Topeka EDITION includes Lawrence, Manhattan, Emporia & Holton The Area's Most Complete Event Guide GRANDEUR PAGE 13





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March 2016

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NEW RESIDENT Churchguide House of the Lord Church See inside lack cover!

Black Robe Regiment Summit enlightens area pastors, leaders

The Black Robed Regiment was the name that the British placed on courageous American clergy during the Founding Era (a backhanded reference to the black robes they wore). The British blamed the Black Regiment for American Independence.



The modern-day Black Robe Regiment, founded by David Barton, along with Kansas-based Culture Shield Network, presented a Black Robe Regiment Summit in Topeka on February 12th at Capitol Plaza and Convention Center that was attended by over 500 people.

Rev. Mark Gonzales, Executive Director of

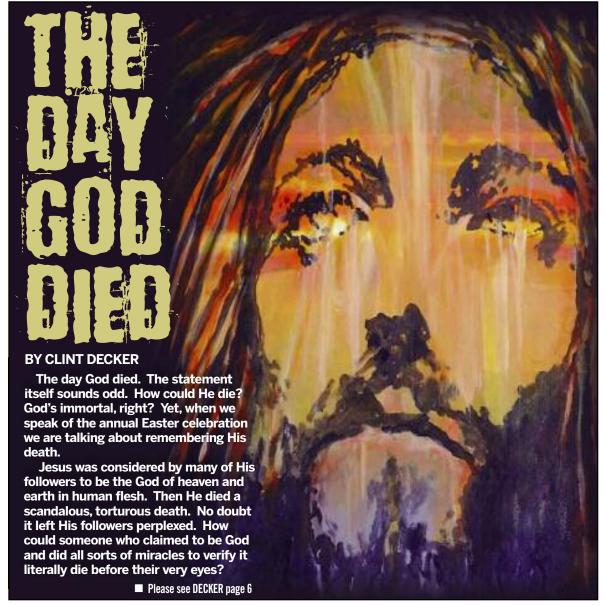
the National Black Robe Regiment, addressed the crowd and remarked "In 1962 Prayer was taken out of the schools. In 1963 the Bible was taken out of the schools. In 1973 abortion became legal in all 50 states."

"Where was the church when these things were happening?"

"Where were you?"

"We need to represent God in the ballot box just like we represent him in other areas of our lives," Gonzales stated. "America has fallen asleep!"

■ Please see BLACK ROBE page 3



Gage Park preps for Fun Fest

Preparations are well under way for the third annual Topeka Easter Parade & Family Fun Fest, and organizers say requests for participation and information are coming in at a much faster pace than last year. They say the interest in being involved in the parade and having a vendor booth has skyrocketed. Several thousand people are expected to make their way to Gage Park the day of the event, as dozens of churches, businesses and non-profit groups take part in the parade and vendor fair.

■ Please see EASTER FUN FEST page 4



Local Woman Was Romper Room Host

by Carolyn Cogswell

From 1953 to 1994, Romper Room, a television series for children five and under, aired in the United States. If you're old enough, you may remember watching the show as a young child. But for Ann Marie Lee of Topeka, Romper Room was a way of life from her earliest childhood.

"This was my life every day," Ann Marie said. "I was used to going to the studio every day. I would sit on the camera and watch my mom do her magic."



Miss Fran and Ann Marie with the 'Magic Mirror.'

Romper Room was franchised and syndicated so local stations could produce the program using the same script with local children. Ann Marie's mother, Fran Lee, now of Topeka, was Miss Fran on Romper Room for 13 years on KAKE-TV in Wichita.

Each morning the Romper Room hostesses throughout the nation opened the program with a greeting and the Pledge of Allegiance for the stateside broadcasts. (The program was also aired internationally.) The greeting and the pledge were followed by 30 or 60 minutes of children's programming consisting of lessons and songs about a variety of useful social skills (such as saying "Thank you").

Before each lesson, the hostess or the teacher would say, "Mr. Music, please," to start the background music. Prayer was offered on the program "until it was outlawed," Miss Fran said.

■ Please see ROMPER ROOM page23

KANSANS RALLY FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Statehouse rally is called largest ever

An estimated 1500 to 2000 people rallied for religious freedom at the Kansas Statehouse Wednesday, February 17th, arguing that the government should not force them to provide goods or services that violate their beliefs.

People gathered on the second floor to hear speeches at the event, while a Kansas House committee heard from Washington state florist Barronnelle Stutzman, who was sued for refusing to provide flowers for a same-sex wedding. As the crowd swelled, the third floor rotunda filled up as folks looked down over the railing. Others looked down from alcoves on the fourth and fifth floors. Some even looked upward and listened from the first floor below.

"We had 1,000 buttons to pass out. They were all gone 20 minutes before the event started, and the crowd grew substantially after that point," said Michael Schuttloffel, Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference.

Some attendees wore T-shirts proclaiming "I Support Religious Freedom and I Vote."

Ryan Anderson, of the Heritage Foundation, told the crowd that the



From left, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann, Bishop Edward Weisenburger of the Diocese of Salina, Bishop Carl Kemme of the Diocese of Wichita, and Governor Sam Brownback listen to the speakers at the Rally for Religious Freedom at the capitol building in Topeka, Kansas.

Photo by Lori Wood Habiger/The Leaven

federal government has infringed on religious freedom by threatening to remove accreditation for faith-based schools that oppose same-sex mar-

Governor Sam Brownback encouraged the audience to stand firm and fight for their right to freely assemble and freely express religious beliefs in the public arena.

"I have never seen a bigger rally in the Statehouse than this one," Brownback remarked. "It's fantastic!."

"We'll fight for our religious liberty and you're showing that today," Brownback told the crowd

"Religious liberty is at the heart of who we are as Kansans and as Americans," he said. "Religious liberty is a natural right for everyone."

Other speakers included Hernan Castano (one of the "Houston Five" pastors whose sermons were subpoenaed), Jeanne Mancini (President of the March for Life), and Everett Piper (President of Oklahoma Wesleyan University and litigant in lawsuit against HHS Mandate).

The event was sponsored by the Kansas Catholic Conference; Faith, Family and Freedom Alliance of Kansas; Family Policy Alliance of Kansas; and Concerned Women for

Republican Gov. Sam Brownback ended the rally by urging activists to continue fighting for "religious liberty for all people."

by **Jessica S. Hosman** Today, my son wants to be a policeman. Last month, he wanted to be a rail-

IDENTITY

road worker. Next month, he may want to be an astronaut. I've told him that he can be whatever he chooses to be in life but to always remember the primary reason he was birthed into this world... to love Jesus and tell others of His love no matter

the job he picks.

A new student began attending his preschool just recently. The child was a bit younger than him so he had trouble understanding her speech. When he thought no one was watching, he went up to the girl and asked if she knew about Iesus. He said that he wasn't sure if she did or not because he couldn't understand her, so he did his best to tell her about Him.

He told the story matter-of-factly, as if it had been nothing extraordinary. What he didn't realize was that his small act of evangelism challenged this momma greatly, causing me to examine my own life and just how willing (or not) I am to share of Christ's love with new people who come across my path. If I really believed that I was birthed into the world for the same reason as he, would I not be bolder in sharing my faith?

My son is not the only one that God has birthed into this world for purpose. If you are reading this, you are here on this earth for a reason. If you are a Christian, you weren't born to solely go to church on Sundays and make that the crux of your faith; you are called to step outside of your comfort zone and proclaim the Name of Christ to those yet to understand the depth of His love.

Life Lessons From a Little One

In order to be bold to share, however, we must first know that love for ourselves. God doesn't live in



building; when we ask Jesus to take over our lives, He lives within us. That's a big deal! But it can also be difficult to comprehend – kind-of like His love which is

> greater than any realm of our comprehension. He doesn't just love us, He knows every intrinsic detail of our being - and still loves us! Understanding that kind of love which supersedes any other is life changing and gives us hope to go on when we're feeling our worst.

> How many people are void of that hope today? More than we could count!

But if we can receive it for ourselves, we then hold a key that can bring life into the hearts of others. That key is Jesus Christ. I promise you, He is real and He is alive. He's here for you and He beckons you to not only embrace His love but also the boldness to share of it to a hopeless and dying world that is yet to know.

Will you follow the faith of a five-yearold and be a light to others, even if you're not sure they fully understand? The little girl my son spoke to may not have comprehended everything he tried to share, but that didn't stop him. He created the opportunity to share his faith and I pray every one of us would begin to do the same. Sure it's intimidating to step outside of our comfort zones but, I guarantee when we do, extraordinary encounters



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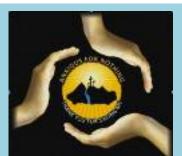
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Ponderworthy Music plays original, motivational, many different genre heterodyne into some really good stuff! Very difficult to genretize, the best words so far appear to be "music of compassion; fire, and life!"



Contemporary Christian rock band Grandeur creates abundant and powerful melodies and authentic lyrics that speak God's truth and offer reassurance of the depth of God's love for all people.

March 12, 2016 Doors open @ 5pm

Questions contact New Hope Church UMC 785-233-0166



NewHopeChurchUMC 2915 SW 8th Topeka, KS





Missouri Sonic Drive-In gets the Word out

A Sonic Drive-In franchise location in Raymore, Missouri has served up some controversy with their burgers and fries.

They have begun packing in stickers adorned with Bible verses in bags of their

Many people are fine with the spiritual stickers, and even appreciate them, as

"Anyone live near this Sonic Drive-In? I love these little God nods!"

Thank you for the Biblical Scriptures and doing what God has asked in Mark 16:15: And he said unto them, 'Go you into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

BLACK ROBE

continued from page 1

He ticked off a list of other items to illustrate his point: the strike-down of the Defense of Marriage Act, cheerleaders being banned from using scripture on banners, no prayer at graduation, and a track team being disqualified for raising a finger towards heaven, among others.

He then related how his organization helped mobilize churches in Houston to fight the subpoenas of pastor's sermons.

Against all odds they got organized and they won that battle. Likewise, he went to San Antonio and mobilized churches against a city council that wanted to allow men in

women's restrooms, among other things. Once again, against all odds, they won that battle and even elected a new Christian

"When churches engage, we win!" he exclaimed.

David Barton, founder of WallBuilders, also addressed the crowd and gave a history lesson of how we got to where we are in America today. He noted that nations cannot be judged in the next world, and therefore God judges nations in the present, and how God many times used weather to judge in the Bible, and may still do so

Barton noted that in the book of Ezra, the people of God are admonished to appoint judges who know the laws of God. In presidential elections, he said, we should ask which candidate will appoint the best judges.

There are only two worldviews, Barton said: Either God sets the standards, or Man does. All policy then stems from whichever worldview you have.

The audience also heard from Governor Sam Brownback, Donna Lippoldt, founder of Culture Shield; and Congressman Bob McFwen.

"We are living in a day and age in which we cannot afford to sit back and simply ignore what is going on politically," said Lippoldt. "The very existence of our nation depends on Christians engaging in the process. If not, we can expect a continual undermining of our values.'

"We cannot allow 1-2% of our culture

our children's curriculum, and discourage us to the point that we give up," said Lipholdt. children we must pursue truth and integrity.

We cannot accept Biblical Illiteracy. We

basic in my mind."

organized.

'We can't grow weary," he said.

The purpose of the summit was to empower pastors and leaders for social and cultural transformation, and to be equipped to make a difference in 2016. They learned how to influence people, frame a discussion to open eyes to truth on race relations, economics, and prayer. Civic Action Team Training was offered after a complimentary lunch. Mark Gonzales taught about the nuts and bolts of organizing Civic Impact Teams in churches, with the hope that more pastors and leaders will be motivated to run for

For more information go to the website

to destroy our religious freedom, dictate

"For the sake of our

must learn our true American history."

Brownback remarked "Why are we even fighting about the right to life? That's

He then encouraged the crowd to get

nationalblackroberegiment.com.

Statement from the Black Robe Regiment website:

"We can't grow

weary."

Sam Brownback

The Black Robe Regiment is a resource and networking entity where church leaders and laypeople can network and educate themselves as to our biblical responsibility to stand up for our Lord and Savior and to protect the freedoms and liberties granted to a moral people in the divinely inspired US Constitution. The Regiment had its historical beginnings during the Revolutionary War when Pastors from across the colonies arose and lead their congregations into the battle for freedom. Unlike today, the church during this time served as the center-point for political debate and discussion on the relevant news of the day.

Today's church leaders have all but lost that concept of leading their congregations in a Godly manner in all aspects of their worldly existence and are afraid to speak out against the progressive agenda that has dominated our political system for the past century. Through this time

the church and God himself has been under assault, marginalized, and diminished by the progressives and secularists. The false wall of separation of church and state has been constructed in such a manner that most are unaware of its limited boundaries. The church and the body of Christ has been attacked on all fronts and challenged by the progressive courts and groups such as the ACLU while we have sat idle in consent.

The time has come that we must now arise and awaken to the danger of this hyper-progressive agenda that so permeates every aspect of our political, legal, and educational systems. It is time now to educate ourselves and push back against the erosion of our freedoms and liberties and restore the constitutional authority back to all aspects of our governance. It will take the leaders of our churches to shepherd their flocks as did their predecessors during our first fight



Please know we appreciate you! "Thank you Raymore Sonic for sharing

It seems most customers are supportive of the move, but Sonic says it is also working to not offend anyone if they do not want a sticker on their bag.

However, some have taken to Facebook to complain.

"Please do not plaster religious dogma on every customer's bag. If someone wants passages from a mythological text with their food, let them ask for it."

In response to the customer who didn't want the sticker, Sonic posted the following reply:

"You have my apologies. All you need to do is ask that it not be on your bag. We have other stickers. I would only put it on the people that ask for its bags, but the number of people that want it far outnumber the people who do not."

One woman was unhappy with the Bible verses, according to a transcript provided by NBC:

"Third time in two weeks I've gotten a Bible verse sticker but NOT gotten part of my family's order from Sonic off 58th in Raymore. Thanks for the sermon, where are my cheese sticks."

Sonic spokesman Jason Acock said that franchise locations are given leeway to put their personal stamp on things:

"We don't have a policy backing this. It's the decision by the franchisee that owns and operates that specific drive-in," he

The Missouri location will continue to use the Bible verse stickers, but has run out recently due to the large number of people asking for them.

Management has stated, however, that employees do have the option to use alternative stickers if they so choose.

news**briefs**

Human trafficking victims call national hotline in record numbers

(WNS)--Human trafficking victims are reaching out for help in record numbers, according to an advocacy group that operates a national 911 text and phone call center. More than 1,600 survivors of human trafficking reached out for help in 2015—a 24 percent increase over 2014. according to the annual report released by Polaris. The organization's hotline also takes calls from concerned friends. family, and bystanders who witness a suspected human trafficking event. "From the domestic servant forced to work for little pay who required emergency shelter to the young girl made to sell sex online against her will who texted us for crisis support, survivors of human trafficking are reaching out to the national hotline more than ever," said Polaris CEO Bradley Myles..

Christian Chamber will hear from Gov. Brownback at luncheon

Governor Sam Brownback will be the featured speaker at the C5-Alive "POWER" Luncheon March 10, from 11:30 am to 1 pm, at the Governor's Row House, 811 SW Buchannan. A special meal will be catered in by Aboud's Catering. The luncheon is sponsored by Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5).



The cost is \$10 for C5 members and first-time guests who RSVP, and \$12 at the door:

Non-members and other guests pay \$15. C5 luncheons are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend, organizers said. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to info@C5Alive.org.

The Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce (C5) sponsors a Luncheon every month, which are held at different locations around the city. Next month it will be held at The Peak at First Southern Baptist Church on April 14th, and will feature The

C5 was formed in 2009 as a sup-

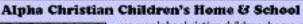
port and networking group for Christian businesses, churches, pastors and nonprofit organizations in the Topeka area.



The group promotes excellence in products and services, Christian values and ideals, as well as unification and cooperation within the Christian community. In addition to monthly luncheons, C5 holds periodic vendor fairs and other events. The largest major event sponsored by C5 is the Topeka Easter Parade and Family Fun Fair, held in Gage Park on the day before Easter.

In November, the C5 Christian Business Expo & Luncheon will be held on the 14th from 6 am to 2 pm at the Downtown Ramada, in conjunction with the YMCA Prayer Breakfast the same morn-

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.





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Sacrifice by John Potter | Military Chaplain

I met a soldier last week. He just moved to Kansas after a three-year tour in Germany; Wiesbaden, to be specific.

My mind immediately filled with questions to ask about his time in Germany, You know, the typical questions that we all ask. What did you like about the town, the people, the food, the sights, and the weather? After a little thought, I asked my first question.

"Wow. Three years in Germany. What did you enjoy the most?"

His response was a telling reality that often goes untold

"I didn't spend three years in

Germany. My unit went to Afghanistan the first year. I was in Germany with the family the second year. And the third year, I went back to Afghanistan. It sounds funny, but I've seen more of Kandahar Providence over the last three years than my duty station in Germany."

I admired the sacrifice that he made. His three-year assignment yielded two years in a combat zone and one year with his wife and kids. He had surrendered something valuable so that others could benefit. He endured hardship so that others could find comfort and peace. He was willing to die so that others could live.

It is inspiring when a soldier is willing to sacrifice for his countrymen; it is overwhelming when we consider the deep love of Christ. Jesus willingly went to the cross, suffered incredible pain, and died for our benefit. He bled and

died so that all of mankind could

are worth dying for, despite all of our imperfections, wrongs, and mistakes. Romans 5:8 says,"... while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Christ did not see us as a lost cause. He saw us as individuals worth dving for and became our sacrifice. May we continue to see the perfect love that sent our Savior to the cross on our

EASTER FUN FEST

continued from page 1

The expansion this year of the fun fair into the zoo, and the inclusion of entertainment at the Amphitheatre, along with the presence of food trucks, has vastly increased the public awareness and wordof-mouth about the event. The food

"Food trucks are a new addition this year."

trucks will be situated near Westlake Shelter and the Amphitheatre. The area will also be part of the fun fair this year.

on Saturday, March 26th. The Easter Parade itself will start at 9:30 a.m., while the Fun Fair will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Staging for the parade will start at 9 a.m. in the pool parking lot. The Parade will move around inside Gage Park, and signs will mark the

best viewing spots. The Fun Fair will once again be in and ters, fulfilling the purpose of reminding observers of the true meaning of the holiday. Others featured more of a fun-loving, lighthearted theme, including classic cars, boats, big trucks and other types of motorized and walking entries.

Amphitheatre. Vendor booths inside the

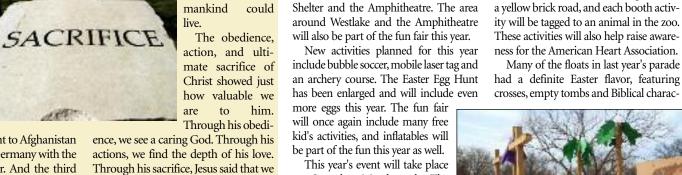
zoo will have an Oz theme, complete with

Live performers will be on hand all day, including musical acts, dance troupes, praise bands, fitness & gymnastics demonstrations, a magician, a yo-yo artist and more, performing in the Gage Park Amphitheatre, as well as at the bandshell near Big Gage Shelter.

The event is coordinated by the Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce

(C5). Major sponsors of the event include American Association, St. Francis Health, NuSound Hearing Center, Shawnee Co. Parks & Rec., Rasmussen College, WIBW-TV, Metro Voice, Topeka Health & Wellness Magazine, Integrity Insurance, Reser's and Peggy's Tax & Accounting. Other sponsors include many churches, businesses, non-profits and individuals.

For more information, email info@C5Alive.org or call 785-640-6399. Updated details about the 2016 event can be found at www.C5Alive.org, TopekaEasterParade.com or on Facebook at "Topeka's Third Annual Easter Parade & Family Fun Fest."



route so that people can determine the

around Big Gage Shelter, but has expanded inside the Topeka Zoo as well, and into the area around Westlake Shelter and the

Women Empoowerment

Women Empowerment celebrates six years of service with its second Passion to Purpose Brunch featuring author LaShonda Jackson and Christyn Breathett

The brunch speakers will also be on hand at a Meet and Greet at The Merchant, 913 S. Kansas Avenue, the night before on March 4th during First Friday Art Walk, from 5 pm to 8 pm, for networking and complimentary appetizers.

The brunch was founded by Author LA growth?"

Her view was that our desire should be us from moving forward.

This brunch is designed to provide each of us with information and a networking opportunity that will help us move

Tickets (\$35) can be purchased online or by calling 785-383-7084. Don't forget to bring a little cash for the Shoe-Ality Heels

to Purpose Brunch

as guest speakers.

logan in Little Rock, Arkansas. She asked the question, "Can you imagine how much we could shift the dynamics around us if we just band together for positive

to empower one another to first recognize the gift within and utilize to its full potential; that if we all practice this act of love and kindness, nothing will be able to stop

together "From Passion to Purpose."

Raffle by suggested donation.

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Boko Haram kills dozens (WNS)--Two female suicides bombers blew themselves up in a refugee camp in Dikwa, Nigeria on Feb. 9, killing at least 56 people. The camp is northeast of Maiduguri, Boko Haram's birthplace.

news**briefs**

In the aftermath of the explosions, officials arrested a third female bomber, who gave information about other planned

attacks, an official with the Borno State Emergency Management Agency told reporters.

Health and rescue officials said more than 70 people who survived the attack are receiving medical treatment for their injuries. Lack of or poor cell phone service delayed news of the attack until the following day. The camp served as home to some 50,000 people displaced by the six-year insurgency that has left 2.5 million people homeless





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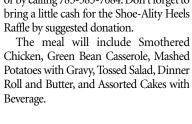
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FINANCIAL PLANN

It Takes Two

Dear Dave.

I've spent most of my marriage not being a good husband and not being involved in our family finances. After being introduced to one of your programs at work, I realized how irresponsible I had been and went home to apologize and tell my wife about it. During this conversation I learned that we have about \$80,000 in debt I didn't know about, plus \$45,000 in debt on a new car and motorcycle I did know about. We also have a mortgage on our home. My wife apologized for making a mess of things, but it wasn't all her fault. She wasn't sneaking around spending and taking out debt, she just made mistakes and was afraid to tell me. Together, we make about \$100,000 a year. Can you help us? -Curtis

Dear Curtis,

sion to man up. That's a big step in the right direction for you and your mar-

To me, what you described is a lot different than her completely lying, hiding stuff, and actively having a financial affair — so to speak — on the side. You weren't plugged in and she wasn't doing a good job, but she didn't have anyone to talk to about it. Things got worse, then she probably felt ashamed about how ugly it got and didn't want to tell anybody.

Not counting your house, you've got about \$125,000 in debt. You've got to look at all this with a \$100,000 income and say, "What is the fastest way to clean up this dadgum mess?" That's going to mean beans and rice, rice and beans. That means a scorched-earth lifestyle and living on a budget, which



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

davesays

not going on vacations, and you're going to start selling so much stuff that the kids think they're next.

I'd probably sell the car and the motorcycle. Get into a couple of basic cars, and spend about two years of crazy intensity getting debt free except for your home. You can clean this up that fast, but you're going to have no life during that time.

The two of you have some relationship work to do also. It sounds like you've already started on that with you owning your part and her owning hers. The thing is not to blame. From this point forward you need to sit down together and make all of your decisions — financial and otherwise together.

Trust me, if you're both willing, you can heal the math problem, the debt problem and the marriage problem all at the same time. It will be an amazing thing!

—Dave

3 Smart Ways to **Use Your Tax Refund**

By **Deborah Nayrocker**

Dear Deborah,

My husband and I will get our tax refund soon. We decided that this year we aren't going to spend it all on a vacation. We're looking forward to having a little extra cash and we'd like to consider our options for smart ways to use our refund. - A Reader

When deciding how to use your refund, consider what would benefit you and your family most now. Have you been putting off an important financial move? Here are some options:

Pay down high-interest debt. Whenever possible, eliminate outstanding credit-card debt. A big factor in your total credit score is the amount you owe vs. your credit limit amount. Get to the point where you are able to pay off your balance each month.

Money managers say paying down on your credit-card balance that has a higher interest rate is like getting the same return on your money.

Add to your emergency fund. A general recommendation is that you keep at least three months'

worth of living expenses in liquid savings or a money-market account.

Also, considering that certain jobs may be in jeopardy, it's beneficial to have adequate funds set aside to cover the temporary loss of income.

Within the last few years we have seen more families take from their retirement accounts before they reached their intended retirement age. Already ill-prepared for retirement, families are placing themselves in a worse long-term situation.

Deposit your tax refund in a retirement account. First, check to see what your maximum contribution amount is for this year. Eligibility to contribute depends on your age, whether you are single or married, and your income.

Consider having your tax refund deposited directly into a Roth IRA account, as recommended by Kiplinger's Personal Finance. This will create future tax-free income.

-Deborah Nayrocker is the author of The Art of Debt-Free Living and the 12-lesson Bible study, Living a Balanced Financial Life.





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my**opinion**

Right now, there are over 300,000 Protestant churches in America. Just do the division (300,000 divided by 50 states) and that's an average of 6,000 churches per state. Wow! That's a lot of churches!

Think about it this way: There are 12,000(ish) Starbucks and well over

300,000 churches! So Starbucks can saturate the United States caffeinated drinks, but almost 30 times more churches can't saturate the United States with the Living Water. Seriously???

According to church growth and discipleship multi-

plication expert Bill Hull, "It still takes 100 church attendees, a pastor and \$100,000 a year to win a convert. Among evangelicals it is a bit better, 1.7, this is an ugly fact that should grieve us

So our solution is planting more and more churches so that we can reach America for Jesus? Is that really the best solution, or is a revitalization of the current churches the best solution?

My answer is a resounding "YES!"

YES we need more churches planted and YES we need to revitalize the current ones.

When I was a 23-year-old part-time youth leader at a church in Arvada, Colorado, I wanted to revitalize the congregation when it came to evangelism and outreach. This very traditional church was solid theologically, but not growing steadily due to disciples being made and multiplied.

I'll never forget presenting an 11page document called "Operation Arvada" to the senior pastor and asking him to consider it. In those pages were ideas for infusing relational evangelism

into the lifeblood of the church. He said. "Let me pray about it" (which is a pastor's way of buying time so that he can think of a nice way to say "no" to your idea). Days turned to weeks and I finally realized that it wasn't going to hap-

It was then that I remembered the words of a former pastor who gave up trying to revitalize that same church to plant a new one. He told me, "It's easier to give birth than to resurrect the dead."

That's when my best friend and I decided to start a church ourselves, Grace Church in Arvada. Through prayer, tons of mistakes and sheer perseverance, we were blessed to plant a church that grew deep and wide in some powerful wavs.

Today, Grace Church is a thriving congregation with over 60 percent of the 3,000 or so who go there having come to Jesus as a result of this church's focused outreach efforts. What about the other church I was involved in? The new pastor and youth pastor are working hard to revitalize it so that it can be more effective in the community where it's located.

We need already existing churches to drop an evangelistic engine into their church chassis. We need new churches planted that grow primarily through new believers being added (as opposed to transfer growth).

So the real question is not how many churches do we have in North America, but how many Gospel-Advancing churches do we have? We need to revitalize current ones and

plant new ones until we reach every-

If you are in an established church, work with all your heart to get the people there making and multiplying disciples. Start with those who are willing and build from there. Pray for your church. Challenge your church. Equip your church.

If you feel led to plant a church, determine to build one that grows primarily through intercessory prayer, relational evangelism and discipleship multiplication.

Make intercessory prayer that engine and not the caboose of your efforts, and, over time, you will succeed...if you don't give up!

It's time to revitalize current churches and plant new ones that bleed the good news. Let's give birth and raise the dead!

-Greg Stier is the Founder and President of Dare 2 Share Ministries International. www.dare2share.org.



DECKER

continued from page 1



CLINT DECKER President and **Evangelist with** Great Awakenings, Inc.

hopefor**toda**y

Continued from page one

Every one of us is uniquely born for a purpose. Some totally miss it while others fulfill their destiny. Jesus was no dif-

Before His birth it was spoken that "he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). This divine mission would bring hope to hundreds of thousands during His own generation and billions over the next two millennium.

However, this mission had a high cost. It required Jesus willingly lay down His life under the most inhuman of circumstances. The provision of the forgiveness of sins mandated it.

Sin is many things. It is the pride, selfishness and rebelliousness of a person's heart.

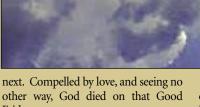
It shows itself in practical ways through lying, sexual immorality or unforgiveness. Ultimately, it is a darkness that lay in each human heart that required the greatest force in the universe to advance against it - Jesus and His cross.

He humbly laid His life down on that cross and only He could have done it.

As God Himself, He was sinless, perfect, without any fault. One sinner could not provide forgiveness for another.

Only a perfect man could provide forgiveness for an imperfect one. Jesus was humanity's only hope. He lay Himself down to become mankind's sin-bearer. He who was without sin willingly bore the sin of the world.

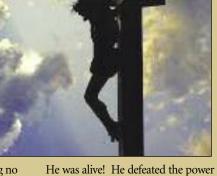
Why did God, through Jesus, go to such lengths to provide forgiveness? Love. He saw where the path of sin led to. The destruction it created in this life and the eternal pain it brought in the



other way, God died on that Good

On Saturday there He laid, lifeless, while His followers sat in dismay. But wait, something happened Sunday morning. The tombstone was mysteriously rolled back from His grave and it was empty. He was gone. Jesus had risen!

Soon His followers saw Him. They walked, talked and ate with Him. They witnessed this miracle.



of sin and secured forgiveness for all. Now everyone who calls on Him in simple belief and repentance can have their guilt and shame washed away.

Today, call upon the living Christ and let Him sweep clean your heart and bring new and everlasting life.

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

Young people and the lure of socialism

As one presidential candidate makes socialism cool, society risks being torn apart



THOMAS SOWELL Economist, social theorist, political philosopher, and author

viewpoint

Many people of mature years are amazed at how many young people have voted for Senator Bernie Sanders, and are enthusiastic about the socialism he preaches.

Many of those older people have lived long enough to have seen socialism fail, time and again, in countries around the world. Venezuela, with all its rich oil resources, is currently on the verge of economic collapse, after its heady fling with socialism.

But, most of the young have missed all that, and their dumbed-down education is far more likely to present the inspiring rhetoric of socialism than to present its dismal track record.

Socialism is in fact a wonderful vision -- a world of the imagination far better than any place anywhere in the real world, at any time over the thousands of years of recorded history. Even many conservatives would probably prefer to live in such a

world, if they thought it was possible.

Who would not want to live in a world where college was free, along with many other things, and where government protected us from the shocks of life and guaranteed our happiness? It would be Disneyland for adults!

Free college of course has an appeal to the young, especially those who have never studied economics. But college can-

not possibly be free. It would not be free even if there was no such thing as money.

Consider the costs of just one professor teaching just one course. He or she has probably spent more than 20 years being educated, from kindergarten to the Ph.D., before ending up standing in front of a class and trying to convey some of the knowledge picked up in all those years. That means being fed,

clothed and housed all those years, along with other expenses.

All the people who grew the food, manufactured the clothing and built the housing used by this one professor, for at least two decades, had to be compensated

for their efforts, or those efforts would not continue.

And of course someone has to produce food, clothing and shelter for all the students in this one course, as well as books, computers and other requirements or amenities.

Add up all these costs -- and multiply by a hundred or so -- and you have a rough idea of what going to college costs.

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Whether these costs are paid by using money in a capitalist economy or by some other mechanism in a feudal economy, a socialist economy, or whatever, there are heavy costs to pay.

Moreover, under any economic system, those costs are either going to be paid or there are not going to be any colleges.

Money is just an artificial device for getting real things done.

Those young people who understand this, whether clearly or vaguely, are not likely to be deterred from wanting socialism. Because what they really want is for somebody else to pay for their decision to go to college.



Socialism is coming under scrutiny as the media, including cartoonists, focus on the Sanders campaign.

A market economy is one in which whomever makes a decision is the one who pays for that decision. It forces people to be sure that what they want to do is really worth what it is going to cost.

Even the existing subsidies of college have led many people to go to college who have very little interest in, or benefit from, going to college, except for enjoying the social scene while postponing adult responsibilities for a few years.

Whether judging by test results, by number of hours per week devoted to studying or by on-campus interviews, it is clear that today's college students learn a lot less than college students once did.

If college becomes "free," even more people can attend college without bothering to become educated and without

acquiring any economically meaningful

More fundamentally, making all sorts of other things "free" means more of those things being wasted as well. Even worse, it means putting more and more of the decisions that shape our lives into the hands of politicians and bureaucrats who control the purse strings.

Worst of all, government giveaways polarize society into segments, each trying to get what it wants at somebody else's expense, creating mutual bitterness that can tear a society apart. Some seem to blithely assume that "the rich" can be taxed to pay for what they want -- as if "the rich" don't see what is coming and take their wealth elsewhere.

What are you waiting for?



DR. DAN ERICKSON Chief Servant Leader of the People Matter Ministries

my**opinion**

If you had unlimited resources and complete freedom to fail, what would you attempt with your life? Would you live the life you are now living? What would you change? What would your life become and what would you do with it? I have coached hundreds of individuals and couples and I have come to the conclusion that the average adult is not making a life at all; they are simply making a living. They do not know where they are going; let alone how they are going to get there.

What is the life you want to live? How would you live it and what is keeping you from attaining it?

Those are the million-dollar questions. I wish I had a dollar for every time I have met with people, asked them these questions and watched as a glaze came over their eyes. It's as if I asked them the impossible. They seem to think there is no way that God would help them to achieve their

dreams, so they don't even try.

Many believe that they are not good enough, holy enough or close enough to God to experience his magnificent plan for their lives. But I wonder how good Peter was when he walked on water. How holy were the first disciples when they were commissioned to change history? They were ordinary just like us (if you don't believe me, read the New Testament), but they chose to give their lives to something extraordinary.

So how do we start this journey to reach our potential and destiny?

Scripture tells a story about a



wealthy young man who came to Jesus and asked what he must do to have eternal life. Christ responded that he must keep all the commandments. The young man responded that he had done this. He then asked Jesus what else he needed to do. Jesus responded, "If you would be perfect,

go, sell what you possess and give to the poor and you will have treasure in Heaven; come and follow me" (Matthew 19:21). As we read on, we learn that the man sorrowfully walked away from Jesus, because he could not bear to give up his wealth.

If we are going to discover our God-given potential and destiny, we must first leave every competing loyalty. We must be rid of anything or any relationship that comes between us and God's plan and purpose for our lives. When I reveal this crucial first step, most people simply walk away with their heads bowed and I never hear from them.

My only conclusion is that the cost is too great. Yet reality is that we cannot experience God's best for our lives without the willingness to set aside the things that are odds with his values. As Jesus informs us in the gospel of Mark: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it" (Mark 8:34-35)

What are you waiting for? Lose your life for Christ's sake and you will find life to the fullest – abundantly more than we can ask or think. Then imagine the possibilities!

-Dr. Dan Erickson is the chief servant leader of People Matter Ministries. He is the author of "Finding Your Greater Yes!" and "God Loves Do-Overs." derickson@peoplematterministries.c

Kansas sees record new business filings in 2015

Kansas saw a record setting 17,298 new business filings in 2015. That's the 5th record-setting year in a row. Does this mean Gov. Sam Brownback's policies are working?

The Governor certainly thinks so. In an op-ed submitted to the KC Star, he said:

The Kansas economy is strong, and it is growing. Yet, the deluge of negative media coverage seems determined to tell a different story. Critics of my administration have spent years publishing stories nearly every day in attempts to undermine the success of conservative principles at the state level. Attacks often focus on reforms to our small business tax policy. Former Gov. Robert B. Docking use to call these sorts of critics the "high tax boys."

The facts are clear. The Kansas economy is far better off than it was before, and the recent changes in Kansas income tax policy deserve substantial credit.

A record number of Kansans are working today, more than ever before. Since 2013, Kansas has seen 11 straight quarters of job growth in the private sector. In nine of these quarters, job growth outpaced Kansas' 20-year average.

Thanks to this strong job growth, Kansas has its lowest unemployment rate in 15 years sitting at 3.9 percent. Kansas is one of the few states in the nation that is very close to full employment. This means that Kansans looking for opportunity to earn a living and provide for their families can find good jobs. It will be difficult to sustain robust job growth while at near full employment levels. That reality is why we need to continue to maintain the low tax burden and stable reg-

ulatory climate that helps us attract and retain businesses in Kansas.

Our small business reforms are working. Kansas has seen a record number of new business formations, in spite of the fact that American startup businesses have declined by one-third since the Great Recession. Small businesses employ 70 percent of Kansans. Taxing small business is not the answer to growing the Kansas economy.

Earnings for hard-working Kansans are not only growing, they are accelerating. In the second quarter of 2014, private earnings grew at a 1.1 percent annual rate. This growth rate has increased every quarter since then, now growing at a 6.7 percent annual rate in the second quarter of 2015.

Nevertheless, the Kansas economy is not without its challenges. Agriculture, aviation and the oil and gas industry are struggling in Kansas and around the country. But these struggles only underline just how strong Kansas' economic growth has been over the last few years. There is more work to be done, but the answer is not higher taxes and more regulation.

More Kansans have jobs today, they are earning more, they are keeping more of their income in their own pockets and they are escaping the bonds of poverty.

The national progressive movement wants to undermine Kansas in order to prevent other states from making changes that reduce the scope of government and empower individuals. Yet, despite overwhelming opposition, the truth remains. Kansas is strong. Kansas is growing.

What was in Jeremy's egg?

The Lesson of Easter from an Unlikely Child

By Ida Mae kempel

Jeremy was born with a twisted body and slow mind. At the age of 12 he was still in second grade, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher, Doris Miller, often became exasperated with him. He would squirm in his seat, drool and make grunting noises.

At other times, he spoke clearly and distinctly, as if a spot of light had penetrated the darkness of his brain. Most of the time, however, Jeremy irritated his teacher. One day, she called his parents to come to St. Theresa's for a consultation. As the Forresters sat quietly in the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school. It isn't fair to him to be with younger children who don' t have learning problems. Why, there is a five-year gap between his age and that of the other students!"

Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue, while her husband spoke. "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here."

Doris sat for a long time after they left,

staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Forresters. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other youngsters to teach, and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read and write. Why waste any more time trying?

As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. "Oh God," she said aloud, "here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared to that poor family! Please help me to be more patient with Jeremy!"

From that day on, she tried hard to ignore Jeremy's noises and his blank stares. Then one day, he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him. "I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed, loud enough for the whole class to hear. The other students snickered, and Doris' face turned red. She stammered, "Whwhy that's very nice, Jeremy. N-now please take your seat."

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to take this home

and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?"

"Yes, Miss Miller!" the children responded enthusiastically - all except for Jeremy. He just listened intently; his eyes never left her face. He did not even make his usual noises.

Had he understood what she had said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents and explain the project to them. That evening, Doris' kitchen sink stopped up. She called the landlord and waited an hour for him to come by and unclog it. After that, she still had to shop for groceries, iron a blouse and prepare a vocabulary test for the next day. She completely forgot about phoning Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school, laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in the large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. After they completed their math lesson, it was time to open the eggs.

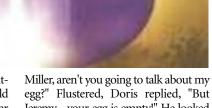
In the first egg, Doris found a flower. "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sign of new life," she said. "When plants peek through the ground we know that Spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arm. "That's my egg Miss Miller," she called out.

The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, which looked very real. Doris held it up. "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes, that is new life, too." Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine!"

Next, Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that moss, too, showed life. Billy spoke up from the back of the classroom, "My Daddy helped me!" he beamed.

Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty! Surely it must be Jeremy's, she thought, and of course, he did not understand her instructions. If only she had not forgotten to phone his parents! Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another.

Suddenly Jeremy spoke up. "Miss



egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "But Jeremy - your egg is empty!" He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb was empty, too!"

Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?" "Oh yes!" Jeremy said, "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then His Father raised Him up!"

The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the school yard, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away.

Three months later, Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the mortuary were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of his casket, all of them empty.

This is a true story, the names have been changed for sake of privacy. Ida Mae Kempel is a free-lance writer from Alameda, California. This article appeared in Focus on the Family, April, 1988.

Overcome your obstacles; bring out the best leader in you



LINDA FIELDS Founder and CEO of 7M-pact

viewpoint

2016 holds an invitation for you to become the leader you want to be

Picture for a moment that you are flourishing in your work and your personal life. Can you see yourself accomplishing your plans and dreams?

Why is it a struggle? What gets in the way?

Businesspeople, stay-at home moms, teachers and preachers alike tell me these things keep them from living the life they want to live:

1. Getting Things Done – People are overwhelmed by their workload, their circumstances and the stress of daily life.

They don't have the energy and focus to do the important things that would help them become the leader they want to be

2. Sense of Calling? – People are anxious to know if they are fulfilling



their calling. Can it be a holy calling to work at a day job doing customer service, selling products, running a business, or teaching a class of rebellious kids?

People ask, "Am I doing work that matters to God?"

3. No One Understands -- Many feel they are alone in their quest to live a life of accomplishment as a Christian. They don't belong to a community of like-minded people who are on the same journey.

Be encouraged if you face any of these obstacles because now you can know exactly what you need to do to bring out the best leader within you. And it is possible.

To make progress as a leader you want to learn from others who are experiencing success, who are living the type of life you would like to live. Learn from their mistakes and catch their lessons. Walking out your plan in like-minded community unlocks your potential for the next level as a leader.

The exciting benefit to those you serve, whatever your occupation may

be, is that you are now becoming a leader who will impact more people in greater ways than before. Your leadership is bigger than you; it is for those you influence day by day.

You owe it to God, to yourself and to those you work with to become the best leader in you in 2016. Get started with a checklist to help you start your day off right.

Download your Seize the Day morning tool at: yeslinda.org/morning.

Linda Fields is Founder and CEO of 7M-pact. Linda helps men and women in all walks of life to bring godly impact in their spheres of influence through her events, coaching, and resources. Linda specialized in communication postgraduate studies at the University of Texas, and earned her bachelor of science in business education and MBA from Texas State University. Linda and her husband, Rick, live in the Kansas City area and enjoy spending time with family, friends, and associates, "our most precious sphere of influence."



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

Menninger Bible Classes to Begin at the YWCA

A new study group for Year One of Flo V. Menninger's course on Four Years through the Bible will begin at noon on Tuesday March 15, 2016, at the YWCA of Northeast Kansas.

Over the lunch hour each week participants will read and discuss the first books of the Bible from Genesis through First Kings.

The study of the Bible is divided into four segments over four years, each covering 29 weeks:

Year 1: Genesis to First Kings

Year 2: Second Kings to Malachi

Year 3: The Life of Christ

Year 4: Acts, Apostles, Revelation

Study groups work through a format researched and formulated by Mrs. Menninger, who organized her first class beginning with 28 women in 1898. The non-denominational classes, which have been conducted every year since then, are now sponsored by the Topeka YWCA with thousands of participants in states all over the nation. Mrs. Menninger was the wife of Dr. C.F. (Charles) Menninger, who with his two sons, Dr. Karl Menninger and Dr. Will Menninger, founded the noted Menninger Clinic in Topeka in 1925. She achieved her own fame by founding a Bible study system that is still being used today.

The study group members, with the assistance of a leader, read the books of the Bible, answer questions about the readings and then discuss the Biblical information rather than theological interpretations.

As Mrs. Menninger in her 1939 autobiography, The Days of My Life, noted: "My aim in this Bible class work has always been to make the Bible characters understandable and interesting to the reader." She felt that the Bible provided a "help to those who wanted to find God in their lives."

While other groups are currently ongoing, Clara Gamache, a longtime leader, will start this First Year session on March 15 between noon and one P.M. in the Amerus Room of the YWCA, 225 West 12th Street in Topeka. There is a nominal charge for Bible outline materials. For more information or to register, call the YWCA at 233-1750 or call Clara Gamache at 785-408-5433. Assistance will also be given to other interested persons who would like help in setting up Bible discussion groups at other dates or places.

Do's and don'ts for using social media

by Susie Hawkins

DALLAS (BP) -- Social media has radically altered the cultural landscape. We have an unparalleled opportunity via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. to contribute to the good of our church, family and community. But as in everything, social media also can cause great harm.

It's wise to step back occasionally and evaluate how we are leveraging our leadership platform through these connections. Here are four things to remember -- the "DO"s of social media:

DO #shareyourlife (appropriately, of course). Social media offers a place for us to share our interests, family news, photos and our life in general. These posts enable our church family and community to identify with us and discover who we are. Conversely, it makes us aware of what is happening in the lives of others.

DO #useyourplatform to engage in meaningful conversations. This is one of the primary advantages of social media -- a spiritual leader can address current/cultural events immediately and help others process them through a biblical lens. Using social media for purposeful conversations is effective, helpful and contributes to a strong presence online.

DO #thinkstrategically. How can you add the most value to the issues that interest you? Posting links to good articles, promoting organizations/causes that are in line with your ministry and just generally edifying others is when social media is at its best. At the same time, people who share a mix of their personal life, cultural trends, interesting quotes and good insights keep me scrolling until I find their posts.

DO #setboundaries. Social media can easily hijack your time and mental energy, becoming a major distraction. As someone said, "When you've got five minutes to fill, Twitter is a great way to fill 35." Consider an occasional "technology sabbath." The general rule seems to be this: If



you can't go an hour without checking Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, you need to face up to your fixation and do something fast. Call it Social Media Maintenance and be vigilant about it.

You can't have the "do"s without the "don't"s.

Our posts sometimes carry more weight than we realize and if they are

negative or perceived as mean-spirited, they can compromise our witness and effectiveness.

Here are four "don'ts of social media. Of course there are many more, but these will get you started down the path of good sense, spiritual discernment and wise discretion:

Don't post when #angryandirritated. Rants and inflammatory language used against others never cause you to come off looking good -- it's a very poor witness. Not only that, there

is a significant chance you will regret something you said in anger. Even if you go back and delete, it was posted and was public. "Don't say anything online that you wouldn't want plastered on a billboard with your face on it" (digital marketer/technology journalist Erin Bury). That thought should give all of us pause.

Don't be #rude. There are times when negative observations, warnings or hard truths need to be stated, especially as the church seeks to be counter-cultural in our post-Christian world. But that is never a reason to use harsh, unkind language. Online rudeness is no differ-

ent than face-to-face rudeness. Remember, the written word does not communicate your body language or tone of voice, which could be used to offset anything offensive. Always use Ephesians 4:32 as your guideline.

Don't #selfpromote. Just don't. Distinguish between recommending a good resource you provide rather than promoting yourself.

Don't #flirt (unless it's with your bushand)

Online romances and inappropriate emotional connections through social media are rampant, even among believers. Facebook in particular offers endless opportunities for temptation, especially as it relates to former romances. An unhappy marriage is often the catalyst for a



Facebook fling. This is a road we cannot go down simply because this temptation itself has a power no other temptation has. C.S. Lewis brilliantly observed, "All the sexual vices have this unfair advantage -that the very temptation is itself pleasurable: whereas the temptations, say, to anger or cowardice, are themselves unpleasant." Undoubtedly that is why the apostle Paul says to "flee sexual immorality" (1 Corinthians 6:18). This temptation cannot be reasoned with, it's too seductive. If you find yourself in this place, you need to "flee," meaning "close" immediately. Shut it down.

Lions Clubs offer Vision Screening for kids

Do you know if your child/grand-child has good vision? Eighty percent (80%) of a child's learning is done with vision. Statistics show ten percent (10%) of the children in the United States under the age of 6 years old may have a vision problem. Statistics also show that if such children can be identified and the vision problem corrected by the age of seven years old, that child will see better for life.

The Lions Clubs of the United States have formed a coalition called Lions KidSight USA to help find these children. The Lions Clubs of the world have been on the side of the blind and particularly low vision people since Helen Keller commissioned the Lions Clubs to become "Knights of the blind" in 1925. Since that time Lions Clubs International has been refining their efforts to combat vision loss and blindness.

For years local Lions Clubs have been conducting Vision Screenings. In the last few years technology has advanced to the point that an electronic instrument (much like an SLR camera) can be focused on a child and vision problems can be found. This instrument can detect nearsightedness, farsightedness,



astigmatism, unequal pupil size, unequal refractive power and eye misalignment. This screening is done staying three feet from the child and does not touch the child.

The Lions Clubs of Kansas have been conducting these Vision Screenings with this new technology for the past three (3) years. The two local Lions Clubs in Topeka are conducting these screenings, concentrating on day-cares with children from 6 months old to 6 years old, as these are the children most in need of care. The contact for the Topeka Lions Club is Spencer Smith at slsmithks@att.net or 785-633-8321, and the contact for the Sunflower Lions Club of Topeka is Vern Failor at vlfailor@gmail.com or 785-272-6102.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND SILENT AUCTION - March 26, 7am to 11am, First Christian Church, 1880 SW Gage Blvd. Sunflower Lions Club's will hold a Pancake Breakfast & Silent Auction to benefit Vision Screening for small children, eye exams & eye glasses in the Topeka community.



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THE EASTER STORY BY LINDA SUE POCHODZAY

What an awfully sad day it had been for the friends of Jesus! They had stood watching sorrowfully, as Jesus hung on the cross dying. They didn't fully understand why it had to happen.

They believed that Jesus was the Son of God, and they remembered how He had healed the sick and made blind people see. They remembered how He had fed thousands of people with just a few loaves of bread and fish. They even remembered how He had caused dead people to come back to life. He was such a good, kind man; why did He have to die?

Just before the sun was beginning to sink into the west, Joseph, one of Jesus' friends, noticed that Jesus was no longer



breathing. He hurriedly went to ask Pilate if he could have the body of Jesus so he could bury Him. When Pilate agreed, Joseph and Nicodemus (another friend) carefully wrapped Jesus' body in clean cloths. Then they took Him to a tomb to bury Him.

The next day, the Pharisees started thinking about Jesus. They were the people that had wanted to kill Jesus. They remembered how He had taught them, saying that He would rise again after three days. They were worried that it might be true! They also thought that Jesus' disciples would remember and might try to steal the body from the tomb just so they could say that Jesus rose again. They went to Pilate, suggesting that the tomb be closed up with a huge stone and that guards be placed all around the tomb.

Just before daylight the next day, the most amazing thing happened! There was a GREAT EARTHQUAKE! An ANGEL from the Lord came down from

heaven, moved the gigantic stone away from the door of the tomb and sat on it. The guards began to shake with fear! They fell down to the ground as if they were dead!

Mary and some other women had decided to get up very early in the morning and go to visit the tomb where Jesus was placed. While walking down the road, they were discussing how they were going to get inside the tomb. They had brought along some spices and perfume that they wanted to place on Jesus' body. They knew the huge stone had been placed in the doorway and they had no idea how they were going to move it.

What a SURPRISE they found when they reached the tomb! The stone had already been moved! And . . . there was an ANGEL sitting on the stone! The women were quite afraid, but the angel spoke gently to them:

"Don't be afraid. I know that you have come to see Jesus. He is not here; for he is risen just as he said. Come inside and see the place where he lay."

The women went inside the tomb and found it empty, just as the angel had told them.



The angel spoke to the women one more time:

"Go quickly and tell the other disciples that Jesus has risen from the dead; and he is going into Galilee where you will see him."

The women did just as the angel had told them. They ran quickly from the tomb, with fear and great joy, to tell the good news to the other disciples. But ... when the women found Peter and their other friends and tried to tell them the good news, ... no one believed them!

When the women persisted, Peter

decided that he needed to find out for himself.

He ran all the way to the tomb. He went inside.

He saw the cloths that had been wrapped around Jesus, but the body was not there.



He wondered if it could possibly be true. Did Jesus really raise from the dead? Was Jesus really alive?

Two of Jesus' other friends were going on a journey to a village called Emmaus. As they walked and talked, they discussed all the things that had happened over the past few days. A man came along and joined the group. He walked along with them and wanted to join their discussion. Cleopas began telling the man about how Jesus was crucified on the cross. They talked about how the women found the empty tomb.

As they continued their journey, they invited the man to come in with them and have dinner. When they sat down to eat their meal, the man picked up a loaf of bread and broke it in pieces. Then he prayed for the meal and gave the bread to the men. At that very moment they realized that the man was JESUS! They



had been talking to Jesus the whole time and didn't even know it!

Then . . . ANOTHER strange thing happened. As soon as they realized who it really was that sat at the table with them . . . Jesus disappeared! They talked about the wonderful time they had talking with Jesus down the road, and they just couldn't help talking about his strange disappearance. They got up from their meal and returned to Jerusalem where they told all the other disciples the good news that Jesus REALLY DID raise from the dead and had talked with them.

As they were talking, Jesus again appeared to them. They were afraid and thought they were seeing a ghost, but Jesus told them not to be afraid. He showed them His hands and feet where He had been nailed to the cross, so they would believe that it was really Him.

When they saw the nail holes in His hands and feet, they finally believed that Jesus had risen from the dead, just like He said He would.

They were soooo happy and joyful to have their friend with them again.

They were soooo excited that they had to tell EVERYBODY the good news that JESUS IS ALIVE!

EASTER EVENT SCHEDULE

LENTEN BREAKFASTS - Tuesday's through Mar. 22, 7:30-8:30am. Highland Park United Methodist Church, 2914 SE Michigan. Breakfast is served in Dawson Hall at 7:30 am. followed by a guest speaker. The program will end by 8:30 am so attendees can still be at work at 9:00 am or before. Free-will offering. Topic is "Jesus' Journey." Mar. 1 - "Working Miracles" - Mark 6:30-44, Retired Pastor Don Anderson; Mar. 8 - "Healing the Sick" - Matthew 4:23-25, Pastor Andy Hargrove - Berryton UMC; Mar. 15 - "Teaching the People" - Matthew 5-7, Pastor Nate Burns - Countryside Christian Church; Mar. 22 - "On the Road to Emmaus" - Luke 24:1-35. Lay Leader - Galen Biery

LENTEN SERVICES - Mar. 2, 9, 16, St. John's Lutheran Church, 901 Fillmore. Supper at 5:30, service at 7pm.

NEIGHBORHOOD LENTEN SUPPERS - Mar. 2, 9, 16, 5:30-7pm. Hope Lutheran Church, 2636 SE Minnesota Ave. For info: hopelcms.org

LENTEN SERVICES - Wednesday's through Mar. 16, 7pm. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Light dinner served before service at 5:30pm. Free will offering.

LENTEN SERVICES - Wednesday's through Mar. 16, 5 & 7pm. Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage. A meal will be served from 5:45-6:45pm.

EASTER CELEBRATION - Mar. 19, 2-4pm, Highland Park United Methodist Church, 2914 SE Michigan. Egg hunt, story time, games and prizes. Free hot dogs & lemonade

EASTER EGG HUNT - Mar. 20, 3:30pm-5:30pm, Field across from East Parking Lot at Fellowship Bible Church, 10th & Urish Rd. Two designated areas for all children: Toddler's through 5 years old, and 1st through 6th graders.

PALM SUNDAY - Mar. 20, regular worship at 8 & 11am; short 9:30 worship leading into Blessing of the Palms procession at 1st Christian Church at 10.00

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Mar. 24, Noon and 7:30pm, GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - Mar. 25, Noon and 7:30pm, EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Mar. 24, 6:30pm, GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - Mar. 25, 6:30pm, EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 7am, 8:30, 9:45 & 11am. Easter Egg Hunt following 11 AM Service. Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene 3501 SW Wanamaker Rd. (785) 273-2248

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Mar. 24, 7-8pm, TENEBRAE SERVICE - Mar. 25, 7-8pm, EASTER VIGIL - Mar. 26, 8-9pm, EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 8:15 & 11am St. John's Lutheran Church, 901 Fillmore. 354-7132

HE IS RISEN! EASTER CONCERT IN LITURGICAL DANCE - Mar. 24, 7pm, at TPAC, No charge, but a freewill donation will be taken. Presented by Barbara's Conservatory of Dance Liturgical dancers and Cleargold Worship Dance. Celebrate the true reason for the Easter season with a beautiful night of music and dance sure to delight all ages

10TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT - Mar. 26, 11am - noon, Shawnee North Community Ctr. Bring your basket and join the Easter Bunny for a great hunt.

TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR — Mar. 26, 9am-5pm, Gage Park. Topeka's third annual Easter parade will move around inside Gage Park at 9:30am. Egg Hunt begins at 9am in AnimalLand playground. Family Fun Fair at Big Gage Shelter House will include vendor booths, children's games, food, facepainting, and more between 9am & 5pm. Praise bands and school bands will perform nearby. Food Trucks will be on hand, too! For info: info@C5Alive.org or 640-6399.

EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 10:30am, Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor. 354-8777

EASTER SERVICE AND MEAL - Mar. 27, 10:45 worship; 12 noon meal, Cornerstone Church, 17th & Indian Hills. 478-2929

EASTER BREAKFAST & WORSHIP - Mar. 27, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Pl. (Hwy 75 & NW 46th St). 286-0601 www.rhcctopeka.org



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

Space is limited - this is your chance to work alongside some of Topeka's finest, most innovative artists. Register by calling 785-408-8996. See more updates from

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the NOTO Arts Center on Facebook. Classes are held at the NOTO Art Center, 935 N Kansas Aveenue.

Clav

Footed Tiles & Tall Slab Cylinder (Ages 15+) instructor: Margaret Ramberg (mramberg.com) Wednesdays 6-8p March 9,16,23,30 - Cost \$120

Photography Workshops

Polymer Clay Photo Transfer Workshop (Ages 12+) Instructor: Marydorsey Wanless (www.marydorseywanless.com) Saturday, 10a-1p March 12th - Cost \$35

Beginner Smartphone Workshop (Ages 12+) Instructor: Marydorsey Wanless (www.marydorseywanless.com) Saturday, 10a-1p March 19th - Cost \$35

Printmaking

Intro to Relief: Printmaking Flags (Ages 15+. Instructor: Alex Olson (www.alexolson.weebly.com) Mondays 6-8p March 7, 14 - Cost \$60

Reduction Printmaking I (Ages15+) Instructor: Alex (www.alexolson.weebly.com) Mondays 6-8p March 21, 28 & April 4 - Cost \$90

Painting

Waterc color Part 2 (Ages12+) Instructor: Barbara Waterman-Peters. Thursdays 10a-noon March 3, 10, 17 & 24 - Cost \$60

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

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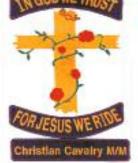
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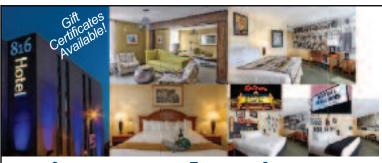
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Topeka Metro Voice

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Jim Driggers, owner of The Computer Store, says he offers quick turn-around time on your computer repairs and the most experienced



technicians in Topeka. Most big-box stores send your computer out of town for repairs, and you never even get a chance to talk directly to the technician doing the work on your computer.

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

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

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

The Computer Store has been in business since 1999, and is located at 21st and Gage in Seabrook Center. You can reach them by phone at 785-267-3223, or visit their website online at www.thecomputerstoreks.com.

THE COMPUTER STORE

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

816 Hotel is Unique, Authentic and Fun

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

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

and everything in between.

The 816 Hotel puts you in the heart of the best amenities Kansas City has to

offer. Located in Old Westport, the oldest part of the city, the area around the hotel is home to more than 150 shops, restaurants and bars. Within 90 steps of the front door are these restaurants: Bluestem (highest Zagat rated restaurant in KC); Pot Pie (a moderately priced local gem); and the

Westport Flea Market (often voted the best cheeseburger in KC).

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

Plaza Tennis Center, the National World War 1 Museum, UMKC and Rockhurst University. Within 2 miles is the

American Jazz Museum, the Negro League Baseball Museum, Crown Center and the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts. Finally, within 3 miles are the Sprint Center and the Power & Light Entertainment District.

And the best part? 816 Hotel offers free shuttle serv-

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







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

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. pof ea. month, 7-9pm, Berryton Baptist Church. Bring snacks & have fun WASHBURN JAZZ CONCERT - Mar. 1, 7:30pm, White Concert Hall. 785-670-1520

THE WRIGHTS – Mar. 11, 6pm, Atria Hearthstone, 3415 SW 6th Ave.. 289-8905. thewrightsministries.com

ELMONT OPRY – Mar. 12, 7pm; and Mar. 13, 1pm, Elmont UMC, 6635 MV Church Ln. With Special Guests. Doors open 90 minutes early for lunch or dinner. Tickets \$10 — call John at 246-0156.

TOBYMAC - March 19, 7:00 pm, Sprint Center, 1407 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64106. 816-949-7100.

THE COLLINGSWORTH FAMILY - Mar. 19, 7pm. Kansas City Christian College, Cowen Memorial Auditorium, 7020 W. 74th St., Overland Park, KS. 913-722-0272.

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

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

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tist. 10500 E. 350 Hwy., Raytown, MO 816-353-1994. HOME FREE - Apr. 22, 7:30pm-10:30pm, TPAC. The winners of season four of "The Sing Off!" 785.234.2787

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 FAIRI AWN HEIGHTS ASSISTED I IVING -

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

FRIDAY FISH FRY — Fridays, Feb. 26 - Mar. 18, 4-7pm. Sacred Heart Church, 312 NE Freeman Ave. Adults \$8.50, Children under 12 \$4. Fish or shrimp. Take-out available. For info: 234-6727

OPEN CLOSET FREE CLOTHING GIVEAWAY - Feb. 27, 8am-3pm. Lakeview Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd.

CLOTHING EXCHANGE - Feb. 27, 10am-2nm and Mar. 5 10am-2pm. Topeka Free Methodist 3450 SE Indiana Ave. CATFISH DINNER - Feb. 27, 11am-2pm. Calvary Church, 1301 NW Van Buren. Menu includes catfish fillets, spaghetti, cornbread, green beans, and dessert. \$8.50

LENTEN BREAKFAST - Tuesday's through Mar. 22, 7:30-Basiloan. Highland Park United Methodist, 2914 SE
Michigan. Breakfast served in Dawson Hall at 7:30 am.
followed by a guest speaker. Free-will offering. Topic is
"Jesus' Journey." Mar. 1 - "Working Miracles" - Mark
6:30-44, Retired Pastor Don Anderson; Mar. 8 "Healing the Sick" - Matthew 4:23-25, Pastor Andy

Hargrove - Berryton UMC; Mar. 15 - "Teaching the People" - Matthew 5-7, Pastor Nate Burns -Countryside Christian Church; Mar. 22 - "On the Road

COMMUNITY DINNER - Mar. 2, 4:30-6pm. Tecumseh United Methodist Church. Beef with homemade noodles, mashed potatoes, Jell-o salad, vegetable, dessert and drink for a free-will donation.

LENTEN SERVICES - Mar. 2, 9, 16, St. John's Lutheran Church, 901 Fillmore, Supper at 5:30, service at 7pm. NEIGHBORHOOD LENTEN SUPPERS - Mar. 2, 9, 16.

5:30-7pm. Hope Lutheran Church, 2636 SE Minnesota Ave. For info: hopelcms.org HOPE FOR TOPEKA - Mar 12, 5:30pm, New Hope UMC, 2915 SW 8th Ave. CD release party for three bands, Ponderworthy, Anxious 4 Nothing and Grandeur, who will introduce some new praise and worship melodies that will speak God's love to everyone. (785) 233-0166, http://bnds.in/jlStT0, newhopeumc@live.com

LENTEN SERVICES - Wednesday's through Mar. 16, 7pm. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Light dinner served before service at 5:30pm. Free will offering.

LENTEN SERVICES - Wednesday's through Mar. 16, 5 & 7pm. Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage. A meal will be served from 5:45-6:45pm.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS - Friday's through Mar. 18, 5:30-7pm. Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 1750 SW Stone. Suggested donation \$8 for adults, \$4 for children under 10, and \$30 household maximum

FISH FRY - Friday's through Mar. 18, 5-7pm Assumption Church, 204 SE 8th, \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6-12. Carry outs available.

FISH DINNERS - Friday's through Mar. 18, 5-7pm. Christ the King Catholic Church, 5973 SW 25th. Suggested donation of \$8 for adults, \$30 for families.

LENTEN FISH FRY - Friday's through Mar. 18, 4-7pm. Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Catholic Church, 312 NE Freeman. Adults \$8.50, children 12 and under \$4. Fish or shrimp. 234-6727 sacredheartstjosephcatholic.org

HEIGHTS OF LEARNING - Mar. 4, 5-7pm. Shawnee



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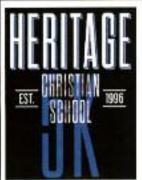
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Runners and walkers are invited to participate in our

8th Annual

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

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

Crestview Community Center; Shunga Trail Saturday, April 9, 2016

Registration: 8:00AM-8:45AM Time: 5K to begin at 9:00AM, Fun Run at 9:10

\$30 Registration includes a t-shirt and ticket to the pancake feed. Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 finishers!

Pancake Feed

Crestview Community Center 8:30AM-11:00AM

Pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee will be served for a minimum \$5.00/person donation at the door.



Capital City Christian Chamber of Commerce



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

C5Alive POWER Luncheons - (2nd Thur. ea. mo.)

 Mar. 10, 11:30-1 - Gov. Sam Brownback will speak at Governor's Row House, 811 SW Buchanan.



RSVP to info@C5Alive or 640-6399

 Easter Parade & Fun Fest Mar. 26, 2016, in Gage Park. Contact us for vendor space & parade entries!

· Apr. 14, 11:30-1, at The Peak with The Wrights

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/C5Alive

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

Heights United Methodist. Chili feed, home-made cinnamon rolls, and silent auction. Free will donation.

B&G AND SCRAMBLED EGGS BREAKFAST - Mar. 5, 7-11am. Seaman Community Ch., 2036 NW Taylor. \$5 **POTATO BAR** - Mar. 6, 12-1pm, Church of the Brethren, 3201 MW Rochester. Camp Mt. Hermon fundraiser

ALL YOU CAN EAT HAM & BEANS SUPPER - Mar. 11, 4-6:30pm. Kansas Ave United Methodist fellowship hall, 1029 N Kansas Ave. Adults \$7, kids \$3.50. Includes combread. drink & dessert. Community Invited!

SW KIWANIS PANCAKE FUNDRAISER - Mar. 12, 7am-12noon. Suggested \$5 donation. Lowman United Methodist , 4101 SW 15th. 272-8921 lowmanumc.org

COMMUNITY MEAL - Mar. 15. Stull United Methodist Church. Chili, hotdogs, cornbread, relishes, desserts. Dine-in or carry-out. Donations accepted.

EASTER CELEBRATION - Mar. 19, 2-4pm, Highland Park United Methodist, 2914 SE Michigan. Egg hunt, story time, games, prizes. Free hot dogs & lemonade PALM SUNDAY - Mar. 20, regular worship at 8 & 11am; short 9:30 worship leading into Blessing of the

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Mar. 24, Noon and 7:30pm, GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - Mar. 25, Noon and 7:30pm, EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage

Palms procession at 1st Christian Church at 10:00

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Mar. 24, 6:30 pm, GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - Mar. 25, 6:30 pm, EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 7am, 8:30, 9:45 & 11am. Easter Egg Hunt following 11 AM Service. Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene. 3501 SW Wanamaker Rd.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - Mar. 24, 7-8pm, TENEBRAE SERVICE - Mar. 25, 7-8pm, EASTER VIGIL - Mar. 26, 8-9pm, EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 8:15 & 11am, St. John's Lutheran, 901 Fillmore. 354-7132 EASTER SERVICES - Mar. 27, 10:30am, Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor. 354-8777

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND SILENT AUCTION - Mar. 26, 7-11am, First Christian Ch. 1880 SW Gage. Sunflower Lions Club's Pancake Breakfast & Silent Auction to benefit Vision Screening small children, eye exams & eye glasses in the Topeka community.

EASTER SERVICE AND MEAL - Mar. 27, 10:45 worship; noon meal. Cornerstone Church. 17th & Indian Hills.

EASTER BREAKFAST & WORSHIP - Mar. 27, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Pl. (Hwy 75 & NW 46th St). 286-0601 www.rhcctopeka.org

COMMUNITY MEAL - Mar. 30, 5-7pm. Berryton United Methodist Church. Meatloaf, Cheesy potatoes, green beans, jello salad, dessert and drink. Free will offering.

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

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.

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SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS - Mar. 8 & 22, 6:30pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all of its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare as well as those considering making a change during open enrollment. Seminars will be held at Century Health Solutions, a division of Stormont-Vail Healthcare, 2951 SW Woodside Dr. Information: 233-1816 or info@century-health.com. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

MIDWEST CHRISTIAN COLLEGE AND EDUCATION EXPO - Mar. 5, 9:30am—2pm. Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall, KCMO. Visit with over 50 colleges from 17 states and 20 local homeschool groups and K-12 schools. Seminars throughout the day. Homeschooling 101, How to prepare for college, more. 816-524-4522. www.metrovoicenews.com. Sponsored by Metro Voice Newspaper.

WEEKEND TO REMEMBER MARRIAGE GETAWAY. Mar. 11-13. Overland Park Marriott, 10800 Metcalf Ave., Overland Park. Special getaway room rate: \$106.00/night. Event price \$149.99 per person. Sponsored by Family Life.

WOMEN OF FAITH INTERNATIONAL MINISTIRES -Mar. 12, 7-9pm. Revival of Hope Church, 6002 Anderson Ave., Kansas City, MO 64123. Free and open to public. Speaker — Dr. Margaret Wright

BLUE RIBBON ACADEMY - LUNCH & LEARN - Mar. 29, GO TOPEKA, 120 SE 6th Ave. Getting Social: Marketing with Social Media. Understand the leverage of using social media to build demand for your product/service as well as reaching a wide demographic. Presenter is Kerrice Mapes, President of 785 Magazine and Director of Marketing for the Topeka Civic Theatre

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

EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE - Apr. 8 & 9, 9am-5pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Two-day conference for adoptive & foster parents, ministry leaders, social workers, agency professionals, church staff & ministry leaders, counselors, teachers, & therapists, designed to help them connect with children from hard places. Also a great

tool for any parent struggling with their child & any professional who is familiar with trauma informed care. Up to 11 CEU credits available for licensed professionals for \$25. Attendance certificates provided to all others who attend for free. No childcare. Register: lifelinechild.org/event/etc2016/. Info (785) 783-4577, lifelinechild.org/event/etc2016/, angela.beemer@lifelinechild.org

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

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

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

COUNTRY AND BALLROOM DANCING - Thursday's 6-9pm. Croco Hall. Info: Edwina 379-9538 or 478-4760. NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS — NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market items. SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION BOOTH - Every

Sat., 1am - 2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker

TOPEKA FOLK DANCERS CLASSES - Sat. nights, 79:30pm, 2637 SE 41st St. Dances from 20 countries.
No partners or experience necessary. No fee. 215-0968

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

3RD ANNUAL HEAT UP TOPEKA HEAT-A-THON - Feb. 27, noon, 10:30am - 1:30pm, Crestview Shelter House, 4901 S W Shunga Dr . Heat Up Topeka is hosting their 3rd Heat-A-Thon showcasing all the FREE fitness classes they provide. Try Kickboxing, Pilates, Cardio Interval, Yoga, Zumba and more. FREE & open to the public. Amber the dietitian from Hy-Vee will also provide healthy post workout snacks and giveaways.

DA VINCI: THE EXHIBITION. Through May 1. Tue-Thu, 10am-5pm; Fri-Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, 12-5pm. Union Station, 30 W. Pershing Rd., KCMO. Featuring more that 65 fully built life-size inventions, more than 20 fine art studies and dozens of stunning displays, guests will learn the complex beginnings and lifetime achievements of Da Vinci through his discoveries in art, engineering, flight, hydraulics, music, light & more. WASHBURN WELLNESS FAIR - Mar. 2, 11am-1:30pm, Memorial Union Washburn Rm A. Washburn Univ.

invites you to discover local products, services, demonstrations, and presentations that promote physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, occupation al, environmental, and social well-being. All students, employees & community welcome. 785-670-1314

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

OPEN HOUSE - Mar. 4, 5-7pm. Dillon House Events LLC, 404 SW 9th St. Cupcakes and Punch.

MOBILE LASER TAG - Mar. 4, 11, 18 & 25, 7-9pm, YMCA, 421 SW Van Buren. \$10 for 2 hours of laser tag HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION - Mar. 5, 9am-12pm, 131 NF 46th

VFW POST #1650 B&G BREAKFAST - Mar. 5, 7:30-11am. Philip Billard VFW Post #1650, 3110 SW Huntoon.

KANSAS REPUBLICAN CAUCUS - Mar. 5, 10 am,

PASSION TO PURPOSE BRUNCH - Mar. 5, 1pm. New Mount Zion Church, 2801 SE Indiana Ave. \$35. Women Empowerment celebrates 6 years. Speakers: Author LaShonda Jackson and Christyn Breathett. Providing each of us with information and a networking opportunity that will help us move together From Passion to Purpose. Bring a little cash for our Shoe-Ality Heels Raffle. For info and tickets: 383-7084

WILDHEART SOCIAL MEDIA BLOGGER WORKSHOP - Mar. 8, 7pm. 712 Innovations, 712 S Kansas.

MOBILE LASER TAG - Mar 9, 16, 23 & 30, 7-9pm, Crestview Comm. Center. \$10 for 2 hours of laser tag CPLS KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP — Mar 9, 9-11am, Cair Paravel Latin School, 635 SW Clay. Info & registration: 232-3878 or www.cpls.org.

COMMUNITY HARVEY HOUSE LUNCHEON - Mar. 10, 11:30-1:30pm. Great Overland Station. Tour to follow \$20 includes meal & tour. RSVP to 232-5533 ext. 13 or shouse@greatoverlandsation.com

TOPEKA HOME SHOW - Mar 11-13. Kansas Expocentre. 785-273-1260

MATER DEI IRISH FEST AND 5K RUN — Mar. 12, Assumption Church 204 SW 8th. 8:45 a.m. Leprechaun Leap; 9 a.m. 5K fun run & 1 mile walk; and 9 a.m. bed race at S.W. 6th and Jackson; 10 a.m. kids carnival at S.W. 8th and Jackson; from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Irish Fest lunch; 10 to 10:30 a.m., Kansas Territorial Pipes and Drums; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., traditional Irish music with Fraoch; and 11 a.m. to noon, Driscoll School Irish Dancers; 1 to 4 p.m., the Kelihans, contemporary Irish music; 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., the Donkey Show, bluegrass with an Irish twist. For info: materdeiirishfest.com or 234-9336

ST. PAT'S PARADE-Mar. 12, 12pm. Downtown

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS - Mar. 13. Set clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Sat. eve. Mar. 12

YOUNG AVIATORS CLASSES - Mar. 14-17, 9-12:30pm Young Aviators Camp Combat Air Museum, 7016 SE Forbes Ave. \$50. For info: 862-3303 or office@combatairmuseum.com

55TH ANNUAL KANSAS PRAYER BREAKFAST — Mar. 16, 6am, Ramada Inn downtown. Guest speaker Doug Burleigh of Leadership Development Foundation, with leaders in government, business, education and industry. \$18 each or tables of 10 for \$180. For info and RSVP: francisbartley@cox.net or 234-6204

CAPITAL CITY MOTORCYCLE SHOW - Mar. 18 - 20, Expocentre Exhibition Hall: Fri: 5-10pm; Sat: 11am - 9pm; Sun: 11am - 6pm. \$15 per day / \$20 for week-



55th Annual KANSAS PRAYER BREAKFAST

Join Leaders in Government, Business, Education, and Industry in Kansas.

Wednesday, March 16 Ramada Inn Downtown

Buffet Line Opens 6:00 a.m. Program begins at 6:45 a.m.

Reserve Your Ticket Today! \$18/person • \$180 - table of 10

Email: francisbartley@cox.net Call: 785-234-6204

Sponsored by Topeka Fellowship, Inc. www.kansasprayerbreakfast.net

Guest Speaker: Doug Burleigh

Doug Burleigh currently serves as an associate for the Leadership Development Foundation. He has previously served as president of Young Life, headed the Youth School of Evangelism in Moscow, and organized national prayer breakfasts in multiple countries through his work with world leaders. He has worked with leaders of government in Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia, and Kazakhstan, establishing weekly small groups in each. Over the years, Doug has worked to organize the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, inviting members of Parliament from these nations and around the U.S. During his oversight of the Cedars in Washington from 2008-2014, he Established

Youth Cores in 7 cities in Russia and Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia with hundreds of young disciples since 1995, about which he speaks extensively around the world.

Burleigh currently lives and works between The Cedars in Arlington, Virginia and his home in Annapolis, Maryland. He and his wife of 41 years, Debbie, have four children and 14 grandchildren. Doug earned a B.A. in Political Science and Russian from Williamette University, and a M.A. in Political Science with a focus in Soviet government and politics at the University of Washington.



end pass / children 12 & under get in free

CLEAN SWEEP SWAP MEET - Mar. 19, 10 AM - 4 PM, 712 Innovations, 712 S Kansas Ave. Clean out closets & garages & buy, sell, & trade art & tech supplies. To reserve space: 783-8062. 712innovations@gmail.com

JOURNEY FOR SIGHT 5K WALK/RUN & 10K RUN - Mar. 19, 8am start, Combat Air Museum, Forbes Field. To support Lion's Club Eyeglass Procurement Programs. Register online at active.com or topekalions.org, or in person at Gary Gribbles Running Sports.

FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ASSISTANCE - Mar. 24, 12pm - 2pm and Mar. 31, 12pm - 2pm, Antioch Family Life Center, 1921 SE Indiana. In-Person Application Assistance to Apply for SNAP/Food Stamps. Call or text LaTonia Wright, 785-764-8230 or email lwright@kansasappleseed.org.

HE IS RISEN - Mar. 24, 7pm. TPAC. An Easter Celebration in Liturgical dance. Free. Donations accepted. **10TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT** - Mar. 26, 11am-noon, Shawnee North Community Ctr. Bring your basket and join the Easter Bunny for a great hunt.

TOPEKA EASTER PARADE & FUN FAIR — Mar 26 9am-5pm, Gage Park. Topeka's third annual Easter parade will move around inside Gage Park at 9:30am. Egg Hunt begins at 9am in AnimalLand playground. Family Fun Fair at Big Gage Shelter House will include vendor booths, children's games, food, facepainting. and more between 9am & 5nm, Praise hands and school bands will perform nearby. Food Trucks will be on hand, too! For info: info@C5Alive.org or 640-6399.

SEE ME SAVE CONSIGNMENT SPRING SALE - Mar 30 10-7. Mar. 31, 10-5. Apr. 1, 10-7. Apr. 2, 10-4. Topeka Ramada West. For info: seemesave.biz PAWS IN THE PARK - Apr 2 10am at Topeka West

High School. Helping Hands Humane Society is celebrating 20 years of Paws in the Park. To register, call lustin Brokar at (785) 233-7325

8TH ANNUAL 5K/FUN RUN - Apr. 9. The Heritage Christian School 8th Annual 5K will be held at Crestview Community Center, 4801 SW Shunga Drive. To register: 286-0427

WALK MS TOPEKA - Apr. 9, 9 am, Lake Shawnee Shelterhouse #1. See details on facebook event page

4TH ANNUAL BRIDGE2BRIDGE 5K RUN/WALK - Apr. 23, downtown Topeka. Traverse sidewalks, streets, bridges in this urban experience. Course is USATF certified. 8 age categories. All ages welcome. See Bridge2Bridge 5K - 2016 facebook event page. **DECISION AMERICA TOUR** — Apr. 28, 12-1pm. Franklin Graham will speak on the south steps of the Capitol.

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MEETINGS & CLASSES

C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON - Mar. 10, 11:30am-1pm, at Governor's Rowhouse, 811 SW Buchanan. This month's Christian Chamber of Commerce luncheon will feature Gov. Sam Brownback as our featured speaker.

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

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

TOPEKA WOMEN'S CONNECTION "PRINCESS" LUNCH-EON — Mar. 10 11:30am, T&SC Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. Lunch is \$14.00, no charge for program only. RSVPs by Mar. 7 to Ann at 554-3617. : Kathryn Graves, Haysville, KS, will speak on "The Princess Principle". She chronicles her journey to self-confidence and spe-cializes in helping women learn that beauty comes from the inside out. MUSIC: Talented Kelly Engelke and her high school daughter, Hailely Engelke , will sing beautiful music. FEATURE: "Shop your Closet" Kathryn Graves, an image consultant and fashion trends expert, will share spring fashions trends, how to dress to look 10 pounds thinner, and accessorize with jewelry

SATURDAY WOMEN'S CONNECTION "SHOP YOUR CLOSET" LUNCHEON — Mar. 12, 11am, T&SC Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Ave. \$14 for lunch, no charge for program. Open to all women. RSVPs by Mar. 7 to Arlene, 233-0701 or email Leidacloud@cox.net Music by talented vocalist, Donna Shelite. Special Feature: hop Your Closet" featuring Kathryn Graves, an image consultant & fashion trends expert, will share spring fashion trends, how to dress 10 pounds thinner & accessorize with jewelry. Speaker: Kathryn Graves, Havsville, KS, speaking on the "The Princess Principle." Kathryn tells her journey to self-confidence & helps women learn that beauty comes from the inside out!

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! member: 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; daddys girlsinc@ymail.com

THE HEAT - Free fitness classes; learn and build Health - Free Indess 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 interval - 16:17 700m Cardio Interval - Low intensity; 6:15-7:00pm Cardio Interval - Moderate Intensity; Fri. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Sat. - 8-8-45am Kickhoxing

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

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

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

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

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

 $\textbf{TIBA NETWORKING GROUP}-2 nd \ \text{Tues}, \ 11:30 a.m.-1$ p.m. MUST RSVP: Lunch is \$10. www.topekatiba.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. Assoc-iate with like-minded peers, plan activities & get in-volved 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

TOPFKA 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: "Ourladyof theFaithful."

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.

0.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 6-8nm First Southern Rantist 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 SouthernBaptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Youth games worship, small groups. For info: 272-0443

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

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 lowincome 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 profe 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.

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

A GOOD YARN CLUB - 2nd & 4th Sat., 9-11am, Wanamaker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wanamaker

Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Info: Anne, 272-9249 or kittens812@att.net

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

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

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

FREE ENGLISH CLASSES – Every Sat. 9-10:30am, Central Congregational Church, 1248 SW Buchannan. 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 Wanama UPPER ROOM COMMUNITY - second Sat., 10 am,

SUPPORT GROUPS

MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT Groups: Building A, MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT Groups: Building A, 200 SW Frazier Circle. Every Mon., 4-5pm: 12 Week Adult Group for Reent Loss 1st and 3rd Thu., 10:30am & 5:30pm—Ongoing Adult Group 1st and 3rd Thu., 5:30pm: Ongoing Young Adult Group (4-18 years of age) For All Groups: Call for start dates and info 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: Hunter Ruch, Topeka Bible Church, 234-5545 or hruch@topekabiblechurch.org.

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

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

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

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

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

INCARCERATED PERSONS & FAMILIES – 1st Mon., 6:30-7:30pm, YMCA, 421 Van Buren. 286-2329.

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

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

OVEREATERS / UNDEREATERS ANONYMOUS:

MON., 7pm — Westminister Presbyterian, south door, upstairs in Library; 233-6724.

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

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

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

NAMI TOPEKA — Every 2nd Tue., 6:45pm, lower level or 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



entertainment

MOVIES, BOOKS, MUSIC & MORE!

'Risen' a Bible-based detective story

god Mars.

by Michael Foust

Some of the best discussions I've ever had in church small groups have revolved around what the Bible doesn't tell us. For example:

Who did Cain marry? Why did God get so angry at Moses for striking that rock? And who wrote the book of Hebrews?

Then there's this 'Risen' is historical one: How would Roman officials fiction, but it's largely and specifically harmonious with the Pilate — have reacted had they learned Gospel story, incredibly of the empty tomb? well-done, and not much We know that the guards were paid to different from those tell everyone that Sunday School discus-Jesus' body was stolen as they supsions many of us take posedly slept part in week to week." (Matthews 28:13), and that the chief

priests thought they could appease Pilate if he learned of the resurrection (Matthew 28:14). Scripture, though, has little else to say.

But let's suppose Pilate did find out about the empty tomb. What would he have done?

That's the theme of the new movie Risen (PG-13) which opens in theaters this weekend and posits that Pilate would have ordered his military to search for the body of Christ. What follows is a detective-type story that is inspiring



Joseph Fiennes and Tom Felton in a scene from the movie "Risen." (CNS photo/Columbia Pictures)

one of these disciples," Pilate tells a military tribune named Clavius (played by Joseph Fiennes), a brutal leader who had taken part in the killing of Jesus and who has little use for the story of His resurrection. Clavius, after all, prays to the Roman

Clavius and his men find Mary Magdalene, demanding to know where they put Jesus.

"He's right here," she answers, tears in her eyes. "... Open your heart and see."

He interrogates a joyful Bartholomew, asking him the same question.

"God is not at my beck and call," Bartholomew responds.

Clavius finds one of the men who had guarded the tomb, demanding he explain what truly happened. At first, the guard tells him they were asleep, but when pressed, he acknowledges the truth: There was a bright flash and the huge stone flew open "like a leaf." Then they saw the risen Christ

"Never have I witnessed a moment [like that,]" the guard, still terrified, says.

Clavius seems frightened by the story, too, but nonetheless orders his men to continue combing the streets and buildings of Jerusalem in search of Jesus' other disciples.

point or another searches for the Truth, and each of us – once confronted with the claims of Scripture – must decide whether we believe or reject the Gospel.

is a strength.

"I would love to see an auditorium with a mixed spectrum of spectators that enjoy the Scripture and the creativity together, and feel moved," he told me.

One final word: As with all films of historical fiction – and particularly one involving biblical characters — we must be careful to separate fact from fiction. No doubt, many Christians and unbelievers

HIGH HOPES FOR FAITH-BASED

entertainment

by Bill Bumpas

David White, founding partner in Pure Flix Entertainment, said they were amazed by the impact of the first film after the opening weekend almost two years ago. Box office receipts for that weekend totaled in excess of \$9 million.

"All of Hollywood ended up calling that following Monday and saying First of all, who is Pure Flix? And what is 'God's Not Dead," White recalls with a laugh. He also shares that God shined favor on the movie that was the highest grossing faith film of 2014 (\$60 million, according to IMDB.com).

White tells OneNewsNow that Pure Flix is now ready to roll out God's Not Dead 2, starring Melissa Joan Hart.

"She plays this public school teacher who is being sued for her Christian faith after she inadvertently answers a stu-

of his life and seeing his entire worldview

turned upside down, Clavius must decide

if Christ is truly the Messiah, the Son of

God. It's among the most powerful scenes

Yes, "Risen" is historical fiction, but it's

largely harmonious with the Gospel story,

incredibly well-done, and not much dif-

ferent from those Sunday School discus-

sions many of us take part in week to

And even though Clavius is a fictional

Fiennes, not surprisingly, stands out in

his performance, and acting in the movie

character, he represents every single per-

son on the planet. Each person at one

I've witnessed in any film.

dent's question about Jesus in the class-room," he summarizes.

"And so in God's Not Dead – the first one – it was about defending your faith in a college setting," White continues, "and this brings us into the public setting, [into] the public forum So I think it opens up the story even larger, and I think people will feel like it still has the same heart that the first one has – but it's definitely a fresh take on all of it."

The veteran Christian actor grew up

alike will walk out of Risen this weekend, assuming the story was taken directly from the pages of Scripture. It wasn't – even if it is quite good.

But that doesn't mean Risen can't be

in the Mennonite Church and saw only one movie in the theater by the time he was 18. But White says at an early age God put a dream in his heart to go into the entertainment industry.

That led to him going to Hollywood when he was 19 where he began working in mainstream TV. Then God opened a door for him to be involved in Christian movies.

"... I actually think the Lord has given me a greater freedom [than if I'd stayed in TV] – and I think this is so true in our lives: when we give God our life, when we bend our knee before him, when we follow him, he gives us a greater freedom creatively," he shares.

"I feel like I've had a much greater freedom as an artist to be able to do the action films, to be able to do the comedies within this genre; and it's been incredibly rewarding to see how the Lord uses it for his glory."

God's Not Dead 2 (PG) will be in theaters beginning April 1.

used to share the Gospel with unbelievers, as well as to encourage, motivate and inspire Christians.

— Michael Foust has covered the film industry for more than a decade.

Christian Neighbor Center

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

"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
- · dish soap, aluminum foil
- cleaning items, toilet paper
- 40 gallon trash bags
- stamps

Reconstruction needs:

- 30 double-pane windows
- bathroom remodel
- · kitchen remodel & plumbing
- new exit doors
- · new carpet for Chapel
- sidewalk replacement
- driveway repair
- new fumace
- central air installation

■ EVENT CALENDER CONTINUED

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. Oen 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-4 th Wed., 1 pm,

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.

 $\label{eq:DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS-locations} \textbf{DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS-locations} \ and \ times:$

WED – 6-7:45pm, Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St. Cost \$15, scholarships available. With children's AWANA & Youth Groups, and a Boundaries in Dating class, at the same time. The next DC4K session will be in the summer of 2016. For info: 273-2811

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

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

 $\textbf{NAMI WASHBURN}-4 th \ \text{Thurs., 6-8pm, Spirit Building}$

Room, University United Methodist Church, 1621 SW College Ave. NAMI is a student-run, student-led organization that provides mental health support, education, & advocacy in the Washburn University setting. A support group is also available during this time.

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

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

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

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

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

SPRING INTO WARMER CONCERT SEASON

being announced and coming to a venue near you, I'm starting to wonder...

Compassion International Presents Time of My Life Tour, featuring The Afters, Chris August, and Unspoken, with Special Guest, Among the Thirsty. The show will be presented at Word of Life Church, April 16 at 7:00 p.m, in St. Joseph. The concert is brought to you by Outreach Productions, LLC, and a portion of the proceeds will go to the Cold Weather Shelter for homeless men in St. Joseph. Tickets are available on iTickets.com, and fans get an extra discount if they purchase tickets before April 10.

"Inspired by a series of life-altering events," Jeremy Camp will be coming to Joplin in April, to promote his I Will Follow Tour. The platinum-selling





D.C. Jeanes Metro Voice Music Critic

musicscene

recording artist will also be joined by Mandisa and special guest Finding Favour. They will be performing at Calvary Ioplin

A brand new Hits Deep Tour headlined by TobyMac and featuring Britt Nicole, Building 429, Colton Dixon, Capital Kings, Finding Favour and Hollyn hit the road in February and head west following a few shows in the south. They will be stopping in Kansas City on March 19. The tour is brought to you by KLOVE and Air1 radio in conjunction with Awakening Events and sponsored by Food for the Hungry. For more information and tickets, please visit



In other news, if you hadn't heard, Stryper has been making a big comeback in the heavy music industry. Having released two new albums in the last three years, their message of hope and redemption through Christ Jesus, as well as their hard-rocking style, has not been tampered with. Their most recent release, Fallen, sold over 10,000 copies during the first week of release landing at #2 on the Top Hard Music Albums chart, #2 on the Top Contemporary Christian Albums chart, #2 on Billboard's Top



Christian/Gospel Albums, #5 on the Top Current Rock Albums chart, #20 on the Top Current Physical Albums chart, #26 on the Top Current Albums chart, #29 on the Top Current Digital Albums chart and #44 on the Billboard Top 200. This is their ninth album in their decades-long career, and well worth checking out!

Another well-known, although much younger, hard Christian music artist, Lacey Sturm, has released her first solo album since leaving her band Flyleaf. Since leaving the band, Flyleaf released a



new album, with a new singer, to disappointing results. But Sturm's new release, co-written with her husband, Joshua, has gotten some very high praise. Following a stint working with Billy Graham and releasing a memoir, The Reason, Lacey has returned to her hard rock roots with a collection of songs focused on God's great creation, as well as the miracle of life. If you are a fan of hard rock or interested in hearing some louder tunes with a hard Christian message, check out Lacey's newest offering.

bookshelf

Heavy Lifting: Grow up, get a job, raise a family, and other manly advice BY JIM GERAGHTY & CAM EDWARDS PUBLISHER: REGNERY PUBLISHING, 2015:

The days of rugged individualism and virtuous manly men are gone. Pajama Boy? Say it ain't so!

Whether you're a young woman seeking out a boyfriend or husband or a contractor seeking out a prospective worker,

good luck with convincing most Millennial men to abandon adolescence. This new age of man buns, metrosexuality and meekness in men portends bad news.

One can't help but think, Where have all the real men disappeared to? Are they mythical creatures who are just figments of our imaginations?

Although most Millennial guys might

appear to be a lost cause, a new book suggests they can be saved after all and it couldn't be more timely!

This book is chock-full of sage advice young guys can easily grasp and implement into their lives. Using their experiences as husbands and fathers, Geraghty and Edwards advise their charges on how to take the initiative, or how to succeed in the domestic sphere.

Heavy Lifting encourages young men to become independent — to leave their parents' basements, to put away the video games, to dress well, to find work, to be assertive, and to start families.

Readers will appreciate the first-hand

testimonies and hilarious anecdotes provided by the authors.

For example, in "Asking Her Out", Geraghty writes an important piece about how young men should handle pursuing women, facing rejection, and preparing for "the right girl". He counsels that "There's a sting that comes with rejection. But it shouldn't be crippling, and the fear of rejection shouldn't cripple us either."

In the chapter entitled "Settling Down," Cam makes a great case for young men to discover the beauty of settling down, saying "Settling down with a wife and kids that you love

isn't settling for less. In fact, it could be more than you ever thought possible."

An intersection of the Art of Manliness and The Good Men Project, Heavy Lifting does an adequate job of encouraging Millennials guys to aspire to be men. Geraghty and Edwards seek to improve their younger male counterparts, and their book certainly achieves this goal.

Heavy Lifting is a blueprint all Americans can use to cultivate the next generation of men. Read it - and encourage the young men in your life to

2016 Grammy Award winners

Some of Christian music's biggest names won at the 2016 Gramm, including TobyMac and Israel Houghton in the Gospel and Christian music categories.

Taking home the award for the Best



Contemporary Christian Music Album was Christian pioneer music TobyMac for This is Not a Test. Other nominees in the category included Chris TOBYMAC Tomlin for Love Ran

Red, Matt Maher for Saints and Sinners, Lauren Daigle for How Can it Be and Jason Crabb for Whatever the Road.

This win marks the 51-year-old's third career Grammy Award. His album Alive



and Transported won for Best Rock Gospel Album in 2009 and Eye on It was also named as the Best Contemporary Christian Music Album of 2013.

This Is Not a Test is the seventh studio album by TobyMac. It debuted at No. 4 on the Billboard 200. Produced by Christopher Stevens, David Garcia, TobyMac, Capital Kings and Solomon Olds, This is Not a Test finds

TobyMac collaborating with a diverse group of artists, including for the first time in a decade, his former DC Talk bandmates Kevin Max and Michael Tait.

The singer took to Facebook to express his gratitude: "So honored, so grateful, so humbled and soooo thankful for all who labored with me on this project. To God be the glory," he wrote about his win.

TobyMac's song "Feel It" was also



nominated for a Grammy for Best Contemporary Christian Performance/Song, but it was singer Francesca Battistelli who was named winner for her single

"Holy Spirit." Battistelli received her first Grammy Award nomination in 2009, for Best Gospel Performance with her single "Free to Be Me."

Joining the night of

winners was worship leader Israel Houghton, who won the award in the Best Gospel Album category for Israel & New Breed's live album

Covered: Alive in Asia. Houghton was also nominated in the Best Gospel

Performance/Song for the live rendition of the song "How Awesome is Our God," which featured Yolanda Adams.

Gospel music's trailblazer Kirk Franklin took home the award for Best Gospel Performance/Song for the single

"Wanna Be Happy?"



This win marks Franklin's eighth Grammy Award. Along with Israel & NewBreed, those who went up against Franklin in the same category included

Anthony Brown & Group Therapy, Travis Greene, and Brian Courtney

Rounding out the winners for the Gospel and Christian categories for the 2016 Grammy Awards were The Fairfield Four. The group won the category Best Roots Gospel Album with their album Still Rockin' My Soul. With a lasting career in the music industry, The Fairfield Four have existed for over 90 years.

They started as a trio in Nashville, Tennessee's Fairfield Baptist Church in 1921, but the first time they received a Grammy Award was in 1997 for the song "I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray," and won again in 1998 for Best Traditional Soul Gospel Album.





Ashley Campbell Opens up About Alzheimer's and a Daughter's Love

By Anne-Marie Botek

Ashley Campbell vividly remembers the day when she first began to notice the changes in her father, country music legend, Glen Campbell.

She was in high school and had invited her friends over to watch a movie—Lord of the Rings. Her father poked his head in, mid-film, to say hello and inquire about what they were watching. Ashley told him and he left.

He came back several minutes later, asking the same question and receiving the same answer. The scenario then repeated itself for a third time.

As she recalls the episode, Ashley, now 29, admits initially attributing her father's behavior to his characteristic unconventionality. "My dad's always been a little eccentric," she says, her voice tinged with deep affection. "I didn't think much of it, at the time."

Eccentricity has long been considered the purview of the highly-creative. And Glen, an actor, former television show host, and six-time Grammy winner, certainly fits the bill.

Unfortunately, it wasn't the crooner's creativity that was driving this new behavior.

Though the Campbell's didn't know it at the time, Glen was beginning to

show signs of dementia—Alzheimer's disease, to be exact—a degenerative brain condition hallmarked by memory loss, confusion and hallucinations.

The show must go on

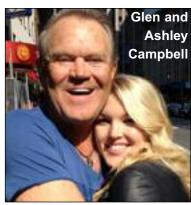
Glen received an official Alzheimer's diagnosis in early 2011. He and his family chose to go public about his condition later on that year.

Ashley says she was too young to have been involved in the family's decision to announce her father's diagnosis (and thus, brave the staggering stigma that surrounds Alzheimer's disease). But she states that the choice wasn't a difficult one for her parents to make, given that Glen was continuing to record and planned on touring at least one more time. "He was still performing and we didn't want people to attribute any of his behavior to drugs," Ashley says.

Glen showed few public signs of slowing down as he embarked on his farewell tour and released a new album, entitled: "Ghost on the Canyas."

Ashley, a budding musician in her own right, got to accompany Glen on his final tour—which ended in December 2011.

During the tour, Ashley, her brother, Shannon, and their band, "Victoria Ghost," opened for Glen. Once the



"Rhinestone Cowboy" took to the stage, Ashley could be seen standing just to the side of her father, her fingers deftly picking on a banjo, or flying across the keys of a keyboard as part of his backup band.

She says that the experience was invaluable, both personally and professionally.

"I can't even put it into words how priceless it was for me to be able to perform with my dad. It was a ridiculously valuable experience for me as a performer. But, more importantly, it was so great to watch my dad doing what he loves. Being able to witness the legacy he created and to see all of the fans who love and support him—being caught in that crossfire of encouragement was

amazing," she says.

Her presence also served as an anchor for Glen, whenever he flubbed a note, or lost track of what songs he'd already played. During these rare instances, Ashley was ready to step in and diffuse the tension, gently guiding her father back on track, whenever he lost his way.

She also acted as a stand-in spokesperson for her father whenever he would step into the public eye. It is a role that Ashley seems uniquely suited for, which makes it even more amazing when she admits that she fell into it naturally. "It wasn't really a conscious decision. It's just my way of being supportive of him and productive at the same time," she says.

Ashley's mother, Kim, is Glen's other rock

Kim acts as Glen's primary caregiver and Ashley moved back in with her parents several years ago to help out. Together, the two of them form a formidable team, each filling in whenever they're needed. "She leans on me, I lean on her, we lean on each other," says Ashley. "No one can do this alone."

A different kind of legacy

The Campbell's decision to tell the world about Glen's struggle with Alzheimer's, combined with their unwavering support has enabled Glen to be transformed into a generational icon of a much different kind than he's used to being.

Glen's candor, combined with his dogged determination to continue to pursue a lifelong passion of performing, seems to have converted him from pop culture icon, into a symbol of the baby boomer generation's ongoing fight against the stark realities of a disease that has no cure and no truly effective form of treatment.

It's this last truth—the lack of a functional cure for Alzheimer's—that the Campbell's are banding together to help change.

Like many newly-anointed caregivers, Ashley and her family initially had no idea of the scope of the Alzheimer's epidemic, nor the size of the community of people caring for loved ones with the disease.

"After the announcement, there was this amazing outpouring of support from the fans and their families," she says. "Meeting so many people who were affected by the disease was a huge incentive for us to become advocates."

Glen, Kim and Ashley all recently traveled to Washington D.C., where Ashley gave a moving testimony about

■ Please see CAMPBELL page 23

Planning For A Move to Assisted Living

by Marlo Sollitto

Very few people admit that they want to put their aging parents into an assisted living facility, yet it often becomes necessary when the elderly person can no longer be cared for at home. And sometimes, for the sanity of the caregiver, it's the only option.

Making the move isn't easy. Here are some tips that can help caregivers and their elderly parents.

Plan ahead. Take the time to thoroughly research options. Finding the right care facility ensures you choose the right one for your parent's needs.

Expect waiting lists. Allow time to move up the lengthy waiting list that many good facilities have.

Visit often. Call and visit often during the first few weeks. When the new surroundings are unfamiliar, seeing a family member can do wonders for raising spirits and making the transition easier. It also helps your parents realize that you haven't forgotten them in their new home.

Make it feel like home. One of the hardest things for your parent is parting with all of those things he or she has accumulated over a lifetime. Make the room feel as much like home as possible. Bring along your elderly parent's family photos, a



favorite chair and footstool, a familiar bedspread, and treasured knick-

knacks. Check with the facility's rule on bringing personal items.

Organize. Make sure your aging parents know where things are. Your aging parents will feel much more in control of their environment when it is easy for them to find what they are looking for. Organize the closets and invest in storage solutions such as baskets or bins.

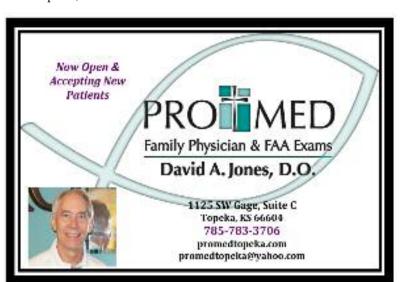
Make friends. Mom or Dad needs social connections – particularly if they still have full mental capacity. Introduce your parents to other residents – and ask

the staff to do the same. Read the activity schedule and choose two or three programs that your parent can attend early on to meet your neighbors and other residents.

Stay positive. It's hard for adult children to see parents moving out of their childhood home and into an "old folks" home. In caregiver's mind, the move represents "the end

is near" for their aging parents. Even though you might feel these emotions, do not show them in front of your parent. The transition is very emotional for them, and they need positive reinforcement and support.

Moving your elderly parent into an assisted living facility is never easy, but it can be made less painful for caregivers, family and most importantly, the elder.





SOCIAL SECURITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

GENERAL.

Ouestion:

I prefer reading by audio book. Does Social Security have audio publications?

Answer:

Yes, we have many helpful publications you can listen to. You can find them at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs. Some of the publications

available include What You Can Do Online, How Social Security Can Help You When a Family Member Dies, Apply Online for Social Security Benefits, and Your Social Security Card and Number. You can listen now at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

Question:

I am receiving Social Security retirement benefits and I recently went back to work. Do I have to pay Social Security (FICA) taxes on my income?

Answer

Yes. By law, your employer must withhold FICA taxes from your paycheck. Although you are retired, you

Finding the right care for you

do receive credit for those new earnings. Each year Social Security automatically credits the new earnings and, if your new earnings are higher than in any earlier year used to calculate your current benefit, your monthly benefit could increase. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

RETIREMENT

Question:

How are my retirement benefits calculated?

Answer:

Your Social Security benefits are based on earnings averaged over your lifetime. Your actual earnings are first adjusted or "indexed" to account for changes in average wages since the year the earnings were received. Then we calculate your average monthly indexed earnings during the 35 years in which you earned the most. We apply a formula to these earnings and arrive at your basic benefit. This is the amount you would receive at your full retire-

ment age. You may be able to estimate your benefit by using our Retirement Estimator, which offers estimates based on your Social Security earnings. You can find the Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Ouestion:

I know that Social Security's full retirement age is gradually rising to 67. But does this mean the "early" retirement age will also be going up by two years, from age 62 to 64?

Answer:

No. While it is true that under current law the full retirement age is gradually rising from 65 to 67, the "early" retirement age remains at 62. Keep in mind, however, that taking early retirement reduces your benefit amount. For more information about Social Security benefits, visit the website at www.socialsecurity.gov.

DISABILITY

Question:

I've heard there is a way for my daughter to get her disability application on the "fast-track." How does this work?

Answer:

If your daughter has one of the more than 200 impairments on the Compassionate Allowances list at www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances, her application might be "fast-tracked" for a decision. Compassionate Allowances make it possible for applicants to receive a decision on their disability applications within days instead of months or years as long as their medical conditions are so severe that they obviously meet Social Security's definition of disability. Learn more at www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances.

Question:

Do I automatically get Medicare benefits if I'm eligible for disability benefits?

Answer

After you have received Social Security disability benefits for 24 months, we will automatically enroll you in Medicare. We start counting the 24 months from the month you were entitled to receive disability, not the month when you received

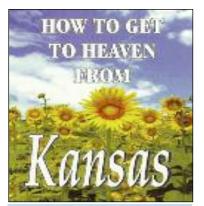
your first benefit payment. Sometimes you can get state Medicaid in the meantime. There are exceptions to this rule. People with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease) and chronic renal disease may be able to get Medicare earlier, for example. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Ouestion:

I am expecting a child and will be out of work for six months. Can I qualify for short-term disability?

Answer

No. Social Security pays only for total disability — conditions that render you unable to work and are expected to last for at least a year or end in death. No benefits are payable for partial disability or short-term disability, including benefits while on maternity leave. If you think your short-term disability might develop into a long-term one, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/apply.html for more information



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

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

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

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

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



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senior news/events briefs

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

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

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

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

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

MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR - Mar. 8, 6:30pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all of its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare as well as those considering making a change during open enrollment. Seminars will be held at Century Health Solutions, a division of Stormont-Vail Healthcare, 2951 SW Woodside Dr. Information: 233-1816 or info@century-health.com. Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

WASHBURN WELLNESS FAIR - Mar. 2, 11am-1:30pm, Memorial Union Washburn Rm A. Washburn Univ. invites you to discover local products, services, demonstrations, and presentations that promote physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, occupational, environmental, and social well-being. All students, employees and community members welcome to attend. 785-670-1314



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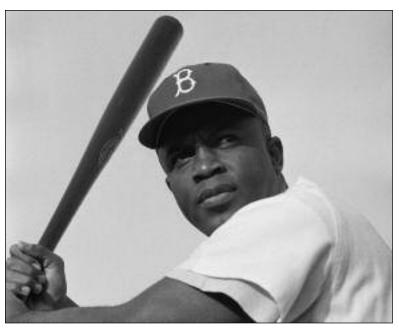
By Brett Honeycutt

"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from an- other place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you

against war, others for equal rights, while others stood for various other causes

MetroVoiceNews.com

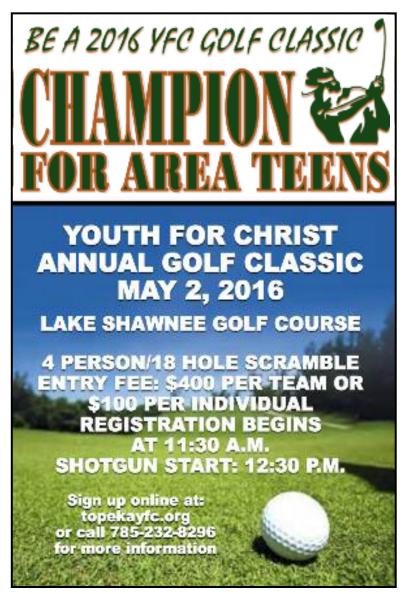
Not all were right and not all were wrong, but each athlete believed what he or she was doing was the right thing to do.



have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14

Throughout history various athletes have stood up for (or against) causes. Some athletes have stood

None, though, had the gravity of Esther's situation and no sane person would argue what she stood for was wrong. She was against the slaughter of her people, the Jews; a



FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

by Rob Mooney

March Madness is officially upon us. I know the tournament hasn't started yet, but college basketball is in its home stretch and teams are vying for conference titles, conference tournament champi-onships and positioning they look like and they will in the big dance, the NCAA give some unsuspecting teams Tournament. Let's take a few moments and look at some teams that could make a run this March.

We'll start in our own back yard with the Big 12 where, as I write this, seven out of ten teams are in the Top 25. That's just an incredible number. Every time a team takes the court it's a battle. At the top is Kansas, who is in pursuit of their 12th conference title in a row. That's just one shy of UCLA's record 13 straight conference championships. Oklahoma, West Virginia, Iowa State, Baylor, Texas and Texas Tech are all ranked and could al make the tournament. I feel like the teams that could make a run are KU, Oklahoma, and Baylor. Those teams just seem better suited for life in the tournament. However, don't forget about West Virginia and their 40 minutes of

fierce full court press. They are a trouble.

I am amazed that Oklahoma has remained in the top 5 most of the year. Losing to Kansas when they played their #1 vs. #2 game that went in triple overtime, I can understand not dropping in the polls. But losing to unranked Kansas State and at the time, an unranked Texas Tech team and not moving down in the rankings can only be classified as the Buddy Hield effect. I hope a Big 12 team goes deep in the tournament. They are by far the best conference in the country but they need to have success in March to justify that.

Other teams that could make a run....North Carolina. At 22-5, they are should be another great tournament!

sitting atop the ACC which includes Miami (FL) and Virginia, both of whom could make runs in their own right. But there is just something about these Tar Heels. They play solid defense and four of their five losses came on the road, and we all know how hard it is to win road games in college basketball. In addition, they're coached by Roy Williams, so you can never count them out. Oh yeah, they recently beat #12 Miami by 25.

Villanova is another team that seems to have the keys for a deep run. Currently ranked #1, they have a 24-3 record with two of those losses coming to Oklahoma and Virginia, both top ten teams. Villanova has an easy time with lesser competition, but I want to see what they do in the middle rounds of the tournament.

Arizona and Michigan State are both teams that ump up and bite someone who isn't properly prepared. Arizona is coached by Sean Miller and Michigan State has Denzel Valentine. Yeah, the Spartans from Michigan State are currently sitting in 5th place in the Big 10, but at #6, they're the highest ranked Big 10 team.

Don't forget about Wichita State who has proven in the past that they cause havoc to your bracket. All in all, it

plan devised by King Ahasuerus' BRUSHLESS right-hand man, Haman. To plead her case (and protest),

she had to put her life on the line. In those days if she wanted to speak to the king, he had to call for her. Going into his presence without his permission could mean death to that person. Her uncle, Mordecai, though, convinced her that God could have placed her in that position to save the Jewish people. Not doing anything, though, would mean the Jewish nation's demise.

In the end, Esther found favor from the king and the people were spared, while Haman was hung on the very gallows he had made for the

Standing for something, especially for Christ, may not cost you your life, but it will make an impact.

This devotional was taken from Sports Spectrum's latest Training Table, a 13-week devotional published in each print issue. Log in HERE to view the Winter 2016 print issue of Sports Spectrum or access the Winter 2016 Training Table.











5 MISTAKES NEW HOMEOWNERS MAKE

(Family Features) Spring is house-hunting season and with temperatures warmer and increased rain, it is also the season when pesky creatures can invade homes. Even minor flaws in a new home should not be ignored as they can potentially lead to pest damage.

Ron Harrison, Ph.D., entomologist with Orkin, recommends new homeowners avoid making these five mistakes:

Overlooking tiny cracks

the foundation, doorways and walls where pipes enter the home could be inviting ants, roaches, spiders, rodents and other pests inside.

A rat can squeeze through an opening as small as a quarter and a mouse can fit through a hole the size of a dime. Cockroaches, ants and spiders can enter through tiny crevices, too.

Pests are attracted to shelter, Even tiny cracks and crevices in food and water. Homeowners



should promptly clean up all water and food spills, seal any cracks and crevices around doors, windows and pipes and install weather stripping around and under all doors, including garage doors.

Obtaining second-hand furniture

Buying a home is an expensive investment and it may be tempting to save money with furniture from a thrift shop or garage sale, but bed bugs, spiders and even scorpions have been known to dwell in second-hand upholstered furniture.

Once inside, they can spread from room to room. That's why it's important to inspect and quarantine – for several months if possible - all second-hand furniture before bringing it inside your home.

Ignoring insulation

A home's attic can be a gateway inside for many pests, such as rodents and cockroaches, that nest in insulation. It's important to inspect insulation for pest activity and damage: insulation that is wet, matted down, chewed or covered with droppings.

New insulation technology incorporates materials specifically designed to help deter household

Ignoring flooring and siding damage

Termites are called "silent destroyers" because they may be secretly hiding and thriving in a home or yard without immediate signs of damage. They cause more than \$5 billion in damage every year in the United States, according to the National Pest Management Association.

House foundations, wood framing, furniture and shelves are all possible feeding sites for termites. In spring, termites can be seen swarming around windows or doors. Other signs of termite activity include buckling wood, swollen floors and ceilings and areas that appear to be suffering from slight water damage.

Brick and mortar homes are not termite-proof as they have wooden components, such as framing and flooring, that can host termite homes through tiny cracks and are infestations. It's important to work with a licensed professional to provide regular inspections.

Not repairing leaks

Minor leaks may seem to be just that - minor - but leaks or condensation, combined with increasing temperatures in the spring, can create ideal conditions for cockroaches and other pests.

American cockroaches, "camel crickets" and springtails can enter attracted to damp areas, both in the attic or crawl space and indoors in the basement, kitchen or bathroom.

Small steps make a big difference. Fix leaking faucets, water pipes and A/C units and eliminate standing water on the roof or in gutters to help prevent an infesta-

For more information to help prevent common household pests. visit Orkin.com.

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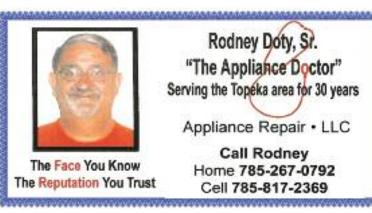
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Pastor Beaux Bryant 3851 South St., Grantville, KS 66429 1-800-673-3633 www.church4bikers.org

3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH

1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka 785-234-5545 Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am Sunday School & Bible Studies: 9:30 & 11am www.discovertbc.com

4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3102 NW opeka Blvd., Topeka 286-1204 Wed. 6:15 pm: Children/Youth/ Adult programs Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am www.northlandcctopeka.org

5. FAIRLAWN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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

New Resident Church Guide

MetroVoiceNews.com

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

7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH "Finding NEW LIFE in CHRIST" Sunday Worship 9:30 & 10:45am, 5pm ~ Sunday School for all ages ~ 4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka

11 AM Contemporary Worship

785-862-0988 www.topekabaptist.org

8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

"Being and making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Gospel, to the glory of God" 2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka (785) 272-9323 www.wrbctopeka.com Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm

9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH 310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)

Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am
www.gccinoverbrook.com
office@gccinoverbrook.com

10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH

300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis
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See "About Us" at our website
www.kawriverkeruv.com
Questions? kawriverlordshouse@att.net

12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH

Meeting at Buck Creek School House 5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 9:00 a.m. Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498, Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snavely 760-3513

13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE

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Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups
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15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

801 NE Chester, Topeka, KS 66616 235-1010 • oumc@att.net Shawn O'Trimble, Pastor Sunday School 9:15am, Worship 10:30am Children's worship time 10:30am Hear us on WREN Radio Sun. 10-11am Like us on Facebook! All are welcome - Come and see us!

16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH

A Spirit-filled, Word-centered church 2531 SE Wittenberg Rd., Topeka Sunday Worship 11am & 6pm Wed. Prayer & Praise 7pm 785-266-LOVE (5683) J. Michael Borjon, Pastor

17. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

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GARAGE SALE - The next semi-annual Seekers Garage Sale will be Saturday April 2nd at First Christian Church, 1880 SW Gage,(enter form 19th and Stone Lot) beginning at 7:00am closing at Noon. Something for everyone no clothes. Proceeds are used for community and youth activities at First Christian Ch.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST & SILENT AUCTION - The Sunflower Lions Club will hold their next

- The Sufficient Libris Cita will floid their flext semi-annual Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction at First Christian Ch., 1880 SW Gage, on Sat. March 26 beginning at 7am - 11 am. Proceeds are used for Vision Screening small children and purchasing eye examinations and eye glasses in the Topeka community.

HELP WANTED - Part Time associate to work in a Professional Business office setting. Main Tasks to include answering the phone and scanning documents. Morning hours, 18 – 24 hours per week. Call or Text Jim at 785.220.0804. Or email resume to jim@jimgarrison.biz

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WANTED: VOLUNTEERS - Caring Pregnancy Options has some openings for volunteers.

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WANTED: VOLUNTEER WRITERS - Metro Voice needs volunteer writers or interns who can

serve as area correspondents for church and community news around the metro area. Call 235-3340 or email voice@cox.net. Some perks.

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CAMPBELL

continued from page 18

her father's struggles with Alzheimer's to the Senate Special Committee on Aging. During her oration, she stressed the need to funnel funds into finding a remedy for the disease.

With her parents sitting nearby, Ashley spoke frankly of Alzheimer's effect on her father's memories.

"Now, when I play banjo with my dad, it's getting harder for him to follow along and it's going to get harder for him to recall my name," she says, her voice breaking a bit as she admits the blunt truth about what the future might hold, "It's hard to come to the realization that someday my dad might look at me and I will be absolutely nothing to him."

In those moments, it seems as though Ashley herself serves as a standin for every person who has ever had to witness a loved one slowly succumb to the effects of Alzheimer's.

When asked if shouldering such a heavy burden of responsibility is difficult, given her young age, Ashley politely demurs. "You kind of learn to take each day as it comes. It's a lot easier to do something like this when it's for someone you love. It's not hard—it's an honor."

Coping by coming together

As hard as the journey ahead is likely to be, Ashley and the rest of her family aim to make the most out of the time they have left with their beloved patriarch.

"I've learned not to take any moment for granted. To me, he's not just an amazing musician—he's an incredible dad."

When asked what she would say to the countless men and women caring for family members with Alzheimer's, Ashlev said: "Don't ever think that you should, or could, do this alone. You have to find a support system.

ROMPER ROOM

continued from page 1

MetroVoiceNews.com

The programs featured a Mr. Do Bee and a Mr. Don't Bee to teach children safe and appropriate behavior. Here is part of a song aired in one of Miss Fran's broadcasts from 1977:

"Do be a sidewalk player; don't be a street player.

Do be a car-sitter; don't be a carstander."

During Miss Fran's tenure, the show used a Mattel jack-in-the-box for its opening and closing theme, accompanied by the "Pop Goes the Weasel" song. She also used the "Magic Mirror" at the end of the program.

"Romper, stomper, bomper boo. Tell me, tell me, tell me, do. Magic Mirror, tell me today, did all my friends have fun at play?" Then she named the children in the television audience that she could "see."

"I can see...Claude," she said.

"Claude's my dad's name," Ann Marie

Miss Fran would pick the names from all the letters she received.

"I got lots of mail," she said

Originally from Tulsa, Okla., Fran Snow graduated from Will Rogers High School in 1954. She was offered but turned down a scholarship for speech and drama at the University of Tulsa, deciding instead to attend Graceland College in Lamoni, Ia.

She was a cheerleader at Graceland College and later at the University of Tulsa where she earned a bachelor's degree with majors in psychology and education, qualifying her to teach kindergarten through 12th grade. Romper Room hostesses were required to be teachers, she said.

While at Graceland College she met and "fell madly in love" with her husband of 58 years, Claude Lee.

Fran taught at Randolph Elementary School in Topeka while Claude attended

law school at Washburn University. After he graduated in 1962, the couple moved back to Wichita, where Fran taught once

Miss Fran was selected from 800 applicants for the position of Romper Room hostess at KAKE. She had already signed a contract to teach third grade in the fall, and had no intention of applying for the Romper Room position, but did so at her husband's urging, she said. The process involved four rounds of interviews, which included doing commercials and teaching lessons to imaginary children.

From a young age, Fran had the combined qualifications of love for young children and performing. Her late sister, Barbara Snow Givens, was born when Fran was 10, so she began by caring for her while still a child herself. In high school, she performed in plays and was active in Thespians.

"I was always the character part," she said. This may have helped prepare her for the role of Romper Room hostess as well as Mrs. Santa for various children's events in Wichita for children of employ-

Prayer was offered on the program "until it was outlawed."

ees of Beech, Cessna and Boeing aircraft companies.

After training for a week in Baltimore, Md., Miss Fran's first day at Romper Room was in 1965.

"I was so nervous," she said. "I was nervous for five months.'

Each group of children appeared on the show for two weeks. Sometimes, Ann Marie substituted for an absent child.

"I was not allowed to call her 'Mom,' she said.

Initially, the programs aired live, but after 13 years, the producers wanted to tape them. They wanted to tape two or three shows in one day, she said. Fran was



When Ann Marie (second from right) substituted for a missing child on the program, she was not allowed to call her mother 'Mom.

opposed to this change.

"I thought it would lose its spontaneity," she said. So Miss Fran left Romper Room after 13 years. She returned to teaching and earned a master's degree at Wichita State University with emphases in the areas of learning disabilities, mental retardation and child psychology. Then she went to work for the Sedgwick County Special Education Co-op, developing individual education programs for middle and high school students in nine counties

Part of this job was getting jobs for young people with special needs.

"Since I'd been on television it was pretty easy for me to get them jobs," she said.

In late 1982, Claude was appointed by Governor John Carlin to serve as chief of appeals of state unemployment compensation for the Kansas Department of Labor. Six months later, Fran, Ann Marie and brother Mike followed him when her teaching contract was completed in July of 1983.

"We lived in a little apartment behind Topeka West," Ann Marie said. Before that they came back and forth to visit, she said.

Fran has a long list of civic activities including serving as Chairman of the Board of Community Action, Inc. in Topeka for 10 years, and currently serves as district representative for that agency. She ran for Kansas secretary of state in 1997 and served on the Topeka City Council from 1997 to 2001.

She worked for the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services with "special purpose schools" or special education programs for institutionalized children, and later worked with school districts as program specialist, training special education para-educators for the Department of Education with Dr. Phyllis Kelly. She volunteered for the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging and TARC, and volunteered for and served on the board of Sheltered Living and Lulac.

In one 1977 Romper Room program, Miss Fran teaches about Christmas, spelling the word out on a little whiteboard held in front of the camera. She teaches about saying "Thank you" and sings about sitting, not standing in the car, before the invention of car seats for kids. Since the days of Romper Room, practices such as mentioning Christmas and even saying the Pledge of Allegiance have become controversial.

"I've had people say, 'If it weren't for you, I'd have never learned the Pledge of Allegiance," Fran said.

My, how times have changed. Thank you, Miss Fran.

For a sample of Miss Fran on Romper Room go to youtube.com and search for "Romper Room Miss Fran 1977 (Part1)"



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Parade starts at 9:30!

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Police K9 units and Firetrucks will be there!



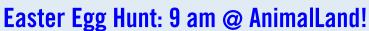




Food Trucks will be there 11-5!



Fun Fair open 9 am - 5 pm at Big Gage Shelter & in the Zoo!



Easter Parade starts at 9:30 am! Food Trucks 11 am - 5 pm!

Praise Bands, School Bands, **Dancers & more Entertainment** at Amphitheatre 10:30 - 4:30!









Parade starts at 9:30 am! (Watch for directional signs)



Fun Fair open 9am - 5pm at Big Gage & in the Zoo! Craft stations, Facepainting, Easter Photos, Kid's Games & more! Zoo booths will have an Oz theme, each tied to a zoo animal!



Topeka Easter Parade & Family Fun Fair

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