



BRUSH CREEK **K**COMMUNITY PARTNERS
growing kansas city

BRUSH CREEK CORRIDOR CHRONICLE

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Dear Kathy,

What makes a community?

It isn't only or mainly houses or streets or curbs or electric poles or any of that. It is the people who live in the houses, drive or play in the streets, turn on the lights, etc. And there is a lot going on in the Brush Creek Community by a host of our partners. There are new projects, bright ideas and departing souls.

Please read YOUR newsletter to see what your community is investing in.

Rob Givens
President, BCCP Board of Directors

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GREEN IMPACT ZONE ATTRACTS RESOURCES

This was a big month for Kansas City's Green Impact Zone.

On February 17, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood came to the Green Impact Zone Neighborhood Assistance Center to announce \$1.5 billion in TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) stimulus grants across the nation - including \$50 million for the Kansas City region. Transportation and infrastructure needs in the Green Impact Zone will receive \$27 million.



Approximately 150 people attended an informational breakfast at the Kauffman Foundation on February 25 to learn about the partnership between the Green Impact Zone and Convoy of Hope. The collaboration, with support of many businesses, community organizations, government and churches, is planning to stage Kansas City's largest humanitarian and community outreach initiative this summer. The June 12 event in Swope Park is expected to attract more than 5,000 guests who will receive goods and services valued at more than \$1 million offered that day. For more information, visit www.kansascityconvoy.org.

The Green Impact Zone is a targeted effort to transform 150 square blocks in Kansas City's urban core with community development, job training, employment, weatherization and other housing improvement opportunities. All five neighborhoods within the Green Impact Zone are in the Brush Creek Corridor. For more information visit www.greenimpactzone.org.

NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM CELEBRATES PATRONS' DONATION OF MASTERWORKS

Masterworks by Monet, Manet, Pissarro, Van Gogh and Cezanne are among the 400 works of art donated to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art by 75 patrons in honor of the museum's 75th anniversary and the 28 year tenure of its Director and Chief Executive Officer Marc Wilson.

Magnificent Gifts for the 75th is on display through April 4, featuring 130 of the gifts, including paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculptures, new media art, masks, textiles, ceramics, glass, silver, furniture and rare books.



The collecting initiative began in December 2008. The hundreds of masterworks span cultures, chronologies and media. Among the transformative gifts are those promised by long-time Nelson-Atkins supporters: the Marion and Henry Bloch Collection of Impressionist masterpieces; seven stellar works from the African art collection of Adele and Donald Hall; and 34 masterworks from the extensive collection of American Indian art of Estelle and Morton Sosland.

Image: *The Channel at Gravelines*, Petit Fort-Philippe, 1890, oil on panel by French painter Georges Seurat is a promised gift of Marion H. and Henry W. Bloch.

SAINT LUKE'S TEAMS WITH ARTISTS TO SERVE THE HOMELESS

More homeless people are living all around Kansas City. They stay in the parks, live under bridges and behind buildings, walk the streets, and stand on neighborhood corners.

Saint Luke's Emergency Department was seeing more and more homeless persons coming into the midtown hospital for help, with three out of five of them needing something other than emergency health care. With the closest shelter downtown, four miles away, transportation to appropriate help was a critical challenge.

This month Saint Luke's launched a collaborative effort with "Artists Helping the Homeless"-a local non-profit with a record of successfully getting homeless persons off the street-to better serve homeless people. Saint Luke's assisted in securing a grant to pay for a one-year pilot project.

The Change van offers homeless persons transportation to: shelter and food; assistance and resources such as veterans', health and legal services; and, appropriate medical and mental health care. The Change van is available at night when the homeless transportation needs are at a peak. The goal is to establish the immediate needs of the homeless, working towards permanent housing.



Just in its first month, "Artists Helping The Homeless" provided a total of 44 rides to 17 individuals that are homeless; 66% of these rides were initiated by Saint Luke's to provide transportation to a shelter, detox unit and mental health facilities. Artist Kar Y. Woo, director of the program, has been able to permanently house two homeless men who will no longer live on the streets. Woo encourages people to call 816-668-1007 to report homeless needing assistance and for community members to discuss their ideas for serving homeless persons in Kansas City.

KCAI STUDENTS CREATING PERFORMING ARTS CENTER MURALS

Kansas City Art Institute students are designing and painting murals at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

The murals will be designed within the context of a course being offered this spring in the college's painting department. They will be painted this summer in the Proscenium Theater, one of the performance venues within the center. The theater will have 24 box seat areas, and the murals will be painted on the walls at the back of the box seats facing out into the theater.



KCAI President Kathleen Collins said the idea to involve art institute students came from the center's architect Moshe Safdie. Funding is being provided by the Muriel

McBrien Kauffman Foundation. The murals are to be completed in time for the center's opening in fall 2011.

Image: The 16 students selected for the project are being supervised by Project Manager Dan Reneau (center) a part-time faculty member of KCAI. Here they are examining newly arrived color samples for the performing arts center. Photo by Abby Gallagher

ROCKHURST TO INTRODUCE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

Rockhurst University will introduce a new Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice program with classes starting next fall. Organizers believe it will be the only criminal justice program in the region that requires students to complete a semester-long internship and assists them in finding one.

A community advisory board comprising the Kansas City Police Department, the Department of Justice, the FBI, corrections professionals and judges and other professionals in fields related to criminal justice



are shaping the program and will help place students in senior year internships. Students also will be able to select criminal justice as a minor and will have the option to pursue a paralegal studies certificate. For more information, visit www.rockhurst.edu/criminaljustice or call 816-501-4602.

EARTHWALK RETURNING TO BRUSH CREEK

A premiere Kansas City environmental group, Bridging the Gap, is bringing EarthWalk back to the Brush Creek Corridor Sunday, April 11.

Theis Park will be the center of activities which begin at 8:00 a.m. with a free yoga class. Registration for the fundraising walk starts at 8:30 with the walk along the creek beginning at 10:00 a.m. Walkers are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite animal or planet species. A free localized festival celebrating the planet is on hand from 9:00 until 3:00 p.m., featuring a full stage of entertainment including StoneLion's environmental puppet shows, make and take art activities and environmental information.



To register for EarthWalk or for more information, visit www.earthdaykc.org.

BRUSH CREEK LOSES A FRIEND

By
Carol Grimaldi
Executive Director
Brush Creek Community Partners

Terry Dopson came to Kansas City from Texas when he was named the city's Parks and Recreation Department Director in 1988. He was one of a small group of civic leaders who envisioned the Brush Creek Corridor as an east-west connector in Kansas City and oversaw the initiation of the Brush Creek Flood Control and Beautification Project that began in 1991.

Terry worked closely with Brush Creek Community Partners upon its formation in the mid-1990s. He talked often about the development of the parkland along Brush Creek becoming an economic generator for the community, consistent with the vision of George Kessler, the designer of Kansas City's park and boulevard system. The BCCP Board of Directors awarded him a Spirit of Kansas City medallion upon his retirement in 2003.



Even though Terry and his wife Laurie returned to Texas soon after he retired, he kept in touch. He enjoyed reading the *Brush Creek Bulletin* and was in town a few times a year for events he particularly enjoyed.

Terry Dopson will be missed, yet his handiwork will be remembered in the ongoing redevelopment of the Brush Creek Corridor.

COMING UP IN THE CORRIDOR

Speaker Probes The Foundation Of Globalization

Author Jeb Brugmann examines how cities are meeting the global challenges of the 21st Century in his book *Welcome to the Urban Revolution: How Cities are Changing the World*. Taking readers on a street-level tour of the world's cities, *Urban Revolution* provides an anatomy of our urbanizing planet. Presented Monday, March 1, from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center located at 4801 Rockhill Road. Registration is \$25 at the door; students are free.

Venice, 3 Visions in Glass

The *Venice, 3 Visions in Glass* exhibition opens at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art next month. This exhibit includes pieces by three of the leading artists working in glass today - Cristiano Bianchin, Yoichi Ohira and Laura de Santillana. These artists have broken with tradition to produce unexpected forms, effects and moods. This exhibit is open March 6 through August 15 and is located in the Bloch Building, Galleries L7 and L8. Admission is free. For more information visit www.nelson-atkins.org.



Image at right: Yoichi Ohira, Japanese (working in Venice, Italy), b. 1946. Workshop of Maestro Andrea and Maestro Giacomo Barbini. Cristallo Sommerso N. 50-Scolpito Vase, 2008. Hand-blown, cut and polished glass with inciso finish. Photo courtesy of Barry Friedman Ltd.

Courtney Martin: Barbie and Body Image

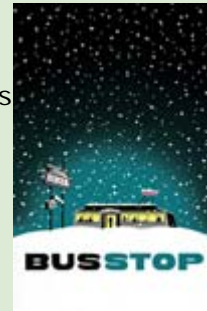
Author and blogger Courtney E. Martin will discuss the history of Barbie and the influence the iconic doll has had on the self-image of American girls since its launch in March 1959. She will touch on everything from body image to sex to work/life balance. The Toy & Miniature Museum and the Kansas City Public



Library co-sponsor this event on Thursday, March 11, 6:30 pm at the Plaza Branch Library at 4801 Main Street. Admission is free - call 816-701-3407 to RSVP. A 6:00 pm reception precedes the event.

Kansas City Repertory Theatre presents *Bus Stop*

Bus Stop, by William Inge, tells the story of the night a March blizzard traps eight strangers in a small cafe 30 miles west of Kansas City. During the evening lives are changed, love is lost and found, and strangers find ways to keep each other warm. The Kansas City Repertory performances are held in the Spencer Theatre of UMKC at 4949 Cherry. Performances are Tuesdays through Sundays at varying times from March 12 through April 3. You can check the times and order tickets by visiting www.kcrep.org.



For a complete listing of events

and activities in the Corridor,

visit

www.kcartswalk.com

For more information about
Brush Creek Community Partners,
visit our website at

www.bccp.org

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