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BLUE MAN GROUP | **PAGE 13**

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PAGE 10



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April 2016

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NEW RESIDENT churchguide

Wanamaker Road Baptist Church



See inside back cover!

Through the eyes of a kid: How to choose a summer camp

With spring having come early this year, no wonder many kids' thoughts have already turned toward summer and summer means camps!

There are so many different kinds of camps out there! For example:

"Traditional" camps that offer a little bit of everything.

Academic camps that focus on science, math, or even creative writing.

Adventure camps that are all about outdoor hobbies like rafting or mountaineering.

Arts camps that specialize in theater, music, film, or painting.

Religious camps that focus on faith and worship.

Sports camps that let you sharpen your skills in tennis, soccer, or baseball

Special needs camps that are especially for kids living with an illness, such as cancer or diabetes, or a disability.

Day camps that offer the fun of camp without the sleepaway part.

Annual Camp Feature
Page 8

■ Please see **CAMP** page 8

I MUST TELL YOU



Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, where Sonia was imprisoned along with Anne Frank.

An interview with Overland Park resident and Holocaust survivor Sonia Warshawski

Page 11: A SPECIAL GUIDE TO KANSAS CITY'S DAY OF REMEMBRANCE, MAY 1

Graham to hold Topeka rally

Franklin Graham, son of famed evangelist Billy Graham, is coming to Topeka, Kansas for a prayer rally. Organizers are praying for and expecting thousands of local citizens to gather at the south steps of the Kansas state capitol on April 28.

The stops are part of Graham's plan to visit all 50 states this year, sharing the Gospel and challenging Christians to pray for our nation, get out and vote, and engage in the election process down to the local level.

This series of prayer rallies is called the Decision America Tour. The rally in Kansas will be at noon that Thursday, the 28th of April, and will last about an hour.

Writing about previous prayer rally stops this year, Graham says, "I will be coming with the same message that I

■ Please see **GRAHAM** page 4



Franklin Graham's 50-state Decision America Tour stopped at the Hawaii State Capitol in Honolulu in March. It marked the tour's seventh stop before heading to Denver.

Breakfast speaker: Pray for leaders, love God and others

by **Carolyn Cogswell**

At what he said was "always an uplifting event," Governor Sam Brownback spoke simply at the 55th Annual Kansas Prayer Breakfast at the Downtown Ramada March 16. He urged Christians to pray for their leaders "so we might live a quiet and peaceful life." He said that he prays every day for the president and for himself to have wisdom during a "time of trial, a time of confusion." And he urged



Kansans to pray for their legislators who have very difficult jobs.

He also urged everyone to seek God with all their heart, citing a time when he had cancer and searched

for something that would last, that he could hold onto.

"God, You're the only One that will last," he concluded – not his land, his children or even his wife –

and he discovered that only when we search for God with all our heart will we find peace, joy and truth. He pointed out this would not happen if we expected Him to "show up in 30 seconds."

Brownback concluded his welcoming message with the words, "God bless you all, God bless this great state of Kansas."

Doug Burleigh, this year's keynote speaker, has organized national prayer breakfasts in multiple countries, and was scheduled to be in Moscow March

■ Please see **BREAKFAST** page 3

CLOVERTON TO PLAY AT DOWNTOWN CELEBRATION FOLLOWING CHURCHES DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Food Trucks and Vendors will be a part of the event

Volunteers from various Topeka churches and partner organizations will come together on April 30 to participate in Topeka's 10th annual ShareFest. Over 1,200 volunteers are expected to donate their time and tools to add some beauty to nine USD 501 schools/sites as well as not-for-profit organizations including Boys and Girls Club and two sites at the Topeka Rescue Mission.

Volunteers will work from 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 30 doing clean-up, painting, planting and general maintenance work at the twelve sites.

The schools/sites benefiting from their labor include: Avondale East, Boys and Girls Club, Chase Middle School, Highland Park High School, Lowman Hill Elementary, Meadows Elementary, McCarter Elementary, Quincy Elementary, Robinson Middle School, Topeka Rescue Mission (Main Shelter), Topeka Rescue Mission (Oakland Church), and Whitson Elementary. The schools were chosen for the project after organizers approached the school district for recommendations of which sites could use assistance, in addition to those with volunteering churches near-



by.

ShareFest is a network of Topeka churches and organizations working together to serve others and to demonstrate the love of Christ in the community. ShareFest was created with the belief that churches can do more together than any one church can do separately to reach out to its community.

Churches and organizations taking part in this year's event include: Awakening Hearts Church, Central Park Christian Church, Cornerstone Community Church, Countryside Christian Church, Covenant Baptist Church, Fellowship Bible Church, First Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church, Gethsemane Worship Center, Grace Bible Church, Grace Community Church, Grace Point Church, Grace Point North,

Harvest West Church, Lion and the Lamb, Northland Christian Church, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, St. David's Episcopal Church, Topeka First Assembly, Topeka Free Methodist Church, Western Hills Church, AIM 5, Boys and Girls Club of Topeka, Downtown Topeka Inc., Lowes, Pepsi, South Shawnee Thrivent Chapter, The Bridge of Topeka, Topeka Rescue Mission, Topeka Young Life, USD 501 and Visit Topeka.

New this year following ShareFest there will be a celebration in downtown Topeka.

The entire community is invited to Kansas Avenue downtown when the work is done on April 30 for the ShareFest Celebration. Food trucks will be set up and food sales will begin at 11 a.m. (with meals available for purchase).

At about 1 p.m., the free celebration will feature a performance by Cloverton, a popular Christian rock band with Kansas roots.

Cloverton won the first "Rock the Camp" competition in 2011 and holds the record for the most downloaded song on KLOVE radio, for their first single "Take Me into the Beautiful." That song also reached No. 17 on the Christian Billboard Top 25. Their first full-length album, Patterns, was released in 2013 after a fan-supported fundraising effort. Learn more about Cloverton at www.Clovertonmusic.com.

St. John A.M.E. Church to hold Bargain Fair

Bargain Fair Friday, April 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 23, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Bargain Hunters are invited to stop in for the 30th year of great bargains and prices at St. John A.M.E. Church. Lunch will be available on Friday, April 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Life Lessons From a Little One

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

by **Jessica S. Hosman**

"There was a nice friend, and a not-nice friend..." And so the story began.

With grave seriousness, my son went on to tell about his experience at the community playground earlier in the day. The preschoolers were playing nicely when "not-nice" decided to try taking the ball away from "nice" and his words were less-than-nice as he did. Zechariah watched for a few moments before deciding to intervene. He marched up to the two and, with hands on both hips and a stern look on his face, yelled, "Stop!" A few more choruses of the same before they both froze. With the same solemn tone, he both questioned and declared, "Do you know Jesus!?" Nice and not-nice looked at one another and both replied, no. My little one responded by telling them that Jesus died on a cross for them. And then, in the words of Zechariah, "I didn't know what else to say... but I kept looking at them and the not-nice friend gave the ball back and walked away."

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. — Matthew 5:9

My son might have some growth to do in the whole salvation message delivery, but he's only five and his motives were pure. He witnessed an injustice taking place in front of him and, rather than joining in or sitting idly by, he chose to speak up and do something about it in an

attempt to bring peace. I smile every time I think of the encounter and believe God does too. Truly this is His child.

And in similar situations, I want to be known as His too.

There are countless times throughout our lives when we witness comparable scenes. The tiffs might not be occurring on the playground, but rather the workplace, our church fellowship or family. Perhaps we don't see the altercation, but we hear about it. And typically what we hear is rumor-laced gossip which causes us to form biased opinions and take sides. But God doesn't call us to take sides, He calls us to bring peace. There's enough darkness and strife in our world today without us adding to it.

Zechariah could have chosen to just target the bully and stand up for the nice friend, but he didn't. Instead, he stepped into the situation and addressed them both. I'm sure he didn't consider that there are always two sides to a story, but it's something we should.

What might God be speaking to your heart? Is there a family feud that's gone on for years? A troublesome coworker that gets on everyone's nerves? Rather than responding the way you always have, perhaps God is asking you to do something new. Maybe it's more than just turning a deaf ear... perhaps it's time to step out in love and do your part to bring peace.

We all face a choice when confronted with injustice and conflict. How we respond is what shows the watching world to whom we belong.



Jessica Hosman

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But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an overflowing stream. - Amos 5:24

National Night Out marks 20 years in Topeka

Safe Streets is about to embark on their 20th year of National Night Out in the Topeka/Shawnee County community. This event has brought neighborhoods together to combine unity and connection for people who don't always get to know their neighbors. The simple act of getting to know your neighbors is the best form of crime prevention there is and when you mix it up with ice-cream or a cookout it turns fun. National Night Out is a drug

and alcohol free event available to any neighborhood that wants to sign up.

This annual event is organized locally through Safe Streets, with the support of the Topeka Police Department, Shawnee County Sheriff's Office and District Attorney. This year the event will be held on Saturday, August 6 in various neighborhoods throughout the county. Last year the goal was 70 neighborhoods and it was surpassed with 78 neighborhoods.

This year the goal is 100 neighborhoods with 13,000 participating.

The next National Night Out Planning Meeting is May 18, 6:30 p.m., at Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th, Topeka. Registration is open to any neighborhood in Shawnee County. Call 266.4606 or email jwilson@safeststreets.org for more information.

To find out if you have an existing neighborhood with National Night Out plans, contact the Safe Streets office at 785-266-4606. All neighborhoods in Shawnee County are invited to participate. Safe Streets, a program of Prevention and Recovery Services, is a local crime prevention and substance abuse prevention organization in Topeka.

BREAKFAST

continued from page 1

18. He said one of the things he would be talking about was getting the community leaders involved in the event.

"Aren't you glad at the governor's prayer breakfast, the governor is here?" he said. In Russia, he said, the church leaders organize it. He said there are three denominations: Baptist, Orthodox and Pentecostal and that they all "fight over who's going to be in charge."

Burleigh spoke of what he referred to as "the first prayer breakfast," based on John 21:1-16 in the New Testament. This was the third time Jesus had showed Himself to the disciples since His resurrection (verse 14).

The three points of his message were: "Everybody in the boat is welcome," "The

event was hosted by Jesus," and, "This brought the presence of Jesus."

In this passage, Jesus asks Simon Peter three times, "Do you love me?" or "Do you love me more than these?" and if so, "Feed my lambs."

So, Burleigh pointed out, God asks us as He asked the disciples, where He ranks in our order of priorities. The two great commandments are to love God with all our mind, soul and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

"He wants us not to be religious," Burleigh said, "(but to) love him back." Christianity is not about a religion, he said, but about a Person – the only One who can change lives."

"Jesus heals the human heart," Burleigh said. "He starts with mine; he starts with yours. What can I give the King? Give him a heart that's open wide."



BURLEIGH



Record-holding astronaut: 'I presuppose the truth of scripture'



A man who has a front row seat to God's creation in a way most do not said he sees no conflict between the Bible and science.

Astronaut Jeff Williams, the 58-year-old who will become the American record holder for cumulative days in space (534), says contrary to popular speculation, his scientific knowledge and his Biblical knowledge meld together.

"There is a generalization that anyone who worked for NASA, or an organization like that, would naturally be an atheist, but that's not true," he told the Institute for Creation Research in an interview last year.

"There are many Christians in the organization, many Christians in other government agencies-there are Christians everywhere," Williams explained.

"The work that I do and have done through my military career and with NASA has been perfectly compatible with the Scriptures, and I've lived out my life as a Christian, and there's been no issue there," he said.

Williams says people who find a conflict between the Bible and science are those who refuse to acknowledge the existence of God.

"If you have a presupposition that excludes the possibility of a God, that excludes the possibility of supernatural acts, and that everything has to be explained just with natural processes, then you've basically limited what you can let the objective observation of science tell you," Williams explained.

"That's where the issue comes in," he said. "I presuppose God. And I presuppose the truth of the Scripture."

Williams blasted off in March for his fourth six-month mission aboard the International Space Station.

The next day he posted pictures on Twitter saying, "It is great to be back on board @Space_Station, an amazing orbital outpost!"

C5 Christian Chamber's April 14th Luncheon to feature music ministry

Terry and Melissa Wright's ministry and music will be featured at the C5-Alive "POWER" Luncheon April 14, from 11:30 am to 1 pm, at The Peak, 1920 SW Gage Blvd. The Peak is the student ministries building on the campus of First Southern Baptist Church.

A special meal will be catered in by Aboud's Catering. The luncheon is sponsored by Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5).

The cost is \$10 for C5 members and first-time guests who RSVP, and \$12 at the door. Non-members and other guests pay \$15. C5 luncheons are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend, organizers said. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to info@C5Alive.org.

The Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5)



sponsors luncheons on the second Thursday of every month, which are held at different locations around the city. Next month it will be held at Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor.

C5 was formed in 2009 as a support and networking group for Christian businesses, churches, pastors and non-profit organizations in the Topeka area. The group promotes excellence in products and services, Christian values and ideals, as well as unification and cooperation within the Christian community.

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The World Has Gone Crazy

by **John Potter | Military Chaplain**

It may not be the politically correct way to say it, but sometimes I feel like the world has gone crazy. There are days when the common sense, decency, and values that I saw in my youth seem to have vanished from our culture. Common sense no longer seems common. Decency is no longer honored. And the values of yesterday feel strangely distant.

Take for instance these events. Presidential debates need a seven second delay or a PG-13 rating. Men must now be called biological males. Teen age girls can enter male locker rooms in a public school. The NFL won't properly discipline or fire players who beat women unconscious. And it is now considered a public health issue that nuns provide free birth control. What in blazes is going on around here?

While it is easy to feel that the world has gone crazy, it has always abided by its own set of rules.

We live in a post-Christian society. The moral landscape of our day rests on shifting sand. Everyone does what is right in their own eyes, instead of following God's example. The culture and practices of Christianity are mostly

rejected or, worse, forgotten.

When we look at Scripture, the early church operated in this kind of environment. There was little or no Christian culture, only a cosmopolitan and secular society that focused on self. Rome and Corinth believers needed to be a community of contrast, one that shows the world a better way to live. They were encouraged to live and demonstrate light in a dark and twisted world. When we do this it shows that no one is beyond redemption and that God has a particularly soft spot for sinners. Messages that our world desperately needs to hear and understand.

And so again, it is up to the Church to live and act in a different way from our world. A way that dispenses grace like Christ and honors God. A way that demonstrates the Sermon on the Mount and the Great Commission.

We have the power to change this crazy world, not by looking down on it in disgust, but up to God, the One who consistently calls us to become the people we were designed to be. May God empower us to live as first century Christians who showed grace, compassion, and mercy to a crazy world.



GRAHAM

continued from page 1

proclaimed to the more than 10,000 men and women who gathered at our first three stops, in Iowa, Florida and Louisiana: Our nation is in trouble, and unless we turn in repentance and faith to Almighty God, we will no longer see His hand of blessing on our great country."

So far, Graham has traveled to 10 states, drawing more than 40,000 people to pray and repent. Earlier this month, he visited Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona.

Some 4,200 gathered at Colorado's prayer rally. Near the center of the crowd stood Manuel, Robert and his wife, Rosalyn. The trio came with a few



An estimated 7,100 gathered at the capitol in Columbia, South Carolina, on February 9, 2016, for Franklin Graham's Decision America Tour.

van-falls from their church, New Hope Ministries in Denver.

"Seeing all these people here today, I believe they will go back to their neighborhoods and do it [pray and get involved]," Manuel said. "Our pastor has been saying he believes a revival is going to start here in Denver, and I think this can be the start of it."

Graham says, "I am calling on believers across the nation to fully commit themselves to pray, vote and engage in the political process this year with bold and energetic faith."

"We know that our country is in trouble spiritually, racially, economically, politically," Graham said in Phoenix. "No political party is going to be able to turn this thing around. ... Our hope—my hope—is in Almighty God."

Organizers in Kansas have been calling on pastors and key Christian leaders in the capital city area to spread the news of Graham's coming. Ministers are being encouraged to bring their congregations, their students, and or their network of members by car, church van, church bus, chartered bus—whatever it takes. Christians from across the state are encouraged to attend.



"For too long, the church of the Lord Jesus Christ has sat on the sidelines and watched as our country has descended into ever thickening moral darkness. Immorality is flagrant,"

Violence is a plague. Greed and idolatry are rampant.

"This cannot continue any longer if our nation is to survive as the moral beacon it has been for generations. This cannot continue any longer if our children and grandchildren are to live in a country that still recognizes and honors God, as virtually every generation has done since religiously minded settlers first set foot in America hundreds of years ago."

Those interested in following the events of the tour can sign up for the prayer team online at KS Decision America Prayer Group on Facebook. More information is available at DecisionAmericaTour.com. For more information about the Decision America Tour in Kansas, contact David Epps at depps@billygraham.org or 785-221-2788.

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Minor Car Repairs should be in the budget

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are on Baby Step 3 of your plan. When we have standard car repairs, I want to use the emergency fund. She says that kind of thing isn't an emergency, and we should just put it off as long as possible while saving up to fix the problem. Who's right?

Ryan

Dear Ryan,

Sorry, you're both wrong. Cars break. And since no one will invent one that lasts forever and doesn't break down, standard car repairs shouldn't be viewed as an emergency. Maintenance and repair of your vehicles are an ongoing expense. It's just part of owning them. That means you should have a category in your monthly budget for this sort of thing.

Now, an engine blowing up or the transmission going out would be an emergency. Hopefully, you're not talking about something of this magnitude. But you've got to rework your budget to where you have something designated each month for car maintenance and repair. That way, you won't be dipping into your emergency fund just to cover the basic wear and tear that comes with owning a car.

Take the next step today, and adequately fund this area so it doesn't continually come back to bite you in the wallet and sabotage your emergency fund!

—Dave

Start saving after Step 3

Dear Dave,

I've been trying to get control of my



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

davesays

money, and the other day I was looking at your plan. Where does buying a house fit into the Baby Steps?

Stacy

Dear Stacy,

Let's call it Baby Step 3b. Baby Step 1 is saving up \$1,000 for a beginner emergency fund. Step 2 is paying off all consumer debt from smallest to largest using the debt snowball. Then, Baby Step 3 is where you top off your emergency fund with three to six months of living expenses.

Once you've done that, it's time to save up for a down payment of at least 20 percent on a house. If you take out a mortgage, make sure it's a 15-year, fixed rate loan, where the monthly payments are no more than 25 percent of your monthly take-home pay.

Doing it this way may delay your dream of being a homeowner a little bit. But buying a house when you're broke is the fastest way I know to become a foreclosure statistic!

—Dave

How do you have a wedding without debt?

Dear Dave,

How do you have a wedding without debt?

Lynn

Dear Lynn,

Wow, where do I start on this one? I guess the best way is to tell the truth. Honey, that question kind of makes you sound like a little princess.

How do you have a wedding without debt? It's really simple. You have a wedding with the money you have. There's nothing wrong with small, inexpensive weddings. And once you accept that and start thinking about things from a mature, adult point of view, you'll start realizing you can scrimp and save and have a really nice, small wedding.

Lots of people have beautiful, memorable ceremonies and even small receptions for less than \$1,000. Sure, you can run out, go into debt and wear an \$8,000 wedding dress for a few hours on one day of your life. Or, you can find one that's much cheaper — even something that's been worn one time — for a couple hundred dollars. Think that's tacky? Well, let me tell you what's even more tacky and dumb — going \$15,000 to \$20,000 in debt for one day!

To have a wedding without debt you have to be creative and think within your budget. That means growing up and not throwing a temper tantrum just because you can't have every little thing you want. Most people don't have lavish, expensive weddings, and

guess what? Years down the road they're still married, madly in love and laughing and hugging when they remember the best day of their lives.

Please, don't turn what's supposed to be a happy occasion into a financial mess that will take years to clean up!

—Dave

What to do with restricted stock?

Dear Dave,

My husband works for a large company and receives restricted stock bonuses of approximately \$5,000 each year. We're not sure exactly how long they're restricted, and we both wonder if we're allowed to sell these options?

Patty

Dear Patty,

You said your husband works for a large company, so my guess is they do this as an employee retention move. That's why they restrict the stock. They're trying to get people to stay with the company, and you'll only be able to sell them after they are no longer restricted.

Usually, these kinds of things have a one- or two-year restriction. I doubt they'd put a five-year hold on it, but check with the company to find out the specifics. They can tell him when the stock is free to be sold.

If it were me, I wouldn't hold on to too much of it. I don't own single stocks. They have too much risk for my taste. Keep a little bit, if you want, but don't put all or even most of your financial eggs into that one basket!

—Dave

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opinion

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A CLARION CALL FOR COUNTER-CULTURAL



TOM CAMPISI

Editor & Publisher of the Tri-State Voice, a Christian newspaper

myopinion

I recently read Joe Battaglia's new book, *The Politically Incorrect Jesus: Living Boldly in a Culture of Unbelief*. In the book, he methodically exposes the foundation, breadth, and hypocrisy of political correctness, while challenging believers to respond in a Christ-like, counter-cultural manner.

Battaglia, a long-time media professional and president of Renaissance Communications in Wyckoff, NJ, defines political correctness, or PC, as "the chic moral ideology of the day, advocated and flushed out in the public square by self-appointed gatekeepers of American public opinion."

"I was concerned about the intellectual dishonesty embraced by a growing number of people, well-meaning and otherwise, who are attempting to mollify the cultural forces and self-appointed PC police in our midst," he said. "Stating the truth and stating the obvious have become unacceptable, unless you also affirm all behavior and attitudes."

Blindly going along with gatekeepers, he said, is a form of "intellectual suicide."

"Political correctness asks us to ignore the obvious and assent to positions against our beliefs. To assent to something you intellectually reject rais-

es an ethical issue; and that creates a moral issue. To cater to the prevailing mindset is to disavow who I am and what I believe. So, even greater than intellectual suicide, political correctness is a moral dilemma of my being."

In *The Politically Correct Jesus*, Battaglia declares that the United States has been in a culture war for several generations, making the point with chapters such as "Renaming Christmas," "The Indigestion of Entertainment," and "Of Mice and Media."

The PC notion to eliminate the idea of absolutes has contributed to the downfall and led to the acceptance of the lowest common denominator, especially in media and entertainment.

"We no longer have any sense of shame, because we are told there is nothing to be shameful of anymore," Battaglia writes.

Throughout his career, Battaglia has always sought to engage culture with a redemptive mindset. He served on the board of the Gospel Music Association for 19 years and has vast experience in Christian radio, most notably as general manager of local station WWDJ. Renaissance Communications, the company he founded in 1992, has promoted several popular, faith-based movies, including: *The Passion of the Christ*, *Facing the Giants*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, *Heaven Is for Real*, *The Giver*, and *When the Game Stands Tall*.

Although the culture war is escalating here every day, PC police have never seen eye-to-eye with Jesus and His radical message of seeking the kingdom of God first, even above government. The Romans and religious leaders were threatened by this revolutionary rabbi,



who was not afraid to turn tables upside down or wash someone's feet. Hearts and minds were being changed and those in power were threatened.

"Jesus calls us to surrender who we are and what we do, so God can reshape it all to accomplish His purposes. But no longer being in charge can be scary to many," writes Battaglia.

Even believers are not immune, especially when it comes to hot button issues, or elections.

"Jesus is beyond culture, beyond taking sides," Battaglia said. "A Christian enters the political arena as a citizen, and we definitely need those believers bringing their ethics into the marketplace of ideas. But to justify our activities by saying Jesus endorses a particular position or candidate is both to politicize and dilute the Gospel. Christians should never want to hold the flag so high that people can't see Jesus and the cross."

With his book, the Oakland resident is seeking to inspire believers to live counter-culturally in a counterfeit world. We need to be salt and light in our communities and lovingly find

common ground with those who oppose us. The goal is to get people talking honestly and to further true dialogue in the public square.

"Jesus calls us to act in love and affirm people, even in the midst of our disagreements," Battaglia said.

In a world that champions diversity, Jesus' message of a "narrow road" will certainly not be accepted—but once we find our identity in Christ, Battaglia says, we can go out and change the world.

"Jesus' standard overrides any culture and clashes with a PC mindset," he writes. "Jesus provokes extreme responses because He asks His followers to live counter to the culture. On any map, He's the fixed point. As culture moves further from what Jesus stands for, we stand firm because we cannot affirm what Jesus cannot accept. Political incorrectness is not picking a fight; political incorrectness is merely continuing to stand for what we believe when the culture says to stand down."

—Tom Campisi welcomes your comments. E-mail him at Tom@Tristatevoice.com.

The weakness of power



CLINT DECKER

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

hopefortoday

President Abraham Lincoln once said, "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power." No matter if someone is a leading political official, the top of a successful company, or even a parent they all have something in common. Their position comes with power.

The need for responsible management of power is essential, because it is in our human nature to use it for personal gain, and that is when self-preserving actions are taken to assert and

retain it. In the short term, these moves may bring success; however, in the long term they will bring destruction.

These scheming efforts result from a poisonous cocktail all power-hungry people drink. It is a potent mixture of pride, arrogance and selfishness along with a shot of greed. Interestingly though, rather than securing their position with power moves, over time, it weakens it so what they have built will mercilessly be ripped from their fingers in embarrassment and shame.

Imagine if someone occupied a seat of power from the mindset of serving rather than receiving, humility rather than pride, generosity rather than greed? What if they never operated out of a self-preservation motive? What if they did what was right, good and just even if they knew it might cost them their position?

There is an example of someone who did lead that way – Jesus. In three years, He rose from an obscure carpenter to one of the most powerful and influen-



tial figures of His day. Today, nearly 2,000 years later, His name is known worldwide and the movement He started, Christianity, numbers in the billions of followers.

Jesus made a startling statement that reveals His unique style of leadership, "For even the Son of Man [Jesus] came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

What would happen to our world if people in positions of power led in the

example of Jesus? Imagine the difference it would make. May those with great power exercise great responsibility. May leaders choose to humble themselves before the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, calling upon Him to change their hearts and thereby change the culture of the family, organization or nation they lead.

Clint Decker is President & Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc. cdecke@greatawakenings.org

American College of Pediatricians: Teaching transgenderism is child abuse

by **Leonardo Blair**

In what some say is the first major pushback by the American medical community against destroying biologically-based gender identity, the American College of Pediatricians has warned legislators and educators across the nation to reject all policies that condition children to accept transgenderism as normal, adding which attempts to normalize a condition, that the psychiatric community classifies as a mental illness, is child abuse.

The American College of Pediatricians urges educators and legislators to reject all policies that condition children to accept as normal a life of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex. Facts — not ideology — determine reality," the organization noted in a statement listing an eight-



point explanation of its stance.

The American College of Pediatricians, according to its website, is a national organization of pediatricians and other healthcare professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of children.

While everyone is born with a biological sex, gender, explains the organization, is an awareness and sense of oneself as male or female. It is a social and psychological concept.

"No one is born with an awareness of themselves as male or female; this awareness develops over time and, like all developmental processes, may be derailed by a child's subjective perceptions, relationships, and adverse experiences from infancy forward. People who identify as 'feeling like the opposite sex' or 'somewhere in between' do not comprise a third sex. They remain biological men or biological women," the



organization said.

"When an otherwise healthy biological boy believes he is a girl, or an otherwise healthy biological girl believes she is a boy, an objective psychological problem exists that lies in the mind not the body, and it should be treated as such. These children suffer from gender dysphoria. Gender dysphoria, formerly listed as gender identity disorder, is a recognized mental disorder in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association. The psychodynamic and social learning theories of GD/GID have never been disproved," it further explained.

Pointing to data from the DSM-V, the American College of Pediatricians said as many as 98 percent of gender confused

boys and 88 percent of gender-confused girls eventually accept their biological sex after naturally passing through puberty.

The organization has also condemned the use of puberty blockers, citing dangerous side effects.

"Children who use puberty blockers to impersonate the opposite sex will require cross-sex hormones in late adolescence. Cross-sex hormones (testosterone and estrogen) are associated with dangerous health risks including but not limited to high blood pressure, blood clots, stroke and cancer," it noted.

"Rates of suicide are 20 times greater among adults who use cross-sex hormones and undergo sex reassignment surgery, even in Sweden, which is among the most LGBTQ affirming countries,"

the organization added.

According to a 2003 study conducted in Sweden, transsexuals who change their gender through body mutilation or hormone therapy have a higher suicide rate than the general population.

The study, which followed 191 male-to-female gender reassignments and 133 female-to-male gender reassignments from 1973-2003, found that suicide attempts and in-patient psychiatric treatment actually increased in Sweden among those who had a sex change.

With all this available data, it explained that teaching children to impersonate the opposite sex through the use of surgical and chemical means is "child abuse."

"Conditioning children into believing a lifetime of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex is normal and healthful is child abuse," the organization said.

"Endorsing gender discordance as normal via public education and legal policies will confuse children and parents, leading more children to present to 'gender clinics' where they will be given puberty-blocking drugs. This, in turn, virtually ensures that they will 'choose' a lifetime of carcinogenic and otherwise toxic cross-sex hormones, and likely consider unnecessary surgical mutilation of their healthy body parts as young adults."

Math Quiz on Kansas Spending

By Paul Waggoner | WichitaLiberty.org

Math questions, one would think, are very straight-forward and easy to answer. At least easy to guess the right answer in a simple multiple choice test. Such is not the case however with the average Kansan who follows state issues relying on the headlines in the Kansas press.

The reality of how poor a job the Kansas press is doing with numbers is found in a December 2015 SurveyUSA study of 500 plus registered voters in Kansas. This scientific study of voters' knowledge of educational spending in Kansas was virtually ignored by the Kansas media. Most likely because its implications don't fit the media narrative on education in this Year 5 of the Age of Brownback. Even worse, the poll was commissioned by a conservative think tank, the Kansas Policy Institute.

As to voter (mis) understanding this 15 question poll hit the jackpot. All the questions were multiple choice with only 4 options given.

Question #6 asked how much state funding do you think Kansas school districts receive per pupil? The correct answer is well over \$7,000 per student. 39% of Kansas voters thought it was under \$4,000, another 22% thought between \$4,000 and \$5,000. Only 7% of voters guessed properly.

Only 5% of registered Kansas voters got that one right.

The follow-up, Question #7, was how much total (federal/state/local) funding do you think Kansas school districts receive per pupil? The correct answer in 2015 was over \$13,000 per pupil. Only 5% of registered Kansas voters got that one right. 40% thought the total was under \$7,000, and 21% said \$7,000 to \$10,000 which were the two most inaccurate options!

At this point I was even wondering

how the accepted wisdom is so far removed from the truth. So I went to ksde.org, the website of the Kansas State Department of Education, to verify the precise figures. At that website every school district in the state is listed.

What our local school districts spend is very close to the state averages. The Hutchinson USD 308 budget was over \$60,000,000 in 2014 with 4,836 full-time students or \$12,449 spent per pupil. 5 years earlier the USD 308 budget was \$57 million. 5 years before that it was about \$41 million.

The comparable figures for USD 313 Buhler are \$12,360 per pupil in 2014 with a \$26,300,000 budget that 5 years earlier was \$22,200,00 and 5 years before that was \$18,000,000. For USD 313 that meant students were educated for just \$9,000 per pupil as recently as 2005.

Kansas school districts total spending is \$2.0 billion higher now than just 10 years ago (\$6 billion versus \$4 billion). That is an incontrovertible fact. Which leads to two immediate questions: How can the Supreme court keep claiming the spending is constitutionally inadequate? And what exactly do taxpayers have to show for the extra \$2,000,000,000 every year?

The reality of those numbers are nowhere in the public's consciousness currently. For instance, SurveyUSA question #8 was "over the last 5 years how much do you think total per pupil funding has changed?" The correct answer is that it is actually up 9.92%. But fully 47% of Kansas voters confidently said it had dropped over 5%! Another 15% were sure it had dropped but thought the percentage was smaller. Only 7% of voters knew that school spending was up "over 5%."

Taxpayers are mostly rejoicing, tax

spenders (and their allies) are howling mad.

The budget trajectory has changed and is on a much flatter curve than ever before. Taxpayers are mostly rejoicing, tax spenders (and their allies) are howling mad.

My revised school spending narrative is frankly the story of the entire Kansas budget (as can be easily accessed at budget.ks.gov "Governors Budget Report FY 2017").

The state general fund budget first hit \$1 billion in 1980 and grew consistently under Governors Carlin/Hayden/Finney at about a 6.5% annual rate.

Under Graves and Sebelius that accelerated growth rate continued until the 2008-09 recession when the state budget dropped dramatically for 1 year under Governor Parkinson. This made a cumulative annual growth average of around 3% for those three administrations.

Under Governor Brownback the general fund budget is still going up, but at a 5 year annual growth rate of 1.8%.

On February 20th one Hutchinson News columnist's headline blasted the "Deliberate financial starving of the state of Kansas." I see this as more of a diet, and I say it is about time.

The numbers on the state budget spending (and taxation) are readily available online. The execution of the plan for this new governmental trajectory leave something to be desired, but that is the topic for another day.

Paul Waggoner is a Hutchinson resident and business owner. He is a guest author at WichitaLiberty.org can be reached with comments or questions at waggonerpm@gmail.com.

Kansas teachers union opposes bill that empowers teachers

Bob Weeks | WichitaLiberty.org

A bill in the Kansas Senate would give teachers an ongoing voice in determining who represents them in their relationship with their employer. The bill is SB 469, titled "Recertification of professional employees' organizations under the professional negotiations act." It would require that the Kansas Department of Labor hold an election each year in each school district regarding whether the current representation should continue. These elections, in effect, would be referendums on the teachers union, by the teachers. (Update: The bill has been revised to call for elections every third year.)

As you might imagine, Kansas National Education Association and its affiliates are not happy that teachers might have an annual opportunity to judge the union, and in a way that has consequences.

We've known for a long time that the purpose of teachers unions is to advance the narrow, parochial interests of teachers instead of Kansas schoolchildren, parents, and taxpayers. Now we see that the leadership of the union is more concerned with the existence of the union and their highly-paid jobs. Who cares what teachers think?

As it turns out, the union

KNEA Media Response Team Overview



believes it knows what teachers think. In a message, the Kansas teachers union writes: "So, in short, anyone who works in our schools — board members, superintendents, administrators, and teachers — all oppose the bill." I'd like to know how the union knows that everyone opposes the bill. The union might be surprised to learn there are teachers who are opposed to the union. These teachers, as professional employees, might not like working under rules more suited for blue-collar labor. These teachers might not like being paid according to a schedule that pays bad teachers the same as the good. They might not like being associated with an organization that promotes a false assessment of Kansas schools that is harmful to Kansas schoolchildren. These teachers might like to work in a charter school, something that the teachers union fights.



For KIDS ONLY! How to choose a camp

CAMP

continued from page 1

Every camp is unique in its own way. Here are two campers who had very different experiences with the camps they chose:

“I went to summer camp and it stunk!!!! All of the people in my cabin were soooo mean!!!! The camp I went to made it feel like school. I am going to a new camp next year. Hopefully it’ll be better.”

—Rocky, 12

“I had tons of fun! I got to make new friends and I got to do a whole bunch of fun activities. We played fear factor. It was so cool. I can’t wait until next year!”

—Ashley, 13

So how do you make sure that your camp experience is like Ashley’s, and not Rocky’s? The first step is to think about what YOU want out of a camp. Ask yourself these questions:

- Do I want to go to a day camp, or am I ready for sleepaway camp? There’s no rule that at a certain age, you should be going to one or the

Serious questions kids should ask themselves in choosing a camp

other. A day camp might be a great first experience that will get you ready for sleepaway camp in future years. It’s also a good choice if you or your family aren’t sure you’re ready to spend time apart, or if the cost of camp is an issue.

- How far away do I want to go? Are you anxious to go to a camp that’s halfway across the country, or would you feel more comfortable at one that’s just outside of town?

- How long do I want to stay? Do you think you want a camp that lasts two, four, or six weeks, or would four or five nights be enough for you? Are you ready to be away from home for a long time, or do you just want a short camp experience?

- How big do I want my camp to be? Which would fit you best: a big camp with lots of cabins and hundreds of kids, or a smaller camp with just a few dozen campers? Do big groups mean that you make even more friends, or are you the

type of person who gets lost in a crowd and does better in small groups?

- How “traditional” do I want my camp to be? Are you looking to really get back to nature with rustic cabins and few of the luxuries of home, or do you want your camp to be up-to-the minute modern with extras like cell-phone privileges and Internet access? In other words, how “camp-like” do you want your camp to be? Remember: not all camps are in the “deep woods.” Some are close to towns, and others are on college campuses!

- What activities are important to me? Are you determined to go canoeing, swimming, and fishing? Then you’ll want to look for a camp that’s on a lake and offers those activities. Are crafts and theater more important to you? Look for a camp that has these programs and don’t worry so much about a lake. If you have a favorite camp activity that’s a “deal-breaker” (in



other words, you’d never be happy at a camp that doesn’t offer it), make sure the adults who are helping you choose a camp know about it.

- Do I want a lot of structure? Some camps fill up the days and nights with scheduled, structured activities, while others allow campers more free time. Which type of atmosphere is better for you?

- Do I want a general camp or one with a specialty? Are you look-

ing for the “classic” camp experience with lots of different activities, or do you want to accomplish one thing, like losing weight, performing in a musical, or training in a particular sport? There will be a big difference between “general” summer camps and camps with a single theme or goal.

- What can my family afford? If there’s a camp that you desperately want to go to but the fees are too high for your family’s budget, it’s

■ Please see CAMP next page



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Why summer camp is great for kids

by **KEVIN EAST**

Having worked in camps for over 20 years, and now with a full house of kids myself, I want to equip parents across the country who are looking to send their children to camp.

Summer camp is almost as American as apple pie and baseball. Movies have tried to document the uniqueness of this experience. Unfortunately, I've yet to see one that came close to pinpointing why a healthy week at summer camp is so good for a child.

When I simply take the words "summer" and "camp" and use them in the same sentence, my mind quickly jumps to mosquitos, tents, canoes, smores, and Kumbaya. Sadly, I think most picture the same thing, which falls way short of what a week of summer camp could be.

I realize for many with small kids, the idea of allowing your child to camp can be scary. Over the years, though, I have seen far too many success stories. A child who was scared, fearful or just simply didn't want to be at camp, often turns into the camper who loves it the most. There's a reason for this.

If I had to narrow it down to my top five reasons camp is so great for kids, here is what they would be:

1. It's an opportunity to disconnect.

"Have you ever: played lazer tag in the woods, jumped off a 25 foot high ropes platform, jumped on a "blob" in a pool, or been on the back of horse? Most would say no. These experiences -- done safely -- are priceless."

Our culture is loud. I don't mean loud as in volume level. Our culture is loud in that there is all sorts of ambient noise going on all the time. Between school, sports, homework, cell phones, video games, Facebook -- to name a few -- kids today can be spread so thin they are ready to break.

When they come to camp, they turn in their cell phones, unplug their music, and begin to breathe deeply again. It is very fun to see kids surprised by a sunset, or in awe at the sound of crickets at night. Within the first two days at camp, you can begin to see the walls of protection come crashing down.

2. It's a great place to be known.

Most wouldn't admit it, but we all want to be



known. When you sleep in the same cabin with seven or eight other campers over a period of 6 days, great friendships can be formed. These friendships can become such a support throughout the year as life unfolds.

The relationship with the counselor should be the best one. I continually hear great stories of campers opening up to their counselors and sharing their souls with them. When they do, there is such a sense of relief. They can be known, and loved for who they are.

3. It's a new adventure to be experienced.

Have you ever: played lazer tag in the woods, jumped off a 25 foot high ropes platform, jumped on a "blob" in a pool, or been on the back of horse? Most would say no. These experiences -- done safe-

ly -- are priceless. And when a child conquers a new adventure at camp, they quickly store it away as a reminder of their courage.

4. It's a great way to gain confidence.

Even high school students can be scared at the idea of going to camp. I've talked with seniors in high school who were homesick. However, when they get through it and realize they did it, it is great to see what it does to their countenance. When a child does an activity they never thought they would do, they walk taller, as if they've found their new armor.

Being away from their parents, making new friends, trying new activities -- these all help in the child gain confidence as they grow up.

5. They just might be transformed.

This is the main reason why I would want my child to go to camp. I believe God speaks to us through: His creation, His Word, and His people. When a child gets away from home, is surrounded by God's creation, and is taught the truth of scripture, they could be transformed. I tell the staff of our youngest kids camp quite regularly to take care of our future summer staff.

As a parent, I want to fill my bag full of "tools" to help me share with my kids who Jesus is. Camp is one of the tools I plan to use.

— By Kevin East. Boys & Girls Clubs of East Texas.

CAMP

continued from page 8

important to accept that. Camps run by non-profit or community organizations may be less expensive (and just as much fun). Many camps offer scholarships or financial aid to deserving campers, so be sure to explore this option too!

• Talk about these questions with your family to decide what type of camp you want to attend. Now all you have to do is find it! Here are some tips:

• Check with friends and neighbors. Try asking people you know about their summer camp experiences. Have they been to camp? What was it like? Have they heard of anyone who had a good or bad time at a particular camp? Remember: just because somebody

else liked a certain camp, it doesn't mean you will. Try to get all the details (not just a general "good" or "bad" rating) so you can use your own judgment.

• Check with local organizations. Does your community have a YMCA or YWCA? What about your church or denomination or a friend's church? Call or visit these

organizations with your folks, and find out what they know about good summer camp programs.

There are tons of cool and fun camps in Missouri and Kansas. With a little research, you are sure to find one that is perfect for you, and will make for your best summer ever!

—PBSKids.org

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AMERICA IS MADE UP OF STRONG VOLUNTEER SPIRIT

A federal study shows that one in four Americans volunteered through an organization, and three in five helped their neighbors last year.

The annual Volunteering and Civic Life in America research, released by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the National Conference on Citizenship, 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 difference for those in need, during the holiday season and throughout the entire year."

This year's report found that 62.8 million adults (25.3 percent) volunteered through an organization last year. Altogether, Americans volunteered nearly 7.96 billion hours last year, worth an estimated \$184 billion, based on the independent sector's estimate of the average value of a volunteer hour. The volunteer rate consistently remains stable and strong. Over the past 13 years, Americans volunteered 104.9 billion hours, worth an

estimated \$2.1 trillion.

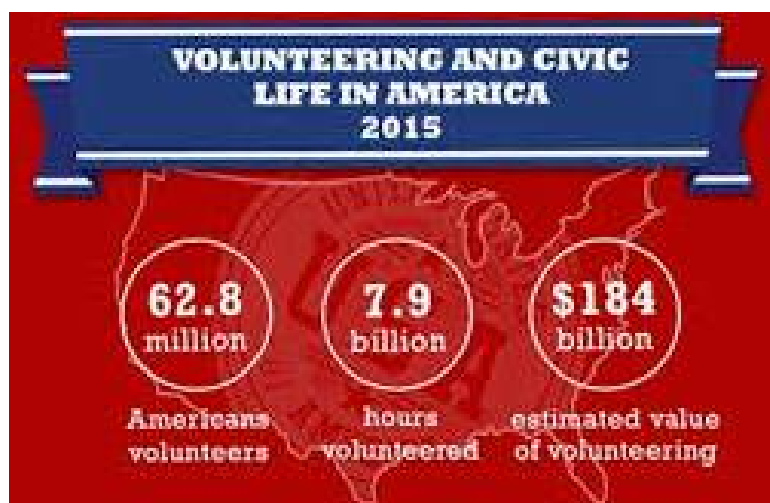
In addition, more than 138 million Americans (62.5 percent) also engaged in informal volunteering in their communities, helping neighbors with such tasks as watching each other's children, helping with shopping, or house sitting.

"At this time of heightened unease, the civic health of our country and engagement of our citizens is particularly important," said Ilir Zherka, executive director of the National Conference on Citizenship.

"That's why all sectors of society from nonprofits, to our government, to businesses should redouble their efforts to promote greater connections among Americans. Our civic health is strongest when people trust and help their neighbors and engage with their government."

The research shows that overall rate of volunteering remains strong and stable, despite a slight decrease from the previous year, and that Americans' commitment to volunteering spans across generations. Key highlights of the report include:

- Generation X leads volunteering among generations. Americans aged 35-44 had the highest volunteer rate (29.8 percent) followed by those aged 45-54 (28.5 percent). Generation X also reports the highest rates of participation in organizations among all generational groups at 40.5 percent.
- One in five (21.7 percent) of



Millennials (aged 16-32) volunteered. Young adults aged 18-24 attending college volunteer at twice the rate (26.6 percent) of their non-college attending peers (13.2 percent).

• Older Americans, including Baby Boomers and members of the Silent Generation, tend to volunteer more hours. In 2014, the age groups with the highest median hours among volunteers were ages 65-74 (81 hours) and those 75 and older (100+ hours).

• The volunteer rate of parents with children under age 18 is higher than the national average at 31.6 percent. Working mothers continue to maintain the highest rate of volunteering among all popula-

tions at 36 percent.

• More than one-third of Americans (36.3 percent) are involved in a school, civic, recreational, religious, or other organization. Americans most frequently volunteer with religious groups (34 percent), followed closely by education or youth service groups, and social or community groups.

The report also measures volunteering at the state and local level. Utah, Idaho, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kansas claim the top five state spots. Among cities, baby boomer volunteerism places Kansas City in the top five.

"Every day, volunteers of all ages are giving their time and talents to solve

problems and make our nation stronger," Spencer said. "Whether tutoring students or connecting veterans to services or responding to natural disasters, Americans are doing extraordinary things to improve lives and strengthen communities. As they serve others, volunteers help themselves by learning new skills, increasing job prospects, and even improving their health."

In 2013, CNCS released Volunteering as a Pathway to Employment, research which found that unemployed individuals who volunteer over the next year have 27 percent higher odds of being employed at the end of the year than non-volunteers.

Among rural volunteers and volunteers without a high school diploma, the likelihood increases by 55 and 51 percent, respectively.

Volunteers provide critical support to our nation's nonprofit, civic, and faith-based organizations, offering time, skills, and monetary support. The Volunteering and Civic Life in America research found that volunteers are almost twice as likely to donate to charity as non-volunteers. Nearly 80 percent of volunteers donated to charity, compared to 40 percent of non-volunteers. Overall, half of all citizens (50.5 percent) donated at least \$25 to charity in 2014.

The full analysis and customizable data sets can be found at volunteeringinamerica.gov.

Volunteerism in Kansas



Overall, in Kansas in 2014 (latest figures available):

- 35.1% of residents volunteer, ranking them 5th among the 50 states and Washington, DC.
- 732,910 volunteers
- 31.9 volunteer hours per capita
- 70.2 million hours of service
- \$1.6 billion of service contributed
- 55.9% of residents donate \$25 or more to charity

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IS COMING

This year National Volunteer Week takes place April 10 – 18. It's dedicated to inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. With a theme that changes yearly, the occasion is all about showing the good that is possible when we pull together as a nation.

A program of Points of Light, National Volunteer Week has grown enormously since its inception in 1974, with thousands of volunteer projects and special

events scheduled throughout the week.

If you are looking for a way to plug in, or you are in a leadership position and want to organize your church or organization's members to get involved, there are many ways to do so. One good step is to develop a list of interested individuals and have them list their talents. No talent is too small! Have experience sewing? There are opportunities to teach new immigrants skills to assist them with supporting themselves. Like to work on cars?



Many organizations plan regular outreaches that provide simple, and free, car repair to single moms. Enjoy reading? School districts are looking for volunteers to work with young struggling readers.

You can also just go out and create your own opportunity. Help an elderly neigh-

bor with spring clean-up. Offer to clean windows, paint a fence or clean out a garage. The opportunities are endless.

All of these ideas may seem simple, but they are life changing to the person or organization you are assisting.

more information

To get plugged in, try
www.volunteermatch.org
www.Pointsoflight.org

Tips to effective volunteering

Want to get involved? It's easy! Follow these steps to make your experience rewarding and your service invaluable.

Where to begin?

1. Visit the websites of local service organizations and sign up.
2. Browse opportunities for service at area nonprofits by issue or by when you are available.
3. Find a project that interests you. The listing will give you plenty of details about the opportunity.

4. When you are ready to commit to a specific service opportunity, sign up for the project.

5. Make note of the community partner and feel free to contact the organization directly so you can get started as quickly as possible.

Find the Right Opportunity

Make sure you find the opportunity that suits you best!

- **Choose** a church, nonprofit or school that does work you are passion-

ate about. If you love nature consider Bridging the Gap; if you are concerned about homelessness consider a shelter such as City Union Mission, the Salvation Army or restart.

- **Find an opportunity** that matches your skills, interests, and schedule.
- **Introduce yourself** to the organization and share information such as where you have done service or service-learning work in the past.
- **Stay in contact for service needs.**

Be a Great Resource

Part of having a great community

service experience relies on your ability to be a great resource to the organization. These basic principles are good to keep in mind:

- **Be professional.**
 - **Honor your commitments** – show up at the time you say you will show up and if you need to cancel let the organization know.
 - **Extend gratitude** to an organization for any training or professional development you receive
- If you are volunteering directly with people, consistency is especially important.

Kansas City Day of Remembrance Sunday, May 1

Event facts and details



Marches like this one in Europe will commemorate the Holocaust

by **Lori (Roberts) Wilson**

What is the Kansas City Day of Remembrance?

The purpose of this event is to honor Holocaust survivors and their families in the Kansas City area. For the first time, Kansas City will participate in this world-wide event known as March of Remembrance in the United States and March of Life in Europe.

We are serving the believing community of Kansas City to say to the Holocaust survivors and their descendants, "You are not forgotten. You are not alone. We will remember and we will not be silent for Zion's sake."

Pre-rally will begin at 1 p.m. in the registration area of the ballroom. We will have the opportunity to learn about the Holocaust and Righteous Among the Nations. At 2:30 p.m. we will transition outside to the courtyard to prepare for the March of Remembrance. Local leaders will guide us in prayer, including the opportunity to make the choice from cursing to blessing as described in Genesis 12: 2-4.

March of Remembrance will begin at 3 p.m. The walk will be 1.2 miles with the possibility to only go half that distance. The event will be held rain or shine. Both the pre-rally and prayer walk are free, however, donations will be accepted to defray the event costs.

Evening of Remembrance, beginning at 6:30 p.m., will be an experience of a powerful expression of Holocaust remembrance and honor. You will be moved by the beauty and elegance of Israeli and Jewish music, a professional Holocaust and liberation ballet and a philharmonic string quartet.

Who is invited to participate?

Everyone is invited to participate in the event. We are especially reaching out to the believing community of Kansas City – those who know and understand the importance of the Holocaust as well as the importance of the Jewish people beginning in the Old Testament, throughout history and now in their place in modern times. We also prayerfully hope that Holocaust survivors and their families will feel welcome to join us.

How to participate:

- Visit www.morkc.org.
- Register prior to Sunday, May 1.
- Encourage your family, friends, church, youth group, Sunday School class, Bible study group to attend
- Attend the FREE Pre-rally 1-3 p.m.

I MUST TELL YOU

AN INTERVIEW WITH OVERLAND PARK RESIDENT AND HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SONIA WARSHAWSKI

by **Rochelle Wisoff-Fields**

"You wouldn't believe it. I want you to know the history." Her brown eyes welled. "When I went to see our [Holocaust] museum in Washington, I must tell you, they did a tremendous job as humanly possible, but I see it through different eyes. But to tell you the way it really was—people don't even realize."

At the tender age of 90 and towering stature of 4'8" Sonia Warshawski is a fireball whose presence fills her sitting room at John's Tailoring and Alterations at 95th and Nall. Although she claims she doesn't believe in miracles, she says that God gave her a sixth sense and the strength of youth.

Born in 1925 in Mezerich, Poland, she was barely 14 when war broke out in Europe in 1939. Like many kids her age, she was active in sports and loved to read.

When the SS took over, she watched her world crumble around her. "It happened slowly," she said. "Not all at once."

She remembers the graffiti on the school walls that said in Polish, "Zabic Zyda. Kill the Jews."

After the liquidation of the ghetto, Sonia, only 17, and her mother were sent to the concentration camp, Majdanek. There her mother Rivka perished in the gas chambers.

Although it's been over 60 years ago, the pain in her eyes is raw and current. "There's not a day goes by I don't think about her."

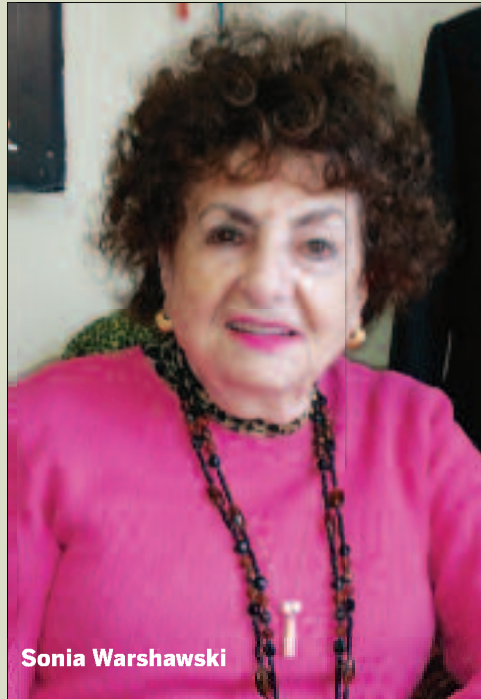
Sonia was sent from Majdanek to Auschwitz-Birkenau and, later, forced to walk from there to Bergen-Belsen where she was ultimately liberated by the British. She met her husband John in the displaced persons camp. Immigration assigned them to Kansas City, where they established their business that still flourishes under her hand today.

"I can tell you stories days and days. More than you will see in books."

Through tears she describes just a few of the horrors to me. Graciously and without hesitation she answers my questions with evident sense of purpose.

Do you feel there's too much emphasis on the Holocaust?

"Oh my God, no! This is the whole problem already. You know why? Because it's getting to be less and less of us. Do you know I'm the last one to speak about the Holocaust? As long as God gives me the power I will speak for them. That gives me the power."



Sonia Warshawski

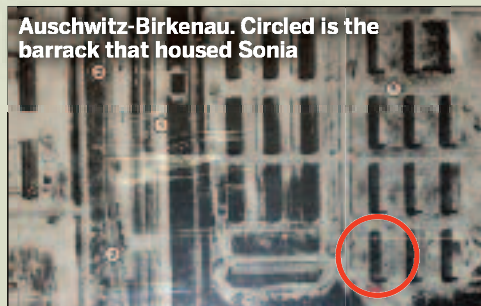
"And I am going to tell you I saw rabbis killed, their beards yanked out. Babies murdered. Yet there are deniers. I speak to you from my heart."

Some say we're back in 1939. Do you worry about anti-Semitism in America?

"Of course it's something to worry about. You have to think about it. Germany and Austria were highly cultured. Jews were highly educated, they could not believe even to the time they are sent to the gas chambers this can happen. That such a high people can be brainwashed I am not surprised."

This is a melting pot. This is the reason you don't feel the anti-Semitism so much. That is why the American Jew doesn't realize we are under an umbrella.

Look at ISIS, they're killing not only Jews but



Auschwitz-Birkenau. Circled is the barrack that housed Sonia

"Never again."

It was known as the Dachau concentration camp. From its beginning in 1933 as a forced labor camp, the first organized and official facility in the Nazi system of camps, until its liberation in 1945 by Allied forces, there were more than 32,000 documented deaths. The undocumented deaths? No one knows. Later, the camp's epitaph, "Never again", was posted on the entrance in five languages.

A model camp

Dachau was considered by the Nazis to be the model camp. It was not only the first of the concentration camps but it was the one in which the elite military force, the *SchutzStaffel*, was trained. Most know of this group as the SS. Dachau was not officially a death camp—a smaller number of Jews lost their lives there. Others, known as extermination camps, were specifically established for mass killing.

However, Dachau was a destination for many of the 30,000 Jews arrested during *Kristallnacht*, the night of broken glass in 1938. It was a premeditated, state-sponsored attack throughout Nazi Germany and Austria, resulting in the murder and

suicide of hundreds of Jews, and the destruction of more than 1,000 synagogues, 7,000 Jewish-owned businesses, as well as hospitals, schools and homes. The death and destruction marked the start of the Holocaust and the Final Solution—the Nazi plan of systematic genocide of the Jews. That long November night littered the streets with glass from shattered windows, and the cities, towns and history itself with shattered lives.

"Work sets you free"

Dachau gradually evolved from a forced labor camp to a death factory. The iron gate of the prisoners' entrance included the motto in German: "*Arbeit macht frei*," ("Work sets you free.") Freedom equaled death, quickly for some, slowly for others. Still, some survived, of the nearly 190,000 prisoners who entered through the iron gate.

Life survived next to death

As death multiplied around them, how did they survive? Some wrote diaries. Some remained alive through the sheer sacrifice of others. Some formed study groups behind the barbed wire of their prisons. Some drew pictures. An anonymous writer scratched this message of hope into a wall in one of

Christians."

If you could speak to Christians, what would you tell them?

"Sometimes they say we Jews are the chosen. You know what I say to them, really?" She laughs. "You want to change religions and be the chosen? You want to suffer? We suffered for centuries."

"One time I tell a Christian woman, 'Christ was a Jewish rabbi.' She look at me like she wanted to take out my eyes. Every Sunday she goes to church."

"I'm going to tell you, even right now, the Church is from the Jewish root. They don't realize that Christ would not allow these things to happen."

With the March of Remembrance, we want to stir the Christians so they will never be silent again.

"I myself don't openly believe in a Meshiah. Where was He when babies are murdered? No I don't believe."

"Yes, it was silence that killed. The pastors need to preach against anti-Semitism."

"Again, it's for those who didn't make it, these things have to be told!"

What would you ask the church to do now for the Jews in Israel?

"We weren't allowed to be farmers so we became bankers, doctors. We fought anti-Semitism with culture. Einstein opened the heavens," Sonia says with fire in her voice. "Look at little Israel. We made the desert bloom! It doesn't make any difference. I am not for giving back. If the aggressor takes territory, where is it after the war? For example, the United States took Texas and California. Israel is the only one to have to give back."

Is there anything you would like to tell the next generation?

"When I go to schools and speak I tell them, 'Read! Know the history. We are only visiting this universe for a short time. Respect each other.' I want the other generation to know all that is not in the books. If I get letters saying, 'You changed my life' what else can I ask?"

Do you have any parting words?

"I will never forget. I will never forgive—forgiveness has borders—this has to come from someplace else. But—I will never hate. If I hate I destroy myself."

—Rochelle Wisoff-Fields lives in Belton, Mo. She is the author and illustrator of several books including *This, That and Sometimes the Other*, *Please Say Kaddish for Me* and *From Silt and Ashes*. Connect with her at wordpress.com or www.rochellewordart.com.

the camps:

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining.
I believe in love even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God even when He is silent.

"Something happened ..."

... that we realized what this war was all about. We know now why we were participating in this war," said James A. Rose, who served with the 42nd (Rainbow) Infantry Division, US Army, and helped liberate Dachau.

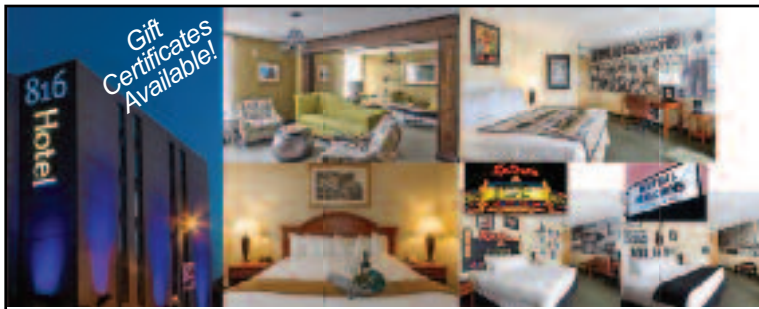
"To honor the dead, To admonish the living"

This is the English translation of the German inscription, which is on the base of the statue of the Unknown Prisoner. The statue, which was erected in 1950 in front of the Dachau crematory, was designed by Fritz Koelle.

"Never Forget"

"The Age of the Survivors is drawing to a close. Before long no one will be left to say, 'I was there, I saw, I remember what happened.' All that will be left will be books of literature and research, pictures and films, and multitudinous testimony."

Zvi Gill, Holocaust survivor and journalist



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816 Hotel is Unique, Authentic and Fun

Kansas City's 816 Hotel is KC's only hotel dedicated to the past and present of the "Paris of the Plains." The history of KC is rich, and the hotel lends itself to both telling the story of Kansas City while offering a memorable experience through exemplary customer service.

Formerly a Holiday Inn Express, the 816 Hotel has undergone a half-million dollar renovation and facelift. The hotel offers spacious rooms decorated with archived photos of Kansas City's history. Large murals of KC history dot the hallways, and 20 corner rooms celebrate some of KC's most colorful people, places and products, past and present, famous and infamous. Themed rooms share the story of Kansas City - everything from the KC Zoo to Boulevard Brewery, to the KC Mob past, to TWA

and everything in between.

The 816 Hotel puts you in the heart of the best amenities Kansas City has to offer. Located in Old Westport, the oldest part of the city, the area around the hotel is home to more than 150 shops, restaurants and bars. Within 90 steps of the front door are these restaurants: Bluestem (highest Zagat rated restaurant in KC); Pot Pie (a moderately priced local gem); and the Westport Flea Market (often voted the best cheeseburger in KC).

Five blocks to the south is the world famous Country Club Plaza, and the 816 is within 1 mile of the Uptown Theater, the Nelson Atkins Museum, the

Plaza Tennis Center, the National World War 1 Museum, UMKC and Rockhurst University. Within 2 miles is the American Jazz Museum, the Negro League Baseball Museum, Crown Center and the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts. Finally, within 3 miles are the Sprint Center and the Power & Light Entertainment District.

And the best part? 816 Hotel offers free shuttle service to all of these attractions and everything in between. Once you check in, you can hide your car keys because you won't need them! All in all, KC's 816 Hotel is one of the most Unique lodging experiences you will ever have.



Get more for your money by shopping local

Many times you will find that dealing with locally-owned businesses will benefit you, as well as the community.

Jim Driggers, owner of The Computer Store, says he offers quick turn-around time on your computer repairs and the most experienced technicians in Topeka. Most big-box stores send your computer out of town for repairs, and you never even get a chance to talk directly to the technician doing the work on your computer.

"It's the difference between getting your computer back in a few days by us or a few weeks!" Driggers said.

If you need a new computer, The Computer Store will build one for you, with a warrantee, and it will be serviced locally in the store if ever necessary. They have used computers and laptops for sale also.

The Computer Store now also repairs all mobile devices like cell phones, tablets and iPads, including damaged screens. Driggers said the new service is available at a very reasonable price, and has been very well received.

The Computer Store has been in business since 1999, and is located at 21st and Gage in Seabrook Center. You



can reach them by phone at 785-267-3223, or visit their website online at www.thecomputerstoreks.com.

The Computer Store is a member of the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce, the Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce and the Topeka Independent Business Association.



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The Area's Most Complete guide to the Events and Concerts You Want to See!

the events calendar

FREE LISTINGS! E-mail your events to: Voice@cox.net; mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; or fax to 785-235-3340

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.

THE BERRYTON PICKERS - First Sat. of ea. month, 7-9pm, Berryton Baptist Church. Bring snacks & have fun

YOUNG CHRISTIAN'S WEEKEND 2016 - Apr. 1-3. Silver Dollar City, Branson, MO. Groups include: The Neverclaim, Skillet, Flame, and Kutless. The Ultimate 3-day youth event including live bands, powerful workshops, national speakers and some of the world's greatest thrill rides.

TIM HAWKINS LIVE - Apr. 3, 6:30pm. First Baptist Raytown, 10500 E 350 Hwy, Raytown, MO. 816-353-1994.

MUSIC... JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED - Apr. 3, 3pm, First United Methodist Church, 600 SW Topeka Blvd. No admission charge. A free will offering will benefit low-income uninsured residents of Shawnee County.

SANDI PATTY- THE FAREWELL TOUR. Apr. 7, 7pm, First

Baptist Raytown, 10500 E 350 Hwy, Raytown, MO. 816-353-1994.

WASHBURN'S JAZZ JAM - Apr. 20, 7pm, The Break room, 911 S Kansas

HOME FREE - Apr. 22, 7:30pm-10:30pm, TPAC. The winners of season four of "The Sing Off!" 785.234.2787 www.tpactix.org

CARMEN - Apr. 23-May 1, 7:30pm Wed, Fri & Sat; 2pm Sun. Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, 1601 Broadway Blvd., KCMO. 816-471-4933.

SHAREFEST CELEBRATION CONCERT w/ CLOVERTON - Apr. 30, 11-3, 800 block Kansas Ave. Celebrate downtown with vendors & food trucks present. Clovertown performs at 1pm. Free event

BLUE MAN GROUP - Apr. 28, 7:30pm, TPAC. Comedy, theater, rock concert, dance party all rolled into one.

SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

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

FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET - First Saturday of every month, 7:30-10am. Shawnee Heights United Methodist Church. Free will offering.

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 Menkveld - which is in turn followed at noon by The Hope House FREE Community Food & Clothing Banks.

BINGO AT FAIRLAWN HEIGHTS ASSISTED LIVING - 3pm, 1st Sat. of ea. month. Facilitator: Pastor Carole

SPIRITUAL PAUSE - Every Wed., 12-12:30pm, Carole Chapel at Washburn Univ. Informal worship service. 785-233-1844

LIFEFEAST - First Thu. 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 lunch at noon. If transportation is needed, call 354-4994 or 478-1729

GARAGE SALE - Apr. 2, 7am-noon, First Christian Church, 1880 SW Gage, (enter form 19th and Stone Lot). Seekers Garage Sale, something for everyone; no clothes.

LADY LASSITER DAY - Apr. 3, 4 pm, 1162 SW Lincoln. Annual event honoring Co-Pastor, Lady Sandra K. Lassiter, Sr. For info: 235-1834

COMMUNITY DINNER - Apr. 6. Tecumseh UMC. Carry-out available. Proceeds to help build a new shelter house in Tecumseh Park.

BARGAIN FAIR 2016 - Apr. 22, 8am-5pm & Apr. 23 8am-12pm. St. John A.M.E. Church, 701 SW Topeka Blvd. 30th year of great bargains and prices. Lunch also available 11am-2pm.

PRICILLA SHIRER SIMULCAST - Apr. 23, 9am-4:30pm. Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. \$15 through Apr. 3, \$20 beginning Apr. 4. Cost includes a lunch. Cash coffee bar also available. For info: 286-1204

SMORGASBORD FOR MISSIONS - Apr. 26, 5-7pm. St. John's Lutheran Church, 901 SW Filmore. Adults \$10, Children 6-12 \$4. Chicken, ham, BBQ meatballs, and more.

CROSSROADS RODEO BIBLE CAMP - Jul. 8-11 & 12-16, Leavenworth Co. Fairgrounds, Tonganoxie, Ks. Grades 5-8: Jul 8-11; Grades 9-12: Jul 12-16. Camp activities: meals & snacks, skill building, music, Bible study, rodeo participation. Register at CrossroadsCowboyChurch.net. Facebook: Crossroads Rodeo Bible Camp. For info: C3RBC@yahoo.com.

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

TOPEKA LITERACY COUNCIL VOLUNTEER TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOP - Apr. 2 & 9, 9am-4:45pm, Doorstep Building, 1119 SW 10th Ave. Tutors work with individuals who want to improve their reading and writing skills. Cost: \$25 (workshop materials). Information and registration by Friday, March 25: 785-234-2806 or topekalliteracy@juno.com

OUTPOUR - 2016 HOLY GHOST REVIVAL - Apr. 6-10, Faith Temple Church. 1162 SW Lincoln. Thu. & Fri. 7pm, Sat. 10am-12 & Sun. 11am. Speakers: Herman Murray, Jr.; Jack C. Vaughn; Angela Cummings; George Westlake, Jr. Revival Hosts: Pastor R.K. & First Lady Chantel Lassiter, Jr., and Bishop R.K. & Lady Sandra K. Lassiter, Sr. For info: 969-4090 or 213-7111

EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE - Apr. 8 & 9, 9am-5pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Two-day conference for adoptive & foster parents, ministry leaders, social workers, agency professionals, church staff & ministry leaders, counselors, teachers, & therapists, designed to help them connect with children from hard places. Also a great tool for any parent struggling with their child & any professional who is familiar with trauma informed care. Up to 11 CEU credits available for licensed professionals for \$25. Attendance certificates provided to all others who attend for free. No childcare. Register: lifelinechild.org/event/etc2016/. Info (785) 783-4577, lifelinechild.org/event/etc2016/, angela.beemer@lifelinechild.org

MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS - Apr. 12 & 26, 6:30pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all of its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare as well as those considering making a change during open enrollment. Seminars will be held at Century Health Solutions, a division of Stormont-Vail Healthcare, 2951 SW Woodside Dr. Information: 233-1816 or info@century-health.com. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

REFRESH LEADERSHIP SIMULCAST - Apr. 13, Ramada Downtown Convention Center, 420 SE 6th St. Featuring

Marshall Goldsmith, Author, Professor, and Executive Coach; Shaquille "Shaq" O'Neal, Television Sports Analyst and 15-time NBA All-Star; Kaplan Mobray, Author, Motivational Speaker, and Career Consultant. Free Admission. For more information on this event, contact Diana Ramirez at (785) 267-2773 or diana.ramirez@expresspros.com

BLUE RIBBON ACADEMY - LUNCH & LEARN - Apr. 26, GO TOPEKA, 120 SE 6th Ave. Marketing to Millennials. Millennials are the new workforce of professionals. Understand how this generation makes buying decisions and what catches their attention to build new business partnerships. Presenter is Alissa Menke, jhP, Vice President Digital Innovation

FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

MEDICARE MONDAYS - First Mon. of ea. month, 1-3pm. Topeka/Sh. Co. Public Library (Menninger Rm 206), 1515 SW 10th. Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or nhonl@tsctl.org

SHAWNEE SWINGERS SQUARE DANCE LESSONS - Mondays 7pm, Croco Hall. Call Don at (785) 966-2765

WOW - WORKIN' OUT ON WEDNESDAYS - 5:30 pm every Wed., south steps of the Capitol building. Free, fun and family-friendly. A combination of aerobic & strength training exercises, coupled with a fun line dance to end each experience. www.makinmoves.com

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

COUNTRY AND BALLROOM DANCING - Thursday's 6-9pm. Croco Hall. Info: Edwina 379-9538 or 478-4760.

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

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

TOPEKA FOLK DANCERS CLASSES - Sat. nights, 7-9:30pm, 2637 SE 41st St. Dances from 20 countries. No partners or experience necessary. No fee. 215-0968

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

DA VINCI: THE EXHIBITION. Through May 1. Tue-Thu, 10am-5pm; Fri-Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, 12-5pm. Union Station, 30 W. Pershing Rd., KCMO. Featuring more than 65 fully built life-size inventions, more than 20 fine art studies and dozens of stunning displays, guests will learn the complex beginnings and lifetime achievements of Da Vinci through his discoveries in art, engineering, light, hydraulics, music, light and more.

CENTERSHOT ARCHERY - Thursdays, Mar. 3 - April 28, 6 PM - 7:30 PM, Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene, 3501 SW Wanamaker Rd. Centershot teaches students the life-skill of archery while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ at the same time. \$20/per person. Contact: Marty DeVader 785-410-1089, marty@ontargetforchrist.net

ANNUAL TULIP TIME FESTIVAL - Mar. 30 - Apr. 10. Over 100,000 tulips & daffodils in bloom at three locations: Old Prairie Town at Historic Ward-Meade Site, 124 NW Fillmore; Ted Ensley Gardens at Lake Shawnee, SE 37th and West Edge Rd; Doran Rock Garden at Gage Park, 601 SW Gage Blvd; and Downtown Topeka. For group tours & other info: 234-1030

CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOR CENTER GARAGE SALE. Mar. 31 & Apr. 1, 8am-4pm. 107 SW 14th St. For info: 215-7505

PAWS IN THE PARK - Apr. 2, 10am at Topeka West High School. Helping Hands Humane Society is celebrating 20 years of Paws in the Park. To register, call Justin Brokat at (785) 233-7325.

KIWANIS CLUB PANCAKE FEED SILENT AUCTION AND PLANT SALE - Apr. 2, 7am-12pm. Berryton United Methodist Church.

Living to TELL



LifeCare Center
of Ottawa
presents

Abortion Survivor

Melissa Ohden

during our annual banquet

April 30, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Ottawa University
Gangwish Library
Schendel Conference Center
1001 South Cedar Street • Ottawa, Kansas

For more information, call
785-242-4500

Tickets are available for \$15 through Friday, April 15.
Order online at www.lifecarecenter.org/events.

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. 14, 11:30-1, at The Peak, 1920 SW Gage, featuring The Wrights Gospel Music & Ministry! RSVP now to info@C5Alive.org!**
- **May 12, 11:30-1, at Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor (at Lyman St.) Featured Speaker: Cory Walker**
- **June 9, 11:30-1, details TBA**
- **July 14, 11:30-1, details TBA**

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/C5Alive

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

The 70th Annual Capital City Chorus Show

Across the Pond

Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 3:00 pm

FEATURING:

- Capital City Barbershop Chorus
- Washburn Rural High School Quartets
- Young at Heart
- Other local Quartets

SPECIAL GUESTS

HARMONTUM
— A NEW ELEMENT OF SOUND —

Proceeds Benefit
Topeka Rescue Mission

For tickets & info call 273-9514 or 286-0618

Fairlawn Church of the Nazarene
730 SW Fairlawn • Topeka, KS 66606

AUBURN LIONS CLUB'S FUN DAY – Apr. 2, 9am-9pm. Auburn Civic Center. Scrap booking, card making, and other crafts. \$40. For info: marycatkeeper@gmail.com

WEAR BLUE FOR KIDS DAY – Apr. 8. Employers are encouraged to allow employees to purchase a day (or multiple days) in April to wear jeans for \$5, and, as a business, donate the money (and perhaps match it) to LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center. 232-5433 for info.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER – Apr. 9, 4:30-8:30pm, First Christian Church, 1880 SW Gage. Ham and beans feed & silent auction \$7 for adults, children 10 & under free. 272-4550.

ADVENTURE'S IN LEARNING- SPRING SESSION – Apr. 8, 15, 22 & 29, 9am-12, Lowman United Methodist Church, 4101 SW 15th St. 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: 249-3258 or shepherdscentertopeka.org

8TH ANNUAL HERITAGE CHRISTIAN 5K RUN/WALK AND PANCAKE FEED – Apr. 9, Crestview Community Ctr. Shunga Trail, 4801 SW Shunga Drive. 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. To register: 286-0427

WALK MS TOPEKA – Apr. 9, 9 am, Lake Shawnee Shelterhouse # 1. Look for facebook event page for details.

SMALL BUSINESS LEGAL ISSUES WORKSHOP – Apr. 13, 6-8pm. Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. Free. For info: 234-3235

RANDOLPH COLOR-A-THON 5K RUN/3K WALK – Apr. 16, 9:20am. 1700 SW College. \$30 per person. Includes white t-shirt and color packet. Runners will get hit with color blasts throughout the race and there will be a color blast party at the end of the race with music and big blasts of color. For Info: 357-1949

BALLET MIDWEST'S SLEEPING BEAUTY– April 16, 8pm & 17, 3pm at TPAC. Two performances featuring talented, local dancers. Tickets available through Barbara's Conservatory of Dance, TPAC Box Office, & Ticketmaster.

WALK FOR THE SON – Apr. 16, 10am, Jones Park Pathway, 500 E. Santa Fe Trail, Overbrook. \$20 pre-registration fee. \$25 at event registration. \$10 per lap sponsored donation (Min of 1 \$10 sponsored donation. 1st Annual Christian Motorcyclists Association/Prairie Fire Riders WALKATHON. All proceeds go toward CMA Run for the SON. 231-4376, <http://pfr2016.wix.com/prairiefireriders>. laharger@mchsi.com

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM BLINTZE BRUNCH – Apr. 17, 9am-1:30. 4200 Munson. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Traditional Jewish food & music, silent auction, bake sale, and prize drawings. For info: 272-6040 or office@tbtstopeka.org

TULIP TIME FESTIVAL DAY – Apr. 17, 10-4, Ted Ensley Gardens, SE 37th and West Edge Rd. Over 50,000 blooms, car show, food trucks, entertainment, gardening & photography classes, guided tour and more.

MARGARITAVILLE FUNDRAISING GALA – Apr. 22, 5:30pm, Great Overland Station – dinner, dance and live auction. RSVP 232-5533 or shouse@greatoverlandstation.com

HOMESTEAD OF AUBURN CAR SHOW – Apr. 23, 11am-2pm. 280 E Valley Springs Dr. Auburn. Free to public. Lunch available. For info: 256-7100

OVERBROOK CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES – April 23:

ARTY PARTY: MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM – Apr. 23, 7-11pm, Dillon House, 404 SW 9th. An evening that celebrates one of Shakespeare's most loved works – with dancing, costumes (not required, but encouraged and rewarded), games and more.

4TH ANNUAL BRIDGE2BRIDGE 5K RUN/WALK – Apr. 23, downtown Topeka. Traverse sidewalks, streets, bridges in this urban experience. Course is USATF certified. 8 age categories. All ages welcome. See Bridge2Bridge 5K - 2016 facebook event page.

STAR TREK 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT TOUR – Apr. 24, 3pm, TPAC. Experience the wildly popular musical achievements performed by the Czech National Symphony Orchestra while the most iconic Star Trek film and TV footage is beamed in high definition to a 40-foot wide screen.

DECISION AMERICA TOUR – Apr. 28, 12-1pm. Franklin Graham will speak on the south steps of the Kansas Capitol building.

VIP OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION – Apr. 29, 6:30pm, Jayhawk State Theatre, 720 S Jackson. Taking Tea with the Ripper & The Hours of Anne

CAPITAL CITY CARNAGE DEMO DERBY – Apr. 29-30, Landon Arena @ Kansas Expocentre. The largest paying demolition derby in the US, with the winner taking home \$30,000! This 2-day arena event features the best drivers and car builders in the country.

BATTLE FROG OBSTACLE COURSE – Apr. 30, Heartland Park Topeka, 7530 SW Topeka Blvd. One of the fastest growing obstacle course racing series, known for its challenging endurance events. The 630 acre Heartland Park facility has natural terrain with ground elevation, wooded sections, a pond, and streams that provide all

of the elements to make the obstacle course fun for participants. For info & to register: www.battlefrogseries.com.

YOUTH FOR CHRIST GOLF CLASSIC – May 2, 11:30 reg., 12:30 shotgun start, Lake Shawnee. Several sponsorship levels available. 232-8296 or topekayfc.org

SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR – May 5, 10-2., Fairlawn Plaza Mall. Meet with professionals to learn about senior living options and care choices. Register to win gift cards. Free. Sponsored by Topeka Area Continuity of Care.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK – May 5, 10-11:30am, Blaisdell Pool Parking Lot at Gage Park. Preschoolers age 3-5 can climb on, play in and honk the horns of various vehicles. Free event. 251-2960

20TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION WALK – May 13, 6pm, Midland Care's campus at 200 SW Frazier Circle. The Celebration Walk is held one evening each year to honor loved ones who have been lost. Hundreds of local families attend annually to participate in free children's activities, enjoy live music and release butterflies in memory of loved ones. The event is known for the thousands of luminaries lit at dusk across Midland Care's 22-acre campus

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PLANNING MEETING, May 18, 6:30pm, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th. Registration is open to any neighborhood in Shawnee County. Call 266.4606 or email jwilson@safestreets.org for info.

TIBA GOLF CHALLENGE – May 20, 1:00pm shotgun, Shawnee Country Club/GreatLife. Four-person scramble, registration at noon. \$65 per player includes lunch, drinks, gift bag. Sponsorships available. Call 272-5280 or email maci@maci-mag.com

NHRA KANSAS NATIONALS – May 20-22, 10am, Heartland Park Topeka, 7530 SW Topeka Blvd. The 28th annual event is at one of the quickest and fastest drag strips in the world. The 330-mph speed and excitement of the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series returns to Kansas' capital city. For tickets & info: nhra.com/tickets. E-mail adresult@aol.com

FAMILY FITNESS GREAT RACE – May 21, 1-3pm, Hillcrest Community Center, 1800 SE 21st Street. Families spend quality time and get fit in this race around the city. Age: 10+. Fee: \$50 per family. 251-2956

MEETINGS & CLASSES

C5aive "POWER" LUNCHEON – Apr. 14, 11:30am-1pm, at The Peak at First Southern Baptist Church on April 14th. This month's Christian Chamber of Commerce luncheon will feature The Wright's ministry & music.

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

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

- Please RSVP to info@C5Aive.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!

TOPEKA WOMEN'S CONNECTION "Spruce up for Spring" LUNCHEON – Apr. 7, 11:30am, T&SC Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. Lunch is \$14.00, no charge for program only.. RSVPs by Apr. 1 to Ann at 554-3617. **SPEAKER:** Laura Gonnella, Dawson, Nebraska, will speak on "It's All In The Timing". She is a former travel agent and mother of three teenagers. She lives on a hobby farm with an orchard with her husband Mark. **MUSIC:** Pam Layden, who majored in voice in college, will use her beautiful voice to sing for us. **FEATURE:** Jessie Borjon will share The Red Door Home Store's unique styles of rustic traditional home accents, furniture, spring floral arrangements and seasonal items.

SATURDAY WOMEN'S CONNECTION "CREATIVE LUNCHEON" – Apr. 9, 11am, T&SC Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. \$14 for lunch, no charge for program. Open to all women. RSVPs by Apr. 4 to Arlene, 233-0701 or email Leidacloud@cox.net. **Business Feature:** Kymm Ledbetter, owner of Prairie Glass Studio shows her specialty of fusible glass to create unique pieces of art & jewelry. **Music:** Margo Stewart, creative musician gifted with a beautiful alto voice. **Speaker:** Laura Gonnella, Dawson, NE. Laura looks back at her life and sees It's all in the timing. She is a former travel agent, married, & a busy mom of three teenagers. The Gonnellas manage a 40 acre Hobby Farm.

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

THE HEAT – Free fitness classes; learn and build healthy social & eating habits. Held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4746 SW 21st St. Sun. - 4-5pm Yoga; Mon. - 12-12:45pm Zumba; 5:30-6:15pm Kickboxing; 6:15-7pm Pilates Fusion; Tue. - 12-12:45pm Yoga; 5:30-6:15pm Zumba; 6:15-7pm Cardio Interval; Wed. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Thu. - 12-12:45pm Pilates; 5:30-6:15pm Cardio Interval - Low intensity; 6:15-7:00pm Cardio Interval - Moderate

intensity; Fri. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Sat. - 8-8:45am Kickboxing

TOPEKA TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB – 3rd Sun. of each month, 7pm, Papan's Landing Senior Center, 618 NW Paramore St. Family Memberships include children & grandchildren up to 18 yrs. A place to meet friends to discuss all aspects of Metal Detecting, club business, plus socializing & entertainment.

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.

BOYS TRAIL LIFE & AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS TROUPS – Every Mon. 6pm, Cornerstone Comm. Ch, 7620 SW 21st. Faith-based scouting programs age 5-18. Register at cornerstonetopeka.com. 478-2929.

INNOVATIVE NETWORKING GROUP OF TOPEKA – every other Wed. 11:20am - 12:30pm. www.INGTopeka.com - go to Event page to see meetings, locations & register

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.topekatabia.org

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

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. Committed to being alcohol & drug free. Associate with like-minded peers, plan activities & get involved in the community. Youth ages 12-18 invited.266-4606.

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

KC TRAUMA AND PTSD SUPPORT GROUP – Every Tue. 10am and Thu. 6:30pm. Call Denise at 816-885-9530

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.

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 ourladyofthefairthful@gmail.com. Facebook: "Ourladyof the Faithful."

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

MENNINGER BIBLE CLASSES – Tuesdays starting Mar. 15, Noon -1pm. Amerus Room, YWCA, 225 West 12th. A new study group for Year One of Flo Menninger's course on Four Years through the Bible. Read and discuss Genesis through First Kings. Nominal charge for materials. For info call the YWCA at 233-1750 or Clara Gamache at 785-408-5433.

O.W.L.S. (Older Wise Loving Saints) - meets the second Tuesday of the month. Location varies and can be found at www.faithfamilylife.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–3pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th Street (east door). Anyone with an Embroidery machine is invited to attend, there are no dues or formal meeting agenda. Lunch is on your own. Teach each other, enjoy fellowship & complete projects. Call 379-5159.

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.

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

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

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.

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 tgstopeka.org.

KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP – 3rd Thu., 11:30am, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Christian financial professionals: financial planners, accountants, attorney's & insurance agents invited. 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 fostem60@yahoo.com.

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) -- Every Fri. 8:30 to 10:00 am at 3221 SW Burlingame Road. 800-932-8677. Support for your weight loss journey. tops.org

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.Free blood pressure checks the last Friday of every month, and birthday celebrations the 4th Friday. For Info: 286-1370.

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA MEETING – First Fri. of month, 6:30pm, 2523 SE Indiana Ave. Join other concerned individuals to pray and unite in action for Shawnee County and our Nation. To find out more about CWA go to ks.cwfa.org. 785-861-0422

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: Anne, 272-9249 or kittens812@att.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; biblequizzier.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.

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 – 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 Reent 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 pack-et. 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 topekaalanon.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 hruh@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

GRIEF SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES – Sponsored by Heartland Hospice for those dealing with death or major loss: 1st Mon., 5:30-7:30pm, Individual appoint-



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ments; 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.

NAMI TOPEKA — Every 2nd Tue., 6-4:55pm, 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.

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP - First Tue. each month at St. Francis Health, 1700 SW 7th St, Meeting Room, 2nd floor, 6-7:30pm. Anyone with an ostomy may attend. The goal is to provide education and ongoing support for individuals with an ostomy. Contact Teresa Kellerman at 785-295-5555 for info.

GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp, 1700 SW 7th. 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 — (For updates check www.divorcecare.org) Locations and times:

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. (just East of 37th & Croco). Cost: \$10 registration (scholarships available). The video seminar series featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on divorce and recovery topics, combined with support group discussion of the materials. Complimentary child care children up to the fifth grade. Info: 266-7550 or walnutviewcc@att.net. Contact: Pastor Thornton.

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.

New Kansas Law Allows Faith College Groups To Restrict Members To 'Like-Minded' Believers

By Julie Brown Patton | gospelherald.com

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback signed legislation that will protect religious groups on college campuses from being punished by their schools for limiting membership to like-minded believers, Tuesday, March 22, 2016, at the Statehouse in Topeka, Kan.

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback signed SB 175 legislation March 22, a bill which prohibits colleges and universities from denying religious student groups benefits available to other student organizations. The bill allows faith-based groups at college campuses to restrict membership to "like-minded" people. The new law takes effect July 1, and will prevent public colleges and universities in the state from denying funds or campus resources to religious groups that limit their memberships.

Kansas already has a religious objections law that prevents state or local governments from limiting people's freedom to express their religion, however that law doesn't address university organizations. This week, Kansas became the second state after Oklahoma to have a college-specific law.

Supporters said the bill was a victory for the freedom to exercise religious beliefs, but opponents called it a veiled attempt to legalize discrimination.

"This is very good, narrow, targeted piece of legislation that will serve the betterment of our college campuses," said the conservative Republican Brownback. He said the campus religious groups are "building blocks of society."

"Religious liberty is a part of the essence of who we are as a nation and state," Brownback said. "At our founding, people coming to the United States came here seeking religious liberty. I'm pleased to sign SB 175 today, the Campus Religious Freedom Bill, ensuring that college students can also enjoy this bedrock American principle."

Critics of the bill argue it is broader than its supporters acknowledge, and will, in effect, force minority students and their parents to support groups that would actively discriminate against them. They said the new law will sanction discrimination not only against gays and lesbians, but discrimination

based on race, gender, ethnicity or disabilities.

"It is a sad and shameful day when the Legislature chooses to stand on the side of providing taxpayer funds to promote discrimination," said Micah Kubic, executive director of American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas. The American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas is considering a legal challenge "very seriously," said Kubic.



"It's a step backward to a time when government was actively enabling discrimination against people based on who they are," she said.

"SB 175 is not just a benign tool to help religious groups ensure that they are made up of co-believers. Its innocuous-sounding language instead creates a new, special right for religious groups to be publicly funded while they discriminate against anyone, they choose. The possibility of discrimination isn't speculative. Religious belief has frequently inspired struggles against discrimination, but on occasion has also been used to justify it. Through SB 175, even the most notorious hate groups would have an irrevocable right to taxpayer funding, provided they cited a religious belief."

The new law reportedly stems from a few on-campus incidents in Kansas and other states, including a lawsuit filed by a Christian group after Washburn University said the group couldn't require student members to recognize the Bible, not the Book of Mormon, as the word of God. The issue emerged after a Mormon student at the Topeka school was forbidden from leading the group's Bible study.

Opponents of the new law have said it could risk the loss of federal grant money, and state dollars would be wasted defending it in court.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling originated from a California incident. The Christian Legal Society at the University of California-Hastings College of Law was refused recognition and funding after it required all members to sign a form saying they would abstain from premarital or same-sex sexual conduct. In a 5-4 decision, the high court backed the university's right to do so.

The debate in Kansas follows public arguments and religious objections' laws in Indiana and Arkansas.

Staff writers at Metro Voice contributed to this report.

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Runners and walkers are invited to participate in our **8th 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
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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.

entertainment

MOVIES, BOOKS, MUSIC & MORE!

Long-awaited sequel resonates with many demographics

entertainment

 by **Kate Forbes**

My Big Fat Greek Wedding first hit theaters in 2002. Now, 14 years later, we have finally been given a sequel that was more than worth the wait. Fans of the first movie will absolutely love the sequel that revives enough of the old jokes to give it a nostalgic feel, but supplies enough fresh material to make it original.

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 is a heartwarming, hilarious film that made me laugh until my side hurt, but also pause and reflect on my own family life. In this film, Toula (Nia Vardalos) and Ian's (John Corbett) grown-up daughter Paris (Elena Kampouris) is struggling with a very important life decision: where to go to college. The Portokalos family's usual crazy antics keep the audience laughing, but I think that Paris' struggle will resonate with high school and college students. Being a college stu-

film411

MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2
STARS: Nia Vardalos, John Corbett, Elena Kampouri, Michael Constantine
WRITERS: Nia Vardalos
DIRECTOR: Kirk Jones
RATED: PG-13

dent who moved halfway across the country and away from my family for school, I very much understood what Paris was going through. Throughout the film, she is pulled in two different directions, wanting to move away and be an independent woman but also wanting to please her family and stay close to home.

Having said that, I feel that this movie will also resonate with married couples. The movie places a lot of emphasis on the sacredness of marriage. Gus Portokalos, Toula's father, describes marriage in this way, "You walk through life

seeing your shadow as two people." Marriage is for better and for worse, which Gus and his wife Maria learn and put into practice throughout the film.

A third group that I believe will connect with the characters in the movie are empty-nesters. Every parent either has or will have to go through the loss of their child to the world as they leave for school and become more and more independent. It is no different for Toula and Ian as Paris gets ready to leave for college and they have to rediscover what their



marriage means
without
adding a

child to the equation. Aunt Voula tells Toula to remember that she was a girlfriend before she was a mother, which is good advice for married couples that fall into this category and are living in a house that is empty of kids for maybe the first time in their married lives. I believe that no matter what stage of life you are in, you will be able to connect with and understand the plights of the different characters as they struggle to understand what being a family really means.

While I thoroughly enjoyed this movie and appreciated a lot of the family values, I would strongly recommend taking the PG-13 rating seriously. My two youngest sisters are 14 and 12, and I

would not take either of them to see it. The humor is definitely geared more toward adults than young teenagers. Another concern that I have is how the subject of homosexuality was treated in the film. Toward the end of the movie, one of the characters is revealed to be homosexual. This is a minor addition to the film and added nothing to the plot. In my opinion, the writers may have included this issue in an attempt to cater to what is rapidly becoming a societal norm. Seeing as it had little to no impact on the plot, I believe it is easily ignored and was nothing more than a movie trying to fit in with its modern competitors.

Overall, I would highly recommend this sequel. Whether you have a very large, boisterous (perhaps Greek?) family or a small, tight knit group of relatives, this film will make you appreciate the meaning of family and always being there for the people you love.

—Review by Kate Forbes, is a college student and Metro Voice contributing writer.

A thriller in the style of Hitchcock

10 Cloverfield Lane
has audiences
guessing on the
edge of their seats

entertainment

 by **Pluggedin**

Doomsday shelters are like vacations: It sure is nice to share them with someone.

Howard's shelter is as cozy and comfortable as an apocalyptic abode can be—a last-resort resort, if you will. It's got a jukebox, board games and a fully functioning kitchen. Water runs from the faucets. The lights work. The air filtration system hums quietly in the background. Howard knew the day would come when his shelter would be the envy of the masses. A place where people would die—or kill—to live in.

Now, he knows, that day is here. And while he can't say exactly what brought on the end of the world—whether a military attack, an alien

film411

10 CLOVERFIELD LANE
STARS: John Goodman, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, John Gallagher Jr.
WRITERS: Josh Campbell, Matthew Stuecken, Damien Chazelle
DIRECTOR: Dan Trachtenberg

invasion or a natural catastrophe—there's no question that it has come. The world outside these walls (his walls) is dead or dying.

"As of Friday, kindness and generosity are antiquated customs."

That's what he says.

But he couldn't leave Michelle out on the road to die, could he? Of course not. When he saw her there, unconscious in her wrecked car, he had to pull her out and take her home—even with the Four Horsemen bearing down on him. And so he did.

It's sad to him, then, that as he patiently explains to Michelle how he saved her life—how she owes him, literally, everything—she just sits on her mattress on the floor, staring at him as if he was the bad

guy. Granted, her new bedroom is a little rough, what with its cinder block walls and heavy metal door that locks from the outside. And, yes, she's chained to the wall. But that's only temporary, he tells her. For her own safety.

"What are you going to do with me?" Michelle asks.

"I'm going to keep you alive," Howard tells her. He throws her the key to her shackles and walks out, shutting and locking the heavy door behind him.

And Michelle is left to wonder which poses the gravest danger: the world outside ... or the world within.

Michelle and Howard have company in this doomsday shelter: Emmett, the young man who helped Howard build the thing. And over the days and weeks that follow, he and Michelle develop a strong friendship—one that eventually forces one of them to offer up the ultimate sacrifice.

While Emmett seems like a pretty all-around good guy from the get-go, Michelle grows during the course of her confinement. Before she showed up in Howard's bunker, she tended to run away from problems; by the time 10 Cloverfield Lane wraps, she's able to stand up—both literally and metaphorically—to the dangers that surround her.

Those dangers are all around and we're left wondering in what shape they emerge. Is it a Biblical or human danger? Emmett speaks of seeing strange lights outside that, he believes, suggest the end of the world. "Like something you



read about in the Bible," he said. And Howard insists that his elaborate bunker doesn't make him crazy. "Crazy is building your ark after the flood has already come," he says.

Fear is the common denominator that brought Howard, Michelle and Emmett together in the tiny doomsday bunker at 10 Cloverfield Lane.

Fear drove Michelle out of her apartment and away from her husband. "We had a fight. Normal couples fight," the man tells her over the phone. But instead of dealing with the aftermath and trying to correct whatever was wrong, she fled.

And, of course, it was the fear of a worldwide cataclysm that inspired Howard to build the bunker in the first place.

10 Cloverfield Lane plays on our fears, too—the fear of the unknown, right along with the terror of what we know all too well. This is a horror movie, both intimate and sprawling in scope. And

as a horror movie, it works. It works too well, perhaps.

And in doing so it proves two important points:

First, you don't need a lot of explicit content to make a grip-the-armrest-'til-your-knuckles-turn-white kind of movie. It pulls you in because of the way it feels more than what it shows. There's nothing inherently problematic about seeing a vat of acid or a scratched word on a window, after all. It's what these images suggest—what they threaten—that digs at us.

Second, it reminds us that an entertainment's problematic content isn't always the easy-to-decipher litmus test we might like it to be.

10 Cloverfield Lane has less actual violent content than your average superhero movie. But while I know lots of parents who wouldn't blink at taking their 10-year-olds to see an Iron Man movie psychological terror is another story entirely.

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THE AFTERS, CHRIS AUGUST COMING

The Afters (Fair Trade Services), Chris August (Word Entertainment), Unspoken (Centricity Music), and Among The Thirsty (BEC Recordings) are returning to the Kansas City area with the second leg of their TIME OF MY LIFE TOUR, presented by Compassion International.

Following the success of their 22-city tour last fall, the artists have decided to continue their tour and stop through here on the way. The tour will be stopping at more than 26 markets across the country. April 16, the tour will be stopping at Word of Life Church in St. Joseph, Mo.

Metro Voice recently got a chance to visit with The Afters' lead singer, Josh Havens, and chat about the TIME OF MY LIFE TOUR, growing up with tour-mate Chris August, and their newest release, live on forever.

"We had been on this tour since last September, with the same lineup,"



Havens said, "we decided we needed to keep it going for a while longer."

Havens said the artists have all had a good rapport with each other and respect what each of them is doing. He also said the variety of music genres has made for a great listening experience.

"We're friends with all these artists," he continued, noting their styles are "very diverse." Though Among the Thirsty are signed with BEC Recordings, largely known for their hard rock and heavy metal artists, these guys perform a beautiful acoustic show on the tour, which



presents a lighter side to the more upbeat and energetic performances by The Afters and Chris August.

Havens notes his band and Chris August go way back, all of them living and performing in the same part of Texas." They often had performances together and got to know each other on a personal level, eventually getting the

same management to represent them.

This is the first time since their early days they have all gotten to tour together, though it's been something they've all talked about for a long time.

As for their new record, Live On Forever?

"This is my favorite music," he said with enthusiasm, "So excited with how

it's turned out. Fans can also see our new music video, Glimpse of Heaven, on Youtube."

The TIME OF MY LIFE TOUR is presented by Compassion International (www.compassion.com), the world's leading authority in child sponsorship.

"We partnered with [Compassion International] to give the tour a greater purpose," he said, noting they have sponsored "hundreds and hundreds of kids" throughout the world.

Compassion International transformed the fight against global poverty by equipping the Church to develop children out of poverty to and encouraging them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

The tour will be stopping and performing at Word of Life Church, 3902 North Riverside Road, in St. Joseph, , on Saturday, April 16.

For more info, please visit www.itickets.com, or the band's websites.

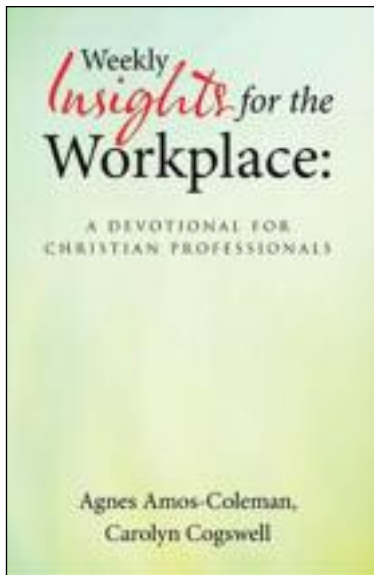
bookshelf

Topeka Metro Voice contributor is co-author

A new devotional is now available that is focused on insights for the workplace, and is in fact called "Weekly Insights for the Workplace: A Devotional for Christian Professionals. This 52-week devotional has been designed for employed, unemployed persons, business owners, those in transition and anyone seeking a spiritual pathway in their career journey and desire to use their talent to glorify God.

As professionals, many times we tend to break our lives up into weeks, rather than days. Because of this, having one devotion a week for meditation tends to simplify our lives as we consider each work week ahead of us. Based on weekly affirmations that build boldness and confidence, the devotions draw on the word of God for edification and comfort and for strength for the soul.

New devotional now available online with free preview



In addition to the devotions, the volume contains a section on how to find God's will in your career, along with

seven spiritual tips and prayers for your career journey.

"Our Christian faith can't be left for Sunday use only, yet the pressure in many working environments does not permit thoughts of much other than the immediate tasks being faced. So I welcome this Devotional, which focuses on the Christian in the workplace. A good starting point would be to read each week's Devotional on Monday at breakfast, on the journey to work, or during morning coffee time, and so set one's thoughts on an aspect of Christian living and work for the week ahead."

"It isn't always wise or possible to try to discuss one's faith with colleagues while at work, but I still recall the witness of a Christian who worked in the same factory as me many years ago. His work brought him into contact with people of all levels and responsibilities. Everyone spoke well of him. His clear

Christian witness was in the way he did his job. As you read this Devotional each week I pray that you may, 'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father in heaven' (Matthew 5:16, NIKV)."

— John Wedlake, (Retired), Board Member Christian in Communication, England, United Kingdom.

One of the authors, Agnes Amos-Coleman, has been a business professional in the field of training, events, and marketing for more than twenty years. She holds an executive MBA from the University of Hull, United Kingdom.

She is also the Founder and CEO of Fellowship of Global Christian Job Seekers, a not-for-profit association dedicated to serving Christians all over the world who are unemployed or in transition, by sharing the message of hope and encouragement through

uplifting news reports and motivational stories from around the world.

The devotional is co-authored by Dr. Carolyn Cogswell. Cogswell has been involved in the ministry of praise and worship for more than thirty years and is a staff writer for Justin Peters, Songs For The Planet, Nashville, Tenn. She has a master's degree in family relations and child development with an emphasis in family studies from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, and a Ph. D. in human ecology with an emphasis in child development from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She has worked as an educator and a journalist, and currently writes news, features, and music reviews for the Topeka Metro Voice, a publication celebrating faith, family, and community in northeast Kansas.

The devotional is available online at bookstore.westbowpress.com. A free preview is available.

'God's Not Dead 2' creator slams atheist claim that movie is fake

by Jeannie Law

"God's Not Dead 2," the sequel to the \$100 million grossing 2014 faith-based film "God's Not Dead," hit theaters Easter weekend, with actor David A.R. White responding to a popular atheist's questioning of the film's validity.

White, who is also the founder of Pure

"It's an interesting thing, because, if it wasn't real, why do they get so offended by it?"

David A.R. White

Flix Entertainment, which produced "God's Not Dead 2," continued, "At the end of 'God's Not Dead 1' and even part two, we throw up about 50 different court cases that are dealing with similar issues right now."

The actor-producer was responding to popular atheist blogger Hemant Mehta who argued that the sequel was misleading and "full of fake Christian



persecution" in his blog.

While the first "God's Not Dead" film dealt with an antagonistic atheist professor, the new film will address freedom of religion.

"In the first one, we had a student who was a male and we really wanted to tell it from a female's perspective," stated White. "This time that the battle moved

from a college classroom to the public square."

Starring Melissa Joan Hart, the film's theme is introduced when she answers a student's (Hayley Orrantia) question about Jesus, forces the junior high-school teacher to face an epic court case that could end her career.

White was seemingly unfazed by crit-

ics as he focuses on the fact that people all around the world are still being touched by part one of the "God's Not Dead" phenomenon.

"All of these emails and tweets and people that have been moved over and over and over by the movie, that they're still watching it," he told the publication. "They're still writing in about how this

movie changes their lives or changes someone's life that they know."

White stars in "God's Not Dead 2" as a corksy pastor named Dave and is gearing up to be the star in part three if the film goes on to become a trilogy. In a recent Facebook promotional clip titled, "Before you vote watch this video," fans are given a glimpse into a scene from the film titled "Pastor's Brunch."

The scene starts off by showing the late Sen. Fred Thompson, who plays a senior pastor in "God's Not Dead 2." In the clip he reveals to a group of ministers huddled around a table that they are all being subpoenaed to submit copies of their sermons. The news sparks a back-and-forth among the leaders, some of whom are concerned about the violation of their religious freedom by the local government's demand. Ultimately all but one, the Rev Dave, comply to the government's order. The scene was reminiscent of Houston's mayor last year calling for monitoring of sermons of the city's pastors.



Money Matters: Watch for warning signs that your aging parents need help



(Family Features) If you've been entrusted to assist an elderly relative with scheduling preventive exams and putting a health care plan in place, you may struggle with knowing when it's time to take on a greater role in other aspects of their life. That's why now is the perfect time to look for warning signs that your loved ones might be suffering from a decline in financial ability.

Despite years of accumulated knowledge and experience, it is likely that at some point your loved ones' financial capability will be challenged as they age, making it more difficult to competently handle money-related matters on their own. And this decline can occur even if illnesses, such as Alzheimer's or dementia, are not present.

Establishing a plan to manage your parents' finances is an important task in their senior years, particularly if you intend to engage other family members in the process. A survey from the

National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) found that 86 percent of people want their family to help with financial matters if they become unable. However, nearly 7 in 10 say their family dynamics prevent that from happening. According to the survey, 58 percent of families experience disagreements, conflicts or confrontation with others when aging affects financial decision making.

Whether you're a child or family member who has been enlisted to help or even charting your own financial future, approaching these discussions with candor and an open mind is critical.

"Especially if you're accustomed to handling money matters privately, learning to talk more candidly about your finances may be uncomfortable," said Ted Beck, president and CEO of NEFE. "However, allowing trusted individuals to take a closer look at your accounts can help you establish a realistic plan for the future, and help flag any potential concerns."

One way Beck recommends protecting your parents is to allow view-only access to let loved ones help monitor for unusual activity on your banking and credit accounts. If restrictions to unauthorized users prohibit this, you can set

up an alert program (via email or text) when a transaction over a set amount occurs. Also, remember to perform regular credit checks to avoid scams and identity theft. Check the three major reporting bureaus and stagger the reports to get one every four months.

Additional tools and resources are available at smartaboutmoney.org to help ensure your loved ones' finances stay healthy through these golden years.

Financial Warning Signs

New dents, scratches and dings on your aging parent's car might be a sign of deteriorating driving ability. These are pretty obvious warning signs. With impaired financial decision making, the signs may not be quite as obvious, but if you know what to look for you might be able to spot it early.

1. Is the aging person taking longer to complete financial tasks? Does she struggle with everyday efforts like preparing bills for mailing, reconciling bank statements or organizing paperwork?

2. Is the person missing key details in financial documents? Are bills piling up and has he missed a payment? Is he able to prioritize his regular responsibilities?

3. Is your aging parent experiencing problems with everyday arithmetic? Maybe you recently went out to dinner

with mom and dad, and while paying, they took an inordinate amount of time to calculate the appropriate tip.

4. Have you noticed a decreased understanding of financial concepts with your loved ones? Are they having increased difficulty comprehending health care matters like deductibles, or are they having a hard time understanding the bank statements they receive?

5. Are they having new difficulty

identifying investment risks? Are they able to minimize the risks in potential investments? Did they recently fall victim to fraud or a scam because they could not spot the liabilities?

Pay extra attention toward looking for the warning signs of mental and financial decline. Most importantly, take the time to talk to your parents about their wishes and how you can help them.



Urgency or Emergency? How to pick where to go for medical attention

by **Marlo Solitto**

(Family Features) When unexpected health mishaps arise, many people's first reaction is to head to an emergency room. But when those illnesses and injuries aren't true emergencies, not knowing the best option for care can end up costing both time and money.

So how can you know where to go when medical attention is needed?

Urgency or emergency?

Urgent care centers provide a way to keep up with patients' daily healthcare needs, serving as a vital link between the emergency room and primary care physicians.

"Urgent care is growing across the country because it provides patients with an alternative to the emergency room, which can be too costly and time-consuming for situations like common illnesses and minor injuries," said Dr. Robert Kimball, president of the board of directors, Urgent Care Association of America (UCAOA). "While ERs are best equipped to handle life-threatening illnesses and injuries, it's important that patients are aware that there are more affordable options available for less serious situations."

Due to shorter wait times – 90 percent of urgent care centers offer a



wait time of 30 minutes or less, according to the 2015 UCAOA Benchmarking Survey – and much lower prices, urgent care centers are a more convenient and affordable option than, but not a substitute for, an emergency room.

When care is needed for true emergency situations, such as heart attacks, strokes, major bleeding or severe burns, it's vital to go to an emergency room immediately, as urgent care centers are not equipped or designed to treat life- or limb-threatening conditions.

Dollars and sense

When patients visit an emergency room for a non-emergency, they risk incurring a substantial financial loss. Emergency rooms are more expen-

sive, charging an average of \$1,300 for treatment of non-life-threatening situations, while urgent care centers charge an average of just \$150, according to a Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.

Plus, 27 percent of all emergency room visits could

take place at an urgent care center, which would save American consumers approximately \$4.4 billion annually, according to "Health Affairs." Additionally, many insurance plans feature lower co-pays for urgent care services than treatment in an emergency room.

Understanding the options

"With a growing variety of facilities available, patients need to take care to understand their options," Kimball said. "The rise of free-standing emergency rooms is especially concerning because they look like urgent care centers. While they may seem convenient at the time, the emergency room prices can cause sticker shock for patients who aren't aware of the distinction."

Free-standing emergency rooms are not physically connected to a hospital and are located in areas similar to urgent care centers, so it can be easy to confuse the two. A free-standing emergency room will offer emergency care – and charge emergency room prices. Patients should be sure to confirm the type of facility they're

visiting, as treatment at a free-standing ER may cost thousands of dollars more than an urgent care center.

To find a conveniently located urgent care center near you, visit whereisurgentcare.com.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

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SOCIAL SECURITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

Question:

Next month I'll turn 65 and, because of my financial situation, I thought I'd be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). But my neighbor told me I'd probably be turned down because I have a friend who said he might help support me. Is this true?

Answer:

If your friend helps support you, it could have an effect on whether you get SSI and on the amount you receive. Whether you can get SSI depends on your income and resources (the things you own). If you have low income and few resources, you may be able to get SSI. However, if you are receiving support from your friend or from anyone else, that income will be considered when making a decision on your SSI eligibility and amount. Support includes any food or shelter given to you or received by you because someone else pays for it. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Question:

My dad, who is receiving



Supplemental Security Income (SSI), will be coming to live with me. Does he have to report the move to Social Security?

Answer:

Yes. An SSI beneficiary must report any change in living arrangements within 10 days after the month the change occurs. If the change is not reported, your dad could receive an incorrect payment. Also, your dad needs to report his new address to Social Security so that he can receive mail from us. Even if benefits are paid by direct deposit, we need to be able to get in touch with him. He can report the change by telephone, mail, or in person at any Social Security office. Keep in mind that failing to report a change to Social Security could result in incorrect payments that may have to be paid back or a penalty deducted from SSI benefits.

Just call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). You can get more information in the booklet Understanding SSI, at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi.

MEDICARE

Question:

If I retire and start getting Social Security retirement benefits at age 62, will my Medicare coverage begin then too?

Answer:

No. Medicare benefits based on retirement do not begin until a person is age 65. If you retire at age 62, you may be able to continue to have medical insurance coverage through your employer or purchase it from an insurance company until you reach age 65 and become eligible for Medicare. For more information about who can get Medicare, visit www.medicare.gov.

TEST YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the average number of years someone has paid into Social Security once they start collecting disability benefits?

- A) 2
- B) 7
- C) 13
- D) 22

Because the Social Security Act sets out a strict definition of disability, our beneficiaries are among the most severely disabled people in the country. We provide modest benefit payments to workers who contributed into the Social Security trust fund before becoming disabled. The average disability beneficiary today paid into the disability trust fund for 22 years before they began receiving Social Security disability benefits.

2. At what age can I begin receiving Social Security retirement benefits?

- A) 62
- B) 65
- C) 67
- D) 70

The answer to this question is not the same for everyone. Depending on when you were born, your full retirement age will be between 65 and 67. You can draw benefits as early as 62, but you will receive a lesser benefit. For more details and a handy chart, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/retirechart.html.

The best time for you to retire will depend on several factors, including when you were born, how long you contributed to Social Security, and how long you expect to live. The longer you work, and the more money you earn at Social Security-qualifying jobs, the more Social Security retirement benefits you stand to receive. The longer

you wait to draw Social Security benefits, the larger your monthly payout will be. Past age 70, there is no longer any advantage to waiting.

3. How much money can I earn and still receive Social Security disability benefits?

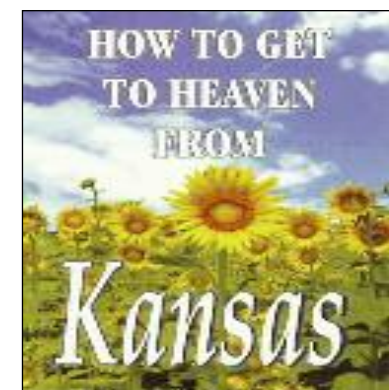
- A) \$500 per month
- B) \$750 per month
- C) \$1,090 per month
- D) None

A worker who is disabled can earn up to \$1,090 per month and still receive benefits. If the worker is blind or has work expenses, this amount is higher. More information about working while disabled is available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10095.pdf.

4. Who receives the largest annual share of Social Security benefits?

- A) Survivors of deceased workers
- B) Disabled workers and their families
- C) Retired workers and their families

The answer is C.



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.

senior news/events briefs

LIFEFEEST – First Thu. of the month, 10am-12:30pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Notice: Seniors ministering to seniors – celebrating with fellowship, fun, food, learning & entertainment. Potluck lunch 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.

GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP – 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis, 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, 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

MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR - Apr 12 & 26, 6:30pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all of its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare as well as those considering making a change during open enrollment. Seminars will be held at Century Health Solutions, a division of Stormont-Vail Healthcare, 2951 SW Woodside Dr. Information: 233-1816 or info@century-health.com. Light snacks & beverages provided.

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sports

ANYONE CAN BE A GOLF CHAMPION FOR AREA TEENS

Topeka Youth for Christ's 2016 Annual Golf Classic will be held on Monday, May 2nd at the Lake Shawnee Golf Course. The four person, 18 hole scramble begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 PM (Registration opens at 11:30 AM). See below for more information on the 2016 YFC Golf Classic.



For over sixty years, your support has helped YFC to continue to build transforming relationships with teens through a variety of ministry programs designed for today's teens. YFC currently ministers to teens through: Juvenile Justice Ministry, City Life Clubs, YFC Core and YFC Camp

Topeka YFC is developing two new Church Seminars for 2016

Topeka YFC offers two church based seminars this year: "Warrior Parenting" for parents and grand-

parents based on Ephesians 6:10-18. And "The Heart of the Overcomer" a seminar for teens based on 1 John 5:1-4.

Your support helps provide full time and part-time staff, college interns and volunteer adults who develop, equip and coach student leaders, empowering them to develop a passion for Jesus and a passion for their lost friends.

Once again you can be a Champion for area teens. Sign up for the YFC Annual Golf Classic Tournament online at 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

FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

by Rob Mooney

What constitutes a successful season? Is it winning the championship? Is it finishing with more wins than losses? How about just being competitive? I believe that question can be answered differently depending on what level of competition and who you're talking to.

In professional and college sports, the ultimate goal is to win championships. We can probably say that for a lot of lower levels as well. Considering there can only be one league champion, unless there's a tie of course, how we constitute success in sports?

When I coached my sons' 4th grade basketball team a couple of years ago, I told the kids and parents my expectations right from the beginning. I told them that I had two goals for our team. First, I wanted the kids to enjoy playing the game and secondly, I wanted each

player to learn something new that season. If they did that, then we would have a successful team. I asked the parents to stay positive about the team and basketball in general and to encourage their kids to play to the best of the ability.

I ask these questions because this is the time of year when basketball fans across the country are disappointed in their teams' success level, or lack thereof. The NCAA men's basketball tournament has become one of the biggest sporting events in the country yet only one team can cut down the nets when it's all said and done.

Let's look at the University of Kansas. The basketball team finished with a record of 33-5 and went to the Elite Eight in the tournament. They were the overall #1 seed and many people believed that they would win the cham-

pionship. (You should have seen all of the wasted tournament brackets after they lost). Was their season successful? I sure think so. There are a LOT of teams that would like to finish 33-5. They won their 12th straight Big 12 championship and the Big 12 tournament. Believe it or not, but I have actually heard some people say that coach Bill Self has to go. You're shaking your head. Yeah, so was I when I heard that.

How about the KU football team? The same folks that have called for Self's head are the same ones that say they just want the football team to be competitive. What? Let's just keep the games close and I'll be fine. That's quite hypocritical if you ask me.

Sure, I like it when my teams win. I like to see my teams advance far in the playoffs or tournaments. However, what I really like is when I turn on the news and there are players that are visiting sick kids in the hospital. Players that are Christmas shopping for kids that are less fortunate. Players that work clinics and hang out with Special Olympic athletes. Players that give back to the communities in which they live. They say that sports build character. I agree, but I think sports reveals character even more.

GreatLife adds ninth location in Topeka area

GreatLife Golf & Fitness has announced the addition of GreatLife North, formerly the North Topeka Golf Center located at 350 NE US Highway 24, to their Topeka locations. GreatLife North originally opened in 2002 and features an 18-hole miniature golf course, a driving range and a 9-hole golf course.

Major improvements and renovations are scheduled for this new location. A fitness center has been installed in the west side of the building and features a wide variety of cardio machines, a complete set of CYBEX circuit training machines and free weight equipment, along with new flooring, fresh paint and restroom expansion to include walk-in showers and changing areas. The golf course fairways will be seeded to bent grass and improvements will be made to the driving range.

"The GreatLife North location will be the ninth GreatLife property in the Topeka area," said Karon Lee, Marketing Director for GreatLife. "We are very excited about this new addition and plan to utilize this location as a youth center for leagues, tournaments and lessons. We plan to roll out several new programs to promote youth golf."

Lee also mentioned that GreatLife will be offering Bi-weekly "fitness only" memberships (valid at this new location) for only \$4.99 (individual) and \$9.99 (family).

GreatLife is also offering boxing memberships and new unlimited range ball and cart memberships. Additional information about all the new membership options is available on the website greatlifegolf.com

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Sign up online at:
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for more information



Enhance Your Home Decor with Natural Light

(Family Features) Something about warmer weather inspires homeowners to lavish attention on their homes. While painting and decluttering are great ways to revitalize home decor, there's no better way to breathe new life into interior spaces than decorating with light.

Incorporating light into interior design can go far beyond a few strategically placed, attractive lamps and some upgraded overhead lights. It's possible to use both natural and artificial lighting to complement other decor and architectural elements.

Lighting types

Every home needs a little of each of the following types of lighting to meet your needs throughout the day:

- Task lighting focuses light into a specific area.
- Accent lighting shines a light on decorative elements.
- Ambient lighting provides general lighting for everyday activities.
- Natural lighting from above makes a home feel open and inviting, while



Skylights bring not only daylighting and fresh air into the bath but provide privacy as well. Enjoy abundant natural light and passive ventilation even when vertical window coverings are closed.

also providing balanced light for everyday activities.

Natural beauty plus improved air quality

Enhance day lighting by lightening up window treatments to allow for as much sunshine as possible. Choose fresh paint colors that play well with the directional lighting and consider installing skylights in rooms where adding windows isn't practical or where more balanced natural light can add drama and differentiate living spaces.

Adding skylights is a relatively low-cost, but high impact home improvement that can be accomplished by a professional in a day or two or over a single weekend. Fresh air skylights can also help reduce dependence on artificial lighting and mechanical ventilation, saving money on electricity.

Skylights can work in concert with vertical windows to provide improved passive ventilation that improves air quality and energy efficiency. For example, Energy Star-qualified fresh air skylights, such as those at veluxusa.com, let you circulate air in your home with flexible features to match your needs.

Manual and electric venting models are available, but top-of-the-line, solar-powered fresh air models offer all the features of modern, no-leak skylights. They feature a solar panel that charges a hidden internal battery, which operates the control system. These skylights require no wiring, making for easy and cost-effective installation. An integrated rain sensor automatically closes the units in case of inclement weather and all Velux skylights offer three layers of water protection backed by warranties.

A variety of light-filtering, light-blocking and light-controlling solar-powered blinds are also available in a mix of designer colors and patterns to enhance decor while improving skylight energy efficiency by as much as 45 percent. The skylights, as well as the blinds, are operated by a programmable remote control and are eligible for a 30 percent federal tax credit, as are installation costs.

Lightening colors

Some hues absorb more light, making them appear darker and causing the room to look dark. Fresh paint brightens any room, but to amplify the effect choose lighter, less intense colors and remember colors appear truer when they are awash in natural light.

Continue the color upgrade through key decorating elements, such as upholstery fabric, accent rugs, window treatments and wall art.

Upgrading other light sources

While you take steps to maximize the amount of natural light that enters your home, artificial lighting is always necessary, whether at night or for a dreary day. Choose light fixtures – including floor and table lamps – that continue the bright, easy atmosphere you've already created with color and natural light.



Energy Star-qualified fresh air skylights, with decor-enhancing, energy-efficient blinds, add style while providing natural light and passive ventilation. Operated by programmable remote control, the solar powered skylights and blinds, plus installation costs, are eligible for a 30 percent federal tax credit.

Keep in mind the importance of layering light with a mix of sources throughout a room and choose lighting styles that fit the room's purpose.

For more ideas on lightening up your home, and to view the available types of skylights, blinds and accessories, visit whyskylights.com.

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WANTED: VOLUNTEERS - 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.

WANTED: VOLUNTEER WRITERS - 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.

WANTED: DELIVERY PERSON - Metro Voice needs someone to help distribute papers to churches and other locations in Topeka for gas money and some other perks involved. Call 235-

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NOTO Arts District offers classes & more

NOTO Arts Center has an array of art classes from tots to adults starting now until May. Classes include watercolor, printmaking, ceramics, jewelry making, and learning the ropes on the best apps for smartphone photographs.

Space is limited - this is your chance to work alongside some of Topeka's finest, most innovative artists. Register by calling 785-408-8996, or email sara@notoarts-center.com. See more updates from the NOTO Arts Center on Facebook. Classes are held at the NOTO Art Center, 935 N



Kansas Avenue.

Don't forget the First Friday Art Walk, a monthly event where the NOTO arts district enables visitors to enjoy arts, antiques, fine crafts, and flea market items. Entertainment is also available at many of the venues.

North Topeka hosts First Friday like no other place in Topeka! Topeka Arts District has become an attraction to Art Lovers and History Buffs alike with beautiful scenes of art and history. The restaurants, locally owned shops, art galleries and studios have become a favorite art walk destination.

Two blocks of historic buildings are bubbling with artists, arts, crafts and creative items to keep you entertained and wanting to bring a piece of the NOTO Arts District home with you.

It's almost impossible to see everything in the Arts District in one evening and you don't have to try - the NOTO Arts District is open for First Friday 10 am until 9 pm. Of course you'll also have to stop in on our friends up and down the streets. Stop into NOTO Arts Center to pick up a map of participating businesses.

Other N. Topeka events upcoming:
PRICILLA SHIRER SIMULCAST - Apr. 23, 9am-4:30pm. Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. \$15-\$20. Cost includes a lunch. Cash coffee bar also available. For info: 286-1204

EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE - Apr. 8 & 9, 9am-5pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Two-day conference for adoptive & foster parents, ministry leaders, social workers, agency professionals, church staff & ministry leaders, counselors, teachers, & therapists, to help them connect with children from hard places. Up to 11 CEU credits available for licensed professionals for \$25. No childcare. Register: lifelinechild.org/event/etc2016/. 783-4577 angela.beemer@lifelinechild.org

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Priscilla SHIRER SIMULCAST

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016

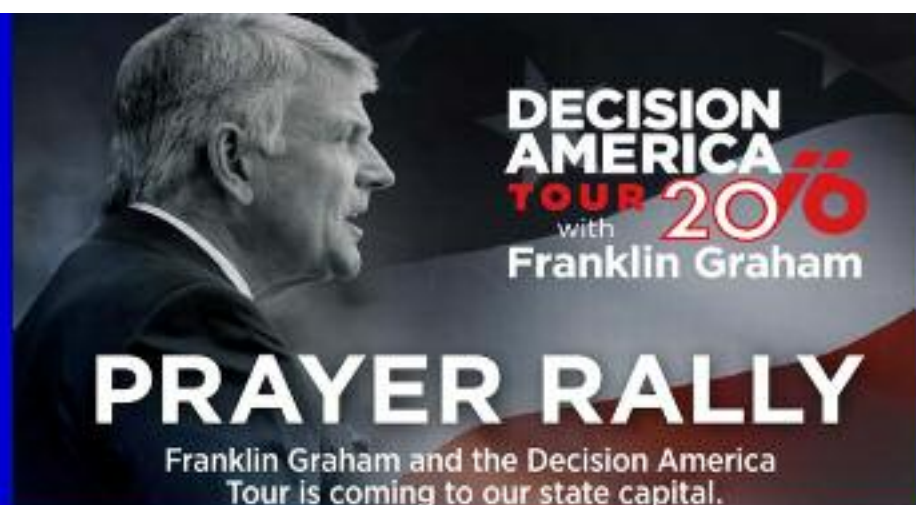
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Doors open at 8:00 AM.

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COST: \$15 THROUGH APRIL 3RD. \$20 BEGINNING 4/4.
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FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER, GO TO WWW.NORTHLAND.CC.
SCROLL DOWN THE PAGE TO THE PRISCILLA ICON.



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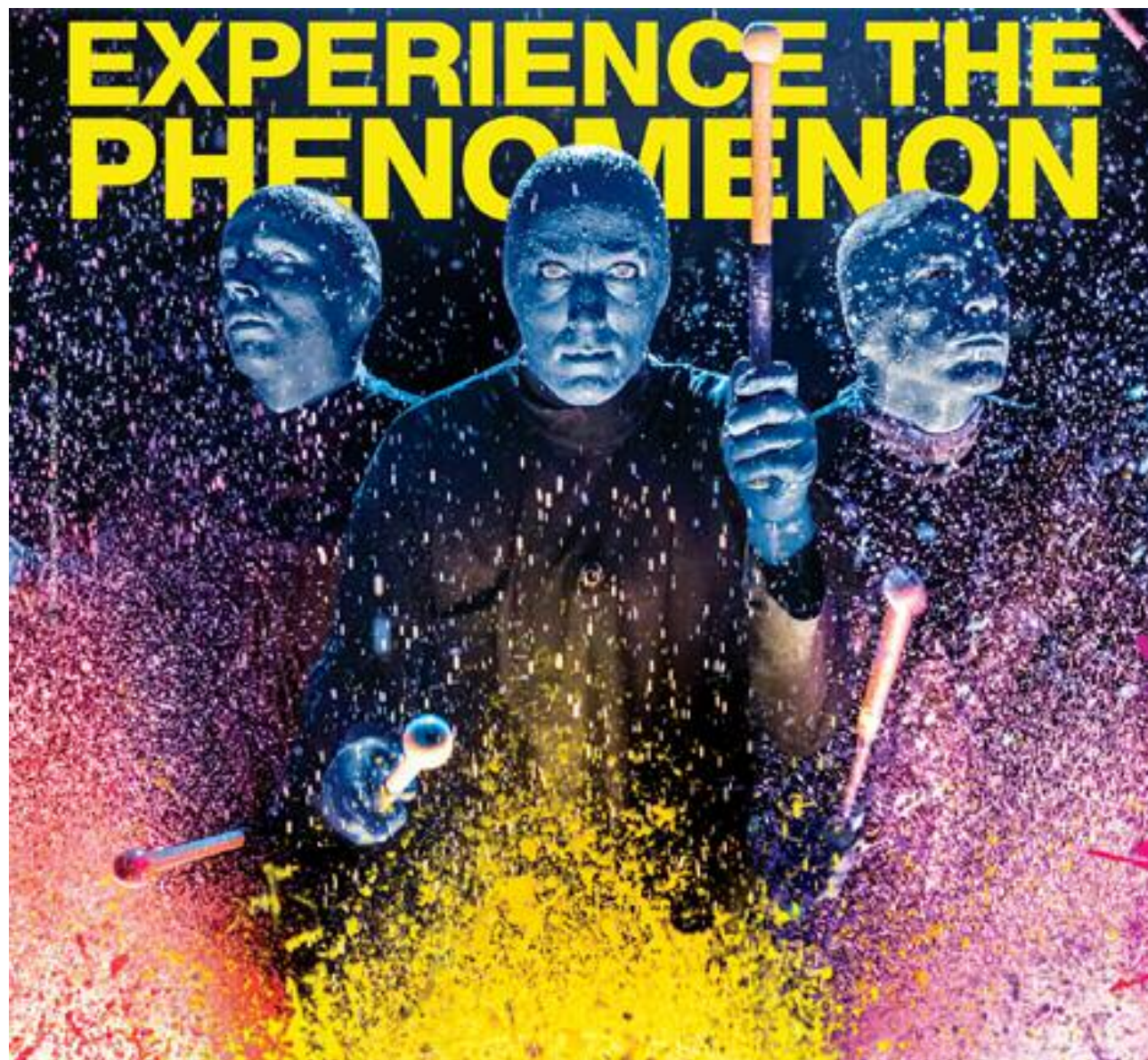
12:00 p.m.

Kansas Capitol South Steps

IF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME
WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY AND
SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR
WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM
HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND
HEAL THEIR LAND. — 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

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