



The Rosedalian

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Is Rosedale Kansas City's best-kept secret?

Those living in Rosedale can attest to what a wonderful neighborhood it is, but it's important for our growth and development we continue to attract interest from outsiders. John Hoffman and Urban Coeur Properties, a Kansas City-based developer, are looking to make that happen. Their development at 4460 Rainbow Boulevard was just awarded the silver in *Best Model Home Under \$300,000* by a prominent Kansas City magazine (official announcement to follow in March). This is great news for Urban Coeur, and even better news for the development of Rosedale.

Urban Coeur builds and develops in what John calls "first tier neighborhoods," older areas that were once popular due to their proximity to the urban core, characterized by compact, mixed-use design. These neighborhoods deteriorated once the suburbs started to sprawl out away from the urban core, but are becoming popular once again. Urban Coeur focuses on these neighborhoods because they have beautiful, original architecture and, in John's words, "a sense of place about them." John says a neighborhood like Rosedale is poised to become extremely popular as "the idea that people should be living, working, and playing all in the same place" spreads.

John and Urban Coeur have been working in Rosedale since 2004, with much help from Jane and Randy Kietzman. According to their team, Rosedale has all the ingredients that a neighborhood needs to be revitalized and to help contribute to the rebirth of an area. As we develop, John suggests we look to our "legacy assets," things like hospitals universities, and government centers. Rosedale's proximity to KUMC, 39th Street retail/restaurants, the Plaza



URBAN COEUR PHOTO

Congrats! This Urban Coeur development at 4460 Rainbow Boulevard was just awarded the silver in *Best Model Home Under \$300,000* in Kansas City.

and to City Hall works to our advantage. Rosedale could also appeal to the "captured workforce," those that must live in Wyandotte County to work in government. Though we face some obstacles, such as comparatively high property taxes, John is confident that Rosedale's "interesting balance of architectural history and affordable quality" makes for a great built environment that will continue to attract people who care to invest in their neighborhood.

Urban Coeur's mission is to supplement what already exists here with contemporary, but complementary style, so that the new and old developments create a seamless neighborhood that attracts new

residents to accompany those who already live and love it here. The Boulevard Row development located at 45th and Rainbow are a great example of what Urban Coeur has already done for the neighborhood.

John also finds hope in RDA's work, saying, "Rosedale has the advantage of an active neighborhood association that finds ways to strengthen the area with development that preserves what is good and attracts what is needed." RDA congratulates Urban Coeur on their award and looks forward to their future work in Rosedale. ☑

Learn more about Urban Coeur at www.urbancoeur.com or by calling 913.219.8435.

Healthy habits that start early stick around

Over its eight-year history, countless Frank Rushton students have passed through the Healthy Kids Club, a partnership program between the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative and the Rosedale Congregational Church, and the hope is that many of the students will retain the healthy habits they learn there as they grow older. With the help of Harvesters Community Food Network, RHKI has implemented another program that gives kids the knowledge and skills to maintain a healthy lifestyle at home.

Kids in the Kitchen is “an age-appropriate, four-week curriculum that focuses on food preparation, food safety skills, nutrition and the importance of making healthy food choices. Program results show significant improvement in children’s ability to understand and use measuring cups and spoons, name food groups and recognize the importance of hand washing as the first step in meal preparation.”

This winter, RHKI ran a Kids in the Kitchen program for 5th grade Frank Rushton Elementary students. Once a week the students met to talk about the food groups, junk food, the importance of breakfast and sensible snacking. Each week also featured a cooking lesson where the kids cooked a healthy breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack. The kids did all of the preparation, cooking and clean up themselves, and, thanks to the “no yuck” rule, also had to taste everything



HEIDI HOLLIDAY PHOTO

Kimberly Gutierrez, a 5th grader at Frank Rushton Elementary, mashes an avocado and soybean mixture for a BLAT sandwich:bacon, lettuce, avocado, and tomato.

that was prepared. The kids got to try new foods like soybeans and kiwi, while learning twists on familiar favorites, like whole grain tortilla chips and fruit salsa. They had a blast mashing, mixing, dicing and seasoning, and now they are food group and cooking safety experts. Many thanks to Rosedale Congregational Church for hosting the class and to Harvesters for their curriculum. ☞

Contact Harvesters for information about getting certified as a Kids in the Kitchen instructor.

Local park gets a little TLC

Where an anonymous, rundown park once stood, now sits the new and improved Fisher Park! In June, RDA received a grant from the Kansas Health Institute to plan and implement healthy infrastructure improvements

to the neighborhood. Stephanie Kollmann and Joshua Hoffman, the grant directors, chose to focus on Fisher Park, a small park located at Springfield and Lake Avenue.

Previously, the park had been widely used by residents, but there was no sign identifying the park, and there was often litter surrounding the basketball court. Several benches and garbage cans were in disrepair as well. To raise awareness about the importance of the park to the community, Josh and Stephanie hosted a weekly walking club from June through October, which met at and walked routes surrounding the park.

Thanks to a partnership with a local contractor, L.G. Barcus and Sons, and the Department of Parks and Recreation, the infrastructure improvements to the park were substantially enhanced and implemented beautifully. Four new benches were

New community officers police Rosedale

Rosedale has two new Community Policing officers. Brad Lightfoot has replaced Carlos Rodriguez as the officer for south of I-35 and Dan Myers has replaced Amy Allen as the officer for north of I-35. The South Patrol Division of the Kansas City Kansas Police Department also has a new commander, Major Tom McMillan. ☞

The office number for Community Policing is (913) 573-8720.

Garden mentors needed

Calling all green thumbs! RDA and RHKI are looking for garden mentors for a program this spring that will benefit low-income families who are new to gardening. RHKI received grant funds to assemble and distribute ten home garden kits to Rosedale families. Mentors will be assigned to each family to coach them through their first growing season. ☞

Interested in helping? Contact Heidi Holliday at (913) 645-7826 or (913) 677-5097.

To keep up with RDA staffers, follow our activities in real time and get access to great pictures from around the neighborhood, “like” us on Facebook at [facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment](https://www.facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment) and follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/#!/RosedaleDA.



installed, along with a quarter mile walking trail and trail signs. To top it off, the Parks Department created and installed a brand new Fisher Park sign and installed a new garbage can between the basketball courts. RDA is so grateful to the Kansas Health Institute, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and L.G. Barcus and Sons for all of their wonderful work. Check out the walking trail for an easy way to get your heart working and your legs moving this winter. The Rosedale Walking Club will be starting up again in June, so be on the lookout for an announcement! ☞

*From the office of the
Wyandotte County Sheriff*

Help with tag enforcement

The Tag Enforcement Unit is still operational in the neighborhoods and looking for help. Citizens can help by reporting vehicles that have out of county, out of state, or expired registration. Enforcement of these laws recovers tax and registration revenue for the State of Kansas and Unified Government of WYCO/KCK that might otherwise be lost. All vehicles owned by residents of Wyandotte County must be registered and tagged in Wyandotte County. Exceptions apply to full-time, active military and undergraduate students attending college in Wyandotte County. Persons moving to Wyandotte County have 90 days to transfer their vehicle registration to Wyandotte County. To report a violation, please include:

- Vehicle tag number
- Make, model, color
- Specific address details, including parking on public or private street
- Length of time you have observed violation

Send violations to sherifftags@wycosheriff.org with 'complaint' in the subject line or call (913) 573-8949. ☎

For more information or to have a deputy speak at your informational gathering, call Sheriff Deputy Mark Snelson at (913) 573-8056.

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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YVONNE DORSEY PHOTO

Yvonne Dorsey, Josh Hoffman and Parker Elementary faculty braved the cold to lead students on their very first walking school bus.

Walking in Wyandotte

As reported in October, Yvonne Dorsey was hired by RDA as part of a contract with the UG as a Walking School Bus (WSB) Coordinator for Wyandotte County, and has she been **busy!** Yvonne has implemented WSB programs in five area schools and plans to work with at least three more before the end of 2012. She has already started programs at T.A. Edison, Frances Willard, Wellborn, Parker and Douglas elementary schools.

Yvonne has reached out to schools all across Wyandotte County and has been met with excitement from teachers and parents, but most importantly, from the students: "I love to see so many kids wanting to walk. They have an opportunity to visit with their friends, to see community officers getting

involved in their neighborhood, and to observe parent and teacher volunteers coming together and advocating for pedestrian safety. The WSB program not only encourages more kids to walk to or from school, but it also reduces traffic congestion around the school. What I love most about the WSB program is that it promotes walking as a fitness activity, and the kids absolutely love it."

Yvonne's kick-offs usually involve healthy snacks, music and tons of fun for the kids who participate. Yvonne also provides pedestrian safety education to the students and school staff. ☎

Contact Yvonne at RDA to receive more information about walking school buses.

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

Community Outreach Program

A rookie Rosedalian heeds the call to service

This past fall and winter, RDA and RHKI have been enjoying the hard work and positive attitude of Kelsey Smith, our C.O.P. intern.

The Community Outreach Program (C.O.P.) is “a service organization at the University of Kansas Medical Center, composed of interns from the Schools of Nursing, Graduate Studies, and Allied Health.” The students focus on the cultural, economic, environmental and social issues in the community, as it is essential for “future healthcare leaders to understand and appreciate the issues that affect patients as well as their families.”

Kelsey, a Rosedale resident, has only lived in KC since August. She grew up in Council Grove, KS and studied occupational therapy at KU. She’s finishing her bachelor’s degree at KUMC and will receive her master’s in 2014. Kelsey was initially attracted to the C.O.P. as a way to get to know her neighborhood, and her past experience working with kids made her a perfect fit for RHKI. But don’t take our word for it; Kelsey submitted the following testimonial to the C.O.P. newsletter:

“Spending my Wednesday afternoons with the Healthy Kids Club has become



STEPHANIE KOLLMANN PHOTO


Kelsey Smith stands with Aliah Wayne, a Healthy Kids Club member and 4th grader at Frank Rushton Elementary. Dedicated volunteers like Kelsey are essential to the success of Healthy Kids Club.

an enjoyable tradition during the past few months. This after school program is part of a larger initiative to combat childhood obesity and to promote a healthy lifestyle in the Rosedale neighborhood of Kansas City, KS. Each week I lead third and fourth

grade students in fun exercises, healthy cooking lessons and creative activity sessions. Some weeks, a guest presenter speaks about healthy habits, such as proper hand washing, portion control or how to protect the environment. It is awesome to see the children so interested in healthy lifestyles and to see how they build their knowledge each week. I look forward to continuing my involvement in the program and the opportunity to get to know the children more throughout the next year.

The RDA and RHKI staff are passionate about their work and have endless ideas for improvements and programs to implement. I’ve truly enjoyed getting to work with such kind, dedicated, fun and simply incredible people.

RDA needs volunteers to successfully build a stronger and healthier Rosedale community. Whether you are seeking a one-time gig or continual involvement, there are countless options available to fit your talents, interests and schedules.”

Kelsey has been a phenomenal supporter of our work and we are sincerely grateful for her dedication to Rosedale. 

Written by Stephanie Kollmann and Kelsey Smith. Edited by Stephanie Kollmann.



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