



The Rosedalian

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.rosedale.org

Health Fair and Healthy Halloween events

With Halloween and the beginning of winter eating season, health isn't want comes to mind. But this year RDA and the Rosedale Healthy Kids Initiative (RHKI) teamed up with Cheryl Gibson and her staff from the KU department of internal medicine, to host a free health fair on October 25, and a "Healthy Halloween" on October 31.

Over two hundred people attended the events which were part of a larger effort to bring community together and get their input on the Green Corridor, a community development plan with an emphases on health and environment.

Gibson said the free flu shots were the main draw of both events, but a health screening including height, weight, blood pressure, glucose reading, and cholesterol reading, were utilized by most. People needing further care were directed to their primary care physician or were encouraged to see a doctor at a safety-net clinic.

The Healthy Halloween fair on October 31 at the Rainbow Mennonite

Church was a huge hit with the kids, said Heidi Holliday, the community organizer with the Rosedale Health Kids Initiative and the creative force behind the event. Holliday said that over sixty kids attended, and not one complained about getting granola bars and popcorn instead of candy.

In addition to the healthy food there was an inflatable obstacle course, relays, and face-painting. One of the special attractions was a photo booth where costumed kids could get photos in their get-ups to take home.

Gibson said that both days were a huge success and were made possible by the numerous volunteer Spanish translators who donated their time, as well as generous donations from Good Nutured Family Farms, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City who provided qualified health professionals for the clinic.

"We owe them a huge debt of gratitude," Gibson said. "[Blue Cross] donated a ton of stuff that we would not have been able to get otherwise." ☒



WENDY WILSON PHOTO

Looking cute as a bunny is Aaron Barnhart with his big handed wife, Diane Eickhoff. Adults enjoyed playing with the costume box as much or maybe even more than the kids at the Healthy Halloween event. Both of them are involved with the Rosedale Farmers market. Aaron grows and sells micro-greens and Diane makes great bread.

Annual meeting and Linda Wright celebration

Wednesday, December 29, 2010

6:30 p.m.

RDA meeting room,
1403 Southwest Blvd.

This will be a time to share RDA's plans for 2011 and your vision for our future direction. We will also spend time honoring Linda Wright for her dedication to Rosedale.

Please join us!

Creating Livable Streets

Ask any mother if her street is safe, and she will be able to tell you right away. But ask her if she lives on a complete street, and she will probably give you a blank stare. Samara Kline, J.D. advocacy director for KC Healthy Kids, wants to change that blank stare.

Kline is working to raise awareness in Wyandotte county about a planning idea called Livable Streets, also sometimes called Complete Streets. She said that many people have a basic idea that it is nice to have a sidewalk, or nice to have curbs, but livable street is an even

more holistic. On the surface it is about connecting streets and sidewalks so there is a system of walkable and bike friendly roads that are useful to people who don't have cars or don't drive.

According to CompleteStreets.org nearly one-third of American don't drive. Twenty-one percent of Americans are over 65, and if we include all children under 16 and the many low income Americans who do not have access to automobiles, the picture of who is using America's roads becomes clearer.

(continued on next page)

(Livable Streets continued)

In October, Kline hosted a community forum at the Rosedale Congregational Church and talked about the importance of considering Livable Streets ordinances for the community. She explained that besides addressing the needs of people who do not walk, it is important to consider the other issues related to mobility. Kline said that states with the lowest levels of biking and walking also have the highest rates of obesity, diabetes, and high blood pressure. All of which put a tremendous cost back on communities.

Kline said that the most common way to see Livable Streets changes brought to a community would be to advocate for the city to implement Livable Street ideas, through an ordinance that requires planning for road construction projects that consider the interests of all users.

In this region Lee Summit, Garden City and Topeka have all adopted some form of a Complete Streets ordinance.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Samara Kline at sklein@kchealthykids.org. ☞

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Working in partnership with residents, businesses, and institutions to build a strong and healthy community and to improve the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Rosedale.

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[www.rosedale.org/](http://www.rosedale.org/who_board.htm)

[who_board.htm](http://www.rosedale.org/who_board.htm)

Feed-A-Family program another success

Volunteers and donations kept coming, food, sundries, funds, and volunteers to provide area families with food and personal care items so they could have a happy Thanksgiving. Again, this year RDA targeted 20 area families to be the recipients of such community generosity. In all 33 adults (five of these were seniors) and 41 children were helped. RDA takes the time to screen recipient families to ensure our limited resources have the most impact, and to help those who really need it but may be the last to ask for the help.

Volunteer Becky Maricle brought her daughter, Susan Minich and grandson, Austin age 5, to help in putting together the baskets and delivering them to the seniors. Austin said, "I was glad help make their holiday special and I hope to see them next year." A number

of recipients were overcome with emotion upon receiving their baskets and let the tears flow. They were shocked. One recipient said, "I just can't believe this, that you would do this for me." This has been a very tough year for many in our community as they struggle to stretch limited resources but with help from our donors and volunteers we were able to provide some much needed food to 20 very thankful families.

Additional volunteers were Vickie Phillips, Jeanette Cervantes, Amy Allen, and Wilma Trial.

We are very grateful to our many donors and particularly thankful to Haun Potato Co., Belfor Property Restoration, Westwood Apple Market, Debbie Stevens, and Kathy Shanoski for their large contributions that made our 25th year Feed-A-Family program a success. ☞

Volunteers clean up

On a regular basis RDA works to keep Rosedale clean and remove graffiti, sometimes with large volunteer groups or several youth needing public service hours, and sometimes with just one RDA staff person. If you drop by our office you can enjoy our photo gallery of volunteers and projects.

Through work with volunteer groups and RDA staff member Linda Wright, we try to stay on top of eyesores such as graffiti, trash, tires, furniture, and tossed brush.

In mid October a group of 47 students from Heston College in Heston, Kan. joined RDA to paint over walls of graffiti, collect over 40 bags of trash and large items, and remove piles of dumped brush from under the I-35 overpass on S. Mill St. The amount of illegal dumping and graffiti was astounding. On the same day Community Police Officer Amy Allen and six court-referred workers cleaned up a homeless camp from under the I-35 bridge at Mission Road. This was a nasty job that included bags of human waste. We intervened with the bridge resident offering her social services and letting her know that she could not remain at the location. She has not been back and the site remains clean.

Three area youth volunteers and Ms. Wright, from RDA, cleaned up trash and graffiti from the I-35 overpass on Roe Lane in late October. Dumped trash and debris were bagged and removed, and area graffiti painted over. ☞



Austin Minich at 5 years of age has become a regular volunteer at RDA. This is his second year helping with our Feed-A-Family event. His grandmother, Becky Maricle, says, "He continually bugs me asking about the date when we'll fill baskets, and when he can come to help Linda at the RDA office." Austin loves filling and delivering the baskets.

Rosedale briefs

Thanks to Sol's Glass

A few months back, Sol's Glass replaced a very old and crumbling window on the back side of the RDA offices with a large new one that will keep the cold and heat out. This was all done as a donation to us. Sol's is a great neighbor and community business that supports our work in building a healthy community. Sol's Glass 913-384-5277.

The Rosedalian

Local Graphic Designer, Elizabeth Johnston, is a true friend and talented artist/designer. You see a small sample of her work each month as she is the person responsible for putting the RDA newsletter together. All this is at no cost to RDA. She has been helping us and the community out for years. To see samples of her work go to www.lizzard-brand.com.

Remembrance

Long time Rosedale resident Ernest L. "Sleepy" Hanna, 87, passed away on December 3, 2010 at his home. Mr. Hanna was raised in a home across the street from where he and his wife of 40 years lived. When he was young he worked as a soda jerk at Longenecker's (1324 S.W. Blvd.). Ernest was a WWII veteran who served in the U. S. Navy afterwards he was employed at General Motors for 36 years. He leaves his wife, four sons, one daughter and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and his beloved dog, "Sleepy." We will miss him.

Announcements

View RDA's 2009 Annual Report online at www.rosedale.org.

The Green Corridor Web site is up at www.wycogreencorridor.org. We are asking for your feedback and ideas on this site. Your vision is what will make Rosedale the best it can become.

Happy Holidays from RDA

The Board and Staff of RDA wish everyone peace, happiness, and time to enjoy family and close friends.

We appreciate your support over the past year and look forward to a great 2011 with your help.

Youth Arrested for Graffiti

For several months graffiti around the RDA office was proliferating and had impacted seven businesses, area bridges, and BNSF railroad property. All appeared to be done by kids wanting to show off, not gangs. RDA printed and distributed \$100 reward fliers. With the help of Community Policing Officers Jeff Miske and Carlos Rodriguez those responsible were caught, confessed and were arrested. The family of one of the kids stepped up to help remove some of the graffiti. We know the youth and have spoken with him about his choices. Our hope is that he sees this as a lesson learned.

RDA staff given prestigious award

It was mid-October when Officer Amy Allen and Kent Armstrong stopped by the RDA office to take Linda Wright and Wendy Wilson to the Metropolitan Crime Commission's Annual Luncheon at the downtown Hyatt. Upon arrival they saw hundreds of attendees, most of them from area law enforcement agencies, including Chief Armstrong, Sheriff Don Ash, and many other officers from KCK. Linda and Wendy were there to receive the Alvin Brooks Award for Citizen Support of Law Enforcement and

Criminal Justice. Officer Allen had nominated them for this award. "This was a tremendous honor," Wendy said, "and I was shaking a little bit as I returned to my seat after receiving the award."

Mr. Brooks noted that this was the first time they had presented the award to two individuals in one year. RDA is proud to have been so honored, but we realize that our success is not an individual one, but only possible through our relationships with the community, law enforcement and local government. ☞

Rosedale heroes come to the rescue

Geiger Ready-Mix and John Rohrer Contracting supplied the concrete and labor for a new driveway and walkway for Rosedale resident Marvin Orndorf. He was seriously injured in a fall this past summer and was unable to come home from the skilled nursing center because his house was not accessible by wheelchair. In order for him to come home he needed a new driveway, sidewalk and front porch entrance.

KU volunteers constructed the new porch entrance and a wooden portion of the walkway. Geiger and John Rohrer Contracting did the heavy lifting of constructing the driveway and con-

crete portion of the walkway. Orndorf was able to come home because of the generosity of these businesses. Although he passed away shortly thereafter, he was able to die at home surrounded by his family as he wished.

His family said, "He could not believe that someone would do this for him." His eyes grew large and he could not stop smiling when he saw the drive and walk." We all wish he could have enjoyed it longer, but that was not to be. RDA extends a big thank you to Geiger Ready-Mix and our own John Rohrer Contracting for their help in getting Orndorf home. ☞

Membership application

Annual business dues: \$100 ☞ Annual household dues: \$15

Name of business or name of household

Address City State ZIP code

Contact person

Day phone Evening phone Fax

E-mail address

Please mail application, along with check made payable to:
Rosedale Development Association
1403 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, Kan. 66103

Moving forward:

Linda Wright retiring



WENDY WILSON PHOTO

Call the RDA office and Linda Wright, long-time Office Manager, will answer. She knows it all and how best to address a wide variety of issues. Wright knows everyone and they know and trust her. She seems to be always in the office helping those in need or out painting over graffiti, or leading a volunteer group in a home repair or clean-up project.

As of December 31 Linda will no longer be with RDA as she has decided to retire and hopefully get some much needed rest. This will leave a big hole for us here at RDA that will be next to impossible to fill. She will still participate in the Rose Alert Neighborhood group and continue to work toward improving her community. Linda has been the face everyone sees as they walk through the front door of the office. She has organized the Feed-A-Family program for the past eight years, has been the leading force for our Summer Youth Employment program, and spent a lot of time working with Police and Code Enforcement to reduce blight and crime.

With Linda leaving us and our current financial constraints, we will not be able to replace her very soon. RDA asks for your patience and understanding as we move forward realizing that we will not be able to as effectively address issues as we have in the recent past.

RDA will host a get together on the Wednesday after Christmas, **December 29, 6:30 p.m.** at 1401 Southwest Blvd. This will be our Annual Meeting and also a time to give Linda a big hug. ☺



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