Rosedale Developments
A monthly publication of the Rosedale Development Association
March 1997

ROSEDALE NEWS AND VIEWS

Hello to Officer Zamora

Welcome to Tom Zamora, Rosedale’s new community policing officer. Tom’s pager number is the same as Officer Mahr’s, 980-7773. He can also be reached at the Indian Springs office, 956-7021. He is currently serving as a recruiter for the KCK Police Department, so is only available part-time for Rosedale. He will be finished with this in approx. four weeks.

Officer Zamora comes highly recommended. We look forward to the day he will be with us full time.

Spring Cleaning / Operation Brightside

Mark Saturday, April 26th on your calendar for our annual large item trash pick-up. It is time to begin your clean-up projects so all items for pick-up will be on the curb side by 10 am on the 26th. As usual a trash bag with a flier will be tossed in your yard about one week prior to the 26th. The flier will detail what will and won’t be picked-up. Large items, stoves, washers, dryers, tires, car batteries, paint, chemicals and anything with Freon in it will not be collected.

If you are elderly or disabled and need assistance placing items at the curb, need assistance with yard work, or minor painting please call the RDA office at 677-5067. We will have high school students available to help you.

This is first come, first served.

If your neighborhood group is planning a special clean-up project, we can provide students to help. Let me know how many kids you will need. Your group will have to furnish the tools.

At noon or 1pm we will have a picnic at Rosedale Park with hot dogs provided by Operation Brightside to celebrate our morning’s work. Plan to join in on this annual spring cleaning event.

Wyandotte County History Classes at Grinner Center

The History and Culture of Wyandotte County spring semester began January 27th at the Grinner Heritage Center. Although offered as a three credit hour class requiring a tuition fee, the classes are free to senior citizens. Individual sessions may be attended for a $6 fee. Classes are on Mondays. Of special interest to Rosedale residents are:

- April 14 - "The Sauer Home and the Sauer Family" by attorney and local historian J.R. Russell.
- April 28 - "The History of Rosedale," by author and local historian Margaret Landis.

For information on other classes or to attend a class call 342-9556.

Celebrating Rosedale’s Neighborhood Volunteers

You’re invited to join us for an informal ‘let-your-hair-down get together to celebrate National Community Development Week at 6 PM, Wednesday, March 26 at Fog’s Court (39th and Rainbow). We will have dinner and merriment. This is a time just to have fun, no serious business allowed.

For info or to RSVP call Carolyn at 677-5067 or leave a message. See ya.

FREE Immunizations for Rosedale Children

The Wyandotte County Health Department will offer FREE immunizations for children on Wednesday, April 16th, 1-3 pm at 4402 Fisher (Bellrose Manor). Parents should bring the child’s immunization records. If you do not have records or need more information, please contact Yvonne Hutton (573-6475) at the Health Department.

Sights Signs Everywhere Signs Messin’ Up The Scenery

Have you noticed the recent explosion of “Work At Home” and “Weight Loss” signs appearing on area utility poles? I am sick of looking at these “rip-off” business signs in our neighborhoods and besides they are illegal. I urge all of you to tear down any and all of these illegally posted.

Monthly Meeting
Snoopy Dogs of the KCK Police Dept.

Tuesday, March 25, 1997
7:00 PM
Bell Community Center
36th & Rainbow

We will have a special presentation by KCK Officer Briggs and his drug sniffing dog. We are lucky to have two such highly trained canine’s in our local police department.

Join us for this show and bring the kids and neighbors. Learn how these dogs are trained and how important they are to our Police. It will be a night to remember.
signs. It is against codes. I have called several times of the Supervision Department. Lt. Oehler is now the new supervisor for codes inspectors. It is hoped that this move will improve the effectiveness of this division. Lt. Oehler needs our support and cooperation to make this transition a success.

Planting a Garden? Free Seeds From Strasser.
If you are planning a vegetable garden or just want to plant a few simple flowers, write the RDA office and ask for the seeds you need. Strasser True Value Hardware has donated many packets of seeds (dated for this year), but still good. If you wish to try some of these seeds just stop by the RDA office and help yourself. We have peppers, squash, peas, collards, lots of carrots, lettuce,turning greens, and lots of marigolds. Your neighborhood group is welcome to take some for your next meeting.

RDA Helps Neighbor Acquire Home in Need of Repair
The old house at 1018 Dodson has been neglected for years but was bought for a very independent elderly lady. The owners had inherited the house and let the house, not knowing her life in the structure. After her death this past fall the owners planned to demolish the house. A family lives across the street wished to clean and fix up the house to use as a rental so that the family might make enough money to send their children to college. The family claims to have little experience. A friend of the family, RDA made the arrangements with a local attorney to draw up and file the necessary legal papers and at last week the property was transferred to the neighbors. They are now working on acquiring the neighboring vacant lot. We wish them the best of luck.

Many Look for Tax Delinquent Property to Purchase in Rosedale
In the past several months the RDA office has been busy providing information to area residents wanting to purchase tax delinquent properties. We are more than happy to help those interested to the hands of people who will maintain them and pay the taxes on them.

Currently there are two methods of purchasing tax delinquent parcels. One is to write a letter to the County Counselor, Jeff Ford, requesting the parcel be placed as an upcoming tax sale. The county is now saying that this may take anywhere from one to two years before a tax sale is held on the property. One method insisted that a form letter be used for this purpose and it is available in the RDA office.

The second method, which is supposed to be faster, can be used only if the delinquent property has a common border with a property you already own. This method uses F.S.A. 79- 2811 to gain ownership. I have copies of this form in my office also. Three people are currently trying this method to get vacant lots adjourning their home. I will use this second method and if it is faster than the tax sale method it is my hope that the County finds some means of speeding up the tax sale process, especially when we have people who want these properties and will begin paying their taxes on them. There is quite a backlog of letters requesting properties to be placed in a tax sale to reclaim the County and a property that remains a blight on our community.

A Sad, Sad Story From Rosedale Middle School
Several weeks ago I had the chance to sit in on an eighth grade science class. This was with the teachers’ permission and while the students were little Elves. Daniel. I was shocked and saddened at what I saw. For the duration of this class, one student was absent and the education going on. The students were passing notes, goofing off on each other and very bored. Many came to class without paper or pencils. The tops and sides of the lab tables are covered by gang graffiti, mostly done in pencil that could easily be removed. The teacher began the class by saying that no one in the room was making a passing grade. After class, in the hall, she told me that these are her “best” classes. The class period was continued by telling the students in work groups for some future project and asking the students to continue the project. The teacher was consisted of “Teacher’s Responsibility and Student’s Responsibility.” Directing were so confusing that even I was having trouble trying to understand what she wanted the kids to do.

I literally left the room in tears. The shear waste of time and lack of education was overwhelming. I felt so sorry for that student wishing to learn it would be impossible in her class as nothing is taught. I had heard from parents that there were problems with this teacher and the students. This school, I never imagined it was so horrific.

The teacher is a nice woman but she has some medical problems that are having a negative impact on her ability to teach. This has been going on for at least 2 years and possibly 4 years. How many students has she taught in the past 2-4 years? And how many of our children have lost out and how many are now behind in school because of this situation?

According to current District 500 standards it takes at least 2 years to remove a teacher who is bad or incompetent and has tenure. Our youth and community can not succeed with such a system. There are many good and strong teachers and they are also upset at what is going on.

I strongly encourage you to take one hour out of your day, any day, and visit one or several classes at the Middle School. See what this is all beginning. I can’t wait to see the plants in bloom at this time of the year. They will be a welcome greeting to all.

Membership/Those Who Make It Possible
Thanks to the following residents and businesses for their support.


Rosedale News and Updates

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Bell Community Center Spring Programs

A new program guide is available at the Bell Community Center Office or at Bell Community Center. To make it easier to succeed in the management of this facility it is important that we have your participation and input. This is your center. Please help us make our center a reality that appeals to you.

Classes Offered:
Discovery Through Art
Gang Prevention
Grandparents
Multi-Cultural Enrichment Program
Karate
Basketball Clinic

Intro to Painting
Dance
Mexican Folkore Dance
All That Jazz II
Total Body Kids
Doodle With Noodles
Small Impressions
Stretch n Flex
High/Low Aerobics
Seagull
Adult painting
Flower Making
Bengali Dance
American Sign Language
Herb Gardening
Silk Ribbon Embroidery and more
RDA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 1997
7:00 PM
BELL COMMUNITY CENTER
36th & Rainbow

District 500 School Board
Candidate Forum

This will be a very important election to the future of our schools and our community.

Many feel that our schools are in crisis and citizen input and involvement in District affairs is intentionally held to a minimum. Time and our youth are slipping away day by day and semester by semester. There must be a more effective and timely way of addressing problems in our schools and supporting those Principals and Teachers who are doing an excellent job.

This forum is an opportunity for you to question candidates and determine for yourself who will be most effective in improving our school system.
Zamora Back in Rosedale

Tom Zamora has finally completed his stint as a recruiter for the KCK Police Department. During these past two months he has spent the majority of his time at area colleges looking for good men and women who might wish to join the KCK Police Department. He has also been working overtime hours to address community policing issues in Rosedale.

As of Monday, April 14th, he will be back with us as a full-time community policing officer. YEA! I look forward to working closely with him, as many of you do, to help us address some area issues. Summer is just around the corner so now is the time to focus on our youth and eliminate drug houses.

In order to help Tom, I ask that each neighborhood group prioritize the issues you wish to have his help on. He feels it will take his several months just to catch up. If we work with him to address the biggest problems first and wait on the smaller ones or seek alternative solutions we can look forward to a good summer.

With your help I am hoping to put together a list of “problem youth”, both young and old, and their families so they can be targeted for help. I am discovering in many of the situations I hear about young children causing problems that there are also reports of domestic violence in the home. These children are only acting out what they see at home. If dad and mom interact by hitting and yelling the children do the same to other kids and to the neighbors. I plan to ask Tom to help us with this issue.

Domestic violence is a BIG problem. It has such a devastating effect on the kids. Let’s work together to get out information on the effects of and help for victims of domestic violence. If only one family gets help it will be worth it.

Spring Break Lock In - Success

On March 20-21 Bell Center was the site of an overnight party for middle school age youth from Rosedale. Susie Overman was the instigator, coordinator and main supervisor of this event. Susie had applied for and received a mini-grant from our friends, the Regional Prevention Center to put on this over nighter. She also had help from the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and some Americorp workers.

The 35 plus youth, boys and girls, had a great time playing volleyball, basketball, board games, watching movies, eating, dancing, participating in relay races, and a talent show. The plan was that at sometime during the evening the youth would become tired and get some rest. But no, they stayed up all night and didn’t get sleepy until around 7am when some of them began to call their parents to come and pick them up. The scheduled end time was 8am. Everyone had a fun and safe, but tiring, time. Thanks Susie, for caring enough to donate your time and energy for our youth. You provided them with an experience that they will always remember and cherish.

Clean-Up, Special Trash Pick Up
Saturday, April 26th

Just a reminder to place your items for pick up at the curb side by 7am on the 26th. Do not place items in a container or trash barrel unless you want the container disposed of. The following items will not be picked up: tires, batteries, propane tanks, paint, solvents, flammables, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers or hazardous waste. These items can be disposed of through the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. The site is open from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm on the following Saturdays: May 17, June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20 and October 18. It is located at 2343 S. 88th St. in KCK. For more info. Call the Water Pollution Dept. at 573-5400. This site will also serve as a recycling drop-off point on the same day.

On Saturday several neighborhood groups are planning special clean up activities in the morning. At noon in Rosedale Park we will have a picnic complete with free hot dogs, buns and drinks courtesy of Operation Brightside. We encourage everyone to come and bring a side dish and your kids.

Monthly Meeting
Special Meeting This Month

KCK Police Dept. Operation Reclamation

Tuesday, April 22, 1997
7:00 pm
City Council Chamber - City Hall

The KCK Police are hosting a special meeting for neighborhoods. Since this falls on RDA’s regular meeting night I encourage all RDA members to attend this meeting.

They will be providing “how to” info. on Citizen Patrol activities, drug marches and Operation CARE, a directed enforcement project. It should be a great meeting.
Parade and Festival, September 6
Once again this year we are planning on having a Rosedale Festival and Parade. It seems many people have a good time at this event and feel that it helps to pull the community together.
This year Melissa Smith and her family have stepped forward to take the lead in organizing the Festival. But, they will need your help to make it a BIG job to plan for this one fun day. If you have ideas on how we can improve on the event, cut costs, know of entertainers or just have time to donate to the cause please call Melissa at 342-1110 (this is her number). It is possible that Paul Davidson, as RDA Board Residential Vice President will pull together a group to plan the Parade for this year. If you have ideas or time to help please contact Paul at 262-2741.

Our event could be improved on a variety of ways. Including the addition on special events, like last year’s bike derby for the kids, or maybe a horseshoe pitching competition, or tug of war, or any of a host of other ideas. We need your help and ideas to grow this event. This is Rosedale’s only large community event and we want it to be GREAT! No idea is too big or too small to be considered. Just call either Melissa or Paul.

Mail Delivery Hindered
Due to groups or individual dogs running loose in the neighborhoods some people are not receiving their mail on a daily basis. Mail carriers do not have to deliver mail if they are fearful of being bitten by a dog, (this may be your dog or a neighbor’s). In one area this has happened on several occasions and is causing tension between the mailman and the residents. If a mail carrier is bitten and they have not done “everything possible” to avoid it, including cutting off mail service to the area in question, they can be reprimanded or possibly lose their job.

If you have a dog it is your responsibility to make sure it is on a leash, and not running loose even for a few minutes. If your neighbor allows their pet run loose, please ask them not to do this. In the past if this will cause problems, you can ask your neighbor group to take up the issue or just call Animal Control at 432-0669.

Rosedale Litter Brigade Off to a Good Start
Off to an impressive start, the Rosedale Litter Brigade filled 23 large bags with trash at an elderly tenants home at 412 Lora. They also cleaned the vacant lot next door, all on March 22. The following weekend, you Eastern volunteers, Andy Jackson, lost control, had too much fun and single handed cleaned up Main Street. The City Parks Dept. was called and picked up the bags on Monday.

This Litter Brigade is comprised of neighborhood volunteers who once a month get together to clean up an eyewane or help a neighbor. They usually do this on a Saturday morning. By all reports a good time is had by all. New friends are made and a good feeling invades the spirit, knowing that you have helped a neighbor or your neighborhood.

The group will meet next on April 26th, 9am in the Bell Center parking lot, 30th and Rainbow. They meet the 4th Saturday of each month. If you just can’t resist all this fun, don’t miss out, call Susie Overman at 432-6904 or Andy Jackson at 236-4077 or just show up on the 26th.

Sharing Community to Provide HELP for Elderly or Disabled
Last year the Sharing Community Center, 1444 Southwest Blvd, hosted a group of high school age youth from outside the KCK area to work as community volunteers. They cleaned vacant lots, helped with painting and minor home repairs and generally had a good time.

This year the Church will host at least four groups of youth on different weekends. If you or a neighbor of yours need help with things such as: clean-up, outside painting, window cleaning, minor home repair, window repair, vacant lot clean-up or yard work task which you are unable to do yourself, help may be available. The groups will be in Rosedale on May 27-28, June 9-13, July 14-18 and July 21-25.

To get assistance you must fill out a simple request form. These are available in the RDA office or by contacting Ned Winger, Sharing Community in Rosedale, 1444 S.W. Blvd., 236-8820.

The History of Rosedale Protection
On Monday, April 28th, Margaret Landis, local author and historian, will give a presentation on the “History of Rosedale” for the first time this year. The presentation will be held at 1420 S. 78th Street, from 6 to 9 p.m. Senior citizens are admitted free and others are $1. For further registration is required. For more information call 342-9556.

May Grass Roots Leaders Training
On May 12, the next in a series of training offered by the Kansas City Violence Prevention Center of Wyandotte County will be held. The topic will be Home Repair and Resources. The trainings are free but you must call and register in advance since a meal is provided as part of the training. The workshop begins at 6 pm with dinner and runs until 9 pm. To register your reservation call Jane Maier at 596-9685. These are great workshops. I always learn something new.

Special Business Workshop in Rosedale
The Customer Connection is the title of an upcoming special workshop targeted toward retail businesses. On Thursday, May 8, Bill Park will show businesses how to grow and promote their business, attract customers, how to choose and develop a brand image, and how to deal with customers coming back. This workshop is primarily targeted toward small, independent retailers.

Commerce Bank is co-sponsoring the event along with the KCK Chamber of Commerce. The event will be held at the Best Western inn, 501 Southwest Blvd. From 7:30 am to 9:30 am. Fees for the workshop are $19.99 for Chamber members and $29.99 for non-members. For an additional fee Mr. Park will conduct an In-Store Consultation.

Businesses should receive a flyer in the mail next week. If you don’t get a flyer you can call the RDA office and we will send one to you. For more information contact the Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce, 371-3070.

Thanks to Commerce Bank for agreeing to Co-Sponsor this event.

Youth Night to Start at Bell Center-May 3
People get ready, there’s a good time a comin’ on Saturday night May 3rd, from 7 pm to 11 pm. This is the first Rosedale Youth Night for kids from 5 to 16 years old. Thanks to sponsorship from the Rosedale Optimist we make this a reality. This event is free to the public.

A live band and a DJ will be on hand for this first Youth Night. The kids can dance, play basketball, volleyball or just hang out and talk too. No tickets are available. This is ALL FREE for the youth. We are modeling this off of the Argonia Youth Night put on by the Kiites and would like to thank the Aguirre. She has been having safe, successful youth events for a long time now. Four to five sheriff’s Dept. Reserve Officers provide security. They use a hand held metal detector on each youth as they enter, check for drug or alcohol use and deny entrance to anyone wearing gang colors. Each entrant must have a pass that will be distributed by area school counselors. There are no ins and outs, once a kid leaves the center they are not readmitted that evening. We will need 10 adult volunteers to work as chaperones at each Youth Night. (I’m hoping some of you may want to help.)

We hope to provide a safe yet fun spot for our young people to get together on a Saturday night. There is not much for kids to do in KCK on a Saturday night especially if they do not live downtown. We want to keep them from ‘hangin’ on the streets or at another kid’s house, unsupervised. If we can work as successful as Diane’s then the youth will have two nights a month that they can choose to attend a Youth Night.

If you have any ideas on how we can make this a better event, please add more activities or host special nights, please call the RDA office at 342-6904. We will need three hours on Saturday night May 3rd, we could use your help. ‘Us, old folks can dance too! Just might be fun.

Cinco de Mayo Parade & Fiesta
This year’s celebration will be held on Saturday, May 3rd. At Shawnee Park, 7th and Orange. The festivities run from noon till 8 pm on the 3rd and Saturday, May 4th from noon till 8 pm at the Cultural Society, 931-8689 for both parade and entry price.

Friendship Heights, New Neighborhood Group to Meet
The first meeting for this group is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 7 pm at the Kiddy University Day Care Center on S. 7th. The initial meeting for this group will be from S. 6th to 10th Street and from County Line Rd. to I-65. This is a BIG area out to be filled with KUMC on May 21 and 22nd. On one evening a nationally known speaker will be at KU to provide parents with informative handling children and getting them ready for tomorrow’s world. On the second evening he will speak to educators on dealing with discipline in the classroom (CUL’s will be available for this training). These two workshops will be offered FREE. I will have more on this event in the next newsletter.

RDA Building Committee to Start Clean-Up and Renovation
The RDA Board’s Building Committee has began planning for renovation of our building at 1403 S.W. Blvd. An initial clean-up, April 30 from 9am to 11am. I will keep you informed on the progress and in the near future be seeking some volunteers. I can’t wait to have a decent office and meeting room and I know that many of you are also looking forward to an improvement in our space.

Jobs
Pizza Hut Delivery at 42nd and Rainbow is looking for help.
Elite Courier is looking for drivers, Call 262-2222.
For Sale
Round oak table, excellent condition for $75, Purcell CD player - $20, old oak desk 60" x 25" - $25. Call 432-5948.

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