Good Neighbor

Rosedale businesses give back in a big way
by Alissa Workman

On Saturday, May 4, representatives from Rosedale businesses spanning retail, manufacturing, food industry, health services, and more convened at Rosedale Park for the third annual Rosedale Disc de Triomphe. A record 31 businesses sponsored the 2019 tournament, including Dynamic Discs, MKS Pipe & Valve, TMS, Cashen Signs, and Midtown Signs. Combined, these 31 sponsors raised over $13,000 in funding to support RDA’s work in Rosedale, “We love the neighborhood and do business in Rosedale!” AJ Young, Jr. remembers: “One of the coolest things about volunteering with RDA and AmeriCorps is helping and connecting to the community. I love the fact we are able to go out in the field and speak with community citizens and help with minor home repairs... and enjoyed meeting the residents that greeted us with open arms and smiling faces!”

Many Rosedale and KC-area businesses donated prizes, discs, bags, and lots of additional goodies for all who competed in the third annual Rosedale Disc de Triomphe.

Estimated number of volunteer hours served in 2018: 4,010
Estimated number of volunteer hours served in 2019: 885

Americorps Service: A bird’s eye view
by Je T’aime Taylor

Here are two of many stories from Americorps members who have spent a year of service at Rosedale Development Association. Being a member of the “A-Team” means you care about the people, places, and businesses of Rosedale. RDA is a small but mighty team willing to serve the youth of the community, use our hands to clean and repair, and capture elders’ stories each month through newsletter articles. Come serve with us!

Nicole Fitzgerald remembers: “I made my way up the Rozarks trail and looked over and saw a Rosedale home I’ve grown to love. The two elders who live in that home have grown near and dear to my heart. As an Americorps member, I’ve fixed bikes with them, engaged them at the Farmers Market, and even written a newsletter article on their home, which has been in Rosedale for over a hundred years. As I picked up trash and removed weeds and honey suckle, I found myself smiling at all the memories and work I’ve done not only on but around and beyond the Rozarks trail. Serving the community members of Rosedale and providing services and programs for them has been an honor and joy and something I’ll always look back on as an Americorps member.”

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Interviews begin in July for the September 2019-August 2020 AmeriCorps Kansas session.

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

Rosedale Farmers Market is open for the season! Join friends and neighbors every Sunday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 4020 Rainbow Blvd. (in the Commerce Bank parking lot) through September 29 and on select Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. (June 12 and 26; July 10 and 24; August 7 and 21) at 2100 W. 39th Ave. (in front of KU Health System’s Dykes Library).

Fresh eggs, honey, jams, jellies, salsas, baked goods, vegetables, and crafts will make their appearance at the market this season. Shoppers using SNAP (formerly food stamps) or Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers receive double value — $5 in SNAP or SFMNP equals $10 in fruits and veggies!

In addition to great produce, you may also catch local musicians or a community barbecue day. Follow Rosedale Farmers Market on Facebook or visit rosedalefarmersmarket.com for updated information.

Rosedale Farmers Market began in 2009 as a collaboration between Rosedale churches and community gardeners to create a place where Rosedaleans could get fresh, healthy food. Today it has become a beloved community gathering space where 10 or so vendors offer a wide variety of products and seasonal produce. Stop by and check it out!

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

Senior shoppers may double their dollars at the Rosedale Farmers Market.

Learn more about the Farmers Market by visiting rosedalefarmersmarket.com.

June 2019
Rent the Koch Community Center for the perfect summer event space!

by Alissa Workman

Looking for a place to host summer birthday parties, graduations, family celebrations, community meetings, and more? Look no further than the Koch Community Center at 1401 Southwest Blvd. This festive, local space is affordable, conveniently located, all-inclusive, and comfortably holds 50 people. As an added bonus, rental of the space helps support RDA's efforts to build a thriving Rosedale! With few exceptions, reservations can be made for evenings, weekends, and daytime events. “It was great that the space had all of the tables and chairs that we needed,” said one recent renter as they returned to RDA for their security deposit refund. Proudly showing photos from her daughter’s Sweet Sixteen party in the space, she continued, “It was the perfect spot for a potluck birthday celebration; everyone had such a great time!” Some families, like the Rios, return year after year to host family gatherings like Thanksgiving dinners and special birthdays.

The Koch Community Center is available for $25 per hour or $250 for the entire day. A refundable $50 deposit is required, and brief application can be made at the RDA office at 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103 during business hours (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.) or at rosedale.org/facilities-for-rent/.

To learn more, contact Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097 or kimberly@rosedale.org.

Welcome to the staff team, Samanthe! by Je’Taine Taylor

Samanthe Burton-Bosket has spent the last year serving as an AmeriCorps member at RDA. In her role as an AmeriCorps member she worked directly with coordinating youth sports, gardens, and our community care. This Philadelphia native has been growing Kansas City roots for the last five years and is now transitioning from serving as an AmeriCorps member to becoming the full-time program coordinator at RDA.

In her new role Samantha will oversee the Rainbow Summer Program and Rosedale Future Professionals. Both programs focus on holistically developing youth in advocacy, reading, wellness, and financial literacy. Samantha received her master’s degree in organizational leadership and a minor in organizational development from Central Penn College. She has shown the Rosedale community that she is dedicated to creating a thriving Rosedale.

To welcome Samanthe, contact her at 913-677-5097 or samanthe@rosedale.org.

Rosedale Leadership Council seeks neighborhood leaders by Kimberly Hunter

RDA is recruiting neighborhood leaders for the Rosedale Leadership Council (RLC). RLC is a group of Rosedale stakeholders who gather at 6:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of most months in the Koch Community Center at 1401 Southwest Blvd. Some who regularly attend, like Francis Sharon and Bryan Humphrey, are already involved in neighborhood organizations centered around a block or building like Rosedale Towers or Mission Cliffs. Others are simply concerned citizens or parents who wish to participate in the broader community. Many come to learn and to listen and to seek solutions. But what each has in common is a deep love for their neighborhood and knowledge of the place they call home. This leads them not just to identify problems affecting their neighbors but also to educate and organize those around them to advocate for solutions. Together they are building a Rosedale that celebrates diversity, nourishes creativity, supports healthy living, and fosters economic opportunity so more people feel safe and connected and live in quality neighborhoods.

Each month’s RLC gathering features a different speaker and topic. In May, Commissioner Annette Rude (left) Rocky Rude (right) attend RLC and share information with their Frank Rudder neighbors.

To learn more, contact Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097 or kimberly@rosedale.org.

Rosedale Development Association

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

1403 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, KS 66103
Phone: 913-677-5097
Fax: 913-677-3437
Email: info@rosedale.org
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Erin Styka Executive Director
Kimberly Hunter Site Coordinator and Hot Directors online at rosedale.org
Lizzardbrand Design/Illustration
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

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

RECURRING EVENTS: Every Sunday
Rosedale Farmers Market
9 a.m.-1 p.m., Commerce Bank
4603 Rainbow Blvd., KCK
Every other Monday
Mobile Library
10-11 a.m., Rainbow Head Start
1444 Southwest Blvd., KCK
2:30-4:30 p.m., Rosedale Towers
2314 W. 39th Ave., KCK
Every other Wednesday
Mobile Library
2:30-4:30 p.m., Belknap Manor
2924 W. 40th Ter., KCK
First Monday
Hilltop Neighborhood meeting
6 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK
Second Tuesday
Frank Rudder
Neighborhood meeting
6:30 p.m., 4326 Lloyd St., KCK
Second Wednesday
Shawnee Road
Neighborhood meeting
7 p.m., 818 Sharon Rd., KCK
Third Wednesdays
Rosedale Leadership Council
5:30 p.m., 1403 Southwest Blvd., KCK
Second and Fourth Wednesdays
Rosedale Farmers Market
3:30-6:30 p.m., 2100 W 39th Ave., KCK
Fourth Thursdays
Unlawful Neighborhoods Meeting
8:30 a.m., 4601 State Ave., KCK

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

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Memory Lane: “That’s what community is all about” by Nicole Fitzgerald

Upon strolling into the RDA office I overheard Erin, the executive director, talking to a community member named Jim. He had fallen ill and needed someone to mow his lawn. Throughout my time as an AmeriCorps member I’ve grown to know Jim through building trails with him, picking up trash around the community, and simply enjoying quality conversation. So when I overheard him talking, with Erin, I immediately waved my hands and mouthed, “I can do it.” Giving me a thumbs up, Erin told Jim an AmeriCorps member had volunteered to help. That same day I went over and mowed his front lawn. Afterward, I peeked at his back yard, and my heart sank. There was no way I could tackle his backyard the same day. I needed an extra hand, so I returned to RDA and asked Jamal — a fellow AmeriCorps member — if he’d be willing to help. Without hesitation Jamal volunteered.

A week later we loaded up the lawn mowers and drove over to Jim’s house. Before firing up the mowers, we knocked on Jim’s front door to let him know we would be in his backyard. He answered with apprehension, followed us to the backyard, and kept repeating, “I’m going to pay you, I’m going to pay you.” In turn kept repeating, “No, no, no that’s what community is all about!” After touring what needed doing, Jamal and I tackled the backyard jungle. During a water break, I noticed Jim’s front room was covered from wall to wall with paintings. Thrilled to see me admiring his art, Jim escorted me inside the front room for a tour. The paintings were full of farm scenes, rolling hills, horses, picket fences and happy homes. There was one painting that immediately drew my attention. It had an old-time car pulling up in a long driveway next to a two story home surrounded by autumn trees. Jim picked it up and passed it to me, saying, “Take it, it’s yours.” Then he waved Jamal into his home to allowed him to pick out a painting, too. Jamal and I both walked away not only with works of art but warm hearts full of service because that’s what community is all about.

To share a memory, contact Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097.

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

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OR contribute online at rosedale.org/archclub.