

SPRING 2013

WHISPERING HILLS

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

President's Message

First of all, to all of you whom I have not seen or talked to since the Christmas Party, Happy New Year! I hope it finds you and your family in good spirits and good health.

If you were unable to attend the annual Homeowners Association Meeting on February 12th, I want to advise you that we had a good turn out and that last year's Board of Directors will all serve for one more year with the exception of our Vice President Kevin Brown, who has stepped down and has been replaced by Marcherie Vazquez who was the Section 1 Representative. I want to take this opportunity to recognize Kevin for all his efforts on behalf of the homeowners and to thank him for a job well done. I would also like to announce that Diane Derrington has agreed to take over as the new Representative for Section 1.

Since this year's accomplishments were reviewed in the last edition of the Newsletter, I only need to add that the Common Grounds Committee, headed by Susie Brown, will undertake an upgrade of the front entrance to finish off all the work that was started on the common grounds last year.

As stated by Bob Sudholt, our Social Committee Chairman, we are planning to have an outing for all homeowners at the outdoor pool area near the Gazebo sometime in late April or early May, depending on the weather. The outing will be for families and their children. Food and sodas will be served. Bob will send out an official notice with date and time once arrangements have been finalized. We encourage all of you to make an effort to come and meet your neighbors.

Please, visit the website, <http://www.whisperinghillssubdivision.com>, Contact US section for the most current list of Board and Section Representative Member list.

John Schembri
President and Trustee



WHISPERING HILLS NEWS

Section Representative— Activities & Responsibilities

This is a summary of the expectations for a Section Representative as defined in the By-Laws of the Whispering Hills Homeowners Association. Please refer to By-Laws, Article V, Directors, for additional information. The references shown in parentheses refer to specific Sections of Article V.

General Information

1. There are five sections representing the 110 lots/homeowners in Whispering Hills. Each section elects a Section Representative (who in turn selects an Alternate). Each representative is an Ex-Officio Director of the Association. (V-1)
2. Section Representatives serve for a period of 13 months, and may be re-elected. (V-5, 6)

Responsibilities of the Section Representative

1. Voice the opinion of the majority of their section at the General Membership and Special Membership meetings. A minority or dissenting opinion may also be expressed. (V-7)
2. Act as an advisor to the Homeowners' Trustee. (V-8)
3. Serve on committees as a member or chair as proposed by the Homeowners' Trustee. (V-9)
4. Attend as required Association and Directors meetings as called by the President of the Association. (V-11).

Additional Recommendations/Expectations

1. Ensure that homeowners are receiving communication from the Association via e-mail or hard copy.
2. Conduct Section meetings or section-oriented activities as requirements or interests dictate.
3. Assist homeowners with the application and approval process for improvements such as fencing or shed installation.
4. Encourage participation by homeowners in the activities of the Association.

Good Neighbors

In these economically stressful times, we need something or someone to celebrate for going above and beyond what is expected of a "good neighbor". So if you have a neighbor or know someone in the subdivision who is making an extra effort to help someone, we would like to know about it so we can recognize their efforts and say "thanks for being a good neighbor". Please send us a note telling us what the person has done or is doing and we will recognize their efforts. Please e-mail your story to marcherie_v@hotmail.com.



Note to Pet Owners

St. Louis County has ordinances pertaining to animals and with regards to dogs. Dogs are not allowed off the premises without a leash, and dogs must have identification tags which show that they have been vaccinated for rabies. Although your pet may be mild mannered, it may suddenly become unexpectedly aggressive when an unsuspecting jogger comes running by... your dog can pull free from your hold. This very thing recently happened to one of our homeowners and she ended up getting severely bitten and required medical treatment.

If your dog gets loose and bites someone, the Animal Control Center will take possession of the dog. If there is a record of prior attacks the authorities may determine that it is a danger to humans and should not be released to its owner. If the dog collar ID does not show that it has received that rabies vaccine, the center will hold dogs in isolation for 10 days to determine if it has rabies. The dog owner will be charged \$25 for failure to properly vaccinate the dog plus \$15 per day for each of the remaining days.

In, addition, the dog owner would be liable for all medical costs as well as lost wages suffered by the person who was bitten by the dog. Therefore, if you spot a dog wandering loose and you know who owns the dog please remind them of the St. Louis County leash law and tell them that if they do not properly control their dog you will have no choice but to call Animal Control. The phone number is 314/615-0650.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Officer Accardi of St. Louis County Police has some advisories for us in the following two stories below.

Burglaries In Our Area

In reference to the burglaries being committed in the area, it seems there are two separate groups. One of the groups have been arrested during the commission of their crime and charged accordingly.

Numerous pieces of stolen property have also been recovered.

The group that was arrested was operating a red colored vehicle at the time and had committed burglaries throughout the St. Louis County area

The group that had been seen in a blue colored vehicle is still at large and at this time there seems to be no connection between the two parties.

Person(s) of interest have been identified and it is believed they are in connection with the party currently at large.

Now Hear This... Not All Thieves Are Stupid!!

All, I attended a Neighborhood Watch meeting the other night when I was given this by a resident who attended. She wanted to share this with everyone as this is very good information that you just don't think about.

I'll bet you'll find one of these below may apply to you.

1. A friend of a friend left their car in the long-term parking and someone broke into the car. Using the information on the car's registration in the glove compartment, they drove the car to the people's home and robbed it. So I guess if we are going to leave the car in long-term parking, we should not leave the registration/insurance cards in it, nor your remote garage door opener.

Officer Accardi recommends, you do keep your insurance card in the car. If your address is on the insurance card cover your address and make a photo copy or contact your agent and have them remove the address and send a new card.

This gives us something to think about with all our new electronic technology.

2. GPS. A couple of weeks ago a friend told me that someone she knew had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything

worth anything had been stolen. The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents.

Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it... Put a nearby address (like a store or gas station) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

3. MOBILE PHONES. This lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her mobile phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her cell phone, credit card, wallet, etc., was stolen. 20 minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says "I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago." When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen cell phone to text 'hubby' in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

Moral of the lesson:

- a. Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mom, etc....
- b. And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, CONFIRM by calling back.
- c. Also, when you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to call back to confirm that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very careful about going places to meet 'family and friends' who text you.

Put Your Car Keys Beside Your Bed At Night.

Tell your spouse, your children, your neighbors, your parents, your Dr's office, the check-out girl at the market, everyone you run across. Put your car keys beside your bed at night.

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

THINGS TO DO IN ST. LOUIS

Easter Concours d'Elegance

If you're looking for something special to do on Easter Sunday (March 31) and you appreciate the artwork and fine craftsmanship of the classic cars as well as the flair and boldness of the cyclists and hot rodders, then you can't afford to miss this two for one special show.

The Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri will host its 52nd annual Concourse de Elegance on the upper parking lot of the Muny Opera in Forrest Park and the St. Louis Street Rods Association will fill the lower lots with hundreds of custom hot-rods, street machines and motor cycles. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.hccmo.com/id14.html>

Walk, Run or Bike Great Rivers Greenway

In 2000, the people of the greater St. Louis area voted to create the Great Rivers Greenway District. The residents of the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County and St. Charles County wanted to make St. Louis a better place to live. The District has purchased and preserved more than 1,400 acres of green space lining Missouri's waterways in order to build the River Ring - an interconnected system of greenways and trails that will encircle the St. Louis region, and in time, connect the entire metropolitan region.

For information about current trails visit their website at: <http://www.grgstl.org/discover/trails.aspx>

To see the upcoming project in our area click the below link:

<http://www.grgstl.org/projects/centennial-i270-to-creve-coeur-park-.aspx>

Visit the DaVinci Exhibit Now Unltil May 30, 2013

Five hundred years ago, a genius inventor and artist lived and prospered in Florence, Italy. Although he had formal training as an artist, he is famous for his painting of the Mona Lisa and the Last Supper, he also had an unquenchable curiosity and very inventive imagination. His intuitive

genius and mathematical mind led him to create designs that required knowledge of physics, aeronautics, civil and mechanical engineering, optics, and hydromechanics.

He had many creative ideas that were before his time and they have been reproduced by Florentine artisans over the last several centuries for study and display at

a museum in Florence. But they have been brought to St. Louis for all to see and enjoy. The exhibit is at 800 Market Street, suite 100, in downtown St. Louis and will be there from now until May 30th. Call 314/241-1241 for more information.

Senior PGA Championship at Bellerive Country Club May 21-26, 2013

The PGA of America is having their 74th Senior PGA Championship at Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis. This is the first time Bellerive has hosted the Senior PGA Championship, the most historic and prestigious event in senior golf.

The tournament will feature some of the best golfers in the world including past Senior PGA champions Hale Irwin (1996, '97, '98, 2004), Tom Watson (2001, '11), Jay Haas (2006, '08) and Tom Lehman (2010); senior rookies Vijay Singh, Rocco Mediate and Steve Elkington; fan-favorite Fred Couples; and defending champion Roger Chapman all competing for the famed Alfred S. Bourne Trophy.

There are a variety of ticket options and packages. Ticket prices range from \$15 for a Tuesday Daily Grounds ticket to \$300 for a Weeklong Clubhouse ticket. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.pga.com/seniorpga/>

Award Winning Missouri Wineries Within a Short drive of St. Louis

Missouri wineries are a great place to spend an afternoon, evening or weekend. There are nearly 100 within the state. Below is a list of 10 popular wineries not too far from St. Louis. For more info check out <http://www.missouriwinecountry.com>

1. Stone Hill Winery - Hermann, Missouri
2. Hermannhof Winery - Hermann, Missouri
3. OakGlenn Winery - Hermann, Missouri
4. Adam Puchta Winery - Hermann, Missouri
5. Mount Pleasant Winery - Augusta, Missouri
6. Montelle Winery - Augusta, Missouri
7. Chaumette Winery - Ste. Genevieve, Missouri
8. Cave Vineyard - Ste. Genevieve, Missouri
9. Little Hills Winery - St. Charles, Missouri
10. Bommarito Estate Almond Tree Winery - New

SPRING GARDENING

Follow the 10 tips outlined below for a welcoming garden that's filled with color and fragrance -- and song.

Survey the Yard

Make note of tree limbs that should be removed or cabled, especially those that overhang structures. Hire an arborist to maintain large trees. Cut down last year's perennial foliage, and toss it into the compost pile. Rake mulch from beds planted with bulbs before foliage appears, and refresh mulch in other planting areas after soil warms. Check fences, steps, and pathways for disrepair caused by freezing and thawing.

Order Tools and Plants

Tune up tools so everything is ready when things start growing. Make note of what is missing, and order tools for the new growing season. Choose new plants for the garden. Order perennials, trees, and shrubs for spring planting.

Get Ready to Mow

Send the mower and leaf blower for servicing, or if you have the right tools, sharpen the mower blades yourself. Refill your mower with oil, install fresh spark plugs, and lubricate moving parts if necessary. Clear the lawn of winter debris, and look for areas that need reseeding before mowing.

Prune Trees and Shrubs

Remove dead, damaged, and diseased branches from woody plants. Thin and trim summer-blooming shrubs such as butterfly bush, hydrangea, and most roses, except for old-fashioned once bloomers. Prune cold-damaged wood after plants resume spring growth. Prune spring-blooming shrubs and trees after flowering.

Take a Soil Test

Check soil pH with a home soil- test kit, taking several samples from different planting areas for an accurate reading. Enrich soil as necessary: Add dolomitic lime to raise the pH or elemental sulfur to lower the pH.

Prepare New Beds

Clear the planting area as soon as soil can be worked, removing sod or weeds and debris. Spread a 4-inch

layer of compost or well-rotted manure and any amendments over soil, and cultivate it to a depth of 10 to 12 inches with a spading fork.

Plant

Plant bare-root trees, shrubs, and perennials such as hostas and daylilies by early spring. Choose a cool, cloudy day if possible. Transplant container-grown plants anytime during the growing season except midsummer; be sure to water them thoroughly. Sow seeds of cool-season flowers like sweet peas, poppies, and calendula, and vegetables such as lettuce, parsley, and spinach.

Fertilize

Apply balanced fertilizer (6-6-6 or 8-8-8), fish emulsion, or other soil amendments recommended by soil-test results around trees and shrubs when new growth appears. Spread high-acid fertilizer and pine-needle mulch around acid-loving shrubs like azaleas and camellias. Begin fertilizing perennials when active growth resumes.

Start a Compost Pile

Start a compost pile, or use a compost bin, if you don't have one already. Begin by collecting plant debris and leaves raked up from the garden. Chop these up first to speed decomposition. Add equal amounts "brown" (carbon-rich) materials like dried leaves and straw and "green" (nitrogen-rich) materials like grass clippings and weeds in even layers with water and a compost bioactivator. Turn regularly. Continue adding to the pile throughout the season for rich, homemade compost next spring.

Clean Bird Feeders and Baths

Disinfect the feeders by scrubbing with weak bleach solution (1/4 cup bleach: 2 gallons warm water). Rinse and dry the feeders thoroughly before refilling them. Scrub birdbaths with bleach solution, then rinse them thoroughly and refill, changing water weekly. Clean birdbaths and feeders regularly throughout the season.



OTHER STUFF

How Stuff Works

How many times have you had something suddenly break and you can't figure out how to get it to work again? Well, believe it or not it happens to a lot of people and most of them get so frustrated they throw it away and just go out and buy another one that they hope will work better.

But wouldn't it be nice if you could just go to a website that would let you easily select the information you need and then give you pictures and explanations in words the common man or woman can understand?

Well there is such a website and it covers everything from home appliances, to lawn and garden, to auto repairs, to computers and whatever else you can think of. And what's even nicer is that it doesn't cost you anything to use it. The website address is www.howstuffworks.com. So give it a try, but don't do it when you have something else to get done, because once you are in it, you may lose track of time!

Excellence in Education

Regardless of your age or education level, if you have a computer with access to the internet, you now have the ability to sharpen your skills and broaden your mind through a new education program called the Khan Academy.

The Academy is a not-for-profit organization with the goal of providing a world class education for anyone who is willing to access their website and partake in any of the 3,900 self-paced instructional videos, which include subjects as varied as math, science, economics, computer science and the humanities. Each subject has courses with varying degrees of difficulty and is taught by an instructor who both lectures and demonstrates whatever process or function he is talking about. The math courses include everything from pre-algebra to advanced calculus. The science classes include biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, and basic computer programming. The humanities courses include history, art history, and civics.

If you or your child wants to advance their knowledge on any of these topics, I would highly recommend that you give it a try. The web-site is khanacademy.org.

Errors In Your Credit Report Can Cost You Money

A recent study by the Federal Trade Commission found that 5% of consumers identified errors in their credit reports and that these errors could lead to them paying higher interest rates for mortgages, car loans, home equity loans and other financial products. Or they could prevent a mortgage holder from refinancing their home.

In addition, they could result in your being denied a

credit or debit card as well as participation in vendor-sponsored installment purchase or lay-away plans. In extreme cases they could also affect your ability to get gainful employment.

Therefore, you would be wise to get a copy of your credit report and check it carefully for errors. There are three major rating agencies: Equifax, Experian and Trans Union and consumers are entitled to one free copy each year from each of these agencies. If you find an error, file a written dispute and continue to follow up until the error is corrected.

What Gender Is 'Computer'?

A Spanish teacher was explaining to her class that in Spanish, unlike English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

'House' for instance, is feminine: 'la casa.'

'Pencil,' however, is masculine: 'el lápiz.'

A student asked, 'What gender is 'computer'?

Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female, and asked them to decide for themselves whether computer' should be a masculine or a feminine noun. Each group was asked to give four reasons for its recommendation.

The men's group decided that 'computer' should definitely be of the feminine gender ('la computadora'), because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic;
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else;
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval; and
4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

(THIS GETS BETTER!)

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be Masculine ('el computador'), because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on;
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem; and
4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

The women won.

RECIPES

Easter Recipe Links

Enjoy these 4 to 5 star rated recipes or search for you own at www.allrecipes.com. Click on the live link below the item to access ingredients and directions.

Easter Breakfast Casserole

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Easter-Breakfast-Casserole/Detail.aspx>

Baked Brunch Omelet

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Baked-Brunch-Omelet/Detail.aspx>

Mom's Breakfast Strata

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Moms-Breakfast-Strata/Detail.aspx>

Deviled Eggs

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Bread-and-Butter-Pickle-Deviled-Eggs/Detail.aspx>

Roasted Parmesan Asparagus

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Roasted-Parmesan-Asparagus/Detail.aspx>

Strawberry Spinach Salad

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Strawberry-Spinach-Salad-I/Detail.aspx>

Cola Easter Ham

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Cola-Easter-Ham/Detail.aspx>

Light and Fluffy Spinach Quiche

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Light-and-Fluffy-Spinach-Quiche/Detail.aspx>

Italian Easter Bread (Anise Flavored)

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Italian-Easter-Bread-Anise-Flavored/Detail.aspx>

Clone of a Cinnabon

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Clone-of-a-Cinnabon/Detail.aspx>

Sweet Dinner Rolls

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Sweet-Dinner-Rolls/Detail.aspx>

Easter Basket Cake

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Easter-Basket-Cake/Detail.aspx>

Strawberry Rhubarb Pie

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Strawberry-Rhubarb-Pie-III/Detail.aspx>

Carrot Cake

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Carrot-Cake-III/Detail.aspx>

Easter Buttermilk Hot Cross Buns

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Easter-Buttermilk-Hot-Cross-Buns/Detail.aspx>

Easter Bread Ring

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Easter-Bread-Ring/Detail.aspx>



Word Match

Write the number in the blank of the word that corresponds with the definition. Answers below.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1 Norse trickster god | <input type="checkbox"/> | a. Agnostic |
| 2 Foucault's gadget | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. Oaf |
| 3 Vagrant | <input type="checkbox"/> | c. Magenta |
| 4 Doctors determination | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. Sieges |
| 5 Literary category | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. Diatribes |
| 6 Fluffy dessert | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Kangaroos |
| 7 Block and tackle parts | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. Futile |
| 8 Rhododendron cousin | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. Ingenue |
| 9 Highly ornate | <input type="checkbox"/> | i. Convoluted |
| 10 Vain | <input type="checkbox"/> | j. Pendulum |
| 11 Doubter | <input type="checkbox"/> | k. Pyrite |
| 12 Prolonged attacks | <input type="checkbox"/> | l. Nymphs |
| 13 LummoX | <input type="checkbox"/> | m. Loki |
| 14 Twisted | <input type="checkbox"/> | n. Genre |
| 15 Joey and parents | <input type="checkbox"/> | o. Mousse |
| 16 Bitter speeches | <input type="checkbox"/> | p. Diagnosis |
| 17 Purplish | <input type="checkbox"/> | q. Azalea |
| 18 Nails and dryads | <input type="checkbox"/> | r. Pulleys |
| 19 Fools gold | <input type="checkbox"/> | s. Hobo |
| 20 Naive girl | <input type="checkbox"/> | t. Rococoelow |

Brain Teasers

One referred to in many ways.

I am often seen around a lot and am referred to in many ways.

If you see me black, it may lead to your misfortune!

If you speak what you shouldn't you may allow me to escape!

But you're nosiness, prying, and snooping could take a life away!

Just one of many, I am happy to say!

Who am I?

Answer: A cat!

A black cat is often considered an omen of misfortune.

If you tell something you shouldn't, you are letting the cat out of the bag.

It's often said that curiosity killed the cat but his satisfaction brought him back.

Everyone knows a cat has nine lives.

Answers: 1m, 2j, 3s, 4p, 5n, 6o, 7r, 8q,

9t, 10g, 11a, 12d, 13b, 14i, 15f, 16e, 17c, 18l, 19k, 20h

Wise Old Sayings

Everyone wants to live a long time, but no one wants to be called old. ...Icelandic

Glass, china, and reputations are easily cracked, but never well mended. ...Ben Franklin

Laugh and the world laughs with you: cry and you cry alone. ...Horace

Every sheet of paper has two sides: never make the mistake of only view one of them. ...A Japanese saying

A word once uttered cannot be easily withdrawn, so think well before you speak. ... Horace

Fine feathers don't fine birds make. ...Aesop

If you buy what you don't need, you are only stealing from yourself. ...Swedish saying

The Old Lady and the Ring

A rich old lady died and left all her money to her kids and grandkids. But she wanted her most precious possession, an eight carat diamond ring, to go to the smartest one of the heirs. So she gave them this riddle to solve:

The ring is in a cylinder that is surrounded by a thousand squares and it's near a bowl of water.

Do you know where it is? Guess gain----

Answer: It was in a roll of toilet paper in the bathroom

