



The Rosedalian

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Summer Youth Employment is great opportunity for youth, businesses

CALLING ROSEDALE YOUTH! If you are a Rosedale resident or attend Rosedale Middle School and are between 14 and 16 years old, and you would like to earn some money this summer as a Summer Youth Employee, please contact the RDA! In addition to gaining solid work experience, you will receive training through the RDA in areas like money management, dealing with different people, job application and interview advice, help with taxes, and work environment behavior. RDA works to place youth in environments where they can explore their personal interests.

Calling all Rosedale businesses! RDA is accepting applications for Summer Youth Employment. The program provides work placement for 14-16 year-olds, giving Rosedale youth valuable employment experience before they officially enter the workforce. The program lasts for 6-8 weeks, and youth typically work around 20 hours/week at their placement. They receive a weekly stipend based on minimum wage, generously provided by a grant from the BPU. The program has now been operating for 13 years, and in that time, many summer youth employees have been so successful that they have received offers of employment at the end of the summer. If you are a business who would like to provide a placement for a summer youth employee, please contact the RDA to be added to our list. ☒



Litter blows out of the facility on all sides, at the RockTenn facility at 510 Division Street, landing in the street, against the railroad tracks, at the treeline, and under the bridge. RockTenn can be reached at (913) 236-8000.

Against the purpose: litter at the recycling center

RECYCLING IS ESSENTIAL to the environmental health of our community. RockTenn (formerly Smurfit-Stone) contributes to this important work in Rosedale with the Recycling and Waste Center located at 510 Division Street. Unfortunately, design flaws at the RockTenn facility lead to an inexcusable amount of paper escaping from the campus and blowing freely in the neighborhood. Citizens driving on 7th Street past the facility can see litter blowing in the street, accumulating against the trees and

piling up by the railroad tracks. The resulting mess blights surrounding properties and mars an otherwise beautiful part of our neighborhood.

RDA believes that RockTenn needs to either contain the waste within the building, or fence the property in such a way that none of the materials can escape. Although RDA has spoken with the management of the facility, the problem continues. RDA would like to encourage RockTenn to clean up the wayward paper, and to patrol their debris in the future. ☒

Prevent Car Theft

RECENTLY ROSEDALIANS have seen a rash of car thefts, particularly when an owner has left a car “warming up.” Follow these tips to keep your car safe:

- Never leave your car running, even if you’ll only be gone a minute. Many vehicles are stolen at convenience stores, gas stations, ATMs, or on cold mornings when the owner leaves the vehicle running to warm up.
- Take your keys. Never leave a second set of keys in your car—it will only take thieves a few minutes to find them.
- Completely close car windows when parking. Don’t make it any easier for a thief to enter your car.
- Hide valuables in your locked trunk. Don’t make your car a target by leaving your wallet, purse, cell phone, or any other valuables in plain view.
- Don’t leave the registration or title in your car. Thieves can use these documents to sell your car. Keep them in a safe place in your home.
- Finally, always pay attention to your surroundings and what is going on. If you see any suspicious activity, call the police. You are the first step in keeping your neighborhood safe! ☞

The non-emergency Police phone number is 913-596-3000.

Bike lanes on their way to Southwest Boulevard/Merriam Lane

IN THE FALL OF THIS YEAR (2012), the Unified Government will begin construction to provide bike lanes on Southwest Boulevard from 10th Street (near Quick’s BBQ) to Iowa Street (Strasser Hardware/Holy Name Church). These bike lanes will fall within the existing curb line, so the streets will not be widened. Other improvements include repairs to some of the curbs and sidewalks, a new, smoother asphalt surface, and pavement striping of the bike lanes. Further work will be done to the railroad crossing to make it safer. This portion of the project will cost about \$500,000, of which \$360,000 is a federal grant. Rosedalians can look forward to safer and more pleasant biking and walking along this important corridor.

Late in 2014, the Unified Government will begin a complete reconstruction of Merriam Lane from 10th to 24th Street /Lamar. Reconstruction will feature on-street dedicated bike lanes continued from east of 10th Street, as well as storm water drains, curbs and sidewalks. Design is just beginning for this portion of the work, which will cost \$6.2 million, much of it funded by a federal grant. Public meetings will be held as the project moves forward. ☞



Double homicide reported at Rosedale Ridge

POLICE WERE CALLED to the 2100 block of South Mill St. shortly after 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 4, after neighbors heard numerous gunshots. Keith E. Barrett, 21, and Renesha Jones, 16, were killed in the gunfire. An 8-month-old baby was also injured, and was treated and released from the hospital later on Sunday. Barrett was the baby’s father, and Jones, the baby’s aunt, had been babysitting. Three people were arrested in connection with the killings, and two remain in custody. A vigil was held on Thursday, March 8, at Rosedale Ridge for the victims.

Violence at Rosedale Ridge has been an ongoing problem. RDA is working with the Unified Government, Kansas City Kansas Police Department, social service organizations and residents to try to devise

a solution to the problem of violence in the neighborhood. We would like to strongly encourage the property management group at Rosedale Ridge, Yarco, to do the same. We remain committed to building a neighborhood that is safe for all those who live, work and play in Rosedale. ☞

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.



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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HEIDI HOLLIDAY PHOTO



Rosedalians Jessica and Maribel work on building a raised bed. Your kids could be gardeners, too!

Home garden kits available

DO YOU WANT FRESH TOMATOES, peppers, and herbs a few steps from your back door? RDA's Healthy Kids Initiative can help you make it happen! Ten home garden kits are available for a minimal cost to families with children in Rosedale. The kits include a 12' x 4' raised bed & soil, garden gloves, hand tools, and a membership to Kansas City Community Gardens (which includes 10 free packets of seeds).

Recipients of a garden kit will participate in gardening workshops throughout the summer, and will have a "garden mentor" who can answer any questions along the way. If you want to bring healthy food to your doorstep and provide a learning experience for your family, contact the RDA office to apply! Preference will be given to families with children who receive free and reduced price lunch. Renters must get landlord's permission to garden. Thanks to the Kansas Health Foundation for providing the funds for this program! ☎

Want to be a garden mentor? Call the RDA and speak to Heidi to volunteer. You must commit to communicating with a family weekly through the summer, and being available for garden questions. English and Spanish speakers needed.

RDA's wish list

RDA IS ALWAYS IN NEED of your dedicated time to help the community, particularly its children. In addition to volunteers, we also are in need of some basics to help keep our organization running in greased grooves. Here are two lists of items and people we truly need:

Items:

- A space to store bicycles for the Free Wheels for Kids program, and to host Free Wheels for Kids during the summer. Preferably 4500 sq ft. and up.
- Large (55 gallon) contractor trash bags
- A place for local youth to do art projects (with adult supervision)
- Letter size copy paper.

Upcoming Volunteer Projects

- Assist with mowing the triangle at Mission Road and Southwest Boulevard that is an entry into Rosedale.
- Build up the garden at 45th and Rainbow Boulevard.
- Prepare garden for planting and construct children's area at Early Street Garden.
- Weed and clean blackberry patch south of RDA.
- Begin 'Trail Blazing' behind Rosedale Middle School.
- Work in the garden area east of the RDA office.
- Organize back room of RDA.
- Assist with renovation of the RDA upstairs office space. ☎

Contact the RDA office if you can provide any of the Wish List items or are interested in volunteering!

Need Minor Home Repair?

RDA IS NOW ACCEPTING referrals of people who are interested in having minor home repair done through *Christmas in October*. To qualify, residents must be seniors, handicapped and or low income and own their home, have their utilities turned on and not be delinquent on their property taxes. Typical projects include whole house painting, yard work, some carpentry, plumbing, and other small repairs. All projects must be able to be completed in one day by volunteers. RDA will evaluate each project to ensure the work can be completed within the allotted time. ☎

If you or someone you know would like to participate in Christmas in October, contact RDA.

Ride to the Bike-in Movie

MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS the second annual **Bike-in Movie**. This year ride your bicycle down to the Boulevard Drive-In Theatre and enjoy fun bicycle games and the family friendly movie *Breaking Away* about a small-town teen obsessed with the Italian cycling team competing for the affections of a college girl. The event is on May 17, gates open at 7:30 p.m., movie starts at sundown. ☎

Admission is **Free** for everyone on a bicycle.

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

Business of the month

Dynamic Discs

PETE CASHEN, a longtime Rosedale resident, started to dream about opening a disc golf retail location in 2011. Kansas City boasts 21 disc golf courses, with more planned in coming months. Rosedale Park, the city's busiest course, will typically see about 400 games per day in good weather. Cashen saw a strong and growing market for disc golf equipment, and began sharing his dream with Jeremy Rusco, the owner of Dynamic Discs. On March 9, Dynamic Discs opened their first retail location, at 2854 W 47th Street. The store stocks discs from all major disc golf manufacturers, as well as any other equipment you might need.

Cashen, along with store manager Scott Reek, encourages Rosedalians to



ERIN STRAUGHAN

From Right, Pete Cashen, Ted Kieth, and Scott Reek stand in front of the extensive inventory of Discs at their new location.

try disc golf. "It's the best decision you'll ever make," says Reek, adding, "Everyone knows everyone. You can walk up to the best player in the world and play a round together." Cashen tells new players

"Ask questions! 25 percent of my day on the course is telling someone how to do something." He also invites new players to join the club (Kansas City Flying Disc Club) by coming down to the store and checking out their bulletin board. If you practice, you just might get your name on the "Ace Board," reserved for players who get a hole in one.

Although the heavy traffic at Rosedale Park is a big draw for businesses like

Dynamic, Cashen says "The more I think about it, it's just Rosedale. I've lived here for 24 years. It's affordable, it's a great community for families, it's the historic Rosedale community. In the next ten years, it's really going to take off." Based on the bustling store, Cashen's prediction is a good one. ☑



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