

MARCH/APRIL 2021



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PAGE 30

NEVERTHELESS, SHE PAINTED

Mission Artist Stacy Krieg
on pursuing her passion,
painting her 'girls.'

PAGE 6

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March/April 2021 | 3



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Nevertheless, she

Painted

Artist Stacy Krieg on pursuing
her passion, painting her 'girls'

Stories and photos by Denise Elam



Artist Stacy Krieg poses in
front of one of her 'girls,' a
16-by-40 original oil painting
titled "Hepburn Style."

In the quiet early morning hours, alone in the studio her husband so lovingly built for her, Mission artist Stacy Krieg has a vision.

Or rather, a vision is revealed to her with each stroke of the paintbrush. Beneath shades of cadmium red and aqua — Stacy's favorite colors to work with — a female figure slowly emerges with an angled chin and resigned expression.

Stacy calls these figures her "girls." Much of her artwork centers around these figures, each portraying a different emotion.

"There's something about her eyes," Stacy explained, looking at her most recent work of art — a 16-by-40 oil painting of a female figure. The canvas is almost as tall as Stacy herself.

"They can be sassy, they can be serious, they can be funny, they can be silly," she said. "It's just my love and passion for emotion is why I always go back to the girls."

Stacy's interest in art sparked initially when she was just a child. Although she never pursued formal education in the field, she began taking her hobby more seriously in the 1990s, creating larger-scale paintings and refining her skills.

"I started studying art history and different artists that I like," she said. "I tend to stay in my own wheelhouse — my own brain — and my subjects just kind of come to me. I try to keep it very instinctual rather than saying 'this is the technique and the way I have to do something.' I believe firmly in studying art methods and practicing a subject until it is perfect, however."

Stacy's theory is that in order to abstract something or use intuition alone to create art, one must first know how to paint "the real image."

"That gives you even more confidence in painting your own style," she said.

Stacy is greatly inspired by Russian impressionist artist Slava Korolenkov, whom she met after inquiring about his artwork. They have since forged an international friendship, with him making several educational trips to Kansas City. She feels extremely fortunate to have trained with a "Russian Master" of art on several occasions.

"He taught me precision and then how to abstract subjects and 'feel' them, giving me the confidence I needed to hear my own voice," she said. "I've hosted workshops for him; we go on location to do plein air (outside, on location) art," she

Stacy Krieg uses layers of oil paint to 'discover' her figures.

explained. "He's very expressive ... he's taught me a lot about technique and also that one stroke can make or break the whole painting."

As an avid reader, Stacy also looks to books on fashion and color, focusing particularly on old Hollywood models and highly intelligent leaders in fashion movements such as Jacqueline Kennedy.

"I have tons of books on Jacqueline Kennedy and her fashion; I think the reason being because I love her understated elegance," she said. "She's so simple but then she'll do a pop of color or a scarf. That's exactly what I try to do with my art. I try to let the color talk."

While pursuing her hobby, Stacy worked for nearly 20 years as the director of human resources and benefits for large corporations.

"I loved the math part of my job and working directly with people," she said,

noting that her master's degree was in business. "But once I had my daughter, I developed a very bad spinal issue which still affects me to this day. I had to take a break and quit working."

Looking back, she described it as a "blessing in disguise" despite the pain.

"People started saying, 'You should sell your work,' and 'Can I buy that?'" she said. "And I thought, 'Hmm, maybe I could.'"

In 2012, Stacy began selling her work at art fairs and online, starting out with custom dog paintings before moving on to her own creative ideas and visions.

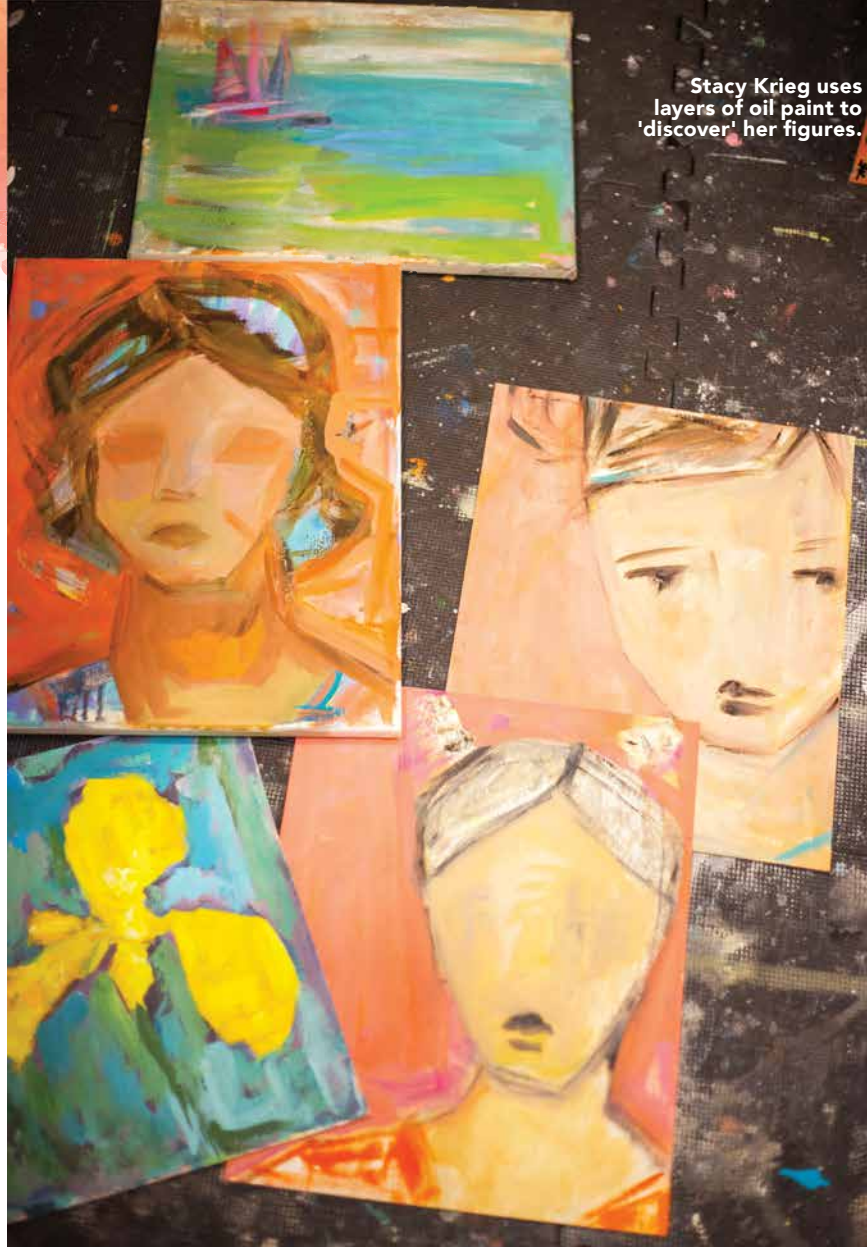
Although she has experience with many different mediums, oil paint is her specialty.

"Oil paint has an old world quality that brings class and sophistication to a painting," she said. "It is also a forgiving medium to work with. You can blend or start a painting over several times with oil — with each layer making it that much more beautiful."

In fact, this is how most of her paintings get their start — with layers of leftover paint.

"At the end of the day when I'm done painting, I don't want to waste the paint so I'll just throw it on (a canvas) any which way," she said. "And these, usually, are the starts of (other) paintings."

Without any predetermined image in mind, Stacy steps back





**"I SPEND HOURS
PAINTING AND IT
FEELS JUST LIKE
A FEW MINUTES
BECAUSE I LOVE
WHAT I AM DOING
SO MUCH."**

-STACY KRIEG

**A collection of books on art,
fashion and Jacqueline Kennedy
help inspire Stacy's art.**

from the canvas and flips it over again and again to find the figure, waiting for it to emerge from beneath the layers of paint.

"If I can't find them, I keep flipping," she said, noting that it can take days and a dozen layers to get it right. Sometimes the paintings go back into the pile to receive more paint.

"I just kind of know when they're done," she said. "I just keep going until I've found her and she comes to life."

Other than her 'girls,' Stacy also works on abstract landscapes, florals and portraits of the sea. After recognizing a need amongst her clients, she recently taught herself how to craft original, custom frames.

"They wanted finished work — not something they had to frame later," Stacy said. "I learned to frame because big box retailers charge extremely high amounts to frame pieces that are non-standard size. I wanted to be able to provide a finished product to my clients that is ready to hang and is also affordable."

Affordability of original artwork is part of Stacy's mission. She tries to sell direct to clients online to avoid gallery fees and other third party increases.

"I participate in some key art shows across the country, but most of my efforts the past few years have been with selling online," she said. "This allows me to reach so many people and offer art that is affordable."

Since quitting her corporate job, Stacy hasn't looked back. She knows she's in the right field of work.

"When I'm in my studio, I lose all sense of time and place," she said. "I spend hours painting and it feels just like a few minutes because I love what I am doing so much."

Her husband Bruce, who she describes as her biggest fan and cheerleader, built the studio in their basement when Stacy realized she wanted to work a little closer to home. A lot of people doubted her dream, but never Bruce. He bought her a drill when she wanted to pursue frame-making and even installed lights in the basement to give her a better view.

"He was so supportive of everything," she said. "He was proud of me for pursuing my passion."

Despite his passing in 2020, Stacy sees signs of Bruce everywhere — in an interested new customer, in a random outreach from an art fair, in a magazine feature such as this — reminding her that his support is never far away. Her art has been flying off the shelves lately, a true sign in her eyes that she is doing something right.

Still processing her grief, Stacy plans to spend 2021 working on an abstract series.

"This will give me even more freedom in my work, allowing me to put my emotions into action and capture them raw on canvas," she said. "I'm excited to see where this series takes me professionally."

To view or purchase her art, visit www.stacykrieg.com or visit her instagram, @stacykriegart.



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'DO A GOOD TURN DAILY'

• SME senior completes Eagle Scout Project in Mission •

By Denise Elam

Shawnee Mission East senior Justin Keller installed trail marker posts in Mohawk Park.



Shawnee Mission East senior Justin Keller is on a mission to achieve a milestone with the Boy Scouts of America.

In January of 2020, Justin began the research and preparation work to obtain his Eagle Scout rank, the highest achievement in scouting. To earn such a rank, a scout must plan, develop and provide leadership to others in a service project benefitting a

religious institution, school or the community.

Justin's original plan was to build a little free library inside Mohawk Park in Mission. When he met with Penn Almoney, director of Parks + Recreation in Mission, to propose his idea, he learned the park might be reconstructed with a new playground and other amenities within the next few years.



Penn suggested a different project which involved the installation of trail marker posts and a pedestrian counter in the park.

"Penn and I came up with the idea of also including 'one-tenth of a mile' markers around the park," Justin said, noting that this would help walkers keep track of their progress along the trail.

Planning the project seemed simple until Justin wrote out each step of the process on paper. The materials needed, coordination and patience required to gather a team of scouts for assistance was much more work than he had originally anticipated.

But the largest bump in the road would come a little later, when COVID-19 hit in spring of 2020.

"I was planning on doing the project over March and April and that's when all the lockdowns happened," he said. "And then in fall, soccer season started up and I got busy on the weekends. The only day I could pick to do it was on a weekday."

Justin was eventually able to assemble a team of Boy Scouts to help complete the

project, including young scouts mixed with a few older boys who had already achieved their own Eagle Scout ranking.

"The project included 13 scouts, totaling 57 man hours," he said.

Justin reached out to a local sign company, Sign Pro, to procure the mile marker signage. When owner Jim Sloss realized the markers were for use in an Eagle Scout project, he donated each and every one of them.

"Anything I can do to help scouts," Jim said. "They do so much good in the community."

According to Justin, The Eagle Scout project instills leadership skills and encourage scouts to think outside the box while helping another organization.

"When you're older, if you run your own business you'll need to know how to lead your employees," Justin said. "The whole project was about showing leadership and guiding and instructing younger scouts."

Justin has been a part of the scouts for most of his life — starting in the first grade.

"Since then, I've just been fascinated with all the cool trips and the basic life skills they've been teaching over the years," he said.

Last October, Justin and his team completed his Eagle Scout project in Mohawk Park which involved cutting, staining and installing trail marker posts. The team also created the pedestrian trail counter.

The work isn't over yet — Justin's project is still awaiting review from the Boy Scout Headquarters in Dallas, Texas. The lengthy review process is all a part of the journey. According to the Boy Scouts of America's official website, only 4% of scouts actually earn the esteemed ranking once the lengthy review process is complete.

"In total, you have to go through about four or five review processes just to get the badge," he said.

Even if he doesn't achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, Justin is proud of the impact he and his fellow scouts made on the Mission community.

"The most rewarding part was teaching the younger scouts skills they didn't know, like how to use certain types of tools and installing posts in the ground," he said. "None of them knew how to do that, so I guided them and showed them how."



"The most rewarding part was teaching the younger scouts skills they didn't know, like how to use certain types of tools and installing posts in the ground."

-Justin Keller



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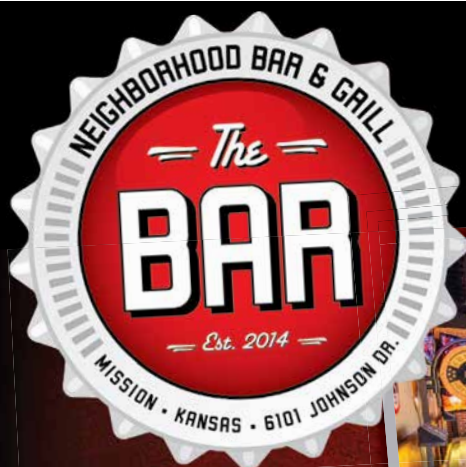
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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Community Development,
Finance and Administration

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

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.

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Mayor Ron Appletoft 913.676.8351

WARD I COUNCIL MEMBERS

Trent Boultinghouse 620.238.0394
Hillary Parker Thomas 913.961.4520

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Arcie Rothrock 913.568.2872
Nick Schlossmacher 913.788.6425

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Kristin Inman 816.510.7698
Debbie Kring 913.722.6901

WARD IV COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ken Davis 913.669.7095
Sollie Flora 913.735.4882

"If I Were Mayor, I Would..." Student Contest



Have you ever thought about what you would do if you were elected to the top leadership position in the City of Mission? As Mayor, what would you change? What would you do to make our City a better place? What are your "big ideas?"

In honor of the City's 70th Birthday in 2021, Mission is introducing the "If I Were Mayor, I Would..." student contest this spring, and here's how it works.

Mission students (public, private or homeschooled) are invited to submit an entry in one of the three categories listed below based on their age:

- **Elementary School** (K-6) - Poster Contest
- **Middle School** (grades 7-8) - Essay Contest
- **High School** (grades 9-12) - Digital Media Presentations (e.g. video, PowerPoint, Prezi)

POSTERS:

- Poster size must be a minimum of 17" and a maximum of 28" in height or width.
- Students are encouraged to be creative and may use any art medium (e.g., poster paints, felt pens, colored pencils, pastels, crayons, three-dimensional art, etc.). The poster may be in color or black and white.

ESSAYS:

- Essays must be 500 to 1,000 words in length and typed.

DIGITAL MEDIA PRESENTATIONS (video, PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.):

- Presentations must be one to three minutes in length and must be emailed to Laura Smith at lsmith@missionks.org.

The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for a parent or guardian must appear all submissions, regardless of type. Contest entries will be judged by the Mayor and other city officials, and the winner in each category will be eligible to receive a \$100 prize.

The deadline for contest submissions is Monday, March 22, 2021. For full contest rules and deadlines, please visit the City's website at www.missionks.org

Building Community

Mission's Grant Programs Provide Support to Residents and Businesses

Building and maintaining a strong, healthy community is an important priority for the City of Mission. For many years, Mission has helped to support this goal by returning dollars to residents through a franchise and property tax rebate program, and by investing in both residential neighborhoods and commercial areas through a number of different community grant and outreach programs. Mission's City Council budgets nearly \$100,000 annually to fund these programs, and with only a few exceptions, these funds available on a firstcome, first-served basis. The rebate and community grant programs are highlighted below.



Community Rebate Program (Franchise Fee/Property Tax/Solid Waste Utility Rebates)

Income-eligible residents may apply to receive: a full rebate of city telephone, electricity, or gas franchise fees for the year, a partial rebate of city property taxes and a partial rebate of solid waste utility fees. Residents must meet income guidelines to qualify.

Mission Possible

The Mission Possible program assists homeowners with the removal of physical barriers, dilapidated structures, qualifying minor home repairs, house painting and tree trimming. Funds are awarded based on the applicant's income, eligibility to receive Medicare/Social Security disability benefits, involvement in code case resolution and other factors. The program strives to partner with Mission residents who are interested in making improvements to their homes.

Neighborhood Grant Program

The Neighborhood Grant Program provides up to \$500 to help resident-based groups build and preserve community through various programs and activities. Examples include starting neighborhood newsletters or email lists, sponsoring block parties, preparing informational workshops or other community-building activities.

Mission Business Improvement Grant (BIG)

This grant is designed to assist local businesses through funding for exterior building repairs or improvements and qualified energy efficiency upgrades. Applicants will be reimbursed at one-half (50%) of their approved costs, with the City's share not to exceed \$10,000 per project annually or \$2,000 per sign. Since its inception in 2004, the BIG grant program has provided \$461,000 in grant funds that have helped to leverage more than \$1.4 million in total improvements to businesses throughout the community.

For more information, please contact Nilo Fanska, Community Development Coordinator at 913.676.8360.

Together We Accomplish Great Things

Thanks to the generosity and dedication of our residents and businesses, Mission's Family Adoption Program, in partnership with the City of Roeland Park, brightened the holidays for many families in our area. Here's a look at our 2020 successes:

84 Food baskets delivered to thankful families in partnership with Hy-Vee and Harvesters.

229 Family members received food and gifts that included toiletries, cleaning supplies, coats, hats, gloves, toys, clothing, books and even a twin mattress and box springs.

7 Bikes provided to children thanks to Officer Jay Fleer and BikeWalkKC

Each year as the needs grow, our community steps up to the challenge. We couldn't impact this many lives without you. Please know you helped so many others realize how much they are loved and appreciated as a part of our great community.

~ Sincerely, The 2020 Family Adoption Committee



Help Us Find a New Name

In 2003, Mission purchased the former Mohawk Elementary School at 67th and Lamar, demolished the building and converted the 7.8-acre site to much needed green space on the City's south side (Mohawk Park). The playground and walking trail were retained and the site's open turf areas support various leagues, programs and events.

Since early 2020, with input from a volunteer Steering Committee and the public, the City has been working to finalize a conceptual redesign of the park. This will allow space to be used more efficiently and to meet resident and visitor priorities with enhanced amenities. As a part of that process, the park will be renamed.

The City is currently seeking public input and suggestions for a new name for the park. Submissions will be reviewed by Parks + Recreation staff. Those meeting the City's established naming criteria will be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission for evaluation and final recommendation to the City Council. Suggestions may be emailed to Parks + Recreation Director Penn Almoney at palmoney@missionks.org





Mission's 2020 Championship Tree is a 50+ year old pin oak tree planted in the yard of former residents Dick & Marilyn King in the Countryside neighborhood. Neighbors and friends of the Kings submitted the nomination and the Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission is pleased to recognize the current homeowner, Ronnie Vaughn.

SevenDays®

MAKE A RIPPLE, CHANGE THE WORLD

Mission is pleased to join with the Faith Always Wins Foundation and several other cities throughout the area for a signature series of events known as Seven-Days®-Make a Ripple Change the World, scheduled for April 13-25, 2021.

The goal of the SevenDays® initiative is to provide opportunities encouraging all people to increase kindness through knowledge, mindset and behaviors. This is accomplished through a series of experiences (all virtual in 2021) held in April. Each day, a new theme helps participants practice kindness.

Follow the City's website and social media pages for more information on how you can participate! Learn more about being part of that "ripple of kindness" at GiveSevenDays.org.

2021 Bulky Item Collection Schedule

January 25 - 29

February 22 - 26

March 22 - 26

April 26 - 30

May 24 - 28

June 28 - July 2

July 26 - 30

August 23 - 27

September 27 - October 1

October 25 - 29

November 22 - 26

December 27 - 30

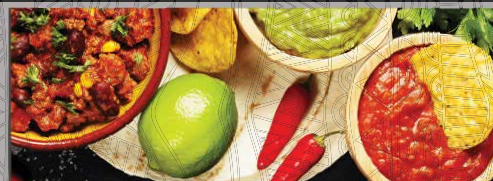


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Local elections will occur on Nov. 2, 2021. This includes City Council and Mayor positions as well as positions on the Shawnee Mission School District Board, Johnson County Community College Board of Directors and the Water District Board Members. Make sure you are registered to vote at jocoelection.org.

Those interested in running for office must file by Tuesday, June 1. Information on how to file and a full list of offices that will be on the ballot in Johnson County in November, is available at the Election Board's website at jocoelection.org



Thank You!

Your generosity and kindness helped us serve 84 families through Mission's Family Adoption program this holiday season.

For more details on the success of the 2020 program, please see page 19 in the City newsletter.

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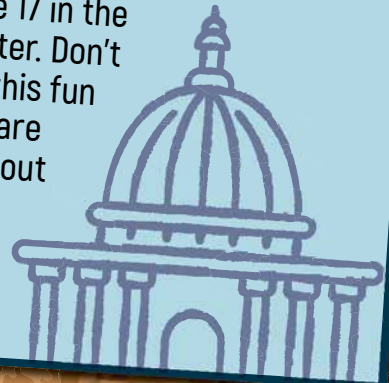
You can contact Suzie Gibbs at 913.671.8564 or
suziegibbs1@gmail.com for more information.



If I Were Mayor...

As we prepare to celebrate our 70th birthday, Mission is proud to host our first ever "If I Were Mayor, I Would..." student contest.

For more information on how to participate, please refer to page 17 in the City Newsletter. Don't miss out on this fun chance to share your ideas about what our City needs!



Congratulations to Pat Davidson who retired in January after a 33-year career with Security Bank (The Mission Bank)!

Pat has seen a lot of changes in banking over the years. When she started in 1988, there was no internet or online banking, no ATMs or automatic deposits. She saw many changes to Mission from her "home away from home" at the drive-up location on Martway, including watching the Powell Community Center being built.

Despite the growth and changes at the bank, Pat said, "I always believed in making a personal connection with customers to help them feel a part of the banking family."

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Murals in Mission

City Council approves new mural guidelines

By Denise Elam



Artist Daniel Lucid works on the woolly mammoth mural outside Headless Hands Custom Tattoos in November 2020.

A prehistoric creature of epic proportions will soon make its appearance in downtown Mission.

At the corner of Broadmoor and Johnson Drive, outside Headless Hands Custom Tattoos, a woolly mammoth is coming back to life in the shape of a mural.

The mural was commissioned by shop owner Sean Gilbert who said the artwork had been on his mind since the shop moved from Dearborn and Johnson to its current location four years ago.

"Just because of where the shop's located and the visibility of the building, there was a benefit to doing some sort of cool piece of art," he said. "A cool piece of art also draws attention to the city, to the area and to the business and gives a different vibe to Mission."

As an artist himself, Sean was familiar with the local artist community and reached out to an old friend, Daniel Lucid, who had recently retired from a corporate job in search of pursuing his own personal artistic projects. Sean believed Daniel was the right fit stylistically.

"When the pandemic hit, it probably wasn't the best time for us to start pursuing this," Sean admitted. But Daniel, newly independent, was very interested in taking on the project. In March of 2019, the two met to discuss what the endeavor would entail.

The subject matter of the mural was more of a collaborative process that evolved over time, eventually landing on the woolly mammoth skull.

"Inside our shop, we have an art gallery and a large collection of historic fossils and bones and specimens — almost like a natural history museum," Sean explained. Everything is preserved, including a 70-million-year-old crocodile head and even giraffe skulls.

"We spent quite a bit of money making this a high end tattoo studio and to have that environment and atmosphere," Sean said, noting that 2021 is the shop's tenth year in business as a "custom tattoo studio and art gallery with a collective of Kansas City artists, providing one-of-a-kind tattoos."

"We wanted to take the vibe, essence and atmosphere here and put it on the exterior of the shop," he said.

After months and months of back and forth on the subject matter, Daniel and Sean eventually landed on a woolly mammoth skull because they were prehistoric creatures native to the Kansas area.

With some research on City code, Sean reached out to the City of Mission to double check that the project wouldn't require a permit or other paperwork. He soon learned that City guidelines did not specifically address murals and their creation within the City.

Some guidelines had been suggested in 2012 to reflect the City's plan for a consistent look in terms of building colors and architectural design, but nothing that specifically pertained to murals.

"I only see artwork as a benefit to the community," Sean said. He posted a photo of the proposed mural onto the popular Nextdoor



A rendering of the finished mural.

HEADLESS HANDS
CUSTOM TATTOOS

City of Mission Mural Criteria

- Must be original art
- Allowed in commercial areas
- Must be maintained in good condition
- Must submit application and be approved

For for information or for a copy of an application, please contact Kaitlyn Service at 913.676.8366 or kservice@missionks.org.

app with a question: "How do you feel about artwork in general for the Mission Business District?"

"It was the number one post that week, that month, that year," he said. "I had hundreds of responses that were all super positive."

Sean presented his findings to the City and the issue was taken up by the City Council, who were all for it too.

"Laura Smith was very helpful in moving this forward and actually reached out to all the council members to try to get this approved so that we could get it started and finished prior to what we're doing now, which is waiting for good weather," Sean said.

New draft guidelines were created and quickly approved by the Council. Daniel officially began work on the wooly

"I'm really happy I'm a part of an area like this and that we're allowed to do this mural."

-Sean Gilbert

mammoth mural in late September 2020 and is expected to complete the project

in the spring of 2021, depending on weather conditions.

"I think it will definitely draw people into this city — which then draws people to stop in and get some food, drive by a business they didn't know in downtown Mission on the way; it's only a positive and is only going to bring more business and more people to the city," Sean said. "I'm really happy I'm a part of an area like this and that we're allowed to do this mural."

For more information about Headless Hands Custom Tattoos, visit headlesshands.com.

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'A love of Craft BEER'

Rockcreek Brewing Company
opens amidst pandemic

By Denise Elam

Rockcreek Brewing Company features
12 rotating craft beers with a wide
variety of styles.
Photo by Denise Elam.

Trent Wiegers, brewmaster at Rockcreek Brewing Company. Photo by Denise Elam.



It was as long-time friends and colleagues at Cerner Corporation in North Kansas City that a group of associates first bonded over their mutual love of craft beer.

The group, comprised of husband and wife Mark Schonhoff and Sara Charlson, Craig Reed, Chris Murrish and several others, worked at Cerner together for decades.

"Seven years ago, a group of us would all get together and brew our own beer," Mark said. "It was more of a social thing," he noted, explaining that their concoctions did not always taste the best. "Brewing was a lot of fun, but we found what we really enjoyed was the drinking part, not the making part."

At some point, the prospect of owning a brewery sounded more and more appealing. The group planned to own the business together and hire a brew master to create signature craft beers.

As a group, they began scouting for locations and brewmasters. Two years later, they landed on a building along Beverly Avenue in Mission just north of Johnson Drive.

"We looked at downtown Kansas City, in old town Overland Park and then we found this location here — we just really loved Mission," Mark said. "There was a new vibrancy here; we decided this would be a great location for us to open our brewery."

The group interviewed local brewers to take on the role of brewmaster. They had little luck finding anyone that matched their vision.

"None of them were a great fit for us and what we were wanting to do," Mark said.

One weekend, Sara emailed all the technical brewing schools around the country with a request to hire a young up-and-coming brewer in the industry. The president of a college in Knoxville, Tennessee quickly responded with a name: Trent Wiegers. At the time, Trent was working as head brewer of a brewery called Spencer Devon in Virginia, although he was originally from Independence, Missouri.

It just so happened that Sara and Mark were already planning

a trip to Washington DC. They quickly made arrangements to meet Trent along the way for an interview.

"He had the same passion about beer that we did," Sara said. "We had an opportunity to taste beers he had recently brewed and we were very impressed."

All four owners felt Trent was the perfect fit for their vision and hired him.

"He's very laid back and relaxed; we have the same approach," Sara said. "We knew he could make high quality beer and was open to our ideas of a brewery. He's brought his own ideas and introduced us to a lot of new styles of beer that we weren't even aware of."

With Trent on their team, the group of friends were ready to open their brewery. But there was just one little problem: a global pandemic. News of shutdowns and COVID-19 capacity regulations hit them hard.

"We (had already) brewed a couple beers and had them in the tanks... we didn't know what to do," Mark said.

The owners quickly changed their game plan, purchasing a canning machine and learning how to can beer on the fly. In May of 2020, Rockcreek Brewing Company officially opened for to-go orders only, offering curbside canned beer. Despite the setbacks, the business saw a very busy opening day.

"We're grateful for the reception," Sara said. "We had an overwhelming amount of support from the community."

In early June, as COVID-19 restrictions lessened, the brewery opened its taproom.

The large garage doors at the front of the building proved to be very useful. On warm summer days, the doors swing open to reveal the outside patio, leaving plenty of space for socially distant beer tastings.

Each Friday since opening, the brewery has hosted food trucks — partnering with local entrepreneurs to serve food to their eager customers.

"We have a partnership with Taco Tank," Sara said. "They have created amazing menu items that people just adore. Their food is amazing, they're easy to work with and we are just super grateful."

The brewery features 12 rotating craft beers with a wide variety of styles — everything from Belgian blondes, sours, porters, stouts, American and New England style IPAs. Co-owner Sara also sells her custom popcorn, Charlson's Popcorn, at Rockcreek.

The name of the brewery holds a special meaning to its owners.

"Cerner headquarters was on Rockcreek Parkway up in North Kansas City," Mark said. "So we named it in homage to all of us working and retiring from Cerner."

They were also inspired by Cerner's dedication to giving back to the community. Rockcreek pays its staff a living wage and donates all tips to various local charities on a quarterly basis.

"We just really loved Mission. There was a new vibrancy here; we decided this would be a great location for us to open our brewery."

- Mark Schonhoff



Garage doors open inside Rockcreek to reveal a patio for social distancing. Photo courtesy of Rockcreek.

"That really aligns well with how we were raised at Cerner in terms of giving back to the community as part of our role and responsibility of being a company in the area," Mark said.

Since opening, the brewery has donated thousands of dollars in tips to charities including the Kansas City Hospitality Covid Relief Fund, Unleashed Animal Rescue and the Mission Family Adoption Program.

"All the donations for our fourth-quarter tip jar went toward feeding families through the months of November and December and in addition to that, they were able to do a lot of gift giving to adopted families across the board," Sara said.

The generosity of Rockcreek and their patrons helped Mission's annual Family Adoption Program set an all-time fundraising record.

The owners at Rockcreek look forward to a hopeful, COVID-less future in the next few years — a future where they can get to know their customers up close and mask-less. But in the meantime, they are incredibly happy with the reception they have received and plan to continue giving back and brewing up new beers each week.

"We're excited to see it come to life a little bit more and to not have to worry about being so antsy with having people spaced out," Sara said.

Depending upon weather conditions, Rockcreek Brewing Company is open Wednesday through Friday 4-9 p.m., Saturdays 2-9 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m. For more information, visit rockcreekbrewing.square.site.

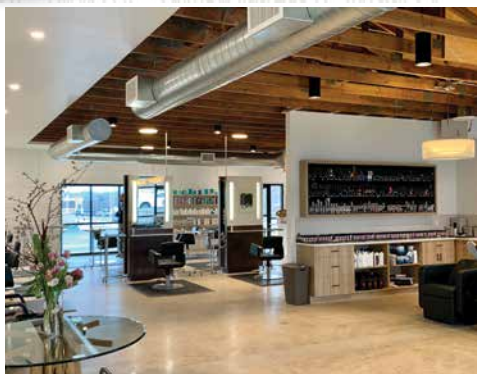
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Pictured, from left: Dennis and Janneth Madden, Chief Dan Madden, Drew Madden, Holly Fuemmeler

DESTINED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE



Police Chief Dan Madden

Some people might not believe in destiny, but for one Mission police officer, a career in public service seemed written in the stars.

Earlier this month, the Mayor and City Council confirmed the appointment of Dan Madden as Mission's new Chief of Police.

Dan got his start in policing at a young age. As a child, he often patrolled his neighborhood in a police motorcycle electric scooter. He was also captain of the Safety Patrol in elementary school and played the role of police officer at Exchange City (an educational learning

center teaching kids about the economy).

Born and raised in Shawnee, Kansas, Dan graduated from Shawnee Mission Northwest High School and had connections to Mission long before he joined the police force. His father spent 41 years working for the Gerson Company (located where Target is now), where Dan himself worked his first job at the age of 14.

He joined the Mission Police Department in August of 1999 and worked his way up throughout the ranks — serving as police officer, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and now, Chief.

He was selected for the position following a nationwide search.

Competing against a field of more than 35 qualified applicants, Dan emerged as the clear choice to take over the top leadership role for the Mission Police Department.

"Conducting a national search for the chief's position was an important priority for the Governing Body and for the City Administrator," said Mayor Ron Appletoft. "I am proud our internal candidate stood out during the recruitment process. I believe Dan's compassion, integrity and vision for the department will strengthen our Mission community."

A father of two, Dan's sons both attended Rushton Elementary, Hocker Grove Middle School and Shawnee Mission North High School.

During the swearing-in ceremony, his youngest son Drew proudly pinned the distinctive Chief's badge onto his dad's uniform. His oldest son Zach, a recent USMC boot camp graduate, couldn't join the event in person but was represented in spirit — Dan held tightly onto his framed photograph.

Dan said it was important for him to show his sons that hard work and determination would pay off in accomplishing your goals.

When asked about his promotion to Chief of Police, Dan promised his commitment to continuing to grow the department's relationship with the community.

"Building these partnerships and trust is paramount to our efforts to prevent and reduce crime," he noted. "We are fortunate to have

a professional, dedicated team of staff and officers that understand the importance of having and maintaining the trust of all members of our community. Equity and respect remain critical to our foundation for providing public safety services."

Congratulations, Chief Madden! We look forward to great things!

"I believe Dan's compassion, integrity and vision for the department will strengthen our Mission community."

-Mayor Ron Appletoft



5807 Johnson Dr.,
Mission, KS 66202

Here to Serve for Over 50 Years

Interview with James W. Tharp - Owner of
Red Wing Shoes - Mission since 1967.

By Sophia Stufflebeam (Granddaughter), 2017

Did you start out your career wanting to be in the shoe business?

"No, not shoes but I was in sales. At the time I was selling furniture when two members of my church wanted me to look at a shoe business. Now when I was younger my grandfather ran a shoe repair store and I worked in that store. So I did have experience with shoes."

What prompted you to get into the Red Wing Shoe business?

"Well, Red Wing was in the process of developing just work shoes and boots. I liked their products. They were well made. It also took the guesswork out of buying fashion shoes like the family shoe store business I was in. These shoes were made to last and they were made for a purpose. There was good inventory control. Back then just like now there was a greater importance on the sizes so that we fit the customer's foot just right. We started our first store with only 800 pairs of shoes."

What has been the key to your success and the continued success of the Red Wing Stores?

"The product. It has continued to be well made. It has been updated as the workplace has changed but they still make them really well. Another thing is the long term associates. They have learned about the shoes and are able to meet customer's needs."

I understand, you have had a pair of Red Wing hunting boots for awhile. How many years have you owned this pair? Do you still wear them?

"Yes I have owned them for about 25 years and yes I still wear them."

Are these boots that durable or are the memories with them that valuable?

"You know I have really worn these boots out but memories with them remain."



5807 JOHNSON DRIVE, MISSION, KANSAS 66202

Rooted in Mission

Farming families form
Mission's foundation

By Kate Deacon

Barkley, Walmer, Beverly ... the familiar street names we pass daily in Mission can mean much more when we know the stories behind them.

While toting your groceries through the parking lot at Barkley Square, just imagine John Barkley, decorated war hero and local farmer, closing down a bustling Johnson Drive each morning and evening to help his cows cross safely from one pasture to another.

Farming families of the mid-1800s put down roots and began to develop the land that would become Mission, slowly turning open pastures of yesterday to the commerce of today.

In the 1930s, the Ashner Dairy farm, once located at 49th and Lamar, established the Kansas City area's first farmers market at the corner of Johnson Drive and Nall Avenue.

At nearly the exact site our current farmers market now sits, locals once enjoyed Charlie's farm-fresh produce and eggs advertised as "Hot off the Nest!" with one convenient stop on the brick-lined thoroughfare.

Farming families made major contributions to our developing community, most notably with the donation of the Edwin Walmer family land for use of a school building.

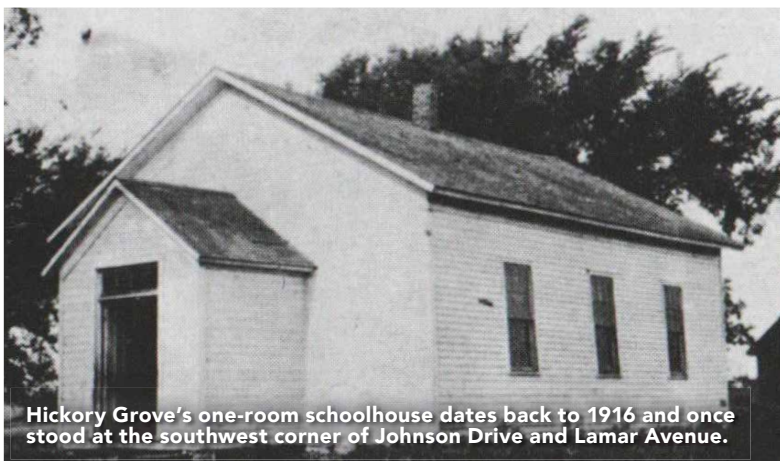
Established in 1865, the Hickory Grove School served Mission families for generations before closing its doors in 1982. Now the site of Horizons High School, the City still respects Walmer's original request that the land be used only for educational purposes.

To explore more of Mission's rich history, download the Otocast App and take a virtual tour of yesteryear! It's like a tour guide in your pocket. To get started, search for the free Otocast app in your smart phone app store.

Photos courtesy of the Johnson County Museum



The Anton Hauser home and farm stood at the corner of Highway 69 and Johnson Drive until it was removed to make way for the state highway improvement north from Herald Corner in 1954. All 10 Hauser children attended Hickory Grove school and worked on the farm.



Hickory Grove's one-room schoolhouse dates back to 1916 and once stood at the southwest corner of Johnson Drive and Lamar Avenue.

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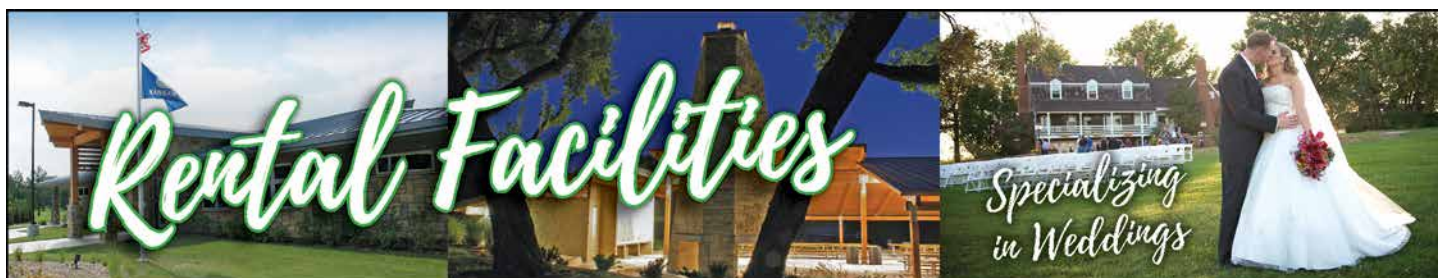
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- Roeland Park Community Center
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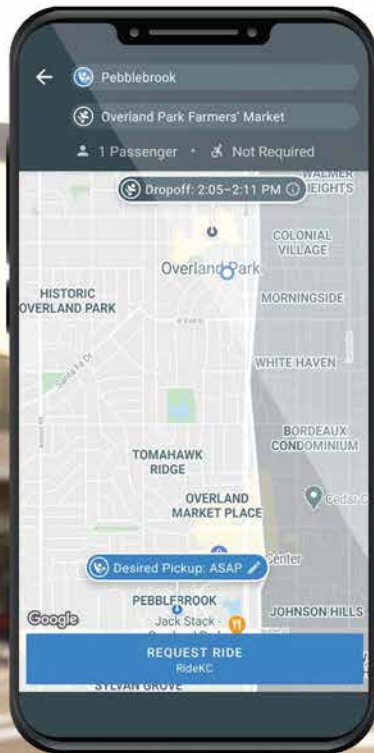
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(free lube)

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Engine
Light**

**A/C
Service**

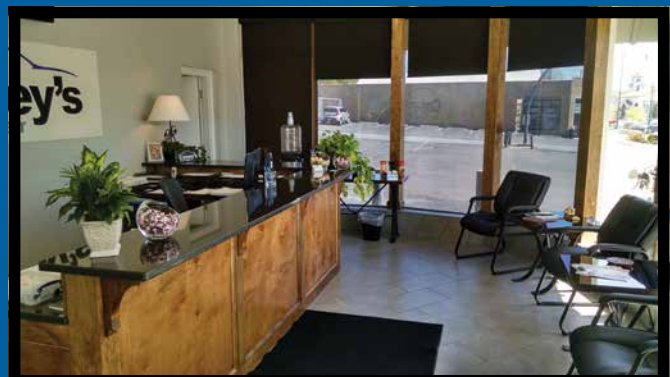
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