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THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Community Spotlight

Good Neighbor Training offers tools to do even more good in your neighborhood

By Erin Stryka

Ever wondered how the process of building demolition goes in Wyandotte County? How about how Animal Services works, or what the Unified Government is doing to address blight? Livable Neighborhoods' Good Neighbor Training has the answers to these questions and many more.

Good Neighbor Training is held the fourth Monday of the month from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 4953 State Ave., KCK. A light dinner is provided. Each training focuses on a different department or program within the UG.

The program began in January with Code Enforcement training and the Neigh-



borhood Resource Center's e-link system for tracking codes violations. Rosedalian Tam Grodsky attended and called RDA the next day with a rave review, saying "I was so glad that I attended the Good Neighbor training last month. Plan on attending. It is well worth your time."

Building a stronger and healthier Rosedale takes everyone's help, and some of our biggest challenges can feel daunting if you don't know where to start. The Good Neighbor Training will help you understand what the UG is doing throughout the city and county, address the issues

affecting our communities, and provides opportunities for involvement or partnering with the UG to make a difference in your neighborhood.

i To learn more about the Good Neighbor Training, contact Livable Neighborhoods at 913-573-8737.

RDA buzzes with activity this spring

By Je T'aime Taylor

Spring is in the air and that means Rosedale Development Association is buzzing with activity. Plans for the season include youth sports, gardening activities, minor home repair projects, and a disc golf tournament.

This month our winter basketball season wraps up with 23 players and over 200 hours played. Now RDA will be taking registrations for soccer and baseball. We will also be looking for volunteer coaches to lead the teams, especially baseball coaches. Stop by the RDA office to register or pick up a form at your nearest community center.

Spring also sprouts opportunities to get your hands dirty in one of Rosedale's community gardens. Residents are able to rent plots at the 45th and Rainbow garden and the South Early Street garden. Plus, RDA will host garden workshops at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month.

The first garden workshop will feature information on how to plan your garden plot for success on March 9. The second workshop, "Rain Barrel Retrofitting," will help participants build and use a rain barrel in their garden on April 13. View the full schedule at rosedale.org/gardens.

Minor home repair applications are now open to Rosedale's low-income families and



ANDREA STEERE

RDA programs kick into gear this spring with youth sports, garden workshops, minor home repair, and more.

seniors. Repair projects can include fixing faucets, painting, cleaning gutters, fixing windows, and more. Stop by RDA's office to learn more and apply for minor home repair.

On May 6, RDA will host its first-ever disc golf tournament fundraiser, the Rosedale Disc de Triomphe. The event will take place at 9 a.m. at Rose-

dale Park. Details and registration information is available at rosedale.org/discgolf.

i Interested in learning more about RDA's spring activities or how you can volunteer? Contact us at 913-677-5097, visit info@rosedale.org, or stop by the office at 1403 Southwest Blvd., KCK.



Save the Date!

Rosedale Disc de Triomphe

By Andrea Steere

RDA, in partnership with Dynamic Discs, is hosting its first-ever disc golf tournament! The Rosedale Disc de Triomphe is set for Saturday, May 6 at Rosedale Park. Registration starts at 9 a.m., and the tournament starts at 10 a.m.

All proceeds from the event will benefit RDA's work to build a strong and healthy community and to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Rosedale.

All registered players will also receive a swag bag, provided by Dynamic Discs, which includes everything one needs to participate in the tournament.

i To learn more and to register, please visit rosedale.org/discgolf or call 913-677-5097.

Summer Youth Employment applications available for businesses and youth

By Je T'aime Taylor

RDA is now accepting Summer Youth Employment applications from businesses and youth interested in being a part of the program. SYE links Rosedale youth with Rosedale businesses for an eight-week employment experience. The program was birthed 21 years ago with the start of a yearly grant from the Board of Public Utilities. SYE provides 12 youth ages 14 to 17 with job training and experience working in a real business (and real responsibilities) during the summer.

The program's recent local business partners include Carroll Seating, Little Angel's Daycare, Rainbow Mennonite Freedom School, Annedore's Fine Chocolates, Vista Manufacturing, Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care and Dynamic Discs.

During the summer, the youth work approximately 11 hours per week at a business and attend a weekly "Lunch and Learn" for an hour. During the "Lunch and Learn," youth

learn new skills from seven guest speakers from the community. These speakers cover various topics such as learning styles assessments, money management, taxes, first impressions, and accessing opportunities, and the interview process.

Businesses interested in partnering with RDA will need to fill out an application explaining the work plan with site supervision. Interested youth will need to complete the application and take part in an interview process. After the interview process, businesses and youth will attend a job fair where both will choose their top three potential employees or placements.

Applications for both businesses and youth participants are available at rosedale.org/summer-youth-employment.

i To learn more about SYE, please contact Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or email jetaime@rosedale.org



Local businesses and youth participate in a job fair during the SYE program.

Board and Staff Members

Courtney Brooks

As a Rosedale resident, Courtney Brooks joined the RDA Board of Directors to build connections with her local community. She and her husband moved to Frank Rushton two years ago from the suburbs, because they love the walkability, diversity, and strong community of Rosedale. Through her work as the Executive Director of Global Ties KC, she has brought various Department of State sponsored adult and youth



groups to Rosedale, learning about how RDA supports local business, healthy lifestyles, and green development.

New AmeriCorps members join RDA's team

By Je T'aime Taylor

RDA has a legacy involving AmeriCorps members volunteering in Rosedale. AmeriCorps State members provide direct services to the communities that they work in. AmeriCorps is a part of the Kansas Volunteer Commission, and the Corporation for National and Community Service, whose mission is to "support the American culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility."

We welcome three new AmeriCorps members to the RDA team: Deanna Wardlow, a resident of Rosedale, Nicole Fitzgerald, a new Kansas City resident who has ties with University of Missouri in Kansas City and Metropolitan Community College, and Victor Medina, a student at UMKC. Each of these members bring knowledge in areas of minor home repair, gardening, administration, bike repair, and

the passion to work in the Rosedale community.

The new AmeriCorps members will join our current members Kimberly Hunter and Phil 'Pip' Rhodes until October where they will focus on programs such as Kids in

the Kitchen, Walking School Bus, neighborhood beautification and gardening. Both will also be assisting with community events. You will notice them in the community wearing their trademark AmeriCorps shirts and serving.

We will have a cycle of hiring AmeriCorps members in the fall. Please look for more opportunities to be a member at that time.

i To learn more about AmeriCorps opportunities at RDA, please contact Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or email jetaime@rosedale.org



Community Calendar

Every Monday

Fisher Park Walking Club

4:30-5:30 p.m.
Health Walk at KUMed
Text "FISHERPARK" to 41411 for updates

Wednesday, March 15

Rosedale Leadership Council

5:30-6:30 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Every Thursday

Fisher Park Walking Club

4:30-5:30 p.m.
Landon Center on Aging
Text "FISHERPARK" to 41411 for updates

Saturday, March 18

Rozarks trail workday

9 a.m.-12 p.m., 3800 Fisher St., KCK

Monday, April 3

Hilltop Neighborhood Meeting

6-7 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Tuesday, April 11

Frank Rushton Neighborhood Association

6:30-7:30 p.m., 4326 Lloyd St., KCK

Wednesday, April 12

Shawnee Road Neighborhood Watch

7-8 p.m., 818 Shawnee Rd., KCK

Thursday, April 13

Garden Workshop

Rain Barrel Retrofitting
6-7:30 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

i To learn more about upcoming events and other community happenings, visit rosedale.org or 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.

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Phone 913-677-5097
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Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Erin Stryka Executive Director
online at rosedale.org
Lizzardbrand Design
Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment
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Rosedale.org

Seeds, soil, and sowing: Get your spring garden growing

By Kimberly Hunter

Join RDA and Kansas City Community Gardens for a potluck and garden workshop at 6 p.m. on March 9 at 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK.

The experts from KCCG will equip you with the tools to create a garden plan for spring, summer, and fall. This will help you maximize garden space, save time and money, and harvest more of the fruits and vegetables you love. The workshop will also feature a potluck dinner, so all participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share.

Resources for local gardeners will be available at the



workshop. For \$15, community members can sign up for a garden plot in one of Rosedale's community gardens. KCCG income-based memberships will also be available for \$2 or \$12. A KCCG membership includes 10 free

seed packets, a 10 pound bag of fertilizer, and other benefits such as low-cost transplants, fruit trees, berry bushes, and tiller rentals. If any of these costs would prevent your participation, garden scholarships are available from RDA.

RDA will host garden workshops (with a potluck) the second Thursday of each month now through November.

i To learn more about the garden workshops or community gardens in Rosedale, visit rosedale.org/gardens or call Kimberly at 913-677-5097.

Join (or start!) your neighborhood group this spring

By Erin Stryka

Neighborhood groups in Rosedale have a history of getting things done. In my time with RDA, I've seen Rosedale neighborhood groups take on projects from massive litter cleanups, installing signs and benches, and even a water fountain, to crowdfunding sidewalks, having food drives, throwing block parties and family fun days, taking on drug houses, and advocating for development that serves the neighborhood.

Right now in Rosedale there are eight active neighborhood groups and tenant associations, all working on different projects to improve the places where we live, work and play. Neighborhood groups can be a place to bring your hopes for your neighborhood and connect with people (and even funders) who can help make it happen. They can be a place to make friends with the people you pass every day, and a place to learn how to

best look out for one another. They are also a lot of work — some neighborhood groups are looking for new leaders or volunteers, and some areas without an active neighborhood group might be looking for you to start one!

i Get involved in a neighborhood group near you! Call Erin at 913-677-5097 or email erin@rosedale.org to find out when the group nearest to you is meeting.



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: \$

