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— Stephanie Kollmann

The group covered a lot of ground over the course of the day, beginning at the Rosedale Memorial Arch, a symbol of the community. As they picked up trash and painted over graffitied trash cans, the students learned about the origins of the arch as a WWI memorial dedicated to the veterans of the Rainbow Division in 1924. They also picked up trash and pulled weeds along the sidewalk leading to Mount Marty, the park in which the memorial stands.

And finally (we really know how to make the most of our volunteers!), they patrolled the neighborhood for graffiti. The garden group worked at the Healthy Kidz Community Garden on Minnie Street, planting fall crops, weeding, tilling and learning local history from gardener Gary Hughes. The mural group did a wonderful job re-doing a wall at the 42nd Street Mural Project on the corner of 42nd and Mission. They painted a fantastic mural of the Rosedale Farmers Market logo. RDA staffers appreciate all the hard work the students put in and we hope they continue to stay connected to the community. Welcome to Rosedale!

RDA's Med One volunteers take a break after patrolling the neighborhood for graffiti and trash.

KUMC students welcomed with day of service

Rosedale was privileged to once again participate in Med One Day through KUMC, which sends first year medical students out to volunteer in the community. This year Rosedale hosted thirty-two students, all of them eager to help out and learn about the neighborhood where many of them will be living and working for the next few years.

We split the students into three groups, leading each of them in completing a beautification project in the neighborhood. The “arch” group covered a lot of ground over the course of the day, beginning at the Rosedale Memorial Arch, a symbol of the community. As they picked up trash and painted over graffitied trash cans, the students learned about the origins of the arch as a WWI memorial dedicated to the veterans of the Rainbow Division in 1924. They also picked up trash and pulled weeds along the sidewalk leading to Mount Marty, the park.

Summer might be fading, but that doesn’t mean our gardens are. Rounding out the number of community gardens in Rosedale to an even dozen, there will be a new schoolyard garden forming at Noble Prentis Elementary this fall. RDA is working with Kansas City Community Gardens to install four raised beds at the school and start a schoolyard garden club.

The club will consist of 15-20 1st-3rd graders, who will help build and plant the beds. They’ll meet every week to work in the garden and learn about different parts of plants, types of soil, the science of plant growth, the importance of bugs and the nutrition behind vegetables. The club will meet Tuesdays from 3:45-4:45 p.m. and volunteers from the community are welcome.

For information on the other garden happenings in Rosedale, come to our garden team meetings on the first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at RDA or contact Stephanie at (913) 677-5097.

Rosedale now home to 12 community gardens
Soccer league fosters physical activity, teamwork

The Frank Rushton Summer Soccer League wrapped up in style, hosting soccer player Teal Bunbury and a Sporting Kansas City film crew to document the final session of a wildly successful summer program.

For the past nine weeks, Frank Rushton Elementary has hosted weekly pick-up games for kids in the neighborhoods surrounding the school. Daniel Hare, a Rockhurst High School student and the program’s director, first approached RDA with the idea. Daniel plays soccer for the Sporting Kansas City juniors team and was chosen as a participant in their Sporting 22 project, which awards mini-grants for soccer programs in area communities.

The Frank Rushton league had different groups every week, ranging from 8-20 kids. They played full-field games with the school’s large goals and half-field games with portable goals obtained with the grant money, plus practiced penalty kicks, passing and dribbling. Volunteers with the program saw vast improvements in the kids’ skills as the summer progressed. Alma, one of the only girls to play this summer, is shaping up to be a killer goalie!

The league’s final session on August 10th brought out a huge crowd of kids to play and parents to watch. Teal Bunbury, who plays for Sporting and the U.S. National team and was the 4th overall Major League Soccer draft pick in 2010, came out to play with the kids, sign autographs and pose for pictures. Sporting Kansas City also gave out water bottles and mini-soccer balls to all the kids. Daniel, the program director, had a great time working with the kids and Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative: “It was a great experience and I appreciate everyone that helped me and came out and supported our soccer league. I know I enjoyed and I hope all the kids did too.”

Footage from the final game is available on the Sporting KC website, sportingkc.com, under “video.”

Animal Control

This is a reminder that there is a mandatory spay and neutering ordinance imposed in Wyandotte County. This ordinance helps prevent the euthanization of thousands of unwanted animals. Also, pets roaming free without being effectively restrained may be impounded. Complying with this ordinance keeps animals, pedestrians and bicyclists safe. Residents are not to own more than 2 dogs and 4 cats or a combination not to exceed 5 animals total. This prevents unsafe and unsanitary conditions for pets and owners.

No More Homeless Pets KC provides veterinary services, including spay and neuter procedures, vaccinations and dental care for a low cost.

For more information call (816) 333-PETS (7387) or go to nmhpkc.org.

Pepper is the RDA office dog. She’s spirited, cuddly, and loves getting treats from the mailman. She was dumped in Whitmore Park before being rescued by Heidi Holliday of the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative. Complying with the spay and neuter ordinance ensures that no more helpless dogs get abandoned by irresponsible owners.

To keep up with RDA staffers, follow our activities in real time and get access to great pictures from around the neighborhood, “like” us on Facebook at facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment and follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/#!/RosedaleDA.
**Graffiti “artists” not welcome in Rosedale**

Rosedale has seen a rash of graffiti tags this summer. The “F13” symbol in particular has been a problem in Rosedale Park and the surrounding neighborhoods. RDA staffers have painted over the Rosedale Park sign three times since June and quite a few telephone poles and fences have been hit as well.

Volunteer medical and nursing students from KUMC have helped paint over them on several occasions. RDA distributed reward posters around the neighborhood in July and received 2 solid tips on where the taggers might be located. Wendy Wilson had a conversation with the family there and we hope the tagging will cease.

Anyone with additional information regarding graffiti activity can contact RDA anonymously.

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**Membership application**

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

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

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**CHP interns leave a lasting legacy**

The Community Health Project interns for RDA and the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative (RHKI) have completed their summer hours, but thanks to their hard work, their ideas will continue to shape Rosedale and healthy food access in the neighborhood for years to come. Travis Love, whose project was entitled “Mapping the Path to Healthy Food Access for Rosedale Entrepreneurs,” created a helpful manual outlining the ways Rosedale can increase healthy food access through our community gardens, Farmers Market and corner stores. Especially helpful are the sections where Travis outlines the benefits and incentives that may assist existing corner stores in adding healthy produce to their shelves. Travis also offers some great ideas to future storeowners, like cooking demonstrations and garden partnerships.

Kelsey Bartolich used focus group discussions and surveys to uncover valuable data concerning the Rosedale Farmers Market. She met with residents at Belrose Manor and Rosedale Towers, two public housing complexes in Rosedale, to discuss the barriers to farmers market participation by low-income populations. One huge theme she saw was problems with transportation; many people in Rosedale lack reliable transportation to stores or markets. Another problem people had was uncertainty about how to prepare certain products. One participant had several suggestions to help the Rosedale Farmers Market attract low-income customers: “Emphasize the health benefits of eating fresh produce, promote the cheaper prices and offer more cooking demonstrations and recipes.” Kelsey appreciates the time she was able to spend with local residents and says that her experience this summer “has really taught me the importance of building relationships with community members in order to better understand their needs, particularly with food access issues.”

The Rosedale Farmers Market has seen a 314 percent increase in Beans & Greens match dollars (the program which doubles SNAP and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition voucher values) since last year, and Travis and Kelsey’s work this summer definitely contributed to that success! Their projects are available at rosedale.org.

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Wendy Wilson photo

RDA and RHKI staffers painted over graffiti on the Rosedale Park sign earlier this month and received encouraging and grateful shout outs from passersby.
Remembrances
Rosedale says goodbye to cherished friends

Samuel Anthony Umscheid was born on November 12, 1952 and passed away on July 30, 2011, after a long fight with cancer. Sam was a longtime supporter of RDA and worked in the Health Department of the Unified Government for 25 years. He will be remembered as a lobbyist for children’s health and lead paint remediation. He testified twice before the Kansas State Legislature on the lead paint poisoning act, which allowed KCKS to qualify for federal dollars for lead paint remediation and education. Sam loved his friends and would open his home for dinner parties almost every night of the week; he had a smile and laugh for everyone he met. Sam was preceded in death by his parents and his beloved brother Pat. Sam is survived by two brothers, two sisters, many nieces and nephews and countless friends.

William Howard Stoskopf, 93, of Lenexa, KS, passed away Friday, July 15, 2011, at the Lakeview Village Care Center. William was born March 1, 1918, west of Baxter Springs, KS. William was a WWII Veteran of the United States Army. Before moving to Kansas City he lived and taught in McCune, KS, Fort Scott, KS and Bonner Springs, KS. He was an instrumental music teacher at Rosedale High School for 20 years and the Coordinator of Instrumental Music for Kansas City Kansas Public Schools, retiring in 1981. He received his BS from Pittsburgh State Teacher’s College and his Master of Music from Northwestern University. William was inducted into the Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame in 1991 and the Kansas Music Educators Association Hall of Fame in 1992. He also received the Sigma Alpha Iota Friends of the Arts Award and the Kansas Federation of Music Clubs Award for outstanding musical service to the community for 25 years. William was formerly a member of Rosedale United Methodist Church where he was the Choir Director for 28 years and a longtime member of RDA. He was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church for the past 20 years. William is survived by his wife, Viola M. Stoskopf, son, Robert Lynn Stoskopf, daughter, Julie Ann Larson and her husband Michael, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brother, Alva Stoskopf, sister, Mary Stoskopf and extended family.

— Obituaries courtesy of the Kansas City Star