

# Mission

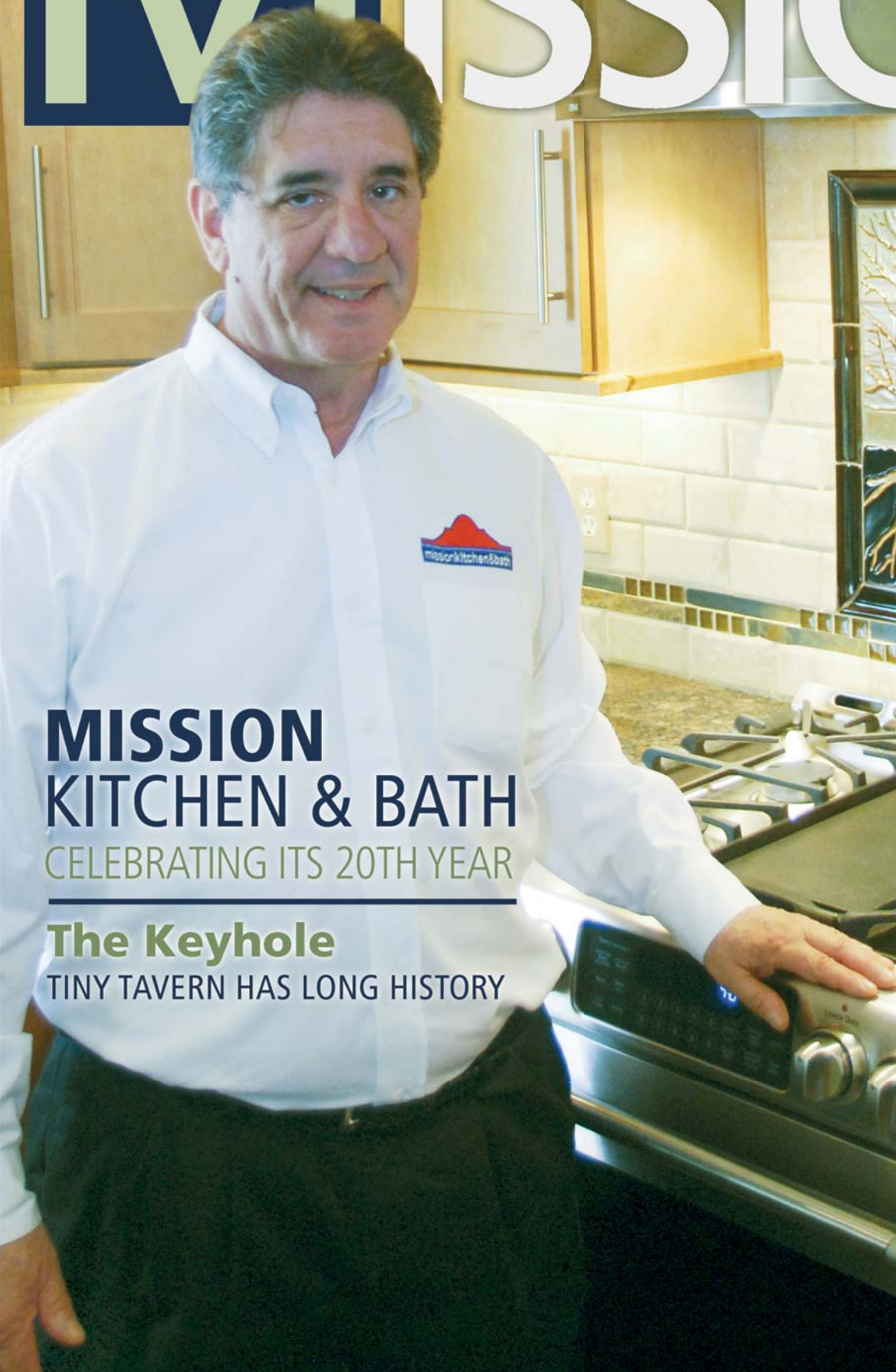
*Your Hometown*

JUNE / JULY 2014

## MISSION KITCHEN & BATH

CELEBRATING ITS 20TH YEAR

**The Keyhole**  
TINY TAVERN HAS LONG HISTORY





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# It's summertime in Mission

Do you have time on your hands this summer? The City of Mission needs you!

Here's what we need: chairs, stools, benches, flowerpots, birdhouses ... You spruce them up, we'll auction them off for charity!

Why? Several years ago more than 75 specially painted chairs, benches, etc. were displayed and sold — with the proceeds going to nonprofit organizations — during our annual Arts & Eats event held every September. They were such a big hit so we have decided to do it again — this time to benefit the city's Holiday Family Adoption Program. But we can't do it without your help.

While you are out and about, consider picking up some of these items at garage sales. It's also the perfect way to donate that treasured piece you no longer want or need in your home. If it's not in great condition, enlist your children to help you fix it up. It's a great community service project for your office as well. It is amazing how much talent your co-workers have! So, grab a paintbrush, decorate that lovely unwanted item, and we will be happy to take it off your hands.

If you have furniture or knickknacks you would like to donate or want more information about the Art Auction, please give me a call at 913-671-8564. If

you have an item you wish to donate but aren't crafty enough to fix it up yourself, we will be happy to pick it up and have one of our budding artists work on it. We can use anything you have that is paint-able.

Speaking of garage sales ... in this issue of Mission: Your Hometown magazine, we remind you of the Great American Garage sale at Trinity Lutheran Church (see Bulletin Board) where I am certain you can find just the article you can paint/restore for us to sell. And then, after working so hard on your project, you can hop right down to the new Mission Pool for a slippery trip down the slide. Even if you don't swim, I hope you will drive by and take a look at our new "toy!"

Summer wouldn't be complete if we couldn't spend time outdoors under our favorite tree, with our favorite book and our favorite drink. I am confident when you read about Lynne Stark's yard, you, too, will begin dreaming of ways to jump-start your outdoor spaces.

Ahhhh ... Summertime in Mission ... garage sales, painting, swimming, lounging, reading ... It just can't get much better!

Enjoy!

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



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### ON THE COVER:

AL FELMAN, OWNER/FOUNDER OF MISSION KITCHEN & BATH,  
IN THE KITCHEN OF KELLY AND KATHY PINKHAM.  
PHOTO BY KEVIN BLAYNEY

# Mission

*Your Hometown*

JUNE / JULY 2014

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# Bringing 1950s kitchens and baths *into the 21st century*

Al Felman's company, Mission Kitchen & Bath,  
helps homeowners with their remodeling projects

BY HEATHER SWAN

Are you tired of your olive green kitchen or pink-tiled bathroom? While Mission residents love their circa 1950s and 1960s homes, sometimes it's time to say good-bye to the harvest gold kitchen motif or the leaky shower.

That's when you may be in need of a kitchen and bath remodeling specialist.

Al Felman, owner/founder of Mission Kitchen & Bath, is a Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler. Although many locals may not have heard of Felman's company, Mission Kitchen & Bath will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in business — and in Mission — on Halloween this year.

It might be easy to find a remodeler, but it's not so simple to find one with certification, two decades of experience, and membership in the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI).

"It's an easy business to get into," said Felman, a 23-year Mission resident. "It's also an easy business to get out of."

Mission Kitchen & Bath (which started out as Felman Remodeling) has an office/showroom at 5845 Horton, Suite 201, and nine employees. The staff includes a carpenter who received certification as a Certified Lead Carpenter and two project managers, who meet with clients and help them to select materials and come up with a plan for their remodel.

Sonya Lange, designer and project manager, said white cabinetry is coming back in style in kitchens and gray is a popular "neutral" color. A common request is for lower kitchen cabinets to have drawers instead of doors. Other popular kitchen features right now are chimney hoods over stoves, subway tiles, countertops made of quartz and rare pieces of granite, pantries, and built-in

Kelly, left, and Kathy Pinkham hired Mission Kitchen & Bath to remodel their kitchen and master bath/closet. They are pictured here in their home with Al Felman, owner/founder of Mission Kitchen & Bath. Photo by Kevin Blayne





trash and recycling bins. Many homeowners are also asking for gas lines in their kitchen so they can convert from an electric to gas stove, and some are choosing to take their kitchen islands out so it's easier to move around.

For bathrooms, clients are often wanting larger tiles, plank flooring, stained cabinetry and heavy glass hinged doors on their showers. In addition, homeowners are now choosing to take out their jetted tubs and replace them with large showers or soaker tubs.

Lange and Felman said many of their clients are thinking about "Universal Design" and barrier-free elements like wider doorways so they can stay in their homes longer.

Mission Kitchen & Bath's clients are usually located within 20 minutes of the office and have included several Mission residents over the years.

Kelly and Kathy Pinkham hired Mission Kitchen & Bath to remodel the kitchen and master bath/closet of their contemporary Mission home in 2011.

The project included everything from plumbing and wiring work to removing soffits in the kitchen and completely reconfiguring the fixtures in the master bath. Where the bathtub once was, you will find a double vanity. Space was captured in the room so the toilet could be moved to its own "toilet closet" and a large walk-in shower could be added to the room.

"We were impressed by his willingness to talk and listen to us, and we liked his method of organizing the job," said Kelly Pinkham, of their decision to hire Felman and Mission Kitchen

& Bath. "...You want a firm you have a good comfort level with because ours was a big project and we knew we would have a lot of people coming and going, working throughout our home."

In the Pinkhams' kitchen, visitors are sure to notice the hood and tile work that Mission Kitchen & Bath installed over the stove. The Pinkhams had a local artist design the tile mosaic of an elm tree (similar to the one in their front yard) over their stove. The mosaic was installed in such a way that it can be removed if they ever decide to move to a new house.

Mission Kitchen & Bath received a REMY award from the Kansas City chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry for its work in the Pinkhams' master bath. The company has received a total of 20 REMY awards since 2003 and has earned the Super Service award from Angie's List in the kitchen and bath category every year except for one since 2005.

"The best way to do business is to find good people and pay them a good wage," said Felman, of his employees, who are paid hourly wages along with vacation and holiday pay.

He also believes homeowners should hire a NARI member for their remodeling projects. Felman joined the Kansas City chapter of NARI in 2002 and has been chair or co-chair of its education committee since 2010.

"I wouldn't hesitate to hire any of them (NARI members)," he said. "They are the best of the best."

For more information about Mission Kitchen & Bath, call 913-362-4242 or visit [www.missionkb.com](http://www.missionkb.com).



The Pinkhams had Mission Kitchen & Bath add a large walk-in shower to their master bath. Photo courtesy of Mission Kitchen & Bath



A double vanity took the place of the bathtub in the Pinkhams' master bath. Photo courtesy of Mission Kitchen & Bath



# Mission Bulletin Board

## MEETING NOTICE

Mission City Council Meetings:  
7 p.m. at City Hall

July 16th & Aug. 20th

Calling all emerging artists,  
ages 10 through high school!

The City of Mission is looking for the youth artists of our community to participate in the 11th annual Arts & Eats Festival, Sept. 19 and 20. All works must be hand crafted/made by the participating youth artist as this is a true community art exhibition. For more information, contact Kathy Lockard, 913-722-8206, or visit [www.missioncvb.org](http://www.missioncvb.org).



## Mission ArtWalk

Johnson Drive & Dearborn  
5 to 9 p.m. • July 11 and Aug. 8



Artists from the Kansas City area will showcase their talents during Mission ArtWalk events this summer. Sponsored by Mission businesses, these events will include a DJ, food, drinks and entertainment.



## Hy-Vee employee cookbook raising money for the Holiday Family Adoption Program

Mission Hy-Vee employees wanted to share some of their families' favorite recipes with your family. By purchasing this book of 44 recipes, you are helping to support Mission families during the holidays. The books are \$5 each and are available at the Mission Hy-Vee's customer service desk.

## FIND OUT MORE THROUGH MISSION:FORWARD

Do you want to receive information about downtown Mission and the Johnson Drive project? Be sure to hit the "like" button on the Mission:Forward page on Facebook.





## Mission Summer Family Picnic

Saturday, July 12 • 6 to 10 p.m.  
Broadmoor Park, 5701 Broadmoor

**Admission is free!**



Enjoy live music, inflatables for the children and many outdoor games! Free beef or turkey hot dogs with drinks, chips and ice cream sandwiches until they run out. Consolidated Fire District No. 2 of Northeast Johnson County will cool off the crowd with their fire hoses, so bring your bathing suits. Stay for the spectacular fireworks display at 9:30 p.m., and don't forget your lawn chairs!

## GREAT AMERICAN GARAGE SALE



### Trinity Lutheran Church

*Shawnee Mission Parkway and Nall*

July 31, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Aug. 1, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Aug. 2, 8 a.m. to noon

All proceeds go to missions.

## START THINKING BBQ!

The Arts & Eats Festival and Battle of the Brisket State Championship are set for Sept. 19 and 20. It's not too early for artists and barbecue teams to sign up. Visit [www.missioncvb.org](http://www.missioncvb.org) for more information and barbecue applications.



## Summer programs for kids at Trinity Lutheran Church

Trinity is offering three opportunities  
for children this summer:

- **Vacation Bible School**, 9 to 11:30 a.m., July 14 to 18.
- **Kid's Café Summer Lunch Program**, 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., July 14 to 18 – FREE LUNCH for all children through 18 years old. NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
- **Trinity Kid's Kamp**, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., July 14 to 17, grades one to five.

For more information and to register for VBS and Kid's Kamp, call 913-432-5441, ext. 5209, or visit [www.tlcms.org](http://www.tlcms.org).

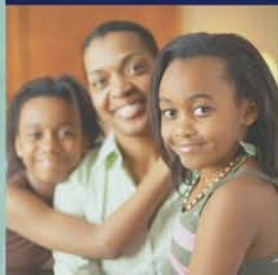


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# Local icon has new ownership

NOT A LOT HAS CHANGED AT THE KEYHOLE SINCE 1943, AND THE NEW FATHER-SON OWNERS PLAN TO KEEP IT THAT WAY

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTOS BY KEVIN BLAYNEY

If the post by the bar at The Keyhole could talk, oh the stories it could tell about this neighborhood tavern and all the customers who have come through its doors in the past 70-plus years. Many bar-goers have sat next to that pole and carved their initials into the wood — and memories into their mind of their time spent at this local watering hole.

It's believed that The Keyhole could be the longest continuously operating private club in the state of Kansas. Open since 1943, The Keyhole definitely owns that distinction in Northeast Johnson County at the very least.

If you've never been to The Keyhole at 5902 Woodson, there are a few things you need to know. The Keyhole is a class B private club, which means you need to be a member or a guest of a member to go in. The membership fee is \$10 a year and there is a 10-day waiting period from the time you join until you can start using your membership. (So plan ahead if you want a drink at The Keyhole.) Being a class B private club means that less than 30 percent of The Keyhole's gross sales come from food. In fact, no food is sold there. Customers enjoy the free peanuts and cold beverages, but don't expect to find a food menu.

Also, to say that The Keyhole is small is a bit of an understatement. With 620 square feet of space inside (including the one-person bathroom) and a little patio out back, The Keyhole's capacity is 49 people.

Although the bar has some TVs and video games, not much has changed inside The Keyhole over the years, and that's part of its charm.

The biggest change customers may have noticed recently is in its ownership.

Husband-and-wife Bob and Char Stackhouse, who bought The Keyhole in 2003, sold it to Wayne and Wayde Heigel, a father and son who used to live in Mission. The sale was final on May 19 and the Heigels are now the bar's fifth owners in its storied history.

Back in 2003, the Stackhouses were living in North Carolina when they decided they needed to return to the Kansas City area (where they were originally from) to be closer to family. They had inquired about buying a bar and a broker called to tell them about a small bar for sale in Mission, Kan.

They both knew what bar he was talking about. Char and Bob had been customers of The Keyhole before they knew each other. Buying The Keyhole was like coming full circle.

"This place here is an icon," Char said. "...I always said I wanted to have a small, clean, fun place and that's what it ended up being."

A year after they bought The Keyhole, Char invented the bar's signature





Wayne Heigel, left, and his son Wayne recently bought The Keyhole from Char Stackhouse, right, and her husband Bob.



Char Stackhouse recently talked about The Keyhole's 70-plus-year history in Mission with Wayne Heigel, one of the tavern's new owners.

drink, the Keyhole Shooter. The shot (with "secret ingredients") sells for \$1 each and was named "Best Cheap Shot" by *The Pitch* in 2004. Char also painted the palm tree on the side of the cooler just outside the back door, and the patio is now known as "Key West."

The Keyhole is open from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and it currently has about 700 to 800 members. Regulars meet up there often to grab a drink and wind up spending a chunk of time chatting it up and watching whatever is on TV. Everyone (with a membership or guest) is welcome and people from all ways of life are comfortable in the bar's down-to-earth environment.

"It's your older crowd during the day and young singles (20s to 50s) at night," Char said, adding that Bob was the clown of the bar during the day and kept things lively with the regulars.

The Stackhouses decided to sell the bar to enjoy retirement but have discovered retirement is boring and said they are talking about finding another bar soon.

"I'm sad still because it was a part of our life for 11 years," Char said. "...The thing with this bar is the people started out as customers and ended up as friends."

Wayne Heigel was already very familiar with The Keyhole when he heard it was for sale. Wayne was in the liquor business on the wholesale side for 28 years before retiring in 2002. And, while living in Mission, he used to drop off his son Wayne and his two other children at the Dickinson Mission Theatre on John-son Drive and then stop by The Keyhole for a beer.

"Everyone was aware this was a successful estab-

lishment," Wayne said. "It's been here forever."

The Keyhole reminds Wayne of growing up in St. Louis at a time when there was a tavern on every corner and the bar served as the community gathering spot.

"That's what this is ... a social center," Wayne said.

Wayde Heigel, who graduated from Shawnee Mission North High School, said he and his dad are excited to have the opportunity to own The Keyhole.

"The Keyhole's past history and success speaks for itself and it is our full intention to carry on its local tradition within the community," he said. "Upon turning 18 and throughout college my friends and I spent a great deal of time at The Keyhole, which makes the ownership that much more special. Although most of the faces have changed (not all), The Keyhole has remained the same. That's what makes it The Keyhole."

The father and son say they don't plan to change anything.

"If it's not broken, you don't try to fix it," Wayne said.

"You don't want to ruin a good thing," Char added.

And, by the way, how did the two holes get into the pole next to the bar? Char said that a couple construction workers were speculating whether the post had a metal rod through the middle of it, so one of them went to his truck, got his drill and found out for himself. (There's no metal rod.)

"If that post could talk, you could have a big story," she said.



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| <b>25% OFF</b><br><b>Any Dry</b><br><b>Cleaning Order</b><br><b>(\$10 Maximum Savings)</b><br><small>One Coupon Per Order<br/>With coupon. Expires 8/29/2014.</small>   | <b>FREE WASH</b><br><b>Buy One, Get One Free</b><br><small>(Top Loaders Only) (Max. 2 FREE Loads)<br/>Limit One Per Customer Per Day<br/>With coupon. Expires 8/29/2014.</small> |

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**Thank you for your continued support during the city construction and street closures.**



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**\$6.79 LUNCH**

OR

**\$8.49 DINNER**

(Buffet including beverage)

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BUFFET, GET 2ND 1/2 OFF**

(VALID M-TH) (FRI \$8.49)

(Buffet including beverage)

Dine-in only. One Coupon per table.  
Not valid with any other offers or punchcards. Expires 8/22/14 (MM6)

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**\$2.60 House Margaritas!**

**WEDNESDAY \$5.95 Burrito Plate and**

**\$3.00 Import Beer Bottles!**

**SATURDAY 1/2 price cheese or**

**hot skillet bean dip and \$3 Coronas!**



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deli **fresh** subs

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GET A 8" COLD SANDWICH,

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WITH THE PURCHASE OF A DRINK  
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Expires 8/29/14

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- 1 Medium Order of Fries
- 1 Medium Order of Onion Rings
- 2 Medium Fountain Drinks

**\$8.99**

Please present this coupon before ordering. Valid at Mission Runza® Restaurant location. One coupon per person or car per visit. Limit one \$8.99 Dinner For Two per coupon. Substitutions, additions and upsizing extra. Not valid with any other coupon or special discount. Expires August 31, 2014.

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Some restrictions. Does not apply to the sale of any beer. Exp. 08/29/14.

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# CITY OF MISSION *Newsletter*

JUNE / JULY 2014  
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 3  
WWW.MISSIONKS.ORG

## MISSION HOMES RECEIVE 'A BRUSH WITH KINDNESS'

CITY PARTNERS WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TO COMPLETE PAINTING AND OTHER HOME REPAIR PROJECTS

**J**ake Schoap used to keep his Mission home looking immaculate. But when he passed away seven years ago, his wife Dorothy was not able to keep their house up like her husband had.

Last year, with help from the City of Mission and Heartland Habitat for Humanity, volunteers painted her home and made some other minor repairs in less than a day.

While everyone knows that Habitat for Humanity works with people to build houses from the ground up, fewer people are familiar with the organization's efforts to revitalize homes that already exist and to work with local cities, including Mission. Heartland Habitat for Humanity is a participating affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International's Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI). Under that initiative, Heartland Habitat has two programs, A Brush With Kindness and Veteran's Housing Initiative, that help people with low to moderate incomes to make minor home repairs.

"We are having trouble finding qualified applicants," said Tom Lally, president and CEO of Heartland Habitat for Humanity. "...I know we are not reaching all the available applicants out there. When we drive around Johnson County (and other area counties) we see good homes that need a

little repair. That's what we are there for."

To qualify, homeowners must live in the home, be current on their homeowner's insurance and real estate taxes, and meet income requirements.

Lally gave kudos to the City of Mission for being one of the first cities in the area to partner with Heartland Habitat and its A Brush With Kindness program. Last year, the City and Heartland Habitat collaborated to repair three homes in Mission, including Schoap's house.

Several years ago, the City had helped Mission residents paint their homes, but it was challenging to get volunteers organized. With this partnership, Heartland Habitat has the expertise, volunteers and supplies needed to take on these projects.

Habitat for Humanity only does exterior work and the projects are relatively small, like painting, construction of wheelchair ramps, porch repair, tree trimming and yard clean-up. The organization does not do large projects, such as roof replacement.

"They did such a good job and did it so quickly," Dorothy Schoap said. "...I don't

know why they (people) would be reluctant. I would highly recommend it. How could you go wrong?"

For more information about applying for A Brush With Kindness or if you know of someone who might need assistance, call



Rosalind Johnson in Mission's Neighborhood Services Department at 913-676-8390. For more information about volunteering or making a donation, call Heartland Habitat for Humanity at 913-342-3047.

Above: The City of Mission was one of the first cities in the area to partner with Heartland Habitat for Humanity and its A Brush With Kindness program.

## BEN HADLEY APPOINTED AS MISSION'S POLICE CHIEF

**O**n May 21st, the Mission City Council unanimously approved the appointment of Capt. Ben Hadley as Mission's new Chief of Police. His selection was recommended by the City's interview panel, which was very impressed with the quality of

the four candidates that vied for the Police Chief's position. Captain Hadley rose to the top of the list through his team-oriented leadership style, his vision for the department, and his appreciation of the vital role the department plays in the Mission community.

Capt. Hadley was formally sworn-in as Chief of Police at the June 18th City Council Meeting. He has been a member of Mission's police force for nearly 17 years. Prior to coming to Mission he served as a Johnson County Sheriff's Deputy.





## Dear Neighbors,

On April 21st, I was honored to be sworn in as Mayor of Mission. With a bright future ahead of us, I look forward to serving you and welcome your input on the many issues and initiatives facing our City. We are currently in the process of establishing our annual budget for 2015. Discussions on the budget will take place at our Council Committee Meetings and Worksessions over the summer months, and the public is always welcome to attend these meetings.

I want to congratulate our councilmembers who were also sworn in in April. Councilmember Debbie Kring (Ward 3) and Councilmember Suzie Gibbs (Ward 4) will continue to represent their many constituents. Our newest councilmembers are Steven Lucas representing Ward 1 and Arcie Rothrock

representing Ward 2. This is an important job and I appreciate their hard work on behalf of Mission and its residents. Contact information for all councilmembers is included in this newsletter on page N4.



At our May City Council Meeting, Council voted to change the format of our Council Committee Meetings. Now, all councilmembers will serve as members of both our Community Development Committee and the Finance and Administration Committee. Both committees will meet on the first Wednesday of each month, with the second Wednesday reserved for those times when we have “overflow” business. The Community Development Committee will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be immediately followed by Finance and Administration (approximately 7:30 p.m.). If you plan to attend our committee meetings or our Council Meetings and would like to comment

on an issue, you are encouraged to come a few minutes early to complete a “Public Comment Card” which will help us in running our meetings as efficiently as possible. If you have questions regarding meeting dates or times, please feel free to contact the City Clerk at 913-676-8355, msumrall@missionks.org or refer to our website.

The new Mission Family Aquatic Center (MFAC) has opened for a great season and this is a wonderful addition to our community. I hope you have had an opportunity to enjoy this beautiful and fun facility! Parking for the MFAC is available on 61st Street, with additional parking added as part of this project, and in the lot adjacent to the pool and City Hall on Woodson. We are asking City employees to park across the street (SE corner of Woodson & Martway) so that there is more availability in the parking lot north of City Hall. We hope that this additional parking adjacent to the pool will make visiting the MFAC with your family safer and more accessible. Ad-

ditionally, the Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting a variety of family events at the pool this summer — details are available on page 31 of this issue or by contacting the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center at 913-722-8200 or www.missionks.org.

Other events to add to your calendar include the Mission Summer Family Picnic on Saturday evening, July 12th at Broadmoor Park and the Mission Art-Walk events sponsored by our Mission Merchants on the second Friday evening of July and August at Dearborn & Johnson Drive.

I’m excited to serve as your Mayor and am hoping to meet many of you over the next few months. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,

Steve Schowengerdt  
Mayor



## HELPFUL NUMBERS

### CITY OF MISSION

Mayor Steve Schowengerdt ..... 913-676-8350  
City Administrator ..... 913-676-8352  
City Clerk ..... 913-676-8355  
Police Department ..... 913-676-8300  
Parks & Recreation ..... 913-722-8200  
Community Development... 913-676-8360  
Public Works ..... 913-676-8375  
Municipal Court ..... 913-676-8325  
Neighborhood Services.... 913-676-8390

### AREA UTILITIES

Deffenbaugh Disposal  
Residential ..... 913-631-3300  
Commercial ..... 913-631-2407  
Kansas City Power & Light.. 816-471-5275  
Kansas Gas Service ..... 800-794-4780  
WaterOne ..... 913-895-1800  
JoCo Wastewater ..... 913-715-8590

### PUBLIC HEALTH/SAFETY

Sheriff Dispatch ..... 913-782-0720  
Johnson County Offices  
Mission – Motor Vehicle.. 913-826-1800  
Olathe - Administration 913-715-5000  
Fire District No. 2 ..... 913-432-1105  
Public Health Department ... 913-826-1200

### TRANSPORTATION

The Jo (JoCo Transit)... 913-782-2210  
The Metro (KCATA) .... 816-221-0660

### LOCAL BUSINESS INFORMATION

Chamber of Commerce.... 913-262-2141  
Mission Convention & Visitors Bureau ..... 913-676-8350

### OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Animal Control ..... 913-782-0720  
Lost Pet Center ..... 913-831-7387  
Vehicle Tags ..... 913-826-1800  
Driver’s License ..... 913-432-2266  
Marriage License ..... 913-715-3428  
Election Office ..... 913-782-3441  
Hazardous Waste ..... 913-715-6900  
Kansas Vital Statistics ..... 785-296-1400  
Shawnee Mission Post Office..... 913-831-5375



# NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES NEWS

## SPEAKER SERIES EVENTS SCHEDULED

*Join us for our July and August Speaker Series events – great information on issues affecting you and your home.*

### KCP&L CONNECTIONS

July 1, 2014, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Learn simple ways to save energy in your home.

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

August 2, 2014, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Severe weather preparedness information and how to keep your family safe from potential hazards in Kansas.

All presentations will be held at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway, Mission, Kan.

## COMMUNITY REBATE FUNDS AVAILABLE

It's not too late to apply for Mission's Community Rebate Program. The program rebates up to the amounts listed below for income eligible residents:

**50%** of the Mission Solid Waste Utility Fee

**75%** of Mission Property Taxes

**100%** of Utility Franchise Fees

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN COMPOSTING?



Compost bins are still available for sale — **\$50 each.**

Pay at City Hall (6090 Woodson), pick up at Public Works (4775 Lamar), and begin composting at your home!

For additional information on any of these Neighborhood Services programs or events, contact Rosalind Johnson at 913-676-8390 or [rjohnson@missionks.org](mailto:rjohnson@missionks.org).

# MISSION WELCOMES TWO NEW COUNCILMEMBERS

**S**teven Lucas, Ward I, and Arcie Rothrock, Ward II, are Mission's two newest councilmembers. Both were sworn in at the April City Council Meeting and will serve the residents of Mission for the next four years.

Councilmember Lucas and Councilmember Rothrock have deep family connections within the City of Mission, and bring with them the experiences and expectations of the many younger families in our community. Professionally, Councilmember Lucas serves as the In-House Counsel and Operations manager for Lucas Inc., a general construction company. He is also the managing member for Dharma LLC, a redevelopment firm focusing on repurposing historic buildings in the

urban core. Councilmember Rothrock is a Business Analyst in Customer Wireline Delivery with Ericsson, and also serves as an Ericsson Brand Ambassador.

Councilmembers Lucas and Rothrock welcome your input and ideas, and may be reached at:

**Steven Lucas, Ward I**

913-558-2290

[slucas@missionks.org](mailto:slucas@missionks.org)

**Arcie Rothrock, Ward II**

913-568-2872

[arothrock@missionsk.org](mailto:arothrock@missionsk.org)

For a map of the City of Mission wards and contact information for all Governing Body members, please visit [www.missionks.org](http://www.missionks.org) or contact the City Clerk at 913-676-8355.



Councilmembers Steven Lucas (Ward I), Arcie Rothrock (Ward II), Debbie Kring (Ward III), and Suzie Gibbs (Ward IV) take their official Oath of Office as they begin serving Mission residents for the next four years.



## SHOP LOCAL

**N**ow through August, visit Johnson Drive in the redevelopment area between Nall and Lamar and enter to win \$100 in Johnson Drive Dollars. Drawings will be held each week. No purchase necessary. A list of participating businesses is available at [missionks.org](http://missionks.org). Help support your local merchants!



Members of Mission's Governing Body, Parks & Recreation Commission, Design-Build Team, and Staff officially "cut the ribbon" and opened the Mission Family Aquatic Center on May 24th. Memberships may be purchased at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway, Mission, Kan.

## SECURITY ASSESSMENTS AVAILABLE

**D**id you know that the Mission Police Department offers security surveys of your home, business or house of worship? Lt. Dan Madden is certified by the American Crime Prevention Institute as a Security Assessment Specialist and as a Crime Prevention Specialist. He is also certified through the National Institute of Crime Pre-

vention as a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) specialist. When conducting a security survey, Lt. Madden will look at all aspects of your facility or home to help you avoid being targeted by criminals. To schedule your security assessment, please contact Lt. Madden at 913-676-8311 or by e-mail at [dmadden@missionks.org](mailto:dmadden@missionks.org).



## 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](http://www.missionks.org)

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

*(overflow business considered on the second Wednesday of the month as necessary, 6:30 p.m.)*

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

### COUNCIL WORKSESSIONS

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

*All meetings are open to the public.*

## GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Steve Schowengerdt.....913-481-3235  
City Hall Office.....913-676-8350

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD I

Pat Quinn.....913-927-8511  
Steven Lucas.....913-558-2290

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD II

Amy Miller.....913-677-0169  
Arcie Rothrock.....913-568-2872

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD III

Jennifer Cowdry.....913-384-1263  
Debbie Kring.....913-722-6901

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD IV

Suzanne Gibbs.....913-671-8564  
David Shepard.....913-671-8521



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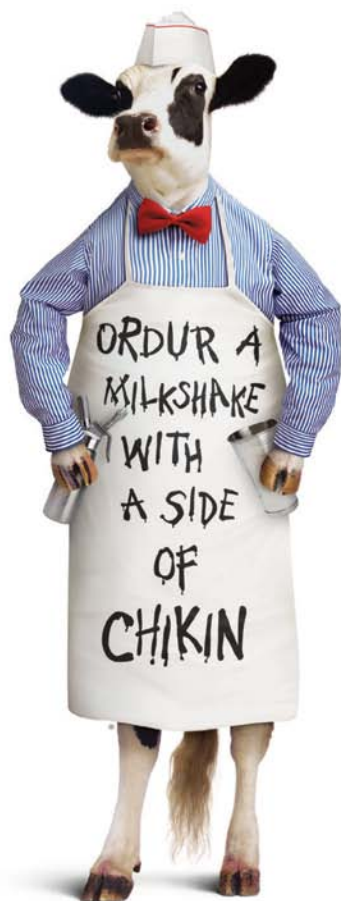
Lunch: Mon-Sat 11am-2:30pm

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Closed Sundays

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# LIVING RIGHT!

104-year-old Gertrude Stern credits her longevity to vitamins and staying busy

BY BARBARA BAYER • PHOTO BY CATHY DONOVAN

She bounds off the chair to answer the telephone. She drives, sews, exercises, reads Danielle Steel and Nora Roberts books and, oh yes, she's 104 years old.

Gertrude Stern moved to what is now Mission in 1950 and still lives in the Countryside home where she and her late husband Morris raised three children. While no one knows for sure exactly who is Mission's oldest resident, Stern certainly is in the running for that title.

She attributes her long, healthy life to "good, clean living."

"I think God's just been good to me. I've tried to do what was right all my life."

One of the things the centenarian believes contributes to her good health is vitamins. She takes more than two dozen different ones each day.

"I think taking vitamins is what has kept me going and helped me feel good so I could do what I've done," Stern said. "In the morning I take about 16 different vitamins, I take about 10 in the evening and before I go to bed I take a couple more."

She can't begin to name all the different vitamins she takes, noting "they are all good for me." Among the vitamins she recommends are B-12 and C, along with Boncelogy, a calcium supplement, "which is supposed to take care of the bones in the body and so on and so forth."

Stern said her memory is "pretty good" as well.

"I'm on my feet and I have no problems that way. My hearing isn't perfect but I hear most everything, only the real soft tones is a little hard sometimes."

Over the years she has stayed away from some of the things we now know aren't good for your health. Never a fan of smoking, "I tried it, I didn't like it," she has been known to have a drink or two every now and again.

"I used to have high balls in my early days when we would go to parties. My husband was a Shriner and we'd go to a lot of their activities and I would have a glass or two, but I haven't in a long time and now it's rare that I'll have a glass of wine. I'm not a great drinker."

She's never been hooked on caffeine either.

"I don't have coffee very often and, when I do drink coffee, it's decaffeinated and it's only if I've gone out to lunch. I don't fix it here at home. I just have hot water with lemon in the morning and have for years," she said. "It gets me going."

She eats right, too, although she doesn't cook much anymore.

"I like a good steak. If I go out, I'll have a steak."

"I like vegetables. I have a lot of those at home and I always manage to have a vegetable salad and a side vegetable along with my meal. I balance it."

Stern keeps herself busy during the week. Twice a week she goes to an exercise class offered by the Heritage Center at the Jewish Community Center in Overland Park.

"It's cardio — we exercise the arms, the legs, every part of the body ... movements to get us to limber up."

A cab picks her up in the morning and takes her home after lunch.

"They have a nice lunch for \$5 and it's \$2 each way for the cab so it's \$9 every time I go. You can't beat that."

She's also still active in a sewing group she's belonged to for about 20 years at Village Presbyterian Church. The group makes items patients in hospitals and nursing homes need such as pillows and eyeglass cases. She makes lap robes out of materials and quilt pieces others have donated to the church.

Sewing, of course, requires good eyesight. Stern said, "I've had cataracts from both eyes removed but my eyesight is good."

"The only thing with being as old as I am is my body is stiff and sore all the time, but I push."

She goes to the Heritage Center and volunteers because she's always enjoyed being around people.

"Before I started with the sewing group I volunteered for about 40 years with Red Cross. They had a production department that also made things for the hospitals and nursing homes."

When she needs to make a quick trip close to home, she drives herself. For longer trips she relies on rides. Often her daughter-in-law takes her to the church's sewing club.

You'd think all this activity would be tiring for Stern. She takes a nap every afternoon, "I can't make it through the day if I don't," but not for that reason.

"I just don't sleep too well at night."

Stern said she has considered moving to a retirement community.

"Then I decided I'm still kicking. I'm not going to one yet."

In fact, she still loves the house she has lived in for 64 years.

"It's been a great house. I have heat in the floor, which is very unusual ... We just love the heat from the floor," she said. "But it's come to the point where I've got to do some decorating."

For now Stern will take a little of her own advice.

"May you live as long as you want and never want as long as you live."

Above: Gertrude Stern may hold the distinction of being Mission's oldest resident at the age of 104.







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16730 US Hwy 24  
Independence, MO 64056

**816-886-6675**

Aurora

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Aurora, MO 65605

**(417) 440-4436**



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**\$20 OFF Any Service Over \$200** VM 200

**\$30 OFF Any Service Over \$300** VM 300

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Most Vehicles. See store for details. Not valid with any other offers or discounts. With coupon only. Plus \$3.50 per invoice for shop supplies. Expires 8/29/14.

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# Building people's self-confidence one step at a time

NOTES TO SELF® SHIPS ITS SOCKS FROM ITS PRIVATE WAREHOUSE IN MISSION

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSAN MCSPADDEN/JCCC

There are a lot of happy workplaces in Mission. But you haven't seen a "positive work environment" in the truest and most literal sense of the phrase until you witness the private warehouse for notes to self® socks, which opened its operation in Mission a little over a year ago.

Although you might not have noticed notes to self® socks on people's feet, you may have seen them popping up in area Hallmark stores, hospital gift shops and boutiques, including Mission Fresh Fashion.

These socks are the brainchild of Prairie Village resident Laura Schmidt, who got the inspiration when she and her family traveled to western Kansas in 2011. The idea clicked as she read a book about positive thinking with her feet up on the dashboard. She thought, "What if people had positive affirmations — phrases we say to build confidence and train our minds — on their socks?" Then they could see the positive words at least twice a day when they put on and take off their shoes.

Schmidt's little idea to put positive affirmations, like "I am confident," "I am strong" and "I am smart," across the toes and on the bottom of socks has taken on a life of its own in three years. Her company has donated thousands of socks to women's shelters and organizations serving the underprivileged, and she has a goal of getting 1 million pairs on people's feet by the end of the year. Schmidt hopes to inspire others to share the socks with their favorite nonprofit and get the positive words to even more people.

The sock company was named a 2014 Emerging Business of

the Year from the Kansas Small Business Development Center. The Mission warehouse (which Schmidt calls "Socks Central") has nine part-time employees who ship the finished product to retail stores and online customers. Surrounding the employees while they work are thousands of socks with 30 different positive affirmations (thus making it possibly the most positive workplace in Mission. Imagine working around thousands of messages like "I am optimistic" and "I am amazing" during your shift.)

"It's such a happy environment working around positive words all the time," said Schmidt, who refers to herself as the company's "chief positive person." "It's a very encouraging environment."

The socks come in infant ("I am a blessing"), toddler ("I am smart") and adult sizes. Adults can choose from low-cut running socks (\$9.99) and longer crew socks (\$10.99). The company has expanded from white and black socks to a variety of colors and neons. Prototypes for other products are in the works.

The company's "I am awesome" socks were the first to be produced and they continue to be the No. 1 best seller for notes to self®.

"It's such an easy gift for a man, woman or child," she said.

"...It's just not about the socks. It's the words on the socks. As long as you have the words surrounding you, they can really have an impact."

For more information, visit [www.notestoself.com](http://www.notestoself.com).

Above: Laura Schmidt, owner and founder of notes to self®, moved her sock company from her Prairie Village home to a private warehouse in Mission in 2013.



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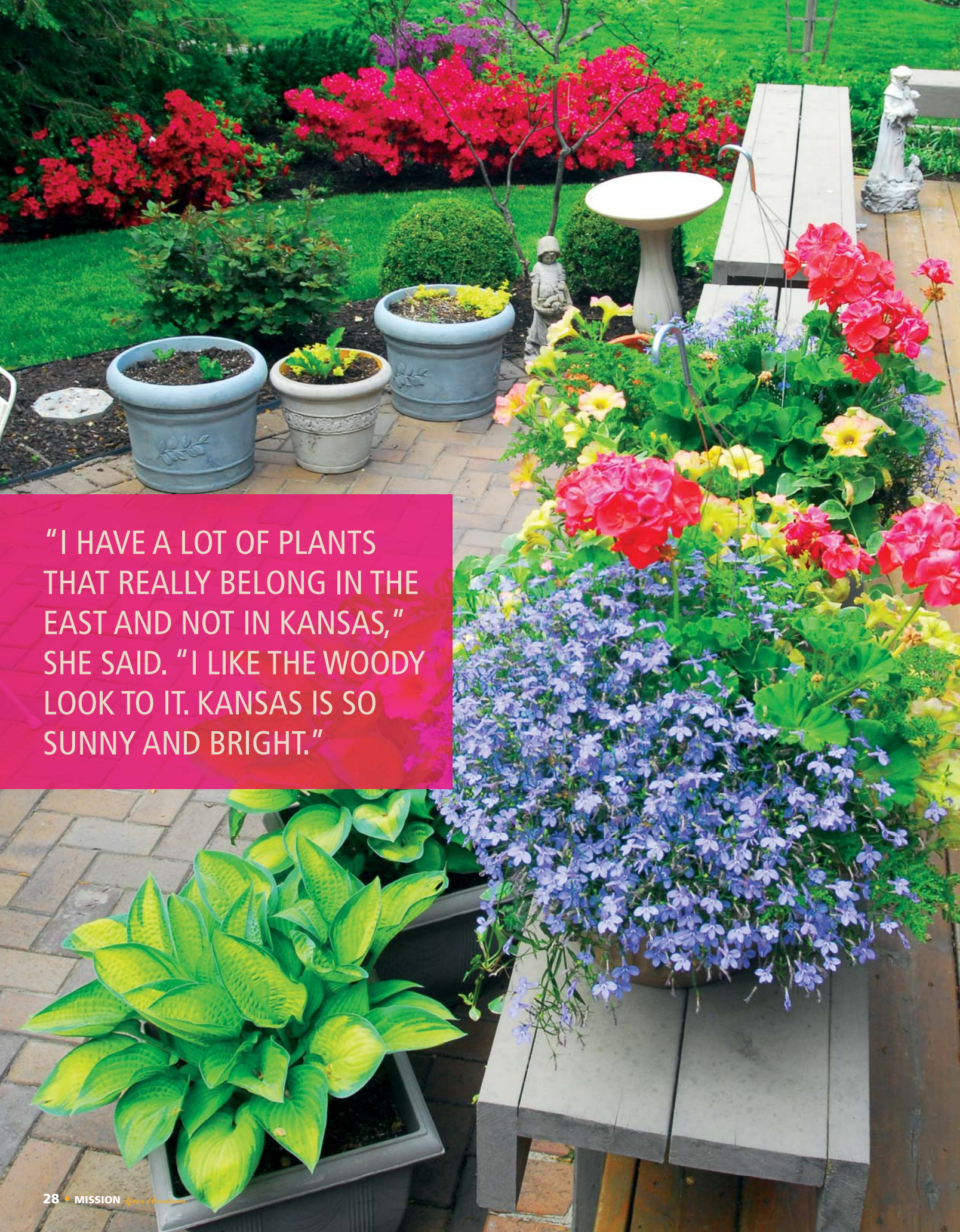
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"I HAVE A LOT OF PLANTS THAT REALLY BELONG IN THE EAST AND NOT IN KANSAS," SHE SAID. "I LIKE THE WOODY LOOK TO IT. KANSAS IS SO SUNNY AND BRIGHT."



# 'Eastern' plantings transform the Kansas prairie at one Mission home

*Four decades later, Lynne Stark's yard is a shady retreat*

BY HEATHER SWAN • PHOTOS BY BEN MCCALL

Walk through Lynne Stark's yard and you might just think you've landed in the eastern United States or maybe Canada ... just about any woody place ... but definitely not Kansas.

Stark has been working for 42 years on turning her Milhaven yard into something you wouldn't expect around these parts.

"I have a lot of plants that really belong in the East and not in Kansas," she said. "I like the woody look to it. Kansas is so sunny and bright."

Stark started with basically nothing in her yard, just a couple trees. Over the years, she has added and replaced to the point where her once-sunny yard is now mostly shade in the back.

Besides her desire to do something different with her Kansas plot of ground, her gardening has been inspired by her travels. She planted a hemlock in her backyard in the early 1970s after visiting Thomas Jefferson's Monticello in Virginia and seeing all the hemlocks.

"I had also visited The Butchart Gardens, in Victoria, British Columbia, and loved the mass plantings there," she said. "I was always kind of stretching the possibility of those lush growing sites and climates versus the plains of Kansas. But nevertheless, I have attempted a lot of different plants over the years, with varying success, but that is what makes gardening so enjoyable and full of promise."

Her yard is rich with plantings now that she's experimented with over the years: eight white dogwoods, daffodils, tulips, rhododendrons, lilacs, lilies of the valley, coral bells, boxwoods (which one of her former neighbors called her "little green meatballs"), a Japanese red maple, a yellow magnolia, hornbeams and holly, to name just a sampling.

Oh, and who can forget the azaleas? Stark planted a large number of the plants 30 or 40 years ago, and they continue to put on a dazzling display every spring. In front of her house, azaleas surround a white dogwood.

"I still enjoy the eight-plus weeks of nearly continuous blooms in early to late spring to brighten the garden from the barren days of winter," she said of her yard.

Because of her shady surroundings, Stark has had to find plants that thrive with little sun. She has found that her hydrangeas (which are pink or blue depending on the condition of the soil) do about as well as anything under her maple tree.

And in a few different shady spots you can find Jack in the Pulpit plants, which have three leaves and look an awful lot like poison ivy. Stark, a member of the Gardening Angels volunteer gardening group at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, has had to educate some of her fellow gardeners to not pull the "poison ivy" around the church.

Left: Lynne Stark's garden showcases a wide array of plants and flowers, including many in containers that she moves to her garage or sunroom in the winter.

Right: Lynne Stark's once-sunny yard is now mostly shade in the back.

She has learned a lot herself from Rachel Snyder's gardening guidebook "The Complete Book for Gardeners," which was published in 1964 but is still relevant today.

Stark was also inspired to garden by her grandmothers and mother, who was more into growing flowers than food. Her dad's mom lived in southwest Wisconsin and Stark would spend a week there in the summer among the flowers and rolling hills.

Stark is able to get maximum enjoyment out of the beauty of her yard thanks to a 24-by-24-foot sunroom that she and her husband Bob added onto the back of their home in 1995. This provides the perfect place to overlook the woody landscape that Lynne has created. She also brings a lot of plants into the sunroom during the wintertime to warm up her home with some green and then takes them back outside in the spring to open up their view of the yard.

She has started planting more things in pots than in the ground recently so you will find a lot of those in their garage in the winter. She ignores them and waits to see what will happen. She's had good luck with hostas, oxalis (which is like a three-leaf clover) and dahlias that she has garaged in pots and left alone. These plants have revived in the spring, and she doesn't have to pay to replace them.

"It's fun to see what comes back," Stark said, of her pots and yard. "Every year is different."

"Gardens are fun," she added. "It's good relaxation."





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