



The Rosedalian

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.rosedale.org

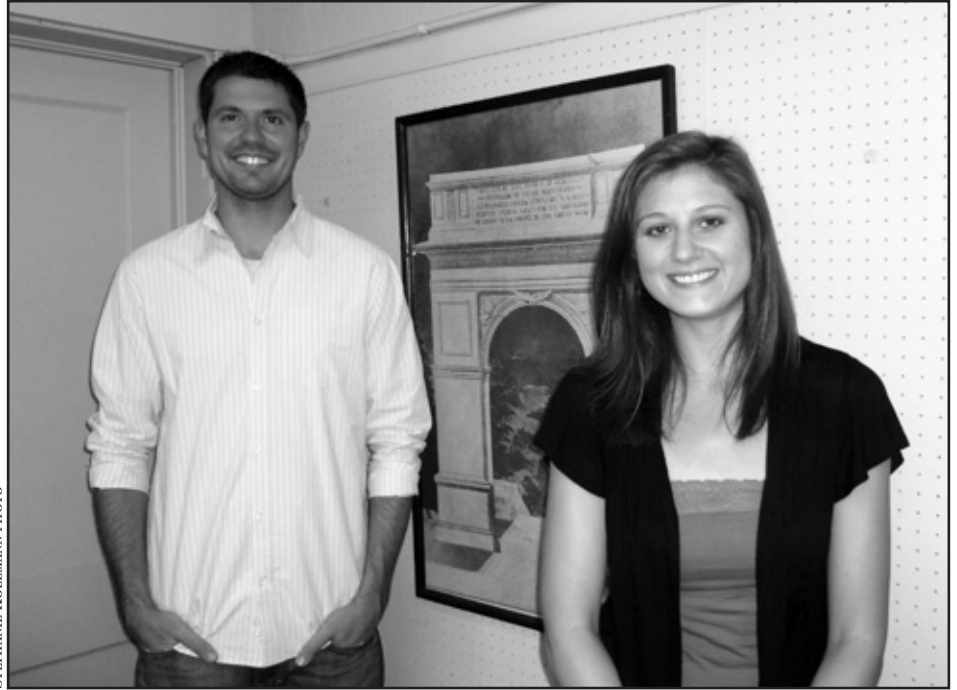
Summer interns work for the health of it

The Community Health Project (CHP) at KU is in its 2nd year at RDA, and this year's interns are engaging with the community to break down barriers to healthy food in Rosedale. As many readers probably know, childhood obesity has become an alarming problem in Rosedale schools in recent years. One strategy that the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative has been working on is healthy food access. **Travis Love** and **Kelsey Bartolich** have taken that strategy to heart and are designing their intern projects around the issue of healthy food access.

Travis, who grew up in Merriam, KS, is in his second year of medical school at KU. He knew by age of 10 that he wanted to be a doctor, though he's not sure yet whether he wants to go into cardiology or primary care. Travis applied to CHP because he plans to continue living in Kansas City and saw it as a good opportunity to get connected to the area and to increase his knowledge about the health resources in the city.

Travis' project, entitled *Mapping the Path to Healthy Food Access for Rosedale Entrepreneurs* will provide RDA with a resource for new healthy food stores. The project also will inform current store owners of the existing incentives for offering healthy foods in their businesses. The project also will detail the barriers to healthy food access that currently exist in Rosedale. Travis hopes the project will "change how places like La Estrella and El Sol do business."

"I'd like to see RDA actually use the resource as a tool to bring healthy foods to this community that we've all come to love," he says. Apart from his main project, Travis also will be working to establish a disc golf program for kids at Whitmore Playground. He believes the game can impart important values and teach local kids to respect Rosedale Park, a popular disc golf course.



STEPHANIE KOLLMANN PHOTO

Travis Love and Kelsey Bartolich, interns for RDA and RHKI this summer, have been wonderful assets in the effort to bring healthier food to Rosedale.

Kelsey, who is interning for the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative (RHKI), is planning a project closely linked to our small, but beloved, Rosedale Farmers Market. She graduated from the University of Missouri and is entering her final year at KU for a Masters degree in Public Health. Kelsey's focus is childhood obesity prevention and eventually she'd like to get involved in a non-profit or the corporate wellness field. Her interest in CHP springs from her studies: "We hear about these issues everyday in class and I wanted to get out into the community to see it for myself." Kelsey is interested in the issues facing underserved populations and their access to healthy food. Her project, "Barriers and Enhancers to Farmer's Market Attendance by SNAP and SFMNP Users", aims to increase low-income participation at the

Rosedale Farmers Market. Kelsey plans to hold focus groups at some of the public housing projects in Rosedale and provide residents with incentives to attend the market. She's like to see the market adapt to incorporate some of the suggestions that come out of the study, in order to change the obesity rates among the neighborhood's low income population.

CHP, operational since 1993, is an "interdisciplinary, service-learning internship that enhances the educational experience of students in a variety of disciplines, including medicine, dietetics, pharmacy and public health," according to **Dr. Cheryl Gibson**, the program director and an associate professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Dr. Gibson, can be contacted at (913) 588-6063 or cgibson@kumc.edu.



Jeff Lysinger, Rosedale's favorite mailman, poses with Susila Jones of Cross-Lines and Judy Gifford of the United Way of Wyandotte County to accept a certificate commending the hugely successful effort of the Letter Carriers' food drive.

Local mail carriers deliver much more than letters

The National Association of Letter Carriers' annual food drive was held on May 14, 2011. Cross-Lines Community Outreach received all the food collected from the Rosedale Station. According to **Don Rodell** with the NALC, this year was the biggest collection in the history of the food drive. Cross-Lines received approximately 7,000 pounds of food from postal service customers in our area.

We want to express our thanks to everyone that contributed to this food drive. We also want to give a big THANK YOU to all the letter carriers and postal service employees that picked-up and collected this food. They went above and beyond to make sure the hungry in our community would not go without this summer.

By Susila Jones, Director of Emergency Services, Cross-lines Community Outreach 

Local food on the move


Those of you fortunate enough to have attended an event catered by Deco Catering are familiar with their delicious, made-from-scratch food. Their bacon-wrapped dates are a particular favorite at the RDA offices, and they were voted the second best caterer in Kansas City in 2009. The only problem is that to sample their quality dishes, you generally have to be invited to a wedding or large event. Beginning this summer though, Deco will be available on the streets of Kansas City!

Deco is launching a mobile food truck that will serve lunch on the streets of downtown KCK and KCMO. They'll have hot and cold sandwiches, salads, sides and delectable desserts! They'll also serve homemade ice cream and waffle cones once a week. The truck will be on the streets near the end of July from 11-2, perfect for those working in the area to pop down and pick up lunch.


Deco was founded in 2009 by **Terri Rich** and **Courtney Saye**, a dynamic

mother/daughter team. Courtney explained that they've been thinking about the food truck for quite a while: "People love our sandwiches and we get requests to cater business meetings all the time, but our minimum party size is twenty-five. With the truck we can serve people who wouldn't otherwise be able to try our food." Courtney, who is the primary chef, is also excited about the creativity that the truck will allow: "When you're preparing something for an individual, there's a lot more flexibility allowed than with a large wedding party."

In addition to serving savory lunches, the Deco Food Truck will recycle or compost almost all their waste. Talk about eco-friendly! Deco also uses as many local vendors and as much in-season produce as possible.

For more information go to <http://decocateringkc.com> and be sure to follow Deco-FoodTruck on Twitter to find out when they'll launch and where in KC they'll be! 

Summer soccer league a great way to get active

RDA and Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative staffers, with the help of Sporting KC, have been having a ball playing soccer at Frank Rushton Elementary with area children this summer. Sporting KC launched their Sporting 22 program this year, which requests community give back projects from high school students. Twenty-two student projects were awarded a \$500 grant and the students themselves won a \$2000 college scholarship. **Daniel Hare** from Rockhurst High School won one of the grants to fund a weekly soccer league at Frank Rushton Elementary. The league is very informal, with Daniel making teams out of the kids who show up each Monday. RDA provides a water cooler, Sporting KC lends out pinnies and soccer balls and the kids bring the fun! The program has previously been held on Mondays but beginning the week of July 6, games will move to Wednesday nights from 6-7 p.m. The Sporting 22 program will also be sending out some professional players to support the kids on July 20. Hope to see you on the field! 



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.

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RDA and RHKI on a grant-writing roll!

Thanks to the prodigious writing skills of our staff, RDA and the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative (RHKI) have received several grants that will allow us to continue our work in the community. The Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City awarded RDA over \$60,000 in critical funding to support the RHKI project. The grant will support programming for the three strategies that RHKI utilizes to lower childhood obesity in our area: increased access to healthy food, expanded opportunities for youth activity and improved community transportation routes. The Foundation also awarded us \$9,000 for strategic planning and development of a business plan for the organization.

RDA has also been written into a Safe Routes grant with the Health Department of Wyandotte County. The grant will create a position for a Walking School Bus director who will be based out of RDA. The director will be tasked with coordinating walking school bus programs in eight area schools.

The Kansas Health Foundation has awarded RDA over \$16,000 for the Rosedale Community Garden Project, with the aim of helping local families eat healthier. The funds will provide raised beds and soil for the Frank Rushton Schoolyard Garden on Lloyd, the South Early Community



STEPHANIE KOLLMANN PHOTO

Hutch and Erik created three, uniquely designed bike racks. The bolt-themed rack will be installed at Strasser Hardware.

Garden and the 45th Street Garden. The grant will also help pay for a community garden training program in the fall. Plots for families are available in several gardens around Rosedale.

Finally, last year RDA received a mini-grant from the United Way of Great Kansas City's Neighborhood Self Help Fund, which funds projects that "promote neighborhood safety, prevent crime,

improve the physical condition of the neighborhoods and develop neighborhood leaders." RDA and RHKI have been working with **Randall Hutchison** of Wholesale Sheet Metal and **Erik Beier** of 3 Axis Inc. to design and build bike racks for Rosedale businesses. Hutch and Erik produced three great designs; one will be placed at Strasser Hardware, one at the SW Blvd. Health Clinic and the other is to be determined. ☞

Christmas in October

RDA is seeking candidates for minor home repair projects. Homes must be owner occupied and cannot be tax delinquent. Volunteers are able to perform a wide array of activities such as yard work, painting, carpentry, dry wall and stair installation and light plumbing. Projects assisting the elderly or physically disabled are especially welcome. Contact RDA to request a minor home repair for yourself, a friend or neighbor.



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

E-mail address

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

Remembrances

Rosedale says goodbye to a cherished friend

Rosedale lost a beloved community member on June 4, 2011 when **Donald Gochenour**, age 66, passed away from complications with cancer. Known as Donnie by his many neighborhood friends, he lived in Rosedale for most of his adult life. He painted and did yard work for many community members and could be seen at Dagwood's Café on many afternoons for lunch.

On June 16, a memorial service was held at Rainbow Mennonite Church, at which many of Donnie's friends shared fond memories and stories of him. RDA staffers recalled the newspaper he dropped off every day, and friends from the Hitching Post talked about what a great pool player Donnie was. **Robert Collier** from Old McDonald's Pet Food & Supplies spoke about how happy Donnie was when he fed the chickens there.

Indeed, Donnie was a well-known animal lover and many stray cats in the



neighborhood found food and shelter through Donnie. Mostly though, friends and family recalled what a generous, giv-

ing spirit Donnie had. He routinely brought homemade sandwiches for the staff of his favorite hangouts, and was known to collect discarded pens for local businesses. He picked up trash in Whitmore Playground and performed odd jobs for Rainbow Mennonite.

Donnie wasn't closely connected to his blood-relatives, but he never wanted for anything, thanks to his Rosedale family: Donnie picked up his allowance every week at RDA, **Donna Devine** helped Donnie pay bills and took him to his numerous doctor appointments, KU social work interns ran errands for him, **Linda Wright** did laundry, picked up his medications, and led a volunteer group to clean and paint his apartment, **Kevin Yoder** (formerly of Quick's) took Donnie, an avid sports fan, to Chiefs and Royals games and **Dot-tie Joplin** faithfully made birthday cakes and brought him special holiday meals. Donnie's generosity and goodness will not soon be forgotten in Rosedale.



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