

Mission

Your Hometown

JUNE / JULY 2016

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the police force

Mission Farm & Flower Market

Market plants seeds for more
growth during its second year



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Are you still a Mission couch potato?

In our last Mission Magazine, we gave you 65 things to see or do in Mission to get you moving and learn about our beautiful city. Thanks to the many phone calls we have received, we know a lot of you have checked out our numerous parks and are using the Rock Creek Trail. One reader called to tell us that she actually read the magazine twice so she wouldn't miss out on anything! Want another idea? Each Saturday, four adults from Lenexa choose a couple of farmer's markets to bike to and this particular Saturday they chose Mission along with Merriam, Shawnee and Overland Park. Beth Welsh, one of the bikers, told me that this particular route was 31 miles; however, stopping at each market, purchasing cookies from the Beachery, and finding items to put in your little back pack for later, made it a fun trip.

Last year, we introduced you to another idea; a group from Walnut View, calling themselves the Quadrant. They are four families who live on Outlook who explore Johnson Drive — walking from Lamar to Nall shopping, eating and getting acquainted with the merchants along the way. In this issue, we introduce you to Mission resident Sid Arenson, an avid cyclist for more than 50 years who says that Mission's new Rock Creek Trail is one of our best-kept secrets, saying it is a really cool trail. What new physical activities have you decided to put on your bucket list this summer? Let us know so we can share it with our readers.

An easy way to get moving is to visit the Mission Farmer's Market every Saturday. You will find all of the colors that the dietitians tell us to put on our plate — red,



yellow, orange, blue, and green. While you are at the market you can pick up a Sanibel cookie, a Tasty Nugget or a strawberry/rhubarb homemade pie to enjoy while browsing through this issue of our Mission Magazine.

As we are still celebrating Mission's birthday, we have included two stories about our Mission homes; one built in 1950 and recently remodeled; the other constructed in 1955 where the original owners still reside. For an interesting side-note; read Bob and Doris Legler's tip on finding out the age of your home! (Page 35)

There is so much to see and do in our "wonderful" city. Please let us know if you have discovered things we haven't. We have heard you express your pride, as well as shown us your love for Mission. Thank you for sharing your stories with us.

Enjoy.

ON THE COVER:

The Mission Farm & Flower Market is open for business from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., every Saturday from May to the end of September. Jeff Bingman grows an array of produce to sell at the market. Here he tells Mission resident Geri Compton about some of his freshly grown tomatoes. There is a variety of vendors that will be serving up home grown products all summer long.



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Mission

Your Hometown

JUNE / JULY 2016

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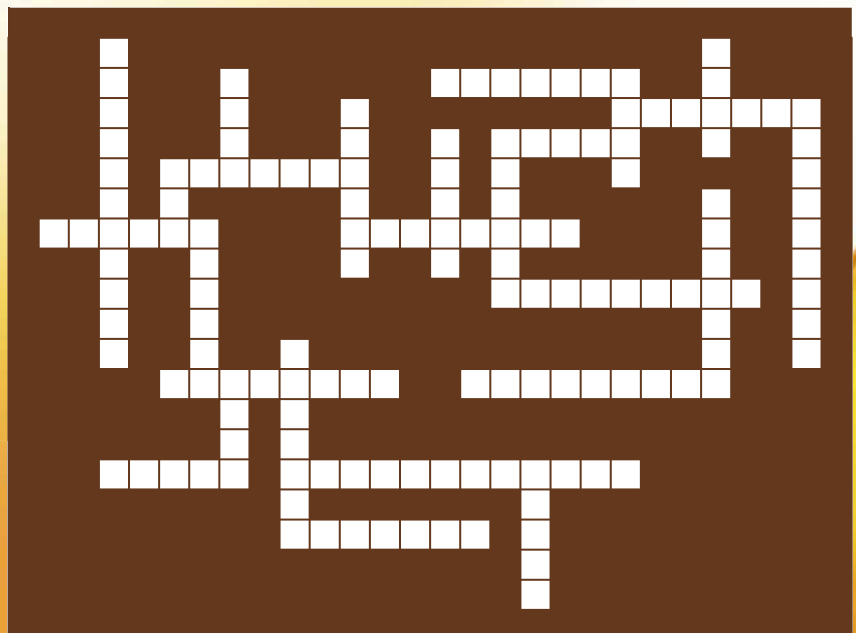


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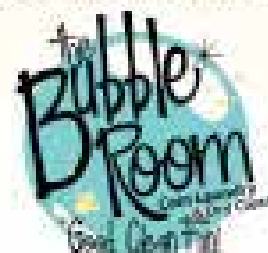
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A close-up photograph of a woven basket filled with fresh produce. In the foreground, several bunches of bright orange carrots with green leafy tops are visible. Behind them, there are green leafy vegetables and some red-leafed chard. The basket is made of dark brown wicker. The title 'Taking root' is written in a large, white, cursive font across the top of the image.

Taking root

Mission Farm & Flower Market grows in second year

BY KRIS BAKER • PHOTOS BY KRISTIN MCCOPPIN, SCOTT FISHMAN & ALYSON ANGELL

It's market season and every Saturday morning there is a fresh farmer's market on the scene that is drawing attention and crowds to Johnson Drive.

After a successful debut last year, the Mission Farm & Flower Market has returned with more vendors, along with the same hometown atmosphere that has established this as a unique destination among the area farmer's markets. Everyone involved — from the vendors to the staff and community advisory committee members — has been working hard to make the Mission Market a fun and friendly place.

On this day, positioned at the information booth, Market Manager Emily Randel is quick to answer any question and help shoppers explore the market. She works for the city and is one of the market's organizers.

"We are excited for our second year. We have been really busy getting more vendors, making sure that there is produce, eggs and other essential things that a good farmer's market needs. We are improving the site and trying to make this summer even better," Randel commented.

Market coordinator, Alyson Angell, noted that the market is continually looking to expand but now has "a strong group of vendors."

"The farmers want a sustainable location with lots of people and that

is what we are working on. It's fun to look around and see all the fruits, vegetables, honey and everything. This market has been awesome."

The market runs every Saturday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. until the end of September, and is located on the south side of Johnson Drive between Reeds and Maple streets.

Although the market site was never intended to host a farmer's market, the benefits of being right in the middle of downtown have been really profound. The market has great visibility with passing traffic; shoppers can pop in neighboring stores on their way to and from the market, and it creates another reason for people from around the area to come to the heart of Mission every week. Also, the market site benefits from the beautiful grassy area, which is perfect for lounging and listening to live music that contributes to the festive mood. Visitors are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs and stay a while.

During the 2016 season, close to 15 vendors are expected at the market every week, up from an average of nine in 2015. One of those vendors is Jeff Bingman, who brings a large assortment of produce from Spring Hill, Kansas, including tomatoes, strawberries, carrots, zucchinis and beets.

"The market staff recruited me," Bingman answered when asked how he got involved in the Mission Market. "We are here for

-Continued on page 8



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- Continued from page 6

the whole summer and sales are going well. We have had a lot of positive feedback, which I think comes from providing a good, quality product to customers. We certainly like it here; it does have that neighborhood feel."

Kevin Lynch of Sugar Rush Treat Boutique, one of the original vendors, sells gourmet popcorn and other sweets.

"The market has been very good to us. After the response we had last year, we knew we should come back this summer."

Everyone has their favorite stops and for many it's The Jelly Man Bob Bradwell. Besides his jellies, he takes custom orders for homemade pies. And when they can find them, they even have gooseberry pies on the menu.

"When someone asks for something, we do our best to get it," Bob's wife Jeanne shared. "He (Bob) has been making his jelly a long time and we like bringing it here and sharing it with people."

Thanks to the convenient location, many people walk or bike to the Mission Market. Tim Gift, a Mission police officer, says he likes to stop by and let people know there is a police presence nearby.

"The market is really good for the community," notes Officer Gift. "It brings everyone together and that is nice to see."

Back by popular demand are food trucks including several favorites from last year: Plantain District, Sweet Caroline's Ice Box and Fish R Us. Among the new food trucks and other ready-to-eat options are KC Pinoy (Filipino meat and rice dishes and dumplings), Pigtails and Olives

(comfort food with a rotating menu) and Blazing Cattles BBQ (ribs and pulled pork sandwiches).

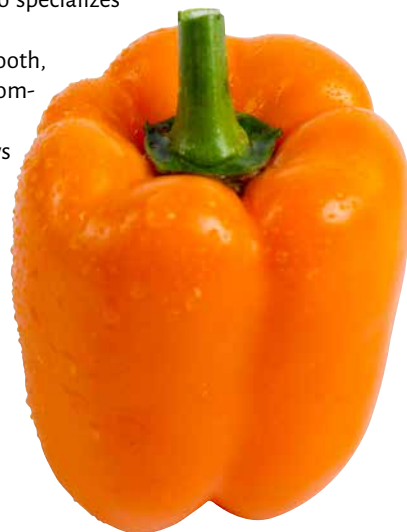
In addition, Twisted Sisters Coffee Shop is once again offering free coffee to guests who visit the information tent. The coffee is a helpful way to perk up sleepy shoppers right when they arrive, and provides a good chance for conversation (if the caffeine has kicked in already) with the market ambassadors who volunteer each week at the tent.

Besides building community, Randel reported the ultimate goal for the Mission Farm & Flower Market is for people to have a reliable place to stock up on produce and quality staples, such as eggs and honey, for the week. Some people come every week especially for a fresh wild-flower bouquet. The market also specializes in sweet treats and baked items.

Back at the information booth, Randel continues to direct customers.

She motions along the rows of tents. "Spend some time here; it's a lot of fun."

To learn more about the market or to volunteer for a shift at the information tent, email market@missionks.org.



Above: The Jelly Man Bob Bradwell and his wife Jeanne bring strawberries, spinach, their homemade jellies and more to the Mission Farm & Flower Market every Saturday.



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A common sight at the Mission Farm & Flower Market are the colorful tents for Tasty Nuggets Granola and The Beachery. These two Mission business have become stalwarts at the market, coming each Saturday to sell their wares and visit with the marketgoers. Here the creative minds behind some popular confections share their stories.

BY KRIS BAKER • PHOTOS BY KRISTIN MCCOPPIN / POND PHOTOGRAPHY



Rachel Feldkamp was looking for a project she could really sink her teeth into. She loved to bake and she wanted to make Christmas gifts for friends and co-workers. She also loved granola and always believed it could be eaten in a more convenient snack form. So she decided her new project would be devising a recipe where the granola would stay together to be eaten as a nugget.

"When making granola they always tell you to keep stirring, but I just stopped," Feldkamp explained. Through trial and error, she eventually worked out the recipe. "I played around with adding different ingredients and flavors until I came up with something I feel is really special."

That's when Tasty Nuggets Granola was born. As she worked up different flavors, she even decided to use fresh ingredients including fresh honey made from bees her father raises, which proved to be a real boon. In addition, Rachel also added her secret weapon, cold-pressed coconut oil.

The tasty nuggets proved to be such a hit with her friends and family, that they encouraged Feldkamp to start selling her creations.

"My friends were very supportive, pushing me to get it out there," she said. "And it has gone well. When we first came to the Mission Farmer's Market we brought 30 bags, and by 11 a.m. we were sold out. The next week we brought 40 and they sold out. So we decided to continue with the booth and up our supply."

Feldkamp's husband Seth works alongside her at home and in the booth and has been hands on with the business since the beginning. In fact, it was her husband who first inspired Feldkamp to bake.

"We were dating and I wanted to make him something so I was going to make pancakes. When he saw the box of instant mix he asked 'what was that?' He had only had pancakes made from scratch,

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so that is how I started making them. And from there, my love of baking just grew."

Every batch of Tasty Nuggets Granola is completely handmade in the Feldkamps' home. For the recipes that use almonds, Rachel takes the time to halve each almond herself. Together the couple begins working on the granola as soon as they get home from their full-time jobs in the evening.

One batch takes about an hour and a half to make and produces enough for six bags; their goal is to make three batches a night. They then bag everything themselves and get them ready to take to market. The Feldkamps, wearing their matching aprons, are at the Mission Farm & Flower Market every Saturday chatting and answering questions about Tasty Nuggets.

"The Mission Market is definitely a relaxed atmosphere and fun place to go to," Seth expressed. "We love doing anything for Mission, and there is a good vibe at the market. People are friendly and ready to talk, and not in such a rush."

The Mission Market is currently the only farmer's market the Feldkamps attend and the main way they sell their granola. They believe they have found their niche here, with a product unlike anything else. They currently have three flavors: original, chocolate and chai chia.

"I try and use the best quality ingredients, and be organic whenever possible," Rachel commented. "And there are a lot of ways to eat these. My favorite is the original with yogurt, but what is fun is when people come up to us and tell us pairings that we never even thought of. The other day someone told me they had the chocolate with a glass of wine. I'm glad people are giving us all these new ideas."

To find all the ingredients and flavors for Tasty Nuggets Granola, go to their website at www.tastynuggetsgranola.com.



Top Left: Since Rachel Feldkamp started her company, Tasty Nuggets Granola, her tasty treats have been selling out at the Mission Market. **Above:** Tasty Nuggets Granola offers three flavors, Chocolate, Original and Chai Chia.

A little bit of
the island life comes
to Mission with

THE Beachery



Life is a beach, or it can feel a little closer to that after sampling some of the offerings from The Beachery-Island Bakery. The Beachery is a bakery business that features made from scratch island-style cookies, cakes, popcorn and more. The delectable delights come with such sweet names as Aloha Kama Cakes and Lava Krunch Popcorn.

The Beachery sprang from the mind of Mission resident Kathy Fullerton, who has a strong connection with islands, in particular Hawaii. Fullerton's husband's mother was born in Maui, her sister in Honolulu and as an adult, for a little more than two years Fullerton lived in Kailua on the island of Oahu. She and her family travel frequently back to Hawaii as well as other beach spots.

"We heard of a bakery on Maui called Broke Da Mouth Bakery, which means 'really good,'" recalls Fullerton. "There they had something called the Queen Emma Cake, which was the inspiration for our Aloha Cake. I started adapting some of my own ideas to do something really different to bring here and I found it. The island flavors work well together and really stand out in Kansas."

Fullerton had worked for 26 years as a graphic designer at Sprint. She had been looking to get into the food industry and when she ended her time at Sprint last December, she was able to commit full-time to her island bakery idea.

"The timing was perfect. After being a graphic designer I could still have my creative outlet, but now it was through baking. And I like working on my own schedule."

In the last five months Fullerton has been learning the ins and outs of running her own bakery, including where to get her supplies and equipment. She adds the fillings and other preparations for her cookies and cakes in the kitchen at Twisted Sisters Coffee Shop. She does her baking on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and the packaging on Thursdays and Fridays.

"I have gotten a crash course," Fullerton laughed. "Once I was baking in my oven and the racks were tilted. I didn't realize it and all the ingredients spilled out. It was a mess, but a good lesson. There were many more disasters before we really got it down."

Fullerton says she has had some good help overcoming obstacles and getting The Beachery running. Her husband Kevin's Mission business, Springboard Creative, does all her branding. Her daughter, Lisa Geraghty, helps with The Beachery's Facebook page and her grandson, Collin Brustad, drew her sign and put together a tropical playlist to help with the ambiance at her booth at the market.

With its bright colors, The Beachery booth stands out at the Mission Market. As soon as she heard about the market, she wanted to be a part of it.

"I was nervous when I started, because I had never sold anything before," said Fullerton in reference to the market. "But everyone has made it so easy, people want to talk. I really appreciate how supportive the city and the customers have been. The vendors all get along, it's like a little, happy family. Now Saturday mornings are like my social hour."

Fullerton says one day she would like to have a store front to sell her lemon and lime Sanibel cookies, King's Krunch Popcorn and the rest of the bakery's goodies. Until then she is happy to sell exclusively at the Mission Market.

"I want to give someone a little taste of summer. The goal is, that when someone comes to our booth or bites into one of our cookies, it feels like they are taking a little 15-minute vacation."

To see some of what The Beachery offers, go online to their Facebook page at facebook.com/beacherybakery.



Top Right: Hit the beach at The Beachery, Kathy Fullerton's baking business that brings island flavors to the inland, specifically Mission, Kansas.



Meet Megan,

and find out how
she met her new
primary care doctor.



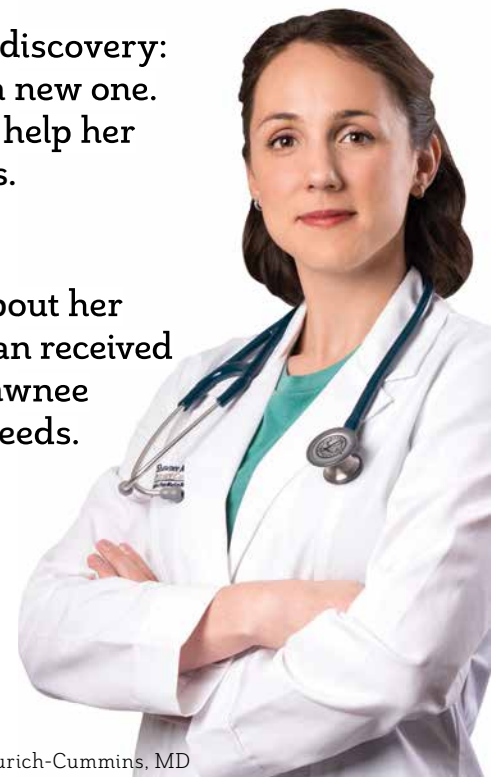
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Ani and Steve Renz in the kitchen of their newly remodeled home.



1950s HOME UNDERGOES *unusual renovation*

Remodeled Countryside house allows family to remain in Mission among friends, neighbors and a walk-friendly community

BY LINDA FRIEDEL • PHOTOS BY KRISTIN MCCOPPIN / POND PHOTOGRAPHY

After living in their 1950s ranch-style home for seven years, Ani and Steve Renz needed a change.

Their family had expanded and they were outgrowing their home. While they needed more space, they did not want to leave longtime neighbors in Mission or pull up the roots they had planted in the community. So instead of selling their house and relocating, the Renzes decided to stay and remodel.

"We wanted more living space," explained Steve. "We were looking to raise a family here."

Steve's father, who had a business in Mission, originally recommended the Countryside neighborhood to the couple, saying the homes there held their value well. The couple took his advice and bought a three-bedroom home on 61st Terrace in 2005. It was just what they wanted. The bathrooms and kitchen had been updated by a previous owner. The trees were mature and there was a spacious backyard, where Ani, who was pregnant at the time, pictured her children playing in the backyard.

"Now we recognize how lucky we are to be here," Steve said. "The



styles of the houses are unique.”

In 2013 the Renzes had their house renovated, expanding the square footage from 1,800 to 2,900 without changing the structure's footprint. At the same time, they gave new meaning to the term “gutting” a house. The middle of the house was completely demolished. In that spot they built a basement and constructed a spacious kitchen and family room,

covered deck and backyard porch. In the parts of the structure that remained standing, they added another bedroom, a bathroom and second story with a cozy children's area.

Because the remodel was so extensive, the family had to move off the premise for eight months, something Ani explained was worth the wait.

- Continued on page 16

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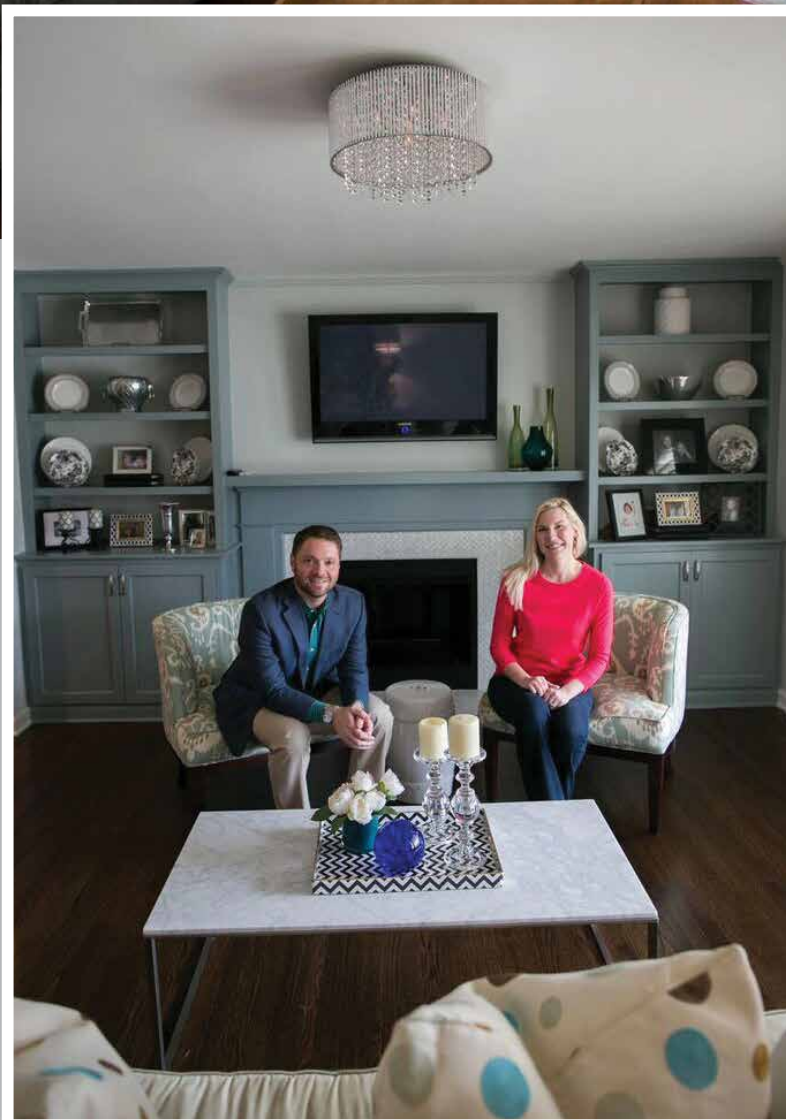
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SWEET ANNIE



-Continued from page 15

"We love it," she commented. "We love the space. We love the newness."

The Renzes intentionally blended old and new elements in their renovations. They kept the original front room, but updated it with a new fireplace and bookshelves. They maintained two of the original bedrooms on the main level, but added a mudroom with a washer and dryer nearby. The kitchen features a built-in island, a refrigerator that recesses into the wall and a walk-in pantry.

One of their favorite features in their renovated home is the front porch. That's the spot where they gather to watch the kids dart back and forth from one another's yards.

Because of the structural changes, Steve noted that there is no other house in the neighborhood that looks like theirs. Yet they were able to keep the character of the house intact, allowing it to add to the older neighborhood's charm.

Remodeling and staying in Mission meant the Renzes' children can still bike to the park or the swimming pool in the summer. The family can walk to the hardware store together or grab an ice cream cone at a nearby ice cream parlor.

"It's just a nice walking community," Ani said. "It's a safe space for kids. That's a big deal. We're so close to everything."



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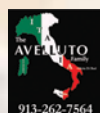
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"James and I have complete control over everything," John said. "We make everything ourselves."

That means if you want your pizza with a little more char, they can do it.

The restaurant is all about serving authentic Italian food in a family atmosphere.

Longtime employee Billy McGill has worked with the Avellutos since the original restaurant opened in the Indian Springs Shopping Center and can attest to the family atmosphere.

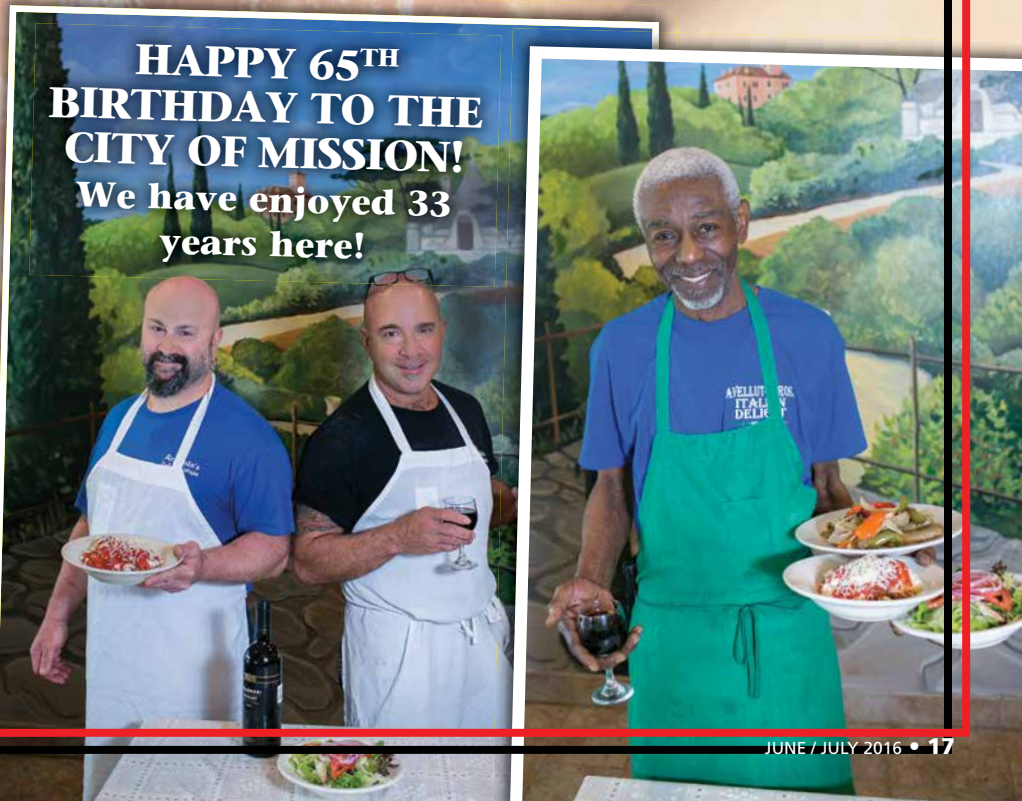
"I've been with them so long I feel like I'm part of the family," he said. "They are great people. Their father was great and the sons are, too."

And you will more than likely see John and his wife Patti and James and his wife Melissa — and maybe some of their kids — working at Avelluto's Italian Delight on any given day.

"We are just like everybody else. We want people to feel like they are at home," said Melissa Avelluto, who has been working at the restaurant since her son was 4 months old. He's now 22.

For more information about the restaurant regarding catering or carryout, please call 913-262-7564. You can also learn more at italiandelightmission.com.

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Mission Bulletin Board

Upcoming:

Mission City Council
Meetings 7 p.m. on July 20
& Aug. 17 at City Hall

FUN FACT

The Deputy City Marshall of
Mission used to walk up and down
Johnson Drive in his cowboy hat and guns.



local business Grand Opening

Congratulations to Carl and
Cathy Casey on the grand
opening of the second location
of Casey's Auto Repair. Their
new shop is at 5710 Johnson
Drive, also known as Casey's
Auto Repair on the Drive.

Red Wing Shoes

A big thank you goes to Red Wing
Shoes owners Mark Tharp and his
parents Jim and Betty Tharp who
took the time to come to Mission
from their home in Springfield,
Missouri, to help the magazine cel-
ebrate Mission's 65th anniversary.



First Purchases



In 1952, Mission
purchased its
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car for \$1,671.
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\$120,000.

START THINKING BBQ!

Mission's 12th Annual Battle of the Brisket State Championship is set for Sept. 16 and 17. Team registrations are now being accepted by contacting the parks and recreation department at 913-722-8210 or visiting www.missioncvb.org.



SAVE THE DATE:

Mission Summer Family Picnic is at 6 p.m., July 9, at Broadmoor Park, 5701 Broadmoor. Admission is free. Activities and amenities will include:

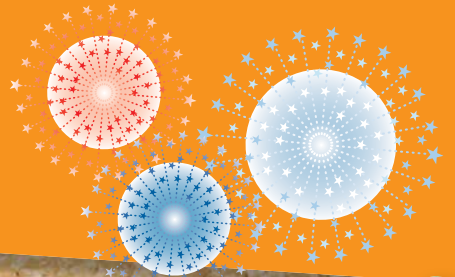
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A free hot dog dinner with chips and drinks from 6 to 7:30 p.m. (both turkey and beef hot dogs available) Cold treats for dessert beginning at 7:30 pm while supplies last.

Consolidated Fire District #2 will cool off the crowd so don't forget the swimsuits;

Firework display at 9:30 p.m.

Guests are reminded to bring your lawn chairs or blanket.



Mission Piano

The Keys 4/4 Kids Pianos on Parade is about to hit again in Kansas City! It's the time of year when custom painted pianos pop up across the community for playing by anyone and everyone who happens to pass by. Mission received its very own piano downtown on June 8!



Pictured here are Cole Maggart (on the left) and Kyle Maggart, owners of Brothers Music, along with Amy Akin, the artist who painted the piano.

The piano will be on display for the public outside Brothers Music KC at 5921 Johnson Drive throughout the summer. Playing the piano and sharing your music with others is encouraged.

City Ordinances

Some city ordinances in 1951 included: Ordinance # 17 which prohibits honking horns while car is not in motion, playing radios, phonograph, or TVs between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Ordinance # 15 allowed hard labor on city streets to work out traffic fines (\$5 per day for eight hours worked)

Ordinance # 19 prohibited selling vegetables which carried an offensive smell or odor.

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CITY OF MISSION

Newsletter

JUNE / JULY 2016
VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3
WWW.MISSIONKS.ORG

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Completed

Over the past year, City representatives, residents and the public worked with a consulting team from Confluence Landscape Architecture & Urban Design to develop a Parks Master Plan. Mission's Master Plan is intended to guide the City's resource allocation and decision-making for parks and recreation services over the next 5-10 years. The plan includes recommendations on how to maintain and enhance outdoor parks, recreation facilities such as the pool and the community center, and other recreation programs.

The project's steering committee and the consulting team collected data on the current condition of our parks and facilities, held public open houses, and met with prospective user groups. Additionally, information was collected

through two citizen surveys. As a part of the process, a new Mission Statement for the parks and recreation department was created.

"To enrich the quality of life for residents of Mission and surrounding areas by fostering a strong sense of community and providing a variety of multi-generational activities that promote healthy lifestyles."

The plan includes an extensive list of recommendations grouped in five areas: financial,

facility, program, operations and management, and miscellaneous. All address at least one, if not more, of seven "Big Ideas" identified as the group developed new mission and vision statements. The "Big Ideas" include: economics, connection, programming, visibility, sustainability, health, and population.

The Master Plan will help the Parks and Recreation Commission, City Council and staff in prioritizing and programming available financial resources to accomplish specific goals and objectives. This flexible, living document will be reviewed annually to evaluate our progress and to ensure we are meeting the community vision for parks and recreation. A complete copy of the Parks Master Plan, is available on the City's website at www.missionks.org.



Kenny York, who recently retired from the Public Works Department after 37 years of service, is congratulated by Mayor Schowengerdt and Public Works Director John Belger during his retirement reception.

New Pet Regulations Approved by City Council

Following several months of discussion, Mission's City Council approved several changes to the City's animal control ordinance. At the top of the list is a change in the number of pets allowed per single-family residence. The new ordinance allows residents to have up to three dogs or three cats with no more than a total of four combined. Pets do not need to be registered with the City, but rabies vaccinations are required for any dog or cat over four months of age. To view the full animal control ordinance, visit www.missionks.org - click on the "Codes and Ordinances" tab followed by the "New Laws" tab.

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We're half way through summer and our Mission Market is thriving! Each week we see more residents and visitors stopping to shop for fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, and a variety of other items, while enjoying local musicians and food trucks. This is just our second year, but it continues to grow. You can help make sure our Mission Farm and Flower Market remains a Saturday morning staple in Mission. When considering where to shop for fresh, local items, come to our market first. I think you will find that we have everything you need right here in your own neighborhood. "Shop Local" at the Market and all our Mission businesses.

During the summer months, the City Council is focused on establishing the budget for the upcoming year. In addition to their regular committee meetings, they have met in worksessions to discuss the budget, and will be holding a Budget Community Dialogue on July 20th at 6:00 p.m. at Mission City Hall. This is an opportunity for you to find out more about our budget and share your ideas. Following-up on the recommendations of the Community Center Task Force, the Parks and Recreation Department continues to work toward increasing their self-sufficiency. They have done a great job in continuing to offer a wide variety

of programs and activities for all of our residents, while looking at new and innovative ways to improve cost effectiveness. I am proud of the work they are doing in response to the task force's recommendations.



An issue that you may be hearing about is the "Tobacco 21" effort to raise the age to purchase cigarettes to 21 years old. Smoking at age 18 would still be legal. The City Council recently considered this

issue and decided to not move forward with any changes to Mission's laws regarding the age to purchase cigarettes. They considered the difference between the age to purchase and the age to smoke, enforcement, and the personal responsibility that adulthood brings. In June, the City Council did add E-cigarettes to our ordinances prohibiting smoking in public. This new law bans the use of E-cigarettes in those places where smoking is currently prohibited.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer, and I hope you will plan to attend the annual Mission Summer Family Picnic scheduled for July 9th at Broadmoor Park. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with fireworks at dusk. See you there!

Sincerely,

Steve Schowengerdt
Mayor

Celebration Tree Program

Life is full of people and occasions to celebrate - loved ones, weddings, anniversaries, retirements, or whatever is special to you! Mission's Celebration Tree Program offers opportunities to plant a tree in one of our parks to recognize these important people and moments.

Mission's Tree Board developed the Celebration Tree Program as a way to honor people and occasions, while adding to our tree canopy and beautifying our parks. This program has three donation levels - each covers the cost of the tree, planting, and ongoing maintenance for the duration of the tree's life. Donations are accepted in the following amounts based on the size of tree requested:

\$550 2" caliper tree
\$750 3" caliper tree
\$2,000 5" caliper tree

An additional donation of \$300 will purchase a 9 x 5 cast bronze plaque to personalize your tree. Space is limited to 150 characters.

Participants in the Celebration Tree Program will receive a certificate and map of the tree's location. If you are interested in participating, please contact Parks & Recreation Director Christy Humerickhouse for a full listing of tree species and planting locations available (913-676-8210 or chumerickhouse@missionks.org). All trees will be planted during the fall and spring.

Dr. Tom Geraghty Appointed to Ward I Vacancy



Dr. Tom Geraghty, Ward I Councilmember, takes his oath of office at the June 15th City Council meeting.

On June 15th, Mission's City Council upheld the appointment of Tom Geraghty to fill a vacant council seat in Ward I. This seat was previously held by Jason Vaughn, who resigned his position due to relocating outside of Mission.

Councilmember Geraghty, a long-time resident of Mission, is a retired surgeon who has been actively involved in many charitable and volunteer organizations. His term will be to January 2018. Councilmember Geraghty may be contacted at tgeraghty@missionks.org

YOUR City at Work



Mission Police kicked off the summer with free ice cream at Dips N' Sips last month.



Public Works Crews are busy throughout the City crack-sealing streets and completing a variety of maintenance projects during the summer months.



The Mission Family Aquatic Center is enjoying a busy summer. Parks and Recreation staff make visits to the pool fun and safe.



Captain Dan Madden was awarded the Bronze Medal of Merit by Chief Hadley at the May 18th City Council Meeting. Captain Madden received this award for his unselfish actions during an undercover operation related to a fraud investigation.

Tips and Reminders

- Warmer weather means we all need to be more aware of our surroundings when driving, riding our bikes or crossing the street. Don't hesitate to activate the flashing beacons when crossing Johnson Drive—they are there to help ensure drivers and bikers are aware of pedestrians, and so pedestrians can cross safely.
- Drivers are required to use their headlights when it is raining. If you have your windshield wipers on, your headlights should also be on.
- Are you heading out of town on vacation? Stop by the Mission Police Department to complete a "House Watch Form" so our officers can check on your home while you're away.
- Don't leave unattended cars running with the keys in the ignition! We usually think of this as a winter weather issue, but during the hot summer months, people are tempted to leave their car and AC running. Remember, it is a traffic violation to leave an unattended vehicle running with the key in the ignition.
- Never leave children or pets unattended in a hot car. It takes only a few minutes for temperatures to soar dangerously high.

Missed Trash Pick-up or Concerns

If your trash or yard waste is missed on your scheduled pick-up day, please contact Deffenbaugh's Residential Customer Service at 913-631-

3300. For those residents whose trash issues remain unresolved, contact Mission's Neighborhood Services at 913-676-8360.

CHIP SEAL PROGRAM SCHEDULED TO BEGIN LATE SUMMER

As part of the 2016 Street Program, Harbour Construction will be performing chip seal application later this summer. The 2016 program will include approximately seven lane miles of chip seal.

Chip seal is a surface treatment that extends the useful life of existing streets. The process is performed in two steps. First, an asphalt binder is applied directly to an existing roadway, followed by a granite aggregate that is evenly spread on top of the binder. This process creates a seal on the road and provides a uniform driving surface. Chip seal can be driven on as soon as the aggregate is spread and rolled in.

Following the initial application, excess rock is swept

from the road surface. The contractor is responsible for two sweepings, one within 24 hours of application and another within a week of application. City staff follows up as needed for additional sweeping.

A map showing streets scheduled for chip seal can be found on the City website www.missionks.org or call Public Works at 913-676-8375 for additional information.



SPEND (AND DOUBLE!) YOUR EBT/SNAP AT THE MISSION MARKET!

The Mission Farm and Flower Market will soon be accepting EBT/SNAP. Just swipe your card at the Information Tent in exchange for tokens you can spend with the vendors. Mission is also collaborating with the region's Double Up Food Bucks program, which means every SNAP dollar you spend (up to \$25) can be matched to buy more local produce. The program

brings more healthy food to tables in our community and also encourages more shopping with our local market vendors.

The program is funded through the USDA's Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive grant and is coordinated through Cultivate KC. Please check missionks.org/market for the exact start date of the program (expected mid-June).



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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 Schowengerdt913-481-3235
City Hall Office913-676-8350

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD I

Tom Geraghty913-808-8512
Pat Quinn913-207-3106

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD II

Archie Rothrock913-568-2872
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*Citizens Police Academy gives Mission residents
an inside look at the police department*

BY KRIS BAKER • PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVID MOLOY

On June 2, the Mission Police Department celebrated the graduation of its fifth Citizens Police Academy class. The 10-week program offers Mission residents the opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at how the police department works, as well as get to know the officers who serve their community.

Police Chief Ben Hadley strongly believes the goal of the academy is to build stronger relationships with the community and to help residents see that police officers are no different than anyone else. He said by working together, the police and the community have the best chance to deter crime.

"The relationship between a police department and its community is critical," explained Chief Hadley. "As we have seen around the country, a police department can't be successful without the help of its community. We consider ourselves public servants, and if you ask our officers,

they have a genuine desire to help those who need help."

The academy focuses on several topics that law enforcement encounters each day. Tours are given of the dispatch center, adult detention center and the crime lab. They also have a K-9 demonstration, traffic stop scenarios, self-defense classes, patrol operations, investigations, field training and DARE. In addition, the participants visit the police academy to get a first-hand look at impact weapons (TASER, batons, mace), the driving simulator and the "shoot don't shoot" firearms simulator.

The program ends with an award ceremony and dinner thanking participants for taking the time to learn about the police department. Once the students graduate, they have the opportunity to "give back," helping at events and working side-by-side with the officers.

The hope is that the graduates are ambassadors for the police de-

Above: Police Chief Ben Hadley introduces the curriculum to the most recent class of the Mission Citizens Police Academy.

-Continued on page 32



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-Continued from page 30

partment and spread what they have learned through the city.

Officers in Mission are trained to “go the extra mile,” according to Chief Hadley. He believes what sets their program apart are the employees/officers themselves and their commitment to educate the community.

“Our efforts in Mission the last two years have been to join our community in building a great relationship and better city,” Chief Hadley continued. “The community should know their officers and that we are doing our best to deter and solve crime. In 2014, the Mission Police Department changed its patch, mission statement, vision and core values. Graduates from our citizen’s academy and our officers worked together to develop these, setting the foundation for a successful working relationship. I am very honored to be the chief of police in such a great community and want you to know that your police department has some of the finest officers serving its citizens and visitors.”

The Mission Police Department has other community outreach programs through the year. They include:

Bickford Assisted Living

Officers attend several activities throughout the year, but the biggest is always the Bickford Valentine’s Day Dance. The police department buys roses for all the residents, and the officers enjoy food and dancing with the residents.

Coffee with a Cop

This is a national program that Mission adopted in the summer of 2015. Several officers spend time at Twisted Sisters Coffee on Johnson Drive where visitors can stop in and talk about police work, give a compliment, complain or just have some coffee. After Mission’s program started, the department was approached by Doug Gregg at Answer Pro who wanted to sponsor the events by covering the cost of the coffee. The coffee shop is owned by Sandi Russell, who is also a graduate of the citizen’s academy.

DARE

Mission has two DARE officers who teach the program each fall at

Rushton and Highlands Elementary Schools. They also attend school functions throughout the year.

Tip a Cop

The Mission Police Department teams with Kansas Special Olympics a few times a year for “Tip a Cop” events at local restaurants. Officers in uniform help wait tables; giving their tips to the Kansas Special Olympics, which is located in Mission.

City Events

At the Mission Summer Family Picnic, Battle of the Brisket BBQ Contest, Bunny Eggstravaganza and other city events, citizens will always see the police department with a table filled with toys for the kids, vehicles to climb around in and some educational workbooks.

Each year during the city’s summer day camp program at the Sylvester Powell Jr. Community Center, all 180 kids tour the police station and enjoy lunch cooked by members of the police and public works departments.

Shop with a Cop

In 2015, members of the Mission Police Department took 10 children from local elementary schools shopping at Target for the holidays. The Police Department and Target covered the costs of the gift cards used for purchases. After the event, the police officers and the families went for pizza.

School Auctions

At the local elementary school auctions, the Mission Police Department often donates certificates for a “ride to school in a police car” and a “pizza party with the police.” At this year’s Rushton Auction, the ride to school was auctioned off close to \$200. These events help benefit each school’s PTA fundraising efforts.

Below: Citizens attend demonstrations on a variety of police techniques, including first-hand looks at the use of impact weapons like batons and mace.



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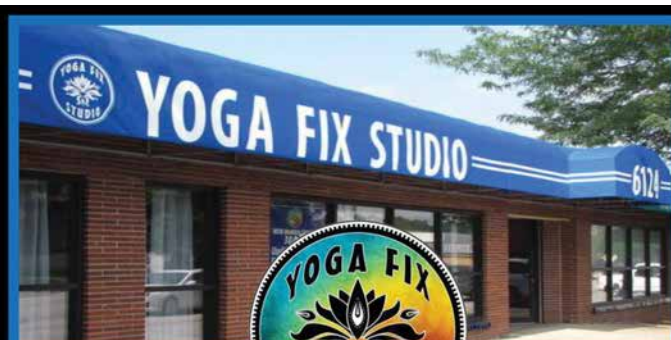


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Then and now

Longtime Mission residents reflect on city and changing times

BY KRIS BAKER • PHOTOS BY CATHY DONOVAN

As longtime Mission residents with deep ties to the community, Bob and Doris Legler offer a unique perspective on the city. And through photographs, which he calls frozen memories, maps, deeds and stories, they are able to look back and relive theirs and Mission's journey through time.

"There is no comparison between then and now," Bob reflects. "Our first shop was located at 5509 Johnson Drive and there was nothing but gravel in front. Every time the bus went by we got nothing but dust in our shop."

Sitting at his kitchen table, Bob is surrounded by photographs and documents about the history of Mission and Johnson County. On one map he points to the Strang Line Road, which was an important throughway that made Mission a central location.

"The main hub of northeast Johnson County was Mission, not Overland Park, it was Mission. They called Overland Park a campground, you would spend the night there on the way to Olathe. Mission was where all the businesses were. This is where you came to shop and do business. And it was because of the Strang Line Road."

Another road had a big difference at the time.

"When I came to Mission, there was a cattle crossing going across Barkley Street and 50 Highway," Bob laughed. "The cattle would cross right there over the highway."

On the same map, he points to Lamar Avenue, which was then known as Kansas City Avenue. The Leglers were among the first residents to build a home near there in 1955 and watched the houses and streets build up around them. They liked the location so much, they still live there.

A portrait of Two Photographers

Bob and Doris each received a camera when they were 11 years old. Though they did not know it, or each other at the time, that initial camera started them both on a career in photography. Bob was born in Lenexa in 1925, the great-grandson of Adam Legler, who built the Legler Barn in 1864. Doris was born that same year in Topeka. Photography would eventually lead them to each other, but not until after war shook the world.

When she was old enough, Doris joined the Navy during World War II and spent a year and a half at the Anacostia Naval Facility in Washington, D.C. There she transcribed cards that documented naval inventory of men and machinery into IBM's new tabulating machines. This experience let Doris know clerical work was not for her.

Meanwhile Bob had joined the Marines when he was 17, and had traveled across the South Pacific during the war. Though a soldier, Bob made sure to keep his camera by his side. Whenever there was a break in the conflict, he was able to step back and see the beauty in a place, even as so much violence was going on. In order to develop his photos, Bob even built a darkroom at the end of his tent.

After the war Bob and Doris both returned home, each enrolling in the Caulk School of Photography located in Westport. In fact, Bob was the school's first graduate. It was there that they met.



They worked well together and, according to Bob, "Doris was good at the art and I was good at the mechanics of photography."

"So we had to open the studio together. It made perfect sense," Doris added.

In June of 1947 Bob and Doris got married.

In 1951 the couple moved their shop from Johnson Drive to 5907 Woodson, where they were the first occupant in the offices built there, and received an early, important job taking yearbook photos for Shawnee Mission North. His alma mater, Bob says his success with the school's football team may have helped him get the job. Legler Photography took the yearbook photos for SM North for 1952 and 1953. For all that hard work, the yearbooks were dedicated to them. As Bob recalls, this is when their reputation would grow.

"After the school work, we just got wedding after wedding after wedding. We were doing them every weekend. There is no way to know how many. Word of mouth was spreading. Parents knew we would make their children look good on their big day. We became known for that. Doris was good at dealing with the people, I would set everything up. We never hired anyone, it was just the two of us and a lot of hard work."

Over the years they would also take photos for the Kansas City Chiefs, Southwestern Bell and other big name metro businesses. Besides their studio they also ran a darkroom at their home.

Bob knew it was time to retire in 1998, when he went to pick up the camera for a wedding and it was too heavy for him to move. So he decided to hang up the photography business for good.

A Portrait of a City

Bob pulls out the deed for the home he is sitting in, a home he built in 1955. He had bought the approximately 1-acre lot four years earlier and it came with a small "mother-in-law" house built on it. At that time the lot and small house cost \$3,500. It cost \$11,000 to build the bigger house on the property; they kept the smaller house, too.

"When we came here there was nothing but weeds and chicken feathers. Across the street was a well that the Indians and settlers used, and it still draws water today."

Bob and Doris have learned a lot about Mission, including a way to tell the age of very old houses. According to Doris the foundations of homes built in the 1930s are made of stone.

"Our son was revamping a garage in Mission, and there was a stone based basement. He busted through one of the walls and found a penny in the wall that was from 1935. The builders would put the coins in the foundation so people would be able to tell the year the house was built. So any of these houses you see here, if they have stone foundations, you know they were built in the '30s."

The reason the Leglers chose to live and do business in Mission is the same reason they have stayed all these years.

"I like it," Bob pointed to his map again. "I like it because there was so much available. There were grocery stores, a JC Penny and lots of different stores. Mission is connected to every other city, Lenexa, clear to Olathe, they came here to shop. And it is still connected, it is close to Kansas City, Missouri, it is close to KCI, it is a good size but not too big. It is a good place to live."



Left: Doris & Bob Legler

Above: Bob Legler's photography studio opened in 1947 on Nall Avenue where he began his 50-year career. In that time Bob and his wife Doris recorded some of the most special moments for countless families.



rock creek trail:

a little-known biking treasure in Mission

BY KRIS BAKER • PHOTO BY SCOTT FISHMAN

John F. Kennedy once said that “nothing compares to the simple pleasure of riding a bike.” Throughout history, for everyone from presidents to children, bicycling has been a fun, easy and healthy past time. Yet, knowing just where to ride can sometimes be a real uphill battle.

In recent years the city of Mission has been taking steps — not just spinning wheels — to become a more bicycle friendly community, providing more options for cyclists. One is the Rock Creek Trail, a 1.67 mile paved trail that extends between Mission's eastern and western borders.

Sid Arenson has lived in Mission the last 10 years, been an enthusiastic cyclist for over 50 and says he has always had a passion for anything on two wheels. He enjoys hopping on his bike and cruising along the Mission trail and wants to see more faces taking advantage of this amenity.

“In many ways I think the Rock Creek Trail is one of Mission's best-kept secrets,” explained Arenson. “The trail runs the entire length of the city, starting on the southwest side of the Target store near Metcalf. It's a great, nicely-paved biking/hiking trail and

is very under-utilized as many people just don't know it exists.”

From Target the Rock Creek Trail heads east along a green area that runs behind Target, Hy-Vee and the Motor Vehicle Mission Office located on Lamar. Then there is a slight jog to the north with the trail heading east across the city along the south side of Martway, providing views of the Barn Players Theater, Sylvester Powell Junior Community Center, City Hall, the newly-renovated Aquatic Center, the new Mission Farmers Market area, the Mission Bowl, the new Peanut and all the shops on the backside of the Mission Mart. Rock Creek Trail also provides access to all the shops along Johnson Drive; the city has installed bike racks in a number of places throughout the Johnson Drive corridor to allow bikers to stop here.

“I highly recommend using the Rock Creek Trail whenever possible whether you're visiting our local merchants or traveling east across the city heading for other destinations,” Arenson endorsed. “It's only a couple of miles long, but it's a really cool trail.”

Born and raised in Kansas City, Arenson accepted a job in California in 1971. He moved back here in the '90s and finally settled

Above: Avid biker and Mission resident Sid Arenson bikes along the Rock Creek Trail, which travels in part next to Johnson Drive.

-Continued on page 38

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Right: before & after extensions



-Continued from page 36

in Mission in 2006, which he said was like coming home again. He was immediately attracted to “the small-town feeling and environment of our great little hamlet.” Arenson has biked across the Kansas City area and knows many of the bike trails and less-traveled routes where automobiles still do not rule, and he began to look for options in his new home city. With recent developments, he has been very pleased with the ways to walk and bike through the city.

“I love strolling through downtown Mission and back ... Mission is a very walkable city, especially with the reconstruction of Johnson Drive with wider sidewalks and new crosswalks. There’s always something new and exciting to check out, new businesses, remodeling activity, sales, antiques — you name it. The redevelopment of our Johnson Drive corridor is awesome and has totally revitalized the city.”

If the weather doesn’t cooperate, Arenson says he will slip a good workout in at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center.

Like riding a bicycle, the key to keeping balance in life is to stay moving. Arenson espouses this idea, saying “I truly believe that the key to longevity is living a healthy lifestyle and staying active, which is why I’ve always been a continual and strong advocate for more parks and bike lanes/trails in the city including connections with regional trails such as the Turkey Creek trail and those in adjacent cities. So there’s just no excuse for being a couch potato in Mission. Get out there and capitalize on all the great things our city has to offer while keeping yourself in optimal shape at the same time.”

For more ways to stay active in Mission visit www.missionks.org.



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Merriam

Brown Park
5040 Booker Dr

Prairie Village

Franklin Park
Roe Ave & Somerset Dr

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Kiddie Pool Playtime

Cool off with your little ones! KPP offers families with young kids the opportunity to use our spray pad & leisure pool area before the entire facility opens and before nap time! Adults and under 6 months are FREE.

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Summer Pool Hours

Opening Day:

May 28, 2016

Closing Day:

Sept. 5 2016

May 28 - Aug. 10, 2016

Monday - Sunday

12:00pm-8:00pm

Aug. 15 - Sept. 5, 2016

Fridays: 4:00pm-8:00pm

Saturdays: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Sundays: 12:00pm-6:00pm

Competition Pool closes at 4:00pm on:

6/14, 6/23, 7/5, & 7/14 due to Mission Marlin Swim Meets.

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Saturday, July 9 6:00pm

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