

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## Community Spotlight

### Frances Sharon elected President of Rosedale Towers Resident Council

By Kimberly Hunter

On September 19, Frances Sharon was unanimously elected to serve as President of the Rosedale Towers Resident Council. Seven years ago, she and her now late husband, Mike, moved here from Strawberry Hill. They became involved with the council only three months later when a fellow resident urged them to help.

In their first three years, they repaired a large sidewalk hole as well as a corner curb that forced residents' scooters into the street, causing multiple accidents. To achieve this, they spoke with construction workers, city officials and Rosedale Development Association. Fran first heard about RDA from her neighbor,

Nancy Buerserals. With RDA, Fran drafted plans for a community garden on-site that still thrives today.

As President for the next three years, Fran hopes to beautify the landscape, repave the parking lot and repair the retaining wall. She also plans to survey residents because she believes, "It's not just one person's decision. We have to work together." In addition to supporting their garden, local farmers' market and Fisher Park Walking Club, Fran aims to build relationships with pedestrian passerbies. She says, "You get so many people walking down the street every day . . . but you don't know them because you don't talk. So it's reaching out the hand of



Frances Sharon (left) and Carmen Siers (right) serve, respectively, as President and Vice-President of Rosedale Towers Resident Council.

friendship, to say hi to people. We all live here."

To learn more about

volunteering at Rosedale Towers, call Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097 x11 or email [kimberly@rosedale.org](mailto:kimberly@rosedale.org).

### Friends and neighbors to celebrate Healthy Halloween

by Erin Stryka

Rosedale kids, get those Wonder Woman and fidget spinner costumes ready — it is time for the eighth annual Healthy Halloween!

On Saturday, October 28, from 2-5 p.m., Rosedalian will gather in Whitmore Park to celebrate Healthy Halloween with friends and neighbors. The event is candy-free, but don't get spooked! Popcorn from Strasser's Hardware, local apples, and trail mix delight kids and adults alike.

Rosedale resident Becky Maricle has attended Healthy Halloween for years with her grandchildren. "The kids have a great time, there are lots of fun activities, and everybody gets together," Becky said. "Everybody brags about it, it's something they look forward to."

Long time favorites like ghostly sack races, pumpkin decorating, face painting, and bean bag toss will make their appearance again this year. Look out for a spooky bounce house, and remember to get your picture taken at the

*"The kids have a great time, there are lots of fun activities, and everybody gets together."*

— Becky Maricle



Rosedalian kids enjoy ghostly sack races, face painting, bean bag toss, and pumpkin decorating (shown above) at Healthy Halloween.

costume closet. Try your hand at disc golf or shoot some baskets, or just spin yourself silly on the Whitmore Park merry-go-round. Community partners will visit Healthy Halloween, offering free flu shots and information about great programs in and around Rosedale.

Healthy Halloween has become a beloved Rosedale tradition over the past seven years. The event began when a coalition between RDA, the University of Kansas Medical Center, the Rosedale Ministerial Alliance, and KC Healthy Kids started the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative. The coalition studied factors affecting poor health outcomes for Rosedale kids and identified a need for greater healthy food access and

### The giving season

By Je T'aime Taylor

In November, Rosedalian will gather to assemble food baskets, winter outerwear and toiletry items for neighborhood families in need through the Feed-a-Family program. This has been a time-honored tradition in Rosedale for 32 years. Community members nominate families they believe could benefit from the generosity of their neighbors.

Volunteers from near and far gather to sort donated items, shop for winter wear, and prepare baskets for families. Rosedale resident and volunteer Becky Maricle recalls nominating a neighbor last year who she believed was in need of extra support. "In my neighborhood, a single mom tried to make ends meet but did not know how she would provide for her family over the November holiday season," said Becky.

With the help of churches, businesses, institutions, neighborhood groups and organizations, RDA has leveraged resources to meet Rosedalian's needs. November 14-16, RDA will be gathering food for 35 families. Needed food includes turkeys, hams, sweet potatoes, dinner rolls, combread, pumpkin pies, gravy, vegetable oil, stuffing mix, sugar, flour, sugar-free jello, and canned goods — green beans, corn, cranberry sauce, and cream of mushroom. In

(continued next page)

more opportunities for kids to be physically active. During October especially, kids are overwhelmed by candy being offered everywhere they go. Healthy Halloween is a fun, active event where the snacks are healthy and the candy is saved for another day.

For the past three years, the Mayor has made an official proclamation declaring the festival date as "Healthy Halloween Day." These proclamations emphasize the importance of nutritious options for kids and "a neighborhood culture where the healthy choice is easy and fun."

To learn more, or to volunteer at Healthy Halloween, email [erin@rosedale.org](mailto:erin@rosedale.org).



(Giving Continued)

addition to the food baskets RDA provides 10 Rosedale families with coats, hats, and gloves to keep warm during the winter.

To learn more information

about getting involved with this Rosedale tradition, please call Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or email jetaime@rosedale.org. Volunteers are invited to assemble baskets on Monday, November 20.



The RDA Board gathers for a 2017 strategic planning session.

## Apply to join the RDA Board

By Erin Stryka

Are you excited about the future of Rosedale and looking for a way to make an impact? Rosedale Development Association is currently accepting applications for our 2018 Board of Directors. RDA relies on the leadership of skilled and passionate individuals who live and/or work in Rosedale and who dedicate their time to making sure RDA is the best organization it can be. The board is responsible for guiding RDA to maintain sound policies and financial stability over the long term and for setting RDA's strategic direction.

Board members commit to attending a monthly meeting, to serving on at least one committee, and to giving time and financial resources to support RDA. In 2017, RDA Board members organized the Disc de Triomphe disc golf tournament at Rosedale Park, created RDA's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, and

volunteered with Rosedale programs like Minor Home Repair, the RISE Martin Luther King Jr. Day reading program, and Summer Youth Employment.

One 2017 new board member, Ruth Harder, said, "Being on a community board is a great way to learn more about Rosedale and the great people in it. I have appreciated the strong leadership that exists on the board."

All board members must live and/or work in Rosedale, have a deep commitment to the Rosedale community, have the time and energy to participate in all board and committee meetings, and use their skills and experience to benefit RDA.

To learn more about joining the RDA board, nominating a neighbor, or requesting an application, call Erin Stryka at 913-677-5097 or email erin@rosedale.org.

## No matter who you vote for, make sure you vote!

By Erin Stryka

Local elected officials make an enormous impact on the Rosedale community, yet voter turnout rates in Wyandotte County are very low. In the primary election on August 1, only 18 percent of registered Wyandotte Countians cast votes. Voting is one of Rosedalians' best tools for making their voices heard and improving their community. Help ensure a big turnout among Rosedalians in the general election!

The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Rosedale residents will cast ballots for the offices of Mayor, UG Commissioner At-Large, Sheriff, BPU Board, and USD 500 Board of Education.

The last day to register to vote in the general election is Tuesday, October 17, and advance voting by mail begins on

October 18. Residents can pick up a voter registration application at RDA, or register by mail or in person at the Election Office at 850 State Ave. or the County Clerk's office at 701 North 7th St. One can also

register at Kansas Driver's License offices, public assistance offices, or public libraries. If residents have a Kansas Driver's License or Kansas Non-Driver Identification Card, they can register online at [kdor.ks.gov/Apps/VoterReg/](http://kdor.ks.gov/Apps/VoterReg/).

Make your opinions known! Ensure Rosedale's voice is heard by voting in local elections!



## AmeriCorps and Staff Members

Emily Xiong, another AmeriCorps member, joined RDA in September. She joined RDA after graduating with a BFA in biomedical science. Originally from Wisconsin, Emily has volunteered in medical and community center settings for years. She is excited to spend a year serving in Rosedale while she prepares to attend medical school.



Kimberly Hunter, a Rosedale resident, served as an AmeriCorps member last year, and RDA is delighted to welcome her back as the new Community Relations Coordinator! Kimberly's job is keeping Rosedalians informed and connected through The Rosedalian, social media, flyers, and community events.



To be interviewed by Kimberly for The Rosedalian's Community Spotlight, email [kimberly@rosedale.org](mailto:kimberly@rosedale.org).



KIMBERLY HUNTER

Girls journal their post-run reflections.

## Girls and Moms on the Move kicks off

By Nicole Fitzgerald

Girls and Moms on the Move after school program at Frank Rushton Elementary School began its fall 2017 season on Tuesday, September 12. Multiple moms along with third, fourth, and fifth grade girls can be seen running, jogging, or walking laps around Frank Rushton every Tuesday afternoon.

Each week the girls and moms aim to tack on more distance to eventually hit a total of three miles in preparation for a 5K at the end of October. After each run, the girls take a snack break and write in their personalized journals. There they include their goals

for the next week, how far they went that day and how they felt on their run. Girls and Moms on the Move aims to inspire and encourage girls to not only be physically active, but to work hard to achieve their goals.

Each group's hard work and countless laps will pay off at the October 22 Overrun 5K for Ovarian Cancer race. The 5K is located in Overland Park, KS and starts at 8:30 a.m. Come cheer on the group!

To learn more about running, walking, or jogging with the group, email Nicole Fitzgerald at [nicole@rosedale.org](mailto:nicole@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.

Erin Stryka Executive Director  
Staff and Board of Directors  
online at [rosedale.org](http://rosedale.org)  
Lizzardbrand Design  
[Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment](https://www.facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment)  
[Twitter.com/RosedaleDA](https://twitter.com/RosedaleDA)  
[Rosedale.org](http://Rosedale.org)

## University Town Meeting

By Erin Stryka

Community members gathered on Thursday, September 14 for a second public meeting to discuss the University Town Plan, which refines the Rosedale Master Plan's recommendations for the area around 39th Ave., Rainbow Blvd., and Fisher Park.

Participants in the first public meeting identified five goals for the University Town district:

- To create a transit oriented development plan that allows Rosedale's population to grow, increases amenities and services available to residents, and promotes a walkable, vibrant, urban neighborhood.

- To improve the area's parks, trails, and recreational amenities by including options for a community center or library branch.

- To pursue housing strategies to accommodate diverse housing needs by including students, professionals, families, seniors, and affordable housing.

- To refine multimodal transportation strategies that accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, transit, and vehicles.
- To promote high quality

development that enhances Rosedale's image. Residents, developers, and other stakeholders gave feedback on options for achieving the above goals. Posters around the room showed drawings of amenities that might be appropriate to add to Fisher Park, of a transit hub for the corner of 39th Ave. and Rainbow Blvd., and of possibilities for new types of housing along 39th Ave.

To learn more and to follow the progress of the University Town Plan, visit [rosedaleuniversitytownplan.com](http://rosedaleuniversitytownplan.com).



Rosedalian Carolyn Ruiz discusses sketches of a transit hub with a consultant on the University Town planning team.

Let's be rock solid together!  
Please accept my donation in support of RDA.

Name of business or name of household

Address

City/State/ZIP code

Contact person

Preferred phone

Email address

Please mail or bring this form along with your gift to:  
Rosedale Development Association, 1403 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66103  
OR contribute online at [rosedale.org/archclub](http://rosedale.org/archclub).

