

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Good neighbors

Ensuring safety during fall programming

By Sarah Waggoner

To all our neighbors,

Fall is almost here and we are excited to bring the return of some of our yearly fall programming as well as some new offerings to the Rosedale community. With the most recent spike of Covid-19 in Wyandotte County, we want to address any concerns that you might have about participating in RDA programs and events this fall.

As you all are aware, Covid-19 cases are on the rise in Wyandotte County. While the mask mandate is helping our community control the spread of Covid-19, we still are reporting under 50 percent vaccination rate in Wyandotte County and are currently experiencing the highest rate of hospitalizations for Covid-19 that we have seen during the 2021 year.

We are using this information, along with the United Government Public Health Department's recent recommendations, to make the safest and most thoughtful decisions surrounding RDA's community gatherings and programming for this fall. We have made accommodations to each and every program and event to limit any exposure or possible spread, and are ready to make any further adjustments as needed.

Unfortunately, this means cancelling our Disc De Triomphe disc golf fundraiser that was scheduled for later this month, due to the large number of participants. We are moving forward with the rest of our fall programming with many precautions in place, including a Rosedale youth soccer league, Christmas in



SAMANTHE BURTON-BOSKET

RFP students stay socially distanced and wear masks.

October minor home repair, and a haunted Halloween trail in the Rozarks. We look forward to gathering with you in the safest and most secure way possible this fall, and even

more so to the day when we can all gather in abundance.

Thank you for placing your trust in RDA. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.



THE ROSEDALIAN

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Use our Couch to commission guide to advocate for Rosedale

By Erin Stryka

A few months ago, Rosedale Development Association created the *Couch to commission: a guide to advocacy in Rosedale*, a free guide that breaks down and explains pathways to advocacy and community led change within local systems, including government and legislature at the county and state levels. Today, we want to take you into a deeper dive of how exactly you can use this document.

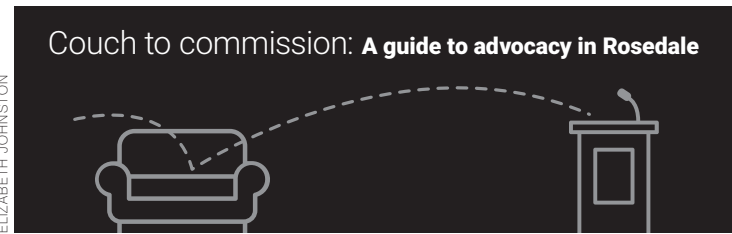
The name, "Couch to commission," came from the idea of a Couch to 5K running program, in which a person who isn't an experienced runner starts gradually and builds up their running skills until they can complete a race. Like running, local advocacy can be intimidating and difficult, but a gradual and steady approach with others in your community helps smooth the way.

The guide began as a list of frequently asked questions that RDA hears: How do I contact my commissioner? Who do I talk to about stray animals, street signs, or trash pickup? There is an issue I care about being discussed at a commission meeting; how do I sign up to speak?

Within this document, you will find answers to all these questions and more; who to contact, how to approach them, templates for writing letters, and how to attend different government meetings and forums in which big decisions are made. The guide also contains strategies for working with friends and neighbors to pursue change, background information on important local issues, contact information for decision makers, and it will be updated regularly as processes and officials change.

We know Rosedarians are passionate about this community and have great ideas about how to make it better. The Couch to commission guide takes a practical approach to how to make those ideas a reality. We hope you can use it to enact the improvements you want to see in Rosedale.

For more information about this guide, email erin@rosedale.org or visit rosedale.org/c2c to download a digital copy. You can also call RDA at 913-677-5097 to mail you a printed copy.



ELIZABETH JOHNSTON



SARAH WAGGONER

Local business owners connect in Rosedale.

Rosedale Job Board adds new features

By Juanise Oliver

The Rosedale Job Board at rosedalejobs.org has recently been revamped, bringing more opportunities to our community. Along with local job listings, community members can now view volunteer opportunities, designated by a small "volunteer" tag on the left-hand side of postings. We have also added an "odd/gig job" category, for those looking for temporary jobs and also for the many neighbors who call our offices needing help with small odd jobs around their homes.

If you do not have access to a computer or need assistance in making an account, you can always come down to our office where we have community computers open

for use. We are happy to help assist you, or you can make an account and do it yourself! The job board is incredibly easy to use.

As the job market is currently hot with available positions, we also continue to invite business owners to use the Rosedale Job Board's free services to post open positions to the site. Business owners can also create their own profile or email job descriptions to Juanise Oliver, our adult program and volunteer coordinator, and she will add the jobs for you.

For more information about the Rosedale Job Board, contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org.

SYE is now a year-round opportunity for Rosedale youth

By Victor Michimani

RDA has once again hosted another successful cohort of their Summer Youth Employment (SYE) program. This summer, nine youth had the unique opportunity to work alongside local business partners including Chixen KC, Gus’s World Famous Fried Chicken, E.E. Edwards, and Little Angels Daycare, to name a few. This year, we had an exceptional group of youth who had great work ethic, grew their communication skills, and consistently improved as the summer went on. As these youth head back to high school for the fall semester, they have an awesome opportunity to continue learning and making an impact within Rosedale. This year RDA, with generous funding provided by



VICTOR MICHIMANI

The 2021 SYE cohorts chill outside the RDA office.

BPU and KC CAN, for the first time has the ability to expand the program to continue throughout the year.

RDA is expecting this

opportunity to expand the program to new heights. Not only will the SYE cohort be able to continue learning job experience, but they will also

have tangible growth opportunities, taking on projects as community leaders. Each youth will now be able to work alongside RDA through a variety of different workdays sponsored by RDA, such as trail building and maintenance, garden work, community outreach, and events. Some of the students will even have the opportunity to continue working at their original sites for the remainder of the year. Lastly, students will continue to receive job skills and professional development training through monthly lunch and learn sessions.

For more information on the SYE program contact Victor Michimani at victor@rosedale.org or 913-677-5097.

Connect and comfort with TeleCare Phone-a-Friend

By Amy Fitzgerald

RSVP AmeriCorps Seniors’ TeleCare weekly Phone-a-Friend program has friendly, trained volunteers who are ready and waiting to talk with you. This is a free service that is offered to persons 55 and older or persons with disabilities. This initiative is a positive, low-stress way to connect and form caring friendships that can survive even when we’re not able to meet face-to-face. As part of our local United Way’s AmeriCorps Seniors initiative, this free program also trains volunteers who are 55 and older to engage in upbeat conversations on a set schedule Monday through Friday.

“RSVP AmeriCorps Seniors is the largest national network for people age 55 and older,” says Cathi Hahner, Director, RSVP AmeriCorps 55+. “As we find our way through some very challenging times, these weekly phone conversations are a great way to form meaningful social connections, ease loneliness, and reduce social isolation.”

When you sign up for

this free program, you’ll be matched with a volunteer who’s interested in what interests you. Maybe you want to talk about your garden, Monarchs baseball, the book you’re reading or the shows you’re watching. You and your volunteer decide what you talk about.

“It’s the dependability and flexibility that make this program so fulfilling,” says Hahner.

“Our volunteers follow the schedule set by our members and then it’s all about what’s fun and interesting to talk about.” The program is currently accepting both persons who would like to receive calls and volunteers to make the calls.

To learn more, call Amy Fitzgerald with Livable Neighborhoods at 913-387-1758.

RSVP Seniors TeleCare Calling Program

Talk with Friends Who Care!



Call Amy at 913-387-1758 to find out more



Community calendar

SEPTEMBER

September 15
Rosedale Leadership Council
5:30 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

September 18
Walk with a Doc
9 a.m.
Fisher Park

September 21
Rosedale youth soccer league begins
Rosedale Park

September 25
Rozarks Trail Workday
9 a.m.
Fisher Park

OCTOBER

October 16
Yoga in the park
9 a.m.
Whitmore Park

October 20
Rosedale Leadership Council
5:30 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd., KCK

October 30
Haunted trail walk
4 p.m.
Rosedale Memorial Arch

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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Recruiting new members for RDA’s Board of Directors

By Rachel Russell

Hello there fellow Rosedalians! My name is Rachel Russell and I have had the wonderful privilege of serving on the RDA Board of Directors since January 2019. Throughout my time serving on the Board I’ve had the opportunity to be a part of the Rosedale master plan committee, to learn more about the landscape of our community, and understand the UG’s planning and development process. I participated and chaired the fundraising committee to engage and increase dollars for RDA’s programs, and most recently, I serve as the treasurer of the board, ensuring financial stability and sustainability for RDA’s future.

While I’ve enjoyed serving on committees, my favorite thing about being on the Board is the opportunity to continually advocate for the thriving and healthy Rosedale community that my family and I love and live in. As a Board member, I’ve had the opportunity to be at the decision-

making table to advocate for better and informed community policing, upgrades to our parks, and better support for our small business community. As a mother, I’ve been able to bring the perspective of what amenities and resources I want my children to have in their community and what programs will help them reach their future professional goals.

The thing that I’m looking forward to the most in the future is the planning, execution, and building of a community center in our community. This will be something that all community stakeholders will benefit from, not just myself or my family.

To say that my time on the RDA Board has been amazing would be an understatement.

I am writing to encourage and empower YOU to consider joining the RDA Board of Directors. We need more voices of the community to join us in this endeavor; there is lots of work to be done and we can’t do it without you! If you would like learn more about my experience and/or how you can get involved, feel free to reach out at rgabby826@gmail.com — I’m glad to be your neighbor!



For more information about applying to be on the RDA Board of Directors, please contact Erin at erin@rosedale.org.

Save the Date: Haunted Rozarks trail set for Halloween

By Sarah Waggoner

This Halloween, RDA is changing things up a bit; instead of our usual Healthy Halloween, we will be transforming the Rozarks into a haunted Halloween trail walk. The haunted trail will be one day only, happening on Saturday October 30, from 4-6 p.m. at the Rosedale Memorial Arch. More details will be coming soon, but there will be options for different levels of scare-comfort, ensuring fun for the entire family. You will not want to miss this, so mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing (or spooking) you there!

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.