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**BOBBY BOWEN FAMILY BAND** | Page 13

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**PAGE 8**



**CELEBRATING FAITH, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY IN NORTHEAST KANSAS**

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VOLUME 12 • NUMBER 9  
**May 2018**  
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**NEW RESIDENT churchguide**



Community Church

*See inside back cover!*

**Feisty & Feminine Workshop offered on interacting with Muslims**



Dr. Dawlat Bishara, Dr. Safwat Bishara, and Former Kansas House Speaker Pro Tem Peggy Mast will join CWA State Director Barbara Saldivar in a frank panel discussion of how to engage authoritatively and respectfully with those with whom we would disagree. The topic for the workshop is Dispelling fear and encouraging diplomacy when interacting with those of the Muslim faith.

The workshop will be held Monday, April 30, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., at the Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS. Women, men and teens are encouraged to attend.

The Bisharas came to America from Egypt over 30 years ago. They became U.S. citizens, came to Topeka, and raised three daughters. As Coptic Christians they grew up living in the same neighborhood as Muslims. They have a lot of experience on how to live peacefully but wisely with Muslim newcomers to our communities.

Peggy Mast will lay out the law that protects us in courts and agencies

■ Please see CWA page 3



*The Creation of Hope: My Journey through the darkness of*

By Mark Brenneman

May is Mental Health month in America, and what better time to look at the positive side of those that struggle with mental illness. There is so much negative stigma associated with mental illness and it seems like the only time the topic comes up is when something bad happens. The truth is that those who suffer from mental illness are much more likely to be the victims of crime than the perpetrators. Statistics bear that out but does public perception?

Valeo Behavioral Health Care operates the Creations of Hope Gallery which is a community outreach project that looks at the positive side of individuals with mental illness. The goal is to build a bridge that connects individuals with mental illness to the community, as well as connecting the community to knowledge about mental health, recovery, and the healing power of the arts. The Creations of Hope Gallery is located at 909 N. Kansas Avenue in the NOTO Arts District of Topeka. The mission of the gallery is:

- Celebrate the work of artists experiencing mental illness and artists that utilize art as a force for personal healing.
- Provide an accessible and empowering resource for artists to enter the art community.
- Raise awareness and educate about mental health through the power of art
- Provide events that challenge stigmatizing views of special populations by focusing on creativity, strengths, and hope rather than disability.

I am one of those individuals who has struggled with mental illness. I was categorized

■ Please see HOPE page 2

**Victory for Religious Liberty in the Air Force**



**Colonel Bohannon's religious rights restored**

American Family Association urged supporters to sign a petition to reverse hostility toward Christians in the Air Force, and the voice of AFA supporters made a difference.

Over 50,000 supporters signed the AFA petition urging Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson to restore the religious liberty of U.S. Air Force Col. Leland Bohannon.

Col. Leland Bohannon was asked in May, 2017 to sign a "certificate of spouse appreciation" for a retiring master sergeant in a same-sex "marriage."

As a devout Christian, Bohannon refused to sign the document stating it would violate his religious belief of marriage being between one man and one woman. As a result, the Air Force suspended the colonel. Additionally, a letter sent by a superior officer recommended

■ Please see LIBERTY page 15

**City and County Declare War**

The Shawnee County Commission, at their meeting on April 5, voted to approve a resolution "declaring war" on human trafficking. The City of Topeka's governing body had voted 9-0 on April 3 to approve an identical proposal. The measure says Topeka's city government "joins its counterparts in declaring war on businesses, systems and organizations that benefit from the industry of human trafficking" and "supports efforts to identify, address and eliminate situations that could lead to, or allow, trafficking to occur in order to protect and safeguard innocent individuals."

Shortly after the county vote, city and county leaders shared further information about efforts to combat human trafficking in a packed news conference held at the Law Enforcement Center, 320 S. Kansas Ave.

The votes came after Topeka Rescue Mission executive director Barry Feaker encouraged them to approve the measures. Feaker has been a leader on the issue for some time.



"The City of Topeka is proud to help out all of our partners in putting a stop to human trafficking in our community. Together we can all make a difference and help end suffering in our community,"

■ Please see WAR page 4



## Life Lessons From a Little One

### BE THE BLESSING

by **Jessica S. Hosman**

My son has a keen eye when we are driving places. He's always looking out the window and studying the surroundings passing us by. He's really good at spotting people in need alongside of the road... and really really good at convicting his mommy's heart to not just drive on by.

We try to keep snacks in the car and sometimes have bags with additional items made up that can be given to bless someone who might be at an intersection asking for help. But Zechariah has never been satisfied with just rolling down the window and giving a gift. Instead, there is typically a persistent insistence that we park the car and deliver the gift more personally.

One such damp and drizzly February evening we were driving to a ministry event that I was helping to coordinate (and felt the pressure of needing to be on time for, might I add). In our usual rush, I was impatiently tapping my fingers against the steering wheel, watching the clock as the red light dragged on while Zechariah was in the backseat doing his normal perusal of everything around us. With excitement, he pointed out a man with a sign and recognized that we had a bag of goodies in the car we could give. I tried sharing with him the logical excuses of why we didn't have time to drive out of our way and visit with the man but, as my son persisted, so did the Holy Spirit. My heart was convicted and, before I knew it,

I was making the turn to find a place to park.

When we approached the man, we introduced ourselves and learned his name before Zechariah presented the bag of goodies. We chatted for a bit and then offered to pray with him. We ended with "God bless you," to which he quickly responded, "He just did." It was on that wet winter evening this precious man shared that he asked God for a pair of clean and dry socks; something so many of us take for granted yet something that is a treasure to someone living outdoors with no access to laundry facilities. Inside the bag which my son had insisted we stop to present, was a pair of new warm socks. Zechariah's face lit up as he realized God had used him to not only bless the man, but truly be the blessing in this man's life and answer a simple but desperate prayer for help.

We never know what God wants to do with the simplest of yielding to His Spirit and those little nudges He places on our hearts. Zechariah saw beyond the time crunch of "needing to be on time" for a Christian event. And instead helped me see the importance of "being" the Christian event for the one that God had placed before us. It was a blessing received for the man, a faith-builder for my son, and another important lesson for me which I pray I will never again be too busy to forget.



Jessica Hosman

## National Day of Prayer calls Americans to Pray For Unity

The public is invited to area observances of the National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 3. Topeka and east central Kansas locations include morning, noon, and evening events so the maximum number of people can attend.

Pastor Gary Schmitz, executive director of the Citywide Prayer Movement and one of the organizers of several Kansas events says that we need to come together for prayer and he has a call for believers: "We invite you at this critical time in our nation to mark your calendar and gather with hundreds of believers in our city for the upcoming," he shared. "We are praying for a mighty outpouring of God's Spirit on our city and nation."

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. In 1988, the law was unanimously amended by both the House and the Senate and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on Thursday, May 5, 1988, designating the first Thursday of May as a day of national prayer. Every president since 1952 has signed a National Day of Prayer proclamation.

This year's theme is Pray for America: Unity, taken from Ephesians 4:3 that reads, "Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace."



Dr. Ronnie Floyd is president of the National Day of Prayer organization. At a meeting of religious broadcasters, Floyd asked, "What is God saying to our country right now? What is His heart for this?" Floyd noted several signs of the times, including natural disasters, racial unrest, the worst mass murder in U.S. history, and "political division and polarization that spews with vitriol language that has divided this nation beyond anything that any of us have ever seen in our generation."

"We have to admit this: America is broken. Division is undeniable. Racial tension is alarming. Lawlessness abounds. Reconciliation appears impossible. Government cannot fix it. Politics will not heal it. And the spirit of the age is ruling all over this nation," Floyd said.

But he noted that, "the culture and its dark, hopeless condition is the perfect backdrop to call America to unity."

"There is not one person that has lived in this nation today or the last 10 years

that would ever say this country is united together. Enough is enough," Floyd continued. "And what we need to do as the people of God is to get our own act together ... so the nation has a shot of being together. Could it be that the nation is reflecting the condition of the Church, and the condition of our lives? And that we need to be the ones to make every effort?"

Floyd urged believers across the nation to do everything they can to call people in the U.S. to unite in public prayer.

"Unity: This is the heart of God for this nation," he said.

The represents a Judeo-Christian expression of the understanding that this country was birthed in prayer and in reverence for the God of the Bible.

Events are generally taking place in the morning, noon, or evening time-frames. Regional NDP locations are listed below:

Kansas State Capitol  
SW 8th & SW Van Buren  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
Dave DePue: 785-249-7604

Topeka National Day of Prayer  
The Encounter Church (El Encuentro)  
2054 SE California Ave., Topeka  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Manhattan, KS NDP  
House of Prayer  
328 Poyntz Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

## HOPE

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gorized as SPMI or Severely and Persistently Mentally Ill. My road to recovery was a long one. I did, however, recover. One of the things that moved me along my journey of recovering from mental illness is the Creations of Hope Gallery Exhibit project. When it began twelve or so years ago, it showcased work of only a handful of artists who suffered from mental illness. Oma Lacey, a CARE Counselor at Valeo Behavioral Health Care came up with the idea of putting on an exhibition of artwork produced by some of the clients at that Community Mental Health Center. It utilized space in a small gallery in downtown Topeka, Kansas, where the mental health center is located.

I did not take part in that first year, but I did in the second. I spent the summer teaching myself how to paint with oils and the resulting work, "Dancing Girl," was accepted into the show. Cara Weeks had come on board at Valeo by that time as a CARE Counselor to take over from Lacey, who was



Cara Weeks, Valeo Art Therapist, and Mark Brenneman work together to help make art therapy available to more people with mental illness.

about to retire. Weeks had an undergraduate degree in Fine Art from Kansas University and a Masters Degree in Art Therapy and Mental Health Counseling from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville so she was well equipped to take over the reins and expanded the Creations of Hope exhibit to include artists from across the state.

I went on to exhibit twice more, served

as a juror for the show twice, and have now co-curated one exhibit with a fellow intern from Emporia State University, and curated one exhibit on my own. As a culmination of my Masters Project I co-curated an exhibition featuring the work of Charles Anderson, a pioneer in the field of art therapy. The exhibition will coincide with Mental Illness Awareness Month and will be on display at the Creations of Hope Gallery throughout the month of May. Anderson happened to be one of the jurors who accepted my work into previous shows, and in my art school undergraduate days at Washburn University, never failed to stop by the Washburn Art Student Association booth

who now runs the Expressive Therapies Program at Valeo, and converted it into the Creations of Hope group which supports clients along their way in participating in the gallery to expand their horizons and network into the community. During my last year at Washburn I volunteered at Valeo helping with the Studio Art group with Weeks and Jennifer McRavin. As soon as one exhibition was done, clients began planning for the next one. It was really an uplifting experience for them, and they really looked forward to it each year. It increased moral and mental outlook a tremendous amount. It has been very influential in the recovery efforts of a lot of people who suffer from SPMI - Severe and Persistent Mental Illness. When it was a juried exhibit, each year over three hundred pieces had to be evaluated from all over the state from over a hundred artists.

The Creations of Hope Gallery looks beyond all the negatives we hear about those who suffer from mental illness. It showcases the positive side of people who suffer so much negative stigma, and emphasizes their productive qualities: their hearts and souls - things they have to offer each other, the community, and the culture at large. It gives them a voice in a world that likes to ignore them and push them aside. There are those of us who will always strive to give them a venue to express their thoughts and feelings in a healthy, positive, and productive manner, as I look forward to a career of doing my part in that venture.

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## Valeo Mental Health Awareness Month Activities

The Creations of Hope gallery is currently presenting an exhibit called *My Journey in Art Therapy*, and will feature a special presentation by art therapy pioneer Charles Anderson, ATR, whose legacy and impact can be hard to quantify in words. Reflecting upon themes of struggle and survival, moments of dismissal, and windows of opportunity, Mr. Anderson guides us through his life. He illustrates moments recalling his identity as an artist, an art therapist, and African American man, and, in turn, lends insight into the ways he navigated the perceptions and expectations that society often placed upon him. The exhibit runs through May. The special presentation by Charles Anderson is on Saturday, May 19th, 2:00-4:00 pm. The gallery is located in the NOTO Arts District and is open Fridays 12-5, Saturdays 11-3, and is open late the First Friday of each month. For more information contact Cara Weeks at [cweeks@valeotopeka.org](mailto:cweeks@valeotopeka.org) or 785-783-7558.

Valeo Behavioral Health Care is offering many opportunities during May to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month, and to learn more about what can be done to support their efforts.

- **Tuesday, May 1st** - Virtual Tour & Luncheon; 330 SW Oakley, LLCR; 12 pm - 1 pm. Please RSVP to [acophasty@valeotopeka.org](mailto:acophasty@valeotopeka.org).

- **Tuesday, May 1st** - Topeka High School exhibit, 4 pm - 7 pm; 800 SW 10th Street

- **Friday, May 4th** - First Friday at Creations of Hope Gallery; 909 N.



Kansas Avenue; 5 pm - 8 pm

- **Saturday, May 5th** - Cruise Night in the Capitol exhibit with Cumulus Radio; Downtown Topeka; 3 pm - 8 pm

- **Monday, May 7th** - Grief Support Group; 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

- **Tuesday & Wednesday, May 8 & 9** - FREE Mental Health First Aid Class - Youth Focus - 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm; 330 SW Oakley, LLCR. Please RSVP to [mhfa@valeotopeka.org](mailto:mhfa@valeotopeka.org).

- **Friday, May 11th** - A Workshop on Making Wooden Knives by Hank Tyler; Creations of Hope Gallery; 909 N. Kansas Avenue; 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. \$45, materials included. Questions or Registrations: Cara Weeks at 785-784-7558.

- **Saturday, May 12th** - NAMI Walk; Hummer Sports Park; 9 am - 1 pm

- **Saturday, May 19th** - Stuff the Bus event supporting the HOPE Team; 10 am - 2 pm

- **Saturday, May 19th** - Special presentation by Art Therapist, Charles Anderson and featuring poetry by Greg Dawson; Creations of Hope Gallery; 909 N. Kansas Avenue; 2 pm - 4 pm

- **Thursday, May 31st** - American Red Cross Blood Drive; 10 am - 3 pm; 330 SW Oakley, LLCR.



# Strong faith guides pilot with Kansas connection who safely landed plane

A former Kansas City area woman is being hailed as a hero as the pilot who successfully landed a passenger jet April 17 with one engine. Southwest flight 1380, bound for Dallas, began normally in New York but twenty minutes into the journey an engine disintegrated over Philadelphia's western suburbs.

Tammie Jo Shults, a graduate of Mid-America Nazarene University in Olathe, navigated the damaged Dallas-bound jet to an emergency landing in Philadelphia. Debris from the engine shattered a passenger window with shrapnel entering the cabin. The plane was flying at 32,000 feet at the time and the passenger cabin quickly depressurized.

Jennifer Riordan of Albuquerque, New Mexico, was seated next to the window and was sucked out of the plane up to her waist, even while she was wearing a seat belt, according to other passengers. Riordan was a Wells Fargo bank executive and the mother of two.

As oxygen masks dropped down throughout the cabin, several men left their seats in an attempt to pull Riordan back into the plane. As the plane plunged 22,000 feet within minutes CPR was attempted with no success. Riordan was declared dead at the hospital later, and the cause of death has been listed as blunt force trauma to the head, neck and torso.

Under such horrific circumstances, the plane landed safely at Philadelphia International at 11:30 a.m. and passengers were evacuated on the tarmac.

The exact cause of the engine explosion is still under investigation. Officials with the National Transportation Safety Board released a statement saying they are taking steps to make sure it doesn't happen again.

"This should not happen and we want to find out why it happened so we make sure the preventative measures are put in place," said Robert Sumwalt, NTSB Chairman.

In a written statement, Southwest Airlines said it was 'devastated' over Tuesday's event. The company did not explicitly mention Shults.

Shults was one of first female pilots to fly with the U.S. Navy and was a graduate of MNU. The school's Director of Alumni



Photo courtesy Kevin Garber

Tammie Jo Shults is the hero pilot who safely landed Southwest Airlines Flight 1380 after an engine broke apart mid-flight April 17. Her husband Dean is also a pilot for Southwest Airlines. Shults was a pioneer in Navy aviation, flying the F-18 Hornet. She later became an instructor.

Relations Kevin Garber said Shults gave a speech last spring on campus, encouraging women to "crack through in male-dominated fields."

"She had tenacity to do something that excelled beyond the norm of what women were allowed or expected to do," Garber said. "She pushed the limits and became what she strived for."

Shults was one of the first female fighter pilots in U.S. military history, according to friends from her alma mater, MidAmerican Nazarene. She was a pilot and instructor with the Navy before joining Southwest Airlines. She was one of the first female fighter pilots in the US Navy for F-18 fighter jets.

One passenger lauded Shults' "nerves of steel." Shults, a Christian, once said in an interview that sitting in the captain's chair gave her "the opportunity to witness for Christ on almost every flight."

Her faith encouraged her concern for her passengers.

"Tammie Jo Shults, the pilot came back to speak to each of us personally," wrote another passenger on Facebook. "This is a true American Hero. A huge thank you for her knowledge, guidance and bravery in a traumatic situation. God

bless her and all the crew."

Shults' mother-in-law also described her as a devout Christian, telling the Washington Post that it was her faith that contributed to her calm state.

"I know God was with her, and I know she was talking to God," Virginia Shults said. Passengers across social media continue to sing her praises, and are thanking God for his hand in the emergency.

Her brother-in-law, Gary Shults praised her saying, "She's a formidable woman, as sharp as a tack. My brother says she's the best pilot he knows. She's a very caring, giving person who takes care of lots of people."

Many are also saying she had "nerves of steel" and are astounded at her ability to keep her cool amid crisis.

In the audio recording between Shults and the control tower, Shults can be heard calmly explaining what went wrong.

Fellow Navy veteran aviator Linda Maloney told the Dallas Morning News that she reached out to Shults after learning of the incident by texting, "News travels fast. Praying for you."

Shults replied simply, "Thanks. God is good."

The two became friends in the Navy, where they were among the service's first female fighter pilots.

Shults, 56, is featured in Maloney's book, "Military Fly Moms." In the book, Shults recounted that her love for aviation was sparked by watching Air Force jets fly over her family's New Mexico ranch growing up.

The young woman was also inspired reading the book "Jungle Pilot" about Christian missionary Nate Saint, who along with Jim Elliott and other teammates ministered to a remote Ecuadorian tribe in the 1950s. They ultimately gave their lives sharing the Gospel, with many



Photo courtesy Linda Maloney

in the tribe coming to faith after the missionaries' tragic deaths.

Additionally, Shults recalled seeking out an aviation lecture by a retired colonel during her high school's vocation day.

"He started the class by asking me, the only girl in attendance, if I was lost," Shults said. "I mustered up the courage to assure him I was not and that I was interested in flying. He allowed me to stay but assured me there were no professional women pilots."

"I did not say another word. In my

heart, I hoped that God had given me an interest in flying for a reason," Shults added. "I had never touched an airplane, but I knew flying was my future. My junior year in college, I met a girl who had just received her Air Force wings. My heart jumped. Girls did fly! I set to work trying to break into the club."

Following graduation from MidAmerica Nazarene University in the mid-1980s, Shults was commissioned in the Navy and completed her flight training.

## CWA

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from other international laws that aim to override U.S. laws. She will inform on how the Muslim faith is strategically installing their laws and beliefs around the world.

The workshop is based on one of the chapters in the book Feisty & Feminine: A Rallying Call for Conservative Women by Penny Nance, CEO and President of Concerned Women for America.

"We have been called for such a time as this," Saldivar said. "As conservative women and like-minded men, we are called to know our message and share our beliefs. CWA of Kansas has always been based on education, prayer, and then action. This Feisty & Feminine Workshop focuses on the first step, education. Participants will be taught how to engage our culture intellectually, authoritatively and respectfully on this particular issue. We want our speech to be based on facts not emotions."

Workshops are available to large groups, small groups, churches, Bible study groups, community groups, mother daughter events, college groups, youth groups, in your home, in a restaurant, in a church, or in a library, Saldivar said. Topics may include the devaluation of women, marriage and true tolerance, sanctity of life, debunking the wage gap, and more.

For more information, contact Saldivar at director@kansas.cwfa.org or 785-260-5659, or visit ks.cwfa.org.

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## C5Alive POWER Luncheon to Feature TBC's Rev. Jim Congdon

The monthly C5Alive "POWER Luncheon" will be held May 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Topeka Bible Church. Featured speaker at the May luncheon will be Rev. Jim Congdon, who has been Lead Pastor at TBC for many years.

The cost to attend the luncheon is \$10 for C5Alive 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](mailto:info@C5Alive.org).

C5Alive is an organization founded in 2009, dedicated to developing and uniting Christian Leadership in the community, involving businesses, non-profits

and churches.

In addition to monthly "POWER" luncheons held on the second Thursday of each month, C5 also hosts periodic business fairs and other events, including the annual Topeka Easter Parade and Family Fun Fest, held on N. Kansas Avenue and in Garfield Park on the day before Easter.

C5 members may also sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations. For more information about C5, go to [C5Alive.org](http://C5Alive.org), [facebook.com/C5Alive](http://facebook.com/C5Alive), or call 785-640-6399.

Next month's luncheon will be held June 14, 11:30am - 1 pm. Featured speaker at the June luncheon will be Rev. Barry Feaker.



## WAR

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said Topeka City Manager Brent Trout.

"This joint effort is essential in helping out the men, women and children who are being abused and enslaved in human trafficking," said Mayor Michelle De La Isla. "It is crucial that we all unite to help stop human trafficking so that people are able to live without fear of being recruited and solicited for labor or sexual servitude."

The city and county are now partnering with other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking in Topeka/Shawnee County and beyond by identifying, addressing and eliminating situations that lead to or allow human trafficking to occur. To reach this goal these agencies will provide education to help identify victims and perpetrators of human trafficking, establish ways for victims to safely seek justice and be provided with access to restorative and support services, and to prosecute those individuals, businesses and systems that conduct and benefit from human trafficking.

Feaker said Thursday's "historic" event makes Topeka and Shawnee County the first city and county in the nation to do so, joining with similar state action taken previously.

### THE HISTORY

This past February 1st marked the 70th anniversary of National Freedom Day, a day set aside in recognition of passage of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1865, putting an end to slavery in the United States. However, in reality, slavery does still exist and is thriving right here in our own community.

"Sex trafficking/slavery is a \$99 billion business," Topeka Rescue Mission Executive Director Barry Feaker noted, "and it's second only to the drug business."

In light of this truth, Feaker launched Freedom Now USA to assist states in eradicating human trafficking, and authored a proclamation, which Governor Sam Brownback signed January 26, stating Kansas would declare war and take action against this modern-day slavery. It was then sent to the Kansas House and Senate for approval.

Feaker compared the current struggle against sex trafficking to that of William Lloyd Garrison's against slavery in the mid-1800s. Garrison was the voice of abolitionism, and he became the leader of the emerging anti-slavery movement. His publication, *The Liberator*, reached thousands of individuals worldwide.

Garrison lived long enough to see the Union come apart under the weight of slavery, and see Abraham Lincoln issue the Emancipation Proclamation during the Civil War. Thirty-four years after first publishing *The Liberator*, Garrison saw the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution go into effect, banning slavery forever.

A hundred and fifty-three years ago, Feaker said, the names of Lincoln and Garrison were at the forefront of the movement to abolish slavery.

"What will be the names," Feaker wondered aloud, "in the year 2171 - 153 years from now - that will be associated with this movement to eradicate modern-day slavery - human trafficking?"



### THE PROBLEM IS GROWING

In the last two years, the Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries division, now called Restore Hope, reached out in love, rescue and restoration to more than 130 victims of human trafficking who were residing in our own city. According to statistics given by the Kansas attorney general's office, there were 44 identified cases of human trafficking in 2012 in the state of Kansas. In 2015, three short years later, there were more than 400.

"Our nation needs a win against modern-day slavery and Kansas has a rich history of not compromising on this issue," Feaker said.

Feaker announced details about the grassroots-level initiative called Freedom Now USA, the anti-human trafficking effort led by Topeka Rescue Mission.

"At the Topeka Rescue Mission, we have seen first-hand the tremendous impact this evil has on the lives of innocent children, and we will no longer stand for it. We expect our local effort to expand statewide and beyond as residents begin to realize that this is an issue that affects all of us, and we all have a role to play in stopping it."

Freedom Now Coalition members will meet on a regular basis. By uniting, they hope to eradicate Human Trafficking from our city, county and eventually our nation, Feaker said.

Besides Feaker, the mayor and city manager, others involved in the initiative and attending the news conference were:

- U.S. Marshal Ron Miller
- Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt
- Kansas Department for Children and Families Secretary Gina Meier-Hummel
- Shawnee County District Attorney Mike Kagay
- Topeka Police Chief Bill Cochran
- Shawnee County Sheriff Herman Jones
- Shawnee County Commission chairman Kevin Cook
- Topeka City Council members Michael Lesser, Mike Padilla and Sandra Clear

Clear, a recently retired teacher, acknowledged the topic of human trafficking might be "hard for some people to wrap their head around."

She said she had gained a personal perspective on the topic through talking to one of her former students, a 13-year-old girl who had been kidnapped and trafficked.

Miller said that although young people won't tell law enforcement officers if they are being trafficked for forced labor or sex, he intends to bring training about indicators that can help determine whether someone is a trafficking victim to public safety officers in the community later this year.

Lesser mentioned how it is necessary to also educate operators of convenience stores, restaurants, motels, etc., on how to recognize these indicators.

Padilla invited more churches and schools to also join the fight and become part of the team.

Over the past 13 years, Kansas has developed laws addressing the human trafficking issue, and they are now some of the most effective in the country, Schmidt said.

Kagay vowed to be "fully engaged and ready to fight."

Meier-Hummel announced the creation of a new position within the DCF to specifically address the human trafficking of children in Kansas.

"We know there is a great need for collaboration on this important issue," Meier-Hummel said. "This modern-day form of slavery is a reality in every corner of our state, and as we work to address the safety needs of child victims, we need a united effort to prevent human trafficking and develop a comprehensive response to the problem."

The Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator position will be within DCF's Prevention and Protection Services division, in Topeka. The position involves direct coordination with the Kansas Attorney General's Office and law enforcement.

"Human trafficking is a problem that goes unseen for most of us, yet it affects so many," Governor Jeff Colyer said. "I appreciate Secretary Meier-Hummel's commitment to tackling this problem, and I look forward to the positive impact it will have on our state."

From March 2014 to December 2017, DCF helped 285 suspected child victims of human trafficking.

"We appreciate the participation from DCF on this monumental initiative," Feaker said.

In addition to the new position, DCF also has staff members who sit on the State's Human Trafficking Advisory Board. DCF also has staff on the Freedom Now board.

### THE PROBLEM IS WIDESPREAD

"Commercial exploitation of children is a pandemic," said Phillip Cosby, State Director, American Family Association of Kansas and Missouri. "We are witnessing an accelerating global cultural descent, where flesh is cheap and human slavery is back - flourishing and defined as human trafficking. To the human trafficker, humanity is a profitable reusable commodity for labor and commercial sexual exploitation."

Sexual human trafficking has a wide scope of victims and customers. Most troubling to law enforcement and the general populace is the commercial sexual exploitation of children under the age of 18, with the average victim being 13 years old. These child victims are from both international slave trade and domestic origins equally. In the U.S., children run away, experience homelessness or are thrown away at the rate of nearly 1,740,000 per year. Roughly 300,000 of those adolescents are involved in commercial sexual exploitation (prostitution and pornography) annually.

The growing scourge of human trafficking and child sexual exploitation if unabated will rapidly dismantle what is called in the law "Crimes Against the Public Morals" and "Community Standard," Cosby said.

Those who suspect human trafficking involving a minor should call 1-800-922-5330.

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# FINANCIAL PLANNING

## Debt and Income Crisis

Dear Dave,

I received a call the other day from a company saying it could negotiate the balance on my credit cards to a lesser amount. The caller also said they could get me a zero-percent interest rate until the debts were paid off, and then the accounts would be closed. I'm kind of starting over again financially, because I sold a company I had run for almost 15 years, then got into real estate and lost almost everything. I'm making just enough to squeeze by, and my credit card debt totals \$40,000. Would this be a good idea?

Bill

Dear Bill,

No, this is not a good idea. You're looking at two major problems with a company such as this one. One, they will absolutely destroy whatever credit you may have. Their plan is to take your cash, and spend some time beating down the credit card companies until they agree to accept a lesser amount. Then, they use your cash to settle loans you will have — by that time — defaulted on. This will put you in a situation very similar to if you had filed Chapter 13 bankruptcy. Stay away from these people.

You have an income crisis, in addition to a debt crisis, at this point. For starters, I want you to start living on a tight, written, monthly budget. I'm talking rice and beans, no vacations, and no eating out until you pay off this debt. Where your income is concerned, maybe you should consider getting back into the kind of business you ran previously for a while. Look for a managerial or supervisory position in that area, at least until you're able to get back on your feet and save some cash.

Finally, cut up the credit cards, close the accounts, and put as much money as you can spare toward paying off that debt using the debt snowball system. Never go back into debt again!  
—Dave

### Pay off the house first?

Dear Dave,

My husband and I are in our forties. We have no children, and we bring home \$95,000 a year combined. We're also debt-free except for our home. We owe just \$10,000 on the house, and can take care of that in a few months. Would it be okay to rearrange the Baby Steps a bit, and pay off our home before getting serious about saving for retirement?

Nan

Dear Nan,

I don't usually give folks any wiggle room when it comes to sticking with the proper order of the Baby Steps. But if you're that close to being completely debt-free, I don't see anything wrong with paying off the house first.

Most people I talk to still have anywhere from \$100,000 to \$300,000 left on their mortgages. This is a little bit different story, however, and you two are obviously managing your money well.

Knock out that mortgage, and start pouring at least 15 percent of your income into retirement. You're going to love the feeling — and the freedom — that comes with being completely debt-free!

—Dave

### Better late than never

Dear Dave,

I have a credit card that I haven't made a payment on in almost two years. The debt has been sold a couple of times, and now a collector is saying I owe \$1,200. The original amount was \$500. I'd like to work something out, but I can't afford \$1,200. What should I do?

Luanne

Dear Luanne,

They're asking for \$1,200 because they've added things like interest and late fees. They want to make as much money



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

**davesays**

as possible on an old debt they bought for pennies on the dollar.

If you can afford \$500 right now, ask if they'll accept a one-time payment to settle the account. Get it in writing if they accept the offer, and don't give them a penny until after you get a copy of the written agreement. Once you have the agreement in hand, send them a money order or cashier's check for \$500. Do not, under any circumstances, give them electronic access to your bank accounts.

You waited too long to take care of your obligation, Luanne. That made things more difficult and more stressful than necessary. I'm glad you decided to do the right thing, and clean up your mess, though. Better late than never!

—Dave

### Keep it in your own pocket

Dear Dave,

I just filed taxes, and it looks like I'll get a pretty big refund this year. A friend of mine told me I should adjust my withholding, so I don't get a refund. This seems pretty dumb to me. Why would I change my withholdings when I'm getting money back?

James

Dear James,

The only reason you're getting a refund is because you had too much taken out of your paychecks in 2017.

Let's say your refund is \$3,500. Basically, you loaned the government \$3,500 of your own money, interest-free. A refund isn't a gift or reward, James. It's your own cash that you get back because you paid in too much during the previous year. In your case, that adds up to almost \$300 a month!

Instead of loaning the government

money that you worked hard to earn, wouldn't it be a better idea to keep it in your own pocket?

—Dave

### Not as bad, but still not smart

Dear Dave,

How do you feel about check cashing companies?

Norman

Dear Norman,

I'm not a big fan of check cashing companies. They're not nearly as bad as payday lenders, but it still seems kind of silly to me there's even a market for this kind

of thing. If you want a place to cash your checks and store your money, all you have to do is walk into a bank and open an account.

I realize there's a small segment of the population that some people in financial circles like to call "the unbanked." This means that, for whatever reason, they avoid banks. That's their choice, but in the process, they leave themselves susceptible to bad deals.

As I said, I don't feel the same way about check-cashing companies as I do about payday lenders. But it's still not a financially smart move to regularly pay a storefront operation fees just to cash your checks.

—Dave

## Adjusting your withholding can save you money

Peggy Beasterfeld

Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service



The Internal Revenue Service is continuing its effort to encourage taxpayers to do a "paycheck checkup" to make sure they have the right amount of tax taken out of their paychecks.

To help taxpayers understand the implications of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the IRS unveiled several new features to help people navigate the issues affecting withholding in their paychecks. The effort includes a new series of plain language Tax Tips, a YouTube video series and other special efforts to help people understand the importance of checking their withholdings.

The new tax law could affect how much tax someone should have their employer withhold from their paycheck. To help with this, the IRS urges taxpayers to visit the Withholding Calculator on IRS.gov. The Withholding Calculator can help prevent employees from having too little or too much tax withheld from their paycheck. Having too little tax withheld can mean an unexpected tax bill or potentially a penalty at tax time in 2019. And with the average refund top-

ping \$2,800, some taxpayers might prefer to have less tax withheld up front and receive more in their paychecks.

Taxpayers who need to adjust their withholding will need to submit a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, to their employer. If an employee needs to adjust their withholding, doing so as quickly as possible means there's more time for tax withholding to take place evenly during the rest of the year.

The IRS always recommends employees check their withholding at the beginning of each year or when their personal circumstances change to make sure they're having the right amount of tax withheld from their paychecks. With the new tax law changes, it's especially important for certain people to make sure they have the right amount of withholding.

The law increased the standard deduction, removed personal exemptions, increased the child tax credit, limited or discontinued certain deductions and changed the tax rates and brackets.

When personal circumstances change that reduce withholding allowances they are entitled to claim, including divorce, starting a second job, or a child no longer being a dependent, an employee has 10 days to submit a new Form W-4 to their employer claiming the proper number of withholding allowances.

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# opinion

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## Unapologetically Pro-Life—From the Moment of Conception Until the Last Breath on Earth

By Ed Stetzer

Being pro-life goes from the womb to the tomb, and Christians need to be unapologetic about those values.

Last January when I spoke at the Chicago March for Life, where several thousand people gathered to celebrate life and speak out on behalf of the thousands of unborn lives lost in America each year.

If you haven't yet, take a look at the figures sometime—they're quite staggering. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regularly releases a surveillance report indicating the number of abortions performed in the U.S. each year. The most recent data indicates that in 2014, 652,639 abortions were performed in the United States; in other words, 186 abortions per 1,000 live births. This works out to be over one a minute.

Stop and think about that.

Roe v. Wade was only one example of our nation saying one thing while practicing another. We say we care about justice. We say we care about the protection of rights. Our founders themselves sent a letter to the King of England telling of their belief in the concept of God-given, inalienable human rights that no political leader had the power to strip away.

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, according to the signers of that notorious declaration, were central to the American identity.

But still, despite these many ideological commitments, we live in a nation where the defenseless are discarded. The unborn are often euphemistically called tissue or formless clumps of cells instead of the



human beings that Scripture—and science—tells us they are.

### Life Matters

Weaved throughout the Bible is a narrative of God's love and grace shown to sinners. But we mustn't miss another important theme: God is our Creator. As our heavenly Father, he knows our hearts and numbers the very hairs on our heads. Amidst our deep fears of inadequacy and nagging insecurities, he calls us his beloved—a reflection of his own image.

While this might be a radical, revolutionary thought to many living in our world, Christians must declare the truth: what the Creator makes is always good. He doesn't make mistakes; there are no lives he couldn't love or stories he wouldn't redeem.

Every human being, from the child with Down syndrome to the senior citizen with Parkinson's disease to the unborn infant, is deeply loved and intimately known. All are

created in the image of God—and this is why we march.

That is also why I encourage all who champion the pro-life cause to do so in love. Friends, we won't win hearts and minds when we shout, scream, or chant in judgment over our community members. As Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 13:

Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Passion is good. Deeply caring about our mission is also good. But let us, as Christ's followers, learn to replace hatred with hope, anger with understanding, and guilt with God's grace as we work to defend and protect the unborn.

### Real 'Choice' Matters

As Christians, we should feel compelled to love and defend life in all its forms—those inside and outside the womb. We do this not because we're trying to shame or guilt those who disagree or have made different choices, but ultimately because we want to inspire change.

Someday, all of us hope to live in a world where babies are born instead of aborted and where women are truly respected and empowered.

Ultimately, I believe the word 'choice' is a misnomer in a world where women often feel that abortion is their only option. As Christians who care about the pro-life cause, we must ask ourselves a critical question: What are we doing to provide for the needs of these pregnant women? Are we doing what we can to make caring for and sustaining that unborn youngster financially and emotionally plausible?

That means caring about infants and it means loving their mothers and seeking their welfare just as much as the unborn babies' welfare. And, importantly, I heard that again and again at the Chicago march.

So, for us, as individuals and church bodies, we support these women and give them access to prenatal care, childcare, and other resources as they embark on their journey. When we forget these things, our distinctly pro-life mission loses credibility.

### Change Matters

I truly believe that decades down the road, future generations will look back on this moment in confusion. How, they might ask, did 21st century Americans not recognize the harm they were doing? They

continued on next page

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## EVEN THE DEVIL BELIEVES IN GOD



CLINT  
DECKER

President and Evangelist with Great Awakenings, Inc.

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"I believe in God." I have heard the statement many times in my years as a minister in rural communities across the Great Plains. The regular at the local bar, the businessman, the county jail inmate, the greeter at the church, and the friendly neighbor across the street all have said they believe in God and are doing fine.

Additionally, nearly every person I have talked with has heard of Jesus, God, the Bible and are familiar with many Christian terms and concepts. Some regularly attend church while others only went as children. Others have gone just for funerals or weddings and a few have

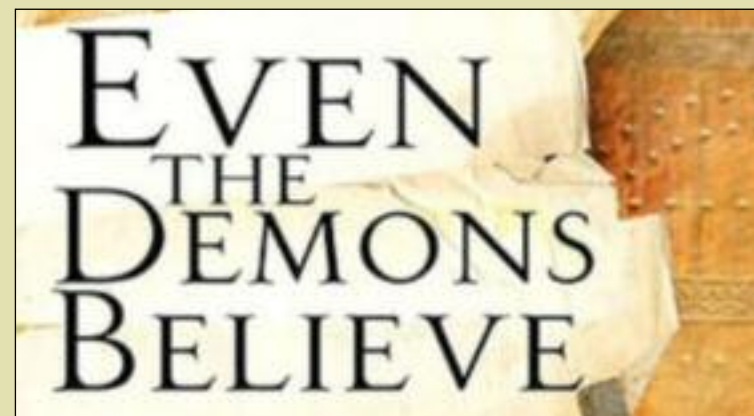
never been. And though many are not familiar with traditional Bible stories, the majority have heard or read at least portions of the Bible.

If so many people believe in God, then why are our communities so filled with abuse and immorality? Should not this belief make a difference?

Perhaps there is a misunderstanding about what belief in God means. Maybe people think they believe, but in truth, they do not.

The Bible is the original source for understanding the whole idea of belief in God. A casual reading of the Bible on this can be a little confusing. On one hand the Scripture says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved . . ." (Acts 16:31). While on the other hand, it says, "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder" (James 2:19). The Devil believes in God like everyone else? What is wrong with this picture? It all comes down to understanding what belief means, not according to our opinions, but according to God's Word.

If you study the Bible on the subject you will see five truths. 1) Believing in God is synonymous with belief in Jesus. Since Jesus is God's Son, to refuse to believe in Him is an empty belief. 2) Believing in God is an acknowledgement of Jesus. It means you acknowledge His deity, virgin birth, death and resurrection. 3) Believing in God is to trust in Jesus. It



means you are willing to entrust your whole life into His care and submit to His leadership. 4) Believing in God is to follow Jesus. It means you are willing to do what Jesus and the Word of God says, no matter the cost—even unto death. 5) Believing in God is union with Jesus. It means Christ is in you and you are in Him.

The belief the Devil has is knowledge-based and does not proceed to trust, following or union with Christ. The Devil's belief does not lead to a changed life.

However, a whole-hearted, biblical belief in God through Christ shows itself in a spiritual and moral transformation. The old has gone, the new has come. You do not have to tell someone you believe in God, they can see it.

I urge you to embrace full-on, radical belief in Christ. Go beyond superficial

words and the mere window dressings of religion, like Jesus did, when He went to the cross and shed His blood for you. He counted the cost and laid His life down. Do the same. Count the cost and believe in Him with all your heart.

A prayer for you to pray – Lord God, help me to believe in your glorious Son. Help me to go beyond knowledge and trust Him, follow Him, and be one with Christ. Though I do not understand it all, help me to believe and be changed. In Jesus name. Amen.

Listen to Clint Decker's radio broadcast, *The Unbreakable Truth*, at 2:50am & 10:50am on Upper Room Radio, KFGB 97.7FM, Topeka's local Christian radio station. He can be reached at [decker@greatawakenings.org](mailto:decker@greatawakenings.org)



CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

will wonder why we did not see children in the womb as, well, children in the womb.

Thankfully, with medical advancements moving forward at full steam, we now have a window into the human womb that Roe v. Wade era advocates couldn't have imagined. Ultrasound technology today allows women to hear their baby's heartbeat as early as six to seven weeks' gestation; this is changing the game for pro-life advocates.

Minds and hearts are finally being opened to see a new and different side of this decades-old debate.

The tides are changing. From here on out, our mission is to capture a new audience—one that is ready and willing to understand what is actually going on inside the womb: the growth and development of a human being made in the image of God.

And, as the tide changes, maybe we need to be reminded that the unborn need our voice. It seems that it's become trendy to talk about broadening the pro-life agenda, and you can see my article on refugees here. But, it seems that, for some people, broadening the agenda means discarding the unborn. For some avant-garde evangelicals, maybe they are a little embarrassed about the religious right pro-life cause when there are refugees, children, immigrants, and the environment before us.

But I'm not embarrassed. We can be pro-life and whole life.

As the tide is turning, maybe we need another reminder—broadening the pro-life agenda does not mean discarding the unborn.

*Ed Stetzer holds the Billy Graham Distinguished Chair of Church, Mission, and Evangelism at Wheaton College, is executive director of the Billy Graham Center, and publishes church leadership resources through Mission Group.*

## Does the Kansas Constitution guarantee the right to life or the right to abortion?

By Joe Patton

A state court has ruled that the Kansas ban of dismemberment abortion of a living unborn child violates our State constitution. In response, the legislature will consider putting a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot that would allow the State to pass laws on abortion.



The constitutional amendment will make it clear that the legislature can regulate abortions, including limiting late-term abortions, partial birth abortions, and ban the dismemberment abortion of a living unborn child.

If you read the Kansas Constitution, you would not find the words "right to an abortion." The court looked at Section One and Two of the Bill of Rights and interpreted these sentences to include the right to an abortion. Section Two deals with equal protection. Section One reads, "All men are possessed of equal and inalienable natural rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Odd that the court found the right to an abortion in a sentence talking about the right to life.



A constitutional amendment will save thousands of lives. Here is why.

A series of U.S. Supreme Court decisions limit state legislatures from passing laws regulating abortion. Our President will appoint additional pro-life judges to the U.S. Supreme Court. It is foreseeable that the U.S. Supreme Court will reverse its previous decisions, and state legislatures would be able to regulate abortion. However not in Kansas because our Kansas courts "found" the right to abortion in our State Constitution.

This new constitutional right could potentially threaten all our pro-life laws on the books today. So, if we pass this amendment thousands of lives will be saved, and if we do not, thousands of lives will be lost.

Sadly, Kansas law forbids the live dismemberment of a lamb, cow, horse, calf, hog, and mule unless it is rendered incapable of feeling pain, but Kansas law does not provide the same protection for living unborn babies. Passing this amendment will allow lawmakers to stop dismemberment abortions of living, unborn children in Kansas.

Contact your legislator and ask them to support this constitutional amendment that makes it clear the legislature, not the courts should make abortion policy.

Say what you are. I know that there are many people who believe that abortion is wrong and call themselves pro-life, and believe that's a legitimate title. And for years, I have too. That was until I served in the legislature and discovered that for people in government, that's a smokescreen. Personally, they might be against abortion, but they're not going to pay any political price to see abortion come to an end.

To them, what pro-life means is you pass a few measures, put a few barricades out there to slow abortion down, but do nothing to end it. There are some who campaign as pro-life who actually fight against measures that move any faster than they want to move in ending abortion. When I came to that realization, I knew something was wrong there, and I realized abortion is something that should end, not be regulated. We don't regulate murder. We stop it.

During the slavery debate in the nineteenth century, there were two groups of people who were against slavery: the anti-slavery group, and the abolitionists. The anti-slavery group

thought slavery was wrong and should come to an end, they just wouldn't lift a finger to do what was right. They certainly weren't going to lose any blood or sweat or tears to do it.

Conversely, the abolitionists were willing to do what it took to end it even if it took them dying to do so. So, I would just love for people to step out and be honest, to say what they're willing to do. When you say you're pro-life, does that mean that you would be willing to end abortion and call it murder? That you really want to stop it, not just regulate it?

Incrementalism is the real problem here. The belief of many pro-lifers that you can incrementally end this evil. We've been incrementally ending it for 44 years, and what we have to show for it is 60 million dead babies, and about 200,000 of them killed here in good old, conservative Oklahoma.

I've written about Fisher in the past, and I've even asked people to support him. Nothing has changed my calculus on the issue, he's the man for our time, he's the man for Oklahoma. I truly hope that Oklahomans will give Dan Fisher their support in the upcoming election.

You can learn more about his candidacy for Governor at [fisherforgovernor.com](http://fisherforgovernor.com).



## Jerry Falwell Jr.: Here's What the NYT Got Wrong About Liberty University

What you've heard about us is true: We are big.

Liberty University ranks as the largest Christian university in the world, the largest university in Virginia, the second-largest nonprofit and the fifth-largest overall university in the United States. And we've grown most explosively during the past decade: from 38,000 enrolled to over 110,000. Our online programs drove that growth, with the rapid spread of high-speed internet making it possible for everyday people to gain a high-quality education at a low-dollar price point.

When you have this much growth as fast as we have seen it come, it can take a while for the word to get out. But make no mistake—we want Liberty's story to spread. That's why I and a half-dozen of my leadership team recently gave journalist Alec MacGillis as much interview time as he desired. Ninety minutes later, he wrapped up his questions, and a month later we read his piece—released this week in The New York Times Magazine: "How Liberty University Built a Billion-Dollar Empire Online."

As Mr. MacGillis rightly points out in his article, our Lynchburg, Virginia, campus has seen constant construction. Seniors attend class in buildings that didn't exist when they were freshmen. Cranes currently litter the skyline, as workers build our new business school and upgrade our football stadium to accommodate our transition into the highest level of the NCAA. The construction dust serves as a testament to our abiding belief that we can always be improving the experience of our students on campus and online.

As part of this philosophy, we welcome all perspectives and feedback and appreciate that the size and scope of our mission will bring warranted complaints about our performance. However, there were several points made in the fact-checking process of Mr. MacGillis' article that markedly misrepresent our mission, including the many ways we have succeeded in serving our remote students.

We are proud of the institution we have created and the minds we have expanded, challenged and enlightened—and take matters questioning our rigor, seriousness and dedication to education very seriously.

For example, MacGillis quotes an unnamed former employee from our recruitment center as saying Liberty would admit a student with a GPA of 0.5. That's just not true. The minimum GPA for admittance in good standing is 2.0. And the lowest GPA possible for admittance is 1.5—but even those cases are

few, involving students who make an appeal and enter with an "on caution" status with agreed-upon conditions for continuance. So, the 30-year-old who a decade earlier skipped algebra class endlessly to step outside and get high—we have a pathway they can walk down to prove themselves worthy of higher education. We make no apologies for this. But admitting a 0.5 GPA student? No.

MacGillis takes pains to explain our business model: We keep costs low, which keeps our tuition low. Prospective students have many options for higher education. They expect both quality and value—and the thoughtful consumer will do diligent research and land at a school that delivers both.

Does Liberty deliver both? One-hundred-thousand-plus current students have decided that we do.

Of course, even with low tuition rates, people will still need financial aid. The U.S. government has been in the business of helping students finance their education since the G.I. Bill of 1944 sent World War II vets out of combat zones and into classrooms. Liberty has 30,000 students from the military or military families. Last year, we became the first university in Virginia to be designated as a Purple Heart University, in recognition of our support of military members and their families.

The U.S. government also awards Pell grant money to students based on their financial need. They can take their Pell grant dollars to any accredited school of their choice. Loans and grants are awarded to students—not to the university.

What Mr. MacGillis didn't know to report is how many higher-education administrators call or come to Liberty to "discover our secret." The secret is that there is no secret. People simply want the benefits of quality education. So figure out how to provide them with that "product" (elitist, higher-ed types get ruffled when I use that term). Then, deliver the product to them at a price they can afford, and offer it online so they don't have to disrupt their family's life. Do this and more students will come to your school too.

What you've heard about us is true: We dream big. My father began Liberty to train champions who would change the world for Christ. In fulfillment of that mission, we will continue our efforts to ensure that education is accessible and affordable to everyone, regardless of personal or financial circumstance, and to provide the highest-quality education to all of our students.

## Abortion Abolition is Possible, and Oklahoma could be 'Ground Zero'

by Onan Coca

There is a spectacular candidate for Governor running in Oklahoma and his name is Dan Fisher.

Fisher is a pastor, not a politician. He's also a proud defender of life and a self-described "abortion abolitionist."

He's not a "one issue" candidate, but he will admit that there is one issue that rises in importance above the rest of them and that is the issue of abortion.

Why? Because it's life or death. It's the difference between standing up against the worst holocaust in human history, or choosing to participate in the murder of another generation of people.

Fisher recently gave an interview to the Federalist's James Silberman where he spoke about his run for Governor and about his position on abortion, federalism, and the power of the Supreme Court.

Listen as Fisher explains what it means to be an "abortion abolitionist" as opposed to just another pro-life candidate.

I'd just like to see people be honest.







# THE TOP 5 REASONS KIDS SHOULD GO TO CAMP

Summer camp can be one of the most rewarding, unforgettable experiences in a child's life. Camp provides children with a community of caring mentors who provide experiential education that leads to self-respect and appreciation for life. All of the outcomes—friendships, overcoming challenges, staying healthy and building character—prepare them for bigger, brighter lives down the road. In addition to great friendships and enduring memories, many important life skills are learned at camp. Here are five reasons kids should go to camp:



and staff in a safe environment. Campers can risk finding out what works and what doesn't, while discovering new facets of themselves. The camp environment provides peer support that allows children to quickly overcome their need for constant parental dependency.

The main goal of any well-run camp program is making sure children have the time of their lives. Summer camp is a much needed break from the academic year where creativity, adventure, thrills, smiles and plain old good times are the priority.

-----  
*Carson Sofro is founder and director at HSBCAMPS and HSBCARES, a nonprofit dedicated to providing basketball and educational opportunities for underprivileged youth around the world.*

**1. To try new things.** Camp pushes children out of their comfort zone and exposes them to new activities and experiences that they may not be familiar with. Campers get the opportunity to try out different things and discover new hobbies or passions. By exploring various types of activities, children have a greater chance of finding something that they excel at or that makes them happy.

**2. To develop social skills.** Camp teaches children to communicate, to work together as part of a team and to be a leader. Leadership is developed by asking campers to fulfill responsibilities that may not be expected of them elsewhere, while sharing resources and

attention helps foster teamwork and the desire to participate.

**3. To face challenges and learn the value of hard work.** Because they feel safe at camp, youngsters are comfortable taking healthy risks, setting personal goals and realizing their dreams. At camp, children learn the importance of working hard to accomplish what they want and to never give up, all in a low-stress setting.

**4. To build character.** On top of making new friends, campers also develop an appreciation for the qualities required to cultivate and

strengthen these relationships. Camp provides children with the core values of a strong, moral individual by teaching them about ethics, honesty, caring, respect and responsibility. Parents frequently report that after camp, their children are more kind, understand the importance of giving, are more equipped to stand up for what they know is right, and are willing to be more responsible.

**5. To foster independence.** At camp, children learn the responsibility of making their own decisions with the safety net of insightful counselors

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# 10 REASONS TO STILL DO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Wayne Stocks

In churches across the nation, this year's Vacation Bible School is quickly becoming a memory. There are many people out there who think that VBS is an outdated program whose time has come and gone. Fresh off of the excitement and exhaustion that is the controlled chaos that is VBS, here is my list of the top ten reasons to still do VBS at your church:

1. Kids love it. If you're doing it right, VBS is just plain fun, and the kids love it. Fun is, of course, not the end all and be all of children's ministry, but it is a big selling point. When kids are having fun, they are more apt to be paying attention and learning, and they are more likely to invite their friends.

2. It's still a great outreach event. Again, when something is fun, kids are likely to invite their friends. In my small group of six kids alone, we had

one little girl that brought two different friends during the week. At least one of those kids never goes to church.

3. It is an opportunity to share the gospel of Christ. I talked to another little boy who lives near the church and comes to VBS every year. It is his only exposure to church and the only time each year when he gets to hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. It gives the kids in your church a chance to spend some time together. In addition to reaching out to the community, VBS let's your regular church kids spend some time together and continue to build those relationships.

5. It gives adults a chance to serve and see how much fun and how rewarding working with kids can be. Many people who won't sign up for a six month or year long commitment will commit to one week. What a great opportunity VBS presents for finding new volunteers for your min-

istry. I found two people to ask within the first couple of nights. I don't know if they will plan out, but I would never have met them if it hadn't been for VBS.

6. Parents get a chance to hear the gospel. If you organize your VBS in such a manner that at least one night involves parents, it gives you an opportunity to share the gospel with them. It can be at a closing ceremony, or something planned during the week. During our VBS (we used Gospel Light's SonQuest Rainforest), we had a zoo night where the local zoo brought in rainforest animals. We asked parents to stay with their kids, and they all heard the gospel presented by our lead pastor.

7. You can't buy that kind of excitement in your weekend program. There is just something special about an action-packed week of VBS that just builds to a certain level of excitement. That is the king of excitement we

should feel about God and about his Good News every day, and VBS week helps to remind us of that.

8. You get to build relationships with kids. When else during the year do you get to spend every night of the week with the same kids? That kind of proximity and consistency is hard to come by in children's ministry, and isn't something you should give up.

9. You get to build relationships with adults. In addition to relationships with kids, you get to serve with other people from your church that you might not have a chance to meet otherwise. It is a great time to initiate lasting friendships.



10. It's just plain fun. No matter what else you say about VBS, it's just plain fun for both kids and adults. There is no other week during the year that I find so exhausting and so fun all at the same time, and I wouldn't skip it for the world.

## Great reasons to attend a summer arts camp

Most art museum enthusiasts know that visual art experiences are valuable to a child's growth and achievement, but do we really know why? Over the years, many studies have quantified the benefits of fine art experiences on a child's development.

While we appreciate the scholarly research, we also like to go straight to the source for our information. For our Top Ten Reasons to Attend a summer art camp list below, we culled fascinating facts from recent studies, but also asked for input from the TRUE experts—kids and parents!

10. Art is motivating! Kids in art classes can actively engage in their experience, taking risks, and developing sustained attention and perseverance.

9. Art makes you smart! Studies have shown that kids who participate in art experiences tend to score higher in language arts and mathematics exams.

8. Think about it! Kids who learn to look closely at art, using reasoning skills to infer what they see, are able to transfer those essential reasoning skills to other fields, including science.

7. Art is good for civilization. Making art leads to self-confidence and self-con-

trol, collaboration, empathy for others, and care for your fellow man.

6. I can do it! Learning new things can be challenging, and kids who are challenged to try new things develop a strong sense of accomplishment.

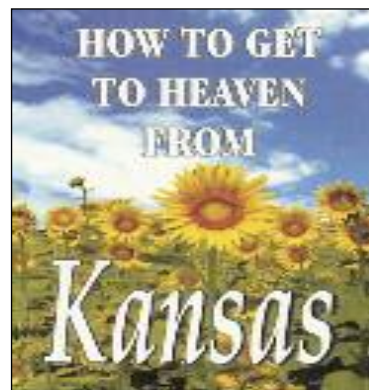
5. Art is messy! Welcome the creative disaster areas that arise when paint, clay, tape, glue, and glitter are truly activated. Why have the mess at home?

4. Drawing is awesome. As one kid-experts said, "If you draw something really awesome like a dragon, you can imagine it's real!"

3. Freedom! Another kid-expert tells us "the best thing about art camp is that there's not an exact certain way you have to do the project. You can adjust it to how you want it." Individuality is encouraged in the arts, and kids love finding their own approaches and solutions.

2. Art is for everyone. There's no right or wrong way to create art; art is noncompetitive, and we can all find a connection between ourselves and the art we see or make.

1. You're student is hanging with camp counselors who love all forms of art, are enthusiastic, and love to share and



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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July 2-3 and 6	Christmas in July Gymnastics Camp ages 4-8
July 9-13	Gymnastics Camp ages 5-10
July 16-20	Gymnastics Camp ages 5-10
July 23-27	Princess/Superhero Camp #2 ages 3-6
July 30-August 3	Gymnastics Camp ages 5-10

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## VBS & SUMMER CAMPS

**SHIPWRECKED VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – Jun. 4-8, 9am-noon, First Presbyterian Church, 817 SW Harrison. 233-9601

**DAY CAMP** – June 25 - 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church 4746 S.W. 21st for children entering 1st - 7th grades. Cost: \$60 per child. Bring sack lunch daily; no refrigeration. Information and registration 785-272-2620 or [camps@trinitypresbyterian.net](mailto:camps@trinitypresbyterian.net).

**SPECIAL NEEDS SUMMER CAMP** - June 29 - July 1, Prairie Star Ranch in Williamsburg. For families who have a child with special needs. Contact Tom Racunas: 913-647-3054 or [tracunas@archkck.org](mailto:tracunas@archkck.org).

**CAGE GYMNASTICS CAMP** – various dates in June and July. 785-266-4151. [Cagegymnastics.com](http://Cagegymnastics.com)

**KANSAS BALLET ACADEMY SUMMER DANCE CAMP**. 785-383-7918, or [KansasBallet.com](http://KansasBallet.com)

**YMCA SUMMER CAMP** - The YMCA offers several varieties of summer camps. Call 785-435-8651 or [TerryJ@ymcatopeka.org](mailto:TerryJ@ymcatopeka.org)



## Ambassador Brownback: World faces a 'critical moment' for religious minorities

"It is more dangerous now than any time in history to be a person of faith," said Ambassador Sam Brownback at an event marking the second anniversary of U.S. recognition that the Islamic State committed genocide against religious minorities, including Christians, in Syria and Iraq.

Brownback, who was sworn-in as ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom in February, said that religious freedom should be advanced in U.S. national security policy, assistance programs, and economic strategies.

"I would like to see religious freedom be for this administration what climate change was for the last," said Brownback at the March 23 event hosted by the Heritage Foundation.

"ISIS' Genocide of Christians: The Past, Present and Future of Christians in the Middle East" brought together human rights experts, academics, and religious freedom advocates to examine how best to address the threats posed to



religious minorities by extremist groups such as the Islamic State.

The U.S. House of Representatives voted unanimously "that the atrocities perpetrated by ISIL against religious and ethnic minorities in Iraq and Syria include war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide" in March 2016. Shortly after, Secretary of State John Kerry named Yazidis, Christians, and Shia Muslims as victims of genocide in the

region.

While the panel discussions focused on Christians in the Middle East, Brownback also spoke of threats to religious liberty throughout the world. He highlighted the plight of the Rohingya Muslims in Burma, Tibetan Buddhists and Uyghur Muslims in China, and Catholic leaders in Venezuela, who came under fire from President Nicolas Maduro for speaking out about the country's current crisis.

Brownback called for alliances between the political left and right in working towards greater religious freedom abroad urging, "We are at a critical moment for the future of religious minorities globally."

He also asked for prayers for the persecuted and for those involved in religious freedom causes.

"By God's grace, life always triumphs over death, freedom overcomes oppression, and faith extinguishes fear. This is the source of our hope and our confidence in the future," said Brownback.

## Nationally Recognized Summer STEM Program Coming to Topeka Lutheran School

Camp Invention, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment camp program, is coming to Topeka Lutheran School the week of June 18 - June 22, 2018.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF), in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in Grades K-6 to find their "inner inventor" by learning the process of innovation. Using hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning; builds resourcefulness and problem-solving skills; and encourages entrepreneurship — in a fun and engaging environment.

Each year, the program features a new curriculum inspired by some of our

nation's most brilliant inventors — the NIHF Inductees. This year's Fast Forward curriculum features several video challenges from these Inductees encouraging children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness. These hands-on activities include:

\* Optibot™: Campers will launch into the future with their own Optibot — a small self-driving robot that senses changes in light.

\* Robotic Pet Vet™: Throughout this module, campers nurse their robotic puppy back to health and design and build dog parks as they hammer out ideas for the best park attraction.

\* Mod My Mini Mansion™: Campers will dream up and design their very own futuristic smart home filled with gadgets, LEDs, technology and innovations!

\* Stick To It™: Campers will invent something new every day as they explore what it is like to be a physicist, engineer and entrepreneur. Young innovators will invent, make and craft solutions to real-world challenges by building their own prototypes and discovering that anything is possible.

At the end of the program, each camper will bring home two personalized robots! Learn more about this year's all-new curriculum. All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by certified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves more than 140,000 students every year and partners with nearly 1,700 schools and districts across the nation. For additional information or to find a camp near you, visit [campinvention.org](http://campinvention.org).

## Lutheran churches join forces to present a faith experience for children

First Lutheran Church, along with Trinity Lutheran and Our Savior Lutheran Church is hosting "Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity" July 9th to 13th, from 5:30

- 8:30 p.m.

A light meal will be served beforehand. Enrollment is for ages 1 year through 5th grade. Enrollment forms can be picked up at any of the

churches beginning in May. For more information contact Tracy Roesch at First Lutheran: 272-5302, [roeschtracy@gmail.com](mailto:roeschtracy@gmail.com) or [www.1stlutherantopeka.org](http://www.1stlutherantopeka.org)

## Most American millennials don't know Auschwitz was a death camp

Most American millennials don't know what Auschwitz was, a survey finds. That's Auschwitz — as in concentration camp. It's where nearly a million Jews (out of the six million killed) — as well as hundreds of thousands of Poles, Romanians, Soviet prisoners of war and others — were slaughtered at the World War II Nazi death camp. That should not be too difficult to learn but a survey commissioned by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany found that 66 percent of Americans ages 18 to 34 "cannot identify what Auschwitz was." Sadly, the figure for all adults was 41 percent.

The survey also found that 31 percent of all Americans and more than 4-in-10 millennials believe that 2 million Jews or fewer were killed during the Holocaust, substantially less than the historically accepted figure.

"I was astounded by those figures. This

just goes to show the world forgets easily, and we pay a dear price for not remembering," said Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder and dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, which works to promote awareness of European genocide.

The survey was released April 12 on Yom HaShoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day, which is observed by Israel and Jewish communities worldwide to commemorate the Nazi genocide.

The claims conference said the survey was conducted in late February and has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Hier, speaking from Jerusalem, said the survey shows the importance of historical memory and teaching.

"One mistake Americans and millennials make is treating the Holocaust as part of archaeology, (that) it disappeared from the planet, and it will never return," he

said. "I think it's very dangerous and it's an important wake-up call for Americans, for the GIs and families of the GIs who fought to eliminate Nazism. It shows the importance of institutions that keep the memory of the Holocaust alive."

In a statement, claims conference president Julius Berman urged increased efforts toward Holocaust awareness "so that the lessons learned inform the next generation."

"We are alarmed that today's generation lacks some of the basic knowledge about these atrocities," he said.

The group's executive vice president, Greg Schneider, said the "troubling gaps" underscore the importance of Holocaust education in schools.

"Imagine when there are no longer survivors here to tell their stories."

— by Mark A. Kellner / RNS

JUST A MINUTE

with the  
**COUNTRY PARSON**

Howdy, my friends. The other day, I saw a picture of two boys sitting in a small wagon that is tied behind a horse with a long rope. The boys were in the wagon and one of the boys had a sling shot pointed at the hip of the horse. Any way you look at that situation, that's motivation! What causes you to get up in the morning? Work? Family situations? Maybe you have a plan or a dream. In any case, it's called motivation. Not all of that is helpful motivation however. In

the picture with the two boys, we see the sure outcome when pebble from the slingshot makes impact on the horse. Maybe you need to reconsider the motivational techniques of your life. It is probable that the ending of your picture may end up in a big crash if you don't. I can honestly say that there is a better way to get your life motivated! Ask God.

*Be Encouraged,*  
Scott Perkins  
The Country Parson

## Have you ever run into these people?

Yesterday I was having "one of those days." I was "busy" and also regretting an error I made in one of my staff roles. For the last twenty months, my assignment has been to manage all communications. When I make a mistake, it is public and often many people see it. I also learned a friend was in the hospital and didn't know what we'd find when we visited him.



Jesus knew just what I needed! FLR's Focus on the Family show featured Ken Davis and I couldn't stop laughing while listening. I believe that Ken "speaks truth in love" and highlights the joy that followers of Jesus too often miss—myself included. He uses a clean, self-deprecating approach, rather than putting others down. One of my favorite lines of Ken's is...

"I am so tired of people walking around claiming to be children of God with faces that look like they swallowed a profusely sweating toad. Have you ever run into these people? They say...I've been a Christian for 27 years and it's been great. Well send a missionary to your face—your face has not yet received the good news! Be filled with joy."

Months ago, I wrote an article titled, "If you're happy—inform your face." If you see that my face doesn't indicate joy and needs to be informed of joy, would you help me? Please tell me to "send a missionary to my face" and remind me our team's verse is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." We share that on outreach and we trust that. That includes wearing a smile. Please remember, we are children of a King!

*Mark DeGross*  
Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries

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# 3 Kitchen and Bath Trends for 2018

(Family Features) When it's time for a home remodel, specifically of a bathroom or kitchen, many homeowners turn to trendy looks as inspiration. Color, texture and material variance, like using different types of tile, lead the way in this year's kitchen and bath trends.



To help amplify the look and appeal of your space, consider these tips from the experts at the National Association of the Remodeling Industry:

### Try Different Shades

White is classic, crisp and always

in style, while gray also provides a traditional look. Many designers pair white or gray cabinets, tile and wall color with a pop of color to add interest without overwhelming the

space. There are many ways to introduce color, such as a bright island or items that are easily switched out like window treatments and artwork.

Combining different shades of white, gray and other neutral colors like beige is an effective way to create a warm and inviting space. One important note to consider when mixing these hues is that they need to be in the same color family. When incorporating white and gray, go for colors that have the same base – either yellow or blue. Mixing a yellow-gray with a blue-white can result in discord that may not “feel” right. A qualified remodeler who has experience in design can provide expert advice and guide the decision-making process to help avoid costly mistakes.

Another popular treatment in kitchens and bathrooms is to use different types of tile and surface stone. Incorporating tile of different shapes and texture such as quartz, marble or granite can energize even the smallest space.



### Consider Various Tile Types

Scale provides another way to create interest. To achieve a mosaic feel, look for 1-by-1-foot tiles prepped on larger 12-by-12-foot sheets. Sometimes these sheets include a pre-defined pattern that can help simplify installation.

Pick Alternate Patterns

Tile options are available in many varieties, so it can be difficult to know where to start. Subway tile, a classic standby, can be invigorated by arranging the rectangular 3-by-6-inch shapes in patterns like herringbone or basket weave. This versatile tile can

be used in both traditional kitchens and bathrooms as well as transitional or more contemporary spaces.

Many manufacturers now include textured tile, featuring patterns that carry the look of wood grain; tiles are also available in three-dimen-

sional textures adding movement and interest with easy care. For example, using a variety of gray hues can create a relaxing and warm environment.

Find more trendy tips for home design at NARI.org.

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## May is Magnificent at Jackson's

Annette's Tip: We would appreciate your vote for Best of Topeka

The extended cold weather has delayed plant development by nearly 3 weeks this year. That means there is still time to plant your cool season crops such as cabbage, cauliflower & broccoli and brussels sprouts. You can still plant (or re-plant) seed potatoes, onions, garlic and shallots as well as radishes, beets and lettuce seed. Now is the time to apply the second step of your Fertlome lawn care program, Fertlome Weed-Out Plus Fertilizer. We also have the Weed-Out product without fertilizer if you don't wish to fertilize again this spring. If you missed applying your Crabgrass preventer, Fertlome now has Weed-Out ProTurf fertilizer and Crabgrass preventer, which will kill crabgrass even after it has germinated. With pine trees now beginning new growth (candles) it is time to protect your Scots and Austrian pines from needle blight. Fertlome Broad Spectrum Fungicide should be applied now together with Spreader Sticker to protect your trees from turning brown this summer.

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**OPEN EVERYDAY:**  
Monday - Saturday  
6am - 9pm  
Sunday 7am - 9pm

## Restaurant adds Pizza to Bagels, Sandwiches & Espresso

Pizagel's is the name of the restaurant – an amalgamation of two of the main items on their bill of fare: pizza and bagels. But, Pizagel's Pizza & Bakery is about so much more.



You see, Pizagel's opens at 6:00 AM every day except Sunday, when they open at 7:00 AM, to start your day off with a tasty breakfast. Besides various flavors of bagels and delicious cream cheeses, you can get an egg and cheese croissant or English muffin with your choice of meats and veggies.

There are also fresh pastries, breads, muffins and new cresnuds with a large variety of toppings to go along with

them. Owner Jim Burgardt says, "Our baked goods are made fresh from scratch every day." Because everything is baked fresh each day it would be a good idea to call Pizagel's a day or two ahead of time if you need a large order.

Pizagel's is also open every day until 9:00 PM so you can get a delightful lunch or dinner. They serve all sorts of sandwiches made with their fresh baked breads, croissants and bagels. Add a bowl of soup and smoothie or espresso drink and you have a great meal.

Since it is in the name you would expect Pizagel's to offer a great selection

of Pizza's – and you will not be disappointed. Pizagel's offers pizza by the slice for lunch, personal sized mini-pizzas and small to extra-large pies in many different combinations, such as; Supreme, Meat-Lovers, Taco, Chicken Alfredo, Buffalo Chicken, Philly Cheese Steak and Southwestern to name a few. Pair one of these pies with a cold beer or glass of wine for a delicious dining experience.

The bottom line is that everything you eat at Pizagel's Pizza & Bakery is fresh made daily with the best ingredients at a locally owned, family restaurant. Stop by 2830 SW Fairlawn Road, order online at [www.pizagels.com](http://www.pizagels.com) or call them at (785) 273-7070 and see for yourself what Pizagel's is all about.

## Make the Most of the Summer at CAGE Gymnastics

The management team at CAGE Gymnastics is there because they love the sport of gymnastics, love the athletes and are thrilled to pass on their knowledge and passion to the next generation of future coaches and athletes. CAGE is now offering a variety of Summer Camps for ages 3 to 10 years old, for all skill levels.

CAGE Gymnastics offers programs designed to promote age-appropriate skill development in a fun and safe environment. Your child will be able to build an athletic foundation for all sports through the strength, flexibility, and coordination that only the challenge of gymnastics can offer. As your child progresses, CAGE seeks to develop such principles as goal setting, time management, sportsmanship, dedication and discipline – all of which are important life-skills taught in each and every one of their programs. All of these aspects of

learning contribute to a positive self-image and personal success.

From beginners to advanced students, the friendly staff will help you find the class or activity to meet you and your children's goals.

CAGE Gymnastics preschool classes and lesson plans were designed with the developmental milestones of your preschooler in mind. All of their preschool gymnastics classes are taught in their "tots" room with some introduction into the main gym which will allow your child to feel more secure and to better maintain focus. Your child will participate in age-appropriate activities designed to enhance coordination, strength, flexibility, hand-eye coordination and exploration while learning gymnastics on specially-designed equipment just their size.

Once your child enters Kindergarten, they will be part of CAGE Gymnastics'



recreational program. All of their carefully thought-out classes are designed to foster your child's love of physical fitness and gymnastics in a fun, challenging environment. Emphasis is placed on body awareness, speed, agility, flexibility and strength. The athletes will train on all four gymnastics apparatuses every week & be evaluated on their progress 4 times per year as they move up through our program.

If you are looking for a way to get your child to engage with others in a fun, physically active environment, then CAGE Gymnastics is the answer for you. Call them now at 785-266-4151.

**For Breakfast and Lunch it's...**



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The Area's Most Complete Guide to the Family-Friendly Events You Want to See!

# the events calendar

**FREE LISTINGS! E-mail your events to: [Voice@cox.net](mailto:Voice@cox.net); mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at [metrovoicenews.com](http://metrovoicenews.com)**  
Get your event in **Highlighted in Blue** in print, our online calendar and promoted in social media for only \$29!

## CONCERTS

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

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

**KANSAS PRAIRIE PICKERS** - Fourth Sun. ea. Month, 1pm, Auburn Commu-nity Center. Foot-stomping, hand-clapping tunes. Concessions available

**FREE DYARSAT FAMILY CHRISTIAN CONCERT** - Apr. 28, 6pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1275 SW Boswell. Westminster will be hosting The Dysart Family who write, sing and play their own original Christian music. They travel throughout the USA, particularly the Midwest, hailing from Missouri. (937) 371-9039. E-mail [jayneruiz@msn.com](mailto:jayneruiz@msn.com) [www.dysartfamilymusic.com](http://www.dysartfamilymusic.com)

**CAPITAL CITY CHORUS ANNUAL SHOW** - May 5, Topeka West High School. This will be the Capital City Men's Barbershop Chorus' 72nd annual show. Special guest quartet: Fleet Street. For tickets: 273-9514 or 286-0618

**BOBBY BOWEN FAMILY BAND CONCERT** - May 27, 6pm, Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene. Country Gospel Bobby Bowen Family Band in Free concert! (785) 234-1111. [www.BobbyBowen.com](http://www.BobbyBowen.com) [FamilyOfGodChurch@hotmail.com](mailto:FamilyOfGodChurch@hotmail.com)

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

**SENIOR FIT & FUN PROGRAM** - every Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:30pm, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) 785-286-0601 or [office@rhccctoepka.org](mailto:office@rhccctoepka.org)

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

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

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

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

**FIRST WEDNESDAY WESLEY CAFE** - First Wed., 6:15pm, Susanna Wesley UMC, 7433 SW 29th. A worship service will follow at 7:00. 785-478-3697 or [www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up.html](http://www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up.html)

**AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS HYMN FESTIVAL** -

Apr. 29, 3pm, Grace Episcopal Cathedral, 701 SW 8th.

**FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET** - May 5, 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM, Shawnee Heights United Methodist Church, 6020 S.E. 44th

**ELEGANT CLUTTER UPSCALE SALE** - May 5, 9am - 2pm, Elmont United Methodist Church, 6635 N.W. Church Lane.

**CHOCOLATE FAIR AND GARAGE SALE** - May 5, 10-2pm, Oakland United Methodist Church, 801 NE Chester Ave. 235-1010

**CHRIST THE KING SPRING FLING PARTY AND AUCTION** - May 5, 5:30-11pm, Christ the King, 25th & Wanamaker. Silent auction, live auction, music, dancing, and dinner.

**TOPEKA CHURCHES SINGING CONVENTION** - May 6, 3:30pm, New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church.

**MEXICAN DINNER** - May 9, 4-7pm, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 1821 SW 37th St. Adults \$8, children 10 and under \$5. Entertainment by Mark Camacho from 5:30-6:30. For info: 266-7077 or [deuser813@att.net](mailto:deuser813@att.net)

**SING, PLEDGE, AND PRAY** - May 20, 10:15-8pm, Grace Community Church, 310 E 8th St, Overbrook. Biker Sunday begins at 10:15am. Lunch at noon. Movie screening of "Sing Pledge & Pray" at 1pm. Bikers will leave for Junction City's "Run for the Wall" at 2:30. Tickets \$15 to benefit Christian Motorcycle Assn.'s Run for the Son. For info: [mlmadill@gmail.com](mailto:mlmadill@gmail.com)

**SHIPWRECKED VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - Jun. 4-8, 9am-noon, First Presbyterian Church, 817 SW Harrison. 233-9601

**DAY CAMP** - June 25 - 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church 4746 S.W. 21st for children entering 1st - 7th grades. Cost: \$60 per child. Bring sack lunch daily; no refrigeration. Information and registration 785-272-2620 or [camps@trinitypresbyterian.net](mailto:camps@trinitypresbyterian.net).

**SPECIAL NEEDS SUMMER CAMP** - June 29 - July 1, Prairie Star Ranch in Williamsburg. For families who have a child with special needs. Contact Tom Racunas: 913-647-3054 or [tracunas@archkck.org](mailto:tracunas@archkck.org).

## SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

**MEDICARE MONDAYS** - First Mon. of ea. month, 1-3pm, Topeka/Sh. Co. Public Library (Menninger Rm 206), 1515 SW 10th. Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging and Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas offers Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or [nhonl@tsopl.org](mailto:nhonl@tsopl.org)

**MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS** - May 8 & 22, 2pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for

Medicare and those considering making a change. Seminar will be held at the Heart Center at 929 SW Mulvane. For info or to sign up: [centuryinsuranceagen-cycks.com](mailto:centuryinsuranceagen-cycks.com) or 270-4593 or [info@century-health.com](mailto:info@century-health.com). Snacks & beverages provided

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

**SHEPHERDS CENTER PICKLEBALL GROUP** - plays Mon. & Wed. Mon. at Countryside UMC, 32nd & Burlingame, from 3-5. Park on the NORTH side & use the furthest WEST door. Follow the hallway to gym. On Wed. at First Baptist, 30th & MacVicar, from 1-3. Park on the WEST side. Gym is right inside the doors.

**SENIOR STRETCHING EXERCISES** - each Mon., Wed., Fri.; 9:30-10:15am, Seaman Community Church, 2036 NW Taylor St. Enter on the east side of Fellowship Hall. No charge. 785-354-8777 or 785-213-6016

**SAFE STREETS COALITION MEETING** - First Wed. of the month, 11:45am-1pm, Great Overland Station. For info: 266-4606 or [jwilson@safeststreets.org](mailto:jwilson@safeststreets.org)

**LIBRARY'S LEARN & PLAY BUS** - Every Tuesday 1-3pm, Auburn Community Center.

**EAST TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** - Tues. 3-7pm, Topeka Housing Authority, 2010 SE California.

**SENIORS NUTRITIONAL LUNCH** - Weekdays, except holidays, at noon at Auburn Civic Center, 1020 N. Washington Street. Minimal cost per person. Reservations/cancellations required 24 hours in advance by calling Meals on Wheels of Jefferson & Shawnee Co. at 295-3980. Each meal includes 1% milk & sugar-free items for diabetics. 215-0064.

**SHAWNEE SWINGERS SQUARE DANCE LESSONS** - Wednesday's, 7pm, Croco Hall, 6115 SE Hwy 40, Tecumseh. Starting Sept. 20. Call 785-817-3071.

**COUNTRY AND BALLROOM DANCING** - Thursdays 6-9pm, Croco Hall. Info: Edwina 379-9538 or 478-4760.

**SHEPHERDS CENTER LINE DANCING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 2-4 at First UMC, 6th & Topeka. Park on the WEST side & use the WEST door. Immediately inside, turn left & walk the ramp to the library, then left to elevator. Push [B] for fellowship hall.

**SHEPHERDS CENTER HHHS WALKING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 9:30-11 at HHHS, 21st & Belle. Entrance for walkers is on WEST side. To walk a shelter dog call Kelsey: 233-7325.

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

**SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION BOOTH** - Every Sat., 11am - 2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker. Some Sat. adoption booths are held at PetSmart, 2020 SW Westport Dr. Updates at [savingdeathrowdogs.com](http://savingdeathrowdogs.com)

**SLIDERDAYS** - 12-1pm, Jayhawk Theatre, 720 SW Jackson. Join us every third Saturday for Line Dancing!! Cost: Free-will donation!! 50% of your donation will be applied to the renovation of the Jayhawk Theatre.

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

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

**TOPEKA FOLK DANCERS CLASSES** - Sundays, 2-4pm, 2637 SE 41st St. Dances from 20 countries. No partners or experience necessary. No fee. 215-0968.

**HEALTHY STEPS MONTHLY MEETUP** - Mar. 6 - Dec. 4, West Ridge Mall. Mall walking; log each time you walk - at the kiosk near the lower level, northwest mall entrance. Each visit gives you another entry into monthly prize drawings. Monthly Meetups 9-10am, First Tuesday of every month - special speakers, free blood pressure checks and prize drawings. Mall Walking hours: Mon-Sat 7am. - 9pm; Sun 11am - 6pm

**MAY CYCLING EVENTS** - Various cycle rides are offered by Kansas Cyclist. For details: [www.kansascyclist.com/](http://www.kansascyclist.com/)

**MOTHER'S SPECIAL GIFTS EVENT** - Apr. 28, 9-3pm, Topeka Lutheran School, 701 SW Roosevelt St. Fundraiser for an 8 year old coping with Autism. 41 booths to shop.

**CELEBRITY PANCAKE FEED** - Apr. 28, 7am-12 noon, Combat Air Museum, 7016 SE Forbes Avenue. (785) 862-3303. Price: \$6. Join the local civic, political and other local Shawnee County celebrities who will be flipping and serving pancakes all morning, for all the pancakes you can eat, with sausages, orange or coffee and good music. A "fly-in" market will be run during the pancake feed and local musicians will entertain.

**WORK DAY FOR THE HEART OF AMERICA MEMORIAL WALL FOR THE UNBORN** - Apr. 28, 9-11am, 1216 SE

Republican. Bring rakes, step ladder, trimmers. Rain day will be May 1, 2-4 pm

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** - May 3, Capitol Event at Noon in the Capitol Rotunda in Topeka, For info: Dave DePue 785-249-7604, or [dave.depue@gmail.com](mailto:dave.depue@gmail.com)

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** - May 3, 6:30-8pm, The Encounter Church (El Encuentro), 2054 SE California Ave., Topeka. A citywide multicultural and multilingual event highlighting diversity and unity in the Body of Christ. For info: David Epps, 785-221-2788; [worship.warrior@hotmail.com](mailto:worship.warrior@hotmail.com). [TransformTopeka.org](http://TransformTopeka.org)

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** - May 3, 7-8pm, House of Prayer, 328 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS. House of Prayer open for informal prayer 12-6pm, followed by approximately an hour of organized prayer and worship led by local pastors and worship leaders.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** - May 3, 12-1:30pm, Franklin County Courthouse Lawn, 315 S Main, Ottawa, KS. The Ottawa Ministerial Alliance will be leading the community in prayer over the National Day of Prayer topics. Concert of Prayer: 7-8:30pm, Cornerstone Church, 621 N. Poplar, Ottawa, KS. Singing and praying together over the National Day of Prayer topics. For info: Bequi Hicks: 785-418-5652; [prayinbequi@yahoo.com](mailto:prayinbequi@yahoo.com)

**HY-VEE SIMPLE FIX** - May 3, 5-7pm. Register by Apr. 29. For only \$115 and one hour of your time, you can have SEVEN meals ready to serve your family any night of the week. Save time & money because there's no shopping & no cleaning! Each meal serves 4. Choose 5 meals for \$85, 6 meals for \$100, or 7 meals for \$115. 785-272-1763 or [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com)

**CHRIST THE KING GOLF TOURNAMENT** - May 4, 12pm. Four person scramble \$300 per team. Fee includes cart rental, prize holes, lunch, etc. For info: [ctkspringfling@gmail.com](mailto:ctkspringfling@gmail.com)

**WASHBURN TECH CAR SHOW** - May 4, 10am, Washburn Tech, 5724 Huntoon St.

■ CALENDAR CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

TOPEKA LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRESENTS

# AN INCREDIBLE NIGHT

OPEN HOUSE & FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

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**FRIDAY, MAY 11 • 701 SW ROOSEVELT ST.**

ALL FAMILIES FROM THE COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME TO COME SEE OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS' WORK AND WATCH A MOVIE UNDER THE STARS.

7:00pm - Open House & Scavenger Hunt

7:30pm - Concessions & Seating

7:45pm - Movie Begins

## BOBBY BOWEN FAMILY BAND

May 26th, 7:00PM,  
The Jewel Theatre, 707 E 4th, Tonganoxie, KS

May 27th, 11:00AM,  
Hannon Freewill Baptist Church, 1051 St Hwy V, Liberal, MO

May 27th, 6:00PM,  
Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene St., Topeka, KS

[BobbyBowen.com](http://BobbyBowen.com)

The 72nd Annual  
**CAPITAL CITY CHORUS SHOW**

**FEATURING:**

- Capital City Barbershop Chorus
- Capital Sound
- Young at Heart
- DoubleStuf
- Pizzazz

A Cappella Singing in the Barbershop Style

Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 3:00 pm

All tickets are \$10 in advance & \$15 at the door

For Information/Tickets:  
Call (785) 273-9514 or (785) 286-0619

Presented By  
Topeka Area Alliance

Topeka West High School  
2001 SW Fairlawn • Topeka, KS 66606



**CAPITAL CITY FAMILY & FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL**  
AT THE CAPITOL

JUN. 2 FAMILY & FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

area cycling starts and finishes at the Kansas Judicial center parking lot directly south of the State Capitol at 10th and Harrison in Topeka. Four route options: 20, 42, 72 and a 35 mile gravel ride. kvbc.org

**4TH ANNUAL BREAKTHROUGH HOUSE GOLF TOURNAMENT** - May 7, 12:30pm. Four-Person Scramble. Cypress Ridge. 213-8506 www.breakthroughhouse.org didio4@cox.net

**"IMPROVING ACCESS ON THE KAW RIVER"** - May 9, 12-1pm, Great Overland Station. All About the Kaw: A Speakers Series featuring Aaron Deters. FREE to members. Non-members pay regular adm. Bring your own lunch if you wish. Bottled water available

**HY-VEE SIMPLE FIX** - May 10, 5-7pm. Register by May 6. For only \$115 and one hour of your time, you can have SEVEN meals ready to serve your family any night of the week. Save time & money because there's no shopping & no cleaning! Each meal serves 4. Choose 5 meals for \$85, 6 meals for \$100, or 7 meals for \$115. 785-272-1763 or Eventbrite.com

**YOUTH FOR CHRIST GOLF CLASSIC** - May 11, 11:30 reg.; 12:30 shotgun start, Lake Shawnee. Several sponsorship levels available. Lots of prizes! 232-8296 or topekayfc.org

**OPEN HOUSE & FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT** - May 11, 7pm, Topeka Lutheran School, 701 SW Roosevelt. All community families are invited to come see our students' work and watch a movie under the stars. Scavenger hunt, concessions, movie at 7:45pm. Free.

**COUNTRY AND FOOD TRUCKS** - May 12, 3:30-9:30pm. 9th and Kansas. 4pm: Bryton Stoll; 5:30pm: True North; 6:30pm: Travis Marvin; 8pm: Waterloo Revival. Pet Friendly. For info: visittopeka.com/country

**TWO BLOCK CHALK WALK** - May 12, 10:30am-8:30pm, 800-900 block of N. Kansas Ave. NOTO Arts District is getting out the sidewalk chalk and attempting to cover each square of concrete sidewalk within two blocks with art. There will be a box of chalk in front of each building for community use. Special guest artists will be featured. 408-8996

**GIRLS ON THE RUN 5K** - May 12, 9am, YWCA, 225 SW 12th St. A non-competitive event. 785-233-1750

**2ND CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE FORUM WITH MEET & GREET** - May 10, 6pm, Topeka Public Library, 1515 SW 10th, Marvin Auditorium, Room 101. Free. Hear and mingle with the Republican candidates for

the Second Congressional Dist.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PLANNING MEETING**, May 17, 6:30pm, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th. Registration is open to any neighborhood in Shawnee County to plan for the Aug. 11 NNO event. Call 266.4606 or email jwilson@safeststreets.org for info.

**EVANS UNITED SHOWS CARNIVAL** - May 18-27. Kansas Expocentre. For info: 235-1986.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY ART THERAPIST, CHARLES ANDERSON** - May 19, 2-4pm, Creations of Hope Gallery, 909 N. Kansas Ave. Also featuring poetry by Greg Dawson.

**5K HOME RUN 2018** - May 28, 8:30am, South Park in Lawrence. 785-764-9506 x4. www.active.com/lawrence-ks/running/distance-running-races/5k-home-run-2018. \$20-\$30. Supports Family Promise of Lawrence, an organization serving families experiencing homelessness.

**RELAY FOR LIFE** - Jun. 1, 6pm, Hummer Sports Complex. Celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, & take action for lifesaving change. The opening ceremony, which includes a Survivors Lap, will begin at 7pm. Food vendors, silent auction and basket raffle, kids carnival. Start a fundraising team, join an existing team, make a donation or volunteer. shawneecountyrfli@gmail.com www.relayforlife.org/topekaks

**16TH ANNUAL RUD ROGERS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNNEY** - Jun. 1. Dub's Dread Golf Course, KC, KS. 1pm shotgun. \$500 per team includes lunch, range balls, refreshments on almost every hole, and dinner. Lots of fun and prizes! Benefitting KU Cancer Center. For info: 913-461-8527 or gagakc@sbcglobal.net

**MOVIE ON THE CAPITOL LAWN: "JAWS"** - Jun. 1, 8:45pm. Kansas State Capitol lawn. Free. Bring lawn chairs or blankets.

**CAPITAL CITY FAMILY AND FOOD TRUCKS FESTIVAL** - Jun. 2, 11-5pm. Kansas Statehouse, 10th & Jackson. Vendors, entertainment. Dogs on leashes welcome.

**GERMANFEST** - June 2, 5-11pm & June 3, 10-5, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 312 NE Freeman. German food, carnival, entertainment, auction, vendor booths & more. SacredHeartStJosephCatholic.org. 234-3338

**SACRED HEART-ST. JOSEPH 6TH ANNUAL BRAT TROT** - June 2, 8am, Sacred Heart parking lot, 312 NE

Freeman. Brat Trot 5K Run/Walk loops through 3.1 miles of Oakland and returns to Sacred Heart. \$25 registration at tinyurl.com/BratTrot2018; includes t-shirt & snacks.

**SUNFLOWER STATE GAMES** - July 13-29. www.sunflowergames.com or admin@sunflowergames.com

**MEETINGS & CLASSES**

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON** - May 10, 11:30-1, POWER Luncheon, Topeka Bible Church. Featured Speaker: Rev. Jim Congdon. • 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!

**SAVE THE DATE: May 10, 11:30-1, POWER Luncheon, Topeka Bible Church.** Featured Speaker: Rev. Jim Congdon.

**SAVE THE DATE: Jun. 14, 11:30-1, POWER Luncheon.** Featured Speaker: Barry Feaker.

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

**THE HEAT** - Free fitness classes; learn and build healthy social & eating habits. Held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4746 SW 21st St. Sun. - 4-5pm Yoga; Mon. - 12-12:45pm Zumba; 5:30-6:15pm Kickboxing; 6:15-7pm Pilates Fusion; Tue. - 12-12:45pm Yoga; 5:30-6:15pm Zumba; 6:15-7pm Cardio Interval; Wed. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Thu. - 12-12:45pm Pilates; 5:30-6:15pm Cardio Interval - Low intensity; 6:15-7:00pm Cardio Interval - Moderate intensity; Fri. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Sat. - 8-8:45am Kickboxing

**TOPEKA TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB** - 3rd Sun. of each month except May, Sep. & Dec., 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.

**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. 286-0467.

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

**TOPEKA MANKIND PROJECT** - Mondays, 6:30pm, 2112 SW Morningside Rd. Supports men in becoming their best selves, including physical, mental & emotional health & wellness. Open to any man. Brian Thomas:

brian.thomas01@gmail.com or 785-727-9439

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

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

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

**OUR LADY OF THE FAITHFUL** - Every 1st Tues., 6:30pm Mass followed by Dinner, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. A Catholic group for those in their 20-30s. For info: Michelle Ann 580-3071 or ourladyofthefaithful@gmail.com. Facebook: "OurladyoftheFaithful."

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

**MENNINGER BIBLE CLASSES** - Tuesdays 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. Call the YWCA at 233-1750 or Clara Gamache: 408-5433.

**FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES Aerie 4319**: First & Third Tue. 7pm; Auxiliary: Third & Fourth Tue. month 6pm, 2941 SE Fremont Street. The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an international non-profit organization uniting fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope. www.foe.com 785-266-7307

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

**DADDY'S GIRLS EMPOWERMENT MEETINGS - Do you want MORE...** Come Join us for our More Luncheons where Real Women get together: share, learn and grow to return to our homes, families workplace, churches & other places of influence restored and rejuvenated to pursue God's MORE...at Topeka Public Library, 12 noon, every 3rd Wednesday. Sponsored by Daddy's Girls Inc. Please to RSVP make lunch reservations: daddysgirlsincc@gmail.com or 785-969-0491

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

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

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

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

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

**TOPEKA PRAYER GROUP** - Every Wed., 6:30pm, 409 SW Buchanan St. Do you believe that God hears and answers prayers? Do you believe Jesus wants to lead His people by His Holy Spirit? Come join us in prayer as we seek His face for answers and direction. 785-845-1948; holmie2@sbcglobal.net

**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

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Sat., June 2, 5 - 11 pm • Sun., June 3, 10 am - 5 pm

A benefit for Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish, supporting Holy Family Catholic School and Hayden High

**Germanfest**

**Saturday, June 2**  
4 pm Mass - outdoors  
5 pm - German Food Line Opens  
Children's Inflatables & Mini-Train

**Sunday, June 3**  
10 am - German Food Line Opens  
Carnival, Games, Bingo  
2 pm - Oral Auction, Drawings

**Saturday & Sunday**  
Authentic German Food, Silent Auction, Basket Booth, Fancy Booth, County Store, Jewelry Booth, T-shirts & Souvenirs, Entertainment, Snack Bar, Bier Garden

**Chardon Polka Band** - Sat. 7-11 pm; Sun. 10:30 am - 1:30 pm

**Donations**  
Cash Drawing - \$10 donation/ticket + \$10,000 cash  
Wow Drawing - \$7 donation/ticket + Apple iPad + Apple Watch Series 3 + Bose Bluetooth Speaker + 65" Samsung 4K UHD TV + (2) \$200 Regal Movie Theater Gift Card  
Handmade Quilts - \$7 donation/ticket  
Three beautiful handmade quilts donated by St. Anthony's Guild  
Winners responsible for applicable taxes/fees

**Sat., JUNE 2, 8:00 am: 7th Annual BRAT TROT - 5K Run/Walk**  
\$30 registration includes t-shirt, snacks & bratwurst. Begin and end at Sacred Heart. Register at tinyurl.com/BratTrot2018

Sacred Heart Church, 312 NE Freeman, Topeka KS • 234-3338  
More info at SacredHeartStJosephCatholic.org

Rides from Satellite Parking at the North end of BNSF parking lot, Seward Ave & Chandler St to Sacred Heart Church grounds - Seward Ave & Freeman Ave. • Saturday 3-4 & 5-11 pm; & Sunday 3 am-5 pm



fellowship & complete projects. Call 379-5159.

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

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

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

**INTENTIONAL MOM** – 1st & 3rd Thurs., 9-11:30am, Topeka Bible Church Auditorium, 1135 SW College. For all moms, helping them to be intentional! 234-5545.

**WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL EDUCATION EVENTS** – Blue Moose Bar & Grill, 11:30 AM on the third Thu & Fri each month. Free, but RSVP required. On Thu Brian discusses family wealth strategies. On Fri. Amy discusses wealth strategies that apply to women. 785-271-2536 Jennifer.Ward@wellsfargoadvisors.com

**OPERATION BACKPACK** – 1st Thurs., 6pm, Lyman Learning Center, Lyman and N. Kansas Ave. Volunteers gather to assemble Weekend Snack Sacks for low-income students. Sponsored by Topeka North Outreach. For info: 286-1370.

**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. 233-5762 or tgstopeka.org.

**KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP** – 3rd Thu., 11:30am, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Christian financial professionals: financial planners, accountants, attorney's & insurance agents invited. For info: kingdomadvisors.org or Jim Hanna, james.c.hanna@ampf.com or 357-6278 x19.

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

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

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** – Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. Free blood pressure checks the last Friday of every month, and birthday celebrations the 4th Friday. For Info: 286-1370.

**A GOOD YARN CLUB** – 2nd & 4th Sat., 9-11am, Wanamaker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wanamaker. Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Anne, 272-9249 or kittens812@sbcglobal.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 or biblequizzing.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT** Groups: Building A, 200 SW Frazier Circle

Every Mon., 4-5pm: 12 Week Adult Group for Recent Loss 1st and 3rd Thu., 10:30am & 5:30pm—Ongoing Adult Group 1st and 3rd Thu., 5:30pm: Ongoing Young Adult Group (4-18 years of age)

For All Groups: Call for start dates and info packet. Group and individual grief support available upon request. For info: 785-232-2044 ext.341

**ABORTION RECOVERY SUPPORT** – Providing services for women & men who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome...we can help mend a broken heart! For info: Kay Lyn at KLCarlson20@cox.net.

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

**PURSUIT FOR SEXUAL PURITY** – Men struggling with pornography & sexual addiction. This bible study/accountability group uses the Pure Desire book by Ted Roberts. For info: 249-9509. All inquiries confidential.

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

**"HEALING HEARTS" support group/Bible study** – Sundays 6-8pm. For women whose husbands struggle with pornography addiction or have had affairs. Video & workbook will give you hope for your marriage & emotional healing. For info: Janet Mitchell, 633-4294.

**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.

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

**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS/BEREAVED PARENTS GROUP** – Meets 4th Mon. in Formation classroom at Most Pure Heart of Mary, 17th & Stone. Discussion starts 7pm; fellowship & refreshments 8:30. 272-4895

**GRIEF SUPPORT** – First Monday each month, 3:30-4:30pm, 400 SW Oakley. Call Donna Park for info: 783-7527 or valetopeka.org. Open to public. Free.

**GRIEF SUPPORT** – 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 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. For reservations or info: 785-271-6500.

**OVEREATERS / UNDEREATERS ANONYMOUS:**

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

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

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

For info: 357-8774; sunflowerintergroup.org.

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

**EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS:** a 12-step program for those suffering with emotional instability such as depression, anxiety, grief, etc. Meets every Tues. at Grace Episcopal Cathedral, Noon-1pm. For info: Sharon 785-633-7764

**PARENTS OF ESTRANGED ADULT CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP** – Third Tue. Ea. Month, 6:45-8:45pm, Topeka Public Library, Rm 202. Info: Jeff Landers - 224-5946

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

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

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

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

**PRISON OUTREACH MINISTRY** – Every Tue., 7-9pm, Topeka Women's Prison, 815 Rice Rd. Reaching out to those who can't come in, finding freedom behind bars, inspiring inmates to seek salvation during a difficult time. Providing support & guidance through the Holy Spirit to offer strength. Director: Don Garner, 286-0489 or faithfamilylifeministries@gmail.com.

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

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

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

**DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS** – (For updates check www.divorcecare.org) locations and times:

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

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

WED. – 6:30pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. No Cost. 286-1204, www.northland.cc

**GRIEFSHARE** – Every Thur. 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Susanna Wesley UMC, 7433 SW 29th St., Mar 1 thru May 24. A Christ-centered program for those who have lost a loved one may be struggling and have questions on how to go forward. The class includes a video, sharing of stories, and a workbook (free). Call Shari Combs at 785-478-3697 for more information.

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

**PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** – 1st Thurs., 7pm, Saint Francis Hospital 2nd floor conf. room of the cancer unit. 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. crtopekaks.org.

**TOPEKA NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP** – For families & friends who are affected by someone else's narcotic addiction. Every Sat., noon-1:15 pm, rm. A, 1st Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar, enter on S. side, door A. 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.

**FREE LISTINGS!**  
E-mail your events to:  
**Voice@cox.net;**  
mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at metrovoicenews.com  
Get your event Highlighted in Blue in print, on our online calendar and promoted in social media: only \$29!

## LIBERTY

continued from page 1

against Bohannon's promotion to brigadier general, effectively ending his career."

But Col. Bohannon's religious liberty was restored after an appeal to the Air Force Review Boards Agency. Secretary Wilson announced in April that the Agency ruled in favor of the religious liberty of the colonel saying:

The director [of the Agency] concluded

that Colonel Bohannon had the right to exercise his sincerely held religious beliefs and did not unlawfully discriminate when he declined to sign the certificate of appreciation for the same sex spouse of an Airman in his command. (Emphasis added.)

This is seen as a tremendous victory for religious liberty in President Donald Trump's administration and in the armed services, and that Christians who work together and stand for righteousness can make a difference.

**All About the Kaw: A Speakers Series**  
May 9, 12pm-1pm  
"Improving Access on the Kaw River", Aaron Deeters

Aaron is a Regional Wildlife Supervisor in Topeka for the KS Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism. Aaron also coordinates the Kansas Water Trail program through KDWP to improve access, conservation and recreational opportunities on the Kaw. This speakers series complements our current exhibit *The Kaw: A Prairie River Shapes a State* and is FREE to members. Non-members pay regular admission. Bottled water available but no food—bring your own lunch! Visit [www.greatoverlandstation.com](http://www.greatoverlandstation.com) for more information!

Great Overland Station 785-232-5533 • 701 N. Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS 66608

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**C5Alive POWER Luncheons are held 2nd Thur. each mo.**

**Apr. 12, 11:30-1 – "POWER Luncheon"**  
at Topeka Bible Church, 1101 SW Mulvane  
Featured Speaker: Jim Congdon

Public is welcome! RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org) or 785-640-6399

Save the Dates!  
• June 14, 11:30-1, Power luncheon. Speaker: Barry Feaker  
• July 12, 11:30-1, Power luncheon. Details to be announced

For info: [www.C5Alive.org](http://www.C5Alive.org) or [Facebook.com/C5Alive](https://www.facebook.com/C5Alive)

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# entertainment

## FamilyLife's 'Like Arrows' film to spotlight Christ-centered parenting

### movienews

by Michael Foust

Alex Kendrick's latest film, *'Like Arrows,'* was daunting to make, he says.

The filmmaker has directed or produced five films during his career, but none of them had the unique challenges that his latest one, *Like Arrows*, brought.

The film will show in Kansas City metro theaters May 1 and 3. It follows the life of a married couple for 50 years as they discover the ups and downs of parenting. Moviegoers will see the couple getting engaged, then having their first child, then having more children, and then eventually seeing that first child off to college. Along the way, the couple discovers the errors in their parenting strategy and opts to have a Christ-centered home. The film ends with their 50th wedding anniversary.

It is being released by FamilyLife, with Alex and his brother Stephen serving as executive producers alongside FamilyLife's Dennis Rainey, Barbara Rainey and Bob Lepine. Kevin Peeples is the director. The film will hit theaters as FamilyLife's new parenting initiative, the "Art of Parenting," is releasing.

"We had never done anything that covers that kind of time span before," Alex Kendrick, the director behind *War Room* and *Courageous*, said.

The film is part of a new FamilyLife parenting initiative, the "Art of Parenting," which will include free online videos.

Metro Voice recently spoke with Kendrick. Following is a transcript, edited for clarity:

**Question:** Tell us about the title, *Like Arrows*. The film also references arrows throughout the story.

**Kendrick:** In the book of Proverbs, it talks about how children are like arrows in a man's quiver. And blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. A craftsman crafting an arrow wants it to be sharp, wants it to be straight, wants it to fly where he's aiming. An arrow goes much further than a warrior can go. And an



arrow can accomplish more at a distance than a warrior can. And in many ways,



that's what we're doing as parents. We're shooting our arrows into a future generation that we may not see.

**Question:** The theme of redemption and grace is prominent in the film, as we see several characters recover from mistakes — the parents get pregnant out of wedlock, the father later regrets being too focused on his work, and so forth. Why was the theme of grace and redemption so important?

**Kendrick:** There are no perfect parents and neither are there perfect children and

families in this culture. And this young couple in the film that goes into parenting defaults to what the world teaches you about parenting. And they begin going down that path and using the world's principles for their first child or two. And they begin to realize that — wow — this is not bearing the fruit we had hoped. And when they begin applying biblical principles, you see a marked difference. But it doesn't mean that there's no hope for your first children. And so they learn in the film, even though their first child turns out to be a prodigal, that, you still love, you still pray, you still hope.

**Question:** This film spans 50 years in the lives of the parents. Was that challenging or even exciting to tackle as a filmmaker?

**Kendrick:** It was a daunting task. We had never done anything that covers that kind of time span before. So we talked back and forth about: Do you need the same actors for every section or can we can we recast certain sections? Of course, you have to recast kids as they grow, but we were able to use the same couple up until the 50th anniversary, and of course by then you'd have to have a different actor and actress that would be appropriate for that age. It's easy to follow and it turned out to be a very interesting and enjoyable journey of filmmaking for us.

— By Michael Foust. Michael has covered the entertainment industry for more than a decade and writes for the *Metro Voice*.

## Can a horror movie have a Christian theme? The Quiet Place will surprise

So you've grown up but still love the thrill of the old-fashioned horror film. It's almost impossible to find one these days that doesn't tear at your personal values. Horror films are like superhero movies. They're intended to get your blood pumping and heart racing. But where do you find a film that does that without all the junk of sex, bad language, on-screen violence and other stuff that seem to ruin most movies?

The *Quiet Place* uses very few words that are spoken. Here, dad and daughter have an argument in sign language.

Today many people associate Christian values in the cinema with films directed toward Christian audiences like *I Can Only Imagine*, *God's Not Dead 3*, and *Paul, Apostle of Christ*. However, many of the most profound and Christian themes in the theater are found in movies that are not targeted toward Christians at all. And you

can include in that group the powerful new horror thriller *A Quiet Place*.

In a life that's purposely kept silent—a world perpetually underscored by nothing more than soft huffs of breeze through the tree boughs and the whispers of bare feet on sand—the slightest blunder can sound cacophonous. In this quiet place, a fumbled board game piece rings out like a gunshot. A toppled kerosene lamp roars like a detonation.

Anything above and beyond that, though, brings instant death.

This new era of enforced silence commenced a few months ago, when the ever-hearing creatures first appeared. They're nearly indestructible in their armored, insectile form. And they're fast as a whip crack in their vicious attacks.

The best of the few human survivors can discern is that the alien things are totally



blind. But they can hear more keenly than anything else known to man. A dropped object or raised voice will bring them screaming through the corn fields and forests from a mile away.

However, Lee Abbot, his wife Evelyn, and their two kids, Regan and Marcus, have managed. True, they've endured terrible losses. But they've learned to make their lives as totally and utterly quiet as is feasibly

■ Please see *QUIET PLACE* page 17

## MOVIES, STREAMING, BOOKS, MUSIC, INTERVIEWS & MORE!



### streaming

## Exhilarating 'River Monsters' tops new streaming entries

By Michael Foust

What do you get when you combine Bear Grylls and Bill Dance, and then toss in a little history, a ton of mystery and even some cultural education?

The answer: Animal Planet's *River Monsters*, which stars extreme angler Jeremy Wade as he investigates mysterious attacks on people and animals -- and then finds the water predator that was the culprit.

Sometimes he catches a fish, while other times he lures in something stranger, like an eel or a squid. But whatever he pulls up from the deep, the show is always edge-of-your-seat fascinating.

It began airing in 2008 but I didn't discover it until recent weeks — thanks to my 10-year-old-son Graham -- when Amazon Prime added the first nine seasons to its catalogue. Ever since, he and I have been on a *River Monsters* binge.

The 62-year-old Wade is the perfect fit for the show, with a skill level and flare for boldness and bravery that few could muster. The British native also speaks about a dozen languages, which benefits him when he's in the jungles of Africa or the countryside of Peru.

For Christian families, there are only three caveats: 1) the show can be intense, 2) he occasionally swears — mostly d—n, and 3) he often discusses local religions.

With my 10-year-old son, I've used the show as a stepping stone to discuss cultures, worldviews and false gods — with extreme fishing as a backdrop.

Also streaming:

### Amazon Prime

*Eight Men Out* (May 1, PG) — It's the story of the 1919 "Black Sox"

scandal that forever changed baseball. But beware: Despite its PG rating, this 1988 film has some rough language. A PG-13 rating would have been more appropriate.

*Rocky through Rocky V* (May 1, various ratings) — I'm not a boxing fan, but the U.S.-vs.-Soviet Union storyline in *Rocky IV* still gives me chills. Of course, these films may not be appropriate for the kids. *Rocky V* is rated PG-13. The others are PG.

*Dino Dana, Season 2* (May 22, TV-G) — In this animated children's series, a young, budding paleontologist interacts with real (CGI) dinosaurs in her backyard. I enjoyed watching season one with my children, but you might want to screen an episode first to ensure it's appropriate.

### Netflix

*A Little Help with Carol Burnett* (May 4, rating unknown) — Children dish out advice to help celebrities solve their life problems. Comedy icon Carol Burnett hosts it. I haven't watched a screener, but the trailer looks promising.

*Coco* (May 29, PG) — A little Mexican boy who loves music is transported into the Land of the Dead, where he meets his deceased relatives in hopes that they will bless his musical career. This Disney/Pixar flick is artistically beautiful, although the worldview may concern some parents. (My youngest kids haven't watched it yet.)

*Chonda Pierce: Enough* (currently streaming, TV-PG) — We get a glimpse of the Christian comedian on and off the stage following the death of her husband.

### Hulu

*Eight Men Out* (May 1, PG) — See above.

*Rocky through Rocky V* (May 1, various ratings) — See above.

Michael Foust is the husband of an amazing wife named Julie and the father of four young children.

*Michael Foust is a movie critic, a husband, and the father of four small children.*





## What's missing from the new Avengers movie? Hope

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR brings together the most powerful heroes across the universe to battle environmentalist dictator who believes overpopulation is destroying the universe and so wants to wipe out half of the universe. AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR is an exciting, humorous spectacle and has a strong moral, redemptive worldview with some heartfelt moments, but it sometimes gets lost in its own scale and includes some negative elements, including occultism, human sacrifice, intense violence, and some foul language.

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR reunites earth's mightiest heroes from the previous 18 movies in the Marvel Cinematic Universe to fight their greatest foe yet, Thanos, an intergalactic member of a superhuman race from the planet Titan, and the last of his race. The movie opens with Thanos on Thor's spaceship which holds the last of the Asgardians. Thanos and his goons who worship him have killed almost everyone on the ship and have easily beat Thor and Hulk so Thanos could obtain the tesseract, which contains one of the five infinity stones he wants. Before Hulk is killed, Heimdall transports Hulk back to earth through the Bifrost Bridge, but Thor is left for dead in space.

Thanos tells his powerful soldiers to track down the other infinity stones, one of which is held by Doctor Strange, and another which is on Vision's head and works as his power source that gives him life. Hulk/Bruce Banner lands back in New York City and warns Strange and Tony Stark that Thanos is coming, but only moments later, Thanos's men show up in New York and start battling Doctor Strange and Tony. Peter Parker/Spiderman shows up just in time for the fight.

Meanwhile in space, Thor is rescued by the Guardians of the Galaxy (Peter Quill, Rocket Raccoon, Groot, Drax, Gamora, and Mantis), and Thor informs them that Thanos is collecting all the infinity stones. Gamora explains that if Thanos, her step-father, gets all the infinity stones, he could alter all of reality in a snap of a finger. It's revealed that Thanos believes the universe needs balance, and because of "over pop-

ulation", half of the universe should be killed to restore nature. If he gets the stones, he'll be unstoppable.

Meanwhile, the infinity stone on Vision is in danger, so Steve Rogers/Captain America, Falcon, Scarlet Witch, and Black Widow take Vision to Wakanda for safety, where King T'Challa/Black Panther will help battle any army that comes to get the stone.

As Thanos gets closer to obtaining all the stones, he becomes more powerful, and much harder to stop. Will the Avengers be able to stop Thanos before half of the universe is obliterated?

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR is impressive in that it ties together dozens of superheroes spanning eighteen movies released over the past decade into a cohesive plot. Within the first five-minutes, the villain is established, the stakes are determined, and the jeopardy is high. The excitement that follows is nearly non-stop. Where the movie succeeds the most is the despicable, and very intimidating villain Thanos, who is actually the driving force of the movie. Josh Brolin brings a great gravitas to Thanos, whose enormous figure and deep voice demands attention. Smartly, the movie is full of humor, even in some of the most intense battle sequences, adding much needed levity.

### Dominant Worldview Elements:

Very strong moral worldview overall with strong Christian, biblical, redemptive, patriotic elements, with numerous scenes of self-sacrifice, fighting a tyrannical environmentalist dictator, promotes friendship, love and contains positive nods toward marriage and starting a family, there's a strong pro-human message with a villain who is a genocidal environmentalist, characters are told to "meet their creator" before being murdered, but this is mitigated by false religious references to "the universe" being a judge, some occult elements surrounding several characters, and the villain is worshiped as a god, the beginning of the universe is described in a way that aligns with "big bang" theory, and some Anti-Christian statements are made surrounding his characters.

## Tragic loss began "I Can Only Imagine" actor's journey into film

To the surprise of many, the sleeper hit of the Spring has been "I Can Only Imagine." The film opened at #3 across the nation and has since grossed over \$70 million—beating many high budget Hollywood Films.

But its lead actor might not have ever been a part if not for the loss of his brother serving in Afghanistan..

In 2008, John Michael Finley – a student at the prestigious performing arts school at Roosevelt University – came home to Lebanon, Mo. after his spring semester only to hear bad news.

His father told him that Roosevelt University was simply too expensive, and he'd need to finish his college education elsewhere. This news didn't necessarily bode well for his aspirations as an actor, yet Finley took it in stride.

But only a few weeks later, he and his family were shaken by tragedy. On May 31, 2008, Finley's 21-year-old brother, Army Specialist James M. Finley, was killed in Jalalabad City, Afghanistan, in the line of duty.

Now, 10 years after his brother's death, Finley's acting career looks bright. The 29-year-old has already performed on Broadway. And several weeks ago, he made his professional acting debut on film as the lead role in "I Can Only Imagine." Also starring such notables as Dennis Quaid ("Frequency," "The Rookie," "The Parent Trap") and Priscilla Shirer ("War Room"), this film is based on the life story of Mercy Me lead singer Bart Millard, who wrote the award-winning Christian song, "I Can Only Imagine," after the death of his father to



John Michael Finley owes his career to his fallen soldier brother.

cancer.

Finley's own mother, Betsy, died last February as the movie's filming was coming to a close, and producers gave his family permission to debut Finley's performance of the song, "I Can Only Imagine," during her funeral service.

His father, Wayne, who serves as pastor of administration at Heritage Baptist Church here, said church members and Lebanon residents are eager for the movie's release date.

"It's exciting," Wayne said. "Sometimes I have to pinch myself to believe that's him. It's kind of surreal that he's playing that role." But Wayne also believes that God's hand, working amid tragedy, opened the way for his son to perform in this movie.

"In May 2008," he recalled, "I told John when he came home from Roosevelt that

there was just no way that we could keep him there. ... But then, two weeks later, James was killed in Afghanistan. He didn't have a wife or kids. So we received his life insurance benefits. So, basically, that enabled us to keep John at Roosevelt to finish his degree there in theater."

Had tragedy not hit his family, Finley may never have finished at Roosevelt, performed on Broadway, or auditioned for "I Can Only Imagine," Wayne said.

It's a debt of gratitude that Finley himself has noted on theater playbills: "For my brother, SPC James Matthew Finley. Without him, I would not be here."

To learn more about the movie, "I Can Only Imagine," visit [www.icanonlyimagine.com](http://www.icanonlyimagine.com).

—From the MBC Pathway, Ben Hawkins

## QUIET PLACE

continued from page 16

possible. They've insulated everything they use. They've poured out long trails of footstep-muffling sand. They speak only in sign language. They send long-distance messages through strings of lightbulbs and small fires on the highest points possible.

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The only problem is that Evelyn is now very pregnant. And babies ... aren't exactly the quiet types.

I know what you're thinking: a post-apocalyptic film in which people are hunted by killer aliens? What's Christian about that?

First, this is a unique A-lister Hollywood film that according to Focus on the Family, while not appropriate for small children,

contains no bad language (none whatsoever), no sexual content (that's right—none!) and the violence happens off-screen.

What it does show is family values. As I said, the film opens with a family in a drugstore. It turns out that they are retrieving supplies for a sick child. And from that point on we follow this family through the film.

Not since the 2009 film *The Road* has post-apocalyptic desolation been illuminated by such deep and powerful family bonds. For starters, there is clearly a deep love shared between the father (John Krasinski) and the mother (Emily Blunt). And that love comes fully into view with an undeniable chemistry when they slow dance (with headphones) to Neil Young's "Harvest Moon." (Incidentally, the actors Krasinski and Blunt are married in real life.)

Then there is the bonding of the father and son on a trip to gather food as well as

the welcome of a new baby under the most unthinkable of circumstances. But above all, there is a powerful moment of searing reconciliation between the father and his beloved daughter. Later, as the daughter views her father's legacy of love laid out on a workbench, she comes to realize the depth of his love for her.

To sum up, *A Quiet Place* offers one of the most powerful and challenging depictions of familial love and commitment in recent cinema.

Here's the bottom line. *A Quiet Place* is a horror thriller. Folks who enjoy that genre of film will likely enjoy it. Those who do not (like my daughter!) should probably avoid it. But the fact remains that it is a powerful tale which is consistent with Christian valuation of the family and which offers a powerful analogy of atonement in the loving father who acts as a Christ-figure in laying down his life for his children.

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# 50+ Lifestyles A Guide to Enjoying Life in the Best Years

## healthyliving

### Walk with Purpose! Walking for Weight Loss, Fitness, Cardio



Walking is one of the easiest and least expensive ways to stay physically fit. It can be done indoors (many malls and public buildings offer walking routes) or outdoors. Before starting a walking program, check with your doctor if you have a chronic medical condition, or if you have had a recent injury. You can still walk as exercise, just follow your doctor's advice.

Invest in good shoes. Since these are the only expense and equipment you'll need, pay attention to the fit and quality of your shoes. Shoes should fit when you try them on without any areas of pinching or pressure that could cause blisters or calluses. Wear the type of socks you'll wear when walking.

Always warm up by walking at a slow or normal walking pace for five minutes before picking up the tempo of your workout.

Pay attention to your heart rate and breathing. Walk at a pace that challenges you and elevates your heart rate, but don't overdo. You should be able to talk and carry on a conversation while you are exercising; if you can't, you may be working too hard.

Use good walking posture. Swing your arms. Keep your head up, back straight, and abdomen flat. Point your toes straight ahead. Take long strides, but don't strain.

Consider getting a pedometer or tracker like a Fitbit to track the distance you've walked or the number of steps you've taken. Watching your improvement over time is a terrific source of motivation.

Be sure to carry water if you're walking long distances or are exercising in hot weather. In very hot weather you may need fitness drinks or other sources of electrolytes as well. Be mindful of the sugar and calorie content of some of these drinks.

In the heat of summer, don't forget to wear a hat with a brim and to apply sunscreen to exposed areas.

Vary your route if you're getting bored. To increase your fitness, add a route with some hills or changes in terrain, or alternate routes on different days of the week. Keep your workout interesting.

Use the buddy system. Many people walk with a buddy or in groups for support and motivation

## The Importance of the Home Health Aide

When children and families are away and seniors are alone, home health care agencies provide valuable services, such as helping seniors stay safe and assisting them to complete their daily tasks and activities of daily living.

I first understood the importance of the services that aides provide when I worked as a Social Service Coordinator at a subsidized senior living facility. Though residents living in this building envisioned being able to live independently, many were not thriving. Emerging health problems, social isolation, and mental health issues, among other factors, greatly limited many of the residents I saw on a daily basis.

After interacting with the staff of a home health care agency I was impressed with their professionalism and dedication. The organization's staff reached out to the residents through health related seminars and decided who needed help immediately. They were able to start services with doctor's approval within 48 hours.

I noticed a change in residents who started receiving the help of a home health aide. Residents, who previously had been physically unable, now came down to the main floor with their aides and participated in activities like arts and crafts, supervised walks and Bingo games. The interaction between home health aides and



clients is a vital one for seniors. Aides interact with their clients, they listen and truly care and make sure that their clients have what they need.

Seniors share their time with the aides, often confiding in them about serious matters. Seniors often start to see home health aides as an important part of their family. A senior who I worked with told me how important it was to her, to have an aide:

"She is so good to me. She makes sure I have everything I need. She helps me with my work, but we also talk and joke. She is like a daughter to me, and I don't know what I would do without her. Thank you for helping me to get her."

This was just one of the heartfelt expressions of gratitude I received. Each thank you described the importance of the home health aide in the client's life and how grateful the client was to have such a service.

Seniors with health problems are not the only ones who are eligible to receive a home health aide. Anyone who is incapacitated due to an illness or health problem is eligible to receive help in the home. The services are almost always covered by the senior's primary insurance.

A health issue should never limit someone from living their life fully, and thanks to the availability of home health aides and caregivers, no one has to.

## What Kind of Senior Living is Right for Me?



When you begin to look for senior living, you'll soon find out that there are all sorts of options to choose from. These options can be confusing and overwhelming, so

here they are in plain and simple terms! Independent Living (IL) communities are geared for seniors who do not need any assistance in their daily living. These communi-

ties offer cottages and/or apartments for rental. Activities that are offered will vary between communities, communities may offer a great deal, while others will offer some activities and others will offer no activities. As far as meals are concerned, some communities will offer a meal(s) while others will not. The amenities offered by the community will impact the price you pay.

Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRC) offer long-term contracts that guarantee lifelong shelter and access to specified health services. A staff of medical professionals provides different levels of care, from Independent Living to Assisted Living to Skilled Nursing care. A lump-sum entrance fee is

■ Continued on next page

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■ CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

usually paid upon admission and residents move in while they're independent and age in place. These communities offer many activities and amenities for the residents. The CCRC contract covers shelter, residential services (meals, activities, amenities) in addition to long-term nursing care without an increase in monthly payments.

Personal Care (PC) communities provide assistance with Activities of Daily Living (ADL) such as eating, toileting, transferring (walking), meals, bathing and continence. These communities usually provide an array of supervised activities for the resident. Unlike a CCRC, a large, up-front fee is not required. Monthly rental costs are based upon the size of the resident's accommodation and the level of care that is needed for the resident. Prior to admission, communities will perform an "assessment" of the potential resident to determine the level of care that is required. If the potential resident needs assistance with more ADL's, their cost will be higher and vice versa.

Assisted Living (AL) communities are similar to Personal Care communities in providing residents with assistance with Activities of Daily Living. In Pennsylvania, there are a few differences between Assisted Living and Personal Care Communities. An Assisted Living Residence room is akin to a studio apartment in that the resident will have a private living space with their own kitchen and bathroom.

Assisted Living Residences also offer services so that a resident may advance to a nursing home level of care should that become necessary. In Personal Care, if a person's health needs become too great, they may be transferred to a skilled nursing facility, since a Personal Care Home is prohibited from providing acute medical care.

Memory Care (MC) communities are designed specifically for people with moderate to severe dementia. They offer all the amenities of Assisted Living and Personal Care communities along with a secured living environment, which prohibits residents from wandering away. Oftentimes, an Assisted Living or Personal Care community will have a Memory Care community on site. There are also communities devoted exclusively to Memory Care.

## The Difference Between Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Doctors

BY ANNE-MARIE BOTEK

Doctors are in increasingly short supply these days, so it's not uncommon for patients to spend more time with physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) than their actual MD. This trend has sparked controversy among physicians and patients alike. While so-called "mid-level providers" like NPs and PAs are undoubtedly essential for filling gaps in the health-care system, there is some concern that these men and women are tasked with responsibilities that are beyond the scope of their training and expertise.

Angela Golden, DNP, immediate past president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, doesn't see this as an issue. "There is a healthcare provider shortage all over the United States," she points out. "Since 80 percent of nurse practitioners practice in primary care, we are an excellent source for healthcare."

While this may be true for general medical care, others are concerned that doctors delegate too many specialized tasks to mid-level providers. NPs and PAs are trained in using and interpreting a wide range of diagnostic tools to diagnose and treat acute, episodic and chronic conditions, therefore it can be difficult to ascertain where their expertise begins and ends.

### Understanding The Differences Between Healthcare Professionals

First, it's essential to understand what separates a mid-level provider from a full-blown physician. Just because a healthcare worker doesn't have "MD" or "DO" following their name doesn't mean they are not capable of offering quality care, according to Golden. NPs, for example, are typically required to



attend a four-year nursing program, obtain a doctoral or master's degree, and go through a national certification process. A great deal of real world experience is gathered throughout this process, and they also undergo periodic peer reviews and participate in continuing education courses.

PAs have similar requirements. Specific duties vary by care setting and state laws, however typically physician assistants complete at least a masters level education and over 2,000 clinical practice hours in advance of certification. A certifying exam is necessary within six years of completion of the PA degree. Only after completion of the certification exam is a PA eligible for state licensure and allowed to practice care.

As a result, NPs and PAs can execute a diverse array of medical care tasks. They can order and conduct diagnostic tests and lab work, perform in-office procedures, prescribe medications, and diagnose and treat health conditions like high blood pressure, injuries, infections and diabetes. Depending on the regulations of the state in which they're practicing, mid-level providers

either work under the direction of or in collaboration with a physician.

The fact that NPs and PAs spend more quality time with individual patients often facilitates candid communication. Thus, these providers can gain valuable insight into patients' specific care needs. "We have years of experience working with patients one on one and developing critical listening skills," says Margaret Dean, a geriatric NP and assistant professor of nursing with the Texas Tech School of Medicine. While their true strength lies in the realm of primary care, some NPs and PAs also pursue specialized training in areas such as gerontology and women's health.

However, there are definite differences between doctors and nurses. Kathryn Boling, MD, a primary care physician with Mercy Medical Center in

Lutherville, Maryland, started out as an NP before becoming a doctor. "Physicians are better trained," Boling admits, citing the extensive residency period that doctors are required to go through after their years of schooling and the fact that far more physicians undergo specialized training in a specific area of practice.

### Quality Care is Key

As healthcare providers look for creative ways to meet the needs of an aging population, patients and caregivers will need to use common sense when it comes to deciding whether a care provider is safe and effective—regardless of his or her title. Older adults in particular are prone to putting doctors on a pedestal, but such deference can be detrimental to their care if they blindly trust an MD or won't take direction from an NP.

"Patients are smart," says Boling. "They can usually tell if their provider—whether an NP or MD—is a good fit and cares about them. If they have an NP or PA that is attentive and takes good care of them, then they should trust that person."

In the end, the quality of care a patient receives determines whether a healthcare provider is a good match. If a patient's needs are too specialized or complex, any level of medical professional should be comfortable with asking for assistance or providing a referral to another provider who is more knowledgeable.

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# sports

## Tom Zobrist speaks on "Doing Sports in a Godly Way"



ROCKFORD, Ill. (WIFR) -- Pastor and author, Tom Zobrist, the father of world series Cubs player and former Kansas City Royal Ben Zobrist, spoke at the Northern Illinois Fellowship of Christian Athletes' annual banquet recently about training coaches and athletes in "Doing Sports in a Godly Way."

Zobrist says all five of his kids went through the FCA program, which helped teach them about leadership and doing sports God's way. The group's goal is to see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of these coaches and athletes. Zobrist says kids in the program make friendships and relationships with coaches that last a lifetime.

"I think it's very crucial for

young people. They need some positive influence on their lives and so much of what they get is so negative now. To have a place in school where they can go and hear about the gospel of Jesus Christ and how he died for their sins, it's just such a great program in the public schools. We're very blessed to have it," said Tom Zobrist, the guest speaker at the FCA banquet.

Zobrist has written a book *The Zobrist Family: Look What God Can Do*.

Ben Zobrist wrote the forward to the book, in addition to contributing the title. He had once signed an autograph "From the Backyard to the World Series, Look What God Can Do," and they thought that would be a good title for the book.



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# FROM THE CHEAP SEATS

By Rob Mooney

We all anticipated that the Kansas City Royals would take a step back this year. We all knew that the rebuilding process would begin in 2018. We all knew it was coming but I don't think any of us were prepared for the way the Royals stumbled out of the gate.

Just a few short years off of their 2015 World Series title, the wheels have fallen off the Royals bandwagon and they are painfully pulling through the muck! Gone are cornerstones Eric Hosmer and Lorenzo Cain, off to San Diego and Milwaukee respectively. Also gone is pitcher Jason Vargas who went to the New York Mets. The Royals were able to re-sign shortstop Alcides Escobar and third baseman Mike Moustakis, but the obvious holes are left by Cain and Hosmer, especially on the offensive side.

The Royals are 5-16 in their first 21 games. They rank last in runs scored, averaging just a little over 3 runs a game.

At 5.23, their team ERA is fourth worst in the majors. It's no secret why they have been struggling so far this year. When you can't score runs and you give up a lot of them, obviously, you'll lose a lot.

With all of that said, the starting rotation has been quite solid so far. There have been several games where the bullpen is unable to hold a lead or even keep them in a game. The lone bright spot in the bullpen is closer Kelvin Herrera. He currently has four saves and an ERA of 0.00 in eight appearances.

Hopefully, the Royals will be able to right the ship. Playing in the American League Central Division, they are far from out of it. They are currently only seven games out of first place. Is help on the way?



This past week both Salvador Perez and Alex Gordon returned from the disabled list and they immediately made their presence felt as they contributed to both runs scored in their first game back. But is that enough?

Sure, Gordon hasn't been himself for a couple of years at the plate and we're yet to see how Salvy's injury will affect him long term, but it sure won't hurt to have them in the lineup again.

Looking in the minor leagues, we'll find that several of the top prospects in the system are all in single A, so help from the minors won't be available for a couple of years at the earliest. Remember when the Royals had one of the top minor league systems in baseball? Well, they had to raid the cupboard during their World Series runs and now they're left wanting.

If the Royals can't turn it around within a month or so, look for them to be big sellers at the trade deadline as they will aspire to rebuild their farm system. That means that players like Jay Bruce, Lucas Duda, Escobar and even Moustakis will all be trade bait. Throw in some of their pitchers and they might be able to transform their system to one of the best in baseball.

## GreatLIFE manager is passionate about Junior Golf

Ronnie McHenry has had a passion for Junior Golf for a very long time. He first got involved at age six or seven. Later on, while pursuing golf at Washburn University, he worked with young golfers during the summers. And now, as the resident pro and manager at GreatLIFE Golf at Western Hills, he heads up the Junior Golf program for GreatLIFE in the greater Topeka area.

McHenry, a native Topekan, says he likes getting kids started off right in golf at a young age, which helps them learn it faster and get more enjoyment from a game they can play their entire lives.

McHenry and GreatLife Golf and Fitness have a vision for Junior Golf that includes perpetuating and growing Junior Golf and making it affordable, accessible and fun for all Junior Golfers. The program is a comprehensive, structured endeavor for Juniors ages 7-15. It includes personalized instruction, Junior tournaments, an Adult/Child Tournament, range ball passes and Miniature Golf. The company says the reasons to be involved are to build character, make friends, learn values, and get exercise while playing golf, including practicing and playing miniature golf.

The program was redesigned this year by McHenry and includes three week-long Junior Golf Camps, to be held in June and July at GreatLIFE facilities at Western Hills, Shawnee Country Club and Berkshire. Campers will receive a tee-shirt and a backpack, and will be served lunch each day. McHenry says campers will receive training in grip, swing, attitude,



Ronnie McHenry, resident pro and manager at GreatLIFE Golf at Western Hills, has had a passion for Junior golf since childhood.

posture, rules and etiquette, among other things.

At the end of the camps, participants will take part in an Adult/Child Tournament, which will include 9 holes of golf in addition to miniature golf.

McHenry has been at GreatLife at Western Hills since January first.

Previously, he was Golf Pro at Dodge City Country Club. He is available for golf lessons for adults and kids yearlong. For more information contact McHenry at GreatLIFE Golf at Western Hills by calling 785-478-4000 or email him at [Ronnie.McHenry@GreatLifeGolf.com](mailto:Ronnie.McHenry@GreatLifeGolf.com).





## "Best tournament of the year" benefits Pancreatic Cancer research

Spring is here, summer's near, and it's that time of year – time to gear up for the 16th Annual Rod Rogers Memorial Golf Tournament benefitting KU Cancer Center. The tourney will be held once again at Dub's Dread Golf Course, 12601 Hollingsworth Rd., Kansas City, Kansas, on Friday, June 1.

"We're excited to host this awesome tournament once again at Dub's Dread," said Marylyn Rogers Owens, tournament organizer. "We do this not only to honor Rod's memory, who lost his battle to pancreatic cancer in 2002, but more importantly to bring attention to this deadly disease and raise much needed funds to fight it. We hope to one day be able to offer a cure or at least diagnostic testing to give patients a fighting chance."

Rodney Max Rogers, a business man and lifetime resident of Wyandotte



"I said golf for Rod"

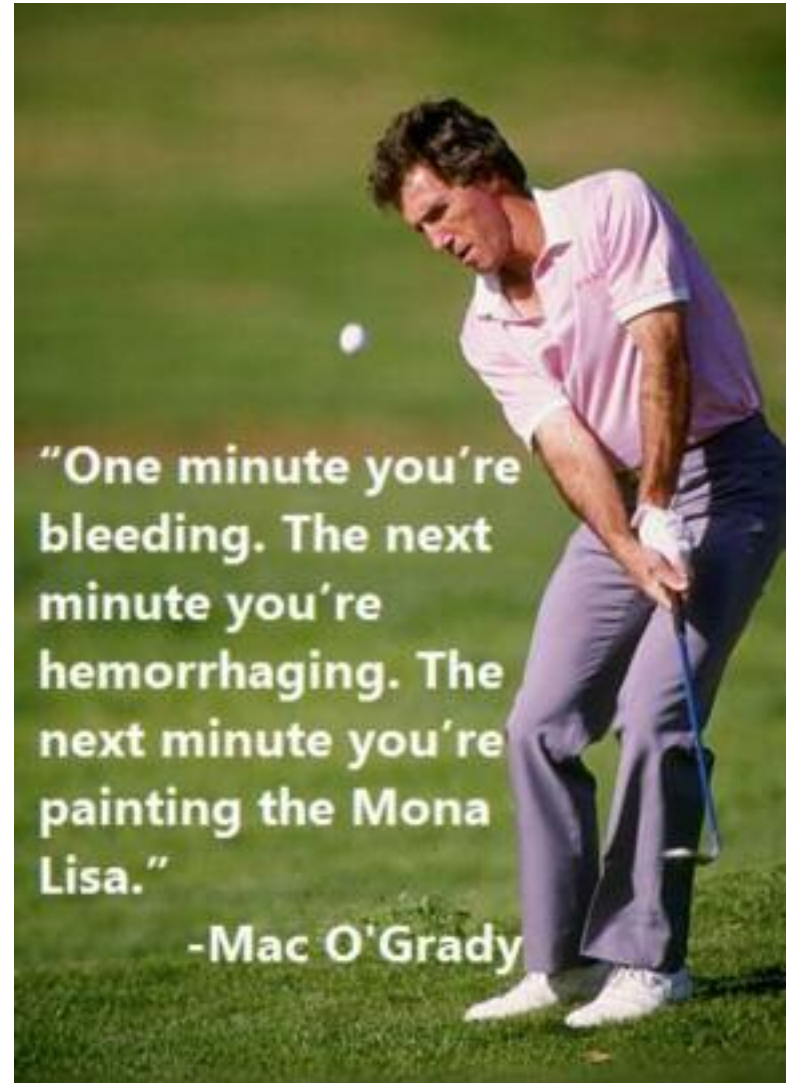
County, was diagnosed at age 62 with pancreatic cancer, the deadliest, most painful, untreatable form of cancer...and the least funded. He succumbed to it 7 months later, which is more time than

most people with this horrific disease get.

"We are honored once again to have some of the drs/researchers from KU Cancer Center participate and share the latest news of the progress they are making in their fight against pancreatic cancer," Owens said. "We would like to thank our sponsor, Midwest Distributors, Inc. for their continued support and KC Cause, a local non-profit fund raising organization for making this tournament possible."

The tournament continues to grow stronger, and has been labeled by many as the "Best Tournament of the Year," so it's best to get your reservations in early. Midwest Distributors is the sponsor for the tournament, which features plenty of refreshments on almost every hole, contests, prizes, a large silent auction and fun. Lunch will be served before the tourney on the patio, fresh off the grill, and dinner is served afterwards! "Grammy's" famous Frito Pies will once again be served at the turn. Plenty of range balls are available at the driving range prior to the tournament.

The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 1pm. Registration and lunch is 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. If you would like to be involved, or donate an item for the auction, contact Marylyn Rogers Owens at (913) 461-8527 or gagakc@sbcglobal.net. Registration for the tourney is at [www.rogersgolftournament.com](http://www.rogersgolftournament.com).



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**MAY 11, 2018**

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**SHOTGUN START: 12:30 P.M.**

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THE 16TH ANNUAL

## Rod Rogers MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Dub's Dread Golf Course  
 12601 Hollingsworth Rd.,  
 Kansas City, KS

*"Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated."*

– Arnold Palmer

**Fill out and mail in, or call 913-461-8527**

**The 16th Annual ROD ROGERS Memorial Golf Tournament**  
 Benefiting KU Cancer Center  
**FRIDAY, June 1, 2018**

**Registration & lunch: 10:30-12:30 • Driving Range Balls Provided**  
**Shotgun Start: 1pm • Dinner & Awards Banquet: 6-8pm**  
 Sponsored by Midwest Distributors, Inc. • Dinner: Tom Callahan

Team Registration	\$500.00	_____
Hole Sponsor Package (Includes 1 Team, Dinner for all and Signage)	\$1,000.00	_____
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<input type="checkbox"/> Check is enclosed in the amount of	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa	\$	_____
Name	_____	
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Signature	_____	

**Make checks payable to KC Cause and mail to:**  
 Marylyn Rogers Owens, 6921 Greeley Ave., KC, KS 66109





Wanamaker Road Baptist Church

# New Resident Church Guide



- 1. The Great I AM Church**  
Breaking Traditions  
Non-Denominational  
Pastor Cordell Fischer  
2523 SE Indiana  
(785) 861-0422  
www.greatIAMchurch.com
- 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.**  
Pastor Beau Bryant  
c/o Seaman Baptist Church  
2015 NW Buchanan, Topeka Ks 66608  
785-224-5419 • www.church4bikers.org  
Sun. School 9:30 am  
Sun. Service 10:45 am  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
- 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**  
1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka  
785-234-5545  
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies:  
9:30 & 11am  
www.discovertbc.com
- 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka  
286-1204  
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am  
www.northland.cc
- 5. INDIANA AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
"Grace has dispensed, because Grace has redeemed"  
3510 SE Indiana Ave., Topeka, Ks. 66605  
785-266-7788, www.Indianaavecofc.org  
Bible University - Sunday - 9:30 a.m.  
Classes for all ages.  
Morning Worship - Sunday - 10:45 a.m.  
Midweek Bible University - Wed. - 7pm

- 6. FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST**  
1912 SW Gage, Topeka, KS  
272-0443 www.fsbctopeka.org  
Sunday Services:  
8:30 AM Traditional Worship  
9:45 AM Bible study--all ages  
11 AM Contemporary Worship
- 7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
"Finding NEW LIFE in CHRIST"  
Sunday Worship 9:15 & 10:45am, 6pm  
~ Sunday School for all ages ~  
4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka  
785-862-0988  
www.topekabaptist.org
- 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
"Being and making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Gospel, to the glory of God"  
2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka  
(785) 272-9323 www.wrbcctopeka.com  
Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm
- 9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)  
Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117  
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor  
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am  
www.gccinoverbrook.com  
office@gccinoverbrook.com
- 10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH**  
300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606  
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis  
10 a.m. Sunday (Non-traditional Service)  
See "About Us" at our website  
www.kawriverkeruv.com  
Questions? kawriverlordshouse@att.net
- 11. COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
1819 SW 21st St., Topeka  
233-3537 www.CommunityChurchKS.com  
Sun. 9:30am - Sunday School for all ages  
Sun. 10:30am - Worship & Word, Children

- Wed. 6:30pm - Children, Youth, Adult  
~ Nursery care for all services ~
- 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH**  
Meeting at Buck Creek School House  
5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.  
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 9:00 a.m.  
Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,  
Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snavelly 760-3513
  - 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE**  
Serving Christ - Loving People  
3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248  
Dr. L.D. Holmes, Sr. Pastor  
www.wwnaz.org  
Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am  
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am  
Sunday School 10 am, all ages  
Sun. Evening Various Children's Programs  
6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service  
Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups  
Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University  
~ Nursery care at all services ~
  - 14. GRACE LIFE CONNECTION**  
*Living grace inside-out  
in an upside-down world*  
Saturdays @ 5:00 PM  
Papan's Landing Senior Center  
621 NW Paramore St. Topeka, KS  
Pastor Pete Whitebird
  - 15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST**  
801 NE Chester, Topeka, KS 66616  
235-1010 • ourmc@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  
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  - 16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH**  
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- 17. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933  
Sunday Worship 10:45am & 6:00pm  
AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
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Student Ministries & Kid City  
www.esbcks.org
- 18. CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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5973 SW 25th St.  
Topeka, KS 66614 • 273-0710  
Reconciliation: Sat 3-4pm  
Weekend Masses: Sat 4:30pm  
Sunday 7:30, 9, 11am, 6pm
- 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Independent Christ-Centered Bible Church  
2036 NW Taylor, Topeka, KS  
354-8777 • www.seamanchurch.com  
Adult Sunday School - Sun. 9:30am  
Sunday Worship: 10:30am  
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am  
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
- 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1937 NE Madison St,  
Topeka, KS 66616 • 785-506-4594  
Pastor Dale Stockburger  
Sunday Worship: 10 am and 6pm  
Junior Church for kids: Sun 10am  
Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm
- 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**  
Meets at 522 SW Polk  
785-220-5418  
Pastor Rey Rodriguez  
Sun. Worship 10 am  
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
- 22. FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH**  
1231 NW Eugene St.  
Topeka, KS 66608  
Pastor Roger Randel  
Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7pm  
234-1111 • FOGchurch.com
- 23. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH** 785-379-5642  
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:00 AM  
2930 SE Tecumseh Road  
Tecumseh, Kansas 66542  
www.highlandheightscc.com  
Jars of Clay Children's Ctr 785-379-9098

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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 i

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*All are welcome, casual dress ok!*

**North Topeka activities include Chalk Walk**

NOTO Arts District is getting out the sidewalk chalk and attempting to cover each square of concrete sidewalk within two blocks with art. The Chalk Walk will be held May 12 from 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the 800-900 blocks of N. Kansas Ave.

The aim is to cover both sides of the street with chalk art by the community, all the kids, big and small, young and young at heart. There will be a box of chalk in front of each building for community use. Special guest artists will be featured on designated areas.

The event is free and fun for the entire family. Families are encouraged to bring their favorite chalks and cameras.

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

North Topeka hosts First Friday like no other place in Topeka! Topeka Arts District has become an attraction to Art



Lovers and History Buffs alike with beautiful scenes of art and history. The restaurants, locally owned shops, art galleries and studios have become a favorite art walk destination.

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

Here are a few more scheduled events:

SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY ART THERAPIST, CHARLES ANDERSON - May 19, 2-4pm, Creations of Hope Gallery, 909 N. Kansas Ave. Also featuring poetry by Greg Dawson.

BOBBY BOWEN FAMILY BAND CONCERT - May 27, 6pm, Family of God Church, 1231 NW Eugene. Country Gospel Bobby Bowen Family Band in Free concert! (785) 234-1111. [www.BobbyBowen.com](http://www.BobbyBowen.com) [FamilyOfGodChurch@hotmail.com](mailto:FamilyOfGodChurch@hotmail.com)

ELEGANT CLUTTER UPSCALE SALE - May 5, 9am - 2pm. Elmont United Methodist Church, 6635 N.W. Church Lane.

CHOCOLATE FAIR AND GARAGE SALE - May 5, 10-2pm. Oakland United Methodist Church, 801 NE Chester Ave. 235-1010

"IMPROVING ACCESS ON THE KAW RIVER" - May 9, 12-1pm, Great Overland Station. All About the Kaw: A Speakers Series featuring Aaron Deters. FREE to members. Non-members pay regular adm. Bring your own lunch if you wish. Bottled water available

SENIOR FIT & FUN PROGRAM - every Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:30pm, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) 785286-060 or [office@rhctoepka.org](mailto:office@rhctoepka.org)

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