

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Good neighbors

Volunteers made lasting impact in Rosedale throughout 2021

By Alissa Workman

"A lot of people are signing up for these cleanups!" exclaimed Sarah Waggoner, RDA's communications coordinator, in April 2021 as RDA made plans for neighborhood-based cleanup events in place of our large All Rosedale Cleanup annual event. After a year of limited volunteer opportunities in 2020, RDA was blown away by the willingness of folks to give their time in Rosedale throughout this year.

Over multiple Saturdays in April and May, volunteers tackled neighbor-identified problem areas together. As the year rolled on, RDA received support from hundreds of volunteers to help with Rosedale projects large and small. This included volunteers for neighborhood cleanups and graffiti removal, Rozarks trail workdays, programs such as Rainbow Summer Program and the

youth soccer club, garden and orchard maintenance, event support for Haunted Halloween and the Luminary Hike, and even a couple of extra hands tackling projects around the RDA office and community room space. In October, a whopping 95 volunteers gave 760 hours to Christmas in October, which provides minor (and sometimes major) home repair to elder Rosedale residents.

According to national statistics, one volunteer hour is currently valued at \$28.54. In 2021, over 400 volunteers gave 1,623 hours to Rosedale projects, a value of over \$46,000! RDA thanks all who shared their time and talents for projects in Rosedale, and will honor 2021 outstanding volunteers at the rescheduled Annual Meeting Open House, on Thursday, March 10. This will be a come-and-go event,




SARAH WAGGONER

Volunteers showed up in force in 2021, including Rosedale Neighborhood Cleanups.

where folks can also learn more about RDA's 2022 plans, connect with RDA staff, and celebrate 2021 accomplishments. Additional details about this event will be shared soon.

In 2021, and again in 2022, RDA received a grant from the Kansas Volunteer Commission to strengthen our volun-

teer program and build upon the great work that is already happening in Rosedale.

 To learn more about how to support RDA's work in Rosedale through volunteering, contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org or call the RDA office at 913-677-5097.



THE ROSEDALE

R O S E D A L E D E V E L O P M E N T A S S O C I A T I O N N E W S L E T T E R

AmeriCorps recruitment in full swing at Rosedale Development Association

By Samanthé Burton-Bosket


This summer, Rosedale Development Association is anticipating serving 100 youth scholars during our Rainbow Summer Program (RSP). Recruitment for AmeriCorps positions for RSP is starting now! First, we will be hiring several Classroom Facilitators, who are the scholars' direct supporters. Classroom Facilitators deliver curriculum, facilitate a social action project, engage in safe and educational activities, and create an environment where scholars are encouraged to use problem-solving skills. During the program, scholars learn gardening basics and financial literacy, engage in summer reading, learn about nutrition, and participate in physical activity.

Second, we will be hiring a Culinary Manager and Culinary Assistant to provide the program with nutritious breakfast, lunch, and snacks throughout the day. And finally, we are searching for a Before and After Care Coordinator, who will serve the scholars for one hour before and two hours after the regu-

lar program hours.

We are also still searching for someone to serve as an AmeriCorps VISTA member at the RDA offices. This position will work to build RDA's capacity to connect with new funders for community projects, most notably to research and narrow down funding prospects for the upcoming Rosedale community center capital campaign. This would be an incredible opportunity for someone interested in both fundraising and development and community engagement, as this role would be instrumental in relationship building with both funders and community members.

Over half of current RDA staff started out on our AmeriCorps team; you never know where this job could lead, and we need strong and passionate community members to lead the next stage of growth at RDA. Apply today!

 For more information about RDA's AmeriCorps team, reach out to Samanthé at samanthe@rosedale.org.



SAMANTHE BURTON-BOSKET

The Early St. community garden grows abundantly in the sunshine.

Garden plot applications are open!


By Samanthé Burton-Bosket

It is once again time to start thinking about spring gardening. For many years, RDA has supported gardens and orchard programs because of a desire to help increase Rosedale residents' access to healthy foods. These programs also boost a sense of community, cultivate and beautify unused land, and improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Rosedale. This year, starting February 1, we will be offering garden plots for rent at the South Early St. community garden.

As well as offering plots to rent, any community member with a home garden and limited tools can request to borrow tools from RDA's tool

library throughout the growing season. Shovels, rakes, clippers, and more are available at our offices. Our orchards are also open to the public; when the trees and bushes are ripe, any community member is welcome to help themselves to fresh fruit!

The gardens and orchards can be a great place to get out and enjoy nice weather by volunteering. Volunteering with our gardens helps to keep the garden beautiful and manageable for the entire community to enjoy.

 For more information on the gardens or orchards, or to rent a plot, contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org.



RDA STOCK



A current exhibit displays photos and artifacts within the Wyandotte County Historical Museum.

Got history? Contribute to the upcoming Rosedale exhibit

By Sarah Waggoner

2022 marks the 150th anniversary of the townsite of Rosedale, which is the first official recording of Rosedale becoming a city. To honor and celebrate this momentous occasion, The Wyandotte Historical Museum is planning a special exhibit highlighting the history of Rosedale. But the museum needs your help. They are asking all current and former Rosedallians to dig up their treasured historical items and objects that could be put on display during the exhibit. The museum is looking for objects with direct connections to Rosedale from its beginning to the present, things that tell stories about Rosedale: from its people to businesses, community organizations, schools, and everything in between. “It is the personal stories that bring an exhibit to life,” shared Amy Loch, the museum director.

The museum already has a strong collection of newspapers and yearbooks, but most any other items (including photographs of important places or events) would be welcome. You can choose to either donate your objects to the museum, or lend it for the duration of the exhibit. The Rosedale exhibit is planned to open this spring and will be available for viewing at the Wyandotte Historical Museum until the end of June. A selection of items will then be available to view as a traveling exhibit at the end of the summer at our community space at 1401 Southwest Blvd. More details will be shared about this exciting event as they become available.

📌 *To learn more about the exhibit or to donate your items, contact the museum at 913-573-5002 or wycokck.org.*

Financial assistance available to Rosedale renters and businesses

By Sarah Waggoner

As we are coming up on the third year of Covid-19, many Rosedallians continue to feel the financial burden that this pandemic has placed on both households and businesses. Through the American Rescue Plan Act there are opportunities for assistance for households who are behind on rent or utility payments and small businesses that are still recovering. Kansas Housing Resource Corporation is still offering their KERA (Kansas Emergency Rental Assistance) program, and has



Opportunity Foundation can assist you. Call 913-371-0848 to make an appointment with Monica Sipple. For the business sector, the Unified Government has rolled out a new program for assistance aimed solely at small businesses. The Small Business Resiliency Grant Program is awarding funds to Kansas City, Kansas for-profit businesses with less than 100 employees that can demonstrate a need directly related to the Covid-19 pandemic. These businesses can receive up to \$10,000 in grant funds. Applications are currently open and will be accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are used. To apply, visit bit.ly/3nd5kkY and scroll to the bottom of the page to find the application.

📌 *To learn more about what other kinds of assistance are available for Rosedallians, visit rosedale.org/emergency-assistance or call the front office at 913-667-5097.*

RDA welcomes new Board member

By Victor Michimani

As we enter the new year, RDA is welcoming new members to the board of directors. Lesslie Martinez will be one of the few joining this year and looks to use her professional experience as well as her personal connection with Rosedale to make an impact. Lesslie has been in the medical field for over five years and has recently begun exploring ways to improve patients’ social determinants of health. Born and raised in Rosedale, Lesslie has seen first-hand the impact a good community has



Lesslie Martinez is all smiles as she joins the RDA board. on the youth and its residents. Join us in giving Lesslie a very warm welcome!

Events Calendar

FEBRUARY

February 1
Community garden applications open
February 7, 14, 21, 28
Rosedale Future Professionals
New cohorts start every Monday

February 16
Rosedale Leadership Council
5:30 p.m.
Zoom

MARCH

March 3
Coffee and Conversation
10 a.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.

March 10
Annual Meeting
5-7 p.m.
Location TBD

March 15
Adult Learning class
5-8 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.

APRIL

April 7
Coffee and Conversation
10 a.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.

April 16
All Rosedale Cleanup

📌 *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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RDA is offering two new programs for adults this spring

By Juanise Oliver

This year, RDA has our sights set on providing a variety of programming to Rosedale, and are excited to start offering adult programming this spring! Starting in March, we invite neighbors to join us for “Coffee and Conversations” on the first Thursday of every month. We will discuss what is happening in Rosedale, events and programs happening at RDA, and take the opportunity to mingle and connect with neighbors and business owners. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and to get involved. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3 from 10 a.m. to noon at our community space at 1401 Southwest Blvd., and coffee will be provided. Feel free to invite a friend.

We are also offering three adult learning classes throughout 2022. The first class will be held on Tuesday, March 15 at 6 p.m., also at our community space. The class will cover effective online job

searching and resume writing. To follow up, subsequent classes will cover interview etiquette and dressing for success, and methods to enhance on-the-job success. These classes are free to attend and are wel-

come to both neighbors and friends of Rosedale.

📌 *For more information or to sign up to attend either event, please contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org.*



✂️-----
Help us further our mission in Rosedale at year’s end!
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**.