

# Mission

*Your Hometown*

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2013

## Treasure Hunter's Dream

Vintage shops draw visitors to Mission

## Holiday Lights and Festive Sights

Kick off the holiday season at city's annual event

## Casey's Auto Repair

Community-minded Mission business can get you on the road again







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# A Holiday Challenge:

*A pair of socks & a can of food*

What is your passion for the upcoming holidays? Is it shopping for the perfect gift? Preparing the most delicious dinner for your family? Or are you planning a getaway with relatives for a relaxing holiday? As most of you know from previous years, the City of Mission/MCVB provides dinner for 40-plus families during Thanksgiving and delivers dinner and gifts to more than 50 families for Christmas. So, this year, I have a challenge for you!

I had the pleasure of talking with Jim Schmidt about the hundreds of homeless he helps feed through Uplift (see story on page 34). I attended the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation Fall Breakfast where I heard from the district's superintendent, Dr. Jim Hinson, how the Shawnee Mission schools have students living in cars while others stuff their pockets with food to take home to their siblings so they won't be hungry during the weekend. I have listened as our area principals and church leaders talk about those in need right here in the Northeast area. As a result, this holiday my passion will be to help these people! I hope you will join me!

This Mission Magazine is delivered to 13,000 homes; so if every one of you would find it in your heart to donate one can of food and one pair of warm socks (adults, male or female) think of what we can do. Most of us have the pleasure of eating well and our feet are warm and dry, but there are many in Mission and our surrounding cities who do not have those luxuries. So, help me help them. We have boxes for socks and canned goods located at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center. If you would rather give money (I will be happy to shop for you), there is a container where you may drop in donations.

Teach your children the art of giving by asking them to use their own money to buy a pair of socks or ask your co-workers to join in the challenge. I know we can make a difference for many and I am certain you won't let them down — I can already picture overflowing boxes with 13,000 pairs of socks and 13,000 cans of food. Thank you. And may your holidays be blessed beyond measure.

*Suzie Gibbs*

**Suzie Gibbs**

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



## Contents

- 6 Holiday Lights and Festive Sights
- 10 Casey's Auto Repair is equipped to keep your ride on the road
- 16 Community Bulletin Board
- 30 Holiday shopping has never been so much fun at vintage shops
- 34 Uplift truck returning to Mission to collect clothing for the homeless
- 36 Enjoy world-class music at Trinity Lutheran Church

**ON THE COVER:** Carl Casey, owner of Casey's Auto Repair  
PHOTO BY KEVIN BLAYNEY

## Mission

*Your Hometown*

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2013

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# Are you ready to experience the Spirit of the Holidays?

The holidays are all about spending time with loved ones, sharing goodwill and lending a helping hand when needed. Kick off the season with Santa, s'mores and fireworks.

## HOLIDAY LIGHTS AND FESTIVE SIGHTS

"Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way" is a sure sign that Christmas is right around the corner with the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. Not in Mission — they just don't arrive ... they come in style in a horse-drawn holiday sleigh that is sure to put everyone in the holiday spirit.

Santa Claus (also known as Mission Police Lt. Ken Smith) and Mrs. Claus (portrayed by Cheri Williams) will help the City of Mission kick off the holiday season from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6, at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway, during the annual Holiday Lights and Festive Sights event.

COME FOR THE FUN!!!! Free s'mores, free hot chocolate and free popcorn; you can't get much better than that! And to add to the joy of the holidays, we will offer free carriage rides to take you on a short trip through Mission. Treat yourself to a wonderful evening while enjoying Funky Mama, watching your child make all sorts of goodies for you to carefully carry home and enjoying caroling by the Shawnee Mission North High School carolers and the UMKC Conservatory of Music choir.

Rushton Elementary School will have its annual store, where your children may purchase a gift from the pocket

change you have given them, and bring along your camera for that memorable picture with Santa.

Don't worry about fixing dinner — the Mission Merchants Association will sell hot dogs and a drink for just \$3. And, even though it may be a little chilly, the fire pits will keep you warm.

At 8:15 p.m. sharp, you won't want to miss the musical fireworks — a great way to start your holiday celebration.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Friday, Dec. 6**

**5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway**

**5:30 to 8:30 p.m.:** Free sleigh rides

**5:30 to 8:30 p.m.:** Rushton PTA Cookie Decorating and Holiday Shoppe

**6 p.m.:** Mayor welcomes Santa!

**6 p.m.:** Free visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus

**6 p.m.:** Free kids activities

**6 to 6:30 p.m.:** Shawnee Mission North Choir

**6:30 to 7 p.m.:** UMKC Choir

**7 p.m.:** Funky Mama

**8:15 p.m.:** Musical fireworks





# Our 'Mission' During the Holidays: *Helping Others*

As more and more Northeast Johnson County families continue to struggle, you can help us make their holidays brighter! Each year the Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau adopts families, with the help of our area schools, for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your donations will treat approximately 40 families to a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas to remember.

## HELP AREA FAMILIES HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is Nov. 28, and we need all the fixings so our adopted families can give thanks with the traditional fare on their tables. Consider donating yams, cans of cranberries or cranberry jelly, green beans, corn, mushroom soup, French fried onions ... If you like to eat it at your Thanksgiving meal, please donate it! Monetary donations are happily accepted as well. The food baskets will be discretely delivered by volunteers Monday, Nov. 25, in plenty of time for these families to prepare their Thanksgiving meal.

## WHAT IS CHRISTMAS WITHOUT GIFTS UNDER THE TREE?

Christmas trees will go up on Dec. 6 at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center and on them you will find tags with the ages, genders and items (clothing and/or toys) each person from our adopted families is wishing for. Please stop by the Center and take a tag off the tree, go shopping, and bring the gifts — wrapped or unwrapped — back to the Center by Monday, Dec. 16. (Wrapped gifts should have the tag from the tree on them to make sure the gift is given to the correct person.)

If you prefer, you may make a donation and we will do the shopping for you! Checks should be made payable to the City of Mission and taken to Kathy Lockard at the Community Center.

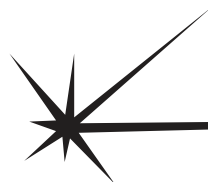
The can collection also continues through Dec. 20, so don't forget to drop in a can or two at the Center as well!

"It is so heartwarming to watch the children as we deliver holiday goodies to their homes," said Suzie Gibbs, chair of the MCVB and Ward IV Councilmember. "Your generous contributions will put many smiles on their faces."

If you really want to get in the holiday spirit, call Suzie (913-671-8564) and offer to help wrap. It will make your holidays merrier!







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## **The Benefits of Dentist-supervised Whitening Gels**

Over-the-counter (OTC) tooth whitening treatments are popular and widely available. But before you head to the grocery store to pick one up, consider this: OTC whitening gels lack proof of safety and efficacy, and are not recognized by the American Dental Society.

Good news, though: dentist-supervised tooth whitening is not only safe and effective, it is also affordable. My practice offers Opalescence Tooth Whitening Systems, which include a range of products and procedures to fit every budget and lifestyle.

With in-office, at-home and on-the-go options, Opalescence Tooth Whitening Treatments are convenient and accommodating. By working with me to establish a whitening program that meets your expectations, you ensure the best experience possible with proper instruction, guidance and monitoring.

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**Right:** A lot has changed since Carl Casey began working on cars more than 30 years ago. Today they often use computers to diagnose problems.

**Far Right:** Carl and Cathy Casey sit in the recently remodeled office of Casey's Auto Repair. The office is equipped with cable television, Wi-Fi and a candy bowl to keep customers happy and productive while they wait.

# *Casey's Auto Repair*

**CUSTOMERS PUT THEIR CARS IN GOOD HANDS AT  
MISSION SHOP WHERE 'EVERYBODY KNOWS THEIR NAME**

By Barbara Bayer • Photos by Kevin Blayney





People often take a leap of faith when they take their cars to a repair shop. They hope the shop has certified auto technicians who do excellent work quickly and won't charge an arm and a leg for the repairs. Casey's Auto Repair does that and more.

Casey's is owned by Carl and Cathy Casey. Carl, a technician for more than 30 years, opened the shop at 5917 Beverly in Mission in 2007. Since that time he has built a reputation for being fair and honest.

"We have all the state-of-the-art equipment and young, savvy technicians to repair your vehicle," said Carl, who noted his shop offers a variety of services from engine/transmission repair to replacing license plate lightbulbs and everything in between.

"We want our customers to feel confident that we will only do the work your car needs," he continued. "We will not do a laundry list of non-necessary services."

Unlike many independent auto repair shops, Casey's is equipped with the tools to do computer diagnostics and reprogramming.

"It's expensive to buy the tools and the software to do it, and many from the older generation still haven't adapted fully to it. But our young, savvy technicians know exactly what today's car computers are capable of doing."

In addition to Carl, three certified technicians work at Casey's — Fabian Torres, Will Fitzpatrick and Ray Casey III. Ray, who recently purchased a home in Mission, is the Caseys' oldest son.

While he's only been on staff full-time for about a year, he has always helped in the shop on weekends and school breaks. A graduate of Pittsburg State University, he passed all eight National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence certification tests, making him an ASE Master Certified Technician.

The Caseys' youngest son Lee is currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, stationed in New York, where he maintains C130 planes.

Carl's customers trust him so much they often call him for recommendations for services the shop doesn't offer, such as body work. Casey's loyal customers include the cities of Mission, Fairway, Prairie Village and Mission Hills.

"We service and repair all those cities' police vehicles. We also work on Fairway's street trucks and do Mission's motorcycles, the Harley-Davidsons," Carl said.

Because he is thrifty himself, Carl does his best to keep costs down for his customers.

"Many times his loyal customers come in for something quick and simple and when he's done, Carl will say 'no charge, don't worry about it.' He just treats everybody like family," said Cathy, his biggest cheerleader.

"People work hard for their money just like I work hard for my money," Carl added. "Nobody has a money tree in their backyard and they certainly don't want to waste it."

*Continued on page 12*





The technicians at Casey's Auto Repair, Ray Casey III (from left), Fabian Torres and Will Fitzpatrick, are all certified, computer savvy and pride themselves on their customer service and cleanliness.

#### *Continued from page 11*

Casey's is often described as classy and clean. The waiting room, bathroom and the garage itself are spotless.

"Our technicians are groomed to be clean about everything they do. There is no need to be covered in grease. They will take the time to change their clothes so that grease doesn't get transferred anywhere else," Carl said.

They decided to locate their business in Mission because they have a lot of history here. Cathy was raised in Mission and Carl's father and brother were firefighters in the building they now own.

The Casey's building was built in the very late 1940s or early 1950s and housed the Mission Fire District No. 1. When the station moved to a new building on Martway in the mid-1970s, the building became home to Kenton Auto Glass. However, it sat vacant for about five years before Casey's moved into it six years ago.

They purchased the building earlier this year so they could have a legacy for their children and because they really like its location.

"Mission has so few auto repair facilities that we were afraid if we lost our lease we would be forced to locate outside the city. This is our customer base and we wanted to make sure that we could be here indefinitely," Carl said.

The Caseys know most of their customers by name. On Fridays

Carl often barbecues and shares it with neighboring businesses and city employees. They also thank their customers every September with a shrimp boil.

In addition, they are good Mission citizens. Cathy is an active member of the Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce. They regularly make donations to youth sports, 3 & 2 Baseball, and charities supporting children and animals.

"We've always felt it's important to give back to a community that helps you sustain your livelihood. This is a community that has sustained the lifestyle that we like and we want to give back in whatever way that we can," Carl said.

Even though they now own the building, they continue to allow the former Mission Fire District No. 1 firefighters and their families (which still have a social organization called Mission Fire Department Incorporated) to use space in the lower level of its building. Besides an additional work bay for Casey's, the basement houses a museum and meeting space.

"They have birthday parties, Christmas parties, the wives have quilting parties and Bunco nights, and once a year all the fire chiefs in the area meet there," Cathy said.

For more information, contact Casey's Auto Repair at 913-403-9500.





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# Mission Bulletin Board

## Pearl Harbor Survivors

TO HOLD 72ND ANNIVERSARY EVENT DEC. 7

Pearl Harbor survivors in Johnson County will commemorate the 72nd anniversary of the attack with a reception from 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, 6200 Martway. The event is free, and the public is invited.

Survivors will recount memories of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor that led to U.S. involvement in World War II. A moment of silence will be observed at 11:55 a.m., the Kansas City time the bombing began. The Shawnee Mission North ROTC color guard will present the colors, and Mission Mayor Laura McConwell will issue a proclamation.

Local Pearl Harbor veterans expected to attend are Jack Carson, 90, Overland Park (Army Air Corps); Dorwin Lamkin, 91, Mission (Navy); and Edmund Russell, 96, Lenexa (Army Air Corps).

A remembrance will also be given in honor of the late Jesse Dunnagan, who had spoken at previous Dec. 7 events. A Pearl Harbor survivor and Navy veteran who lived in Prairie Village, he died in May at age 92.

National  
**Pearl Harbor**  
Remembrance Day  
December 7



## Crime Prevention Workshop

Worried about your personal safety and home security around the holidays? The Mission Police

Department will host a crime prevention workshop at 7 p.m. on Nov. 21 at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center. Admission is free.

## Bob Winn inducted into Ottawa University's Braves Athletic Hall of Fame

Ottawa University alumnus and former football and track stand-out Bob Winn was inducted into the Braves Athletic Hall of Fame on Oct. 24.

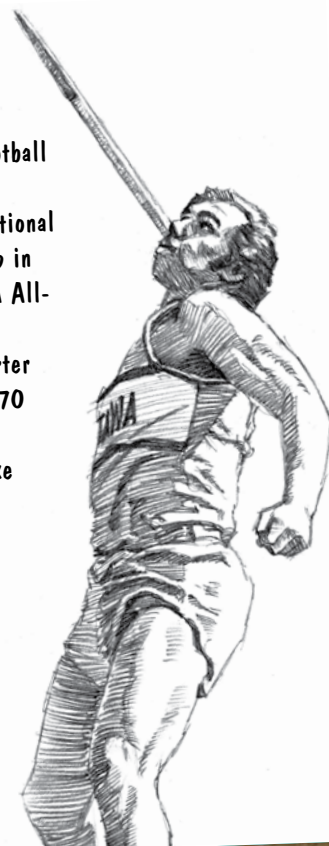
During his four-year career at Ottawa University, Winn was a member of both the football and track teams.

On the track, Winn was the 1971 NAIA National Champion in the javelin. He finished runner-up in 1972, finishing his career as a two-time NAIA All-American.

On the gridiron, Winn was a four-year starter at defensive back and was a member of the 1970 KCAC Championship team and 1972 HAAC Championship team. He led the team and broke the school record with 10 interceptions in 1972. That single season mark held until 2000. He finished his career with 19 interceptions, which ties Winn for first in the school record books.

Winn lives in Mission. He has one daughter, Holly, and three grandchildren, Nikolas, Ella and Aidan.

Sketch by John Boyd Martin



## DON'T FORGET YOUR KEYS!

Thieves love to steal vehicles left running. Never leave your car running with the keys in it while it's unattended.



# Mission Bulletin Board

## Rushton celebrating 60th anniversary

### Open House scheduled for Nov. 15

Rushton Elementary School will have an Open House on Friday, Nov. 15, as part of its year-long celebration of the school's 60th anniversary. There will be a chili cook-off, dessert competition and silent auction as part of the event taking place from 6 to 8 p.m. Please contact PTA President Deborah Rushing at [deborah-rushing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deborah-rushing@sbcglobal.net) or 913-789-7771 for more information. If you are on Facebook, check the "Rushton Elementary Alumni" page for the latest news.

### Make plans now for PTA's annual auction

Rushton Elementary PTA is hosting its 16th annual silent and live auction March 1, 2014. The auction will be at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center, with this year's theme as a '50s Sock Hop in honor of Rushton's 60th anniversary.

Advance tickets may be purchased up until Friday, Feb. 21, for \$15 or at the door for \$20. The \$15 ticket price includes bidding privileges, dinner and non-alcoholic beverages. VIP tables are available for \$250; these tables seat eight and include dinner and alcoholic beverages. Please contact Cassandra Alejandre at [rushtonauction@live.com](mailto:rushtonauction@live.com) for any ticket sales or donations.



## Mission City Council Meetings

7 p.m. on Nov. 20 and Dec. 18, 2013, and Jan. 15 and Feb. 19, 2014, at City Hall

## Help local families by filling our food bins

Food containers at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center are ready for donations as we once again provide Thanksgiving baskets to our Northeast Johnson County families.



## Thanks for Seniors!

Thursday, Nov. 21 • 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center

Please join the City of Mission for a special Thanksgiving tribute to the seniors of Northeast Johnson County for their contributions to our community. For just \$12 per person, you can enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving feast of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, roll, vegetable and pumpkin pie. Enjoy the entertainment of the Shawnee Mission North High School Strolling Strings and a special guest speaker.

Call 913-722-8200 for reservations.

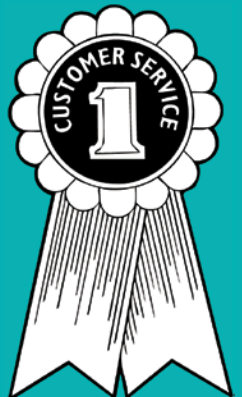


## Local Edward Jones associates honored for client service excellence

Jessica Bond, senior branch office administrator, and Terri Valentine, branch assistant, have been honored for their client service excellence.

Bond and Valentine work at the branch office of Rocky Valentine in Mission.

This recognition has earned the associates an invitation to Edward Jones' annual Branch Office Administrators Managing Partner's Conference, which will be held at the firm's headquarters in St. Louis.





# WE CAN HELP!

## MISSION TAX, LLC

Our mission is your success!

6005 Johnson Drive, Suite E, Mission, KS 66202

**913-722-2000**

e-mail: [jessica@missiontaxkc.com](mailto:jessica@missiontaxkc.com)

[www.missiontaxkc.com](http://www.missiontaxkc.com)



- Electronic Filing & Direct Deposit
- Estate Tax Planning
- Tax Planning Strategies
- Small Business Consulting
- Quarterly & Annual Payroll Services
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### \$25 OFF

Individual Tax Preparation

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Cannot be combined w/any other offer. Expires 2/28/2014.

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Cannot be combined w/any other offer. Expires 2/28/2014

## CASEY BROTHERS SINCLAIR, INC.

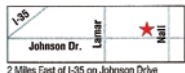
5710 JOHNSON DR. MISSION, KANSAS • OPEN MON-FRI 7AM-6PM, SAT 7AM-3PM

*"Serving Mission for 54 Years"*

**913-432-4801**

### DOMESTIC • FOREIGN

- Wheel Balancing
- Batteries
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[caseybrossinclair.com](http://caseybrossinclair.com)

- Full Service Gas Station
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- Major & Minor Repairs
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### 10% OFF

**Any Auto Repair  
Maximum Value \$50**

Tires and Battery Excluded



**Casey Brothers Sinclair**

5710 Johnson Dr. • 913-432-4801

One coupon per purchase. Not valid with any other offer  
Expires 1/30/2014

### Service Special

## \$49<sup>95</sup>

Oil, Lube and Filter • Check Belts & hoses  
Tire rotation and tire condition checked.



**Casey Brothers Sinclair**

5710 Johnson Dr. • 913-432-4801

One coupon per purchase. Not valid with any other offer  
Expires 1/30/2014

### Service Special

## \$49<sup>95</sup>

Oil, Lube and Filter • Check Belts & hoses  
Tire rotation and tire condition checked.



**Casey Brothers Sinclair**

5710 Johnson Dr. • 913-432-4801

One coupon per purchase. Not valid with any other offer  
Expires 1/30/2014





# Lora's ALTERATIONS

Formerly with I. Goodman Tailoring in Mission for 15 years

**OVER 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALTERATIONS & REPAIR!**

*Services include: Mens & Ladies Alterations and Repair  
~ Replace Lining and Zipper ~ Leather and Fur Work  
~ Bridal and Formal Wear*

**Walk-Ins Welcome or Call For Appointment**

**913-831-1111**

5411 Johnson Dr., Mission, KS  
(Just a couple doors down from Lucky Brewgrille)  
CASH OR CHECKS ONLY. NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.



**10% Off**  
**any Alteration**

Not valid with any other offer.  
Must bring coupon in with items first presented  
Expires 02/28/2014.

**15% Off**  
**\$100 or more total ticket price**

Not valid with any other offer.  
Must bring coupon in with items first presented  
Expires 02/28/2014.

## MONDAY THRU FRIDAY DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS 11AM TO 2PM



### MONDAY (11AM-9PM)

Reg. One Meat Sandwich + Fries, Drink • **\$7.19** plus tax

### TUESDAY & SATURDAY (AFTER 4PM)

Baby Back Ribs + Choice of Two Sides • **\$18.99** plus tax

### WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY (ALL DAY)

Full Slab Ribs • **\$14.75** plus tax

### THURSDAY (AFTER 4PM)

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

### FRIDAY (AFTER 4PM)

1/2 Slab & 1/2 Chicken Served with Lg. Fries & Choice  
of One Pint Size BBQ Beans, Slaw or Potato Salad  
**\$17.99** plus tax

**MISSION: 5959 BROADMOOR • MISSION, KS 66202 • 913.432.0777**  
**OLATHE: 1375 W. HIGHWAY 56 • OLATHE, KS 66061 • 913.768.0777**  
**JOHNNYSBBQKC.COM • INFO@JOHNNYSBBQ.COM**



# SPEED IN FOR AUTO SERVICE SPECIALS!

## JC's SPEEDY LUBE

Service Center & Tires

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2 Blocks East & 1 Block South

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OVER  
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Tires • Alignment • Suspension • Service • Brakes • Batteries • A/C Service • Tune-Up

**PLUS \$3.50 PER INVOICE FOR SHOP SUPPLIES**

### AMAZING SAVINGS!

Copper

**Oil Change \$14.99** Plus Tax

Includes up to 5 quarts of oil & filter, vehicle inspection, manufacturer's recommendations. Plus \$3.50 for shop supplies. \$3.99 for topping off of fluid. Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

**\$10 OFF**

Premium Oil Changes

VL 1301

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

**\$10 OFF Any Service Over \$100**

VM 100

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

VM 200

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

VM 300

**\$60 OFF Any Service Over \$600**

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

**\$50 OFF Timing Belt Job**

MGR 50

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

**\$20 OFF a New Set of Tires**

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

### AMAZING SAVINGS!

Brake Pad Replacement

**\$59.99 \$99.99**

Silver Brake Pad Premium Brake Pad

Includes labor, parts and pad replacement, FREE inspection of rotors. Does not include turning or replacing rotors. (Reg price starts at \$140 plus tax per axle with gold brake pads. Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.)

Front End Alignment

Starting At **\$59.99**

ALN 20

Includes inspect steering & suspension, inspect tires for wear, inspect wheel bearings, test drive vehicle. Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

**\$20 OFF Radiator Service**

Not valid with any other offers. With coupon only. Expires 01/26/14.

RAD20



**Mission Hy-Vee**  
EMPLOYEE OWNED

*Shop your local Mission Hy-Vee!*

- Open 24 hours, 7 days a week • In-Store Bakery
  - Catering for all your needs • Pharmacy
  - Beautiful Floral Department • Caribou Coffee
  - Sushi made fresh daily • Tortilla Department
- Hundreds of Fuel Saver Items



Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon Expires 1/1/14.



**FUEL REWARDS**  
with any purchase of  
**\$100 or more.**  
(Limit 1)

**25¢**

Limit 1 coupon per customer. Coupon Expires 1/1/14.

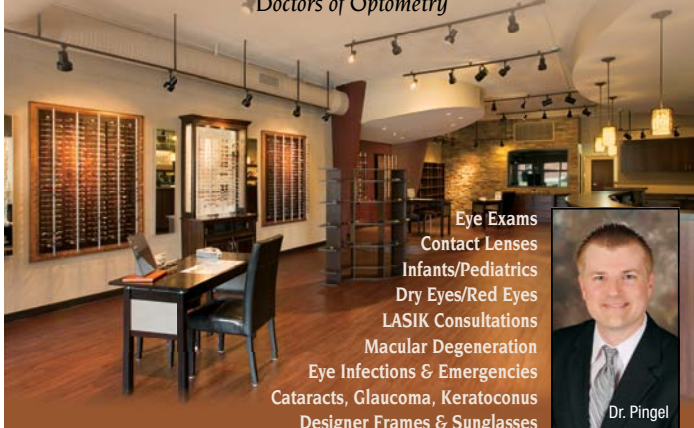
6655 Martway • Mission, KS • 913-831-4447 • www.Hy-Vee.com



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Eye Exams  
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Mention this ad for 15% off Eye Exam

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www.MissionEyeCare.com – MissionEyeCareKC@att.net

# GRAND LIQUOR

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913.432.4055

## TUESDAY SPECIAL

13% OFF Wine/Champagne

## EVERYDAY

15% OFF Mix & Match Wine Cases



GRAND LIQUOR GRAND LIQUOR

## 10% OFF Wine Purchase

Not valid with pints or half pints. Not valid with any other offer. Excludes malt beverages or coolers. Expires 02/28/14.

## 10% OFF Spirit Purchase

Not valid on pints, half pints or half gallons. Not valid with any other offer. Excludes malt beverages or coolers. Not valid with everyday low prices. Expires 02/28/14.

**SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME!**  
Come See Us For All Your Adult Beverage Needs!

# Schlitzsky's

Enjoy a



Classic® Roll

with a

Schlitzsky's sandwich!



6350 Johnson Dr. • Mission  
913-432-1724

Schlitzsky's



**\$1 OFF**

any sandwich, pizza or  
Cinnabon® Classic Roll

Offer expires 02/28/2014

Good only with original coupon at 6350 Johnson Dr. Schlitzsky's® restaurant. Limit one coupon per person, per visit. Not valid with any other offer, Combo Meal or Kid's Meal. ©2012 Schlitzsky's Franchise LLC. All rights reserved.

# CULVER'S OF MISSION



**BUY 1 GET 1  
FREE**

Double ButterBurger®  
Cheese Sandwich

CULVER'S OF MISSION  
6005 Metcalf Avenue  
Ph: 913-262-7200

Shown: Double ButterBurger Cheese Sandwich

Based on purchase at regular menu price. Please no substitutions. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on school fundraising nights. Value 1/200 cent. Limit one coupon per person per visit. Valid only at Culver's® of Mission. Expires 2/1/14. 461-08/13.



**BUY 1 GET 1  
FREE**

Medium Concrete Mixer

CULVER'S OF MISSION  
6005 Metcalf Avenue  
Ph: 913-262-7200

Shown: Medium Cookie Dough Concrete Mixer

Based on purchase at regular menu price. Please no substitutions. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on school fundraising nights. Value 1/200 cent. Limit one coupon per person per visit. Valid only at Culver's® of Mission. Expires 2/1/14. 461-08/13.



# DUDS'n SUDS

**DRYCLEAN 'n LAUNDRY**

**MISSION**


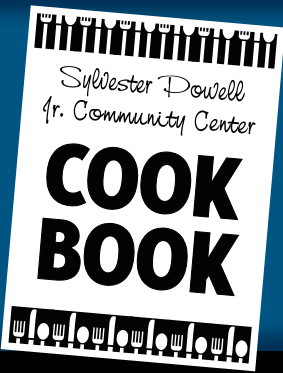
**6514 MARTWAY**  
**913-236-5395**



- Drop Off
- Dry Cleaning
- Alterations
- TV
- Snack Bar

<b>FREE</b> <b>5 Pounds</b> <b>Wash Dry Fold</b> <b>\$6.25 Value</b> <small>20lb Minimum • One Coupon Per Order With coupon. Expires 2/28/2014.</small>	<b>Comforter</b> <b>(Drop Off)</b> <b>\$13.00 each</b> <small>Down, \$8 Extra • No Limit One Coupon per incoming order With coupon. Expires 2/28/2014.</small>
<b>25% OFF</b> <b>Any Dry</b> <b>Cleaning Order</b> <b>(\$10 Maximum Savings)</b> <small>One Coupon Per Order With coupon. Expires 2/28/2014.</small>	<b>FREE WASH</b> <b>Buy One, Get One Free</b> <small>(Top Loaders Only) (Max. 2 FREE Loads) Limit One Per Customer Per Day With coupon. Expires 2/28/2014.</small>

**Super Quality • Sincere Service**

## Cook Book For Sale

Stop by the  
**Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center**  
and pick up a copy of the cook book, featuring  
250 mouth-watering recipes from Mission residents  
as well as Community Center members. Proceeds  
from the sale of this book benefit the youth  
activities scholarship fund, helping less fortunate  
individuals participate in recreational camps  
and classes. The cook book can be purchased for  
\$8 at either entry desk.

## Diamond Finish Car Wash

5960 Barkley St. Mission, KS 66202

**913-236-6886**

HOURS: Mon-Sat 8-7 • Sun 8-5

**www.diamondfinishwash.com**

### EXTERIOR ONLY SPECIAL

**\$5** Reg. \$7

Basic Exterior Wash includes: Towel dry and door jams wiped down. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 2/28/14.

### FULL SERVICE SPECIAL

**50% OFF**

### Superior Diamond Wash

Includes basic full service wash, plus wheel cleaner, white wall scrub, underbody wash, clearcoat protectant, triple clearcoat polish, tire dressing & machine mat cleaning. Additional charge for larger vehicles. Over-sized charge may apply. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 2/28/14.

### HAND WAX

**\$10 OFF** Reg. \$49.95

Includes a hand wax. Additional Charge for larger vehicles. Over-sized charge may apply. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 2/28/14.

### DIAMOND 1 PROFESSIONAL DETAIL

**25% OFF** Any Professional Detail

Complete interior shampoo, all floor mats, carpeting, upholstered seats, or clean & conditions leather seats. All interior vinyl is cleaned & conditioned. See cashier for more details. Over-sized charge may apply. Not valid with any other offers. Exp. 2/28/14.





# CITY OF MISSION

## *Newsletter*

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2013  
VOLUME 9, ISSUE 5  
WWW.MISSIONKS.ORG

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

With the holidays and new year just a few weeks away, it is a great time to look back on all that has been accomplished over the past year, and the many projects that are moving forward. With the improvements to Martway complete, it is time to applaud staff and our contractors, our busi-

nesses and patrons, and our residents for working together to create an amenity for our city. The street and sidewalk improvements make Martway a much safer place to drive, bike and walk. Speaking of safer, how about a "shout out" for the traffic signal at Martway and Broadmoor?

The utility relocations along Johnson Drive have caused congestion and detours for several months this summer, but this is an important step in the full Johnson Drive Rehabilitation Project. Staff has worked hard to keep businesses and residents in the district informed of the day-to-day schedule. We should commend staff in their coordination with the various utility companies and the community. Thankfully, the utility relocation is now nearly complete. We are grateful that these improvements are being made in advance of the actual street reconstruction, and are comforted in knowing that the chance of future utility repairs under our new street is greatly diminished.

Improvements to Johnson Drive, and the streetscape, will begin in 2014 and will not only improve driving on Johnson Drive through Mission, but will also beautify our downtown district. Specific information and renderings of the completed project are available at our Construction Office at 5903 Johnson Drive. Please stop by the office to visit with staff who are there to answer any questions or concerns you may have about construction projects



in Mission. We have also been holding "block meetings" for businesses along Johnson Drive and Downtown District feeder streets to keep residents and businesses up-to-date on the progress of the project, and future construction dates and deadlines.

I always encourage you to "Shop Mission," but this year our businesses especially need your support. Now that the holidays are upon us, I encourage you to make a conscious effort to "Shop Mission!" We have so many interesting and diverse shops in our City – I know you will be able to find many great gifts for those on your list. Remember that gift certificates from our local service businesses and restaurants also make wonderful gifts. We have many new businesses in our city, so if you are willing to spend an afternoon shopping local, I know you will be delighted with what you find!

Our local businesses are integral to the quality of life we enjoy in our community. For many years, the City of Mission has offered Business Improvement Grants (BIG) focused on energy efficiency improvements and exterior building repairs. In Septem-

ber, the City of Mission was recognized by the Concert for the Climate organization for this program. I was honored to receive this award on behalf of the City from Robert Kennedy, Jr. It is exciting to see the sustainability initiatives of our City and local businesses acknowledged. If you would like additional information on the BIG program, please contact City Planner Danielle Murray at 913-676-8363 or [dmurray@missionks.org](mailto:dmurray@missionks.org) or visit our website at [www.missionks.org](http://www.missionks.org).

Our 2013 Holiday Lights and Festive Sights is planned for Friday evening, December 6th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. This year's event will be held in Beverly Park, across the street from the Community Center and, as in previous years, will include children's activities, holiday carolers, s'mores and hot chocolate for all, and our famous Holiday Fireworks Display. I look forward to seeing you on December 6th as we kick off the holidays!

Wishing you each Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year,

*Laura McConwell*

Laura McConwell  
Mayor



Robert Kennedy, Jr. presents Mayor McConwell with the 2013 Concert for the Climate Leadership of Note Award for Mission's sustainability efforts through the Business Improvement Grant (BIG) program.



## CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERING REDISTRICTING OF MISSION WARDS

**M**ission residents are represented by a Governing Body that consists of the Mayor and eight council members. The Mayor is elected at-large and is voted upon by all registered voters in the City. The council members are elected from their specific ward. There are two council members elected from each of our four wards. All residents in Mission are represented by the Mayor and the two council members elected from their ward. The law requires that the resident population of our wards be balanced. Periodically, in conjunction with census data, “redistricting” may occur to ensure that the population in each ward in the city is substantially equal.

Mission received the 2000 Census data in 2002 and began looking at redistricting, but with the untimely death of Mayor Powell, the consolidation of Countryside with Mission and the expansion of our floodplain, the redistricting process was put on hold until new Census data could be obtained in 2010. We received the 2010 Census data in 2011 and determined that it made sense to start the process immediately following the 2012 elections.

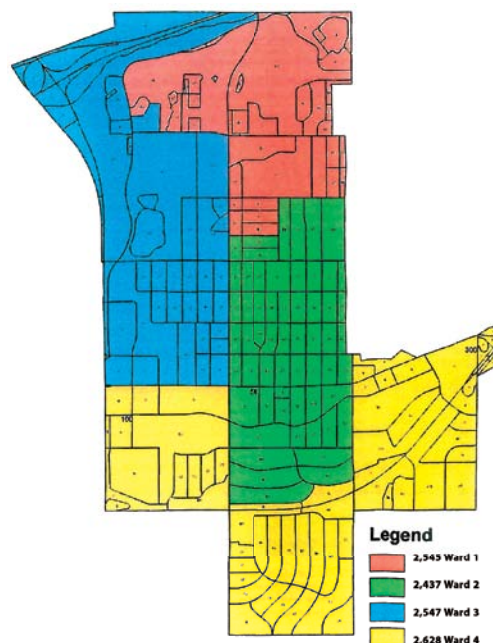
Following the April 2012 elections, Mayor McConwell appointed the Redistricting Committee to evaluate the current ward

population and to make a recommendation regarding any changes required in ward boundaries to ensure all are balanced by population. The Committee was provided information from our County Election Officer and looked at not only resident population numbers, but also considered the importance of keeping neighborhoods together in wards and not unseating any of our current councilmembers. The Committee recommended “Map 4” from their deliberations, which adjusts ward boundaries, and plans for future residents in both the Gateway project and Aspen Village in the Mission Crossing development. Council took no action on the Redistricting Committee’s recommendation in 2012.

With the advent of 2014 elections, and the fact that we are so overdue in redistricting, the Redistricting Committee reconvened in October 2013 to again evaluate Census tract data and ward boundaries. A staff member of Johnson County also attended the meeting to assist the committee with “real time” movement of the ward boundaries. The Redistricting Committee confirmed that “Map 4” made the most sense for Mission and most equitably balanced the wards, and made that recommendation to City Council.

The Governing Body is seeking your in-

put on redistricting in Mission. Map 4, below, depicts the recommended ward boundary changes (also available on our website and at City Hall). A public hearing on redistricting will be held at the November 20th City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend and to share their thoughts on the proposed redistricting of Mission wards.



### CITY OF MISSION Speaker Series

#### “Identity Theft Prevention”

The Johnson County District Attorney’s Office will address this growing problem in our communities.

Learn how to minimize your risk.

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center  
6200 Martway, Mission

Free and open to the public.

For additional information, contact Rosalind Johnson at  
913-676-8390 or [rjohnson@missionks.org](mailto:rjohnson@missionks.org).

### Championship Tree



Mayor McConwell and Tree Board Chairman Jacque Gameson present Rose and Bill Sifuentes with the 2013 Championship Tree award at the September 18th City Council Meeting. The Sifuentes’ Spruce tree is over 35 years old and is located at the corner of Reeds and Woodson in Walnut View.



## Are You a Snow Angel?

**W**ill you need help shoveling snow this year? Or, would you like to burn a few extra calories helping a neighbor? Mission's Snow Angels are for you! If you need help or can assist others in our community with snow this winter, please contact Rosalind Johnson at 913-676-8390 or [rjohnson@missionks.org](mailto:rjohnson@missionks.org).

## Public Works Staff Participate in Annual Snow Rodeo

Mission's Public Works Crew Members participated in the annual APWA Snow and Equipment Rodeo the week of October 7th in Olathe. Crew members tested their heavy equipment skills in such categories as Skid Steer, Backhoe, Wheel Loader, Excavator, and Snow Plow. Their expertise is evident throughout the year, especially during the winter when they provide excellent snow removal for our residents and businesses.



# CITY OF MISSION LAUNCHES CELEBRATION TREE PROGRAM

**W**hat's the perfect way to honor or remember a loved one, or to celebrate the birth of a new grandchild, a special anniversary, retirement, or other milestone?

Plant a tree! The City of Mission Tree Board proudly announces its Celebration Tree Program as a way to provide a living remembrance of a special person or event.

"The Celebration Tree Program is the first of its kind in Johnson County," says Jacque Gameson, Tree Board Chair. "We have spent more than two years researching programs in other cities. This is a great opportunity to benefit the community and also benefit the person you are honoring. Few other gifts are as lasting as a tree!"



Those who wish to purchase a tree can choose from several options, including Linden, Red Oak, Dogwood, Maple, and two varieties of Spruce. Donors may also purchase an honorary or memorial plaque to be placed at the base of the tree. The program offers several parks as locations for the chosen tree, and will make every effort to place the tree in a location of the donor's choice, along with finding a location best suited for the tree's growth and in accordance with planting needs.

Donors will also receive a photograph of the tree and a certificate, along with a sketch of the tree's location. The City will maintain a permanent registry of all memorial and celebration trees. Our Parks & Recreation Department will oversee ongoing tree care, but donors are encouraged to visit their tree as often as they like, and to help water it when necessary.

For complete details, list of potential locations, and cost, please visit our website at [www.missionks.org](http://www.missionks.org). To have a brochure mailed to you, contact Christy Humerickhouse at [chumerickhouse@missionks.org](mailto:chumerickhouse@missionks.org) or 913-722-8210.



## LOOKING FORWARD TO ASPEN VILLAGE

**L**ane4 Development Group will soon be adding the final phase to their Mission Crossing project. Mission Crossing is located on the block across from the Post Office along Metcalf Avenue between Martway Street and 61st Street, and is currently home to the Culver's, Subway, Freebirds World Burrito, and Chick-fil-A restaurants as well as Oasis Nails and Sport Clips salons. The final phase of this development will add a 3-story senior residential apartment building, which the developer has named "Aspen Village."

The Aspen Village apartments will consist of three stories above ground with a partial walk out lower level built into the hill on the north end. Approximately 100 senior apartments, offering additional "a la carte" services to residents as interested, are planned. Floorplans show a mixture of six different 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom units, many with patios or balconies. Covered parking will also be provided for residents, and the building will include common gathering areas, a dining hall, recreational areas, laun-

dry rooms, and storage areas.

Streetscape improvements such as sidewalks, street trees, trash cans, planters, on-street parking stalls and benches have already been installed around the perimeter of the site. No significant changes to the streetscape are proposed; however, you may see some of the existing features temporarily removed and replaced due to construction activity.

Final site plans for Aspen Village were reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission in August of this

year. The Lane4 Group intends to begin construction this fall and to work through the winter as much as possible for an opening in 2014. The small public park donated by the developer to the City at the southwest corner of Broadmoor and Martway is also set to be dedicated at roughly the same time. For more information about rental rates and leasing, please contact Hunter Harris, Lane4 Group, at 816-960-1444.



## FALL TRASH AND RECYCLING FACT SHEET

*Some quick tips to help keep collection service running smoothly for Mission residents.*

### YARD WASTE:

LEAVES: 6 set-outs allowed March – September,  
12 set-outs November – December

BAGS: For yard waste, use the brown paper bags found at your local hardware stores

LIMBS: Bundles less than 4' long, 18" around, and 65 pounds

BUNDLES: Please tie your bundles with string or twine, not wire

### POLYCARTS:

COLOR: Black lids for trash, yellow lids for recycling

LIDS: Lids must be completely closed for pick-up

EXTRA: If you have more trash than fits in your polycart, purchase overage stickers for \$1.50 each at City Hall.

Recycling is unlimited if clearly marked.

STORAGE: Store polycarts inside the garage or behind your front building line – not in front of the house.



## Mission Holds Citizens' Police Academy



Johnson County Sheriff's Criminalistics Laboratory Director Gary Howell welcomes Mission's Citizens' Police Academy participants to the Johnson County Crime Lab. The group received briefings on many facets of the crime lab, including firearms, latent impressions/fingerprints, questioned documents, and chemical analysis. Participants in the 2013 Citizens' Academy graduated on October 30th following a two-month long program designed to make Mission citizens and business owners more familiar with the inner workings of the Mission Police Department.

## Marlins Celebrate Another Winning Season



Mission Marlins Coach Alissa Ruffin, Assistant Coach Katie Sutton and Ellie Ruffin present Mayor McConwell with the 2013 MoKan Swim Championship Trophies. This year's team included 251 swimmers and won 2nd Place in the Novice Division, and 1st Place in both Level II and A Divisions. Congratulations to all our Marlins!



## MISSION CITY HALL

6090 Woodson Road, Mission, Kansas 66202

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

Phone: 913-676-8350 • Fax: 913-722-1415 • [www.missionks.org](http://www.missionks.org)

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

### COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

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

*All meetings are open to the public. For meeting locations please check the website at [www.missionks.org](http://www.missionks.org).*

## CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Laura L. McConwell.....913-722-2670  
City Hall Office.....913-676-8355

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD I

Lawrence Andre.....913-638-9000  
Pat Quinn.....913-927-8511

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD II

Amy Miller .....913-677-0169  
Will Vandenberg .....913-424-4357

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD III

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

### COUNCILMEMBERS WARD IV

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



**TWISTED (SISTERS) COFFEE SHOP**

Now Serving Lunch Mon-Fri 11am-2pm

**Wishing You a Wonderful Holiday Season**

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# TREASURE HUNTING IN MISSION

*City becomes new hot spot for unique shopping*

If you think you are seeing more vintage stores springing up in Mission, you're right. These eclectic shops of used (and sometimes a little new and/or antique) merchandise are popping up around the city.

Three shops — A Fabulous Find, reChic Boutique & Décor and Vintage Mission — have opened in the past year or so and more are on the way. Mary Horvatin, owner of Yoga Fix Studio, is opening Over the Moon (a shop with a mix of new, vintage and antique items) next door to her yoga studio at 6124 Johnson Drive.

You might think that the influx of vintage shops would cause some rivalry and competition. Yes, they are all looking for unique, interesting and one-of-a-kind things to stock their stores. But these Mission business owners see the benefits. The main advantage is that Mission is becoming a destination for those wanting to make a day of vintage shopping. When customers shop at one, the owners encourage patrons to stop by the others.

"The more in the area, the better off we are," said Sharon Choikhit, owner of A Fabulous Find, 5330 Martway. "... The more the merrier."

Head west a few blocks and over to Johnson Drive and you

will find reChic Boutique and Décor and Vintage Mission just a storefront away from each other.

"reChic opening has helped us quite a bit," said Dan Smith, who owns Vintage Mission with his wife Kathy at 6009 Johnson Drive. "More would be a terrific deal."

Janet Kilpatrick, who owns reChic (6015 Johnson Drive) with her daughter, Tracy Hankins, said there isn't a sense of any competition between the vintage shops.

"If we don't have it here, we send people to Dan's and down to Sharon's," she said.

So get your walking shoes on, your holiday shopping lists ready and start your treasure hunt in Mission!

## A FABULOUS FIND

You never know what you're going to find at a vintage store and that's especially true at A Fabulous Find.

With approximately 180 dealers stocking booths, cases and end-of-aisle shelves, the possibilities are mind-blowing. And you are likely to come away with more than just "a" fabulous find.

"Each booth has a little boutique feel," said owner Sharon Choikhit. "...I want it to be a place that's clean, priced well and



Sharon Choikhit opened A Fabulous Find, 5330 Martway, in 2012. The store currently has about 180 vendors and event space where nonprofit organizations can have informal gatherings.



where vendors take pride.”

Choikhit, who formerly had a career in the commercial leasing business, had always wanted to have a store like A Fabulous Find. When her youngest child graduated, Choikhit was able to fulfill her dream.

“Now I’m leasing little spaces instead of big spaces,” she said.

A Fabulous Find had its grand opening in September 2012, and about three-quarters of the vendors have remained the same.

But that doesn’t mean A Fabulous Find is stagnant or stale. Things are constantly changing and you can’t put the merchandise into one category. The store is a conglomeration of eclectic antiques, home décor, jewelry, consignment pieces and more.

Choikhit herself has purchased a Russell Stover sign and a coffee grinder from her store that are now on display there.

A Fabulous Find also has an event space that nonprofit organizations can use for free (they bring in their own food) for informal, after-hours gatherings. Visitors can stand around the event space’s dining table, mingle and check out all the surrounding merchandise.

In addition, the store has four or five open houses a year for customers. During these events, merchandise is 10 percent off all day and the store is open until 8 p.m. with food, coffee and tea from 4 to 8 p.m. The next open house is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 5.

All in all, A Fabulous Find is a laid-back, family- and kid-friendly shopping experience.

“Our vendors feel like family, and our customers feel like family,” Choikhit said.

**For more information, call 913-722-7788 or visit [www.afabfind.com](http://www.afabfind.com).**

## RECHIC BOUTIQUE AND DÉCOR

When Janet Kilpatrick and Tracy Hankins opened a booth at Razzberry Whimsy in Lee’s Summit, Mo., in October 2012, everyone wanted to buy the display pieces they were using to stage Kilpatrick’s paper crafts and Hankins’ jewelry.

Sherry Hayes, owner of Razzberry Whimsy, asked the mother-daughter duo if they had thought about painting furniture to sell. With Hayes’ support and encouragement, the women embarked on finding a store of their own where they could do custom painting and re-purpose furniture and home décor for new uses. The women opened reChic Boutique and Décor on May 10, 2013.

“We never imagined that custom painting would be our thing and be such a large part of our business,” Hankins said. “...It started out that I just wanted a place for my jewelry to go.”

“And my cards,” Kilpatrick added.

Shoppers will notice a couple things right away when they walk into reChic. First of all, you will be welcomed by two canine companions, Jack and Fiona, who come to work with Hankins and Kilpatrick every day. And, secondly, reChic has a feminine twist.

Hankins describes their store as a “girls’ shop.”

All the vendors are local women. (They recently started carrying Mother Earth paint manufactured locally by Robin Hammond in addition to things like fudge, journals, soaps, re-purposed treasures and more.)

*Continued on page 32*



Tracy Hankins, seated, and her mom Janet Kilpatrick own reChic Boutique and Décor at 6015 Johnson Drive. Visitors to the shop are always greeted by their dogs: Fiona, left, and Jack.



And reChic has booths, but you would never know it when you walk in. All the merchandise is blended together harmoniously, and Hankins and Kilpatrick select items from different vendors to showcase in their front window.

"We are the catalyst for all these people to have little businesses," Kilpatrick said.

The shop also serves as an inspiration for what people can do with things they already have in their homes with a little paint and a bit of re-imagination.

Their location, which was a ceramics shop at one time, offers the perfect setting for them. There's 1,100 square feet in the front to showcase merchandise and a 400-square-foot back room that is ideal for painting.

"It's such an amazing store. I can't believe we dreamed it up together," Hankins said, of her mom. "We're best friends."

**For more information, call 913-333-0026.**

### VINTAGE MISSION

Vintage Mission is a store that awakens the senses. You will hear good music, see a wide variety of things hanging on the red walls, and get to touch vintage items (mainly from the 1950s through 1970s) mixed in with some antiques and old furniture.

Dan and Kathy Smith opened Vintage Mission in October 2012. The longtime Mission residents (they have lived in Mission for almost 25 years) noticed the storefront awhile ago and jumped at the opportunity when it came up for rent.

"It's been an awful lot of fun so far," said Dan Smith, who previously worked in the casino industry.

The couple have a longtime interest in vintage items and antiques and in refinishing furniture. They have stripped and re-stained some old school desks with wrought iron and re-finished a late 1800s wall phone from Kathy's family's house in Iowa.

Dan Smith goes to auctions and estate sales to look for merchandise for his store. He also does some consignment and has a couple vendors who stock booths.

The struggling economy over the past few years has helped to spring the concepts of re-purposing and buying vintage into popularity. And that attracts customers to Vintage Mission.

"Buying something that's second-hand is as good or even better than buying something new," he said. "And it's often cheaper."

There's a lighthearted charm to Vintage Mission, too. To celebrate Roy Rogers' birthday (he was born on Nov. 5, 1911, for those of you who were wondering), Vintage Mission invites people to come have their picture taken with their life-sized cardboard "Roy."

What is his favorite part of owning Vintage Mission?

"The fun part is meeting the people that come into the store, listening to their stories and seeing how the items in my store remind them of their childhood," Smith said.

**For more details, call 913-209-9479 or visit [www.vintagemissionkc.com](http://www.vintagemissionkc.com).**

*Happy holidays and may your vintage shopping bring you treasures galore!*



Dan Smith, pictured here, co-owns Vintage Mission with his wife Kathy at 6009 Johnson Drive.



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Jim and Jennifer Schmidt devote hundreds of volunteer hours each year to Uplift. He serves as one of the organization's vice presidents and she serves on its board of directors.



# Uplift feeds and clothes area's homeless

By Barbara Bayer • Photo by Ben McCall

Three nights a week, 52 weeks a year, volunteers with Uplift go out on the streets of Kansas City — hitting both sides of the state line — offering a hot meal and a helping hand to the homeless.

“We serve the lowest of the low of the homeless,” explained Jim Schmidt, a vice president of Uplift. “These are the guys who live under bridges and in camps, not shelters.”

The Mission Convention and Visitors Bureau forged a relationship three years ago with the outreach organization, founded in 1990. The relationship continues when the Uplift truck makes a stop in Mission on Nov. 21 to collect donations. (See box for details.)

“They just about fill the truck in Mission,” Schmidt said.

Uplift is run strictly by volunteers; there are no paid staffers. All money donated to the organization goes directly to pay for the services it provides.

“We need to buy aspirin, acetaminophen, toilet paper, deodorant ... many items that aren't donated. We also need to pay for equipment and fuel.”

One thing that sets Uplift apart from other similar outreach organizations is that it always serves hot meals. Volunteers prepare meals in their homes or church kitchens and deliver them hot to the Uplift warehouse located at 1516 Prospect in Kansas City, Mo. Meals are often spaghetti with sauce or chili because they are easy to cook in large quantities. Hot chocolate in the winter and lemonade in the summer complete the menu.

Uplift feeds approximately 200 people, mostly men, per night. They sometimes see women but rarely children. Schmidt said if they do discover children, volunteers help find a shelter to serve them.

Numbers often triple in the summer.

“Kansas City is a transient spot for train riders, and Kansas City has a reputation for helping homeless people,” Schmidt said.

Three trucks “roll out” at 6 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and 5 p.m. Saturdays. The average route takes two to three hours. Schmidt and other volunteers do more than dish out food and pass out clothing. They often make new friends.

“These people are just like you and me,” he said. “They are starving for interaction with somebody different than those they see in their camps.”

## UPLIFT NEEDS COLD WEATHER SUPPLIES

Help fill Uplift's truck when it comes to Mission! Uplift will be accepting donations from 7 to 11 a.m. Thursday,

Nov. 21, in the north parking lot at the Sylvester Powell, Jr. Community Center. As cold weather season approaches, Uplift especially needs socks, tents and candles (tapers and pillars) but can also use blankets, sweatshirts and coats. All clothing should be adult sizes; men's size 32 is in high demand. Items should be new or gently used and freshly laundered. Canned goods and cash donations are always welcome. Uplift is also seeking volunteers to cook, deliver meals and sort items in the warehouse. For more information, contact 816-241-0060 or visit [www.uplift.org](http://www.uplift.org).

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## Trinity Lutheran Church: A Taste of World-Class Music

### *Concert schedule includes Handel's 'Messiah' and Bach Cantata Series*

By Heather Swan

You don't need to travel to the great concert halls of New York, London or Berlin to hear world-class music. All you have to do is stay in Mission and head down the street to Trinity Lutheran Church.

Maybe known best for its cross and electronic sign on the corner of Shawnee Mission Parkway and Nall Avenue, Trinity Lutheran is also recognized within the Kansas City arts circle for its top-notch concert series and arts program. And now the church is hoping to expand its reach to the rest of the community.

A highlight on the church's upcoming concert calendar is Handel's "Messiah," which will be performed at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 21 (Preview Performance), at Trinity Lutheran, 5602 W. 62nd St. What makes this presentation of the "Messiah" different from others is that it's performed by the Spire Chamber Ensemble and Baroque Orchestra using baroque instruments like the ones used when Handel composed the piece in the 1700s.

"Ours is also really unique in that we fly in the musicians from around the United States and Canada," said Ben Spalding, director of music and the arts at Trinity Lutheran Church and the founder and artistic director of the Spire Chamber Ensemble and Baroque Orchestra. "It's unique for Kansas City and definitely unique for Mission."

For the first time this year, the Spire Chamber Ensemble and Baroque Orchestra will also perform Handel's "Messiah" at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. This show will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 23, and concert-goers can take a bus from Trinity to the Kauffman Center at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Trinity Lutheran "Messiah" are free and available at the door. For tickets at the Kauffman Center, people can purchase them online at [tickets.kauffmancenter.org/single/Event-Detail.aspx?p=6700](http://tickets.kauffmancenter.org/single/Event-Detail.aspx?p=6700) or by calling 816-994-7222. The tickets range from \$15 to \$35 for this show. As outreach, the church is giving away 500 tickets for the Kauffman performance to nonprofit groups, which can give them to people who wouldn't normally be able to attend a performance like this.

Trinity Lutheran is also in the midst of performing more than 200 of Bach's cantatas as part of its Bach Cantata Series over the next several years. These free, 45-minute shows are performed at 5:30 p.m. every Saturday in November, December (except Dec. 28), February, March and April. This is the first time the entire collection of Bach's cantatas has been performed like this in the Midwest. The goal is to perform all 200-plus over the course of five years. The cantatas are being performed "one on a part" — as Bach would have done — with one soprano, tenor, bass, violin, viola and cello.

"This music is not archaic," Spalding said. "It's still relevant today."

"Listening guides" are available for people who attend to help them understand the wonderful stories and meaningful messages of Bach's cantatas and make the music more accessible.

"It's neat to be able to offer this for the community," Spalding said of Trinity's concert series and arts program.

For more information and upcoming concert schedule, visit [www.tlcms.org/MusicandtheArts](http://www.tlcms.org/MusicandtheArts).

Above: Ben Spalding, center, director of music and the arts at Trinity Lutheran Church, is also the founder and artistic director of the Spire Chamber Ensemble and Baroque Orchestra. The ensemble and orchestra will be performing Handel's "Messiah" in December at the church and the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.



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8-13yr. olds

5:30-6:30pm

6:30-7:30pm

7:30-9:30pm

\$10/child

Arts & Crafts

Gym/Relays/Snack

Movie: Arthur Christmas



[www.sylvesterpowell.com](http://www.sylvesterpowell.com)

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