



The Armour Star

The Newsletter of the Armour Fields Homes Association
Including homes in the Armour Fields, Romanelli Gardens
and Meyer Circle Subdivisions

222 West Gregory Boulevard, Suite 201
Kansas City, MO 64114, Tel. 816/523-2440

Our security service:
Midwest Patrol Services
816-454-9191

August 2007

New School is Open at Southwest

The Kansas City, Missouri School District opened a new school at Southwest High School on August 27 with a rigorous curriculum for 6th and 9th grade students. The District plans to add an additional grade level each subsequent year until all grades, 6 through 12, are eventually offered. Steven Scraggs has been selected to

lead planning and recruitment efforts as Interim Principal. Mr. Scraggs worked in the Shawnee Mission School District for ten years, and then served for a year as assistant principal of Lincoln College Preparatory High School, earning the respect and admiration of students, parents and
(continued on page 2)



The annual meeting of the Armour Fields Homes Association was enjoyed by parents and kids on a sunny afternoon June 24 at the newly renovated Romanelli Fountain Island with the recast Romanelli fountain statue.

Dozens of residents enjoyed the ambience of the renovated island and enjoyed the friendly company of their neighbors as well as a short business meeting of the homes association.

The Armour Fields Homes



Association would like to thank Bledsoe's Rental on Wornall, which generously donated the Moon walk enjoyed by our children.

Food was prepared by "Catering by Design," owned by neighborhood residents John and Gina Reardon. The magician was "Magic at Hand" (Eric Price), the disc jockey was Lyndon Thenhaus of A to Z Sounds. The tents, tables and chairs were rented from All Seasons Party and Tent Rental. More photos appear on page 11.



You are invited to the annual

**Armour Fields
Homes
Association**

**HALLOWEEN
PARTY**

**Saturday, October 20
Romanelli Fountain
Island
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

All children and adults are invited! This is a fun event for the whole family...and be sure to come in costume, whether young or young at heart! We will have pumpkin decorating, costume honors, food, games, and lots of other fun things to do!

The Armour Fields Homes Association provides all treats and games.



President's Column

by Dave Jensen
President

A hot and humid hello from the President's desk. I actually am sitting on a lawn chair with my feet in my daughter Zoey's wading pool, trying to stay cool.

I again want to thank all of you who celebrated the grand re-dedication of the Romanelli island. I spoke with many of you and enjoyed the stories and input about the neighborhood. I especially want to thank those of you that helped with the kind donations to help finish the stonework. I also would be remiss if I did thank the following people for their help in obtaining the benches on the island:

- ♦ 2007 Romany Road Families and the Ebbitts Family (Mark, Lisa, Brian, Catherine),
- ♦ Robert W. Lefferd & Tom McKinney in loving memory of Bob by his T-bear,
- ♦ Jerome, Joseph & Anne McGee Reardon Burke from your triplet sons Jerome, Joseph & John, and
- ♦ Hal & Barbara Miles Kaufman, Miles-Kaufman-Langworthy Goldfarb families.

Please stop by and admire the plaques and enjoy a quiet moment in honor of the above people and families.

We are working hand in hand with the city to continue the restoration and

beatification of all the parks and islands as well as the stonework at the street corners. It may seem at times that the wheels of progress move slowly, but rest assured they are moving. Your input and ideas are welcomed. Stay tuned for announcements on future projects.

It is back to school time so pay extra attention when driving in the area as many neighborhood children are walking to school.

It soon will be time to dust off your Halloween costumes and I hope you will join the neighborhood ghosts and goblins at the annual Halloween party which will be held at the Romanelli island on Saturday October 20th from 2 to 4 p.m.

We are still searching for a Special Events Chairperson to join the Board. Feel free to contact any board member if you are interested.

I, and all the Armour Fields board members, want to thank you for your support and anyone with questions, comments, or problems please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to serve you and the neighborhood.



School Open at Southwest

(continued from page 1)

coworkers. The previous administration did not offer him a renewal contract in time due to seniority complications and he moved to the Raytown School District, but Superintendent has hired him as Interim Principal for the new school.

A strong focus on Math, Science and World Languages will guide the curriculum. The major distinguishing feature will be the opportunity for students to earn 30 to 60 college credit hours before graduation.

Highly qualified and experienced staff will guide students as they complete projects with real-world implications. Innovative, interactive teaching techniques will be implemented to create a new and very different type of learning environment.

Recruitment meetings and open houses have been held this summer. For further information, contact the Kansas City School District.

Advertising

The Armour Star reaches about 850 homes in our neighborhood each issue, and accepts advertising at the following rates: The size of the ad on this page is \$12 per issue or \$40 for four issues. Ads the size of those on page 4 are \$20 per issue or \$70 for four issues. Half page ads (see page 9) are \$84 per issue and \$296 for four issues. Residents of the Armour Fields Homes Association receive a 20% discount from these prices. Other rates available upon request.

Contact the Editor, Don Dagenais, at 444-7407 or e-mail: don913@kc.rr.com.



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Kansas City, MO

64119

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The Newsy Neighbor



by Jan Flanagan

Another summer has come and almost gone. A sure sign of swim championship time in mid-summer, many yards sported toilet paper draped over trees and bushes, encouraging young swimmers. Now the sidewalks sizzle, gardens wither and school backpacks are being readied. It's great to be in the neighborhood!..

A warm neighborly welcome to Wayne Menendez. While he scouts locations for his family to follow him here from California, the former Navy man is staying with dad Chico and step mom Sharon and enjoying the playful antics of their dog Super Boy...

Did you send your high school graduation info in? Neighborhood graduates include St. Teresa's girls Kathleen Medina (her parents are George & Betsy) who heads to Regis in Denver and Betsy McKenny (Mike & Amy) who will attend nursing school at Marquette University. Rockhurst grad Jack Fletcher (Steve & Shauna) continues family tradition as he heads to Mizzou along with Nate Neenan (Joseph & the late Belle.) Their RHS classmate Andrew Whittaker (Thomas & Lissa) chose to cheer on the Wildcats of K State...

Rockhurst grad Colin Cicchetti (Mary Beth) is headed north to Loyola in Chicago, while fellow RHS grad Michael Gude (Bob & Thea) heads for the southern hills of the University of

Virginia. Andrew Johnson (David & Karen) leaves RHS for Truman State...

The University of Notre Dame nabbed two fine Rockhurst men: Luke Betterman (Jim & Kathleen) and Kevin Flanagan (Jim & Jan) are both new Irishmen. Their classmate Sam Wiedeman (Reeves & Fifi) will study at American University in Washington, D.C. Kathryn Mansur (Mike & Pattie) follows her genes as the Lincoln College Prep graduate heads to study journalism at MU. Both mom and dad are MU J-School alums...

Jim & Carlene Neihart's grandson Bryan will attend Wheaton in Illinois after finishing his high school career at Barstow. STA grad Allison Carr (John & Gina Reardon) is off to the University of Cincinnati for a masters program in English & Writing on a full ride with a teaching assistantship. Her undergrad degree is from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Best wishes to all as they head off on great adventures...

Some younger neighbors are full of excitement as they begin their high school years. Looking forward to being STA women are St. Peter's grads Catherine Arensberg (Brent & Laura) and Kathleen Hough (Mike & Jill.) Joe McKenny (Mike & Amy) and Andy Basso (Mark & Margaret) are now at Rockhurst after graduating Visitation.

(continued on page 7)

Welcome to Our New Neighbors!

Michael & Elizabeth Nelson
6519 Jefferson
Meredith Wilson & Jeff Baloutine
6508 Pennsylvania
Martin & Vicki Cole
6526 Pennsylvania
Kent & Michelle Huston
6516 Summit
John & Mary Wier
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Lyndon & Shalini Wade
413 West 67th Street
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John & Joan Miller
1011 West 66th Street
Scott Hemsley
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1012 West 69th Terrace
Gabriel & Lindsey DeWitt
605 West Dartmouth
Joseph VanDyke
613 West Dartmouth
Paul Bennett
406 West 70th Street
Tracy Christian
620 West 70th Street
David & Jennifer Sloane
608 Romany Road
Joshua & Heather Cartwright
634 West 70th Terrace
Barbara Ryan
429 West 70th Terrace
Ryan & Carla Coleman
637 West 70th Terrace
Chris & Katie Ward
1018 West 70th Terrace
John & Sinnamon Rhoades
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Andrew & Amy Zimmerman
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Safe and Secure



by Brian Hand, Crime Prevention

There have been a few incidents in our neighborhood this summer that call for a heightened state of awareness in our neighborhood.

▶ The first that was brought to my attention is a report of a car driving through the area late at night checking for unlocked doors on parked cars. It is important to remember to secure your vehicle any time that you are not in it. Also, although it might be tempting to leave your car running in the driveway while the air conditioner is cooling it down, leaving your car open makes it an inviting target.

▶ The second issue is a more disturbing problem. Our security patrol informed me there have been reports of a male in a cap exposing him self to residents in the area. According to reports, he fled in a vehicle with another person driving. If you see this type of activity it is best to call to 911 immediately.

▶ At least one of our Armour Fields residents has

been assaulted in recent months on the jogging trail along Wornall Road while jogging (alone) in the evening. Be sure to have a companion, if possible, when venturing into such public places after dark.

▶ Finally, a neighbor has reported to security a person taking photos of several houses in the neighborhood. This is not an activity that is abnormal. Real estate appraisers take photos of houses in neighborhoods as comparables for houses they are appraising, and city tax assessors do the same. There may be other circumstances such as historians, designers or just architecture buffs who will take photos of houses. This practice is not illegal.

Always remember that it is important to get the best description of a person who is committing a crime or acting in a suspicious manner. It is equally important to report as much detail as you can about any vehicles involved, i.e. type, make, model, color, number of doors, license number.

We all must be sure to maintain a high level of vigilance; proactive measures are always a better deterrent than reactive measures. Don't wait until crimes are committed to be engaged. If you have any questions feel free to give me a call at the number on the back page.

Your neighbor selling our neighborhood.



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Block Captain Meeting Will Be October 4

by Gail Clair
Co-Chair, Block Captains

Kathleen and I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. The days just flew by for me. It is hard to believe the kids are headed back to school already.

We have scheduled a Block Captain's meeting for **Thursday, October 4 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.** at **445 West Dartmouth**. We welcome any of

your ideas as agenda items. We ask that you keep us updated on email addresses as we think this is the fastest and most thorough way for us to communicate any neighborhood news to you. Our e-mail addresses appear on the back page of this newsletter.

Take care and thanks to each of you for helping to make our neighborhood a wonderful place to live. We look forward to seeing you soon.

CCVI Event Set for Brookside

A benefit for The Children's Center for the Visually Impaired will be held in Crestwood on 55th Street between Brookside Boulevard and Oak Street on November 28-December 1. Called "Holidays in Crestwood," the benefit includes:

- a Ladies Luncheon on November 28 from 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Reservations are required; free valet parking.
- an "Evening in Crestwood" on November 29, where you can enjoy carolers and see Santa and miniature reindeer, and bid on your favorite gingerbread house.
- Breakfast With Santa on December 1. Reservations are required.

Ten percent of all purchases from November 28 through December 1 will be donated to The Children's Center for the Visually Impaired. For information and reservations call 816-841-2284.

Thanks from our family to yours.

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Neighborhood Haz Waste Clean-Up Set for Sep. 8

Need to recycle some hazardous waste? A South Kansas City Hazardous Household Waste Clean-up will be held at the Hale Cook School, 7302 Pennsylvania, on Saturday, September 8, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

You may bring hazardous materials for disposal, including tires, brake fluid, power steering fluid, oil, anti-freeze, gasoline, car batteries, road flares, fuels, 1 pound BBQ propane cylinders, household batteries, household cleaners, lawn or garden chemicals, pesticides, pool/spa chemicals, fluorescent light bulbs, expired medications (except some cancer meds), mercury thermometers/thermostats, aerosol cans, paint, paint related items like stain/stripper, leaves, brush, tires, and anything you can recycle curbside. Leaves and brush will be also be accepted, but not grass clippings.

You cannot bring explosives, fireworks, bullets, gunpowder (contact the police department to arrange disposal of those), biohazards, human or animal fluids, needles, radioactive items, smoke detectors, some cancer medications,

pressurized gas cylinders, or BBQ propane cylinders larger than 1 pound, oxygen tanks, glass or Styrofoam.

The event only for Kansas City, Missouri residents, so please have proof of residence.

The homes associations sponsoring the event, including the Armour Fields Homes Association, ask each participant to bring one can of food or one dollar to donate to Harvesters.

All traffic will enter on Pennsylvania and exit on Jefferson, coming from either north or south. There's a limit how many cars can bring hazardous items, so we suggest you come early.

Materials will be accepted from residences only. Business waste is not accepted. If you can't buy an item at a store, it's probably not residential waste. Twenty gallon and 55 gallon drums are considered business waste and will not be accepted. No material in containers larger than 5 gallon buckets can be brought to this event.

Call Ann Hyde early when you are considering a move. You know her record for quick sales and top prices for homeowners. She will also help you look at your options in buying and find what is best for your family.



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The Newsy Neighbor

by Jan Flanagan

(continued from page 3)

Joe's older sister Michaela, a junior at Miami of Ohio, spent six weeks in Italy this summer on a graphic design/architecture program. Earlier in the summer, she awoke to a yard full of pink and red balloons announcing the news of her 21st birthday...

Hisses and Hurrahs! Hisses to noisy construction projects begun in the early morning hours. Hurrahs to wonderful neighbors who gather newspapers and check on homes for those out of town. Hisses on dog droppings littering sidewalks. Hurrah for front yard gardens brightening up moods and the area!...

It's a busy time at the Hayob (John & Maraline) household. Daughter Jeni became engaged while on a trip to Ireland and now son David has popped the question to his long time girlfriend as well. Lots of plans in the making!...

The Family Fun Run, a 2-mile run around Meyer Fountain, preceded the July 21 nuptials of Adam Carr (John & Gina Reardon) and Meg Watson (Tom Watson & Linda Watson.) Family, friends and the wedding party wore commemorative tee shirts and enjoyed a follow-up patio breakfast at the Reardon home before preparing for the ceremony at Studio 2131. Making it a true family affair, Adam's sister Allison did a reading at the wedding, sister Anna was an honorary bridesmaid and Johnny & Michael were ushers. 12-year-old Michael took command of the dance floor at the reception in the Kemper Art Gallery. After honeymooning in Moorea, the newlyweds will make their home in Minneapolis...

Mike & Karen Bock have a beautiful distraction from their home remodeling projects. Daughter Caroline Elizabeth is their new bundle of inspiration. Congratulations!...

A brief welcome home to Charlie Caffrey (Mark & Valerie). Charlie spent much of the summer working at an AIDS clinic in Africa and is now headed back for his senior year at American University in D.C. Chris & Lynn Correa are enjoying some empty nester time now that sons Ian and Seth are off careering in Chicago and St. Louis...

It was beach time for a group of neighbors. Terry & Nancy O'Neill with their Claire, Peter and Lily headed down to the Gulf to enjoy white sands and clear waters with neighbors Paul & Shelley Migliazzo and their Taylor and Olivia and Mike & Michelle Markham. Reports are that a great time was had by all!...

Em's Spotlight is always looking for volunteers and donations of shoes, costumes or dance attire (as well as cash!). The non-profit program, begun by neighbor Emily Silverman's family after the college student's death in a car accident in 2003, offers free dance lessons to children in grades 1-8 regardless of their shape, size, talent, or physical or mental abilities. The program has gone from 72 students in its first year to over 350 children this summer. Call Vicki Silverman 816.616.3422 for more information or if you can help...

That's it for now. Don't procrastinate — send in your news today! Remember, news big or small, your neighbors want to know! Call Jan, the Newsy Neighbor 816.333.8947 or email jflans@msn.com and BE SURE to write Newsy Neighbor on the subject line!

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**Garage
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Beware!**

The Homes Association of the Country Club District (HACCD) reports to area homes associations that in several neighborhoods on both sides of the state line garage sale shoppers have passed counterfeit bills, usually \$20 bills but some \$50 and \$100 bills.

According to the police the crime isn't all that rare. The availability of textured papers and the quality of home scanners and printers make it possible for criminals to produce fairly good facsimiles of currency. Crooks count on the trusting setting of garage sales to complete the crime.

Watch for those who wait until the garage sale is busy, select several high-priced items and then pay with a large counterfeit bill.

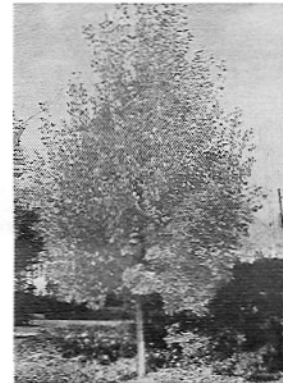
Watch for this scam! And if you find a counterfeit bill in your cash box, call the police immediately. Passing even a small counterfeit bill is a Federal offense.



Autumn Purple Ash



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Offer for
Armour Fields**



Red Sunset Maple

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Contact John McLennon at 816-941-4777 for more information.

Rosehill Gardens, 311 East 135th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64145

Armour Fields is One of the Area's Oldest Homes Associations

Did you know that the Armour Fields Homes Association is one of the oldest homes associations in the city?

The first homes association in the area was the Mission Hills Homes Association which turned 93 this summer. It was formed on July 21, 1914, the first of a number of homes associations founded by the J.C. Nichols Company which was then engaged in pioneering residential home development in these neighborhoods.

Seven years later, on July 5, 1921, the J.C. Nichols Company founded its second homes association, the Country Club District Homes Association along Ward Parkway near Meyer Circle.

Guard Against Identity Theft

Identity theft is become increasingly common in south Kansas City neighborhoods. The police say:

- Don't carry all personal information with you at all times.
- Make a photocopy of everything in your wallet and keep it in a safe place.
- Shred everything containing personal identifying or credit card information and don't put it in your recycling box.
- Don't leave outgoing mail in your mail slot (it has good info in it).
- Change passwords frequently.

The following year, 1922, saw the formation of four new home associations. In July of that year the Armour Hills, Greenway Fields and Crestwood homes associations were created.

The idea was clearly catching on and was spreading throughout the developing neighborhoods south of Brush Creek.

In 1923 the Armour Fields Homes Association was created, the only one to be formed that year. Therefore, Armour Fields is the seventh oldest homes association in the area south of the Country Club Plaza.

In 1998 the Armour Fields Homes Association celebrated its 75th anniversary, and is looking forward to its 100th in 2023!

The following year, 1924, saw the formation of the Wornall Homestead, Countryside and Country Club homes associations. Stratford Gardens was formed two years later in 1926.

After that, the Roaring Twenties came to a close and a slowdown in

house development due to the sputtering of the economy caused a temporary lull in the formation of new neighborhoods.

In 1935, when the worst years of the Depression were beginning to end, the J.C. Nichols Company started up home development again with the Indian Hills Homes Association. Later in the decade, it formed three more: Tomahawk Road and Oak Meyer in 1938, and Fairway in 1939.

World War II caused another hiatus in home development, of course, but a half dozen new associations, mostly on the Kansas side, were created in the late 1940's and 1950's.

The next HACCD homes association to celebrate a major birthday will be the Corinth Hills Homes Association, formed in 1958, which will celebrate its golden anniversary next year.

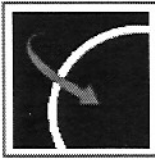
Our thanks to the Homes Association of the Country Club District (HACCD) for this interesting historical information!

Southwest Planetarium Reopens

The planetarium at the former Southwest High School is operational again after a hiatus of several years! The Kansas City, Missouri school district has re-hired the original planetarium director, Bob Riddle, to head the planetarium.

Riddle is not only teaching planetarium students, but has opened the planetarium to the community.

Riddle, who holds degrees in geology and earth sciences, was the planetarium director from 1990 to 1998, when Southwest High closed. He took back his old job in January and cleaned and repaired the equipment, opening the planetarium to the public this summer. For those wishing a look at the stars, e-mail him at briddle@kcmsd.net or call 816-871-4915 to schedule an appointment.



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City Studying Residential Rentals

On June 28, the City Council of Kansas City, Missouri passed an ordinance which required the City Manager, with input and direction from Council designees from the Public Safety and Neighborhoods Committee, to "prepare a plan for the implementation of a program to regulate the residential rental business."

The ordinance requested that the City Manager prepare and submit to the Council proposed city ordinances within sixty days "as needed to implement the program," the ordinances to include fees that will cover the cost of the program.

The purpose of the ordinance is to address growing concerns about rental properties in the City, certain maintenance and health problems associated with them, and the regulation of residential rentals generally.

The deadline for the City Manager's response is approaching as this issue of *The Armour Star* is published, so news about the proposed ordinances should be forthcoming from the City in the coming weeks. Watch the next issue of this newsletter for a further update.

FAMILY DENTAL CARE



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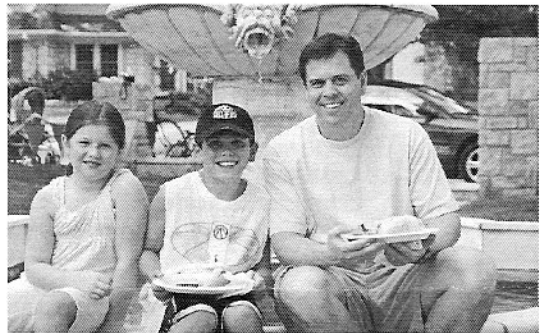
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These additional pictures from the Armour Fields Homes Association annual picnic and meeting on June 24 show neighbors enjoying dinner and each others' company,



and also reveling in the new Romanelli Fountain Island on Wornall. These photos and those on page 1 are by Ron Brower. Thank you, Ron!



Armour Fields Neighbor • Buying or Selling a Home



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