

Around The Town

News from My Home Town

Northwest

Day of Service Projects for Saturday, September 9, 2023

To commemorate the tragic events of September 11, 2001, over 80 volunteers met at the Rose Park Community Center and then dispersed to several projects in nearby neighborhoods. This was the fifth Day of Service event this year. Over 100 projects have been completed by My Home Town volunteers in the past year with more on the drawing board. Following is a recap of this month's projects:

Project 1: Folsom Train

Folsom Trail is part of a master plan by the city to create more open, safe spaces and link downtown Salt Lake City with the Rose Park area. Currently, the project includes paved sidewalks starting at 50 South and about 10th West, stretching east for over a mile. On Saturday, volunteers cleared weeds and debris from the trail, thus beautifying the area. The Redevelopment Agency's future plans include adding additional lighting for safety, and perhaps uncovering part of the creek. Thanks to the Sturzenegggers, Parkers, Hayneses, and Purdues for heading up this project for My Home Town and making such a difference.



Project 2: Alley cleanups

Several alleyways linking businesses and homes have become trouble spots for residents and retailers in the area of 500 North and 1200 to 1500 West. On Saturday, over a city block of overgrown fauna and abandoned homeless camps were cleaned up by volunteers who removed mattresses and make shift housing, trimmed bushes and also cleared weeds and other debris. Grateful residents pitched in, too. The Egans and Whittakers headed up the project.



Project 3: Yard cleanup at a local resident's home

Under the direction of Liz and Preston Richards, neighbors and volunteers helped clear weeds, mow the lawn and remove debris, including a hot tub, in the back yard of a resident who is wheelchair-bound. The homeowner showed her appreciation by providing drinks and cookies to all. The cookies were very good.



Teaching English as a Second Language Courses

On Tuesday, September 12th, My Home Town volunteers began teaching English as a second language to interested residents in the area. Joan and Craig Anderson headed up the project, recruiting teachers and interpreters to help lead the instruction. This was the culmination of many weeks of planning, promoting and recruiting Northwest area citizens. The classes will continue every Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7pm for 12 weeks at the newly renovated CRC building (947 West 200 North). Over 25 people have registered for the classes so far.



Jayhawks Basketball Program and Tournament

For years John and Lisia Satini have been helping Rose Park area youth not only learn to become very proficient “ballers” but they have also taught them important life affirming principles, rescuing some from the streets and giving them hope for living their best lives along the way. John and his assistants coach the Jayhawks at least twice a week in the CRC gym, and they will host their annual tournament there during the last week of September. My Home Town volunteers are grateful to the Satini’s for making this such a wonderful success story. All they needed was a key to the gym.



Futsal Indoor Soccer League

“It’s not just a sport, it’s a way of life,” said one dedicated soccer aficionado recently. Now, with new “real” soccer goals provided by My Home Town instead of just cones, about 25 players meet every Tuesday night at 9:00 to sharpen their game and enjoy a spirit of competition and comradery at the CRC.



Upcoming Events

More activities are being planned for the remainder of this calendar year at My Home Town Northwest, including a folk dancing class, pictures with a Spanish-speaking Santa, skateboarding classes and a youth dance on October 27th. The next Day of Service will be Saturday, October 7th.

Thanks to the many My Home Town (MHT) Northwest volunteers and leaders who have dedicated countless hours to helping the Rose Park area become a little more vibrant, a little more beautiful, a little more inviting. It's all about "Neighbors helping Neighbors".

Find out more about the MHT initiatives and how to become a volunteer at myhometownslc.org.