

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Community Event

Rozarks Trail Grand Opening

The grand opening for the Rozarks Nature Trails took place

Saturday, May 31 at Mt. Marty Park. More than 85 people showed up (despite the looming cloudy skies) to celebrate with RDA staff, volunteers, local businesses, the U.G. Parks and Recreation Department, Earthriders Trails Association, and Healthy Communities Wyandotte. Since September 2013, over 170 volunteers put in 739 hours of work to construct over two miles of natural surface trails in the park.

The trails were created through an innovative partnership between RDA, Earthriders Trails Association, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS. The trails will bring additional visitors to the Rosedale Arch, a memorial to Rosedale veterans — constructed in 1924 — and also



Karen Johnson

RDA Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Brett Shoffner officially opened the trails May 31 at Mt. Marty Park, while RDA Executive Director Heidi Holliday and Representative Ruiz excitedly watched.

provide a car-free environment for walking and biking in the neighborhood. Since 2009, RDA has been working to create an environment that promotes health and physical activity, and these trails will help contribute to that.

Event sponsors include Lane 4 Property Management, BNIM, Mid-America Regional Council,

KC Healthy Kids, and Earthriders Trails Association. Other partners include the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS, Bike Walk KC, and Healthy Communities Wyandotte. The opening was the final event of Bike Month, a month-long celebration of bicycles that included numerous events in the Rosedale area.

Volunteers will continue to help construct an additional two miles of trail during the coming year, and Trail Stewards are being trained to help with the trails' up-keep. Rozarks T-shirts are available for purchase at the RDA office to help support the continued work of constructing and maintaining the trails. ☑

For more information, contact Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator Brett Shoffner at (913) 677-5097.



The Rosedalian

July 2014

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Rosedale Welcomes the 105

On Monday, June 30, more than 40 people carrying signs such as "Why drive? Ride the 105!" and "Bus the Boulevard!" boarded Rosedale's first bus, the Rosedale 105. Linking the Argentine and Rosedale neighborhoods, the Rosedale 105 will connect Rosedalians to health care, groceries, employment opportunities, the Argentine Community Center, and the South Branch Library. The Rosedale 105 will run from 6:22 a.m.-5:49 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Operated by KCATA, the bus has 28 seats, 2 bike racks, and is wheelchair accessible. The bus line is the result of two years of sustained advocacy by Rainbow Mennonite Church, Rosedale Ridge Apartments, Westwood Christian Church, and Rosedale Development Association, working in partnership with Unified Government Transit. After community volunteers conducted a survey demonstrating the need for a new bus line, the Unified Government Commission voted to fund the line in August 2013.

UG Transit hosted a kickoff event for the bus line on June 30th at Emerson



Heidi Holliday photo

40 excited Rosedalians boarded Rosedale's first bus to ride from Southwest Boulevard to the Kick-Off Celebration at Emerson Park.

Park from 11:48 a.m.-1:00 p.m. More than 40 Rosedalians rode the bus to the party from Mill Street and Southwest Boulevard, and enjoyed lunch donated by the new Save-a-Lot grocery store, with guest speakers including Commissioner Murguia, RDA board member Daniel

Serda and Rosedale resident and bus advocate Connie Rideau. Please join us in welcoming the three interns to our community! ☑

For additional details about the Rosedale 105, call (816) 221-0660 or visit www.kcata.org

New and Easy Ways to Vote

With the August 5 Primary Election less than three weeks away, Wyandotte County voters now have four ways of voting in the election. Registered voters can choose to:

- Vote in advance by mail. Applications can be found online at: www.wycokck.org/election
- Vote in advance at the Election Office,

located at 850 State Ave. Voting will be available here from Tuesday, July 22 through noon on Monday, August 4. During this period, the Election Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

- Vote in advance at a satellite location, located on the south side of the Kansas Speedway at 110th St. and I-70 (exit 410). Voting will be available Saturday,

July 26 and Monday, July 28 through Saturday, August 2. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and weekday hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- Vote at their designated polling place on Election Day, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. ☑

For more information, visit the Wyandotte County Election Office website at www.wycovotes.org or call (913) 573-8500.

RDA Welcomes Summer Interns

This summer, RDA happily welcomed three new interns, Andrew Weaver, Annie Mbale, and Crystal Gutierrez. The three will be working on a wide variety of projects while here, and we are honored to have them join us.

Andrew was born and raised in Emporia, KS. In 2013, he graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in geography. He is currently a second-year medical student at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. In his free time, Andrew enjoys playing guitar and disc golf. During his time at RDA, he is excited to learn more about the field of community health and how he can help make Rosedale a healthier place to live and work. He said he also finds the history of the Vox Theatre (RDA's neighbor) fascinating.

Annie is originally from Malawi, South East Africa. For the past three years, she has been living south of St. Louis, MO, where she earned an Associate of Arts Degree at Jefferson Community College. After spending her summer in Rosedale this summer, she will begin studying International Business at University of Missouri, St. Louis this fall. During her time here, Annie is looking forward to learning more about community organization, spending time with the kids at Freedom School and Rosedale Ridge, and helping RDA with administrative work. "The fact that RDA is involved in many spheres of community development is very interesting to me," said Annie about her experience so far. "I know that by the time I leave RDA I will have a broad knowledge of how to improve peoples lives in all spheres of life, which is something I want to do in life."

Crystal currently lives in Independence, MO, but was born in San Bernardino, California. She received a Bachelors in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Human Services from Colorado Technical University in North Kansas City. Crystal is currently working on her Masters of Business Administration with a specialization in Criminal Justice. When she has free time (which is rare!), she enjoys spending time with her friends and family. During her time at RDA, Crystal is looking forward to helping



RDA's summer interns, Andrew Weaver, Annie Mbale (middle), and Crystal Gutierrez (right) stop with Healthy Kids Program Manager Erin Stryka (behind the sign) at the trailhead of the Rozarks Nature Trails. The sign was designed by departing Mennonite Voluntary Service member Sophie Lapp.

as many residents of Rosedale have adequate access to health foods as possible. Regarding her time thus far in Rosedale, Crystal said "Rosedale has a very diverse culture; I have learned so much from the

people that live here and look forward to learning much more while I'm here." She added, Hope to see you down at the Rosedale Farmer's Market on Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.!"

Farewell, Frank and Sophie

With sadness, RDA will bid adieu to AmeriCorps VISTA member Frank Plummer, Jr. and Mennonite Voluntary Service member Sophie Lapp this summer. While they were only in Rosedale for a year, their passion for the community and enthusiasm will be sorely missed.

During the past year Frank worked to develop the Youth Sports Coalition, coordinated the RISE program with fellow VISTA Katelyn Eilbeck, participated in the Frank Rushton neighborhood group meetings, coordinated summer camp for Rosedale youth at Wildwood, "sporadically, at best" helped Brett with trail building, and more. Looking back on his accomplishments, Frank said the RISE program has been the most rewarding and thought-provoking experience he had taken part of during his time here.

"Designing and then doing the Privilege Walk activity with the

volunteers gave me an exceptionally wonderful feeling. It was great to see the light bulbs flashing as a group of people considered for the first time in some detail what someone else's life might be, many of which were flashes that I had myself while making the activity," Frank said. His favorite place to visit in Rosedale is the Rosedale Arch, and he said the best thing he learned about Rosedale during the past year was the diversity of the neighborhood.

"There are developed neighborhoods, forests, rural houses tucked away into those forests, hiking trails and parks, a disc golf course, a hospital, tons of restaurants, subsidized housing, half-million dollar homes, busy streets, lonely dusty trails, bike paths, and a castle to name some of the first few things that come to mind. And more than the built environment there is a large diversity of people and personal experiences," he said. After

Community Calendar

Saturday, July 19

6th Annual Healthy Kids Carnival
10 a.m.-2 p.m., Whitmore Park
1400 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS
All proceeds support Rainbow Mennonite CDF Freedom School®

Thursday, July 24

Rosedale Rides — Rozarks Trails!
Begins at 6 p.m., meet outside of RDA
1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, MO

Monday, August 4

Public Meeting for the Mission Road Sidewalk Project
4-6:00 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, MO

Thursday, August 7

Rosedale 101: Meet & Greet with J.C Harmon High School Principal
3:30-5:00 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, MO

Tuesday, August 12

Garden Team Workshop: Extending the Season
6-7:30 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, MO
FREE to attend

Thursday, August 14

Farewell Sophie: A going away party for Sophie Lapp
Time TBD
1401 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, MO

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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Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Heidi Holliday Executive Director
Alissa Jensen Writer/Editor
Board of Directors
rosedale.org/who-we-are
Design Lizzardbrand.com
Facebook
facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment
Twitter twitter.com/#!/RosedaleDA.

(Frank and Sophie from previous page)

RDA, Frank plans to move back home to Nebraska for a month, before flying to Madrid to be an Assistant English Teacher for at least a year.

During her year with RDA, some of Sophie's favorite things she worked on were helping people sign up for healthcare coverage, working with the Noble Prentis Garden Club, working in our community gardens and meeting the gardeners, helping with events like Healthy Halloween and the Rozarks Trail Grand Opening, and much more. Two of her biggest accomplishments were helping with a majority of the nearly 125 healthcare enrollments that RDA did this past winter, and helping coordinate Feed-a-Family last fall.

When Sophie arrived in Kansas last summer, she said she was quite surprised at what she found. "I come from very flat land in northern Indiana, and I expected that to also be the case here in Kansas. Boy, was I wrong! I was so surprised to see the hills, valleys, and forests here in KC when I first arrived, and now it will be strange to go back to flat land again!" Some of Sophie's favorite places to go in Rosedale include Taco Republic and MajR Thrift where she loves to go for some shopping.

After RDA, Sophie plans to move back home to Northern Indiana, where she will look for a job that will utilize some of the skills she gained during her time at

RDA. She said that while she is excited to be home around her family and friends again, she will miss all of the friends and neighbors she met in Kansas.

Noble Prentis Garden Club



The Noble Prentis Garden Club met for the spring session from April-May this spring. Twenty-five students met each Tuesday after school to learn about their garden, plant different vegetables, taste their produce, and have fun! In late April students were excited to finish off a crop of overgrown spinach from earlier in the spring.

RDA Support Application

Name of business or name of household _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP code _____

Contact person _____

Preferred phone _____

Fax _____

Email address _____

Suggested support levels:

Keystone: \$1,000 and above

Crown: \$750-999

Column: \$250-\$749

Foundation: \$0-\$249

Other: \$

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