

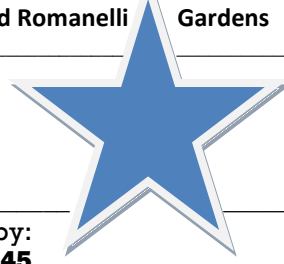


The Armour Star

The Newsletter of the Armour Fields Homes Association (AFHA), including Homes in the Subdivisions of Armour Fields, Meyer Circle and Romanelli Gardens

c/o Homes Association of Kansas City
4200 Somerset, Suite 200
Prairie Village, KS 66208
(913) 385-2440

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www.armourfields.org

February 2011

SWECC UPDATE: The Chaos Continues

By John Murphy, City Liaison

As the headline implies, the ongoing problems surrounding Southwest Early College Campus (SWECC) have not taken a Christmas vacation. What follows is a quick synopsis of an ongoing and rapidly deteriorating situation.

Doug Bolden, SWECC's second principal of this school year, resigned suddenly in late December. Bolden cited continued disagreements with KCMO School District Superintendent John Covington as the reason he resigned. Mr. Bolden has been replaced as principal by Ben Boothe, whose prior role was in the De Soto, KS School District as the Director of Early Childhood Programs. Mr. Boothe's LinkedIn page lists website development and website maintenance as two of his specialties. It will be interesting to watch how someone from a rural Kansas school district who specializes in early childhood development fares at SWECC.

Mr. Boothe took over in January as SWECC began yet another reincarnation - this time as a multi-academy campus. District Officials explained to parents during December's School Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting that SWECC would offer three different programs - with three different schedules - all in one

See "SWECC," page 4.

DON'T MISS THE EASTER EGG HUNT!

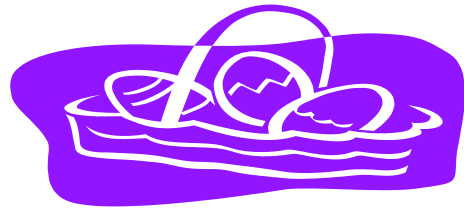
Bring the family to the AFHA's annual Easter Egg Hunt on

Saturday, April 16

2:00 p.m.

**Ward Parkway Island
69th Street & Ward Parkway**

Everyone is invited, and costumes and Easter baskets are encouraged. The AFHA will provide eggs and treats for all. See you there!



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Brian Hand, President

CLEARING OUR SNOWY STREETS

Winter is certainly here in the Armour Fields Homes Association, and we continue to do the business of our residents. The most apparent thing that you can see is the streets being plowed when we get snow. While we may not be able to clear



our streets to the levels you may see on the other side of the state line, we are working to make sure that our residents are able get out. At the request of a neighbor I checked into what it takes for Mission Hills to clear their streets.

I found that their annual snow budget is around \$200,000 per year and that it is accomplished by the city. They have a few things going for them that we do not. The first is obviously money. The second is they do not have the on-street parking issues that we do. Finally, due to the sewer problems in our area, it would be problematic to spread sand to provide that extra traction. We will continue to try to improve this service, and if you have suggestions please feel free to forward them to me.

COMMITTEES AND ELECTIONS

Other things going on this time of year are the planning of maintenance and plantings for our parks and islands, upcoming events and work to help bring accountability to our public schools. The Parks and Islands committee is thriving due to an

increase in volunteers. Other committees, like fountains, block captains and others, can use your help, too. In the area of events I would like to take the opportunity to remind you that the AFHA's annual meeting will be held in June and that there will be three director positions up for election. If you have ever thought of serving on the board, consider running for one of these positions.

The biggest issue I would like to address is Southwest High School. The school is now on to the third principal in less than a year, and after hearing that former Principal Bolden left due to the lack of support from the district, it seems that not

See "President's Column," page 7.

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TIPS FOR ORGANIZING A SUCCESSFUL OUTDOOR BLOCK PARTY

Rodd Staker, Guest Contributor

1. Two months prior to the Block party, contact 4-5 neighbors and determine a time and date for the block party. Avoid conflicting events such as major holidays. Sunday afternoons work well.
2. Prepare and distribute to all households an initial flyer that announces the block party start time and date.
3. Six weeks prior to the party, call/contact all households to ask for help. Recruit as many neighbors as you can for the committees. This results in more people attending, draws out new neighbors, and divides up the duties.
4. Establish committees to handle party responsibilities such as publicity, treasury, KCMO permit & street barriers, table set-up (to collect and set up picnic tables for food), beverages/cups/ice, food set-up, games (for kids and adults), greeters, and clean-up.
5. Decide on the type of party. A potluck dinner works well when every household brings a meat dish for a dozen people plus one of the following: a salad, a vegetable, or a dessert (1/3 of households for each).
6. Three weeks prior to the party, prepare and distribute to each house a flyer on colored paper that lists the date; the start time; and committee member names, addresses, and phone numbers. List what each household needs to bring: a donation (to cover costs such as printing fliers, name tags, beverages, and kids' prizes), their own chairs, utensils, plates, and napkins.

7. At least 6 week prior to the party, apply to KCMO (816-513-2679) for a permit. KCMO will provide the barrier cones and signs, which must be picked up from KCMO, placed on the street, and returned. ◇

About the Author: Rodd Staker has organized the annual block party on the 600 block of West 70th street for 39 years.

Let's Keep Our Sidewalks Safe

No, the weather isn't yet warm, but lots of AFHA residents and their pets regularly use the sidewalks for exercise. We all know how dangerous it can be to navigate a sidewalk littered with fallen tree branches, sweet gum balls, or children's toys. Add to that the danger of uncleared snow and ice and you have a recipe for a fall and even broken bones.

The AFHA is full of friendly, considerate residents who look out for one another. Please do your part to make sure your sidewalk is clear of debris, snow and ice. Keep yourself, your neighbor, and Armour Fields' canine companions safe during much-needed exercise. ◇



SOUTHWEST

Continued from page 1.

building. That building now contains over 10% of the school district's entire population. When parents asked how this would work, district officials had few answers.

Also during the SAC meeting, KCMO School District Assistant Superintendent Anthony Moore told parents that the reports of crime at the school were nothing more than "malicious rumors" and that grades had actually improved. We are sorry to burst the district's bubble, but the KCMO police department crime stats show a large increase of crime year on year and the school district's own website shows the decline in grades. Page 6 of this KCMO School District document clearly illustrates this at:

<http://www.boarddocs.com/mo/kansasd/Board.nsf/Public>

It is clear that the KCMO School District does not have the best interests of its students in mind. As citizens and taxpayers, we have a responsibility to ensure that the students who attend our public schools get a good solid education. We need to continue to call Governor Jay Nixon's office (573-751-3222), remind him that he is the

Chief Executive Officer of the State, and let him know that it is he, through the state board of education, who has ultimate jurisdiction over the KCMO School District. Tell his office that SWECC needs to return to its previous format as a magnet school for college-bound students. ◇

Please note:

Given the seriousness of the ongoing situation at SWECC, we are reprinting the contact information and strategies for successful calling from John Murphy's column in the November 2010 issue.

Please consider calling your representatives on the KCMO School Board as well as the Governor's office to make your concerns known. S.C.

Here's who to call and what they need to know:

- At KCMSD, call Board Members: Derek Ritchie, Airick West, and Kyleen Carroll all at (816) 418-7620.
- At the state level, Call Governor Jay Nixon's office at (573) 751-3222. Remind the staffer who answers the phone that the Governor appoints the members of the Missouri State Board of Education, which has oversight over all Missouri Public School Districts, and

that the governor is the chief executive officer of the state and needs to weigh in on this extremely important issue. Remind them that he is up for re-election in two short years. For this strategy to be successful, we need lots of people to participate. In a representative democracy, numbers do matter and elected officials are very adept at counting responses on issues and then judging which way the wind blows. In a nutshell, the more calls they get, the quicker and better they understand. ◇

Fed up with the situation at SWECC? Is it time to form our own school district? See the President's Column on pages 2 and 7.



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Armour Fields Resident

MONEY MATTERS: Treasury Report

By Joe Giammanco, Treasurer

Changes in Billing – A Reminder from the Last Newsletter

The Armour Fields Homes Association (AFHA) is comprised of 788 homes. Each property covered by AFHA is responsible for \$90 in Base Assessment and an optional \$75 Security Charge. Currently, these amounts are billed quarterly and are \$22.50 and \$18.75 respectively. In an effort to create cost savings for AFHA, a new billing schedule, summarized below, has been created.

The final quarterly billing was sent out on January 1, 2011 for fiscal year 2011. This will be the last of the quarterly billings. Effective for fiscal year 2012, the association begins a single, annual billing with the option to pay 50% at the time of the billing. Fees will not be adjusted; they will simply be annualized. Members will be billed \$90 in Base Assessment and an optional \$75 Security Charge. Members will first notice the change on the April 1, 2011 billing. It is estimated that this change will result in savings of at least \$800 per year in postage and materials costs.

See Money Matters, page 6.

MONEY MATTERS

Continued from page 5.

So Much Snow!

The month of January was similar to the same month last year. We got snow...and a lot of it. However, some things did change. Thanks to the efforts of our President, Brian Hand, City Liaison John Murphy and most likely numerous AFHA residents complaining to Kansas City Public works, Kansas City plows graced our major thoroughfares with their presence. The main thoroughfares include, but are not limited to, Valley Rd. and Pennsylvania Ave. Thank you to members who contribute to the security fund, which provides the money for snow plows from private companies should the AFHA need them.

Savings

The Board is continually looking for ways to save money and improve the AFHA. Our largest savings are realized when residents volunteer their time for work the AFHA might normally have to hire a contractor to perform. Volunteers interested in gardening or design should contact Jane Aylward, Chair of the Parks and Islands Committee. Fountains Chair Hank VanArsdale is often seen cleaning the fountains but would be open to sharing some cleaning duties. Special Event Co-Chairs Sarah Hancock and Barbara Roche are planning a neighborhood clean-up event and need some assistance. These are just a few of the ways members can help their association reduce costs. Many members are already helping save costs by picking up loose trash on the street, trimming low hanging branches, helping their neighbor shovel snow, or bringing their trash cans to the Annual Meeting. This is our neighborhood; let's work together to make it a great place! If you would like to volunteer to help the AFHA, contact information for committee chairs is on the back of this newsletter. ♦

ARE YOU A GOOD NEIGHBOR?

The AFHA's Board of Directors receives comments and complaints from residents regarding issues affecting both the appearance of our neighborhood and the safety of the area. Here are some recent issues that have come to light:

The Banana Island

A resident living across from the banana island has, over the past few months, created what appears to be a shrine around a small sapling tree. Residents need to remember that islands are not for personal plantings. The land belongs to the city and is maintained by the AFHA; residents do not have the right to make unauthorized changes to the landscaping. Residents also do not have the right to erect structures on AFHA island property. The AFHA uses resident dues to pay for landscape design, plantings, and maintenance of our islands. Residents should not interfere with that process and should remove unauthorized plantings.

Sweet Gum Balls

There are probably not many among us who are fans of the sweet gum tree but a large number of these trees line our streets and overhang our sidewalks.

When sweet gum trees drop balls onto sidewalks, the balls are a hazard to pedestrians. Stepping on the balls can cause a sprained ankle or a serious fall and broken bones. Sweet gum balls also clog street drains, preventing the clear flow of water during snow melt and rainstorms.

Residents are legally responsible for keeping drains along the curbs of their property clear of debris, so please clear your drains of these nuisances periodically. Also, remember to scoop up and dispose of sweet gum balls to keep your families and neighbors safe. ♦ S.C.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Continued from page 2.

much has really changed. I've spoken with Superintendent Covington and although he says he agrees that most of the issues we have are legitimate, he seems unwilling to even consider returning Southwest to its previous successful model. Enrollment of former SWECC students has dropped by 50%, and colleges are now hesitating to send student teachers there because it is too dangerous. This is unacceptable.

I believe that we are at a fork in the road. The district has gone down its own path, telling us we have no other choice but to follow it. But there is another path. That path leads to the formation of a new school district. While both paths are difficult, the one with a new district with new leaders can

provide our area with quality education and local accountability. This path will require cooperation with other homes associations and residents of the community the district would serve. While it is still early in this effort, it is imperative that we as a community decide whether we will continue to take what is given us without our input, or whether we will take control of the future of our children's education, our neighborhood and the investments that we have made in our homes.

For those who may be skeptical, I would like to remind you that there are currently 14 school districts within our city and only one is failing: the Kansas City, Missouri School District. It is time for something new!

As always, please feel free to contact me with your questions or comments or if you would like to get involved. ◇

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SPECIAL EVENTS: AFHA GARAGE SALE AND NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

By Barbara Roche and Sarah Hancock, Special Events Co-Chairs

Garage Sale

The Armour Fields Homes Association Garage Sale is scheduled for May 14th. This is a great opportunity for neighbors to rid themselves of items once treasured but no longer of any use.

The association will advertise the event and post signs. Anyone with a large volume of merchandise may wish to put out additional signs and start a day early.

Neighborhood Yard Waste Cleanup

For the first time, Armour Fields is organizing a free yard waste collection day. The Board of Directors, through Kansas City's Neighborhood Clean-up Assistance Program, will have two dumpsters at the island on the west side of Pennsylvania at 69th Street on April 30th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The city does not accept applications for the program until March 1, but hopefully this will not be a problem. Look for several non-professional signs posted around the neighborhood as reminders of the event.

This opportunity to dispose of yard waste at no cost is for Armour Fields residents only. You must present identification to show proof of residence. Neighbors will be responsible for bringing their debris to the site and

placing it in the dumpsters. Grass clippings, household trash, and logs will not be accepted. All other yard waste is okay; there is no limit per household.

Here are the disposal guidelines:

* Yard waste may be in paper bags or cardboard boxes. If bags are sealed, use masking tape, not plastic or duct tape.

* You may bring debris in plastic bags, but you must empty them into the dumpster. Please take empty plastic bags with you.

* Brush and tree branches will be accepted. Debris does not need to be bundled but branches must not be more than 3" in diameter or more than 4' long. If you

bundle, use twine or jute rope; do not use wire or plastic tape.

The board of directors hopes neighbors will view access to free dumpsters as an opportunity to rid sidewalks and curbs in front of your houses of sweet gum balls, which not only are unsightly and hazardous to pedestrians but also clog the storm sewers. ♦

We would encourage everyone to assist neighbors who may require help with yard clean-up. Also, the board could use help manning the dumpsters, so after you have dumped your yard waste, consider setting aside an extra half hour to lend a hand. ♦

DON'T MISS THE EASTER EGG HUNT!!!

Bring your little ones in bunny costumes and join neighbors for the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Ward Parkway Park on April 16 at 2:00. Eggs and treats provided!



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Neighborhood News

by Kelley Slagle Funk, Contributor

The beautiful, festive lighting displays in our neighborhood brought cheer and warmth to the holiday months. Thank you to the wonderful neighbors who took the time to brave the cold and decorate their homes. We send a special thank you to those merry elves who decorated the traffic circle at 68th Terrace and Pennsylvania.

During my snowy walks with my canine friends, I saw rows of cars lining the streets for the many holiday parties in the area. MaryBeth and Scott Smith hosted a lovely open house in the 1000 block of 66th Street, where neighbors enjoyed delicious food and delightful conversation.

Our Homes Association has been wonderful about keeping

us informed of the challenges and changes at Southwest High School. Thank you to the residents who bring their educated voices to the board meetings to advocate for a better environment for both the students of the school and our neighborhood at large.

Our youth are also keeping involved in our community. Conor Burke's band, "Wiley," played for Mark Funkhouser's New Year's Day open house. Conor (son of Christine and Jerry Burke) continues his musical adventures by playing drums for the Rockhurst High School production of "Damn Yankees". Our gifted residents are taking their talents across the country as well. Fritz Hutchison's band, "She's a Keeper," played in Boulder,

Colorado in January. Fritz is the son of Rick and Judy Hutchison. Sarah and Steve Guthrie welcomed their son Hans home from college this holiday season. Rumor has it that Hans fixed many a computer headache while in town.

Thank you to all who took the time to send me neighborhood information. An apology goes out to the neighbor whose e-mail was lost in my computer crash during the month of January! Please take a moment to send me any information or neighborhood news throughout the coming months. My e-mail is kellslagle@aol.com. I hope to see more of you out walking as spring begins to bloom. ◇



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VOLUNTEER CORNER

Our homes association functions because of the time and effort that a small group of volunteers gives to various committees. When people think of a committee, they may think of an ambiguous entity that somehow runs itself. However, each of the committees run by the AFHA is chaired by a real person. The directors are your neighbors. They tax their brains, their schedules, and their muscles to make our neighborhood the best it can be. The AFHA has more than 800 homes, so the directors can always use more help.

Some of the committees that would welcome volunteers are:

- 1) Parks & Islands
- 2) Fountains
- 3) Special Events


Love gardening? Consider helping Jane Aylward get our parks and islands ready for the warm months. Do you tell friends and family about our beautiful fountains? Hank VanArsdale spends many hours getting them ready for their warm weather display. He could use your hard-working hands. Love planning get-togethers? Sarah Hancock and Barbara Roche could use help organizing special events. Committee chairs can also always use help for miscellaneous activities.

As always, we thank our current volunteers. If you can donate even a few hours, please contact the chair of the committee that interests you. ♦ S.C.

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at:

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WARMING YOUR CAR IN YOUR DRIVEWAY?

ILLEGAL IN KCMO

In cold weather it's tempting to let your car sit in the driveway (or worse, on the street) to warm while you return to the house. Unfortunately, unless you are using a remote start, this is illegal in Kansas City, Missouri. According to city ordinance 70.251 (unattended motor vehicles):

No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, [and] removing the key from the ignition...

(Code of Gen. Ords. 1967, § 34.131; Ord. No. 41525, 10-20-72; Ord. No. 56381, 8-16-84)

Violating this ordinance can result in fines from \$1-\$500 or jail time of 1-180 days. Such behavior invites crime to our neighborhood. What's more, a stolen idling vehicle taxes KCMO's already limited police resources and raises insurance costs for everyone. So next time you warm your car, bundle up and brave the cold. Don't leave it unattended. ♦ S.C.

BLOCK CAPTAINS IN THE AFHA

By Peggy LaPierre and Jim Neihart

Disseminating Information

Block captains are a vital part of our effort to keep our neighborhood safe and secure. However, residents should consider what type of information is sent to the block captains for the neighbors on their blocks. When you send us information, keep in mind that we will do our best to confirm issues through Brian Hand, our Safety and Security chair, and that we will vet the information through both Chesley Brown (the AFHA's security service contractor) and the Kansas City Police Department before we send out a neighborhood email. Block captain support helps to

keep us aware of serious security problems in our neighborhood, but our block captains can also be helpful in maintaining the ambiance of our neighborhood.

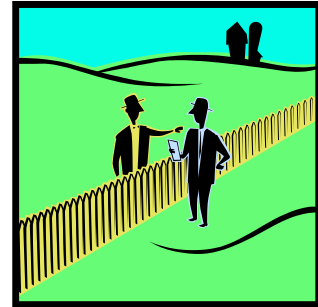
Code Violations in the AFHA

Another recent concern is several code violations within our homes association. Abandoned or neglected properties and problems with city services should be common items on all block captain agendas.

Armour Fields residents who notice code violations should call 311 and then inform their

block captain, who can enlist the aid of the Armour Fields Homes Association city liaison.

Thank you to all our block captains for their continued community service. ♦



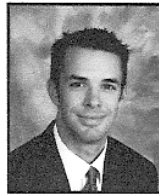
KEEP THOSE SNOW PLOWS COMING!

During this winter's snows, AFHA residents have been able to drive on our streets while many metro residents were still snowed in. Thanks to the efforts of President Brian Hand and City Liaison John Murphy, KCMO snow plows cleared major streets like Valley and Pennsylvania. To keep side streets passable, however, the AFHA must hire a service, paying for snow removal out of the optional safety and security portion of your AFHA dues. The optional funds paid by some of you mean that our streets can be cleared after the worst storms, allowing us to get out of our driveways and on with business.

Fewer residents have paid the extra fee recently. As we don't want this valuable service to disappear, please consider sending the optional fee when you next pay your association dues. None of us wants to be unable to navigate the streets after the next big snowfall. ♦ S.C.

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2011 ELECTIONS: UPCOMING BOARD VACANCIES

By Jim Neihart, Block Captain Co-Chair

Residents of the Armour Fields Homes Association should be aware that the AFHA's Annual Meeting is held so that residents may have the opportunity to run for and elect members to the Board of Directors. The process for notifying residents of the meeting specified in Article 10 of the association by-laws.

Article 10 says that members need to be notified of the annual meeting between 30 and 60 days before the 2nd Sunday in June. For calendar year 2011, this means that notification would occur between April 14 and May 14, 2011.

Three director vacancies will need to be filled at the

June 2011 annual meeting. These directors will serve a 3-year term. The membership is being informed about this early so that any qualified member who wants to run for election can notify the board

In order to vote at the annual meeting for directors and other matters, a member must have fully paid his or her homes association dues. Procedure for the suspension of a member's voting rights is listed under Article 6 of the homes association by-laws.

Any resident wishing to review the by-laws of the Armour Fields Homes Association may do so by visiting:

<http://www.ha-kc.org/data/bylaws/AF%20Bylaws.pdf> ◊

Our appreciation for your continued support in this challenging market. Thanks for your confidence!
~ Team Medina



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Steve & Kathie Gillaspie
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John & Melissa Giocondo
1030 W. 67th Terrace

Dennis & Nancy Palmer
621 W. Dartmouth

Harriet Schutter
609 W. 70th Terrace

Jason & Susan Waldron
425 W. 68th Street

Daniel Shatto & Jane Zander
704 W. Gregory

If you haven't yet done so, please take a moment to introduce yourself and make our new residents feel at home. S.C.

Safe & Secure

by Brian Hand, President

Cold weather is still upon us, but that doesn't mean there aren't more and more good days to get outside and exercise or take a walk down the trolley trail. Typically, cold weather reduces the instances of crime and attacks as criminals are less likely to be out in the cold. Remember that on those warmer days when you get out, criminals will be out as well. Recently there have been a few instances of attempted attacks on the trolley trail, and people have been observed possibly casing houses for robberies.

You can keep yourself from being a target when walking or jogging. The best way to protect yourself is to travel in groups of two or more. Plus, having a jogging buddy can help to keep you motivated. If you are out alone, minimize distractions. It is best to not have headphones on, but if you do, only use one so you don't get surprised. Avoid being out after dark, but if you must be out at night, wear reflective clothing, which helps traffic to see you and will make you more easily seen if you are struggling. Finally, carry a cell phone. If you are trying to avoid the distraction of its ringing, turn the ringer off.

Most of the time when criminals are casing your home, they do so during the day when no one is around. Leave a radio on loud enough to hear if someone goes to your windows or doors. Keep blinds drawn: if crooks can't see that you have something valuable, they are less likely to take the risk. Install a security system and turn it on. Even posting signage saying you have a system has proven successful. As an added step, you can install "dummy" sensors on ground level windows and doors that give the appearance of a real system. And don't forget Fido! A barking dog is always a good deterrent. Just don't leave him out at night to wake up the neighbors! ◇



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WEBSITE AT**

WWW.ARMOURFIELDS.ORG

WHO YA GONNA CALL?

CHESLEY BROWN!

The AFHA uses the optional security fee many of you pay with your dues to pay for a private security service to keep us safe. If you've seen their white SUVs patrolling your street, you know that Chesley Brown International is doing a great job providing round-the-clock, random patrols of the AFHA. In fact, when a woman was accosted on the Trolley Track several months ago, Chesley Brown helped track down the suspect! So if you notice a security issue in the AFHA, call:

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ADVERTISING

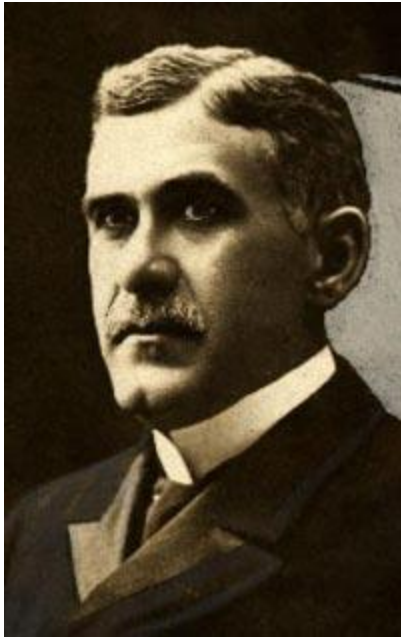


The Armour Star reaches approximately 800 homes in our neighborhood and accepts advertisements at competitive rates. Residents of the Armour Fields Homes Association receive a 20% discount. Don't have an ad? We can help you create one!

For information, contact the editor, Shelley Cetin, at 816-588-2817 or email her at sdctin@hotmail.com. ◇

Not-So-Ancient History: People of Armour Fields Fame

By Shelley Cetin, Editor



Kirkland B. Armour

Kansas City developer J.C. Nichols is known among Brookside residents as the developer of the area we call home. But why don't we live in "Nichols Fields" instead of Armour Fields?

Despite his local fame, J.C. Nichols wasn't the only person who left his stamp on our neighborhood. Kirkland Armour, who lent his name to our subdivision, was a wealthy New Yorker turned Kansas Citian who rose to such prominence that the New York Times marked his death. His September 27, 1901, Times obituary proclaimed, "Kirkland B. Armour Dead: Kansas City Packer Succumbs After a Two-Years' Illness."

Born in 1854 in Stockton, New York, Armour worked for many years in the family business, the Armour Packing Company, before he became president and general manager. If you, as I do, remember the jingle of the Armour company's hot dog commercials, the Armour family's marketers did their jobs well:

Hot dogs / Armour hot dogs /
What kind of kids eat Armour
hot dogs? / Fat kids / Skinny
kids / Kids who climb on
rocks / Tough kids / Sissy
kids / Even kids with chicken
pox love hot dogs / Armour
hot dogs / The dogs kids love
to bite!

Catchy, isn't it? But back to Mr. Armour.

The New York transplant was also a cattle breeder who raised what his New York Times obituary called "...some of the finest stock in the United States, including many importations from the English royal herd." The "royal herd" refers to the cattle of Queen Victoria's herd in Windsor. Those same cattle once roamed your very yards, as the land of the AFHA was part of Mr. Armour's 1000-acre farm. He bought the farmhouse at 6740 Pennsylvania and some of the surrounding land in the 1880s. The oldest residence in the AFHA, the original farmhouse was standing in 1852.

Kirkland Armour died on September 27, 1901, when only forty-seven years old.

According to I.R.S. records relating the details of Kirkland Armour's personal wealth, at his death he left an estate of \$3,880,119.53 to his widow and children. ◇

Sources:

The Federal Reporter, vol. 151.
page 848.

The Armour Star, Ed. Don
Dagenais, August 1997.

J.C. Nichols and the Shaping of
Kansas City: Innovation
in Planned Residential
Communities, Wm. S.
Worley, Univ. of Missouri
Press, 1993.

Website of the Historic Elmwood
Cemetery:

<http://historicelmwood.org/modules/tinycontent/index.php?id=4>

GOOD ELVES IN THE AFHA

The Armour Star and the Board of Directors of the Armour Fields Homes Association would like to say thank you to all the generous residents who were kind enough to use their shovels and snow blowers to clear their neighbors' sidewalks after this winter's snow storms.

In the 400 block of W. 67th Terrace, Marcie Porter and her generous (though anonymous) friend were out with snow blowers the morning after the January blizzard. They cleared the sidewalks of the entire block! To all you equally thoughtful neighbors, thank you! ◇ S.C.

TRASH SHREDDING EVENT FOR THE COMMUNITY

Do you worry about identity theft? Do you wonder who might be going through the trash bags you set out for collection every week? Then put this date on your calendar.

On Saturday, March 26, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Kansas City, Missouri is offering a document-shredding event in the parking lot beside the Three Trails Community Recycling Center. Combat identity theft while recycling paper with PROSHRED Security when you bring your confidential documents - either business or personal - for shredding on site.

The city suggests a donation of \$5 to recycle a small

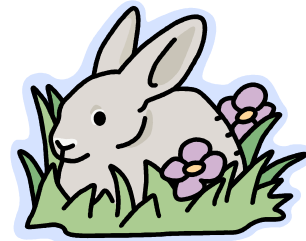
amount of paper and \$10 for a large amount. Cash and checks are accepted, and 100 percent of the proceeds will benefit Bridging The Gap.

The recycling center is located at 91st & Hillcrest Road in the parking lot of the vacant Super Wal-Mart near the Burlington Coat Factory. Due to construction on 87th Street, take Bannister Road and turn north on Hillcrest. ◇

To volunteer for this event, please contact Amy Smith at amy.smith@bridgingthegap.org or call 816-561-1061 ext. 122.

On Facebook?

Search "Armour Fields Homes Association" and "Like" our new page!



CALLING ALL BUNNIES!

Join us for the AFHA's annual Easter Egg Hunt at 2:00 on Saturday, April 16th, at the Ward Parkway Island, 69th and Ward Parkway. The AFHA will provide the treats for the hunt. You bring the little ones and other family members for a hopping good time.



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Armour Fields Homes Association

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

The *Armour Star* is published four times yearly 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, Shelley Cetin, at sdcetin@hotmail.com.

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 Romanelli Gardens and Meyer Circle Subdivisions
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