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Your Hometown

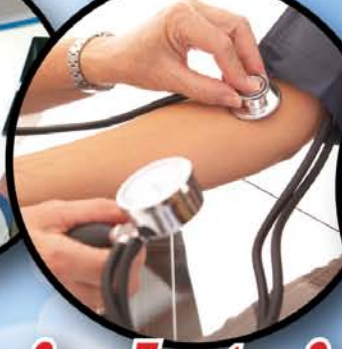
FEBRUARY / MARCH 2014

Mission: 'The Little City That Could'

Businesses stay open during
Johnson Drive construction



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Celebrating 60 years in Mission
Healthy Eating in 2014
Dietitian offers recipes, tips



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Mission Magazine:

Getting older but staying youthful

Five years ago, our former City Administrator Mike Scanlon and I sat in his office envisioning ways to tell everyone — our residents, friends in neighboring cities, business owners, their employees and visitors — about the uniqueness of Mission. Our dream was big: a magazine for and about the residents and businesses of Mission. After several meetings, talking with publishers and forming a Mission Magazine Committee, our dream be-

about the magazine. Oh, to be in high school and have such fresh, original ideas and not be afraid to voice your opinions.

So, prepare yourselves for new things in the future. They gave us lots of feedback. Since this generation loves to be on Twitter and Facebook, we are looking into avenues for us to share more information with you via those avenues and the Web. Not to worry, we will still be sending you the



came a reality and the first copy rolled off the presses in February 2010. You are now holding issue No. 21 in your hands and hopefully you have read each of the other 20 issues from cover to cover!

As with everything we do in life, we are constantly striving to improve on our successes by bringing you the best magazine with the latest news and updates regarding Mission. We receive lots of tips from people who want to pass along a brilliant story idea or tell us about a person, place or thing they feel deserves a story. Others simply want to receive a copy of the magazine in the mail. This is wonderful! Please keep the e-mails and calls coming.

In order to get a youthful perspective, the Magazine Committee recently visited one of Shawnee Mission North's journalism classes (see photo above) and asked for their feedback

magazine by snail mail. In the near future you may even see an article (with photos of course!) produced by SM North journalism students. Thank you, North, for your involvement.

We are very proud of our City and the Mission Magazine Committee loves to showcase it. We couldn't publish this magazine without our advertisers and you the readers, shoppers and coupon clippers. It truly takes us all to make Mission: Your Hometown magazine a success. Here's to another great year!

Enjoy!

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

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ON THE COVER:

Ray and Becky Hanf, left, owners of Mission Fresh Fashion, and Kevin Fullerton, owner and creative director of Springboard Creative. PHOTO BY BEN MCCALL

Mission

Your Hometown

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2014

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Additional copies of Mission: Your Hometown magazine are available at participating advertisers. You can also view it on the city's website, www.missionks.org, or the Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau website, www.missioncvb.org. To advertise in Mission Magazine, call Angie Riffel at 913-951-8446. If you have a story idea, call Suzie Gibbs at 913-671-8564.

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Mission: *The Little City That Could*

BUSINESSES STAY OPEN DURING JOHNSON DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION

BY BARBARA BAYER • PHOTOS BY BEN MCCALL

"YES IT'S PAINFUL. BUT IT WILL BE WORTH IT NEXT YEAR AND FOR MANY YEARS INTO THE FUTURE WHEN IT'S DONE."

So says Kevin Fullerton when he talks about the Johnson Drive construction. He's the owner and creative director of Springboard Creative at 5602 Johnson Drive. His agency assists other companies with their branding and graphic design. A Mission resident for 16 years, he moved Springboard Creative here two years ago and now navigates the construction through downtown's main street for both business and pleasure on a regular basis.

He and other business owners, including Ray and Becky Hanf of Mission Fresh Fashion, believe the short-term inconveniences are a small price to pay for the benefits this project will create in the years to come. The \$10 million Johnson Drive Reconstruction Project is expected to bring a new look to downtown Mission, including pedestrian-friendly amenities and a revitalized commercial district positioned for a prosperous future.

Those who live or work near the Johnson Drive area are already familiar with the metal plates and detours associated with the construction. By November 2014 when construction is complete, the street will be fully resurfaced and a new storm water interceptor will have been installed.

The updated Johnson Drive will also provide improved parking and, in some areas, an increased number of parking spaces. In addition, traffic flow will be improved and the area surrounding the businesses will be ADA compliant.

Sharon Miller, the proprietor of Art Glass Productions located at 5812 Johnson Drive (the only business with a purple awning), has actually seen a spike in her business since construction started on Johnson Drive.

"I always ask my new customers how they found us," she

said. "Several told me that they drive Johnson Drive all the time and have never seen my business. Now that they had to slow down for the detours, they had time to look around. After they saw us they decided to come in and see what we are."

Art Glass Productions has been in business for 21 years and has been located in Mission since 2003. Before she opened in Mission, Miller studied the location and the traffic flow, discovering Mission had everything she was hoping for.

"There's no hustle-bustle traffic, there's good access to the highway, and it is 15 minutes from downtown," she said.

Having a storefront along Johnson Drive was also "highly desirable" for Ray Hanf, who opened his first store, a combination clothing and fresh produce store first known as Mission Fresh Produce, in Mission in 1998.

"The Johnson Drive corridor was an established shopping area even back in 1998 when we got started. Back then, when we were renting, it was affordable. Now we own commercial property on Johnson Drive," say the Hanfs. The business, now called Mission Fresh Fashion, no longer sells produce and focuses exclusively on clothing and accessories.

In 2002, Ray moved the store to the Country Club Plaza. He didn't stay long, determining his business was better suited for a Johnson Drive location. Over the years Mission Fresh Fashion has moved a couple times and is now located in a building Ray and Becky Hanf own at 6102 Johnson Drive. The married couple — Becky describes herself as the customer who wouldn't go away — keeps their patrons apprised about the construction impacts through a weekly email newsletter.

"We communicate road closures, parking issues, etc.... Since our block doesn't have south-side street parking, we hope to procure some off-street parking while the north-side lanes are closed, enabling our customers to park closer to our store," the Hanfs said.

Springboard Creative's Fullerton and Art Glass Productions' Miller also communicate current closures and detours to their clients and customers.

"I just prepare them for what they are going to encounter," Miller said. "Not a one of them has had a problem."

A big supporter of downtown Mission, Fullerton hasn't let the construction stop him from showing off the area. He consciously schedules meetings around noon so he can take his clients to lunch in Mission, often taking a walk along Johnson Drive to one of his favorite places, RJ's Bob-Be-Que Shack (located at 5835 Lamar Ave.).

"I like my clients to see the different stores and office spaces we have. I like them to see the community and meet the people in it," he said.

Moving Springboard Creative to Mission is the best move





When the weather is nice, Kevin Fullerton sometimes visits with clients outside Springboard Creative's offices located at 5602 Johnson Drive.



Even with the current construction, Ray and Becky Hanf, owners of Mission Fresh Fashion at 6102 Johnson Drive, think their Mission location is desirable.

Fullerton said he could have ever made.

"A big part of what brought us down here was its potential," he said. "The City has big plans for revitalizing Johnson Drive, and both the East and West Gateways. I wanted to be part of that. I wanted to be part of making Mission a great place to own a business."

In fact, Fullerton compares the future of Mission to other well-known areas in the metro including the Crossroads district, the West Bottoms or even the Brookside neighborhood.

"Like these neighborhoods experienced when they were being revitalized, we have to go through this rough patch as we focus on our turnaround and growth," Fullerton said.

The Hanfs of Mission Fresh Fashion point out that many of the businesses on Johnson Drive are like the old-time mom-and-pop stores where the owners are on-site running the day-to-day operations. They think that's what makes these stores a destination shoppers seek, regardless of the obstacles, because customers find service worth stopping for.

"Over time, we build relationships with our customers and it is those relationships which keep them coming back. In our case, we are the owners, operators and whatever else the day requires. Customers know when they shop at Mission Fresh Fashion they will be treated well. We have a vested interest in making their shopping experience a pleasant one," the Hanfs said.

Fullerton likes the good mix of businesses along Johnson Drive, making it a point to shop there.

He says, "Once I started making a conscious effort to support the local businesses, I realized it wasn't difficult to do because they had the things I wanted. This past Christmas I bought some really nice things for my wife at Mission Fresh Fashion, things I couldn't have gotten anywhere else."

The Hanfs, Fullerton and a wide variety of Mission business owners think the revitalization of Johnson Drive is an exciting time for them, their shoppers and clients, and the city as a whole.

"Much like the children's story 'The Little Engine That Could,' we think the headline after the new Johnson Drive is dedicated should read, 'Mission: The Little City That Could.' With progress there is inconvenience, but the City of Mission continued to grow, to improve and in the end showed we 'could' survive," the Hanfs said.

During construction, free unlimited parking is available for downtown business customers in two locations. The first is in the City's Municipal Lot on Outlook, south of Johnson Drive, to serve the east end of the project area. On the project's west end, parking can be found off Beverly Avenue, north of the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center.

Regular construction updates are available through the NotifyJoCo notification system. Users will receive construction updates, detour routes, weekly business impacts and more by registering at www.notifyjoco.org. You may also contact Emily Randel for more information at erandel@missionks.org or 913-676-8350.

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Mission Bulletin Board

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Due to our success, Mission Magazine is printing 1,000 extra copies beginning with this issue. If your company would like to receive a large quantity of magazines, email Suzie Gibbs at sgibbs@missionks.org. For a few extra copies, please visit the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center and ask for Kathy Lockard if you need assistance.



With many helpful hands and loving hearts, the City of Mission and the Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau provided Thanksgiving baskets to 54 families, Christmas dinner to 38 families and Christmas gifts from their wish lists to 28 families. The City and MCVB could not have accomplished all this without the community's help!

Fairs, Festivals & Carnivals

Save the date for the
Mission Family Festival

The Mission Family Festival will kick off with the carnival on Thursday, May 8, and run through Sunday, May 11. Family activities will be held on Saturday, May 10 — so mark your calendar and come join the fun. More information will be available in the next issue of Mission Magazine.

Mission Bulletin Board

BUNNY EGGSTRAVAGANZA needs volunteers & prizes

The City of Mission will host
the Bunny Eggstravaganza at the Sylvester Powell, Jr.
Community Center on Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Anyone interested in volunteering or donating prizes for the egg
hunts should contact Natalie Lucas at nlucas@missionks.org
or 913-722-8215.



MEETING NOTICE

Mission City Council Meetings:
7 p.m. at City Hall
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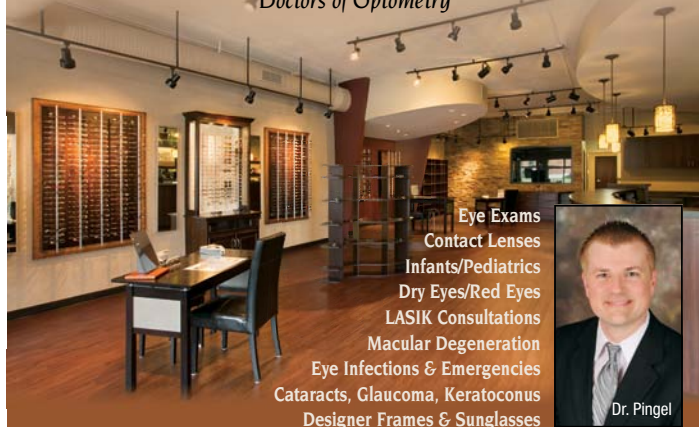
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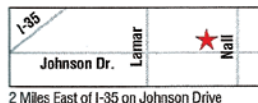
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CITY OF MISSION

Newsletter

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2014
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1
WWW.MISSIONKS.ORG

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The only thing constant in our lives is change. The upcoming city elections will bring about change for the City of Mission. Councilman Lawrence Andre, Ward 1, elected not to run for re-election. Lawrence has dedicated countless hours to the City of Mission over these last years as a member of the West Gateway Committee, then as a Planning Commissioner and, most recently, as a councilman. He has been a steady voice for young families in Mission, championing to make our city more walkable through support of expanding our trail system, sidewalks and transit options. Lawrence has represented our city on MARC (Mid-America Regional Council) committees, as well as those in Johnson County. Thank you, Lawrence, for your service.

The other change that you will see in city government is that I also chose not to run for re-election. As I reflect back on my first race in April 2000, my decision to run for office was because the young families in our community were not being represented. My children were young grade schoolers, and I wanted to ensure that our city was a place that families are welcomed and embraced. I was concerned about our green space available to play, our aging swimming pool, having safe streets, and strong schools.

As we began our city visioning process several years later, we learned that seniors in Mission are concerned about these very same issues. While working to create a plan for our vision, we learned that our floodplain expanded from \$11 million to \$51 million of commercial property. In the community conversation about possible alternatives, we discovered that residents in Mission had learned from the painful lessons experienced by other cities when infrastructure needs are ignored and a course not set. You wanted to have a say in the direction of redevelopment, wanted to make sure that our infrastructure was prepared for it, and understood that investment in Mission was vital to success.

What have we accomplished in the last 12 years? We have addressed Rock Creek head on and removed millions of dollars of commercial property from the floodplain and, in doing so, reduced the peak flow of stormwater leaving



Mission by about a foot. Once the interceptor is completed on Johnson Drive the peak flow will be reduced even further. We have created more green space, and added trails and sidewalks; we have improved 30 lane miles of street; we established a business improvement grant program to assist our small businesses and, to date, have contributed \$322,000 to property improvements primarily along Johnson Drive; we created the Mission Convention & Visitors Bureau, adding festivals and special events to bring visitors to Mission, and providing for needy residents during Thanksgiving and Christmas. In addition, we expanded our Community Center, reduced the accident rates in our busiest intersections by 40%, created transit options and housing choices, expanded the home loan program, and created a rebate program for our lower income residents. We created a Neighborhood Services Department to address neighborhood concerns, assist those unable to maintain their homes, help neighborhoods organize and create a more neighborly atmosphere, and match up those with needs to volunteers willing to help. Our Mission Citizen's Academy lapsed with disinterest after about six years, but our Police Department took up the task in 2013 with a "sell out" crowd. The 2014 Mission Police Citizen's Academy is already full and has a wait list!

While I have been mayor, the city of Mission has retained the services of ETC, an independent surveying company. The purpose of the surveys is to ensure that Mission is continuing to move toward the community vision and meet expectations of residents. Each survey has demonstrated our residents' priorities for improving our infrastructure and being redevelopment ready. Of course, improving our infrastructure involves disruption and expense, but these investments position us for the future.

Our current street project is the reconstruction of Johnson Drive. Johnson Drive began as a two-lane brick road that was paved over years ago and, because it did not have infrastructure underneath it, a general mill and overlay that some suggested, was not supported. Because we knew that the Johnson Drive project is so vitally important to our

community, the Downtown Visioning Committee was created and consisted of stakeholders including residents, Johnson Drive business owners and Johnson Drive property owners. After many, many months, the Committee presented its recommendation to City Council and the Planning Commission. This Committee suggested a number of amenities to enhance Johnson Drive, the properties and businesses in the area, and the customer experience in our Downtown District. Council was then tasked with prioritizing the recommendation and determining how to pay for this major street project. Thanks to Council's hard work, they did it! As a result, the properties along Johnson Drive and just off of Johnson Drive will have not only a new street with better sidewalks, frontage, lighting and amenities, they also have completely updated utilities. I cannot wait to see how great Johnson Drive will look by the end of the year. And, if driving on Martway is any indication, it will be fabulous!

In the meantime, I encourage you to SHOP LOCAL. Please patronize the businesses in Mission, particularly those most impacted by the construction. The upgrade of the utilities over the past six months was substantially more disruptive than we anticipated, but we will appreciate not having the disruption of broken lines and failing systems in the future. We have wonderful small businesses up and down Johnson Drive. Truly, I cannot think of much that you would need to leave town to purchase. We will continue to publish updates on the progress of this project, which will also be available on our website at www.missionks.org, or you may contact Emily Randel at erandel@missionks.org or 913-676-8368 with any specific questions and concerns.

Our other major construction, the Mission Aquatic Center (MAC), is nearing completion and will be open, as promised, for the 2014 swim season beginning May 24th. Mission residents will have a special opportunity to experience the new pool on Friday, May 23rd from 6:00-8:00 p.m., so be sure to mark your calendars. This renovation of our outdoor pool is an example of making sure that we have amenities that will be appreciated by all. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your support of the Parks & Recreation Sales Tax,

Continued on page N2

Continued from page N1

and your input on the design of the MAC! It continues to demonstrate that you want our community to offer amenities that welcome young families, older families, singles, seniors and all.

This brings me to an initiative that Mission is undertaking through the "KC Communities for All Ages" sponsored by the Mid-America Regional Council. Mission's vision has always included public and private improvements, redevelopment that focuses on quality of life for all ages of our population, and sustainable practices...whether environmental, economic or social. As a First Tier Suburb, we are on the front line of assisting our seniors to either age in place or provide housing options so that they do not need to leave our community. We also must provide our Gen X, Y, Z residents with many of the same housing and transportation choices that they desire, "regreening" our neighborhoods so that our schools remain strong and our businesses healthy. This is no small task! As the Communities for All Ages project moves forward, Mission will be there leading the way. Please watch for updates on this work either in the Newsletter or on our website.

Unfortunately, I do not have an update on the Gateway project. This property is 100% privately owned. With the exception of the fact that Mission will be reimbursed for the stormwater improvements made to the site

and dedication of some future dollars generated by the development, Mission has no property interest on the site. I concede it is frustrating. A blighted mall structure, however, would have been worse for our community. As we are waiting for the project to be vertical, I encourage you to stay strong in our community vision. This is a \$150 million plus project; it is complicated to put all the pieces together. City Council has always conservatively budgeted so that we can meet all of our obligations. Once the development begins, Council will have the luxury of expanding our savings toward maintenance and future projects so that future councils will not be faced with the onerous situation we encountered in 2003.

I call 2014 the "Year of Planning." We have accomplished so much over the last 12 years because of established goals, which you repeatedly reaffirmed. We are at a point when our vision and codes need updating. City Council, at their recent retreat, established these top three priorities for this year:

1. Foster development and redevelopment that provides housing and commercial options to be a community for all.
2. Create and maintain a community that is a destination to live, work, play and raise a family.
3. Create and maintain an infrastructure system that supports the vitality of our destination and development.

Your continued support of and involve-

ment in Mission will keep our community vision moving forward. It will give you a real voice in Mission's redevelopment, rather than letting redevelopment happen to us. It will keep us ready and relevant for those redevelopment opportunities, and continue to let everyone know what the rules are, helping to expedite the process.

Last, but certainly not least, it has been a privilege and an honor to serve you as the Mayor of Mission. Having grown up in the area, I have long roots in this community. My grandparents had longtime businesses on Johnson Drive and lived in Mission beginning in the mid-1930s. I have always referred to Mission as a family. We have healthy debates, we do not always agree, but in the end we work together like a family, and all want Mission to continue to be a healthy and vibrant place where people want to live, work and play. Your questions, concerns, input, and sometimes criticism, have helped me grow as a person and a public servant, and helped me to make better choices. I am so very proud of what together we have achieved. Thank you for your friendship, guidance and support these last 12 years. I will treasure the opportunity you gave to me.

Laura C. McConwell

Laura McConwell, Mayor

Northeast Johnson County Recycling Event

SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH – 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON

Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center
6200 Martway, Mission, KS 66202

(Arrive via Martway St., to Beverly Ave., into the north parking lot)

For details on what can be recycled and applicable fees for tire and electronics recycling, contact Rosalind Johnson at 913-676-3890 or rjohnson@missionks.org.

VENDORS:

Beck Tire • Secure e-Cycle

Pro-Shred Paper Shredding • Heartland Habitat Restore

Shoe recycling and free compost from

Deffenbaugh Inc. available to all!

Co-hosted with the cities of Fairway, Mission Hills, Mission Woods, Roeland Park, Westwood, and Westwood Hills.

Redevelopment & Project Update

Friday, March 21st

7:30 a.m., Continental Breakfast

Sylvester Powell, Jr.
Community Center

To RSVP, contact City Clerk Martha Sumrall at msumrall@missionks.org or 913-676-8355.

CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE MAY 1, 2, 3

Want to turn your spring cleaning into some extra cash? Mission's City-wide Garage Sale is a great opportunity to do just that! This year's event will be held May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in conjunction with city-wide sales in other Northeast Johnson County cities including Roeland Park and Westwood. To register, call 913-676-8350 or msumrall@missionks.org.

Ward Meetings Scheduled

All ward meetings are held at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway, at 7:00 p.m.

Ward II

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Thursday, September 25, 2014

Ward III

Thursday, April 17, 2014

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Thursday, October 16, 2014

Spring Election Calendar

Residents of Mission will vote for Mayor and council members during the spring 2014 elections. Below is a calendar of important dates to remember prior to Election Day – April 1st.

March 11th	Last day to register to vote
March 12th	Advance voting by mail begins for those who have requested a “mail ballot” from the Election Office
March 25th	Advance voting in person begins at the Election Office
March 31st	Advance voting in person closes at 12:00 noon
April 1st	Spring General Election

“Where do I vote on Election Day?” The Johnson County Election Office now has a mobile election notification system. Text VOTEKS, your address and Zip Code to 74574. Within 60 seconds a return message displays your polling place name and address.

www.jocoelection.org

What is i-Tree?

Would you like to know how the trees on your property and in our community improve air quality, and help with stormwater and greenhouse gas mitigation? i-Tree is a simple and accessible starting point for understanding the value of individual trees or a small population of trees in our community. This program from the USDA Forest Service allows you to estimate the benefits of a tree, or group of trees, for the current year or a user-specified forecast in the future, and provides information on the total benefits the tree has provided to the environment. Additionally, multiple trees and

buildings can be added to the program to compare benefits or to provide a full accounting of a property’s trees. Simply put, when using i-Tree you can not only make a simple estimation of the benefits provided by specific trees on your property, but by simply drawing a building footprint and “virtually planting” a tree, its effects on building energy can also be evaluated.

Information on i-Tree is available at www.itreetools.org. To learn more about the City of Mission’s Tree Board and their work, please contact Christy Humerickhouse at chumerickhouse@missionks.org or 913-722-8210.

Mission Aquatic Center Update

Despite the snow, ice and the freezing temperatures over the past several months, construction on the new Mission Aquatic Center (MAC) is on schedule. Milestones that have been met include the forming and pouring of the competition pool floor and walls, the leisure pool floor, and the filter building foundations and filter pit. Additionally, the bathhouse has been gutted and the new foundations have been poured, and mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough-ins have been completed.

Mission Aquatic Coordinator Zach Beard Earns Lifeguard Instructor Trainer Certification

Zach Beard is now one of only two American Red Cross certified Lifeguard Instructor Trainers (LGIT) in the Kansas City Metro Area. Training is intense, and only the best of the best Lifeguard Instructors successfully complete this training and are certified. Mission

Over the next several weeks, construction crews will be focused on installing the underground piping, and masonry on the new filter building and bathhouse. Look for the new slide tower to start being erected in early March.

Opening day is scheduled for May 24th and memberships will be on sale beginning March 1st. Be sure to mark your calendars for our special Mission Residents’ Opening Party on May 23rd from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.!

Aquatic Coordinator Zach Beard will now be able to train our senior guards to better assist with in-services, lifeguard classes, CPR classes, EAP planning, lifeguard management, and other crucial parts of ensuring that the City of Mission has the safest pool and aquatic facilities possible.

NotifyJoCo -

**“WHAT YOU NEED
TO KNOW.
WHEN YOU NEED
TO KNOW IT.”**



NotifyJoCo.org

Notify JoCo is a mass notification system designed to keep Johnson County residents and businesses informed of emergencies and certain non-emergencies. Visit www.notifyjoco.org to sign-up for the service, and to select the opt-in categories that you care most about. Notifications will come to you by text, email, or telephone call, based on your preferences.

In addition to County-wide notifications, the City of Mission will be providing emergency notifications and a wide range of informational notifications in areas including:

City Communications Public Safety
City Services Sports & Recreation
Events & Festivals

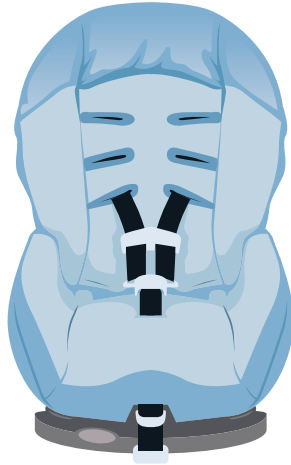
How does it work? In emergencies, local officials notify residents and businesses in the affected area based on the contact information in the NotifyJoCo system. This includes publicly available information or information you have personally updated to NotifyJoCo. In non-emergencies, such as city sporting events or local festivals, Mission will only notify you if you have subscribed to those event notifications.

For additional information and to sign up for notifications: www.notifyjoco.org. If you need assistance in registering please call 913-826-5555.



IS YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY SEAT INSTALLED CORRECTLY?

The Mission Police Department performs car seat installations for our residents. Appointments are scheduled on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please call 913-676-8300 to schedule your appointment—it only takes 20 minutes to help ensure your child's safety.



HOME INVENTORIES HELP IN LOCATING LOST AND STOLEN PROPERTY

In 2013 Mission saw a decrease in the number of residential burglaries, but an increase in theft reports filed. One thing was fairly constant in these reports—the absence of serial numbers and photographs of the valuables that were stolen. Victims of these crimes frequently could not provide this information to the Mission Police Department when filing police reports.

Serial numbers from electronics and other items provide the Mission Police Department with a way to search for stolen property. Serial numbers from certain types of property can also be entered into a national database of stolen property. While other valuables, such as jewelry, usually don't have serial numbers, a good close-up photograph and an appraisal can sometimes assist us in determining ownership, and to alert other agencies and businesses.

Because we live in a metropolitan area consisting of many jurisdictions, it is not uncommon for one police department to catch thieves with stolen property from other cities,

where the thieves have committed burglaries. Problems arise when ownership of these items is not certain. If 10 other police departments have burglary reports that list "diamond ring" on them, and no one has a photograph to compare to the item, it makes it extremely difficult to match up the stolen ring to the rightful owner.

Many insurance companies have personal property inventory forms available, and thousands are available on the Internet. Take the time to go through your home and document all of your valuables. When documenting electronic items, record the brand name, model number, and serial number of each item.

For jewelry and other collectibles, photographs are the best method. Don't forget to document these items on your personal property inventory as well,

so you don't forget about anything in the event of a loss. After you complete this form and take your photographs, make a few copies of each. One copy can stay at your house, but keep another one or two at other locations.



MISSION CITY HALL

6090 Woodson Road, Mission, Kansas 66202

Open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Phone: 913-676-8350 • Fax: 913-722-1415 • www.missionks.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1st Wednesday every month, 6:30 p.m.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2nd Wednesday every month, 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday every month, 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

4th Wednesday every month, 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public. For meeting locations please check the website at www.missionks.org.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Laura L. McConwell913-722-2670
City Hall Office913-676-8355

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD I

Lawrence Andre913-638-9000
Pat Quinn913-927-8511

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD II

Amy Miller913-677-0169
Will Vandenberg913-424-4357

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD III

Jennifer Cowdry913-384-1263
Debbie Kring913-722-6901

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD IV

Suzanne Gibbs913-671-8564
David Shepherd913-671-8521

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WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY (ALL DAY)

Full Slab Ribs • **\$14.75** plus tax

THURSDAY (AFTER 4PM)

1/2 Rack Baby Backs + Choice of One Reg. Side
\$9.50 plus tax

FRIDAY (AFTER 4PM)

1/2 Slab & 1/2 Chicken Served with Lg. Fries & Choice of One Pint Size BBQ Beans, Slaw or Potato Salad
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OLATHE: 1375 W. HIGHWAY 56 • OLATHE, KS 66061 • 913.768.0777

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Complete interior shampoo, all floor mats, carpeting, upholstered seats, or clean & conditions leather seats. All interior vinyl is cleaned & conditioned. See cashier for more details. Over-sized charge may apply. Not valid with any other offers. Exp. 4/24/14.



RUSHTON ELEMENTARY

Celebrating 60 Years in Mission

SCHOOL HAS CREATED HAPPY MEMORIES AND STRONG COMMUNITY BONDS FOR GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS

BY HEATHER SWAN

You might be shocked to read that Rushton Elementary School is 60 years old. That's a common reaction, especially when you consider that Rushton is looking as good as ever physically while continuing to educate many of Mission's elementary students without missing a beat.

"The old girl doesn't look her age," said Pam (Lindquist) Carter, a former principal at Rushton who also attended kindergarten there in the 1950s, when talking about the school.

But Rushton really did open nearly 60 years ago. Construction on Rushton began in January 1954. The land was donated by the Rushton family of the George Rushton Baking Company in Kansas City, Kan., with the original family home located on the school's property. The Rushton Elementary in Mission was named for Richard Rushton, one of George's sons, and Frank Rushton Elementary in Kansas City, Kan., was named for his son Frank. Mission's Rushton Elementary was built at a cost of \$200,000, which would be \$1.7 million in today's dollars. It was completed and opened in time for the start of the 1954-1955 school year in the fall of 1954.

Countless students, teachers, staff and parents have come through Rushton's doors over the past 60 years and, if you ask around, phrases like "big family" and "community oriented" are

mentioned frequently in association with the school.

"When you say the name 'Rushton' people's faces light up," Carter said. "...We used to say Rushton is the best-kept secret in the district."

Carter first experienced Rushton as a kindergartner, walking with her sister Sherryl to school. Carter returned as principal from 2000 to 2012.

"The teachers are extremely dedicated and the parents are very supportive," she said.

That dedication and support extend out into the community.

"Many local businesses are part of our PTA through event sponsorships and memberships," said Deborah (Bruce) Rushing, current PTA president. "A lot of former and even future Rushton parents are actively involved with us through the 'My Volunteer Pal' program, e-mentoring, being library volunteers and a variety of other ways.

"Our city shows excellent support of our school from the Mayor's office, to Neighborhood Services, Public Works, the Sustainability Commission, MCVB, the Tree Board, Parks and Recreation

Above: Rushton Elementary School opened in the fall of 1954. This is a picture of the kindergartners and first-graders from the school's first year.



Rushton School began educating elementary students in the 1954-1955 school year. The first staff is pictured above.



Classrooms in 2014 look a little different than they did 60 years ago. Pictured here are Alexis Young, left, and Aliyah Marshall from Patti Ingraham's sixth-grade class. Photo by Ben McCall

Commission and the Police Department. I can honestly say that I don't think you would see the depth and breadth of city involvement with a school by any other city in our district. Rushton inspires a lot of passion and allegiance from most anyone who walks through its doors. There is something special about our school that is not tangible and is difficult to put into words. You have to be a part of its history to truly understand it."

Rushing has two children at Rushton, was a student there herself (from 1977 to 1984) and joined the staff this year as a special education paraprofessional.

Some of Rushing's memories as a student include Marc Brown (author/illustrator of the "Arthur" books) coming to visit in 1981; the annual "Staff vs. Sixth Grade" kickball game; and burying a time capsule in the courtyard as a sixth-grader for the school's 30th anniversary (it was dug up for the 50th anniversary in 2004).

Jada (Sell) Reed remembers participating in field day and the talent show — things that still take place today. Reed, a second-grade teacher at Rushton, went to school there herself from kindergarten through second grade.

"I always share that with the kids on the first day of school and show them my second-grade picture," she said.

Now in her seventh year as a teacher at Rushton, Reed currently works with some staff members who were there when she was a student in the early 1990s, including custodian Dan Lemmon and music teacher Collette Cottrall.

Keith and Jane Yager's family also has a long history at Rushton. They moved to their Mission home in the early 1960s because it was only about "two football fields" away from the school and the kids had just one street to cross. The three Yager children — Mike, Ruth and Cindi — went to school there. While Mike was still attending Rushton, Jane became the school's secretary and held that job from 1969 to 1992.

"Mrs. Yager" or "Miss Jane" was known for her smile and readily available answers when people came into the office.

She was also known for her mouse collection, which started when a student brought her a pecan mouse with felt ears for Valentine's Day. Students continued to bring Jane Yager mice from all over the world and the collection grew into the hundreds in the Rushton office. (The mice are now in the basement of Keith Yager's home in Mission.)

A newspaper story about the mice collection said: "The mice represent the thank yous of hundreds of children helped by Mrs.

Yager over the years."

Jane's daughter, Ruth (Yager) Goff, was the art teacher at Rushton for 10 years and worked with her mom.

"I called her Mrs. Yager and she called me Mrs. Goff," Ruth said.

Ruth Goff currently teaches at Hocker Grove Middle School, but she still keeps in touch with people from her family's Rushton days.

"There's lots of pride up there at that little school," she said.

Buy tickets now for Rushton's fundraising auction



Rushton Elementary PTA is hosting its 16th annual silent and live fundraising auction March 1. The auction will be at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, with this year's theme a '50s Sock Hop in honor of Rushton's 60th anniversary.

Alumni and former staff are invited to reunite at this adult-oriented event and enjoy cocktails and dinner with current Rushton parents and staff. More than 100 items will be up for bids with proceeds going to Rushton PTA.

Advance tickets may be purchased until Monday, Feb. 24, for \$15 or at the door for \$20. The \$15 ticket price includes bidding privileges, dinner and non-alcoholic beverages. VIP tables are available for \$250; these tables seat eight and include dinner and alcoholic beverages.

Contact Cassandra Alejandre at rushtonauction@live.com for any ticket sales or donations.



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Take heart,

improving your health might not be so tough

Hy-Vee dietitian helps people reach their nutrition goals during American Heart Month (and year-round)

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTOS BY BEN MCCALL

It doesn't have to be difficult to change your nutrition habits and eat healthier. Louann Dent, RD, LD, the Mission Hy-Vee dietitian, often tells customers that even small changes in what they eat can yield big dividends when it comes to their health.

So, in honor of American Heart Month in February and National Nutrition Month® in March, Dent is sharing a few simple heart-healthy recipes and some ways that Hy-Vee can help people in their quest to eat more nutritiously:

- Have you ever noticed the hexagon and number logo that is on almost all the shelf tags at Hy-Vee next to the price? Hy-Vee has partnered with NuVal LLC to carry the NuVal® Nutritional Scoring System, which scores food on a scale of 1 to 100. Under this system, shoppers don't have to spend a lot of time inspecting the nutrition labels because the higher the score, the more nutritious the food. You might be surprised (or not-so-surprised) to learn that an orange in the produce aisle has a NuVal® Score of 100 while the fruit chews in the center aisles have a score of 1. Another example: canned green beans with no salt added have a NuVal® Score of 100 — the same as fresh green beans. (Meanwhile, a regular can of green beans carries a score of 55.)
- Like all Hy-Vee dietitians, Dent gives free grocery store tours designed around people's health concerns. The most popular tour is the "healthy lifestyle" tour, which takes about an hour for individuals or small groups (with an appointment). Besides teaching them how to shop, the

tour gives customers a printed map of the Mission store that they can use on future shopping trips. "People have a lot of aha moments out in the aisles," she said, of the tours.

- Dent is able to give biometric screenings at the Mission Hy-Vee and explain what your numbers mean, all in about 20 minutes. The screening involves getting your height, weight, BMI, waist circumference, blood pressure, heart rate and body fat percentage, in addition to pricking some blood from your finger for a complete lipid panel. Biometric screenings are often more expensive, take longer and don't result in an explanation at a doctor's office. The normal cost for the complete screening at Hy-Vee is \$45. But during American Heart Month in February and National Cholesterol Education Month in September the cost is \$25. People must fast for 10 to 12 hours before the blood test and make an appointment in advance.
- Dent is available to visit Mission area businesses, schools, organizations and churches to present information or attend events like luncheons and health fairs to help educate people.

For more information about the services Dent provides and to schedule an appointment, email ldent@Hy-Vee.com or call the store at 913-831-4447.

Above: Louann Dent, RD, LD, the Mission Hy-Vee dietitian, teaches shoppers about the NuVal® Nutritional Scoring System and shows them how to compare products, such as fruit chews (NuVal® Score of 1) and an orange (score of 100).

Louann Dent's

Heart-Healthy Recipes

RASPBERRY- DARK CHOCOLATE DELIGHTS

- 1/3 cup Hershey's™ Special Dark™ chocolate chips**
- 1 (1.9 ounces) package Athens™ pre-baked mini fillo shells**
- 1 carton Chobani™ non-fat raspberry Greek yogurt**
- 15 fresh raspberries**

Melt chocolate chips on high in microwave, stirring every 20 seconds until melted. Spoon approximately 1/2 teaspoon chocolate in bottom of each fillo shell, spreading up onto sides of shell. Chill in freezer for 5 to 10 minutes.

Spoon raspberry Greek yogurt into fillo shells. Top each shell with a raspberry. Drizzle melted chocolate over the top for a garnish.

SMART CHICKEN MEATBALLS WITH PREGO HEART SMART SAUCE

- 2 slices Italian bread**
- 1/2 cup skim milk**
- 1 omega-rich egg**
- 1 pound 93/7 ground Smart Chicken**
- 6 cloves garlic**
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley**
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese**
- Pinch of ground black pepper**
- 4 ounces mozzarella pearls (small pieces of fresh mozzarella)**
- 1 cup unseasoned whole wheat bread crumbs**
- 1 jar (26 ounces) Heart Smart**
- Prego spaghetti sauce (warm in saucepan)**

Dice two slices of Italian bread. Put bread in bowl and cover with milk; let soak. Combine egg with ground Smart Chicken. Finely chop the garlic cloves. Add garlic and parsley to chicken mixture. Squeeze excess milk from bread and combine with chicken mixture. Add Parmesan cheese and a pinch of ground black pepper. Use hands to knead and mix ingredients.

Spray a melon baller with no-stick cooking spray. Using the melon baller, scoop up chicken mixture. Insert mozzarella pearl into center of each meatball and continue to form into shape with hands. Roll meatballs in whole wheat bread crumbs and place on parchment-lined 12-by-17 baking sheet. Place baking sheet into oven at 350 F for 30 minutes. Bake meatballs until lightly browned. Add a few tablespoons of pasta sauce to the meatball and serve. For a lower sodium option, substitute sauce with no-salt-added crushed tomatoes.

OVERNIGHT OATMEAL

Note: Here is an easy way to serve a crowd a hearty breakfast before facing the elements for a day of winter sports. You can assemble it in the slow cooker in the evening and wake up to a bowl of hot, nourishing oatmeal. The slow cooker eliminates the need for constant stirring and ensures an exceptionally creamy consistency. It is important to use steel-cut oats; old-fashioned oats become too soft during slow-cooking.

- 8 cups water**
- 2 cups steel-cut oats (sometimes labeled "Irish oatmeal"; do NOT substitute regular rolled oats)**
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries**
- 1/3 cup dried apricots, chopped**
- 1/4 teaspoon salt (or to taste)**
- Optional: You can add a diced apple, chopped walnuts, 1 scoop whey protein and/or chia seeds**

Combine water, oats, dried cranberries, dried apricots and salt in a 5- or 6-quart slow cooker. Turn heat to low. Put the lid on and cook until the oats are tender and the porridge is creamy, 7 to 8 hours.

Stovetop variation: Halve the above recipe to accommodate the size of most double boilers. Combine 4 cups water, 1 cup steel-cut oats, 3 tablespoons dried cranberries, 3 tablespoons dried apricots and 1/8 teaspoon salt in the top of a double boiler. Cover and cook over boiling water for about 1 1/2 hours, checking the water level in the bottom of the double boiler from time to time.

ORIENTAL- CITRUS SALAD

- 4 cups organic fresh spinach (or any of your favorite salad greens)**
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds**
- 4 Clementine oranges, peeled and divided into slices (navel oranges, mandarin oranges or canned mandarin oranges will also work)**
- 4 tablespoons Hy-Vee HealthMarket™ organic sesame-ginger dressing or Kraft Light Asian Dressing**
- Optional toppings: Chicken, grilled shrimp, mango-ginger Stilton cheese, Asian noodles, water chestnuts, mushrooms**

Divide spinach or salad greens among four dinner plates. Top each with almonds, Clementine slices and other toppings (if desired). Add 1 tablespoon sesame-ginger dressing to each individual salad and serve.

You Never Know

What You'll Discover at Lulu's Boutique

Sister-owned resale shop sells designer goods at penny-pinching prices

If you want to find Lulu's Boutique, just look for the hot-pink awnings on Johnson Drive.

While passers-by know Lulu's for its signature awnings, bargain shoppers know the boutique for what's inside ... high-quality designer brands and the latest styles at budget-friendly prices.

Sisters Shandi Norsworthy and Astoria Camille opened Lulu's at 6017 Johnson Drive about seven years ago. As its name indicates, Lulu's is a boutique in every sense of the word. It's small in size, stylish and cutely decorated. (Yes, there's pink inside, too.) But it's also a resale shop where people can buy, sell and trade women's fashions from designers like Coach, Dolce & Gabbana, and Marc Jacobs.

"We have changed so many people's opinion of resale," Shandi said. "...The biggest compliment people can give us is to be in here

for 10 minutes and say, 'Wait a minute. This is resale?'"

Lulu's carries everything you would find in a fashionista's closet: shoes, handbags, clothing, accessories, belts, scarves and more. In addition, you can purchase new gift lines and consignment jewelry by local artists.

What makes Lulu's fun is that the sisters have taken care of hunting down the on-trend fashions and checking them for flaws. (Lulu's only accepts things that are in perfect condition and smoke-free.) And everything is organized by size and color, so the shopping experience isn't daunting.

"You don't have to look through racks and racks of generic T-shirts to find a gem," Shandi said. "Every item is a gem. We are very picky about what we take."

Women who are looking to say good-bye to some of their designer clothing and accessories are invited to take their things to Lulu's. (All clothing must be from the current season, stain-free and in fashion. No appointments are necessary.) Lulu's will go through the items and pay cash for what it wants on the spot. If sellers want store credit instead of cash, they receive 50 percent more in value. Store credit can be used on both new and resale merchandise.

The sisters opened their first store in downtown Parkville, Mo., in 2001. Earlier that year, Astoria was living in Hawaii and came back as a surprise for Shandi's 30th birthday. The sisters bonded during that visit and Astoria later told Shandi she would move back to the area but they had to open a store together.

From the time of the idea, it only took the sisters four months to open Lulu's.

"That's the charm of it," Shandi said. "We didn't over-think it. We just did it."

"We had no formal business plan," Astoria added. "We flew by the seat of our pants."

The sisters later added the store in Mission. They liked the quaint feeling of Mission, which was similar to Parkville.

"It's a great little location," Shandi said. "...One of us is always here. We love it because we get to know our customers."

For more information, visit lulululus.com or call the Mission store at 913-362-CHIC (2442).



ABOVE: SISTERS ASTORIA CAMILLE, LEFT, AND SHANDI NORSWORTHY OPENED LULU'S BOUTIQUE IN MISSION ABOUT SEVEN YEARS AGO.

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Mission Business

Teaches Kids a Lifetime of Healthy Habits

LEARNING2FLY OFFERS WEEKLY YOUTH CAMPS DURING SCHOOL BREAKS

BY HEATHER SWAN

As a personal trainer, Sumya Anani has seen how hard it is for adults to change their habits. That's why Anani, owner of Learning2Fly in Mission, has created youth camps that focus on seven habits of health for mind, body and spirit.

Anani uses the resources around her to make the day camps fun (and educational) for kids from ages 6 to 14. The camp sessions are held when the Shawnee Mission School District is on break, with the next one scheduled during spring break from March 17 to 20.

Learning2Fly is an aerial fitness training, circus arts and yoga center located at 4711 Lamar (inside the geodesic dome at I-35 and Lamar). Kids start each camp day on the aerial equipment. After that, they learn about the seven habits of health and do things like yoga and meditation, art activities, hula hooping, creative movement, nature hikes in the woods behind the dome and more.

In the summertime, the campers are able to plant seeds, weed, and harvest fruits and vegetables in Learning2Fly's plot in Mission's Community Garden, which is located right outside Learning2Fly. The first of the seven healthy habits is nutrition, so working in the community garden is a perfect way for the campers to learn and then enjoy the fruits (and vegetables) of their labor. Last summer, the kids planted zucchini, tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet

peppers and basil and were able to take produce home with them.

"We are so blessed to have this (the garden) right out there," she said. "Mission has been so supportive."

Because there are no other camps like this in the area, Learning2Fly's youth camps attract kids from all around the Kansas City metropolitan area. And each camp is unique (with different instructors), so kids often return multiple times.

"It's hard for people to change their habits," she said. "If you can get them while they are young, they will have good habits as adults."

Besides nutrition, the other six levels in Anani's "A Chakra Circus of Health" curriculum are exercise; learning, growth and confidence; environment; family and community; global diversity and appreciation; and spirituality. The habits are taught individually, but the children learn that all levels are connected. For example, lessons learned in Mission's Community Garden can apply to all seven habits.

When the camps are in session, they are offered from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. There are still spots available in the spring break camp. For more information and to register, visit iamlearning2fly.com. Each camp is limited to 12 kids.

Above: During Learning2Fly's youth camps last summer, kids worked in Mission's Community Garden every day growing fruits and vegetables while learning about nutrition and other healthy habits.

Spring SPORTSTRAVAGANZA!

Ages 5 -12

March 17 - 21
7:30am - 5:30pm
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10:00am-12:00pm

Egg Hunt Times:

10:15am

10yrs & Older
Nature Scavenger Hunt

10:30am

8mths -1.5yrs
(with parent)

10:50am

1.5 - 3yrs
(2 hunts for this age:
one w/parent,
one w/o parent)

11:10am

4 - 6yrs

11:30am

7 - 9yrs

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MISSION SUMMER CAMP Ages 5-10

June 2 - August 1, 2014
(9 - 1 week sessions)

Monday - Friday: 7:30am-5:30pm

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TWEEN 'N TEEN CAMP Ages 10-15

June 2 - August 1, 2014 (9 - 1 week sessions)
Monday - Friday: 7:30am-5:30pm

Weekly Rates:

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Member Discount Rate
\$139 = Non-residents
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