Changes at RDA for safe opening
By Erin Stryk

The RDA front office officially reopened on May 11th, making several important changes to protect the health and safety of our community. Like many businesses, we have adjusted our office layout and procedures to maintain the social distancing and enhanced hygiene that are slowing the spread of COVID-19 in Wyandotte County.

Following the ReStart WyCo Plan, which takes a gradual approach to opening businesses, RDA first opened with limited office hours, from 1-6 p.m. M-F. Only one staff member will be present at a time, and only one visitor will be allowed in the front office at a time. All visitors will be asked to wear masks and use hand sanitizer (both provided by RDA) when they come in.

If you catch a faint whiff of chemicals in the air, that’s because all touched surfaces at RDA are being cleaned with disinfectant twice a day. You may also notice the new plexiglass barrier at the front desk, created by good neighbor Strasser Hardware.

We miss seeing our neighbors at meetings and events, but for the time being large in-person meetings will remain canceled or take place remotely — watch our communications for details. As always, you can contact RDA at 913-677-5097, or by emailing info@rosedale.org.

New changes to our summer programs
by Je T’aime Taylor

Rosedale Development Association is working hard to make sure that we keep the community as safe as possible during the pandemic. Because of this, RDA’s summer programs will have a different feel to them this year.

Rainbow Summer Program will begin June 15. After families have enrolled their children in the program, they will be able to pick up breakfast and lunch each day for their youth. In addition to the daily meals, we will distribute a weekly activity box. Each box will contain activities centered around the “1 Am, We Are” Reading Curriculum, and each week there will have different themes. Families can virtually tune in every morning for “RISE UP”; our morning gathering time where we will read, sing and chat together. We will also feature a daily read aloud guest who will read a short story to the youth.

While Rainbow Summer Program caters to youth in elementary and middle school, Summer Youth Employment focuses on youth who are between the ages of 14 and 17. Youth participating SYE will work in the community clearing the Rozarks trails, cleaning graffiti, maintaining gardens and learning job skills. The participants of SYE will work approximately 13 hours a week beautifying the community of Rosedale and sharpening their job readiness skills.

If you are interested in registering youth in Rainbow Summer Program, who have completed grades K-8, visit our website at https://rosedale.org/rainbow-summer-program/ to enroll. For any questions regarding RDA’s summer programs please contact Je T’aime at jetaime@rosedale.org or 913-677-5097.

Good neighbor

Rosedalians give back in big ways
By Alissa Workman

In Rosedale, where neighbors, businesses, and institutions give selflessly to the community throughout the year, there has been no shortage of good deeds as many have joined together to support RDA’s community work in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With school meal programs closed for the year, Rainbow Mennonite Church, Harvesters, Midtown Signs, and Rosedale schools have helped RDA distribute over 200 bags of food to school-age youth since March. In April, some of Kansas City’s largest institutions created the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, with millions of dollars raised throughout the region to address the crisis. As a recipient of this fund, RDA can now provide emergency assistance to more Rosedale families.

When RDA put out a call for volunteers, Rosedalians quickly stepped in to check on neighbors regularly, deliver groceries, make masks, and help connect others to RDA’s community resources. In April, RDA invited Rosedalians to engage in socially distant community service as an alternative to the postponed All-Rosedale Cleanup. Weekly, families and individuals pick up litter in their neighborhood, paint over graffiti, conduct trail maintenance, and maintain the community gardens.

Key to RDA’s ability to quickly adapt is funding that is not tied to a particular program or service. With RDA’s annual fundraising event, the Rosedale Disc de Triomphe, postponed indefinitely, individuals and businesses have donated generously to ensure our work continues. Additionally, some of RDA’s largest funders, including Health Forward Foundation and Shumaker Family Foundation have made it easier for RDA to use their funding on shifting community needs and priorities.

As the RDA office slowly begins to resume “normal” activities, our dedication to the Rosedale community remains steadfast. We encourage everyone to continue their neighborly care, give back if they can, and keep sharing the stories of good deeds in your neighborhood to continue reminding each other of how Rosedalians come together during our most difficult days.

To learn more about RDA’s work in Rosedale, visit rosedale.org or call 913-677-5097.

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ReStart Wyco
ROAD TO RECOVERY

Rosedale Future Professionals finish program virtually
By Samantha Burton-Butker

This year, the Rosedale Future Professionals had to take a creative approach to finish strong. RFP is centered on youth taking control of their financial futures, hoping to fill the gap of financial knowledge youth may not get from traditional schooling. The program lasts for six weeks, and during that time, students will learn to save money for a specific goal that aligns with how stringent or relaxed the guidelines are. Currently, Wyandotte County is recommending residents and businesses follow the yellow zone guidelines, which is one step down from the full lockdown or stay-at-home order. During the red zone, some businesses and non-emergency medical services will reopen while many non-essential businesses will remain closed. The yellow zone, or stage 3, allows non-essential businesses, like museums, restaurants, and salons, to reopen. Professionals had to take a short- and long-term goal, as we distinguish the difference between their personal brand, distinct to their current lives. No matter what zone we currently are in, ReStart Wyco and the CDC recommends adhering to the following guidelines: stay at home unless absolutely necessary, maintain six feet of distance from those whom you do not live with, wear a mask when in public, wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your face, and work remotely when possible.

ReStart Wyco
Rosedale Development

HELPFUL RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOOD</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food pantry</td>
<td>736 Shawnee Ave, KCK 913-371-0848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridges of Hope</td>
<td>Food pantry 933 Argentine Blvd, KCK 913-402-0660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Saviour</td>
<td>Food pantry 4153 Rainbow Blvd, KCK 913-236-6228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Center</td>
<td>Mobile food distribution 1403 Metropolitan Ave, KCK 913-213-3305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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UTILITY ASSISTANCE:
Rosedale Development Association
- Funds for electricity, water, and gas bills 913-677-5097
- Salvation Army Funds for electricity bills 913-296-1455
- Economic Opportunity Foundation Funds for electricity, water, and gas bills 913-371-0848
- LIEAP Applications Open Funds for electricity and gas bills 913-371-0848

FOOD:
- Assistance for Electric Bills
  
**LIEAP Applications Open**
- Funds for electricity and gas bills
  
**Rosedale Development Association**
- Assistance for Electric Bills
  
**Rosedale Development Association**

**Pre-Coronavirus quarantine, Spring Valley Neighborhood Association (SVNA) had been busy planning a summer neighborhood party, in an effort to get to know each other and build strong community relationships, and a 5k run/walk for late summer, with proceeds benefitting the four neighborhoods of Eastern Rosedale.**

**After the stay-at-home orders were in place, our neighborhood switched gears, in an effort to be a success. Eight weeks prior to the race event, our committee is planning to form groups of runners and walkers to meet and train together. This is another opportunity for people to come together with similar goals, form new friendships, be more aware of what is happening in the neighborhoods, all while getting in shape. If you’re thinking “I could never do that,” you would be very surprised and I genuinely hope you give it a try.**

**For those unable to participate in the run/walk, please consider volunteering. The volunteers who stand along the race route that provide words of encouragement are essential to the experience. There will also be a need for help at the aid station and the finish line activities.**

**There is no place to better survive a quarantine than Rosedale. We are a community of innovators and front-line workers during this pandemic, that will survive this better than before. Please support your small businesses and check on your neighbors during this time. We are in this together!**

**For information on joining a neighborhood group, please contact RDA.**

**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

AJAHANE RETURNS TO RSP
by Ajahane Franklin

Hi, I’m Ajahane Franklin. I am a Kansas City native, graduating from Summer Academy in 2017. I am currently a Junior at Baker University, majoring in Communication Studies with a minor in leadership studies. Last year, I had one of my best summers working with the Rainbow Summer Program. I got to see the children and the facilitators grow. I loved it so much that I decided I wanted to come back because it felt like my summer home!