

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## 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.

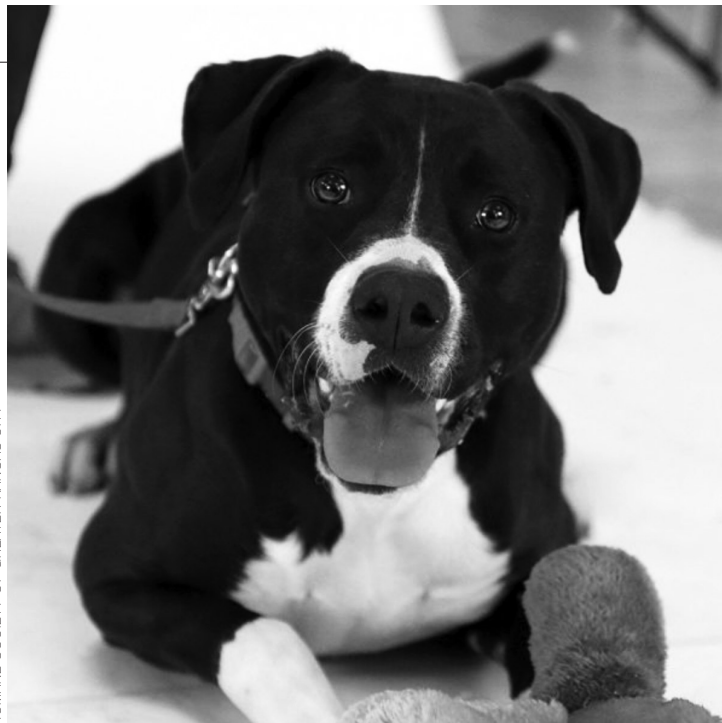
On one of the coldest days of the year, Edie saw a dog lying down on Southwest Blvd. The dog was nearly frozen and unresponsive — he wouldn't even raise his head. Edie called Animal Control and other partners who have helped her rescue animals in the past. Edie's quick action saved the dog, who is now healthy and at a shelter in Spring Hill, awaiting adoption.

On the same brutally cold day, Nextdoor.com in the area was buzzing about another dog, this one running all over

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.

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 dog rescue, "I've just always done it," Edie explained, "over time I've developed resources and connections that allow me to do it."

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,



HUMANE SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

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

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 KC at [hsgkc.org/adopt.html](https://hsgkc.org/adopt.html) or by calling 913-596-1000.



# THE ROSEDALEAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## 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 most recently a member of the Workforce Solutions Committee. When asked, Juanise said her favorite place in Rosedale to spend time outside is Fisher Park and that she can't wait to try Joe's KC Bar-B-Que for the first time. She says she is most looking forward to "working with the community to help meet their needs."

Victor is currently finishing his Bachelor of Business Administration at University of Missouri-Kansas City, where he serves in a variety of leader-

ship roles including being a national fellow for the Association of Latino Professionals for America, Director of Internal Affairs for the Student Government Association, and an undergraduate 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](mailto:juanise@rosedale.org) and [victor@rosedale.org](mailto:victor@rosedale.org), respectively.



RDA welcomes Adult Program and Volunteer Coordinator Juanise Oliver and Youth Program Coordinator Victor Michimani.

## Springtime harkens Rosedale neighborhood cleanups

By Juanice Oliver

The sun is out, the birds are chirping, and spring is near. That means it's time for spring cleaning. Usually, RDA hosts an 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 neighborly 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](mailto:juanise@rosedale.org) or at 913-677-5097, or stop by our office.



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



# State of Kansas provides assistance with rent and utilities

By Sarah Waggoner

Around the Kansa 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, Kansans 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](https://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 [kshousingcorp.org/emergency-rental-assistance/](https://kshousingcorp.org/emergency-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 the foundation to a healthy and safe community.

🏠 *Learn more about housing resources or questions about applications, contact us at [info@rosedale.org](mailto:info@rosedale.org) or by calling 913-677-5097.*



Volunteers glean corn for After the Harvest to distribute.

## After the Harvest rents RDA office

By Sarah Waggoner

RDA is pleased to announce that we have a new office tenant and neighbor, After the Harvest. After the Harvest’s mission is to fight hunger, improve nutrition and reduce food waste by rescuing fresh produce and distributing it to organizations that feed hungry people. As a fellow local nonprofit organization that is working to improve the

health and lives of those in the Kansas City Metro, we are so excited to be able to provide a centrally located space and look forward to future collaboration. Welcome to Rosedale, After the Harvest!

🏠 *RDA has one more office space for rent. Please contact [info@rosedale.org](mailto:info@rosedale.org) or call 913-677-5097 for details.*



Drawing supplies are one of the many learning tools inside ARCH activity boxes.

## Sign up for a spring activity box

By Victor Michimani

ARCH Activity Boxes are back for the spring! After successfully sending out their second batch of Activity Boxes during the winter, RDA is ready to roll out their ARCH Spring Activity Boxes at the end of March. These kits have a variety of different materials and supplies that provide students and families with a plethora of fun educational activities. Within these boxes RDA provides students and families with crafts, games, exercise activities, cooking activities, and opportunities to advocate for a healthier neighborhood! These activity kits were created by Program Director Samanthe Burton-Bosket as a response to the Covid-19 outbreak. With in-person programming at RDA coming to a halt in 2020, Samanthe had to come up with an innovative

way of keeping the community of Rosedale engaged.

“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 Samanthe. “These Activity Boxes give Rosedalianians 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/](https://rosedale.org/activity-boxes/).

🏠 *Learn more about this month’s Activity Boxes, contact Victor Michimani at [victor@rosedale.org](mailto:victor@rosedale.org).*

## Resources

### COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS

*Monday-Friday*  
**UG Public Health Department (Former Kmart building)**  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
7836 State Ave. KCK

*Mondays*  
**Oak Ridge Baptist Church**  
8 a.m.-1 a.m.  
9301 Parallel Pkwy., KCK

*Tuesdays*  
**All Saints Parish/Todos los Santos**  
3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  
811 Vermont Ave., KCK

*Thursdays*  
**Vibrant Health - Argentine Location**  
3 p.m.-6 p.m.  
1428 S. 32nd St., KCK

**COVID-19 VACCINES**  
Adults 65+ can walk-in for vaccination Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at any of the locations listed below:  
West: 10500 Parallel Pkwy., KCK  
Central: 7836 State Ave., KCK  
East: 100 S. 20th St., KCK

Individuals and employers should sign up to receive the vaccine online at [wycokck.org/covid](https://wycokck.org/covid), or by calling 311. No computer access is needed. Those who sign up over the phone will also receive vaccine notifications by phone.

**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](mailto:info@rosedale.org)  
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
**Erin Stryka** Executive Director  
**Sarah Waggoner** Editor  
**Lizzardbrand** Design/illustration  
**Staff and Board of Directors** online at [rosedale.org](https://rosedale.org)  
**Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment**  
**Twitter.com/RosedaleDA**  
**Rosedale.org**

# 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 Rosedalianians 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 cacti 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.

Stepping into the showroom at High and Dry Cactus Co. is delightful; the space is modern and bright, with a gorgeous collection of cacti and other plants. Because of the specific temperature needs of these plants, the space is crisp and warm, and really evokes a feeling of taking a calming walk in the desert. There is no storefront, and shopping is done by appointment only. All of the plants offered at High and Dry and handpicked and transported with care by Jordan and Emily from growers in the Southwest. They also have some

plant stands and apparel for sale that are made specially for them by local vendors. These factors really give High and Dry a mom-and-pop feel, and remind you that you are supporting your neighbors while you shop. In fact, Jordan credits a lot of their business due to word-of-mouth advertising; “When neighbors keep walking out of a house with a cactus, people start to notice.”

🏠 *High and Dry cactus is currently making appointments to shop in their showroom, schedule yours today at [highanddrycactus.co/](https://highanddrycactus.co/).*



Jordan Fox tends to his cacti collections at High and Dry Cactus Co.

✂️-----

## 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](https://rosedale.org/archclub).