New historical exhibit explores how places shape history

*The Land We Live On* tells the story of the Rosedale community through urban planning

By JoJo Palko

On April 1, 2016, Rosedale Development Association will be hosting *The Land We Live On*, its second annual historical exhibit. The exhibit will tell the story of parks, streets, and urban planning in Rosedale over the last 100 years.

Now is a fitting time to focus on this aspect of Rosedale history as RDA is currently working with the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, the University of Kansas Hospital, the University of Kansas Medical Center, and other partners to develop the 2016 Rosedale Master Plan Update. Master plans serve as a roadmap for future development in specific areas. They act as a concrete guide to ensure that future development coincides with the community’s wants and needs.

Heidi Holliday, executive director of RDA, said, “Rosedale’s history shapes who we are as a community today. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our past and help new generations learn about the community they live in and love.”

*The Land We Live On* will provide a special look at the many ways our infrastructure has changed since the area was inhabited by Native Americans. Changes to boundary lines, street names, and urban development are some aspects the exhibit will highlight. Lead archivist JoJo Palko will curate the exhibit, sourcing materials from the Wyandotte County Historical Museum, Kansas City, Kansas Public Library, and the University of Kansas Libraries.

At the exhibit, two speakers will address the importance of the current master plan and how Rosedale’s history is important to its future: Dr. Peter Wels, Kansas Humanities Council (KHC) heritage consultant and director of Museum Studies at the University of Kansas, and Zach Flanders, associate planner at urban planning firm BNIM. Flanders is a member of RDA’s Board of Directors and the lead planner at BNIM for the Rosedale Master Plan Update.

The exhibit is funded through a grant awarded by the KHC to RDA. KHC is a nonprofit organization that supports community-based cultural programs, serves as a financial resource through an active grant-making program, and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities.

The exhibit will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. on April 1 at 1401 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, Kan. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information about *The Land We Live On*, contact Adrianne at 913-677-5097 or at adrianne@rosedale.org.

New restaurants open in Northwood Shopping Center

by Andrea Steere

Gus’s World Famous Fried Chicken opened last month at 2876 W. 47th Ave. and 1889 Pizza Napoletana is set to open in mid-March at 2816 W. 47th Ave.

While both restaurants announced opening dates last fall, both establishments are bringing renewed attention to the 47th Ave. corridor.

Kelli Kolich, co-owner of 1889 Pizza Napoletana with her husband Jason, said, “We love the energy going on along 47th Ave., and with [Northwood Shopping Center’s] remodel, it was meant to be.”

Since Gus’s World Famous Fried Chicken’s opening, franchise owner Steve Zanone said there has been “a solid response from neighbors and outside of KCK.”

“We haven’t run out of food, but it’s been a solid response,” Zanone said.

For those excited to give 1889 Pizza Napoletana a try, customers can expect fresh specialty and make-your-own (continued next page)
(New restaurants continued)
Pizzas and salads made in the traditional Neapolitan-style.
“Neapolitan pizza isn’t very prevalent in Kansas City yet,” Kelli Kolich said. “We’re excited to bring a piece of Italian culture to KC. It’s a different kind of pizza, but once you have it you’re hooked.
And although 1889 Pizza and Gus’s serve very different kinds of food, both plan to become a part of the fabric of the neighborhood.
“Gus’s is a family place,” Zanone said. “We wanted to serve the neighborhood. Plus, over half of our employees live within four or five blocks of the store.”
“The hope is that this is a neighborhood place,” Jason Kolich said.
“We’re excited to open and see what the community makes of it,” Kelli added.

Meet the RDA Board and Staff

John Hornbeck
My wife and I have been in Rosedale for 27 years. I’m a consultant focused on strategic communications and marketing. I have been involved with Healthy Communities Wyandotte since its beginning, and admired RDA’s work for years. I’m passionate about hunger, nutrition and health and am honored to be on the RDA Board.

Ron Mayer
I am a four year Rosedale resident and in May will open the second location of my business, Sole Patch Men’s Shop, in the Northwood Shopping Center. The revitalization of this area is happening because of committed volunteers and I want to help contribute to what they’ve built so far.

Business and youth applications now available for 20th Annual Summer Youth Employment program
by Will Lyons and Je T’aime Taylor

In 1997, Rosedale Development Association started a program designed to give area youth a summer job and job skills. Now in its 20th year, the Summer Youth Employment program has grown to include a job fair, weekly lunch and learn sessions and, in 2016, a business advisory committee.
RDA is now accepting applications from both youth and local businesses interested in participating in the program. Applications will be available March 1 through April 15 and can be found at the RDA office, school offices, or online at rosedale.org.
SYE is an eight week summer employment program providing Rosedale youth with work experience at a local business. This program is open to Rosedale youth ages 14 to 17.
Participants are required to interview, attend job skills training sessions, and participate in a job fair before they begin working. The main goal of this program is to prepare participants for the working world by emphasising professional development and transferable skills while allowing the youth to explore their personal and professional interests.
This year RDA’s goal is to expand the program and increase the number of youth participants. In order to do this we are asking participating businesses to contribute to the expansion through providing financial support, sitting on the advisory committee, or participating in program development.
The program’s recent local business partners include Carroll Seating, Little Angel’s Daycare, Rainbow Mennonite Freedom School, Annedore’s Fine Chocolates, Vista Manufacturing, Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care and more.

For more information, contact Will Lyons at (913) 677-5097 or email will@rosedale.org.
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.
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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
Lizzardbrand Inc. Design
Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment
Twitter.com/RosedaleDA
Rosedale.org

**RDA announces 2016 Garden Workshops**
*by Katie Green*

Despite this year’s crazy winter weather, the growing season is nearing once again. Whether you are getting your first garden started or an expert gardener, Rosedale Development Association’s Garden Workshops are perfect for all skill levels.

This year’s Garden Workshops will feature more hands-on activities, along with some old classics.

**March 1:** Planning Your Planting
**April 5:** Rain Barrel Retrofitting
**May 3:** Raising Chickens 101
**June 7:** Composting with Worms
**July 5:** Insects in the Garden
**August 2:** Freeze! Your Garden Produce

All workshops will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at 1401 Southwest Blvd. Workshops are free and open to the public, except for Rain Barrel Retrofitting. April’s workshop will include a fee for the cost of the supplies, but scholarships will be available. Please be sure to RSVP to all workshops so that we have enough supplies for everyone.

For those who need space to grow, there are open spaces in all of our gardens: S. Early St. Community Garden, 45th and Rainbow Community Garden and Healthy Kidz Community Garden on Minnie St. Plots are $15 for the entire season and are an average of 4-by-8 feet.

[Please contact Katie Green at (913) 677-5097 or katie@rosedale.org for an application and more information.]

**Free tax prep help by United Way**

United Way is offering free tax assistance for taxpayers earning $54,000 or less. Please call (816) 474-5112 for more information.

**Feb. 4 – April 14**
- Catholic Charities
  2220 Central Ave., KCK
  Thurs: 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
  Sat: 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Feb. 3 – April 13**
- Flint Hall, KCK
  Wed: 6:30-9 p.m.
  Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Feb. 4 – April 14**
- K-State
  11811 S. Sunset Dr., Olathe, KS
  Wed: 12:45 p.m.
  Thurs: 12:45 p.m.
  Sat: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**March 2, March 9, April 2, April 9**
- Johnson County Community College
  12345 College Blvd., Room GEB
  Wed: 6:30-9 p.m.
  Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

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**RDA Support Form**

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

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**Suggested support levels:**
- Keystone: $1,000 and above
- Crown: $750-999
- Column: $250-$749
- Foundation: $0-$249
- Other: $
Survey Update

Rosedale residents express interest in a community center
by Adrianne Showalter Matlock

Over 80 percent of survey respondents expressed some level of interest in a Rosedale community center or gymnasium, which has prompted Rosedale Development Association to launch a feasibility study. Of those who took the survey, just over half indicated they are “very interested” in a recreational facility, while one-third of respondents indicated that they are “somewhat interested.”

RDA plans to respond to this feedback and conduct a study to determine how viable of an option it is.

“There’s clearly a lot of need for a community center in Rosedale. We want to find out if it is economically feasible to sustain it in the long term,” Erin Stryka, RDA’s Healthy Kids Program Director, said.

One aspect of sustainability is the amount people are willing and able to pay. In the survey, the most popular response was $10 per month. Thirty-three percent said they would be willing to pay $10 per month for an individual membership, and around 20 percent expressed willingness to pay $25 per month. As many as 20 percent, however, said they would not be willing to pay a monthly fee.

The feasibility study is a lengthy process, so you can expect to see the results in the fall of 2017. In the meantime, check out some existing Rosedale exercise facilities, including Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care at 300 Southwest Blvd. or Body Blox Gym at 1153 Southwest Blvd.; or sign your child up for youth sports by calling RDA at (913) 677-5097.

For more information, contact Erin Stryka at (913) 677-5097 or email erin@rosedale.org.