

SUMMER 2022

# THE ROELAND PARKER

Official Newsletter of the City of Roeland Park

## Letter from the Mayor

Dear Residents,

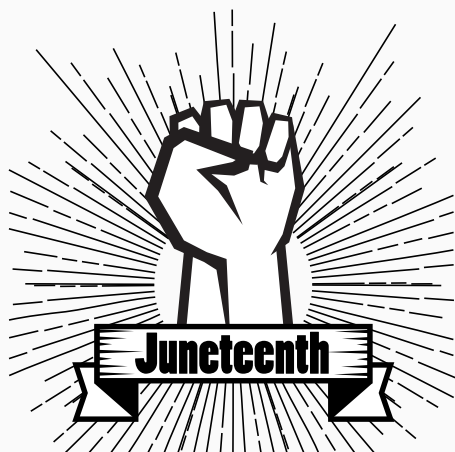
This June marks the first time that the City officially recognizes Juneteenth as a holiday. We are proud to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved peoples and to celebrate the vibrant culture of our Black community.

Please join myself, members of the Racial Equity Committee, and citizens from around the metro area for a Juneteenth celebration at Thompson Park in downtown Overland Park on Saturday June 18th at 11 am. There will be a peace walk from Overland Park City Hall to Thompson Park at 10 am for those interested.



Sincerely,

Mike Kelly



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# Roeland Park to Display Sculpture Created by Artist Joe Williams

## SCULPTURE HONORS UKRAINE

Local artist and Marine veteran Joe Williams has created a series of sculptures to show solidarity with the Ukrainian people during the Russian invasion. During the March 21, 2022 City Council Meeting, the Roeland Park Governing Body unanimously approved the temporary placement of one of Williams' sculptures along Roe Boulevard. In addition, the Roeland Park gateway signs will be colored blue and yellow to match the sculpture's message. "The City of Roeland Park is honored to be able to host this sculpture as a dedication to the people of Ukraine," said Roeland Park Mayor Mike Kelly. "The City is committed to not only showcasing the work of local artists, but also supporting those facing deep suffering at the hands of an autocratic regime. We are glad to be able to partner with Mr. Williams on this installation."



Williams has secured donated supplies to create the piece and the City has covered the cost of installation. The sculpture along Roe Boulevard is named "Hedgehog KC". This piece is donned in the blue and yellow colors of Ukraine, and signifies not only our support of the Ukraine people, but also, the freedom and democracy they are fighting to protect. "Hedgehogs" physically are meant to stop war machines; in the context of the KC hedgehog sculpture the three legs upon which it stands symbolizes our support of the Ukrainian people, the defense of a free and democratic state and a stop to the Russian war machine.

"I am grateful that the City of Roeland Park has allowed the sculpture to be displayed on its Boulevard," said Williams. "Art can be such a powerful way to communicate with people and we must all unite together to support Ukraine."

Williams will also be displaying his other works around the Kansas City metro area. Once the installation wraps up, the plan is to display the sculptures at a gallery to allow them to be viewed together.

"Art can be such a powerful way to communicate with people and we must all unite together to support Ukraine."





# Eligibility Criteria



Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. You own your home in Kansas.
2. The property is your primary residence.
3. The property is either a single-family home, one-to-four unit dwelling, or mobile home.
4. You can provide valid proof of identification.
5. Without assistance, you would be at risk of losing your home.
6. Your 2020 income did not exceed 150% of your area's median income.
7. You have documented financial hardship related to the COVID pandemic..

For more information regarding requirements, please visit [kshousingcorp.org/kansas-homeowner-assistance-fund/](https://kshousingcorp.org/kansas-homeowner-assistance-fund/)

## Kansas Homeowners Assistance Fund (KHAF)

FUNDING TO AID HOMEOWNERS FINANCIALLY IMPACTED BY THE PANDEMIC



The Kansas Homeowners Assistance Fund (KHAF) program is expected to launch in 2022. This program will help eligible Kansas households financially impacted by the pandemic to get current on their mortgages and to avoid foreclosure.

The funds will provide assistance with:

- Mortgages
- Property Taxes
- Homeowners' Insurance
- Energy Costs

### Application Process

STEP 1: Homeowners submits an online application.

STEP 2: Application is processed by Kansas Housing Resources Corporation.

STEP 3: If approved, service provider(s) receive funds directly from KHRC to apply to the homeowner's account(s).



# A Note From Neighborhood Services

BY WADE HOLTKAMP

The City of Roeland Park is committed to maintaining a beautiful community by working with residents to encourage compliance with the City's municipal ordinance. Let's all do our part to keep our neighborhood attractive. To ask a question or report a concern, call Neighborhood Services at 913-722-2600.

Here are a couple of common code issues to keep in mind:



## Long grass

Lawn mowing is required. Grass must be kept below 8 inches in height on all properties. Property owners are required to mow any area between their property line and the adjacent curb or street.



## Outside Storage

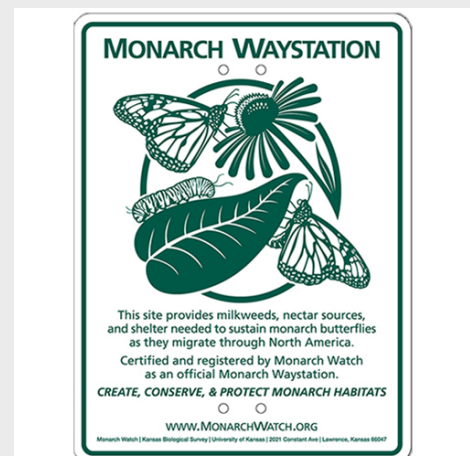
Most household items can't be stored outside. Items allowed outside without restrictions are lawn furniture, barbecue grills, arbors, trellises, and flagpoles. Other items may be stored outside such as trash containers, boats, trailers, campers, and firewood, but there are restrictions associated with storing these items, which include placement, screening, and other specifics.

# Monarch Waystation in Cooper Creek Park

BY GRETCHEN DAVIS, PHOTOS BY ARDIE DAVIS

Be sure to stop by Cooper Creek Park to see the five new pollinator landscaping beds recently prepared and planted with milkweed and nectar plants so the site will qualify as a certified Monarch Waystation through MonarchWatch.org. Certification is granted based on the area of the beds, the inclusion of a variety of specific plants needed during all stages of the Monarch's life cycle, and sustainable management practices. The planting in Cooper Creek Park is still in progress, and the sizable gaps between plants will be filled. The Monarch population is alarmingly in decline due to the destruction of their coveted milkweed plants in the wild. The Cooper Creek Park Waystation will provide Monarchs a habitat for food and shelter from predators and the elements as they migrate through Kansas.

The pollinator landscaping beds are part of the City's Phase 2 Cooper Creek Park Restoration Project, led by Councilmember Trisha Brauer and aided by her Citizen Crew. Neighborhood volunteer Judy Hyde led this landscaping project. Public Works added the fencing, post rocks, and stone borders around the beds.



# Roeland Park's Firework Ordinance

WORKING TO KEEP CITIZENS SAFE



**Wire Sparkler**

The City of Roeland Park asks that residents adhere to the Firework Ordinance, which was drafted to keep residents safe and neighborhoods enjoyable for all.

As firework season begins, please review our Firework Ordinance (located on the City's website) and the safety reminders from the National Fire Protection Association.



**Novelty Snakes**



**Cone Fountain**

Any person violating the provisions of the firework ordinance will be fined. Fines range between \$100.00 - \$500.00 for each and every violation.

## Permitted Fireworks

As a reminder, permitted fireworks are only allowed during July 4th between the hours of noon & 10pm.

1. Novelty Snakes
2. Snappers
3. Novelty Wire Sparkler or Novelty Dipped Stick
4. Novelty Smoke Device
5. Cone Fountain



**Novelty Smoke Device**

# The Roeland Park Recreation Campus



**Roeland Park  
Community Center**

(913) 826-3160

**Program Registration Phone**

(913) 831-3359

**Community Center Office &  
Fitness Room Hours**

**Monday-Thursday: 7am-8 pm**

**Friday: 7am-5pm**

**Saturday: 8am-1pm**

**Sunday: Closed**

**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.*

## 50 PLUS

**50 Plus Easter Egg Hunt - \$10 April 14, 1:00pm – 2:00 pm**

Who says kids get to have all the fun? This egg hunt is for 50 Plus ONLY! Search high and low for these hidden eggs outside the community center. A special furry friend might even hop by for a photo op! Coffee and refreshments included.

**Tai Chi - \$36 (4 Classes Per Session)**

**Wednesdays, starting April 6 and May 4, 10:00 am – 10:50 am**

**Thursdays, starting April 7 and May 5, 5:00 pm – 5:50 pm**

A slow, gentle exercise with benefits in endurance, flexibility, and muscle strengthening.

**Zumba® Gold - \$39 (5 Classes Per Session)**

**Wednesdays, starting May 4, 6:30 pm – 7:20 pm**

**Saturdays, starting May 7, 10:00 am – 10:50am**

Add some groove to your routine! A modified Zumba with easy-to-follow instructions.

## Youth: Summer Camp Registration is Open!

The Roeland Park Community Center is currently enrolling participants in camps with the following themes:

- **Just for Fun Young Explorers Camp** (Ages 3-5)
- **Crafts: Get Crafty Camp** (Ages 8-12)
- **Engineering: Play-Well TEKologies using Lego** (Ages 5-7 or 8-12)
- **Discovery: Mad Science** (Ages 6-12, varies)
- **Games: The Knight School Chess** (Ages 6-12)
- **Life Skills: Becoming a Babysitter** (Ages 12-16)

Check out the Summer Camp Guide online at [JCPRD.com/RoelandPark](http://JCPRD.com/RoelandPark) to view dates and pricing for all JCPRD camp offerings. Paper copy print guides are also available at the community center. Questions? Call the registration department at 913.831.3359.



## TENNIS, TENNIS, AND MORE, TENNIS!

**50 Plus Tennis  
for Beginners**

**Adult Tennis  
for Beginners**

**Green Ball  
Ages 11-14**

**Orange Ball  
Ages 9-12**

**Red Ball  
Ages 5-8**

**Parent & Me Tennis  
Ages 3-5 w/Parent**

Tennis is offered for all ages groups at R Park tennis courts, 5535 Juniper Drive, Roeland Park. For more information go to: [JCPRD.com/RoelandPark](http://JCPRD.com/RoelandPark) or call 913-826-3160.

# City Contacts

 Search



City Administrator – Keith Moody  
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Director of Public Works – Donnie Scharff  
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Ward 3 – Kate Raglow  
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Ward 4 – Michael Poppa  
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Ward 4 – Michael Rebne  
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# THE ROELAND PARK AQUATIC CENTER OPENS MAY 28TH!



## POOL FAQ

Scan the code to learn more and  
purchase passes!



ROELAND PARKER

### Will the pool be operating on a reduced schedule this summer?

Yes. The current plan is for the Roeland Park Aquatic Center to be open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 12 pm – 8 pm. If we are able to hire enough lifeguards, we will expand the operating hours. Please check the website for continued updates in the schedule.

### What is a Super Pass?

The Super Pass add-on allows holders entry to the Roeland Park, Fairway, Mission, Prairie Village and Leawood pools during open swim hours. If you are a Roeland Park resident, you must purchase a Roeland Park season pass to purchase a Super Pass. To learn more and purchase a Super Pass, visit the City's website.

### How do I purchase a pool pass?

You can purchase your pool pass on the City's website. You will be able to pick up your physical pass at the pool prior to the season starting.

### Will swim lessons be offered?

There are currently five swimming lesson sessions scheduled. There must be a minimum of four participants per session to hold swimming lessons. In the event of a cancellation, parents and guardians will be informed and refunded a week prior to the session's start date. View sessions and sign up on the City's website!

### What about the Roeland Park Stingrays?

The Stingrays Swim Team is cancelled for the 2022 season due to lack of participants. Check back again next year!