

- 1. Do Not rake leaves into the street.** Leaves should be in long piles behind the curb abutting the street. Leaves should be placed within 8 ft of the street or back of curb.
- 2.** When sidewalks abut the curb, leave at least 3 ft of passable sidewalk space between the curb and leaf piles for pedestrians.
- 3.** Keep leaf piles free of limbs and litter.
- 4.** Keep leaves away from obstacles such as trash cans, mailboxes, cars and utility poles.
- 5.** Do not park your car in front of leaves during collection hours of 7AM-5PM Monday-Friday and 7:30AM-3:30PM on Saturday. If your neighbor parks in front of your leaves, please reach out to them and kindly request they move their vehicle.
- 6.** Place leaves behind the curb the day prior to collection.

Roeland Park Citizens Giving Back—Volunteers Needed

The Roeland Park United Methodist Church (RPUMC) has paired up with the Roeland Park community to help meet the unique challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has provided and perpetuated. The RPUMC Food Program started handing out bags of food every Friday. Each bag of food contains about \$15 worth of staple foods including oatmeal, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, pasta and pasta sauce, canned meat, and beans. Each bag also includes a \$10 Aldi gift card.

When RPUMC started, about 40 bags were distributed each week. However, the need has increased each week. During the month of August, an average 86 bags were distributed each week, helping more than 65 families!

Volunteers are needed to help meet this need. There are volunteer opportunities each week.

To sign up to volunteer, please use the SignUpGenius link: <https://bit.ly/3cneNjh>, or contact Kristi Schang at kristis35@comcast.net or 913-449-9974.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Tuesdays: Meet at Aldi's—Load up food and unload it at RPUMC. 12-12:30PM; 2-3 volunteers

Wednesday: RPUMC social hall—Fill food bags with food staples and Aldi's gift cards. 9-11AM; 5-6 Volunteers

Fridays: RPUMC back parking lot—Hand out food bags. First session 9-11AM; Second session 11AM-1PM. 2-3 Volunteers each session.

William Baker Choir - Providing Joy Through Music



When faced with the performance challenges posed by the COVID-19 pan-

demic, the William Baker Choral Foundation rose to the occasion. Suddenly, singing had become a dangerous way to spread the virus; but that didn't stop the Choir from finding creative ways to express beauty through song. That's when the choir started Window Concerts.

Through the second story windows of an office building in RP, a quintet of singers in 5 evenly spaced windows, 10 feet apart from each other sang to an audi-

ence in the parking lot. The response has been overwhelming, and the Choir is excited to keep music alive in Roeland Park and bringing joy and an outlet to people in these tough times.

Roeland Park Resident Shoutout!

We love highlighting resident accomplishments! Roeland Park resident Scott Lane has released a new CD with the Miner's Bluff Band. The CD is called *Osage Trace*. Listen to a series of songs including 'Little Bit Better Than Me' and 'West Virginia Soil' which you can find on Facebook @MBB.ScottyLane and listen to the CD at Bandcamp.com.



Composting Yard Waste—A Better Way

Do you compost? Fallen leaves, grass clippings, shrubbery trimmings and other yard waste can be transformed into a valuable resource. Compost improves the structure and moisture retention of most garden soils. By recycling yard waste (and some kitchen scraps) at home, you can reduce the amount of solid waste entering landfills.

These efforts benefit the entire community and ultimately benefit your landscape. For more info on how to compost, check out the Johnson County Extension Resources online at www.johnson.k-state.edu/lawn-garden/healthy-yards-and-environment/composting.html.

And while you are cleaning up your yard for the winter, consider leaving some leaves in an out-of-the-way spot for the benefit of pollinators and other wildlife. Beneficial insects like caterpillars, which turn into beautiful butterflies, and bees find use with fallen leaves in the winter. Composting is an excellent way to promote sustainability!



Updates from the Arts Advisory Committee

Lynda J Leonard, a member of the Arts Advisory Committee, will be showing her art in October in the George Schlegel Gallery in City Hall.

“My first attempt at creating was as a toddler, while my mother was bringing in clothes from the clothesline. I used a new stick of butter left on the table to finger paint the picture window. I have been making use of available materials since.

I have a Masters of Art in ceramics and jewelry from Fort Hays State University. I use sacred geometry along with the ancient spiral symbol as a way to make visual all the energy that surrounds us. I create papercrete sculpture, collage and



mixed media works using found objects, and photographs I take of my world. “ - Lynda J Leonard

Penny Thieme will be showing her art with Leonard in October.

Penny paints her life in pulsating imagery full of symbolism, vibrant colors and passages that meander through the psyche and connect soulfully to the human condition.

Penny is a visual artist, poet, curator, collaborator and visionary. Her art has been featured in solo and group exhibitions such as Artists Fight Back Against the War on Women, Garden of Jungian Delights, Oracles & Vessels and Passages.

Her artwork is in national and international private collections and has been featured in Beyond Bounds at The Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art and the prestigious River Market Regional.

Visit pennythieme.com for more information.

The Roeland Park Recreation Campus



Roeland Park Community Center

(913) 826-3160

Office Hours

Hours may vary, call for details

Monday-Friday: 8 am-6 pm

Saturday: 8 am-1 pm

Fitness Room

Hours may vary, call for details

Monday-Friday: 7 am-6 pm

(closed for cleaning 2pm-3 pm M-F)

Saturday: 8 am-1 pm

Sunday: Closed

Roeland Park Sports Dome

(913) 362-8700

Please call for open gym and court rental availability.



www.jcprd.com

Fun for All

Chalk the Walk Halloween Event, October 26th—31st, M-F 8 am - 5 pm, and Sat 8 am - 1 pm, free
Public is invited to Chalk the Walk at the Roeland Park Community Center. Bring your chalk and decorate one sidewalk square surrounding the community center's front lawn. When finished, take a picture of your family friendly artwork and post to the Roeland Park Community Center Facebook page @RoelandParkCommunityCenter. Then stop inside and receive a Halloween treat bag for all those who participate. Prizes awarded to winners in the following categories: Spookiest; Most Colorful; Best Overall. Winners announced via Facebook at 1pm on October 31st. Happy Halloween!

Youth

Becoming a Babysitter (Ages 12 - 16), Monday & Tuesday, November 23rd & 24th, 8 am - 11:30 am, \$72
We'll cover safety, expectations, age appropriate activities, and healthy snacks. First aid and CPR certification included. Have a group interested in scheduling a private class? Call (913) 826-3161 to arrange.

50 Plus

Chili Bingo*, Thursday, October 15th, 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm, \$15 advanced registration required
BINGO! Delight in dinner, prizes, fun, and 12 games of bingo. Variety of prizes awarded including gift certificates. Register at least one week in advance by calling (913) 831-3359.

Selling Online, Saturday, October 17th, 9 am - 7 pm; OR November 5th, 10 am -12 pm, \$19

Clearing out clutter? Looking to sell handmade wares? Class covers how to sell online safely. Learn tips and tricks to online payments, where to sell, and how to ship.

Healthy Cooking in Your Pressure Cooker (aka Instant Pot), Wednesday, October 28th, 1 pm - 4 pm, \$36
Lose the fear and fall in love with one of the hottest kitchen gadgets. Electric pressure cookers are safe, easy, and a great way to get healthy and delicious dinners made fast. Price includes a demo and sampling of meals.

Day at the Cinema Bingo*, Thursday, November 19th, 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm, \$5 advanced registration required

BINGO! Delight in food, prizes, fun, and 12 games of bingo. Variety of prizes awarded including gift certificates. Register at least one week in advance by calling (913) 831-3359.



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

Please visit www.jcprd.com often for updates and new offerings as we gradually resume programs and events.

Please note: All upcoming programs are subject to change based on the recommendations of local government and health experts.

Fitness Room Opportunities!

The Fitness Room is open! To ensure the safety and health of our patrons and staff we have implemented several modifications to our business practices, including modified hours, scheduled workout timeframes and hourly capacity limits.

Memberships and day passes are available. Call 913-826-3160 to reserve a time slot.

The fitness room is proud to offer free membership to those eligible for Silver Sneaker or Prime - Fitness Your Way. Silver Sneakers classes beginning soon. Call for details!

Yoga (Ages 18+), Mondays and Thursdays, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm, punch card program—try one class free

Moderate Intensity: Strengthen your body, calm your mind and improve flexibility and balance. Prior to coming to Yoga or to try a free class, call (913) 826-3160 for details and class schedule.



Fall Tree Planting Time is Approaching!



Through a partnership between the City of Roeland Park and Johnson County Storm Water Management Program, "Contain the Rain Johnson County" provides homeowners with the opportunity to add native trees to their properties at a reduced cost and help to effectively manage storm water within the city and county.

Roeland Park is a Tree City and **YOU** can help! Here's how it works:

Homeowners visit www.containtherainjoco.com to review the program and identify native trees that qualify for reimbursement. Homeowners may select up to two approved

trees and get up to 50% of the cost of **each** tree reimbursed, or up to a total reimbursement of \$150 per property.

Once planted, homeowners submit the required paperwork and receipts for reimbursement online.

Be sure to follow tree maintenance instructions and enjoy the beauty of native trees, which contribute to the control of stormwater in Roeland Park.

Let every property in Roeland Park house native trees. The Roeland Park Parks Committee and Tree Board thank you.

Voter to Voter Engagement

Hey Roeland Parkers, let's show KC why we are one of the most civically engaged communities around!

The Roeland Park Community Engagement Committee has started a Voter to Voter team, which is a great way to get your friends and neighbors out to vote. Once you join the team, people will be able to track each other's voting activity, add friends, and go for the best turnout.

To join the team, visit: <https://votertovoter.org/roeland-park-community-engagement>. If you have any questions, please contact Councilman Michael Rebne at mrebne@roelandpark.org.



Combating Social Isolation & Loneliness in Older Adults

Social isolation and loneliness has reached epidemic proportions. A survey by the AARP Foundation finds that about 1/3 of US adults age 45 and older report feeling lonely and those who are low income are especially vulnerable. Nearly half of midlife and older adults with annual incomes of less than \$25,000 report being lonely. Loneliness has the same negative impacts on health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day. Fortunately, there are resources locally available to help combat social isolation, which is key to causing loneliness. Below are local resources to connect older adults to one another and the broader community.

- 50 Plus Program through JCPRD offers in-person programming at the Roeland Park Community Center that provides for physical distancing. They also have a variety of activities available virtually designed to keep participants engaged socially, emotionally and physically. For a more info on how to get involved, visit jcprd.com/170/50-plus or call 913-826-2975.
- The KC Shepherd Center Phone Pal Program helps combat loneliness by training screened, adult volunteers to have a phone discussion with an older adult twice/week. Any homebound adult age 55+ is eligible to participate. Contact Danielle Wooton at 816-444-1121, ext. 109 or at dwooton@sccentral.org.



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City Infrastructure Sales Tax Ballot Question

The City of Roeland Park has approved placing a sales tax renewal question on the general election ballot on Nov. 3rd. The question will ask to renew and increase the current sales tax from 0.25% to 0.5%. This one-quarter of one percent increase is expected to generate an extra \$375,000 more per year in revenues to use towards infrastructure projects around the city like improvements to:

- Buildings
- Sidewalks
- Streets
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- Parks and Recreation Facilities, and more

INFRASTRUCTURE SALES TAX BALLOT QUESTION



Visit roelandpark.org/377/2020-Sales-Tax-Ballot-Question
for more information!

Currently, 24% of the sales taxes collected in the City come from visitors to the community who benefit and use Roeland Park streets, sidewalks and parks. This proposed increase in funding would allow for continuous improvements and reconstruction of City streets listed as 'poor' or 'failed', many of which are residential. Make sure to register to vote by October 13th so you can cast your vote on this question and all others!