



# The ROELAND PARKER

Oct/Nov 2019



## It's Leaf Season!

Special Section Inside.

### Grants Available to Residents for Sustainable Landscape Solutions

**D**uring significant storms, many cities find they are getting a lot of calls from concerned homeowners about the effects of stormwater on their properties. During periods of heavy rains, residents can experience yard washout, foundation issues, and standing water on their properties. When rainwater washes into the storm drain, it can carry with it pollutants and litter and flows directly into our streams, rivers and lakes. One attractive and effective way to reduce the impact of heavy rains and help treat the rainwater before it washes into the storm sewer is to install a rain garden.

Roeland Park is teaming up with Johnson County and Bridging the Gap to provide reimbursements up to \$1,000 to residents who apply and install rain gardens by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Residents can also re-

ceive reimbursements for other sustainable landscape solutions such as installing rain barrels, planting native trees or pollinator plants. Native plants and grasses have deeper root system than other species and better absorbs water and filters pollutants from stormwater before it reaches waterways. Visit [www.containtherainjoco.com/application.html](http://www.containtherainjoco.com/application.html) for full program details and to apply.



### Rosewood Improvements



Construction on Rosewood is nearing completion. Expect the street to be fully functional by the end of October. Rosewood from 55th to Alder was part of the Residential Street Reconstruction program and will include new curbs, gutters, resurface, minor storm sewer repairs and a new sidewalk.

## Introducing...



**The Geist Family**

From left: Shea, Max and Geoff

## Resident Spotlight

**I**mmediately after the Geist family moved to Roeland Park in March of 2010, they had a huge snowstorm. Fatigued from moving all day, they were worried about how they were going to clear their large driveway without a shovel. They woke up the next day to a loud engine noise.

"It was our neighbor Charley and he was clearing our driveway with his snowblower and all it cost us was a couple beers," said Shea. "That was our introduction to Roeland Park."

The Geist family's love of Roeland Park only grew from there. Max has found the staff and teachers to be truly kind and dedicated at Roseland Elementary, where Max is now in 5th grade. Prior to Roseland, Max attended the JCPRD Early Childhood Development Center at the Roeland Park Community Center. "Miss Maureen (Director) and crew little

provide a safe, loving and creative environment for the ones lucky enough to be in their care," said Shea. Max still hangs out with friends he made as a preschooler, and Shea and Geoff are happy to host the herd of 5th graders at their house.

Shea and Geoff are the founders of Shark OFF, a shark repellent surfwear jewelry company. Using technology used to save sharks from commercial fishing, their goal was to help people "lose the fear and love the ocean." "Even though you are more likely to die by icicle, cow, or lightning strike than by shark, it doesn't stop people-including me- from being terrified of sharks," said Shea. "We have testimonials from those who were afraid to enter the ocean, have a renewed sense of confidence thanks to this technology, which is such a great feeling."

They received a lot of support from the entrepreneurial community in the metro and received a microloan from the Women's Business Center which propelled Shark Off forward in a critical way. The family launched their product after successfully testing the science at the Bimini Biological Field Station in Bimini Bahamas in 2018. You can find more information or purchase the product yourself at [sharkoff.com](http://sharkoff.com).

"What has kept us here and will keep us here in the future is our neighbors," said Geoff. "Roeland Parkers are warm and open-hearted, generous and welcoming to all." The Geists encourage their neighbors to attend community events where you will often find their family. "That's where you will find the heart of Roeland Park."



**Congratulations to residents Ardie & Gretchen Davis for being recognized as two of Kansas City's 70 Over 70 by the Shepherd Center.**



### Thank you to R Park Pavilion Donors!

#### Individuals:

Cal & Joni Bender  
Loretta Carson  
Jean Ternus  
Laura Yankoviz  
Arthur J. Cameron  
Alphonse Mendy  
Tommie & Jana Riddle  
Trudy Nepstad  
Jen Hill  
Kevin White

Matt & Christine Buxton  
Christina & David Avery  
Sherry & Paul Diederich  
Jim & Helen Downing  
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Christine & David Winslow  
Xiaolin Dai & Sheng Xia  
Dori & Charles Peach  
Sara Goodburn  
Carol Fields  
Jackie Bieller  
Tom & Judy Hyde  
Shirley Smart  
Stephen & Dolores Schroff  
Sarah Martin  
Leonard Tocco

#### Becky Fast

**Businesses:**  
China Star in Roeland Park  
Houlihan's in Fairway  
HealthSource Sport + Spine in Mission  
David Chavez, Agent, State Farm Insurance in Roeland Park

# The Roeland Park Recreation Campus



## Roeland Park Community Center

(913) 826-3160

### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8 am-8 pm

Friday: 8 am-5 pm

Saturday: 8 am-2 pm

### Fitness Room

Monday-Thursday: 7 am-8 pm

Friday: 7 am-6 pm

Saturday: 8 am-2 pm

Sunday: Closed

## Roeland Park Aquatic Center

(913) 826-3120

## Roeland Park Sports Dome

(913) 362-8700

Please call for open gym and court rental availability.

[www.jcprd.com](http://www.jcprd.com)



## Fun for the whole family this Fall!

### Family Fun

#### **FREE EVENT: Healthy Halloween Spooktacular, Saturday, Oct. 26th, 9 am-Noon**

Start your family's Halloween off with a healthy morning that will keep the kids energized throughout the busy day. Come in costume and visit the freaky photo booth, play games, make creepy crafts, and show off on the dance floor!

**SPONSORS** - Sponsors needed for this event; call Lisa Scharnack at (913) 826-3161, or e-mail [lisa.scharnack@jocogov.org](mailto:lisa.scharnack@jocogov.org).



#### **Seasonal Event: Graham Cracker House Workshop, Friday December 20th, 12:30 pm-**

**5:30 pm, \$10**

Stop in anytime during the event hours to create a sweet holiday treat with your family! Pre-registration guarantees a supply kit.

### 50 Plus

#### **Turkey Trot Bingo, Thursday Nov. 21st, 1:30 pm-3:30 pm, \$5/\$6 day of event\***

BINGO! Delight in food, prizes, fun, and 12 games of bingo. Variety of prizes awarded including gift certificates.

*\*Cost of admission covers food and staff time to administer the program. No additional charge for bingo.*

#### **Holiday Event: Noon Year's Eve, Tuesday Dec. 31st, 11 am-1:30 pm, \$15 in advance/\$18 one week prior**

Celebrate the New Year at noon! Enjoy a catered lunch and musical performance by Michelle Hawkins who covers songs by Elvis, Patsy Cline, Reba, Sinatra, and more! Please register one week in advance.

### Youth

#### **Halloween LEGO® Adventure (Ages 6-12), Friday, Oct. 11th, 8 am-5 pm, \$67**

Get into the spirit of the season on this No School Day! Design and build the coolest jack-o-lanterns, haunted houses, and spooky ghosts... that move! Costumes welcome. Bring a water bottle and lunch.

#### **Family Cake Decorating (Ages 6-13 with adult), Saturday Nov. 16th, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, \$40**

Spend one-on-one time with your kiddo learning how to decorate a small cake. Cost includes one cake for one adult and one child.

#### **Winter Wonderland LEGO® Challenge (Ages 6-12), Monday Dec. 23rd., 8 am-5 pm, \$67**

Get ready for the deep freeze! Apply concepts in engineering and architecture to brave the challenges of winter weather. Design and build motorized contraptions such as snowplows, gondolas, and a snowball launcher. Bring a water bottle and lunch.

#### **Junkyard LEGO® Challenge (Ages 7-12), Friday December 27th, 8 am-5 pm, \$67**

Build within constraints, and compete in this advanced course for our strongest builders. Design innovative answers for challenges such as Follow the Hose, Thread the Needle, and the Tunnel Challenge. Bring a water bottle and lunch.

### New Fitness Opportunities Available at RPCC

**Personal Training:** Work with our knowledgeable trainers to develop safe and effective programs designed to help you reach your personal health and fitness goals. Thirty and sixty-minute sessions available. Purchase multiple sessions and save!



Improve strength, energy and balance with regular exercise. The community center is a proud partner of the Silver Sneakers program. Stop by the front desk or call now for more information!



**City Administrator**  
Keith Moody  
[kmoody@roelandpark.org](mailto:kmoody@roelandpark.org)

**Finance Director/Ast. City Administrator**  
Jennifer Jones-Lacy  
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**City Clerk**  
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**Police Department**  
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**Mayor—Mike Kelly**  
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**Ward 4—Michael Poppa**  
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(913) 890-3809

## RPPD News

2019 has been a busy and successful year for RPPD. We had a new officer graduate the Johnson County Community College Regional Police Academy. If you see Officer Suffield on the streets make sure you say hi! We promoted Officer Cliff Chaffee to Sergeant and placed Officer Gregg Schiffelbein in the School Resource Officer position at the Bishop Miege High School. Officer Schiffelbein has over 20 years of law enforcement experience and has been an SRO when he worked for a previous agency.

Our new motorcycle unit is now in service. The 2019 Harley Davidson motorcycle is outfitted with a computer and a digital ticketing system. The motorcycle unit is a valuable part of our traffic safety education and enforcement programs. We also have a new digital radar traffic monitoring trailer that is used for traffic safety statistics and visual reminder to motorists of their speed.



The Roeland Park K9 “Rango” has had many deployments and multiple successful searches for various contrabands and individuals. He has been at several community events for demonstrations of his talents in search and recovery. He has been a great addition to the department. RPPD Officers have hosted drug take back days as well, taking dozens of pounds of potentially harmful prescription drugs off the streets. Our drop box is always available in the front lobby for you to drop off those old prescription drugs. You can also pick up a free gun lock to safely secure firearms.

We hope you had a great summer. Just a reminder that schools are back in session, so please drive with caution. As always, call 911 for anything suspicious and stay safe out there.

## Event Calendar

- Chili Dinner & Bingo:** October 9th, 5:30p.m., Roeland Park Community Center, \$15 for Johnson County Residents
- RPPD Safety Night:** October 23rd, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Roeland Park Community Center. FREE
- Healthy Halloween Spooktacular:** October 26th, 9 a.m.—noon. FREE
- Election Day:** Tuesday, November 5th, All Day
- Veterans Day:** November 11th, City Offices Closed
- Thanksgiving Holiday:** November 28th-29th, City Offices Closed.
- Mayor's Tree Lighting:** December 5th, 6 p.m., Roeland Park Community Center
- Art Reception, City Photo Contest:** December 13th, 6 p.m. City Hall