

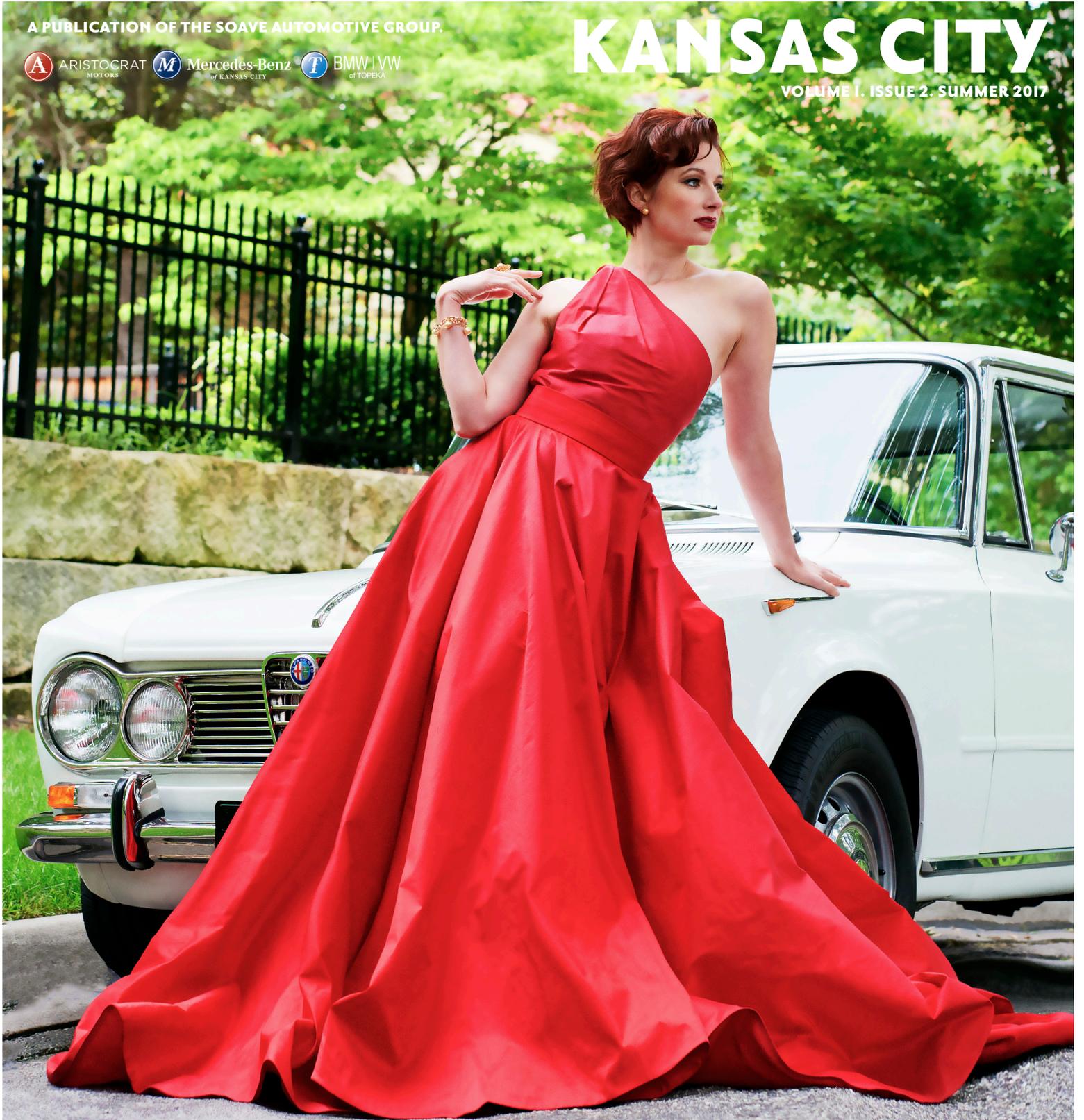
TODAY

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOAVE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP.

 ARISTOCRAT MOTORS  Mercedes-Benz of KANSAS CITY  BMW | VW of TOPEKA

KANSAS CITY

VOLUME I. ISSUE 2. SUMMER 2017



ARCHITECTURE | AUTOMOTIVE | FASHION | FOOD | NONPROFIT | TRENDS | EVENTS



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Culture. You hear that word used all too often in every company. We all know what a poor culture can do to any organization. While it is easy enough to write a mission statement, to practice it every single day is the challenge, to get everyone in our organization to understand what is important to us as a team. Then our goal becomes having our associates grow in our culture and provide the highest level of service to our customers.



That culture starts with one simple word: Respect.

Our Auto Group practices a level of service that truly respects our customer's time. We understand that you have many choices in the way you invest your time and energy. We strive to respect your time by hiring the best people, placing them in the correct positions within our company, and then having them prepared to provide the best in service.

Our business is comprised of many departments; sales, both new and pre-owned; service; parts; finance; and administration, and each requires many different skillsets. In a workplace that is very time- and energy-demanding, our team delivers its absolute best every day for you, our customer. And each day the management team supports our associates' work by recognizing their efforts, furthering their knowledge, and attending to their wellbeing.

Within our organization, we strive to treat each other with respect. It all begins at "home."

After hiring a new team member, we train and do things other automobile dealers probably see as unnecessary. To support wellness, we have installed gyms in both of our Kansas City facilities, which help not only physical fitness but mental awareness, self-image, and discipline. The Auto Group comes together three times a year as a whole, to interact, socialize, and communicate with each other, sharing stories, learning, and breaking bread. We create and publish this magazine to share with our customers but also, internally, we publish a regular newsletter for our team members to showcase and share our accomplishments and our vision.

As a whole, we try to be there for each other, and in doing so, we know we will be there for you. Thank you for your support and your friendship.

Marion Battaglia, President



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Printer: Allen Press @ 810 East 10th Street,
Lawrence, KS 66044 / allenpress.com

TODAY KANSAS CITY is a quarterly publication by Soave Automotive Group – home of Aristocrat Motors, Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City, BMW of Topeka, and VW of Topeka. Address: 9400 W 65th St, Merriam, KS 66203, 913.677.3300, aristocratmotors.com. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without prior written permission of the publisher.

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ARISTOCRAT MOTORS has become the Johnson County and south Kansas City dealer for Alfa Romeo. And “Alfa” has taken the motoring community by storm with the launch of the new Giulia Sport Sedan during the Super Bowl this year. The Giulia and the higher-performance Quadrifoglio have received rave reviews. And we are looking forward to welcoming the SUV model, the Stelvio. Alfa Romeo is a storied Italian automobile, and it fits perfectly with Maserati in our European stable at Aristocrat Motors.



In this issue, you will find a road-test featuring Alfa, plus an ode to vintage Alfas in our fashion spread.

Also in this issue, you will find a new section on Kansas City history, as seen in its historical buildings. By looking at our history, you can visit the area – or as in the case of the first library, the actual building – to get a vivid sense of the time period.

With this new section we also introduce a new contributor, **Susan Richards Johnson**, who has been a long-time advocate and chronicler of historical preservation. Susan is senior principal at Strata Architecture Preservation and will in future issues not only look at Kansas City history but also Lawrence, Topeka, and surrounding areas. We think you will enjoy.

With that said, please note our continuing contributors, and enjoy *TODAY Kansas City*.

COVER & STYLE: The *TODAY* style team is comprised of a group of nationally published creative individuals whose passion for editorial image-making allows them to combine the beauty and technology of high-performance Alfa Romeo automobiles with luxury fashion and stunning locations to create a glamorous old-Hollywood inspired story. The team includes photographer **Kenny Johnson**, fashion stylist **Amani Skalacki**, and hair and makeup artist **Paige Pelfrey**. Our cover model is **Jennifer Tierney**, acclaimed business owner, prima ballerina, and model for Voices &.



We have introduced you to our new Historical Kansas City contributor, Susan Richards Johnson, Here are the other writers that make this magazine possible.

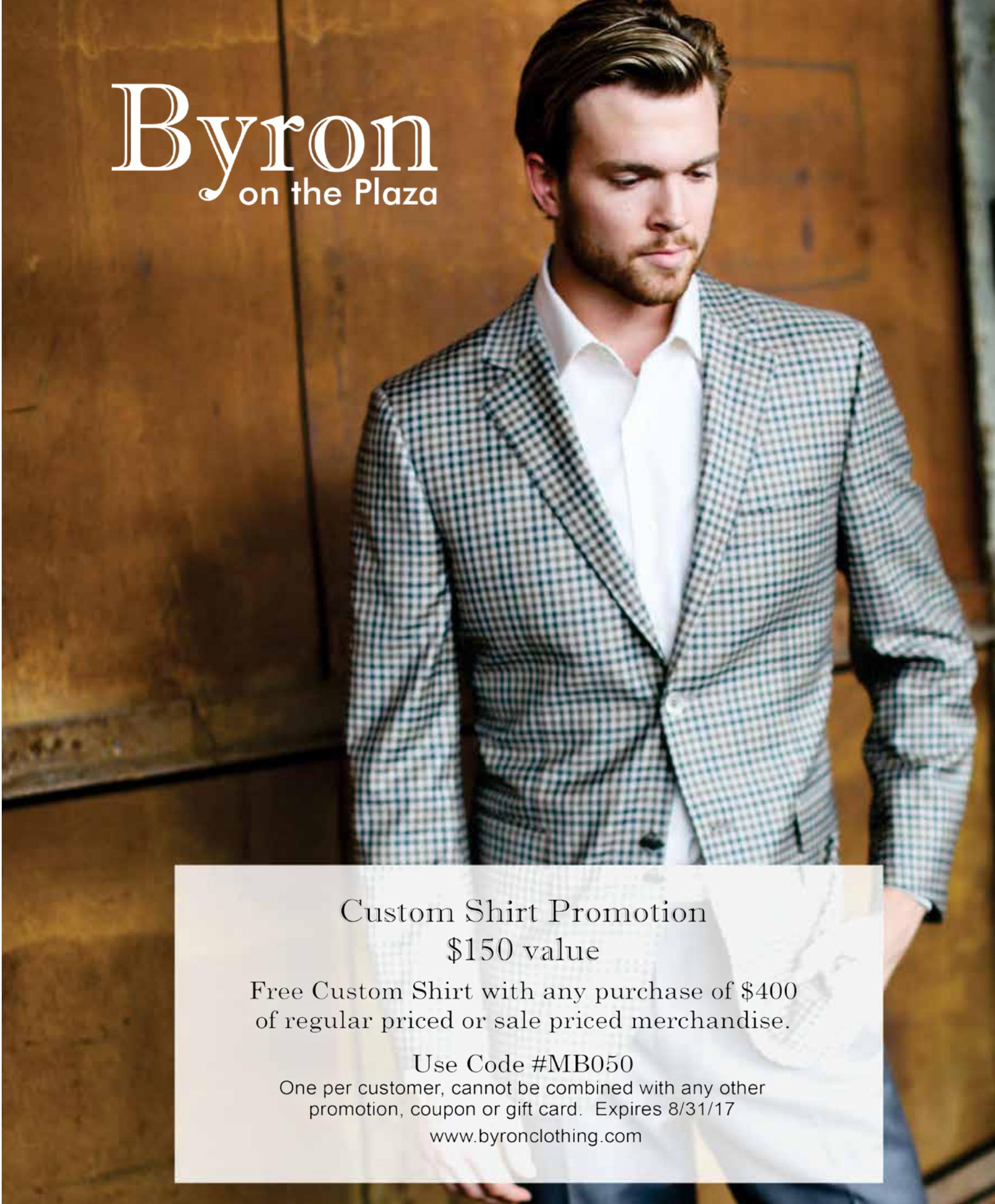
ARCHITECTURE: **Bill Johnson**, AIA, is the design principal for HOK in Kansas City and its senior vice president. Recognized as a leader in the design of sports and entertainment facilities and districts, his approach is defined by his ability to develop integrated solutions that achieve the unique objectives of each client and contribute to the vitality of the broader community. Bill has applied his expertise and design sensitivity to numerous award-winning projects, including Mercedes-Benz Stadium, H&R Block Headquarters, and the Power & Light District.

AUTOMOTIVE: **Tom Strongman** has a degree in photojournalism from the University of Missouri and was formerly the director of photography and then the automotive editor of *The Kansas City Star*. Tom, a member of the Missouri Press Association Photojournalism Hall of Fame, has written about and photographed cars for more than three decades.

FASHION Spotlight: **Jennifer Lapka Pfeifer** has been involved in the fashion community in Kansas City from helping bring the 18th Street Fashion Show to life to now promoting and supporting the burgeoning garment industry rebirth in our city. She also serves as the executive director of Rightfully Sewn.

FOOD: **Jesse Little** is the Master Certified Product Concierge at Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City, but with a background as a sous chef for a major bank and as the general manager of a fine wine import and distribution company, he follows his love of fine dining and wine while exploring the Kansas City restaurant scene.

TRENDS: **Marci Linn**, *TODAY*'s copyeditor, shares how to set up a simple, small planted aquarium to help get you started in the trending hobby. **Lanie Draper**, co-owner of Rooted Kansas City, specializes in revitalizing old, forgotten homes and transforming them into one-of-a-kind treasures. Her designs aspire to preserve each home's special history, while foretelling futures through uniquely inspired designs using today's hottest trends.

A man with short brown hair and a light beard is wearing a light-colored checkered blazer over a white dress shirt. He is looking down and to the right. The background is a textured, brownish wall.

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Features

8 ARCHITECTURE

Growing Kansas City through
Hospitality-Driven Experiences. *by Bill Johnson*

12 KC HISTORY

The Diverse History of the
Old Public Library. *by Susan Richards Johnson*

16 FOOD

Paris of the Plains. *by Jesse Little*

20 AUTOMOTIVE

The Quadrifoglio is the “Alfa Male”
of Sports Sedans. *by Tom Strongman*

26 FASHION SPOTLIGHT

Familiar Dressing. *by Jennifer Lapka Pfeifer*

30 TRAINING PROGRAM

Rightfully Collaborative. *by Jennifer Lapka Pfeifer*

34 STYLE

Timeless & Classic Style

photos by Kenny Johnson | styling by Amani Skalacki

hair & makeup by Paige Pelfrey

44 NONPROFIT

Perchance to Dream. *by Robert Hellweg*

Taking Action. *by Karla Nichols*

52 TRENDS

Do You Have a Wet Thumb? *by Marci Linn*

Say Hello to Matte Black. *by Lanie Draper*

59 CALENDAR

Kansas City Events.

63 EVENTS

Artsy Autos.

A Special Night.



PHOTO BY KENNY JOHNSON

2017 Jaguar F-Type R Convertible

Mazzarese: Frederique Constant, men's navy blue watch
Eye Style, Mission Farms: Gucci, men's black-frame sunglasses
Ulah: Todd Snyder, linen crew sweater





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Growing Kansas City through Hospitality-Driven Experiences.

Hospitality [hos-pi-tal-i-tee] – the friendly reception and treatment of guests and strangers; the quality or disposition of receiving and treating guests and strangers in a warm, friendly, generous way.

To see the definition of hospitality written out, we can simplify a concept that shapes the decisions we as designers make every day for cities and communities who see the built environment as an opportunity to grow their national or international brand. Hospitality is the treatment and experience your guests have and is the primary driver that helps cities like ours grow. What's unique about hospitality is that it should influence the visitor experience on a visceral level. It's something embedded in the core values of the most attractive mid-sized cities. And it includes a wide variety of factors. It's the experience visitors have purchasing a ticket online; it's the traffic they do or don't encounter; it's the ease with which they navigate our downtown, find a restaurant, or visit our shops; it's the quality of entertainment options we provide; it's the ease of transportation; and it's the interactions they have with Kansas Citians.

As a designer of public assembly buildings, including sports facilities, hospitality is really the core of our business. And, second, because as an avid fan of architecture, I see the direct impact the built environment can have on providing a hospitable experience for visitors. We all know the beauty of visiting a city and feeling welcomed, comfortable, and cared for. And from a customer perspective, we know what we love about certain experiences in our city, and we know the experiences that leave us wanting more. Take stadiums as an example. Because of the broad programmatic considerations and demands, stadiums should serve as a melting pot of the trends shaping dozens of other building types, providing other industries with a model for how they can operate and engage customers, turning them into loyal fans and brand ambassadors. This isn't unlike how a city caters to visitors and residents by creating an experience that keeps folks coming back through careful planning and organic growth.

As information and experiences are shared faster than ever before, cities must differentiate themselves – and hospitality-driven design is a critical element to that equation. But how do we incorporate key hospitality trends to advance the visitor experience in our city? And how can design facilitate deeper levels of connection between people and a place?

Over the next decade, I predict we'll see Kansas City responding to these trends in very tangible ways, including:



UNFORKED, PHOTO BY ALISTAIR TUTTON



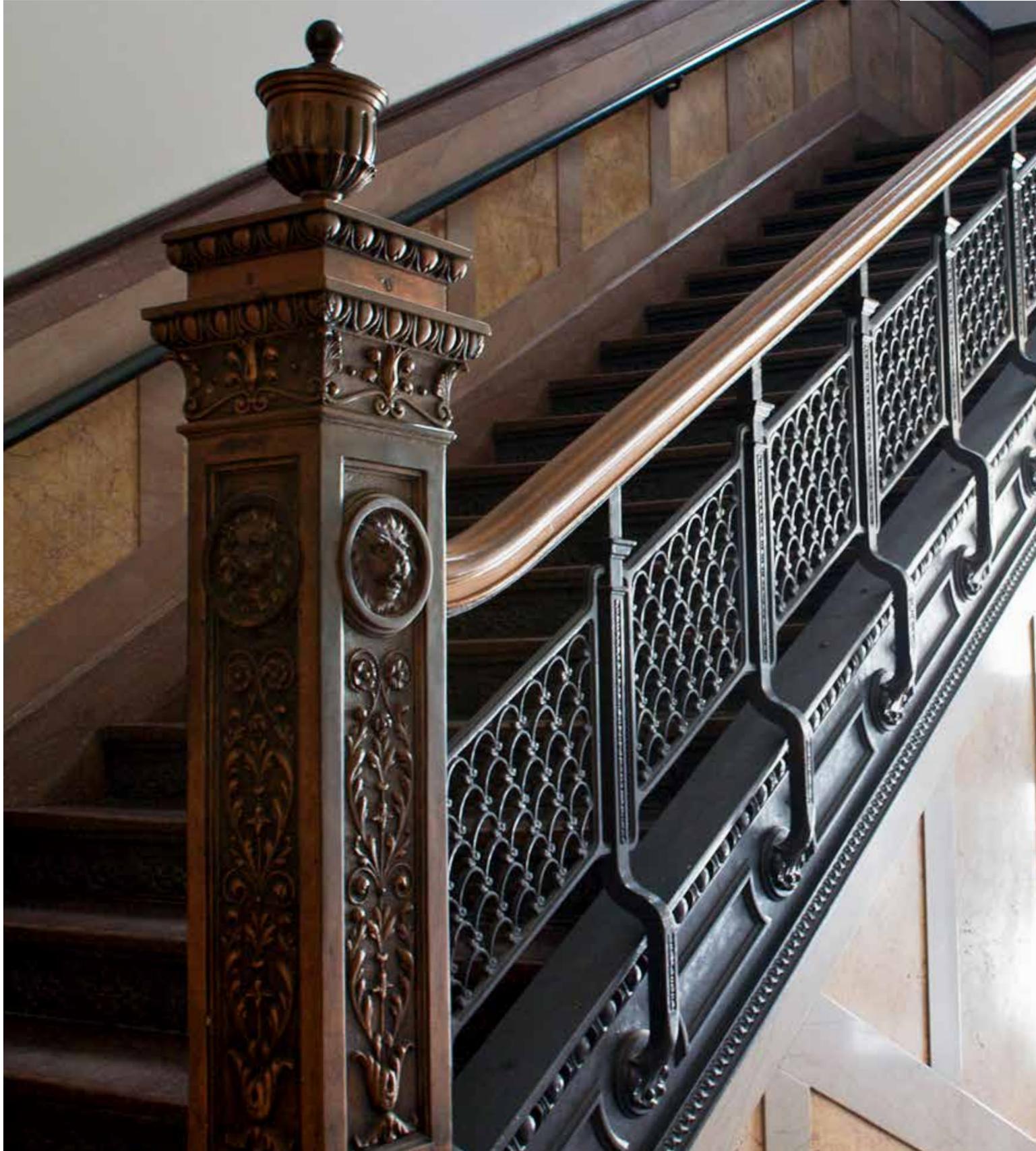
Moments of Connection – When a visitor arrives to the city, we have a high-profile opportunity to tell our story and reinforce our values. From graphics and interactive wayfinding to public art and murals, graphics can be used to celebrate our city and supplement the warm welcome we provide to visitors. We have to think about our buildings as a physical extension of our city brand, turning visitors into residents or advocates for our city long after they leave.

Innovative Technology – I predict we will use technology to give visitors and residents a greater level of control of their experience – whether at a stadium, in the workplace or at restaurants. Through mobile applications and the appropriate infrastructure, local businesses and architects alike should consider how to give visitors an opportunity provide real-time, relevant feedback to teams to help them refine the experience, making the built environment a living laboratory. We can also use technology to mine data and customize how a visitor experiences the city – from the airport, to the hotel, to restaurants, to retail and entertainment options. In addition, we’ve seen social media facilitate digital connections between visitors and residents in Kansas City, providing a real testament to the

power of design to build meaningful connections.

Health and Wellness – Health and wellness have been widely discussed as a trend in hospitality circles and beyond, and are a critical factor as we think about the growth of Kansas City. Spots like 18Broadway, our own urban garden, connect people to a purpose. We also see buildings being designed to exceed traditional health and wellness parameters with the implementation of WELL, a new standard in sustainable design. Hotels in other cities designed to WELL standards have successfully been marketed at a higher price point, proving people care about healthy buildings. It’s a consideration I see becoming increasingly important locally. In addition, over the last year, new restaurant concepts that cater to healthy living have emerged locally, giving visitors and residents more options.

Looking to the future, we’ll be able to evolve to diverse visitors’ needs by asking “what if” rather than discussing “what is” in Kansas City. These are the questions that advance hospitality-driven design thinking, and they are questions we should challenge one another to answer in order to continue to innovate and drive a truly friendly, comfortable, and hospitable experience for everyone. ♦



The Diverse History of the Old Public Library.

I had the fortunate opportunity to become involved with one of my favorite historic buildings while practicing as an intern architect at the firm of Solomon, Claybaugh, and Young Architects in the early 1980s. I was assigned the honorable task of working with the one and only Charles N. Sharpe, the founder and owner of a highly successful life insurance business: Ozark National Life Insurance Company. As insurance sales prospered, the need for a larger building to accommodate the company's growth became a necessity.

Mr. Sharpe was particularly fond of beautiful historic buildings. An opportunity came up to explore the vacant Old Public Library in downtown Kansas City for a potential new home. The library had undergone several adaptive reuses upon closing in 1959. The original facility closed to the general public when a more modern facility was constructed at 12th and McGee streets. The historic library sat vacant for many years before becoming the unique home for the U.S. Trade Schools, a business model not particularly suited for this remarkable tribute to beautifully designed architecture. If it had not been for the Trade Schools' president, Ms. Ilene Latrell, a much different outcome for the building would have taken place. She demanded that her students be extremely protective of the existing building.

My first visit to the Old Public Library was on a cold winter day in December 1981. This forgotten building was for sale on the "courthouse steps" due to unpaid taxes. Ozark National Life had retained the services of a general contractor, Thomas Dunn, of K.C. Heritage Construction Company. Mr. Dunn found the building during an exhaustive search for a new home for the insurance company. His construction company was responsible for the extraordinary rehabilitation work required by the building's new owner.

Our host for the building tour (the-then owner of the building) led the interested party down a narrow flight of basement stairs, into the lowest depth of the building. There, we were introduced to the original boilers and an antiquated, enormous electrical panel. It was dark and damp, not a good way to begin our expedition to find a new home for Mr. Sharpe's insurance company. After several hours of trudging



around in the poorly lit and unheated building, we left with Mr. Sharpe stating, "This is one building I am definitely not interested in pursuing." I was crushed. Several hours later, though, I received a call from Mr. Sharpe stating that he had thought again about the building and fallen in love with it. He decided to buy it that very afternoon.

The Old Public Library building is sited on the northeast corner of 9th and Locust streets, a once blighted area of northeastern downtown Kansas City, Missouri. It has been occupied by its newest tenant as of 1984, Ozark National Life Insurance Company. The building is enormous. It occupies one entire city block in length and one-half city block in width. The original architects for the building were William F. Hackney, with assistance from Adriance Van Brunt



Architects. The structure was constructed in two phases: the original south portion was built between 1895-'97, and the north addition in 1917-'18. The current building is filled with original plaster moldings, ornate plaster ceilings, and column capitals (column heads). The majority of the millwork is comprised of circa 1890s quarter-sawn white oak that presents itself in elaborate paneled doors, wainscoting, and entrances. There is an abundance of beautiful marble and granite detailing, a total of seven different varieties as found in marble wainscoting, columns, and flooring. There is an original terrazzo floor in the main entry rotunda on the first floor, edged with small ceramic tile mosaic banding. The existing brass door and window hardware are original and quite decorative. There are five fireplaces, two of which are constructed of highly detailed marble mosaic and granite. The other three fireplaces are constructed of white oak and display ornate, hand-carved details above the original firebox, hand carved from a single piece of wood. There remain seven original skylights, with one above the library's original checkout counter.

Over the years, the insurance company has chugged along as a highly successful business. Another preeminent tenant was added to the building in the later '80s, the Fairbanks Morse Scale Company. This tenant took over the

original Western Gallery of Art area, which was located on the second floor. This use represented an art gallery that housed the private collection of William Rockhill Nelson, prior to his involvement with the development and construction of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the museum we all know and love today. Based upon this original use of the second floor, Mr. Sharpe began collecting large, original pieces of artwork, which he had placed throughout the building. The Kansas City, Missouri, school board also had its offices within the building from 1897 through 1959, when the school board also moved its offices to the new library.

The history of the Old Public Library remains one of the most interesting stories Kansas City has to offer. My memories run deep as I remember the myriad of decisions that had to be made in order to retrofit the building for an adaptive reuse from a public library into an insurance company. Revitalizing older historic properties is one of my favorite roles I have taken on as a practicing architect these past 40 years. I love my job, and I am proud to have been an integral part of this truly important and engaging rehabilitation project. Congratulations and thanks are due to Mr. Sharpe for having the foresight to understand the potential opportunity the Old Public Library had to offer. ♦

Kitchen:

kitch·en / *pronunciation* [kich-uh n]
-*noun* / more than a room or place equipped for
preparing and cooking food / a culinary center

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PROPRIETOR
Mano Rafael
and wife,
Barbara

PHOTO COURTESY OF LE FOU FROG

Paris of the Plains.

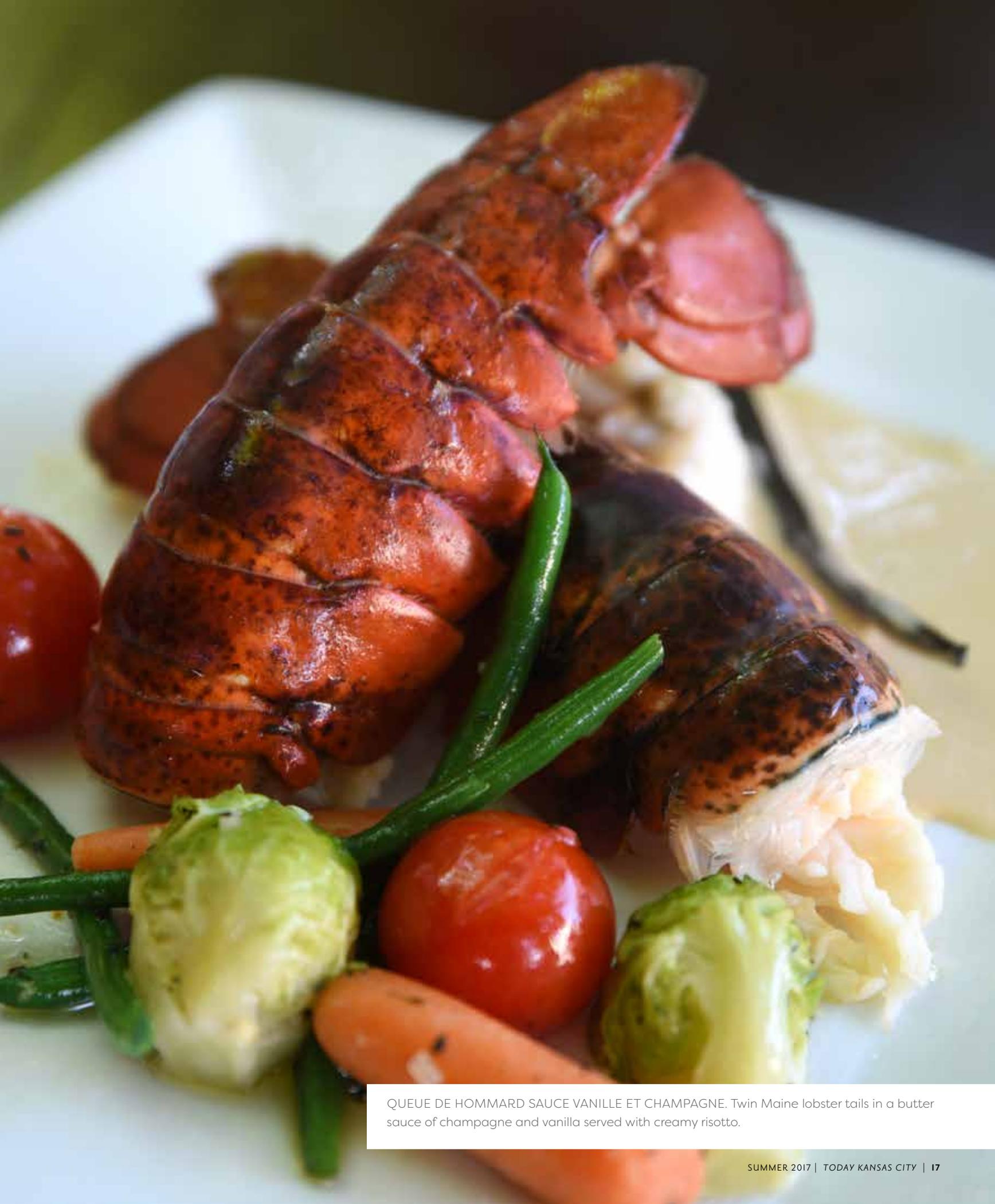
Kansas City is often referred to as the “Paris of the Plains” for its similarity to the wild party-like atmosphere of Paris, France, in the roaring '20s, so to say Le Fou Frog is a Parisian bistro is a misnomer. This friendly, cozy restaurant-bar is the type of place you would find down by the Old Port in Marseille, not Paris.

Chef and proprietor Mano Rafael and wife, Barbara, met in New York City when she applied as a part-time bartender at L'Auberge du Midi, a restaurant owned by Mano and his brother, while she was pursuing an acting career. Mano comes from a chef family: his mother and uncle were both chefs in his native Marseille. Barbara, a Kansas City native, is a graduate of the Lee Strasberg School of method acting in New York. Working together, they discovered they had a lot in common and worked well together. When the

rent tripled in New York, they decided leaving for either Marseille or Kansas City was the answer. After visiting Barbara's hometown, Mano fell in love with Kansas City and recognized there was not a restaurant in town with that modest, unassuming Provencal bistro feel.

The rest, as they say, is history. In 1995, the search began for a location. Barbara suggested the Plaza or Brookside, but Mano was certain the plain little-tan-block building, formerly a tavern, one block east of the River Market was the place. Mano even designed a bar that looked like one he knew of in Marseille. In 1996, Le Fou Frog opened and was an immediate success, despite being surrounded by mostly closed warehouses. In the early years, it became a destination restaurant for the many loyal customers that comprised its base; however,





QUEUE DE HOMMARD SAUCE VANILLE ET CHAMPAGNE. Twin Maine lobster tails in a butter sauce of champagne and vanilla served with creamy risotto.



now with the renaissance happening in the River Market area, it is walking distance from the new residential developments. As it begins its third decade, Le Fou Frog continues to develop many new fans and friends.

The ambitious menu includes classic French cuisine that includes perennial favorites, such as: SOUPE À L'OIGNON GRATINÉE, a traditional French onion soup sweetened with port wine enriched with veal stock; QUEUE DE HOMMARD SAUCE VANILLE ET CHAMPAGNE, twin Maine lobster tails in a butter sauce of champagne and vanilla; and STEAK AU POIVRE, Kansas City strip encrusted in black peppercorns flambéed in Cognac with a sauce of veal stock, Madagascar green peppercorns, and cream, served with French fries. These three dishes will redefine your expectation of what onion soup, lobster, and steak with fries should taste like. The daily chalkboard includes 20-plus seasonal French offerings and dishes from other cuisines, which can include Dover sole, served whole and boned table-side; fish du jour; and elk, bison, and kangaroo; which all show the extreme depth of the talent in this kitchen. If the selections seem overwhelming, courteous servers are happy to carefully explain any item in detail and walk you through your choices. It is highly suggested to take your time and have fun, but if you are in a hurry, do tell your server; all items are cooked to order, and some take longer than others.

The selection of cocktails and bubbles is extensive and well made. You can even live your Moulin Rouge moment with glasses of green absinthe or choose from the fine selection of French wines. The bistro routinely presents patrons with special events. Come celebrate Bastille Day,

a three-day celebration of French independence with two floorshows performed nightly by the staff and friends; or celebrate the holidays with Noel in Provence, a 13-course meal celebrating the Christmas foods and traditions in Provence. Plan to spend the entire evening savoring four-star food in a fun-filled atmosphere. Whether you dine indoors or on the Provence patio, enjoy your evening with exceptional cuisine and superior service.

The success of Le Fou Frog is attributed to Mano, the exceptionally talented chef, Barbara's charming theatrical talent in the dining room, the kitchen staff and its Chef de Cuisine, Fatmir Papekaj, who has been with Le Fou Frog since he was 17, and the funny, talented, long-tenured dining room staff. Daily, the serving staff hosts a pre-opening tasting of new menu items, daily specials, and any new wines.

Barbara says to work here you have to be kind, smart, and funny, and if you are talented in the arts, it's a plus. Everyone here is treated like family: it starts with the staff and extends to all who walk through the door. Customers never know when Barbara will announce, "Attention! Attention! *Mesdames et Messieurs*, for your dining pleasure..." and your waiter, hostess, or pastry chef precedes to serenade you with song. These are talented people, and if you are a regular, they know your name, what you drink and eat, and your favorite table. They clearly enjoy entertaining, having a good time, and sharing their passion for food. So grab a cozy table, join in the festivities, and become a new friend, in an atmosphere that is relaxing and totally unpretentious. ♦

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2017 Alfa Romeo Giulia Quadrifoglio

Engine: 2.9-liter, 505-horsepower V-6

Transmission: Eight-speed automatic

Rear-wheel drive

Wheelbase: 111 inches

Curb weight: 3,800 pounds

Base price: \$72,000

As tested: \$89,845

MPG rating: 17 in the city,
24 on the highway





The Quadrifoglio is the “Alfa Male” of Sports Sedans.

Quadrifoglio: The four-leaf clover that means good luck. But it’s also the name of the 505-horsepower version of Alfa Romeo’s Giulia sports sedan, and if you get to drive one, you’ll feel like that fender-mounted badge has indeed brought you luck.

I spent a couple of days with one recently, and there’s no question that this car puts an impressive stamp on Alfa’s return to the American market and serves notice to European competitors, such the BMW M3, Mercedes-Benz AMG C63, and the Audi S4, that there’s a new “Alfa male” to lead the pack.

For those that don’t know the history, A.L.F.A. (*Anonima Lombarda Fabbrica Automobili*, or Anonymous Lombard Automobile Factory) was founded in Milan, Italy, in 1910. In 1920, under the guidance of Nicola Romeo, the company became Alfa Romeo. As enthusiasts know, Alfa Romeo is known as a brand that’s vehicles are brimming with emotion. As Orazio Satta Puliga, head of design, said in 1946: “Alfa Romeo is a particular way of living, of experiencing an automobile. The real essence of Alfa Romeo defies description . . . We are in the realm of sensations, passions, things that have more to do with the heart than with the head.” And so it is today.

The ceramic quadrifoglio badge on the front fender has its origin in the early days of racing. In 1923, in an attempt to change the luck of the Alfa Romeo racing team, Ugo Sivocci painted the quadrifoglio on his car and won the Targa Florio race. Because it seemed to bring good luck, the four-leaf clover



became a symbol of Alfa Romeo performance and was painted on every car. Sadly, Sivocci died in an accident later that year in a P1 racing car while practicing for the Italian Grand Prix at Monza. His car had yet to have a four-leaf clover painted on it.

Fire up the 2.9-liter, twin-turbocharged V-6 that sits behind the iconic heart-shaped grille (some say it is shaped like a shield) and you're greeted with a sound that becomes fury when you unleash all of the engine's prodigious power. This is a car that resonates with your heart, your head, and the seat of your pants, because it offers such a sensuous driving experience. You feel exactly what the car is doing every moment. A torque-vectoring rear differential sends drive to the wheel with the most traction, and that helps the car knife through turns more precisely.

A near-perfect 50/50 weight balance and a curb weight of 3,800 pounds contribute to balanced handling. It is hard to explore the limits of this car without being on a track. Using carbon fiber for the hood, roof, rear spoiler and an active aero front spoiler saves weight. The test car's huge carbon ceramic brakes erased speed with impressive ease, although they are an expensive option and the tradeoff is a bit of noise at low speeds.

The Quadrifoglio, base price \$72,000, is one of three Giulia sedans. The Giulia and Giulia Ti have base prices of \$37,995 and \$39,995. They are powered by a 280-horsepower, 2.0-liter four-cylinder. All-wheel drive is a \$2,000 option and would be most welcome here given our climate.

Serious enthusiasts will covet the Quadrifoglio, despite the fact that it is likely to be available in limited numbers.

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The car I drove had options such as the Brembo carbon ceramic brakes (\$8,000), Sparco carbon fiber racing seats (\$2,750), tri-coat white pearl paint (\$2,200), the driver assistance package (\$1,500), and the carbon fiber active aero front splitter (\$900). The sticker price was \$89,845, and it is in the same ballpark as a well-equipped BMW M3 and the Mercedes-Benz AMG C63.

Plus, consider the Alfa's performance: 0 to 60 miles per hour in 3.8 seconds and a top track speed of 191 mph. That's on par with a Porsche 911 Carrera 4S.

Despite the twin-turbo's impressive power output, the Quadrifoglio is easily an everyday car. That is due in part to four drive modes: Advanced Efficiency deactivates cylinders to reduce fuel consumption; Natural is a more comfortable setting for daily use; Dynamic sharpens up the brakes and steering while using more aggressive engine and transmission calibrations; and Race model turns off the stability control, opens up the dual-model exhaust, and lets the engine roar. You need to be on your toes and

paying attention if you select Race mode, intended, no doubt, for track driving.

The eight-speed dual-clutch transmission has column-mounted shift paddles.

The cabin is equipped with premium leather and an Alcantara headliner. The optional Sparco carbon fiber seats fit like the proverbial glove and look great as well. The navigation screen is a bit small. The test car was equipped with the Harmon Kardon premium audio system, but, in truth, the best thing to listen to is the engine when driven in Dynamic mode.

Standard safety and driver-assist features include forward collision warning, plus autonomous braking when a front collision appears imminent; adaptive cruise control with full-stop intervention; lane departure warning; and blind-spot monitoring and rear cross-path detection.

The Quadrifoglio is truly Italian eye-candy, but its performance and handling place it near the top of the sports sedan segment. ♦

The Alfa Romeo 4C is an Exotic-Car Bargain.

The Alfa Romeo 4C is a sexy Italian two-seater that looks like a baby Ferrari. It was the first Alfa Romeo to go on sale in the U.S. market after an absence of 20 years . . . and for good reason: It has the appeal of an exotic car, yet costs no more than a luxury sedan.

The heart of this car — a 1.7-liter, four-cylinder engine that cranks out 237 horsepower — is small but it carries a big punch. It pushes the car to 60 miles per hour in 4.5 seconds. You don't need a lot of horsepower in a light car. A bonus is fuel economy rated at 24 miles per gallon in the city and 34 on the highway.

On the road, the 4C begs for some open highway or twisting turns. It feels like a big go-cart because it charges through corners with minimal body roll and stops with authority. The exhaust pops and snarls like a racer as you rip through the gears with paddles on the steering wheel. The non-power steering can be stiff when parking, but once underway, it provides excellent feedback through the small, flat-bottomed steering wheel.

The 4C's Formula 1-inspired carbon-fiber monocoque chassis weighs just 143 pounds. The handcrafted body is made from sheet-molded composite in Modena, Italy. Total vehicle weight is 2,487 pounds. The 4C is just 46.7 inches tall, and that means the seating position is extremely low. Getting in was easy, like settling into a bathtub. Getting out was harder, because the chassis side sill is high and wide. The wide sill is required to keep the chassis rigid so it's a tradeoff worth making.

The 4C is available in coupe and convertible, called a Spider. The canvas top has four latches. Once out, it can be rolled up and stored in the 3.7-cubic-foot trunk that is barely large enough for a carry-on bag. Weekend trips require judicious packing.

Alfas are cars with emotion, and the 4C is part of an expanding lineup that includes three variants of Giulia sedan and the coming 2018 Stelvio crossover utility vehicle. *Bravissimo.* ♦





PAOLINI GARMENT COMPANY ASSOCIATES
(left to right): Elodie Auvray, Shena Evans, Tom Paolini, Kyle Doherty, Annie Stopulos

Familiar Dressing.

“Always dress yourself out of respect for whom you are spending time with,” my beloved, late grandmother once told me. She shared those words of wisdom while I was in my teenage years and their meaning becomes more and more sharply focused with each passing year. Essentially, as I would when preparing a speech, I aim to “know my audience” when dressing my body each morning by reviewing my calendar appointments for the day. Do I have lunch with my best friend? . . . a meeting with a potential funder? . . . a cocktail hour with colleagues? — or perhaps all of the above. I tailor my day’s look accordingly.

My husband and male friends frequently ask me for advice on how to best adhere to this or that dress code, especially business casual. As

our society continues to shed formality, in general — think shrinking lexicons, the loss of cursive writing, RSVPing via text message, etc. — business casual has slowly become the modus operandi in workplaces around the country, starting with Silicon Valley CEOs in the 1990s. Even behemoth businesses like J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. and American Express have opted in, in order to attract young and seasoned employees alike who want to express their individuality while being as comfortable as possible.

So what does the code constitute? Because the meaning of business casual is different according to geography and industry, what do I advise my husband and male friends to wear? I talk to my wealth manager about investing; I talk to my







doctor about health; therefore, I sought the advice of a professional clothier on this matter, Tom Paolini of Paolini Garment Company, so I could help them. I share his knowledge with you, too, here.

Tom says, “The key to dressing for business casual, or any level of formality or casualness, is being mindful of time, place, and your personal brand. It could be defined as “familiar dressing.” You dress more formally typically when you have a new client or a board meeting. But dressing more familiar means that you are comfortable with your client base and peers and can literally loosen your tie.”

To Paolini, business casual is simply expanding an existing mode of dress – essentially how you already dress for the country club, for business travel, and for dinner on Friday night, but adapting that look to the work week. These adaptations can include keeping your suit but removing your tie and unbuttoning your shirt a bit; pairing high-quality denim jeans with a blazer; finding a unique bomber jacket and putting it with structured trousers; switching out serious socks with whimsical ones; maintaining manicured stubble on your face; and wearing bright shoes.

I have the greatest respect for Tom and his passion for elevating our community’s level of dressing and understanding of the fashion industry. Pop by his shop – which, interestingly, is located in the former home of Lawrin – the Kansas-bred 1938 Kentucky Derby-winning horse – in the Corinth South shopping center in Prairie Village. He and his team can offer men (and women) plenty more advice on custom suiting and shoes, tuxedos, high-end textiles from historical, international mills, and more. ♦

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JENNIFER LAPKA PFEIFER

Rightfully Collaborative.

Where can we look for inspiration, for a positive example of collaboration?

When relationships on the national and international strata could currently be described as frazzled, greed-powered, and brooding, Kansas City residents need only to look in their own community for an incredible example of collaboration.

Rightfully Sewn is a new organization that is bringing jobs and opportunity to our community through the business of fashion. Its mission is provide seamstress training for at-risk women so they can thrive in a specialized workforce that will reestablish Kansas City as an epicenter of garment manufacturing, while at the same time, propel Kansas City fashion designers to market so they can supply the burgeoning demand for high-quality, American-produced garments.

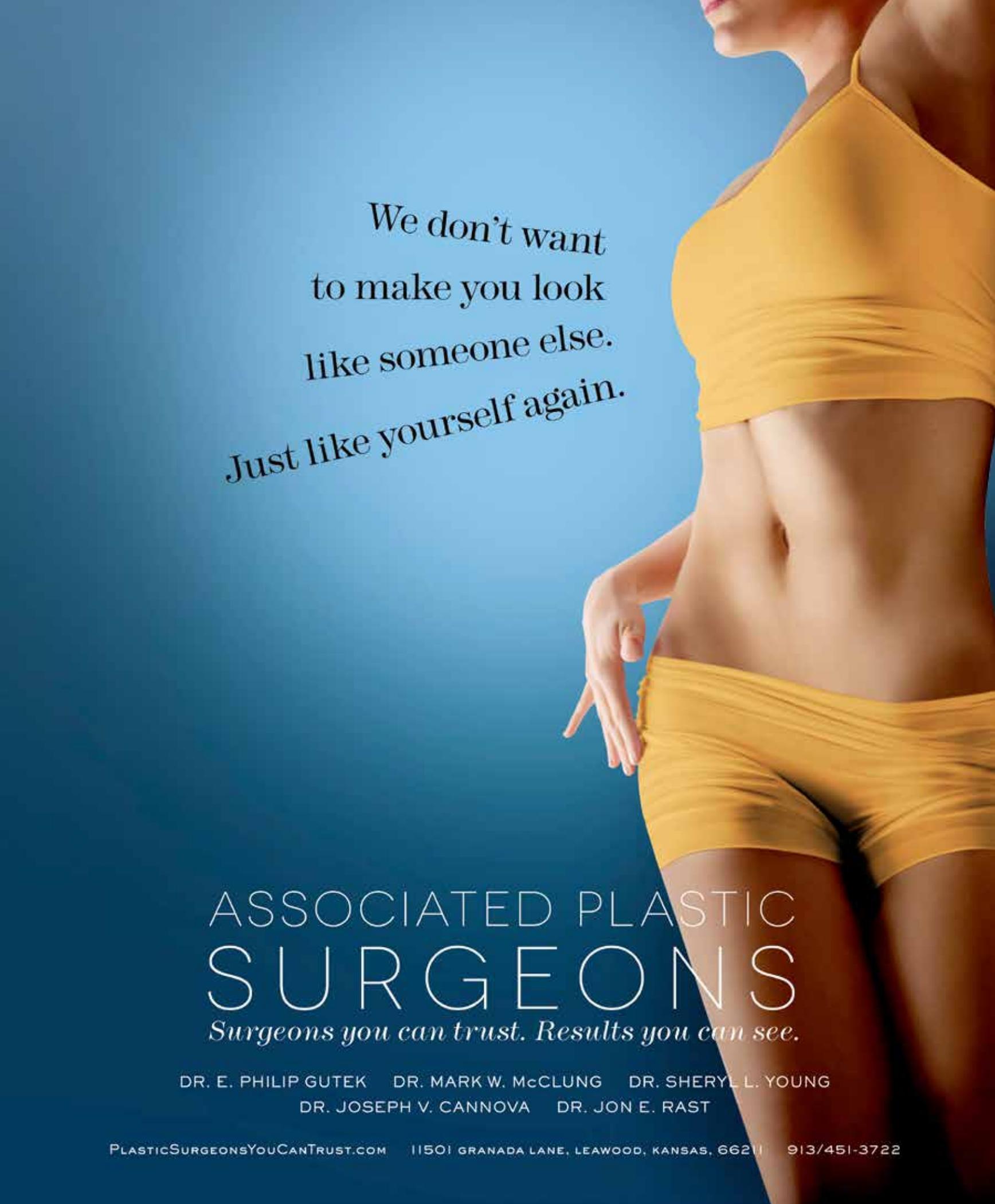
Rightfully Sewn has launched its pilot Seamstress Training Program, which is training six women in industrial sewing and alterations and then helping to place them in full-time, living-wage paying jobs with locally sewn product businesses. Over the past three years, Rightfully Sewn staff researched resources that already existed in the area, created relationships with those entities, and engaged them in the conversation when creating its program.

The following is an overview of the critical relationships:

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT: In order to develop a curriculum that teaches participants the most sought-after skills in the industry, Rightfully Sewn amalgamated a credentialed, 14-person panel to help develop the Seamstress Training Program. Individuals included leadership from social service agencies, professionals who teach sewing, women's business development organizations, and sewn-product businesses based in Kansas City who need to hire skilled seamstresses.

VENUE PARTNER: The Paseo Academy of Fine and Performing Arts has a well-appointed sewing room for its robust high school fashion-design program, which the Kansas City Public School District is allowing Rightfully Sewn to use for its Seamstress Training Program.

INTERPRETATION AND CULTURAL SENSITIVITY TRAINING: We knew interpretation and cultural sensitivity would be elements to plan for after we selected the participants and understood their needs. We are working with Jewish Vocational Services' Language and Cultural Services department to provide these critical elements to our participants, staff, and volunteers.



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PAMELA LUCAS

CANDIDATES

As mentioned, highly engaged, compassionate case managers at Rightfully Sewn's social service agency partners helped identify 10 candidates who are motivated, are seeking full-time employment, have a stable home life, and either have sewing skills or expressed interest in the trade. In April, Rightfully Sewn conducted skills assessment evenings to ascertain the candidates' math, English, ruler, and sewing abilities. The six pilot places have been awarded to:

*Amna, Syrian, Jewish Vocational Services
 Andrescia, American, Hope Faith Ministries
 Jasmin, American, Hope Faith Ministries
 Liliane, Congolese, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas
 Marzia, Afghani, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas
 Sholeh, Iranian, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas*

SEWN-PRODUCT APPRENTICESHIP PARTNERS: The following businesses have expressed interest in hosting the Seamstress Training Program participants in apprenticeships following their graduation: Elevé Dancewear, Arrow Cleaning, WomenSpirit and Abiding Spirit Vestments, Asiatica, and ContourMD.

SOFT-SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PARTNER: Seamstress Training Program participants can attend a professional skills-development program available through Women's Employment Network, which focuses on workplace etiquette, financial management, and more.

"I cannot tell you how generous everyone has been of his and her time, energy, and resources – from the initial panel to the staff at the Kansas City, Missouri, school district to the social service agency case managers who helped us identify program candidates," said Rightfully Sewn founder and president Jennifer Lapka Pfeifer. "Strong communication and organizational skills have been used to make war; together we are using these tools to make opportunities for women."

Considering their nationalities, "we have nicknamed this first class the United Nations of Sewing," said Pamela Lucas, Rightfully Sewn Director of Curricula and Instruction, who has nearly 30 years of teaching experience in fashion design and construction. "These women are inspirational in many ways, and we have been enjoying watching them bond with one another and develop their skills.

PHOTO BY OLIVIA EARWOOD



Our expectations for the program are very high: we have a rigorous curriculum and we require 100-percent attendance and homework turn-in rates. In return, we promise to give the seamstresses all the resources they need to become gainfully employed in this growing industry."

Please follow the seamstresses' progress by signing up for Rightfully Sewn's e-newsletter at rightfullysewn.org and help support the organization's initiatives by marking your calendar for its Golden Gala taking place on Saturday, December 2. ♦



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**2017 Porsche 911
Carrera Cabriolet**

Gown Gallery:
Jean Paul Ataker,
blue cocktail dress

Ulah:
Moods of Norway,
blue-checked suit

Moods of Norway,
light-blue
button-down shirt

Tivol:
Tivol brand,
baroque pearl
necklace;

Marco Bicego,
mother of pearl
gold earrings

Eye Style, Mission Farms:
Studio Collaboration,
handmade limited-edition
with surgical steel
women's sunglasses

Mykita Mylon Hybrid,
handmade with surgical
steel men's sunglasses



1971 1750 GT Veloce

Gown Gallery: John Paul Ataker, two-piece silver and black dress
Tivol: Rahaminov, diamond floral studs



2016 Alfa Romeo 4C; Gown Gallery: Hayley Paige, ivory pleated gown; **Mazzarese:** 18-karat white-gold drop earrings; diamond swirl 18-karat white-gold bracelet cuff





1967 Giulia Super, white

Gown Gallery:

Romona Keveza,
red one-shouldered
dress

Houndstooth:

Bartorelli Napoli,
tuxedo

Tivol:

Jewelmer, gold
pearl earrings

Jewelmer, floral
golden pearl ring
with diamonds

Jewelmer, gold
pearl chain bracelet
(one pearl)

Jewelmer, gold pearl
chain bracelet
(several pearls)

Tudor Heritage,
silver watch



2017 Jaguar
F-Type R
Convertible

Etiquette
Boutique:
romper

Eye Style,
Mission Farms:
Andy Wolf,
red-frame glasses

Mazzarese:
teardrop
18-karat
yellow-gold
hoop earrings



2017 Alfa Romeo Giulia

Ulah:
Scotch and Soda
Amsterdam Couture,
linen sweater

Rag & Bone,
slim-straight
dark-wash jeans

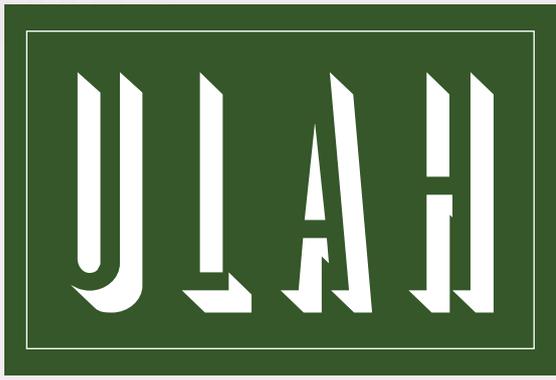
Rag & Bone,
dark-brown
leather belt

**Eye Style,
Mission Farms:**
Gucci, tortoise
frame sunglasses

Tivol:
Shinola,
leather watch
with green face



2017 Jaguar F-Type R Convertible; Eye Style, Mission Farms: Mykita, Desna, women's sunglasses; **Etiquette Boutique:** Etiquette, green-and-white, leaf-print dress; **Mazzarese:** Chimento reversible yellow/white gold necklace; classic gold large stud earrings; Chimento reversible yellow/white gold bracelet; Carl F. Bucherer women's gold watch



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Perchance to Dream.

Sleepyhead Beds makes it possible.

Anyone who has ever slept on the floor knows the negative effects of a restless, uncomfortable night of sleep: focus is lost, productivity goes down, and emotions run high. These effects are especially harsh on children for whom sleep deprivation can contribute to emotional, health, and developmental problems. Did you know that approximately one in every 42 children in Kansas City struggles with these issues because s/he sleeps nightly on the floor, sofa, or shares a bed with parents or multiple other siblings? It is Sleepyhead Beds' unique mission to serve this overlooked need.

Through her work as a CASA (court-appointed special advocate), Sleepyhead Beds' founder Monica Starr regularly encountered children suffering the effects of sleeping in less-than-ideal conditions. In many cases, children in the foster system were unable to be reunited

with their parents because the family lacked the resources to provide those children with their own bed (mattress and box spring). Monica thought by reaching out to her network and securing gently used beds and bedding that she might be able to help get these kids back home.

What started as the simple efforts of one Kansas City woman in 2011 has turned into Kansas City's only non-profit dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and their families by providing clean, recycled beds and bedding. Supported by two full-time staff, a board of 14 community members, and a small army of volunteer labor, Sleepyhead Beds was able to distribute over 2,000 beds to kids and their families in 2016. It hopes to do even more in 2017 and beyond.

Sleepyhead Beds' initial focus was on children in the foster care system. But as word of this work got out, the demand



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Sleepyhead Beds could not provide these services to Kansas City without the generous support of the local community and our partners.



SLEEPYHEAD VOLUNTEERS

for beds continued to grow. Sleepyhead Beds now responds to the needs of Kansas City area children in a variety of difficult situations. These include homelessness, return from foster care, recovery from abuse and/or drug dependency issues, refugee relocation, and families recovering from other life-altering challenges. Our current waitlist is over 500 families and totals more than 1,000 Kansas City children in need.

In order to stock our warehouse, Sleepyhead Beds accepts new and gently used mattress and box spring donations from anyone within the Kansas City area (for information about its coverage area, please visit sleepyheadbeds.org). Of all household items, mattresses and box springs are possibly the heaviest and take up the most space. They are difficult to transport and store. By offering pick up of these items, Sleepyhead Beds not only helps supply children and their families in need of beds, but it also prevents these items from going into local Kansas City area landfills. A successful by-product of our work is the diversion of more than 150 tons of waste – including non-biodegradable foam, synthetic fibers, and steel coils – per year. Any mattresses accepted by Sleepyhead Beds that are not deemed fit for redistribution are recycled through our

area partner, Avenue of Life.

This provides a secondary, and invaluable, service to those in the Kansas City area.

Our process is fairly simple. Anyone interested in donating a bed can register via our website to schedule a pickup. For a relatively nominal fee (currently \$30), Sleepyhead Beds will pick up the beds, take them to our warehouse for sanitization, and then redistribute them out into the community. We currently accept crib, twin, full, and queen sized mattresses and box springs as well as bedding (sheets and blankets). We also accept used pack 'n play-style playpens, which our families utilize for babies and small toddlers who are not yet ready for a “big kid” bed.

Sleepyhead Beds could not provide these services to Kansas City without the generous support of the local community and our partners. It is so grateful to have been supported since its inception by the Soave Automotive Group and since 2013 by the Auto Dealers Association of Greater Kansas City. With their help, it has been able to increase the number of beds distributed each and every year since its founding. Sleepyhead Beds' hope is to eventually be able to ensure that no Kansas City child goes to sleep at night without his or her own safe and clean bed. ♦

MONICA STARR, *Founder*

GET INVOLVED

Sleepyhead Beds finds new homes from gently used mattresses and bedding. To volunteer, donate a bed, or request beds for someone in need, please visit sleepyheadbeds.org. For questions about scheduling a donation pickup, please email Michael Vennard at michael@sleepyheadbeds.org.

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Model Shown: 2017 Discovery HSE Luxury. European license plate shown. †Features are optional on certain models. ‡These systems are not a substitute for driving safely with due care and attention and will not function under all circumstances, speeds, weather and road conditions, etc. Driver should not assume that these systems will correct errors of judgment in driving. Please consult the owner's manual or your local authorized Land Rover Retailer for more details. *Price shown is Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price for the 2017 Land Rover Discovery. Supplies are limited. Excludes \$[D+D_charge] destination/handling charge, tax, title, license, and retailer fees, all due at signing, and optional equipment. Retailer price, terms and vehicle availability may vary. See Land Rover Merriam or call 913-677-3300 for qualifications and complete details. © 2017 Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC



Taking Action.

Three of the most frightening words to hear: “You have cancer.” A cancer diagnosis can turn a person’s world upside down. There is a place in Kansas City where cancer patients and their families can turn to when they hear that devastating news. That place is Cancer Action.

Cancer Action is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of those living with, through, and beyond cancer in the Kansas City area. Our belief is that no one should face the challenge of cancer alone. We “go the extra mile” to offer vital services and support throughout the cancer journey. We offer programs and services that address the physical, emotional, social, and financial needs of cancer survivors and their families.

Cancer Action takes a very personal approach to care. Each person’s journey is unique. The caring staff of Cancer Action – operating from three locations within the metro – help people navigate through every step of their personal journey. Here is just one woman’s story and how Cancer Action came alongside her during this difficult time.

Mary’s world, and that of her 9-year old child, changed dramatically three years ago when Mary was diagnosed with lymphoma. At the age of 40, Mary began the fight of her life: experiencing times of aggressive cancer treatments and times of cancer remission. The disease took its toll on Mary financially, physically, and emotionally; so she turned to Cancer Action. We have been at Mary’s side, going the extra mile with her, providing the services she desperately needs, such as:

- Transportation to life-sustaining treatment appointments.
- Nutritional supplements to maintain her strength and energy.
- Medical supplies she needed but could not afford.

CANCER ACTION SERVICES

PRACTICAL and DIRECT SERVICES

- Nutritional supplements
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Mastectomy supplies
- Transportation
- Wigs, turbans, and scarves
- Comfort items

EMOTIONAL and EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

- One-to-one emotional support
- Navigation and referral services
- Educational resources library

FINANCIAL-ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- Prescription assistance
- Professionally fitted breast prosthesis
- Professionally fitted lymphedema sleeves

WELLNESS and SURVIVORSHIP PROGRAMS

- Individual guidance and support to help move beyond cancer treatment
- Exercise and movement classes to help build strength and endurance
- Educational programs designed to address the needs of cancer survivors
- Art classes that promote self-expression and emotional well-being

A BEAUTIFUL SMILE IS AN AVENUE FOR SUCCESS.

Regardless of age or position in life, a beautiful healthy smile can be a definite game changer! Attractive teeth can make you look friendlier, smarter, more successful, highly educated and healthy.

"Patients seek our services for various reasons," says Dr. Ross Headley, "but the bottom line is always the same. People want to look their best and they want their teeth to function at an optimum level."

As the only dentist in Kansas accredited by the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, Dr. Ross S. Headley restores teeth and creates beautiful smiles every day.

"I love what I do," says Dr. Headley. "Nothing is more rewarding than helping people improve their life."

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- Holiday adoption program to provide happiness and hope for her and her family.
- Guidance to help navigate the difficult challenges she faced.

Each year, thousands of cancer patients just like Mary come through our doors. As the only local organization offering the comprehensive services we provide, we could not do it without the support of our community. One group who “goes the extra mile” on behalf of those with cancer has been Sunflowers to Roses (S2R). They are dedicated to helping cancer patients through their love of cycling. Through their hard work to put on the fundraising Sunflowers to Roses Bike Ride, S2R has raised over \$250,000 over the past 14 years, supporting cancer survivors through its financial support to Cancer Action. Together, we go the extra mile! ♦

SUNFLOWERS TO ROSES, a charity bicycle ride that raises money in the fight against cancer, is celebrating its 15th annual ride this year. Dennis and Megan Case first rode in 2004, the second year of the event, as it wound its way through Swope Park and the streets of South Kansas City in their first ever group ride – and they were hooked. Megan was a volunteer by the next year and a member of the board a year after that. Dennis started to volunteer and then was asked to take over as president of the board, when founder Sean Jackson decided it was time to step down in 2015. “We are all affected by cancer at some point – a friend, a co-worker, a family member, or personally. Being part of an organization that is helping those in the toughest battle of their life is so rewarding,” says Dennis. Cancer Action is the main beneficiary and over the past years, Sunflowers to Roses has given over \$250,000. “You see every dollar spread as far as it will go by Cancer Action. Its employees and volunteers are inspiring, and it’s life-changing to see how our donations each year mean so much to helping all the cancer fighters we see,” said Megan. Now an established ride in South Johnson County, the 15th annual ride will take place on Sunday, August 6, at 7:30 a.m. with a start and finish at Erik’s Bike Shop.



CANCER ACTION STATISTICS

Cancer Action couldn't do it without the support from Kansas City. Here is some of the impact we made together in 2016:

- Supplied over 80,000 servings of nutritional supplements.
- Arranged 794 rides to treatment and doctor appointments.
- Filled 2,193 prescriptions for those who could not afford their medication.
- Provided 313 wigs and over 1,200 turbans and scarves.
- Gave over 570 pieces of medical equipment.
- Distributed 37,000 medical supplies to decrease the financial burden of cancer.
- Case managers provided thousands of hours in emotional support, guidance, and education to all of our clients.

canceractionkc.org
gotheextramile.org
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Do You Have a Wet Thumb?

Today's contemporary spaces, more and more, seem to incorporate a little bit of Mother Nature right alongside the modern conveniences and styles. A great method of bringing some of that great outdoors to your indoors is to set up and maintain a miniature underwater habitat, complete with live, growing plants and aquatic life.

There are many methods of creating an underwater biotope, and tomes have been dedicated to the art and science of it, so please explore all those options if the idea strikes your fancy. For the sake of brevity, here's a simple, inexpensive project to help get your thumb wet in the wonderful world of planted aquaria. Not only will you benefit from the soothing ambiance of a tiny underwater world, but you just might discover a whole new hobby that you really enjoy and move on to larger and more complex systems.

To set up a basic freshwater, planted aquarium, choose a small glass or acrylic container, be that a ready-made aquarium or a uniquely shaped clear glass or acrylic receptacle. Just ensure that your chosen aquarium has as large a surface area as possible, which enables more oxygen exchange at the surface (in other words, no tall, narrow vases, which, despite the popularity of the "vase betta" craze, are just not good for the fish).

Place your chosen habitat on a flat, level, sturdy surface near an electrical outlet. A countertop in the kitchen, a bar top, side table, dresser, nightstand, or even a bathroom vanity are all good choices. Add an aquatic soil substrate, formulated specifically for growing plants, about three inches deep.

Fill the tank carefully by pouring water gently into a saucer to avoid disturbing the soil. Any cloudiness will likely clear overnight. Be sure to add water conditioner to neutralize any chemicals added by the water treatment plant. Your local pet store can help you select the appropriate one for your area. Next, you'll need to add a very small heater to keep water temperature stable. Again, your local pet store can assist you in choosing the correct-sized heater for your needs, based on size of your aquarium and your ambient room temperature.

Your mini aquatic jungle will require a suitable light source to help your plants thrive and grow. For the scope of this project, I recommend a small, clip-on, full-spectrum LED lamp. Long lasting, efficient, and cool running, they come in a vast array of styles, shapes, and colors to appeal to all tastes and can be purchased for less than \$30. A simple air-driven sponge filter will complete your required equipment, which can be obtained for around \$25.

Fill your aquarium with easy-to-grow, forgiving, hearty species such as the following:

- **Shorter Plants:** Java fern, Java moss (*Vesicularia dubyana*), Dwarf hairgrass (*Eleocharis parvula*), Anubias nana.
- **Taller Plants:** *Bacopa caroliniana*, Wisteria (*Hygrophila difformis*).
- **Free-floating plants:** Water sprite (*Ceratopteris thalictroides*), Marimo moss ball (*Aegagropila linnaei*).

Plant utilizing the taller plants in the back and shorter plants in the front. Accessorize to your heart's content: perhaps an Asian theme with little red bridge or a Buddha





The author's small, planted aquarium, a 2.2-gallon rimless glass cube, featuring small live plants, a snail, and a white platinum half-moon plakot betta, named Glacier.



DO YOU PREFER AQUARIA ON A LARGER SCALE? Please visit the Aristocrat Motors dealership at 9400 West 65th Street, Merriam, in the Mercedes-Benz customer waiting area, to view its custom-designed 530-gallon saltwater aquarium. This aquarium features exotic, beautiful fish, such as a variety of tangs – yellow, sailfin, orange-shoulder, blue hippo (think Dory of *Finding Nemo* fame), and kole – royal gramma, magnificent foxface, firefish, Banggai cardinal, dwarf angel, green chromis damselfish, red scooter and starry blennies, and, everyone’s favorite, clownfish (Nemo!). The fish glide over a rocky reef structure covered with vibrantly hued living-coral animals. This aquarium and all its occupants are expertly maintained twice a week by Kevin and Carla Lewis of KC Custom Aquatics in Kansas City, kccustomaquatics.com, 913-927-1130.

statue; a magical fairy garden; your child’s favorite cartoon character; an ever-changing holiday theme; or a scattering of pretty trinkets from your travels, like seashells, pebbles, or driftwood (fish safe, of course).

Mini aquariums are rather limited in what types and the numbers of fish they can house, but some possible options, depending on your container’s water volume and surface area, are small tetras, rasboras, endlers guppies, killifish, dwarf cories, or tiny ornamental shrimp, which all come in an kaleidoscope of patterns and colors! A single male betta is also a great choice, often becoming so tame it will take

food from your fingers.

Small, regular water changes, plant trimming (scissors work), and a bit of liquid aquarium fertilizer are all that are required to maintain this setup. Until you’re ready to invest in water-quality test kits, most local aquarium stores will test a sample of your water for little to no charge.

Mini planted aquariums are really quite simple to set up and easy to maintain, without the expense or time and space commitment of a larger aquarium. The serene beauty they bring into your home more than repays what little effort is required to maintain them. Give one a try! ♦

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Say Hello to Matte Black.

Simple, sophisticated, timeless. Nope, I'm not describing the infamous little black dress hanging in your closet. It's actually the newest color to hit the home decor scene...matte black. Though this trend initially made its debut in fashion, it didn't take long for it to cross over to home decor. Black finishes and accessories have always been cool and versatile, but the lack of shine offered by this new color gives this moody hue the perfect pinch of edginess. The best thing about this color is that it's considered neutral. Whether paired with wood accents, shiny metallics, or pale pastels, matte black adds striking contrast while still creating balance and grounding your

mix of styles.

Are you ready to add a little edge to your home? Here are a few ideas to get you started.

Modern: Modern homes are known for their sleek and minimalistic style. Often times, there's not a particular area that stands out more than another, but as a whole, the uniformity is breathtaking. For example, the use of large kitchen appliances against black cabinetry will create a totally flush look, making your kitchen resemble that of a five-star restaurant.

Just want to add a few modern touches to your home? Light fixtures such as matte-black pendants lined with gold are another small, yet mighty,

way to showcase this hot new trend in your home.

Farmhouse: Wall-mounted faucets are a staple in farmhouse bathrooms. And due to the rising popularity of matte black, manufacturers have made faucets mimicking that of one found in an old farmhouse. This sleek color paired with a vintage-style faucet is a definite yes in my book!

Another gorgeous way to add some not-so-traditional farmhouse charm to your home is to paint a shiplap wall matte black as opposed to the traditional white. It will make a huge statement paired with white furniture and wood tables.

Traditional: Move over oil-rubbed bronze; matte black is in the house! Replacing old original hardware and light fixtures are a quick way to give your home a major spruce up.

Black pearl granite has been around for a long time. Though functional and pretty, it's a little too "dressy" for some. Selecting a honed black countertop will take out the shine, allowing you to get a little more bold with your light fixtures.

Midcentury: Midcentury vibes are hot right now. Minimal furniture in vibrant colors, white walls, and geometric-shaped floor tile... hello, gorgeous! Lucky for us, tile shops now carry matte-black tile in fun shapes with a lot of dimension.

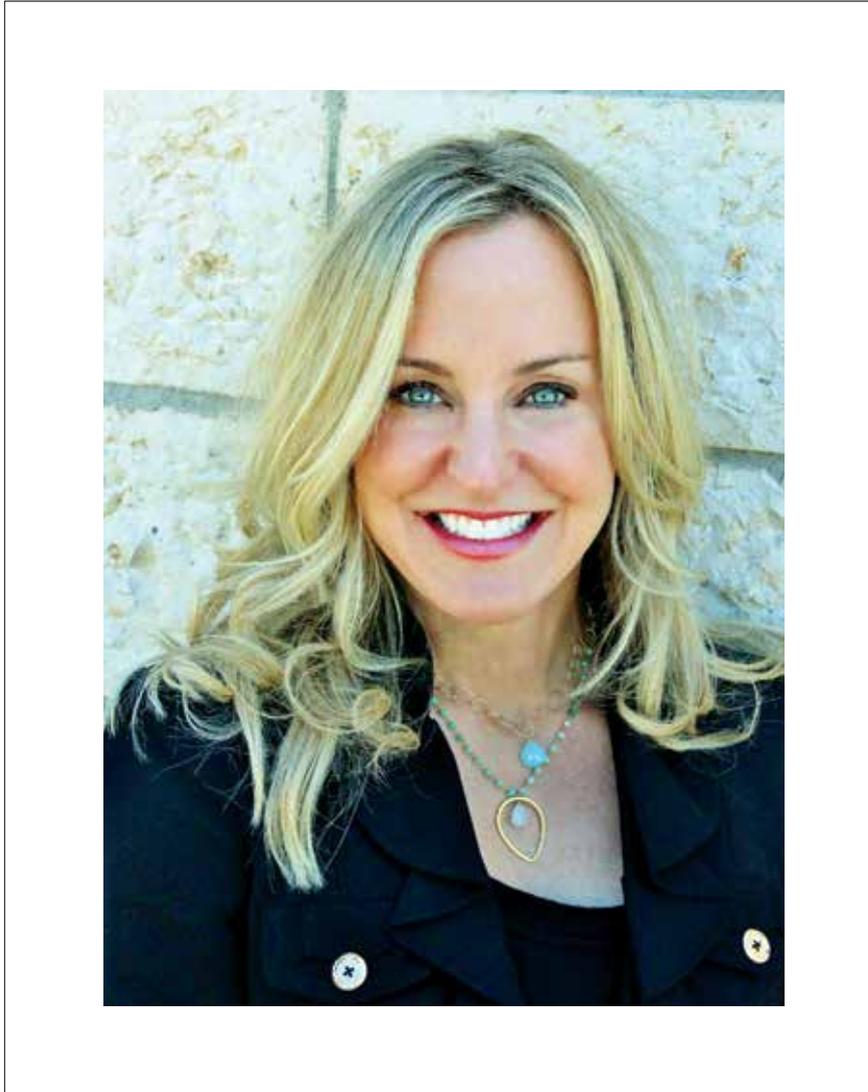
Furniture is another great way to add this trend to your home. Midcentury furniture pieces certainly stand out with their clean lines and unique legs. Try visiting your local vintage stores to find a pretty piece and start painting.

So, is it too early to say there's a new black in town? Maybe. But it's definitely a gorgeous trend and worth incorporating into your home. ♦

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KEMPER MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, PHOTO BY MICHAEL SPILLERS

SPRINT CENTER

- Jul 21 Luke Bryan & Brett Eldredge
- Aug 8 Bruno Mars
- Aug 11 Green Day & Catfish and the Bottlemen
- Aug 15 Coldplay
- Aug 16 Kendrick Lamar, YG & D.R.A.M.
- Aug 17 Lady Antebellum, Kelsea Ballerini & Brett Young
- Aug 18 Marco Antonio Solis & Jesse and Joy
- Aug 27 Lionel Richie & Mariah Carey
- Sept 2 WWE: Live
- Sept 3 Banda MS
- Sept 14-17 Disney on Ice: *Dream Big*
- Sept 22 Gorillaz
- Sept 23 Tim McGraw & Faith Hill
- Sept 26 The Weekend & Gucci Mane

THE KANSAS CITY SYMPHONY

- Sept 8&10 *Star Trek Into Darkness*
- Sept 15-17 *Rachmaninoff and Capriccio Espagnol*, featuring Natasha Paremski, piano
- Sept 22-24 Melissa Etheridge with the Kansas City Symphony

KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Kauffman Presents, unless noted

- Jul 26 Mary Chapin Carpenter
- Jul 28 U.S. Coast Guard Band in Concert, *presented by the VFW*
- Jul 31 Branford Marsalis Quartet
- Aug 12 Herbie Hancock
- Sept 5 YES, featuring Jon Anderson, Trevor Rabin, Rick Wakeman
- Sept 30 Eugene Onegin, *Love is Blind. Hindsight is 20/20*

THE FOLLY THEATER

- Jul 31 *War on the Catwalk*, presented by Murray & Peter
- Aug 4 *Girls' Night In*, presented by Fullscreen Live
- Aug 14 *Tana Mongeau*, presented by Fullscreen Live
- Aug 18 Dave Rawlings Live, *presented by KTBG & Emporium*
- Sept 8 Late Night Theatre, presents Valley of the Dolls

HARRIMAN-JEWELL SERIES

- Sept 16 Parsons Dance, Kauffman Center for Performing Arts
- Sept 23 Charlie Albright, pianist, Folly Theater



SPENCER THEATRE, PHOTO BY SIDDHARTH ENDRAKANTI

KANSAS CITY REPERTORY THEATRE – THE REP

Sept 8–Oct 1 *Between the Lines*
Spencer Theatre, World Premier

UNICORN THEATRE

Sept 6–Oct 1 *Men on Boats* by Jaclyn Backhaus

KEMPER MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Aug 18–June 24 (2018) Firelei Báez will be creating a site-specific work in the museum atrium.

Oct 6–Jan 7 (2018) *The Outwin 2016: American Portraiture Today* Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery Competition

NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART

Now–Sept 10 Rivals: John Smart & Richard Cosway
 Now–Nov 26 Dignity vs. Despair
 Now–Nov 29 Face America
 Now–Dec 3 Chillida: Rhythm-Time-Silence
 Now–Dec 30 Make Room for Color Field
 Now–Jan 14 Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Bloch Building
 Jul 19–Jan 14 An Italian Panorama
 Aug 2–Feb 4 Nature Morte/Still Life
 Aug 10–Sept 24 Emperors, Scholars, and Temples

STARLIGHT THEATRE

Jul 21 Steve Martin and Martin Short
 Jul 22 Journey with Asia
 Jul 23 Nickelback
 Jul 25–30 *Something Rotten!*, National Broadway Tour
 Aug 3 alt-J
 Aug 5 Young the Giant
 Aug 8–13 *The Bodyguard the Musical*, National Broadway Tour
 Aug 15 Foreigner & Cheap Trick
 Aug 16 Idina Menzel
 Aug 22–27 *Motown the Musical*, National Broadway Tour
 Sept 8–14 *Grease*, Starlight Theatre Production
 Sept 27 Matchbox Twenty & Counting Crows
 Sep 29–Oct 1 *Kinky Boots the Musical*, National Broadway Tour

KANSAS CITY ROYALS, KAUFFMAN STADIUM

Jul 21–23 Chicago White Sox
 Aug 3–6 Seattle Mariners
 Aug 7–8 St. Louis Cardinals
 Aug 18–20 Cleveland Indians
 Aug 22–24 Colorado Rockies
 Aug 28–30 Tampa Bay Rays
 Sept 7–10 Minnesota Twins
 Sept 11–13 Chicago White Sox
 Sept 26–28 Detroit Tigers
 Sept 29–Oct 1 Arizona Diamondbacks

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS, ARROWHEAD STADIUM

Pre-Season
 Aug 11 San Francisco 49ers
 Aug 31 Tennessee Titans
Regular Season
 Sept 17 Philadelphia Eagles
 Oct 2 Washington Redskins

SPORTING KANSAS CITY, CHILDREN'S MERCY PARK

Regular Season
 July 29 Chicago Fire
 Aug 19 FC Dallas
 Sept 16 New England Revolution
 Sept 24 LA Galaxy
 Oct 13 Pitch Black, presented by Land Rover and Jaguar of Merriam, Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City: Year-end Awards Celebration
 Oct 15 Houston Dynamo



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Artsy Autos.

*Aristocrat Motors hosts annual
"The Art of Your Car" show.*

On Saturday, May 20, despite a cloudy sky and early morning rain, Aristocrat Motors held its fourth annual "Art of Your Car" car show. In a year when the Kansas City Art Institute was not hosting the "Art of Your Car Concours," Aristocrat Motors kept the name and the idea alive by asking local car clubs, their customers, and classic car owners to bring their cars out to show the public. And while the weather kept the numbers down, over 100 examples of the automotive art were on display. ♦





Left to right: Jessica Somers, Topeka Chamber ambassador; Scott Bell, Volkswagen south central region vice president; Paul Levin, general manager BMW | VW of Topeka; Marion Battaglia, president, Soave Automotive Group; Mayor Larry E. Wolgast; Anthony Soave, president and CEO Soave Enterprises; Kevin Killilea, vice president, Soave Automotive Group.



A Special Night.

The grand opening event of the new BMW and Volkswagen of Topeka.

The Soave Automotive Group opened up the newest and largest showroom in the state of Kansas, on Thursday June 15, to its customers, dignitaries, and elected officials of Topeka. With help from Topeka's Mayor Wolgast, Topeka chamber members, and representatives from BMW and Volkswagen, the ribbon was cut, and the festivities began to celebrate this major investment in the Topeka and east central Kansas economic future. Over 250 people attended and enjoyed a menu created by the award-winning Inspired Occasions, which included Capital City BBQ in a glass; smoked salmon; Rubens; flambé doughnut holes; and specialty cocktails, such as the "BMW Classic" and "Beetle Mania."

The night was also filled with weather, but the valet line was quickly moved to the new climate-controlled service drive, and the attendees stayed entertained and dry. ♦





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