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THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Community Spotlight

La pastelería de Haydee Rios

by Kimberly Hunter

Like many Rosedalians, Haydee Rios not only lives in Rosedale but also makes her living here. Her situation is quite literally sweeter than many, though, because she prepares pastries — pasteles in Spanish — for neighbors' celebrations. She enjoys living near three generations of her family, especially her mother Lorenza, who taught Haydee how to bake when she was still a little girl in Mexico. Whether someone is celebrating retirement, a holiday, or a milestone birthday like a sweet sixteen or quinceañera, Haydee can customize a cake to delight and serve as many party guests as necessary.

Her favorite cake to bake

is German chocolate, but she also makes cupcakes, cookies, empanadas, and specialty desserts like tres leches and fruitcakes. Usually, her cookies sell for \$10 a pound, while a cake that serves 25 people typically sells for \$25. A longtime Rosedale resident, Haydee has recently started bringing her creativity in the kitchen out into the community, where she is helping to restart the Rose Alert Neighborhood Association. Active, engaged residents like Haydee and her family help make Rosedale a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

To learn more, contact Haydee Rios on Facebook or at 505-306-479



Haydee Rios displays a sunflower cake she prepared for a neighbor's Kansas Day party.

KIMBERLY HUNTER

Homestead Act, other programs offer much-needed tax relief for seniors.

by Erin Stryka

Rosedale seniors may be eligible for refunds on property, utility and sales taxes. To be eligible for a Homestead Property Tax Refund of up to \$700, a Kansas resident must have owned and occupied a home for all of 2017, had an annual household income of \$34,450 or less, AND been at least one of the following: born before January 1, 1962; totally and permanently blind or disabled for all of 2017; have a dependent child living with you all year; the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who has not remarried; OR the surviving, unmarried spouse of a disabled veteran.

Seniors may also be eligible for a Safe Senior Property Tax Refund of 75 percent of their property taxes if they are a Kansas resident who owned and occupied a home all of 2017, had an annual household income of \$19,500 or less,

were 65 years or older all of 2017, and had no delinquent property taxes in 2017. Please note individuals may claim either a Safe Senior Property or a Homestead tax refund, but not both.

Finally, Rosedalians may be eligible for a Senior Citizens Utility Tax Rebate of up to \$150 or an income-dependent City Sales Tax Refund if they had a gross household income of \$25,000 or less, are a resident of Kansas City, KS, and were 65 years or older all of 2017.

For help applying, go to the Unified Government Clerk's Office, Floor 3, Room 323, 701 North 7th Street, Kansas City, KS, 66101, between 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Need a ride? Contact Erin Stryka at 913-677-5097 or erin@rosedale.org to schedule a time.



Tax rebates bring relief to senior homeowners in Rosedale.

ELIZABETH C. JOHNSTON



ALISSA WORKMAN

Native plants, such as this butterfly garden, help precipitation seep into the ground, reducing the amount of storm water runoff.

Storm water runoff: dos, don'ts & details

by Alissa Workman

After a cold winter, RDA welcomes warmer weather, the slow return of greenery, and opportunities for spending more time outdoors. RDA asks Rosedalians to consider their impact on storm water runoff and take a few easy steps to protect the freshwater streams, lakes, and rivers in our region.

When it rains or as snow melts, water cannot seep into the soil if the ground is already saturated, frozen, or has a road, sidewalk, or paved surface. This storm water runoff flows into area watersheds like Turkey Creek, picking up along the way pollutants such as lawn chemicals, pet waste, salt/de-ice, litter, and oil. This polluted water eventually ends up in larger bodies of water, such as the Kansas and Missouri Rivers, harming regional

plants and wildlife, hampering outdoor recreation opportunities, and negatively impacting those who live downstream.

Some easy steps Rosedalians can take to reduce the impact of storm water runoff pollution include:

- Do not throw trash in storm drains or on the street.
- Move downspouts to drain water into lawns and gardens.
- Add native flowers and plants to your yard.
- Wash cars at a car wash or on unpaved surfaces.
- Add a rain barrel to conserve water.
- Avoid using lawn chemicals.
- Dispose of pet waste properly.

For additional information or resources, contact Wyandotte County Storm Water Runoff Management Department at 913-673-5400.



EMILY XIONG

Miranda, an AmeriCorps Kansas member serving at RDA, teaches scholars how to follow a banana boat recipe.

Kids in the Kitchen comes to Noble Prentis Elementary

by Emily Xiong

This February was the start of Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) at Noble Prentis Elementary School and the one year anniversary of the program in Rosedale. The KITK program is sponsored by Harvesters and provides a month-long curriculum that increases scholars' knowledge of, confidence in, and creativity with nutrition, cooking skills, food safety, and making healthy food choices. Later in 2018, RDA's team will also teach KITK to Frank Ruston and the Rainbow Summer Program scholars.

Each KITK course meets once a week for four weeks, with each class lasting from

60 to 90 minutes. Scholars help cook weekly recipes via lessons that also teach proper ways to handle food, ingredients' nutritional value, and how to use kitchen tools. One scholar, Corrin Bohm, says, "I like how they teach us how to make healthy food!" Many participants echo Corrin's sentiment, for the program was a great success last year and is growing in popularity, with other Rosedale schools hoping to connect in the near future.

To learn more, contact Nicole Fitzgerald at 913-677-5097 or email nicole@rosedale.org.

Board and Staff Members

Ally Mabry, RDA's new Board member, is a long-time resident of Rosedale's Friendship Heights neighborhood and a mental health care professional. Among other visions, Ally says, "I want Rosedale to stay affordable for everyone and safe for children and people from all walks of life." She also hopes Rosedalian never need to go to other



communities to access resources such as youth sports, restaurants, and shopping.

RDA welcomes new AmeriCorps Kansas members

by Kimberly Hunter

Last month, the Rosedale Development Association welcomed two new AmeriCorps Kansas members to its service team.

Kevin Flores joined from the University of Missouri Kansas City, where he is working toward a double major in Business with emphases in Marketing and Spanish. Kevin also speaks two languages, English and Spanish, and has been teaching himself a third—French. When he is not studying, Kevin enjoys serving youth and working outside—be it in the dirt or on the court. During his time at RDA, Kevin hopes to learn as much as he teaches while serving the Rosedale community. Welcome, Kevin!



Kevin Flores

Nika Cotton joined the team from Kansas City, Kansas and is an "original Dotte" born in Wyandotte County. She is also a writer and spoken word artist with a passion for community building. Prior to serving with AmeriCorps Kansas at RDA, Nika founded Village Scribe LLC freelance writing and brand promotions. Welcome, Nika!

AmeriCorps works on local, state, and national levels to provide volunteers to meet the vital needs of the country through intensive service.



Nika Cotton

There are three branches to the program including AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC. The Kansas Volunteer Commission directly manages the AmeriCorps Kansas program, which currently supports several RDA community programs.

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



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

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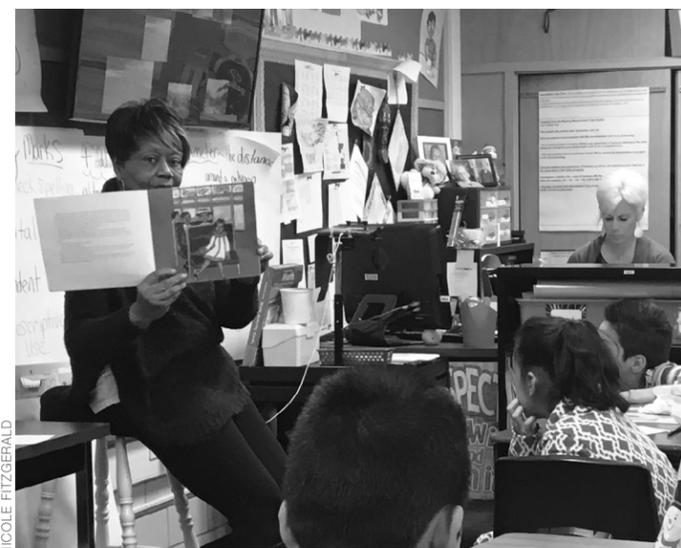
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Memory Lane: Fisher Park then and now

by Deborah Allen

In the mid-1880s, immigrants floated down the Missouri River, docking at Kansas City. From there they traveled over land to a trading post called Westport before they started their journey on the Santa Fe Trail. They crossed the frontier seeking freedom, basic respect, and dignity. Under the Treaty of 1851 with The Shawnee Indian Tribe, Thompson Brown, an Indian man, was granted 200 acres. A few settlers purchased land from Thompson Brown and formed a small township called Rosedale, KS. Those settlers were William Puckett, Rebecca Fitzpatrick, and Charles Lloyd. Margaret and James Fisher also purchased 40 acres for \$500 from Augustine Wilson.

One of my memories of this area is from the 1960s. I was excited about starting junior high at Rosedale Junior Senior High School. So one crisp fall morning I walked down the hill following the gravel street off Lloyd into the woods. The dirt on the path was as smooth as the palm of your hand from all the foot traffic pushing down the dirt into a brown marble passage. As I followed the path into the clearing, Fisher Street appeared, lined with neat, modest homes, fences, and tons of flowers. As the pavement evaporated, Fisher Street was transformed into an open field of September skeleton sunflowers, waving to me as I passed by. As I turned the corner of Springfield and headed towards school, I had to negotiate how to walk in low heels on a gravel road. I carefully stepped over big rocks and navigated deep grooves left by cars kicking up dust as they zoomed by. I thought, "I'll be the dusty one with a broken heel and runs in my stockings, on the first day of school. Will they call me Dusty?" But then, all the kids walked to school the same way. We were all



NICOLE FITZGERALD

Deborah Allen reads to Rosedale students during RDA's RISE program, which Fox 4 News highlighted along with Ms. Allen's story about integrating Rosedale High School's cheerleading team.

dusty, all happy, all excited, and all loved.

The vacant field that was nestled in the shadow of KU Medical Center became Fisher Park with a variety of recreational equipment and a walking trail. It hosted the Thursday afternoon Senior Gentlemen's Group, which was a service organization for the Rosedale community. On the first Saturday of June, neighbors still enjoy the Rosedale Reunion

Family and Friends Day. As a community park, it serves diverse cultures and shares the values of its original owners. Now we do not travel across the frontier seeking freedom, basic respect, and dignity. We travel in our daily lives, in our communities, in Fisher Park.

To share a memory, contact Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097 x11 or kimberly@rosedale.org.

Let's be rock solid together!

Please accept my donation in support of RDA.

Name of business or name of household

Address

City/State/ZIP code

Contact person

Preferred phone

Email address

Please mail or bring this form along with your gift to:
Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103
OR contribute online at rosedale.org/archclub.

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

Tuesdays: March 13, 27
2:30-4:30 p.m., Fisher Park

Wednesdays: March 14, 28
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,
Landon Center on Aging
3-5 p.m., Bellrose Manor

Thursdays: March 1, 15, 29
10-11 a.m., Whitmore Playground

Girl Scouts troop meetings

Thursdays: 6 p.m., March 14, 28
1401 Southwest Blvd.

ONE-TIME EVENTS:

Thursday, March 8

Garden Workshop #1: Planning for Success

6 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK
Saturday, March 10
Community garden workday
8-11 a.m., 45th Ave. and Rainbow Blvd., KCK

Wednesday, March 21

Rosedale Leadership Council

5:30 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Saturday, March 24

Community garden workday

8-11 a.m., 748 Seminary St., KCK

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

