ROSEDALE NEWS AND VIEWS

Volunteers Make the Difference

Individuals working alone and with others in groups are improving the Rosedale community. Residents using available resources can make a remarkable difference in their neighborhoods. At the RDA Holiday Open House we recognized five dedicated volunteers and four outgoing RDA Board Members.

Darrell Dye was recognized for his service to the community and for his generosity and dependability. Darrell was the first Rosedale resident to request his United Way contribution go to RDA. Among other responsibilities Darrell delivers the newsletter for his neighborhood group, Hilltop Neighborhood Assn., he is a leader in the drive to get people registered to vote, and he is always there to help with any project to improve the community. Darrell doesn’t own a car or drive, which means it requires extra effort for him to be involved. RDA was happy to present him with the 1997 Neighborhood Volunteer Award.

Andy Johnson, co-chair of the Frank Rushton Neighborhood Assn., won the Rosie Award for her positive (tory) attitude and determination to get the job done. Andy serves on the Community Action Team, Beautification Committee, and is "Trash Queen" of the litter Brigade. She also spends much time researching solutions to problems she finds in Rosedale.

Susie Overman wears many hats in Rosedale. Besides being a wife, mother and employed social worker, she serves on the Community Action Team, Beautification Committee, Litter Brigade, Youth Activities for Students, and the Hilltop Neighborhood Assn. Susie was the key organizer for a Youth Lock-in at Bell Center earlier last year and also worked on the Rosedale parade and festival. She served on the Bell Community Center Board of Directors and is a new board member for RDA. She was presented with the 1997 Leadership Award.

The 1997 Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Forrest Rheu for his dedication to the improvement of Rosedale and Wyandotte County through civic involvement. Besides being an active member of RDA and Hilltop Neighborhood Assn., delivering newsletters, boarding up vacant houses, etc. Forrest is also involved in city-wide issues and committees. He always makes certain that we are informed about various issues important to our community. He also donated his know how and physical labor to help his neighbors with necessary home repairs. Forrest is currently seeking volunteers who are willing to be trained to serve on a Rosedale Neighborhood Watch Patrol.

A special award, Landlord of the Year, was presented to Wilma Truran. Wilma resides in Johnson Co., but spends much of her time caring for her rental property in Rosedale and actively seeking ways to eliminate problems in the area around her rental units. She also volunteers at the RDA office and for RU Medical Center. Also honored at the Open House were outgoing members of the RDA Board of Directors, Sgr. John Dressler, Lee Dye, Marc Marciano and Ray Phares. All were presented awards for their years of service to RDA and the community.

CRIME ALERT: ATTENTION BUSINESSES & RESIDENTS

In the past few months several residents have had their homes broken into and items stolen, including check books. In two cases the thieves have been successful in passing the bad checks even though they did not have any of the victim’s identification and the victim’s bank had been notified of the theft. Although the victim is not responsible for the bad checks their credit rating is still negatively impacted. The good news is that with the help of alert business owners and clerks the criminals have been located in both circumstances. In the first case an arrest has been made by our community police officer, Tom Zamora. In the second case, no arrests yet, but we know who they are, where they work and live.

Businesses: This is not only a problem in Rosedale but is on the increase in neighboring communities.

RDA Membership Meeting
"NEW INCOME TAX LAWS"
by H&R Block

Tuesday, January 27
7pm
1444 Southwest Blvd.
(Sharing Community Church)

The new tax laws have created many tax saving opportunities! Join us to learn how the new laws will affect you personally and professionally. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers on related topics for our speaker to address.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Business Dues - $100
Annual Household Dues - $15

NAME
BUSINESS HOUSEHOLD

ADDRESS
ZIP CODE

CONTACT PERSON

DAY PHONE
EVENING (RESIDENTS)

Please mail application along with check made payable to:
Rosedale Development Association
1405 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, KS. 66108
Rosedale Developments
A monthly publication of the Rosedale Development Association

January 1998

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Rosedale News and Updates

Communities, including Meritain. The reason gives is that there is a group of G:1 is a common problem among criminals who deal in stolen goods. Sometimes they "purchase" merchandise only to return the items to their clients.

Protect yourself: These criminals are familiar with various store policies regarding check cashing and returns. Be sure to strike at a time when your clerk is most vulnerable. Make sure your policy is to see identification, preferably a driver’s license, and your state government issued photo ID. Take the time to match the numbers on the check with the ID. If it’s all "pertinent" information is on the check. Check the signature. A number of checks have been forged by criminals signing false names to the check.

If you suspect that someone is trying to pass a bad check call the police and try to stall the person while holding onto the check. The person will probably demand the check back. If you refuse and the check is bad, the criminal will probably run out of the store. Try to get a good description of the person and if possible a vehicle description.

This is not a victimless crime, we all pay for it whenever we purchase any product.

BOY SCOUT TROOP TO ORGANIZE IN ROSEDALE

For the first time in many years, the formation of a Boy Scout Troop is beginning in Rosedale. If you have or know of boys who are interested in having fun while at the same time learning life skills and how to become leaders, please contact Davyl King at 236-8781. Both boys and adults are needed to make this a success. The first meeting was held on January 21, at the Rosedale Community Center. Davyl, a co-leader of the Frank Runshon Neighborhood Assn., is waiting to hear from you.

Grassroots Leadership Training: Grants

The first of this year’s series of Grassroots Leadership trainings by the Regional Prevention Center of Wyandotte County will be held on Monday, February 9th, 7-9 p.m. (for dinner) to 9 p.m. The topic is "Applying for Neighborhood Self Help Fund Grants for Neighborhood Associations." It will be presented by Vannie from the Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance. The training will be held at the Kansas City Kansas Community College, 7230 State Ave, Jewell Building. Dinner and training handouts provided. Registration is required for dinner, call 956-9685 before February 3, 1998.

RDA Membership Due Information

This year’s RDA Board decided to change the membership dues payment schedule. As of 1998 all dues will be due on the first of January. This should give us all a plan to save our gold to pay our dues. In order to do this fairly we have been prorating dues for the past six months. If you paid the full amount after March 1997, your due’s will be adjusted to get you on schedule.

All members should have received a letter from RDA recently with a reminder notice and the amount due. If you feel we have made a error (it could happen) please contact the office before February 28, and we will be glad to fix it. Thanks for your support of our efforts to improve Rosedale.

Translation Code Info. into Spanish

RDA has noticed a growing need for basic information to be available in Spanish for Rosedale residents, not only in Rosedale but city wide. We would like to start with the translation of basic city code regulations and include some information on what to expect (realistically) if you are an illegal immigrant. We included the name and numbers of staff members of our bilingual community police officer, Tom Zamora. In addition, 50 Spanish speaking residents who are willing to participate, assisted us with the basic translation. Several other Spanish speaking volunteers helped us refine our flyer.

RDA has made this flyer available to the Unified Government Inspection Services Dept. to NBR’s in Armwood and Central Ave area and to anyone else who wants or needs to use this information. Otherwise, please pick up a copy at the RDA office, 1403 Southwest Blvd.

We are currently working on domestic violence information for Spanish speaking residents. This was requested by our community police officers and by several area residents.

If you wish to assist with this project, please call the RDA office, 677-5097.

Improved Housing, Big Focus in Rosedale in 1998

This year will see RDA working on several different fronts to improve our housing stock. We hope to have three to five new homes constructed, assist over 300 (yes, 300) owners repair their homes and lead to significant improvements in one block.

Kaw Valley Habitat for Humanity

RDA has received notification that our block two tax delinquency lots has been accepted. Kaw Valley Habitat plans to construct three new homes on these lots on W-41st Ave. RDA has also requested three additional lots for the construction of two homes on Kaw Valley Road.

The three additional lots will most likely go through the delinquent tax sale process.

Kaw Valley Habitat for Humanity

We have been told that one of the new homes is to be named "Kaw Valley," this means that all construction will be completed by women. Construction is scheduled to begin this year, if all goes well.

Christmas in October

It is now official, the non-profit group Christmas in October will be held on October 24th in the Rosedale and East Arkansas community as the site of this year’s projects. The group helps needy homeowners with necessary repairs. In the past two years they have helped over 25 owners in our area, utilizing thousands of volunteers and last year repairing over 325 homes. RDA will act as the liaison with the community to identify those who need assistance. All homes must be owner occupied, no rental property will be addressed with this program.

RDA will need your help in making this a successful project and in reaching those who may not hear. It will take the time of those in your neighborhood who could benefit from this project, jot down their names and for addresses and send them to the RDA office, it will be a big help.

Sharing Community Church

Each year the past fifteen years this church at 1444 Southwest Blvd. has played host to several summer work programs for teenagers. These work sites are comprised of Missouri youth from other communities, including rural Kansas, for the purpose of serving Rosedale for a week of intense labor and service to help their fellow man and build camaraderie.

This year Carl Wenger, from the Church, will be responsible for identifying the work projects. In the past they have made major repairs to rented and painted homes and helped beautify Rosedale. RDA has offered to provide some materials for those homeowners who can’t afford them, if the youth will provide the labor.

Since most of the youth are “farm kids” they seem to have an abundance of construction skills.

Karl is looking for one block in the area near the church that can become a focus for this year’s project. It will become a "model block," and by the fall of the summer it will be an example of what could be accomplished on every block.

RDA Grants for Minor Home Repair

Several months ago RDA was awarded $15,000 in District 4 sales tax funds. These monies are to be used to assist qualified homeowners with repairs. RDA has developed an application process for those wishing to use some of the funds. Applicants must own their home, meet income guidelines, and have tried to access City funds for the repairs.

RDA has just completed our first work with these funds. A sturdy metal handrail was installed at the home of an elderly single man who could no longer easily use the stairs to get in and out of his home. A neighbor completed the work. Neighbors often want to help those who are unable to provide some of his meals. It is a great feeling to have money available to help people who for the lack of a few dollars would struggle unmercifully. Thanks to the neighbor and to Commissioner Bethel in.

If you or someone you know is in need of immediate assistance contact the RDA office at 677-5097 to apply for help.

Boardwalk Arts: Under New Management

Just last week RDA learned that the Boardwalk Arts, 1100 County Line Road will be under new ownership and management. In the past, this complex has been a site of conflict. Area residents have seen their stolen vehicles coming out of the complex. Sometimes they have found the information department hundreds of calls for service over a year period. Otherwise, they've been under new ownership, had tried to work with the former management to clean up the place, to no avail.

We are hopeful that the new owners will upgrade the units and improve the overall quality of the residents, by eliminating the criminal element as much as possible. RDA has written a letter to the new management encouraging them to follow through with their plans for an upgrade. We have offered our help, the help of the surrounding neighborhood, and our community police officer, to accomplish this goal.

New Urbanism Workshop

On Thursday, February 12, 1998 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., an interesting workshop on the "New Urbanism" will be held at Westwood City Hall, 4700 Randolph Blvd. John Ananians will present the workshop focusing on new and traditional town planning and sustainable urban design. It will cover ways in which communities can take the next step to implement their new urban visions. We are seeking to help with physical development, regulatory issues and a hands on exercise.

There is a $25 fee that includes lunch for this workshop. For more information or to make reservations call Carmella Anderson at MARC, 474-4240 ext. 282.

RDA Adds New Board Members

At the December Board of Directors meeting four new members were elected. All are representative of the Rosedale neighborhood who have very much been involved with improving our community. Brian Everett, is a case worker for Community Corros; has been active in the formation of the Board and her husband Bill own and run Bill Ward Painting Co in Rosedale. They have been active in the area and several homes on their block. Deb is also active in animal welfare issues.

"Stuff You Can’t Live Without"

Rosedale Arch Pins and Roses History books are available at the RDA office. The pins are golden color with a red and green rose in the center. They sell for $7. The history books, by Margaret Landis, are fantastic and sell for $10.

Jobs: VISTA

The United Way of Wyandotte County has secured a grant to hire two VISTA volunteers. These are full time positions and you must serve a one-year term. Benefits are a living allowance of $649 per month, health insurance, a $300 child care allowance per month and at the end of a year of service, an education grant of $4,725 or $1,200 to be paid to you directly.

If you are interested or want more information, call Jean Nelson at 371-3674.

Newsletter Sponsorship

Pastor: Rev. Ken Berg
Rosedale Congregational Church
4326 Ledy
Kansas City, Kansas 66103
236-6337 or 236-4009

Speaker: Sen. Sue Wagle
Sun. Feb. 1 - 11 am “Disenfranchisement, the Christian’s Worst Enemy”
Sun. Feb. 8 - 11 am "Rieth’s Without Scandal"
Sun. Feb. 22 - 11 am “Evidences of Salvation”
Sun. March 22 - 7 pm “Medicore Faith”

Ash Wednesday
Sun. March. 1 - 11 am “Christ Only Response Will Do”

works for KUMC. Belinda Harper has, for many years, focused her attention on one youth as one of the leaders of the DMV Dance Group. Suei Overman, RDA’s Leadership Award recipient, has dedicated much time and effort to improving Rosedale. In November, the Board elected Deb Ward as a member of the Board and her husband Bill own and run Bill Ward Painting Co in Rosedale. They have been active in the area and several homes on their block. Deb is also active in animal welfare issues.