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# Community Spotlight

## 2017 Rosedale Arch Club members

by Alissa Workman

With deep gratitude, RDA thanks all its 2017 Arch Club donors for their generous support of RDA's mission to work with residents, business and institutions to develop a thriving Rosedale community. As a nonprofit organization, RDA relies on donations from individuals, businesses and institutions to support its work in Rosedale. To recognize these contributors. RDA started the Rosedale Arch Club in August 2017, With their help, Rosedale will be a community where all people feel safe and connected and live in quality neighborhoods and that celebrates diversity in all forms, nourishes creativity, supports healthy living and fosters economic opportunity.

To learn more, visit rosedale.org/archclub or contact Alissa Workman at 913-677-5097 or alissa@rosedale.org.

Alistair Tutton Photography Amazing Grace Baptist Church Aaron Barnhart & Diane Eickhoff Jennifer Bates Kerri Beck Kent Best BikeWalkKC Michael Bryant **Buck Roofing** Crystal Casares Pete Cashen Jim & Virginia Chiles Robert Christian Agape Crain Mike & Theresa Cummings Damage Control & Restoration Deco Catering Dynamic Discs Mary A. Eisenbise Gary & Linda Elliott Joyce Emery Jonasson Linda En Pablo Escareno Antoinette Ferguson Carole Finlay Natalie Fox Judy Gardos Rebecca Garza Joanne Geer Shoup, in memory of Jennie Lee Geer Allison Gile Lisa Gioia Joel & Emily Smith Goering Leo R. Goertz

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Our Saviour Lutheran Church



# THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

# **New sidewalks coming to two Rosedale schools**

by Erin Stryka

Rosedalians will see new sidewalks coming to key locations this summer. Noble Prentis and T.A. Edison Elementary schools were chosen for Phase Two of the Safe Routes to School program, which features federal funding for sidewalks on walking routes to schools.

Consultants from the Unified Government held a public meeting with neighbors at RDA on Tuesday, January 9, to share the initial designs and locations for the planned sidewalks.

Heather Brasel, resident and landlord in the T.A. Edison neighborhood, has been advocating for new sidewalks for years. "There have been many mornings and afternoons where I have seen kids in our neighborhood walk to school through busy, narrow streets and been so nervous," Brasel shared. "Upon review of the plans, I think they addressed a couple key areas around T.A. Edison to help make things safer for the kids. I also believe the addition of some sidewalks in the neighborhood will help make it more walkable, visibly appealing and draw new families into our area. I hope this is an initial phase of neighborhood improvements that will bring more sidewalks and storm water management, balanced with the need to protect the neighborhood's character and low-key feel."

Elizabeth Johnston, who



Sidewalks provide Rosedale scholars a safe, healthy route to school.

lives near Noble Prentis and whose street was chosen for one of the sidewalks, was also pleased. "I've been watching the kids walking on the streets for the last 14 years, and it has seemed like an accident waiting to happen," she said. Of the sidewalks, Johnston said, "I think it's fantastic. The way it helps me is it helps the kids."

Sharon Potts, principal at Noble Prentis, is looking forward to increased safety for her students. "We are excited about the sidewalk project encompassing Noble Prentis Elementary!" Potts said.
"Parents who live nearby and don't qualify for bus transportation have commented they don't feel safe for their children to walk to school due to no sidewalks. More students will enjoy coming to school and riding their bikes with sidewalk additions."

Sidewalks are planned for construction during the summer and fall of 2018.

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

# RISE readers continue King's dream

by Nicole Fitzgerald

In 2017, RDA organized its sixth annual Reading Inspirational Stories to Empower (RISE) program. Volunteers from across the KC Metro gathered to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day by reading books that encouraged Rosedale students to continue the Civil Rights Movement in their generation. This year over 60 volunteers signed up to read in classrooms ranging from kindergarten to middle school at five different schools.

Among those volunteers was Karen Hostetler, who read during RISE week for the past two years. When asked why she comes back each year, she said, "The books we have read with the kids are a great way to revisit history and to be inspired by the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

Each volunteer read a book and led a discussion inspiring kids to think about history and current issues. RISE is made possible because of the generosity of so many willing volunteers and donors, such as Half Price Books and Partners in Primary Care. RDA thanks all the readers and donors who were involved in this year's program.

 ⊕ To learn more, contact Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or jetaime@rosedale.org.



Amanda Vega tends her garden plot alongside her mother and daughter.

# Garden with RDA in 2018

by Miranda Coffey

RDA invites neighbors to garden in 2018 and offers a variety of options at four locations throughout the neighborhood, ranging from individual four-by-four foot plots to longer, in-ground, cooperatively grown rows. All skill levels are welcome. Interested Rosedalians should attend the March 8 workshop or stop by the office for a plot rental application. Plots will be leased on a first come, first served basis.

Planned workshops include the following topics: planning your plot for success, organic pesticides, butterfly gardens, cooking with garden produce, herbs and natural remedies, sunset garden exercise, starting seeds indoors, storing excess produce and zero waste. Workshops will be held the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. As the spring growing season approaches, more de-

tails about RDA's 2018 garden workshops will be available online at rosedale.org.

The first workshop is scheduled for Thursday, March 8 at 1401 Southwest Blvd. and will introduce the gardening options in Rosedale, explain how to get involved and include an opportunity to apply for a plot. Kansas City Community Gardens (KCCG) will also present tools and resources they have developed to help gardeners maximize growing space for the spring, summer and fall growing seasons. Attendees who apply for a membership with KCCG will receive seeds, chicken manure and deep discounts for other commonly needed gardening supplies

To learn more or to donate a plot, contact Miranda Coffey at miranda@rosedale.org or 913-677-5097.

# **Welcome new Board member Lavne Feldman**

by Erin Stryka

RDA is excited to welcome six new Board members in 2018. One of the new members is Layne Feldman, resident of the Hanover Heights neighborhood. Layne, a digital and social media manager at TLC Consulting, is excited to bring his perspective to the Board as one of the 60 percent of Rosedalians who rents his home. "As a resident of Rosedale for the last 11 years, I look forward to serving as a Board member for this wonderful and unique area



of Kansas City," Layne says. Welcome to the RDA Board!

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

# **Reflections on AmeriCorps service**

by Victor Michimani

An experience at RDA is unlike any other. As an AmeriCorps member, one has the duty to assist and serve in a thriving community. Working at RDA offers the opportunity to make a difference through multiple avenues of community engagement. From volunteering to read at schools for the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy to working at community gardens, RDA touches sectors many organizations do not.

My experience as an AmeriCorps member has been life changing and has offered me opportunities I would not have received if I were somewhere else. Through AmeriCorps, I have grown as an individual and learned valuable life skills along with professionalism. My service has focused heavily on Rosedale's vouth sports programs. As the AmeriCorps lead in this area, I get to interact with youth and eager volunteer coaches to form local sports teams.

Each season I also witness their growth within each discipline and watch students from different schools develop friendships. My RDA colleagues come from very different backgrounds and offer me a vibrant, welcoming atmosphere. When together, there is no task we cannot accomplish. In sum, AmeriCorps has been an experience I will remember for the rest of my life.

 To learn more, contact Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or jetaime@rosedale.org.



Award ceremony honors athletes after spring 2017 soccer season.

# Community Calendar

compiled by Kimberly Hunter

## RECURRING EVENTS:

## **Fisher Park Walking Club**

Mondays at 4:30 p.m Thursdays at 1 p.m. Call for meet-up location

### **Mobile Library**

Thursdays: February 1 and 15 10-11 a.m., Whitmore Playground, KCK Tuesdays: February 13 and 27 2:30-4:30 p.m., Fisher Park, KCK

## **Girl Scouts troop meeting** Thursdays: February 14 and 28

6 p.m. 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

### **ONE-TIME EVENTS:**

Saturday, February 10

## **Giving Grove orchard** pruning lesson

9-11 a.m., 1444 Southwest Blvd., KCK Wednesday, February 14

## **Giving Grove** orchard care workshop

7-8 p.m., 818 Shawnee Rd., KCK Wednesdav, February 21

# **Rosedale Leadership Council**

5:30 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK Thursday, March 1

## **Cambridge Connector** public meeting

5-7:30 p.m.,1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK Thursday, March 8

# **Garden Workshop #1: Planning** for Success

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

To learn more about upcoming events and other community happenings, visit rosedale.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. 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. Erin Stryka Executive Director

# **Staff and Board of Directors**

online at rosedale.org **Lizzardbrand** Design Facebook.com/ **RosedaleDevelopment** Twitter.com/RosedaleDA Rosedale.org

# **Memory Lane: This old house**

by Evelyne Barnes

My grandfather, James Henry Taylor, was a bricklayer from England who settled in Kansas. At first, he and his wife. Sarah, lived in Pleasanton, Kansas. He wanted a parcel of land with a natural spring, so he could build a house over it and use the water. He would come by train with his wheelbarrow full of tools. When the train stopped at the station on 7th St. Bridge, which is now torn down, James would take his wheelbarrow and walk to 708 Seminary. After work he returned the same way.

The spring was underground below the washroom, where there was a long table, sink and water pump, like sometimes seen in parks. There was an outhouse in the backyard. The box gutters all slanted to the back of the house and came down a pipe to a drain. On the drain pipe there was a spout that went to the alley and a trap to stop rain from going to the alley and redirect it into another pipe connected to the cistern. So, the dirty water from the roof would drain into the alley while the clean water would go to the cistern. Therefore, the spring water was for drinking and cooking, and the cistern water was for doing laundry.

The ground was on road level and had a hill going down to the alley in the back of the lot. Rocks were used to make a retaining wall and dirt

led to the sitting room. Steps went down the side of the house, leading from the front porch to the back. The house was finished in 1888.

Grandpa died in 1934 before I was born. My grandparents raised eight children in this home. We came to visit

"Grandpa wanted a parcel of land with a natural spring, so he could build a house over it and use the water." - Evelyne Barnes

dug out to make it level below the retaining wall. The washroom, kitchen and dining room were on the backyard level. The cellar was halfway underground. On the street level were the two bedrooms, parlor and living room, which was used for company. A front porch, with decorative woodwork on it, was attached to the parlor and living at 913-677-5097 x11 or room.lt had a front door that

them every holiday and spent a week at a time with Grandma and Aunt Coda during the summer. I spent many happy hours here as a child. We took care of Aunt Coda until she died in 1983, when she willed the house to me.

To share a memory, contact Kimberly Hunter kimberly@rosedale.org.

Email address

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Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103 OR contribute online at rosedale.org/archclub.