



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

February 2009

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Armour Fields Residents Take Prizes in Holiday Lighting Contest

Congratulations to the winners of the Armour Fields holiday lighting contest last December. These homes and blocks took away the prizes in this winter's contest:

- ♣ Best Block - 70th Street, Ward Parkway to Valley
- ♣ Best of Show - 1020 West 69th Terrace
- ♣ Most Elaborate - 1007 Romany Road
- ♣ Most Colorful - 655 West 70th Street
- ♣ Most Original - 6928 Edgevale Road
- ♣ Honorable Mention - 612 West 66th Terrace

Congratulations to these homeowners for lighting up our holidays! We appreciate them, and all who decorate their homes for the holidays. Armour Fields upheld its reputation for being one of the most spirited neighborhoods in the city.

Special Events Coming Up!

The Armour Fields Homes Association is planning some great events for the Spring and Summer! Please mark your calendars for:

- Our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4. See notice to the left. We hope you can come and bring your youngsters!
- Annual Armour Fields Garage Sale, Saturday and Sunday, May 2-3. We will advertise this neighborhood-wide sale, so clear out those garages and attics and turn your second-hand items into cold, hard cash!
- Armour Fields Homes Association Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 14, with a business meeting starting at 2:30 p.m. and the lunch and festivities beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Romanelli Island, 69th and Wornall.
- Second Annual Armour Fields Oktoberfest, Sunday, September 26 (for those who really like to plan ahead).

*You and the small people
in your life are invited
to the*

Armour Fields Homes
Association's annual

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4 at 2:00 p.m.



The annual Armour Fields Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Ward Parkway Island at 69th Street and Ward Parkway. Everyone is invited!

Costumes and colorful Easter baskets are encouraged. Most of all, bring your youngsters and be prepared for the fun. The homes association will provide the eggs, and treats are for everybody!

We look forward to seeing you.
Help us wish for great weather!

President's Column

by *Dave Jensen*
President

Fear not fellow neighbors, Spring is just around the corner. It seems as though the winter chill is going to last forever, but truly, Spring is merely a number of weeks away.

The winter months have given your Armour Fields Homes Association board time to plan for many activities and events throughout this upcoming year. Keep your eyes out for more information.

With the next mailing we are going to include a calendar of events for the next year. We have added many new events, and hopefully one or more will catch your eye. We plan on hosting events not only for the young ones but also many club activities geared toward the adult crowd.

We continue to gather information for the neighborhood roster.



Please return the information card that was included with last quarterly dues notice from HACCD. I believe the neighborhood roster will be beneficial to many, and again the information will not be sold or shared to anyone.

Plans are being evaluated for further renovations of the neighborhood's parks and islands.

The goal is to make the parks and islands more inviting for everyone to enjoy and possible backdrops for neighborhood social events. This process is very slow, but slow in a deliberate manner, as we get input from experts in horticulture, architecture, and historical renovations. We want to keep the charm and ambience of the neighborhood intact. Work is ongoing and negotiations continue for support from the City of Kansas City.

As always, if any issues arise on which myself or any member of the

board of directors can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any Armour Fields Board member. Stay warm and safe!

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Advertising

The Armour Star reaches about 850 homes in our neighborhood each issue, and accepts advertising at the following rates: Size of the ad to the left: \$30 per issue or \$105 for four issues. Quarter page ads (such as ads on page 5) are \$55 per issue or \$180 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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it's so U! also helps employers and your company **redefine "appropriate" office wear** by educating your employees on how inappropriate dress affects your company's image in the marketplace. Don't let "business casual" mean you're casual about business.

The Newsy Neighbor



by Jan Flanagan

Record highs, bitter lows. Footprints human and canine meander over snowy sidewalks, mingling with spiky sweetgum balls ready to turn an unwary ankle. Ahh, it's another great winter in our neighborhood!...

Streets and homes were again aglow with holiday décor this winter, setting the stage for fun-filled gatherings. The 400 block of 67th Terrace held its third annual progressive dinner in mid-December. Guests met at Matt & Kelly Moran's home for appetizers, then on to Todd & Kathy Achelpohl's where Chef Todd whipped up a traditional English dinner comprised of prime rib, popovers and suitable accompaniments...

Brad & Kelly Alcock hosted the finale with a variety of pastries. There was a great turnout for the eagerly anticipated event, according to participant Bobbie Vanice...

Neighbors on 67th Street organized a caroling party the Sunday before Christmas, but bitter weather changed plans to hot chocolate and singing at the Tappan residence, led by Kelly Rowland & Laura Tappan...

Santa made an appearance at the annual caroling party on Summit Street. Tom & Mary Deacy continued their tradition despite icy weather. Joanie Shramek was hostess for the 600 block of 68th Terrace's annual Women of the Block winter gathering. Delicious desserts and sparkling conversation made for a special evening. Guests also toured Joanie's beautiful new kitchen and adjacent remodeled areas...

Hearty congratulations to Paul Migliazzo. The footballer was recently inducted into the Rockhurst

High School Sports Hall of Fame. The 1982 grad was also a gridiron great at Oklahoma and played for "da Bears" in Chicago...

Another Rockhurst grad, Luke Betterman, won a big academic honor. The Notre Dame sophomore will be an Oxford scholar studying (or "reading" as the Brits say) history at the famed university in England this fall. His parents are Jim & Kathleen...

Rachel Swetnam will be studying in Paris for her final college semester. Her parents are Randy Moore & Gail Woodruff. The senior is majoring in photojournalism at Missouri University, with a minor in French...

Eli Medina (her parents are George & Betsy) won All American Team and All Tournament Team honors, capping her volleyball career at Truman State. Several neighbors took a shuttle bus to see her play a game in Warrensburg, Missouri. The senior is now playing basketball at Truman. Her dad George, a real estate agent, was recently seen on Channel 9 in a feature about the housing market...

Lily & Johnny Ellis (Bob & Maria) must have been very good this year. Santa made a special stop to bring them an adorable rescue puppy. Six-month-old Jack came already potty trained, and has stolen the hearts of the Ellis crew...

Zoey Jensen (Dave & Vonda) showed great poise as the 6-year-old gave channel 9's Lara Moritz a ride down Suicide Hill on a snowy December day. The ride was broadcast on the TV station's news report...

The big 5-0 began with a big smile for Mary Beth Cicchetti. The 69th Street resident headed out to

Welcome to Our New Neighbors!



We welcome the following new neighbors to the Armour Fields Homes Association. Please take a few moments to welcome them to our neighborhood!

Deanna Braudis
6527 Jefferson
Xi He & Lingheng Li
1000 West 66th Terrace
Matthew & Jessie Madden
1007 West 68th Terrace
Andrew Maysent &
Lindsey Kiliper
441 West 69th Street
Gregg Oetting
814 West 69th Terrace
Joel Barnes
804 West 69th Terrace
Philip & Irene Gallas
667 West 70th Street
Thomas & Lari Ann Collins
1010 West 70th Terrace
Jane Bloom
7059 Edgevale
Christopher Sears
424 West Dartmouth
William & Betty Kalahurka
444 West Dartmouth

walk her dogs in the early morning semi-darkness, only to be greeted by a huge birthday cake placard and 50 two-foot high candles adorning her front lawn. Justin Dean was among those counting candles and expressing surprise at her milestone age. Mary Beth credits longtime friends from St. Teresa's Academy Maggie Sweeney Booten and Joan Doors Jones for the surprise...

Corbin Keech (John & Camilla)
(continued on page 5)

Energy Saving Tips

These energy saving tips come to us from the Kansas City, Missouri Neighborhood and Community Services Department:

- ▶ Set your thermostat at a comfortable temperature and leave it there -- constantly adjusting it throughout the day wastes energy.
- ▶ Make sure furniture and drapes are not blocking vents.
- ▶ Close off unused rooms to save utility costs.
- ▶ Replace your furniture filter once a month.
- ▶ In the summer, use ceiling fans to assist in cooling. They should rotate counter-clockwise when viewed from below.
- ▶ Turn down your water heater temperature to 120 degrees to save energy.

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The Newsy Neighbor

by Jan Flanagan

(continued from page 3)

is now a LEED certified architect, meaning he can design and construct buildings using sustainable practices. The “green” architect resides in Portland, Oregon...

Condolences to the family of Susanne Sachs, including son Adam & Julana Sachs and her husband Judge Howard Sachs. Helping host a reception which went well into the evening were neighbors the Shackelfords, McCanns, Tappans, Newells, Elders and former resident Sue Adams. Many dear friends stopped in to trade stories of the old days and a great lady...

More sad news when 66th Terrace resident Dorothy Bell passed away in

early February. She was 93 and had lived here over 50 years...

Visitation parish is celebrating its centennial this year. A weekend of parties and events in January kicked off the festivities. Among those enjoying a gathering which included the unveiling of an historical timeline and photos were Jim Lynch (Georgia was escaping winter in Arizona), Terry & Nancy O’Neill, John & Cathy Heiman, Paul & Kathy Diamond (he designed the programs and invitations) and Mike & Julie McCann...

St. Peter’s parish’s third annual Bloozapalooza blues and barbecue festival was February 7. Entertaining

the crowd were some of our talented young musicians such as Fritz Hutchison (Pete & Judy), Conor Burke (Jerry & Christine) and Joseph Simon (Jeff & Amy)...

A hearty welcome to our newest residents: Jane Fraley Sonnenberg arrived in time to make the holidays merrier for her family on 67th Street. The wee lass was born December 9 to Michael & Mandi. Chris & Jennifer Hanson celebrated New Year’s Eve in a very special way with the arrival of their first child Claire Lorraine. The couple moved to 69th Street just last year from Omaha. Chris is a nurse anesthetist in NKC and Jennifer is with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. Congratulations to the new parents...

That’s it for now. Remember, be a tipster and share your news big or small. Contact Jan, the Newsy Neighbor 816-333-8947 or email janflanagan@kc.rr.com and BE SURE to write Newsy Neighbor in the subject line!

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Southwest Planetarium

The Kansas City, Missouri School District Planetarium is located at the southeast corner of Southwest High School. Under a 10-meter perforated aluminum dome is a Spitz 512 Planetarium projector capable of displaying the visible planets, the Sun, and our Moon in their correct current positions for essentially any date or time. It projects an accurate star field of more than 1,900 stars for both the northern and southern hemispheres.

For information on when the Planetarium is open for public viewing, check out the Planetarium web site at www.kcmsd-planetarium.net, and click on "Public Schedule." You will find it fun and educational!

Do you hate those annoying calls from telemarketers? Well, soon they will be able to reach you even at your mobile phone number!

Next month all cell phone number will go public, and thus will be eligible for telemarketing companies. To block your mobile phone number from such calls, you need to call the Federal Trade Commission's National No Call List at 888-382-1222 to register your cell phone number for the Do Not Call List.

It is an automated call and takes just a couple of minutes. You must call from your cell phone; you can't call from your land line or another cell phone.



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Safe and Secure

by Brian Hand
Crime Prevention



As many of you already know, there have been a couple of vehicle related incidents in the neighborhood lately. For those who don't, I will quickly recap. Both incidents involved theft or attempted theft of vehicles from residents' driveways.

While incidents like these tend to be isolated, these two were very similar. The perpetrators in both instances were brazen and approached the vehicles in the presence of the owners. While there were similarities, there were also some differences. The two incidents happened at different times of day and on different streets. One involved a gun, one did not.

I bring this up because I have had inquiries and input from neighbors about details of the incidents and I want

to share a bit about the process that I use when dealing with these incidents. Normally the first I hear about any incident is an e-mail from our security provider, other times I get a call or e-mail from a resident. After that I start a vetting process, where I verify information through the Kansas City Police Department or Chesley Brown, our security provider.

After that, a determination is made as to whether or not the incidents need to be publicized. If a particular incident or repeat incidents have an affect on the neighborhood I publicize it, but if it is not an ongoing issue or an issue that does not have an impact on others, I do not. There are three major reasons why I use this process, and I would like to explain them.

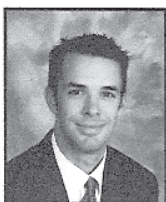
- The first reason is that I know that people are busy and don't need to hear about every time a tree gets TP'ed, but issues that involve a pattern of criminal behavior are important to know about.
- The second reason is that my goal is not to spread rumors, but to ensure that good information that is beneficial to the neighborhood is put out.
- Finally, I think that it is important that information that is relevant to the entire neighborhood is put out, and by being very general when it comes to locations and times of day it helps to reinforce that these are crimes of opportunity and typically have nothing to do with time and place.

I know that when an incident happens on your block it hits home a lot harder than something that happened several blocks away, and it may be frustrating that the information may seem to be lacking. I would ask you to consider this, though: if you are in the habit of leaving your garage door open at night and then get burglarized, would you want your name and address to be sent to everyone in the neighborhood, or just a notice of what the incident was, to raise awareness?

Always remember that many incidents can be prevented with heightened awareness; don't make yourself a "Target of Opportunity" and you can stay Safe and Secure!

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The Armour Fields Homes Association is a non-profit organization, with board and committee members who donate their time and work for the benefit of the neighborhood.

The Armour Fields Homes Association web site needs your help.

If there is a web developer in the neighborhood who would like to donate his or her time and services, we would love to hear from you. Please contact any member of the homes association board of directors, shown to the left.

Thank you!

The Armour Star is published four times a year by the Armour Fields Homes Association. All articles are written by volunteers from your neighborhood. Postage and printing costs are covered by annual dues and advertising. If you have comments, please direct them to the Editor, Don Dagenais, at 444-7407, e-mail don913@kc.rr. com.

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