RDA wishes to extend a deep-felt "thank you" to all of the individuals and sponsoring businesses who contributed materials, furniture, equipment, and many hours of labor to complete the makeover project in only 5 days. Since RDA did not have to pay for any part of the capital improvement project, it allows the organization to save its resources for direct programming and fulfilling its mission to build a healthy community. All of the participating businesses are listed on this page.

Team Office
316 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64108
(816) 221-9155

A.B. Bradley Construction
8337 Monticello Rd.
Shawnee, KS 66227
(913) 441-1140

Batts Communication Services, Inc.
6333 Blue Ridge Blvd.
Raytown, MO 64133
(816) 353-4884

Gold Bank
6860 W. 115th St.
Overland Park, KS 66211
(913) 319-3281

Flack Painting
2135 E. 151st St., Suite 313
Olathe, KS 66062
(913) 915-6364

Olympic Cabinet Co.
3909 Mustang Rd.
Kansas City, KS 66103
(913) 722-5801

Carpet Direct
2135 E. 151st St., Suite 313
Olathe, KS 66062
(913) 915-6364

Zoom Seating
Lyon & Co.
Office Furniture Distributors
Hartman & Associates
Smith & Associates

Special thanks to
The office makeover sponsors

At left, Greg Kemp and Aiden Bradley, of A.B. Bradley Construction, along with principal organizer Courtney Klimowicz of Team Office (standing on ladder) and her mother, Linda Klimowicz (kneeling), pause for a moment during the early stages of RDA's Extreme Office Makeover.

RDA re-opens doors following office makeover

The results of RDA's office makeover are quite impressive. Pictured at left, the new conference/meeting area on the second floor, complete with historic/meeting area on the second floor. Come visit us in our new surroundings!

Upcoming Events
February 21
RDA Board meeting, 1401 Southwest Blvd. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

March 1
Build Your Own Idea: home development groundbreaking ceremony. 40th Ave. & Rainbow Blvd. 12:30 p.m.

March 6
"Young at Heart" senior program. Rosedale Congregational Church. 4328 Lloyd. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

March 9-10
Used Books & Bric-a-Brac Sale to benefit the Shepherd's Center of KCK. Conference Center of KCK Community College. 7290 State Ave. 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

March 15
Rosedale Leadership Council. 1402 Southwest Blvd. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 233
Kansas City, Kansas
New townhomes and flats along Rainbow Blvd.

Construction will begin spring of 2006 on the newest Urban Core development: Boulevard Row. A ground-breaking ceremony will kick it off on Wednesday, March 1 at 12:00 p.m. at the corner of Rainbow Boulevard and 45th Avenue. Boulevard Row will bring new vitality to the neighborhood as 12 unique townhomes and flats appear along the northeast corner of Rainbow Boulevard and 45th Avenue. Empty lots will give way to the new, exciting Boulevard Row development with a group of distinct “prairie style” homes designed by KEM Architects.

“One thing new residential developments have failed to keep pace in the surrounding neighborhoods. Boulevard Row will be the first new condominium townhome development along Rainbow Boulevard,” says John Hoffman, Principal for Urban Core Development. “Our goal is to regenerate and beautify Rainbow, provide new housing for those looking for an urban lifestyle, and act as a catalyst for property owners up and down the Boulevard to invest and improve their properties.”

Amenities include maintenance-free living, beautifully designed landscapes with garages and lighted off-street parking. Gourmet kitchens will include an electric oven, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, and garage disposal. Hardwood floors, interior paint, and solid surface countertops will be available in a variety of colors. Each unit will have washer and dryer hookups, a security alarm system, a private patio and/or deck, hard-wired smoke detectors and will be cable and high-speed internet ready. Other features will include a front gateway and patio, along with extra visitor parking behind the units. Pets will be welcome at Boulevard Row.

“I live and work in this neighborhood. The location, price point and floor plans will appeal to so many people,” says Becky Hopkins, Prudential Kansas City Realty sales agent.

Living the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Monday, Jan. 16 (Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Observed birthday), several boards on the Rosedale area joined Eric Quman, Youth Ministry Leader for Joshua Test Ministries, to rake leaves and clean the yard of a disabled home owner on Shawnee Road. Quman has been teaching and mentoring many of the boys for the past six months. He is in the process of starting a new S.O.C.I. (S.O.C.I. is an acronym for: salvation, outreach, community involvement) youth group called Neighborhood Student Ministries. The organization will seek to build a holistic, long-term approach to strengthening Rosedale youth, covering such diverse areas as academics, recreation, community service, cultural enrichment, and disciple.

“I'm always asking myself, How do I model what it means to be a servant-leader?”, says Quman. “The students know the joy of giving your life away for others—it is you.”

Utility tax rebate offered to KCK seniors

Until March 31, 2006, senior citizens will be able to take advantage of a utility tax rebate. The program offers senior citizens a refund on a portion of the amount paid for utilities during 2005. Persons applying must be 65 years of age during the entire year of 2005, live in the city of Kansas City, Kan., and their total income must not exceed $10,000. The minimum rebate is now $100, as Mayor Reardon and the U.G. Board of Commissioners recently voted to increase funding for the program. Applications will be taken at the Municipal Office Building East, 701 N.

Rosedale Middle Schoolers demonstrate excellence

Who says young people in the urban core cannot succeed? A record total of 81 students from Rosedale Middle School met the requirements for the Excellence in Education award for the 2nd quarter.

This is a remarkable accomplishment. To receive the Excellence in Education award, students must achieve high standards in three areas: (1) academic achievement; (2) attendance/participation; and (3) citizenship/behavior. RDA and the Rosedale community congratulate these students for their hard work and dedication to excellence. Keep up the good work!

In addition to Rosedale Middle, the Excellence in Education program also operates at Holy Name, Frank Rushton Elementary, and T.A. Edison Elementary schools.

Membership application

Annual business dues: $100 $ Annual household dues: $15

Name of business or name of household

Address

City

State

ZIP code

Contact person

Day phone

Evening phone

Fax

Email address

Please mail application along with check made payable to: Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd. Kansas City, KS 66103
Casas Nuevas!

HEARTH HOMES, L.L.C.

DISPONIBLE AHORA!

Las propiedades localizadas en el 4108 & 4110 de la calle Springfield en Kansas City, Kansas, son casas de una planta y un sótano con salida al exterior. Ambas tienen tres (3) alcobas y dos (2) baños en la planta superior y un baño sin terminar en el nivel inferior, también cuentan con área de lavandería y un amplio garaje para dos carros. El área aproximada de cada vivienda es de 1,245 pies cuadrados. Las viviendas cuentan con una forma de energía eficiente llamada "Energy Smart," una decisión con la que puede vivir.

Como puede usted lograr vivir en una vivienda con "Energy Smart?" Una comparación del consumo anual de energía para enfriar y calentar las casas, entre el uso de energía convencional y el uso de "Energy Smart" nos muestra lo siguiente:

- Una vivienda que usa energía eléctrica para el aire acondicionado y gas para la calefacción gasta aproximadamente $2,370 dólares al año!
- El costo para el mismo propósito con el uso de "Energy Smart" será aproximadamente de $878 dólares al año, lo que nos muestra un ahorro de $1,492 dólares anuales.
- El uso de la unidad 13 (SEER) instalada en nuestras viviendas trabaja de una manera más eficiente que cualquiera de las dos comparaciones anteriores; lo que le dará a usted la oportunidad de ahorrar aún más en el costo de energía para su casa!

Aprenda como las viviendas que usan "Energy Smart" son más eficientes, seguras y confortables para usted y toda su familia. Para mayor información llamar a Glen Darrow al (913) 961-5850.

He aquí una mirada a su futura casa y algunos detalles de acabados que incluyen lo siguiente:

- Calentador de agua eléctrico para complementar el uso de "Energy Smart".
- $500 dólares para la terminación de jardines (Costo de contratista).
- Terraza posterior de madera con salida de la cocina.
- Cubierta de teja de composición con garantía de 30 años.
- Ventanas en vinilo y vidrios térmicos (No require mantenimiento de pintura).
- Baño principal con ducha de 5 pies, baño auxiliar con tina.
- Cielorrasos abovedados en la sala, comedor y alcoba principal; el resto de la casa tiene cielorrasos planos de nueve (9) pies de altura.
- Estufa, lavaplatos y procesador de desechos, todos eléctricos.
- Sistema estructural de piso que reduce el ruido, y subsuelo de Madera con sistema de agarre machiembriado de ½ de pulgada.
- Nivel de sótano con garaje doble, depósito amplio, lavandería, cuarto de refugio contra tornados, área familiar y baño con ducha sin terminar.
- Cimientos amplios con drenaje a prueba de agua.
- Tratamiento contra termitas.
- Amplio porche frontal y posterior en concreto.
- Vía vehicular privada en safallo y concreto.
- Listones de cemento (Hardie Plank) como acabado de fachada con 30 años de garantía y enchaque de piedra en el frente.

HEARTH HOMES, L.L.C.

3141 Main St. 2nd Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111 Oficina: 913-961-5850 Fax: 816-753-8411
New Listings

HEARTH HOMES, L.L.C.

AVAILABLE NOW!

The properties at 4108 & 4110 Springfield in Kansas City, Kansas are single story homes with walk-out basements, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with another bath roughed-in on the lower level, a two car garage, and a laundry facility. Each home also contains approximately 1,245 square feet. These homes are energy efficient houses called “Energy Smart,” a decision YOU can live with.

How can you afford NOT to live an “Energy Smart” home? Here is a comparison of annual heating and cooling costs between a conventional home and an “Energy Smart” home:

- Basic electric air conditioning with conventional gas heat would cost approximately $2,370!
- The cost with an “Energy Smart” Heat Pump and Total Electric Home would be approximately $878, which is an annual savings of $1,492.
- However, the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) 13 Unit used in our homes is even more efficient than conventional and the average “Energy Smart” homes! By using higher efficiency heat pumps, you will receive additional savings!

Learn how “Energy Smart” homes can be more efficient, safe, and comfortable for you and your family today! Contact Glenn Darrow at Hearth Homes, LLC, 913-961-5850.

Here is an inside look to your future home! Some details and features of the homes include:

- First, a 50-gallon electric water heater to compliment your new “Energy Smart” Home!
- $500 Landscaping Allowance (Contractor’s Cost).
- Wood deck off the kitchen.
- 30-year composition shingle roof.
- Single hung vinyl windows with insulating glass. No painting required!
- Master bathroom has a 5’ shower stall and a bathtub is included in the Guest bathroom.
- Nine foot ceilings throughout with vaulted ceilings in the Living/Dining Room area and in the Master Bedroom.
- Kitchen appliances such as an electric range, dishwasher and disposal are included!
- A Silent Floor framing system with tongue & groove ¾” plywood subfloor.
- Full basement with 2-car garage, large storage area, laundry, safe room, unfinished family room and a ¾ bath roughed-in.
- Enhanced foundation drainage and waterproofing.
- Termite pretreatment.
- Large concrete front porch. Concrete patio off walk in rear.
- Asphalt driveway with concrete apron at garage and concrete approach.
- Hardie plank cement fiber board lap siding and Smart-Sidetrim with 30 year warranty and stone veneer at front.
Did you know that one of the largest and fastest-growing companies in the entire Midwest is located in Rosedale's very own backyard? R.F. Fisher Electric Co. has been serving commercial and industrial clients for the past 43 years, all based from its headquarters in the Rosedale district of Kansas City, Kan. From pre-construction, to renovation, to upgrades and emergency repair service, the company strives to meet a variety of electrical needs.

Locally owned and operated, 90% of R.F. Fisher's work is in the greater Kansas City metro area. However, the company has projects in about 68 U.S. states besides Kansas and Missouri, as well. R.F. Fisher is often hired for large construction projects. Some recent project sites include the new Legends shopping area in western Wyandotte County, the KCI airport, and the Linda Hall Library on the UMKC campus, and the KCK school district.

In addition to providing traditional electrical services to commercial and industrial clients, the company also designs and installs comprehensive communications systems, including voice/data/video networking, fiber optics, and Auto-CAD. R.F. Fisher has contracts with such telecommunications giants as SBC, AT&T, and locally-based Sprint.

The company has a Design & Build division, which helps plan and implement major electrical projects using the latest engineering and technology. Furthermore, R.F. Fisher offers 24 hr/day, 7 day/week emergency service for routine maintenance and repair. The company has over 50 full-service trucks and on-call relationships with suppliers to respond quickly to clients' diverse electrical needs.

Rodney Wichendahl (left), Vice President-Engineering, and Gavin Seeley, Executive Vice President, study the electrical plans for one of R.F. Fisher's work projects. Gavin is the son of the company's current Owner and President, Gary Seeley.

Wyandotte County grapples with higher tax bills in the midst of economic growth

One of the most common grievances from Wyandotte County residents and businesses is that their property taxes are too high. Despite the Unified Government's consistent effort in the last 10 years to reduce the property tax mill levy, the combination of rising home values and increased tax rates from the other local taxing bodies has placed a real strain on property owners in the county.

As the county has experienced an economic boom and record growth in recent years, the county's total property valuation has increased significantly. Just in the last year, property values jumped an average of 9%, including residential and commercial property. While the economic growth and accompanying tax increases and other property values are certainly good news, it brings with it the unfortunate prospect of higher taxes. Trying to balance appropriate tax relief with the continuing economic growth is a key challenge facing the county in the next few years.

Mayor Joe Reardon and the U.G. Board of Commissioners have indicated a desire to further reduce the U.G.'s portion of the property tax rate. However, the U.G. is not the only taxing jurisdiction within the county. The various local school districts and Kansas City Kansas Community College also collect taxes from property owners.

Part of the reason Wyandotte County property owners have not seen the full effects of the U.G.'s reduced mill levy (decreased 21% since the 1997 consolidation of the city and county governments) is that the other taxing bodies have increased their rates.

Pressure is mounting on all the taxing jurisdictions to reduce the property tax burden, so that the county's economic progress will continue and not be stymied by high taxes.

Rosedale and Pembroke Hill middle schools partner to develop student leaders

Through a unique partnership, students from both sides of the state line are stepping out of their comfort zones and coming together to learn how to become better leaders in their communities.

The program, Making a Difference Block by Block, consists of five after-school sessions designed to give students the knowledge and skills they need to be positive examples in their neighborhoods and take charge in other situations throughout their lives. The program is being taught by Susan Keim, program manager.

Through a series of team building, self-exploration and role playing exercises, students learn to see the world through the eyes of others and are challenged to answer the question, "If we got it right, what would it [their community] look like?"

About 30 sixth-grade students from Rosedale and Pembroke Hill middle schools and half-a-dozen adults from both schools and RDA are participating in the program. Sessions rotate between schools each week so students have an extra opportunity to explore the similarities and differences between their schools and neighborhoods.

Upon completion, participants will receive a $500 grant to carry out a community service project of their choosing. More information about the leadership training program can be found at www.leadershipkyc.org.
**Rosedeal seniors are still “Young at Heart”**

In collaboration with the Rosedeal Congregational Church, the Rosedeal Community Project (RCP) is sponsoring an outreach program for senior citizens called “Young at Heart.” The seniors themselves decided on the name for the program.

Participants meet on the first Monday of each month at the church, located at 4326 Lloyd near Frank Rush- ton Elementary School in Rosedeal. The program runs from 11:30 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m. The seniors always enjoy a nutritious lunch, followed by a group sharing time and various activities, such as singing, playing games, and making arts and crafts.

The group has also had guest speakers from the Luraford Center for Aging and the KUMC Family Medicine Department. The speakers talk about issues relevant to seniors.

Participants include not only current members of the church, but also former members and those that aren’t able to attend Sunday services, as well as friends of church members and people from the surrounding neighborhoods. The impetus for the program came from the church and Pastor Jane Heide, who wanted to offer some of enriching and meaningful activity for senior citizens. Heide approached the Rosedeal Community Project about assisting with the start-up and ongoing organization of the program. One of the RCP’s student social workers, Betsy Thomas, grabbed the opportunity to help.

“I thought it would go well with one of my classes in the full semester, in which I had to design a program, and I had also worked with a seniors’ program a little bit during the summer in Roma- nia,” says Thomas.

The group has been meeting once a month since November. The program has been a real success so far. Many participants have expressed positive feedback to Heide and Thomas, indicating that they have enjoyed the activities and speakers. Attendance has ranged from 10-15 people per meeting, but the organizers hope to add more participants in the upcoming months.

“It is a nice time for people to get together and eat, chat, and have fun,” says Thomas.

If you or someone you know would like to join the Young at Heart group, contact the church (913) 236-6357 or the RCP (913) 677-2561, or simply show up on the first Monday of the month at the church.

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**Utility tax rebate offered to KCK seniors**

Until March 31, 2006, senior citizens will be able to take advantage of a utility tax rebate. The program offers senior citizens a refund on a portion of the amount paid for utilities during 2005. Persons applying must be 65 years or older during the entire year of 2005, live in the city of Kansas City, Kan., and their total income must not exceed $10,000. The maximum rebate is now $300, as Mayor Reagan and the UGC Board of Commissioners recently voted to increase funding for the program.

Applications will be taken at the Municipal Office Building East, 701 N. 7th St., Room 325, KCK, in the Unified Government Clerk’s Office. Eligible persons should bring all gas, telephone, and utility bills paid during 2005, proof of income, Social Security statements, interest statements, etc. and Social Security numbers. If you have questions, contact the UGC’s Clerk’s Office (913) 573-5260.

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**Meet your state legislators**

There are many critical issues being debated at the state level in Topeka this session, including school funding, tax cuts, expanded gambling, concealed carry of hand guns, eminent domain, and others. Make your voice heard at upcoming “Coffee & Conversation” sessions with the state delegation from Wyandotte County. The sessions are free and open to anyone.