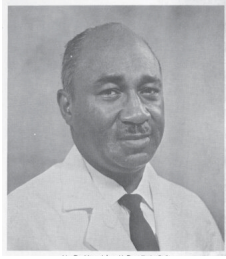




VENABLE PARK SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

INDIVIDUAL/ORGANIZATION



Dr. Howard Phillip Venable, an accomplished ophthalmologist, was chief of the ophthalmology department at Homer G. Phillips Hospital, which had been the only hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, for African Americans. In the late 1950s, Dr. Venable was the first African American to join the faculty of Washington University School of Medicine, as well as the faculty of St. Louis University School of Medicine. In addition to his numerous medical achievements in ophthalmology, he mentored and assisted numerous young medical students of color in fulfilling their dreams and aspirations.

A PAST INJUSTICE

Dr. Howard Phillip Venable was known for many *firsts* in his professional life and civic achievements. Unfortunately, there is one *first* in his personal life that he was unable to achieve as a result of housing discrimination - an overt and prevalent practice during this time. In 1956, Dr. Venable purchased land in a new development located in Creve Coeur, MO with the desire to build a new home for his family. This home was never to be lived in as his property was taken by eminent domain when the Venables refused to sell it first to their white neighbors and later to the City. The Venables fought a 3-year battle in the Missouri courts, all to no avail.

CORRECTING THE WRONG

Dr. Howard Phillip Venable passed away in 1998, yet today, a coalition of concerned citizens working with Dr. Venable's family continue to keep his contributions to medicine and civic achievements alive and cherished, and the wrongdoing to him rectified with honor and tribute. In December 2019, the City of Creve Coeur passed a resolution to rename the park the Dr. H. Phillip Venable Memorial Park. Additionally, a task force was formed to make recommendations for honoring Dr. Venable and his family with a rededication ceremony and promoting further understanding of the park's history. Upon completion, the park will include signage, a memorial and educational experiences.

PARK REDEDICATION & MEMORIAL

The dedication of the Dr. H. Phillip Venable Memorial Park will be held June 18 and 19, 2021 and include an official ceremony, educational opportunities and reception. Rededication attendees will include the Venable family and friends, residents, St. Louis City and County officials, Venable Park Task Force members and event sponsors.

ACT TODAY TO STRENGTHEN TOMORROW

We invite you and your organization to be an important part of history by taking an active citizen role - sponsoring a portion of the dedication weekend, providing in-kind donations or contributing to a memorial in honor of Dr. Venable.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PARK REDEDICATION WEEKEND

Sponsorship of the weekend events will include; a family reception, an educational and learning opportunity and the park dedication ceremony.

PARK MEMORIAL

Sponsorship of the memorial will include all aspects involved with the commission and installation of the memorial that will be placed in the park honoring Dr. Venable.

Project Budget: To Be Determined

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Donation Amount

Please make checks payable to "City of Creve Coeur".

Mail to: Attn: Jason Valvero
 Dielmann Recreation Complex
 11400 Olde Cabin Rd.
 Creve Coeur, MO 63141

For more information or to make a donation, please contact Jason Valvero, Director of Recreation, at (314) 872-2570 or at jvalvero@crevecoeurmo.gov.