Donations still needed for Rosedale Feed-a-Family program

For the 21st year, Rosedale Development Association and the University of Kansas Prental Order of Police Lodge No. 37 are teaming up with the community to provide holiday gift baskets for Rosedale families and senior citizens in need.

Here are several ways you can participate:

- Donate non-perishable food items and household products (see list below).
- Make a cash donation.
- Sponsor a complete basket for a family by purchasing all of the items listed below, plus a sturdy laundry basket in which to carry the items.
- Volunteer to assist with sorting on Dec. 15 or delivery on Dec. 21.

In order to provide these items to all who want to participate, please bring your donations to the RDA office by Friday, Dec. 15.

Freedom School program comes to Rosedale

The Kansas City Free Press recently announced that Rainbow Mennonite Church will be the host site for a new Freedom School program in Rosedale.

The Freedom School is an intensive, 6-week summer educational enrichment program for urban children and youth. Rosedale's Freedom School will serve 100 children in grades K-8. The vast majority of the children will be Rosedale residents, but the program is open to those from other areas as well. The program will operate from mid-June through July.

The Freedom School program, built on the legacy of the famous 1960's-era Freedom Schools in the American South, is unique because of its key components, which include: promoting the joy of reading and improving literacy skills; fostering cultural awareness and appreciation for diversity; building a sense of pride and ownership in the community; required parental involvement; multigenerational mentoring; leadership development; and community service projects.

There are currently 15 Freedom School sites in Kansas City, Mo. and Kansas City, Kan. Rosedale's site will be one of three new sites for the summer of 2007. The Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church in Kansas City, Mo., which hosts the first Freedom School in the Kansas City area in 1995—oversaw and manages the Kansas City Freedom Schools, with significant financial support from the locally-based Kaufman Foundation. Nationally, the program is administered by the Children's Defense Fund.

Rainbow Mennonite Church, located across the street from the RDA office and selected as the new site for the program, Rainbow Mennonite will partner with other agencies and individuals in Rosedale and plan to facilitate the program. Several agencies and individuals have already committed their support, including Rosedale's three public elementary schools and one public middle school, the Landon Center on Aging, the Rosedale Municipal Alliance and other Rosedale churches, Donnelly College, Saint Louis University, and UGC Commissioner John Menner. RDA will join in the effort, as well, assisting with publicity, recruitment, and consulting.

There are lots of opportunities to get involved. College-age students are invited to apply to become "Service-Led Interns" (the teachers for the program). These paid positions, but there is a significant time commitment required. Volunteers are also needed to assist with fundraising and mentoring the children. To inquire, contact Joel Goering at Rainbow Mennonite Church (913) 236-8820.
Youth Academy students learn about team-building and safety: funding for next year in doubt

The Rosedale Youth Academy, now in its seventh year, is an after-school youth educational enrichment program sponsored by RDA and the University of Kansas School of Social Welfare-Rosedale Community Project. This semester, 16 sixth-graders are enrolled in the program, which meets every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the Koch Center (next door to the RDA office at 1401 Southwest Blvd.).

RDA and the Rosedale Community Project were recently notified that this is the last year of funding for the Youth Academy through the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA). The JJA has been the financial backbone of the Academy for the past seven years, so the loss of its funding is a significant blow to the program.

Efforts are currently underway to find new sources of funding for the program. Anyone with ideas on alternative funding streams for the Academy is encouraged to contact Donna Destro, program manager for the Rosedale Community Project (913) 677-2561.

This semester, students have learned about the importance of decorating themselves and how to work with others to influence team-building exercises. Another focus this semester has been awareness safety. The American Red Cross has provided instruction on staying home alone, disaster preparedness, and basic first aid. Academy students have also done community service projects, such as picking up trash and making decorative table centerpieces for a holiday dinner party. Students have learned about animals and the role they play in the community through a visit from a Kansas City Zoo staff member and lessons on household pets.

The Youth Academy is known for its emphasis on promoting community awareness - teaching students about their own community and how they are critical to its success. Students are encouraged to take an active role and to take pride in their community. The program also emphasizes the importance of reading, and education in general.

Because U.S.D. 500 (Kansas City, Kan.) schools have already balanced their calendars for the upcoming Wednesday, the Academy serves a vital function in that it provides a structured, nurturing after-school environment for children that otherwise might be getting into trouble due to lack of supervision. Parents of Academy students are grateful that their children have a positive outlet on Wednesday afternoons when they are still at work.

It is hoped that this important program will be able to continue next year. As mentioned earlier, if you have ideas on alternative funding sources for the Academy, contact Donna: (913) 677-2561. I/O

Winterization kits going fast

RDA only has a handful of home winterization kits remaining for this year. The kits, which are free to those who qualify (low-to moderate-income residents, as well as those on fixed income), will help homeowners save on heating and other energy bills this winter. RDA has already distributed 49 kits. If you would like one of the few remaining kits, contact the RDA office as soon as possible: (913) 677-5097.

To qualify for the program, individuals and families must fall below 150% of the federal poverty level ($14,355 for an individual, $29,025 for a family of four). The kits contain a variety of tools and materials to improve insulation in older and substandard homes, including plastic sheeting to cover windows and doors, rope and acrylic caulk to seal cracks, and switch plate insulators to help stop cold-air drafts. The kits also contain compact fluorescent light bulbs and energy-saving tips guides.

Homeowners may install the kits themselves or they may call upon volunteers at the United Way of Wyandotte County for assistance. This winterization program is sponsored by the Kansas Warm Homes Project.

Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kan. — "Adventures in Learning"

Friday, Dec. 15, 2006 (and every 3rd Friday of the month)
First Baptist Church of Kansas City; 59th St. and Minnesota Ave. in KCK

Blood sugar and blood pressure checks begin at 8:30 a.m.
Program begins at 10:00 a.m.
Lunch at 12:00 noon (please bring your own sack lunch).

Come enjoy a special Christmas version of Adventures in Learning. Lovers to exciting presentations on a variety of topics, including a talk on "Christmas Lights of the 1970's"; a health forum on "Taking Charge of Your Holiday Stress"; a reader's theatre performance; and a taste of Christmas carols and sharing Christmas stories with Rev. Ken Netting, pastor of Faith Lutheran and Immanuel Lutheran churches.

The afternoon session will be led by Rosedale Congregational Church's "Fun with Singing" community chorus. This will be one of the group's first public performances. (To join the chorus, contact Rosedale Congregational Church: 913-236-6332.)

For more information on Adventures in Learning, contact the Shepherd's Center: (913) 281-8486.

Membership application

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

Non of business or spouse of household

Address: City State ZIP code

Contact person

Day phone Evening phone Fax

Email address: Please mail applications, along with check made payable to: Rosedale Development Association.
1403 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, Kan. 66102
October 2006

Hopes and dreams for Rosedale

A look back at 2006 brings thoughts of our successes, but also of losses. Last year, a number of our long-time residents and members passed away. These were individuals who helped to enrich our community with their lives. It has made me aware of the brevity and fragility of life. It has taught me to spend more time enjoying family and friends and creating memories.

If we are lucky, we can even leave a legacy of our own. RDA was successful in continuing to meet our financial challenges without going into debt thanks to many generous donors and volunteers. We served 25 families with our Food-a-Family program—more than ever before. We completed 35 projects through our Minor Home Repair and clean-up programs to assist low-income and elderly homeowners. Calls for service or information averaged 350 to 400 per month. Families and youth continued to receive individual services through RDA's on-site programs and in-school services supported by RDA.

As I write this in 2007, we aremerging by new ideas, new board members, new opportunities and a long holiday break from the office. We have new involved residents, new businesses, new housing and a reputation that "good things are happening in Rosedale..." a trend I hope will continue in 2007. Housing values are up, crime is down, more volunteers are willing to participate in a variety of ways, and more area institutions are truly partnering to provide better or new community services. My hope for this year is that RDA will not only continue our established services but also move into some new areas. Our goals are to bolster the physical identity of Rosedale through banners and marketing, investigate the possibility of a gateway marker at 77th St. and Southway Blvd., and find ways to better link together as a geographic area. In addition, we will strengthen youth and families at Rosedale Middle School by supporting the development of a comprehensive after-school program. RDA is committed to identifying funding sources for a two-year pilot program that would put a full-time extended-day coordinator at the school.

Funding remains a challenge as we search for new ways to generate earned income, to allow us to continue providing valuable resources and services here in Rosedale. RDA is striving to find better ways to connect with the 63% of area residents who now live in rental housing, and we are also seeking to connect and build bridges with the rapidly growing Spanish-speaking population.

Please join us as we in 2007 to make great things happen in Rosedale. I hope our newsletter and website help you to stay connected with our community.

Blessings! — Wendy Wilson, Executive Director

Volunteer brochure wins Philly Award

RDA garnered a first place design award from the Council on Nonprofit Communiciations Network in Kansas City, Mo. on Dec. 8, 2006. The first place "Philly Award" was for RDA's volunteer brochure produced by a Rosedale design firm, Lizardbrand Inc.

Kelly Jackson, RDA's former Volunteer Coordinator, also played a critical role in producing the brochure. Our 141 entrants, first and second place awards were only given in seven categories. RDA's winning entry was in the "Informational Brochures" category for non-profit organizations with less than a $1 million annual budget.

"The volunteer brochure's professional design reflects our commitment to provide a quality experience for our volunteers, as they work to address community needs in Rosedale," said Wendy Wilson, RDA's Executive Director.

There are lots of opportunities to get involved with RDA and the Rosedale community. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. If interested, call (913) 677-5007.

"This award means more to me than any I've won in the past because the design goal was to help people in our neighborhood," said Elisabeth Johnston, president of Lizardbrand Inc. "I hope that this exposure within the non-profit community will benefit RDA in the future."

In addition to the volunteer brochure, Johnston also designed the logo branding for RDA, created signage and other publications, and produces their monthly newsletter.

January 2007

The Rosedian

Rosedale Development Association Newsletter
Rosedale History Quiz

In each issue of The Rosedaleian, there will be a historical photograph of a place in Rosedale along with an accompanying question. The first person to answer the question correctly will receive a prize. Submissions must be emailed to rosedalehistory-quiz@yahoo.com or called in to the RDA office: 813-877-5097. Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

Last month's photograph & question:

Question: What was this building's original use? Hint: It was used for one very important purpose.

Answer: The building is the former Rosedale City Hall.

Winner: Helen Humphreys

This month's photograph & question:

Question: Who is this man and what is his distinction in early Rosedale history?

The answer will be provided next month.

Congratulations...
... to Darcy Nicholls-Curtis, University of Kansas Police Department (KU Medical Center), who was recently promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Darcy is a long-time Rosedale resident. We are so especially proud of her. Over the years, she has volunteered with the Hilltop neighborhood group and is an Excellence in Education program. Way to go, Darcy!

Also, congratulations to James Pickett, who was promoted to Sergeant, and Kevin Faust, who was promoted to Captain.

Upcoming Events

January 16 – RDA Board meeting, 1401 Southwest Blvd. Suite 50-700 p.m.

January 17 – Rosedale Leadership Council meeting, 1403 Southwest Blvd. 9:30-10:30 a.m.

January 25 – Thursday Neighborhood meeting, U.S. Neighborhood Resource Center, 4001 state ave. 8:30 a.m.

January 25 – Rosedale Neighborhood Alliance meeting, 9.30 a.m.

Rosedale Development Association

Working in partnership with residents, businesses, and institutions to build a strong and thriving community and to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Rosedale.

1403 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64110
Phone: (913) 677-0869
Fax: (913) 677-3477
www.rosedaledevelopment.org
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wendy Wilson, Executive Director
Linda Wright, Office Manager
Joel Gearing, Community Organizer
Board of Directors, www.rosedaledevelopment.org/who_board.html

Membership application

Annual business dues: $100/year 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, Mo. 64110

Godfrey and Mary Leonard, beneficiaries of Rosedale’s Feed-a-Family program, are all smiles after receiving their holiday gift basket last month.

RDA Board of Directors welcomes four new members

At their December meeting, the Board of Directors approved the slate of Board nominations for 2007, recommended by the Nominating Committee. The slate included two new members and re-appointments of three for several returning members. The community also voted in December to name two new members to represent the business and residential constituencies. Check out the biographies of the four new members below.

For a complete list of current Board members, visit www.rosedaledevelopment.org/who_board.htm.

Ryan Carpenter and his wife moved to the Rosedale community last June. Ryan is formerly the staff attorney for the Unified Government Neighborhood Resource Center (NRC). In that capacity, he reviewed and recommended ordinances and ordinance changes, managed and oversaw preparation of environmental impact statements, filed all nuisance complaints for the NRC, and assisted in training for certification of field inspectors. Ryan now works for the city of Lenexa, Kan. He will represent the residential community.

Brian Hedrick is the Chief Operating Officer and General Manager for Dean Realty Co., a major commercial real estate developer based in Kansas City, Mo. The company owns property in Rosedale, including the Cambridge Business Park immediately off I-70 at the Cambridge Circle exit. Brian has worked for Dean Realty for 18 years. He will represent the business community.

Mary Heinrich is a management supervisor for Perlman-Hillard, a leading global communications company. She has extensive experience in public relations and is looking forward to letting others know about the good things happening in Rosedale. Before going to Perlman-Hillard, she worked for the KU Medical Center in Alumni and Community Relations. Many has volunteered with Rosedale’s version of Christmas in October and with YouthFacts at Rosedale Middle School. She is a Rosedale resident.

Janet Leigh, a KCC native, is a reading/language arts teacher at Rosedale Middle School. She passionately believes in the importance of education and in building connections in the community so that children can succeed. Janet loves teaching so much that she volunteers her time with the "Super Saturdays" youth literacy program at Rosedale Congregational Church. She has been in RAMS since 2001. Prior to entering the teaching profession, Janet worked for the Kansas City Mo. Police Department for 11 years.

For the 21st year, RDA and the University of Kansas Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 37 teamed up with the community to provide holiday gift baskets for Rosedale families and senior citizens in need. This year, 25 families (86 total persons) were served by the program. The outpouring of support from the community this year was significant. Church groups, businesses, and individual residents came through with a record number of donations.

Throughout November and December, RDA collected donations of non-perishable food items, household products, children’s toys, and cash, which was then used to purchase meats, eggs, margarine, and milk.

Beneficiaries for the program were referred by local schools, churches, and neighborhood groups. RDA staff then screened the referrals and determined the specific needs of each family.

On Dec. 16, volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and Rainbow Mennonite Church joined local residents and RDA staff members in sorting all of the donated items into individual baskets to be delivered to the families.

By Dec. 21, delivery and pick-up day, many of the families had picked up their gift baskets at the RDA office. For those that were unable to get out of their homes, especially senior citizens, RDA staff provided door-to-door delivery.

Thank you, thank you so much to the community for your generosity and compassion this year in making it possible for RDA to assist 25 families and provide them with needed groceries, household items, and toys for children for Christmas and the holiday season.

The families wish to express their gratitude, as well.

The following persons and organizations contributed to the program:

• Kathleen Brock
• Doris Brown & Carolyn Crockier
• Jan Boorge (and group)
• Joe & KarenClevenger
• Virginia Daily
• Helen Edwards
• Terri Guedert (and group)
• Greg Olliff (Harms Properties)
• Dennis & Annie Jones (and group)
• Shay Lewis
• Pat Millborn

Dan Millman (Millman Ditchmore)
Mary Parrick
Darin Peterson (and group)
Pat Petrey
Janette Strong
Jim Tuery
Ruth Turner
Bonnie Wolty (and group)
John Wright
Anonymous UPS worker
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #37
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #43
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Holy Name Catholic Faith Community
Rainbow Mennonite Church
3 Axis
Haun Potato
KC Carr # Less
KC Winnelson
Wal-Mart
KU Medical Center/Alumni and Community Relations

Senior citizen utility tax rebate expanded

In time once again for the popular Senior Citizen Utility Tax Rebate Program. The program offers senior citizen rebates on a portion of the amount paid for utilities during 2006. And for 2007, Mayor Joe Barond and the Unified Government Commission have expanded the program, meaning more senior’s rebates and rebates will be larger.

The rebate program runs January 2, 2007 through March 31, 2007. Persons applying must be 65 years of age during the entire year of 2006, live in the city of Kansas City, Kansas, and their total income must not exceed $33,000. The maximum refund is $300.00.

Applications will be taken at the Municipal Office Building East, 701 N. 7th St., Room 335, Kansas City, Kansas, in the Unified Government Clerk’s Office, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Eligible persons should bring all gas, telephone and BPU bill paid during 2006, proof of income, Social Security statements, interest statements, and Social Security number. Printouts from the utility companies will be accepted. Please call the Unified Government Clerk’s Office at 573-5260 if you have questions. Off.