Paul Escareno came in, took a look and asked me several questions. I did not realize it then, but Pablo was conducting a community job interview. I was hired by RDA but had not yet been approved for hire from Rosedale. Pablo frequently visited me at the office. He taught me about RDA and the community of Rosedale while reminding me every chance he had about the strong women who had come before me. I had big shoes to fill from those who walked before me, and he wanted me to know that.

As our relationship grew, Pablo introduced his families—both biological and communal—through story. At some point I assume I was accepted into Pablo’s grace. In the spirit of community he began to bring me fresh tamales and Mexican sweet bread. He must have known that the way to my heart was through meaningful conversation, food, and laughter. That is how I will remember Pablo.

My condolences to Pablo’s family, contact Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097 or kimberly@rosedale.org.

RDA team enjoys Whitmore Playground over the holidays.

Tips to prevent illness this winter
by Dr. Allison Edwards

Cold and flu season is upon us, and here are a few tips to keep you well (or help you recover if you do fall ill):

• Get your flu shot! The CDC has warned that it may not be as effective as we would like this year, but it is still better than not getting your flu shot. The flu shot does not cause the flu.

• Wash your hands. Seriously. This is the easiest way to prevent the spread of germs.

• Aim to sleep for eight hours a night, eat well, and stay hydrated. These are the basics, but they’re supremely important in creating a strong foundation to keep your body strong to fight off infections when they happen.

• Exercise. Evidence shows that having a regular habit of exercising (even walking 30 minutes a day) can help you fight off infections faster when they strike.

• Establish care with a doctor. Colds and flu are usually caused by viruses — meaning that there is not a good treatment to treat the infection itself. Treatment is usually based on treating your symptoms; but if things seem to be getting worse or a fever is not subsiding, check in with your doctor to make sure all is well. Stay well, Rosedale!

RDA sets audacious 2018 goals to best serve Rosedale
by Alissa Workman

Rosedale Development Association believes a thriving Rosedale is characterized by: a robust economy, vibrant community, healthy people, a thriving environment and a sustainable RDA.

Utilizing input from the 2015 Rosedale Community Survey, the RDA Board, staff and AmeriCorps team members annually set community-driven goals to move this vision of Rosedale forward.

Executive Director Erin Stryka says, "RDA is driven by the needs of Rosedalians, so I’m really excited to start working towards the needs identified in the 2015 Rosedale Community Survey."

In 2018, with the support of residents, businesses, community partners and donors, RDA will:

Robust economy
• Build a strong Rosedale business identity through mutually supportive partnerships.
• Increase access to job skills education for all Rosedalians.
• Advocate for business development that serves the economic interests of all Rosedalians.

Vibrant community
• Amplify a Rosedale community identity.
• Increase opportunities for Rosedalians to give input on community issues.
• Engage Rosedalians as ambassadors to invite and inform neighbors of all cultures.

Happy people
• Advocate for a Rosedale Community Center.
• Continue health-related programs that fill the gap.
• Advocate for local, permanently healthy food retail outlets.
• Connect residents to and advocate for healthcare resources.

Thriving environment
• Partner with residents, neighborhood associations and developers to create high-quality, green neighborhoods.
• Partner with U.S. residents, and businesses to improve park quality and usage.
• Advocate for complete street throughout Rosedale.

Sustainable RDA
• Improve RDA’s building to maximize functionality and income.
• Increase unrestricted revenue/reserves.
• Increase RDA’s visibility and communication efforts to residents and businesses.
• Invest in staff and board capacity to meet the evolving needs and challenges of Rosedale.

To learn more, contact Erin Stryka at 913-677-5097 or erin@rosedale.org.

To learn more, contact Dr. Edwards at 913-730-0331 or visit kansascitydirectprimarycare.com.
University Town Plan holds final public meeting

by Erin Stryka

The University Town Plan, a project to refine one of the major moves laid out in the Rosedale Master Plan, held a final public meeting in December laying out steps toward achieving the goals set in the master plan and in the previous public meetings.

Strategies for the first goal, creating a transit oriented development plan aimed at increased services for residents and walkability, included proposals for pedestrian and bike facilities on Rainbow and Adams, increasing street trees, and two proposed locations for a transit center. Strategies for the second goal, to improve area parks, trails and recreational amenities, included enhancing green space on 39th from Fisher Park to Rainbow, and creating a central hub for the community and parks emphasizing the Floraxis trails and working towards a long-hoped-for community center or library.

Strategies for the third goal, promoting high quality development that enhances the Rosedale image, included locating higher density housing on the edges of neighbor-hoods and major roads, and using middle housing to transition from university and office areas into single family homes. Strategies for the fourth goal, pursuing housing that accommodates diverse housing needs, included both upper-end housing that is not currently available in the area and a proposal to maintain affordability with a requirement that 10 percent of new housing be affordable.

The University Town Plan will be presented to the commission for adoption as part of the Rosedale Master Plan in 2018.

To learn more, visit rosedaleuniversitytown.org or call Erin Stryka at 913-677-5097.

Community Calendar

December 23: January 1 RDA office closed

ONGOING EVENTS:
- Meetings: Downtown
- Fisher Park Walking Club
  Monday at 4:30 p.m.
  Thursday at 1 p.m.
- Call for meet-up location
  January 2-30

Mobile Library
  Monday 1:30 p.m., January 8 and 22
  Whitmore Playgroup
  Tuesday 2:30 p.m., January 30
  Saturday 10 a.m., January 2, 16, 30, at Fisher Park, KCK

ONE-TIME EVENTS:
- Monday, January 1
  Smoke-free policy takes effect
  at HUG & KUMC properties

- Wednesday, January 9
  Orientation to Walks for Safe Routes to School
  4:30-7 p.m.
  1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

- Wednesday, January 10
  RISE Readers’ Volunteer Orientation
  6 p.m.
  1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK
  January 15-19

- RISE reading program
  Various schools throughout Rosedale
  Wednesday, January 17
  Rose Alert neighborhood meeting
  6:30 p.m.
  1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

To learn more about upcoming events and other community happenings, visit rozone.org or call 913-677-5097.

Rosedale Development Association

Our mission is to work with residents, business and institutions to develop a thriving Rosedale community.

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Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Erin Stryka Director
Staff and Board of Directors
online at rozedale.org
Lizzardbrand Design
Facebook: RosedaleDevelopment
Twitter.com/RosedaleK
Rosedale.org

Let’s be rock solid together!

Please accept my donation in support of RDA.

Name of business or name of household

City/State/ZIP code

Contact person

Preferred phone

Email address

Please mail or bring this form along with your gift to:
Rosedale Development Association, 1401 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103 OR contribute online at rozedale.org/archclub