

The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association

Doctor In The House

by Rick Thomas



It has often been pointed out that the Vollintine/Evergreen community has its share of residents who have dedicated themselves to serving others, but none in greater number than the men and women in the field of health. Resident medicine-men and women are found employed all up and down the spectrum of medical occupations. They range from some of the city's most prominent physicians to less-applauded, but nevertheless essential, medical secretaries and other supportive personnel. In addition to the scores of residents directly involved with patient care is an impressive contingent of professionals involved in government health agencies, medical education and ancillary services such as medical laboratories.

Doctors and Nurses

Looking at the medical practitioner most familiar to us, the physician, we find over a score of them domiciled within the boundaries of our community. Besides the general practitioner, we can boast of specialists ranging from orthopedics to neurosurgery. Although many of these doctors grew up in the neighborhood, many of them discovered it while well along in their practice. An interesting phenomenon is the large number clustered in Hein Park. No less than twelve physicians were identified as living in this section of the neighborhood. They include Bud Weir (internal medicine), Joseph H. Miller (neurosurgery), Gwin Robbins (thoracic surgery), Emmett Bell (pediatric cardiology), Bob Allen (pediatric thoracic surgery) and Wiley Hutchins (orthopedics). Others found in Hein Park are Drs. R. Leon Bourland,

Memphis, Tennessee

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James W. Bryant, James R. Feild, Walter H. Henley, Robert L. Richardson and James T. Robertson. 1949 Jackson is the home of Dr. John G. McCarter, a general practitioner. Another doctor of note is W.W. Walker, Jr. who, besides serving on the staff at the U.T. Medical Units, has private psychiatric practices in both Memphis and Jackson, Tennessee. And special mention should be made of the neighborhood's woman doctor, Jeanne Horan, a pediatrician who resides on Dickinson.

Backing up the activities of the physicians is usually found a nurse, and the V/E community has no shortage of these either. One of note is Mrs. Louis Priddy who manages the Southwestern University Infirmary and another is Mrs. W.W. Walker who backs up her husband as a psychiatric nurse. Mrs. Walker has several journal articles to her credit and is a former Director of Student Nurses at U.T. Other neighborhood nurses are Mrs. R.L. Phillips of 735 Hawthorne and Jan Richardson, wife of Dr. Richardson mentioned above.

Dentists and Others

In addition to these doctors and nurses, the community can boast of a dozen dentists. Just to mention a few, there is Robert K. Armstrong of 1936 Tutwiler, John T. Phipps, Jr. of 904 N. Avalon and C.N. Williams of 1966 Mignon. One neighborhood dentist even follows the tradition of maintaining his office in his home. He is W. Franklin Pearson of 1852 Tutwiler.

The medical profession has come to depend more and more on auxiliary medical personnel to assist overburdened physicians, and this is another group the community has in abundance. Some of these are Rosemary Hulshof of 856 Belvedere, an anesthetist, Helen Goodman of 1796 Mignon, a medical technologist, and Jim Simpkins of 740 Maury, an inhalation therapist at Tennessee Chest Hospital. Other supportive personnel include Jane Roper, a secretary in the U.T. College of Dentistry, Carla Ryan, a secretary in the U.T. Department of Anatomy, and Ann Sayle, an electroencephalography technician at Tennessee Psychiatric Hospital. Mrs. Sayle's husband is also active in the medical field, operating an EEG laboratory housed at Le Bonheur Hospital.

More Professionals

In addition to these basic categories, the neighborhood can claim several miscellaneous practitioners. These include Tommy Crawford, a pharmacist and owner of the Southwestern Pharmacy and two optometrists, Jack Hoffman and David Chambers. Dr. Chambers is presently doing research at U.T. on the affects of various plastics on living tissue and is now completing a textbook in a specialized area of optometry. The neighborhood can also claim a chiropractor, Dr. Ralph Rafferty, who lives and practices at 784 Maury. The person with

The next VECAA meeting will take place Monday, February 21, 8:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall, McLean Baptist Church. Program will include reports from the various committees. Everyone is cordially invited.



DOCTOR continued

the most unusual occupation, however, is probably Robin Thomas of 1917 Snowden. His job is supervising the delicate operation of implanting electric pacemakers in the hearts of heart disease victims. Also included in this group would be Evergreen News editor, George Bradfute who is an engineer working in clinical electronics for the Baptist Hospital.

Administrators and Researchers

Many more neighborhood residents are involved in medical administration and research. Administrators in medical education include Dr. Fred Hatch of the U.T. Department of Nephrology and Lee Holder, the first dean of the new U.T. College of Community and Allied Health Sciences. Mr. Holder is also a new neighbor, moving to Hein Park in January from North Carolina. Along with them we find Dr. W.H. Jolley of 1701 N. Parkway, the associate dean in the College of Dentistry at U.T. Other health administrators are Lockwood Ensminger of 1792 Autumn, director of the Wesley House neighborhood health clinic and Rev. and Mrs. Barry Boggs of 1701 N. Parkway who run Memphis House, a center for handling problems dealing with drug abuse. Mr. Ensminger is a former administrator of the Memphis Medicenter facility.

Those involved directly in medical research include Dr. Bruce Sells and Dr. Arnold Fridman, both exploring the field of biochemistry at St. Jude Hospital. Dr. Fridman is a new neighbor from Canada. Dr. Sells is chairman of the VECAA Education Committee. Joining them this past year was Dr. Charles Warren, biology professor at Southwestern, who spent his sabbatical doing research at St. Jude.

Health Agencies

Working in health care at a different level are those employed by government organizations and voluntary health agencies. Within this group the neighborhood can claim Irving Metz, Director of Voluntary Health Agencies for the Mid-South Medical Center Council and Mose Pleasure, Jr. and Lecie Elmore, both of the Health and Welfare Planning Council. Mr. Pleasure of 1093 N. Evergreen is director for community relations and Miss Elmore of the University Cabanas is a research assistant. One other agency, the Memphis Regional Medical Program, can call six neighborhood residents its own. These include Dr. Lewis N. Amis (medical economist), Kathryn Taylor (medical social worker), Margaret Martin (secretary), Jackie Jernigan (nurse specialist), Mrs. Albert McLean (chairman of Smoking and Health Committee) and this reporter, who is a medical sociologist. In addition, the director of the National Association for the Blind in Memphis is J.T. Headden of 1594 Galloway.

This is only a partial list of those V/E residents serving in the field of health. There are many others, among them numerous medical and dental students who live in the Cabanas. It is indeed no exaggeration when we claim to have a doctor in the house.

Happenings

February

- 6-----Missionary talk at Open Door Bible Church by Jack Largent, an administrator with the Overseas Missions Fellowship during the morning service.
- 7-----Evergreen Men of the Church to meet for dinner at 6:15. The guest speaker will be Mayor Wyeth Chandler. Reservations are required.

HAPPENINGS continued

- 9-----Black History Program to be held at Northside High School during morning assembly. A guest speaker will give the talk.
- 9-----Baron Hirsch Ladies Auxiliary to meet at 1 p.m. in the main sanctuary. The theme will be "Brotherhood" and Mayor Wyeth Chandler will be the speaker.
- 18-----Dr. Jim Spicer, noted psychotherapist, to speak at Evergreen Presbyterian at 6:30. The author of I'm O.K., Your O.K. will talk about communicating.
- 24-----Springdale Church XYZ Club (senior citizens) to hold monthly meeting at 11 a.m.
- 29-----Baron Hirsch Concert Series to continue with the presentation of soprano Marisa Galvani. Showtime is 8:30 p.m. and tickets are \$4.
- 29-----Sunday discussions at Little Flower Catholic Church on Bishop Dozier's Peace Letter. Groups will meet in the school after the 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. masses.
- 29-----Occupational guidance continues at Northside with students hearing representatives speak on health, civil service, union apprenticeship and sales career opportunities.

Enamel and Other Treats

An invitational Enamel Exhibition will open February 6 at the Memphis Academy of Arts. Nine American artists, established masters and recognized leaders in the art, are showing their works in the exhibition which will be on view at the Academy until February 29.

Also on February 6, an exhibition of works by faculty members of the Memphis Academy of Arts will open at the Brooks Art Gallery. This exhibition is the eleventh biennial show by Academy instructors at Brooks Gallery.

Have a Heart

February is Heart Month and Mrs. Charles Sullivan (276-5115) is helping the Memphis Heart Association in a most unusual way. The garage of her home at 2104 University Circle has been converted into a shop called "Queen's Court" which will be used to sell donated items for the benefit of heart research and education. The shop will be open the month of February from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Saturday.


VECAA News

Several tasks that will require attention in the coming weeks confront the Real Estate Committee as a new year begins.

The brochure that was designed last summer, promoting the neighborhood as a "nice place to live", will be made available for distribution in the very near future.

The need for a Real Estate Referral Service grows. Recently, as many as nine prospective buyers and renters contacted VECAA members for help in locating housing in the neighborhood. The committee has rendered assistance when possible and will continue to do so. However, it is hoped licensed active real estate brokers aspiring to VECAA's goals and purposes can be recruited to handle this service in a professional manner, under our complete endorsement and receive normal compensations.

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VECAA continued

is sought in the effort to combat unethical and/or illegal tactics of brokers working the community trying to create panic and instability. Please report any questionable activities of real estate agents, and members of the real estate committee will investigate and seek to curb disruptive practices. Contact Joe Hough (274-5551).

The committee plans to work more closely with the Communications Committee and the Evergreen News in identifying and welcoming all new comers. However, the committee needs new members! Once again, contact Joe Hough.

Wanted

Unfurnished two- or three-bedroom home in Snowden School area. Young architect and family want in-town location available for May occupancy. Price range \$125-150. Call Gerald Dunn evenings at 452-0212.

Shoppers' Choice

This month, the Evergreen News is introducing a new feature series, "Shopper's Choice", in order to acquaint our readers with the owners and operators of our neighborhood businesses.

Corner Drug Store

by Golden Shumaker

Mr. Jack P. Borg, native Memphian and owner-operator of Borg Pharmacy, has been a member of the Vollintine/Evergreen business community since July 1965, when he bought the business, formerly known as Holcomb Drug Store. He holds a B.S. degree in Pharmacy from the University of Tennessee.

The Borg establishment is located at the corner of Jackson and Evergreen and serves the neighborhood with Rexall drugs and health supplies. Items for sale also include beauty aids, greeting cards, school supplies, ice cream and candy. Of special interest in the pharmacy is the post office station which is open 9 - 5 on weekdays and 9 - 12 on Saturdays.

Mr. Borg is a member of St. Ann's Church in Bartlett. He and his wife, Marion, have four children - Carolyn, 10, George, 9, Betty, 7, and John, 4. Mr. Borg enjoys being an active member of the Boy Scouts of America. He has been a bicycle enthusiast all his life, and likes to hunt and fish.

A community minded individual, Mr. Borg employs neighborhood youths as part-time workers. He has been an Evergreen News supporter since the paper first appeared in January '71, and is very appreciative of the service the paper is rendering to the neighborhood.

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Gossip

Mr. B.E. Johnson is due a special commendation for his many years of dedicated service to the community. For 26 years until his recent retirement he carried the mail in the Oakmont-Hollywood-University-Jackson area and was well known for his friendliness and many helpful services. Mr. Johnson is recovering from a recent illness and hopes to visit his friends here soon. He lives at 4828 Marlin.

Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Good of 875 Maury are proud grandparents of Christopher Caleb Jones, born November 11 to Rev. and Mrs. Roy Jones of Smithfield, Kentucky.

Taking to the air again is Inspector (retired) Cliff Legg of 490 Stonewall who mans WMC's "Vigilaire" helicopter and gives out the morning traffic reports.

Congratulations to Shirley Vrooman and Richard Johnson who were married last month. Mr. Johnson is a history student at Memphis State and Shirley works as a librarian at Immaculate Conception High School. The older two of Shirley's three children from a previous marriage, Ken (Grade 3) and Lisa (Grade 1), attend Little Flower School. After their marriage, the Johnsons bought a home at 930 University Street.

Phone in items of neighborhood interest to Gossip Editors Mrs. Warren Lowry (278-5997) and Mrs. Cornelia Morris (274-1278).

Church Expands

Open Door Bible Church at 1792 North Parkway is planning to enlarge its premises. The Reverend John Lawrence stated that the church has purchased two adjacent lots and is contracting for a third on Faxon, to provide for additional parking space. Despite approval by the Zoning Board, some apparently are not very happy about a prospective parking lot on Faxon. It is hoped that Fletcher Miller & Associates, the architects from Little Rock commissioned to design and supervise the project, will consider the concerns of our neighbors.

Poll

Twenty-three readers answered the questionnaire in the January issue. Twenty-two had something nice to say, one did not. Our "average" respondent is 48 years old, is a member of a family of 3, and has lived in the neighborhood for 13 years.

Here are some of the suggestions that were made: better introduction of newcomers' children; more ads; a map of the area; schedules for the Senior Citizens Club, charts and statistics; youth interest stories; literary and artistic contributions. Three readers volunteered to help distribute the Evergreen News.

We thank you for the very positive responses. We'll do our best to oblige.

Contributed by J.P.B., a reader:

Campfire

I give you life once more
Upon this darkened forest floor.

Glow, flame, glow!
I strike the rocks to make you so.

Disperse the evening's dews and damp,
Roll back the night from round my camp.

Leap, flame, leap!
Be gone black forms before I sleep!

Like our Indian men are prancing
Like the fire-shapes they are dancing.

Warm, flame, warm.
Foment the fear, prevent my harm.

Your brother Sun, who makes the day,
Comes now to the woods wherein I lay.

Sing, flame, sing!
Was it I who made this thing?

Welcome

In August CHARLES and JO NOYES moved from Little Rock to the duplex at 1838 Brown. Mr. Noyes is employed by Film Transit. They have one daughter, Charli.

PERRY and BOBBIE BLANKLEY recently moved to 872 N. Barksdale. Mr. Blankley was transferred here from Knoxville by Levi Strauss and Co. and will be working in the Automation Department. Their son Bob is a senior at Tech High.

Meet Your Legislators

The 1972 session of the Tennessee General Assembly opens this month in Nashville. Many vital issues will be decided by this body. The V/E neighborhood is represented by Russell X. Thompson in the House and by Edgar H. Gillock (precincts 40-2, 41-2, 52-1) and William R. Bruce (precincts 36-1, 36-2, 36-3) in the Senate.

Representative Thompson is an attorney who lives in the V/E neighborhood in the Woodmont Towers. His office is Suite 1003, 1st American Bank Building (525-1732). Senator Gillock's office is Suite 1904, 100 North Main (525-6511) and Senator Bruce's office is suite 1921, 100 North Main (526-5961).

Give these elected representatives the benefit of your opinion on the issues by writing them at their addresses here or in care of the State Capitol Building, Nashville, Tennessee

Meet The Neighbors

Soul and Service

by John Bruhwiler.



Modeane Thompson believes she has lived a "pretty ordinary" life. Born and raised in North Memphis, she married an insurance executive and gave birth to five children; for six years, the family lived in Montgomery, Alabama; in 1964, they returned to Memphis and bought their present home at 1936 Edward. The oldest child, Andrea, is a freshman at Fontbonne College in St. Louis; Anthony, Allison and Alicia go to Catholic High; and Arnold, the youngest, attends Little Flower School. Husband Harry A., also a native North Memphian, is now a supervisor with Universal Life Insurance Co. and a member of the Little Flower school board.

Mrs. Thompson's life, of course, has been far from ordinary. In addition to raising a handsome family, she took a great interest in what was happening outside the confines of her home, and now, with her children in the teens, is taking an active hand in community affairs. She is a member of the board of Family Service. She also works for this agency as a part-time field worker, at present assisting with adjustment problems in the Kansas Street urban renewal project. She is a member of the Panel of American Women, a national interracial and interreligious organization that holds panel discussions -- by invitation -- on prejudice in our society.

In the municipal elections last fall, Mrs. Thompson actively supported Walter Bailey and George Brown, as she supports all community causes she believes in. She is one of the few blacks active in the Vollintine/Evergreen Community Action Association, where she serves on the Steering Committee. When VECAA takes an apparently controversial stand, it is Modeane Thompson many black residents call on for an explanation.

Her claim to fame, however, Modeane insists, is not her work in the community but in the kitchen. Mr. Thompson, who travels extensively, is reluctant to call his wife a gourmet cook. He concedes, though, that her "soul food" and dishes such as lobster thermidor, canard a l'orange and especially her black beans in wine sauce top anything he has eaten anywhere.

On the other hand, I suspect, more than the praise of her cooking, Modeane treasures a citation for "active community interest", given to her recently by the University Lane Improvement Club. The members of this club live on Modeane's street, and they ought to know.

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Address correspondence to George Bradfute, 513 Stonewall, Memphis, Tenn. 38112.

Classified Ads — 50¢ — call 272-2668.

