

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Good neighbors

Fifth graders at Frank Rushton are the fastest around!

By Sarah Waggoner

At the end of each school year, KCKPS hosts the “Are you faster than a fifth grader?” event, in which 15 fifth grade students from each school in USD 500 compete against the superintendent in a two mile run. This year the fifth graders from Frank Rushton Elementary school performed particularly well, with all 15 runners finishing faster than superintendent Dr. Anna Stubblefield, and they had the most students place out of all the schools. This marks the third time Frank Rushton has won the competition, previously placing first in both 2012 and 2017. Dr. Stubblefield even commented on how well the Frank Rushton students were prepared, saying that she needs to train with them for next year’s race!

Fifth grade teacher Peter Wetzl helped to train all the students at Frank Rushton, and told me about the rigorous

training process. “This year we had 40 students try out, which is more than we have ever had! Twenty trained and practiced throughout April and May, learning not only about how to physically perform, but also about healthy diets, hydration, and mental perseverance.”


Fifth grader Elijah Green finished tenth overall, and was the first out of all the Frank Rushton students, making him the fastest Rosedale runner! Nicolette, Elijah’s mother, shared with me about her son’s recent accomplishments.

“Elijah is a strong, smart, and level-headed kid who loves a challenge! He has won many academic awards in the past, and most recently received the Anna Powers Award, which recognizes perseverance in students in KCKPS. These accomplishments really show Elijah’s ability to persevere and overcome. Elijah was diag-

nosed with a degenerative eye disease and has experienced a lot of trials and tribulations. To see him being recognized for his strengths is incredible.”

Congratulations to Frank Rushton Elementary and all

participating fifth graders for a job well done.

 To share your story of a good neighbor in Rosedale, contact Sarah Waggoner at sarah@rosedale.org.



Elijah Green wins 10th place at running competition.



THE ROSEDALE

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Help repair Rosedale homes through Christmas in October

By Erin Stryka


Rosedale Development Association is looking for volunteers of all skill levels to conduct minor home repairs for seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities this fall for our annual Christmas in October minor home repair program. We especially need “house captains;” volunteers who can lead a team of 10-20 volunteers in assessing, planning, and executing home repairs. While repairs don’t take place until the second Saturday of October, the planning process has already begun. All tools and supplies including breakfast and lunch for volunteers are provided.

Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome! Whether you’re a longtime do-it-yourself-er, or just great at cheering on others, we need your help. Christmas in October works on

350-400 homes in the Kansas City area every year with the help of volunteers from all over the metro. The program focuses on issues of warmth, safety and dignity, and provides repairs at no cost to the homeowners. Repairs can be as simple as a coat of paint or more complex issues like leaky faucets furnace repairs.

For those who need repair on their homes and fall into the category of Rosedale seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities: Christmas in October applications are now open! Rosedarians should apply as soon as possible to be included in the 2022 program. To qualify, residents must:

- own only one residence, the home in which they currently live;
 - lack the finances or resources to have the repairs completed; and
 - not have received assistance from Christmas in October in the past year
- In addition, applicants must meet one of the following criteria:
- be age 62 years or more or
 - have a physical disability at any age or
 - be a veteran or have a veteran living in the home

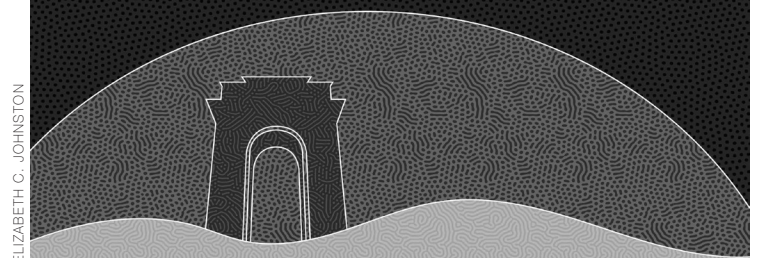
 To learn more or to sign up as a volunteer, please email juanise@rosedale.org or call 913-677-5097. Christmas in October applications are available at our office or online at rosedale.org/minor-home-repair.



Christmas in October volunteers repair Rosedale homes.

MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDITION

A YOUTH GUIDE TO ADVOCACY IN ROSEDALE



RDA guides make it easy to advocate at any age


By Sarah Waggoner

Just in time for the upcoming Rainbow Summer Program, RDA has finished the third and final Rosedale advocacy guide, *Making change in Rosedale: an elementary guide to advocacy in Rosedale*. This latest installment in the advocacy guides will ensure that students of any grade level will be able to read these guides and learn how to use their voices to effectively advocate for themselves, their families, and their communities.

The original advocacy guide, *Couch to commission*, debuted early last year, and walks the reader through navigating community-led change within local systems, most notably government, at both the local and state level. The second guide, designed for middle school-aged youth, was introduced earlier this year, in conjunction with our RISE program. Located within

each version is a strategy guide, templates for effective communication with decision makers, and visual explanations of local processes, all designed to educate Rosedarians on how to make change happen in their neighborhood.

Available on our website year-round, these guides are now being used in all of our youth programs, and are shared at neighborhood meetings and at the Rosedale Leadership Council. Each guide was a collaboration between almost all members of the RDA staff and local graphic designer Elizabeth Johnston. While the guides are made to be digital with clickable links and regularly updated information, printed copies can be obtained at our offices.


 To learn more about or to download our advocacy guides, visit rosedale.org/c2c.

Rainbow Summer Program team prepare for a summer of fun

By Juanise Oliver

Our summer program team will welcome both new and returning scholars to the Rainbow Summer Program (RSP) at Rainbow Mennonite Church. Mariah Burnside, Bernice Mendoza Medina, Jordan Dinyer, and Ryan O’ Grady are the classroom facilitators, preparing to guide the scholars through their daily activities. Constance McGuire and Maria Martinez are serving as the culinary staff this year, while Elizabeth Fernandez is serving the team as the site coordinator. Along with our Program Director Samanthé Burton-Bosket, the summer program team is looking forward to receiving 40 youth scholars starting Monday, June 13.

For the first time in years, the RSP parents are bringing back the Healthy Kids Carnival! Families can engage in activities to get their bodies moving and the UGPHD will provide their vaccine van on-site for students to get the necessary vaccines for the upcoming school year. There will also be a backpack and school supply giveaway for the upcoming school year. All Rosedale neighbors and friends are invited to this event on Wednesday July 13 at 5:30 p.m.

 To learn more about RSP, please contact Juanise Oliver at juanise@rosedale.org.



RDA welcomes the 2022 summer program team.

Welcome back Ajhanae’

By Erin Stryka

Ajhanae’ Franklin first joined RDA as an AmeriCorps member in June 2019, working as a classroom facilitator for the Rainbow Summer Program. For the next two summers she returned, serving as the Site Coordinator for the program. We are so excited to announce that she is returning to RDA full-time as our new youth program coordinator!

Ajhanae’ recently received her Bachelor’s degree in communication studies with a minor in leadership studies from Baker University. During her time at Baker she worked with several organizations planning different events and



programming for the campus, preparing her perfectly for this next step. Welcome back to RDA, Ajhanae’!



Campers prepare for a week of fun at Wildwood.

Wildwood provides summer adventure for Rosedale youth

By Ajhanae Franklin

Rosedale youth are invited to get outdoors and be adventurous this summer at Rosedale week at Wildwood Outdoor Education Center. From July 25-29, local youth will camp overnight in cabins, swim, canoe, try the zip line and adventure courses, participate in arts and crafts, learn STEM activities, gather around the campfire for stories and songs, go fishing, and more!

Located in La Cygne, KS, Wildwood is available to Rosedale and area youth who will enter grades 3-8 in the 2022-2023 school year. Campers will spend the week choosing daily fun activities, making new friends, and gaining independence and teamwork skills.

Wildwood staff work hard throughout the year to ensure many youth in the Kansas City region have the opportunity for this life-changing program. The partnership between RDA and Wildwood allows 75-80 Rosedale youth to attend the sleepaway camp every summer. RDA will be providing transportation to and from camp, with campers being picked up by school buses at our offices on Monday and dropped back off on Friday. On Monday morning there will also be a send-off event for families called “Wake up for Wildwood!” More information is available once children are enrolled in the Rosedale session.

Interested parents are encouraged to visit or call RDA with any questions you might have. There is a fee to attend the camp, but scholarships are available. Camp Wildwood spots are processed on a first-come basis and can be secured with a completed application packet and camp fee payment. Applications can be found online at wildwoodctr.org/campers, and make sure to select week seven for Rosedale.

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-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Erin Stryka Executive Director
Sarah Waggoner Editor
Lizzardbrand Design and Illustration

Staff and Board of Directors
online at rosedale.org
Facebook.com/RosedaleDevelopment
Twitter.com/RosedaleDA
Rosedale.org

Financial assistance available for homeowners

By Sarah Waggoner

The Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) recently launched a new program aimed at homeowners who are in need of financial assistance due to hardship experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Kansas Homeowner Assistance Fund, or KHAFF, launched in late spring and is accessed through an application process, in which KHRC works directly with you and your lenders to pay off overdue debts.

To be eligible for KHAFF, you must be a homeowner in Kansas, your home must be your primary residence, and you must be at risk of losing your home without assistance due to financial hardship during the Covid-19 pandemic. Also, your recent income must not exceed 150 percent of your area’s median income, and your household must be at least 30 days past due on mortgage or home property tax payments.

Coming off the heels of the successful KERA program that was targeted toward renters in need of assistance (which is still open and accepting applications as well), the application process for KHAFF is very similar. Applicants will need to collect



documentation including proof of income, proof of property ownership and residency, personal identification, and past-due bills. Once awarded, assistance can cover mortgage reinstatement, past due mortgage payments including principal, interest, escrowed taxes and insurance, future mortgage payments, property charges including delinquent property taxes, homeowner and flood insurance, etc., and any past-due utilities, including internet.

There is over \$50 million dollars available in KHAFF

funding, but the application and approval process takes quite a bit of time, so it is best to apply now. If you need assistance with your application, Monica Sipple at the Economic Opportunity Foundation is a KHRA community partner, and she can be reached at 913-279-6250. The RDA offices are also available if you need to use a computer, scanner, or printer during the application process.

 To learn more about the KHAFF application, visit kshousingcorp.org/homeowners.

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Let’s be rock solid together!
Please accept my donation in support of RDA.

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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.

Events Calendar

JUNE

- June 15
Rosedale Leadership Council
6:30 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.
- June 18
Rozarks trail workday
9 a.m.
Fisher Park
- June 20
RDA offices closed
to observe Juneteenth
- June 25
Death Talks with Divine Kismet doula
10 a.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.

JULY

- July 4
RDA offices closed
to observe Independence Day
- July 7
Coffee and conversation
10 a.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.
- July 13
Healthy Kids Carnival
5:30 p.m.
Whitmore Park
- July 18
Container Gardening Workshop
5 p.m.
2300 Early St.
- July 20
Rosedale Leadership Council
6:30 p.m.
1401 Southwest Blvd.
- July 25-29
Rosedale week at Wildwood
LaCygne, KS
- July 29
SYE End of Year BBQ
1401 Southwest Blvd.
-  To learn more about upcoming events and other community happenings, visit rosedale.org or call 913-677-5097.