**Community Spotlight**

**Community Spotlight: Wildwood Outdoor Education Center**

*By Andrea Steere*

“My first day [at Wildwood] I didn’t have a favorite part because it was all happy.”

These are the words of 8-year-old Josephine, who attended Camp Wildwood for her second year this month. Thanks to RDA’s partnership with the Wildwood Outdoor Education Center, dozens of Rosedale youth get to experience the magic of camp every year. For just $25 per camper, Wildwood helps local kids discover the outdoors for one week each summer. Camp includes classic activities like fishing, canoeing, swimming, and crafting, plus the chance to try rock climbing, zip lining, and lessons about ecology. Wildwood’s mission is to “provide all children with the experience of living and learning in the outdoors from our beautiful 150-acre camp facility composed of forests, meadows, streams and ponds” — and they have done so since 1980.

We are incredibly grateful for the opportunities Wildwood’s partnership has provided Rosedale youth over the years. The smiles on our campers’ faces and the stories they bring back with them are proof of the power of camp.

To learn more about camp, visit them on the web at wildwoodctr.org or call 913-757-4500.

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**Major Moves toward Rosedale Master Plan Implementation**

*By Erin Stryka*

In addition to classic camp activities like fishing and swimming, Wildwood campers also enjoy playing improvisational games to get to know each other.

According to the Rosedale Master Plan, the University Town redevelopment envisions the area “as an active hub of dense activity that includes retail and services, offices, living opportunities, a welcoming streetscape, and a seamless connection into an enhanced Fisher Park.

The 2016 Rosedale Master Plan laid out a vision for big changes in Rosedale, and two of the “Major Moves” identified are advancing toward implementation.

According to Zach Flanders, urban planner with the Unified Government, “the University Town and Fisher Park Plan is taking a detailed look at the area around 39th Ave. and Rainbow Blvd. to promote quality development and improvements to parks, trails, and public streets that will result in a walkable, vibrant neighborhood adjacent to the University of Kansas. The City of Westwood is conducting a detailed study of 47th Ave. to create a complete street that supports pedestrians, cyclists, transit, and vehicles. The 47th Ave. study is a partnership between Kansas City, KS, Westwood, and Roeland Park.

Both projects are kicking off this summer and will involve public engagement.”

Residents, businesses, developers, and other community members gathered to discuss the University Town and Fisher Park Plan at a Stakeholder Kick-Off meeting on May 16. Consultants hired by the Unified Government shared the process they will follow to develop the plan. Stakeholders then broke into small groups to discuss the strengths and needs of the area.

Rachel Hostetler, a resident who attended the meeting and who leads the Fisher Park Walking Club, said, “We talked about the importance of that area being accessible for seniors and people with disabilities. We talked about the experience of walking at Fisher Park, how it’s quiet and peaceful and we hope going forward, as there is more development at Fisher Park, it keeps that feeling of peacefulness, where people can go to escape the noise of Rainbow Blvd.”

Both The University Town and Fisher Park Plan and the 47th Ave. study are being funded by a grant from Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) as part of the Planning Sustainable Places initiative. The purpose of the Planning Sustainable Places initiative is to advance detailed local planning and project development activities that further the creation of vibrant places that offer a mix of options for housing, jobs, services, and recreation; connected places with a variety of transportation options; and green places that support healthy living and a healthy natural environment.

To learn more, visit wycokck.org/planning or call RDA at 913-677-5097.
RDA raises over $6,800 at first annual disc golf tournament
by Alissa Workman

On Saturday, May 6, nearly 100 individuals gathered in Rosedale Park for RDA’s first disc golf tournament, the Rosedale Disc de Tromphe. With the help of our supportive business partners and individuals throughout the KC metro, the tournament raised over $6,800 to support the work of RDA in our community.

Special thanks to event and team sponsors:
- Dynamic Discs
- The University of Kansas Health System
- West Plaza Tomato Company
- Liu’s Thai Noodle Shop
- Cashen Brothers
- MKS Pipe and Valve Co.
- NorthWood Liquor
- Penn Tool
- RampUp Labor
- Rosedale Auto Sales
- TMS, Inc.
- LED Direct
- Results Chiropractic and Rehabilitation
- Soile Patch Men’s Shop
- Rodriguez Mechanical Contractors
- Claymark Homes

We look forward to an even larger event in 2018!

To learn more and see a full gallery of pictures from the event, visit rosedale.org/discgolf

Rosedale Farmers Market adds new location to 2017 season
by Nicole Fitzgerald

Fresh baked pies, lettuce, eggs, jams, handmade crafts and honey are just some of the things you’ll find every Saturday this season at the Rosedale Farmers Market. Come meet the farmers and be a part of the market from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays in the Commerce Bank parking lot at 4020 Rainbow Blvd. The market will run from May 14 through September 24. Rain or shine, you will see 6-8 tents set up in the parking lot selling delicious treats and fresh produce. The Rosedale Farmers Market will also be located at KU Medical Center in front of Dykes Library at 2100 W. 39th Ave, on select Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Dates include May 31, June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, Aug. 9, Aug. 23 and Sept. 13.

For those who have SNAP/EBT benefits, the market is once again offering the Double Up Food Bucks program. To participate, simply swipe your SNAP/EBT card at the market and we will match up to $25 dollars for fresh fruits and vegetables.

To learn more about the Double Up Food Bucks program or the market, email info@rosedalefarmersmarket.com.

Welcome to Rosedale: New signs to be installed
by Erin Stryka

Look up! Thanks to the hard work of neighborhood groups and local businesses, Rosedale will soon be receiving new signs to welcome people into the neighborhood.

Hanover Heights, Spring Valley, Frank Rushton, and Hilltop Neighborhood Associations together with RDA received a grant from the Neighborhoods Rising Fund, managed by the Community Capital Fund and Greater Kansas City LISC, to manufacture and install signs at six entry points around the borders of Rosedale.

David Manica, of Rosedale business Manica Architecture, designed the signs in conversation with the neighborhood groups and neighboring business Commerce Bank, Midtown Signs manufactured the signs based on Manica’s designs. Midtown Signs also worked with the Board of Public Utilities to engineer signs that will be strong enough to withstand Kansas winds, but lightweight enough to be attached to utility poles in the long term without causing damage.

To learn more about grants available to your neighborhood group, email erin@rosedale.org

Students gather round to hear a story during the Rainbow Summer Program.

Inside the Rainbow Summer Program
By Ashton Wells

Starting on June 12, 100 Rainbow Summer Program scholars will be welcomed to Rainbow Montinnee Church with a group of energetic interns cheering "GO GO MORNIN G GOOD MORNING, GOOD MORNING!"

Each day scholars will start with a time of singing, cheering, and hearing a Read Aloud guest from the community. Then they will work on reading skills, STEAM education, entrepreneurship, health, and conflict resolution.

Thanks to our many partners—Rosedale Development Association, Harvesters, Kansas City Community Gardens, the Center for Conflict Resolution, and more—scholars will receive a rich, comprehensive educational experience this summer.

Some may have noticed our recent name change: Rainbow Summer Program was formerly known as Rainbow Freedom School. But with an expanding curriculum, and a goal of providing after-school programming in the future (in addition to the summer program), the name was changed to encompass the vision of the program moving forward.