The Holly Hills Neighborhood News Newsletter

January, 2000

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Annual Holly Hills Banquet...

HHIA Annual Banquet

Monday, January 24

Cocktails, 6:30 pm -- Dinner, 7:00 pm Christy's Banquet Center, 5856 Christy Blvd. Cost:\$14.00 per person RSVP: Tuesday, January 18

The date and time have been set above for our annual banquet. Dinner will be followed by Holly Hills trivia. How well do you know where you live? There will also be attendance prizes, so plan to attend! RSVP BY TUESDAY, JANUARY 18.

Click here to go to form.

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Credit Where It's Due

The Missouri Department of Economic Development recently published the application and guidelines for state tax credits provided under the Neighborhood Preservation Act. (Unfortunately the guidelines and application were published after our November meeting.) The Act is designed to help revitalize older neighborhoods by providing tax credits for home rehabilitation and construction of in-fill housing. Eligibility is based on the location of the property. All owner-occupied property in the City of St. Louis is eligible for the program. The income of the taxpayer is not a factor.

There are three types of credits available:

Rehabilitation

A 25% tax credit on a minimum expenditure of \$5,000 for rehabilitation of a St. Louis City home that is at least 40 years old. There is a maximum of \$25,000 in credits per home.

Substantial Rehabilitation

A 35% tax credit on a minimum expenditure of 50% of the base value of the property, which must be in the City of St. Louis and be 50 years old. Credits cannot exceed \$70,000 per unit.

New Construction

A 15% tax credit for construction of an owner-occupied home in the City of St. Louis. No more than \$40,000 in credits can be awarded per house during a ten-year period.

There are eight million dollars in tax credits available for St. Louis and Kansas City. Credits are issued first come first served based on approval of one's applications. The application cannot be postmarked before January 3, 2000. All applications received on the same day will be on equal standing and a random drawing will be held to determine the order in which projects will be reviewed. The review process will begin January 10, 2000. Information and a copy of the application and guidelines are available at the following websites:

www.ecodev.state.mo.us

or

www.st.louis.missouri.org

You can also call LuAnn Bauer, Janelle Wilbers or Ann Perry of the Missouri Department of Economic Development at 1-800-523-1434.

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EVENTS/FUNDRAISING -- HHIA HOUSE TOUR

We don't know exactly when yet -- sometime next Fall. And we don't know exactly where yet -- 10 to 15 homes throughout the Holly Hills neighborhood. But we do know that it's time to hold another Holly Hills House and Garden Tour. Our last tour was in 1994. And we do know that we'll need your help. Following are ways you can get involved:

- Serve on the committee to help plan and promote the tour
- Nominate your home to be on the tour
- Volunteer to help out as a tour guide on the weekend of the tour
- Sponsor parts of the tour, such as refreshments or decorations (especially if you are a business)

House tours help showcase the wonderful neighborhood in which we live, plus they raise significant funds to help us maintain existing programs and begin new ones that benefit us all. For more information on how you can help, call HHIA at 569-5708.

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REPORTS FROM OUR REPS

REPORTS FROM CONGRESS Congressman Dick Gephardt recently announced that \$1.5 million in federal funds will be directed to two St. Louis parks. In addition to one million for Forest Park, \$500,000 will go to Carondelet Park. Daniel Skillman, the Commissioner of Parks for the City of St. Louis Parks Division, indicated that the funds will be used to continue the ongoing improvements at the park. The one

half million dollars in improvements will be in addition to the annual quarter million dollars earmarked for Carondelet Park as a result of the 1994 one half cent sales tax. Mr. Skillman indicated that the additional funds will allow the Parks Department to speed up the improvements to the play ground near Loughborough and other general improvements to the park.

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BITS & PIECES

- Holiday Lighting Contest Winners
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

A Winning Neighborhood

And now, the moment you've been waiting for ...

GRAND PRIZE: 3949 FEDERER

Best Single-Family Larger Home

First prize: 6717 Alexander

Runners-up: 3961 Holly Hills and 3903 Federer

Best Single-Family Smaller Home

First prize: 4087 Bowen

Runners-up: 6040 Arendes and 4152 Rosa

Best Multi-Family

First prize: 3930 Dover

Runners-up: 3954 Wilmington and 3652 Bowen

Most Spirited Streets

First prize: Bates and Holly Hills

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Just Bag It

Earth Circle Recycling with the City of St. Louis is repeating a jointly operated curbside recycling pilot program for the following zip codes: 63108, 63110, 63112, 63113, 63116, 63139 and 63147. Earth Circle picks up weekly a wide range of recyclable materials, including glass, aluminum, plastics, office paper and cardboard. The program normally costs \$72 per year, but with city subsidy, your cost is \$24 per year. The annual fee includes a bin in which to place your materials. To participate in the 2000 program, contact Earth Circle at 314-664-1450. Your payment must be received no later than April 15.

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Please address questions or comments about this Web site, the Holly Hills neighborhood, or the Holly Hills Improvement Association to <u>our Webmaster.</u>

Main Map Photos Newsletter Calendar Email HHIA