Good neighbor

Good neighbors clean up all over Rosedale

By Erin Stryka

Rosedaleians of all ages and neighborhoods have been busy giving back throughout April and May. Good neighbors in the Rose Alert, Friendship Heights, Frank Rushton, Arborhurst Park, Hilltop, and Mission Cliffs neighborhoods gathered the past several Saturdays for a series of neighborhood cleanup days, effectively cleaning up five neighborhoods in Rosedale.

Frank Rushton, Arborhurst Park’s, and groups from the KU ENT department and Veer Church set the bar, recruiting more than 50 volunteers, who picked up trash in 16 project sites around Eastern Rosedale. ICY Community Policing coned off Mission Rd. for safety and helped out with graffiti, and the UG Public Works and Parks Department picked up the garbage after each event.

Neighbors from Rose Alert, Friendship Heights, Rainbow Mennonite Church, and the KU Gold Humanism Honor Society followed close behind, cleaning up dump sites, clearing sidewalks that had been buried in mud and vegetation, and painting over graffiti.

Neighbors from Hilltop, Laminate Works, and the KU Academy Health Student Chapter cleaned up dozens of dumped tires, picked up litter, cut back honeysuckle in the Rozarks trails, and distributed information door-to-door about the Covid-19 vaccine.

Finally, Mission Cliffs and Mayor Aley’s Flash Trash Mob finished strong, gathering at Rosedale Park to clean up the park and Mission Rd. at I-35. After the pandemic canceled last year’s All-Rosedale Cleanup, RDA was especially glad to see so many Rosedaleians come out and do their part to clean up this year. We were even happier to spend time with neighbors and partners outside and in person!

Neighborhood cleanup projects protect our stormwater system from litter, keep the neighborhood beautiful, and create a sense of safety and care, which means more people walk around and meet their neighbors. Picking up litter is a concrete thing we can all do for community health and safety. A huge thank you to the many people and groups that came out to work together this spring. We’ll see you at the next one.

For more information on organizing a cleanup day in your neighborhood this fall, contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org.

Serve this summer as RDA resumes in-person events!

By Juanise Oliver

Rosedale Development Association is approaching this summer in full force, resuming in-person programming and events. It has been a long year and staff are so excited to be back in the community. The only thing missing is you! We are in search of neighbors and friends to join in all upcoming community offerings, including summer employment, volunteering, and program opportunities.

Firstly, Program Director Samantha Burton-Basket is in search of Americorps Members to lead classrooms as a classroom facilitator for our Rainbow Summer Program (RSP). RSP is welcoming a smaller group of scholars this summer, but will be holding the program in person. If you are someone who enjoys fun, children, literacy, and outdoor activities, this will be an excellent fit for you. This position offers a biweekly stipend of $750, and a $1,342.86 Segal Education Award. To apply, send your resume and cover letter to Samantha at samantha@rosedale.org.

Secondly, RDA is searching for area businesses to host a youth for our Summer Youth Employment program. Ideal businesses would offer the youth employee hands-on projects that would allow them real-world job experiences. This would come at no cost to the business host, with RDA offering both job training and skill-building. To apply, visit rosedale.org/summer-youth-employment or email Youth Programming Coordinator Victor Michimani at victor@rosedale.org.

With our community programs expanding, RDA is in search for volunteers! There are so many opportunities available for all skills, ages, and abilities. From work days in the garden to assisting with community events, volunteers aid RDA in expanding our community reach and carrying out many important community projects. For more information regarding volunteer opportunities, please contact Adult Program and Volunteer Coordinator Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org.

Lastly, RDA is in search of elderly, veteran, or disabled Rosedale homeowners who may need assistance with minor household chores and repairs. RDA is able to offer this opportunity through the Christmas in October Minor Home Repair program, and applications are officially open. Applicants must own only one residence, lack finances or resources to have repairs completed, and not have received assistance from Christmas in October in the past year. Contact Executive Director Erin Stryka at erni@rosedale.org for more information and to apply.

RDA has a lot of programming going on throughout the summer. To stay up to date, visit our website at rosedale.org.

Serve this summer as RDA resumes in-person events!
Introducing Couch to commission: a beginner’s guide to advocacy
By Sarah Waggoner

Have you ever experienced an issue in your neighborhood that made you want to contact your elected officials and advocate for change? We sure have, and we get calls from neighbors every week who feel the same way. So we decided to make a free guide to help navigate the policies and processes of bringing an issue before the local government, and we are excited to finally share it with you!

Couch to commission is a guide to advocacy in Rosedale. This guide takes a similar gradual approach to advocacy as a Couch to 5K program does for running. When you first start running, you need some kind of instruction to reach your goals. The Couch to commission guide is designed so you can copy and paste the text, then customize it with your advocacy information.

We are hoping that this guide empowers and assists more Rosedale residents in taking action to bring about important change to this community. You are the most knowledgeable expert in your neighborhood, and your opinion matters. In fact, your neighborhood is positively impacted when you speak out and stand up! Use this guide, pass it along to others, and become the change-makers that Rosedale needs and loves.

You can find the Couch to commission guide at rosedale.org or request a digital and/or print copy by emailing erin@rosedale.org.

The WyCo-SAP coalition would love to support any residents or groups who would like to put the Couch to commission toolkit to use in their neighborhood. Printed and electronic versions of the toolkit are available at no cost. To conduct your own neighborhood assessment with the toolkit, or for any questions, contact Shelby at swnowland@mosca.org.

For more information on how RDA supports businesses, visit rosedale.org/businesses.

By Vanessa Crawford Aragon

The Unified Government Violence Prevention Coalition, also known as WyCo-SAP, is working together with neighborhoods, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS, and community organizations to make our community a safer place for everyone. One method of doing this is by implementing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), which is a way to make the spaces we share with our neighbors more welcoming by making simple changes to encourage safety and connection.

CPTED strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offenders from making decisions that turn into criminal acts, build a sense of community among inhabitants so they can gain territorial control of areas, reduce crime, and minimize fear of crime.

The Couch to commission guide will walk you through how to have a strategy guide, including decision-making maps, breaking down which elected official or agency is responsible for what issues, and contact information for all those representing Rosedale. The guide also includes local process maps that show the steps our local government takes to decide on an issue or policy, and how you can get involved, along with a resource guide with background information to help you become an informed and effective advocate.

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By Sarah Waggoner

Executive Director
Design/illustration

May 15 at 9:30 a.m.
Yoga in the park
Whitmore Park

May 19 at 7 p.m.
Virtual BINGO! night
$30 entry fee required
May 25-27 at 6 p.m.
Youth sports clinics

JUNE:

June 2 at 12 p.m.
PACE Lunch n’ Learn
1401 Southwest Blvd.
June 7
Last day to register for RSP
June 9 at 9:30 a.m.
Yoga in the park
Whitmore Park

JULY:

July 15, (time to be determined)
Business backyard social
1401 Southwest Blvd.
July 7 at 9:30 a.m.
Yoga in the park
Whitmore Park
July 26-30
Rosedale goes to Wildwood
Wildwood Outdoor Education Center,
La Cygne, KS

AUGUST:

August 6
Movie night in the park:
Scoby Doo
Possum Park

SEPTEMBER:

September (date to be determined)
9/11 Day of Service
Community Service project
September 18
Rosedale Disc de Triomphe
Rosedale Park
Entry fee required

To learn more about upcoming events and other community happenings, visit rosedale.org or call 913-677-5097.

For more information, to make an appointment, or get assistance with transportation, visit wvycowin.com, call 3-1-1 or scan the QR codes to get directly to the websites.

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 donate online at rosedale.org/arbocloth

Information and appointments:

Transportation online form:

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 through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sarah Waggoner
Executive Director
Lazarou Design Group
10500 Parallel Parkway
Kansas City, KS 66109

Owner/Board of Directors
Sarah Waggoner
Erin Stryka

Expanded Saturday hours

By Sarah Waggoner

If you’re unavailable to get a vaccine due to a busy work week, there is now a solution for you. The Unified Government Public Health Department is now offering Saturday vaccinations at The Armory vaccine site, located at 100 S. 20th St., KCK, 66102. This location will be open from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m. every Saturday in May and June, for those 18 and older. Transportation to and from the vaccine site is still available, and while appointments are encouraged, walk-ins are also welcome.

Wait times are very short, the entire process is simple and smooth, and the vaccine is free. Get vaccinated today!

Please note that dates, times, locations, and CDC guidelines are constantly changing. Make sure to visit the website for the most updated information. Thank you!

For more information, to make an appointment, or get assistance with transportation, visit wvycowin.com, call 3-1-1 or scan the QR codes to get directly to the websites.

Vaccine center locations/ubicaciones de centros de vacunación:

Former Best Buy (West location)
10500 Parallel Parkway KCK, 66109
Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Former Kmart (Central location)
7836 State Avenue KCK, 66112
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

The Kansas National Guard Armory (East location)
100 S. 20th St. KCK, 66102
Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

* Open for ages 18+