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## For Immediate Release

## Kirkwood Residents Douglas Riggs and Brandie Martine to Receive 2021 Denis Hart Award for Excellence

January 18, 2021

**Kirkwood, Missouri:** The City is honored to announce that the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission (KHRC) has selected Kirkwood residents Douglas Riggs and Brandie Martine to be the 2021 recipients of the Denis Hart Award for Excellence.

The Denis Hart Award for Excellence is awarded by the KHRC to an individual (or individuals) who embraces and exemplifies the spirit and intent of the KHRC and has worked to promote respect for the awareness and appreciation of diversity, encouraged positive human relationships within the community, and worked toward eliminating discrimination based on economic status, race, color religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, familial status or gender identity.

These two honorees were selected for their outstanding service to the City in pioneering a program to recognize local businesses who train or employ people with diverse abilities. Their creativity, dedication and hard work laid the foundation for the recent initial awards to Sammy Soaps, Pioneer Bakery, and Kirkwood Schnucks. The KHRC is dedicated to building on their efforts by expanding the program and continuing to encourage local businesses to hire, train and employ people with diverse abilities.

The award will be presented to both recipients at the February 17, 2022 city council meeting at Kirkwood City Hall in the Council Chamber at 7pm.

Commissioners of the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission: Geoff Morrison (Chairperson), Robert Boyd, Judy Moticka, Paul Ward, Eugenia Webdell, Carolyn Becker, Michelle Cole, Margie Palazollo and Nicole Goldkamp

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