

Spiritual studies lead Advance woman to school in Northwest

By Madeline DeJournett

Advance Staff Writer

For those who think they can predict the type of person who gravitates to Small Town America, get ready to have all those perceptions blown out of the water by Advance resident Karen Trof. This successful businesswoman, library board president, country girl, scuba diver, former Hospice Bereavement Counselor, former small town mayor and international franchise analyst is not your run-of-the-mill small-town girl.

Twice a year Trof and her son Sean journey to Yelm, Washington, a town of about 3,000, to attend Ramtha's School of Enlightenment, where she takes classes in Quantum Physics/Spiritual Development.

"These studies have brought me to an understanding of human potential, internal divine connectivity to our Creator, Earth and Universe processes," explains Trof. "Mostly the classes have taught me how each and every one of us is important to the whole, using both Science and Religion. Ramtha's School of Enlightenment teaches ancient knowledge, along with current Scientific results for those who want proof, not having to rely on faith alone."

Trof's most recent trip took her to Trout Lake, Washington for the 2008 Science, Spirit and World Transformation Conference. There, she heard such speakers as James Gilliland, author and subject of the movie "Contact Has Begun;" Michael Knight, director of the "Contact" movie and creator of the "Earth Change Report" weekly newsletter; Dr. Brooks Agnew, author of "The Physics of the Soul;" Ali Nicolis, Boeing Engineer; Dr. Miceal Ledwith, documentary film maker and former advisor to Pope John Paul II.

The philosophy taught at Ramtha has furnished Trof with answers which she has been seeking



Madeline DeJournett photo

This small pond on the Trof farm offers a moment of relaxation for a very busy lady. Twice a year Karen Trof takes time off from her business enterprises to attend classes in Quantum Physics in the northwest state of Washington.



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Karen Trof chooses a book from the extensive library in her rural Advance home. Trof owns video stores in Advance and Puxico and is president of the Advance Community Library. A former mayor of her hometown of Vanduser, Trof's accounting expertise is put to good use in several business ventures. Her many interests and hobbies mark her as a unique member of the community.

all her life.

"As long as I can remember, I have had an inner longing to know 'truth,'" Trof says. "As a very little girl, before I could read, I recall sitting on my grandma's lap, asking her to read me stories from the Bible. As a youngster, I went to church with anyone that would take me."

Trof studied dozens of church doctrines but always felt that "there were pieces missing and a lot of church doctrine that was not biblically founded." She concluded that most organized religions/churches kept people in fear, instead of "nurturing and helping folks be their very best, knowing that they are loved unconditionally."

In 1989 Trof organized her own "Least of These" Ministry, based on Matthew 24:40: "What so ever you do to the least of these, you do unto me." As for a physical church building, she follows Matthew 18:20: "Where ever two or more are gathered in my name, I will be there also."

In 1989 Trof received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from the Ministry Council of World Christianity Ministries. In 2004 she incorporated "Least of These" Ministries as a Missouri Nonprofit.

Trof came to Advance in November of 2002, when she opened Video One with David Trof, whom she married on November 22, 2003.

In August, 2005, Trof had a heart attack which changed her life.

"There was no pain," recalled this lively woman. "I was just tired. They told me that I had had a prior heart attack. I was severely diabetic. The doctors called in the family."

Trof recuperated from the attack, began praying, walking, and soul-searching. When she went back for a checkup, doctors told her that her heart was fully functioning, and there was no diabetes.

"I had a total body healing!" exclaimed Trof. "Now I hunt and fish with David, and I love being in this family!"

Karen (Alberson) Trof has often expressed her pleasure in being a part of an old Advance family. She and David live just around the "corner" from his old family home.

Trof's list of mentors is long and includes her children and "best friends," Christie and Sean Wibbenmeyer; her husband David Trof and his entire family; JZ Knight/Ramtha, the director/teacher at RSE; Father Miceal Ledwith, teacher/student at RSE, ordained in 1967, professor of theology for 16 years, college president for ten years, and advisor to Pope John Paul II; Joel Osteen, pastor of Lake Wood Church, Dallas, Tx; Zig Ziglar, motivational speaker and trainer; her sister Renauta and niece Lisa; her brother- and sister-in-law Budd and Lucy and two boys.

She credits several childhood figures with encouraging her, including her Aunt Nettie, Sissy and Aunt Betty, and cousins Debbie and Renee. In addition to family members, she gives credit to the managers of her Advance and Puxico Video Store/Antique Shop managers, Tara Frost and Misty DeJournett with taking care of the daily chores, so Trof can have the time to take care of "future" planning.

Trof truly qualifies as a unique member of the Stoddard County community.