

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

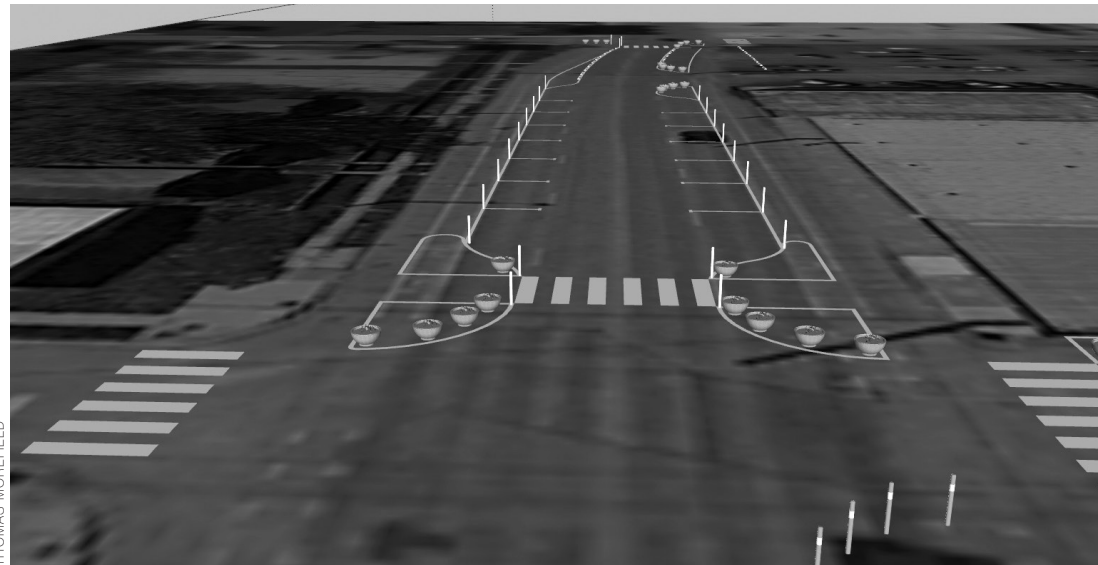
Community Spotlight

Southwest Blvd. businesses plan a Better Block Demonstration

by Erin Stryka

On Saturday, October 13 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Rosedale businesses near the intersection of Southwest Blvd. and Iowa St. will work with RDA and BikeWalkKC to plan a demonstration of possible changes to Southwest Blvd. Called a Better Block Demonstration, the project uses materials like tape, chalk, and cones to temporarily change the layout of a street as a way of seeing whether an alternative layout works better for drivers, pedestrians, and bike riders. The demonstration does not propose specific changes but does open a conversation with neighborhood stakeholders and the local government about what changes would be appropriate.

The project began when Nick Medrano, owner of Three Bees Coffee and Pottery, called RDA to talk about ways to improve safety for people crossing Southwest Blvd. on foot for their morning coffee. RDA and BikeWalkKC conducted traffic counts and observations of current conditions at the intersection. Southwest Blvd. widens from three lanes to four just northeast of



The Better Block Demonstration includes narrowing the crossing distance for pedestrians using planters and bollards.

Iowa St., which causes cars to speed up right in an area where pedestrians are increasingly likely to cross the street. BikeWalkKC designed an alternative layout for the demonstration, including shortening the crossing distance across Southwest Blvd. with planters and bollards and narrowing Southwest Blvd. to three lanes for one additional block.

Three Bees Coffee and Pottery, Holy Name Church and Holy Name School,

Omega Door Company, Strasser Hardware, and TMS Mechanical Contractors are putting on the demonstration in partnership with RDA, BikeWalkKC and the Better Block Foundation. They hope to draw attention to how increased car, bike, and pedestrian traffic in this area have resulted from new businesses like Three Bees, the growth of existing businesses, the growth of the neighborhood in general, and

previous improvements to Southwest Blvd. As this area continues to thrive, changes may be needed to accommodate increased activity. Stop by Southwest Blvd. and Iowa St. on October 13 for food, fun, and conversation about how Southwest Blvd. can best serve our growing neighborhood.

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



Costumes are encouraged but not required at Healthy Halloween at KUMC on Saturday, October 27.

Rosedale community invited to Healthy Halloween

by Alissa Workman

Rosedale Development Association's annual health-oriented Halloween celebration has a new location and some new partners this year! In collaboration with University of Kansas Medical Center, RDA is pleased to invite the community to the 2018 Healthy Halloween celebration on Saturday, October 27 from 2-5 p.m. This year, festivities will take place in and around the Health Education Building located on the KUMC campus on the northeast corner of Rainbow Blvd. and 39th St. Wheelchair and stroller accessible shuttles will be available to and from Whitmore Park and the Rosedale Mural throughout the event.

This year, moving the

event to the medical center allows RDA and KUMC to offer community members of all ages health screenings, flu shots, winter weather giveaways, Thanksgiving turkeys and hams, some fun health-oriented workshops, and more. Like previous years, community members will recognize many of the Healthy Halloween traditions they love, including: costumes, Halloween games and activities, face painting, healthy treats, painted pumpkins, and lots of scary fun for youth of all ages.

"We are excited to partner with KU Medical Center and their Office of Diversity and Inclusion team," says RDA Executive Director, Erin Stryka. She continues, "As one of

Give all you can

by Je T'aime Taylor

In November, Rosedalians gather to assemble food baskets, winter outer wear, and toiletry items for neighborhood families in need. This has been a time-honored tradition in Rosedale for 34 years. Rosedalians nominate families they believe could benefit from the generosity of their fellow neighbors.

Local volunteers sort the donated items, shop for winter wear, and prepare baskets for families. Becky Maricle, local resident of the First Alert neighborhood, says, "I have been a volunteer for Feed-a-Family and a recipient of the program." One year Becky nominated a neighbor whom she believed was in need of extra support. "My neighbor, a single mom, tried to make ends meet but did not know how she would provide for her family over the November holiday season," says Becky.

With the help of churches, businesses, and other organizations, RDA has leveraged resources to meet residents' needs. This year, RDA will gather food for 35 families

from November 14-16. The food list includes turkeys, hams, sweet potatoes, dinner rolls, cornbread, pumpkin pies, gravy, vegetable oil, stuffing mix, sugar, flour, sugar-free jello, and canned goods like corn, green beans, cranberry sauce, and cream of mushroom. In addition to the food baskets, RDA provides 10 Rosedale families with coats, hats, and gloves to keep warm during the winter.

To help buy coats, hats, and gloves for youth, please call the office to obtain the sizes needed. Anyone is welcome to purchase items or make donations, and RDA will ensure items get to Rosedale families. Individuals, families, and organizations can support this Rosedale tradition by nominating a neighbor in need, donating resources, or volunteering time. Volunteers are especially needed to help assemble baskets on Monday, November 19.

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

RDA's signature community events, our hope is that Healthy Halloween will provide a fun, safe, and healthy holiday celebration for residents while also connecting them to some great new resources this year."

Rosedale businesses, churches, and community organizations that would like

to be present at the event are encouraged to contact the RDA office. Event volunteers are also needed to help deliver haunted fun to the Rosedale community.

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

Volunteers and community partners help Rosedale gardens thrive

by Kimberly Hunter

Every year, RDA partners with volunteers, residents, businesses, and institutions to keep community gardens thriving in four locations throughout Rosedale. At each site, lead volunteers called "Garden Angels" keep vegetables watered, grass mowed, and weeds at bay. At each site, gardeners can get seeds, transplants, and organic fertilizer for a discounted price through Kansas City Community Gardens (KCCG). This year, BPU and Green Solutions Tree Service offered wood mulch free of charge while Strasser Hardware generously gave gardeners a gift card to shop for supplies like gloves and hand tools.

At some sites, churches share property and water to help maintain the gardens, and at others businesses share freely from their extra resources. Three host community compost bins where neighbors can recycle their food scraps. And one even boasts a small Giving Grove fruit orchard.

At the 45th and Rainbow site, residents can lease an individual plot for \$15/year, complete with access to a compost bin maintained by Garden Angel Sharon Pace, water provided by Rosedale Congregational Church, and

other resources frequently donated by Sunshine Flowers across the street. And just down the street, the Rosedale Towers gardens has six cooperatively grown plots, compliments of KCCG and volunteers from New Story Church.

In lower Rosedale, the Christopher Webb Community Garden's cooperatively grown rows and raised beds are maintained by Garden Angel JoAnn Keir, her daughter, her grandchildren, and several neighbors, including a family across the street that donates water to refill their barrel. Down and around Southwest Blvd., neighbors can rent an annual plot at the South Early St. Community Garden or help tend cooperatively grown rows. This site also has a coveted Giving Grove orchard, complete with a blackberry bramble, three pear trees, and two apple trees.

These community garden partners increase not only Rosedaleans' access to healthy foods but also their sense of community. Consider volunteering with them or saying hello when they are out tending their rows.

📞 *To learn more about community gardens, contact Je T'aime at 913-677-5097 or jetaime@rosedale.org.*



RDA welcomes new AmeriCorps team

by Amanda Hemmingsen and Jason McGee

Amanda Hemmingsen has been a teacher and volunteer since her early days in Girl Scouts. Currently, she is establishing her career as a ghost-writer/editor and yoga instructor. She loves dancing, yoga, laughing, and reading and is excited to be part of the team.

Some of Jason McGee's earliest and best childhood memories revolve around history he found in the pages of books, movies, historical documentaries, and the reen-

actments that he perpetrated in his backyard. For a time, he was a high school social studies teacher, but after 10 years in the trenches of public education he is now a part-time handyman, AmeriCorps volunteer, and full-time father. He is exuberant about the prospects of serving Rosedaleans and doing all he can for RDA.

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

New daycare coming to Rosedale

by Erin Stryka

The Wyandotte County Planning Commission has approved an application for a new daycare center at 2605 West 39th Ave. Faris Farassati, a former employee of the University of Kansas Health Systems, was inspired to open a daycare center by his own past struggles to find childcare for his family when he worked in Rosedale.

According to state guidelines, the center will have capacity for up to 85 kids from ages 2-6. It will be open from 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Farassati expects to hire 10 staff members. He also hopes to build a high-quality daycare with well-trained staff, a strong academic curriculum, and beautiful classrooms that use Norwegian design principles to represent nature and encourage a peaceful environment. It will be called The Outlook Academy.

Farassati looked for a location in Rosedale that would be convenient for not

only KU employees but also Rosedale families and chose a 4,200 square-foot building across the street from Fisher Park that served as a daycare from 1989-2004. The building also briefly served as an adult daycare center but has now sat vacant for several years.

Plans for the building include extensive renovations inside and out. Farassati will build a new five-foot sidewalk on the north and west sides of the property along 39th Ave. and Lake Ave. and replace broken sidewalks on the east side of the property. He also plans to install street trees every 30 feet along 39th Ave. and Lake Ave. Last but not least, Farassati hopes to work closely with the neighborhood to make his daycare a point of community pride.

📞 *To learn more about new business development in Rosedale, contact Erin Stryka at 913-677-5097 or erin@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:

Tuesday, October 9

Frank Rushton

Neighborhood meeting

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

Wednesday, October 10

Shawnee Road

Neighborhood meeting

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

Saturday, October 13

Better Block Demonstration

11 a.m.-6 p.m., Southwest Blvd. and Iowa St., KCK

Wednesday, October 17

Rosedale Leadership Council

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

Thursday, October 18

Community Potluck Workshop #8:

Fermented non-alcoholic drinks

Call for carpools and/or childcare

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

Saturday, October 27

Healthy Halloween

2-5 p.m.,

KUMC's Health Education Building

39th and Rainbow, KCK

Saturday, November 3

Fisher Park Community Build & Chili Celebration

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

3800 Fisher St., 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.

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

Kimberly Hunter Editor

Staff and Board of Directors

online at rosedale.org

Lizzardbrand Design

Facebook.com/

RosedaleDevelopment

Twitter.com/RosedaleDA

Rosedale.org

Memory Lane: The annual RDA Thanksgiving food drive

by Jim Needham

For several years, starting in 2012 or 2013, I have helped fill food baskets for fixed-income families in Wyandotte County. This activity usually happens a few days before Thanksgiving and takes place in the space next door and just to the east of the RDA office, at 1401 Southwest Blvd., otherwise known as the Koch Community Center. My role was to fill boxes with donated food items. Sometimes items were donated by churches. Other times individuals and families dropped off grocery bags full of goods. And yet more people donated money online or at the office, which could then be used to purchase the rest of what was needed to complete the holiday baskets.

After the donations were collected, each volunteer in my role was given a list of food to put into each basket that a family would use to cook up a great Thanksgiving feast. For example, two cans of green beans, one can of yams, one or two cans of corn, and a frozen turkey or chicken would go in each basket. As a family came through the door, they would receive one box of food for their holiday dinner, as well as enough food for a few additional meals. Some families



Year after year, Jim Needham has been a dependable Feed-a-Family volunteer.

would also receive coats and hats for the winter.

This is a very good effort on behalf of RDA to help families in need in the Rosedale area. I am glad that I was able to help out, and I plan to help with future food drives and other RDA activities. Helping RDA with community

programs has given me an opportunity to get out there, to meet new people, and to have a good feeling within myself that I am doing something good for my neighbors.

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



Garden angels at Rosedale Towers tend their cooperatively grown plots from spring through autumn.

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.

