



# THE ROSEDALLIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## RDA invites you to “Dinner with your Data”

By Ahnna Nanoski and Andrea Steere

“Dinner with your Data,” a special event to dig deeper into the Rosedale Community Survey results with members of the Rosedale community, is set for 6 p.m. on June 23 at 1401 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS

“We all have impressions of our neighborhood based on what we see from our front porch, but when you get a rare opportunity like this to see your community from the vantage point of front porches of over 800 of your neighbors, you take it,” said Adrienne Matlock, RDA’s program evaluation specialist.

The event will be separated into three distinct parts, starting with a free dinner catered by Taco Republic.

Dinner will be followed by a review of how survey respondents ranked questions involving the built environment, transportation, programs, the community’s future direction, and more. The formal data exhibit will be presented by Cheryl Gibson, associate professor for the department of internal medicine at the University of Kansas Medical Center and Rosedale Community Survey partner.

Gibson said, “The Community Survey was just one very important way that Rosedale Development Association used to gain the residents’ input and establish the community’s vision for the future of Rosedale. The survey results reflect the resident’s opinions on the strengths and weaknesses of the Rosedale community and highlight important issues that the public wants addressed.”

“Dinner with your Data” will also include an interactive activity to retrieve your feedback on how RDA should respond to the survey data. This will provide the opportunity to understand how your fellow Rosedalians feel about the community and work together to suggest how RDA should move forward.

**!** *Seating is limited and an RSVP is required. Contact Ahnna Nanoski at (913) 677-5097 or email [ahnna@rosedale.org](mailto:ahnna@rosedale.org) by June 16 to reserve your spot at “Dinner with your Data.”*

**?** *Can’t make it to “Dinner with your Data?” Check out the survey results online at [rosedale.org](http://rosedale.org).*



ERIN STRYKA

**Delicious baked goods sold by Pistachio Bakehouse at the Rosedale Farmers Market.**

## Farmers Market welcomes new vendors

By Katie Green

The Rosedale Farmers Market kicked off its 2016 season last month with more than 100 visitors and five new vendors, bringing delicious honey, produce, and more to the market.

This year the market welcomes Nellie Allen with locally made honey, Karen Leshar with baked goods and eggs, Kolika Kirk with baked goods from Pistachio Bakehouse, produce, teas, and soaps from Sacred Earth Arts, and produce from the Healthy Kidz Community Garden and Boys Grow products sold by Travis Barker.

To help customers dol-

lars stretch even further, the market is proud to offer Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) vouchers starting June 1, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) doubling is coming soon.

The farmers market is open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. every Sunday until the end of September at 4020 Rainbow Blvd. in the Commerce Bank Parking Lot.

**!** *For more information about the Rosedale Farmers Market, contact Katie Green at (913) 677-5097 or email [katie@rosedale.org](mailto:katie@rosedale.org)*

*Dinner*  
with your *Data*

## Try Me: KCATA's Bridj New Transit Service for KU Area

By Erin Stryka

The Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) has launched a new one-year pilot program aimed at increasing transit access to jobs. Ride KC: Bridj takes riders to locations within two employment-heavy zones: the area surrounding the University of Kansas Hospital and Medical Center, and the Hospital Hill and downtown Kansas City, MO area. During the pilot year, KCATA hopes to gather data about how Bridj can best increase access to employment for Kansas Citians.

Bridj requires a smartphone and uses an app to schedule pickups. I downloaded the app to give it a try. Bridj costs \$1.50 per ride, and using the promo code KC-BRIDJ, new Bridj riders can get 10 free rides. I plugged in my location (Fisher Park) and received walking directions to the nearest Bridj pickup point, across from the Dykes Library on 39th Ave.

All Bridj vehicles are locally-built Ford vans. I watched the vehicle approach the pickup point using the tracking function on the Bridj app, and when I boarded, the app had already informed the driver of my destination. During the pilot period, Bridj follows a fixed route with four pickup and four drop off points, so I enjoyed the 30 minute ride through several Kansas City areas on the way to River Market.

Since Bridj is intended for commuters to specific areas, it currently runs from Monday-Friday, 6:30-9:30 a.m. and 3:30-6:30 p.m. It may also only run one-way at certain times. I was able to ride from Dykes Library to the River Market, but not able to ride back to Dykes Library on the same afternoon. The lack of return service gave me an opportunity to try out



Erin Stryka poses with the Ride KC: Bridj van

another new KCATA service, the RideKC Streetcar, which is now open, free to ride, and took me to a transit station where I caught a bus back to 39th and Rainbow Blvd.

For those who work in the Bridj service areas, it's a good time to try out the service and use the 10 free rides. I recommend scheduling your rides in advance and making sure service is available where and when you need it. You can also submit a request to expand Bridj service to a new area using the app. During the pilot program, Bridj is collecting data on where riders want to go that they aren't currently covering.

**i** To learn more about the KCATA's Bridj service, visit [http://www.kcata.org/news/ride\\_kc\\_bridj\\_begins\\_service\\_march\\_7](http://www.kcata.org/news/ride_kc_bridj_begins_service_march_7).

## Meet the RDA Board and Staff

### Zach Flanders

Zach is an urban planner with BNIM architects and planners located in the Crossroads district in Kansas City, MO. As a resident of the Frank Rushton neighborhood in Rosedale, he enjoys easy biking and transit access to work and walkable access to great restaurants, groceries, health care, and many other great amenities. Zach is on the board of the Rosedale Development Association because he believes in community service and improving the Rosedale area for everyone.



### Carroll O'Neal

I have been involved with RDA since 2009. During that time, I have seen the community and the organization grow far beyond what I ever expected. My husband graduated from the old Rosedale High School and he was the one who got me to fall in love with the community. I stay involved with RDA because I have seen the difference it has made in individual lives of families and how it has brought businesses to the community.



# Community Calendar

Tuesday, June 7

**Garden Workshop  
Composting with Worms**  
6-7:30 p.m.  
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Thursday, June 16

**Community Garden Workday**  
5-8 p.m.  
2300 S. Early St., KCK

Wednesday, June 22

**Rosedale Leadership Council**  
5:30 p.m.  
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Thursday, June 23

**Dinner with your Data**  
Rosedalians are invited to learn more about the Rosedale Community Survey data and help RDA determine what's next  
6-8 p.m.  
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Tuesday, July 5

**Garden Workshop:  
What's Really Bugging You:  
Insects in the Garden**  
6-7:30 p.m.  
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Thursday, July 28

**Plot to Plate**  
Enter a dish or stop by to try garden-inspired dishes at our cook-off event  
6-8 p.m.  
45th and Rainbow Blvd., KCK

Every Sunday

**Rosedale Farmers Market**  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
4020 Rainbow Blvd., KCK

**i** For additional information about upcoming events and other community happenings, call (913) 677-5097.

## Frank Rushton Elementary Construction Update

By Will Lyons

It is time to say goodbye to the chain link fences that have lined 43rd Ave. for the past year. Construction on the new Frank Rushton Elementary School building is nearly completed, just in time for the start of school in the fall.

For the past year, construction crews have been hard at work on the new school building. The building will be equipped with plenty of classroom space, a fully updated media center, and plenty of outdoor spaces for learning. In mid-May the teachers and faculty of Frank Rushton got to tour the new building and see all of the exciting new features. One of those new features is the separate gymnasium.

Teachers and faculty were fully packed and ready to move out of the old building at the end of May, and demolition is set to take place this month. Once the old building is demolished, then work on the parking

lots, landscaping and the new field will take place. The new building is scheduled to be open for use in late July, just in time for school to begin in the fall.

**i** To learn more about the new building, visit <http://htkarchitects.net/projects/frank-rushton-elementary-school/>.

## 47th and Mission is thriving

By Heidi Holliday

The 47th and Mission Corridor has seen incredible growth the past few years. From restaurants repurposing old buildings, like Taco Republic and Lulu's Noodle Shop, to the new Walmart Neighborhood Market and the renovation of the Northwood shopping center, new and old businesses are thriving. The 47th and Mission Merchants Association is working to capture that energy through regular breakfast meetings of business owners and managers.

On April 26, about 25 business representatives, elected officials, and community activists gathered at Westwood City Hall to hear updates about the 47th and Mission Corridor. Urban planner Zach Flanders from BNIM presented on the progress in the Rosedale Master Plan Update. The Walmart Neighborhood Market donated food for the event.

Flanders said, "Local businesses are an important part of our community. It's been great to see the improvements made over the past several years and the feedback given [at the breakfast] was important and helpful in driving improvements over the next 10+ years."

What's next for the corridor? The Merchants Association will hold another meeting this summer with a focus on the new Westwood Master Plan, which is also under development. The committee is also starting work on corridor branding and a community festival to be held in 2017, highlighting new and old businesses and the unique tri-city collaboration making the progress possible.

**i** For more information on upcoming corridor events, please email [heidi@rosedale.org](mailto:heidi@rosedale.org).



## 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, KS 66103  
Phone (913) 677-5097  
Fax (913) 677-3437  
[info@rosedale.org](mailto:info@rosedale.org)  
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Heidi Holliday** Executive Director  
**Staff and Board of Directors**  
online at [rosedale.org](http://rosedale.org)

Lizzardbrand Inc. Design  
**Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment**  
**Twitter.com/RosedaleDA**  
**Rosedale.org**

## RDA Support Form

Name of business or name of household

Address

City

State/ ZIP code

Contact person

Preferred phone

Email address

Please mail form, along with check made payable to:

Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103

### Suggested support levels:

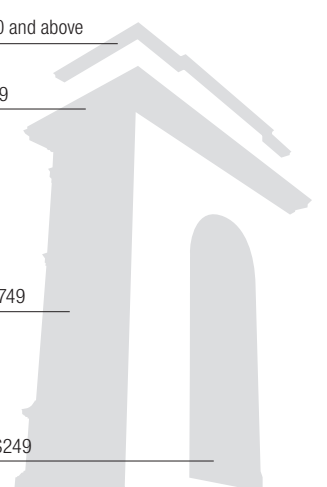
Keystone: \$1,000 and above

Crown: \$750-999

Column: \$250-\$749

Foundation: \$0-\$249

Other: \$



## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Survey Update

#### **Rosedalians discuss barriers to social health**

by *Adrienne Showalter Matlock*

When asked what barriers limit our community's sense of connection and belonging, Rosedale residents identified the challenges of diversity and the need for more public spaces to encounter other neighbors.

Although many Rosedalians value the diversity of Rosedale, it also creates unique challenges. Despite differences in culture, language, age and economic status, Rosedalians still told stories of neighbors reaching out to connect in simple but meaningful ways. "The guy next door is good people because sometimes I try to talk to him in Spanish and he tries to understand me," one resident said.

People interviewed also

mentioned gathering places that would strengthen our sense of belonging and community. Having more public spaces like a community center, grocery store, coffee shop, or library would create more opportunities to see familiar faces, and even meet new neighbors, interviewees said.

In addition to wanting more spaces like these, people also identified that sidewalks themselves are places that promote social health of the community. Many Rosedalians we interviewed identified that having good sidewalks, an attractive neighborhood, and a sense of safety would make Rosedale a place



INEZ SWINDELL

**Volunteering with your neighborhood group creates lots of opportunities to meet your neighbors**

where more people can connect, have positive encounters, and build a strong sense of community.

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**i** For additional information about survey results, call (913) 677-5097 or email [adrienne@rosedale.org](mailto:adrienne@rosedale.org).