

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Community Spotlight

Rooted relationships repair 20 Rosedale residences

by Erin Stryka

Last month 317 dedicated individuals repaired 20 homes for Rosedale seniors and people with disabilities over two high-energy weekends. Their work is part of a partnership between Christmas in October (CIO), the University of Kansas Health System (TUKHS), and Rosedale Development Association that began in 1992. This year, however, is special. TUKHS is celebrating their 20th year of operating as a hospital authority. Employees are celebrating by participating in the H.E.R.O. (Health System Employees Reaching Out) program in record numbers, including taking on the highest number of home repairs to date.

On October 13 and 20, TUKHS volunteers built wheelchair ramps, cut back vegetation, scraped and painted, fixed leaky plumbing, repaired roofs, replaced broken windows, built fences, patched up steps and driveways, and got to know their Rosedale neighbors.

Christmas in October's mission is to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and

lives of low-income, elderly, disabled and veteran homeowners. CIO provides tools, supplies, dumpsters, and porta-potties and has been a tireless partner to RDA in coordinating this event each year. This year, a generous donation from Polsinelli provided boxed lunches for the volunteers, and Dr. Robert Simari provided a continental breakfast to energize early morning workers!

To qualify for CIO assistance, residents must own only one home (the home in which they live) and lack the financial resources to complete the repair. They must also be at least 62 years of age OR any age with a physical disability OR be a veteran or have a veteran living in the home.

All Rosedalian deserve housing that is safe, warm, and in good condition. Volunteers and partners like TUKHS and CIO improve quality of life for Rosedale seniors and people with disabilities, and each home they fix up helps improve the beauty, safety, and walkability of our neighborhoods as a whole. Thank you to the University



Volunteers repair a Rosedalian's porch with Christmas in October.

of Kansas Health System and Christmas in October for helping to build a thriving Rosedale community!

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

Submit a story and celebrate 40 years with Rosedale Development Association!

by Alissa Workman

On Tuesday, December 18, community members are invited to the Vox Theatre to celebrate Rosedale Development Association's 40th anniversary as a nonprofit in Rosedale. The event will take place from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., where guests will join RDA board and staff in enjoying light food and drinks, share stories and accomplishments from RDA's collaborative community work over the last 40 years, and discuss visions for the future of Rosedale.

Long-time Rosedaliens might recognize this as the time typically reserved for the RDA Annual Meeting; while there will be some similarities, this year's event will be much more festive as RDA Board, staff, partners, and Rosedale community members gather to celebrate this great milestone.

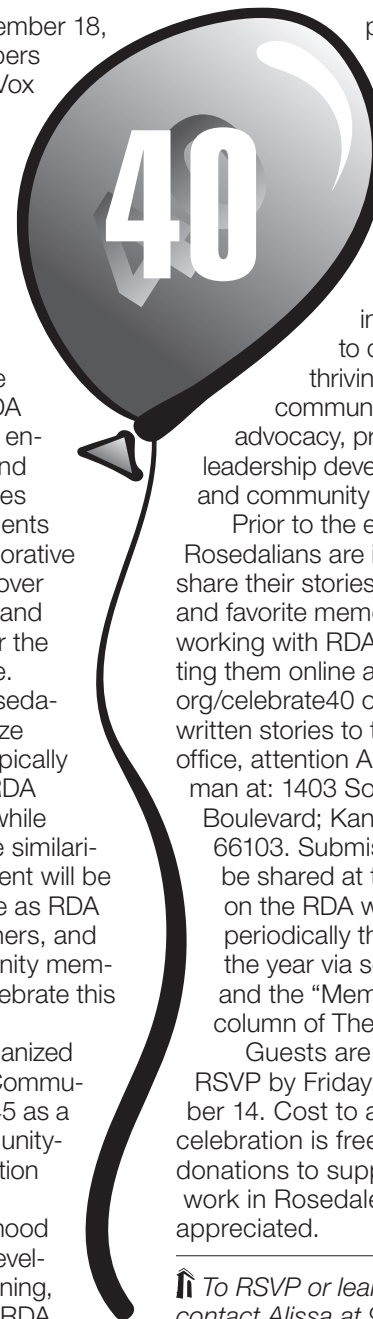
Unofficially organized as the Rosedale Community Council in 1945 as a grassroots, community-centered organization addressing issues such as neighborhood blight, business development, crime, zoning, and flood control, RDA received official non-

profit status in 1978. Today RDA remains committed to work with residents, businesses, and institutions to develop a thriving Rosedale community through advocacy, programs, leadership development, and community service.

Prior to the event, Rosedaliens are invited to share their stories, photos, and favorite memories about working with RDA by submitting them online at rosedale.org/celebrate40 or by mailing written stories to the RDA office, attention Alissa Workman at: 1403 Southwest Boulevard; Kansas City, KS 66103. Submissions will be shared at the event, on the RDA website, or periodically throughout the year via social media and the "Memory Lane" column of The Rosedalian.

Guests are asked to RSVP by Friday, December 14. Cost to attend the celebration is free, though donations to support RDA's work in Rosedale will be appreciated.

To RSVP or learn more, contact Alissa at 913-677-5097 or alissa@rosedale.org.



Holy Name principal, Dr. Vega, reads to Frank Rushton scholars during RISE week.

Volunteers RISE up to bridge the gap

by Je T'aime Taylor

This January, Rosedale Development Association will again partner with area schools to honor the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by Reading Inspirational Stories to Empower (RISE). RISE will take place during the week of January 22-25 at T.A. Edison, Noble Prentis, Frank Rushton, Holy Name, and Rosedale Middle Schools. It aims to connect community volunteers with Rosedale scholars and engage them in not only the lessons from past challenges met and milestones achieved, but also in current culture and events in order to build a better future.

This year will focus on the Civil Rights Movement's youth leaders. Books will explore the lives of Ruby Bridges, the Little Rock Nine, the McDonogh

Three, Barbara Rose Johns, and other children-turned-change-agents. Volunteer Dahnika Sachs says of her experience last year, "I was really impressed with the kids and the discussions the story generated."

RDA will host a mandatory volunteer training Tuesday, January 15 from 6 - 8 pm at 1444 Southwest Blvd. (Rainbow Mennonite Church). At the training, readers will receive classroom and book assignments as well as tips to guide discussion. As Phil Rhoads, former AmeriCorps service member, shares, "RISE is good for us volunteers, maybe more so than for the kids!"

To volunteer or learn more, contact Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or jetaime@rosedale.org.

Building a Better Block with BikeWalkKC

by Nicole Fitzgerald

On October 13, 2018 RDA worked with BikeWalkKC, Strasser Hardware, Holy Name Church, Omega Door, TMS Mechanical Contractors and Three Bees Coffee and Pottery to offer the community of Rosedale and Southwest Blvd. a Better Block demonstration. Better Block is a community revitalization project and urban design exhibit. The event demonstrates how temporary streetscape improvements, bicycle accessibility, pop-up businesses, local art, and street life can improve vitality, create connections, and generate a thriving community of commerce and interaction.

Director of Programs at BikeWalkKC, Maggie Green, states, "BikeWalkKC is thrilled to partner with RDA, the Unified Government, and Rosedale businesses to host another traffic calming demonstration in KCK. Traffic calming demonstrations are low cost, fun, and relatively quick ways to visualize what our streets could look like with better pedestrian and bicycle

accommodations. And what better way to launch events like these than with great partners and with the community! Our goal through these events is to show the importance of and make the case for permanent infrastructure improvements."

Five temporary crosswalks were put in along Southwest Blvd. between Iowa St., one of which was in front of Strasser Hardware, allowing customers to easily cross over to get to Three Bees Coffee and Pottery. Southwest Blvd.'s two lane road was reduced to a single lane with parking along the road and a protected bike lane.

Overall, Better Block effectively demonstrated that traffic can move more safely on Southwest Blvd. with a few updates. The most exciting thing to observe was cars stopping for community members in the temporary crosswalks.

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

A-Team welcomes Rob and Samantha

by Samantha Burton-Bosket and Rob Gibson

This is **Samantha Burton-Bosket's** second year serving with AmeriCorps. She was born in Philadelphia and moved to Kansas five years ago. Samantha received her Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership with a minor in Organizational Development from Central Penn College and founded Samantha Bosket Consulting. She looks forward to serving with RDA this year and learning how to best serve this community.

Robert Gibson proudly hails from Philadelphia, PA. He received his bachelor's of science in Biology from Morehouse College and Masters of Public Health from Rutgers University. He is currently a medical student at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. In his spare time, Robert enjoys playing chess, cooking, and playing sports. He is excited to join the AmeriCorps team at RDA, serve the residents of Rosedale and learn more about this unique community.

📍 For an application, contact Je T'aime at 913-677-5097 or jetaime@rosedale.org.



Volunteers and muralists join Frank Rushton staff and scholars for International Walk to School Day.

Walk this way: Local scholars practice an international rite of passage

by Jason McGee

Many readers may recall fondly their early morning treks to school, others not so much; either way, walking to school is a rite of passage for many scholars around the world. So every Wednesday morning here in Rosedale, RDA and AmeriCorps join Frank Rushton Elementary students and families aboard the "Walking School Bus." For years, Frank Rushton teachers like Rachel Hohendorf and Beverlee Brokeshoulder have led the bus route, stopping every few blocks to pick up other students along the winding way.

Depending on weather, their Walking School Bus serves 15-18 students. The pace to Frank Rushton is brisk and the path hilly, which gets their circulation flowing. "It's a good way," says parent Jason Needham, "to get fired up on a Wednesday." Mr. Needham recalls spending several hours per day on a school bus in

elementary school, an experience he did not enjoy – which is why he enjoys walking his daughter Jocelyn to school every week. The Walking School Bus aims to provide a safe walking route to school and improve the health of Rosedale's youth while honoring the tradition of walking to school.

On October 10, RDA celebrated International Walk to School Day, which began in 1997. According to the "Walk to School" website, "Children in all 50 States and from over 40 countries walk or ride bikes to school on the same day...to encourage alternate methods of commuting to and from school, and to implement and raise awareness of healthy habits."

📍 To learn more or sign a scholar up for the Walking School Bus, contact Je T'aime Taylor at 913-677-5097 or jetaime@rosedale.org.

Community Calendar

RECURRING EVENTS:

Mondays at 5:30 p.m.

Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Fisher Park Walking Club

Call for meet-up location

Saturdays 8-11 a.m.

Community Garden Workdays

Call for meet-up location

ONE-TIME EVENTS:

Saturday, November 3

Fisher Park Community Build & Chili Celebration

8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

3800 Fisher St., KCK

Monday, November 5

Hilltop Neighborhood meeting

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

Thursday, November 8

Community Potluck Workshop #9:

"No Waste" Gardening

Call for carpools and/or childcare

6-8 p.m., 1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

Tuesday, November 13

Frank Rushton Neighborhood meeting

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

Wednesday, November 14

Shawnee Road Neighborhood meeting

5:30 p.m., 818 Shawnee Rd., KCK

Wednesday, November 28

Rosedale Leadership Council

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

Tuesday, December 18

RDA's 40th Anniversary Party

6:30-8:30 p.m., Vox Theatre

1403 Southwest Blvd., KCK

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

Rosedale Development Association

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

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'Rosedale roots' inspired first Black woman to own a male professional sports league

by Robert Gibson

As a youngster growing up in Rosedale, Evelyn Magley knew she was called to "greatness with a purpose." And when she represented Frank Rushton Elementary School at the Junior Achievement Awards and became J.C. Harmon High's first African-American homecoming queen, it seemed certain. Yet what she could not know then was her greatest achievement by 2018 would involve basketball. "I always thought music would be my life's work because that's where I invested most of my time. Besides, growing up, the only sport I really cared about (until I met my husband) was football," she recalls with a laugh.

Her love for music began with the youth choir at Rosedale's St. Paul AME Zion Church. Evelyn and her sister Alisa went on to lead the choir until Evelyn enrolled at the University of Kansas, where she graduated with dual degrees in Music Education and Music Therapy in 1980. After graduation, she returned to Rosedale to complete an internship at Rainbow Mental Health, where she used music therapy to counsel abused children. While back at St. Paul, she also developed Children with Purpose, a non-profit organization focused

Evelyn Magley, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of The Basketball League, grew up in Rosedale.



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on physically and psychologically empowering students to achieve their educational goals.

While these endeavors steered her towards a music career, Magley knew a commitment to serving and developing others would also be a key part of her life's work. "Growing up in Rosedale, around a community of people who loved each other, and seeing my parent's commitment to mentoring young people in our neighborhood, I witnessed and experienced the impact you can have on people's lives by authentically loving and investing in them." Thus even as Magley and her family traveled internationally for her husband's professional basketball career, she continued supporting community projects and organizations that served people.

During her time in Canada as Director of Community En-

agement with the Brampton Aces of the National Basketball League (NBL), she founded The Basketball League (TBL) — the male professional basketball league formerly known as the North American Premier Basketball League. "Our Motto, 'Where the love of the game lives,' embodies what our league is all about — using basketball as a platform to show love for our communities through the development and investment of our players," says Magley, who serves as CEO of the league. Currently, the league has 11 teams — including the local Kansas City Tornados — and plans to add two or three more by the start of 2019 season, which runs January through April.

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

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

Name of business or name of household

Address

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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.

