Rosedalians want more food options in their neighborhood

by Adrianne Showalter Matlock

Rosedale residents who participated in the in-depth interviews suggested most often that the types of businesses they would like to see in Rosedale are food establishments, including restaurants and grocery stores. Participants mentioned coffee shops, healthy fast food, deli, fast food, Central American and dine-in restaurants like those on the Plaza. Others mentioned a desire to see additional grocery stores in Rosedale, including small stores with basic necessities, vegetables, and a bakery. Many of those interested in adding a grocery store would prefer one within walking distance of their homes.

Although Rosedale is centrally located in the Kansas City metro area, residents indicated that they often leave Rosedale to patronize businesses.

“I was actually last night thinking about where I do my shopping,” one medical student said before noting that she almost always leaves Rosedale to shop or eat.

Other businesses Rosedalians would like to see include recreational venues like bowling or a movie theater, clothing stores, and antique stores.

Contact Adrianne Matlock at (913) 677-5097 or at adrianne@rosedale.org for more information on community survey results.

Staff examined the results of the Rosedale Master Plan Community Survey.
Rosedale Master Plan up for adoption
By Heidi Holliday

After 10 months of work, the Rosedale Master Plan Update is nearing completion. The Master Plan team presented a draft copy to the Advisory Committee in June and will make it available for public comment during July. The plan will replace the previous Rosedale Master Plan, which was adopted by the Unified Government (UG) Board of Commissioners in 2005.

The Plan Update includes the eastern third of Rosedale, from Mission Rd. to Rainbow Blvd., County Line Rd. to I-35. The draft plan sets forth a vision for Rosedale based on the community meetings and community survey results. The plan includes sections on Major Moves, such as the proposed University Town redevelopment near Fisher Park, the Rosedale Crossing at Southwest Blvd. and Rainbow Blvd., Rosedale regional nature trails, and a cultural corridor along 47th Ave.

However, it’s important to note that while possible redevelopment opportunities are outlined in the plan, “these major moves will be realized over time,” Zach Flanders, an urban planner at the UG, said. “The Master Plan in no way requires property owners to sell or change their existing property for redevelopment purposes. Instead, it creates a vision for our neighborhoods and shows what could be possible if all Rosedalians work together to create a better future.

Other pieces of the plan include a future land use plan, design guidelines, housing policies, a transportation plan and traffic analysis, and an implementation plan.

Barring any complications, the UG Board of Commissioners is expected to adopt the plan at the meeting on September 29, 2016.

The planning consultant team was led by BNIM, and also included inSITE Planning, TranSystems and EPS.

For more information or to give feedback on the draft plan, please visit rosedalemasterplan.org.

RDA seeking entries for “Plot to Plate” community cook off
By Andrea Steere

Nothing says summer like bringing friends, family, and neighbors together over a home cooked meal. Rosedale residents can do just that at Rosedale Development Association’s garden-inspired cook off, “Plot to Plate,” from 6-8 p.m. on July 28 at the 45th and Rainbow Community Garden. Entry is free for both contestants and attendees.

Participants can enter their garden-inspired dish to win Most Colorful, People’s Choice, or Judge’s Choice. Contestants will also be entered to win great prizes from local businesses.

But if you don’t consider yourself much of a cook, you can help choose the winner of the People’s Choice award by sampling all of the dishes.

“Plot to Plate” will be judged by a panel of nutrition experts and community stakeholders, including Healthy Communities Wyandotte’s Alyssa Carodine and Rachel Barkley, clinical associate professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

To submit your dish to the cook off, entry forms are available at rosedale.org/events/plot-to-plate/ or at RDA’s office at 1403 Southwest Blvd., KCK.

Special thanks to our sponsors for making this event possible: Strasser Hardware, Midtown Signs, R.F. Fisher Electric Company, and Bread & Butter Concepts.

To learn more or to RSVP, contact Andrea Steere at (913) 677-5097 or email andrea@rosedale.org.
Camp Wildwood registration ends July 20
By Aaron Davis

Registration for Camp Wildwood is now open for Rosedale children ages 7 to 15. The registration period will end on July 20, or until all of the spots are filled. The fee for attending camp is $25.

This year, Rosedale’s Camp Wildwood session will be from August 3-6. Wildwood is a sleepaway camp that allows children to explore and learn about nature, while also enjoying the classic camp experience of spending time with new and old friends.

Registration packets are available at the RDA office, located at 1403 Southwest Blvd., or electronically upon request. Families are encouraged to contact or visit RDA as soon as possible for registration forms to save a spot for their children at camp.

For questions about registration, fees and payments, cancellations or refunds, please contact the Office Manager at Camp Wildwood at 913-757-4500 or info@wildwoodctr.org.

For any other questions regarding Camp Wildwood, please contact Aaron or Andrea at (913) 677-5097, or send an email to aaron@rosedale.org or andrea@rosedale.org.

Garden Workshops
By Katie Green

The 2016 garden workshop schedule looked a little different than it has in years past. While workshops continued throughout the growing season, this year’s classes included more hands-on activities.

“I like the practicality of the workshops,” said LaDonna Tate, a Rosedale resident and community garden volunteer. Tate has attended all of this season’s garden workshops and is looking forward to the remaining classes.

If you want to join in on some of the fun, the final two workshops of the year are coming up. July’s workshop is “Insects in the Garden”, and August’s workshop, “Freeze! Your Garden Produce,” features information on food preservation.

Lori Wuellner, the family and consumer sciences coordinator for K-State Research and Extension, said of the food preservation workshop, “I’m always happy to teach these classes, as it’s very exciting that people want to revisit an age-old food process.”

“Insects in the Garden” is free and open to all ages. “Freeze! Your Garden Produce” is open to all ages, but will include a $5 fee to cover expenses. Attendees will take home a can of their own salsa.

Contact Katie Green at (913) 677-5097 or at katie@rosedale.org to RSVP or for more information.

Phil Gardos ran the coin toss booth at Healthy Halloween, and donated prizes to the event.

Remembering Phil Gardos

Phil Gardos, neighborhood activist and former board chair of RDA, passed away on May 24. Phil was known for his guerrilla flower gardening around Rosedale, including the KDOT triangle by Mission Rd. and Southwest Blvd., at Holy Name Church and School and in RDA’s side lot. He was also known by the neighborhood for his carnival games and prizes, which he brought every year to the Healthy Kids Carnival and to Healthy Halloween. Phil also volunteered annually during RISE, reading stories of the civil rights movement to Rosedale youth. He was also an active volunteer at Holy Name Church.

Phil was a retired United States Postal Service employee and knew the neighborhood intimately. He was tireless in his efforts to make the neighborhood beautiful, and we will miss him.

Gifts in honor can be made to RDA, with “Phil Gardos Memorial Fund” in the memo line. They will be used to ensure his guerrilla flower gardens are maintained and mowed for years to come.

This year’s Community Garden workshops allow residents to be hands on.
Welcome, Arborhurst Park Neighborhood Association

By Erin Stryka

Rosedale’s newest neighborhood group, Arborhurst Park Neighborhood Association (APNA), held its first official meeting April 7 and has been going strong ever since. The neighborhood consists of the area just south of Rosedale Park and west of Mission Rd.

In 2015, RDA conducted outreach to areas of Rosedale without an active neighborhood association, including Arborhurst Park. RDA’s VISTA team went door-to-door with flyers for the Rosedale Neighborhood Leadership Academy, a four-part workshop dedicated to training future neighborhood leaders. At the first workshop, several participants realized they were from the same neighborhood, but had never met. The residents began a conversation about their neighborhood and shared passion for building community.

Rebecca Garza, APNA member and Rosedale Neighborhood Leadership Academy participant, said, “It was already the sort of neighborhood where everyone’s walking around and talking to each other.”

“it’s really about cultivating a sense of community in our neighborhood, unifying neighbors and bringing folks together,” Emily Lord, president of APNA, said. “The people in my neighborhood are great people.”

Several residents organized themselves into a leadership team, and went door-to-door to invite neighbors to the first official APNA meeting. The response has been “inspiring,” said Chris Hutchings, vice president of APNA, “I’m very excited to see how active and driven the community is in coming together and pushing to improve our area.”

During an energetic first meeting, APNA planned a neighborhood cleanup day, made plans for a neighborhood entrance sign, and discussed setting bylaws and planning a block party.

APNA now meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the RDA community room. Call RDA at (913) 677-5097 to learn more.