

Topeka/Lawrence EDITION

The Area's Most Complete Event Guide

Kansas BOOK FESTIVAL  
WITH ANNUAL  
Sept. 20 • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

THE GAMBLER AT COSMOS COURT Page 13

metr VOICE FREE!  
TAKE ONE!



CELEBRATING FAITH, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY IN NORTHEAST KANSAS

Now in our 20th year!

VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 1

September 2025

VISIT [www.facebook.com/metrovoicenews](https://www.facebook.com/metrovoicenews)  
US AT or at [www.metrovoicenews.com](http://www.metrovoicenews.com)

TO ADVERTISE, CONTRIBUTE, SUBSCRIBE OR RECEIVE BULK COPIES, CALL 785-235-3340 OR EMAIL [VOICE@COX.NET](mailto:VOICE@COX.NET)

## NEW RESIDENT churchguide

Lakeview Church of the Nazarene



See Inside  
Back Cover!

## Saving KS History Museum's Civil War Flags Is Costly



Behind several locked doors at the Kansas Museum of History is a trove of flags, some 75 in all, that were once carried by Union troops in the Civil War.

Most were donated to the state more than 100 years ago and put on display at the Statehouse.

But that, museum curator Boone Dodson said, is where they were damaged by light.

"After 160 years have passed and something's been on display for a very long time ... then the light will actually

■ Please see FLAGS page 2



Is  
America  
a  
Christian  
Nation?

## If so, why doesn't it seem like it?

By **Clint Decker**

Fully 83% of U.S. adults believe in God, according to a Pew Research article published this year. Despite numbers declining over the decades, it is still very high. During 30+ years of ministry in rural areas throughout the Great Plains, I have met many people

who are a part of the 83%. Regulars at the local bar, businessmen, county jail inmates, greeters at the church, friendly neighbors across the street and politicians - they all believe in God.

I have an honest question. If that many people believe in God, then why do we have so much crime and immorality? I think I

have a point. Should not this belief make a difference in people's lives, impacting their behavior and thereby their communities?

If I am right, then we are left to conclude one thing. There must be a misunderstanding about what it really means to believe in God.

■ Please see NATION page 2

## Kansas Overpays Schools \$11 Million, Wants It Back



The state of Kansas says it mistakenly overpaid local school districts millions of dollars—and it wants the money back. At a legislative budget meeting Tuesday it was revealed the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has been overpaying districts for Medicaid reimbursement costs. State officials blame a simple accounting error. In all they say \$11 million was overpaid, and they're asking districts to return the money to the state. The state reimburses districts for providing Medicaid services to students, such as counseling and mental health services. KSN reports the Wichita school district is being asked to return more than \$3 million, the Kansas City district \$800,000, and the Topeka and Manhattan districts about \$400,000 each.

## This Underappreciated State Beat Out All Others For The Best Driving Conditions

When you envision your great American road trip, which state springs to mind? Perhaps you're cutting across the otherworldly landscapes of a wild national park in South Dakota's Badlands or charting the historic towns of Illinois on what travel expert Samantha Brown thinks is America's most underrated road trip. But how much do driving conditions play a factor in the route you choose? Ultimately, it's not much of a road trip if thick blankets of fog and

rainfall obscure the scenery or you're stuck in logjam traffic on an interstate highway.

Financial advice platform WalletHub has suggested that not only do adverse road conditions send drivers into a frenzy, but traffic congestion alone squeezes their wallets to the tune of \$771 annually. In a January 2025 study, the platform ranked U.S. states from best to worst based explicitly on driving

■ Please see DRIVING page 3



# Kansas Book Festival will feature authors from Topeka and nationwide

The 14th annual Kansas Book Festival will occur Saturday, September 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., hosted by the Washburn University Library in Topeka. The festival welcomes prominent authors from all genres including nonfiction, fiction, picture books, young adult novels, and poetry. Attendees can enjoy panel presentations, music performances, food trucks, children's activities, and exhibitor tents with publishers from around the region.

The headliner for 2025 is Bill Kurtis. A Kansas native, Kurtis launched his journalism career in Topeka covering the 1966 tornado, famously delivering the iconic line, "For God's sake, take cover." He went on to become a nationally known broadcaster, reporting on major events from the Vietnam War to the Chicago Seven trial. His new mem-



oir, Whirlwind, reflects on his remarkable life in journalism.

Several notable authors will also join the festival lineup. Lesa Cline-Ransome, acclaimed for One Big Open Sky, writes award-winning children's books that celebrate African American history and culture. Kevin Young, The New Yorker poetry editor and former

director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, will share poems from his brand-new collection Night Watch.

The festival features a wide range of storytellers with compelling voices. Kansas Poet Laureate Traci Brimhall will share from her acclaimed poetry collection Love

Prodigal. Suspense novelist Bryn Greenwood will discuss her gripping novel Nobody Knows You're Here. Prize-winning picture book author Bess Kalb, whose story about a vain



Bill Kurtis

young buffalo won the 2025 Bill Martin Jr. Picture Book Award, will talk about using humor in children's books. Marian Washington, known as the "Jackie Robinson of collegiate women's basketball coaching," will

reflect on her 31-year career coaching KU women's basketball and share stories from her memoir FIERCE: My Fight For Nothing Less.

Parents and young attendees can look forward to a variety of engaging entertainment. The Children's Tent will feature hands-on activities hosted by the Kansas Children's Discovery Center, the Mulvane Art Lab, and Friends of the Lawrence Public Library. After musicians such as the Wichita Blues singer Pat O'Connor and the Louisiana style duo Zydeco Tougeau, Kyler Carpenter will emcee youth performers on the main Festival stage. Children and teen authors will also be recognized at the Kansas Authors Club's annual Youth Writing Awards, beginning at 2:00 PM.

The Kansas Book Festival is free and open to guests of all ages. Refer to the official Festival website for announcements of attending authors and other important details: <https://www.kansas-bookfestival.com>.

## FLAGS

continued from page 1

get to the silk fibers and will break down the fibers," he said.

According to the Kansas Historical Society, most of the flags are battle

flags of various Kansas regiments, but there also are Confederate and border ruffian flags and political banners. Among the collection are a Confederate flag captured at Lookout Mountain by the 8th Kansas Infantry and a banner presented to Abraham Lincoln and used in the 1860 presidential

election in Kansas.

"Some of the flags show damage from their service in battle, while all have suffered the effects of time and environment," the society says on its website.

Dodson said the restoration work is being done by Textile Preservation

Associates Inc. The work on a single flag could cost \$20,000 to \$35,000, he estimated.

Why is it so expensive?

"(It's) extremely specialized work," Dodson said. "Every aspect of their work has specialized equipment, specialized knowledge more than any-

thing."

The museum is currently closed for renovations, but when it reopens in November, several of the restored flags will be on display. A Save the Flags campaign is accepting donations to support the restoration work.

## NATION

continued from page 1

The Bible is the original source for understanding the whole idea of belief in God. It did not originate from a pollster or rise from philosophical thought. A casual reading of the Bible reveals where it came from. The famous John 3:16 states this idea, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Additionally, Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." (Jn. 6:35) Then in another place, a man is told to, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31)

When we look at what the Bible says on the subject of belief, five truths surface. 1) Believing in God is synonymous with a belief in Jesus.

Since He is God's Son, to refuse to belief in Jesus becomes a pointless belief, for Jesus said, "And whoever sees me sees him who sent me." (Jn. 12:45) 2) Believing in God is the recognition of Jesus, and accepting by faith His deity, virgin birth, death and resurrection, though you may not understand it all. 3) Believing in God is to trust in Jesus, meaning you are willing to entrust your whole life into His care and come under His authority. 4) Believing in God is to follow Jesus, meaning you are willing to do what Jesus and His Word says, no matter the cost—even unto death. 5) Believing in God is union with Jesus, meaning Christ is in you and you are in Him.

Too often when someone says, "I believe in God," they are talking about an intellectual belief, or more accurately, it could be called an "acknowledgement." They acknowledge God's existence, and some details about who He is. And the same could be said about Jesus. This

type of strange belief is far away from the Bible's correct understanding of it.

People like the 83% were directly addressed in the Bible, "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder." (James 2:19) The Devil himself and the demons of hell acknowledge the existence of God, but they go no further. They refuse to accept the supreme authority of Christ and come under His Lordship. They refuse to turn from their sin and place their full trust in Jesus. They refuse to reorder their life according to the ways of God.

The belief most have is a mere acknowledgement which does not lead to a changed life and a moral transformation, where the old has gone, the new has come because of the Jesus' death and resurrection.

Today, I urge you to move past a mere acknowledgement of Jesus and embrace a full-on, radical belief in Christ. Go beyond the superficial

words of religion, and by faith, yield yourself totally to Him.




- Ballroom & Lounge
- Weddings
- Private Parties
- Celebrations of Life
- Quinceañeras
- Fundraisers
- Corporate Events



1901 N Kansas Ave  
785-213-3561  
[thewoodshedtopeka.com](http://thewoodshedtopeka.com)



## New Truth Traveler attraction in Branson virtual transports guests to biblical events

Truth Traveler, an immersive virtual reality experience developed by Answers in Genesis, will open at the former Andy Williams Moon River Theater in Branson this month. It will transport guests back in time to pivotal moments in biblical history, starting in Genesis, complete with motion benches and motion feedback.

Beyond the VR journey, the Branson complex also will feature a state-of-the-art planetarium and a 1,200-seat theater offering live performances and projection-mapped shows that extend the narrative, all designed to blend technology with captivating biblical teachings. A similar attraction already is open in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

"It's more than just the ride," Ben Wilt of Answers in Genesis said. "We have very robust preshow elements. We have a faux elevator [that makes you feel like you're going down. We wanted to make it all intentional. We're taking a chapter out of Disney and the Universal book."



The Ark Encounter in Kentucky offers a similar Truth Traveler experience, while the Creation Museum features a planetarium show. The popularity of both allowed Answers in Genesis to consider offering them in other markets.

"We always wanted to do something in the Pigeon Forge and Branson markets, just given their attraction space," he said. "People love going there on their vacations."

The Pigeon Forge location also features a planetarium, while the Branson site will include a theater equipped for live productions and

projection mapping. The planetarium show in Pigeon Forge spotlights the size of the universe. "You just feel the enormous nature of what God's created just beyond earth, and the fact that we are at the center of all of that and his favorite creation," Wilt said.

Wilt told "Crosswalk Headlines" that he hopes Branson guests have fun while gaining a deeper understanding of the truth of scripture. Each location includes food options and a gift shop.

"They're on vacation, and so we've made this fun, but it's also intentional about the message that we're conveying, and we think that it'll have a huge impact," he said. "Both experiences, we think, will leave a lasting impression about biblical authority and the importance of that in our lives."

For more information, visit [www.truthtraveler.com](http://www.truthtraveler.com).

## Barry Feaker to speak at C5Alive POWER Luncheon

The September C5Alive POWER Luncheon will be held on the 11th at 11:30am at Glory Days Pizza, 10th & Gage.

The program will feature Barry Feaker, who will speak about the homeless situation in Topeka.

Come learn more about the issue and how you can help.

Admission is free, and lunch can be ordered from the menu on site. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org).

"POWER" luncheons are held the 2nd Thursday each month and are open to the public. C5Alive is dedicated to creating Christian culture in the Capital City, by developing and uniting leaders in community businesses, non-profits and churches.

Upcoming luncheon dates are

October 9, November 13, and December 11 (Christmas at the Mall).

C5 also hosts other events, including EASTERFEST, the annual Topeka Easter Parade and Fun Fair, held on N. Kansas Avenue and at Great Overland Station on the day before Easter.

C5 members also sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations.

C5 is currently holding a membership drive with special incentives for new members. Lower-priced memberships for small and home-based businesses are now available. Individuals may join for \$20. A list of current members and more information is available on the website at [www.C5Alive.org](http://www.C5Alive.org), [www.facebook.com/C5Alive](http://www.facebook.com/C5Alive), or call 785-640-6399.



Feaker

## DRIVING

continued from page 1

conditions. And in the end, it wasn't a classic road trip state that came out on top. Kansas, a region known for its vast prairie lands, gorgeous Topeka Capitol Building, tangy barbecue, and a certain nonfiction novel by Truman Capote, now also holds the accolade of being the state with the best driving conditions in America.

WalletHub's methodology focused on four categories: cost of ownership and maintenance, traffic and infrastructure (including meteorological conditions), safety (including law obedience and strictness of DUI punishments), and access to vehicles and maintenance. All categories were scored out of 30, except for "access to vehicles and maintenance," which was scored out of 10. A total score of 65.92 was enough for Kansas to top the podium, with the quality and safety of its roads particularly noteworthy. Its flat topography, generally short commutes to work, and low gas and auto-repair prices also contributed to its high



score.

Stellar driving conditions are great, but having something to gawk at beyond your windshield is also a prerequisite for a worthwhile road trip. Kansas' reputation for being "flatter than a pancake" and smothered in yellow-brown agricultural land doesn't sound like it lends itself to road-tripping.

But don't be fooled by the stereotypes. You can summit Kansas' highest mountain in the northern part of the state, time travel to Old West saloons in the southwest, or use major cities as your way-points, driving from Kansas City to Wichita via Topeka.

Other points of interest include the otherworldly formations of Monument Rocks, a collection of chalk spires and arches left over from an 80-million-year-old inland sea, and Rock City Park, with its climbable, house-sized boulders. Food pilgrims, especially those who like flaming grills and marbled cuts of meat, should consider a cross-state drive to Kansas City for a road trip that's as much about the destination as the journey. Known as one of America's great barbecue cities, there are enough lively restaurants for smoky meats here to keep carnivores salivating from dawn until dusk.

**"OLDEST COMPANY, LOWEST PRICES"**

**HUTTON MONUMENTS, INC.**

**201 SW Topeka Blvd**

**785-354-7005**

**[huttonmonuments.com](http://huttonmonuments.com)**



**SERVING KANSAS  
SINCE 1873**



**Since 1987  
with 7 locations**



**Prices You  
Can Afford**

**Chapel Oaks Cremation  
& Funeral Services**

**Susan Pettit Hutton  
Asst. Funeral Dir.**

**235 SW Topeka Blvd  
785-783-7753  
[chapeloaksne.com](http://chapeloaksne.com)**

# Get Ready to Joust! All Hallows Renaissance Festival is Coming

Get your tunics and swords ready, Topeka! The All Hallows Renaissance Festival is set to transform 13 acres into a spooktacular Renaissance-era village on October 25th and 26th, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. This festival promises a weekend of epic entertainment, medieval revelry, and community spirit.

### A World of Adventure Awaits

Step back in time and immerse yourself in a world of jousting, sword fighting, and fantastical characters. The festival will feature three stages of entertainment, showcasing everything from Viking and pirate antics to more traditional Renaissance performances. Adventurers can also test their skills with a range of activities like bows and arrows and axe throwing. For those seeking a more whimsical experience, there's even a ride with a unicorn, face painting, henna & more! Trick or treating for the kids, Quest w/ Game Nut and so much more!

### Pubs, Pumpkins, and Gnomes!

Thirsty travelers can quench their thirst with mead at the festival's two pubs. One of these, the 21 and over "Pirate Pub," will offer additional pirate-themed entertainment.

Beyond the thrills and entertainment, the festival is also a chance to give back. Visitors can be creative by making a home for Steve the Gnome, the King of the Gnome village. Building a gnome home costs \$10 per person or \$50 per business, with all proceeds benefiting SENT Topeka to support their community work. Winner takes home a \$50 cash prize!

For a fun, fall-themed activity, you can also carve a pumpkin for just \$5, with a \$50 prize on the line! There are three age categories. The proceeds from pumpkin carving will go directly to the NOTO Arts Youth Program, helping to foster creativity in the community's young artists.

Whether you're looking for a weekend of daring adventure, a taste of mead, or a way to sup-

port local causes, the All Hallows Renaissance Festival has something for everyone. Family & Adult Fun for everyone, tickets are on sale now at [www.geminivibeskansas.com](http://www.geminivibeskansas.com), \$14 per adult for Day pass, \$25 weekend plus \$5 a day for children (6 – 13 yrs of age) for weekend pass until Sep 30th! Get your tickets now for the discounts!! Come step back in time w/ us!!!



# ALL HALLOWS RENAISSANCE

## Oct 25th & 26th 2025

### 10 am - 6 pm

#### 1901 N. Kansas Ave Topeka KS

Jousting ♦ Living history ♦ 21 & over  
Pirate Bar ♦ Pirates Vikings & Fantasy ♦  
Axe & Arrow games ♦ Childrens area  
♦ Art Contest ♦ D & D Quest  
ALL HALLOWS CELEBRATION

TICKET GO ON SALE SEPT 1ST

# PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT NOTO ART DISTRICT YOUTH PROGRAM

CATEGORIES - 5 YR TO 12 ♦ 12 YRS TO 18 ♦ 18 & UP

Entries DUE OCT 23RD & 24TH - 10 AM - 5 PM  
The Woodshed Event Center - \$5 per Pumpkin

Winner Chosen Oct 31st  
through our Facebook  
\$50 Prize

# Gnome Home Contest

BUILD A GNOME HOME

\$10 PER INDIVIDUAL  
\$50 PER BUSINESSES

Winner Chosen on Oct 31st after  
the Festival concludes  
Winner - \$50 cash  
& categories - individual & business

Entries due by Oct 23rd  
Drop off Oct 23rd - 23rd - 10 am - 6 pm  
The Woodshed Event Center  
PROCEEDS BENEFIT SENT TOPEKA

# Global Christian Majorities Decline

Although Christians were in the majority in 120 of 201 nations in 2020, the number declined from 124 a decade earlier. A new report from the Pew Research Center attributed the global drop to a growing number of people leaving Christianity, contributing to the rise of religiously unaffiliated populations in multiple nations.

The United Kingdom, Australia, France and Uruguay all lost their Christian majorities during the 10-year span. In these nations, the share of people identifying as Christian fell below 50 percent, while the percentage of religiously unaffiliated individuals rose substantially. Bottom of Form

Uruguay became the only country in the Americas without a Christian majority in 2020, with 52 percent of its population identifying as religiously unaffiliated and only 44 percent as



Christian. In the U.K., Australia and France, no single religious group held a majority. However, unaffiliated populations approached or surpassed the number of Christians, reflecting broader secularization trends.

New Zealand and the Netherlands also transitioned to religiously unaffiliated majorities during the same period, joining a group of seven nations that already held that status in 2010 — China, North Korea, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Macao and Japan. In total, Pew found that 10 countries had religiously unaffiliated majorities by

2020, up from seven in 2010. These populations include individuals who identify as atheist, agnostic or “nothing in particular.”

Although Christianity remains the most geographically widespread religion, its proportion of the global population is smaller than the share of countries where Christians form the majority. In 2020, Christians represented 29 percent of the world’s population but were the majority in 60 percent of countries. This contrast reflects Christianity’s broad dispersion across both large and small nations, from the United States and the Philippines to smaller nations like Micronesia.

While Christianity remains numerically widespread, its cultural and institutional influence is declining in some parts of the world, the report concluded. A Washington Post article reports that Islam is growing around the world.

## Local church is fundraising to replace many windows



Pastor Roger Randel of Family of God Church in North Topeka has announced that a window replacement fundraiser is underway. Almost all of the windows in the church building need to be upgraded in order to renew insurance coverage.

The building also houses Randel Ministries, which runs a food pantry and facilitates food giveaways each month, and Upper Room Radio KFGB 97.7FM. The building is the former home of Grant Elementary School.

Work on the windows on the south side of the building has been completed, but approximately \$50,000 is needed to complete the project. The cost to sponsor one window refurbishment is \$350.

If you would like to help, checks can be sent to FOG Church, 1231 NW Eugene St., Topeka, KS 66608. For more information, email FamilyOfGodChurch@hotmail.com. The same email address may be used to contribute through PayPal.

## PreK3-12th Grade Christian Education



**Heritage Christian**  
FINE ARTS • ACADEMICS • SPORTS

*“The Best Kept Secret in Topeka!”*

CALL (785) 286-0427 FOR YOUR TOUR! HCSTOPEKA.ORG

**metro**  
**VOICE**

metrovoicenews.com

**Check Out Our Newly Redesigned, Mobile-ready Breaking-news Website.**

## K. KIRK NYSTROM, Attorney

**Wills • Powers of Attorney  
Estate Planning • Probate • Trusts**

• Free Parking • Emergency Hospital Visits  
• Evening & Saturday Appointments

*We've Moved Upstairs!*



*“30+ years Experience”*

112 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 509  
Topeka, Kansas 66603

**785-235-6977**

k.nystrom@att.net

www.nystromlaw.net

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

# FINANCIAL PLANNING



**DAVE  
RAMSEY**

Financial author,  
radio host, television  
personality, speaker

**davesays**

## WANT BIG RESULTS? EMBRACE BIG CHANGES

Dear Dave,

Your plan has really changed our financial lives, and our relationship, for the better over the last three or four years. My wife and I went from living paycheck-to-paycheck, and having a mountain of debt, to being debt-free except for our home and getting a great start on saving for retirement. It wasn't always easy, but we made it happen by working together and sticking to your plan. At this point, my wife and I often wonder why so many people are willing to live like we used to? We can't imagine going back to that now.

Marshall

Dear Marshall,

Wow, thank you so much for all the kind words. I'm really proud of you two. Just remember one thing: I may have shown you a path and given you some encouragement, but you two put in all the hard work and made the many sacrifices that got you where you are now. Congratulations!

To answer your question, there are lots of reasons some folks resist making changes in their lives. Often, one of those things is denial. Ninety percent of solving a problem is realizing, and admitting, a problem exists. I'm convinced one of the major factors keeping people from winning with money is they don't realize they even have a problem—or won't admit it.

If you're apathetic because you think things like debt and living paycheck-to-paycheck are just normal parts of life, you'll be unwilling, or sometimes afraid, to make the big changes necessary to achieve big results. Debt is so ingrained into our culture that most Americans can't envision college without student loans, or a car without huge payments for five or six years. We've been sold on the idea of debt so aggressively that most folks don't believe a decent life is even possible, unless hundreds or thousands of dollars in payments are attached. Another thing is that change is painful.

Most people won't change what they're doing or how they're living, until the pain of where they are is greater than the pain of change. No matter who you are, where you are financially right now is largely a sum total of the life decisions you've made up to this point. There are some folks who experience unfortunate, life-altering things, but in most cases, if you don't like where you are, you have to acknowledge the fact that things need to change. You have to acknowledge the fact that you need to change.

And finally, there's usually an element of ignorance involved. Don't get me wrong. I'm not calling anyone stupid. I'm talking about a lack of good information. The good news is learning new things isn't that hard. You just have to admit you don't have all the answers, and set your mind to studying and educating yourself on the topic at hand. Because if you're not careful, what you don't know about money will make you broke and keep you broke.

— Dave

## Giving Intelligently and Responsibly Takes Time, Effort

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have worked hard for many years. We've tried to be smart with our money, and follow your principles of saving, spending and giving. Our financial situation is pretty good now. We are debt-free, we're both close to retirement, and we have a net worth of around \$2.7 million. We would like to start giving back at this point in our lives. There are several organizations we're interested in helping, but how can we know for sure which ones we can trust to use our money wisely?

Luis

Dear Luis,

I hate to say it, but it's hard to be 100% sure about these kinds of things. I'm really proud of what you two have been able to accomplish together. I also love the fact that you both want to give and take the matter so seriously. But really, about the best you can do is to put in serious time digging beneath the surface of the organizations you have in mind. Devote lots of effort to researching them, and decide together which organizations are comfortable fits for you both.

My wife and I give most of our donations to Christian ministries. And it's not unusual for us to take a tour of a place to see what it looks like up close,

and talk about the feeling we get while we're there. If the staff or management aren't open or forthcoming with anything we consider to be basic information, or if we see signs of financial mismanagement, you better believe it sends up a red flag.

Don't get me wrong. People who work for charitable organizations have as much of a right to make a decent liv-

ing as anyone else. But if they appear to be a little too well off, it could be a sign they're not being responsible with their donations. Take a look at things like their administrative costs, what percentage of donations goes directly to the cause they represent and anything else that would help you two make the right decision. You could even ask the leaders directly what they plan to do with the money

from your donation. You have a right to know this.

Giving is like anything else, Luis. It takes some time and hard work to do it intelligently and responsibly. And don't forget to pray about it, too. Prayer should always be part of any big decisions you make!

— Dave



— THE —  
**RETIREMENT  
TEAM**

**KsRetire.com**

**785-478-7808**

**5909 SW 28th St., Ste 100**

**Topeka, Kansas 66614**



Advisory Services offered through Next Generation Investing, LLC.

# How to View Your Investments in 2025

By Jim Hanna



Hanna

As an investor, it can be difficult to navigate the ups and downs of the market and understand what the movements mean for your portfolio – particularly when you're seeing constant headlines on the topic. As a financial advisor, I've fielded many questions from clients who are trying to make sense of the changing markets and economic environment. While there is no single solution that applies to all investors, the following are answers to three of the most common questions.

## How should I cope with market fluctuations that are affecting my retirement savings?

If you're within five years of your retirement date or already retired, be aware that you have less time to make up for losses in your portfolio. You may want to re-evaluate your risk tolerance, projected income needs, and investment strategies. It may make sense to pursue multiple strategies that seek to grow a portion of your nest egg while protecting dollars you will need to tap more immediately (in the next 3-5 years).

If you are more than five years from retirement, focus on mitigating risk in your portfolio with high-quality investments and income-producing securities. If you have available cash to invest, do so using a systematic approach, investing a portion monthly over 6-12 months. By dollar-cost averaging in this way, you may be able to offset some of the market's inherent unpredictability.

If retirement is ten or more

years away, work on growing your nest egg. Time is still on your side. View the market's recent ups and downs as an opportunity to position your money in quality assets that are available at more attractive prices. Although markets will experience downturns from time to time, keep in mind that over rolling ten-year periods, the broad stock market (as measured by the S&P 500, an unmanaged index of stocks) has historically moved higher.

## What should I do if I have not yet invested or am new to investing?

If you're new to investing, chances are you have a longer time horizon before retirement and can ride out the short-term bumps in the stock market before you'll need to start withdrawing assets. Start by finding ways to save even small sums on a regular basis. Contribute to your workplace retirement plan, such as 401(k) or 403(b) accounts, and put money to work monthly in a traditional or Roth individual retirement account (IRA). The sooner you start investing, the better your opportunities to accumulate wealth.

## I'm uncomfortable with the markets and volatility these days. How can I overcome that?

It's natural to feel a variety of emotions when the market makes bigger moves. It's important to avoid making emotional decisions with your money. You tend to lock in investment losses when you go to sell. Remaining invested can position you for a recovery, which can occur at times with minimal to no warning. Having a well-diversified portfolio can help minimize in-

vestment-specific risk while your wealth grows.

A good place to start is to speak with a financial advisor who may be able to help you steady the boat. Your advisor can help make sure that your portfolio is positioned to meet your key financial goals and is consistent with your risk tolerance level.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Jim Hanna, CFP®, MBA, CKA®, is a Private Wealth Advisor and Certified Kingdom Advisor® with Heart Financial Partners a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC in Topeka, Kansas. He specializes in fee-based financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for over 25 years. To contact him, [ameripriseadvisors.com/james.c.hanna](mailto:ameripriseadvisors.com/james.c.hanna), 785.358.6278 x19, 601 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66603.*

*Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. (CFP Board) owns the CFP® certification mark, the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification mark, and the CFP® certification mark (with plaque design) logo in the United States, which it authorizes use of by individuals who successfully complete CFP Board's initial and ongoing certification requirements.*

*Ameriprise Financial is not affiliated with any religion or faith-based financial advisor organization.*

*Investment products are not insured by the FDIC, NCUA or any federal agency; are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed by any financial institution, and involve investment risks including possible loss of principal and fluctuation in value.*

*Ameriprise Financial, Inc. and its affiliates do not offer tax or legal advice. Consumers should consult with their tax advisor or attorney regarding their specific situation.*

*Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results.*

*Securities offered by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC.*

# Top 10 Reasons Not to Plan for Retirement

By Ryan Shumaker  
Smartvestor Pro



*Ryan hosts a radio show Saturdays at 7:30am & Sundays at 8am on FM93.5/AM1440. Listen anytime at [RetireLawrence.com/Radio](http://RetireLawrence.com/Radio)*

You probably read or hear about some "Top Ten" list nearly every day, but take a moment to read this one. This list is different, and probably not the kind of list you'd expect a financial advisor to write.

**Reason #10:** "It's too expensive" Being penny wise and dollar foolish isn't necessarily a great idea. There are unfortunately far too many in the financial industry that are salespeople and not planners. A good financial advisor should bring far more value than any fees charged whether that is from better investment performance, tax reduction, Social Security maximization, or something else. At our firm we generally won't take on a client unless we believe we can bring over 3 times more value to them than whatever fees are charged. Sometimes the cheapest option can end up being the most expensive option if you're missing out on other planning opportunities.

**Reason #9:** "I'm too busy" I can't tell you how often I hear this excuse. So many people want to plan for a better retirement and future, but they don't

have time. They think they'll take care of it tomorrow or the day after that and before they know it, years have gone by. The best advice I can give is to stop procrastinating and start planning. My great grandfather use to have a saying that "procrastination is suicide on the installment plan." There's a lot of wisdom and truth in that saying, especially when it comes to finances, taxes, investments, and retirement planning.

**Reason #8:** "It's too soon" The notion that you shouldn't have to start planning for your retirement until it's almost time to retire is incorrect. The truth is, the sooner you start planning, the better chance you stand of having the kind of retirement you want. It's never too soon. If what you thought about your financial future turned out not to be true, when would you want to know about it? As soon as possible so you can make simple and easy corrections, or later when it's not as simple or easy? Often, if you're failing to plan you're planning to fail.

**Reason #7:** "It's too late" So what if you're already near or in retirement? Does that mean all is lost and whatever you've got is what you're stuck with? Is it now too late to do anything about it? Certainly not. If you're unsure of what your options are, speak to a professional. Even if you've already retired, it's important to consider how you're receiving in-

■ Continued on page 11



**Jim Hanna, CFP®, MBA, CKA® | Private Wealth Advisor**  
**Heart Financial Partners**  
 A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC  
**785.357.6278 x19**  
 601 S Kansas Ave, Topeka, KS 666070  
[james.c.hanna@ampf.com](mailto:james.c.hanna@ampf.com)  
[ameripriseadvisors.com/team/heart-financial-partners](http://ameripriseadvisors.com/team/heart-financial-partners)

Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® and CFP (with plaque design) in the U.S. Ameriprise Financial is not affiliated with any religion or faith-based financial advisor organization. Securities offered by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2025 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.



**Ameriprise**  
Financial

**Ryan Shumaker**  
**RetireFromTaxes.com**



**Proud to Be Serving**  
**Ramsey Fans**

Investment advisory services offered through Retirement Portfolios, LLC.

# opinion

Got an Opinion? Share it with the Metro Voice!  
go to facebook/MetroVoiceNews, or email Voice@cox.net

**metro  
VOICE**

## MANAGING EDITOR



**Lee Hartman**  
LHartman3@cox.net

## CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

**Lorraine Jessepe,  
Dwight Widaman**

## ADVERTISING CONSULTANTS

**Lee Hartman**  
785-640-6399  
Voice@cox.net

## NEWS & FEATURES

Carolyn Cogswell, Rob Mooney,  
Alan Goforth, Clint Decker,  
Hannah Allen, Dwight Widaman,  
Lee Hartman, Lorraine Jessepe

## LAYOUT & DESIGN

Joe Boothe, Lee Hartman, Dwight Widaman

Metro Voice is published monthly and serves the communities of Topeka, Lawrence, and other communities in NE Kansas. It is available primarily by bulk and subscription distribution to over 400 locations, including grocery stores, churches, schools, restaurants, bookstores, libraries, businesses and other retail outlets. Written materials submitted become property of Metro Voice. The content of this publication, including all stories, advertising or other graphic symbols, may not be reproduced in any way, for commercial purposes or added to any web site without the express permission of Metro Voice. Advertising in MV is open to anyone wishing to reach the Christian community or the family market with family-friendly advertising. MV reserves the right to refuse any advertising. Metro Voice is a member of the Christian Newspaper Association and the Evangelical Press Association.



## CONTACT INFO

Offices: 2611 SW 17th St. (by appt.)  
Correspondence & Payments:  
P.O. Box 5724, Topeka, KS 66605  
Phone/Fax: 785-235-3340  
Voice@cox.net  
MetroVoiceNews.com  
facebook.com/metrovoicenews

## Kansas is losing the competition for people — and it's not just a Kansas problem

Americans are voting with their feet, and states are either competing for them — or watching them leave.

Data posted by the Committee to Unleash Prosperity at Vote-WithYourFeet.net make it painfully clear: Kansas is hemorrhaging residents. Over the last decade, it had a net loss of nearly 100,000 people to other states. That's not just bad optics — that's economic decline in motion.

A graph showing states gaining from domestic migration and those losing, across the US. Kansas is -97k from 2012-2022.



**Vince Ginn, Kansas Policy Institute**

But let's be clear: this isn't about Kansas alone. It's a warning for every state that refuses to reform — especially those with bloated budgets, punitive taxes,

and heavy-handed regulation. In a mobile, digital, choice-driven economy, people move toward opportunity and away from government overreach.

Kansas is falling behind because Gov. Laura Kelly and too many lawmakers haven't learned that lesson.

### The data don't lie

Between 2012 and 2022, Kansas lost 97,000 people to net domestic outmigration. That's one of the worst tallies in the region. Meanwhile:

Texas gained nearly 1.7 million

residents

Florida pulled in 1.9 million  
Tennessee added over 500,000  
Idaho, Utah, Arizona — all winners too

These aren't just warm states. They're competitive states. States that have taken the steps to attract talent, capital, and businesses by doing three things: spending less, taxing less, and regulating less. Kansas? Not so much.

### What's the problem?

Put simply: government is too

■ Continued on next page

## Admit it. None of Us Are Good Enough



**CLINT  
DECKER**

President and  
Evangelist  
with Great  
Awakenings, Inc.

### Speaking Truth

Jesus once told a story about two men who went to pray. One was a high standing religious man, while the other was a despised tax collector that had extorted money from many. The religious man prayed, "God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get." (Luke 18:11-12)

However, the other man prayed much differently. "The tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'" (Lk. 18:13)

Jesus was widely known for telling stories. They were not told just to entertain, illustrate nor to communicate some generic spiritual truth. Instead, they often had a hidden or very direct meaning. His stories (parables) would point out evil in the hearts of some in His audience which revealed God's

judgement upon them.

His story began with this statement of explanation "[Jesus]...told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt." (Lk. 18:9) Then the story concluded with Jesus saying, "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk. 18:14)

The differences between the two men are clear. The religious man saw himself as a good person because of the good things he did. He was not like everyone else. He was better. Meanwhile, the tax collector saw himself as nothing. There was anguish in his soul, while shamefully admitting all the wrongs he had done. He believed he was so undeserving of God's forgiveness that he felt he could do nothing but plead for His mercy.

Today, there are millions just like this religious man. Multitudes feel good about themselves because of their efforts at doing good things. They counter the wrongs they have done with imaginary moral insurance to soothe their conscience. They are convinced the good things they have done for the church or others, or upright moral behaviors they have tried to live by, should be pleasing and acceptable before God.



And like the religious man, they view themselves as better than the other guy, or even better than they once were. They are not like the drug dealers, like the ones convicted for indecent liberties with a child or like the slimy and corrupt politicians. They see "those people" as the ones who need help, not themselves.

These attitudes are dangerous! They produce an annoying and obnoxious sense of pride that rouses the anger of God. He hates it! This is why the spirit of the tax collector pleased God. Because he had a humble heart. He recognized the true condition of his soul, "None is righteous, no, not one...no one does good, not even one." (Romans 3:11,12) The tax collector could have pointed to some good things he did in his life, but he chose not to. His sin. His failure before God was so overwhelming, he could not. One million good things could never wash away the dirtiness of his eternal soul. He believed that his only option was to plead for the

mercy of God and hope He would hear and respond.

Praise God! This story from Jesus, points to His glorious cross. For the prideful, God will give them what they deserve, but for the humble of heart, He will graciously grant them what they do not deserve. His unmerited kindness will grant complete and total forgiveness for all their wrongs.

Walk in the humble spirit of the tax collector, call out for God's mercy upon your soul. Then because of Jesus death and resurrection, freedom will be yours.

A prayer for you — Lord God, examine our hearts. If we have an ounce of pride, point it out that we might turn from it. And let us have the spirit of the tax collector. Bring us to humble ourselves before you and plead for your mercy upon our souls. In Jesus' name. Amen

—Clint Decker is President of Great Awakenings. Share your comment at cdecker@greatawakenings.org

# McClure Says Unpaid Taxes at Lauren's Bay 'Hold City Hostage'

Jim Klausman, a Topeka developer who owns Wheatfield Village at 29th and Fairlawn in Topeka, as well as Midwest Health, consisting of more than 50 healthcare communities in Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Oklahoma, owes millions of dollars in back taxes on a very nice housing district near 47th and Wanamaker called Lauren's Bay. Commercial real estate broker Henry McClure, who is running for Topeka mayor against City Council Member Spencer Duncan, says taxes on these and about 100 other properties in the area have remained unpaid for a decade.

Earlier, KSNT reported Klausman had agreed to pay past-due special assessments on those properties "in return for tax incentives from the city." In April, the Topeka City Council agreed to establish a community improvement district (CID) for 16 properties in the Lauren's Bay neighborhood, as well as "three city-owned lots that have sat empty for years." A CID is a type of tax incentive.

A CID is a designated geographic area where property owners or businesses within the district agree to pay an additional tax or fee. This revenue is then used to

fund improvements and services within the district's boundaries, supplementing those already provided by the local government.

KSNT reported April 9 that Assistant Topeka City Manager Braxton Copley said, "Right now they're close to \$300 a month [in special assessments], by spreading them out over 20 years it's going to get them down to \$185 per month for the ones owned by the developer because some of the special assessments or some of the assessments, the payment they're going to be making is going to be used to pay down principle on those future specials." This agreement only applies to the 16 lots approved by the City Council for a CID in April.

Chuck Dultmeier of Dultmeier Homes is a Topeka home builder and has been building houses since 1970. He first bought land in Lauren's Bay in 2008. Dultmeier owns 140 lots in the Lauren's Bay subdivision.

On January 9, 2024, Dultmeier presented to the Topeka City Council an offer to help the city develop the Lauren's Bay subdivision. The City Council has not acted since then regarding Dultmeier's appeal. He says waiving Klausman's special assessments holds local de-



velopers hostage and hinders the development of Topeka.

"We were told you could not develop if you owed back taxes or specials," Dultmeier said in an interview with McClure August 15. Now, Dultmeier says, with "a deal on 15 lots," Klausman will collect from the city tax-payers \$2.4 million dollars over 20 years for a \$700,000 investment. (The earlier

report was for 16 properties.)

Dultmeier says he just wants to help Topeka by developing Lauren's Bay, but the process cannot move forward while Klausman holds title to the property, yet has outstanding special assessments for ten years. Meanwhile, many lots in the area have been abandoned and are now unsightly, littered and dilapidated.

Dultmeier says he has met with Klausman on four separate occasions to work out a marketing plan that he believes, if it goes forward, would pay back the overdue special assessments "in full and more," but the only response he has gotten from Klausman is, "I'll get back with you."

"Since it's such a blighted area we left Lauren's Bay, this has hurt Topeka growing to the West," he said.

McClure says Klausman is "holding the taxpayers hostage because he doesn't pay and he doesn't build."

It is not known whether actual repayment of the special assessments is currently in process or when these special assessment payments will begin.

Dultmeier says he is grateful to the city for bond money when he was first getting started and he wants to help Topeka by helping develop Lauren's Bay.

McClure suggests meeting with the City Manager to work on resolving this issue, that the solution is simple and can be accomplished without an election.

"It doesn't take an election, it just takes cooperation," he said.

—Carolyn Cogswell

## ■ Continued from previous page

big, and incentives are all wrong.

According to the Kansas Policy Institute's Green Book, Kansas spends more per resident than many of its peers, including Missouri and Texas. While other states are cutting taxes and flattening brackets, Kansas continues to tinker with ineffective tax triggers and hang onto legacy spending programs.

Worse, the state's tax structure still punishes income rather than taxing consumption. That means Kansans are penalized for working, saving, and investing — all the things that actually grow an economy.

The result? Stagnant population, slow job growth, and missed opportunity. If Kansas were a business, the shareholders would be selling.

## State competition is real

Interstate competition isn't theoretical — it's happening in real time. Governors know it. Businesses know it. And families are proving it.

States like Florida and Texas show what happens when you create a no-income-tax environment with smart budgeting. States like Tennessee and North Carolina are leaning in on flat taxes and growth-first policies. Even Arkansas is racing toward zero. These aren't pipe dreams — they're winning strategies.

Meanwhile, Kansas still struggles with the ghost of its past tax reform efforts, never fully pairing rate reductions with the kind of sustainable budgeting that makes them work. And instead of correcting course, many leaders are still defending the status quo.

The irony? Kansas has every rea-

son to compete. It has a central location, low cost of living, strong infrastructure, and room to grow. But until lawmakers rein in spending and flatten the tax code, Kansas will keep losing its best and brightest to states that do it better.

## The Trigger Law That Doesn't Trigger

Kansas passed a law last session that would gradually cut income tax rates when revenues exceed inflation-adjusted thresholds. Sounds good on paper. But in practice? It's not working.

As reported by the Sunflower State Journal, despite tax receipts beating projections by \$248 million, they still fell short of the trigger to cut taxes. That means Kansans get to pay the same high rates while their government spends the excess.

Governor Laura Kelly vetoed broader cuts, citing fears of repeating the "Brownback era." But here's the thing: the lesson from that episode isn't "don't cut taxes" — it's "don't cut taxes without cutting spending." That's a far cry from a blank check for big government.

## A better path forward

Kansas needs a real reset. That starts with spending less after excessive spending signed into law by Gov. Kelly. This should also include budget reform — not gimmicks, not clawbacks, not economic development slush funds — with a hard cap on government growth using KPI's Responsible Kansas Budget, which limits spending increases to population growth plus inflation. That's a sustainable path.

Then, Kansas should move to a consumption-based tax system — phasing out income taxes entirely

over time. Let people choose when and how much they pay through final-sales taxes, and stop punishing work and investment.

Yes, competition will be fierce. But Kansas should welcome it. The state's motto, "To the stars through difficulties," was never meant to apply to red tape and high tax burdens.

## Conclusion

Kansas isn't doomed. But it is drifting. And if lawmakers don't start competing, the trend lines won't reverse. People move for opportunity. They stay where freedom, affordability, and prosperity are protected.

States that ignore that truth do so at their peril. Kansas just happens to be the canary in the coal mine.

—Vance Ginn, Kansas Policy In-

# Here's Why Most Protestant Pastors Leave Ministry each year, research shows

Despite the stress and long hours, only 1 percent of U.S. Protestant pastors leave the ministry each year, a new Lifeway Research study found. Among pastors from four denominations who step down, 40 percent said it was related to a change in their calling. Other leading causes are:

- Conflict in a church (18 percent);
- Burnout (16 percent);
- Family issues (10 percent);
- Personal finances (10 percent);
- Illness (6 percent);
- Being a poor fit with a church (6 percent);
- Not being able to find a church that was a good fit (4 percent);

Denominational issues (4 percent); and,

- The church closing or issues related to the pandemic (3 percent).

"Because social media tend to spread current stories that are far from normative, we run the risk of becoming convinced of falsehoods about pastors today," said Scott McConnell, executive director of Lifeway Research. "This research study provides uncommon access to a reliable sample from four denominations of those who left the pastorate early, and the most frequent reason for stepping away from the senior pastor role is God's leadership to do so."

Despite stepping away from the pulpit, half of former pastors still are working in the ministry, just in a role other than pastor. One-third work in a non-ministry role. Few took early retirement (7 percent), disability (3 percent), are currently looking for work (2 percent) or have some other employment situation (2 percent).

"It's not surprising to see the



majority of former pastors still working in ministry," McConnell said. "In addition to many feeling called to their new role, the majority of current Protestant pastors say they have limited non-ministry work experience, with six in 10 having worked outside of ministry for 10 years

or less before becoming a pastor."

As former pastors reflected on their time in the ministry, they highlighted many areas of concern. Many felt pressure from the congregation. Most (53 percent) felt the church had unrealistic expectations of them. Around one-third didn't feel free to say

no when expectations of them were unrealistic.

When asked what advice they have for current pastors to help them thrive in ministry, former pastors are most likely to tell those still leading churches to prioritize marriage and family (20 percent); spend time with God and read his word (16 per-

cent); and remember their calling and trust God (14 percent).

"It is important to notice what former pastors do not give as advice: They do not encourage pastors to do more themselves," McConnell said. "Trusting in God and taking time to care for their family and themselves make up most of the advice."

**Donaldson's**  
JEWELERS

Family owned, full line jewelry store and repair shop  
Home of Dave Horn Jewelry Repair & Design  
Online Store at [www.donaldsonsjewelersks.com](http://www.donaldsonsjewelersks.com)  
902 N Kansas Ave. in NOTO Arts District • 785-273-5080

**SMJ SHANE M. JONES & ASSOCIATES, P.A.**

**COUNSELING YOU CAN TRUST**

Areas of expertise:

- Marriage & Relationships
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Adoption
- Addictions
- Grief-Loss
- Foster Care

2708 N. Topeka Blvd., Ste. 202  
Topeka, KS • 785-266-7732

5040 Bob Billings Parkway, Ste. B  
Lawrence, KS • 785-832-8838

[www.shanemjones.com](http://www.shanemjones.com)

## HISTORIC LECOMPTON TERRITORIAL CAPITAL OF KANSAS 1855-1861

### CIVIL WAR HISTORY



- National Landmarks
- Constitution Hall
- Territorial Capital Museum

9 - 5 p.m. Wed-Sat. • 1-5 p.m. Sun.

TOURS 785-887-6148

[WWW.LECOMPTONKANSAS.COM](http://WWW.LECOMPTONKANSAS.COM)

Lecompton Turnpike Exit  
10 miles East of Topeka on U.S. 40 & 24

# Kansas City Renaissance Festival Returns to Bonnor Springs

The Kansas City Renaissance Festival is returning for its 49th season, bringing medieval flair, food, and entertainment to Bonnor Springs.

Performers and organizers say the festival offers a mix of jousting, music, comedy, and themed experiences across 22 acres and 40 stages.

Steven Cobb, who performs as Roddy Descott, said it's his third

year taking part in the event.

"They have big, burly men running at each other with sticks to knock each other down till they start bleeding everywhere, who couldn't love that?" Cobb said.

Julia Cobb, who plays Juliette Bell, described the atmosphere as a full immersion into the 16th century.

"When you hear the music and



you smell the delicious food and you see everything around you, you feel like you've been immersed in Canterbury in 1533," she said.

Organizers said the event remains popular because guests enjoy the chance to step back in time.

The festival features costumed characters, artisan vendors, live shows, and food inspired by the Renaissance era.

The festival opens next weekend and will continue through the fall.

Metro Voice has free tickets for advertisers and supporters of our publication. Email [voice#cox.net](mailto:voice#cox.net) for details.

## RYAN SHUMAKER

continued from page 7

come, how long it will last, how much in taxes you're paying, and whether your investments are still the most suitable for this new phase of life. It's never too late to make improvements; but the longer you wait, the more costly avoiding taking corrective action can become.

**Reason #6:** "I don't need to" I've heard this excuse many times and it always baffles me. Many people think that because they've been diligent about contributing to a retirement account, they're all set. While saving for retirement is good, you also need a plan for income distribution once you enter retirement. The front 9 of this golf course is very different from the back 9. Are you certain that what you're saving will be enough? Have you considered your distribution plan? What about taxes? What about inflation? Are you sure your money is best positioned to create an ever increasing income to offset ever increasing prices? There may be other, better options for you and it quite likely would prove worthwhile to look into them.

**Reason #5:** "My finances are a mess" This is all the more reason to seek out an advisor who can help you sort through and understand your assets. Perhaps you have several 401(k)s from former employers scattered across several companies, a couple of savings accounts, a trust from a deceased relative, and some stocks that your parents bought in your name when you were younger. A hodgepodge of accounts like this can be confusing and feel overwhelming, but leaving it as is won't improve the situation. Consider speaking with someone who can look at your complete financial picture, help you to understand it, and help you to develop a plan to simplify it.

**Reason #4:** "The Government will take care of me" The bottom line is this: If you think the government is going to take care of you then you're likely not going to live the lifestyle in retirement you'd like.

**Reason #3:** "Between my savings and my 401(k), I'll be fine" Saving for retirement is one thing, but creating a distribution plan is completely different. How will you use that money once you have it? And while you may think you'll have everything you're going to need, have you considered how much will be lost to taxes and inflation? There is over a 50% chance that a 65 year old couple in average health will have at least 1 partner live past age 92. Will your assets last that long? If they won't, what then? It's a good idea to look ahead and have a plan

for lifelong, increasing income and to account for lifelong potentially being very long.

**Reason #2:** "I don't want to think about it" With financial markets having a lot of uncertainty and volatility over the last 6 months, many view the thought of discussing financial matters right now as unappealing. I can certainly understand that, but ignoring the problem isn't going to make it go away. Having a good, solid, well constructed plan and portfolio can alleviate the pressures and anxiety a volatile market can bring, particularly if that plan ensures you have the income you want and need regardless of what is going on with the economy, stock market, and elections.

**Reason #1:** "I don't know how" If you knew everything there was to know about financial planning, you'd probably be writing articles like this instead of reading them. While it is possible to do everything on your own, that generally results in poorer outcomes. The first time you do something like build a deck, drive a car, or ride a bike, is it usually the best? You only get one retirement and the reality is struggling through it one time alone will likely result in many expensive learning experiences along the way. Working with a financial advisor that has seen and helped hundreds through the process can prevent you from making first timer's mistakes. If you're putting off retirement planning because you don't know how, then you need to speak with someone who does.

Don't let one of these top excuses prevent you from reaching your full financial potential. Retirement is supposed to be about going out and making memories; not worrying or stressing. The sooner you get started optimizing a plan, likely the sooner you can start living the retirement you want.

\*\*\*\*

Other great articles about retirement, investing, and tax reduction can be seen at [RetireFromTaxes.com/Blog](http://RetireFromTaxes.com/Blog).

Material discussed is meant for general/informational purposes and is not intended to be used as the sole basis for any financial decisions, nor be construed as advice to meet your particular needs. Please consult a financial professional for further information. Investment advisory services offered through Retirement Portfolios, LLC.

**Ryan can be contacted at 785-330-9292**

## DENTAL Insurance

Great coverage for retirees.

Coverage for **cleanings, fillings, crowns** – even **dentures!** Get **dental insurance** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.



Get your **FREE** Information Kit  
Ask about the Premier Plan –  
our most popular option!  
**1-844-488-2656**  
[Dental50Plus.com/Topeka](http://Dental50Plus.com/Topeka)



Product/features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to [physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist](http://physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist). This specific offer not available in CO, NV, NY – call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate C254/B465, C250A/B438 (ID: C254ID; PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6347-0125



# VOTE

## SPENCER DUNCAN

FOR

TOPEKA CITY MAYOR

## Your Priorities FIRST

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

*Paid for By Duncan For Topeka, Barbara Duncan Treasurer*

## Welcome... TO NORTH TOPEKA!



234-3596  
1730 N. Topeka Blvd.

**Try our  
lunch specials  
Monday - Friday!**

  
**Parker-Price & Davidson**  
Cremations • Funerals • Receptions



245 NW Independence • (785) 233-5850 • ppdfuneral.com

**"Stick With The Best!"**

**HERMAN'S  
BEEF & SAUSAGE HOUSE**

823 N.W. Gordon St. Topeka, KS 66608

**(785) 233-7328**



We Specialize In Meat & Deli Items

*Come and be a part  
of what God is doing at  
Family of God Church*

1231 NW Eugene St.

Sunday 10:30am & Wed. 7:00pm

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

## North Topeka has new Art, Shenanigans, Holy Smokin'

Artismo Gallery & Bistro, 1035 N Kansas Ave., is presenting the "I Am" series: A meditation on the Five Stages of Grief, by Miranda Easton. Through surrealist visions of the Flint Hills, "I Am" explores the five stages of grief — denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance — shaped by the artist's journey through loss, caregiving, and transformation. Opening Night & Artist Talk is First Friday, September 5. The artist will be present 4 PM – close, with the Artist Talk at 6 PM. Come experience deeply personal works in person and share in the conversation about resilience, memory, and the beauty of release.

Amused Gallery's featured artist for September is **Devin Wineinger**. See a collection of her newest color pencil and marker drawings. Opening reception will be September 5th from 11am-9pm. See the show all September long during regular business hours.

**Food Drive for Topeka Rescue Mission:** Help us fill the bucket for TRM! Bring a canned food donation to Redbud Park on First Friday in September. Can't make it to First Friday? You can drop off food donations at any time during open hours of the NOTO Arts Center; Wed-Friday 11-5 Sat 11-3.

Other Upcoming Events include:  
**FIRST FRIDAY FARM & ART MARKET** – Every First Friday through Sep., 4-10pm, Great Overland Station. For info: [communityevents@snco.gov](mailto:communityevents@snco.gov) or 785-251-6945

**HOLY SMOKIN JAMBOREE** – Sep. 6-7, Mother Teresa Catholic Church, 2014 NW 46th St. family-friendly event with great food, drinks, car show, bingo,



cake walk, crafts, raffles, silent auction, and live music by THE BASH Saturday night. 5K run/walk and poker run and cornhole tourney on Saturday. Outdoor Mass and live auction on Sunday. Wristbands for all-day kid games & inflatables! Register at [www.holysmokin-jamboree.org](http://www.holysmokin-jamboree.org)!

**TOPEKA SPIRIT FAIR – BODY & SOUL REJUVENATION FAIR** – Sep. 13, 10-5 & Sep. 14, 10-3, Woodshed Event Center, 1901 N. Kansas Ave. Tickets \$3. [www.geminivibeskanssas.com](http://www.geminivibeskanssas.com)

**NOTO'S SCALLYWAGS & SHENANIGANS** – Sep. 19, 5pm. Check in at NOTO Escapes between 5-8 pm to grab yer treasure map, then set sail to explore the finest local taverns.

Complete yer scavenger hunt and unlock the chance to win amazing prizes while reveling in a night of excitement and camaraderie! Don't forget to don yer finest pirate attire for the costume contest. Be among the first 25 scallywags to sign up ye shall receive a free Pirate Pub Crawl T-shirt

**TOPEKA ALL HALLOWS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL** – Oct. 25-26, 10-6, Woodshed Event Ctr. grounds. Step back in time in 12 acres of wooded & grassy wonderland. Jousting, Pirates, Vikings, D&D Quest, mermaids, live entertainment, axe & arrow games, petting zoo, kids zone, costume contest, Gnome Home contest, face painting and much more! See Topeka Renaissance Festival facebook page for details.

**SENIORS PITCH CLUB** – Every Tuesday 1 pm at Garfield Community Center. First visit free then a dollar per visit for coffee and replacement cards

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

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** – Every Wed., 10:45 bible Study and meal at Noon, Topeka Church of the Brethren, 3201 NW Rochester Rd. 1 mile north of Dillon's North). FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. For info: 785-224-8803.

**Meriden  
Animal  
Hospital**



**Jeffrey F. Van Petten, DVM**

Member - AVMA, IVAS, AVCA  
Veterinary Acupuncture & Chiropractic Care

7146 K-4 Hwy, Meriden, Ks • 785-484-3358

[staff@meriden-animal.com](mailto:staff@meriden-animal.com) • [MeridenAnimalHosp.com](http://MeridenAnimalHosp.com)



**TARWATER**

Farm & Home

Hours: Mon - Fri: 8-6; Sat 8-4

4107 NW Topeka Blvd. • 785-286-2390

[orders@tarwaters.com](mailto:orders@tarwaters.com) • [Tarwaters.com](http://Tarwaters.com)

**TRM  
MINISTRIES**

**TOPEKA  
RESCUE MISSION  
MINISTRIES**

**FAITH WITH ITS SLEEVES ROLLED UP**

Main: 785.354.1744

Donate: Text **TRMgive** to 77977

Non-Cash Donations: 785.357.4285

Volunteer Services: 785.354.1744 ext. 393

[TRMonline.org](http://TRMonline.org)

Mail Donations to:  
600 N Kansas Ave  
Topeka, KS 66608  
OR  
P.O. Box 8350  
Topeka, KS 66608

*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 **Highlighted in Blue** in print, our online calendar and promoted in social media for only \$29!**

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

**GAGE PARK FOUNDERS FEST** — Aug. 29-30. Friday, the Kansas Children's Discovery Center will be open free 9-5. Saturday, enjoy free train rides & carousel rides, rec & roll van, free zoo adm., food trucks.

**ICT COMIC CON AND SCIENCE FICTION EXPO** — Aug. 30-31, 225 W Douglas, Wichita. Home for all things science fiction, comics, literature, movies and horror films with artists, writers, movie industry guests, including Heather Thomas (Fall Guy), Wrestler Hacksaw Jim Duggan, Olivia D'Abo (Conan the Destroyer), Jack O'Halloran (Superman I & II), Jeff East (Superman the Movie), Mike Grell and more! [www.ictcomiccon.com/](http://www.ictcomiccon.com/)

**TOUCH A TRUCK** — Sep. 6, 9:30-1:30, Every Plaza

**WALK FOR APRAXIA** — Sep. 6, 10-1, Garfield Park Shelter House. Registration is FREE so there has never been a better time to grow your Walk team! Every registered individual will have the opportunity to work toward earning individual fundraising incentive prizes, including this year's Walk t-shirt! Donate or register by visiting the official Topeka Walk for Apraxia site here <http://community.apraxia-kids.org/topekawalk>

**KANSAS CITY RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL** — Sat. & Sun., Aug. 30 - Oct 12, 10am - 7pm PLUS Mondays, Sep. 1,

10am - 7pm and Oct. 13, 10am - 5pm. [www.kc-renfest.com](http://www.kc-renfest.com). FB @KansasCityRenFest 913-721-2110 (email [voice@cox.net](mailto:voice@cox.net) to see how to get free tickets from Metro Voice!)

**ING NETWORKING GROUP** — Sep. 3, 11:30am at Cosmos Court, 909 S. Kansas Ave. All are welcome, free to attend, order from menu if desired.

**STUDIO 1108 RIBBON CUTTING** — Sep. 4, 11am, 534 Kansas Ave, Suite 1108. Studio 1108 is a community of wholesome, mindful & energizing practices for all, a haven for mind, body, and soul through sound healing, Reiki, yoga, meditation, and more. Meet our founders and practitioners, explore the beautiful space, learn about our classes, services and light refreshments.

**HUFF 'N PUFF HOT AIR BALLOON RALLY** — Sep. 5-7, Huntoon & Fairlawn. Balloon launches, vendors, & more. No admission, no parking fee. Please — no drones, no pets. Weather permitting. Contact: [gp-bcpres@gmail.com](mailto:gp-bcpres@gmail.com); [www.huff-n-puff.org](http://www.huff-n-puff.org)

**HOLY SMOKIN JAMBOREE** — Sep. 6-7, Mother Teresa Catholic Church, 2014 NW 46th St. family-friendly event with great food, drinks, car show, bingo, cake walk, crafts, raffles, silent auction, and live music by THE BASH Saturday night. 5K run/walk and poker run and cornhole tourney on Saturday. Outdoor Mass and live auction on Sunday. Wristbands for all-day kid

games & inflatables! Register at [www.holysmokin-jamboree.org/](http://www.holysmokin-jamboree.org/)

**MUSEUM AFTER HOURS** — Sep. 10, +6:30pm, Kansas Museum of History, 6425 SW 6th Ave. This month will feature our partnership with Dimensional Innovations (DI) ahead of opening a re-envisioned Kansas Museum of History. Together with the DI team, museum director Sarah Bell, and exhibits director, Nate Forsberg, will share the story of the long-awaited renovation. Register for the in-person event: <https://forms.office.com/g/dPMEDVHGTe>. A behind the scenes tour will be available before the program starts. Tickets can be purchased for \$5/person upon arrival. Light refreshments will also be available.

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON** — Sep. 11, 11:30-1, featuring Barry Feaker. Free admission. Meals available from menu if desired. Please RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org) so we know how many to expect. Open to the public - bring a friend!

**SAVE THE DATE: C5 POWER Luncheon, Oct. 9, 11:30-1.**

**TIM HAWKINS LIVE** — Sep. 11, 7pm, TPAC. Tim's humor captures the quirks of family life, marriage, and more.

**NIGHT OF PRAISE FUNDRAISER** — Sep. 12, 6:30pm, Fellowship Bible Church. Fundraiser for TRM Min-

istries featuring worship bands from Fellowship Bible Church and others. Free Entry. Please consider bringing a Non-Perishable food item, Diapers or Baby Food.

**NEHEMIAH FEST XIX** — Sep. 12-14, Smith's Fork Park, Smithville, MO. Christian Music & Camping Festival. [www.neemiahfest.com](http://www.neemiahfest.com).

**GREAT SERTOMA DUCK RACE** — Sep 13, 10am. It's all online — follow the fun on Facebook! Adopt your duck for just \$5 and you could win prizes like: Ford Edge SEL, diamond bracelet, coffee for a year, a shot at one million. [www.duckrace.com/topeka](http://www.duckrace.com/topeka)

**HISTORIC TOPEKA CEMETARY FALL TRACTOR FESTIVAL** — Sep. 13-14, 9-4, 1601 SE 10th. Showcase your tractor and equipment, see the equipment on display and enjoy the beautiful grounds.

**PRINCESS PARTY — STRAIGHT FROM BRANSON** — Sep. 13, 2pm, Cosmos Court, 909 S. Kansas Ave.

**BRITISH INVASION — STRAIGHT FROM BRANSON** — Sep. 13, 2pm, Cosmos Court, 909 S. Kansas Ave. tribute to rock and roll acts from across the pond that started the Rock & Roll revolution in the U.S.! Stones, Elton, Beatles and more....

**TOPEKA SPIRIT FAIR — BODY & SOUL REJUVENATION FAIR** — Sep. 13, 10-5 & Sep. 14, 10-3, Woodshed Event Center, 1901 N. Kansas Ave. Tickets \$3. [www.geminivibeskans.com](http://www.geminivibeskans.com)

**13TH ANNUAL 5K WALK/RUN** — Sep. 13, 8:30am,

Crestview Shelter House. Benefits Shawnee County Suicide Prevention Coalition.

**CAR SEAT CHECK LANE EVENT** — Sep. 13, 9-12, Shawnee County Health Department, 2600 SW East Circle Drive. Inspect the child restraint, confirm that the child restraint is correct for the size, weight, and age of the child; provide hands-on instruction on how to install and use the child restraint in the vehicle;

**PERRY FALL FESTIVAL AND GARDEN TRACTOR PULL** — Sep. 13, 9am, Front St. in Perry. Car & Bike Show, vendors, photo booth, ride the train, inflatables, balloon art, henna art, caricatures, putt-putt, cornhole tournament, music with Buck Creek and Cleveland Blue!

**VBP VETTES 7TH ANNUAL CORVETTE SHOW** — Sep. 13, 8am-3pm, Furniture Mall of Kansas at West Ridge Mall. Vendors, light show, food trucks, prizes

**CELTIC FOX 2ND SATURDAY PARTY** — Sep. 13, 7pm.

**HEADING HOME: A 21st Century Pilgrimage** — Sept. 14, 6pm, Nelson-Atkins Museum Auditorium, 4525 Oak St. Kansas City, MO. A documentary spanning 2,000 years and 4,000 miles through the world's most breathtaking churches and cathedrals to see how artists worked with theologians. From Jerusalem's Holy Sepulchre to London's Temple Church, discover how artists, architects, and theologians shaped spiritual spaces, guided by legends like Saint Augustine and Dante. For details: [www.Culturehouse.com/upcoming-events](http://www.Culturehouse.com/upcoming-events)



**KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER**

Concert at **The Woods** www.thewoodsaz.org

**Oct. 3, 7pm**

- Doors Open at 6pm
- Freewill Offering

3501 SW Wanamaker Rd. • 785-273-2248 • [office@wnnaz.org](mailto:office@wnnaz.org)



**Developing and Uniting Christian Leadership**

- Business • Non-profits • Churches

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

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

**Sept. 11, 11:30-1: "POWER" Luncheon**  
 at Glory Days Pizza in Fleming Place, 10th & Gage.


**Featured Speaker: Barry Feaker.**

**Free Admission;** Order lunch from menu if desired.  
 Open to the public. RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org)

Save the Dates!

- Oct. 9: POWER Luncheon, 11:30-1
- Nov. 13: POWER Luncheon, 11:30-1
- Dec. 11: CHRISTMAS Luncheon, 11:30-1 at the Mall
- Jan. 8: POWER Luncheon, 11:30-1

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

**BREAK THE PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK CYCLE**

**Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University.**

Thursdays from 7 to 9 pm beginning September 11th  
 \$80 per individual or for a couple who shares FPU resources  
 Heritage Country Cowboy Church  
 Contact: [office.heritagecountry@gmail.com](mailto:office.heritagecountry@gmail.com)  
 Space is limited! Reserve your spot today!

**Located at 15767 S Topeka Blvd, Scranton, KS (4 corners: Hwy 75 & 56)**

**GAGE PARK MEMORIAL CAR AND TRUCK SHOW** — Sep. 14, 10-2, Benefits The War on Terrorism Monument. Food Trucks Available. 785-969-0565,

**ING NETWORKING GROUP** — Sep. 17, 11:30am at Wings, Etc. All are welcome, free to attend, order from menu if desired.

**SUMMERTIME BLUES** — Sep. 17, 7-9pm, Gage Park Amphitheatre. Velvet Blues Revue, Food Truck

**NOTO'S SCALLYWAGS & SHENANIGANS** — Sep. 19, 5pm. Check in at NOTO Escapes between 5-8 pm to grab yer treasure map, then set sail to explore the finest local taverns. Complete yer scavenger hunt and unlock the chance to win prizes while reveling in a night of excitement and camaraderie! Don't forget to don yer finest pirate attire for the costume contest. Be among the first 25 scallywags to sign up ye shall receive a free Pirate Pub Crawl T-shirt

**HILLSBORO ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR** — Sep. 20, 9am-4pm. Over 300 vendors from across the nation, German food & Kaffeehaus, Midwestern Creative Art Market. Hillsboroartsandcraftsfair.org.

**PAXICO BLUES FESTIVAL** — Sep. 20, 11-8, Mill Creek Antiques, 102 Main St., Paxico

**KANSAS BOOK FESTIVAL** — Sep. 20, 9-4, Washburn University. Hear 50+ authors discuss their fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and children's books, including winners of major U.S. writing awards. Purchase a signed copy. Browse at outdoor vendor booths. Donate a used or new book to improve libraries at Kansas jails. Grab a chili dog or tropical treat from the food trucks, then sit and listen to live music. Free event. www.kansasbookfestival.com

**CIDER DAYS FALL MARKET** — Sep. 20-21, Exhibition Hall - Stormont Vail Events Center. Explore over 250 makers, creators, artisans and pickers.

**YOUTH FOR CHRIST GOLF CLASSIC** — Sep. 22, 8:00 reg.; 9:00 shotgun start, Lake Shawnee. Several sponsorship levels available. Lots of prizes! 785-232-8296 or topekayfc.org

**GARY'S FARM FEST** — Sep. 26-Nov. 1, Fri. - Sat. - Sun., 5991 17th St. Grantville, KS. 8 Acre Corn Maize, Pig Races, Corn Pit, 2 Jumping Pillows, Giant Slides, Animals, and more. Home Made Curry Fries, Ham-burgers, Brats, Turkey Legs, Apple Cider Slushy and Fireworks every Friday at 9pm! garysberries.com, garysfarmfest.com; 785-246-0800

**GREAT PLAINS RENAISSANCE & SCOTTISH FESTIVAL** — Sep. 27-28, 6501 W21st St. N, Wichita. Sedgwick County Park with jests and jousts, aerial acrobatics, falconry and fire breathing daredevils, bagpipes and belly dancers, singing pirates, knights and knaves, The Wichita Highland Games, Celtic music, kings and queens, Vikings and vagabonds, Kansas Authors Pavilion/renaissance in reading, fairies and fairy tales, fantastic artists, marvelous merchants and much more! \$17 Adm. www.greatplainsrenfest.com/onlineickets/

**MYERS TOURS: TRAVELERS GET-TOGETHER** — Sep. 27, 1-4pm at Viking Grill, Room 2. Get together and reminisce about the fun and crazy times you had on the trips in the past. Light refreshments served.

**FALL FESTIVAL AND SWAP MEET** — Sep. 27-28, 7am-4pm, Meriden Antique Engine and Threshers Association, 8275 K-4 Highway.

**KANSAS HONEY FESTIVAL** — Sep. 27, 9am, Old Prairie Town at Ward-Meade Historic Site & Botanical Garden. Live music and entertainment, Kids' games and family-friendly activities, Educational exhibits, Food and craft vendors, Beekeeping demos and hands-on learning opportunities.

**CARBONDALE FALL FESTIVAL AND STREET DANCE** — Sep. 27, 2-10pm, Main Street, Carbondale. Street Shopping Vendors, Bingo at the Library, Parade, Kid-die Corner, Color Dash, Cornhole Tournament and Street Dance with live music by the Steve Kile Band!

**KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER** — Oct. 3, 7pm, Wana-maker Woods Nazarene Church, 3501 SW Wana-maker Road. Doors open 6pm. Concert at 7pm. No tickets are necessary. There will be a free-will "love offering" received during the concert. 785-273-2248; office@wnmaz.org; wnmaz.org

**LIVERPOOL LEGENDS** — Oct. 3, 7:30pm, TPAC

**CELEBRITY WAITER SOIRÉE**, Oct. 4, 5:30-9:30pm, Townsite Ballroom 534 S Kansas Ave. See Your fa-

vorite local celebrities serve up entertainment for tips at this one-of-a-kind Fund-Raiser supporting Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas!, 785-357-5171, info@east.ks.childcareaware.com, https://onecau.se/celebritywaitersoiree, Ticket sales close 9/21/25

**TOPEKA ALL HALLOWS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL** — Oct. 25-26, 10-6, Woodshed Event Ctr. grounds. Step back in time in 12 acres of wooded & grassy wonderland. Jousting, pirates, Vikings, D&D Quest, mermaids, live entertainment, axe & arrow games, petting zoo, kids zone and much more! See Topeka Renaissance Festival facebook page.

## ONGOING EVENTS

**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.

**MEDICARE MONDAYS** — First Mon. ea. month, 1-3pm. Topeka/Sh. Co. Public Library, 1515 SW 10th. Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging offers Senior health insurance counseling. 580-4545 or nhoni@tscpl.org

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

**FIRST FRIDAY ART MARKET** — Downtown and NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market items, snacks, beverages, entertainment and more.

**TOPEKA ACAPELLA UNLIMITED AUDITIONS** —Topeka Acappella Unlimited is looking for female singers who would like to sing four-part acappella harmonies. Topeka Acappella Unlimited is a Chapter of Sweet Adelines, International. Cindy Patton: 785-640-7403

**HARVESTERS MOBILE FOOD PANTRY**, 1st & 3rd Sat, 2-3pm, Shawnee Heights UMC parking lot.

**FREE MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** — 4th Tue. thru Nov., 9am, 1231 NW Eugene St. Randel Ministries, Inc., in partnership with Harvesters and Family of God Church will have its monthly food distribution. No ID or proof of income required, first come first served. Distributing fresh produce and other items to families in need. 785-234-1111. RandelMinistries.com

**TOPEKA PUBLIC LIBRARY PLAY BUS** — 9:30am-noon, Lakeview Nazarene Church, 2835 Croco. Every Tuesday, enjoy story time, play opportunities, books for check-out & take & make art. 785-266-3247.

**OPEN INDOOR COURT PICKLEBALL** — Sundays at 4pm, Berryton United Methodist Church (7010 SE Berryton Rd. All ages and abilities welcome.

**WOODSHED MARKET** — Sun. 9-2, 1901 N. Kansas Ave.

**FAMILY NIGHT AT COSMOS COURT** — Tuesdays, 5pm, Cosmos Court, 909 S. Kansas Ave. Pizza, salads, hot dogs, nachos, soup and more! Get a 16" Pizza, 2 side salads, and 4 cups of ice cream for only \$30!

**FRIDAY NIGHT FUNNIES** — Every Friday at Cosmos Court, 909 S. Kansas. Weekly comedy show is only \$15, or two for \$25.

**SATURDAY CRUISE NIGHTS** — 5-9pm: 1st Sat: Spangles, 29th & Topeka Blvd (Cruise the Blvd!); 2nd Sat: Fairlawn Plaza; 3rd Sat: The Dugout, 17th & Fairlawn; 4th Sat: The Pad; 5th Sat: The Dugout.

**CORNER MARKET** — 2nd Saturdays. 29th & Adams. 50+ Vendors, food trucks, music, kids activities,

**FIRST FRIDAY FARM & ART MARKET** — Every First Friday through Sep., 4-10pm, Great Overland Station. Info: communityevents@snco.gov or 785-251-6945

**BREAD BASKET FARMERS MARKET** — Saturdays 7:30am-1pm, West Ridge Mall south parking lot

**DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** - Saturday's April 12 thru Oct., 7:30am-noon, 6th & Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower,baked goods

**LAWRENCE FARMERS MARKET** - Sat. 7:30-11:30, 824 New Hampshire Street.

**MONDAY FARMERS MARKET** — Mondays 7:30-11:30am, thru Sep. 29, Topeka & Sh. Co. Library, 10th & Washburn.Closed Memorial Day & Labor Day

**SPLASH PAD FOUNTAINS** — Everyy Plaza, Sun. 12-6,

and 11-1 & 4-8 on most weekdays.

**SPLASH PAD** Yoadhouse Theater in Branson. This show is currently ranked the #2 rated show in Branson by Trip Advisor.

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

**GRAND OTTAWA OPRY** - 2nd & 4th Saturday, 5:30PM-pre-show, 6PM showtime, Ottawa Memorial Auditorium, 301 S Hickory, Ottawa. Tickets are \$15 and only at the door. Ph. 785-241-6762, email grandoopry@gmail.com. GrandOttawaOpry.com

**WOOD VALLEY PICKERS** — Last Sat of each month, 7pm, Classic Bean, Fairlawn Plaza. Folk & Country, Free admission. 785-271-5005

**"PICKIN' ON THE PRAIRIE"**, a FREE Acoustic Jam at Great Overland Station every Sunday from 1-3pm. For info: 785-251-6944

**LIVE AT LUNCH** — Wednesdays, 11-1, Everyy Plaza. www.evergyplaza.com

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

**HOPE HOUSE FREE COMMUNITY CLOTHING BANK** — Wed. 6-8pm and Sat. 12-3pm, Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 939 NE Oakland

**HARVESTER FREE MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** - 2nd Saturday each month, 1:30-3pm, Oakland Church of the Nazarene: 939 NE Oakland

**FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET** — 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM, Shawnee Heights UMC, 6020 SE 44th

**INSIDE OUT FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** — Every Sunday 12pm service; Every Tuesday 7:30pm service. Location: 2409 NE Division St.. For info: 785-380-7031 or io@insideoutinc.net or www.insideoutinc.net

**KIDS for JESUS!** - Wednesday's 7 - 8pm, Lakeview Church of the Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd. Bring your friends, family, neighbors, enemies! For info: 785-266-3247, FB: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene, Email: Lakenaz@aol.com

**MID-WEEK PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY** - Wednesday's, 7-8pm, Lakeview Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd. You are invited! Contact info: (785)266-3247, FB: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene

**LOL "LADIES OF LAKEVIEW"** - Lakeview Church of the Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd. Monthly Women's Ministry Events! (Cooking, Crafts, Outreach, Bible Study, Fellowship!) Call the church office for info: (785) 266-3247, Facebook: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene Email: LakeNaz@aol.com

**ROOTED CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL CO-OP**; Colosians 2:6-7. Monday's 12-4pm. Cooking class for 4th graders & older at noon. Call the Church Office for

more information. Lakeview Church of the Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd. Church: (785) 266-3247. Facebook: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene. LakeNaz@aol.com

## MEETINGS & CLASSES

**CHRISTIAN WRITERS GROUP OF TOPEKA -1st & third Mondays, 7pm at the Hughes Room 205 of the Topeka Library. Workshop for aspiring writers. Each participant is asked to bring five copies of a two page type written sample of a work in progress. After reading the pages aloud each participant is allowed an equal number of positive and negative comments offered in a spirit of helpfulness. If you would like to read something email Charles at jcccccw@gmail.com**

**SENIORS PITCH CLUB** - Every Tuesday 1 pm at Garfield Community Center. First visit free then a dollar per visit for coffee and replacement cards

**CRAFTY, SKILLED OR CREATIVE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to develop outdoor lighted displays at Ward Meade Park events. Contact Elsie, 785-256-2920.

**CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA MEETING** - Join other concerned people 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 for the community. Located at Florence Crittenton Services Center for Integrative Health, 5423 SW 7th. www.flocritkansas.org

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

**TAI CHI FOR HEALTH** — Mon. 10-11 at Lowman United Methodist Church and Thu. 9:30-10:30 at Topeka Zoo. No training needed, just watch & follow. Contact Madon Daily at 505-424-8989 or madondale@gmail.com. To Join from Home via Zoom, contact Madon for the Zoom link.

**PICKLEBALL** — Mon. & Wed, 1-3pm, First Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar Ave. Park on West Side, where the gym is located. Contact Dave Mathias, davemathias@sbcglobal.net, or Betsy Thompson, betsyjthompson@gmail.com.

**SHEPHERD'S CENTER BOOK CLUB** - 1st & 3rd Mon. 2-4pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1275 SW Boswell Ave. Call: 785-249-3258 or email shepherd-stopeka@yahoo.com for the book of study.

**SMS - STRENGTH, MOBILITY, STABILITY EXERCISE GROUP (SMS)** Mon. 9-9:30am, Arbor Court, 4200 SW Drury Lane. Tue. & Thu. 9-9:30am, Rosehill Place, 3600 SW Gage Blvd # 97. Tue & Thu, 10-10:45, Grace UMC, 2627 SW Western Ave. Call Anne Crawford at 785-273- 4527 or email anne.crawford@cox.net.

**SENIOR FIT & FUN PROGRAM** - Every Mon., Wed., and Fri at 1:30 at Pleasant Hills United Methodist Church,

4525 NW Button Rd. 785-246-1737.

**TOPEKA LIONS CLUB** — 1st Mondays at Noon - 1 pm at The Capper Foundation, 3500 SW 10th Ave. Park on the North side. RSVP by Fri. for lunch/pay at the meeting. Visitors welcome. TopekaLions.org/contact-us to make reservations. WE SERVE!

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

**TOPEKA NEEDLEWORK GUILD** - Every Mon. (except holidays) 9a-11a in the Menninger Room of the Topeka Public Library. Bring a project to work on as we share our needleworking skills and ideas.

**CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOL CO-OP** - Monday's, 1-4pm, Lakeview Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd. Contact info: (785)266-3247, FB: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene

**SENIOR ADULT EXERCISE CLASS** - Tuesday's 10am, Lakeview Nazarene, 2835 SE Croco Rd. All exercises will be done from a chair, will help you get up out of a chair, & climb stairs safely! Contact info: (785)266-3247, FB: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene

**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, Kirk Nystrom 785-235-6977.

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

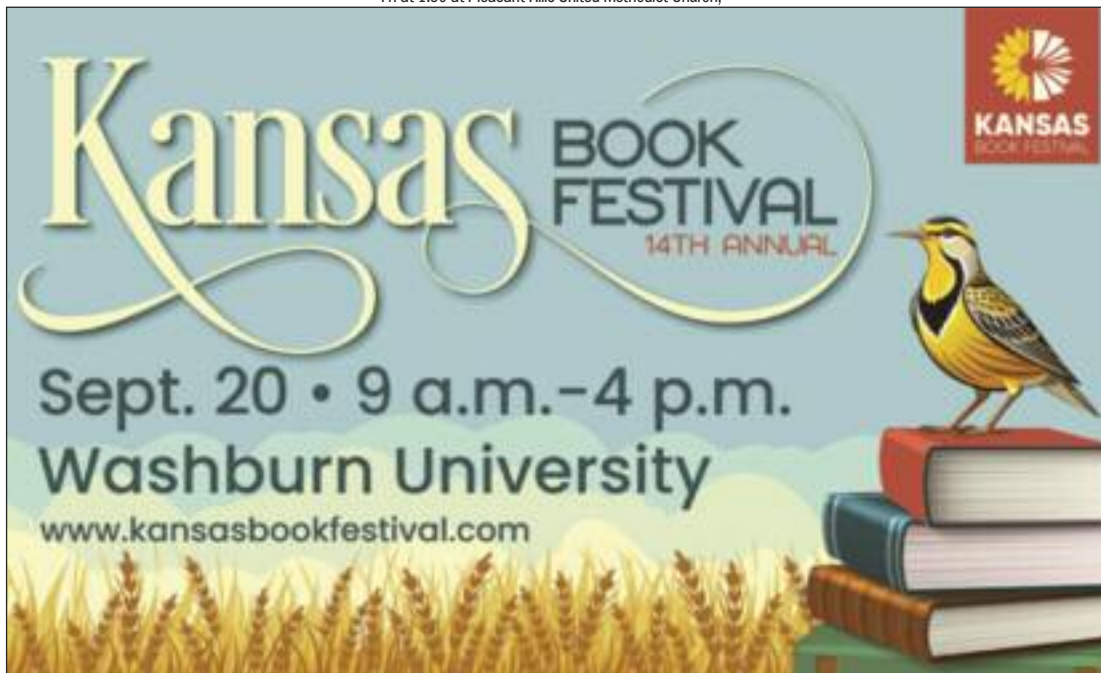
**NARVE (Nat'l Assn of Railroad Veteran Employee)** - 2nd Tuesday each month at at 9:30AM @ Museum of the Kansas National Guard, 125 SE Airport Dr, Topeka

**MENNINGER BIBLE CLASSES** - Tuesdays 11am-12:30. Amerus Room, YWCA, 225 West 12th. A new study group for Year One of Flo Menninger's course on Four Years through the Bible. Read and discuss Genesis through First Kings. Nominal charge for materials. For info call the YWCA at 233-1750 or Clara Gamache at 785-408-5433. (The Bible study is also taught on Sat. mornings on 101.5 FM radio.)

**FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES** Aerie 4319: 1st & 3rd Tue. 7pm; Auxiliary: 1st & 4th Tue. 6pm, 2941 SE Fremont Street. 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

**DUPLICATE BRIDGE** - Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30PM at The Woman's Club of Topeka, 5221 SW West Dr. Bill Gates and Warren Buffett play duplicate bridge! It is great for your brain health. For additional information email janescola@hotmail.com.

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



**MAP GROUP (MEMOIRS, ANCESTRY, PHOTOS)** - VIA ZOOM - 4th Wed. 10-11:30am. Contact Rich McReynolds at [rm4017@gmail.com](mailto:rm4017@gmail.com). Via Zoom link

**FAMILY HISTORY WRITING GROUP** - 2nd Wed. 10-11:30am, Lowman United Methodist Church, room 12. Do you have great family stories to tell and want to pass them down to the next generation but don't know where to start? [shepherdstopeka@yahoo.com](mailto:shepherdstopeka@yahoo.com)

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

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

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

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

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** - Every Wed., 10:45 Bible Study and meal at Noon, Topeka Church of the Brethren, 3201 NW Rochester Rd. (1 mile north of Dillon's North). FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. Free will donations accepted. For info: 785-224-8803 or [vip@topekanorthoutreach.org](mailto:vip@topekanorthoutreach.org).

**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.

**TOPEKA COSMOPOLITAN CLUB**: The Club that fights Diabetes -- Meetings: first three Thursdays of every month, 12 noon, at the Topeka Country Club.

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

**OPERATION BACKPACK** - 1st Thurs., 6pm, Indian Creek Elementary School, 4303 NE Indian Creek Rd. Volunteers assemble Weekend Snack Sacks for low-income students. No assembly in August. Sponsored by Topeka North Outreach: 286-1370.

**LINE DANCING** - 2nd & 4th Thu. 1:30-3:30 at First Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar Ave. Contact Karen Botkin at 785-945-6785 or Jim Baer at 785-256-2432 or [jimbaer73@gmail.com](mailto:jimbaer73@gmail.com) to register.

**BRIDGE GROUP** - 1st & 3rd Thu. 1-3:30pm, at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. To play, arrangements must be made by Mon. 5pm with Joan Arterburn at 408-5174.

**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](http://tgstopeka.org).

**KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP** - 3rd Thu., 11:30am-1pm via Zoom. Christian financial professionals: financial planners, accountants, attorney's & insurance agents invited. For info: [kingdomadvisors.org](http://kingdomadvisors.org) or Jim Hanna, [james.c.hanna@ampf.com](mailto:james.c.hanna@ampf.com) or 785.357.6278 x19.

**A GOOD YARN CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Sat., 9-11am, Wanamaker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wana-maker. Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Info: Anne, 785-272-9249 or [kittens812@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kittens812@sbcglobal.net)

**TOPEKA GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY** - 4th Fridays, 7:15pm, 1st Congressional Church, 1701 SW Collins.

**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](http://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 GREAT LIGHT AGLOW** - For info contact Vickie Lynch at [greatlighttopeka@gmail.com](mailto:greatlighttopeka@gmail.com).

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**HOPE AND HEALING ACADEMY** harnesses the power of horses to transform the human spirit. For info: 785-224-4232 or [www.hopeandhealingacademy.com](http://www.hopeandhealingacademy.com).

**OVERCOMER'S OUTREACH ANONYMOUS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - Mondays 6:30-7:30pm, at Be Filled Of South Topeka, 200 Airport Rd, Bldg. 818 Suite 1. Led by Pastor Bill Ritchey. 785-817-2802

**BINDING UP THE BROKEN HEARTED** - Sessions offered for women who suffer from the after-effects of abortion. All the women who lead these sessions have had an abortion and have received healing from God's Word. For info, contact local Healing Hearts representative Shelly Brush, First Southern Baptist Church at [shelly.b@healing-hearts.org](mailto:shelly.b@healing-hearts.org). All communication is confidential and secure.

**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. Info: 785-232-2044 ext.341

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS** - Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging provides an opportunity for caregivers to get together and share their ideas and feelings. 2nd Monday, 3:30pm, Topeka public library, Anton Rm. 3rd Friday, 12 noon, Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, 2910 SW Topeka

Send your calendar events to [voice@cox.net](mailto:voice@cox.net)

See complete calendar at [metrovoice-news.com](http://metrovoice-news.com)



**OPEN WEEKENDS SEPT. 26 THRU NOV. 1**  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and SUNDAY!  
FIREWORKS EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT!

**Fall Family Fun**  
One pumpkin at a time.

Corn Maze, Sunflower Photos, Pig Races, Paintball Shooting Gallery, Apple Cannons, Pumpkin Patch, Hayrides, Kid's Games, GemsKone Mining, Unique Eats & Special Events All Season Long!

[www.garysfarmfest.com](http://www.garysfarmfest.com) • Grantville, KS 66429 • 785.246.0800  
Gon's Berries LLC dba Gary's Farm Fest



**Hillsboro Kansas**

**56th HILLSBORO Arts & Crafts Fair**

For more information, contact  
**Hillsboro Arts & Crafts Association**  
110 N. Main  
Hillsboro, Kansas 67063  
620-947-3505  
[director@hillsboroartsandcraftsfair.org](mailto:director@hillsboroartsandcraftsfair.org)  
[www.hillsboroartsandcraftsfair.org](http://www.hillsboroartsandcraftsfair.org)

The Hillsboro community not only welcomes the visiting shoppers and artisans, but their generous volunteer spirit make the fair possible.

Saturday 9am - 4pm  
September 20, 2025

Find us on Facebook

- Over 300 vendors from across the nation
- Bake sale, German food and Kaffeehaus
- The Midwestern Creative Art Market



## TOPEKA Small Businesses:

**Economy hurt your business?**

**You need Advertising... We need Ad Buyers!**

**Let's help each other!**

**Print / Digital Combo - \$99!**

- We'll run your ad (4" by 3") in 7,000 printed copies of *Topeka Metro Voice* or *Health & Wellness* magazine
- We'll place your ad on our *Topeka Metro Voice* and *Health & Wellness* web pages
- We'll promote your ad on social media pages/groups, and emails!

Call Lee at 785-640-6399 or email [voice@cox.net](mailto:voice@cox.net)

Send us your ad or we'll make one for you!



Check our website and facebook page for details on theme weekends and specials!

**Kansas City Renaissance Festival** **KCRenFest.com**

Weekends starting Aug. 30th to October 12th

# entertainment

## SUPERMAN: “Exciting, Heartfelt, Positive Moments, but Marred”

SUPERMAN is a reimagination of the famous comic book superhero. In the story, Superman’s arch-nemesis, billionaire Lex Luthor, uses a super-powerful metahuman to defeat Superman in a big battle. Then, Lex secretly infiltrates the Fortress of Solitude, where he uncovers a terrible secret about Superman’s parents on Krypton. Lex uses the secret to turn the people of America, and the world, against the superhero. Can Superman, Lois Lane, Jimmy Olsen, three of Superman’s superhero friends, and his dog, Krypto, defeat Lex Luthor’s evil plans and restore Superman’s reputation?

Writer/Director James Gunn packs SUPERMAN with lots of exciting physical and emotional jeopardy. The movie also has some funny moments. Also, some heartfelt content is morally uplifting. However, the movie changes Superman’s origin story in a significant way that destroys the original story’s biblical allusions to Moses and Jesus. Also, it creates a politically correct pro-immigration theme. Ironically, the movie contradicts this by showing that it’s Superman’s American, non-immigrant parents who make Superman a good guy. SUPERMAN has scary action violence, multiple obscenities and two gratuitous strong profanities.

### Content:

(BB, C, ACAC, Ro, PC, PP, LLL, VV, M):

### Dominant Worldview and Other Worldview Content/Elements:

Strong moral pro-life worldview with a light redemptive tone promotes doing the right thing, compassion, justice, fighting and overcoming tyrannical evil, setting the captives free, and protecting and saving lives, mitigated by some occasional but undeveloped Romantic no-



tions about people being inherently good and by some politically correct and misguided and disingenuous if not deceitful arguments supporting immigration that are meant to send a message against any mass deportations of illegal immigrants, but these arguments are contradicted by the fact that the movie also clearly shows that it’s the hero’s American, non-immigrant adoptive parents who are responsible for making the hero such a good, upstanding young man who’s always trying to do the right, compassionate and just thing;

### Foul Language:

21 obscenities (including 9 or 10 “s” words), one strong profanity using the name of Jesus Christ, one GD profanity, and seven light profanities;

### Violence:

Lots of strong and ought action violence includes Superman hurtles to the ground and has bloody cuts on his face, dog with superpowers jumps on the injured Superman’s body wanting to play and this causes Superman pain, Superman battles a masked mutant human with powers similar to his, Superman and his dog use their heat ray vision several times, Superman and other su-

perheroes battle a large dinosaur monster that the main villain has created, villain subdues dog by wrapping it with nanobots, Superman turns himself in to the authorities, but main villain imprisons him in a “pocket universe” with a bunch of other prisoners, Luther shoots an innocent civilian in the head from a distance to get Superman to reveal where his adoptive parents live and then threatens to do the same with other people Superman knows, villain uses kryptonite to debilitate Superman, villain imprisons and threatens a kidnapped baby to order baby’s father to do his evil bidding and hurt and painfully subdue Superman, Superman gets loose and tries to save the father’s baby, villain’s henchmen try to stop Superman from saving the baby, and the baby is placed in multiple dangerous situations while Superman tries to protect him, a developing black hole threatens people, villain tries to suffocate and overcome Superman with nanobots, characters hit the ground violently in one scene, a superhero fights multiple henchmen at one time, a villain violently body slams Superman on a baseball field, and they tear up the grass and ground on part of the field, Superman punches one of villain’s henchman, and the man’s the go flying, villain orders his scientist’s to create a crack in the Earth’s crust that threatens a city, buildings start to topple like dominoes because of that and threaten people below, Superman and other superheroes protect buildings and people from getting hurt;

No sex scenes; No nudity; No alcohol use; No smoking or drugs

—Movieguide.com

## “Happy Gilmore Takes on Golf, Grief, and Sobriety”



HAPPY GILMORE 2 on Netflix is a sequel to the beloved golf comedy HAPPY GILMORE, led by Adam Sandler. Happy isn’t doing well. After accidentally killing his wife with a stray golf ball, Happy vows never to golf again and starts drinking heavily. Happy learns his daughter is eligible to attend a Paris ballet school in Paris. So, Happy decides to get sober, pick up his clubs again and earn the money they need for tuition. Can Happy stay sober and earn the tuition money?

HAPPY GILMORE 2 is a fun follow-up to the first movie. It has funny, moving performances from Adam Sandler and his real-life daughter, Sunny. It also has some great cameos from comedy and sports stars. HAPPY GILMORE 2 has a strong moral worldview, with redemptive content. Many scenes promote strong family relationships, forgiveness and turning away from alcohol. Happy’s dedicated to being a good father. Meanwhile, his children love and support him. However, HAPPY GILMORE 2 has lots of foul language, comical violence, a few suggestive jokes, and issues of alcohol abuse. So, MOVIEGUIDE® advises extreme caution.

### Content:

(BB, C, LLL, VV, N, AA, D, M):

### Dominant Worldview and Other Worldview Content/Elements:

Strong moral worldview with some light redemptive content promotes family and forgiveness, title character is a devoted father and wants to do everything he can for his children, man’s children are just as supportive of him, children en-

courage father to return to golf and maintain his sobriety, father is forgiven by the son of a man he accidentally killed in the first movie who tells father there’s no sense holding on to that anger and hurt, title character forgives himself for accidentally killing his wife when he hit a wayward golf ball;

### Foul Language:

About 55 obscenities (including 14 “s” words), two GD profanities, three light profanities, and an obscene gesture;

### Violence:

Strong and light, often comic, violence with no blood includes title character, and his sons are prone to physical violence, there are multiple scenes showing them fighting one another and other people, alligators attack one character, characters get hit by golf balls and baseballs, and one person chokes his caddy when his golf game goes badly;

Several sexually suggestive jokes; Three scenes feature men without their shirts, four scenes with rear male nudity when man’s sons moon him twice and when another character doesn’t wear pants with his pajama top, and a younger version of man’s dead wife twice is shown wearing lingerie as man goes to his “happy place”; Many scenes depict characters drinking, and Happy is an alcoholic but gets sober and attends support meetings, and, although he relapses at one point, Happy is committed to his sobriety and is supported by friends and family; A character smokes a cigarette in one scene, but no drugs.

—MovieGuide.com

*T.H. Peterson*  
Photography

20 Years Experience

Weddings  
Seniors  
Newborns  
Families

785.793.2492 | 785.213.0812  
tommy@thpetersonphoto.com

## 7 Fun Family Movies to Ease into the School Year

The back-to-school hustle is well underway across the nation.

Of course, the weekend will eventually roll around, giving parents and kids alike a chance to wind down together on the couch. Thankfully, the major streaming services are stepping up with fresh content -- perfect for kicking back after a long week of school.

Here are seven new family titles this month.

### 1. Despicable Me 1 & 2 (Netflix)

A grumpy supervillain named Gru (Steve Carell) sets out to steal the moon but discovers a softer side -- and a heart for good deeds -- when he takes in three adorable young girls (Despicable Me). In Despicable Me 2, Gru meets and falls in love with Lucy Wilde (Kristen Wiig), an agent from the Anti-Villain League. It's an adoption-centric set of films with a redemptive story arc in which Gru transforms into a good guy. Both films are rated PG for rude humor and mild action.

### 2. A Thread to Your Heart (Great American Family)

The owner of a quaint New Zealand yarn shop is shaken when her top supplier, King Farms, announces it's shutting down. That's when a charming but no-nonsense businessman arrives to oversee the closure, only to have the shop owner persuade him to give her two weeks to learn yarn spinning and raise funds to buy the mill herself. As you may have guessed, romantic sparks soon fly. It premieres on Great American Family Aug. 16.

### 3. NASA Live (Netflix)

Yes, you can watch every live NASA event on multiple platforms -- for free -- but there's just something special about clicking that "Netflix" button and watching it through the nation's most popular



streaming platform. It becomes ... cinematic. Netflix began streaming NASA live in recent events, beginning with the launch of SpaceX Crew-11. Each live event then enters the Netflix library. Rated G.

### 4. The King of Kings (Home Video)

A young father, Charles Dickens, tells his son a bedtime story about a King unlike any other -- a Servant who washed feet, calmed storms, and gave His life to save the world. As the boy imagines the scenes unfolding, the life of Jesus comes alive for viewers. This Angel Studios animated film was a hit at the box office and was inspired by Dickens' own manuscript, *The Life of Our Lord*, which he wrote as a retelling of the life of Jesus for his children. It was one of the best films of the year. It releases on home video Aug. 26. Rated PG for thematic material, violent content, and some scary moments.

### 5. Megamind (Netflix)

An intelligent supervillain finally defeats his superhero rival, only to realize that a life without opposition feels meaningless. He then creates a new hero to fight -- only to discover that becoming the good guy might be the role he was meant to play all along. As chaos unfolds, he is forced to choose between his villainous past and saving the very city he once

tried to conquer. Rated PG for action and some language. Clearplay offers a filter.

### 6. The Prince of Egypt (Netflix)

A young man flees Egypt after killing an Egyptian guard in an act of righteous anger, only to discover his true identity as a Hebrew and his greater purpose. This 1998 box office hit follows the story of Moses as he returns to Egypt as God's chosen messenger, demanding the release of the Hebrew slaves. Of course, Pharaoh refuses -- and God intervenes in a mighty way. It is an uplifting animated musical that stays true to the spirit of Scripture, even if it is Moses -- and not Aaron, as in the Bible -- who speaks. Rated PG for intense depiction of thematic elements.

### 7. Wicked (Prime Video)

A young woman with unique talents sets off for Shiz University in the Land of Oz, where she hopes to gain control over her mysterious magical powers. There, Elphaba -- a gifted woman often bullied due to her green skin -- forms an unlikely friendship with a bubbly student, Galinda. This Disney musical tells the backstory of the two witches in the classic story *The Wizard of Oz* -- the Wicked Witch of the West (Elphaba) and the Good Witch (Galinda). Rated PG for some scary action, thematic material, and brief suggestive material.

—Michael Foust

## Rising Christian Star Gets 'Honest' in New Album

Christian artist Katy Nichole doesn't hold anything back in her latest album, *Honest Conversations*.

"This record was so therapeutic for me to write," she wrote in an Instagram post. "As I was walking through complicated seasons and storms of intense emotions, I had my release by getting to write these songs."

Nichole shared that she's always "been a verbal processor," and singing was a way to calm herself down in stressful times.

"Music has always been the way to reach me when nothing else could — I've found God in music, time and time again. Sometimes a lyric felt like the voice of God directly piercing my heart and soul," she continued.

The singer-songwriter wrote, "My hope for this album is that it meets you where you're at and reminds you that you don't have to do this alone. If you have ever felt misunderstood, I hope these songs make you feel seen, if you have ever felt doubt, I hope this leads you to bring the good, the bad, and everything in between to God, and lastly, I hope these songs feel like a warm hug when you need it the most. Honest conversations with yourself, with God, and with others are the first steps towards healing."

"Thank you for being part of this journey with me, I pray you find God as you listen to these songs," Nichole concluded.

The artist spoke to K-Love Radio about the new collection of songs, explaining, "I am so excited about the songs that I have released...when I think about the writing process, [the songs] were very real and honest and vulnerable."



"I think that honest conversations are so important and they need to be had. I wanted to write about honest conversations with ourselves, with the Lord, and with others," she continued. "Because I just think that things start to change when we have honest conversations."

In another Instagram post announcing the project, Nichole wrote, "Music is a universal language, and I feel as though it gives us a safe place in some of our darkest moments. Music has saved my life on multiple occasions. Why? Because the Lord gets me better than anyone else and He knew that I needed a song when nothing else could reach me."

"Sometimes a word or melody meets us exactly where we are at when we need it the most," she continued. "When I started songwriting, I knew that I wanted to write songs that meant something. Even if it was just one person it impacted, then it was all worth it."

Nichole concluded, "I hope these songs meet you where you're at and start your healing journey. In whatever season you're walking through, just know, you're never walking alone."

—MovieGuide.com

## Are You Ready for NCIS: TONY & ZIVA? Cote De Pablo and Michael Weatherly Spill Details

Cote De Pablo and Michael Weatherly sat down with TV Insider for an in-depth interview about their new show, NCIS: TONY & ZIVA.

"My truth is I am so grateful, because who gets the chance to work with their very, very good friend on something that they really, truly care about, that they've been conjuring up for years and years?" De Pablo said.

In the show, Tony and Ziva reunite after several years to raise their daughter, Tali, in Paris. However, they're soon on the run after Tony's security company is attacked.



"The audience will get a glimpse of what happened in flashbacks. In the beginning, Ziva thinks [the relation-

ship] is done. In flashbacks, we explore how they get together and where the communication broke down," De Pablo explained. "These two stories are happening at the same time."

"The B storyline is how Tony and Ziva dealt with the obstacles

they had before them, the trust issues, and everything else," Weatherly added. "Are we going to co-parent? That's the

root of it."

De Pablo explained that the characters' attraction comes back to life in a different way.

Related: Don't Miss This First Look at NCIS: TONY & ZIVA

"There was a new feature inside Cote's demeanor; there was this new angle of light. I didn't realize [why] until later," Weatherly added. "I was like, oh, she's a mother."

"I'm meeting the mother. The mother was always there, but now the mother is the mother. I was able to see that aspect of Cote that I had blinders

to," he said.

"We're parents in real life, but we're now playing them. This is a show about trust at its core. We have had to trust many aspects of this [series]. The characters are exploring this theme," he said.

In NCIS, Ziva had faked her own death, which creates some trust issues in the relationship.

"Ziva has lived realities within realities. They're also survival mechanisms. There were years where she had Tali, and then she was gone," De Pablo said.



## Tips to Overcome Home Renovation ‘Decision Paralysis’

One of the hardest parts of home remodeling can be simply getting started. With so many styles, colors and materials to choose from, it’s all too common to experience “decision paralysis.” Rather than put off your exterior renovation further, consider these tips and tools for nailing down the details:

### Browse

Online tools can both help you bring your vision to life -- and decide what that vision is. ProVia’s Design Center is an innovative tool that lets you browse and save colors, coordinating palettes and product images. As you explore the Color Palettes page, which features color wheels representing unique palettes, along with suggested product colors and inspirational imagery, keep these factors in mind:

Architectural style. Understanding the features that define your home’s design style is essential in color selection. For instance, a colonial-style home may look best with classic, neutral colors, while a modern-style home might benefit from bold, vibrant accents.

Landscaping and surroundings. Look to your surroundings for inspiration, selecting colors that harmonize with your landscape to create a cohesive and visually appealing look.

Color psychology. Colors have the power to evoke specific emotions and moods. Think about what you want



guests to feel when they come to your front door, or what you want to feel each time you pull into your driveway. For instance, warm colors like red and yellow can create a welcoming and energetic feel, while cool colors like blue and green can create a sense of calm and tranquility.

Signing up for a My Design Account at provia.com/register allows you to create and save your own vision boards, so you can compile your favorite ideas in one place.

“In addition to any color palette images you’ve saved, you can ‘favorite’ other images on the site by clicking the heart in the upper right corner. Use your saved images to create whatever you want, whether it’s a board with just entry door ideas, or a board to visualize your favorite colors together,” advises Jennifer Kline, digital experience supervisor at ProVia.

### Visualize

Are you more of a big-picture person, preferring to see how all the parts fit together as a whole? It can be hard

to imagine how your home will look by holding up a siding color swatch or trying to visualize a new metal roof to replace your worn-out asphalt shingles. This inability to “see” the finished result in your mind’s eye can be frustrating. Fortunately, the ProVia Visualizer tool enables you to preview colors and styles on your home, so you know exactly how it will turn out. Simply upload a photo of your house and then experiment with products. Get creative with door and window configurations, siding styles and shades, stone profiles and grout colors,

and metal roofing options. “Purchasing home exterior products is a big decision, which is why it’s nice to visually try before you buy. The ProVia Visualizer lets you preview different design and product selections so you can move forward with your project with confidence,” says Kline. While the endless possibilities of a home renovation can be exciting, they can also make it seem overwhelming. Fortunately, increasingly sophisticated digital tools can help you define your style and see your vision through.

– StatePoint

10%OFF

5% Off Parts

A/C Service

Expires Sep 30, 2025

DEBACKERS, Inc.

Since 1949

Heating - Cooling New Construction & Replacement Systems

785-232-2916 • 1520 SE 10th Ave.

Hello Garage

Clean, Organized Spaces.

#1 Kansas City Garage Renovation Experts

Concrete Floor Coatings

Cabinets & Shelving

Garage Accessories

Get your free estimate today!

877.782.1835

Downing Septic & Grease Cleaning

785-357-0046

A DIVISION OF TORRES BLANCO BY TORRES SAN BLANCO

THRASHER FOUNDATION REPAIR

ESTD 1975

50 YEARS

Precise Repair, Genuine Care

50 years of trust. 50% off labor for you.

50% OFF LABOR

MENTION CODE **FIXIT50**

Cannot be combined with other offers. Must be presented at time of appointment. Financing options available. Offer expires 12/31/25.

GET A FREE ESTIMATE 866-571-8749

WINDOW NATION

Windows that save you money up-front – and year-round.

Windows don't just look good on an investment; the best ones will actually save you money on your monthly utility bills. Imagine getting all that at an affordable price. That's Window Nation.

Insulated

More heat stays in - the cool stays out

Money-saving

Pay less every month for utility bills

Affordable

Flexible financing and easy payment plans

Our most Popular windows

Double-pane

Triple-pane

Sliding

Fixed

BUY 2 WINDOWS GET 2 FREE!

limited time offer

0 0 0

Annual payment Monthly payment Total for 24 months

Excludes your first month

877-319-1134

# sports

## Burton enjoying breakout season, but what's 'most important is my faith'



The past month has been a historic one for the Golden State Valkyries. They recently beat the Chicago Sky, 90-59, breaking the WNBA record for wins by an expansion team with 18.

Two days earlier, guard Veronica Burton produced the best performance in Golden State's short existence. She recorded the first 30-point game in Valkyries history (and her pro career) and became just the third WNBA player ever to score 30 points, pull down seven rebounds, and dish out seven assists while shooting 75% from the field.

Burton is in the midst of a breakout season that made her ESPN's current choice for Most Improved Player. She is averaging more points per game (11.3) than she did in her three previous seasons combined, while more than doubling her career-bests in assists (5.1) and rebounds (4.3). Of the five players aver-

aging more than 10 points, at least five assists and more than four rebounds this season, Burton is the only one who wasn't named an All-Star.

Drafted seventh overall by the Dallas Wings as a defensive specialist in 2022, Burton averaged 2.5 points and made 76 appearances in two years with the team. Dallas waived her right before the 2024 season began.

In one of her lowest moments, Burton turned to the two things that have helped guide her throughout her life: family and faith. Her dad, Steve, walked into her room shortly after she was waived and found her reading her Bible. He asked her how she was doing.

"I'm struggling because I don't know where He wants me, but my faith in God is getting stronger," she replied, according to MassLive.com.

Burton soon learned that the Lord

## YFC Golf Classic is a Tournament of Champions for teens

Topeka Youth for Christ's 2025 Annual Golf Classic will be held on Monday, September 22 at the Lake Shawnee Golf Course. The four-person, 18-hole scramble begins with a shotgun start at 9:00 A.M. The format is a 4-person scramble. Registration will begin at 8:00 A.M.

The YFC Golf Classic helps Youth for Christ staff and volunteers in the Topeka area to continue building authentic Christ-sharing relationships with teens through a variety of ministry programs; i.e. Juvenile Justice Ministry, YFC Core and YFC Camp designed for today's teens.

YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to prayer and the Word of God, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement.

Across the country at community centers, high schools, middle schools and juvenile institutions the YFC staff and

wanted her in Connecticut. She spent the rest of the season with the Sun and made the playoffs for a third year in a row.

Golden State then selected Burton with the third pick in the expansion draft this past offseason. She became a regular starter for the first time in her career and has the Valkyries in possession of a playoff spot with less than a month left in the regular season.

Coming from a family of accomplished athletes and broadcasters, Burton was taught to outwork her competition and give God the glory.

"When it comes down to it, basketball is talked about a lot in my life, family is talked about in my life, and school, but at the end of the day, the thing that I want to talk about most, the thing that is most important to me, is my faith," she said during an appearance on the Sports Spectrum Podcast in 2023.

It was during Burton's college career at Northwestern that she feels like she really took ownership of her relationship with God.

"I realized that the more I centered my life around faith and my relationship with the Lord, the more steady I found myself and the more at peace I found myself," she said on the podcast. "That's where I saw a shift in who I was and what I really prioritized."

— By Joshua Doering | sportsspectrum.com



volunteers meet with young people to share the name of Jesus.

To sign up for the YFC Annual Golf Classic Tournament go online to [www.topekayfc.org](http://www.topekayfc.org). Awards and prizes will be given for first and second low teens. Individuals will receive awards

and prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, and longest putt. The entry fee for the fundraiser is \$600 per team or \$150 per individual. The fee includes green fees, cart for two, a box lunch, two mulligans, Gary Woodland Drive and many great door prizes! Individual and corporate sponsorships are still available.

For more information about Topeka Youth for Christ or the golf tournament, call (785) 232-8296, or email [info@topekayfc.org](mailto:info@topekayfc.org), or visit the website at [www.topekayfc.org](http://www.topekayfc.org).

## YOUTH FOR CHRIST ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC Tournament of Champions for Teens

Monday September 22nd

SUPPORT MINISTRY  
TO AREA TEENS

LAKE SHAWNEE GOLF COURSE  
4 PERSON 18 HOLE SCRAMBLE

ENTRY FEE: \$600 PER TEAM OR  
\$150 PER INDIVIDUAL

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.  
SHOTGUN START: 9:00 A.M.



SIGN UP AND SPONSORSHIP  
INFORMATION ONLINE AT:  
[www.topekayfc.org/event/yfc-annual-golf-classic](http://www.topekayfc.org/event/yfc-annual-golf-classic)

For more information call  
the YFC Office at  
785-232-8296



*Celebrating Your Victories  
for Over 20 Years!*

Proudly Serving  
NE to Central Kansas

Lyndon: 785-217-5701  
NEW LOCATION!  
Manhattan: 785-320-7270

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



# 50+ Lifestyles

## A Guide to Enjoying Life in the Best Years

### Rising Risk Factors: Heart disease remains leading cause of death

While medical advances have helped people live longer with cardiovascular diseases, many of the risk factors that lead to these diseases continue to grow.

Fueled by ongoing increases in high blood pressure, obesity and other major risk factors, heart disease con-

tinues to kill more people in the U.S. than any other cause, according to the American Heart Association's 2025 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics Update. In fact, cardiovascular diseases including heart disease and stroke claim more lives than all forms of cancer and accidental deaths – the No. 2 and No. 3 causes of death –

combined.

According to the update, nearly 47% of U.S. adults have high blood pressure, more than 72% are at an unhealthy weight, nearly 42% are obese and more than half have Type 2 diabetes or prediabetes.

The annual report published in "Circulation," the peer-reviewed, flagship journal of the American Heart Association, shows the prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors are projected to worsen over the coming decades.

"Although we have made a lot of progress against cardiovascular disease in the past few decades, there is a lot more work that remains to be done," said Dhruv S. Kazi, M.D., M.Sc., M.S., FAHA, head of health economics and associated director of the Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Center for Outcomes Research in Cardiology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and associate professor at Harvard Medical School. "If recent trends continue, hypertension and obesity will each affect more than 180 million U.S. adults by 2050, whereas the prevalence of diabetes will climb to more than 80 million. Over the same time period, we expect to see a 300% increase in health care costs related to cardiovascular disease."

Prevalence for major risk factors varies across sex and race:

- Black women had the highest rate of obesity at 57.9%, compared to the lowest rate of 14.5% among Asian women.
- Hispanic men had the highest rate of diabetes at 14.5%, compared to the lowest rate of 7.7% among white women.
- Black women had the highest rate of high blood pressure at 58.4%, compared to the lowest rate of 35.3% among Hispanic women.



The prevalence of these risk factors – obesity in particular – is growing among young people globally. As many as 40% of U.S. children have an unhealthy weight with 20% having obesity. Nearly 60% of adults globally have an unhealthy weight.

Long considered one of the leading preventable causes of death in the U.S. and worldwide, tobacco use is also

trending down. Smoking rates have steadily declined among both adults and youth since the U.S. Surgeon General's first report on the dangers of smoking from 51% of men and 34% of women in 1965 to 15.6% and 12%, respectively, in 2018.

To find the full report and more advice for healthy living, visit [heart.org](http://heart.org).

– Family Features



## CPAP

### Supplies & Services LLC

Specializing in all your CPAP needs

785-289-3188

2905 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka, KS



20 years experience  
at SuperCuts  
(17 as a manager)

Karen Sivertson  
is now at

HAIRSLINGERS

bringing  
32 years of  
experience as a  
Cosmetologist.

*"I work with men, women and kids, specializing in haircuts, hair coloring, permanents, beard trimming & facial waxing. I enjoy working with the entire family and love seeing their smiling faces when they leave."*

APPOINTMENTS  
AND WALK-IN'S

For Appointment, please call 785-233-4247  
Hairslingers • 1835 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka



#### Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

##### Medicare doesn't pay for dental care.<sup>1</sup>

As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. If you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

##### Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones.

The best way to avoid large dental bills is preventive care. Experts recommend checkups twice a year.

##### Previous dental work can wear out.

Your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.<sup>2</sup>

##### Treatment is expensive — especially the services people over 50 often need.

Unexpected bills, like \$190 for a filling, or \$1,213 for a crown<sup>3</sup> can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

1 "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2025. 2 "Aging changes in teeth and gums", [medlineplus.gov](http://medlineplus.gov), 4/17/2022. 3 American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2020 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2020, American Dental Association.

DENTAL Insurance

from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

Call for a **FREE** Information Kit!

Ask about the Premier Plan – our most popular option!

1-866-350-1133

[Dental50Plus.health/Topeka](http://Dental50Plus.health/Topeka)

##### When you're comparing plans ...

- ▶ Look for coverage that helps pay for major services.
- ▶ Look for coverage with no deductibles.
- ▶ Shop for coverage with no annual maximum on cash benefits.

**Simply put – without dental insurance, there may be an important gap in your healthcare coverage.**

Get your Info Kit  
SCAN NOW!



# How a Near-Death Experience Revealed the Hidden Secret to Lasting Happiness



What if happiness isn't about accumulating wealth, but about how you use your resources—time, money and emotional energy—to create joy for yourselves and others? Picture your next family gathering not filled with tension or superficial chatter, but genuine laughter and meaningful connections. Imagine seeing the joy on your loved ones' faces when you share something special with them—not after you're gone, but right now, creating memories that last.

Science confirms that generosity and gratitude significantly enhance personal happiness. A 2020 Univer-

sity of Chicago study found that people who intentionally give to others experience deeper and longer-lasting joy compared to those who spend only on themselves.

Educational entrepreneur and author of "The Happiness Experiment," Carl B. Barney is sharing practical, achievable steps to experiencing more happiness today:

**Express Daily Gratitude:** Write down three things you're grateful for each day. Notice how quickly your outlook shifts toward joy and positivity.

**Create Memorable Experiences:** Plan meaningful, shared moments with loved ones rather than simply giving material gifts. The happiness derived from these shared experiences endures long after the event itself.

**Give with Purpose:** Offer thoughtful gestures, advice or financial help in meaningful ways. Even small acts of generosity can transform relationships and significantly boost your happiness.

This approach to happiness isn't just theory—it's a proven pathway to a richer, more fulfilling life. After a near-death experience in a plane crash profoundly shifted his worldview, Barney realized he wanted to witness the joy and impact of his generosity firsthand, rather than leaving his loved ones to benefit only after he was gone. Discover more about this transformative approach and start enhancing your happiness today at [happinessexperiment.com](http://happinessexperiment.com).

Happiness can't be bought, but it can be cultivated. As science and real-world experiences show, generosity and gratitude are fundamental pillars to long-lasting joy.

— StatePoint

## Recognizing Stroke Signs Saves Lives

Stroke continues to remain a leading cause of death and disability worldwide. With over 12.2 million new strokes occurring each year, experts at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke say that every minute

counts, as fast treatment may lessen the brain damage that a stroke can cause.

Stroke can affect anyone at any age, at any time, making it critical that everyone, especially those with known risk factors, understand and recognize the signs and symptoms of stroke, as well as their options as patients.

The signs of stroke can be subtle and hard to recognize, so educating yourself and others is key to noticing and responding quickly. One easy way to remember the signs of stroke is with the acronym FAST from the American Stroke Association. This stands for:

- F - Face Drooping
- A - Arm Weakness
- S - Speech Difficulty
- T - Time to call 911

The sudden onset of any of these signs, as well as confusion, severe headaches and vision problems, could mean that someone is having a stroke, so it's important to call 911 immediately when a stroke is suspected.

Disability is common post-stroke,



and recovery periods can be lengthy. This highlights the importance of speedy emergency care, which can help prevent disability and death, and may lead to a better quality of life post-stroke. It's also important to understand that 25% (1 in 4) of stroke patients will experience a second stroke within the first five years. However, with lifestyle changes and proper care, patients can reduce their risk

"Everyone should be familiar with the signs and symptoms of stroke to ensure that they or a loved one receive appropriate and timely care. Going to the emergency room at the onset of symptoms can impact the care a patient receives, including their eligibility to enroll in a clinical trial, so it's vital to seek immediate medical attention at the first sign of stroke," says Clay Johnston, PhD, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer and Co-Founder, Harbor Health.

One particular clinical trial, Librexia STROKE, is currently recruiting patients to evaluate an investigational medication for recurrent stroke prevention, but eligibility is time-sensitive and participants must enroll within 48 hours after the onset of their stroke symptoms. Delays in seeking care following the initial symptoms of a stroke can limit access to these types of innovative treatment options.

Learn life-saving facts by visiting <https://www.stroke.org/en/about-stroke/stroke-symptoms>.

"The opportunity to receive the best possible treatment and care begins with widespread awareness of the signs and symptoms of stroke and the urgency of seeking immediate emergency medical attention when a stroke is suspected," says Dr. Johnston.

—StatePoint

**LeafFilter**  
GUTTER PROTECTION

**2025 Summer Home Protection Event!**

**End Cleaning Out Gutters!**

**Zero Clogged Gutters Guaranteed**

**LIFETIME TRANSFERABLE WARRANTY**

**Without LeafFilter**

**With LeafFilter**

Promo Code: 285

CALL **877-511-1313** FOR A **FREE INSPECTION!**

Limited time only!\*

Bonus offer!\*

**75% OFF + \$250**

Installation Discount

\*\$250 discount (no cash value) is for same-day signing only. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotion or offer. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. +See representative for full warranty details. See website for all licenses and registration numbers. AR 366020925, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC 8671520, DC 4-20223E+1, FL CIRC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, IL 559544, MA 213292, MD MHIC 111225, MIO2-2000391, 262300330, 262300329, 262300328, 262300318, 262300173, MN R810524, MT 2661922, ND 47804, NE 50145-24, 50145-23, NJ 13VH13285000, NM 408693, NV B0990, OR 218294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, VT 17A0000871, WA LEAFSLN-763PG, WI No. 537-DCFR8 WV WV056

**Aldersgate Village**  
LUXURY HOMES

**2024 CHOICE AWARD WINNER**

- Independent Living
- Assisted Living
- Home Plus
- Memory Care
- Short-Term Care
- Rehabilitation Services

**AldersgateVillage.org**

7220 SW Asbury Drive | Topeka, KS 66614 | (785) 286-7490

# classified

Place your classified ad with us! 785-235-3340 or Voice@cox.net, or metrovoicenews.com

**Payment in advance required: \$12 for the first 25 words; 25 cents for each additional word.**

(classified ads also go immediately online)

## FOR SALE:

**BEMSPICE Co.** Smoked Pig Ears – Topeka's #1 Dog Treat! All-natural, flavorful, and tail-waggin' good. Order now at [www.BEMSPICE.com](http://www.BEMSPICE.com)

**GOLF CLUBS** – a 2013 model Cleveland Driver SL 290, 10.5 Degree, regular flex shaft. Retail \$339, asking \$49, only played a few rounds. New Warrior 10 degree Driver, only hit a few at the range with it, \$39. 640-6399

## FOR LEASE:

**OFFICE SPACE** available, great for therapists, health & wellness compa-

nies, small businesses & more! Complementary desks/chairs furnished. All utilities plus Wi-fi/Ethernet included. \$100 VISA cards to new leases if you mention this ad! College Park Office Suites, 2611 SW 17th. Call or text 785-430-1657. [info@cpofficesuites.com](mailto:info@cpofficesuites.com)

## SERVICES:

**TOTALLY THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE** - Swedish, Deep Tissue, Trigger Point, Reflexology including Feet, AromaTherapy. Also Nutritional Advice. Prices Starting at \$25.00 for ½ hour. For more information or a price quote contact (785) 430-0377

**EVA'S ERRANDS, ETC.** - Have Truck, Will Travel. Haul (smaller items), deliver, pick-up, rides to appointments, other errands, etc. Call 785-430-0377

## WANTED:

**YARD WORK** - Are you available to help with yard work two hours a week? Mostly pulling weeds around flower bed, planting flowers, watering, raking leaves. Call my home after 7pm (785)357-1117 (live in Oakland area) Pay: \$20 an hour.

## DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS:

Paid training, great benefits, including next day pay. \$1250 hiring bonus within first 9 months. SLI, [www.slitopeka.org](http://www.slitopeka.org)

**ASSISTANT EDITOR** – Research articles & event info online & on phone; writing & editing; updating files, social media posting. Mostly work from home. Part-time. Call 785-640-6399 or email [voice@cox.net](mailto:voice@cox.net)

**\$1250 HIRING BONUS**

*within first 9 months!*

**NOW HIRING:**

**Direct Support Professionals**

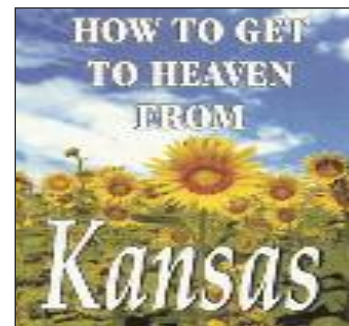
*Paid training, great benefits including next day pay*



Serving People with disabilities since 1973

3401 SW Harrison St, Topeka, KS 66611

EOE [www.slitopeka.org](http://www.slitopeka.org)



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.



• Remodeling • Kitchens • Baths • Garages  
• General Excavation • Lot Drainage • Building Pads

**FoxCraft Construction and Excavation**  
[www.fox-craft.com](http://www.fox-craft.com) • 785-289-8494

**Barter For What You Want**  
**816-470-9055**



**#sleevesrolledup**

**TRM MINISTRIES**

**TOPEKA  
RESCUE MISSION  
MINISTRIES**

Visit [TRMonline.org](http://TRMonline.org) or  
check us out on Facebook

To donate: text **TRMgive** to 77977

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



1034 S. Kansas Avenue - (785) 232-1111  
[www.hanoverpancakehouse.com](http://www.hanoverpancakehouse.com)



**Hanover Pancake House...need I say more?**

**metro  
VOICE**

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

**Check Out Our Newly  
Redesigned, Mobile-  
ready Breaking-news  
Website.**

# New Resident Church Guide

## 1. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

785-379-5642

Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:00 AM  
2930 SE Tecumseh Road  
Tecumseh, Kansas 66642  
[www.highlandheightsccc.com](http://www.highlandheightsccc.com)  
Jars of Clay Children's Ctr 785-379-9098

## 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.

Pastor Beaux Bryant

Call about new meeting location for current services.

785-224-5419 • [www.church4bikers.org](http://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: 9:00 & 10:30 am  
Livestream at 9:00 am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies:  
9:00 & 10:30 am  
[www.discovertbc.com](http://www.discovertbc.com)

## 4. BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

4011 N. Kansas Ave, Topeka

785-286-0467

Sunday School at 9:30am  
Worship at 10:30am  
Livestream on Youtube at 10:30am  
[www.betheltopeka.org](http://www.betheltopeka.org)

## 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](http://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](http://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 8:30, 10 & 11:30am, 6pm  
~ Sunday School for all ages ~  
4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka  
785-862-0988  
[www.topekabaptist.org](http://www.topekabaptist.org)

## 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

"Being and making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Gospel, to the glory of God"  
2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka  
(785) 272-9323 [www.wrbctopeka.com](http://www.wrbctopeka.com)  
Traditional Sunday Worship 11am & 6pm  
Sunday School 9:30am • Wed. Prayer 7pm

## 12. LAKEVIEW CHURCH of the NAZARENE

2835 SE Croco Road (785)266-3247

Rob Self, Senior Pastor

Facebook: Topeka Lakeview Nazarene

Sun. 9:45am: Sunday School all ages

Sunday 10:45am:

Nursery, Children's Church, & Worship

Wed.: Prayer, Bible Study, & Discussion 7-8pm

Kids J.A.M. 'Jesus & Me!' 7-8pm

## 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE

3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248

[www.wwnaz.org](http://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

## 14. OPEN ARMS OUTREACH MINISTRIES COGIC

1 (785) 232-3463/+1 (785) 217-5560

Sunday School 9:30, Worship 11:00

In person or conference call:

(712) 770-4749 / 583229

Bible Study Tue & Wed conference call

2401 SE 11th St., Topeka KS 66607

Supt. S. C. Mitchell, Pastor

## 16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH

A Spirit-filled, Word-centered church

2531 SE Wittenberg Rd., Topeka

Sunday Worship 11am & 6pm

Wed. Prayer & Praise 7pm

785-266-LOVE (5683)

J. Michael Borjon, Pastor

## 17. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

4425 S.E. 29th St., 785-379-9933.

Sunday Worship 10:00am & 5:30pm

Sunday Evenings at 5:30pm:

• AWANA

• Student Ministries

• re|engage

[www.esbcs.org](http://www.esbcs.org)

## 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

1937 NE Madison St,

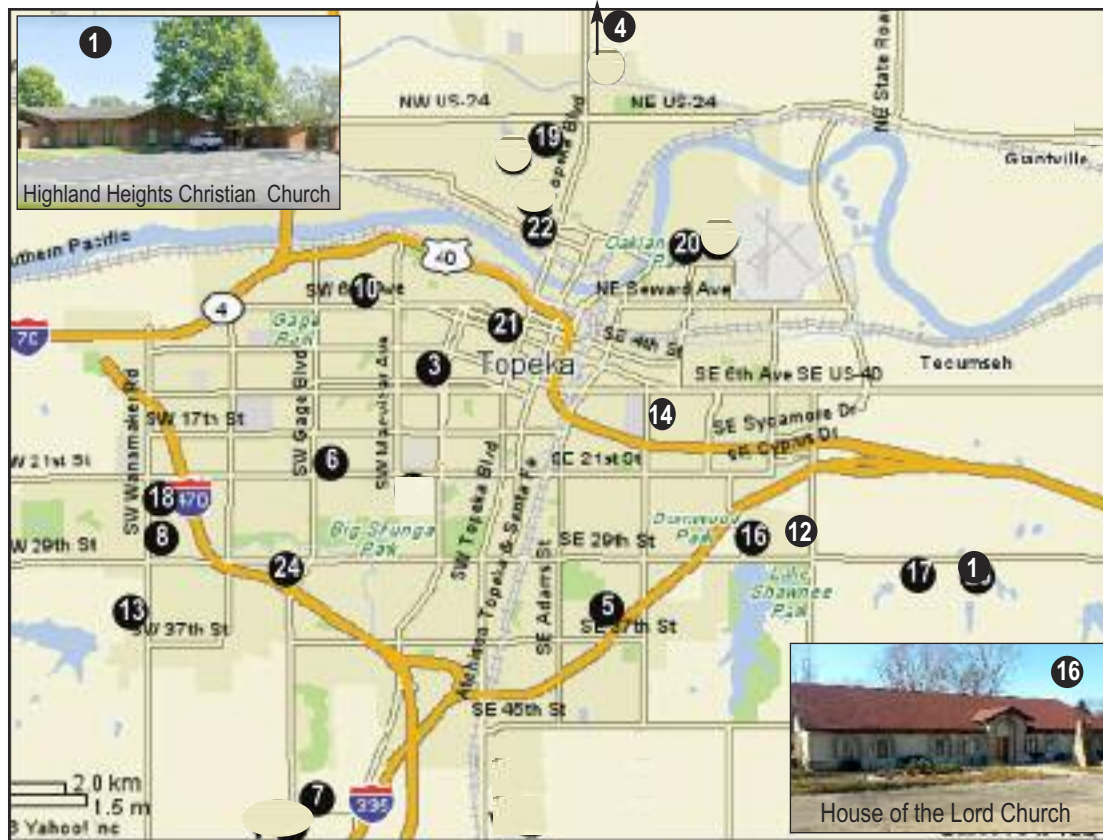
Topeka, KS 66608 • 785-506-4594

Pastor Dale Stockburger

Sunday Worship: 11 am and 6pm

Sunday School: Sun 10am

Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm



## 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Meets at 522 SW Polk

785-220-5418

Pastor Rey Rodriguez

Sun. Worship 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Bible Study Wed. 7 pm

[www.harvestfamilyfellowshiptoepka.org](http://www.harvestfamilyfellowshiptoepka.org)

## 22. FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH

1231 NW Eugene St.

Topeka, KS 66608

Pastor Roger Randel

Sunday School 9am; Worship 10:30am

Wednesday Bible Study 7pm

785-234-1111

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

## 24. TRINITY REFORMED BAPTIST

Holding to the authorized King James Version and

the 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Wednesday 6 p.m.

Pastor Bob Spagnuolo 785-273-3506

meeting in our home:

4307 SW 30th Ter., Topeka

[www.TrinityReformedBaptist.org](http://www.TrinityReformedBaptist.org)

You can put YOUR church in our Church Guide for only  
**\$10 per month!**

This helps people find you, and also helps us continue to bring  
Christian News to the area!

Email [Voice@cox.net](mailto:Voice@cox.net) or call 785-640-6399

# ROOTERMAN

## "TO THE RESCUE"

\*\*Septic System Cleaning and Installation \*\*Drain Cleaning

\*\*Plumbing \*\*Water Damage

**833-470-4376**



Sundays — 9 am WIBW RADIO 580 AM  
Daily (Mon—Fri) — 10 am KFGB 97.7 FM

[www.global-missions.com](http://www.global-missions.com)

PO Box 161 Topeka KS 66601

785-232-2992 or 785-231-8183



**Local  
Christian  
Radio**

Listen at work!  
[UpperRoomRadioOnline.com](http://UpperRoomRadioOnline.com)

**KFGB 97.7 FM**  
Upper Room Radio

# News Briefs From Around the World: Chiefs, Kobach, Smithsonian, Opioids

News Briefs you may have missed over the last couple of weeks:

## Major Billing Error Forces Kansas School Districts to Return Millions of Dollars

WICHITA, Kan. (KNS) — A billing error by a state contractor is forcing Kansas school districts to return millions in overpaid Medicaid funds. The Kansas News Service reports that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment says a data mistake by its Medicaid billing contractor went unnoticed for years. Now the agency is clawing back about \$11 million from school districts across the state. Wichita schools face the largest payback at more than \$3 million. Deanna Beard with that district says her staff knew there was a discrepancy in the numbers but could not get more information from KDHE or its contractor. “We cannot afford to continue to make these kinds of mistakes when the data is there and we are able to validate it,” she said. KDHE says it’s taking steps to prevent future errors, including staff training and process reviews.

## Boil Water Advisory Issued for Some Douglas County Residents

UNDATED (KPE) — The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has issued a boil water advisory for some customers in Douglas County. The advisory covers part of the City of Edgerton’s public water supply system. Health officials issued the advisory due a loss of pressure related to water tower maintenance. That can cause bacterial contamination. The advisory affects southeastern Douglas County residents outside the center of Edgerton. Water should be boiled at least one minute before being used for drinking, cooking or food preparation.

## Wyandotte County Mourns Fallen Officer

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (KPR) — A Kansas City, Kansas, police officer was killed after he was hit by a car during a police chase early Tuesday morning.

Authorities say it was around 12:30 am that KCK officers were dispatched to a scene (near the 7700 block of Everett Ave) regarding shots being fired. About 10 minutes later, officers located an unconscious man in the driver’s seat of a truck. As officers approached the driver, he woke up and fled the scene. The driver, later identified as 31-year-old Dennis Mitchell III, of Kansas City, was pursued by police. He abandoned the truck, entered another vehicle, and continued fleeing from officers. During the pursuit, two KCK officers exited their vehicle to lay down stop sticks

(in the 7200 block of State Avenue). Police say Mitchell then drove toward an officer, striking him before continuing to flee the area. The officer, identified as 26-year-old Hunter Simoncic, was struck and later died the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Mitchell later wrecked the truck (near the 6400 block of Kaw Drive). He was taken into custody and was taken to the hospital where he was treated, released and transported to the Wyandotte County Jail. It was later determined that both trucks had been reported stolen.

Mitchell was arrested on suspicion of first-degree murder, vehicular homicide, fleeing the scene and attempting to elude a police officer. He’s also charged with theft, criminal possession of a firearm and other crimes.

(Read more on this story elsewhere on the KPR website.)

## New Study Shows Kansas Homeowners Spending Higher Percentage of Income on Home Insurance than Average American

UNDATED (KCUR) — Kansas homeowners spend almost twice as much of their income on homeowner’s insurance than the average American, according to a new study. KCUR reports that insuring a home in Missouri costs a lot less. A lot of factors influence insurance rates: personal finances, natural disaster risk, and wide swings in how the insurance industry is regulated from state to state. A survey put together by Bankrate shows Kansas homeowners pay, on average, almost \$4500 a year, more than 6% of their incomes, to cover their homes. That’s more than Texas, with its hurricane-prone Gulf Coast. Across the state line in Missouri, the cost drops to 24-hundred dollars a year on average, and about 3 and a half percent of income. The upside for homeownership in Kansas is that they don’t get dinged as hard for filing insurance claims. Collect on a fire in Missouri and your premium is likely to jump by about \$350. In Kansas, the increase is just \$66.

## Senator Roger Marshall Speaks at Wichita Chamber of Commerce Event

WICHITA, Kan. (KMUW) — U.S. Senator Roger Marshall spoke Tuesday at an event hosted by the Wichita Chamber of Commerce. KMUW reports that Marshall spoke about President Donald Trump’s recent budget reconciliation bill, immigration and ongoing U.S. trade discussions. He also described what he sees as the two biggest challenges for Kansas in



the next century. “Water issues – quality as well as quantity – and then beyond that is a lack of people for the jobs that we do have,” he pointed out. The junior senator from Kansas is in his first term and will be up for re-election in November 2026. Three Democrats have launched bids to challenge him. Protesters rallied outside the event to criticize Marshall for his support of President Trump’s agenda. Demonstrators also plan to protest Republican Congressman Ron Estes’s visit to Wichita on Thursday of this week.



## Kobach to Announce Re-Election Campaign

UNDATED (KMUW) — Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach will formally kick off his reelection campaign next week in Wichita. Kobach will hold a rally September 3rd at the headquarters of the Sedgwick County Republican Party on South Webb Road. The event begins at 6 p.m. Kobach won a close race for attorney general in 2022 over Democrat Chris Mann. It was a political comeback for Kobach. He had lost his previous two campaigns, including the governor’s race in 2018 against Laura Kelly. Mann also says he plans to run for attorney general again.

## KU Report: Opioid Settlement Money Could Help Address Substance Use Disorder Issues in Kansas

UNDATED (KNS) — Substance use is more prevalent in Kansas than previously thought but a national settlement offers a path toward addressing the issue. The Kansas News Service reports that a

University of Kansas study shows nearly 1 in 5 Kansas adults has a diagnosable substance use disorder, and that accessing initial treatment is difficult. Services that help people who are getting treatment stay employed, housed and healthy are even trickier to find. KU researcher Janine Hron says part of the focus of the report was to bring behavioral health experts together to help find solutions. “We really wanted to help people think about ‘oh yeah, I do know something about this,’ you know, recognize their capacity,” she explained. Kansas is expected to receive approximately \$5.7 million in national opioid settlement funds. The study suggests using the money to improve treatment collaboration.

## Lawrence School Board Hits Pause on E-Sports Proposal

LAWRENCE, Kan. (LJW) — The Lawrence school board is putting plans to offer e-sports as an extracurricular activity on hold. The Kansas State High School Activities Association voted last spring to sanction competitive video gaming as an interscholastic activity. But at Monday night’s meeting, Lawrence school board members expressed concerns about the cost of allowing the district’s middle and high schools to establish their own e-sports teams. The Lawrence Journal-World reports the board tabled the measure.

## Salina OKs Open Containers Downtown

SALINA, Kan. (KSN) — You’ll soon be able to walk around downtown Salina with a beer in your hand. The city is establishing a “common consumption area” beginning September 1. Adults 21 and over will be able to openly carry and consume alcoholic beverages within that area. City officials hope it encourages people to spend more time downtown. KSN reports the common consumption area will be in effect from 9 a.m. to midnight. The city is installing signs to indicate the boundaries of the area.

## Smithsonian Exhibition Opens Kansas Tour in Lawrence

LAWRENCE, Kan. (KPR) — A new traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian kicked off its tour of Kansas at the Watkins Museum of History in Lawrence on Saturday. “Americans” examines how Native Americans have been portrayed in popular culture. “Native American people are a part of American culture,” explains Watkins director Steve Nowak, “and they are intertwined in the lives we live every-day.”

“Americans” will be on display at the Watkins Museum through October 5. It then continues its Kansas tour with stops in Highland, Wichita, Mayetta, Salina, Liberal, and Bonner Springs.

## Kansas City Chiefs Wide Receiver Suspended for Six Games

UNDATED (KCUR) — The NFL has suspended Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Rashee Rice for six games over his involvement in a high-speed crash in Dallas last year. KCUR reports that Rice pleaded guilty in July to collision involving serious bodily injury and racing on a highway causing bodily injury. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail and five years probation. Police said Rice and former Southern Methodist University defensive back Teddy Knox were racing separate cars in Dallas in March of last year. They said Rice lost control of his car and hit the median, allegedly causing Knox’s car and four others to crash. Prosecutors said Rice and Knox fled the scene and failed to check on victims after crashing. Under the terms of the suspension, Rice’s first game will be on Oct. 19 versus the Las Vegas Raiders.

## Kansas Senator Denigrates Dems’ Call for ICE Oversight

WASHINGTON, D.C. (KPR) — Kansas Senator Roger Marshall says Kansas lawmakers calling for congressional oversight of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement are “America Last Kansas Democrats.” A group of Democratic state lawmakers sent the Republican senator a letter earlier this month calling attention to immigration raids in Johnson and Wyandotte counties. The letter said ICE agents were unprofessional and disregarded fundamental rights. In a press release Monday, Marshall called the accusations “unfounded and false,” and accused the Democrats of opposing efforts to “keep communities safe from illegal and dangerous criminals.”