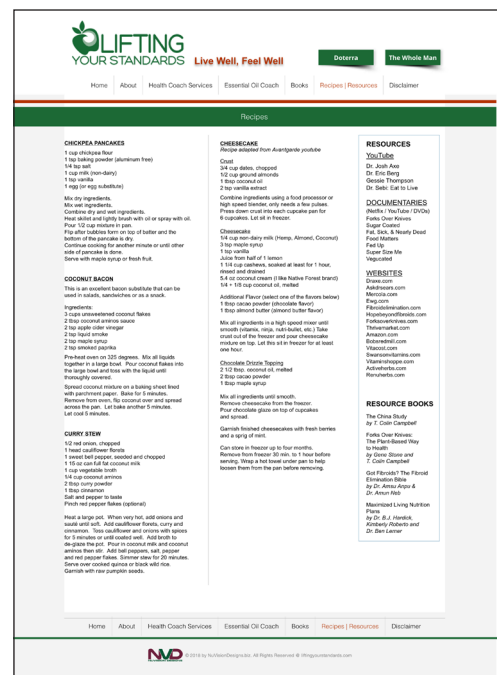
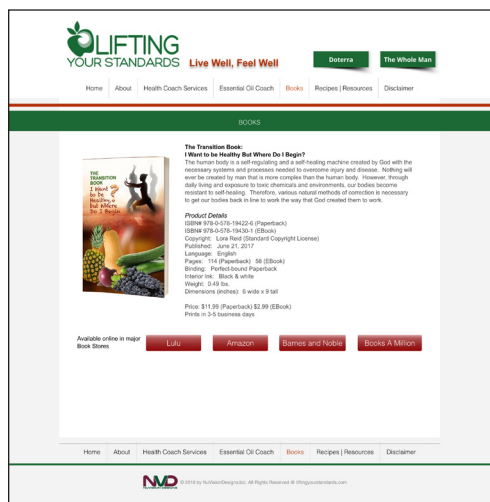
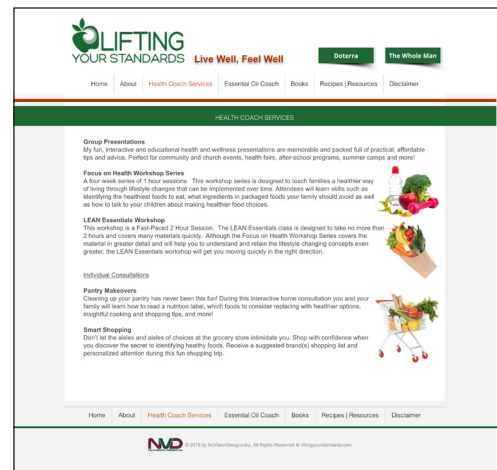
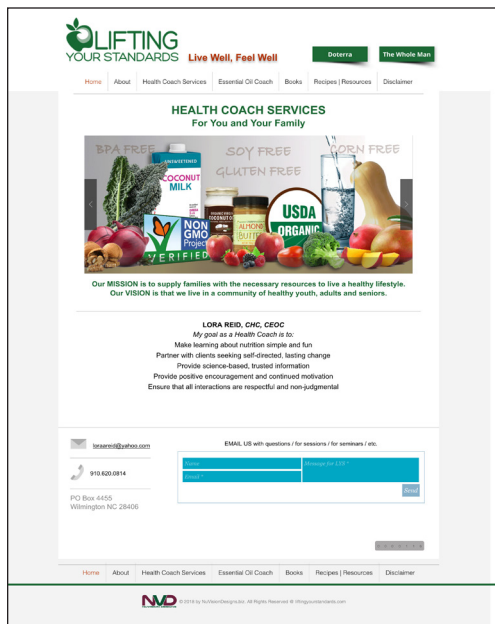




I designed this **Salon Flyer** in Photoshop.

The stylist did not request specific details for the composition. She submitted to me a photo of herself, her logo and 8 photos with samples of her hairstyles. She also informed me that she liked pearls. This design advertises her salon and shows her skills as a hair stylist. Although pearls have nothing to do with hair, I used them as an embellishment to the design since the stylist expressed that she liked pearls.



**Lifting Your Standards Website** was designed by me in Wix. I also created the logo. This website focuses on supplying families with the necessary resources to live a healthy lifestyle thru good eating habits and using essential oils. As you can see by the rust color selected menu title, the menu navigates the user through multiple pages informing them of information that can be helpful to enhance their current lifestyle. I also gave the reader real life photos of weight loss of the website owner as well as photos of healthy food and essential oils for pictorial description.



**J. ELWOOD GATLIN, SR.** is a native of Virginia Beach, VA where he began preaching under the tutelage of his father, the late Pastor James H. Gatlin, Sr., at the age of thirteen. He resides in Wilmington NC with his wife, Chavar and children.

In March 2015, Pastor Gatlin heeded God's call to birth churches, establishing **The Brook International**. Pastor Gatlin has a passion for ministry and a heart to see people reach their full potential in Christ. He focuses on communicating a message of hope that can only be found in a relationship with Jesus Christ - Fulfilling Kingdom Mandate.

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

*J. Gatlin, Sr.*  
**MINISTRIES**

**THE BROOK CHURCH INTERNATIONAL**  
[WWW.THEBROOKCHURCHLELAND.ORG](http://WWW.THEBROOKCHURCHLELAND.ORG)



624 DAILY CONFESSIONS

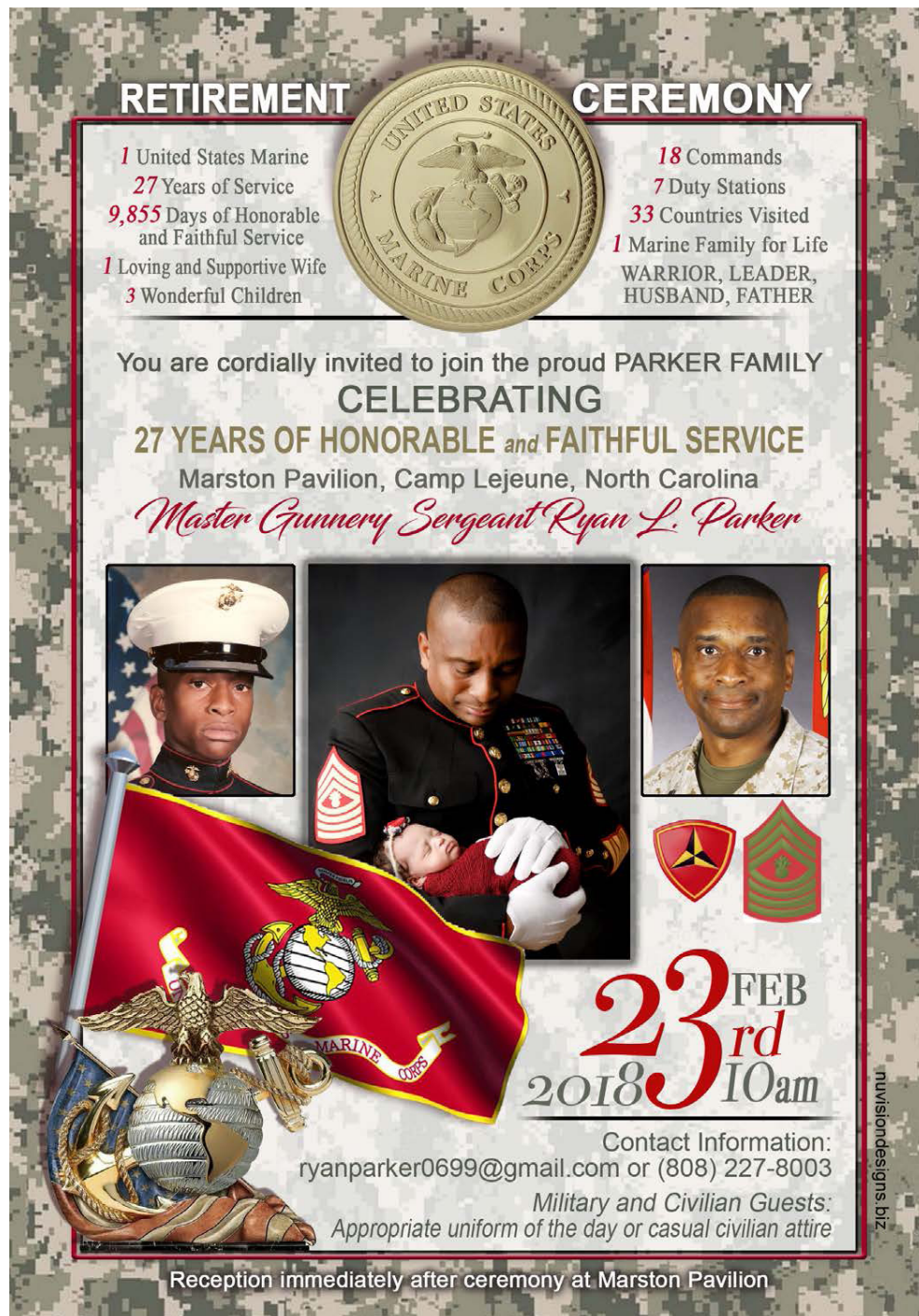
by J. Elwood Gatlin, Sr.

624

**DAILY CONFESSIONS**  
by J. Elwood Gatlin, Sr.



I designed this **Book Cover** in Photoshop. Highlighting the author and the book title was my area of concentration for this design. Light geometric shapes in the background was all that was needed to guide the viewer's focus to the 624 Daily Confessions title and the author.



I designed this **Retirement Ceremony flyer** in Photoshop. Other than the 3 photos and information, no other specifics were given. Placing the Sergeant's photo in his uniform while holding his newborn gives a nice focal point. The overall composition conveys a military feel celebrating his accomplishments of 27 years in the military, which is the main purpose of the flyer. The flyer also demonstrates his compassionate side as a loving husband and father.





# The Relevant WORD NEWSLETTER

**2018: The Year of The Black Sheep**  
Matthew 21:42

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

Abraham Maslow in his hierarchy of needs stated that a "sense of belonging" was one of the most basic needs a man must have in his plight to discover who he is as a person (self-actualization). Because of our need to be accepted, we utilize a go along, to get along mentality. We do our best to conform to the norms and accepted practices of the environment. In church, we are blessed and highly favored. On the job, we are just "trying to keep the man off our back." In the community, our actions are generally determined by who we are associating with at that time. People who conform are rewarded with acceptance by the group. However, people who do not conform are ostracized, criticized, and minimized. Many of these persons are referred to as "black sheep".

While the term "black sheep" has serious racial connotations as it is designed to lower the self-image of "black people" because the good "sheep" are "white sheep" and the bad sheep are "black sheep". Many groups and most families have persons, non-conformist, who are looked upon as the "black sheep" of the group.

Apostle Paul admonishes the early church to not

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conform to the world but be transformed (changed) by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2). Jesus tells us that we are in the world but not of the world. He further challenges us to come out from amongst them and be ye separate (2 Cor. 6:17). As a youth, my pastor would exhort us to dare to be different. He told us that the world should be following us not the other way around. Many of my contemporaries would not heed to his admonishment because of the desire to be accepted by the group.

If there were no "black sheep" non-conformist, most of the inventions we have today would not exist. We would be getting our light from candles and lamps because there would be no electricity. We would still be riding on the backs of horses, have to go down to the river to bathe, wash our clothes, and get drinking water because there would be no sewage or plumbing to carry the water from the river to our homes. We would still be riding on the backs of horses, cooking on open air fires, living in caves, and dying from many of the diseases for which we now have cures.

Black sheep are STRONG sheep as they must fight the inherent desire to be accepted and loved by the crowd to fulfill that true purpose and calling on the inside of them. We should wear it as a badge of honor that people realize and covertly respect the fact that we are different from the crowd and are willing to be ostracized to follow our dreams and goals. We should wear this label as a badge of pride as it puts us in the company of inventors, innovators, and creators.

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# REFLECTIONS FROM THE PULPIT

**SERMON TOPIC: You Can't Drive Down the Road While Looking Out the Rearview Mirror**

Philippians 3:13-14 (King James Version)

*Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

Many of you can remember a time when you could go outside at sun up and play football or basketball, run the streets, walk the town and hang out with our friends until the street lights came on. Or how a boss when you could get a loaf of bread for a nickel (well I remember 3 loaves for a dollar), penny candy, sodas for a quarter, or when you could return the Pepsi or Coca Cola bottles and get some money back. How many people remember playing hide and go seek, stick ball, riding on skate boards or on the handlebars of the bicycle? The "good old days".

For other those days were not so bright, their good old days were filled with teasing and abuse. Being told how they would never be anything, accomplish nothing or rise to the top because they are black, or a woman. They didn't come from the right family, lived on the wrong side of the tracks, and went to the wrong schools. They didn't have that look or "swagger" that would cause anyone to take notice of them or the possibilities that the Lord placed inside of them. Their yesterday was filled with heartache, pain, and disappointment and while those days are the "old days" there was not much "good" in them. However, all of those days whether they are good or bad old days are in your rear view mirror. They represent the past and no matter what is do we cannot change anything about them.

The **1st**, thing that Paul had to recognize is that everything he had learned was in his rear view mirror. This may have been difficult for the Apostle as he had studied at the feet of one of the greatest scholars of his day (Gamaliel), sat on the highest governing board in the land (Sanhedrin Council), held a high ranking government job (Chief prosecutor of the church), and was so respected that they allowed him to hold their coats while they stoned the first deacon of the church (Stephen). Despite all of his honors, education, and accolades, Paul realized that in order for him to keep his eyes on the road and get to his destination he had to get some direction as he didn't "know everything." (Acts 22:3-5)

Most of us have had great life experiences, some have been mutilated and graduated from institutions of higher learning while others earned their degrees through the school of hard knocks and mother wit. Regardless of whether we graduated from Harvard or Howard University, whether we earned our degree from the streets or the sheets there is always more to learn.

What makes Oprah Winfrey, Donald Trump, Bill Gates, Warren Buffet successful? They all realized that no matter what they have, there is always more to get. They do not rest on their laurels and past successes they realized that a good name is hard to get and easy to lose and if they are going to get to their destination, they can never lose that hunger and thirst they had when they first started out and no matter how much they know there is always more to learn.

**2nd**, Paul recognized that all of his life experiences were in his rear view mirror. road. The Apostle

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cond. 2018: The Year of The Black Sheep

The Bible is full of "black sheep" who did great exploits for the Lord. Moses was a black sheep as he was abandoned by his mother, had a speech impediment, was a wanderer, and suffered from low self-esteem but God used him to free millions from slavery. King Saul, another "black sheep" as he looked different than everyone else, came from the wrong family, and lived on the wrong side of the tracks but God chose him to be the first king of Israel. King David, another black sheep, worked as a shepherd while his brothers were soldiers, was the loved of his father, was a small framed, short statured young man who God called "the apple of his eye". Noah was a drunkard, and disobedient to God but was used to save humanity and replenish the earth. Joseph, another "black sheep", who was hated and despised by his brothers, sold into slavery, lied on by the kings wife, sent to prison and ended up in the palace.

Of course the greatest black sheep of them all was the Savior of the world. He was born through Immaculate Conception, unresponsive to the teachings of the priest, associated with low class persons who were considered gluttons and winebibbers (fat drunks), consorted with whores and prostitutes, and had mercy on persons who broke the law. He was mocked, led on, ostracized, crucified, beaten, and denied for being a "black sheep", different, non-conforming, unique, peculiar, and seemingly strange. Had it not been for this "black sheep" they would have run out of wine at the wedding, ten lepers would not have been healed, and a widow's woman would have beenstoned dead, the woman without issue of blood would still be bleeding, and we would be lost.

**Instead of lamenting about being a "black sheep", different or extraordinary, wear it with pride.** You have been given something that most people do not have or are unwilling to use because they are afraid of not being accepted. The gift, skill, talent, ability that God has placed inside of you may contain the cure for the common cold, the next great invention, or motivation that the "white sheep" need to step out and fulfill their purpose. God gave us something special. If we keep it to ourselves for the sake of acceptance it will bless no one. If we are willing to endure the period of persecution, our gift can bless the masses.

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realized that the pain and pleasure of yesterday would not get him to the place he would need to be on tomorrow. If he remained stuck on his position on the Council, job with the government, and prominence in the community he would have never been able to be the father in his gospel to several young preachers (1 Timothy 1:2), author over half of the new testament and cause life to us as a young man who had fell out of a window and died (Acts 20:8). If Paul would have stayed in his yesterday he could not have dealt with the brethren not receiving his ministry and challenging his motives, he could not have endured the scandalizing of his name by the people who enjoyed his letters but despised his preaching and appearance (2 Corinthians 10:10). He had to internally acknowledge that yesterday is gone and if I am going to do what I want I need to

**3rd**, on this earth to do I cannot live in yesterday.

The Apostle realized that he had to keep his eyes on the road and look forward. With Peter attempting to turn the church against him, he had to look forward. With the people calling him unattractive and feeble, he had to keep looking forward. With the very people when he had served with on the Council now trying to imprison and murder him, he had to keep looking forward. With his own people deserting him when he became sick (Philippians 4:15) he had to keep looking forward. Paul realized that if the church was going to be established, in spite of his sorrows and successes of yesterday, he had to keep pressing/teaching for tomorrow.

It was the hope of tomorrow, which woke the slaves up everyday to tend the fields, pick the crops, serve their masters, raise the children, endure the whippings, lynchings, and murders just to go to sleep that night and go through the same thing again the next day that they continued to believe that freedom may come on tomorrow.

The hope of tomorrow caused **Martin Luther King Jr.** to give his life to build and lead the Civil Rights movement, **Malcolm X** to teach and call for black nationalism, **Jesus** Jackson to promote racial unity and harmony, and President Obama to challenge us to focus on those things which unite us and not divide us.

Paul also realized that as his journey to get the prize and reach his destination he had to endure some things to experience the promise of tomorrow. Most of us are familiar with the term "anything worth having is worth fighting for." In school our teachers told us that we had to "work twice as hard and be twice as good to get the same credit as everyone else". Experiencing the true hope and joy of tomorrow comes only with some hard work and diligence. We have to fight through the pain and pleasures of yesterday, and the problems which plague us today if we are going to get the promise and prize of tomorrow.

In the rear view mirror lies our yesterdays with its memories and miseries. We were the Captain of the team on yesterday, we were full of hope and promise on yesterday and we had dreams and ambition on yesterday. But yesterday is gone and we have got to "Carpe Diem". Seize the day. The songwriter penned these words "one day at a time Sweet Jesus that's all I am asking from you." In the Lords Prayer or the Model Prayer Jesus taught his disciples to ask for "daily bread", a word that will lead and guide them for today. We can't drive down the road and path that God has for us looking in the rear view mirror. We have already passed everything that is back there but the journey has not ended.

Zerubabel went to rebuild Solomon's Temple. The people became discouraged because it did not look the way Solomon's Temple did and they were ready to quit. The Lord told Zerubabel to tell the people get out of the rear view mirror what I have before them will be greater than what was behind them. (Haggai 2:1-3)

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# Community Groups

This year will mark the start of community groups in the Triangle Area. We are in talks with several communities which have the greatest needs to start regular bible study and practical living groups with them. Our goal is to plant seeds of hope, help, and repair into the lives of the residents of those communities in the hope that we can reduce crime, increase prosperity, and strengthen the community. Our groups will also focus on home ownership, vocational skills training, post-secondary training options, financial aid, etc. Check our website, for data and sites, [www.mtyronewilliams.com](http://www.mtyronewilliams.com).

# TRANSITION SEMINARS

There are over 22,000 inmates released annually from N.C. state prisons. Almost all of the persons currently incarcerated will be released at some point in the future. We will be hosting transition seminars throughout the state to match ex-offenders, dislocated workers, unemployed, or underemployed persons with the community resources to help enhance their skills and improve their chances for employment. For details and locations of these seminars, check our website [www.mtyronewilliams.com](http://www.mtyronewilliams.com).

# FIRST DOLLAR SCHOLARS

We are instituting the first dollar scholars program incepted in 2007. This scholarship provided books, supplies, room deposits, matriculation fees, etc. for students pursuing a college education. After a protracted hiatus, we have rebooted the program to include college tours, test preparation, and a variety of supplemental services to assist our scholars be successful in their post-secondary endeavors. Our inaugural class will start with the 1819 school year beginning with college tours slated for the summer of 2018. Students in grades 6-11 are eligible to become scholars. More information is available on our website [www.mtyronewilliams.com](http://www.mtyronewilliams.com).

# Debt Cancellation/Jubilee Crusades

The number eight is representative of "new beginning". In seven days, the Lord created the heaven and earth and the eighth day represented a new beginning. I often tell congregations that "you've had bad long enough. You've had bad credit, bad health, bad memories, bad relationship, and bad luck for a long time. Many of you have paid tithes, given offerings, sowed first fruits, said money come to me now, turned around three times, etc. and are **STILL BROKE**, Sad, Depressed, and Struggling. They want wear commitment to helping scores of persons get out of debt. This will not just be financial debt but emotional, psychological, physical, and generational debt. Our last crusade brought several persons into a relationship with Christ and we are hopeful that as we expand our territory that more persons will be freed from the **bondage of debt** and begin enjoying a life of hope, peace and prosperity. Our website [www.mtyronewilliams.com](http://www.mtyronewilliams.com) will have information regarding location, dates and times of the crusades.

**The Pastors Sin...A Mothers' Secret**  
*I am pleased to present my first book for your review and consideration.*

It tells the story of Rev. Jordan, a seasoned minister and ardent churchman who sells his dignity, integrity, and family to assume the pastorate of this congregation. These actions will have a long lasting impact on his ministry and his family after his demise. The congregation extends a call to Rev. Avery Smith, a handsome, charismatic, articulate preacher who discovers his calling after an injury sidelines a promising football career. While the ministry thrives under his leadership, the seeds planted by his predecessor become harvest and threaten to destroy his ministry, his marriage, and his family. With an ending you will never see coming, this will be one of the most discussed books of our time. Get it TODAY because everyone will be talking about it tomorrow.

Available at [www.mtyronewilliams.com](http://www.mtyronewilliams.com)

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2:3-9) He further told them not to rely on their resources (power and might) but rely on his Spirit (Zechariah 4:6). We have to get our eyes out of the rear view mirror and keep them on the road. **Our best days lie before us and not behind us. Our destiny (destination) awaits**, if we will get our eyes out of the rear view mirror and keep them on the road.



**"Paul had to endure some things to experience the promise of tomorrow."**

# Speaking Engagements

We welcome the opportunity to share with your group or congregation. To schedule a speaking engagement, contact us by phone, email or on our website. Our ministry services are provided without cost to the host, congregation or group.

# Prayer Request

We are available to pray with and for you regarding your most earnest needs. You may request prayer calling or emailing us. A prayer warrior is willing to join their faith with your faith and bombard heaven on your behalf.

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Newsletter designed by [www.martinanddesign.biz](http://www.martinanddesign.biz)

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The Relevant Word Newsletter was designed for a church by me in InDesign. Using InDesign I chose images for easy flow and continuance of verbiage from one page to the next. Only the verbiage was submitted for the design. I chose images that would give a visual aspect to the document without overshadowing the information. This is a 6 page newsletter, intended to be viewed on the website. However, it can be printed as an 8.5 x 11 newsletter with a 1 page insert.





I designed this **Revival flyer** in Photoshop.  
 The photo and seal were submitted to me, ready to use.  
 Since gold and green were the dominant colors,  
 I used them for the basis of the overall design.  
 Whereas low resolution images take away from a great design,  
 good quality images such as these, help to make the final  
 piece a good composition and makes this flyer pop.