

RED OAK HILLS

Newsletter



It's February



*"Let your smile change the world.
Don't let the world change your
smile."*

Will Smith

MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT BEAT

In 1959, Bill Zickos worked at Toon Music in Prairie Village by day and by night he played drums for the Ed Smith Band at the New Orleans Room on Wyandotte Street. He was an area drum teacher and composed music for the Shawnee Mission High School bands. During this time, Zickos had the idea of taking clear plastic sheets and molding them into a drum set. What he got was a drum that was not only innovative in style, but also produced a crisper, louder sound.

One unique aspect of clear plastic drums is the way lighting illuminates through the clear acrylic creating a tapestry of color. This unique light show was very attractive to young musicians just starting out in the new rock and roll genre. One humorous observation was that the drummer, due to the transparency of the drums, would now be required to wear pants during a performance.

For several years, these drums gained in popularity with local drummers. It is believed that during one of these local performances the unique style and cool, crisp sound was noticed by Ron Bushy (drummer for the popular rock group Iron Butterfly). Bushy was so impressed he purchased a custom set for himself.

This drum set would later become a focal point of a drum solo during the Iron Butterfly's classic 18-minute song, "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vidda." Soon other groups would take notice and purchase the innovative new drum set. Orders from groups such as The Who, Beach Boys, Three Dog Night soon followed leading Zickos to open Zickos Corporation at 11844 W 85th St in Lenexa. Keith Moon of The Who, during an episode of Wide World In Concert: Midnight Special, played a 5-minute solo in which one of his acrylic drums was filled with water and goldfish.

After more than 50 years, Bill Zickos, known as the father of acrylic drums and John Brazelton, President, ceased production of their acrylic drum set in 2011. Bill Zickos passed away in January 2020.

For more information, visit <https://jocohistory.wordpress.com/2016/07/17/drum-roll-please>



From left to right: William Zickos, Gregg Gerson, John Brazelton, 2001 ca
Photo courtesy of Gregggerson.com

New Neighbors



The Blanchards

Our family moved to Red Oak Hills in August of 2019. Nick moved to Kansas City in 2017, and Eimile (wife) and Margaret (daughter) moved down in 2019. We have six pets; two dogs and four cats. You can sometimes find Bark Lee running around the neighborhood after escaping the yard! We enjoy taking day trips to small towns around the Missouri/Kansas area and exploring, as well as finding interesting small shops around the metro area. Nick is an application developer and has a deep interest in technology and philosophy. Eimile is an accounting supervisor and enjoys baking and home improvement projects. Margaret recently turned 12, attends Lenexa Hills elementary, and enjoys anime and horror books and movies. She also just became a certified babysitter and is currently seeking clients! We moved to Red Oak Hills because of the reasonable cost of housing, and excellent schools. The neighborhood is quite beautiful and conveniently located in the metro. We've enjoyed getting to know people around the neighborhood and hope to make more friends!

Creamy Wild Rice Soup

Serves 4-6

6 T. Butter
3 T. Chopped green onions
1/3 C. Flour
4 C. Chicken Broth
1 1/2 C. Cooked Chicken or Turkey (Chopped)
or 1/2 C. Cooked Ham (Cubed)
2 C. Cooked Wild Rice
1/4 C. Finely grated carrots
3 T. Chopped Pecans
1/4 C. Half & Half
Parsley and Black Pepper to taste



In a large saucepan, melt butter and saute onions. Blend in flour; gradually add broth. Cook, stirring constantly until mixture comes to a boil. Boil 1 minute. Stir in chicken, wild rice, carrots, and pecans. Add black pepper to taste, if desired, and simmer 5 minutes. Blend in half & half; heat to serving temperature. Garnish with parsley and enjoy with oven baked bread.

All about the dogs... Zeke Patrick



My name is Zeke Patrick. Zeke is for Ezekiel Elliott because my mom is a Dallas Cowboys fan and Patrick, of course for Patrick Mahomes. Everyone mostly just calls me Zeke. I think I am bigger than the biggest dog and I let them know, but small dogs I just want to sniff your butt. I preside over Vahalla Court and if you walk by, I am usually sitting at the door barking at you to come in so we can play. Bring treats with you -I love those things. 🐾 Being in this newsletter is like doggy Oscars, so I want to thank my mom, Annissa, and give a special shout out to my friends in ROH-Winnie, Max, Maggie, mimi, Jackie, Coach, Penny, Chi, Diamond, Lila, Ivy, Ellie, Hazel, Mia, Lilly x2, Riker, Gabby x2, Cooper, Bandit, Charlie x2, Eason last but not least my babysitter Anissa (Yep her name is like my mom's). See you all around ROH
P.S. Not sure why my mom chose this picture, I am tough not

cute 🐾

Caring and Sharing

JoyKC

JoyKC is a faith-based nonprofit that organizes monthly programs for youth (ages 15+) and adults with disabilities in the Greater Kansas City area. Local events are free and held year-round. A typical event includes various activities, crafts, and games as well as a message about Jesus. JoyKC implements a “buddy system” where “peers” (i.e. guests with disabilities) are paired with a volunteer for the night. Volunteers are trained prior to events and given the tools to be successful in their roles. Visit joykc.org for more information.

Tech Tip !

Question-“I tried to take a picture and could not because not enough storage, what do I do?”

Answer: Without being too technical 😊 when you buy a phone one of the things advertised is the amount of storage. Things that use up storage are apps (banking, games, weather-think of it as an icon on your screen), videos, pictures, gifs (those cute animations people send in text messages), text messages, emails. Note the apps sometimes stores data for it's use, for example if you have an app that tracks fitness, like which days you ran and how far, this is using storage. While it is nice to see you have worked out 28 days every month in 2020, that information is taking up space, thus using storage.

Solution: To resolve this problem

1. Delete apps you don't use
2. Backup picture, videos, emails and even text messages to the cloud, delete old emails and clean our your spam and trash on a regular basis.

Entertainment

Book:

I Know This Much is True

Wally Lamb

Dominick Birdsey, a forty-year-old housepainter living in Three Rivers, Connecticut, finds his subdued life greatly disturbed when his identical twin brother Thomas, a paranoid schizophrenic, commits a shocking act of self-mutilation. Dominick is forced to care for his brother as well as confront dark secrets and pain he has buried deep within himself—a journey of the soul that takes him beyond his blue-collar New England town to Sicily's Mount Etna, the birthplace of his grandfather and namesake. Coming to terms with his life and lineage, Dominick struggles to find forgiveness and finally rebuild himself beyond the haunted shadow of his troubled twin.

I Know This Much Is True is a masterfully told story of alienation and connection, power and abuse, devastation and renewal—an unforgettable masterpiece.

Series:

Moving Art Netflix

Louie Schwartzberg

Experience nature's art highlighting the beauty that lurks in oceans, forests, deserts and flowers. There are 3 Seasons currently available. Season 1 explores the landscapes from the desert to waterfalls. Season 2 take you on exotic locations and season 3 is all about majestic locales.

About Us

Jana Bonham, Jessica Horine, Chasity Mwangi and I (Annisah Freeman) are putting together this monthly newsletter for our Red Oak Hills community members. Why? We love our community to be published and want us all to stay connected not just for fun and sharing but also for help. The newsletter is to share news, events and fun things with one another. This newsletter will only be in electronic format, however feel free to print and share with neighbors. If you would like for information to be published you can contact us at annissalh@me.com, jessica.horine@gmail.com, jbonham94073@gmail.com and chacityrmwangi@gmail.com. We will try to prioritize and publish but please be patient as we try to keep the newsletter content to 3 pages with fun and business (mostly fun!!)