

Mission

Your Hometown

MAY/JUNE 2020



THE HEART OF MISSION

An issue dedicated to the City's passionate and hardworking volunteers

A photograph of two young children, a boy and a girl, playing on a trampoline. The boy is on the left, wearing a striped shirt and blue shorts, and the girl is on the right, wearing a white shirt and blue shorts. They are both barefoot and holding hands, jumping together. The background shows a house and trees, suggesting a suburban setting.

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TOGETHER, WE'RE BETTER.

As we bring you this issue of the Mission Magazine, we find ourselves in new and definitely uncharted waters. Initially, we knew this would be the first issue in the history of the magazine that had not been lovingly and expertly guided through development and production by Suzie Gibbs. That was going to be hard enough. However, little did we know that our city, our nation and our world would also be struggling with a global pandemic. There is no doubt these are uncertain times. And we know this disruption to our work and our way of life is not easy.

Nothing feels "normal" anymore, and maybe there will never be the normal we once knew. We will learn to adjust and move on, but there will be things that we miss. Things we wish we could have back again. Things we would love to do just one more time.

In the midst of the chaos and anxiety surrounding COVID-19, we discovered that putting the pages of the magazine together was actually the perfect reminder that we are a community of capable, talented, and full-hearted individuals who are doing our very best every day to keep our City going. Long before a virus threatened our world, the people of Mission have demonstrated a commitment to compassion. We wear our hearts on our sleeves as we help others and build a city that truly cares.

In the pages that follow, you will find stories of celebration, as one of our own Mission residents had a "once in a lifetime" experience at Superbowl LIV in Miami, Florida.

There are also



celebrations of our natural environment and unique ways to honor special people or milestones through the Celebration and Championship Tree programs. We catch a glimpse of the special relationships that local residents and business owners have with their fathers, and we see what wonderful opportunities are provided to kids through the selfless fundraising work of Camps for Kids.

And perhaps the reminder that shines brightest through it all is a reflection and tribute to the work and passion of Suzie Gibbs, who spent the last two decades building the Family Adoption Program and the Mission Magazine. She turned these volunteer-driven efforts into a legacy that underscores who, at our very core, we are as a City. Coretta Scott King once said, "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." We have Suzie to thank for moving us toward greatness, and we've promised her we won't "blow this!"

There are still difficult days ahead of us. Many friends and neighbors are struggling and will need to rely on the compassion of those around them. I've never been prouder to serve as your Mayor and know that we will come through this stronger on the other side. We know what to do when times are tough. We've got this, Mission—thanks to each and every one of you.

-Mayor Ron Appletoft



On the cover:

Suzie Gibbs along with volunteers who continue to have a strong positive impact on the City of Mission.

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Mission

Your Hometown

MAY/JUNE 2020

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Safe beginnings

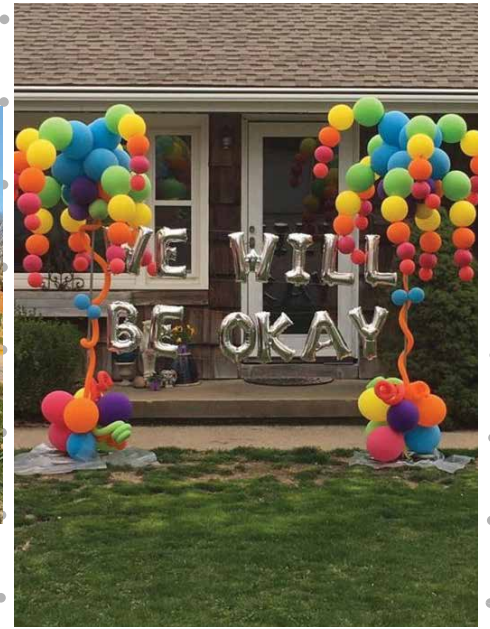
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"Gibbs Plaza," in Legacy Park is named after Suzie, pictured here with her family.

'I'll take care of it'

How Suzie Gibbs helped put Mission on the Map

by Denise Elam

More than 30 years ago, Suzie Gibbs received a phone call which would alter the course of her life forever.

The call was from a Mission City Council member. Suzie wasn't sure what he could want from her, or who he even was. At the time, she co-owned a children's clothing store in Mission with a friend, was recently widowed and raising two young boys on her own.

"He said, 'Could I come talk to you?' And not knowing what he wanted, I just said 'sure.'"

When he got to their shop, he asked Suzie if she would consider running for City Council.

"I looked at him and said, 'I don't even know what they do, but sure, I'll be happy to do that,' not having a clue what I was doing."

Suzie signed the candidacy paperwork, soon discovering she was up against two others for the seat in Mission's Ward III (where she lived in 1977).

"The mayor then was Sylvester Powell, who didn't know me from Adam," she laughed. "So, what did he do but find somebody who had a last name similar to mine — which was Barnhart at the time — a 'Susan Brandon' to run against me, even though she was moving out of Mission."

Suzie felt clueless. Someone advised her to campaign door-to-door in her ward, but she wasn't sure what to say to people. She began researching tactics used by Tip O'Neill, a successful congressman.

In his book, "The Man of The House," Tip wrote that a campaigner should not go door-to-door telling residents their entire life stories or educational backgrounds. Instead, he advised campaigners to introduce themselves, asking each household how he or she could be of service to them.

"I said, 'Okay, Bingo — I just learned something.' I hit maybe 100 doors, as I wasn't into campaigning and I didn't really care whether I won or lost."

On election night, Suzie was at home fixing dinner for her boys when Sylvester Powell called to announce her victory and invite her to his election party.

"In a demanding tone, Mayor Powell said, 'You need to be here' and hung up the phone. That was the start of my initiation into politics."

She went on to serve the City for more than 30 years, 24 as a City Council member and six as City Clerk.

"I had no idea what I was getting into. I didn't even know what a ward was," she explained. "I will honestly say it probably took

me two years before I ever really felt like I belonged in the seat I was elected to fill."

With a strong desire to make a difference in Mission, Suzie quickly found her niche.

"I learned a lot from listening to my constituents while also trying to help them," she noted. "I vowed after two years (in office) that to make a difference, I needed to return phone calls, emails and do my job — if I said I was going to look into something, I would do so."

One morning in 2006, Suzie received another life-altering call. The caller, a Mission resident, asked if she knew any organizations that could help people during the holidays.

"That was probably the first and only time I have ever said 'no,' that I didn't know anybody," Suzie recalled.

After sleeping on it overnight, she decided to take matters into her own hands, calling six close friends (otherwise known as 'the group') to see if they would be interested in organizing a committee to help residents who needed some extra TLC.

That Christmas, thanks to the generosity of the community, 'the group' came together, wrapping gifts for families (on the floor at Mission City Hall) and preparing bountiful baskets full of food for their holiday dinners.

Fast-forward to 2019, and the Holiday Family Adoption Committee made a difference in the lives of more than 100 families with both food and gifts. Eighteen thousand dollars were donated to the committee in 2019, some of which stemmed from a fundraising event initiated by this same small group.

Mission also gathered support from Harvesters, partnering with them in hosting regular food truck events. Harvesters donated more than 70 tons of food to families in the Holiday Family Adoption program last year.

"The Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Family Adoption programs were an awesome success — lots of smiling faces and many tears," Suzie emphasized. "More than 100 volunteers donated their time, talents and monies to help these 109 families have a brighter day."

Suzie's worn a lot of hats throughout the years. In fact, one might say her closet is overflowing with them.

Serving as chair of the Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau for six years, Suzie, along with 'the group,' initiated several key Mission community events, such as Arts & Eats, a state-wide BBQ contest, Holiday Lights and Festive Sights, a carnival and "An Evening with the Arts."

The group also organized neighborhood clean ups, helping

More than 100 volunteers filled baskets full of food during Mission's Family Holiday Adoption program in 2019.



communities rid of nonessential items while meeting their neighbors and forming stronger bonds.

"These events brought the City together, which is why I think we need more of them today," she emphasized. "People came out in droves, everyone enjoying the events while our vendors showcased and sold their products. Great fun was had by all."

In 2010, 'the group' got together again, along with the support and encouragement of Mike Scanlon, Mission's City Administrator at the time, to create the Mission Magazine. As chair of the magazine's editorial board, Suzie did what she loved most: meeting people along with telling their stories.

"I met so, so, so many people who were wonderful and had unique occupations, with great stories to tell," she emphasized. "Mission Magazine has been one of the best communication tools the city of Mission could ever have."

Mark Raduziner, a member of the magazine's editorial board, said Suzie has a reputation for being bold and encouraging others to volunteer.

"It's hard to say 'no' to Suzie because she loves Mission so much," he explained. "She knows how to get work done."

Mark said Suzie's not afraid to pick up the phone and ask people to help or donate to a good cause because of her deep conviction for doing the right thing. He encourages others to follow in her footsteps to continue the legacy of community improvement.

"She really has helped to put Mission on the map as a city that does good work for the greater good of people," he noted.

Lynn Kring echoed Mark's sentiments. He has worked with Suzie on Mission's Family Adoption Program since its inception.

"We're never at a loss for volunteers ... her charisma lights a fire in peoples' hearts," he said. "She's a treasure to the City."

Suzie gives all credit to the volunteers, businesses and organizations that have helped her along the way.

"The Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau were the same small group who helped kick off not only the Mission Magazine, but the Holiday Family Adoption program as well. We all had one goal in common: we wanted to make a difference," she said. "It's been a great ride, a really worthwhile ride. I cherish every moment and every person I talked to."

Although she is stepping back from her role with the Mission Magazine and Family Adoptions, Suzie doesn't plan on slowing down anytime soon.

"This morning I got a call at 10 'till eight, saying, 'Why has there been a car parked out on our street for three months?' The resident explained that she didn't know who else to call. I told her I'll take care of it. And when I tell her that, I do take care of it.'"

She advises those interested in volunteering to adopt the same 'can-do' mindset, describing Mission's volunteers as "ordinary people doing extraordinary things for others."

"You start small. We started small. Put yourself out there. Attend volunteer organizations, check them out, see where you fit," she said. "I don't think the average person realizes the need we have right here in Northeast Johnson County. If we can get just one person to help — that one person can make a world of difference."

"As Mother Teresa so beautifully said, 'We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.'"

Thank you, Suzie

"Suzie and I have been on many committees together and I have learned so much from her through her leadership and spirit of volunteerism. Thank you for mentoring me."

-Stoney Bogan

"Suzie, no one could do what you do or has done what you have done. You are unstoppable. You are a one-of-a-kind, amazing, caring, loving person and I'm so proud to call you my friend. Love you!"

-Cathy Casey

"Suzie, you are amazing and one-of-a-kind. You are a force in the community with a super heart. Mission has benefitted so much from your caring and your leadership."

-David Small

"I'm just thankful for your incredible energy and dedication to the city of Mission and the accomplishments that you have had as a leader in our city—your ability to get so many Mission residents and city employees involved in the events in which you have been in charge."

-Mark Raduziner

"Thank you Suzie for all the years of guidance and friendship you have given me. You are a very special lady! I know our friendship will continue and for that I am forever grateful!"

-Kathy Lockard

"Thank you Suzie for being such a great mentor over the years. You have shown me strength and taught me perseverance is everything."

-Angie Riffel

"Thank you for turning on my light... I've never been happier than when I'm doing things with Suzie. I appreciate what she's done and the fire she's lit in me."

-Lynn Kring

"Who knew the 'S' on Superman's cape stood for Suzie?"

-Carl Casey



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'IT WAS LIKE A FAIRYTALE'

MISSION RESIDENT LAUNCHES CONFETTI CANNON AT SUPER BOWL LIV

BY DENISE ELAM

Cristy Guy's fairytale began with a direct message from the National Football League.

"I remember it was a Wednesday evening," Cristy recalled. "My computer for some reason was running so slow and I was like, 'Well, let me check Instagram (instead).' I flipped out."

Cristy had entered the NFL's Experiences of a Lifetime contest in early January 2020, right before the Chiefs went up against the Texans for the NFL Divisional Round. The contest asked fans to submit their favorite Super Bowl memories in a social media post for the chance to win a trip to Super Bowl LIV in Miami, Florida.

As a first-ever prize in Super Bowl history, the winners would also kickstart the post-game celebration by launching the confetti cannon at the end of the big game.

Cristy entered the contest with her makeup design highlighting the celebration of the 65 Toss Power Trap play that won the 1970 Super Bowl for the Chiefs.

As a makeup artist and founder of On The Set Styling, a business specializing in makeup, hair and wardrobe styling for commercials, TV, video and live performances, Cristy had already been painting her

Cristy poses on the field after launching the confetti cannon.



Cristy Guy entered the NFL's Experiences of a Lifetime competition with this photo of her game day makeup, highlighting the Chiefs' historic 65 Toss Power Trap play.

face each game day to support the Chiefs, often times using elements from the opposing teams as inspiration for the designs.

"I had been posting them (on Instagram) all season," she explained. "Toward the end, whoever we were playing, I would design their logo but put our team colors on it, so it was like the Chiefs were taking over (the other team)."

Although she wasn't quite born yet when the historic 1970 game took place, Cristy entered a photo of her design in the contest with a description of how much the Chiefs have been a part of her life since that big win.

"From that game, Chiefs football just became a part of my family," she said. "My brother would tell me about all the players and the stats and I'm pretty sure my nursery rhymes were stats, players and plays."

Cristy included a few photos of her and her older brother to the post before tagging the NFL. Twelve days later, a representative contacted her directly with the good news: she was a finalist.

"Being a finalist means that I was chosen to represent the Chiefs at Super Bowl LIV in Miami and I could take one guest with me, so I took my brother — I'm a good sister," she said.

Finalists were chosen for both the Chiefs and the 49ers, respectively. If the Chiefs beat the 49ers, Cristy would get to launch the confetti cannon over the entire stadium. But if the 49ers won, the finalist representing them would do the honors.

The experience of a lifetime included not just the game, but several star-studded events.

"It was a true experience — we had a full media crew with us, media training and interviews," she said.

"They sent us to the Super Bowl Experience, the NFL House. They took us on a behind the scenes tour of the NFL Honors Awards."

Cristy and her brother were also invited to an invitation-only tailgate party, where singer and rapper Pitbull performed. Cristy said they were like

"two kids in a candy football store."

"We really had a good time and it was fun for us, because as adults, we've never really traveled together," she said. "We walked the red carpet with our own PR team, so it was the real deal ... It was fairytale-like."

As the game started that fateful Sunday night, Cristy noticed Chiefs fans had a definite presence in the stadium.

"It was loud— not quite as loud as Arrowhead Stadium, but we definitely represented," she said.

With about five minutes left on the clock, Cristy and the 49ers' representative were led down to the field.

"We watched from the sidelines, situated right by the confetti cannon," she explained.

But things weren't looking too great for the Chiefs. All season long, Cristy had 100% faith in her team.

During the third quarter, however, she had some doubts. The 49ers were leading 20-10. Their representative was moved closer to the confetti cannon.

"In my head I was like, 'This is not how I pictured this,'" Cristy said.

As the game rolled into the fourth quarter, Mahomes went 5-of-5 for 60 yards on the drive; the Chiefs took a 24-20 advantage with only 2:44 left in regulation.

"The minutes started ticking down and they moved me by the confetti cannon," she recalled. "It was so exciting."

Then it happened — the moment Cristy and thousands of Chiefs fans across the country had been waiting for — running back Damien Williams secured the win for the Chiefs with a 38-yard touchdown, bumping up the score 31-20.

As the Chiefs began to celebrate, Cristy counted down from three, pushed a button connected to the cannon and sent thousands of confetti pieces flying over the stadium. Soon, the entire field was covered in a blanket of yellow and red paper. Several Chiefs players fell down and made snow angels. Cristy couldn't believe her eyes.

"Honestly, I was telling my brother, my friends and family that this is a trip that I enjoyed every single moment," she said. "It's very hard to say which was the most fun part... anytime you can be on the field at the Super Bowl with your team is really hard to beat."

After nearly five days of magic, they returned home with plenty to talk about: Cristy was a featured guest on 90.9 The Bridge and spoke with reporters at KMBC and USA Today: Chiefs Wire.

"It's been really fun; it's my rockstar moment," she laughed.

Football season might be over for now, but Cristy already has some plans up her sleeve for next year.

"I'm gonna up my game next year for my (Instagram) posting because the Super Bowl is in Tampa and I do feel we're going back this coming year," she exclaimed.



Francisco, the finalist representing the 49ers, and Cristy pose in the Twitter booth along the red carpet during the NFL Honors Awards Show.



This dogwood tree in Mission's Milhaven neighborhood was designated as "Championship Tree" for 2020.

Celebrating trees and honoring loved ones

City programs promote green space, community growth

tree, \$750 for a 3 inch caliper tree and \$2,000 for a 5-inch caliper tree. Donors will receive a certificate and a map of the tree's location within the park.

For an additional donation of \$300,

donors will also receive a personalized 9-by-5 cast bronze plaque.

Mission residents John and Renee Arnett recently purchased a tree in honor of their beloved dalmatian, Captain. The Katsura sapling was planted in Mohawk Park, their favorite spot to take Captain on walks.

"We are so pleased to have the tree there in the park in honor of Captain," John emphasized. "We appreciated that City staff helped us select the right tree for that location. It will be a nice tribute for years to come."

Mission's commitment to promoting trees and green spaces does not end there.

For more than 17 years, the City has carried the designation as a Tree City USA. The designation comes from the Arbor Day Foundation's large nationwide effort to manage and expand urban forests. Mission is among an elite group of communities dedicated to building stronger connections among neighbors by nurturing its tree canopy.

As part of the program, residents are encouraged to nominate trees they find particularly spectacular — to be named the "champion" tree. In other cities throughout the United States, arborists select Landmark and Championship Trees based on

Beneath the shade of a white oak sapling in Legacy Park, a plaque in remembrance of a loved one sparkles in the spring sun.

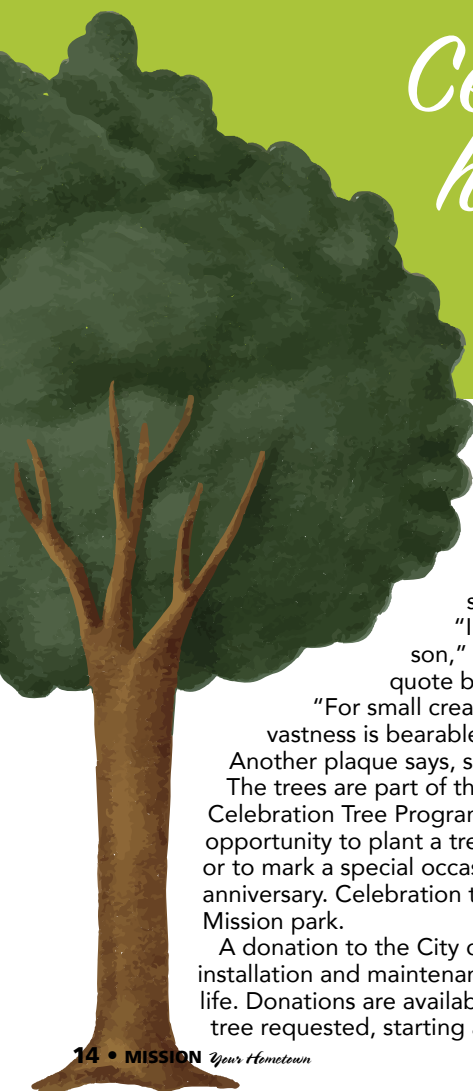
"In loving memory of our son," the plaque reads, with a quote by astronomer Carl Sagan:

"For small creatures such as we, the vastness is bearable only through love."

Another plaque says, simply, "Mom."

The trees are part of the City of Mission's Celebration Tree Program, offering residents the opportunity to plant a tree in honor of a loved one, or to mark a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary. Celebration trees can be planted in any Mission park.

A donation to the City covers the cost of the tree, installation and maintenance for the duration of its life. Donations are available based on the size of the tree requested, starting at \$550 for a 2-inch caliper



specific growth characteristics. Mission's program is much less scientific, instead focusing on the sentimental value of each tree.

Trees can be nominated for a variety of reasons, ranging from "it was planted in honor of a special occasion" to "it survived a terrible storm." Residents can nominate trees on private property or in a park within the City.

Mission's Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission accepts nominations and works with staff to identify a Championship Tree each year. In 2020, the designation went to a dogwood tree in the Milhaven neighborhood. (Pictured on page 12.)

"I nominated this tree in my neighbor's yard and have watched it grow year after year," the nomination form read. "It's grown taller

than their house, which is unusual for a dogwood ... it's beautiful. We're glad it's in Mission."

The dogwood resides in the yard of Frank and Kim Estrada. As winners, the Estradas will receive a commemorative plaque, a \$50 gift card for future landscape improvements and special recognition at an upcoming City Council meeting.

To nominate a Championship Tree, or for more information about the Celebration Tree Program, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 913-722-8200 or visit www.missionks.org.



Nick and Danielle Sitzman, left, planted a tree in Legacy Park in honor of their infant son Sagan.

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One Tree at a Time

Girl Scouts complete service project at Waterworks Park

How can we make a difference in the community?

That's what a few Girl Scout troops representing Rushton Elementary school asked themselves. The troops were in pursuit of their Bronze Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can receive. The award is earned after successful completion of a community improvement project. Troop #942 leader Suzie Legg had an idea.

"The City had shared the need for tree identification in Waterworks Park," Suzie explained. "Another Troop Leader and I believed this was a great way for the girls to pursue an award which represents what Girl Scouts can achieve in their communities."

The project began fall 2019 and included tasks such as mulching individual trees in the park, sweeping the walking trail and pavilion, leveling the playground soft-fall zone and painting the playground retention wall.

The Scouts took it a step further, turning their attention toward identifying each tree in the park.



Several girls met with Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission members Karin Capron and Jacque Gameson to create a general tree identification template.

"They spent hours learning how to identify various different species of trees from the region as well as those within the park," explained Penn Almone, Director of Parks and Recreation in Mission. "They researched, brainstormed and shared ideas on how to best present the information concisely on the tree ID plaques."

In October, the Girl Scout troops successfully completed their service project and signed a pledge to keep the park "beautiful and safe."

The tree identification plaques they created, now on display at Waterworks Park, represent the collaborative efforts of Troop #942 and Mission's Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission members.

Each scout committed to visit Waterworks Park and volunteer there frequently, ensuring others can enjoy the space for years to come.

The troop members, who are sixth-grade students at Rushton, would normally be recognized by the City Council at a public meeting, but that has been temporarily sidelined because of COVID-19.

"Despite that challenge, this project strengthened an appreciation of trees for all who participated and sets a great example for the lasting impressions we can make when we work together," Penn emphasized.



Members of Troop #942 turned tree facts into fun with PRT member Jacque Gameson and Director of Parks and Recreation Penn Almoney

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BRUNCH IS SERVED
Saturday & Sunday
10am - 2pm





CITY OF Mission NEWSLETTER

CITY CLERK RETIRES AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

A Mission native (okay, technically Countryside), Martha and her five siblings grew up just two blocks from City Hall. Her parents, Bevan and Eileen McAnany, were both extremely active in the governance of the City of Countryside. Martha and her siblings took full advantage of their childhood in the area, spending nearly every summer day at the Mission Pool. After leaving the City for college and spending time living in New Orleans, Martha and her husband Kurt returned to Mission and raised their four children.

So, when Martha joined the City of Mission in January 2000, as an Administrative Assistant for the Administration Department, she was definitely no stranger to Mission. She was promoted to the City Clerk's position in January 2005.

As City Clerk, she supported hundreds of meetings of the Governing Body and was responsible for recording and archiving official City documents. She even made sure that elected officials and staff made it on time to countless ribbon cutting and ground breaking events. Gold plated shovels, spools of ribbon and "big" scissors were often the tools of her trade.

Martha also responded to countless inquiries from citizens and fulfilled open records requests. During the last several years of her service to Mission, Martha also supervised the Municipal Court staff.

Martha provided incredible institutional knowledge for the organization, working under four different Mayors: Sylvester Powell, Jr., Laura McConwell, Steve Showengerdt and, at the time of her retirement, Ron Appletoft.

Mayor Appletoft reflected on his time with Martha, saying, "I always think about how well she represented the City in the community. She was always professional, reliable and cheerful." He also described Martha as, "the go-to person if you need some background around an issue. She always tried to relate all sides of an issue."

Always dedicated to professional growth and learning, Martha received her Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) Certification in 2015 from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. She was very active in the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association (CCMFOA) of Kansas, serving as president in 2016.

A steady leader in the organization, Martha was able to help welcome and acclimate elected officials and new employees with patience and compassion. To honor Martha and her dedication to Mission, the City held a farewell parade on her last day. City Administrator Laura Smith said Martha has been "an amazing presence at City Hall" the last 20 years, as she quietly and selflessly offered guidance and advice while serving the community. "I will miss her and am so honored to have worked alongside her for the last 15 years," Smith said.



MISSION CITY HALL

6090 Woodson Road, Mission, Kansas 66202

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

P: 913-676-8350 • F: 913-722-1415 • www.missionks.org

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE & FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

First 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

Third Wednesday every month, 7 p.m.

COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

Fourth Wednesday every month, 7 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public.

GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Ron Appletoft 913-676-8351

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD I

Trent Boultinghouse.....620-238-0394

Hillary Parker Thomas..... 913-961-4520

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD II

Arcie Rothrock..... 913-568-2872

Nick Schlossmacher 913-788-6425

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD III

Kristin Inman816-510-7698

Debbie Kring..... 913-722-6901

COUNCILMEMBERS WARD IV

Ken Davis..... 913-669-7095

Sollie Flora..... 913-735-4882

Congratulations, Martha.

LAMAR REHABILITATION AND RESURFACING PROJECT UNDERWAY

In early May, the City initiated a major street improvement project on Lamar Avenue that will run from Shawnee Mission Parkway all the way north to Foxridge Drive. The project will include:

- Spot curb and gutter, sidewalk and other concrete repairs
- Joint and asphalt patching
- Ultra-Thin Bonded Asphalt Surface (UBAS) pavement treatment which will include a milling of the entire street and a resurfacing
- New bike lanes and pavement markings (following resurfacing)

The City was able to leverage local tax payer dollars with Johnson County Assistance Road System (CARS) funding for more than 40% of the project expenses. CARS funding is only available for arterial streets that serve large numbers of trips each day within the county. These roads must be maintained and cared for regularly in order to support the traffic flowing in and around our City.

The City also secured \$68,000 in federal funds for bike lane markings through the Safe Routes to Schools program. The addition of bike lanes and sharrows will help cyclists and vehicles safely share the roadway, and supports Mission's goals of designing our streets for multi-modal transportation.

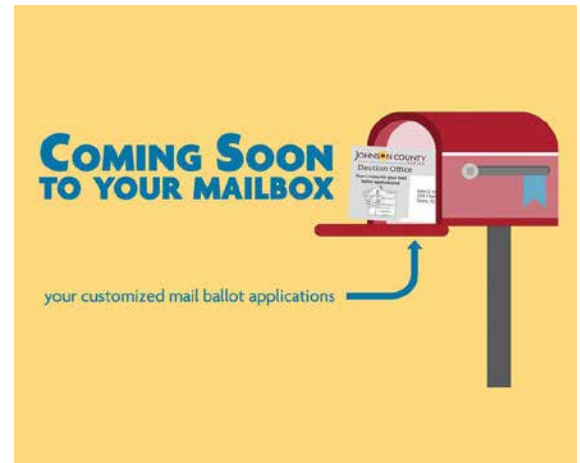
During the estimated 90 day construction period, the street will remain open and flaggers will direct traffic. Drivers are encouraged to avoid distracted driving and use caution while traveling in the project area.

The City Council and staff are also working on a comprehensive update to the City's overall street program which will guide future maintenance projects for residential streets. The program will work to maximize resources to improve and maintain the life of Mission's neighborhood streets. Projects will be introduced later this year. Watch for project updates on the City's website at www.missionks.org/news and contact the Mission Public Works Department at 913-676-8375 with any questions.



On her last day as City Clerk, Martha Sumrall had the honor of swearing in newly appointed City Clerk Audrey McClanahan. Audrey has been with Mission for just over a year, previously serving as the Office Assistant in the Community Development Department, helping residents and contractors with the building permitting process. We congratulate Audrey on her appointment and look forward to

many great things to come! You can reach her at amcclanahan@missionks.org or at 913-676-8355.



Concerns about gathering during the COVID-19 pandemic have led to an increased interest in voting by mail. The Johnson County Election Office is sending advance voting by mail applications for both the August and November elections to all Johnson County residents in May.

Voters who return the applications will receive ballots by mail to cast their votes from home. Visit jocoelection.org for more information.



TELL me
something
good



In the midst of change and uncertainty in a COVID-19 world, your Mission City employees are hard at work serving you and each other. From pizza deliveries, to pothole patching and playground mulching, everyone has stepped in to help. Whether sewing protective masks for co-workers or challenging the community in a virtual egg hunt, there was plenty of "good" to go around! And we're not finished yet!

BULKY ITEM GUIDELINES

- Bulky items include couches, chairs, dressers, mattresses, etc.
- Bulky item collection excludes electronics waste items such as TVs and monitors, auto parts, tires, construction debris and any items containing Freon.
- Residents who wish to set out appliances or have extra bulky items to be collected should contact WCA customer service at least 24 hours in advance at 816-380-5595 or wcawaste.com/mission-Kansas.

Bulky Item collection dates: Upcoming Bulky Item Collection Dates 2020

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| • May 25-29 | • Sept. 28-Oct. 2 |
| • June 22-26 | • October 26-30 |
| • July 21-31 | • November 23-27 |
| • August 24-28 | • Dec. 28-Jan. 2 |

To recycle outdated electronic equipment and other hard to recycle items, visit recyclespot.org

Please see the updated Recycling Guide on page 4 of the Newsletter. This should be maintained for your reference when deciding which items to place in your WCA recycling container. The information may also be downloaded from the City's website at www.missionks.org/



SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING GUIDE



YOU CAN NOW PLACE ALL RECYCLABLES IN ONE BIN!



Open Mail
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- Scrap metal
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- Plastic 6-pack holders
- Needles or syringes
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- Plastic microwave trays
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- Light bulbs, plates or vases
- Drinking glasses, window glass
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- Plastics other than those listed
- Tissues, paper towels, napkins
- Waxed paper or waxed cardboard
- Styrofoam® or paper to-go containers
- Glass bottles



Phone Books



Loose Metal Jar Lids
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Corrugated Cardboard
Paper Bags



Paper Milk
Juice Cartons



Paperback
Books



Empty Aerosol
Cans (no caps)

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Your home and car are more than just things. They're where you make your memories – and they deserve the right protection. I get it. It's why I'm here.
LET'S TALK TODAY.



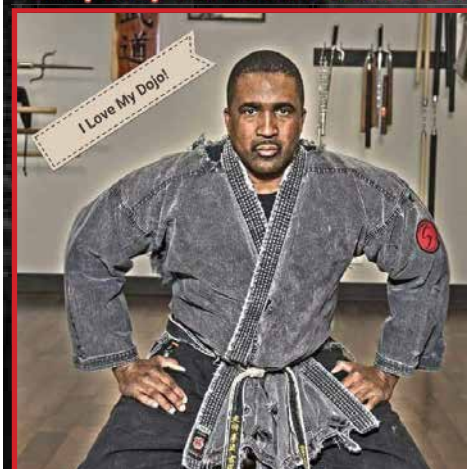
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HONORING OUR FATHERS

With Father's Day around the corner, we asked several Mission business owners, City Council members and residents to share life lessons they have learned from their fathers throughout the years. Many shared some 'Dadisms' they now catch themselves saying, too, like 'Don't cry over spilt milk' or 'if you keep making that face, it'll stay like that.'

Whoever the father figure in your life may be, we hope you will take time to honor them this Father's Day.

MICHAEL TORKELSON

SIXTH GRADE TEACHER, HIGHLANDS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ADVICE

One thing my father taught me was to be self-reliant. Back before the days of endless how-to videos on YouTube, I remember my dad starting every project that was new to him with a trip to the library. I would work alongside him as a kid and just take in everything. One of my favorites was working on his old Triumph TR6 and learning how to adjust a carburetor. To this day, my desire to learn new things makes me willing to tackle almost anything. My dad also taught me the importance of being genuine with people. It doesn't matter if it's family, a friend, or a 12-year-old in my classroom, I feel very strongly that everyone deserves that.

My dad passed away in January of this year after suffering from a form of dementia. Up to the end, though, he knew who we were and cherished time with family. I wish he could've been around longer to see my own kids become young adults, because I'm sure he would've recognized some of the same things in them that he instilled in me.

DADISMS

My dad didn't really have any go-to sayings, but he was someone who had very high expectations for his family. He expected you to do your best and if you didn't, there was going to be a conversation about why. As a result, I have similar expectations for my kids. I probably give them some of the same "what were you thinking?" and "get your act together" talks I got from my dad, but I also give them a lot of the same "but I love you" and "if I didn't care we wouldn't be having this conversation" moments, too.



MARTHA SUMRALL

MISSION CITY CLERK (RETIRED)

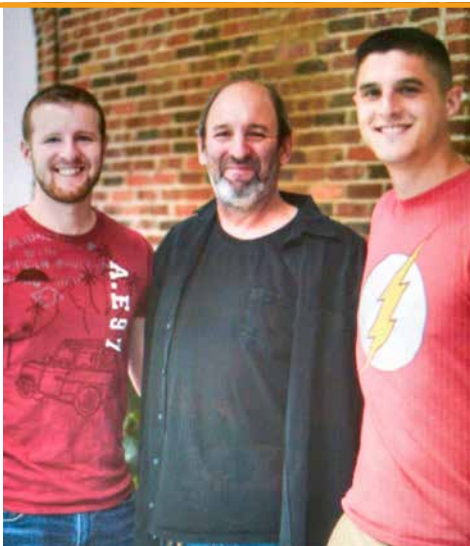
ADVICE

Dad taught me you can do anything. This was front and center when he handed me the maintenance book for my Volkswagen Beetle and told me I needed to change my brake pads. He said every job, no matter how large or small, is important and of value to all of us. I learned this from him at an early age and it's especially true now, as we are reminded every day during the Covid-19 pandemic just

how important each job is to society. Lastly, he stressed the importance of being humble and modest. He said, "Don't help others to promote yourself or your own good deeds."

DADISMS

Dad always drove a convertible; most of the time it was an MGB, and in later years a Volkswagen Cabriolet. The top was always down — hot or cold, rain or shine. He was a firm believer that fresh air was good for you and "invigorating" no matter how cold. He was right — I wish I had a convertible!



RAY AND LEE CASEY

SONS OF MISSION MECHANIC CARL CASEY

ADVICE

Our Dad taught us how to work hard and be honest — he said it's okay to make mistakes as long as you learn from them. He taught us to always listen to others and put family first.

Now that we are older, we are becoming more like him — trips to Home Depot are enjoyable, and we can always sense when someone in the house has messed with the thermostat.

There are plenty of ways we would like to be more like our father. When we have kids, we

would like to continue doing what Dad did for us, like wake us up to get biscuits and gravy every weekend for breakfast. He would come home and chase us through the house when we were little, and in later years, said it didn't matter how tired he was or what kind of day he had, he looked forward to spending time with us because he knew we would grow up so quickly. He always took time for us — we want to do the same with our children.

DADISMS

When we were growing up, Dad would always say "rub some dirt on it," and "two wrongs don't make a right." When we didn't get our way, he would remind us, much to our chagrin, that "life isn't always fair."

KEN DAVIS

CITY COUNCILMEMBER, WARD IV

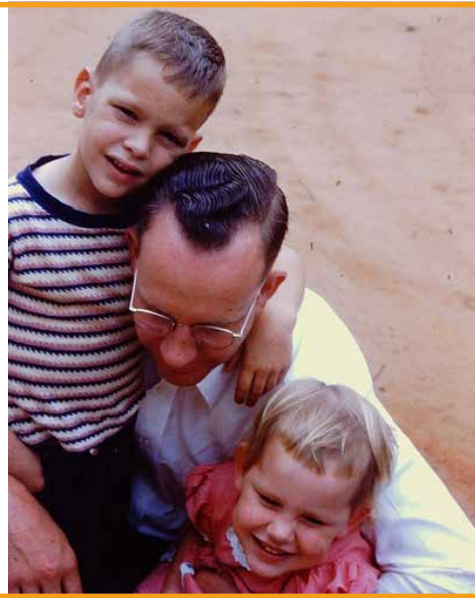
ADVICE

My father was born in 1923, nearly a century ago. Although he passed away almost a decade ago, his influence on my life remains strong even today. He grew up on a farm during a time when community was very important. Neighbors helped one another during harvest time or when they needed to raise a new barn; the collective good was greater than self interest. He was an agronomist and my mother was a home economist, both educated in Iowa where they had been rural extension workers. When I was a young boy, my parents decided

to become missionaries in Brazil. During this formative period in my life, his focus was on social action and helping a developing country apply new techniques of agriculture. He later returned to the states for additional education and became an ordained Methodist minister. The most important lesson I learned from my father is the importance of lifelong learning and how each of us depend on the strength of community and being good neighbors.

DADISMS

Dad always admired the great inventor Thomas Edison, who described invention as "one percent inspiration and 99% perspiration." This saying highlights the importance of hard work and dedication in whatever we do.



TRENT BOLTINGHOUSE

CITY COUNCILMEMBER, WARD I

ADVICE

My father was an agriculture education teacher for 33 years in Girard, Kansas, and went to college on a meat-judging scholarship. Growing up, he would take me to the meat counter and make me choose the best cuts of meat — a skill that has proved valuable to this day. My dad has taught me how to be proud of who I am and where I'm from and to treat people with dignity and respect. Recently, we fed our cows on the farm where I grew up and as we watched them eat, I was reminded of the value of enjoying the simple pleasures of life

and appreciating everything I've been lucky enough to experience, thanks to him.

DADISMS

My dad is full of one-liners I rejected as "too corny" while growing up that I now say all the time. If something is a dud, it "went over like a lead balloon." If you find yourself needing to hurry up, chances are you'll be done before "two shakes of a stick." He is authentic and real and I hope to keep striving for that in my own life going forward. I find myself actively pondering, appreciating and valuing the present, which I attribute to him and our conversations about everything from KSU football to the weather ("Is it bad up there? What are they saying?"). He's the man.

Mission Bulletin Board



Every person counts!

The 2020 Census is well underway. More than half of all households in the U.S. have been counted so far. Is your household one of them? The City needs every person counted to help determine funding for all kinds of local programs, representation in Congress and more. Visit www.2020Census.gov to make sure Mission is counted!



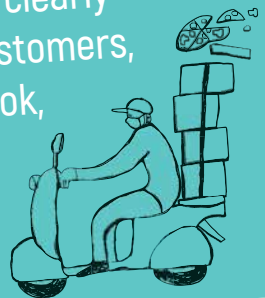
MISSING MISSION MARKET?

The City of Mission is working to bring back as much of the market as we can this season - safely! For updates, a schedule and more information, please check www.missionks.org/market and @missionksmarket on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

CURBSIDE, DELIVERY OR DINE IN?

Mission Business Resource Guide
Now Available

During this COVID-19 crisis, the Mission Business Partnership banded together to develop a website where Mission businesses can clearly and easily communicate their status and services to their customers, as well as respond to the ever-changing times. For a quick look, please visit www.missionbusiness.org.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

COVID-19 Resources

As the City and community continues to adjust to its new "normal" in the COVID-19 environment, you can find the latest updates and information on Mission's website, www.missionks.org, and at the websites below.
#safereturn.

<https://www.jocogov.org/coronavirus-covid-19-update>
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019>



*Thank you,
Lucky Brewgrille!*

Our thanks and congratulations for
your 20 Years in Mission.

Always a friend and supporter of the
Mission Magazine, we wish Greg Fuciu
and staff all the best!

Helping the Hungry with Harvesters

The City of Mission will once again partner with Harvesters to provide a mobile food distribution event in Northeast Johnson County.

Saturday, May 30 | 8:30 a.m.
SM North High School (east parking lot)
7401 Johnson Drive
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DOWN THE ROAD.**

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REACHING **PEOPLE** | BUILDING **LIVES**

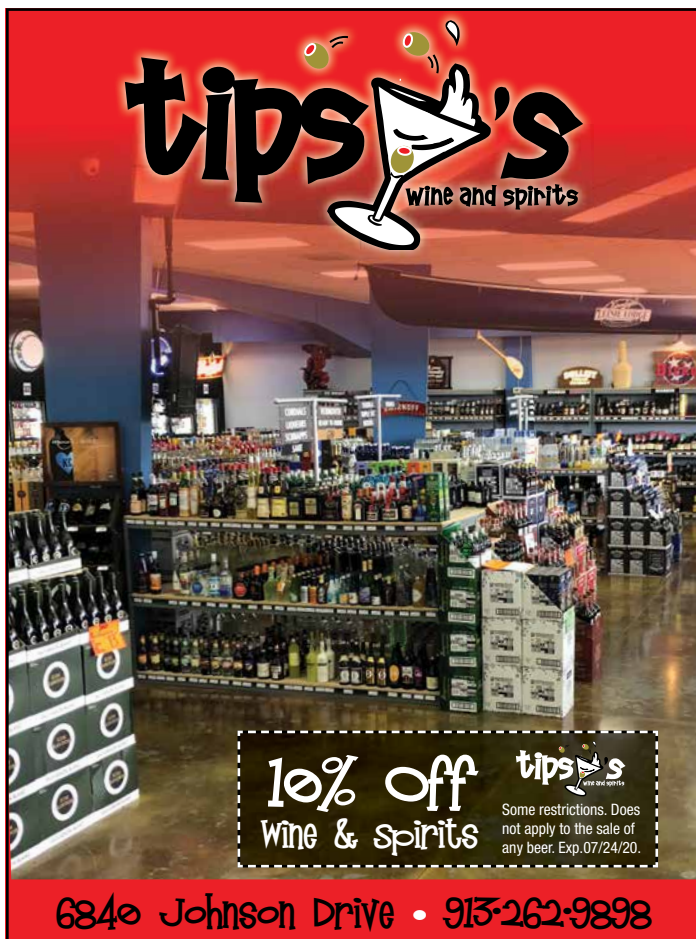
Service Time:
10 am Sunday mornings

Our Current Location:
Sylvester Powell Jr Community
Center 6200 Martway St., Mission,
KS 66202 913-383-8004



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www.faithalivekansas.com

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and items
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Magic Summer Memories for All

Camps For Kids helps children experience the fun of summer camp

By Denise Elam

For many kids, summer camp is more than just outdoor fun and games — it's a chance to be accepted.

"I can be myself and they like me," said a camper who attended Joshua Center, a camp for children diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome, High Functioning Autism or OCD.

"I feel so good about myself," said another.

But not every child has the chance to experience the adventures, new friendships and fun; Camps For Kids wants to change that.

A nonprofit based in Mission, Camps For Kids works to assure that no child living in the Kansas City area is denied the benefits of summer camp due to a medical disability or financial disadvantage.

Executive Director Regina Weir said the organization was founded in 1981, when the federal government discontinued a program that provided summer camps to children with disabilities or financial need at no cost to families.

"It's difficult for families, especially a family with special needs children or low-income, to assume the costs of camp," she said.

To assist families, Camps For Kids raises money with fundraising events throughout the year.

"Every year we send out applications to camps to see if they want to participate in our program and then our Board of Directors meet in January," Regina explained. "We determine how much we can allocate to each camp — the allocations range depending on the budget of the camp and the number of children served."

The nonprofit also hosts a fundraising campaign, matching the donations that their network of camps brings in. The matching campaign normally runs from April 1 to July 31. This year, the campaign has been extended to September 15 to



All Campers at Camp Wonderland have a mental or physical disability. Campers are able to participate in activities like arts and crafts, swimming, boating, dancing, performing and outdoor nature skills.

better support the camps that are facing significant fundraising challenges.

"Many camps have small staffs and utilize volunteers to conduct their activities; their focus is on providing an outstanding camping experience for the children," Regina explained. "Few have dedicated personnel with enough time to raise the needed funds to support the camp's programs. The support of Camps For Kids is critical to their continued operation and success."

In 2019, Camps For Kids supported 21 camps, helping more than 3,000 low income and special needs children in the Kansas City metro area experience the wonders and benefits of summer camps.

"We do have a tremendous impact on a number of kids in our community," Regina said.

Several camps in the nonprofit's network relate to children's health, like those for kids with cancer, autism spectrum disorders, Tourette's, congenital heart disease, chronic kidney disease and developmental challenges.

"We also provide sports camps for kids — we want all kids to be able to experience sporting activities and arts activities; it's a wide range of camps that we support," Regina noted. "Our camps provide respite care for families ... for those who do have special needs kids, which

CAMPS
FOR KIDS
SHARING THE WONDERS OF CAMP

Camp MITIOG is devoted to organizing and creating quality life experiences for children born with Spina Bifida. Children participate in regular camping activities, like fishing and swimming.



Camp Hope Heartland is a camp for children who have, or have had, cancer.



require 24/7 care, these kids can go, and the parents know they are going to be in a safe environment."

The organization hosts two main fundraising events each year to help assist the camps.

"Every summer we have a Campout event," Regina noted. "This summer, it will be a 'Campout at the Zoo,' which includes dinner and an evening tour of the zoo, with a campout indoors in the Penguin Pavilion or outdoors in a tent."

Breakfast the following morning will be provided.

"It's going to be a whole day and evening of activities," she explained.

In the fall, the organization hosts Cocktails and Camp Tales, a gala inviting Camps for Kids supporters to come and hear from

several campers who highlight the impact of the program in their lives.

According to Regina, volunteers are always needed to help assist at the events. Camp volunteers are also incredibly valuable and sought after, as many of the camps provide full medical services.

"Especially with the medical camps — many of them require a lot of volunteers ... we have pediatricians and nurses from area hospitals who go and provide the medical care that kids need; even though a child is at camp, they still need their dialysis or their chemotherapy," she said. "One of the camps had to close down last year because they didn't have enough volunteers... the need is just tremendous."

Those interested in volunteering or learning more about the camps in Camps for Kids' network should visit CampsForKids.org and

identify the camps that best suit their needs.

"Parents would reach out individually to that specific camp ... they each have their own (separate) admissions information and forms," Regina said.

All fundraising events are tentatively planned for 2020, though Covid-19 cancellations may change expected dates. Regina looks forward to the events each year and is hopeful the virus will not impact camps this summer. If cancellations do occur, she encourages donors to remember that camps need support year-round.

"I've worked in the nonprofit area in Kansas City for quite a while, working with families and children, and I just can't think of anything better than to provide life changing opportunities for children," she said.

For more information, or to make a donation, visit Campsforkids.org.



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Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 561-7176
(816) 561-7177 fax

3. 705 SE Melody Ln
Lee's Summit, MO 64063
(816) 524-5515
(816) 524-7504 fax

2. 5910 Johnson Dr
Mission, KS 66202
(913) 362-7700

4. 3801 S M 291 Hwy
Lee's Summit, MO 64082
(913) 537-9851



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A donut is anything with a whole. Specialties not included.

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During this time of COVID-19 precautions, Saint Michael's invites you to our gardens for rest and reflection. We are an affiliate of the Quiet Garden Movement (<https://quietgarden.org/>).

**"Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind,
or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles,
and bring them to the joy of your salvation."**

Prayer from The Book of Common Prayer.

Horizons Arts Ministry at St Michael's looks forward to resuming events to share soon.



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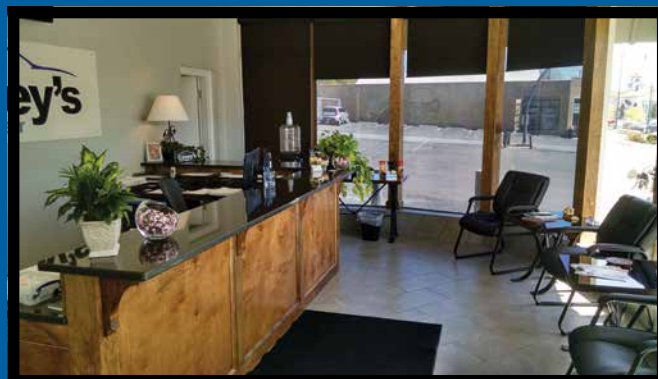
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