Good neighbor

Edie Harrison, animal whisperer

By Sarah Waggoner

When temperatures in KCK became dangerously cold in February, Edie Harrison worried for her neighbors — both human and pets. Edie spends her working hours housing humans as the supportive housing team manager for Wyandot Center. Outside of work, Edie has spent years rescuing animals in Rosedale.

On one of the coldest days of the year, Edie saw a dog lying down on Southwest Blvd. The dog was nearly frozen and unresponsive — he needed to be helped. Edie described the situation: “I saw a dog lying down and just laying there and I knew something was wrong.” She called Animal Control to get the dog, who was then taken to the Wyandot Center.

Edie has lived in Rosedale for 20 years. “I just love the community,” she says, “and the fact that it’s a little wilderness in the big city.” As for animal rescue, “I’ve just always done it,” Edie explained, “over time I’ve developed resources and connections that allow me to do it.”

Edie calls the place and narrowly missing being hit by a car. “Lots of people worked together,” said Edie, to catch that dog and get him, too, safely indoors during the coldest days.

The Rescue Project, one of those resources, helps with pet food and educates owners about veterinarian care and shelter. Another organization, Chain of Hope, will check on animals during cold spells and heat waves, and offers dog houses, straw, or tents in the heat. KCK Humane Society is another great partner, providing low-cost vet care, vaccinations, and spay/neuter services. “If you see an animal in need,” Edie advises, “call Animal Control or one of those other resources.” And in bad weather, think about what you have to offer — warm blankets, pet food, or a little space in your home can keep an animal safe during a weather event.

Learn more about pet adoptions at the Humane Society of Greater KCK at hsgkc.org/adopt.html or by calling 913-396-1000.

RDA welcomes new program team members

By Alissa Workman

In February, Rosedale Development Association excitedly welcomed two new team members: Juanise Oliver, Adult Program and Volunteer Coordinator and Victor Michimani, Youth Program Coordinator. RDA secured grants from Health Forward Foundation, Kansas Volunteer Commission, and Prime Health Foundation to create the new position of Adult Program and Volunteer Coordinator this year.

Both may be familiar faces to some — Juanise served as a classroom facilitator during the 2019 Rainbow Summer Program, and Victor served two terms as an AmeriCorps member at RDA, volunteered as a youth coach, and was also a RSP classroom facilitator in 2019.

Juanise has a Bachelor’s Degree in Spanish from University of Missouri-Columbia, and previously worked as a teacher. She is a member of the National Leadership Society at Penn Valley, and previously worked as a PRSA representative for the Associated Students of the University of Missouri. He loves sports and spending time with his four dogs. Victor is a big fan of Rosedale Park, and says his favorite restaurants here are Joe’s KC Bar-B-Que and Rosedale BBQ. He is looking forward to “continuing to work with Rosedale youth and helping them achieve their goals.”

Our new program team members can be reached at juanise@rosedale.org and victor@rosedale.org, respectively.

Springtime harkens Rosedale neighborhood cleanups

By Juanise Oliver

The sun is out, the birds are chirping, and spring is near. That means it’s time for spring cleaning. Usually, RDA hosts the All-Rosedale Cleanup event in April, however keeping social distancing in mind, we have elected to have several smaller cleanup events throughout the Rosedale neighborhoods. We will meet in a designated location, work for a few hours, and then enjoy some outdoor and socially distant downtime with snacks.

We are currently planning the events to occur on Saturday mornings in April and May, but we need your help. We are superexcited to get back to beautifying Rosedale, and look forward to seeing you join us!

If you have a group of folks who want to clean up your neighborhood, or have suggested areas that need cleaning, please contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org or at 913-677-5097, or stop by our office.

Would you like Abe to be a part of your family? Adopt him now at HSGKC.

Visit HSGKC.org to view Abe and other adoption-friendly pets.

HSGKC.org | 913-396-1000 | friedriccifi@aol.com

A volunteer crew works hard during the 2019 All Rosedale Cleanup.

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

March 2021
State of Kansas provides assistance with rent and utilities

By Sarah Waggoner

Around the Kansas City metro area, many have been hit hard financially due to Covid-19 and its lasting effects. The State of Kansas currently has two programs designed to help those who are having trouble making rent and utility payments.

The first program is the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP), available to help pay high electricity bills caused by extremely cold temperatures. Because of the recent bout of below-freezing weather, Kansas may see higher than usual utility costs. LIEAP is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit. Applications for LIEAP are being accepted through the end of this month, and must be received before 5:00 p.m. on May 28, 2021. To apply, visit dcf.ks.gov/services/ees/Pages/EnergyAssistance.aspx.

The other State of Kansas program is the Kansas Emergency Rental Assistance program (KERA), that will provide rental and utility assistance to households experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID pandemic. This program is launching on March 15, and it is available to both tenants and landlords. Visit kdhousingcorp.org/energy-rental-assistance/ for more information and to apply.

Asking for and applying for assistance can be hard, but these resources are available specifically for Kansans in need. The staff at RDA is always available to help with finding resources, printing and faxing applications, and any other assistance-related needs. Security in housing is a priority of Rosedale engaged. Please accept my donation in support of RDA. Let’s be rock solid together!

R High and Dry cactus is currently making appointments to shop in their showroom, schedule yours today at highanddrycactus.co/

I wanted to make sure that during COVID-19 we were making an effort for the Rosedale community to still receive the benefits of the programs we offer, but in a remote manner,” said Samantha. “These Activity Boxes give Rosedalians an opportunity to continue to be active and creative within their homes, as well as giving them an opportunity to advocate for things they are passionate about in their community.”

Students or families who complete the weekly activities are entered into a drawing to win Rosedale prizes! Enrollment for Activity Boxes is now open at rosedale.org/activity-boxes/

A perfect slice of the Southwest can be found at High and Dry Cactus Co.

By: Sarah Waggoner

Have you ever looked at a place and been inspired by the potential of what it could be? Dreamed of how to bring a space to life with creativity and a little hard work? This type of inspired dream is what sparked Rosedalians Jordan Fox and his wife Emily into creating High and Dry Cactus Co., Kansas City’s first desert plant showroom. Located on West 39th Ave., in the heart of Rosedale, a detached garage turned beautiful cactus nursery reflects the intention and care that the Foxes have curated at High and Dry.

Jordan Fox has always loved this part of Kansas City, sharing that “Rosedale is the perfect mix of industry and neighborhoods, the perfect place to start a business.” As they renovated their house and started transforming their garage, they knew they wanted to open a business, but debated on what would be the best use of the space. They had always loved plants, but around this time had acquired an interest in desert plants specifically, and found that it was hard to find bigger, more unusual species in Kansas City. Thus, an idea was born, and the Foxes set out to create a sort of desert oasis in their very own backyard.

Rosedale Development Association

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

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