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Business

Pizzeria's mascot towers over Metcalf

By STEPHEN ROTH and MARISA AGHA
Staff Writers

If you've driven down Metcalf Avenue the past week, you've probably noticed a jolly green giant standing in front of Fuddrucker's Restaurant. No, not a large leafy man hocking vegetables, it's a huge blow-up Gumby doll in honor of Kansas City's first Gumby's Pizza, to be located under Fuddrucker's roof at 8725 Metcalf Ave.

The new Gumby's represents a new concept in fast food — incorporating two eateries into one family restaurant. According to spokeswoman Susan McCabe, the national pizza chain has long been a staple in college towns and recently chose Overland Park as its first entry into a major market.

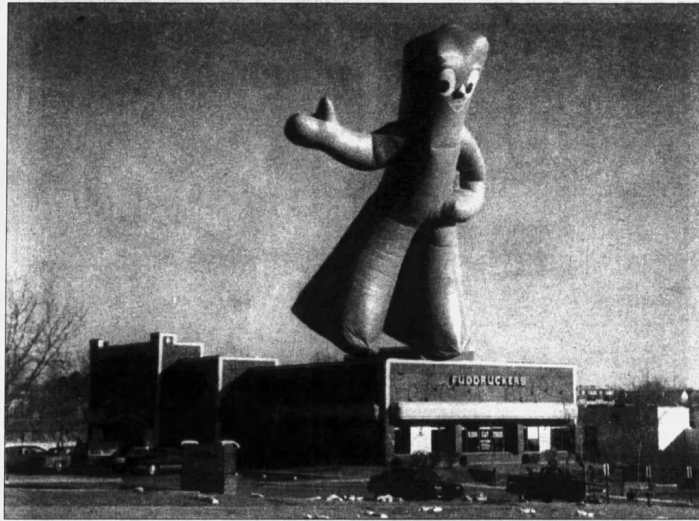
Gumby's opened to the public Feb. 5, with Gumby creator Art Clokey on hand to cut the ribbon.

After 13 years, the Jovaras family will move its **Mr. Gyro's Greek Food and Pastries** to a building across the street at the corner of 83rd Street and Metcalf Avenue. Adorned with Ionic columns, the 2,500-square-foot building with additional dining space for 80 people will open Thursday, restaurant owner Chris Jovaras said.

The new building was formerly the site of an Amoco gas station.

About 35 local merchants participated in the **Mission Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Trade and Fun Fest** Friday and Saturday at Mission Center Mall. The event included live entertainment and drawings for gifts donated by participating businesses. This year's Trade and Fun Fest was sponsored by Sun Publications and the city of Mission.

The Mission Area Chamber will hold an 8 a.m.



STEPHEN ROTH/The Star

Huge blow-up Gumby doll calls attention to the site of Kansas City's first Gumby's Pizza.

Thursday ribbon cutting at the grand opening of Edward D. Jones and Co. office at 6005 Johnson Drive in Mission.

Rainy Day Books of Fairway will sponsor a reception and book signing for FBI agent turned author James P. Hosty and his new book *Assignment: Oswald* from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Westwood City Hall, 4700 Rainbow Blvd.

In the book, co-written with his son Thomas, Hosty gives a first person account from inside the law enforcement community of the John F. Kennedy assassination. Hosty was the FBI agent assigned to investigate Lee Harvey Oswald prior to the assassination

and was the lead investigator in the FBI's post-assassination investigation of Oswald.

Refreshments will be served. For more information, call the store at 384-3126.

The Johnson County Board of Realtors is sponsoring a program, "Tax Tips for the Independent Contractor," at 7:15 a.m. Friday at the Woodside Racquet Club at 2000 W. 47th Place in Westwood.

Admission to the seminar is \$9.75 for Board of Realtors members and \$12.50 for non-members. For more information, call 381-1881.

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