin. We'll pay your first benefit for the sixth full month after the date we find your disability began. For example, if your disability began on June 15, 2015, your first benefit would be paid for the month

senior news briefs

BINGO - Feb. 7, 3pm, Fairlawn Heights Assisted Living, 5400 SW 7th. 0272-6880.

LIFEFEST – First Thursday of the month, 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Seniors ministering to seniors – celebrating with fellowship, fun, food, learning & entertainment. Potluck luncheon at noon. If transportation is needed, call 354-4994 or 478-1729

HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS - every second Saturday, at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 SE California. Call 266-4979.

VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS – Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For Info: 286-1370.

MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR – Apr. 8, 6:30pm. 2951 SW woodside Dr. For info: Crystal 286-6402

ADVENTURE'S IN LEARNING- SPRING SESSION - Apr. 10, 17, 24 & May 1, 9am-12, First Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar Ave. Shepherd's Center of Topeka's program for those over 55. Participants choose from four different classes on health, religion, news & current events, people & places, community, the arts, and library wisdom, offered at 9am. At 10:00 brunch is served. At 10:30, second class begins. At 11:30, participants choose between a musical performance in the sanctuary or exercise in the gym. For info: 267-0248

GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP – 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp, 1700 SW 7th. Join for support, information, etc. For info: Sharla, 286-2329; Jennie (English/Spanish) 231-0763

MEDICARE MONDAYS – First Monday of every month starting July 7, 1-3pm. Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library (Menninger Room 206), 1515 SW 10th. Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or nhonl@tscpl.org

sports

YFC uses golf to help teens

Topeka Youth for Christ's 2015 Annual Golf Classic will be held on Monday, May 4th at the Lake Shawnee Golf Course. The four person, 18 hole scramble begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 PM.

The YFC Golf Classic helps YFC build transforming relationships with teens through the Community Mentoring ministry, YFC Camp, Campus life clubs and ongoing ministry at the Kansas Juvenile Corrections Center (KJCC) and the Shawnee County Juvenile Detention Center (SCJDC).

At KJCC, sponsorships and participation fees helped YFC collaborate with Prison Fellowship on the new Angel Tree program, which provides Christmas gifts for the children of juvenile offenders in long term detention. YFC also provides leadership in a

weekly Bible study, and in September, YFC hosted a Christian concert by "Scarlet White," a rock band from Michigan.

For the teens at the SCJDC, YFC hosted a "Chuck Wagon Hamburger Cookout" in July - a summer meal and western themed activity for the teens.



Hamburgers were grilled in the parking lot and brought in to the center for the dinner and activity time. YFC also provided a December Holiday Christmas meal for the teens and staff

FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

by Rob Mooney

March Madness. The time of year when dreams are made and hopes are crushed. Like most people, I filled out a couple of brackets and like most people, I went in search of some big upsets. After the first day, I was doing fine, losing five, so I was feeling pretty good about myself. Two that lost were Iowa State and Baylor, but I figure that most brackets had them going out to the Sweet 16 as well, so I thought I could survive.

The second day was even better. Lost three that day but I kept all of my Sweet 16 participants. Things were looking good until the Saturday, Sunday games. I lost Virginia, Villanova and Kansas and just like that that my brackets were done.

I don't know about you, but when my brackets are finished then my interest in the tournament is pretty much over. Sure, I'll still watch some games and I'll

watch the National Championship game regardless of who plays in it, but it's always like seeing your favorite balloon get popped.

I guess the final straw this year was when KU played WSU. I can take the 'Hawks losing and to be quite honest, if they were to lose to anyone, I prefer it to be to the Shockers. But what I can't understand is how they played with no desire. I've heard it said that WSU wanted it more, but I don't believe that. How can you play in a game and not "want it"? The Shockers took KU out of their rhythm. The made KU uncomfortable. They turned the tables on the 'Hawks and they won the game because of it.

Does this mean that KU will never schedule WSU to play during the season? I don't know, but I think that there has been a lot of hubbub about nothing.

You see, Greg Marshall, coach of the Shockers, has said in the past that he has tried in vain to get a series with KU. It came out during a news conference that he mentioned it to KU coach Bill Self, who kind of laughed it off. Of course, Self has been on record stating why a game with Wichita State makes no sense for the Jayhawks. I believe that they should play at least every other year. The fact of the matter is this, the Shockers are a mid-major team. Sure they're good right now and have been for several years, but it doesn't change the fact that they play in the Missouri Valley Conference. When it comes to scheduling, KU, or most any other major conference school, will not schedule a home and home with a mid-major school. Sorry, but let's call it like it is.

The notion that KU is afraid to play WSU is ridiculous and anyone who says that doesn't pay attention to college basketball. Of course, with WSU beating KU in the tournament this year, I'm sure the heat will really be on Self to schedule the Shockers.

Don't expect that anytime soon. After all, he won't schedule Missouri anymore and they are KU's REAL rival!



for the second year in a row.

This year, YFC is focusing on young leader development in each YFC ministry area. The goal is to expand ministry through part-time staff, interns and volunteer adults who will develop, equip and coach student leaders, empowering them to develop a passion for Jesus and a passion for their lost friends.

YFC has received a \$2,500 matching challenge to raise funds to recruit new young adult leaders. The \$5,000 raised will support a new internship program. Gifts will provide support for the adult leaders necessary to begin developing and coaching a network of student leaders who are passionate about following Jesus and sharing Him with their friends.

To sign up for the YFC Annual Golf Classic Tournament go online to topekayfc.org/golf_classic/. Awards and prizes will be given for first and second low teams, scored in two flights of players. Individuals will receive awards and prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, and longest putt. The entry fee for the fundraiser is \$400 per team or \$100 per individual (\$50 of which is tax deductible). The fee includes green fees, cart for two, a box lunch, and great door prizes! Individual and corporate sponsorships are still available.

For more information please contact Bob Hanson at (785) 232-8296, or email info@topekayfc.org. You may also find more information at www.topekayfc.org.

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May 4, 2015
Lake Shawnee Golf Course
4 person/18 hole scramble
 Registration 11:30am; Shotgun start: 12:30 pm
 Several Sponsorship levels available!
 Or just enter a team - \$100/person
 Lunch included. Awards Ceremony follows tourney

Whether an avid golfer or a recreational golfer, this is a great opportunity to get some friends or clients together, play golf and make a difference in the life of a young person.

Enter by Apr. 24!
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www.topekayfc.org
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Golf Challenge

Raising funds to support TIBA's efforts to provide member education and networking, improve health care options for small business owners, and unite independently-owned businesses to be a powerful voice on public issues.

Friday, May 8, 2015
 Shawnee Country Club/
 GreatLife Golf & Fitness
4 person/18 hole scramble
 Registration starts: noon; Shotgun start: 1:00 pm
 Several Sponsorship levels available!
 Entry Fee - \$50/person
 Lunch, 2 drinks, golfer gift bag included.
 Registration deadline: Apr. 24
 Call Karl Klein at 234-3235
 or email Jennifer at jkirmse@educationalcu.org

More information at
www.topekaiba.org



Easy Ways to Enhance Outdoor Spaces

(Family Features) The arrival of sun and climbing temperatures mark the end of months in hibernation and the ideal time to refresh your outdoor living space. While constructing a new deck can be a major undertaking, the planning process doesn't have to be, thanks to a wealth of online tools and resources available at your fingertips. In fact, it's now possible to design the deck of your dreams entirely on your favorite electronic device.

resources to help homeowners create and plan their ideal outdoor living spaces. Following are just a few of the helpful and handy digital destinations for those looking to make their dream decks a reality.



During the past several years, there has been an influx of online

Visual social channels. Today's social channels are packed with inspirational images. You can peruse thousands of decks and outdoor living projects on Houzz and Pinterest. You'll also find ideas from many building materials brands and suppliers on these channels, as well as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Magazine and manufacturer websites. For additional inspiration, you can flip through the digital pages of your favorite home and garden magazines via their websites, and tour the online inspiration galleries of decking manufacturers and contractors. Each destination offers a unique experience, along with valuable information about different brands and products.

Digital apps. As you transition into the design phase, seek out an online application that allows you to experiment with various combinations and configurations. The award-winning Trex Deck Color Visualizer app for iPad is one such tool. This virtual resource allows users to experiment with the colors of various deck elements, as well as different railing configurations, to design a completely customized outdoor living space. Once the user has created an ideal design scheme, the finished photo may be saved to the iPad and shared with friends, family or potential contractors.

Interactive planning tools. Those further along in the planning process can take advantage of

other online resources such as sample deck plans and video tutorials. Additionally, many major manufacturers offer user-friendly deck design tools on their websites that enable homeowners to specify dimensions, materials and color selections to bring their dream

decks to life. With the many tools and resources available online, designing your dream outdoor living space can be nearly as much fun as enjoying the finished product. For more information and inspiration, visit www.trex.com.



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Annette's Tip:

There's still plenty of time to apply crabgrass and weed preventer to your lawn now since the soil is still too cold for new weeds to germinate. Fertiome For All Seasons II is the best product available to control weeds clear until September without needing to reapply.

Attention gardeners!

- **#1 seed potatoes, certified virus-free** Thirteen varieties in stock now.
- **Onion sets** Choose from yellow, red or white for salad onions.
- **Onion plants** Choose from Vidalia, Candy, Red Candy, and more!
- **Bare root berry plants and grapes.** Buy bare root plants and save!
- **Bulk garden seed** We have more than 500 varieties of bulk seed in stock.
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Don't have time or need help? Let Jackson's professionals do it for you.

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House of the Lord Church

New Resident Church Guide



- 1. The Great I AM Church**
Breaking Traditions
Non-Denominational
Pastor Cordell Fischer
2523 SE Indiana
(785) 861-0422
www.greatIAMchurch.com
- 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.**
Pastor Beaux Bryant
3851 South St., Grantville, KS 66429
1-800-673-3633
www.church4bikers.org
- 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**
1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka
785-234-5545
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am
Sunday School & Bible Studies:
9:30 & 11am
www.discovertbc.com
- 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
3102 NW opeka Blvd., Topeka
286-1204
Wed. 6:15 pm: Children/Youth/
Adult programs
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am
www.northlandcctopeka.org
- 5. FAIRLAWN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**
"Connecting to Christ, Church and Community"
730 SW Fairlawn Rd., Topeka, KS
(785)272-6322 • www.TheLawn.org
Gary Miller, Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:15 am & 10:50 am
Sunday Youth Group 10:50am
Adult & Children's Sun. School 9:15 & 10:50am
Sun. Eve Youth Activities 6pm

- 6. FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST**
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272-0443 www.fsbctopeka.org
Sunday Services:
8:30 AM Traditional Worship
9:45 AM Bible study--all ages
11 AM Contemporary Worship
- 7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH**
"Finding NEW LIFE in CHRIST"
Sunday Worship 9:30 & 10:45am, 6pm
~ Sunday School for all ages ~
4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka
785-862-0988
www.topekabaptist.org
- 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**
"Being and making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Gospel, to the glory of God"
2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka
(785) 272-9323 www.wrbctopeka.com
Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm
Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm
- 9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**
310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)
Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am
www.gccinoverbrook.com
office@gccinoverbrook.com
- 10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH**
300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis
10 a.m. Sunday (Non-traditional Service)
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www.kawriverkeruv.com
Questions? kawriverfordshouse@att.net
- 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH**
Meeting at Buck Creek School House
5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.

- Worship Service - 9:00 a.m.
Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,
Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snavelly 760-3513
- 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE**
Serving Christ - Loving People
3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248
Dr. L.D. Holmes, Sr. Pastor
www.wwnaz.org
Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am
Sunday School 10 am, all ages
Sun. Evening Various Children's Programs
6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service
Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups
Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University
~ Nursery care at all services ~
 - 15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
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Children's worship time 10:30am
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 - 16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH**
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785-266-LOVE (5683)
J. Michael Borjon, Pastor
 - 17. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:00 AM
785-379-5642
Jars of Clay Children's Center now open
Taking registrations: 785-379-9098
2930 SE Tecumseh Road
Tecumseh, Kansas 66542

- 18. SOUTHWEST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
5747 SW Huntoon • 785-272-0564
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Traditional Service 10:45 am
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- 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**
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Children's Sunday School: 10:30am
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
- 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH**
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- 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**
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Pastor Rey Rodriguez
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www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
- 22. NEW CITY LIFE CHURCH**
5221 SW West Drive
- Topeka, Kansas 66606
Sunday Services - 10:00 am
Pastor Kathy Crofford
- 23. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**
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Email your ads to Voice@cox.net. Payment in advance required: \$12 for the first 25 words; 25 cents for each add'l word. (classified ads also go immediately online)

FOR SALE: 1 bdrm./1bath condo in SW Topeka. New dishwasher, paint. Secure building. Appliances stay. On-site laundry and pool. Move-in ready. Asking 22,000. Contact 785-409-0495

WANTED - A Christian artist for seven cartoons for a book. Call 785-969-8764

PART-TIME ORDAINED PASTOR - Biblically sound and Christ-centered, looking for part time Pastoral Ministry in Topeka area. 30 years experience. Call or email: 785-207-6712 or Christina060410@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Caring Pregnancy Options has some openings for volunteers.

Please call 785-249-6130 for info or stop by our office, 2041 SW McAlister Ave, Mon - Thur 10-5. Ask for Kathy Hart.

FEMALE ROOMMATE - Busy career woman has bedroom for rent. \$350/month includes utilities. Call 249-1913

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE - Executive Suites available at College Park Office Suites, 2611 SW 17th. Shared lobby, workspace, break-room, etc. From \$150-\$300 per month. Virtual offices also available. Call 430-1567 or email info@collegeparktopeka.com

MASSAGE FOR HEALTH - Massage by Anne Murphy: Swedish, Sports, Deep Massage. \$70/hr. Call 272-5755. New Clients Welcome! Relax and enjoy!

GOLF CLUB FOR SALE - New 2013 model

Cleveland Driver SL 290, 10.5 Degree, regular flex shaft. Retail \$339, asking \$99. 640-6399

PROPERTY MANAGER - Christians for Life is looking for a volunteer to fill the position of Property Manager for the Heart of America Memorial Wall for the Unborn.

KANGAROO GOLF CART FOR SALE - Self-propelled push cart for your golf bag. Kangaroo Hillcrest model. \$1100 new, asking \$75. Needs new battery. Call 640-6399.

VOLUNTEER WRITERS NEEDED - Metro Voice needs volunteer writers or interns who can serve as area correspondents for church and community news around the metro area. Call 235-3340 or email voice@cox.net. Some perks involved.

HELP WANTED

Metro Voice needs full or part-time sales reps to call on businesses and non-profits to help with their advertising.

Email voice@cox.net

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 Main: 785-354-1744
 Non-cash Donations: 785-357-4285
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 Finances: 785-354-1744 ext. 316
 Policies, Speakers: 785-354-1744 ext. 315
 Thrift Store (1312 N. Kansas): 785-235-9094
www.trmonline.org
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Ed Popkess

Creative Arts Classes Offered

The NOTO Arts Center, 935 N. Kansas Avenue, has several classes scheduled in March for children as well as adults. They have partnered with Valeo for the Creative Wellness Series: The power of the arts for health and happiness. No previous art or music experience is needed. Here are some of the classes offered this month:

POCKET MANTRAS at the NOTO Arts Center - Apr. 25, 1-3pm. \$30 all supplies included. enroll at notoartsdistrict.com. NOTO Arts Center, 935 N. Kansas. Learn mixed media collage techniques to create a personalized pocket sized tool kit of rejuvenating imagery, positive thought, and stress management ideas. This class is part of the Creative Wellness Series focusing on the power of the arts for health and happiness. Presented through a partnership of the NOTO Arts Center and the Expressive Therapies program at Valeo BHC.

For information on this and other classes call 256-0050.



North Topeka area offers a variety of activities and events

The North Topeka area has many activities and events going on in the coming month. Here are a few more scheduled events:

NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS - NOTO arts district. Enjoy arts, antiques, fine crafts, and flea market items.

SUNRISE OPTIMIST CLUB - Every Tue., 6:30am, Sunrise Optimist Complex, 720 NW 50th St. For info: Gary, 246-1291.

TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION WAREHOUSE SALE - Feb. 5&6, 7am-3pm, 206 NW Norris St. All sales benefit the programs of Topeka Rescue Mission.

THE EASTER CANTATA: AMAZING GRACE - Mar. 29, 10:30am. Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N Kansas Ave. For info: 286-0467 or bbctopeka.org or bethelbaptist17@yahoo.com

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR - Apr. 25, 8am-2pm, Seaman Church, 2036 NW Taylor. Benefiting youth group. Breakfast served 8-10am. For info: 34-8777

MONTHLY MOOSE MARKET - Second Saturday, 8am-12pm, Moose Lodge, 1901 N. Kansas Av. Free to shop, \$4 for pancakes. For info: 250-6788

NOTO
 NORTH TOPEKA ARTS DISTRICT
 NOTO Community Arts Center
 935 N Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS
 Register for classes at notoartsdistrict.com
 For information: 785.608.6738 or email NOTOartscenter@gmail.com

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