



Press Release

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DOWNTOWN PHILANTHROPISTS ADD TO CITY'S ART SCENE IN ST. GEORGE

St. George, UT. – Spring time is undoubtedly one of the most popular seasons in St. George as thousands of visitors flock from northern Utah to golf, swim, sight see and thaw in the warmth of the southwestern sun. In its historic downtown, the city's art scene is already in full bloom! One of the most notable landmarks along the streets in the Historic District is the open-air sculpture exhibit presented by the Art Around the Corner Foundation.

It is this exhibit and particularly one bronze sculpture titled, "Night Herdin' in the Rain," by renowned Sculptor, Grant Speed, that stood out to Greg and Arlynn Kemp shortly after moving their company, Vantage Strategies into the former Village Bank Building on 94 East Tabernacle Street. "Arlynn's father was a cattleman and my roots go back to ranchers on the Arizona Strip," said Kemp, "I have known Grant Speed for 25 years and have always admired him and his work. When we contemplated acquiring one of his bronzes, Night Herdin' seemed to be a perfect fit," he added.

Kemp says the story behind the Night Herdin' bronze was in many ways the same story behind his company Vantage Strategies, LLC. He said, "In the old west, wealth was measured in cattle. Only the most trustworthy hands were given the responsibility of caring for the herd. Thieves, bad weather, and disease were constantly recurring threats. Easy rested the head of the cattleman who knew he had a competent, reliable hand to manage the herd no matter what the storm or strife. Times have changed, the 'assets' have too, and different kinds of storms roll over the country. The need still remains for competent, trustworthy hands to protect the

things we have worked so hard for. At Vantage we consider ourselves modern day ‘Night Herders’ over our clients financial assets.”

The Kemps generous donation of \$60,000 dollars together with the City of St. George’s \$30,000 contribution was enough to purchase the sculpture from Speed at a greatly reduced prize and add to the city’s permanent art collection.

“Having a Grant Speed—this Grant Speed—on display here in St. George for the past few years has been a coup. Having it here permanently is a dream come true for many of us. It takes cooperation for something like this to happen in any economy, and to have it happen now speaks volumes about the City of St. George, the Kemps, and, frankly, Grant himself. This is exactly what Art Around the Corner is all about—bringing world-class art—and this is big-time world-class art—to our community,” said Kristy Pike, 2010 Chair, Art Around the Corner Foundation.

“The arts have always played a vital role in the fabric of this community. It is only by the generous donations of individuals and families like the Kemps and others that keep the arts alive and on public display for all to enjoy,” said Mayor Dan McArthur.

A special recognition ceremony for Greg and Arlynn Kemp will be held at the sculpture’s permanent location in front of Vantage Strategies, LLC at 94 East Tabernacle Street this Friday, February 5 at 12:00 pm. Representatives of the art community and general public are welcome to attend.

“Night Herdin’ in the Rain” was brought to St. George as part of Art Around the Corner, a not-for-profit outdoor arts project in historic downtown St. George. Nationally renowned artists from the intermountain west and beyond loan their sculptures to this exhibit for a year at a time. For information about the Art Around the Corner Foundation, visit www.artaroundthecorner.org or contact Kristy Ann Pike at 435-632-9598.

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