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APRIL / MAY 2014

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outdoor fun and decisions, decisions

AAH, spring! Gardening or garage saling — garage saling or garden- ing? What a choice I have to make! There is absolutely nothing like the fresh aroma of spring and the beautiful flowering trees that pull me to the garden eager to begin getting our yard ready for warmer weather. However, as a garage sale lover, it is also the best time of year for bargains.

Driving by the churches in Mission, you are probably not aware of the beautiful grounds that adorn these places of worship or the loving care that goes into them. Each church has its own story, as you will discover in reading about them in Mission Magazine, so plan a morning to enjoy them. After touring these gardens I came home with all sorts of ideas that I could do to our yard and a new appreciation for the people who show such devotion to their churchyards. I was especially intrigued by the vegetable garden at St. Pius X Catholic Church. It brought back memories of the Victory Garden we had as a child: planting radishes, lettuce, tomatoes and onions; waiting for them to grow; and then carefully picking them for a delicious sandwich consisting of two pieces of homemade bread, lots of butter and our garden vegetables.

Then I look at my sun room and see all the beautiful white wicker furniture that I purchased at a garage sale for hardly anything (a chaise lounge for \$5,

which needed a coat of paint and a new cushion). I am ready to see what treasures I can find out there that I really don't need, but I am sure I can use. Spring is my favorite time of the year — so fresh, and so inviting. Decisions, decisions!

As promised in our February issue, Shawnee Mission North High School has its own story in this issue — be sure and read our “Man on the Street” and see if you agree with their choices of Mission’s finest restaurants! And did you know we have a 24-hour daycare in Mission? Or that Shawnee Mission North has such intelligent students? There is just so much to learn about our community, so grab a tall glass of ice tea/lemonade, relax and enjoy uncovering the uniqueness of Mission.

Enjoy!

Suzie Gibbs

*Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau
Chair
Councilmember, Ward IV*



Top: St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church
Above: A garage sale in Mission

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ON THE COVER:

ALENA GILLESPIE IN THE ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH
COMMUNITY GARDEN. PHOTO BY BEN MCCALL

Mission

Your Hometown

APRIL / MAY 2014

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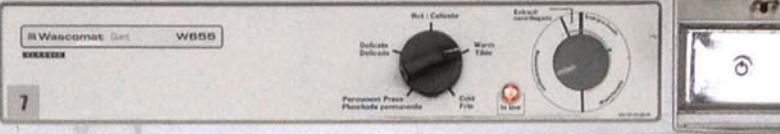
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420546 MISSION FAMILY FESTIVAL WEEKEND Mark your calendars for May 8-11

The second Sunday in May is already reserved for making Mom feel special on Mother's Day. Why not make a whole weekend out of it and spend a great time together with your entire family at Mission's Family Festival? All ages always enjoy the fun, food and entertainment at this annual event, so come on down to Beverly Park, 5927 Beverly Ave.

There will be something for everyone at the 2014 Mission Family Festival: a carnival, full slate of entertainment and amusing things to do, tasty food and more.

The carnival will open on Thursday, May 8, in Beverly Park. Carnival wrist bands for \$22 are available from 6 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Also on Saturday, enjoy all the pancakes you can eat for \$5 per person from 7 to 11 a.m. during the Rotary Club's pancake breakfast.

If you are still hungry for lunch after all those pancakes on Saturday, the Mission Family Festival will offer lunch options. Mission Hy-Vee will be selling hot dogs for \$2, hamburgers for \$3 and drinks for \$1.

Then spend the rest of the afternoon in Beverly Park while you enjoy live entertainment and other activities. Musical acts will include Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove, The Drum Safari and Mr. Doolittle.

If you want to have fun with hands-on activities, the Mission Family Festival offers exciting options for children of all ages. Trinity Lutheran Church is sponsoring the three-legged race, hula hoop contest, obstacle course, ring toss and musical walk (like musical chairs) on the festival grounds.

Children will also have a blast participating in the coin hunt and relay races. During the coin hunt at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, youths will have the opportunity to find \$300 in coins that will be hidden in hay bales. For details on any of the children's events, visit the MCVB website (www.missioncvb.org). All children's activities are free for participants.

Do you have an apple pie recipe that everyone raves about? Plan to showcase your talents during the Mission Family Festival's second-annual Apple Pie Contest. Entries will be judged on taste, appearance and overall impression. See if you can't go home with the blue ribbon. Contest rules can be found on the MCVB website.

In addition, the schedule features the "Touch a Truck" area where people can climb on and in various modes of transportation, like the Johnson County Sheriff Office's "Bear" tactical vehicle, the Lenexa Police Department's "Bear Cat" tactical vehicle, the Merriam Police Department's armored van, a fire truck from Consolidated Fire District No. 2 of Northeast Johnson County, an ambulance, a National Guard medical vehicle and more.

Kids, be sure to build and paint a craft item from Lowe's. And don't forget to say hi and get your picture taken with mascots Sluggerrr (Kansas City Royals) and Sizzle (Kansas City T-Bones) on Saturday.

The last day for the carnival is Sunday, May 11, from noon to 5 p.m. The Ferris wheel will stop operating at 4 p.m.

Above Left: Build a craft with Lowe's | Above Right: Carnival at Mission Family Festival



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, May 8

Carnival — 6 to 10 p.m.

Friday, May 9

Carnival — 6 to 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 10

Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast — 7 to 11 a.m.

Carnival — 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Touch a Truck — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove — 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

The Drum Safari — 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Doolittle — 1:30 to 2:15 p.m.

Lowe's craft activities for the entire family — 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Mission Bank Coin Hunt — 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 11

Carnival — Noon to 5 p.m.



Spend the evening outdoors and join us at the

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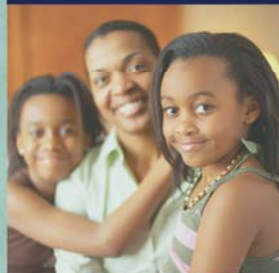
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Take a photographic tour of MISSION'S CHURCHES

With Mother Nature's blessing, it's time to dust off the garden gloves, knock the cobwebs off the tools and beautify our outdoor spaces. There are plenty of places to become inspired, garden-wise, in Mission. If you are looking for some good tips and maybe even some divine inspiration for your own garden, check out the gardens that are carefully tended outside the city's churches. Vol-

unteers are often the ones who are called to create and maintain these serene and lush settings. In Mission, the result is a great variety — and grand beauty — at Countryside Christian Church, St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, St. Pius X Catholic Church and Trinity Lutheran Church.

Community Garden at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 5500 Woodson

Families that don't have the proper space and the right growing conditions in their own yards have discovered the perfect place to grow vegetables and flowers: the St. Pius X Community Garden. This year will be the sixth year for the community garden, which started with 20 plots. The garden has grown to 49 10-by-10 squares that are lovingly cared for by area residents who share their tips with their fellow gardeners and their excess produce with each other and church members. There is always a waiting list to get a plot.

"It's been a really neat community-building project for our parish," said Kevin Smith, groundskeeper for St. Pius X. "We're a very green parish."

"Community" is truly the central theme of this garden. People

who normally may not know each other have bonded through their sharing of growing success (and not-so-successful) stories, their talk of rain (or the lack thereof) and their tips for improving their yields of tasty produce and gorgeous flowers in the future.

It's also a garden that spans generations with children and grandchildren working alongside parents and grandparents.

"Alena loves vegetables so it's great to plant it, eat it and see where it comes from," said MaryEllen Gillespie, of her daughter.

The Gillespies' harvests have included green beans, spinach, onions, cucumbers, eggplants, tomatoes, peppers and Brussels sprouts.

"The vegetables are good," Alena said last summer as she was eating a cherry tomato.





RCH GARDENS

Children's Garden, 'scattering garden' and more at
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 6630 Nall Ave.

If you walk all the way around the exterior of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, you will see the work of the Gardening Angels just about everywhere. The Gardening Angels, a group of volunteers at the church, meet on the second Saturday of each month (except in the wintertime) and diligently work to beautify the church's garden beds. Many photographers use St. Michael's grounds as the backdrop for their pictures, and there are benches in several spots where visitors can sit and relax.

"For a newcomer, it's a great way to learn about Midwest gardening," said Kathy Minges, of her experience as a member of the Gardening Angels, "and it's a great way to meet like-minded people."

On the sunny west side of St. Michael and All Angels, the Gardening Angels have created an area for kids. The children's garden is a cheery oasis where kids can feel the softness of the lamb's ear plants; view colorful plants and flowers; smell the aroma of thyme, rosemary and other herbs in the kitchen garden; and even bury their small pets, like hamsters, gerbils and lizards.

The church also has a "scattering garden" for parishioners' ashes, which has been expanded since being created in 1989.

Adjacent to the scattering garden on the east side of the church is a "quiet garden" that is part of the international "Quiet Garden Movement."

Far Left: Ken Capron and his grandchildren Jordyn and Noah Barger | Left: Dorothy Chamblin and her grandson Oscar Chamblin



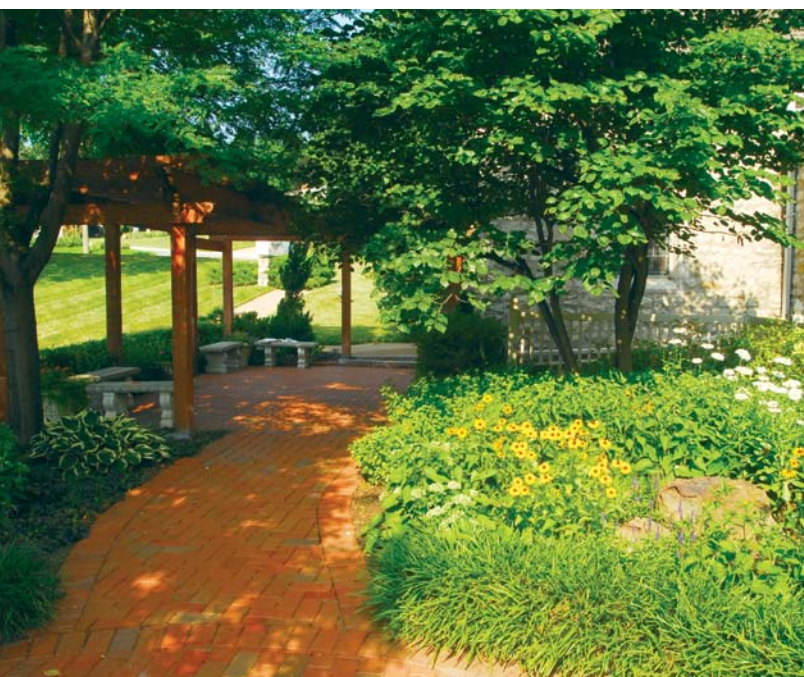
Disciples Garden at Countryside Christian Church, 6101 Nall Ave.

If you are looking for a place to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, the solution is just off Shawnee Mission Parkway on Nall Avenue. Volunteers at Countryside Christian Church have made its Disciples Garden a peaceful retreat where people can slow down and take a break. Employees from nearby offices and residents from Bickford at Mission Springs come to the garden to eat lunch and meditate.

"We've tried to make it a garden for everyone," said Linda McConwell, who has helped with the garden. "...We want people to use the garden and have gatherings out here."

To get ideas for its Disciples Garden, which was dedicated in 2002, Countryside Christian volunteers toured other church gardens in the area.

Even though the garden is in a relatively busy part of town, you forget about all that when you are enjoying its year-round beauty, from tulips and crocuses in the spring to colorful trees and mums in the fall. As you are walking through the Disciples Garden, be sure to look down and see the names of members and former members of the church on engraved bricks, which were sold to help pay for the garden.



Prayer request box and rose garden at Trinity Lutheran Church, 5601 W. 62nd St.

Do you want to slip a prayer request into the box at Trinity Lutheran Church? All you have to do is look for the beautiful rose bushes in the center island in front of the church's main entrance. More than 30 single knockout rose bushes put on a beautiful display of red roses around the prayer request box.

"We moved it (the prayer request box) to the center island because we thought it was more attractive there and thought it might get more use," said Jean Schlesselman, who tended the gardens at Trinity Lutheran for 12 years. "...When the roses are blooming, people really enjoy them."

Members and non-members of the church can drive by and slip their prayer request into the box. The requests can be anonymous, and people are able to ask for prayers if they (or someone they know) is facing an illness, recovering from surgery, lost their job or is dealing with another difficulty.



Photo by Kevin Blayney

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MISSION AD AGENCY HAS A HAND IN **ALEX GORDON'S BIG SLIDE**

Kansas City Royals' preseason billboard garnered a lot of attention

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTO COURTESY OF WALZ TETRICK ADVERTISING

Did you notice the Kansas City Royals' billboard on I-35 where outfielder Alex Gordon looks like he is sliding so hard he's pushing the vinyl right off the sign?

That billboard in downtown Kansas City, Mo., received a lot of national attention, but many people may not know it has a Mission connection.

Walz Tetrick Advertising, located in Mission on Shawnee Mission Parkway and Nall Avenue in the former NCAA building, is responsible for coming up with the concept. This preseason billboard, which was up for about four weeks in February and March, kicked off the Royals' "Be Royal" campaign. The Alex Gordon billboard for 2014 followed 2013's billboards where pitcher James Shields "threw the ball" from one side of I-35 to catcher Salvador Perez on another billboard on the other side of the highway. Again, it looked like the vinyl had been damaged, this time by the speed of Shields' pitch. The two-billboard set in 2013 earned Walz Tetrick recognition across the sports marketing and advertising industries, including the

How International Design Awards, American Advertising Federation Awards, Obie Awards and National Sports Forum Awards.

"We did this last year and got a lot of good response," said Amanda Coleman, a senior art director at Walz Tetrick Advertising. "Our client was looking for another big splash to launch this season's campaign."

This year's Alex Gordon billboard went viral nationally on social media. Photos were tweeted, posted to Facebook and featured online by ESPN, CBS, BuzzFeed, deadspin, Sports Illustrated, MSN and more.

Walz Tetrick is a full-service advertising agency that helps companies and organizations with strategic planning, media planning and buying, creative development, social media, value added promotions, and interactive strategy and design.

Besides the Kansas City Royals, its clients include Prairie Band Casino & Resort, Olathe Health System, Dairy Queen and Lockton.



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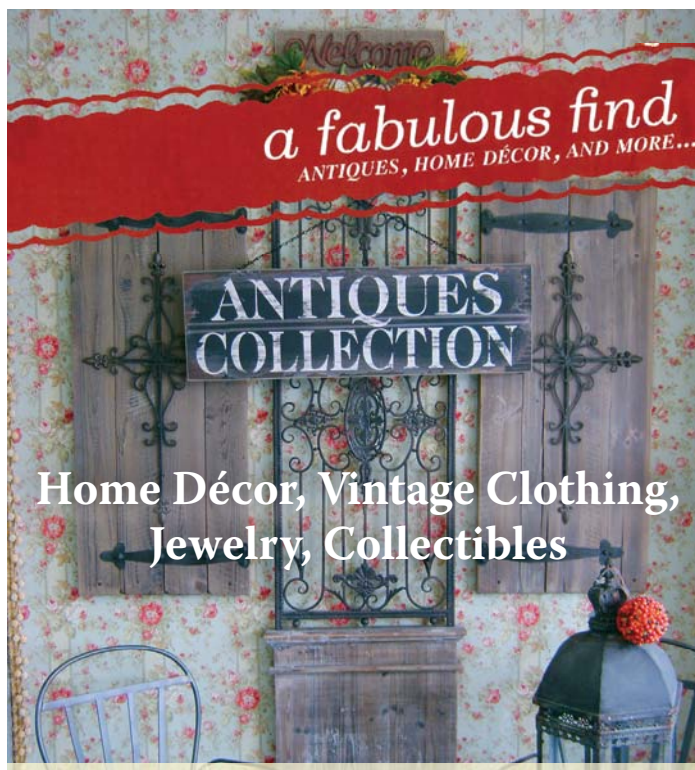
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Mission Bulletin Board

FIND OUT MORE THROUGH MISSION: FORWARD

Springboard Creative is helping to brand and enhance communication about downtown Mission and the Johnson Drive project through its Mission:Forward initiative.

- The company's efforts are intended to:
- Create a positive, unified voice during the project construction
 - Help bring visitors to Johnson Drive/Mission
 - Help direct traffic during the construction
 - Build anticipation for the project's unveiling in November 2014

"Like" us on Facebook at Mission:Forward.



MEETING NOTICE

Mission City Council Meetings:
7 p.m. at City Hall
May 21 and June 18

TOWN TOPIC MAKES FOOD & WINE LIST

Town Topic (with one of its Kansas City area locations at 6018 Johnson Drive in Mission) was named to the list of America's best diners by Food & Wine. Town Topic was praised for its "meaty chili, hand-dipped malts and shakes" and "craveable griddle-kissed burgers with onions on fresh steamed buns." Congratulations, Town Topic!



Someone enjoys the construction!

Two-year-old Forest VonOntjes likes to go to the Johnson Drive construction project every day to watch the "diggers." The construction crew has even befriended him.



Who doesn't love hard hats and ice cream?

The Santa Fe Trail Elementary School PTA recently sponsored a "Why Cook Wednesday" event at Dips & Sips, 5735 Johnson Drive. Those who attended donned "Mission Forward" hard hats.

Mission Bulletin Board

Daniel Mellott, Owner
The UPS Store
5400 Johnson Dr.
913-722-1146



Great results with Mission Magazine!

"We place coupon ads in the Mission Magazine, and it's the most successful advertising campaign we have. We also do it because we like to support the community and the Mission Magazine is a good source for local information."

Artists and crafters wanted for the Mission ArtWalk events



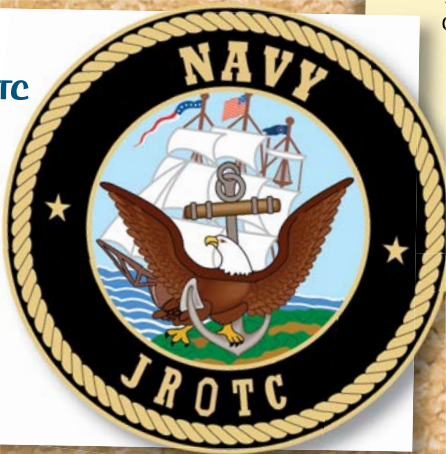
Hey artists and crafters, join us and make some extra money this summer. The Mission ArtWalk events are looking for people to showcase their wares on the second Fridays of June, July and August. The events are held from 5 to 9 p.m. Visit www.missionartwalk.com

for more information or call Sharon at Art Glass Productions at 913-248-1118.

Congratulations to Shawnee Mission North's NJROTC

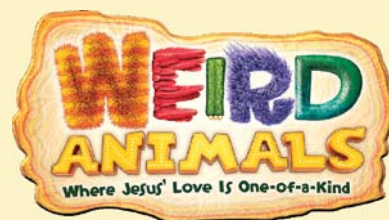
Shawnee Mission North High School's NJROTC won the Area 9 Regional Championships for the eighth year in a row when they swept all 11 events in the academic, athletic and drill competition.

The victory qualified them for the NJROTC National Championship for the ninth consecutive year.



SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church, 5601 W. 62nd St, is offering three opportunities for children this summer:



Vacation Bible School, 9 to 11:30 a.m. from July 14 to 18 — Kids are invited to experience the theme of "Weird Animals." Registration required.



Kid's Café Summer Lunch Program

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. from July 14 to 18 — FREE LUNCH will be provided to all children through 18 years old in the fellowship hall at Trinity. This summer feeding program provides nutritious, healthy meals to all area children.

(You do NOT have to attend VBS to participate in the meal program.) NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Trinity Kid's Kamp, 12:30 to 3 p.m. from July 14 to 17 — Join us for afternoons of fun and serving the community. Trinity Lutheran offers a different opportunity each day, Monday through Thursday, including but not limited to outdoor game day, swimming at the Mission Pool, movie and ice cream day, and serving the residents of Bickford by playing bingo and singing. (There may be a small fee to cover individual swimming cost/snack at the pool.) Registration is required.

For more information and to register, call 913-432-5441 or visit www.tlcms.org.

MoNae White opened Forever Young Childcare, a 24-hour childcare facility at 5404 W. 58th Terrace, about a year ago.



Forever Young Childcare meets the needs of working parents

MISSION DAYCARE IS OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTO BY KEVIN BLAYNEY

Nina Parker wakes up two hours earlier than normal to drive her daughter from their home in the Midtown area of Kansas City, Mo., to Forever Young Childcare in Mission and back to her job at Truman Medical Center in downtown Kansas City.

But, for Parker and her 2-year-old daughter Jordyn, the drive is totally worth it.

"It's hard to find child care you can trust," Parker said. "...It's worth it to see my baby happy."

Besides being a nurturing and safe place for kids, Forever Young is a 24-hour childcare facility that is open seven days a week (as needed) with the exception of two Sundays a month. While there are some in-home daycares that provide flexible hours and/or a 24-hour option, there are hardly any childcare centers that are open around the clock, every day of the week. This makes life a lot easier for parents, like Parker, who have to be at work at

7 a.m. Many childcare facilities open at 7 a.m. and close promptly at 5:30 p.m., which makes it tough for working parents who don't have a 9-to-5 job.

This is exactly what MoNae White had in mind when she opened Forever Young Childcare in Mission at 5404 W. 58th Terrace.

White did her research in advance and could only find a few 24-hour childcare centers in the Greater Kansas City area and none in Northeast Johnson County or Midtown Kansas City, Mo.

White, who used to work three jobs herself (in the hospitality industry, at a daycare and in retail), understands the challenges of being a mom and working jobs on evenings and weekends. In addition, her two best friends are nurses who work 12-hour shifts. Taking your child to a daycare situation that only offers daytime and weekday care doesn't work for every parent.

Continued on Page 20



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"I wanted to be unique with the 24-hour care and the seven days a week," she said.

The weekend care at Forever Young is helpful for parents who work on Saturdays and Sundays or for those who need to take care of errands or holiday shopping.

For the Pollard kids, Forever Young is a great option since their parents work weekends.

"She is very patient and feeds them well," said their mom, Demeca Harris. "I don't have to worry about them while they are there."

White (or Miss MoNae as she is often called) is also unique in that she accepts infants, provides after-school care for school-aged children and offers drop-in care if parents call the day before. In all, the center can have 12 children from ages 6 weeks to 12 years old.

With the dream of opening this unique type of childcare center, White began searching online for a location. She found the building at 5404 W. 58th Terrace (a block north of Johnson Drive, just east of Nall Avenue) on Craigslist. She later found out that the building had been a daycare but had been vacant for a few years. She got the building in August 2012, received her daycare license in October 2012 and started caring for her first children in February 2013. Although the building had a nice backyard and good square footage, it needed a lot of TLC to get it ready for children.

Now it's a clean, bright and cozy atmosphere. The first things people notice when they walk in are the letter tree and rainbow painted on the walls and happy children busy at play.

A day at Forever Young includes healthy meals and snacks (with offerings such as ground turkey, fish, chicken, and fresh fruit and vegetables), singing, dancing, exercising, crafts and lots of playing.

During learning time, 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds work on their recognition of shapes, colors and letters.

White, mother of 2-year-old Dontae, strives to keep Forever Young feeling like home.

"I like to do it how I would want it done if I sent my son to daycare," she said. "...I totally love kids and I always have. It (opening a daycare) is something I always wanted to do. Children are my passion. I love their laughter because I love to laugh, too."

Forever Young Childcare is licensed through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as a group daycare home. White said she and the other workers are CPR and first aid certified, take part in continuing education courses and have undergone KBI background checks.

For more information, call 913-432-3252 or visit www.foreveryoungcc.com.

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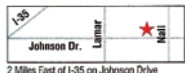
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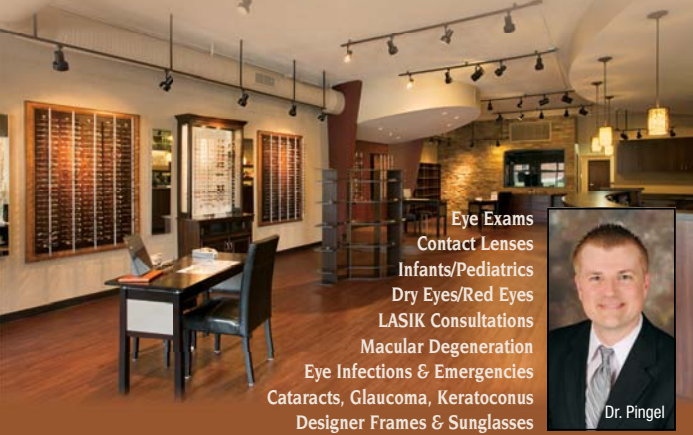
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CITY OF MISSION

Newsletter

APRIL / MAY 2014
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2
WWW.MISSIONKS.ORG



MISSION :FORWARD SHOP MISSION!

All Johnson Drive
Businesses Remain Open

With construction on Johnson Drive in full swing, visiting your favorite business may seem a little daunting. Maintaining access is an important part of the project and all businesses remain open during the construction. Please remember to Shop Mission — our local merchants need you as we look forward to unveiling the new project later this fall. Check out Mission:Forward on Facebook. For more information on the project, please contact Emily Randel at 913-676-8368 or erandel@missionks.org.



Mayor Laura McConwell recognized Planning Commissioner Jim Brown for 10 years of service at the March 19th City Council Meeting.



MISSION POSSIBLE PROGRAM ASSISTS HOMEOWNERS

Is your home's exterior in need of some TLC? If so, you might want to check out the Mission Possible Program, offered through the Neighborhood Services Department. Mission Possible offers assistance with exterior painting, yard work, tree trimming, siding/fascia repairs and other projects for income eligible homeowners. Guidelines and details are available at www.missionks.org or by contacting Rosalind Johnson at 913-676-8390 or rjohnson@missionks.org.



COMMUNITY GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE

Plots are still available in the City's Community Garden (across from QuikTrip at Lamar and Foxridge). Free for Mission residents, it's a great way to try your hand at gardening and enjoy some family time. Contact Neighborhood Services at 913-676-8390 to reserve your space today!



NotifyJoCo.org

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Notify JoCo is a mass notification system designed to keep Johnson County residents and businesses informed. Visit www.notifyjoco.org to sign up, and select the opt-in categories that you care most about:

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City Services

Public Safety

Sports & Recreation

Events & Festivals

Emergency notifications will be sent automatically.

Choose how you'd like to receive notifications: text, email, or telephone call. For help registering, please call 913-826-5555.

SPRING CLEAN-UP REMINDERS

1. Bulky item pick-up occurs on the first trash day of every month (does not include extra trash bags).
2. You are allowed six yard waste "set-outs" per week (bins, biodegradable bags, or bundles).
3. Overage stickers are available (\$1.50 each) for excess trash or yard waste bags. These may be purchased at City Hall or the Community Center.
4. Deffenbaugh will only pick up those polycarts whose lids are completely closed. **Extra bags need overage stickers.**
5. Polycarts must be kept behind the front building line of your home or in the garage. They are not allowed on the front porch or in front of the garage doors.

For more information or to report a missed pick-up, contact Rosalind Johnson at 913-676-8390 or rjohnson@missionksorg.



NEW FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

TO UNVEIL COMMUNITY ART MURAL

Mission residents feel a close bond to the city's outdoor pool. Maybe because they worked as a lifeguard or spent summers there as a kid. Perhaps their child swam for the Mission Marlins swim team or it was a place to spend some time during the summer.

Whatever the connection, the City of Mission provided people a way to feel like part of the pool for years to come.

made up of 200 small tiles. And that's where the community got involved. Pool supporters painted the tiles that are being assembled to make the larger mural.

Carol Schieszer, an artist and Mission resident, coordinated the project and supplies. The mural was designed by Ian Hutchinson, a former Mission Marlins swimmer who now works for Hallmark Cards Inc. Will Wattenberg, a current life-



When the new Mission Family Aquatic Center opens May 24, it will include a 5-foot-by-10-foot tile mural in the bathhouse breezeway. At first glance, you will see the mural's ocean theme with a marlin (of course) jumping out of the sea. But if you look closer, you will notice that the larger picture is

guard for the City of Mission, also assisted with the artwork for the project.

When the new aquatic center opens next month, and for years to come, the painters of all ages can point to their tile and feel even more connected to this community gathering spot.



Dave Shepard and his daughter, Kathleen, painted tiles for the new mural.

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"Where do you like to dine?"

SHAWNEE MISSION NORTH STUDENTS HAVE MANY FAVORITE RESTAURANTS IN MISSION

BY SAVANNAH RATTANAVONG • PHOTOS BY GOLDIA KITECK



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BRIDGET

The Mission: Your Hometown magazine editorial board recently met with some journalism students at Shawnee Mission North High School. Following that meeting, we gave those students the opportunity to share their thoughts on their favorite restaurants in Mission. The following are some of the best:

SENIOR ABBY SOSTARICH

"I go to New China Town a lot because the people there recognize me, and they know exactly what I want. I get the same thing every time. I get the orange chicken and egg fried rice combo. I get the combo there and I drive through the Burger King next door to get a Dr. Pepper."

FRESHMAN SHANNON WRAY

"Chipotle. I'm a vegan so it's really hard going around trying to find restaurants that have vegan food or getting a meal that I can actually eat, so Chipotle offers that. I always get a burrito, white rice, black beans, lettuce, tomatoes, corn and guacamole."

SENIOR DYLAN NAUGLE

"I'd say Don Chilito's because I've been going there since I was a kid. I get the cheese enchiladas and the cheesecake."

SOPHOMORE NELL GROSS

"I like D'Bronx because they have salads and pizza and sandwiches — what more could you need in one place? (I usually get) the cheese pizza. Cheese is cool. And sandwiches."

SENIOR ADAM ALEXANDER

"I like Applebee's because after nine o'clock, you can get half-priced appetizers. That's my favorite part. I usually get the beer pretzels — I think that's what it's called — and then pasta or something."

SOPHOMORE ANASTASYA BAGDASARYAN

"Jose Pepper's because it's a really fun environment and they're really nice, and it's my favorite food. I really like their queso and chips, and their burritos."

FRESHMAN NATALIE TURNER

"Chick-fil-A because I like the waffle fries and I always get the chicken nuggets."

SENIOR ERICA NICKOLETT

"Taco Bell — Taco Bell every day. It's cheap. I get a meal deal No. 4 with a Baja Blast."

SOPHOMORE ERIN ROBERTSON

"Sonic because Oreo Blasts and tots are really good. I haven't been there in awhile, and I'm really missing Oreo Blasts. I don't even like normal Oreos, but put them in a Sonic Blast, it's like heaven."

SOPHOMORE ABBI CARTER

"Runza because one of my friends makes the best sandwiches there."

FRESHMAN DILLON TORELLO

"D'Bronx because it's not really expensive and it's really good. I get the same kind (of pizza) every time. It's the pepperoni and tomato."

JUNIOR BRIDGET WRAY

"Chipotle because I'm pretty sure they're all organic and their steak is the best. They're freaking huge so when I'm feeling fat, I can go there. I usually order a steak bowl, no beans, mild tomatoes, guacamole, if I have enough money, corn, cheese and sour cream."

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE: A 'GAME CHANGER' FOR STUDENTS AT **SHAWNEE MISSION NORTH**

SMN is only one of eight high schools in Kansas to offer the IB program

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTOS BY MARIAH STADEL

When Darian Dozier was a freshman at Shawnee Mission North High School, she had a plan. She would take her most difficult classes as a sophomore so she could take it easy her senior year before going to college.

That plan changed along the way and now Darian, a senior at North, is on track to graduate with an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma. She will be the first student to receive the IB diploma at North and the only recipient in the 2014 class.

The International Baccalaureate program is an internationally recognized curriculum that offers 11th- and 12th-grade students an opportunity to study college-level curriculum and earn the IB diploma. Schools have to go through a long, arduous process to be certified as an IB school, including applications and an on-site visit. For North, the process took about two years and the school received its IB status in 2012. Only eight high schools in Kansas are IB certified, with three being in the Shawnee Mission School District (North, East and Northwest).

Many of the IB classes are two years in length, so Darian's senior year has been anything but relaxing. Over the course of the past two years, she has taken IB English, history of the Americas, psychology, chemistry, Spanish and math. She also has been required to write an extended essay of independent research guided by a faculty mentor; complete 150 hours of creative, action and service activities; and participate in a critical-thinking course called Theory of Knowledge.

"If you are going to go through something, you might as well go all the way," Darian said. "Go big or go home."

She plans to major in psychology (on a pre-med track), with minors in biology and Spanish, at either Creighton University or the University of Tulsa. Her IB diploma will earn her scholarship funding for about half the tuition at either school.

Chris Zuck, associate principal at Shawnee Mission North and the school's current IB coordinator, said the IB program is one vehicle that can open doors for students. With an IB diploma, students can leave high school with anywhere from 24 to 32 hours of college credit (depending on their IB test scores and where they go to college) at a significantly reduced cost. This enables them to

have double majors or start their work on master's degrees early.

"It (the IB program) is obviously a game changer when it comes to opportunities in college," he said. "...Colleges and universities like it because they know the students who have lived through that experience can handle the college experience."

Five juniors at North are working toward receiving IB diplomas next year. About 80 juniors and seniors take individual IB classes "cafeteria-style" without earning the diploma.

Sarah Grandgenett, a senior at North, has taken IB history of the



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Americas and English. She is now deciding between the University of Kansas and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she has been offered \$54,000 in scholarship money because of taking IB courses and her well-rounded high school experience.

"I have passions for things, but I don't know where that will lead me," she said.

Sarah, who is planning to major in biology in college, plays viola, has been a member of the Shawnee Mis-

sion North varsity gymnastics and track teams, and works at Bob Evans restaurant — all while taking multiple IB and Advanced Placement (AP) courses at North.

For more information about North's IB program, visit <http://signature.smsd.org/ib/north/pages/default.aspx> or call Jon Durham, North's new IB coordinator, at 913-993-7138.

Top Photo: Darian Dozier is graduating with an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma from Shawnee Mission North this spring. She is pictured here playing the violin at the Shawnee Mission North Strolling Strings Night in Italy event.

Bottom Photo: Besides taking multiple International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) courses at Shawnee Mission North, senior Sarah Grandgenett plays viola, and has been a member of the Shawnee Mission North varsity gymnastics and track teams.



The thrill of the hunt

Garage sale season is here,
so get ready to stock up and unload

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTO BY CATHY DONOVAN

Get ready, buyers and sellers! Spring is here and the time is right to shop 'til you drop or shed some of your unwanted treasures — whichever state of mind you happen to be in.

The Mission City-Wide Garage Sale is being held on a new weekend this year (see box for more information) and at the same time as city-wide sales in nearby communities. It's a win-win for both garage sale vendors and shoppers. More people, more goodies ... let the shopping frenzy begin!

But first, here are some tips from Mission residents JoAnne Owens and Nancy Hansen. Owens recently held her first garage sale in Mission but has hosted many while living in Brookside and north of the river. Hansen and her husband Marc have been avid garage salers for 10 years.

If you are selling at a garage sale...

- Set up as many things as possible on your driveway instead of making people come to your garage. Owens recommends putting your best things out front and even setting up furniture so it looks like a room. Hansen said if she sees interesting things on the driveway, it's a sign there's more good merchandise to come.
- Make sure your merchandise is clean and organized. It also helps to set things up in "departments," like office, kitchen, etc.
- Price your merchandise with tags and be ready to negotiate.
- Sit close to the front so you can greet shoppers when they come in. "The day of the sale really is a lot of fun," Owens said.
- If you have more expensive things to sell, consider accepting credit cards, Hansen said. Companies like Square, for example, make it easy to take credit cards using your cell phone or iPad.

If you are buying at a garage sale...

- Hansen suggests that buyers take return address labels (with a phone number added) to garage sales. This is an easy way to give sellers your contact information if they decide they want to part with an unsold piece at a lower price later in the day.
- At neighborhood sales, Hansen recommends driving around to scope out the sales and then finding a central place to park.
- Never walk away from broken pieces. "Everything has potential," she said. Turn furniture over and open dresser drawers before buying.
- Don't shy away from buying rugs (even if they look like they've seen better days). Hansen said there are a couple companies in the area that hand wash rugs relatively inexpensively. Other things she likes looking for are clay pots, picture frames, lamps and outdoor furniture.

"You kind of make a game out of it," Hansen said. "That's the fun part ... seeing what people have to sell.

"I've bought some gorgeous things at garage sales."

Mission's City-Wide Garage Sale is set for May 1, 2 and 3. It is being held in conjunction with city-wide sales in other Northeast Johnson County communities, such as Roeland Park and Westwood. To register, call Mission City Hall at 913-676-8350 or email msumrall@missionks.org. A listing of participating garage sales in Mission will be available on the city's website, www.missionks.org, the week of April 28. Flyers will also be available at Mission City Hall and the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center.

SUMMER FUN

with
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June 7 National Trails Day
June 20&21 Backyard Campout
Sept. 2 Pool Party for Pooches

FREE!

AQUA JAMZ

Mission Family Aquatic Center

6:00-8:00PM

June 13 - State Line Drive
June 27 - Doo-Dad Mike
July 11 - Mr. Kneel Hip Hop
for Families
July 25 - Dino O'Dell



PARK & RECREATION MONTH

[JULY 2014]

Mission Summer Family Picnic

FREE!

July 12, 2014

**LIVE Music, Cookout, Water
Games, Fireworks,
Inflatables & MUCH More!**

Mission Family Aquatic Center

Summer Pool Hours

Grand Opening!

May 24, 2014

May 24 - August 10, 2014

Monday - Sunday 12:00pm-8:00pm

August 11 - September 1, 2014

Fridays: 4:00pm-8:00pm

Saturdays: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Sundays: 12:00pm-6:00pm

Daily Admission

Mission Resident \$6

Proof of residency (current utility bill, drivers license
or ID is required at time of purchase)

Non-Mission Resident \$8

Season Passes

Sold only at SPJCC - 10% off for SPJCC members

Resident Family \$120

NonResident Family \$170

Resident Individual \$70

NonResident Individual \$100

Tan & Float

A Morning Tan Time for Adults

No swimming -
Only Tan and Float!

Saturdays: 5/31-8/30

10:00 - 11:45 a.m.

\$2/person

Super Pool Pass

Fairway, Leawood, Merriam,

Mission, Prairie Village & Roeland Park

Add the "Super Pass" to your MFAC membership,
and visit the outdoor pools of nearby pools at no
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pass from the city for which they currently live.

Family

Resident \$50*

Non-Resident \$55*

**Fee includes up to 5 family members.*

Single

Resident \$25

Non-Resident \$30

Kiddie Pool Play Time

Tu/Th/Sat

June 3-Aug. 9

9:30 - 11:30am

\$2 per child;

Adults are FREE

10 Visit Punch Card:

\$18 - \$10MFAC S.P.

Limit 3 children per adult.



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