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BOBBY BOWEN FAMILY | **PAGE 13**

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Highland Heights Christian Church

See inside back cover!

FAITH, LOVE, AND HOPE

A year after the shootings at Charleston's Mother Emanuel Church, one woman continues to call for racial unity

Alana Simmons didn't intend to speak to Dylann Roof at his bond hearing, two days after he shot and killed nine members of Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C. But as others began to speak forgiveness, she felt the need to tell about the legacy of love her grandfather, Rev. Daniel Simmons, 74, left behind. The experience changed the direction of her life.

Now, a year after the June 17 massacre, Simmons heads a growing non-profit organization that promotes acts of forgiveness and gives voice to the message that love is stronger than hate.

"The families [at the bond hearing] were forgiving him for all the terror he had caused," Simmons recalled. "I had this humbling epiphany of how love conquers all, so when I got the chance to speak, I said, 'Although my grandfather died in the hands of hate, he lived in love and preached love, so his legacy will be love. And hate won't win.'"

Cameras were rolling, but Simmons thought they were there to videoconference the hearing. She didn't

know they were broadcasting live. Those watching the proceedings quickly picked up on her words and created a hashtag that went viral.

Tech savvy and well aware of the power social media could wield for both good and bad, Simmons, 25 at the time, used the impromptu platform in the interview that followed to issue a challenge: "Use the hashtag. Go and show someone who is different than you an act of love. If you really want to help, post that to a social media account. Everyone has one. Use yours for good." At the very least, get the imagery out there that black and white, rich and poor, Christian and atheist can stand together, she said.

At the funeral of Mother Emanuel, senior pastor, and state Rep. Clementa Pinckney, Simmons met President Barack Obama, who asked her what he could do.

"So I told him the same thing, and I gave

■ Please see SHOOTINGS page 3

Story by
Dick
Peterson



Sixty seconds to change the world

Israeli inventions improving quality of life for billions



Tel Aviv has more tech start-ups than Silicon Valley. Here, the first 3-D printed car.

Leading Israeli entrepreneurs had 60 seconds to pitch their business ideas this summer. What they came up with may change the world.

It's not surprising, though. Israel comes in second, behind the U.S., in yearly tech startups and inventions. Israel's 8 million people and its inventions even outpace China which has one billion citizens and the combined effort of the 1.7 billion people in Muslim countries—combined!

Tech Crunch, a top tech company, went to Tel Aviv, Israel, to scout out the best Israeli minds in the business. They hosted a competition in which they gave entrepreneurs 60 seconds to pitch their businesses before judges in hopes they land possible future investments.

Ten entrepreneurs out of a pool of 150 applicants were chosen to present their ideas before an audience of nearly 900 attendees.

■ Please see INVENTIONS page 3

What most Americans think about Christians and religious freedom

A new survey shows Americans agree there is intolerance towards Christianity but also think Christians whine too much about it. The survey, from Nashville-based Lifeway Research, indicates that 63 percent of respondents say Christians face increasing intolerance, up from 50 percent in 2013.

Also, 60 percent say religious liberty is on the decline, compared with 54 percent in 2013.

Lifeway researchers interviewed 1,000 Americans and compared it to their survey from September 2013.

"More Americans worry the U.S. has a hostile environment for religious liberty," Ed Stetzer, executive director of Lifeway Research, said.

However, the survey also showed that 43 percent say American Christians complain too much about how they are treated, compared with 34 percent in 2013.

That viewpoint creates a complicated challenge for many believers: how to help friends and the public at large understand their religious liberty concerns



while avoiding coming across as disgruntled whiners.

Dr. Barry Corey, president of Biola University in La Mirada, California, recently wrote the book Love Kindness to

encourage Christians to focus on kindness in their daily interactions with a society that doesn't always agree with their beliefs.

It's an approach that more Christian

leaders are adopting in a time when so much of the country understands so little about the evangelical Christian faith.

Corey, one of the leaders in the effort

■ Please see FREEDOM page 2

Is Trump truly a changed man after accepting Christ?

Black pastor says his attitude changed on Donald Trump after meeting with 1,000 Christian leaders, but others still doubt

Conservative evangelical bishop E.W. Jackson says that his attitude about Donald Trump changed as a result of the June meeting between Trump and hundreds of America's top Christian leaders in New York City.

Jackson, who is the founder of the non-profit S.T.A.N.D., said in a conference call during the meeting that he can now back the presumptive Republican nominee instead of just preferring him over presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

"What I am hoping we will see is the evangelical community unify around Donald Trump, because we just don't have any choice," Jackson said. "I hope that there will be a strong enough statement coming out of this ... so that evangelicals around the country start to feel a bit of comfort."

One of the first statements from a

FREEDOM

continued from page 1

to oppose California's anti-Christian college bill SB 1146, wrote the book before state lawmakers introduced the measure, which would force Christian colleges to remove Bible courses from core curriculum offerings and prevent them from requiring weekly chapel attendance. The bill would also strip financial aid from students attending Christian colleges that refuse. Corey noted the book applies to the battle over the proposed legislation.

"We want to lead with grace and kindness," he said.

respected source may be that of Dr. James Dobson, who in an interview with POLITICO, said Trump has accepted Christ as his personal savior.

Dobson, a Christian psychologist and founder of Focus on the Family, said he knows "the person who led [Trump] to Christ."

"I don't know when it was, but it has not been long," Dobson said in an interview with Pennsylvania megachurch pastor Michael Anthony following that meeting in New York. "I believe he really made a commitment, but he's a baby Christian."

Trump's born-again experience may already be having an affect on his actions, both personally and politically. He recently fired campaign manager Corey Lewandowski, who had orchestrated the tone of the campaign that turned many middle-of-the-road voters off. While Trump is in a virtual dead heat nationally, he currently is ahead or tied in states that previously voted Democrat in 2012, including Ohio.

Evangelicals are a key part of the Republican base that Trump will need to turn out in the general election. In the primaries, many evangelical voters preferred Ted Cruz or Ben Carson.

"I've been a Christian, and I love Christianity and evangelicals have been so incredibly supportive," Trump said in the private session with leaders at the meeting, according to audio

Jackson added. "You all know that I have been sitting here expressing some skepticism. For me, it is 'I am against Hillary, therefore I am for Donald Trump.' I think coming out of this meeting there are going to be a lot of people saying 'I am not only against Hillary but I am for Donald Trump now and I feel like I got reasons to support him.'"

In talking with other pastors and attendees of the meeting, Jackson said that the consensus is that Trump has "moved the needle" when it comes to support from evangelicals.

"People who came and weren't sure they could vote for him walked out, I think, feeling like 'I can vote for Donald Trump in good conscience, and I don't have to feel like I am betraying myself to vote for him,'" Jackson said. "He made some progress today."

Jackson said he was especially thrilled to hear Donald Trump address questions of poverty and violence, issues that are close to his heart and the the focus of many African-American pastors serving in America's cities and poor rural areas.

Fox News contributor and Trump antagonist, Todd Starnes, who was one of the few journalists to attend the rally, tweeted that the meeting was "basically a campaign rally."

However, Jackson and other pastors at the rally didn't feel that way.

"If it had been just a Donald Trump rally, then he would have given his speeches and moved on. It really was more of a conversation, because when he came to the larger meeting, for example, he made no comments and he just sat down," Jackson explained. "Mike Huckabee began to ask him questions. He spent time responding to those questions and then there were questions from the audience as well. They asked questions that Christians are interested in knowing, so it's not like saying a stump speech."



Bishop E.W. Jackson



Donald Trump



Dr. James Dobson

obtained by POLITICO.

Of the meeting, Dobson — who was previously critical of Trump — said, "I certainly liked what I saw today."

As Trump responded to questions from a number of prominent evangelical leaders, he vowed to appoint only pro-life Supreme Court justices and protect the religious freedoms of Christians and religious groups. He also addressed questions on race, poverty and job growth.

"Look, I think my attitude has been changed by this meeting,"

Jackson added. "You all know that I have been sitting here expressing some skepticism. For me, it is 'I am against Hillary, therefore I am for Donald Trump.' I think coming out of this meeting there are going to be a lot of people saying 'I am not only against Hillary but I am for Donald Trump now and I feel like I got reasons to support him.'"

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Jackson didn't support Trump during

the Republican nominating contests. In a December op-ed he wrote, "it is my considered opinion as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 38 years, that no pastor should be endorsing Donald Trump, at least not at this stage."

Since Matthew 6:33 says, "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness," he added, "we should seek first the candidate who represents the kingdom of God and his righteousness."

Before speaking to the larger group of about ,000 pastors, Trump met and conversed with at least 25 evangelical leaders who are serving on his evangelical executive advisory council. The members of the council laid out their concerns to the candidate.

Pastor Jack Graham, the former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and a member of Trump's advisory council, also came out of the meeting feeling like he is ready to "champion" Trump.

"It was a very positive meeting. It didn't feel like a sales pitch," Graham said afterwards. "It didn't feel like a political campaign [rally] as much as it did a conversation between friends."

In a radio interview on his program, Dobson elaborated on Trump's salvation experience and how Christians should view it in light of our own.

"If God gets a hold of Trump, it won't be the first time people didn't believe it. It won't be the first time that a terrible person who lived completely against Christ, came to know him," Dobson said. "Saul, who became Paul, is a great example."

Dobson told the New York Times he can't know Trump's heart but if he is a true believer, "there will eventually be fruit. In the meantime, it's not surprising to see people be skeptical. They were with Saul/Paul until they could begin to see his change in behavior. If you are a Christian, pray for Trump. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-5. It's not a suggestion. It's a command to do so for all who really know Christ. In fact, anyone who doesn't believe they weren't a terrible person, a sinner, before accepting Christ, doesn't really understand the Gospel. One sin is all it takes to make one a sinner, in need of forgiveness."

Dobson ended his program by asking listeners to pray for Trump.

"...whether he really accepted Christ or not, he needs it. Let's not make excuses for him, but let's also not belittle what God can do through a man."

"I think there's hope for him," Dr. Dobson told the New York Times. "And I think there's hope for us."

—Reporting by Sam Smith, CP, with additional attribution to POLITICO and Focus on the Family.

newsbriefs

Few Syrian Christians get asylum in U.S.

(WNS)—Two months after the Obama administration called out militant terror group Islamic State (ISIS) for committing genocide against Christians in Iraq and Syria, refugee data show those finding a safe haven in the United States are not the ones suffering the most persecution. Last year, President Barack Obama set the goal of bringing 10,000 Syrian refugees to the United States in fiscal year 2016. So far, the State Department is on track to fall well short of that number, with only about 2,700 successfully resettled. State Department figures show 499 Syrian refugees have resettled in America in May, but not a single one was a Christian or member of another religious minority group targeted for genocide. "For me, that has got to change," said Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., at a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee hearing. "I mean that is unconscionable." Of the 2,705 Syrian refugees who came to the United States this fiscal year, 97 percent are Sunni Muslims, and zero percent Christian.

Calls for democracy ring at Tiananmen events

(WNS)—Twenty-seven years after Chinese soldiers cracked down on student protests at Tiananmen Square, mainland China continues to actively squelch any mention of the massacre and arrest sensitive figures on the June 4 anniversary. But in Hong Kong and Taiwan, where events are held annually, the tone is changing as the years go by. Today's students were not yet born when the tanks rolled down Chang'an Blvd., and they don't see how the events of so long ago affect their lives today. On June 4, 1989, the Chinese government sent troops to attack student protesters who had gathered at Tiananmen Square in Beijing, calling for greater reform.



Fallujah fallout

(WNS)—The first residents from Fallujah to greet humanitarian aid workers were mostly in tears. "They were absolutely traumatized, absolutely fearful," said Jeremy Courtney, president of the Preemptive Love Coalition. As the Iraqi army and the Iraqi government's affiliate militias fought to take back the city, captured by ISIS in January 2014, Preemptive Love became the first and so far only non-governmental organization to penetrate the militarized zone. Starting June 2 the group delivered by truck 150,000 pounds of food and water, enough to support 1,500 needy families who have been caught in the fighting. As Iraqi forces pressed their campaign against the Islamic militants, entering the Fallujah city limits on June 8, the UN quickly revised its estimate of the number of civilians trapped there—from 50,000 to more than 90,000.

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Congdons Celebrate 40 Years in Ministry at TBC

Topeka Bible Church has announced that it will host events to celebrate the 40th anniversary in ministry for TBC Lead Pastor Jim Congdon and his wife, Melody. Church Services on Sunday, July 31, will be led by the Congdons' children, Adriel, Mark, Doug and Craig. Services will be held in TBC's Mulvane Auditorium, 1101 SW Mulvane Street, Topeka, at 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. A reception for the Congdons will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. July 31 at TBC's College Building, 1135 SW College Avenue, Topeka. The public is invited to attend Sunday services and the reception.

Jim Congdon, a Portland, Ore., native, was hired as TBC's youth

and singles pastor in 1976 and just a year later was promoted to become the church's sixth senior pastor. He entered Wheaton (Ill.) College at the age of 16 and graduated in 1971. Jim then studied at Multnomah Bible College (Portland, Ore.) and Dallas Theological Seminary. He earned his doctor of ministries degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity



School (Deerfield, Ill.) in 1996. Jim is currently the chairman of the board of Jews for Jesus and serves

■ Please see CONGDONS page 6

Barry Feaker to speak at July C5-Alive "POWER" luncheon

This month's Christian Chamber of Commerce C5Alive "POWER" luncheon will be held at Ramada West, 7th & Fairlawn. The featured speaker will be the Rev. Barry Feaker of the Topeka Rescue Mission. Feaker is in high demand as a speaker in the Topeka area, and never fails to inspire with his comments.

The C5Alive luncheon is sponsored by Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5).



sors luncheons on the second Thursday of every month, which are held at different locations around the city. Next month it will be held Aug. 11 at HHB BBQ downtown with Vince Frye & Edie Smith giving an update on all the changes in the Downtown Topeka area.

C5 members may sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations. For more information go to www.C5Alive.org; C5 can also be found on Facebook: www.facebook.com/C5Alive.



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) spon-

INVENTIONS

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The winners were Arbe Robotics, 6over6 Vision, and Fieldin.

Kobi Marenko, CEO of Arbe Robotics, took home first place with his innovations in drone technology. He developed a new sensor that allows drones and other objects to see and avoid things in their path.

"Here is a groundbreaking radar, the first made for drones," Marenko told The Jerusalem Post. "It can see obstacles 200 meters away, in 360 degrees, and

offers us the ability to see cables of electricity, cranes, trees, things that are not mapped."

"With this technology, Amazon can deliver goods inside a crowded city without being afraid of crashes," he said.

6over6 Vision won second place with its innovation for detecting and measuring vision problems straight from a smart phone. This company developed an app that uses imaging to measure how near- or far-sighted someone is.

Even more, the app can detect a stigmatism before the user even steps in an optometrist's office. The app could help improve the eyesight of hundreds of mil-

ions of people in third world countries and beyond.

Fieldin came in third place with its new agriculture technology. It created a platform that analyzes how pesticides are impacting plants. The program tells the farmer if he is damaging his own crops or the environment by spraying too many chemicals on his plants.

Former President Shimon Peres said this validates Israel as a start-up nation.

"I know entrepreneurs that dream with courage," Peres said. "Leave your mind open and don't be afraid to dream. And that is what we have to do in the whole Middle East."

SHOOTINGS

continued from page 1

him our T-shirt with our logo, a black hand and a white hand making a heart with the words 'Hate Won't Win' in the middle," she said.

Obama told her he had some Twitter followers and offered to help spread the word. Simmons was skeptical until her brother showed her a tweet from the president's account, including a picture of the T-shirt, the hashtag, and this note: "inspired by the grace shown in Charleston and the Simmons family."

Suddenly, Simmons had 20,000 new followers, and everyone wanted a T-shirt.

Simmons and her family weren't selling the shirts at the time, but it wasn't long before they were. They used the proceeds to start a non-profit created to give back to communities and families affected by hate crimes, discrimination, and bullying.

Since its inception, the Hate Won't Win Movement has encouraged building relationships to bridge differences within communities, focusing on the fields of education, politics, media, family and community, and religion.

Simmons noted differences among races, religions, social class, and political viewpoints remain in the wake of the Civil Rights movement.

"From civil rights came just that—the rights," she said. "We can fight for our rights and we can have those rights, which of course we should have as humans, but if we want to stop these systematic differences, it's not going to come from fighting, but by fostering relationships."

Speaking for her own generation, Simmons said the issue of race is not as emotional as for her father's and grandfather's generations. Because of that, her contemporaries are better equipped to leave conflicts in the past. She believes the Civil Rights movement should be remembered, but the grievances of the past should not become hindrances to reconciling differences.

"It's not black people who are going to save all black people," she said. "It's going to include white people too. There's no way we can make change by ourselves. There has to be a collaborative effort, and this generation is willing to collaborate. We have the same goal in mind—to be colorless. There was a time when just walking into a room was a problem. Now it is a problem when we see disparity, when we see somebody getting privilege."

Simmons has spread her message of forgiveness and reconciliation from the social media platform she birthed to speaking engagements across the country and on national television.

"Every time I'm interviewed, I pray," Simmons said. "I don't want the words to be my own." Instead, she wants to testify to the faith of the Mother Emanuel victims and their families, proclaiming no one has the power to shake that faith.

"We're that rooted," she said.

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A Time to Bear Fruit

by **John Potter** | Military Chaplain

Things aren't always as they seem. How long was the Hundred Years' War? It lasted 116 years. When do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? They celebrate it in November. What country sells the most Panama hats? Ecuador is known for the famous straw hat.

In Mark 11, Jesus makes a similar observation. Jesus is walking from Bethany to Jerusalem. From a distance, He sees a beautiful green fig tree. It looks wonderful. It is full of leaves and seems to be a bastion of good health. When Jesus arrives at the tree, hoping to eat a hand full of young fig buds, there is nothing. The tree is barren. It has no fruit. It produces nothing.

Typically, fig trees make buds each March and they eventually turn into delicious figs. The buds are green like the leaves of the tree, so you need to carefully inspect the tree. When Jesus looks it over, there is nothing to find. The tree gives shade but no nourishment. It gives comfort with no provision. Help but no hope. The green, leafy, tree unfortunately produces nothing.

Jesus curses the tree for that very reason. It yields nothing. Despite all of the right signs and appearances, the tree is not what it seems to be. Jesus doesn't condemn leaves, they are necessary for trees to live and grow. But we cannot be content with leaves alone.

Things aren't always as they seem. A church might appear to be "healthy" when you look at it from a distance, only to be disappointed on closer inspection. The fruit it bears will tell the story. Individuals are the same way. A person may show all the right signs of "health" like a leafy fig tree, but bear no spiritual fruit.

The lesson of the fig tree is that we should bear spiritual fruit (Galatians 5:22-23). If we only appear to bear fruit, then we have missed the point and purpose of what God desires. God judges fruitlessness, and expects that those who have a relationship with Him will "bear much fruit" (John 15:5-8).

May our lives yield a bumper crop of spiritual fruit that benefits mankind and pleases the Lord.



Staying True to Your Faith

How does Kaylee Keller stay true to her Christian faith, while being one of the up and coming pop artists of 2016?

By Stan Wilson, Southwest Kansas Faith and Family

Kaylee is an 18-year old Garden City native and lives with her parents Eric and Pam, along with her two brothers; Brennan and Benton. They are members of Cornerstone Church in Garden City.

Kaylee doesn't have to reach far into her bag of tricks to impress and delight. With a keen sense of what moves the heart and inspires all ages, Kaylee easily fits into her developing career as a top recording artist.

Even though she's only 18, Kaylee is already active in the church. She has served on the youth and main worship teams at her church. She has also served as a youth leader at the church. In addition to her church activities, Kaylee has a religious school background from attending St. Dominic's Catholic School from the first thru fourth grade. Her musical abilities have also afforded her several opportunities to sing at various other Garden City churches.

Kaylee has just completed her first single, "Diamond" and 4-song E.P. The title track, "Diamond", neatly packages her life's purpose into one perfectly wrapped anthem. "Lift your head up high 'cause you're beautiful," lyrics co-written by the combo of herself, her mom and top Nashville based songwriter, Jeff Pardo, sum up Kaylee's number one goal; empowering young women and men to embrace their inner beauty and talents and love themselves despite the world's efforts to encourage feeling inadequate.

Keller ultimately credits God's grace and the constant support of her family in helping her reach the point where she is today. Her perseverance and positivity will no doubt enable her to soar to new heights through her music and reach those who need her message the most.

In discussing the title track, Kaylee says, "Diamonds are the most precious jewels. They are rare, beautiful and highly prized. However, they are nothing compared to our value in God's eyes. My song, "Diamond" shares that message of how each and every one of us is beautiful and one of a kind made in the image of God." They all radiate in their own way and I wanted to capture this beautiful message in my song Diamonds. She also points out that "Diamond" derives from the Greek Word (Adamas) – which means invincible and/or indestructible.

She says, "In the world's eyes you will never be pretty enough, valued enough, or perfect enough. However, through God's eyes you are royalty, a princess, better than a rare gem. Our true beauty comes from God alone.

She continues, "The motivation behind my music is to bring hope and joy and share my message of encouragement which I believe lines up with God's Word. 'Diamond' is a bouncy, emotion-based tale of choice and consequence folded into an ultimately upbeat context of the enduring spirit - and its redemption through friendship. I think everyone at times in life can feel isolated, hurt and alone. But DO NOT EVER

stop believing in yourself. Keep moving forward because you are a Diamond."

In giving her music a name, she says, "My concentration is on Positive Pop but on this particular EP, each song has its own type of vibe and can fit into Pop, Christian and Country Pop genres. I've been told I'm setting the standard for "the new cross mixed music". I have also noticed that artists are not limiting themselves to just one genre."

While music has been an important part of Kaylee's life from day-one, she said that she felt God was calling her to the Pop music industry, not Christian music. As a Christian artist, she felt that she would be limiting her audience. She didn't want this because she wants her message to reach young people who might need to hear "the good news," but would shy away from a Christian artist.

Kaylee is also excited to watch her ideas turn into a song. "Starting with a pen and paper, then into a video, then to an EP and now available to buy on kayleekeller.com and iTunes, Spotify, Google Plus and Reverbnation. It is such an indescribable but exciting experience."

Kaylee doesn't remember "never singing." She says, "My mother told me as she sang to me as an infant I was already humming along. I remember begging my parents for a variety of instruments that I was determined to play. However the only one that stuck with me was the guitar."

Kaylee's idol is Shirley Temple and she created a new term, "Snappy Dance" at age 6 after watching Shirley Temple's movies. I wanted to act, sing and tap dance just like her. No matter what situation Shirley was in whether happy or sad, she always brought hope to the screen. That's what I would like to do with my music.

She remembers "Animal Crackers in My Soup," is what inspired her to be a musician. She adds, "Anything I had to give a name was always Shirley Temple, including my floppy eared male bunny."

With the unending encouragement of her parents and siblings, Keller danced & sang through her younger years performing wherever and whenever she could. Keller never swayed from



the possibility of being in the spotlight forever. After branching out through a Christian based talent showcase called AMTC and pursuing her dream of acting and recording, it wasn't long before she was recognized by a top talent scout in New York City. Kaylee was set up with Capital Records and they connected her with one of the best artist development companies in the business. Through this relationship Kaylee was able to collaborate with a "who's who" list of music industry professionals who have guided Kaylee's efforts into the Diamond EP.

Entering the music industry can be quite intimidating for an 18 year old Garden City Kansas girl, but Kaylee says, "Rumor has it that the entertainment industry is full of boogie men and scams and top record labels not supporting their artists, but I have been blessed to have found the opposite. Capital Records opened the door for me and I have a great team around me that have become close like family – from radio personnel, celebrities, top industry executives, to fans/friends, guitar and vocal coaches."

She continues, "Traveling is a huge part in becoming and being a successful artist. From live shows, recording studios, filming videos and interviews, I have got to go to Los Angeles, Nashville, New York, Florida, Atlanta and many places in between. I didn't expect my career to take off this fast but it has been so exciting and rewarding and I feel very blessed to be called "one of the up and coming artists of 2016."

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FINANCIAL PLANNING

Ethical Dilemma

Dear Dave,
I work an extra job part-time for a retail store chain while I'm getting out of debt. I like my job, except for having to pitch the store's credit card to customers. Like you, I believe debt is a bad thing. Still, my bosses are putting more and more pressure on me to sell the cards. It's been bothering me a lot late-

ly, and I was wondering if you have any advice for my ethical dilemma?
Evette

Dear Evette,
If you've been in the business for very long, I guess you've discovered that most retail stores make more money on credit than the sale of merchandise.



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

davesays

In my mind, you've got two types of integrity that are pulling at you. Your personal integrity wants you to do a good job for yourself and your employer, but it's also telling you that credit cards are bad products. That makes you feel like you've signed up to sell something that you don't believe in.

You wouldn't want someone working for you who wouldn't follow your instructions, and I wouldn't want someone working for me who doesn't believe in what they've been hired to do. For the sake of your own integrity, I would suggest that you find another part-time job. If you feel this strongly about the issue, sooner or later it will start to affect your performance and attitude—both at work and at home.

Hang on long enough to land another job before you quit. Then, be professional when you turn in your notice. Despite what lots of people say these days, there are plenty of part-time jobs out there!

—Dave

Raising the rent

Dear Dave,
I have two small duplexes in Idaho that I rent for \$400 a month, each on one-year leases. The rent is about \$50 to \$75 below similar units in the area. The tenants in all four places are great, so how do you know when—or if—you should raise the rent? If you raise the rent, how do you keep good relationships with your tenants?

Teresa

Dear Teresa,
My advice with rental properties is to raise the rent a little bit each year. You want to be fair and affordable for your

tenants, but you don't want them thinking the rate is locked in forever. As a business owner, if you don't have small, manageable increases on a regular basis, you'll look up in four or five years and realize you're losing money. Then, if you implement a big rate hike out of nowhere your tenants will have a fit. When it comes time to renew the leases, try explaining to them that you've looked around in the market and other very comparable units are going for \$450 or more, but that you appreciate them and what good tenants they are. Then, propose signing the new lease at \$410 or \$420. Don't raise it to full market value.
—Dave

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opinion

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Global Moral Confusion



CLINT
DECKER

President and
Evangelist with
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When we look at the news headlines any given week in America there is good reason to be concerned about the present state and future of our nation. Where are we headed? However, the concern does not stop just at our borders. When we look at worldwide events the concern is the same.

The Pew Research Center conducted the survey, Global Views on Morality. They selected eight topics deemed to be moral issues and asked people from 40 nations what they thought. The survey was telling. When the response categories

“Approve” and “Not a Moral Issue” were combined, between 17% and 75% of the world’s population does not seem to have a problem with divorce, adultery, birth control and many other moral issues.

What makes this alarming is what scientists call the “critical mass”. According to scientific data, it is believed that if 10% or more of a population strongly holds to an idea or belief it stands a chance at spreading to the majority. Since many moral issues have critical mass acceptance, the momentum of our moral trajectory for the future of the world is of legitimate concern.

Generally speaking, people may agree we are in a moral crisis. However, when we drill down into the details, division surfaces. One group believes the cultural acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle is a moral victory while another calls it a moral catastrophe. And so it goes for other issues too. Perhaps we are not so much dealing with a moral crisis as moral confusion.



The world has always faced this, but perhaps the scale and depth of depravity in our generation is like no other time. This rising tide of moral unrest and clarity can lead people to desperately search in random directions for inner peace, a cultural savior and answers to their deepest fears. This can lead to troubling solutions making the situation even more distressing.

What we need is a true north on our global moral compass. What is true north? What should be our standard for right and wrong? Where should we

go to find meaning and purpose for our life? Jesus! He once said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). In Him is found everything. When we abandon doing life our way and seek Him with a desperate heart we will find all we are searching for. Jesus is what our world needs now more than ever.

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

Is Your State a Big Spender?

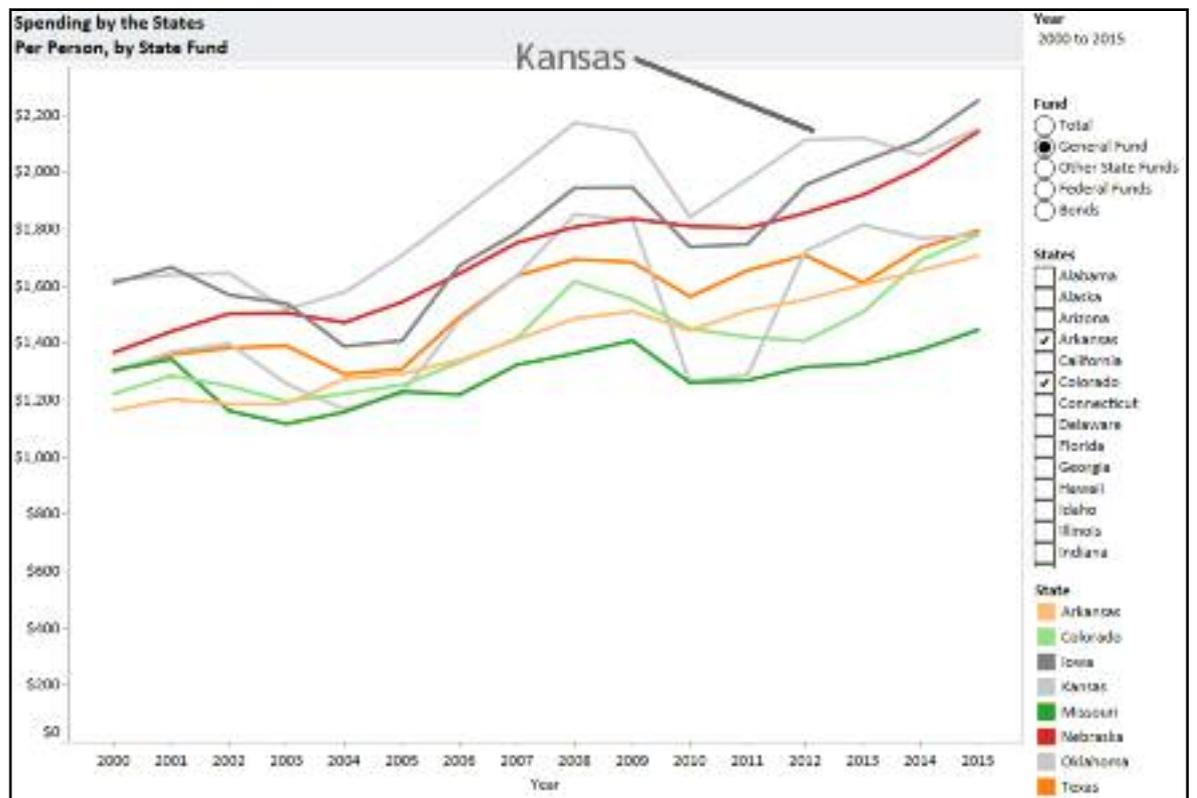
Spending in the states per capita ranked

Bob Weeks | WichitaLiberty.org

Is your state a big spender? Or is it frugal with your tax money?

To see how your state compares with others in spending, look at the chart to the right. The figures presented are per-person, and not adjusted for inflation.

The example appearing here shows general fund spending for Kansas and some surrounding states.



CONGDONS

continued from page 3

on the boards of Bibles for the World and John Brown University.

Melody Congdon is a Charleston, S.C., native and has a bachelor of science degree from Wash-burn University, Topeka, Kan. She is the chief administrator and dean of student life at Cair Para-vel Latin School, Topeka. Melody is also involved in several aspects of ministry at TBC. The Congdons were married in 1978.

The couple has four children and eight grandchildren.

The TBC Board has established a scholarship fund to commemorate this milestone and to honor the Congdons’ hearts for missions and education. The 40th Anniversary Scholarship Fund will provide financial support to international students who desire to come to the United States to further their education at seminary or at other institutions of higher education. Donations can be made on the DiscoverTBC.com website by click-

ing on the “Give” link.

Topeka Bible Church is a non-denominational church whose mission is lead people to life in Christ. TBC was founded in 1939 and has grown to encompass two buildings that flank the 1100 block of College Avenue in Central Topeka. TBCs ministries include missionaries at home and around the world; outreach services for the poor, homeless, children in need of adoption, widows, and single moms; and Bible study and small group opportunities for all ages and life stages.

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Why Welfare Fails The Poor and What to do to Fix It

By Robert Gehl (TPPP)

"I am for doing good to the poor, but I differ in opinion of the means. I think the best way of doing good to the poor, is not making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. In my youth I traveled much, and I observed in different countries, that the more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves, and of course became poorer."

— Benjamin Franklin

In an awesome commentary Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback explained why welfare today is failing the people it's supposed to serve.

It's failing, the governor contends, not because it's not delivering **enough** benefits to **enough** people. On the contrary, that's why it is failing. The proof lies in his own state.

Welfare is failing, just not for the reason you think.

For too long, conventional wisdom in Washington, D.C., has dictated the best way to move people out of poverty is to expand welfare programs so that individuals could possibly, gradually, work their way out of dependency.

Kansas' recent reform experience turns that notion upside down.

It is now clear that welfare fails because it ensnares people in poverty by paying them to not work. Welfare fails because it discourages people from improving their lives. So many recipients don't work and get caught on welfare, suffering in poverty for years...even generations.

Fortunately, there's a proven way to help.

Kansas shows what's possible when you free people from the welfare trap. With assistance from the Foundation for Government Accountability, Kansas just completed the most comprehensive welfare tracking project of its kind. We matched more than 41,000 individuals as they moved off welfare with their employment records at the state's Department of Labor.

Gov. Brownback describes the situation: Able-bodied Americans signing up for welfare after the Obama Administration waives work requirements for welfare recipients. People sign up in record numbers to receive \$200 every month without working at all, or even looking for work. "As a result," Gov. Brownback writes, "Only one in five did

any work at all. Almost all were in severe poverty."

The reform, the governor writes, is to restore work requirements and time limits for able-bodied adults on food stamps. Those changes cut the welfare rolls by 75 percent. A full 13,000 left the program in just a few months. The result: Americans who get off of food stamps don't just survive, they thrive.

When moved off food stamps, half of these Kansans began working immediately. Nearly three-fifths were employed within 12 months and their incomes rose by an average of 127 percent during that first year. Incomes kept increasing as they progressed to full-time work and increased their wages. Better still, those higher wages more than offset the food stamps lost, making them more financially secure. This is real success!

Kansas' simple reforms have led to more employment, higher incomes, less poverty, and lower spending.

Even those still on food stamps (but now required to work to keep them) are twice as likely to be working and have also substantially increased their incomes, though their overall incomes are still not as high as those freed completely from



welfare. The result is that these individuals now need less help and their average time on food stamps is cut in half.

What this all means, Brownback writes, is that the focus should be getting people off of welfare, not "simply tinkering" with Americans' experience while on welfare.

For too long, Washington, D.C. has encouraged states to extend food stamps and expand Medicaid to ever more able-bodied adults. They promised welfare as an economic stimulus and states – red and blue alike –bought it. The result is not stimulus, but malaise.

People on welfare are working less, earning less and as a result are trapped in poverty. Millions of them. It's a national

Kansas Board of Education Votes to Ignore Obama's Transgender Bathroom Directive

By Michael Gryboski | Christian Post

Kansas' public schools will not adhere to President Barack Obama's transgender bathroom directive, thanks to a vote taken by state leadership.

In a unanimous vote, the state Board of Education approved a statement last week rejecting the Obama Administration's directive on transgender student bathroom guidelines.

"We are firm in our belief that decisions about the care, safety and well-being of all students are best made by the local school district based on the needs and desires of the students, parents and communities they serve," read the statement in part.

"In Kansas, like many other states, our schools have been addressing transgender student needs with sensitivity and success for many years."

In May, President Obama sent a non-legally binding letter to all public schools in the country, directing them to allow students to use whatever facil-

ities correspond with their chosen gender identity. The letter threatened loss of funding to schools that don't comply.

In an interview with BuzzFeed

suit demanded that the directive be deemed "substantially unlawful" and "invalid."

The Obama administration has threatened to withhold federal aid from states that don't comply.

Kansas' Board of Education is not the only public school leadership rejecting the federal directive. In late May a Virginia school district passed an ordinance against the directive.

Grayson County School Board unanimously passed the ordinance saying that students could only use the bathroom that corresponded with their biological sex..

Grayson Superintendent Kelly Wilmore told LifeSite News in an interview that the ordinance was supported by the whole community, including Democrats.

"It wasn't the politics of just the Republican side ... it was a lot of people on the other side of the fence too [who] are really having concerns with who has access to the bathrooms," stated Wilmore.



News, President Obama argued that such a move was necessary to protect the dignity of transgendered individuals.

The directive has prompted outcry from many state governors and others, with Texas leading ten other states in a lawsuit against the federal government over the directive.

Filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, the law-

tragedy.

Fortunately, states have many reform tools to roll back what has become the gateway to dependency: food stamps. States can assist their citizens by restoring work requirements, time limits, asset tests, reducing eligibility loopholes, and eliminating fraud.

Once free, those previously dependent on the government are motivated to work and earn more than just money; they gain self-worth, dignity, and a hopeful future. All things a person can't get from welfare.

Americans know the value of hard work. That's why common-sense work requirements were core to the bipartisan 1996 welfare reform that turns 20 this year.

Now is the perfect time for Congress to expand work requirements and time limits for non-disabled adults on all welfare programs – including Medicaid, ObamaCare's Medicaid expansion, food stamps, and housing. It's time to start holding states to asset

tests for all welfare programs. It's time to return welfare to the truly needy and stop trapping Americans in government dependency.

With these reforms, Congress can help restore the working class and give real hope to millions still trapped in poverty and a failing welfare system.

One is reminded of one of the greatest commentaries on Welfare. While visiting in London in 1766, Benjamin Franklin wrote a letter to the London Chronicle on the debate raging on the domestic corn market and how to deal with that country's poor. Here were his thoughts on welfare:

I am for doing good to the poor, but I

differ in opinion of the means. I think the best way of doing good to the poor, is not making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. In my youth I traveled much, and I observed in different countries, that the more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves, and of course became poorer. And, on the contrary, the less was done for them, the more they did for themselves, and became richer.

There is no country in the world where so many provisions are established for them; so many hospitals to receive them when they are sick or lame, founded and maintained by voluntary charities; so many alms-houses for the aged of both sexes, together with a solemn general law made by the rich to subject their estates to a heavy tax for the support of the poor.

Under all these obligations, are our poor modest, humble, and thankful; and do they use their best endeavors to maintain themselves, and lighten our shoulders of this burthen? — On the contrary, I affirm that there is no country in the

world in which the poor are more idle, dissolute, drunken, and insolent.

The day you passed that act, you took away from before their eyes the greatest of all inducements to industry, frugality, and sobriety, by giving them a dependence on somewhat else than a careful accumulation during youth and health, for support in age or sickness.

In short, you offered a premium for the encouragement of idleness, and you should not now wonder that it has had its effect in the increase of poverty.

Repeal that law, and you will soon see a change in their manners. St. Monday, and St. Tuesday, will cease to be holidays. SIX days shalt thou labor, though one of the old commandments long treated as out of date, will again be looked upon as a respectable precept; industry will increase, and with it plenty among the lower people; their circumstances will mend, and more will be done for their happiness by injuring them to provide for themselves, than could be done by dividing all your estates among them.

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DAY TRIP!

Our Picks for 3 Great Day Trips for the Family

by Anita Widaman

Museum makes books come to life

My daughter returned from college with way too much to fit into her bedroom. After paring down items to go to the Thrift Store, garage sale, and the trash, I found one item she had decided to keep on her bookshelf and it made me smile. It was the Laura Ingalls Wilder set of books her father had given her.

To get acquainted with Wilder's story in Little House on the Prairie, you don't need the set of books. We are fortunate to be able to journey to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historical Home and Museum near Mansfield, Mo. There you'll find the home where Laura, at the age of 65, began writing her books. It is a day trip that is a multi-generational activity.

"The grandmother who read the book in the 70s can bring her daughter who experienced the books in the 90s, along with the granddaughter who is currently reading the book," the museum's



2016 and showcases Pa's fiddle. This year the Laura Ingalls Wilder Fiddle Off will be September 17, which brings 30-plus contestants from several states to compete in many divisions.

The homestead is open March through November 15, plus one weekend in December for "Christmas with Laura."

Don't miss her amazing life displayed at the museum. Visit www.lauraingallswilderhome.com.

All aboard!

If you travel in Europe, you likely use trains to get from point A to point B. On a family trip several years ago, we certainly enjoyed our trip from Paris to London. If you are from the Midwest (or the majority of the United States), you drive! But America once, before

the advent of the highway system, had a extensive system of passenger rails that carried the masses on long trips. That might be why Americans still seem fascinated with trains.

This is exactly what you experience when you visit Baldwin City and enjoy the Kansas Belle. Upon entering the train car, you are transported back to the 1940s, enjoying big band music.

"It is a novelty to ride on a

train," Bruce Eveland, manager of the Kansas Belle, told me. "Very few American have had the experience of enjoying dining as they ride,"

Bruce said that people of all ages enjoy the Kansas Belle, which began operation in 2013. "Kids are fascinated by trains. Conversely, people in their 90s have come for a birthday celebration. Grandpa wants to ride the train again after 50 years," he said.

It is an activity for the entire family and various options include a family friendly murder mystery, WWII USO show, or melodrama. The Saturday night dinner train is a five-course meal catered by the 23rd Street Brewery in Lawrence. The Sunday dinner is a three-course dinner that tends to be more family friendly, with a children's menu and rates.

The train leaves Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon on a three-hour journey over 22 miles of rails, where you enjoy beautiful Kansas scenery, the sunset or falling snow, depending on the season.

Although the Kansas Belle is a destination in itself, there are surrounding historical sites including nearby Baker University. There you can visit the Clarice L. Osborne Memorial Chapel, which was moved from Sproxtton, England, and the Quayle Bible Collection, a collection

of rare bibles and illuminated manuscripts. Also close by is the Black Jack Battlefield, referred to as the first armed battle of the Civil War. All aboard!

For info visit www.kansasbelle.com.

Crystal Bridges combines art and nature in Bentonville, Ark.

Everyone once in a while you need to "get out of Dodge!" If you find yourself in need of natural and man-made beauty, enjoy the easy drive to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Ark. The museum was funded and built by the Walton Family Foundation and opened in 2013, nestled among two spring-fed ponds surrounded by 120 acres of beautiful Ozark landscape. It's a work of art itself, having been designed by Moshe Safdie who also designed the Kaufmann Center in Kansas City. The 3.5 miles of walking trails surrounding it allows you to unwind and enjoy God's creation either on foot or bicycle.

Inside you'll enjoy masterpieces from the colonial era to the present, and all the work is by American artists. A few of the must-see pieces include Gilbert Stuart's "George Washington", Mary Cassatt's "The Reader"; Norman Rockwell's "Rosie the Riveter", and Andy Warhol's fun depiction of "Dolly Parton". The museum, which opened in 2011, is free.

This summer, July through September, the special exhibit is American Made: Treasures from the American Folk Art Museum. It includes 115 plus items that were hand-made by those living when our nation was young. The exhibit includes everyday items such as quilts, signs, weather vanes, etc., that shows creativity, skills and ingenuity. The special exhibit is free to those 18 and under and \$10 for adults.

In my family, food is always important on a road trip. The museum's Eleven Restaurant is a great place to grab a cup of coffee, lunch, or dinner and promotes "modern American comfort food with an emphasis on traditions that hail from the 'High South' region...the Ozarks." A special stop for many locals, plus visitors like Dwight and me, is Crepes by Paulette just off the Bentonville's downtown square. It took some convincing once Dwight saw the long line but, he agreed, it was well worth the wait. If you enjoy farmers markets, be sure to plan your visit to include the downtown farmers market that runs through October.

Perfect day trip

by Joe Whitson

I know what it's like to want nothing more than to just grab your backpack, jump in your car, and find some far away locale to spend a few quality days in the wilderness, but never feeling like you have the time to do it. You have a full (or more than full) time job. You're bogged down with school. You're a working parent. It would be great if we were all professional adventurers and could spend every day in the great outdoors, but the reality is that too often, even a weekend is more time than we can spare. Do not despair, for I bring you hope! The day trip.

The lowly day trip, often dismissed as the least of adventures, has for too long been undervalued. A well-planned and ambitious day trip is more than a consolation prize; it's an adventure unto itself. In order to help you make your day trip the amazing experience that it should be, I've come up with seven tips for planning the perfect day trip.

1. PLAN YOUR ROUTE

I love just following the wind as much as the next person and sometimes, not having a plan can lead you to amazing discoveries. That being said, many times you end up nowhere. Do some research before you leave. Where do you want to go? How long will it take? What is the most scenic route? Are there places you want to stop along the way? Even if the plan changes, knowing a little about what you're going to do cuts down on decisions the day of.

2. GET UP EARLY

Did you know by 8 a.m., the day is already a third over? Don't sleep your trip away! Get up with the sun or, even better, get up before the sun so that all that city driving is done in the dark and you can catch the sunrise somewhere awesome along the way. This is especially important in the winter when you may only get eight or so hours of daylight.

3. DON'T BE AFRAID OF A LONG DRIVE

There's that waterfall you've wanted to check out or that hidden beach, but it's five hours away and wow, ten hours of driving is way too long for a day trip, right? Wrong. Follow the above steps and book it to your destination. You'll be surprised at how much time you still have left. Or make the ride the destination, hopping from place to place and reaching the end at golden hour. The ride back always seems faster than the ride there.

4. PACK A LUNCH AND GO OUT FOR DINNER

There are places in this world where restaurants are few and far between, so be prepared and bring your lunch. This will help maximize those precious daylight hours and allow you to eat at some beautiful picnic ground or scenic lookout. When the sun sets, go find some unique local joint to wind down for dinner before the long drive home.

■ Continued on next page



lead docent, Vicki Johnston, told me. "Coming to the Wilder home is an activity they can do together, where all three can understand and connect."

The homestead welcomes 30,000 visitors each year and requires around 2 1/2 hours to tour Laura's garden, farmhouse, rock house, and the museum. If you've been there before, you'll now notice a new museum that opened in March of



Looking for a unique, country setting for your next family, faith-based, or corporate event? This private Country Estate is a great place to stay for a few hours, or for several days! Rest, relax and recreate with a playground for children, a patio/dance floor, fitness area, and games for all ages. Be prepared to be inspired by the awe of a Kansas sunset over the Flint Hills. Call for a tour. 785-554-3005



Day Trip Destinations You Will Love

by **Midwest Parent Educators**

Day trips can turn any boring summer week into something special! From popular favorites to some lesser-known destinations, we've got some excellent ideas from area homeschool moms:

Day trips in Kansas

• **Kansas Children's Discovery Center in Topeka.**

This interactive children's museum offers a range of programs, field trips and hands-on fun through 9 indoor exhibits and 4.5 wood acres of hiking trails, obstacle courses and bike paths.

• **Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison.**

Visit the cottage where Amelia Earhart lived and learn more about this famous aviator, who considered Atchison her home.

• **The Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan.**

Enjoy breathtaking views and histories of tallgrass prairie in North America, one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world. The Flint Hills Discovery Center offers a multimedia immersive experience, summer camps, and permanent as well as temporary exhibits.

• **Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson.**

Launch your summer's space exploration adventures with this museum, which features tours



through four galleries, as well as shows in three Cosmosphere theaters. The center also offers summer camps for grades 2-12.

• **Salt mine in Hutchinson.**

Don't miss this under-world experience in Hutchinson! The salt mine is one of the world's largest deposits, covering 27,000 square miles.

• **Nicodemus, a black pioneer town**

Discover the only remaining western community established by ex-slaves after the Civil War. The Nicodemus Community Center offers pamphlets, video presenta-

is home to educational workshops, such as blacksmithing, baking pies on the hearth, and making lye soap.

• **Pony Express Museum in St. Joseph.**



Relive the experience of the Pony Express riders as they braved dust storms, icy mountains, rugged terrain and other pitfalls to deliver mail around the United States. Browse exhibits such as the blacksmith and wheel wright shop, 1860s coin collection, and more.

• **Oliver Anderson House in Lexington.**

This beautiful house is part of the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site and exemplifies some of the large mansions built in Missouri during the Civil War period. The house was a strategic stronghold during the Battle of Lexington, when it changed hands between the Confederate and Union troops three times in one day: Sept. 18, 1861.



tions and a walking tour map and guide for visitors.

Day trips in Missouri

• **Missouri Town in Lee's Summit.**

The "Missouri Town 1855" living history museum spans 65 acres in Fleming Park, in eastern Jackson County. Complete with 25 period-appropriate structures, the museum

These are just a few of the gems awaiting you within an hour or three from home. There are many more out there if you just look -- enough to keep you busy on Day Trips for quite a while, providing you and your family with fond memories for many days to come.

5. DRESS FOR SUCCESS

There is no bad weather, only bad clothing. I think that's all I need to say here.

6. RECRUIT FRIENDS

We all like a solo trip once in a while (unless, you know, you're one of those extroverts), but long hours in the car and one of a kind hikes are just more fun when shared with friends. This is a great opportunity to bring all those friends who can never come camping because they are "too busy." Most people have a single free day once in a while.

7. DITCH THE PLAN

Alright, now that I've told you to be a good Boy Scout and be prepared, I'm going to remind you that sometimes you need to throw the plan out the window and grab opportunities as they present themselves. Be flexible. That waterfall will still be there for the next day trip, but that small town cheese curd festival only happens once a year and is something you don't want to miss.

Cleargold Worship Dance
Awestruck III

Sharing God's Word with the Grace, Power & Joy of dance!
Thursday, July 21, 7 PM, First Southern Baptist Ch., 1912 SW Gage Blvd

The community is invited to enjoy Worship with a mix of dance styles.
More information on Facebook: Cleargold Worship Dance

Cleargold is an ensemble of trained dancers who dedicate their talent to God & Christ. Over seven years, they danced at over 130 locations & events.

Free-will donations support Cleargold sharing inspiration for all, and workshops to children in poverty

Find us on **facebook** | **facebook.com/metro voice news**



VBS & SUMMER CAMPS

Camp Surf Shack VBS, 6:15 to 8:30pm July 10-July 14. Ages 3 through those entering fifth grade. Music, interactive Bible stories, science, crafts and hands-on mission activities. An ice-cream social will be held Sunday evening, and a light meal will be served Monday through Thursday evening. Cost \$15.

Susanna Wesley United Methodist Church, 7433 S.W. 29th, Call (785) 478-3697 or register at www.swumc.org/vacation-bible-camp.html.

"Royal" VBS, 6:30 to 9pm, July 18 to 21. Ages 3 through those entering sixth grade, will feature games, prizes and praise. It will focus on heroes of the Bible, including David, Daniel, Esther and Jesus. The last evening for boys is Camo attire night and for girls princess attire night. For info, visit lotwcc.org. E-mail kayla.mora@lotwcc.org or call 271-1010

Light of the World Christian Center, 3301 S.W. Gage

Going Deeper VBS . July 18-22 . 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Community Church . 1819 SW 21st St., Topeka

Kids aged 4-12 years

For more information or to register, call 233-3537

Barnyard Roundup Vacation Bible School July 18-22, 6 to 8:30 p.m. A light meal will be served. For ages 3 through 5th grade--Join us for fun Bible stories, games, songs and crafts!

Grantville United Methodist Church, 3724 South Street, Grantville, 785-246-3621

www.facebook.com/Grantville-United-Methodist-Church-762787747175075/

Barnyard Roundup VBS; Jesus Gathers Us Together June 20th - 24th (Monday - Friday) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

4 years old through those entering 4th Grade

Registration Deadline - June 1st; \$30 Registration Fee

Most Pure Heart of Mary, 3601 SW 17th St. 272-5590; mphm.com

VBS July 24-29, Classes start Sunday evening at 6p.m., and include an adult class.

Monday thru Thursday @ 5pm a light supper is served for attendees.

Friday evening will be a family supper, fun and games.

Northern Hills Baptist Church, 920 NW 62nd St, 246-0260

Cave Quest VBS: Following Jesus the Light of the World, July 25-29, 6:30-8 p.m.

Pre-K through 6th grade students. Cost: Free

Auburn Christian Church, 1351 N. Washington in Auburn (85th & Auburn Rd)

To register visit www.auburnchristian.net or contact 256-2155

Summer Vacation Bible School - July 29-31

Fun activities for kids with dinner on Friday evening and Saturday morning including lunch, with a VBS celebration service Sunday morning.

Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) Phone: 785-286-0601

VBS, July 31-August 4

6:30 till 8:30 pm

Heritage Baptist Church, 1937 NE Madison St., 506-4594

Topeka Zoo has various summer camps. Call 368-9137

YMCA offers several varieties of summer camps. Call 435-8645



Celebrate SUMMERTIME in Downtown Topeka!

Summertime is the perfect time to visit Downtown Topeka! There are many fun places and events to visit, and shopping downtown can also be fun, with all the unique shops and a bit of nostalgia in the air. It might remind you of a time when shopping was more exciting, more personal, and less of a chore. Following are some tidbits from some of your friendly downtown merchants. Why not take a trip downtown and visit them?

Hard to describe...

Have you been in to see Fabtastic Furniture at 628 S. Kansas Avenue? Its an amazing place! It seems owner Renee Herrera always has something new and unique each time we stop in.

It might be something RePurposed, Shabby Chic, Rustic or just something completely amazing. The



store specializes in chalk painting and repurposing, but they also

reupholster and refinish.

The quaint store has both finished and unfinished pieces of furniture. You can pick out the piece you want, she will work with you to design a one of a kind statement piece for your home or office. You can also bring in a piece of your own, or something you have that you never had time to work on yourself and she will finish it for you. Fabtastic Furniture is open Tuesday through Friday 10 am to 5 pm, and Saturday from 11 to 3. Stop in for a fun time. You can also find them on Facebook.

Healthy and Yummy Treats

Shana Cake was born out of the love of the owner for her daughter, Shana, when she had to begin eating a gluten-free diet. As a former high school chemistry teacher, owner Kelly Dempewolf



daughter. After testing the baked goods at the Lawrence Farmer's Market, the family discovered the huge need in the area for not only gluten-free baked goods, but treats and breads that are allergy-friendly in general.

Shana Cake opened the retail location at 435 S Kansas last December and the business has taken off beyond all expectations. The shop has a different selection each day of breads, donuts, cookies, cupcakes and other treats that are free of gluten, dairy, corn, soy, nuts, tree nuts, artificial colors and flavors, preservatives and GMO's. Most of the products can also be made egg-free, which also makes them Vegan, and there are some egg-free/Vegan baked goods each day at the shop. But be sure - you do not need to have special dietary needs to enjoy Shana Cake's baked goods - more and more customers are becoming "regulars" of the bakery even though they have no dietary restrictions simply because the products are delicious and missing all the artificial flavors, colors, preservatives and such!

Special orders, such as cakes, specific flavors of cupcakes or special treats are welcome and orders can be placed online at www.shanacake.com or by calling the shop at 785-408-1272.

knew that it would be important for her daughter to not feel deprived of the delicious things her friends would eat throughout the years.

To keep her from "cheating" and ending up sick, Kelly set out to develop delicious recipes that were safe for her

"Oh my gosh, I had no idea this cool place was here!"

Kymm Ledbetter, owner of Prairie Glass Studio at 110 SE 8th Ave., hears this all the time and is happily surprised when new customers walk through the



doors of her retail and working studio and express their delight.

Kymm would like to invite anyone who has not visited the studio to drop by and experience the summertime magic with hundreds of individually hand-made gifts made out of glass,



especially Kansas-themed gifts. It is also a location for classes if artists are interested in glass work.

A Full-Service Florist, Home Decor & Gift Shop Downtown

Absolute Design by Brenda, 629 S. Kansas Avenue, offers hand-selected flowers and exquisite designs with delivery throughout the Topeka area. They have an expansive line of gifts, jewelry and home decor for all your holiday and year-round needs.

Save \$5.00 by using the coupon on this page!



You can also order or wire flowers 24 hours a day at their website: www.absolutedesignbybrenda.com.

Hair Styling and Day Spa

Irene Redman started Avenue Hair Styling & Day Spa 29 years ago and remains the leader of skilled hair engi-



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SUMMERTIME Memories, Events, & Gift Ideas!

clocks, statues and fine crystal.

"Gifts can start at \$20.00 and go from there," said Mitzi from behind the counter at David's. "We will be glad to help you find that special gift for that special someone."

Antiques and Collectibles

For new and used antiques and collectibles, check out the Downtown Antiques and Collectibles Mall over at 500 SW Harrison.

They have lots of treasures to peruse, and you are sure to find something you've been looking for.

Pancakes and more

Hanover's Pancake House at 1034 S.



Kansas Avenue has been a local favorite since 1969! With a wide variety on the menu, and friendly service, it's a great place to stop for breakfast, lunch or brunch!

Don't stop with this incomplete list! There's plenty more to discover in Downtown Topeka this summer!

Check out these upcoming Downtown Summertime Events!

While you're making your way around the downtown area, check out the progress on both sides of the street -- there are lots of new features! Many of the renovations are well under way or completed. And watch for these downtown events coming up:

NOONTIME BROWN BAG CONCERT - Every Wednesday, Westar Pocket Park, 818 S Kansas, 11am - 1pm.



ART WALK ON FIRST FRIDAYS - Downtown & NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, many more items.

LIVE TRIVIA DOWNTOWN - Monday nights - 6pm to 8pm @ HHB BBQ, 906 S Kansas. Teams play for free hoping to get into the finals for prizes. 20 questions (all topics) per night. Public & teams welcome!

CAPITOL MIDWEEK FARMERS MARKET - Every Wed., May 11 thru Oct. 12, 7:30am - 12pm, Corner of 10th & Jackson on the South side of the Capitol Lawn

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

SOUTH STEPS FRIDAY - 11am-1pm at Kansas Statehouse - Live music courtesy of Reach Out Kansas and the KU School of Music. Enjoy live music and learn about Kansas attractions & organizations.

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT SERIES - moved to July 29, 5:30pm, Downtown Topeka. Mark & the Sharks.

CAPITOL MIDWEEK FARMERS MARKET - Every Wed., May 11 thru Oct. 12, 7:30am - 12pm, Corner of 10th & Jackson on the South side of the Capitol Lawn

URBAN SLIDE - July 2, 10am-7pm, 8pm-10, and July 3, 10am-5pm, 9th & Kansas Avenue. A massive water slide event. For info: carnivalguy.com

KANSAS BAND CONCERT - Jul. 2, 7-11:55pm. KS Expocentre. Free event.

FIESTA MEXICANA PARADE - July 9, 10am-1pm Downtown. For info: www.olg-parish.org/fiesta

9TH ANNUAL RAILROAD FESTIVAL - July 9, 9:30-4:30, Great Overland Station, 701 N Kansas Ave. A fun filled day of family friendly activities and entertainment! Exciting new entertainers and new vendors

& activities for the whole family. \$7 Advance tickets at Dillons, HyVee and the Great Overland Station. At the door \$10. More info: www.greatoverlandstation.com/index.html or 232-5533

CYCLOVIA TOPEKA - July 29 & 30, Downtown Topeka. Cyclovía is a Spanish term that means "cycle way", or the closing of certain streets to automobiles for cyclist and pedestrians. The theme of the event will revolve around bicycles and focus on overall health, wellness and active living. Yoga, Zumba, aerobics, healthy eating, and a health fair will all play a part in the weekend's activities, as well as food trucks & a scavenger hunt. Vendors: Contact Rosa Cavazos at Rosa@VisitTopeka.com or 785-234-1030

KANSAS BALLET SUMMER GALA - Jul. 30, 6-8pm. Topeka Performing Arts Center. Dancers from Ukraine, India, and Kansas City Ballet. \$10. For info: 785-383-7918 or kansasballet.com

TOPEKA (Downtown) OPTIMIST CLUB - Every Fri., noon, Top of the Tower. Serving

the youth of Topeka. Anyone welcome. For info: 272-1099 or fostern60@yahoo.com.

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

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

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

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

neer and spa treatments. Come in for classic haircuts or cutting edge hairstyles. Take a perm to curl your locks or a Brazilian blowout to smooth unruly frizz.

Day Spa services include pedicures, manicures, facials, body wraps and massage. They accommodate individuals and 'girls day' outings. Massages may also accommodate couples. Gift certificates are available. Avenue Hair Styling & Day Spa is located at 630 S. Kansas Avenue.

Diamonds are Forever

You'll find many specials and gift ideas at David's Jewelers, 623 S. Kansas - a family business that has served Topeka for four generations. Diamond rings, pendants and earrings usually top the



list but they also offer vivid colored gemstones in unique settings, watches,

The Historic Dillon House

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"We will be glad to help you find that special gift, from \$20 and up!"

David's is open Monday - Friday 9-5:30 and Saturday 9-3.
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A SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION OF THE METRO VOICE! CALL 235-3340 TO BE FEATURED ON THIS PAGE!

Beware of New Email Tax Scam

By Peggy Beasterfield
 Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service

As a former president of the National Association of Tax Professionals, Kansas chapter, I know how important it is to keep up-to-date on all tax issues. So I monitor all IRS alerts and correspondence. As a result, I have come across a new Email Tax Scam targeting taxpayers this summer.

The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) reports that taxpayers are receiving emails that appear to be from TAP about a tax refund. DO NOT RESPOND to these emails. They are a phishing scam where

unsolicited emails, which seem to come from legitimate organizations, are really from scammers trying to find personal and financial information from unsuspecting victims.

If you receive an email that appears to be from TAP regarding personal tax information, please forward it to phishing@irs.gov.

Another scam to be on the watch for is criminals impersonating IRS agents calling taxpayers and asking



for personal information such as Social Security numbers or personal financial data such as banking information. If this happens to you please report any phone numbers or email addresses to TIGTA at (800) 366-4484.

At Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service we are vigilantly monitoring all aspects of tax issues for our clients. With over 20 years of experience we can help you with all your Tax and Accounting needs.

Call us today at (785) 286-7899 or visit us on the web at www.peggystaxks.com to see how we may help you now and in the future.



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Get Rockstar Detailing without Rockstar Prices

Rockstar Detailing is a family run auto detailing business that was started in 2008 and has been serving the needs of Topekans ever since. At Rockstar Detailing, they make it their business to continually research and find the most effective and beautifying auto detailing products, according to owner Trevon Ewing.

"We will rejuvenate and restore

your car to its original luster and help make you proud of your vehicle," Ewing said. "Whether you have

kids, pets or are planning on someone special riding in your car...let Rockstar Detailing in Topeka clean your vehicle to its very best condition. We promise you will drive away with a smile and come back again!"

Rockstar Detailing is located at Squeaky Clean Car Wash, 2010 SW Ashworth Place, behind Sonic Drive In. You can call them at 554-9302 or visit their website at www.rockstardetailing.com.




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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

NOONTIME BROWN BAG CONCERT - Every Wednesday 11-1, Westar Pocket Park, 818 S Kansas. July 6: KNowBe (Justin Fowler & Elvin Graves Jr). July 13: Ellie Smith of Smith & Liston.

EVENING CONCERTS IN THE PARK - July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 7-9pm, Gage Park Amphitheater. Discover that wonderful pastime of sitting under big shade trees in the cool of the summer evening just to relax & listen to the sounds of the big bands. Bring a blanket & a picnic dinner, or sit on our benches. For info: 785-251-2680

SOUTH STEPS FRIDAY - Every Friday this summer, 11am-1pm at Kansas Statehouse - Live music courtesy of Reach Out Kansas and the KU School of Music. Enjoy live music and learn about Kansas attractions & organizations. Bring your lunch or visit the food vendors.

KANSAS BAND CONCERT - Jul. 2, 7-11:55pm. Downtown Topeka. Free event.

A CONCERT OF PATRIOTIC MUSIC - Jul. 3, 6pm. South side of Topeka High, 800 SW 10th. Outdoor concert presented by Jerry Anderson. You are invited to bring lawn chairs or blankets.

THE WRIGHTS - July 8, 8pm, Classic Bean. Acoustic Pop/Classics/Standards. 289-8905. thewrightsministries.com

HILLSONG UNLIMITED - July 27, 7pm, Sprint Center, KCMO. Special guest Lauren Daigle. 888-929-7849 or premiereproductions.com.

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT SERIES - moved to July 29, 5:30pm, Downtown Topeka. Mark & the Sharks.

BOBBY BOWEN CONCERT - July 29, 7pm, Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene. The Bobby Bowen Family Band. Free will offering

SUMMER SUNSET CONCERT - July 30, 6-9pm. Old Prairie Town at Ward Meade Park, 124 NW Fillmore. Bring your family for this fun-filled evening to listen to wonderful local artists performing at their best. Bring your lawn-chair and enjoy the beautiful setting, while listening to great music! A family friendly event & children are welcome! Parking at 1st & Clay. Price: \$3/person; Children under 10 free. For info: 785-251-2992

THE WRIGHTS - July 31, 6pm, First Southern Baptist Church. 289-8905. thewrightsministries.com

WILLIE NELSON & FAMILY - Aug. 2, 7:30pm. Topeka Performing Arts Center. Willie Nelson & Family with Leon Russell.

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

LIFEFEST - 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

FREEDOM FEST - Jul. 2, 4-8pm, Oakland Nazarene Church, 939 NE Oakland Ave. Free carnival-type event with food, games, prizes, obstacle course, jumping castle, slip 'n slide, health fair, live bands, police motorcycles, firetruck and more.

FIREWORKS CONCERT - July 3, 7pm, Faith Family Life Centre, 3710 NW Topeka Blvd. Commonfolk in concert, hotdogs, icecream, and fireworks show. Free. 286-0429

COMMUNITY INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION - July 4, 10am, Grace Cathedral, 701 SW 8th Ave. To register for the Community Chorus, sign up at the Cathedral office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. June 2 is first rehearsal at 7 p.m. For info: 235-3457

FIRST WEDNESDAY CAFE - July 6, 6:15pm. Susanna Wesley United Methodist Church, 7433 S.W. 29th. The menu will include Cold Cut Bar, Tossed Salad, Marinated Veggies, Chips. Cost is \$6 adult and \$3 for children. Call Susanna Wesley at 785-478-3697 or go to www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up.html to sign up.

COMMUNITY DINNER - July 6, 5-6:30pm, Tecumseh United Methodist Church. Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, etc., for free will donation.

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.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY - Jul. 9, 9am-4pm. Central Presbyterian Church, 920 SW Huntoon. Craft Bazaar. For info call 221-8597 and ask for Joyce.

FREE MOVIE NIGHT - July 9, 6-8:30pm. Highland Heights Christian Church, 2930 SE Tecumseh Rd. You are invited to enjoy the Free Movie, "Faith of Our Fathers" - about a pair of Vietnam veterans who report for duty in 1969 with different outlooks on faith and meet again 25 years later at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Snacks will be provided. Doors open at 5:30. Child care available for children 6 and under - call 379-5642 in advance.

STRONGMAN BUBBA DOWLING - July 10, Lighthouse Church, 4110 NW 62nd St. Bubba will speak at the Men's Breakfast at 9am, then will speak at the 10:30am service. Bubba will be performing great feats of strength such as bending steel, breaking bats, rolling up frying pans, etc., as well as sharing a message pertaining to each demonstration. 785-246-0138

ORGAN DEDICATION - July 10, 4pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 S.W. 29th. Dedication service for a new Rodgers 588 organ. Organist David Rankin will be featured. A reception will follow.

OPERATION SAVE AMERICA - July 16-23, Word of Life Church, 3811 N Meridian, Wichita. Marks the 25th Anniversary of the Summer of Mercy, a time of passionate repentance for the rights of the unborn. It is time to gather again and resist evil in our country. For more details and hotel information go to <http://www.operationssaveamerica.org>.

CLOTHING EXCHANGE - July 30 & Aug. 6, 10am-2pm. Topeka Free Methodist Ch. - 3450 SE Indiana Ave.

ANNUAL SON-SHINE CARNIVAL - Aug. 20, 11-3, Crossroads Wesleyan Church, 2121 SW Harrison. Food, music, games, waterslide, silent auction, prizes, cake walk & fun for all! Free admission. 230-4362

SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

LOVE WORTH FIGHTING FOR - Jul. 12 & 16, 6pm, Light of the World, 3301 SW Gage Blvd. A marriage & family

event, featuring teaching by Kirk Cameron & music by Warren Barfield, designed to strengthen & encourage your marriage & family. Tickets \$22.50. 785-271-1010.

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@tscpl.org

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

SILVER LAKE FARMERS MARKET - Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Jun. 7 - Sep. 6, Silver Lake Public Library, 203 Railroad Street, Silver Lake

EAST TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET - Tuesdays 3-7pm, begins May 24, 2010 SE California - Topeka Housing Authority

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

CAPITOL MIDWEEK FARMERS MARKET - Every Wed., May 11 thru Oct. 12, 7:30am - 12pm, Corner of 10th & Jackson on the South side of the Capitol Lawn

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

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

MOTHER TERESA'S FARMERS MARKET - Saturdays 8:30-11:30am, Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church 2014 NW 46th St.

SWAP MEET AT PREMIERE FARM & HOME - last Sat. of every month thru Oct., 900 S Kansas Blvd, 7 am to noon. Laying hens, pullets, baby chicks, guineas, ducks, geese, and more.

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

WHITE LAKES MARKET - 1st Sat & Sun of every month 9 am - 3 pm

ROTARY FREEDOM FESTIVAL - July 2, 11am to 5pm, Constitution Hall, 429 S Kansas. Celebrate the 160th Anniversary of the Topeka Legislature's first meeting and dispersal by US Calvary. See and visit with re-

Every Wednesday
May 13 thru August 31
11am to 1pm
Downtown Topeka!

JUL. 6 EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 818 S. KANSAS AVENUE

enactors, see and touch historical cannons and other related activities on South Kansas Avenue.

URBAN SLIDE - July 2, 10am-7pm, 8pm-10, and July 3, 10am-5pm, 9th & Kansas Avenue. A massive water slide event. For info: carnivalguy.com

KANSAS BAND CONCERT EVENT - Jul. 2, 7-11:55pm. KS Expocentre. Gates open at 3pm. Free event. Local bands perform 3-6pm; followed by Maria the Mexican at 6pm, Zac Harmon Band at 7:15, KANSAS at 9pm. Food trucks & Beer Gardens available.

SPIRIT OF KANSAS INDEPENDENCE DAY & BLUES FESTIVAL - Jul. 4, 12-11pm. Lake Shawnee. Pony Rides, arts & crafts, vendors, music. Fireworks display at 10pm.

FREEDOM WORKOUT - July 4, 8-10am, Pinnacle Fitness, 907 SW 37th. Three 30 minute classes FREE to the public. Members and non-members are invited. Classes being held are Insanity, Zumba, and HIT Fit Camp.

SUNFLOWER STATE GAMES - July 8 - July 24. Registration is now open for the 2016 Sunflower State Games. The 27th Annual Olympic style sports festival will take place in Topeka, July 10-26. Over 45 sports will be offered for participants of all ages and skill levels. Info & registration procedures can be found at sunflowergames.com. For info: 785-235-2295 or admin@sunflowergames.com

BASE BALL NIGHT - July 8, 7pm, Kansas Museum of History, 6425 SW 6th. The Shawnees and Westerns return to action to play 1860 rules base ball starting at 7:00. After the game, stick around for a screening of White Christmas featuring Bing Crosby

SUNDOWN FILM FESTIVAL: "White Christmas" - July 8, 9-11pm, Kansas Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th. Bring blankets & lawn chairs for an outdoor movie event. Museum open 5-9pm. Admission free to museum & movie. Held indoors in case of rain. 272-8681

9TH ANNUAL RAILROAD FESTIVAL - July 9, 9:30-4:30, Great Overland Station, 701 N Kansas Ave. A fun filled day of family friendly activities and entertainment!

BOBBY BOWEN FAMILY BAND

TOPEKA KANSAS CONCERT
FRIDAY JULY 29, 2016 - 7:00 PM
FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH
1231 NW EUGENE ST
TOPEKA, KANSAS
LOVE OFFERING

C5Alive: Promoting and Supporting

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

Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce

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

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

- **C5Alive POWER Luncheons** - (2nd Thur. ea. mo.)
- **July 14, 11:30-1, Ramada West. Featured Speaker: Barry Feaker, Topeka Rescue Mission**
- **Aug. 11, 11:30-1, HHB BBQ Downtown Update - Vince Frye & Edie Smith**
- **Sep. 8, 11:30-1, Old Prairie Town**
- **Oct. 13, 11:30-1, Great Overland Station - "Pastors Appreciation Luncheon"**

Save the Dates!

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/C5Alive

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

Topeka Railroad Festival
Saturday, July 9, 2016
9:30am - 4:30pm

Model Trains • Live Entertainment • Food Trucks
Children's Activities • Depot Tours
Mini-Hand Car Rides • Vendors

Great Overland Station • 701 N Kansas Avenue
www.greatoverlandstation.com

Tickets: In advance \$7, At the door \$10
Tickets available at Great Overland Station, Dillons, HyVee

Exciting new entertainers and new vendors & activities for the whole family. \$7 Advance tickets at Dillons, HyVee and the Great Overland Station. At the door \$10. More info: 232-5533 or www.greatoverlandstation.com/index.html

FIESTA MEXICANA PARADE – July 9, 10am-1pm Downtown. For info: www.olg-parish.org/fiesta

COMBAT AIR MUSEUM YOUNG AVIATORS CLASSES – Jul. 11-14, Aug. 1-4, 9am-12:30pm. 7016 SE Forbes Ave. Summer Camps for youth ages 8-12. \$50 per student. For info: 785-862-3303

SHAWNEE COUNTY BASEBALL HALL OF FAME BANQUET AND INDUCTION CEREMONY – Jul. 11, 6-8pm. Lake Shawnee Event Center, 3025 SE Croco Rd. \$25 per ticket, or \$180 for table of eight. Info: 251-2685

FIESTA MEXICANA – July 12 -16, 4-10pm. Our Lady of Guadalupe, 201 NE Chandler. Food sales begin at 4 p.m. every day and continue until food is sold out. Fill up on homemade tacos, enchiladas, tamales, burritos and more. Stick around and ride the merry-go-round, the Ferris Wheel and roller coaster at the nightly carnival beginning at 6 p.m. Make sure to stop by the Fiesta Mercado, located in front of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church to browse through authentic Mexican clothing, jewelry, souvenirs and more. For info: www.olg-parish.org/fiesta

40TH ANNUAL MERIDEN THRESHING SHOW – Jul. 15-17, 8am - 4pm, 8275 K4 Hwy, Meriden. Featuring: Allis Chalmers Tractors, Fairbanks Morse Engines. Buttons are \$6 at the gate, good for entire weekend.

UP RIVER RUN – July 16. The dirty girls will explore a new section of the Kansas River, taking you on a beautiful route from St. George to Wamego. Skill Level: Moderate. Cost: \$50. Registration required: dirty-girladventures.net/dirty-shop/

MJ'S MEMORIES 6TH ANNUAL 2 MILE WALK – Jul. 16, 9am - 12pm, Topeka Zoo. Walk to raise money to donate care packages and memory boxes to Stormont-Vail NICU, Children's Mercy Hospital, and individuals. For info: megan@projectsweetpeas.com or facebook.com/mjsmemories.

SURVIVE THE RIVER – Jul. 16, 8 - 11:30am, Shawnee North Family Aquatic Center, 300 N E 43rd St. Over the Rainbow Adventures Association is sponsoring this fun water walking event to promote fitness and outdoor activities for people of all sizes, ages, and abilities. 7:30am check-in. Online registration closes on July 14,

11:00am or when sold out.

THERAPY DOG SEMINAR – Jul. 16, 3-4:45pm, Camo Cross Dog Training, 3526 S E 21st St. Former Pet Partners Evaluator Kathy Schlotterbeck will conduct a one hour HUMANS ONLY seminar to discuss differences between Therapy Dogs and Service Dogs, what to expect on the Therapy dog test, what Therapy Dog certification means, etc. \$15/household. RSVP at Facebook event, or e-mail camocrossdogtraining@gmail.com.

THIRD THURSDAY - FOOD, DRINKS & LIVE MUSIC – July 21, 5-7pm, Heritage Hall, Kansas Expocentre. Bud & burgers and live music from Jake Stone. Admission and parking is free

SHAWNEE COUNTY 4H FAIR – July 21- 24. Kansas Expocentre. Info: 235-1986 or shawneecountyfair.org

CLEARGOLD'S AWESTRUCK III WORSHIP DANCE CONCERT – July 21, 7-8pm, First Southern Baptist Church, 1912 SW Gage. Cleargold dancers sharing God's Word with the Grace, Power & Joy of dance. Community invited. Free will offering.

WEST FEST – Jul. 23, 10am, Kansas Historical Society, 6425 SW 6th Ave. National Day of the Cowboy is fun for preschool and the whole family. Inside activities including rope making, crafts, & balloon animals & outside activities like miniature ponies, stagecoach rides, & donkey cart rides. Free hotdogs & chips 11am - 1pm while supplies last. Most outside activities free; inside activities and rides charge a fee. kshs.org

MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER – Jul. 23, 12:00pm, Lake Shawnee, Shelter House #1, 3400 SE Leisure Lane. A 5k noncompetitive walk that raises money for the American Cancer Society's mission to find a cure for breast cancer. Funds go to breast cancer research, education, advocacy & free patient programs & services that are available here in Northeast Kansas. www.makingstrideswalk.org/topekaks

NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY – July 23, 10am-2pm, Flint Hills Discovery Center. Celebrate the American Cowboy, a meet rodeo queens, get your face painted, try your hand at horse shoes, barrel racing and so much more! www.flinthillsdiscovery.org or 785.587.2726

CYCLOVIA TOPEKA - July 29 & 30, Downtown Topeka. Cyclovia is a Spanish term that means "cycle way", or the closing of certain streets to automobiles for cyclist and pedestrians. The theme of the event will revolve

around bicycles and focus on overall health, wellness and active living. Yoga, Zumba, aerobics, healthy eating, and a health fair will all play a part in the weekend's activities, as well as food trucks & a scavenger hunt. Vendors: Contact Rosa Cavazos at Rosa@VisitTopeka.com or 785-234-1030

KANSAS BALLET SUMMER GALA – Jul. 30, 6-8pm. Topeka Performing Arts Center. Dancers from Ukraine, India, and Kansas City Ballet. \$10. For info: 785-383-7918 or kansasballet.com

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS – Jul. 30, 9-11:30pm. Bettis Family Sports Complex, 3025 SE Croco Rd. Bring lawn chairs or blankets. Concessions available. Outside food and drinks not allowed.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENTS – Aug. 6. National Night Out events throughout Topeka and Shawnee Co.

KANSAS BOOK FESTIVAL – Aug. 10, 9am-4pm. Kansas State Capitol, 300 SW 10th St. Book signings, food, presenting authors, and children's activities. Free. For info: kansasbookfestival.com

GETTING UP FROM THE FALL 5K RUN/WALK - August 13, 9am, Carbondale Ball Diamonds. Benefit for Sophia Grace Rhoads. For info, go to gettingupfromthefall.com.

(RUN) FOR ONE 5K - Aug. 20, 8am, Iliiff Commons, NE 31st St. Help our (un)adopted ministry where we serve children across the globe who will unfortunately never be adopted. We work with churches in other countries to provide training, life and job skills to young people while sharing the gospel so they have a brighter, fuller future! Have a great time running or walking in our 5K while supporting an amazing ministry of Lifeline Children's Services! \$30. Runforone5k.org 783-4577

21ST ANNUAL BRUCE WHALEY SPIRIT RIDE – Aug. 27, 8 am, Lake Shawnee Shelter house # 2. Money raised donated to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for patient aid in our area. A 6.5 Family Fun ride, or 25 or 50 mile ride through southeast Shawnee County. Registration at 8am, ride at 8:30am. Cost: \$25 Early Registration, \$30 after 8/17. Includes SAGs & Pizza for lunch following the ride. More information visit KVBC.org or call 785-379-0534. Helmets required! No T-shirts guaranteed for Late Registration

AGED TO PERFECTION 1 MILE/5K RUN/WALK – Sep. 3, 9am, Washburn University Campus. Includes T-shirt, "Finisher's Medal." Walk/run with or in honor of an aged parent, grandparent, or great-grandparent. Fundraiser for the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging's Guardian Angel Fund with co-sponsorship from Genesis Health Clubs. Virtual option available. All generations welcome! Register at www.jhawkaa.org.

MEETINGS & CLASSES

C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON – Jul. 14, 11:30-1 at Ramada West. This month's Christian Chamber of Commerce luncheon will feature Barry Feaker.

- Cost: \$10 for C5 members & first-time guests who RSVP, \$12 at the door
- \$15 for non-members & repeat guests.
- Please RSVP to info@C5Alive.org, so we know how much food is needed!

Open to the public – Put POWER in your life with great food, great speakers & great company! Invite a friend! (Next month: Aug. 11 downtown at HHB with Vince Frye & Edie Smith)

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

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA MEETING - Join other concerned individuals to pray and unite in action for Shawnee County and our Nation. For info about monthly meetings: 785-260-5659 or ks.cwfa.org.

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.ccong-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.topekataba.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 ourladyofthefaithful@gmail.com. Facebook: "OurLadyoftheFaithful."

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.

PRODUCT	TYPE	QUANTITY	PRICE
Business cards	12 pt, full color, front	500	\$45
Business cards	12 pt, full color, front	1,000	\$60
Letterhead	70# smooth text, full color, front	500	\$95
Brochures	Gloss, full color, two sided tri-fold	250-999	\$4.00 each
Brochures	Gloss, full color, two sided tri-fold	over 1,000	\$0.35 each
Postcards	12 pt, full color, two sided, 8.5x5.5	500-999	\$0.20 each
Postcards	12 pt, full color, two sided, 8.5x5.5	1,000-1,999	\$0.18 each
Postcards	12 pt, full color, two sided, 5.5x4.25	500-999	\$0.15 each
Postcards	12 pt, full color, two sided, 5.5x4.25	1,000-1,999	\$0.13 each
Tablet posters	Gloss, full color, 12x18	1	\$1.00 each
Color copies		up to 500	\$0.25 each
BBW copies		up to 500	\$0.10 each
Vinyl Banners	Full color		\$5.00/sq ft

Call for additional quantities and other services and materials not listed. 888.364.4611

888.364.4611 - www.marketingconceptsks.com

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, Huntoon & 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 fostern60@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.

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; biblequizzing.org

MONTHLY SCORE MEETING – 1st Sat., 8-9:30am, Washburn Tech, 5724 SW Huntoon (enter east doors facing Huntoon). No RSVP or fee. Small business owners are invited to a Breakfast Roundtable discussion with (Service Corps of Retired Executives. For info: 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 Recent Loss 1st and 3rd Thu., 10:30am & 5:30pm—Ongoing Adult Group 1st and 3rd Thu., 5:30pm: Ongoing Young Adult Group (4-18 years of age) For All Groups: Call for start dates and info packet. Group and individual grief support available upon request. For info: 785-232-2044 ext.341

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS – for friends & families of alcoholics. For info: 785-409-3072 or 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: Bill Goble, 249-9509. All inquiries are confidential.

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.

"HEALING HEARTS" 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, 249-0983.

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 appointments; other times are available. Call Terry Frizzell directly at (785)230-6730. 3rd Thurs., 11am, Lunch After Loss, Paisano's Ristorante, Fleming Place, 10th & Gage. 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. 357-8774; sunflowerintergroup.aa.org.

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

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, Pozez 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.

Christian Neighbor Center

(also known as Christian Street Witness, Inc.)
107 SW 14th St., Topeka, KS 66612
785-354-8763 or 785-215-7505

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36 (NIV)

Our Mission: to witness the Good News of Jesus Christ, to feed and clothe the hungry, to teach the Bible and Christian conduct, to help mankind by establishing rehabilitation projects, and by engaging in business to support the above-mentioned goals.

The Christian Neighbor Center offers a safe place for Christians to become acquainted with "street people" and the difficulties they face. This in turn provides the opportunity for Christians to be a living witness to people in crisis.

Who we help: the down and out, abused women & children, drug addicts, alcoholics, widows & orphans, ex-convicts, etc.

How we help: Christian counseling, rehabilitation & support services to establish such individuals in a stable and productive lifestyle; help to find and maintain employment, Bible studies, telephone crisis counseling, and more.

How you can partner with us & God in this ministry:

Daily needs:

- clean clothing items
- non-perishable food items
- paper plates & napkins
- coffee & filters, plastic utensils
- slow cooking liners for soups
- dish soap, aluminum foil
- cleaning items, toilet paper
- 40 gallon trash bags
- stamps

Reconstruction needs:

- double-pane windows
- bathroom remodel
- kitchen remodel & plumbing
- new exit doors
- new carpet
- sidewalk replacement
- driveway repair
- new furnace
- central air installation

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entertainment

MOVIES, BOOKS, MUSIC & MORE!

Important life lessons learned from Finding Dory

entertainment

 by **Michael Faust**

Kids once learned lessons about life through books. That's still the case for many children, but for the rest of them, movies have helped fill the gap.

That can be scary thought when you consider what Hollywood is putting in theaters, but for families who watched Finding Dory — which set an opening-weekend box office record for an animated movie — it's a good thing.

The Disney/Pixar flick is full of positive life lessons for both children and adults, as I discovered when I took my 8-year-old son to it on opening night. As we drove home, he and I discussed what we could take away from a film that, yes, was both entertaining and hilarious but that also had a great message.

Here are four lessons for families:

1. Disabilities are mere speedbumps.

Dory suffers from a short-term memory loss, and three of her friends — a whale shark (near-sighted), a beluga whale (seemingly no echo location ability) and an octopus (only seven arms) — have



what amount to disabilities.

On the surface this appears as nothing more than a clever plot twist for jokes, but it's more than that. Dory's parents agonize as they cry and wonder: How will she make it in life? Dory, of course, struggles with self-doubt, thinking she won't ever achieve her goal. Yet everyone is cheering for her.

In the end, she does find her parents, who are beaming with pride and excitement as they realize she found them by herself. No, it wasn't easy, but Dory over-

comes her disability and proved everyone wrong — and kids of all ages and abilities can learn from it.

2. Have a heart — and guard your words.

Sure, we laugh as Dory forgets something every three seconds, and that's perfectly fine because it's a cartoon fish. But as her friend Marlin learns, even a fish with a short-term memory loss can remember harmful words.

Marlin belittles Dory at one point and he soon regrets it, but by then the harm is

done. (Although they do become friends again.)

The weekend after my son and I watched Finding Dory, we went to a restaurant where he noticed a woman with a mental disability at an adjoining table. He had lots of questions, and most of the answers involved God, but at some point that day I did toss Finding Dory in there. It's a great film for introducing kids to a complex topic.

3. Support your children.

Yes, Dory's achievement was incredible, but don't miss how much her parents loved and helped her every step during her childhood.

"We will never forget you Dory," her mom reassures her during one discouraging moment, when Dory had forgotten something important.

Although Dory gets swept away at sea early in the movie, she begins to remember things her parents told her to keep her safe, even if she doesn't always know the source.

By the end of the film, we realize it has been years since Dory had last seen her parents, but the lessons they had taught her — and the love they had showed her — had kept her alive. What an amazing reminder to parents that those

film411
FINDING DORY
STARS: Ellen DeGeneres, Albert Brooks, Ed O'Neill, Kaitlin Olson, Hayden Rolence, Ty Burrell, Diane Keaton

WRITERS: Andrew Stanton, Angus MacLane

mundane day-to-day moments will eventually have an impact.

4. Life is precious.

Who would have thought that Disney and Pixar would give us a blockbuster movie with a pro-life message? Of course, the film's message is not technically about abortion, but when you realize that our modern-day medical community promotes prenatal screening tests so as to identify birth defects, then the message of Finding Dory does indeed cross into the pro-life debate.

The majority of babies with Down Syndrome and Spina Bifida in the U.S. are aborted. In other countries, young babies with cleft palate lips are often abandoned.

Finding Dory teaches us that all lives — even the lives of those who look and act different — are worthwhile.

Michael Faust has covered the Christian film industry for a decade. He blogs at MichaelFoust.com.

Love conquers all in long-awaited sequel

Reunions can be so awkward.

Take, for instance, the newest fracas between humanity and the aliens from the recently resurged Independence Day franchise. There hasn't been this much bad blood—some red, some slimy—since Hatfield-McCoy family camp. Last time these two species met, lives were lost. Landmarks were broken. It took all the bravery, trickery, inspiring speeches and 90s catchphrases we could muster to defeat our unwanted extraterrestrial visitors.

But, hey, time heals all wounds, and 20 years is a long time. Sure, maybe the aliens didn't make the best first impression, but there's always room for second chances, right?

Plus, it's not like this group of aliens is coming with a strictly kill, conquer, destroy ethos like the intergalactic visitors in 1996 did. These new visitors have a much more clearly defined goal. It's simple, really: They just want Earth's molten core, their version of unleaded gas. A quick fill-up and they'll be on their way. And it's not like we use our core for anything, right? Well, except for magnetic polarity and life and stuff. **B u t** besides that, it's totally useless.

But we earthlings really treasure our molten core. You might say it's a core value of ours. If the aliens were in the mood to listen, we could point them to take, say, the core of Mercury. That planet doesn't seem to have much use for it. But clearly, the aliens are having none of it. Perhaps the destruction of all life on the surface just gives that core-stealing a little extra vavoom.

Thankfully, it's not like we've been twiddling our thumbs since the last alien invasion. We've built some pretty impressive guns since then.



So when a strange, interdimensional spaceship zaps into our solar system and hovers over the moon, we aim, fire, and BLAMMO! Alien ship blasted into itty bits. Wow, that wasn't nearly as hard as the last time, was it? Now humanity can raise a collective root beer in a toast to our solar system supremacy and—

Whoops! Wrong aliens. Hope they weren't, like, friendly aliens or something.

Alas, the nasty aliens were a day or two behind, once again coordinating their new assault—er, visit with July 4, aka Independence Day, aka the 20th anniversary of humanity's victory over them. Because while these aggressive alien interlopers may not know our languages or understand our culture or have any regard for us at all, they do have a tremendous sense of ironic timing.

"It wasn't luck last time" that saved the human race, former President Whitmore says, in full-on inspirational speech mode. "It was our resolve." And there's certainly a lot of resolve on display here. **B a c k e d** against the proverbial wall by fearsome, pitiless aliens, humanity fights back, putting every bit of courage and gumption it has on the line to show these unwelcome visitors the door.

American flyboys Jake and Dillon are particularly instrumental in the push-back, patching up their own differences to more effectively fight this fearsome foe. President Whitmore might be aging less than gracefully, but he still has enough moxie to be an inspirational leader and risk his own life for the cause.

He apparently passed on his unselfish genes to his daughter, Patricia, a fine fighter pilot in her own right who uses her skills to protect the earth (and who has a fierce desire to protect her father, too). And one mustn't forget scientists David Levinson, Dr. Brakish Okun and others, who think like the dickens to outwit their galactic adversaries.

Indeed, despite the mass chaos and destruction that the aliens unleash again upon humanity, nearly everyone on the planet seems to pull together in this time of crisis. Nothing like a little alien invasion to bring out the best in people.

Independence Day: Resurgence is the Apatosaurus of the cinematic world: big, loud and dumb. And like an Apatosaurus, it's a film that many families might want to keep a healthy distance from as well, given its profanity, occasional sexual innu-

endo and staggering (if not unexpected or particularly graphic) disregard for human life.

But buried underneath all the crashed spaceships, broken buildings and problematic content, there are also some good, simple, inspiring messages to unearthen.

While Resurgence leans heavily on its 21st-century bag of CGI tricks, its underlying tone feels positively old-fashioned—like a John Wayne Western or a Gary Cooper war flick where courage, creativity and resiliency are shown to be enormously positive and, perhaps, uniquely human virtues.

Armed with those character traits, even

hopelessly overmatched humans can survive and even win against an overwhelming foe, as long as they don't lose their hope and faith. In Independence Day: Resurgence, love of country, of home, of others—conquers all, even if aliens destroy much of humanity before we get that happy ending.

film411
INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE
STARS: Liam Hemsworth, Jeff Goldblum, Jessie T. Usher, Bill Pullman, Maika Monroe, Sela Ward, William Fichtner, Judd Hirsch

DIRECTOR: Roland Emmerich

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CLEARGOLD WORSHIP DANCE OFFERS AWESTRUCK III

PUBLIC CONCERT TO OFFER SCRIPTURE THROUGH THE GRACE, POWER AND JOY OF DANCE

Cleargold is an ensemble of Christian dancers who devote their talent to God and Jesus Christ by developing dances that express worshipful passion and love while promoting Scriptural verses. The ensemble represents varying churches but focus on what is shared: a love for God and bringing His Word to people with engaging beauty – and fun.

The name Cleargold comes from Revelation 21:21, when the new Holy City is described as having “streets of gold as clear as glass.” We believe there will be dances of celebration on these streets so we are starting now.

The ensemble has toured the region for seven years, dancing at over 130 locations and events. Fees are not charged, but donations are accepted to support expenses such as outfits, music, etc.

Cleargold has a large repertoire of dances of mixed styles including ballet, contemporary, lyrical, modern, jazz and revival. This allows staff or organizers to select what they feel will be the best fit for



their congregation or those watching. Dances are done to contemporary Christian music or instrumentals. Ensemble dancers must be at the advanced level of ballet technique training. Rehearsal time is focused on chore-

ography, rather than teaching dance. Dancers are between middle-school and post-graduate age. Strong stamina is necessary as dancers are often in 5 or more dances in a row. They adopt a code of conduct through the honor system, so as to protect against any distraction from the Scriptural message. The term “perform” is avoided as it may draw attention to the talent of those dancing, rather than emphasizing the scriptural message and love for God and Christ. All dance movements are modest, as are all of the ensemble’s outfits.

Awestruck III furthers its outreach by offering of some of our dances to the general public. There is no admission charged, but a free will offering will be taken. The concert will last approximately one hour. The dances will range from contemplative, to worshipful, to upbeat revival, to celebratory and passionate. One piece is even comedic. All will be based on Scripture. All of the dances are new since Awestruck II in 2014, except



for two that have been in each Awestruck concert. These two include Cleargold alumni dancers.

The ensemble truly tries to serve through Worship dance. In addition to reaching Christians in worship services, and the public at various events, they offer an annual children’s Worship Dance Camp to the public. They have danced at The Rescue Mission’s Hope Center and have preliminary plans to offer children’s workshops at the

Mission’s Children’s Palace. They teach Worship dance twice a year at the Doxazo camp in the Hi-Crest area. Dancers who are over 18 have danced at the Women’s Detention facility the last two years.

A Facebook page at “Cleargold Worship Dance” includes photos and updates of opportunities to see Cleargold. You can “like” the page to support efforts and stay apprised of activities.

Still time to pack your summer

By James Emery White

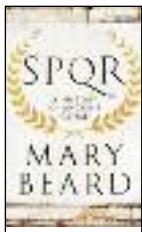
Every year, I offer five titles as a suggested summer reading list.

These are books that I have either read over the past year or plan to read myself over the summer. Most are brand new.

SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome

By Mary Beard

I first ran across this book while browsing in a Waterstone’s off of Trafalgar Square in London. I couldn’t put it down. It’s one of the best single-volume histories of Rome you’ll own that offers more than a few twists and turns. As the jacket invites: “Beard narrates the unprecedented rise of a civilization that even two thousand years



later still shapes many of our most fundamental assumptions about power, citizenship, responsibility, political violence, empire, luxury, and beauty.” (SPQR is the abbreviation for “The Senate and People of Rome”)

All the Light We Cannot See

By Anthony Doerr

I came to this novel a little late – as in, after it won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction. It deserved them both. It doesn’t matter whether its subject doesn’t seem like your cup of tea (a blind French girl, a German boy, leading parallel lives in World War II). This is beautiful writing that can’t be put down. It’s said it took the author ten years to

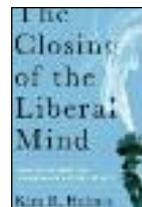


write it. I believe it. Every sentence is a jewel.

The Closing of the Liberal Mind: How Groupthink and Intolerance Define the Left

By Kim R Holmes

This book first caught my eye through a review in the Wall Street Journal. The title of the review was “Progressivism’s Macroaggressions” with the following subline: “The goal of post-modern progressives isn’t universal truth, but power, which is presented in the guise of equality and social justice.” Now that’s a tweet. Holmes is a former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State and currently a Distinguished Fellow at The Heritage Foundation. The gist of the book is that

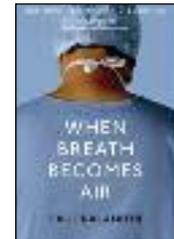


liberalism is becoming its opposite – illiberalism; abandoning the precepts of open-mindedness and respect for individual rights, liberties, and the rule of law upon which the country was founded. This is an important book, as it details a very disturbing ideology that is increasingly dominating our culture.

When Breath Becomes Air

By Paul Kalanithi

At the age of 36, on the verge of completing a decade’s worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. When Breath Becomes Air is his story and chronicles his move toward faith in the process. A review in the New York Times

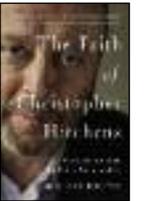


said, “Finishing this book and then forgetting about it is simply not an option.” He died in March 2015.

The Faith of Christopher Hitchens: The Restless Soul of the World’s Most Notorious Atheist

By Larry Alex Taunton

Christopher Hitchens, called one of the “Four Horsemen” of the New Atheism, was a complex and fascinating figure. Taunton, a Christian and a friend, writes of his faith with some surprising insights and conclusions.



James Emery White is the founding and senior pastor of Mecklenburg Community Church in Charlotte, NC, and the ranked adjunctive professor of theology and culture at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. His book, *The Rise of the Nones: Understanding and Reaching the Religiously Unaffiliated*, is available on Amazon.

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Empty Nesters Find Purpose and Motivation

The Action Step Guide for once the children leave

What will you do with your time once your children leave the nest? You may not have thought about it, but a new career path could be your best option. The years of parenting are spent focusing on other people's needs, often with little time for self-reflection. Career exploration is a wonderful opportunity for self-discovery and personal growth. It is a time to reinvest in you and learn about the resources available to you.

Here are a few exercises to get you thinking about what you have to offer and ways you can expand your options.

Career Interests

Over time you have developed opinions as to what you are "good at." These personal opinions are relevant but rarely do we give ourselves enough credit. It is time you think outside the box. Think about the activities and job categories that interest you, regardless of whether or not you currently have the skills, or even have experience in

those areas. Write down your responses to the following questions:

Action Steps:

1. If you could do ANYTHING, what would you do?
2. What are the characteristics of your ideal job? Examples - working with children, being outdoors, independence, etc.

Skills Inventory

It is helpful to take inventory of the skills you have that will be useful across a variety of work settings. Think about all the invaluable experience you have accumulated – parenting is itself a highly-skilled "career."

- Personal traits – attitudes and characteristics such as empathy, diplomacy and ability to delegate.
- Knowledge-based – technical knowledge or job-specific information that you have acquired through paid and non-paid experiences, such as bookkeeping, child development and

scheduling.

- Transferable skills – skills that you've acquired through experience, such as planning, organizing and writing.

Action Steps:

1. List 7 achievements you have experienced in the past few years in the context of parenting, work, volunteering, hobbies, coursework, travel, or special projects. For each achievement, list the skills, abilities and personal traits that were most important in making each of the experiences meaningful for you.
2. Once you have completed this list, look for patterns in terms of skills, settings, or types of people involved.

Networking

It is always important to build and maintain your social networks, especially when you are contemplating a career change. Your existing social networks can be invaluable in helping you during this process. Do you have

friends, family or acquaintances who have been through similar transitions, or who might know about the fields you are considering?

Perhaps they know someone who does.

Action Steps:

1. Nurture your existing network. Schedule a get-together with one friend or acquaintance per week. It's a great way to keep in touch and it will give you a chance to talk about what you are working on and learn about other people's experiences.

2. Expand your social networks. Look into local networking and volunteer opportunities, as well as membership in professional organizations related to your fields of interest. Join online networking communities, such as Ryze.com and Company of Friends,



which offer free membership, special interest groups and real-life monthly meetings.

By taking inventory of your many existing resources and building new ones, you will be better prepared for any career path you choose. Now that you have time to focus on yourself, you have a great opportunity for self-discovery.

Enjoy the journey!

Signs That Tell You It's Time for Assisted Living

No one wants to move from their home into assisted living. However, in some cases, it is the best option to keep elderly or aging parents safe and healthy.

To determine if it's time for assisted living, or if your elderly parent can safely remain at home, take a good look at the present housing situation, health status and medical needs. Ask yourself these questions.

Signs that may indicate it's time for assisted living:

Is your parent telling you that he is eating, but you're seeing food go bad in the refrigerator?

Is your parent falling? To determine the answer, is your parent covering up bruises he or she doesn't want you to see?

Is your parent wearing the same clothes when you go to visit? Can they bathe themselves, groom adequately and launder clothes?

When you look around the house or yard, is it as neat and clean as it used to be?

Is your aging parent remembering to take medications correctly, with the right dosages and at the right time? Are medications expired?

Are they able to operate appliances safely? Do they remember to turn appliances off when they are finished cooking?

Is the home equipped with safety features such as grab bars and emergency response systems?

Do they have a plan in place to

contact help in case of an emergency?

Are they driving? Should they be driving? Do they have alternate means of transportation?

Are there stacks of papers and unpaid bills lying around?

Do they have friends, or are they isolated from others most of

the time?

When you really look at your parent, do you see the bright and vibrant person from years ago, or do you see a more limited person who needs some help one hour a day, or even around the clock?

Making the decision to move a

parent into assisted living is one of the hardest and most heart-wrenching decisions of your life. But if it keeps your parent healthy and safe and perhaps even happy, then it is probably for the best for the parent, the caregiver and the family.

Source: agingcare.com



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MEDICARE

Question:

I found out that my son entered incorrect information about my resources when he helped me complete my Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs. How can I get my application changed now to show the correct amount?

Answer:

You can call 1-800-772-1213 and let us know. Or you can visit your local Social Security office (find it by using our office locator at www.socialsecurity.gov/locator). Information on your application will be matched with data from other Federal agencies. If there is a discrepancy that requires verification, we will contact you.

GENERAL

Question:

Do I need a Social Security card? I want to get a summer job and my dad can't find my card.

Answer:

If you know your number, you probably don't need to get another card. If you find out that you do need a replacement card, the best place to



go to find out how to get a replacement is www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber. In some states and the District of Columbia, you might even be able to request a replacement Social Security card online. In other areas, you can download the application to print out, complete, and submit by mail or in person. If you do get a replacement card or find the original, you shouldn't carry it with you. Keep it in a safe place with your other important papers. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber.

Question:

Can I get a new Social Security number if someone has stolen my identity?

Answer:

We don't routinely assign a new number to someone whose identity

has been stolen. Only as a last resort should you consider requesting a new Social Security number. Changing your number may adversely affect your ability to interact with Federal and State agencies, employers, and others. This is because your financial, medical, employment and other records will be under your former Social Security number. We cannot guarantee that a new number will solve your problem. To learn more about your Social Security card and number, read our online publication Your Social Security Number and Card at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/.

RETIREMENT

Question:

I just got back from an overseas military deployment and I want to plan ahead. How will my military retirement affect my Social Security benefits?

Answer:

Your military retirement won't affect your Social Security benefits at all. You can get both. Generally, there is no offset of Social Security benefits because of your military retirement. You will get full Social Security benefits based on your earnings. The only way your Social Security benefit

might be reduced is if you also receive a government pension based on a job in which you did not pay Social Security taxes. You can find more information in the publication Military Service & Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10017.html. Or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Question:

I'm retiring early, at age 62, and I receive investment income from a rental property I own. Does investment income count as earnings?

Answer:

No. We count only the wages you earn from a job or your net profit if you're self-employed. Non-work income such as annuities, investment income, interest, capital gains, and other government benefits are not counted and will not affect your Social Security benefits. Most pensions will not affect your benefits. However, your benefit may be affected by government pensions earned through work on which you did not pay Social Security tax. You can retire online at www.socialsecurity.gov. For more information, call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

DISABILITY

Question:

I was turned down for disability.

Do I need a lawyer to appeal?

Answer:

You're entitled to hire an attorney if you wish to, but it is not necessary. And, you can file a Social Security appeal online without a lawyer. Our online appeal process is convenient and secure. Just go to www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal. If you prefer, call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to schedule an appointment to visit your local Social Security office to appeal.

Question:

It's hard for me to get around because of my disability. Do I have to go to a Social Security office to apply for benefits?

Answer:

Not anymore. You can prepare and submit your Social Security disability application and all the needed forms right over the Internet. Our online disability application is convenient and secure. When you decide to apply, begin by taking a look at our Disability Starter Kit at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability.

senior news/events briefs

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

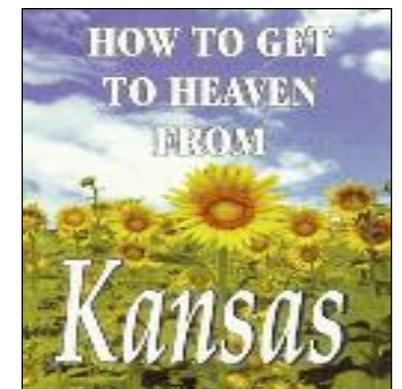
VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS - Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For Info: 286-1370.

MEDICARE 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 - Jul. 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.

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

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



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.

sports



BREAKING FREE

by **Stephen Copeland**

Webb Simpson had fallen into a trap, a spiritual and psychological snare.

As he stood on the putting green before the final round of the 2011 Wyndham Championship in Greensboro, NC—with a two-stroke lead, still winless on the PGA Tour with an opportunity to earn his first victory close to his hometown of Raleigh—he still had one foot stuck in the snare.

A number of thoughts crossed his mind...

"If God wants me to win today, I'll



win."

"If it's meant to be, it'll happen."

"Whatever God has planned, I'll accept it."

Maybe not bad thoughts. Simpson

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FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

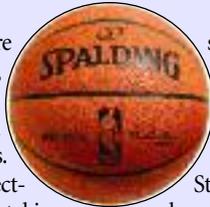
by **Rob Mooney**

The 2016 NBA season came to a close when the Cleveland Cavaliers, led by LeBron James, came storming back in the finals from 3-1 down to shock the Golden State Warriors in game 7, 93-89. James was named series MVP and he delivered on his promise to bring a championship to Cleveland.

Four days after the Cavs were on top of the basketball world, the NBA held its 2016 Draft and the rest of the league began their pursuit of the champions. The top two picks went as expected, with the Philadelphia 76ers taking Ben Simmons out of LSU and the Los Angeles Lakers taking Brandon Ingram from Duke. They were by far the two best players in what was considered by many to be a weak draft for college players. The fact that 15 foreign players were taken in the two rounds seems to provide proof.

That's 25% of all players taken.

The biggest surprise was Oklahoma City trading Serge Ibaka to the Orlando Magic. The trade sent Victor Oladipo, Ersan Ilyasova and the draft rights of the No. 11 pick Domantas Sabonis to the Thunder.



At first I didn't quite understand this trade, but as I continued to look at it, it makes sense for both teams. First off, Oklahoma City now becomes a force inside with Sabonis and Steven Adams. Orlando gets a player that will complement Nikola Vucevic, who averaged 18.2 points for the Magic last year. Ibaka averaged 12.7 points last year, but he was definitely unhappy playing third fiddle to Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook. I'm not sure if the Thunder would have been able to resign him when he becomes a free

believes God is ultimately in control. But as he'll tell you, they weren't thoughts of a champion, a winner or a warrior, either.

His wife, Dowd, walked onto the putting green. She looked at him and quoted Psalm 50:15: "And call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

"When you have a wife that looks at you before you go to battle like that, it makes you feel so loved," Simpson says. "I wanted to cry."

"After she said that," Simpson continues, "I was like, 'I'm going to go out there and try to win by 10.'"

He was fleeing the trap. Breaking free. Running quickly to battle.

The Trap

Webb Simpson thinks a lot about God. And golf, as quoted by Jack Nicklaus, is 90 percent mental. Therefore, the way Simpson thinks about God will undoubtedly affect his golf game.

In apologetics, it's called deductive reasoning—something Simpson may have learned while majoring in religion at Wake Forest University. Simpson believes a relationship with God can produce peace and perspective, but for many Christian athletes, God can also become an excuse.

That's the trap.

"The stereotype of Christian athletes is that if God wants me to win, I'll win, and I can't do anything about it," Simpson says. "I was falling into that trap. But God has not called us to lay over and let Him do all the work. God wants me to be a champion. He's called me to be a man and a champion and be the best I can be. I wasn't doing a good job of that in 2010."

Simpson admits there wasn't a deep sense of urgency when he joined the Tour in 2009. He rarely stepped on the course thinking, "I'm going to shoot 62 today." If he was supposed to win, he'd win. It was a trap that, he believes, led to six consecutive missed cuts in 2010, a world golf ranking of 229, and nearly losing his Tour card if it wasn't for a fourth place finish in the next-to-last event of the 2010 season.

"I was swinging the pendulum as far as a pushover Christian," Simpson admits.

Breaking Free

His mindset began to change in 2011.

agent so trading him now makes sense from that perspective.

Another trade that went down before the draft was the Chicago Bulls sending Derrick Rose to the New York Knicks. This one doesn't surprise me too much and if Rose can stay healthy, the Knicks will be better for it. Rose and Carmelo Anthony could be a fun tandem to watch.

Several teams helped themselves during the draft but I think that the Denver Nuggets probably had the most intriguing draft. After trying to move up to take Buddy Hield out of Oklahoma, they took Kentucky's Jamal Murray, a very solid pick at seven. At 15, they then selected Juan Hernangomez, a power forward from Spain who won the Spanish League's young player of the year award last year. They followed that up at 19 by selecting point guard Malik Beasley from Florida State. All three guys are scorers and that should help the Nuggets spread the floor a bit next year.

Free agency is next for the NBA and it appears as though the Warriors are going to go all out for Kevin Durant. If they sign him, they might be able to break their own regular season win record.

When I walk on the range, I want to be known as one of the guys to beat."

That's what he became. He won again two weeks later at the Deutsche Bank Championship in Massachusetts and almost won a month later at The McGladrey Classic when he lost in a playoff to Ben Crane.

"God calls us to be great in everything we do," Simpson says. "Not that our occupation or job has precedence over our spiritual walk. But I think he's given me a talent, and that talent is golf. I don't glorify God when I'm not confident in Him."

His confidence on the course has only grown, and on June 17 of last year, Simpson won his first major championship, the 2012 U.S. Open.

"Every human being has fear, every human being has anxiety," Simpson said "I still have it as a golfer, even though I've won three times and have won a major. Simpson reflects on 1 Samuel 17:48, that "as the Philistine (Goliath) moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly towards the battle line to meet him."

"(I believe) every word is there for a reason," he said. "David ran quickly. He didn't step back in fear of Goliath for one second. He ran quickly. So often we can let fears take over. But it glorifies God when we step up and look fear in the eyes. Fear is from Satan, not from God."

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4 Projects to Breathe New Life into Your Home

(Family Features) As warmer weather approaches so do opportunities for homeowners to get outside and get to work on the home projects they've been dreaming of throughout the cold and rainy months.

If you're eager to dust off those tools, wash the paintbrushes and get to work outdoors, here are four projects to revive and restore and your house:

Spruce up your outdoor

space. Many homeowners use their deck or patio as an extension of their living room in warmer months, so reviving this area of your home is a great way to welcome warm weather. If your patio furniture is still in good shape from last year, give it a good clean with soap and water, then spray it down with a hose. If entertaining is your forte, consider adding string lights and a metal bar cart to your space, making your home the neigh-

borhood go-to for outdoor parties and barbecues.

Give the deck a makeover. A lot of dirt and debris can collect on the deck during less-used months, so, first and foremost, you'll want to clean your patio or deck with a deck cleaner, rinse with water and let dry. Always be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for deck cleaning products. Then, to protect against the elements and ultraviolet light, use Paramount stain-and-sealant-in-one from Pittsburgh Paints & Stains, a super premium stain that offers advanced protection and durability. To truly extend your living space to the outdoors and create a seamless transition, use an outdoor stain color that is similar to any existing hardwood floors inside your house. With more than 70 stain colors in the line to choose from, this is the recipe you need to highlight the natural beauty of your home's woodwork.

Start your garden. Warmer weather means the return of bright colors and fragrant greenery. What better way to add curb appeal and a pop of color to your home than by planting your favorite flowers? If planting a garden doesn't strike your fancy, simply purchase a beautiful bouquet and place it in a highly visible area of your home, such as the living room, on your bedroom nightstand or the kitchen table.

Add some color. By the time warmer weather rolls around, we crave a bit of brightness. Thanks to breakthroughs in technology from Pittsburgh Paints & Stains, Paramount super premium interior and exterior paint-and-primer-in-one products allow you to complete your paint job with just one vibrant coat

that also provides excellent ultraviolet and weather resistance. With almost 900 colors available in the color palette, there's never been a better time to freshen up your home and achieve a high-end look and lasting protection without breaking the bank.

There's an incredible amount of satisfaction that comes from improving your house and get-



ting the job done right the first time with top quality products. Learn more about Pittsburgh Paints & Stains Paramount products, available only at Menards, at pittsburghpaintsandstains.com.

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Annette's Tip:

- Japanese beetles are here and are extremely destructive pests. Safe sprays to use include fert-lome Carbaryl, or for the fastest control, High Yield Indoor-Outdoor insecticide.
- Now is the time to apply High Yield Grub Free Zone III to kill the newly hatched grub worms that will appear at the end of this month. Apply before a rain or water the granules in to activate the chemical.
- Remember to spray your sweet corn as soon as silks appear and continue to spray every second or third day as new silks appear for about two weeks. Corn is ready to pick three weeks after the first silks appear (or the day after the raccoons eat it)!

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Fri., July 1st - WIBW/Jackson's Garden Club members only 8:30-6
Saturday, July 2nd - Sale hours 8:30-5
Sunday, July 3rd - Sale hours 10:30-4:30

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New Resident Church Guide

- 1. THE GREAT I AM CHURCH**
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Pastor Cordell Fischer
2523 SE Indiana
(785) 861-0422
www.greatIAMchurch.com
- 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.**
Pastor Beau Bryant
c/o Seaman Baptist Church
2015 NW Buchanan, Topeka Ks 66608
785-224-5419 • www.church4bikers.org
Sun. School 9:30 am
Sun. Service 10:45 am
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
- 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**
1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka
785-234-5545
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am
Sunday School & Bible Studies:
9:30 & 11am
www.discovertbc.com
- 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka
286-1204
Wed. 6:15 pm: Children/Youth/
Adult programs
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am
www.northlandctopeka.org
- 5. FAIRLAWN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**
730 SW Fairlawn Rd., Topeka, KS
(785) 272-6322 • www.FairlawnNaz.org
Sunday Worship: 10:40 am
Adult, Youth & Children's Sun. School 9:15

- 6. FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST**
1912 SW Gage, Topeka, KS
272-0443 www.fsbctopeka.org
Sunday Services:
8:30 AM Traditional Worship
9:45 AM Bible study--all ages
11 AM Contemporary Worship
- 7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH**
"Finding NEW LIFE in CHRIST"
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4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka
785-862-0988
www.topekabaptist.org
- 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**
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2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka
(785) 272-9323 www.wrbctopeka.com
Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm
Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm
- 9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**
310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)
Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am
www.gccinoverbrook.com
office@gccinoverbrook.com
- 10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH**
300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis
10 a.m. Sunday (Non-traditional Service)
See "About Us" at our website
www.kawriverkeruv.com
Questions? kawriverlordshouse@att.net
- 11. COMMUNITY CHURCH**
1819 SW 21st St., Topeka
233-3537 www.CommunityChurchKS.com

- Sun. 9:30am - Sunday School for all ages
Sun. 10:30am - Worship & Word, Children
Wed. 6:30pm - Children, Youth, Adult
~ Nursery care for all services ~
- 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH**
Meeting at Buck Creek School House
5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.
Worship Service - 9:00 a.m.
Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,
Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snavelly 760-3513
 - 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE**
Serving Christ - Loving People
3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248
Dr. L.D. Holmes, Sr. Pastor
www.wwnaz.org
Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am
Sunday School 10 am, all ages
Sun. Evening Various Children's Programs
6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service
Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups
Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University
~ Nursery care at all services ~
 - 15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
801 NE Chester, Topeka, KS 66616
235-1010 • oumc@att.net
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Children's worship time 10:30am
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 - 16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH**
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J. Michael Borjon, Pastor



- 17. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
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785-379-5642
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- 18. CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH**
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Sunday 7:30, 9, 11am, 6pm
www.cktopeka.org
Fr. Mitchel Zimmerman, Pastor
- 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**
Independent Christ-Centered Bible Church
2036 NW Taylor, Topeka, KS
354-8777 • www.seamanchurch.com
Adult Sunday School - Sun. 9:30am
Sunday Worship: 10:30am
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
- 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH**
1937 NE Madison St,
Topeka, KS 66616 • 785-506-4594
Pastor Dale Stockburger
Sunday Worship: 10 am and 6pm
Junior Church for kids: Sun 10am
Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm
Fr. Jaime Zarse, Associate Pastor
- 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**
Meets at 522 SW Polk
785-220-5418
Pastor Rey Rodriguez
Sun. Worship 10 am
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
- 22. NEW CITY LIFE CHURCH**
5221 SW West Drive
Topeka, Kansas 66606
Sunday Services - 10:00 am
Pastor Kathy Crofford
- 23. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**
4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933.
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NOTO Arts Center hosting meet & greet

The NOTO Community Arts Center is hosting a private cocktail party with original KANSAS band members on First Friday, July 1. Kerry Livgren and Robbie Steinhardt will mingle with the attendees and provide photo opportunities.

More information will also be disclosed about the future plans for NOTO. Call 408-8996 for more information.

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.

Other N. Topeka events upcoming:

BOBBY BOWEN CONCERT - July 29, 7pm, Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene. The Bobby Bowen Family Band. Free will offering

MOTHER TERESA'S FARMERS MARKET - Saturdays 8:30-11:30am, Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church 2014 NW 46th St.

9TH ANNUAL RAILROAD FESTIVAL - July 9, 9:30-4:30, Great Overland Station, 701 N Kansas Ave. A fun filled day of family friendly activities and entertainment! Exciting new entertainers and new vendors & activities for the whole family. \$7 Advance tickets at Dillons, HyVee and the Great Overland Station. At the door \$10. More info: www.greatoverlandstation.com/index.html or 232-5533

STRONGMAN BUBBA DOWLING - July 10, Lighthouse Church, 4110 NW 62nd St. Bubba will speak at the Men's Breakfast at 9am, then will speak at the 10:30am service. Bubba will be performing great feats of strength such as bending steel, breaking bats, rolling up frying pans, etc., as well as sharing a message pertaining to each demonstration. 785-246-0138

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ON TAXES

Voted **FOR** the second largest tax hike in Kansas history.

Consistently voted **AGAINST** job-killing tax increases.

ON HEALTH CARE

Voted against an Interstate Health Compact that would allow us to opt out of ObamaCare, and would protect your Medicare funding.

Voted for an Interstate Health Compact that would allow us to opt out of ObamaCare, and would protect your Medicare funding.

ON CONCEALED CARRY

Voted **NO** on concealed carry gun legislation.
Received an "F" rating by the NRA.

Supports second amendment rights to keep and bear arms.
Received an A rating from the National Rifle Assoc.

ON ABORTION

Voted against Pro-Life bills that would restrict late term abortions, partial birth abortion, and require parental consent.
Voted against the prohibition of live dismemberment abortions.

Voted for all pro-life bills, co-sponsored several pro-life bills.
Strong advocate of stopping taxpayer funded abortions.

ON MARRIAGE

Carried the amendment to weaken the Kansas marriage amendment and to add homosexual civil unions to the Kansas constitution.

Supported a constitutional amendment to define marriage as between one man and one woman.

ON SPENDING

Voted for budgets that over spent revenues by millions.
Voted to increase taxes and to borrow hundreds of millions more.

Voted against the budgets put together by the Tax and Spend coalition that exceeded revenues.

ON JOBS

Supported by the job killing Tax and Spend coalition.

A successful businessman, has met a payroll, created jobs, and is supported by Job Creators.
NFIB (National Federation of Independent Businesses) 100% Rating

ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Voted against a bill that would protect the Religious Liberty of college students.

Supports legislation to protect religious liberty.

ON TAX FAIRNESS

Has done nothing for tax fairness.

Supports tax fairness.

ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

After creating a fiscal cliff, for four years she's refused to vote for any solutions and offered none of her own. She promised fiscal responsibility but delivered a fiscal cliff.

An experienced businessman who knows how to balance the budget.