

Community and Conference Announcements

COMMUNITY

Mennonite Heritage Museum: Kevin Hiebert, craftsman and authority on the Plains Indians, will be the featured speaker at Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum's annual meeting at Tabor Mennonite Church on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2:30 p.m. A business meeting will be held prior to Kevin's presentation. A *faspa* will be served after the meeting.

AGAPE Senior Center: The Film "Courageous" will be shown at the Agape Senior Center in Goessel on Saturday, February 4 at 7pm. All are welcome to view this family film.

Turning life's moments into stories to share: A series of Memoir Writing Workshops will be hosted by Bethesda Home for persons age 65 or older. Laurie Oswald Robinson, an author from Newton, will help you to preserve your memories through writings to share with others. This series of workshops will be held on Thursday afternoons from February 2 – March 1. All sessions will be held from 2:30 – 4:00 pm in the Bethesda Chapel. Please register for these workshops by contacting Linda Peters at 620.367.2291. Registration deadline is January 31.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

StoryTime! We invite Pre-schoolers ages 3-5 to join in the fun on Wednesday mornings at 10 am. at the Western District Conference Resource Library. Spring session begins Feb. 8. Call now to reserve your space: [316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300).

Agri-Urban would like to invite all of its supporters and people who are interested in Agri-Urban to an appreciation dinner on February 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Eden Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Moundridge, KS. Please make reservations with your local Agri-Urban Board member or the Western District office at [316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300) by February 5. *Open Road* from Bethel College will provide the program.

Pastors and church leaders are invited to **"Maintenance to Missional: Looking Back So We Can Move Forward"** on Saturday, February 11, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM, planned and hosted by the three Mennonite churches of Moundridge, KS and by Western District Conference. Presenters are Wilbert Shenk, Conrad Kanagy, and Gilberto Flores. Cost: \$25/person or \$75 per church for as many as can come. See www.mennowdc.org - Upcoming Events for information and registration. Register by February 3.

Mark Your Calendars – January 30th is the Governor Call-In Day: Join hundreds of Kansans on as they call in to urge Governor Brownback to take a stand against the death penalty. January 30th is Kansas Abolition Day, commemorating the first time a Kansas Governor signed a bill to repeal the death penalty, in 1907. The Governor's office number is [\(877\)-579-6757](tel:877-579-6757). Tell the governor exactly why you think the death penalty should be repealed in Kansas, or you can use this sample call script:

Hi, this is <your name> from <your town> and I am calling to urge Governor Brownback to make repealing the death penalty a priority for Kansas in 2012. The death penalty doesn't make Kansans any safer, doesn't deter violent crime and it diverts money from more effective law enforcement tools. Our criminal justice system sometime gets it wrong and it is unacceptable to risk executing an innocent person. Life without the possibility of parole keeps Kansans safe while saving funds and not risking innocent lives. I want thank Governor Brownback for his service and encourage him to do the right thing and speak up against the death penalty.

For more information visit www.ksabolition.org or call (785) 235-0214. Sponsored by the Western District Conference End the Death Penalty Task Force.

Offender Victim Ministries Prison Arts' Choir Men are needed to assist in Offender/Victim Ministries' Prison Arts' Choir at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Practices are on Tuesday evenings beginning February 21 with performances on the weekend of April 21. Volunteer training is needed in order to work in the prison and will be given Monday, February 20 from 12-4 pm for new volunteers. Returning choir members can receive your annual training on February 6, 2-4 at HCF or Feb. 13, 7-9 at KIPCOR in Newton. Contact Nathan Koontz at OVM, 316-215-1758 or nathan.ovm@sbcglobal.net.

Dyck Arboretum:

The 2012 Winter Lecture Series at the Dyck Arboretum will begin Tuesday, January 31, featuring Director of Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita, Bob Gress. He will present on the topic "Photographing Birds from Ecuador to Kansas". Whether he's documenting the recent snowy owl invasion in Kansas, or capturing the beauty of tropical birds in Ecuador, Bob Gress does so exquisitely with a camera. Combining Bob's prowess in photography along with his knowledge of ornithology this lecture will be one you won't want to miss. Come for supper at 6:00 p.m. or just the lecture at 6:30 p.m. (\$2 for lecture, \$7 for supper and lecture). Call [620-327-8127](tel:620-327-8127) by noon on Monday before the Tuesday lecture for supper reservations.

Et Cetera Shop still receiving donations, requesting furniture - Newton Et Cetera Shop is continuing to receive and process donations during its carpet and lighting renovation. The shop is also making a special appeal for furniture donations. Donors can drop off items Monday through Saturday, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm, at the back door and request assistance by calling (316) 283-9461. Furniture donation guidelines and renovation updates can be found at newtonetceterashop.com. Et Cetera will open again to the shopping public Monday, February 13.

THIRD WAY MEDIA

radio program, *Shaping Families*

Weekend of February 4, 2012 – Enjoying Leisure

Dr. Evan Oswald, author of a new book on leisure and former professor at Hesston College is the guest on *Shaping Families* this week talking about our use of free time. He now lives at Glendale Retirement Community, Arizona.

Weekend of February 11, 2012 – Teens and Substance Abuse

Dr. Brian Kelley is the guest on *Shaping Families* this week in a two-part series looking at the special dangers of alcohol in the brains and lives of adolescents.

Weekend of February 18, 2012 – Curbing Underage Drinking

Do you worry about your teens and college age kids and drinking? There's good reason to, says Dr. Brian Kelley, of Bridgewater College, Va., the guest interviewee on *Shaping Families* this week.

Weekend of February 25, 2012 – Stay at Home Mom

Jennifer Murch, whose family is active at Community Mennonite Church in Harrisonburg, Va., is a mommy blogger and busy homeschooling mom of four children. She'll share highlights from their family.

Listen on KBCU 88.1 FM North Newton, KS Fri 4:00 PM or visit www.ShapingFamilies.com the weekend the program airs to download a podcast or the transcript.