



October/November 2025

# THE ROELAND PARKER

Official Newsletter of the City of Roeland Park



## City Grants & Assistance Programs

The City offers several grants to assist residents with home improvements, tax concerns, sustainability resources and more. Read on and find out how you can benefit from these free programs.

**Neighbors Helping Neighbors** - This program provides assistance to qualified Roeland Park resident homeowners for exterior home improvements. Those who meet income guidelines can get assistance with a variety of exterior home repairs and yard maintenance such as: repair/replacement of damaged shutters, siding, and gutters; improvements or installation of aids for disabled persons; exterior painting, minor repair of windows or doors; yard maintenance like cutting grass, or tree/bush removal.

**Property Tax Assistance** - This program helps alleviate the tax burden on income-qualified Roeland Park residents by returning a portion of collected property taxes each year. Qualified homeowners are eligible for up to a 100% rebate of Roeland Park property tax excluding special assessments, for the most recent tax year only.

**Compost Bin Rebate** - The City is committed to helping residents divert organic materials from landfills and is offering a rebate to residents to begin a home composting program. Eligible residents can get a rebate of up to \$75 for the purchase or construction of a compost bin.

**Home Energy Audit Rebate** - The City will rebate up to \$400 of the cost of an energy audit of your home. The audit must be conducted by a licensed contractor and will include a list of customized recommendations to make your house more energy efficient.

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# City Grants & Assistance Programs Continued

**Tree Fund** - The Roeland Park Tree Fund is intended to assist homeowners with costs associated with maintaining and expanding the tree canopy within the City. These costs are limited to direct expenses for the purchase of approved new and/or replacement trees or for the trimming of protected trees on covered property as defined by Ordinance No. 1062.

**Contain the Rain** - The Johnson County's Contain the Rain is a cost-share program that encourages Johnson County residents to install sustainable landscape solutions that benefit water quality. This program will reimburse applicants up to 50% of eligible expenses for the proper installation of rain barrels, rain gardens, and native plants.

*More information on these grant opportunities and others can be found at [www.roelandpark.org](http://www.roelandpark.org)*

## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

Hey RP,

At our September 2 City Council meeting, the governing body voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 726, affirming Roeland Park's support for expanding language access in Johnson County elections. This action reflects our community's belief that democracy functions best when every citizen has the tools they need to make informed decisions on or before election day. Resolution 726 urges the Kansas Secretary of State to collaborate with the Johnson County Election Office to ensure that critical election materials are available in multiple languages, beginning with Spanish. I want to thank the Council for their unanimous support of Resolution 726 and reaffirm to you, our community members, that your city leadership will continue to champion policies that further equitable representation and strengthen democracy for all. We hope to see additional communities in Johnson County follow our lead.

Our city is proud to be part of a diverse county where more than 87,000 residents—over 39,000 of them voting-age citizens—speak a primary language other than English. Yet today, Johnson County elections are not required to provide full language access, leaving many neighbors without voter instructions or essential information about their rights. Expanding language access is about more than compliance—it is about empowerment. When eligible voters can engage with election information in the language they understand best, they are able to cast their votes with confidence. Roeland Park has long valued inclusion and civic engagement, and this resolution is a continuation of that commitment. Together, we are working toward a future where every eligible voter in Johnson County has a fair opportunity to be heard.



Best Wishes y Mejores Deseos

Mayor Michael Poppa

For more information about elections and language access, see the DEI Spotlight on page 5.

Hola RP,

En nuestra reunión del Concejo Municipal del 2 de septiembre, el cuerpo de gobierno votó por unanimidad para adoptar la Resolución 726, que reafirma el apoyo de Roeland Park a la expansión del acceso lingüístico en las elecciones del Condado de Johnson. Esta acción refleja nuestra convicción de que la democracia funciona mejor cuando cada ciudadano cuenta con las herramientas necesarias para tomar decisiones informadas el día de las elecciones o antes. La Resolución 726 insta al Secretario de Estado de Kansas a colaborar con la Oficina Electoral del Condado de Johnson para asegurar que materiales electorales esenciales estén disponibles en varios idiomas, comenzando con el español. Quiero agradecer al Concejo por su apoyo unánime a la Resolución 726 y reafirmarles a ustedes, miembros de nuestra comunidad, que su liderazgo municipal seguirá defendiendo políticas que promuevan una representación equitativa y fortalezcan la democracia para todos. Esperamos que más comunidades en el Condado de Johnson sigan nuestro ejemplo.

Nuestra ciudad se enorgullece de formar parte de un condado diverso en el que más de 87,000 residentes—de los cuales más de 39,000 son ciudadanos en edad de votar—hablan un idioma principal distinto al inglés. Sin embargo, hoy en día las elecciones en el Condado de Johnson no están obligadas a ofrecer pleno acceso lingüístico, dejando a muchos de nuestros vecinos sin instrucciones de votación ni información esencial sobre sus derechos. Ampliar el acceso lingüístico no se trata solo de cumplir con un requisito, sino de empoderar. Cuando los votantes elegibles pueden acceder a la información electoral en el idioma que mejor comprenden, pueden emitir su voto con confianza. Roeland Park siempre ha valorado la inclusión y el compromiso cívico, y esta resolución es una continuación de ese compromiso. Juntos, trabajamos hacia un futuro en el que cada votante elegible del Condado de Johnson tenga una oportunidad justa de ser escuchado.

*Este contenido ha sido traducido mediante una herramienta de traducción automática. Aunque se han hecho esfuerzos para garantizar la precisión, la traducción puede no ser perfecta ni estar libre de errores, y no debe considerarse un sustituto de una traducción profesional realizada por una persona.*

Para obtener más información sobre las elecciones y el acceso al idioma, consulte DEI Spotlight en la página 5.



# Events & Holidays

**Walk to School Day**  
October 8, 7:45 AM  
City Hall

**Community Recycling Event**  
October 11, 9 AM  
@ Nations Holding in Merriam, KS

**Indigenous Peoples Day**  
October 13  
City Offices Closed

**Go Green Environmental Fair**  
October 18, 9 AM  
@ Powell Community Center in Mission, KS

**Trunk or Treat**  
October 26, 3 PM  
@ Roeland Park Community Center

**Election Day**  
November 4, 7 AM  
Check for Your Polling Location

**Veterans Day**  
November 11  
City Offices Closed

**Thanksgiving Holiday**  
November 27 & November 28  
City Offices Closed

**Mayor's Tree Lighting**  
December 3, 6 PM  
@ Roeland Park Community Center



## COMMUNITY RECYCLING EVENT

Paper Shredding, Electronics Recycling, Eyeglass Collecting

**SATURDAY, OCT. 11 // 9 A.M.-NOON**  
Nations Holding, 9001 W. 67th St., Merriam, KS 66202

Fairway • Merriam • Mission • Mission Hills • Mission Woods • Prairie Village • Roeland Park • Westwood

Proof of Residency is required (i.e.: driver's license, utility bill). This event is for residents only, not businesses.

### PAPER SHREDDING

- Securely shred confidential documents for **FREE**.
- You can shred bank statements, tax returns, credit card receipts, and more!
- Maximum of 10 file storage boxes** size 1' x 2'.
- All binders, containers, and cardboard boxes will be returned to you.

### ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

- Secure e-Cycle will collect electronics for responsible recycling.
- There is a **CASH ONLY \$25 fee** for computers and **\$40 fee** for TVs.
- Everything else with a chord is **FREE**.
- List of acceptable items: [secureecycle.com/items](https://secureecycle.com/items)

### EYEGLASS RECYCLING

The Shawnee Lions Club will collect eyeglasses to support the Lions Recycle for Sight Program.

**Contact your City Hall with any questions.**

# TRUNK OR TREAT

**ROELAND PARK COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**Sunday - 10/26/25 3-5 PM**  
Open to families with Trick-or-treaters

ROELAND PARK

ROELAND PARK

# TRUNK OR TREAT

TRUNK SPONSOR

## BE PART OF THE FUN!

Join us as Trunk Sponsor for our Trunk or Treat at the Roeland Park Community Center from 3-5 PM on **Sunday 10/26/25**

Bring your decorated trunk, candy, and be prepared for a great time!

Registration required to sponsor a Trunk or Treat Trunk

**REGISTER HERE**

**Questions? Call 913-742-7006**



# ROELAND PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

## 50 Plus Program Highlights

### Technology Small Group Tutoring

October 7, November 4, 10 am, 1- 2 hr. class  
\$25 / \$27 nonresidents

Join our technology instructor in a small group setting to help you learn, work, navigate and thrive in today's digital world!

### AARP Smart Driver Course

October 11, 9 am, 1 - 4 hr. session  
\$20 / \$25 non-AARP members

Keep driving skills sharp and lower insurance rates at the same time! Completing an AARP Smart Driver Course can mean a discount with some insurance companies. No tests given and no AARP membership card required.

### Alzheimer's 101

October 8, 1:30 pm, 1 - 1 hr. class  
\$5 / \$6 nonresidents

Alzheimer's 101 introduces Alzheimer's disease, its warning signs, the benefits of early detection and diagnosis, and steps to bettering your own brain health. Presented by K-State Extension.

### Community Connection

October 28, 10:30 am, 1 - 1 hr. event.  
Free with registration

Connect with local organizations such as Three Oaks Hospice, The Rabbit Hole, Overland Park Arboretum, Johnson County Area on Aging, and our own Johnson County Park & Recreation District to explore meaningful volunteer opportunities.

### Program Registration and Front Desk:

(913) 826-3160

### Sports Dome: (913) 362-8700

Please call for open gym and court rental availability.

### Community Center Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 7am - 5pm

Sat - 8am - 1pm

Sunday - closed

Visit us at [JCPRD.COM/ACTIVITIES](http://JCPRD.COM/ACTIVITIES) to register.

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ROELANDPARKCOMMUNITYCENTER](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ROELANDPARKCOMMUNITYCENTER)

## NEW to RPCC this fall! Adult fitness and Youth Programs!

### Adult Fitness

#### Total Body Tone

October 7, November 4, 1 pm, 4 - 45 min. sessions  
\$38 / \$42 nonresidents

This dynamic class held at the Roeland Park Community Center Fitness Center provides a full body workout, targeting all major muscles groups to help you tone, sculpt, and strengthen your physique.

#### Zumba

September 6, October 11, November 15, 9 am, 5 - 50 min. sessions  
\$43 / \$48 nonresidents

Ditch the workout—join the party! Zumba® is a high-energy dance fitness class that combines Latin and international music with easy-to-follow choreography for a total body workout that feels more like a celebration than exercise.

### Youth Programs

#### Mrs. Goetsch's Fall Fun Day Camp (Ages 5-9)

October 10, 9 am, 1- 7 hr. camp  
\$80 / \$88 nonresidents

Join Mrs. Goetsch for a one-day fun camp on your child's day off from school! Campers will engage in fall themed hands-on learning activities with pumpkins, apples and a sprinkle of Halloween.

#### Snapology: Roblox & Training Dragons Day Camp (Ages 5-12)

October 17, 9 am, 1 - 6 hr. camp  
\$75 / \$85 nonresidents

Love Roblox™? In this Snapology workshop, you'll bring your favorite games to life using LEGO® bricks! Design your own Obby, build a custom 3D character, and dive into the world of game creation, no screen needed. It's Roblox like you've never played it before!

## 50 Plus Program Weekly Schedule

Programs held at 4850 Rosewood Dr. Roeland Park KS

50 Plus programs with an \*  
must register in advance

Monday  
HATHA YOGA\* 4pm

Tuesday  
KNITTING GROUP  
1pm

Wednesday  
DROP IN PAINT GROUP  
9:30 am

Thursday  
MAH JONGG 1pm  
HATHA YOGA\* 4pm  
TAI CHI\* 5pm

Friday  
HOBBY GROUP  
1pm



# DEI Spotlight

(Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)

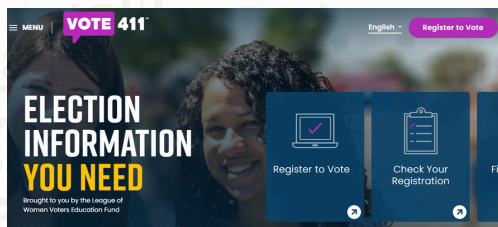
## Roeland Park supports access to voting for Spanish speakers!

At the September 2nd City Council Meeting, Roeland Park City Council presented a non-binding resolution in support of the Johnson County Election Commissioner providing

- 1) Spanish-language ballots, sample ballots, and informational materials at polling places
- (2) information about Johnson County elections in Spanish; and
- (3) materials that inform voters of their right to receive language assistance at the polls from an individual of their choice.

## Vote in November 4th's local election!

- November 4, 2025: local election for mayor, city council, school board, and more.
- Currently election materials in Johnson County are only provided in English.
- If you are not comfortable reading in English, you can still vote! You have the right to bring a translator with you to the polls. When you arrive at your polling place, let the poll workers know that you'll be using a translator. They will ask you to fill out a brief form to certify that your translator can assist you.
- Voter Guides: Vote 411, created by the League of Women Voters, has personalized election information, including voter registration, upcoming election information, and guides to candidates on your ballot in both English and Spanish.



## ¡Roeland Park apoya el acceso al voto para hispanohablantes!

En su reunión el 2 de septiembre, el Ayuntamiento de Roeland Park presentó una resolución en apoyo a la propuesta al Comisionado Electoral del Condado de Johnson de proporcionar en español lo siguiente

- 1) papeletas electorales, papeletas de muestra, y materiales informativos en los centros de votación;
- (2) información sobre las elecciones del Condado de Johnson; y (3) materiales que informen a los votantes sobre su derecho a recibir asistencia lingüística en las urnas.

## ¡Vota en las elecciones locales del 4 de noviembre!

- 4 de noviembre de 2025: elecciones locales para alcalde, ayuntamiento municipal, comité escolar y más.
- Actualmente, los materiales electorales en el condado de Johnson solo se proporcionan en inglés.
- Pero si no se siente cómodo leyendo en inglés, **¡todavía sí se puede votar!** Tiene derecho a llevar a un(a) intérprete al local de votación. Al llegar a su centro de votación, informe a los trabajadores electorales que usará un(a) intérprete. Le pedirán que complete un breve formulario para certificar que su intérprete puede ayudarlo.
- Guías para votantes: Vote 411 ([vote411.org](http://vote411.org)), creado por la Liga de Mujeres Votantes, ofrece información electoral personalizada, incluyendo el registro de votantes, información sobre las próximas elecciones y guías sobre los candidatos en su boleta, en



## Holiday Family Adoption

The City of Roeland Park is collaborating with Roesland Elementary and the City of Mission to provide holiday meals and gifts for local families in need. We kindly ask for your assistance in making this holiday season joyous and memorable for our community.

We welcome support from friends and neighbors to help provide meals and gifts for these families. If you interested in contributing, please reach out to Kelley Nielsen at [knielsen@roelandpark.org](mailto:knielsen@roelandpark.org) or call 913-722-2600 to join our email list. She will contact you with information on how you can help.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting your neighbors during this holiday season!





GEORGE R. SCHLEGEL GALLERY

# ANNUAL RP ARTISTS INVITATIONAL EXHIBIT

EXHIBITION NOVEMBER 1, 2025 – JANUARY 3, 2026

Interested resident artists, creatives, and makers of Roeland Park should email Gallery Director Lynda J. Leonard at [rpgallerydirector@roelandpark.org](mailto:rpgallerydirector@roelandpark.org).

Please include your name, phone number, email address, Roeland Park address, and website/social media information.

**11/13/2025**

5:00 – 7:00 PM

George R. Schlegel Gallery  
City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

## Holiday Reception & Sales Event

Join artists and members of the community for a social hour and opportunity to purchase art. **Note:** we're looking for a musician for the event, if you or someone you know is interested, contact Lynda Leonard.

## CONVERGENCE OF ARTISTRY

BERNIE LEE  
LOUIE JEROME  
DOROTHY GERST



AUGUST 30 TO NOVEMBER 1, 2025

## ART SHOW

GEORGE SCHLEGEL GALLERY  
4600 WEST 51<sup>ST</sup> ST, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR  
ROELAND PARK, KS

RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 5 TO 7 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT THE GEORGE R  
SCHLEGEL GALLERY:

CITY WEBSITE



FACEBOOK



## Roeland Park Holiday Outdoor Decorating Contest

It's time to light up Roeland Park! Break out your lights, reindeer, snowmen, and more to make our city sparkle this holiday season. Whether you're a family of one or ten, join in the fun and celebrate together.

- **Judging** - Date: Monday, December 15, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. - Judges: Roeland Park Arts Advisory Committee (all decisions final; ties receive duplicate prizes) - Winners will be notified on December 16.
- **Prizes** - 1st place: \$150 - 2nd place: \$125 - 3rd place: \$100 - 4th place: \$75 (Checks may be picked up at City Hall on December 19.)
- **Judging Criteria** - 1. Creativity 2. Use of Inflatables (optional) 3. Overall Appeal
- **How to Enter** - Applications will be available at City Hall or online beginning November 1.

Good luck and let's make Roeland Park shine!

*Roeland Park Arts Advisory Committee*

## RP Holiday Tree Lighting & Brinner with Santa

**BREAKFAST FOR DINNER!**

**Wednesday, December 3rd**  
Roeland Park Community Center  
4850 Rosewood Drive

### 6:00 PM Tree Lighting

Join us inside for holiday carols with Roesland Elementary's choir. Stay for **PHOTOS & PANCAKE DINNER WITH SANTA** & his City Council Elves!

Questions? Call City Hall at 913-722-2600.







## Project RISE Business Spotlight: NextGen Remodeling

Project RISE is the City's Business Development program that focuses on supporting the small business community in Roeland Park. The Business Spotlight features a local business in our community. Want to learn more? Checkout [ProjectRiseRP.com](http://ProjectRiseRP.com)!



**What is your mission?** NextGen remodeling is a design-build firm that strives to change people's perceptions of the industry. Our team of professionals will work with you to tailor a custom plan that fits your style, budget, and timeline. Your vision is our passion.

**Why do you like doing business in Roeland Park?** We love working in Roeland Park because it's a community that values both its history and forward-thinking improvements. The neighborhoods here have so much character, and the homeowners truly care about investing in their homes. Projects in Roeland Park often allow us to blend modern functionality with the charm and craftsmanship of older homes, which is something our team enjoys. Plus, the community is welcoming, engaged, and supportive, making every project feel like we're working with neighbors, not just clients.

**What would you like people to know about your business?** At NextGen Remodeling, we're committed to delivering a remodeling experience that's as exceptional as the final result. Specializing in kitchens and bathrooms, we combine innovative techniques, meticulous attention to detail, and open communication to ensure every project is done right, on time, on budget, and with professionalism. Our goal is to make the process stress-free, collaborative, and enjoyable, so our clients love both their new space and the journey to get there.

Check out NextGen Remodeling on Instagram: [@nextgenremodelingkc](https://www.instagram.com/nextgenremodelingkc) on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nextgenremodelingkc/> or visit their website at [nextgenkc.com](http://nextgenkc.com).

To learn more about Project RISE or to nominate a business to be featured in a future issue of the Roeland Parker, please visit [roelandpark.org](http://roelandpark.org) and search Business Feature for the Roeland Parker.

## City Contacts



Search

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

Finance Director/Asst. City Administrator -  
Jennifer Jones-Lacy  
[jjones-lacy@roelandpark.org](mailto:jjones-lacy@roelandpark.org)

City Clerk- Kelley Nielsen  
[knielsen@roelandpark.org](mailto:knielsen@roelandpark.org)

Chief of Police- Cory Honas  
[chonas@roelandpark.org](mailto:chonas@roelandpark.org)

Director of Public Works - Donnie Scharff  
[dscharff@roelandpark.org](mailto:dscharff@roelandpark.org)

Mayor - Michael Poppa  
[mpoppa@roelandpark.org](mailto:mpoppa@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 1 - Jan Faidley  
[jfaidley@roelandpark.org](mailto:jfaidley@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 709-6812

Ward 1 - Tom Madigan  
[tomrpks@gmail.com](mailto:tomrpks@gmail.com)  
(913) 526-6997

Ward 2 - Jen Hill  
[jhill@roelandpark.org](mailto:jhill@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 2 - Benjamin Dickens  
[bdickens@roelandpark.org](mailto:bdickens@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 544-1259

Ward 3 - Emily Hage  
[ehage@roelandpark.org](mailto:ehage@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 3 - Kate Raglow  
[kraglow@roelandpark.org](mailto:kraglow@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 4 - Debbi Schraeder  
[dschraeder@roelandpark.org](mailto:dschraeder@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 722-2600

Ward 4 - Matt Lero  
[mlero@roelandpark.org](mailto:mlero@roelandpark.org)  
(913) 722-2600





# 2025 CITY OF ROELAND PARK RESIDENT SURVEY



Make sure and check your mail boxes in the coming weeks for something important! City leaders are requesting your participation in a survey designed to gather resident input and feedback on City programs and services. The information you provide in this survey will be used to improve existing programs and services and help determine long-range planning and investment decisions. This year the survey is also gathering feedback on Strategic Planning issues as well as Park Master Planning topics. Your opinions will help shape the future of the City for years to come.

The City partners with ETC Institute, one of the nation's leading local government research firms, to administer this survey every two years. Your individual survey responses will remain confidential and ETC Institute will present the survey results to the City Council after they have been compiled and analyzed. The survey results will also be available on the City website. ETC administers these types of surveys nationwide, providing us the opportunity to compare our results regionally and nationally. This will be the seventh resident survey completed by the City since 2008, creating the ability to analyze trends.

We greatly appreciate you taking time out of your schedule to complete this survey. The time you invest in this survey will help us understand the needs of our community and influence numerous decisions about the future of Roeland Park.

Thank you again for taking time out of your busy schedule to help us make Roeland Park a premier City in the Kansas City metro!