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THE ROSEDALLIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Community Spotlight

Business is booming on the Boulevard

by Nicole Fitzgerald

This season, Rosedale welcomes to the neighborhood One Star Bikes and Three Bee's Pottery and Coffee Shop, both of which recently opened along the Southwest Blvd. corridor. The owner of Three Bee's Pottery and Coffee Shop, Nick Medrano, selected the majestic, vine-covered, two-story building at 925 Southwest Blvd. to sell pottery and complement another business already serving the Rosedale community – his Three Bee's Gardening and Lawn Service.

Nick first visited the building with the hopes of renting it to sell pottery, but when he noticed a wooden beverage bar with a small kitchen in the back, it seemed like a perfect

setup for a small restaurant. Soon after, Nick transformed the building into a quaint coffee shop that serves as a storefront for his pottery shop. Customers can sip coffee, enjoy a pastry or sandwich, and shop shelves full of colorful clay pots and beautifully blown glass.

Many other vibrant businesses call Southwest Blvd. home, too. "Since the Southwest Blvd. Merriam Ln. Corridor Master Plan was adopted, the UG has invested millions of dollars into storm water control, bike lanes, and sidewalks and curbs, in the hopes of attracting new and diverse businesses. RDA hopes to see a healthy mix of light industrial, retail, office, and residential uses growing in

this corridor," says RDA executive director, Erin Stryka. Thus RDA encourages residents to shop local and support Rosedale's two newest Southwest Blvd. businesses.

To learn more about Southwest Blvd. business opportunities, contact Erin Stryka at erin@rosedale.org or 913-677-5097.



Three Bee's Pottery and Coffee Shop is open 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday at 925 Southwest Blvd.

UG studies "Cambridge Connector" to improve traffic flow

by Erin Stryka

Rosedalians who attended public meetings for the Rosedale Master Plan repeatedly raised the issue of increasing traffic to and from the University of Kansas Health System and Medical Center campus. When the Rosedale Master Plan was adopted, RDA urged the Commission to devote further study to one of the more popular options presented for improving traffic flow in the neighborhood, the Cambridge Connector. With a grant from Mid-America Regional Council's Planning Sustainable Places Program, the Unified Government is now conducting that study.

The Cambridge Connector Feasibility Analysis examines extending the Cambridge Circle exit on I-35 to Southwest Blvd. In a first round of stakeholder and public meetings in March, consultants presented three concepts aimed at reducing traffic at and near the 7th and Southwest Blvd. intersection by 17-32%.

One concept extends Cambridge so that it meets Southwest Blvd. at grade and then turns into 31st St. Another extends Cambridge over Southwest Blvd., where it turns into 31st St. with the option to turn left onto Roanoke. The third alternative extends Cambridge over Southwest Blvd. a little to the north, where it turns into Roanoke

and then connects to 31st.

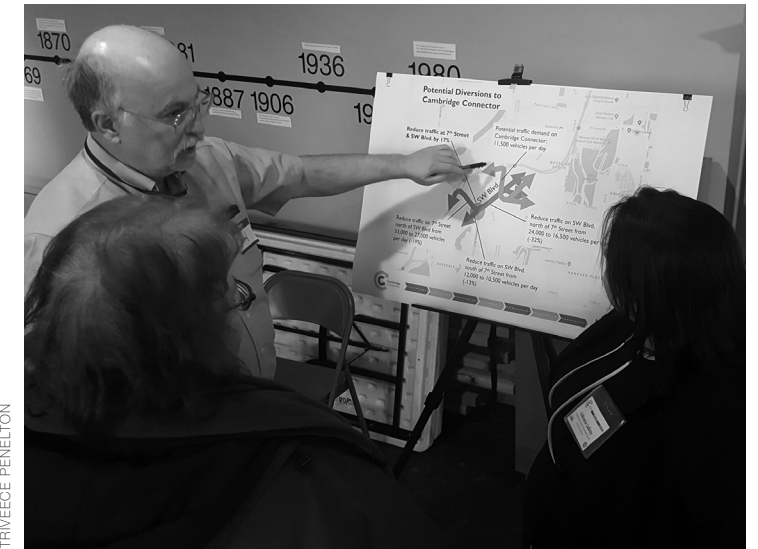
At the next public meeting, planned for June 19 from 4:30-7:30 at the Rosedale Development Association, consultants will refine these concepts and present a preferred alternative, based on neighborhood input from an online survey and the first public meeting. The community will have another chance to weigh in on the preferred alternative before the consultants create their final report.

To develop each concept, consultants considered vehicle, rail, transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements. When the study is completed, the written report will include cost estimates, land use redevelopment opportunities, and an implementation plan to move the project into design and construction.

Rosedale community gardens welcome changes

by Miranda Coffey

Spring is here, and community garden leaders have been hard at work rallying groups of volunteers to make necessary changes in the community gardens at South Early St., 45th and Rainbow, Rosedale Towers, and Christopher Webb Memorial. As winter began, each garden bed received composted elephant manure from the Kansas City Zoo to build the soil. Then at winter's end, teams shoveled



Consultant shares Cambridge Connector concepts with Rosedalians.

The open-house style public meeting is planned for Tuesday, June 19, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at RDA. Residents are encouraged to attend and share thoughts on which of

these concepts will best serve neighborhood needs.

To learn more, contact Erin Stryka at erin@rosedale.org or 913-677-5097.

mulch over cardboard in the pathways around the beds to keep out weeds in preparation for the growing season.

In addition, the South Early St. Community Garden received two new beds, and plans are underway for a painted cinder block herb garden. Likewise, the 45th and Rainbow site gained three new, well-deserved beds; the water barrel was moved to the north side; a new compost

bin on the west side was built from wood pallets donated by Sunshine Flowers; and new plants are ready to be incorporated into the pollinator garden. Lastly, gardeners at Christopher Webb Memorial installed a new water barrel to replace the old leaky one. Passersby are encouraged to stop in and check out the improvements!

The May community pot-
(continued next page)

(Gardens continued)
luck and garden workshop will be May 10 from 6-8 p.m. at the Koch Community Center (1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK 66103). Lynn Loughary, Master Gardener from the Wyandotte County K-State Extension office, will be reviewing

Rozarks Trails shaping up in a new way

by Erin Stryka

Hikers and bikers will notice changes to the Rozarks trails this spring. Thanks to the labor of dedicated partners and volunteers, the Rozarks have been rerouted to accommodate new development and help maintain the health of the urban trail system.

One major development affecting the trails is the new BPU substation, which is replacing the Fisher Park substation. Some components of the Fisher Park substation are 72 years old, so it no longer meets the needs of the growing neighborhood. BPU is building a new substation that affects part of the trail system, but never fear – BPU staff are working with RDA to restore and improve the trails after construction is

best practices for organic pesticides. The workshop is free, and carpools are available upon request.

To learn more or get involved, contact Miranda Coffey at 913-677-5097 or miranda@rosedale.org.

complete. One section of the trail will be closed during construction.

The trail section leading from the Fisher Park trailhead into the system has also been re-routed in order to address erosion issues, increase trail length, and create a less-steep trail grade. Finally, some trail sections between Fisher Park and Mt. Marty Park are now closed by request of the property owner. Trail users should remain on the open trail and respect signage indicating sections are closed and blocked. For trail map updates, visit rosedale.org and the trailheads at Fisher Park and Mt. Marty Park.

To request an updated trail map, contact erin@rosedale.org.

Bike, walk, or ride to the eighth annual Bike-In Movie

by Alissa Workman

After an unseasonably cold April, RDA and their partners are ready to celebrate Bike Month with some warm-weather staples: bicycling, outdoor fun, community gatherings, and the Drive-In Theatre!

On Thursday, May 17, RDA, in partnership with BikeWalkKC, Mid-America Council (MARC), Board of Public Utilities (BPU), the Boulevard Drive-In Theatre, and Brain Injury Association of Kansas and Greater KC, invite the community to attend the screening of the nostalgic baseball classic, *The Sandlot*.

This family-friendly annual event features games, activities, and information from community partners beginning at 7 p.m. The film will begin at dark. Community members are invited to ride their bike or walk, with seating and safe bicycle storage available at the event. Those arriving in cars are asked to make a \$5 donation to RDA.

“Though RDA advocates for active transportation and healthy living year-round, celebrating Bike Month with our community partners is a great way to share the benefits of bicycling, to promote safe family cycling in our community, and to encourage others to give bicycling a try,” says Erin Stryka, RDA Executive Director.

The Boulevard Drive-In Theatre, which opened in April for the 2018 movie season, has been a generous Bike-In Movie partner since 2011. They are happy to support the event, and remind folks to bring cash for the concessions!

To learn more about RDA's Bike Month events, visit rosedale.org/bikemonth or call Alissa at 913-677-5097.



Welcome new Board member Scott Martens

by Erin Stryka

Scott Martens joined the RDA Board this year. Scott is a resident of Hanover Heights and owner of Kansas City Testing and Engineering, LLC. Scott has extensive experience with board service, including with KCK Downtown Rotary Club, ASCE Geotechnical Group, Urban Core Group, and the American Concrete Institute. When asked how RDA would benefit from his involvement on the board, Scott replied “I am a forward thinker and recognize issues standing in the way of making our community the best it can be.” Welcome to the board, Scott!

To learn more, contact Erin Stryka at 913-677-5097 or erin@rosedale.org.

Rosedale Development Association

Our mission is: To work with residents, businesses, and institutions to develop a thriving Rosedale community.

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Community Calendar

compiled by Kimberly Hunter

RECURRING EVENTS:

Fisher Park Walking Club
Mondays at 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Call for meet-up location

Community Garden Workdays
Saturdays 8-11 a.m.
Call for meet-up location

ONE-TIME EVENTS:

Saturday, May 5
Rosedale Disc de Triomphe
9 a.m.-1 p.m., Rosedale Park

Monday, May 7
Hilltop Neighborhood meeting
6 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Tuesday, May 8
Frank Rushton Neighborhood meeting
6:30 p.m., 4326 Lloyd St., KCK

Wednesday, May 9
Shawnee Road Neighborhood meeting
7 p.m., 818 Shawnee Rd., KCK

Wednesday, May 9
All-Rosedale Bike to School Day
Call for times and locations

Thursday, May 10
Garden Workshop #3: Organic Pesticides
6-8 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Tuesday, May 15
Bagels on the Boulevard
7:30-9:30 a.m., 301 and 1403 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Wednesday, May 16
Rosedale Leadership Council
5:30 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Thursday, May 17
Bike-In Movie
7 p.m., Boulevard Drive-In Theatre, KCK

To learn more about upcoming events and other community happenings, visit rosedale.org or call 913-677-5097.

Memory Lane: Peggy Bell

by Nika Cotton

Peggy Bell has been a resident of Rosedale for 26 years. Her neighbors know her as someone who is always making people laugh. She moved to Kansas City, MO from her hometown of Little Rock, Arkansas at the age of 17, and then into Rosedale at the age of 45.

Peggy vividly remembers when her apartment complex, Rosedale Towers, was being built in 1975 — long before she had any idea she would become a resident there. She remembers thinking at the time that the building seemed “so enormous”. Rosedale Towers is an independent living community which is home to seniors, low-income residents, and people living with disabilities. Residents enjoy social events planned by the tenant association as well as a community garden and healthy living program facilitated by RDA.

Peggy says she's very happy with where she lives because it is conveniently close to her doctor's office and she enjoys living in Rosedale more than her previous neighborhoods. Peggy's neighbors have become her

best friends over the last 26 years, though she has seen many residents come and go. Peggy says she doesn't know of any place she would rather be than her home at Rosedale Towers. Her advice to people thinking of coming to Rosedale is to make the move because “Rosedale is a better place to live than any other.”

According to Peggy, the neighborhood has changed a lot since she moved in 26 years ago. She has watched the University of Kansas Health System grow and the number of residents in her apartment complex increase. During that time, her building has undergone many changes. Peggy remembers when she first moved into her high-rise apartment complex, all the floors were covered in a bright red carpet, which have since been replaced with linoleum. Her favorite hobbies are art projects in the community room and playing bingo with her best friend, Ms. Dorothy Johnson.

Transportation can be an issue for seniors like Peggy and many other residents of Rosedale Towers. Some have

inhibitions about going out alone in the community or being too far from home, and the public transportation system can be intimidating to navigate. As a result, many residents find community within the walls of the high-rise. Peggy's idea of a thriving Rosedale community is one in which all members engage with one another and treat each other well. She wants to live in a place where no one has to struggle alone and where people feel safe and connected.

To share a memory, contact Kimberly Hunter at 913-677-5097 or kimberly@rosedale.org.



Peggy Bell



Let's be rock solid together!

Please accept my donation in support of RDA.

Name of business or name of household

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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.



Tired trail workers rest after re-routing trail in Fisher Park

EMILY XIONG

