



The Rosedalian

ROSEDALE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.rosedale.org

Guerrilla gardening greens public space

Gardos transplants gardening expertise to Mission Road and Southwest Boulevard

The open area bounded by the off ramp from Mission Road, and Southwest Boulevard, is being cultivated into a public flower garden by Phil Gardos, Rosedale Development Association board chair. Gardos began working on the space in 2007 with help from a team of Christmas in October volunteers from the University of Kansas International Students Club. With left over beautification money from the RDA, they purchased the first round of flower bulbs and plants and broke ground.

"In two years, forty percent is planted," Gardos says. "In a couple of years more, it should be done."

There are rose shrubs and daisies blooming now. Earlier this spring there were daffodils. Iris and chrysanthemums round out the early effort.

"Part of the longer term promise is a planned beautification project that includes a sculpture piece using an old-style rail that is part of Rosedale's heritage," Gardos says.

Gardos' gardening efforts have long been visible along State Line where he has maintained flower plantings. He also gardens in a public green space near the RDA office and another near Holy Name School. The garden at Holy Name features native plants, butterfly bushes and milkweed.

"One day I was gardening and one of the teachers came out and was excited about the chrysalises attached to the play equipment," Gardos says. The butterflies, attracted to the plantings there had left eggs that hatched into caterpillars that wove themselves winter homes on the big toys. Gardos believes they attached there because, "I



WENDY WILSON PHOTO

Phil Gardos kneels beside a plant donated by a passing admirer.

was doing too good a job weeding."

Since he began gardening around the area, he has noticed others who also garden in public and unused private spaces.

"There's all kinds of this going on.

With public space, people should feel free to just go work on it. There were people who talked to me and then went and worked on their own space," he says.

Gardos welcomes volunteers to help with the project at Mission Road and Southwest Boulevard. There is another man who stops by to mow and occasionally someone will help with other tasks.

"Once you find a public space to beautify, half the time is picking up the trash," Gardos says. "The first thing I do when I go to work is get a bag and pick up the trash. It made me real conscious about littering."

Also, Gardos points out that helpers should know the difference between a flower and a weed so to not undo previous work. When in doubt, work with someone knowledgeable.

There are no vegetables planted at the gardens Gardos works on. For Gardos, the goal with flowers is different and he enjoys unwinding while working with them.

"If you're growing flowers, people just smile and leave you alone." ☺

Community meeting

Developers will present to the public details of a new 39th and Rainbow mixed use project, a development that will cover approximately 2 square blocks and combine retail, hotel and residential spaces. The event will be held at the Vox Theatre, 1405 Southwest Blvd., at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 29. The public is invited to see architectural renderings and listen to the developers preview this exciting plan for this urban multi-story project.

July Update from the Healthy Kids Initiative

Members of the Healthy Kids Initiative have been hard at work this summer getting the four strategy teams off the ground and planning our summer event, the Healthy Kids Carnival, a benefit for Rainbow Mennonite CDF Freedom School, which took place on July 22. Instead of fried foods and candy, the Healthy Kids Carnival featured healthy foods such as fruit and yogurt parfaits, vegetable stir-fry, grilled corn on the cob, and new spins on old classics like tostadas with vegetables and barbecued lean meat. Activities and games at the carnival emphasized active living, and encouraged the youth to make healthier lifestyle choices. We will have additional photos and stories from the Carnival in next month's newsletter!

At the June meeting of the **Community Gardens/Healthy Food Access Team**, team members decided to start a local Farmers' Market as a way to distribute the produce from the community gardens. Healthy Kids Farmers' Markets are held on Sunday afternoons from 12:30-3 p.m. in the parking lot of Rosedale Congregational Church. While small, the Healthy Kids Farmers' Market has started to get some regular customers. We hope to grow the market to multiple booths and locations. Left-over produce is taken to the food pantry at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, which distributes it to the community.

We welcomed another community garden to Rosedale as we celebrated the planting of the Belrose Community Garden. Members of the Belrose Manor Tenant Association decided to start a community garden outside the Belrose Resource Center, 4042 Fisher St. With help from the Garden Team and a dozen Youth Build volunteers, they planted four raised beds in the middle of June. They are eagerly awaiting their first tomatoes of the season, and are also growing bell peppers, sweet potatoes, strawberries and flowers.

The **Out of School Activities/Open Spaces Team** met for the first time in June, and will be meeting again in August to continue working to open spaces such as schools, community organizations, and churches to out of school activities for Rosedale youth. In early June, local youth Paul, David and Alyssa



HEIDI HOLIDAY PHOTO


Healthy Kids Film Project participants play "Red Rover" during a break from filming."

Lisbon approached us with the goal of hosting a Healthy Kids Film Project. With the assistance of Freddy Rhoads and Diana Carter, fifteen local students gathered at Rosedale Congregational Church and over the course of two days wrote, directed and produced two short films on active living and healthy eating. We hope to show the films to the public later in the summer.

In early July, the **Safe Routes Team** sponsored our first Walking School Bus driver training for Rosedale parents and friends. The training was led by Steve Petrehn, regional Walking School Bus coordinator for Bridging the Gap, and Sadie Gardner, who works with the Safe Routes to School program of Bridging the Gap. We now have three potential Walking School Bus routes for Frank Rushton Elementary School for the fall, and we would especially love to recruit more volunteers to be drivers for Walking School Bus routes at Noble Prentis and T.A. Edison Elementary Schools. We plan to host another Walking School Bus driver training soon, so contact us if you would like to be invited to the next training session!

More than 30 people attended the first Rosedale Healthy Kids Prayer Meeting on July 8, sponsored by the **Faith in Action Team** and the Rosedale Min-

isterial Alliance and hosted by Trinity Church of the Nazarene pastor Mindy Hancock. The Faith in Action Team hopes to make the Rosedale Healthy Kids Prayer Meeting a monthly event.

To join a strategy team or to receive updates on the Healthy Kids Initiative, contact Heidi at 913-236-6337 or 913-645-7826, or by email at rosedale-healthykid@att.net. 

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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CVS Pharmacy project

The proposed CVS Pharmacy development for the corner of 43rd and Rainbow has been recommended for denial by the UG Planning Commission. The Planning Commission cited two reasons for their recommendation. The Rosedale Master Plan (RMP) calls for the corner to be developed as mixed use, which the CVS proposal does not include. Also, the building's location on the site was not pushed all the way to the corner of 43rd and Rainbow as called for in the RMP. Area residents have worked with CVS for seven months to insure this development adheres as closely as possible to the RMP and feel it now meets the majority of plan guidelines.

Neighborhood residents were generally in favor of the development after major changes in the plan were made by CVS that includes a pocket park, major building upgrades and moving the building closer to the corner.

The next step for CVS and local residents who may wish to support the project or speak against it, will be at the UG Commission meeting on July 30, 7 pm at City Hall. For more detailed info, contact Wendy Wilson at RDA. ☎

CID Act

The Kansas Senate recently passed the Community Improvement District Act (CID). This Act provides businesses and residents with a flexible way to fund, implement and develop both existing and new improvements and to enhance services provided within the district. By forming a CID property owners can collectively work towards improving and developing their property by utilizing one of several financing options available to CIDs.

This act enables property owners to fund projects within the district on either a "pay-as-you-go" basis or through issuing bonds to finance district projects. The funds are derived from self imposed special assessments within the District. For more information, see <http://www.kslegislature.org/bills/2010/119.pdf> or contact Brent Miles, WYEDC at 913-371-3198. ☎

Dagwood's cafe under new ownership

Dagwood's Cafe, 1117 Southwest Blvd., the small town diner in the middle of the metro, is operating under new ownership. Greg Hubler recently bought Dagwood's from Ruby Morlan who retires at the end of July. Ruby revived this Rosedale icon in 1994 after the previous owner decided to quit after yet another Turkey Creek flood episode.

Hubler, who has been in food service for 21 years, decided to get out of the bar business. He owned the Speedway Grill in Bonner Springs and Mulligan's in Olathe.

"I was getting too old for it," Hubler says. "What I like is a breakfast and lunch type place, the old fashioned diners, he says.

"Dagwood's has been here since 1938. It has a lot of history."

Hubler says there will be a few changes in the food and dining areas, but the restaurant will remain essentially the same.

"We're cutting our own fries and breading the tenderloins. We make fresh hamburger patties. We're doing little things that I think help the lunch menu." ☎



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, KS 66103

Rosedale Business of the Month:

Mark's Pharmacy

Address: 4501 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, KS, 66103, **Phone:** 913-262-5553

Mark's Pharmacy, 4501 Rainbow Blvd., is the new name of the same neighborhood pharmacy Rosedale neighbors have depended on for two decades. Mark Williams opened the business under a different name in 1990. That franchise license ran out recently. Though the pharmacy has a new name, the service and products are the same.

Williams says he always hoped to start up a business in KCK since he grew up here.

"We looked at this area in the early 80's, but were not able to open our business until June, 1990, Williams says.

"Our location is great. Rainbow



WENDY WILSON PHOTO

Stephanie Salzer and Mark Williams stand beside the new signage for Mark's Pharmacy in Rosedale.

is a very busy road with people going to KU or St. Luke's or the Country Club Plaza. We get a lot of business from KU and St. Luke's, but like any business, we would love more, Williams says.

"Our customer base is made up of people 30 and up, with a majority in the 55 plus age (range)." he says.

In addition to pharmaceuticals, Mark's Pharmacy sells health related, over the counter items as well. Two full-time and one part-time employee maintain a customer service standard that brings people back for refills.

Williams graduated from KU in 1980, and has seen changes since enter-

ing the field 30 years ago.

"The pharmacy business has changed so much since I graduated," Williams says. "Dealing with the insurance world is 95 percent of our business, but it's our patients (who) are the reason we come to work every day. They are just great. We would not be here if it were not for them." ☞



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