



# The ROELAND PARKER

Oct/Nov 2021



**A**s more people are becoming eligible and receiving their COVID-19 vaccine, it is important to remember that pandemic has not yet ended. We all still must take precautions and do our part to stem the spread of the novel coronavirus and bring the pandemic to a conclusion. Below is information regarding masking as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Information changes rapidly, stay tuned in to our website [www.roelandpark.net](http://www.roelandpark.net) and follow us on social media for the latest updates on the local response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Roeland Park Governing Body passed Resolution 692 on August 23, 2021, requiring that masks or other appropriate face covering be worn indoors in public settings, regardless of vaccination status. Further the Resolution strongly recommends masks or other face coverings in indoor private settings and crowded outdoor settings where proper distancing cannot be maintained. Children under the age of 5 do not need to wear a mask under this Resolution.



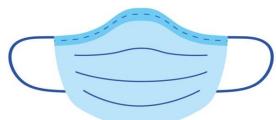
Many Roeland Park stores and businesses have put up signs informing shoppers and visitors of the mask requirement. The signs may look like the one below. Even if it is a different sign, there is still a masking requirement in Roeland Park. It will take all of us to remember to wear our masks as we go places.

The City of Roeland Park is following CDC guidance and requires people to wear masks in public spaces per a resolution passed on August 23.

FACE COVERINGS ARE REQUIRED WHILE INDOORS.  
SOCIAL DISTANCING IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED AT ALL TIMES.



"Remember—my mask protects you, and your mask protects me, we're all in this together".—Governor Laura Kelly



Further, per Federal law, masks are required on all forms of transit such as buses, planes, and trains, as well as in all transportation depots including bus stations, airports, and train stations.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at (913) 722-2600.

## Replacing Invasive Trees with Native Ones in Cooper Creek Park

If you've passed by Cooper Creek Park recently, you probably noticed the six trees that lined the street on the park's southern end are gone. Do you know why? Those trees were invasive Bradford Pears, also known as Callery Pears. They will be replaced with ten beneficial trees native to our region.

Why did we plant Bradford Pears originally? The Callery Pear was introduced from China in the early 1900s, but it wasn't until the 1950s that the 'Bradford' cultivar, thought sterile, was widely planted. As more cultivars were introduced, different cultivars cross pollinated and, suddenly, the "sterile" trees began producing prodigious amounts of viable seed. With the help of birds, seeds entered our native woodlands and prairies, and dense thickets of Bradford Pears emerged, crowding out native plants and damaging local habitats. That's why the City's Public Works Department removed those trees.

This fall, Heartland Tree Alliance (HTA) and volunteers will plant ten native trees in the park, replacing the Bradford Pears. Of the ten trees, seven will be large and long-lived – for example, a Bur Oak tree can live up to 600 years. Three will be smaller, flowering trees. All ten are different species so if a disease or pest strikes – like Dutch Elm Disease or Emerald Ash Borer – we are less likely to lose multiple trees. In diversity there is strength.



These native trees will benefit animals, other trees, and people. All ten, especially the four in the white oak group, pictured here, will provide food and habitat for wildlife. Their roots will connect to each other and to trees in the wooded area through mycelium, creating community and sequestering carbon. Trees with vibrant flowers and interesting fruit will be close to park benches, so they can be admired by people resting in the park. The trees around the playscape will be the sturdy oaks, which, in time, will make excellent climbing trees for children.

These ten native trees will be funded by the Tom Savidge Memorial Fund. Tom was active in working to restore Cooper Creek Park and had a special passion for planting trees.

We encourage everyone to come see the ongoing transformation of Cooper Creek Park this fall!

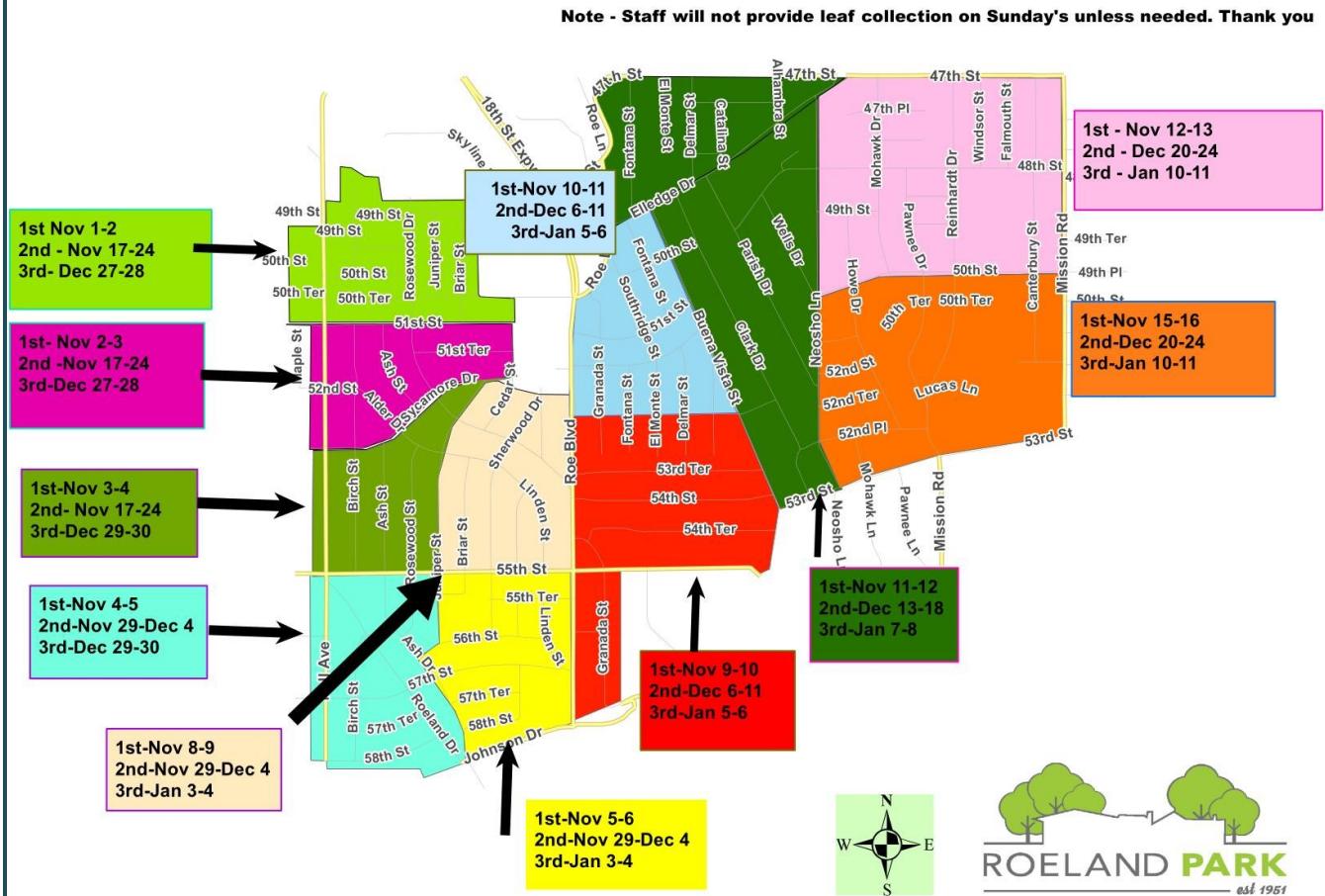


Leaves and acorns of the four white oaks to be planted. Clockwise from top left: Bur Oak, Swamp Oak, White Oak, Chinkapin Oak  
-Photo by Adison Banks

The Roeland Park Arts Advisory Committee invites you to the dedication ceremony for the 47th Street Mural. Come celebrate images that reflect our uniquely rooted community portrayed by seven talented artists. Please contact Mary Schulteis (marysunflowers@aol.com) or Marek Gliniecki (marekgliniecki@yahoo.com) with any questions.

# Leaf Collection Season is Here!

It is that time of year again! Leaves will be changing gorgeous colors then falling everywhere, and Roeland Park is here to collect! The map below illustrates the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd dates for leaf collection. Here is what you need to know to get your leaves picked up by Roeland Park's leaf-collection vehicle:



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 feet of the street or back of curb.
2. When sidewalks abut the curb, leave at least 3 feet 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.

# The Roeland Park Recreation Campus



## 50 Plus

### **Tai Chi - \$36, Mondays: Oct. 6 - 27, 10:00 am or Thursdays: Oct. 7 - 28, 5:00 pm**

**Mondays: Nov. 3 - 24, 10:00 am**

Tai Chi offers a slow and gentle exercise with benefits in endurance, flexibility, and muscle strengthening. All experience levels welcome in this course.

### **Zumba Gold - \$39, Wednesdays: Oct. 20 - Nov. 17, 6:30 pm**

**Saturdays: Nov. 6 - Dec. 11, 10:00 am**

Perfect for active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class. Easy-to-follow choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion, coordination and fun!

### **Osher Presents: Japanese Ghosts and Demons - \$50, Oct. 6 - 20, 6:00 pm**

Explore the stories associated with supernatural beings and events linking people to their origins and provide an explanation about their existence. The stories associated with supernatural beings and events link people to their origins and provide an explanation about their existence. With influences from Shintoism, Buddhism and Taoism, Japanese folklore is filled with supernatural beings ranging from gruesome and mysterious to humorous and playful. We'll introduce prominent Japanese apparitions, but we will also look beyond the initial spectacle depicted in folktales, historical accounts, statues, prints, writings, and theatrical performances to reveal the origins and effects of such beings on Japanese culture and society.

### **Mah Jongg Halloween Party - \$15, Oct. 28, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm**

You'll have a ghoul-ish good time at this marathon of Mah Jongg! Bring your friends, favorite foursome, or meet new players and enter to win prizes. Players rotate tables and track wins; no bracket play. We'll keep you energized with coffee, lunch, and dessert. Please register before 10/22.

*\*Cost of admission covers food and staff time to administer the Mah Jongg event. No additional charge for Mah Jongg.*

### **Copy-Cat Restaurant Meals Demo (Mexican) - \$37, Nov. 30, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Watch our instructor demonstrate the ease of copying the popular restaurant recipe, Chili's® Enchilada Soup. Enjoy samples and take home the recipes.

## Youth

### **Roeland Park Sports Dome**

(913) 362-8700

Please call for open gym and court rental availability.

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

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



SCAN ME

## FACE COVERINGS ARE REQUIRED WHILE INDOORS

SOCIAL DISTANCING IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED AT ALL TIMES.

The Roeland Park City Council approved Resolution No. 692 at its meeting on August 23, 2021. The resolution sets out all of the details of the mask requirement, which will remain in place until at least October 19, 2021. It could be extended based on the state of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.





# Fur auction

BENEFITING THE ROELAND PARK  
POLICE DEPARTMENT K9 UNIT

OCT. 17, 2021 • 4 PM  
R PARK: 5535 JUNIPER DR,  
ROELAND PARK, KS 66205

This event is free to attend. We are raising funds for our favorite four-legged officer, Rango, who will be doing a special presentation with his handler, Sergeant Honas!

SOME ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO BID ON INCLUDE:

- Dog-themed gift baskets • Ride to school with a RP Police Officer • Lunch with a Police Officer
- Visit from Rango • Mexico vacation • Chiefs signed gear • Homemade desserts
- Gift cards to local businesses • and so much more!

*For your comfort, while seated on the grass, please bring items you may want such as your own chairs/blankets and bug protection.  
Winning bidders can pay with cash, check, Venmo, or PayPal.*



TAKING BIDS  
FUNDRAISING



## Thank You!

Last year, Cadettes Sarah Nielsen and Josie Jungeberg of Girl Scout Troop 1236 started their Silver Award with their idea to add a gaga ball pit to the west side of Roeland Park. This summer, the gaga ball pit was installed.

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make this project a reality.

Photo by Stephanie Nielsen

## Keep Safe, Start a 9PM Routine

There has been an increase of auto thefts and auto burglaries throughout Johnson County. To help prevent auto thefts and burglaries, you can start a 9PM Routine:

- Remove all valuables and paperwork from your car
- Lock all your car doors
- Make sure that your garage door is shut
- Ensure all exterior doors are locked
- Turn on an exterior light.

If you see something in progress, call 911. If you become a victim of auto theft, inform the police. You will want to provide your driver's license, registration for the vehicle, insurance card, serial numbers for any items that were in your vehicle, and credit card/account numbers if your wallet was taken.

## November Election

There will be local elections on Tuesday November 2, 2021. Roeland Park will be voting on Councilmembers and Mayor.

Advance voting will be available at eight locations starting October 23, 2021. Voters may request a ballot via the mail. On November 2, polls will open at 7AM and will close at 7PM. If you are in line when polls close, you can remain in line and still vote.

To view a sample ballot, determine your voting location, request an advance mail-in ballot, apply to become an election worker, and find more information regarding the upcoming November General Election, visit [jocolection.org](http://jocolection.org).



## Community Giving

**T**he holidays are approaching! The City of Roeland Park plans to 'adopt' several families this upcoming holiday season. If you would like to help or donate, keep an eye out on our website [www.roelandpark.net](http://www.roelandpark.net) for additional information. The City will also be accepting non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Please contact Kelley Nielsen if you have any questions: knielsen@roelandpark.org.





**FREE  
EVENT  
FOR ALL  
AGES**



presented by  
**ROELAND PARK**  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

## **HALLOWEEN HAUNTED TRAIL**

**CANDY, CONTESTS & MORE!**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23  
5:00PM TILL 9:00PM**

**NALL PARK  
4810 NALL AVE**

**COSTUMES ENCOURAGED**

The Roeland Park Community Engagement Committee is hosting a Halloween Haunted Trail! There will be candy, contests, and more!

Details are available on the community calendar [www.roelandpark.net/132/Community-Calendar](http://www.roelandpark.net/132/Community-Calendar) or by viewing events on the City of Roeland Park Facebook page [www.facebook.com/CityofRoelandParkKs](http://www.facebook.com/CityofRoelandParkKs).

If you would like to volunteer, please send an email to [CommunityEngagement@roelandpark.org](mailto:CommunityEngagement@roelandpark.org).



City Administrator  
Keith Moody  
kmoody@roelandpark.org

Finance Director/Asst. City  
Administrator  
Erin Winn  
ewinn@roelandpark.org

City Clerk  
Kelley Nielsen  
knielsen@roelandpark.org

Police Department  
Chief of Police, John Morris  
emorris@roelandpark.org

Public Works Department  
Donnie Scharff, Director  
dscharff@roelandpark.org

Mayor—Mike Kelly  
mkelly@roelandpark.org  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 1—Jan Faidley  
jfaidley@roelandpark.org  
(913) 709-6812

Ward 1—Tom Madigan  
tomrpks@gmail.com  
(913) 526-6997

Ward 2—Jen Hill jhill@roelandpark.org  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 2—Benjamin Dickens  
bdickens@roelandpark.org  
(913) 544-1259

Ward 3—Trisha Brauer  
tbrauer@roelandpark.org  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 3—Claudia McCormack  
cmccormack@roelandpark.org  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 4—Jim Kelly  
jkelly@roelandpark.org  
(913) 722-2600

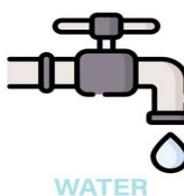
Ward 4—Michael Rebne  
mrebne@roelandpark.org  
(913) 228-2650

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Home Rule amendment in Kansas! Home Rule allows local people, making local decisions, to provide for the unique needs of each of the 625 cities in Kansas. The needs of Kansas cities are diverse and differ from rural to urban, east to west, and even from neighbor-to-neighbor.

## What is HOME RULE?

**Local decision-making. Self-government. Citizen-centered solutions.**

We have **625** cities in the State of Kansas. All are different, with unique needs and services. Commonly, cities offer these services:



Home Rule gives us the power to decide which services we want and to solve problems locally.