



# THE ROSEDALLIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## Letter from Executive Director Erin Stryka

By Erin Stryka

Dear friends and neighbors,

I am delighted to share with you that I have accepted the position of Executive Director at Rosedale Development Association. When I first came to Rosedale back in 2011, I quickly discovered what makes Rosedale special: passionate, engaged and talented community members working together to serve their neighbors.

Rosedalians' commitment to building a better neighborhood shaped everything I saw, from kids painting beautiful murals and playing zombie tag in Healthy Kids Club (my first Rosedale job), to neighborhoods organizing cleanup days, to people coming together to repair homes, plant gardens, coach youth sports, and make their voices heard in advocacy for a new bus line, new sidewalks, and a new Rosedale Master Plan that reflects the big dreams of this community.

I had the honor of working under two of RDA's awesome previous Directors.

Wendy Wilson taught me to stop what I'm doing and listen carefully to every Rosedalian who comes into our office, and to be a fierce advocate alongside neighbors who are committed to the hard work of making change. Heidi Holliday taught

me to passionately pursue neighborhood health and to provide the high quality of programs and services that Rosedalians deserve. I'm grateful for the chance to build on their many years of hard work and dedicated service.

Most importantly, I've had the opportunity over the last two years to hear from Rosedalians through the Rosedale Community Survey, the Rosedale Master Plan process, the 55 interviews with Rosedalians, and "Dinner with your Data" about this community's priorities, needs, and hopes for the future.

Rosedalians showed up at every step to make sure that RDA has a clear picture of what the neighborhood wants, and we at RDA have the huge responsibility of moving forward in the direction the community has marked out.

We have a lot of work ahead of us, and I am so excited to be working in partnership with all of you to build a strong and healthy neighborhood for all who live, work, and play here.

Sincerely,

Erin Stryka



UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER

**Join RDA at Healthy Halloween from 2-5 p.m. on October 22 at Whitmore Playground.**

## Save the Date for Healthy Halloween

By Andrea Steere

RDA's annual fall festival, Healthy Halloween, is back on Saturday, October 22.

The festival will be from 2-5 p.m. at Whitmore Playground, 1412 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS. Healthy Halloween will include fun activities like ghost races, pumpkin painting, mask making, and a bounce house. Plus RDA will have plenty of healthy snacks to keep attendees energized all afternoon.

"Kids get candy everywhere they go around Halloween, but Halloween is more than eating lots of sugar," RDA's Executive Director Erin Stryka said. "So we wanted to create a fun space for families to celebrate, while also treating their bodies well."

Healthy Halloween will also host Walgreen's free flu shot

clinic again this year. Pharmacy representatives will be available to give flu shots to people ages 7 and up. Vouchers for uninsured community members will also be available.

"My daughters and granddaughter had an amazing time last year at Healthy Halloween," community member Kelly Denney said. "The games and prizes were so much better than going door-to-door for candy. From decorating their own pumpkin to getting our pictures taken with props, it was an all-around great time. We can't wait for this year!"

**i** To learn more, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact Andrea Steere at (913) 677-5097 or email [andrea@rosedale.org](mailto:andrea@rosedale.org).



ANDREA STEERE

**Frank Rushton's new building is the buzz in the community.**

**Inside Frank Rushton Elementary**

*By Katie Green*

Frank Rushton Elementary will host an open house to celebrate the completion of the new building on October 12 at 5:30 p.m.

RDA staff toured the new building in August to provide a sneak peek before the public event.

Rachel Hohendorf, a 3rd grade teacher at Frank Rushton, said, "This is a beautiful space with lots of access to things we didn't have before." These new facilities include increased technology, extra classrooms, a gym, and an updated kitchen that allows for on-site cooking.

At the end of most hallways and in the library, there are

spaces set up with tables and chairs, large computer screens and dry-erase boards. These areas create additional learning spaces and allow for collaboration between classrooms.

"I like it," Krystle Huddleston, parent of Andreas, a 3rd grader at Frank Rushton, said. "I'm happy that the kids will have more room."

Like many of the students at Frank Rushton's Back to School night, Andreas was most excited about the school's gym. The gym includes a basketball court and even a rock climbing wall.

In addition to Frank Rushton Elementary's brand new building, the surrounding community also has received some improvements. Thanks to the Unified Government's Safe Routes to Schools program, new sidewalks have been installed along streets in the Frank Rushton neighborhood leading to the school.

**i** *To learn more about Frank Rushton Elementary's Open House, please call the school at (913) 627-3050.*

**RDA wins Girl Scouts Community Partnership award**

*By Andrea Steere*

On August 21, RDA representatives accepted the Community Partnership Award at the Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri Central Region Appreciation event.

The Community Partnership Award is presented to a partner organization who has benefitted girls across multiple service units or communities. RDA was nominated for the award by Rosedale's Girl Scout troop volunteer Jennifer Bates and Girl Scouts membership manager Amber Glasgow Elder.

"RDA is a fairly new advocate for Girl Scouts," Glasgow Elder said. "Their troop started in the spring of 2015. Since then they have been on fire for girls and providing whatever we need from them."

During their first year, Rosedale Girl Scouts have explored the Rozarks trails, participated in a 5k race, volunteered at local animal shelters, and visited LegoLand. The troop's second year promises to be even more fun with activities centered around community, art, dance, and volunteerism.

Bates, who also attended the appreciation event to support RDA, said, "RDA is always willing to offer their [facilities] for meetings, get together, and recruitment activities. They have offered financial support, moral support, and physical support to our troop and service unit."

**i** *To learn more about the Rosedale Girl Scouts troop, contact Andrea Steere at (913) 677-5097 or email [andrea@rosedale.org](mailto:andrea@rosedale.org).*



ALEXANDRA INGLISH/GIRL SCOUTS OF NE KS AND NW MO

**Andrea Steere accepted an award on RDA's behalf at the Girl Scouts Central Region Appreciation event.**

**Board and Staff Members**

**Board Recruitment**

We are currently accepting applications to serve on our Board of Directors until October 31st. If you have a passion for our community and the time to devote to the leadership of a nonprofit such as ours, then please contact us.

**i** *For more information about RDA, please visit [rosedale.org](http://rosedale.org) or call (913) 677-5097.*

**You can help!**

**More than 400 volunteers**

work on homes through Christmas in October every year, and anyone of any skill level can volunteer.

You can sign up as an individual or as a group from your church, workplace, or other organization. To get involved with Christmas in October, send them an email at [info@christmasinOctober.org](mailto:info@christmasinOctober.org) or call (816) 531-6443.

# Community Calendar

Monday, October 3  
**Hilltop Neighborhood Meeting**  
6-7 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Sunday, October 9  
**45th & Rainbow Community Garden Community Work Day**  
8-11 a.m., 4500 Rainbow Blvd., KCK

Tuesday, October 11  
**Frank Rushton Neighborhood Meeting**  
6-7:30 p.m., Rosedale Congregational Church, 4326 Lloyd, KCK

Wednesday, October 12  
**Shawnee Road Neighborhood Watch Meeting**  
7-8 p.m., 818 Shawnee Rd., KCK

Wednesday, October 12  
**Frank Rushton Open House**  
5:30 p.m., 2605 W. 43rd Ave., KCK

Wednesday, October 19  
**Rosedale Leadership Council**  
5:30-6:30 p.m.  
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Thursday, October 20  
**Early St. Community Garden Community Work Day**  
5-8 p.m., 2300 South Early St., KCK

Saturday, October 22  
**Healthy Halloween**  
2 p.m., Whitmore Park,  
1412 Southwest Blvd., KCK

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

## 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  
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Erin Stryka** 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**



ANDREA STEERE

**Volunteers assist community members by providing minor home repairs.**

## Gear up for Christmas in October

By Erin Stryka

On October 8, hundreds of homes around the Kansas City metro will receive home repair services through Christmas in October.

Christmas in October, a nonprofit that has been repairing Kansas City homes for 33 years, has provided home repair to dozens of Rosedale residents. In addition, they have provided supplies and technical assistance to RDA's Minor Home Repair Program. Now, Christmas in October is gearing up for their big annual event.

To qualify for the program, homeowners must 1) own only one home, the home they live in, 2) lack the financial resources to complete the repair, and 3) not have received assistance from Christmas in October in the past year. In addition, homeowners must either be 62 or older, disabled, or a veteran or have a veteran living in their home.

**i** For more information, contact RDA at (913) 677-5097 or **d** Download application online at [christmasinOctober.org](http://christmasinOctober.org).

## Thanks to our Program Evaluation Specialist!

by Erin Stryka

You've read the Rosedale Community Survey results, quotes from interviews with Rosedalians, and you may have attended "Dinner with your Data." This information contributes to an overall evaluation of RDA's work.

Adrienne Showalter Matlock has served as RDA's Program Evaluation Specialist for the last two years determining what worked and what needed to change as we build a healthy community for all Rosedalians.

Adrienne's evaluations were based on in-depth interviews with 55 Rosedalians, a new policy and advocacy work database, a study of Rosedale's media coverage, and an assessment of RDA's programs and services effectiveness using a new tracking system.

Your input is guiding RDA as we plan how to serve the Rosedale community. We want to say a big thank you to Adrienne for making us the most effective RDA we can be!

Adrienne's last day at RDA was August 31. She will be continuing her Ph.D. studies at the University of Kansas this fall.



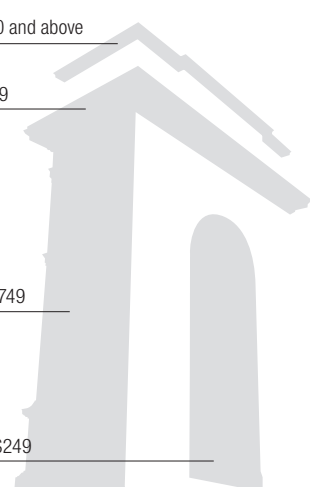
## RDA Support Form

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

## Community Spotlight

### RDA launches online historical archive

*By Kelley Hanguauer*

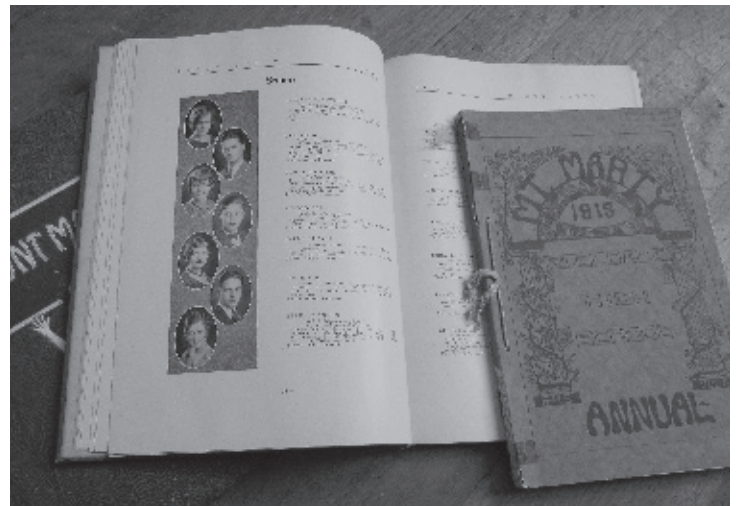
For many years Rosedalians have entrusted their yearbooks and photographs to RDA. Now, RDA has launched an historic archive website to share those memories with the wider community.

Funded by a generous grant from the Kansas Historical Society, the website features an array of photographs and artifacts. Included in the website are six digitized Mount Marty High School yearbooks from 1908 to 1939, a photo book from the American Legion during the 1940s-1950s, black and white photographs featuring Rosedale schools and landmarks, and artifacts

from Rosedale historic businesses.

Soon we will be posting a number of truly unique photographs of Rosedale from the Wyandotte County History Museum collection that range from a photograph of the Sauer women from the 1890s to the Rosedale Birney car of the 1940s. You can expect to see exciting new material on the website as it continues to evolve.

But we need your help! If you have, or know someone who has, historic photographs, artifacts, or stories, please contact us so that we can archive our history and share it with others on the Rosedale Community Archive website.



**Many of Rosedale High School's yearbooks are now available to view on [rosedalehistory.org](http://rosedalehistory.org).**

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**i** To learn more about the Rosedale Community Archive, contact Andrea Steere at

(913) 677-5097 or email [andrea@rosedale.org](mailto:andrea@rosedale.org).  
**📍** Visit [rosedalehistory.org](http://rosedalehistory.org).