Welcome!

This is our first Armatage Neighborhood Association (ANA) safety newsletter. We plan to send these periodically in addition to our regular neighborhood newsletter.

The ANA also hosts quarterly safety meetings at the start of the monthly meeting. Monthly meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Armatage Community Center. Everyone is welcome to attend these monthly meetings!

If you would like to receive email versions of this newsletter, as well as other updates from the ANA, please visit us at armatage.org.

ANA Monthly Meetings

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
Armatage Community Center, 2500 W 57th St

January 20th (Safety Meeting)
February 17th
March 17th
April 21st (Safety Meeting)
May 19th (Annual Meeting)
June 16th
July 21st (Safety Meeting)
Monday, August 10th (Summer Festival)
September 15th
October 20th (Safety Meeting)
November 17th
December 15th

To receive crime alerts via e-mail, visit:
http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/crimealert/police_crimealert_signup

Sign up for the 5th Precinct quarterly newsletter at:
http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/precincts/police_about_5thprecinct

Fulton Neighborhood sends out a great safety report, which you can sign up for at:
http://fultonneighborhood.org
Leave the porch light on!

Help create a safer and more secure neighborhood. Research has shown that lighting is an effective deterrent to criminal activity by increasing the feeling of surveillance or perception that 'people are watching.'

Participation in the porch light campaign simply involves turning your porch lights ON nightly from dusk to dawn, and encouraging those on your block to do the same.

To conserve energy and reduce costs, we encourage you to install ENERGY STAR compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) in their front porch light fixtures.

**BENEFITS OF THE PORCH LIGHT CAMPAIGN**
- Creates a lived-in and welcoming appearance to your home.
- Increases the perception of safety to residents and visitors.
- Reduces the opportunity for criminal activity and inappropriate street behavior.
- Enhances the appearance of your neighborhood at night by adding ambient lighting.

**PORCH LIGHT CAMPAIGN TIPS**
- Always keep the area around your doors and windows well lit.
- Install a wire basket around any outdoor light bulbs so they cannot be removed or damaged.
- Place a sticker by the light switch to serve as a reminder to turn the lights on at night, and to turn them off in the morning. Alternatively, install timers on exterior lights so that lights turn on and shut off automatically.
- Leave your porch light on all night (it costs about 11 cents a month for a 5W compact fluorescent bulb).
- Keep trees and shrubs trimmed back from windows, doors and walkways.

**But it costs too much to leave your light on...**

Assuming a 60 watt bulb and 730 hours a month, a bulb running all the time uses about 43.8 Kw (kilowatt hours) of energy (60 x 730 / 1000). It costs us about 10 cents per Kw depending on the time of day and the plan you are on (night-time is much lower on some plans). Assuming 10 cents, it costs us about $4.38 per month for the added security of leaving the lights on ALL of the time, not a bad investment in personal security.

**LIGHT SENSORS**

Many new fixtures have room to install a photocell light sensor bulb adapter. This will allow your porch light to be on only during night time hours, saving energy and cost!

**CFL BULBS**

More and more options are becoming available and cost less each time I shop for new bulbs. Most warehouse stores, like Costco and Sam’s Club, have CFL bulbs for sale in bulk, which can be a great, cost effective way to start making the switch to these energy saving bulbs.
Winter Pet Safety

by Lisa J. Rojas, Owner

Winter is upon us and we all need to prepare for the bitter cold! Our pets suffer from the same things that affect us, like frostbite, hypothermia, or just plain being cold! But, in addition to the obvious things, it’s important to think about the not so obvious, like freezing ears and pads on their feet, and the fact that many smaller dogs are up to the top of their legs in snow!

Every winter we see many pets, both big and small, full coated or short haired, that have perished from the cold in very short periods of time. They do not have to be outside for long to suffer from frostbite or hypothermia. You can provide extra warmth for your small dog by buying them a doggie sweater. A pair of booties, for big and small paws alike, will help protect their feet.

Also keep in mind that dogs have coats to protect them from both the cold and the heat. Many dogs have two coats, an outer guard hair and a wooly under coat which gets heavier for the winter. Cutting you “double-coated” dogs hair short in the summer not only leaves them more vulnerable to sunburn and overheating, but it also removes the natural oils present on the guard hairs. Once shaved, the oils are permanently removed from the guard hair and will never grow back in the same manner. It is these oils on the guard hair that repel rain and snow, keeping the under coat dry. A dry under coat is the key to keep your dog warmer.

So please, don’t leave your pets unattended outside for long during the season, and keep them happy and safe from Old Man Winter.

Fire on Ice:

Family Skating Party

Friday, January 24th
6:00-8:00 pm
Armatage Park

Join us down at Armatage Park for the first annual Fire & Ice Skating Party!! Grab your mittens and hat for this outdoor neighborhood celebration. Enjoy a night with family and friends skating and a variety of outdoor activities or keep warm with hot chocolate and bonfire. No registration required, just come on down!

SOME TIPS ON MATTING

Water is the number one cause of severe matting. These types of mats are the most difficult to remove (if possible) and are also the most damaging to your pets skin.

Quickly running a comb through your pets hair once a week, and before they go outside in the snow, especially on their legs and chest, will greatly reduce the chance of matting. Also remember to dry them off by patting their hair as opposed to rubbing, and please refrain from bathing and letting them air dry!

If you can’t seem to get the mats under control, first bring them in for a professional grooming and after I’ll gladly show you how to safely remove mats in between visits. Please don’t use scissors on your pet, too often they move quickly and the end result is a visit to the vet for stitches.
Recent Phone Scam

MPD has received reports from people who said that they were contacted by someone who claimed to be with the IRS. The caller ID showed the Fifth Precinct’s main number (612) 673-5705. This is a scam. No government agency will ever call you asking for personal information like credit card numbers, bank account numbers, social security numbers, or more.

Community Impact Statement

Impact statements are used by Police Officers, Probation Officers, City and County Attorneys and the Courts to show the negative “impact” an individual has on a community. This is the community’s opportunity to speak out on individuals whose activities affect their sense of safety and well being in their neighborhood.

At the April Armatage Neighborhood Association meeting Lisa Eder from Hennepin County Victim Services, urged residents to fill out a Community Impact Statement regarding the incident that occurred in the neighborhood.

The purpose of victim impact statements is to allow crime victims, during the decision-making process on sentencing or parole, to describe to the court or parole board the impact of the crime. A judge may use information from these statements to help determine an offender’s sentence.

For most victims of crime, these statements provide them an opportunity to focus the court’s attention on the human cost of the crime and allow the victims to become a part of the criminal justice process. This process can put a human face on crimes that judges see every day.

Preparing a victim impact statement offers victims an opportunity to express their feelings to the judge or the parole board when it comes to sentencing issues.

Victim impact statements don’t have to follow a prescribed legal format. You’re free to tell the court in your own words whatever you want the judge or parole panel to know. You might want to talk about how the crime affected you. You can explain how your life is different now from how it was before the crime occurred, both for you and your family.

You can end by describing what you are hoping the court will do: send the person to jail, order the person to get treatment or order the person to stay out of a particular area.

Remember: it is more important to send an impact statement than to worry about how it is written. Just send it! You do not have to give your full name. Whatever you write will be presented and can improve the safety of your community.

After hearing about a disturbing violent crime, like the one that occurred in the Armature Neighborhood, it is comforting to know that there is something that you can do that will have an impact. There is a template of a Community Impact Statement on the Armature Website under the Community Links tab.

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

March

While the ANA Board agreed with the spirit and goals of the Moratorium, the Board unanimously did not support the Moratorium. Eventually, new policies for builders were developed by the City Council.

April

A violent crime was committed against one of our neighbors. This type of violent crime is unusual in our neighborhood and residents attended our meeting looking for help and answers. The meeting was attended by residents, journalists, news crews and cameras, and the victim. Also in attendance were the prosecuting attorney, a victim’s advocate and Inspector Todd Loining. The ANA responded by asking for residents to fill out a Victim Impact Statements, hosting a Personal Safety Seminar and refocusing efforts on neighborhood safety.

May

A new month for our Annual Meeting, was held for the first time off site at Wagner’s Greenhouse. The focus was bees, and we heard from great speakers and gave away great honey prizes donated from the Min-
Being a Block Leader

It really is just that easy!

HOW TO BE A BLOCK LEADER IN MINNEAPOLIS:

Send crime alerts we send you to your neighbors
That’s it! You’re a block leader!

WHAT ELSE DO YOU GET AS A BLOCK LEADER?

First dibs on workshops like Citizen’s Academy or a chance to sit in on a Rental Property Owner’s Workshop. Maybe even more opportunities in the future!

Is that really all?
Hanging out socially with your neighbors is good, too—but if you can only commit to forwarding crime alerts, that’s good enough for us for now!

The ANA is looking forward to a successful 2015. We will continue to focus on neighborhood safety. We will be mailing out more newsletters in addition to our electronic newsletters. We will continue to host great events like the garage sales and Summer Festival. We are always available the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 to update residents and listen to any questions and concerns.

Unorganized Blocks

Morgan Av S - 57XX, 58XX, 61XX
Newton Av S - 54XX
Oliver Av S - 58XX, 59XX, 61XX
Penn Av S - 55XX
Queen Av S - 54XX
Russell Av S - 57XX, 58XX, 59XX, 61XX
Sheridan Av S - 59XX
Vincent Av S - 56XX, 58XX, 61XX
Washburn Av S - 57XX, 58XX
Xerxes Av S - 57XX, 59XX, 60XX

MPD emails to you

Interested?
Contact your Crime Prevention Specialist!
(see back page)
Armatage Part 1 Crimes

October 2 - November 18, 2014
HELP PREVENT RECYCLING THEFT

City of Minneapolis ordinance 244.355(c) says that it is against the law. Although this may seem like a harmless crime, scavenging gives individuals an opportunity to survey what items you have in your alley, garage, yard and home (aka, casing the neighborhood), and takes revenue away from the city that could have helped lower solid waste fees.

You can discourage scavengers by:

• Not putting your recyclables out until the day of the pickup
• Asking your neighbors not to put their recyclables out until the day of the pickup
• Call 911 if you see scavengers taking items. Jot down a description of the individual(s), vehicle and, if possible, the license plate number, the direction they are going and any other information that could help the police.

VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

We do have a number of elderly folks and possible other adult that requires assistance to provide for their own care that are residents of Armatage. These vulnerable adults may become victims of maltreatment when they are subject to abuse, neglect or financial exploitation. This is important for ANA residents to be aware of potential crimes against vulnerable adults. Financial exploitation includes fraud, theft and forgery. Neglect - the failure of a caretaker to provide a vulnerable adult with needed care or services, including medical, clothing, food, shelter, and supervision. The vulnerable adult may be self-neglecting as well. Abuse - Generally defined as assault but also covers areas such as sexual assault, force or coercing the vulnerable adult to do acts they would not normally do, use of unreasonable acts, verbal or physical, that would be derogatory or humiliating to the vulnerable adult. To report incidents of maltreatment of a vulnerable adult, Hennepin county should be contacted at: 612-348-8526. The related website is http://www.hennepin.us/residents/human-services/adult-protection

DRUG HOUSES

Residents should also be alert for the possibility of a “drug house.” These are houses or apartments that may be dealing in drugs. Customers of drug houses often generate money through criminal activity other than drug dealing such as burglary, theft or robbery. Drug houses also have a negative impact on the neighborhood. Drug house indicators are: a house or apartment having high levels of pedestrian and/or vehicle traffic at all hours; exchanges between individuals that appear to be drugs and money; people appearing to be lookouts around homes or buildings. Call the community response team in our precinct at 612-673-5705.

The Minneapolis Police department has a tip line if you have information about a crime or criminal activity in the city. You can call the tip line at 612-692-TIPS (8477), send an anonymous written tip or use a free application for Android and Iphones. See http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/report/WCMS1P-115981 for more information.

PREVENT CAR THEFT

While the city does not permit residents to warm up their cars without an occupant in them, many folks either are unaware of the law or choose to ignore it. Note: vehicles equipped with remote starters that do not require a key and will not allow the vehicle to be driven are exempt from this law. It only takes a minute for a thief to steal a car in a driveway or on the street. Never leave a car running unattended whether at your home, the gas station, the convenience store, etc.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The City of Minneapolis is looking for volunteers interested in serving on the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). These folks will be trained by the city to meet the challenge of a natural or man-made calamity or disaster in their community. These folks help make the community safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to crime, public health issues, natural disasters, threats of terrorism and disasters of all kinds.

Training includes emergency preparedness, fire safety, first aid, search and rescue, etc. For more information, see http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/fire/cert/CONVERT_239892

CITIZENS’ ACADEMY

Minneapolis Police Department is looking for Citizens’ Academy volunteers. This is a 10 week free training program starting in February 2015 covering topics including K-9 units, 911 operations, Emergency Response Unit, Forensics Lab procedures, use of force, etc. See http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/about/training/police_about_citizens-academy
Connecting with your neighbors

Armatage Neighborhood Association
2500 West 57th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55410
612-668-3206
www.armatage.org
kristinaanacoordinator@gmail.com

Sign up online for our electronic communications. Also, join our Facebook group!

Crime Prevention Specialist
Jennifer Waisanen
612-673-5407
jennifer.waisanen@minneapolismn.gov

Armatage Nextdoor
Nextdoor is a private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. It’s an easy way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world. And it’s free.

City Council, Ward 13
Linea Palmisano
350 S. 5th St., Room 307
Minneapolis, MN 55415
612-673-2213
linea.palmisano@minneapolismn.gov

Sign up for the Ward 13 newsletter at:
http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/ward13/news/ward13-subscribe-