





ANDREA STEERE

**Phil Gardos, an RDA volunteer, reads "Maddi's Fridge" to a classroom of 3rd and 4th graders during RISE week.**

## Rosedale residents and students celebrate MLK

by Will Lyons

"Those who do not learn about history are doomed to repeat it."

This strong statement from George Santayana is a testament to why, each year, community members come together to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. during Rosedale Development Association's annual RISE reading program.

RISE, or Reading Inspirational Stories to Empower, is a week-long program that connects Rosedale volunteers with Rosedale children and engages them in stories about the Civil Rights Movement and other social justice issues.

Repeat volunteer, Dahnika Sachs said, "I was really impressed with the kids and the discussions the story generated. I asked them what they felt like they could do to improve their school and community, and I was really impressed with their responses."

To prepare the volunteers

to discuss these complex issues, RDA hosted a volunteer orientation. Guest speakers LaMonica Upton, Neighborhood Liaison with Livable Neighborhoods, and Marcy Clay, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools for Kansas City Kansas Public Schools, spoke about preparing Wyandotte County's youth to be good citizens and how to shape a positive discussion about the stories.

The RISE program occurred during the week of January 19-22. During this week our community volunteers read to 25 classrooms at local Rosedale schools, including Frank Rushton Elementary, T.A. Edison Elementary, Noble Prentis Elementary, and Holy Name Catholic School. This year we were pleased to include books also focusing on contemporary social justice issues, including hunger, poverty, and class dynamics.

## Community discusses future of Rosedale at January Master Plan meetings

by Ahnna Nanoski

The January Rosedale Master Plan meetings attracted approximately 70 Rosedalians to discuss our community's future.

Planners from the Unified Government, BNIM, and Insite Planning lead group discussions about different possibilities for the future of Rosedale. Groups talked about improving Rosedale's green spaces like Rosedale Park and the Rozarks trails, future development along Southwest Blvd., creating a "university town" feel near 39th and Rainbow Blvd., future development around Rosedale Park, adding more park facilities, and preserving neighborhood integrity in Rosedale.

Phil Gardos, an RDA volunteer who attended one of the meetings, thinks the "university town" scenario has the most potential.

Gardos said, "I appreciate the idea of increased residential density on west 39th Avenue with commercial use on the ground floor while offering a full range of apartments to maintain economic diversity on the top, connecting people to Fisher Park."

To learn more about the future of Rosedale and the

Master Plan, please attend the March community meetings:

**Wednesday, March 23**

Rosedale Middle School  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 24**

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**i** Additional information about the Rosedale Master Plan and all of the upcoming meetings can be found at [rosedalemasterplan.com](http://rosedalemasterplan.com).



INSIGHT PLANNING

**Rosedalians engage in the Master Plan meeting held in January.**

## Meet the RDA Board and Staff

### Pete Cashen

Cashen wanted to volunteer for RDA to give back to the community where he lived since 1988. He partnered with a friend, opening Dynamic Discs, a disc golf store, four years ago in the newly remodeled Northwood Shopping Center. Pete is committed to living and working in the Rosedale community.



### Mary Gonzales

Mary Gonzales has always been interested in being involved in her community. In addition to serving on RDA's board, Mary serves on the BPU Board and belongs to several utility organizations as well as educational organizations. Mary is a retired teacher, and is married with three sons, two step-daughters, and six grandchildren.



# Community Calendar

*Mondays in February*

## Girl Scouts

6-7 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

*Tuesday, March 1*

## Garden Workshop Planning Your Planting

6-7 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

*Thursday, March 10*

## Mayor Holland's Listening Tour for Businesses

General Motors (must call RDA to RSVP) 11:15 a.m., 3201 Fairfax Trafficway, KCK  
\*Rosedale Businesses, please attend to provide input to the Mayor about how to spend \$12 million starting in 2017.

*Wednesday, March 30*

## Mayor Holland's Listening Tour for Businesses

West Wyandotte Library 5 p.m., 1737 N. 82nd St., KCK  
\*Rosedale Businesses, please attend to provide input to the Mayor about how to spend \$12 million starting in 2017.

*Friday, April 1*

## Historical Exhibit

"The Land We Live On" 6-9 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

## Monthly Neighborhood Meetings

*Monday, February 8*

## Rosedale Towers Tenants Association

3:30-4:30 p.m., 2314 W. 39th Ave., KCK

*Wednesday, February 10*

## Shawnee Road Neighborhood Association

Shawnee Road Christian Church 7-8 p.m., 818 Shawnee Rd., KCK

*Friday, February 18*

## Frank Rushton Neighborhood Association

Rosedale Congregational Church 7-8 p.m., 4326 Lloyd St. KCK

*Monday, March 7*

## Hilltop Neighborhood Association

6-7 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

*Tuesday, March 15th*

## Spring Valley Neighborhood Association

Village Square 7-8 p.m., 4454 State Line Road

*Wednesday, March 17*

## Rosedale Leadership Council

5:30-6:30 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

**i** For additional information about upcoming events and other community happenings, call (913) 677-5097.

# Unified Government announces tax rebate resources

by the Unified Government of WyCo and KCK

## The Senior Citizen Utility Rebate

is a program to serve low-income, elderly citizens of Kansas City, Kansas that will help them recover a portion of taxes paid in the previous year. To qualify for the refund you must be a KCK resident, be 65 years of age or older for the entire previous calendar year, and have a gross income from all sources (including that of spouse) that does not exceed \$25,000 per year.

To apply for the refund, seniors must provide proof of income for 2015 and all 2015 utility, telephone and gas bills. Seniors can visit the Clerk's office at 701 N. 7th St., Suite 323 (on a first come first serve basis) between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday through March 31, 2016.

## The Kansas Homestead Refund

is a real estate tax rebate program for homeowners in Wyandotte County. This program provides eligible homeowners with an opportunity to directly apply a portion of their expected Homestead Property Tax Refund toward the first half of their real estate taxes.

To qualify for the refund in 2015, you must be a homeowner with a total income for everyone in the household of \$34,000 or less and born before January 1, 1960, or have dependents under the age of 18 who live with you, or be totally and permanently disabled or blind, or a Veteran with 50 percent or more permanent disability while on active

## Rosedale 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, KS 66103  
Phone (913) 677-5097  
Fax (913) 677-3437  
info@rosedale.org  
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

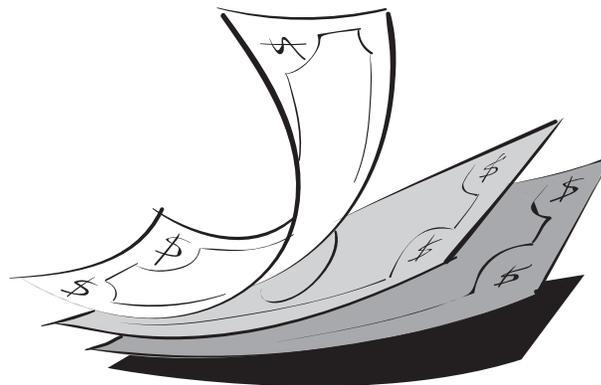
**Heidi Holliday** Executive Director  
**Staff and Board of Directors**  
online at [rosedale.org](http://rosedale.org)

**Design** Lizzardbrand Inc.  
**Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment**  
**Twitter.com/RosedaleDA**  
**Rosedale.org**

duty, or a surviving spouse of disabled veteran or active duty who died in the line of duty.

To apply for the refund applicants must provide proof of income for 2015. Assistance with this refund can be by way of a paid or volunteer tax preparer, or applicants can visit the Clerk's office at 701 N. 7th St., Suite 323 (on a first come first serve basis) between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday through April 15, 2016.

**?** Questions regarding either the Senior Citizen Utility Rebate or the Kansas Homestead Refund can be directed to (913) 573-5260.



ELIZABETH C. JOHNSTON



## RDA Support Form

Name of business or name of household

Address

City

State/ ZIP code

Contact person

Preferred phone

Email address

**Please mail form, along with check made payable to:**

Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103

### Suggested support levels:

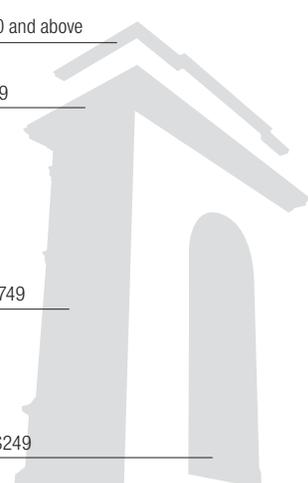
Keystone: \$1,000 and above

Crown: \$750-999

Column: \$250-\$749

Foundation: \$0-\$249

Other: \$



## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Survey Update

#### **Eighty percent of Rosedalians indicate need for more updates**

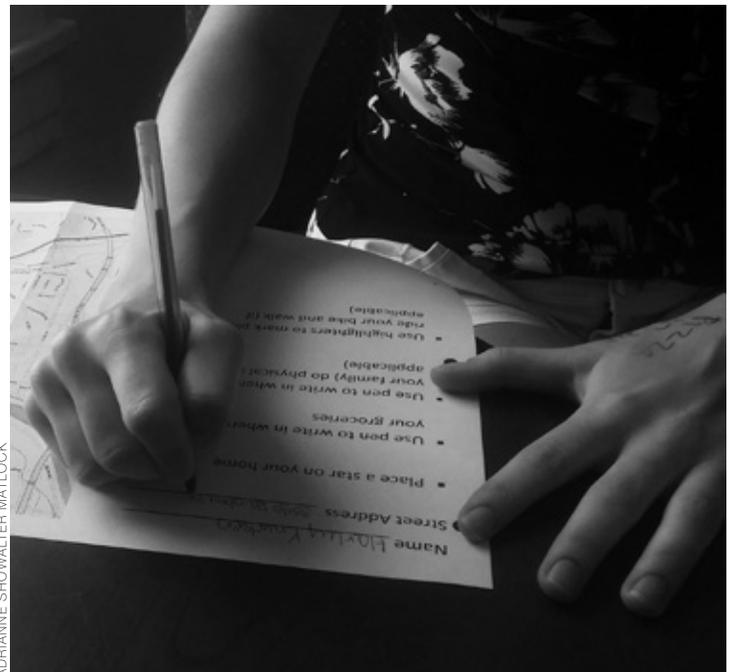
by *Adrienne Showalter Matlock*

Rosedale is home to some great parks and community events, but many Rosedalians reported in the Community Survey that the main thing standing in their way of utilizing these spaces and participating in events is a lack of awareness of such programs. From all the options, 80 percent of respondents indicated that simply not knowing about these events inhibited their participation.

If you heard about a chance to get out and enjoy activity in the sunshine, would you go? If you knew of a place to get fresh food and chat with neighbors, would you check it out? In the survey, Rosedale residents told us that the most common

ways that they heard about the survey were mail, billboards, and the RDA newsletter. Nearly 50 percent said they heard about the survey through mailings, followed by 20 percent who noticed information on the billboards, and 15 percent who learned of it in the RDA newsletter. RDA plans to use those methods of communication to get the word out about opportunities and activities. We want to put the information in your hands so you can get the most out of living in Rosedale.

**?** *Is there is an avenue of communication that works best for you and your family? Give us a call at (913) 677-5097.*



ADRIANNE SHOWALTER MATLOCK

**A Rosedalian completing the survey.**