Rosedale Business of the Month

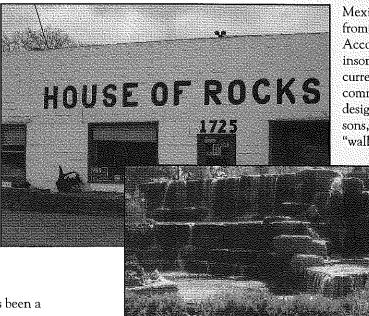
House of Rocks

Address: 1725 Merriam Lane, Kansas City, Kan. 66106, Phone: (913) 432-5990, Hours of operation: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sat. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Sun. closed, Website thehouseofrocks.com

N ow that spring is on the way and summer is just around the corner, many people will be thinking about ways to improve their homes or properties. If you are one of those people - and if your plans include installing a new patio or water garden, building a retaining wall or stone archway, or some other landscaping project - then you need to visit House of Rocks, located just outside of Rosedale near the intersection of Merriam Lane and the 18th St. Expressway.

House of Rocks, which has been a long-time RDA supporter, is a supplier of many kinds of rocks, boulders, stone, gravel, and more. The company sells decorative gravel and boulders, flagstone, patio stone, veneer, rubble, cut wall stone, edging, premium mulch, and pond liners.

Typical projects of House of Rocks customers include swimming pools, back-porch patios, barbeque pits, retaining walls, fountains, and gardens.



Displayed above, the House of Rocks office and an example of a landscaping project using stones from the company's inventory.

For examples of the company's materials, visit the website listed above or stop by for an in-store tour.

Although House of Rocks still considers itself a small business, it imports materials from as far away as Mexico and receives orders from across the United States. According to owner Jack Robinson, 70-80% of the company's current business is wholesale commercial, i.e. landscapers, designers, builders, stone masons, etc., and the remainder is "walk-in retail" residential.

"We treat everybody like a neighbor, like family," says Robinson, whose mother was born in Rosedale. "As a business, you can't lose your roots. We try to be fair and honest with everybody."

House of Rocks

started as a supplier of gem and mineral specimens, but over the years, the company has evolved and added many types of rocks and landscaping materials to its inventory. The company's first location was near 75th St. and Metcalf, but it moved to its current location in the early 1970s. Robinson became sole owner in 1984.



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ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Mission Cliffs housing development making noticeable progress

Have you driven or walked by the corner of Lake Ave. and Minnie St. in Rosedale lately? If so, you have seen the remarkable transformation taking place, as the first phase of a 115-home development is currently underway and nearing completion.

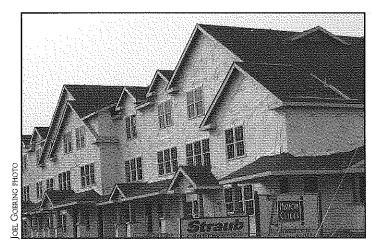
The construction of the single-family townhomes and single-family detached homes represents the fulfillment of a vision that was initiated nearly a decade ago by members of the Rosedale community and RDA. The vision was to reclaim and revitalize a historic neighborhood that had fallen into disrepair by building new owner-occupied housing and strengthening the fabric of the community.

Following the construction of several infill homes in nearby Rainbow Park in recent years, the Mission Cliffs project – which will be completed in several stages – is the next step in the neighborhood's re-development process.

The project is a partnership between RDA, City Vision Ministries, the Unified Government, Brotherhood Bank, Fannie Mae, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Straub Construction is the general contractor, while Robben Development Company is responsible for marketing and sales.

RDA is especially grateful to City Vision Ministries, a fellow not-for-profit community development corporation based in Kansas City, Kan., for its expertise, resources, and drive that made the project succeed. City Vision will be holding its 15th anniversary celebration at the Mission Cliffs site on April 27. Guests will be treated to one of the first tours of the new townhomes.

For more information, call: (913) 677-1707 or visit: www.mission cliffstownhomes.com or www.cityvision ministries.org. 8



A row of townhomes in the Mission Cliffs development takes shape at the corner of Lake Ave. and Minnie St.

The initial homes are being listed in the \$190,000 range. "It is truly amazing to finally see these homes being built," says Wendy Wilson, RDA's Executive Director. "They are a long

time coming."

KCK Animal Control heading in right direction

Sometimes, surprises are good. A recent Visit to the George Lee Dunn Animal Shelter and Control Facility – Kansas City Kansas's city-run animal shelter – was indeed such a pleasant surprise.

Capt. Henry Horn, on special assignment from the Chief's Office as Director of KCK Animal Control (AC), had invited me to tour the facility located at 3301 Park Dr. and discuss recent physical and operational changes. Capt. Horn has instituted a number of positive changes, many of them recommended by the Animal Control Task Force in 2005.

Among the physical improvements, an outdoor fenced area has been constructed that allows potential adopters to interact with an animal prior to adoption. The animal holding areas have been repainted and resurfaced, and the facility has a new parking lot, as well. During my visit, the entire facility was very bright and clean.

Improvements in the shelter operations are even more exciting. All staff members are receiving ongoing training. AC has entered into an agreement with the Greater Kansas City Humane Society to alter all adopted animals. Dogs are being assessed for temperament prior to adoption. The shelter has also developed relationships with a variety of licensed rescue groups in Kansas who assist in getting animals into "forever homes."

In addition, AC is partnering with Spay & Neuter Kansas City to offer a series of low-cost rabies vaccination and microchip clinics for all KCK residents. These clinics will be held at various locations throughout the city. We are hopeful that Rosedale will be a chosen site in the near future.

Public outreach and education on local animal control ordinances, including the mandatory spay/neuter of any cat or dog over 6 months of age, has improved. This includes free Spay/Neuter Vouchers for those who qualify through the low-cost rabies and microchip clinics.

Capt. Horn has taken on the challenge of upgrading KCK Animal Control and is making excellent progress to provide a caring atmosphere for lost and unwanted animals. I applaud his efforts.

Continued on next page

Animal Control continued

We can all help make his job easier by being informed and responsible per owners, having our cats and dogs spayed or neutered, and encouraging our neighbors to do the same.

For more information, visit: www. kckpd.org/animalcontrol.htm

— Wendy Wilson



A benefit for the Rosedale Freedom School Saturday, May 5, 2007

5:00-8:00 p.m.

1166 Southwest Blvd.

Get your tickets now! \$25/person

Tour the historic Rosedale firestation #10

Enjoy festive foods and the sparkling margarita fountain

Participate in the silent auction Call: (913) 677-2561

Rosedale Obituary

Long-time Rosedalians Franklyn B. and Jeanette M. Walberg, both 93, passed away within a few weeks of each other during the past month. Franklyn died on March 18 and Jeanette died on April 11. The Walbergs were married for 72 years and were members of Rosedale Congregational Church. Franklyn was also a member of the Rosedale Masonic Lodge He owned and operated Walberg Dairy from 1939-1954 and then worked for All Star Dairy from 1954-1974. Jeanette devoted her life to loving and caring for her family. The Walbergs are survived by 4 children, 11 grandchildren, and 7 greatgrandchildren.

KU Med students join with RDA staff to clean up Mission Rd.

Full-time medical students are notoriously busy. From attending class and taking tests, to participating in laboratory experiments, to hours and hours of study, these folks just do not have a lot of free time.

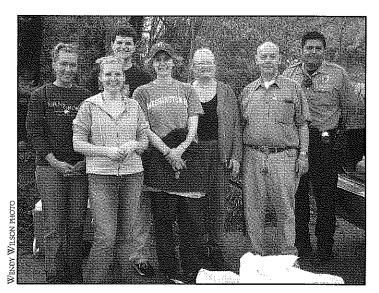
So, it is quite remarkable that four such students from the University of Kansas Medical Center gave up several hours on a recent Saturday (March 31) to volunteer in Rosedale, picking up trash along the Mission Rd. hill from I-35 to about 41st St.

The four KU Med volunteers were joined by RDA staff members Wendy Wilson and Linda Wright, and Hilltop neighborhood group leader Forrest Rhea. The group worked for three hours, contributing nearly \$350 worth of free labor. More importantly, the volunteers picked up enough trash to fill 38 full-size bags, thus making a significant impact on the aesthetic appearance of the Mission Rd. hill.

KCKPD community police officer Carlos Rodriguez supported the effort by directing traffic away from the volunteers.

The Mission Rd. hill is one of the main entrances to Rosedale, so its appearance can make a lasting impression on visitors and residents alike, regarding the community's quality and cleanliness.

Thank you so much to the KU
Med students, to Forrest Rhea, and to
Officer Rodriguez for helping to beautify
Rosedale!



Four KU Med
Center students
along with RDA
staff members and
community partners
participated in the
beautification effort.

Pictured (from left to right): KU Med students Melissa Colgan, Kayla Chapman, Caleb Bowers, Bethany Enoch; RDA office manager Linda Wright; neighborhood leader Forrest Rhea; and KCKPD Officer Carlos Rodriguez.

Attention Rosedale high-school students and business owners!

Planning and preparation for RDA's annual Summer Youth Employment program is underway. The program places high school-age youth (ages 14-16) in a job at a local business for 6-8 weeks during the summer. Each youth is required to attend employment skills training sessions at the beginning of the summer. The youth are paid minimum wage through an RDA-administered grant from the Board of Public Utilities.

Youth who would like to apply for the program may contact the RDA office: (913) 677-5097. Applications must be returned to the RDA office by May 18. RDA is also looking for Rosedale businesses that are interested in hosting and supervising a youth for the summer. The program is a great way for businesses to gain some extra help for the summer at no extra cost (since RDA pays the youth). Participating businesses are simply responsible for supervising the youth throughout their term of employment. RDA will take care of any disciplinary actions, should they be necessary.

Interested businesses should contact the RDA office as soon as possible: (913) 677-5097.

Rosedale Development Association

Working in partnership with residents, businesses, and institutions to build a strong and healthy community and to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Rosedale.

1403 Southwest Blvd. Kansas City, Kan. 66103 Phone: (913) 677-5097 Fax: (913) 677-3437 www.rosedaleassociation.org Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wendy Wilson, Executive Director Linda Wright, Office Manager Joel Goering, Community Organizer Board of Directors,

www.rosedaleassociation.org/ who_board.htm

Newsletter design by Elizabeth Johnston, Lizzardbrand Inc., www.lizzardbrand.com

Volunteer projects needed

Each spring and summer, RDA is approached by numerous volunteer groups – both from within the community and from elsewhere – wanting to get involved in volunteer projects in Rosedale. RDA seeks to find meaningful work for these enthusiastic volunteers. Typical projects in the past have included: minor home repairs for low-income and/or elderly homeowners, painting homes and other buildings, cleaning vacant lots, and other neighborhood beautification efforts.

RDA is always looking for projects that our volunteers can help with or take on. If you know of potential volunteer projects for this spring and/or summer, please contact the RDA office: (913) 677-5097.

In addition to gaining valuable service from the volunteers – with real benefit to Rosedale – these projects provide an excellent opportunity to teach people about our community, its history and demographics, and its strengths and challenges. It is not just a service experience for the volunteers; it is an *educational* experience. Please help support this important work by identifying potential volunteer projects and notifying our office. Thank you!

Rosedale History Quiz

In each issue of *The Rosedalian*, there will be a historical photograph of a place in Rosedale along with an accompanying question. The first person to answer the question correctly will receive a prize. Submissions must be e-mailed to: rosedalehistoryquiz@yahoo.com or called in to the RDA office: (913) 677-5097. Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

Last month's photograph & question:

Question: What was the name of this health institution?

Answer: Eleanor Taylor Bell Memorial Hospital, named after the wife of Dr. Simeon B. Bell. In 1894, Dr. Bell donated land to the State of Kansas for the hospital and medical school. Bell Memorial was the forerunner of today's "University of Kansas Hospital," which, along with the KU Medical Center, is the largest employer in Wyandotte County.

Winner: Claudette Patterson.

This month's photograph & question:

Question: What is the name of this structure?

The answer will be provided next month.





Upcoming Events

April 24

RDA Board meeting, 1401 Southwest Blvd, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

May :

Firehouse Fiesta. Fundraiser for Rosedale Freedom School. 1166 Southwest Blvd. 5:00-8:00 p.m.

May 12

Senior Celebration. Landon Center on Aging. 36th and Rainbow Blvd. 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Membership application

Annual business dues: \$100 @ Annual household dues: \$15

| Name of business or name of household | | | | |
|--|---------------|-------|----------|--|
| Address | City | State | ZIP code | |
| Contact person | | | · | |
| Day phone | Evening phone | Fax | | |

Please mail application, along with check made payable to: Rosedale Development Association 1403 Southwest Blvd. Kansas City, Kan. 66103

Firehouse Fiesta Wrap-Up

Thank You!

Thank you to the following local businesses and individuals who contributed to the Firehouse Fiesta benefit for the Rosedale Freedom School. We appreciate your support! Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of the children and families being served by the Freedom School program.

A special thank you goes to **Bungalow Creative** for designing the Fiesta invitations and to **Quality Litho** for printing the invitations. Thank you to **Jan Buerge** for lots of assistance with the silent auction. All of you made the event a success!

Businesses

- All About Scrapbooking
- Applebee's
- Asiatica
- Best Western
- Chipotle
- Commerce Bank
- E. Edwards Work Wear
- The Hair Fix
- Half Price Books
- Jiffy Lube
- KU Med Center
- Landon Center on Aging
- McCov's
- McDonald's
- Nails & Solar Tan
- Original Juan
- Pizza Hut
- Quick's Barbeque

Rainbow Car Wash

- Rosedale Barbeque
- Sonic Drive-In
- Strasser HardwareSunshine Flowers
- Urban Mining Homewares
- Velvet Crème
- Wald Pottery
- Westwood Apple Market
- World's Window

Individuals

- Rick Bumgardner
- Virginia Daily
- Mary Rouse
- Marsha Rhoads
- Todd Zehner
- Kathy Kaufman
- Ralph & Laurel Kauffman
- Cheryl Martin
- Pat Bertsche
- Robert & Krista Kaufman
- Pat & Donna Devine
- Aaron Barnhart
- Hallie Kates-CallowayWendy Wilson & Jeff Binder
- Melessa Garber
- Virginia Daily
- George Kemper
- Stacie Murrell
- Kristi Kucirek

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Wendy Wilson, Executive Director Linda Wright, Office Manager Joel Goering, Community Organizer

Board of Directors,

www.rosedaleassociation.org/ who_board.htm

Newsletter design by Elizabeth Johnston, Lizzardbrand Inc., www.lizzardbrand.com

Upcoming Events

June 18

First day of Rosedale Freedom School. 1444 Southwest Blvd.

June 20:

Rosedale Leadership Council. 1403 Southwest Blvd. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

June 26

RDA Board meeting, 1401 Southwest Blvd, 5:30-6:30 p.m.



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ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Firehouse Fiesta nets more than \$7,000 for Rosedale Freedom School

Talk about a party! To raise funds for the Rosedale Freedom School and to celebrate Cinco de Mayo, more than 200 persons attended the "Firehouse Fiesta" on May 5 held at the historic firestation home of Rick Bumgardner and Don Fields.

In a great success, more than \$7,000 was generated for the operation of Rosedale's first Freedom School, to be held at Rainbow Mennonite Church this summer.

The Freedom School will serve 100 children in grades K-8, most of whom will be from the Rosedale community. The school will operate for six weeks, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. each day. The school opens in a few weeks, on June 18.

The Firehouse Fiesta was the brainchild of several key people, including: RDA Executive Director, Wendy Wilson; Rosedale Community Project supervisor, Donna Devine (and her daughter, Andrea Villasi – a marketing and fund development specialist); and of course, the owners of the firestation, Rick Bumgardner and Don Fields.

"Rick and Don had wanted to do a fundraiser for Rosedale for a long time," says Wilson. "The Freedom School presented the perfect opportunity to do so."

Bumgardner and Fields converted the former Rosedale Firestation #10 (located at 1166 Southwest Blvd.) into a luxury home several years ago. The remodeling work and interior decorating are so unique and fabulous that the home has been featured in *Kansas City Homes and Gardens* magazine and will be the subject of an upcoming documentary on HGTV.

At the Firehouse Fiesta, guests were treated to Latin American-themed foods and a sparkling margarita fountain. In

addition to ticket sales, funds were also raised from a silent auction. For a list of the businesses and individuals who contributed to the fundraiser, see page 4. 🗷

RDA wins "Partner of the Year Award" from City Vision Ministries

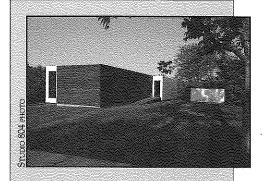
In a formal gesture that testifies to the intimate and collaborative relationship between the two organizations, City Vision Ministries presented RDA and Executive Director Wendy Wilson with its "Partner of the Year Award" for 2006.

The Award was given at City Vision's 15-year anniversary celebration on Friday, April 27, held at the new Mission Cliffs housing development in Rosedale. Mission Cliffs came about as a result of many partnerships, but one of the most critical was the one between RDA and City Vision.

Like RDA, City Vision is a notfor-profit community development corporation serving Kansas City, Kan. The two organizations worked together to build support for the Mission Cliffs project, develop community consensus, overcome numerous obstacles, and make sure the project kept moving.

Mission Cliffs is now taking shape at the intersection of Lake Ave. and Minnie St. in Rosedale. It will bring 115 new single-family townhomes and detached homes to the area, increasing homeownership rates and providing housing options in Rosedale for employees and students of the nearby University of Kansas Medical Center and other professionals.

For more information, visit: www. missioncliffstownhomes.com or www. cityvisionministries.org/mission.html. 🗷



KU students complete Studio 804 house

For the third time in the last four years, students from the University of Kansas School of Architecture's capstone field experience class – named Studio 804 – have designed and installed a new, pre-fabricated home in the Rosedale community.

The latest Studio 804 home is located at 3914 Lloyd St., a few blocks from the new Mission Cliffs housing development and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

The program provides the KU students with a "hands-on" learning experience, while simultaneously providing the community with a new, affordable home that incorporates cutting-edge architectural concepts and practices.

Rosedale is blessed to now have three such homes in our community. The previous two homes are located at: 3908 Lloyd St. and 750 Shawnee Rd.

For more information, visit: www.studio804.com.

Cruisin' in style: Chess Club members get limo ride, end school year with success

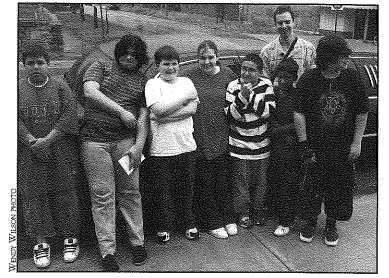
The Rosedale Knights Chess Club wrapped up its third year in existence with several fun events during the month of May.

On May 3, the means of transportation for the club's field trip to the Irene Ruiz Library in Kansas City, Mo. was none other than...a limousine! The limo was provided by the owner of Olympic Cabinet Co., Doug Lytle (Olympic Cabinet is a Rosedale business). Many thanks to Doug for his generosity!

The chess club members were ecstatic when they saw the limo pull up to the RDA office, and realized that they would be using it for the field trip. Several youth excitedly asked, "Is that for us?!" The limo transported the youth to and from the Ruiz Library.

The club visited the Ruiz Library to be able to try out the library's outdoor chess tables, made of stone and rock. There are five such tables, which members utilized to stage a mini-tournament. They also received a tour of the library from one of the librarians.

Two weeks later, on May 17, the chess club celebrated the successful completion of another school year with a tasty outdoor barbeque. The full spread included hamburgers, hotdogs, taquitos,



Members of the Rosedale Knights stand beside the posh limousine that they used to travel to and from the Irene Ruiz Library.

From left to right: Jason Trober, Andrew Thomas, Aaron Morris, Samantha Grube, Aneva Garza, David Lazo, Joel Goering (adult sponsor), and Kelly Grube.

potato chips, carrots, and more. The barbeque was held in the grassy recreation area behind the RDA office.

One of RDA's primary youth development programs, the Rosedale Knights Chess Club has been in existence since February 2005. It meets during the school year once a week after school, serving primarily fifth-through eighthgraders. RDA staff member Joel Goering serves as the group's sponsor, along with two other adult volunteers.

For the 2006-07 school year, the

average attendance at weekly chess club gatherings was 12 youth, although the program served a total of 21 youth at some point during the year. The club is financially supported by the Rosedale Optimist Club and other RDA donors.

The Chess Club will take a break for the summer months, but if you have or know of a child who would be interested in joining the Rosedale Knights next year, or if you would like to make a donation, contact Joel Goering at RDA: (913) 677-5097.

"Joining hands" to spruce up a Rosedale neighborhood asset

n Saturday, May 12, approximately 60 volunteers from RDA, Rainbow Mennonite Church, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans came together to make improvements at Whitmore Park (the park across the street from the RDA office). The massive effort was a part of Join Hands Day, a national initiative designed to make a difference in communities through helpful projects that connect youth and adults.

Five major projects were completed at the park, including: (1) removing two large bushes and replacing them with a Red Oak tree; (2) building a wooden box to contain the water faucet and hose; (3) installing five stone walkways in various places throughout the park; (3) constructing and installing a railroad-like balance beam and railroad crossing sign; and (5) spreading wood chips throughout the park.

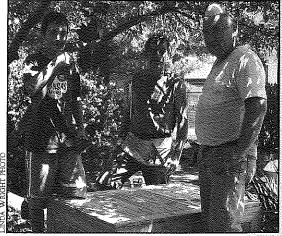
Of the 60 volunteers, 35 were adults and 25 were children.

Whitmore Park, which is owned by the Sharing Community in Rosedale (a 501(c)3 organization affiliated with Rainbow Mennonite Church), is a heavily-used neighborhood park. Many people who come to the park enjoy the unique play equipment and creative design. Families, young children, and teenagers all use the park on a daily basis.

Thrivent Financial contributed \$1,000 to the project, along with several volunteers. Rainbow

Mennonite contributed volunteers, as well. Several church members purchased supplies and materials beforehand and others prepared lunch on the day of the project. RDA helped coordinate and publicize.

The next time you're in the park, make sure to check out the new features and other improvements!



Derek Lysinger, John Wright, and Jim Martin show off the fruit of their labor on Join Hands Day: a brand-new wooden box to cover the outdoor water faucet and hose in Whitmore Park. The box will provide protection for the faucet and hose and allow easy access to water for park volunteers. The project was just one of many completed at the park by Join Hands Day volunteers on May 12.

Rosedale Briefs

Don't forget to vote

The Wyandotte County Gaming Election is Tuesday, June 26. After years of debate, the Kansas Legislature has given permission to Wyandotte County and several other Kansas counties to build gaming facilities. The two questions on the Wyandotte County ballot will authorize the construction of slot machines at The Woodlands and a destination casino. Exercise your voting rights!

Jobs for young people

14 students will participate in RDA's Summer Youth Employment program this year. The program places high school-age youth in a job at a local business for 6-8 weeks during the summer. Each youth is required to attend a series of employment skills training sessions before they begin working. The youth are paid minimum wage through a grant from the Board of Public Utilities (BPU).

Cross-Lines says thanks

The Board and staff of Cross-Lines
Community Outreach wishes to
express its gratitude to the Rosedale
Post Office and the Rosedale community for gathering 1,992 food items for
the organization's food pantry. CrossLines is one of KCK's principal service
providers for low-income people. The
donations will be helpful through the
summer months as demand increases. Good job, Rosedale!

Pet care, close to home

On Saturday, May 5, Spay & Neuter Kansas City held a low-cost rabies and microchip clinic for household pets at the RDA community center. In addition to getting cheap rabies vaccinations and microchips, pet owners were also able to purchase city licenses for their pets and obtain low-cost spay/neuter vouchers. The event was so successful that there are plans to schedule another one in Rosedale in the near future.

Excellence in Education

During the 2006-07 school year, children in Rosedale received 623 Excellence in Education Awards. Excellence in Education, an RDA partnership program with KUMC Community Policing, recognizes children who achieve at a high level in three areas: academics, citizenship, and attendance. The program is at four Rosedale schools: Rosedale Middle, T.A. Edison Elementary, Frank Rushton Elementary, and Holy Name.

Rosedale History Quiz

In each issue of *The Rosedalian*, there will be a historical photograph of a place in Rosedale along with an accompanying question. The first person to answer the question correctly will receive a prize. Submissions must be e-mailed to: rosedalehistory-quiz@yahoo.com or called in to the RDA office: (913) 677-5097. Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

Last month's photograph & question:

Question: What is the name of this

structure?

Answer: Shawnee Rd. Bridge over 7th St. Trafficway originally constructed 1934-35.

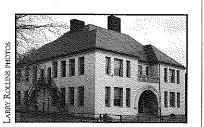
Winner: Claudette Patterson.

This month's photograph & question:

Question: Name this building. Hint: It no longer exists.

The answer will be provided next month.





Recycling Contest for Whitmore Park and Playground

Help fill the yellow-and-green Paper Retriever recycling bin in Whitmore Park (1400 block of Southwest Blvd.), and generate funds for park improvements. The more paper that is recycled, the more money that Paper Retriever will give to the Park for new equipment, repairs, and other upgrades.

From May through August, we're competing in a special contest to see if we can recycle more than we did last

year during the same time period. The prize is more cash for the Park! So bring your newspapers, magazines, catalogs, office mail, junk mail and school papers. Collect papers at home, at work, or from family and friends.

If you need pickup, call Rainbow Mennonite Church: (913) 236-8820. Thank You.

— The Whitmore Playground Committee

Membership application

Annual business dues: \$100 @ Annual household dues: \$15

| Name of business or name of household | | | | |
|--|---------------|-------|----------|--|
| Address | City | State | ZIP code | |
| Contact person | · . | | | |
| Day phone | Evening phone | Fax | er- | |

E-mail address

Please mail application, along with check made payable to: Rosedale Development Association 1403 Southwest Blvd. Kansas City, Kan. 66103