Rosedale Businesses of the Month

“Adopt-a-Family”
Thank you to the employees of the following local businesses for “adopting” Rosedale families this past holiday season. RDA recognizes these businesses for their generosity in helping these families obtain needed food, household supplies, and Christmas gifts for their children. It is a testament to the strength of Rosedale that members of the community help each other in times of need. Thank you so much!

Damage Control & Restoration, Inc.
General contractors specializing in insurance restoration.
5102 State Ave.
Kansas City, Kan. 66102
(913) 334-6700

John Rohrer Contracting Co.
Full-service concrete contractor.
2820 Roe Ave., Blvd. S
Kansas City, Kan. 66103
(913) 236-5005
www.johnrohrercontracting.com

Red Eye
Drinking establishment.
2820 Roe Ave., Blvd. S
Kansas City, Kan. 66103
(913) 722-0228
www.dcrkc.com

Kansas City Winnelson Co.
Plumbing materials and supplies.
Heating and cooling equipment.
1529 Lake Ave.
Kansas City, Kan. 66102
(913) 262-8888

Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #4
Law enforcement labor organization, representing the needs and interests of KPDC officers.
7844 Leavenworth Rd.
Kansas City, Kan. 66109
(913) 788-4397

The Rosedalian
ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

RDA announces 2007 business and volunteer award recipients
At its December Board of Directors meeting, RDA presented its Business Partner of the Year Award and Volunteer of the Year Awards, recognizing exceptional contributions to the Rosedale community during the past year.

The Business Partner of the Year was Westwood Apple Market, our local grocery store, which among other things, often donates food at cost or gratis for a variety of youth programs and other community events in Rosedale. Whenever RDA or other community organizations ask for help, Westwood Apple Market responds immediately and without hesitation. Even though it is not technically located in Rosedale, this civic-minded business is a true friend of the Rosedale community.

There were four recipients of the Volunteer of the Year Award: Derek Lyons, Pat Millburn, Leona Kallaras, and Elizabeth Johnston.
Derek is a cheerful 14-year-old who spent many hours in 2007 working on minor home repair projects and other volunteer efforts around Rosedale.
Patt and Leona faithfully volunteer to fold, tape, and label The Rosedalan every month, saving RDA hundreds of dollars each year.

Elizabeth is RDA’s “go-to” graphic designer; she created RDA’s current logo, volunteer brochure, and 2006 Annual Report. She also does the design and layout for The Rosedalan every month.
We could not fulfill our mission of building a strong and healthy Rosedale without the generosity and giving spirit of our volunteers. You are critical to RDA’s work. Last year, more than 300 volunteers joined RDA on various projects and tasks.

To the award recipients and all of our other partners and contributors, thank you for a great 2007!

Happy New Year!
On behalf of the RDA staff and Board of Directors, we wish you the best in 2008. We eagerly anticipate working with many of you in continuing to pursue our mission of building a strong and healthy community and improving the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Rosedale.

Turkey Creek flood control update
Last July, the Unified Government Board of Commissioners voted to continue funding its portion of the Turkey Creek Flood Mitigation project from the U.G. General Fund. Two weeks before, several commissioners had questioned the need for the U.G. to help fund this $92 million project. As the vote was taken, Mayor Joe Reardon asked city staff to come up with alternative means of funding the project, including the possibility of a special tax on impacted properties.
A few weeks later, the Commissioners met with staff to discuss funding alternatives for the project. Staff presented eight funding methods that are legally available to the city. After much discussion, the consensus was that the U.G. needed to be fair and have

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Continued on next page
Several new ideas have been proposed for the Mill Street road bridge over the creek and associated channel that would result in huge project cost savings. As work continues, the old rail yard will include a walking trail and environmental enhancement. Still in the overall plan, but several years away from construction, are the hillside interceptors. Engineering on these should begin in 2008. For more detailed information on the Terry Creek project, call the RDA office: (913) 677-5097.
— Wendy Wilson

ROCK Development Association

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

1403 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, Kan. 66103
Phone: 913-677-5097
Fax: 913-677-3457
www.rockdevelopmentassociation.org

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wendy Wilson, Executive Director
Linda Weight, Office Manager
Joel Goering, Community Organizer
Board of Directors
www.rockdevelopmentassociation.org
whbcores.jpg

Newsletter design by Elizabeth Johnson, Lizardbrand Inc., www.lizardbrand.com

Boulevard Row Taking shape along Rainbow Blvd.

Perhaps you have seen it while driving past Rainbow Blvd., just north of 45th Ave. — a brand-new housing development located on one of Rosedale’s main thoroughfares: Boulevard Row, consisting of 12 unique town homes and flats. This is an exciting development for Rosedale. Along with the new Mission Hills homes west of the University of Kansas Medical Center, Boulevard Row represents significant new investment in our community and promises for the future.

Boulevard Row is a project of Urban Core Development, a Kansas City-based developer of other successful residential projects. During the planning and zoning phase of the project, RDA played a critical role in bringing neighborhood residents to the table to ensure a high-quality, top-notch project. Urban Core deserves credit for incorporating residents’ suggestions and having the vision to invest in Rosedale.

The units are available for purchase or lease-purchase. Two bedroom flats start at $154,950, while the town homes start at $249,950. Incentives include: 10-year property tax abatement, closing- cost rebate, and 1-year membership at the nearby Woodside Tennis & Racquet Club. For tours or for more information, contact RE/MAX Mike Schmidt: (913) 980-6453.

Winterize your home

According to the RDA, homes that are winterized can save up to $15 per household annually. Winterizing your home is the first step toward energy efficiency. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. Install weather stripping around doors and windows.
2. Seal gaps around pipes, ducts, and chimneys.
3. Insulate your attic, crawl space, and basement.
4. Use energy-efficient light bulbs.
5. Use a programmable thermostat to reduce heating and cooling costs.

These simple steps can help you save on your energy bill and reduce your carbon footprint.

Rosedale History Quiz

In each issue of The Rosedolian, there will be a historical photograph or a piece of information to accompany the question. The first person to answer the question correctly will receive a prize. Submissions must be sent to: rosee

dalehistoryqux@yahoo.com or called in to the RDA office: (913) 677-5097. Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

Last month's photograph & question:

Question: What was the name of this building? Hint: This picture was taken in 1919.

Answer: McGeorge's Hall, which was located at 1205 Southwest Blvd. The photograph was taken in about 1910.

This month's photograph & question:

Question: Identify the institution that at one time appeared in this building, located near 43rd Ave. and Mission Rd.

The answer will be provided next month.

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:
E-mail address:

Please mail application, along with check made payable to Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, Kan. 66103.
The Rosedalian

Weak state law encourages scrap metal thieves

A recent incident in our community brought to my attention the lax rules and enforcement measures that govern the sale of scrap metal in the KCK area. Just this past year, the Kansas legislature passed a law in an attempt to regulate private companies that buy scrap metal from individuals. As initially proposed, the law did have some teeth to it, but due to the scrap metal industry's involvement, the law was watered down so as to become almost worthless.

Late last year, 120 speakers and a truck were stolen from the Boulevard Drive-In here in Rosedale. Within a few days, the KCK Police Department (KKPD) discovered the speakers had been sold to National Compressed Steel (NCS) in Armaudale. The law passed last year requires the scrap dealer to take a copy of the driver's license of anyone wishing to sell scrap metal worth more than $50. In this instance, NCS did take a copy but it was not the license of the person selling the speakers so they did not follow the law and their own procedures.

In January, I accompanied the owner of the Drive-In, Wes Neal, and a KKPD Detective to retrieve the stolen speakers from NCS. Not only had NCS not followed policy to obtain the correct ID of the seller, they had also shipped the speakers out by mistake! This is after they were made aware the speakers were stolen and the owner wanted them back.

Everyone made money on this deal except Mr. Neal. When I asked NCS if they were going to reimburse Mr. Neal, I was told that they should not be talking to me. At this time, Mr. Neal has not been compensated for his loss.

The commercial fencing of stolen scrap metal comes at a huge cost to our community. It impacts homeowners and businesses through increased insurance rates. Utilities are affected, as well, forcing them to raise rates to cover expenses incurred from theft. Our police department must spend countless hours investigating the many reports of stolen metal, costing taxpayers and diverting police resources away from other crime prevention efforts.

Many other states have enacted much more restrictive laws in an attempt to quell some of the scrap metal thefts. The current Kansas law is available on the legislature's website: www.kslegislature.org. Look for Bill No. 2035. Also, check out the Conference Committee Report Brief for background information and for details on what provisions were removed from the adopted law.

RDA will be working with others to address this problem, but you can help, too. I encourage you to contact your state senator and representative and ask them to close the loopholes in the law that was passed last year and to toughen regulation of the scrap metal industry.

If you don't know who your state senator or representative is, visit the legislature's website: www.kslegislature.org.

--- Wendy Wilson

Our new partners in fighting crime and blight

Robert Morgan is the new U.G. Code Enforcement Officer for district #335 in Rosedale (north of I-35, east of 18th St. Expressway, south of Kansas River). Rob has been in code enforcement since Nov. 2005. Prior to that, he served as the bartender on Sen. John Kerry's airplane during the 2004 presidential campaign.

Amy Allen is the new COPPS officer (community policing) for district #335 in Rosedale. Officer Allen, a KCK native, has been with the KCK Police Department since 1996. She worked in the nighttime community policing unit for about six months before starting her current position.
Your new Rosedale Development Association Board members

At its December meeting, the RDA Board of Directors approved the slate of nominees and officers for the board for 2008. In addition, the community elected two new board members to represent the business and residential sectors.

Officers for 2008 are: Steve Reynolds (President); Brian Eide (Vice-President, Business); Robert Kaufman (Vice-President, Residential); Todd Naveau (Treasurer); and Paul Davidson (Secretary).

For a complete list of current board members, visit: www.rosedaleassociation.org/who, board.htm. Below are brief profiles of our new board members:

Phillip Kaser is a new member of the Rosedale community, having recently become the Banking Center Manager at Bank Midwest’s Rosedale branch. His specialty is in commercial lending and public relations. Prior to moving to the Kansas City area, Philli worked for U.S. Bank in southeast Missouri. He says, “Rosedale is very important to me and I feel it is a great community. I will bring a very positive, optimistic, and energetic attitude to RDA.” Phillip will represent the business community.

John Mendel is a former United Government Commissioner for the 3rd district (the district that includes Rosedale) and is currently a professor at Donnelly College. A life-long KCK resident, John has worked in public service for 41 years. He and his wife recently moved to the new Mission Hills housing development in Rosedale. John suggests that bringing his skills and connections to RDA: “With my experience in the public sector, I know what the issues are in Rosedale and KCK. I’d like to help address those issues.”

Elizabeth Johnston is the President/Art Director of Lizardbrand, a graphic design and marketing firm. She moved to Rosedale to join her husband

Rosedale Development Association

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1400 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, KS 66102
Phone: 913-677-5007
Fax: 913-677-3437
www.rosedaleassociation.org
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wendy Wilson, Executive Director
Linda Wright, Office Manager
Joel Groening, Community Organizer
Board of Directors, www.rosedaleassociation.org/who, board.htm

Newsmaster design by Elizabeth Johnston, Lizardbrand Inc., www.lizardbrand.com

Vehicle theft victims pay the price...twice

Have you had your vehicle stolen and later recovered by the Police Department, and then been told you will need to go to an area tow lot to retrieve it? At the tow lot, you are expected to pay for the tow and storage fees. Many feel victimized twice with this current process. The only winners are the thieves who enjoyed your vehicle and used it for their own gain. Many of them know the little chance they can be caught and prosecuted for this crime. Unless the police actually catch the thief in the car, the consequences are minor.

For you, the victim, the consequences can be major. If you are a single parent trying to get your child to daycare and yourself to work without a car, it can be almost impossible. How do you afford the tow and storage fees, not to mention the likely repairs to your vehicle? Many owners can only afford to carry liability insurance that will not cover the fees or repairs.

This is how the current process works: The U.O.I. contracts for services from tow lot operators. The contract does not address who is responsible for the tow and storage fees, although someone must pay. It does permit the KCK Police Dept., through a Captain or higher-ranking officer, and the Wyandotte County Sheriff or Under-sheriff to release vehicles without charges. The KCKPD has an internal policy that regulates it, when, and to whom fees may be collected. Currently, the policy is to waive the fees if the vehicle tow report reflects it was towed as evidence in a crime. This is not indicated on many tow reports. If the KCKPD can reach you to pick up your vehicle at the time they locate it, then it will not be towed at your expense; otherwise, you can expect to pay.

The current process is unfair to the victims. I have spoken with one of the U.O.I. attorneys about this issue and she promised to make her best effort to have the contracts changed so the victims whose vehicles are stolen and recovered in KCK. The current contract expires in Dec. ’08.

Wendy Wilson

Rosedale Briefs

Attention seniors, get your utility tax rebates now

Seniors living in Kansas City, Kan., are eligible to receive a refund on a portion of the amount paid for utilities in 2007. Applicants must be 65 years of age during the year of 2007, live in KCK, and their total income must not exceed $20,000. The maximum refund is $300.00. The deadline to apply is May 21. Applications will be taken at the Municipal Office Building East (701 N, 7th St). Eligible persons should bring all gas, telephone, and RNU bills paid during 2007; proof of income, Social Security statements, interest statements, and Social Security number for more information, call: (913) 573-5000.

Crime prevention resource

One of the best ways to prevent crime is to be aware of your surroundings and to get to know your neighbors. To assist in this process, the National Sex Offender Registry is available online. Visitors to the website can type in a name and location to identify sex offenders living nearby. As the website says, “Awareness is your best defense.” Go to www.neighborhoodwatch.org.

It’s tax time!

The KC CASH Coalition provides free tax preparation for basic tax returns and free electronic filing for taxpayers with incomes less than $40,000. There are two KCC locations for this service: (1) Catholic Charities/Cent, 2220 Central Ave., Sundays, 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; or (2) KCK Community College, 7250 State Ave., Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.-noon. For additional information, contact United Way: (816) 416-0112.

Rosedale Obituaries

Robert J. Shurman, 69, a longtime Rosedale resident and community member, died on Nov. 30. Memorial services were held on Dec. 4 at Maple Hill Funeral Home. Robert, or “Rob,” as most people called him, was active in the Rose Agent neighborhood group and was known for his vigilance in protecting the neighborhood from crime and theft. He was a member of RDA, as well. Rosedale.

Jacqueline “Jackie” M. Sullivan, 79, passed away Jan. 4. Jackie was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She lived in Rosedale for many years and was an active member of the Young Women’s Community in Rosedale, Rosedale Christian Church, and Rainbow Mammonite Church. She was very interested in the Argentine food kitchen. Memorial services were held at Rainbow Mammonite Church on Jan. 12.

Talking trash

Join an important community discussion on recycling, trash costs and litter/insanity on Feb. 25, 6:30-8:00 p.m., at the Best Western Inn & Conference Center, 3615 S.W. Blvd. Our region’s litter/insanity fees less than 20 years old until they close. What can we do to lengthen their life spans? One KC Citizen, a citizen engagement program supported by the Mid-America Regional Council, wants to hear your ideas. The program is designed to provide education and behavior modification programs. For more information, visit www.crecycle.org or call (816) 915-8269.

“Is that a Frisbee?”

Choose. It’s called a disc. And the name of the game brought more than enough than expected for an overall turnout of 250 players and supporters. $15 winy fee paid for two rounds of disc golf, a commemorative disc, and all the chili you could eat at the chili con test. $400 in proceeds went to the Bishop Sullivan Center and the FLH Foundation. Don’t miss out on the next tournament scheduled at Rose dale Park on May 3, 2008. To learn more about Disc Golf, visit the other 15 Kansas City courses, go to www.kcmdgc.org.

Rosedale History Quiz

In each issue of The Rosedale, 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 e-mailed to: ro sedalehistory@yahoo.com or called to the RDA office: (913) 677-5007. Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

Last month’s photograph & question:

Question: Identify the institution that at one time operated in this building, located near 42nd Ave. and Mission Rd.

Answer: Life Line Children’s Home.

Winners: Several people answered correctly, Pat Milburn was first, followed by Sharon Hill, Claudette Peterson, Bob O’Neal, and Harold Hopfer.

This month’s photograph & question:

Question: Name the business that was once housed in this building. The adxrs was 722 Southwest Blvd. (current Boulevard Tire). The answer will be provided next month.

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:
E-mail address

Please mail application, along with check made payable to: Rosedale Development Association 1407 Southwest Blvd. Kansas City, Kan. 66103