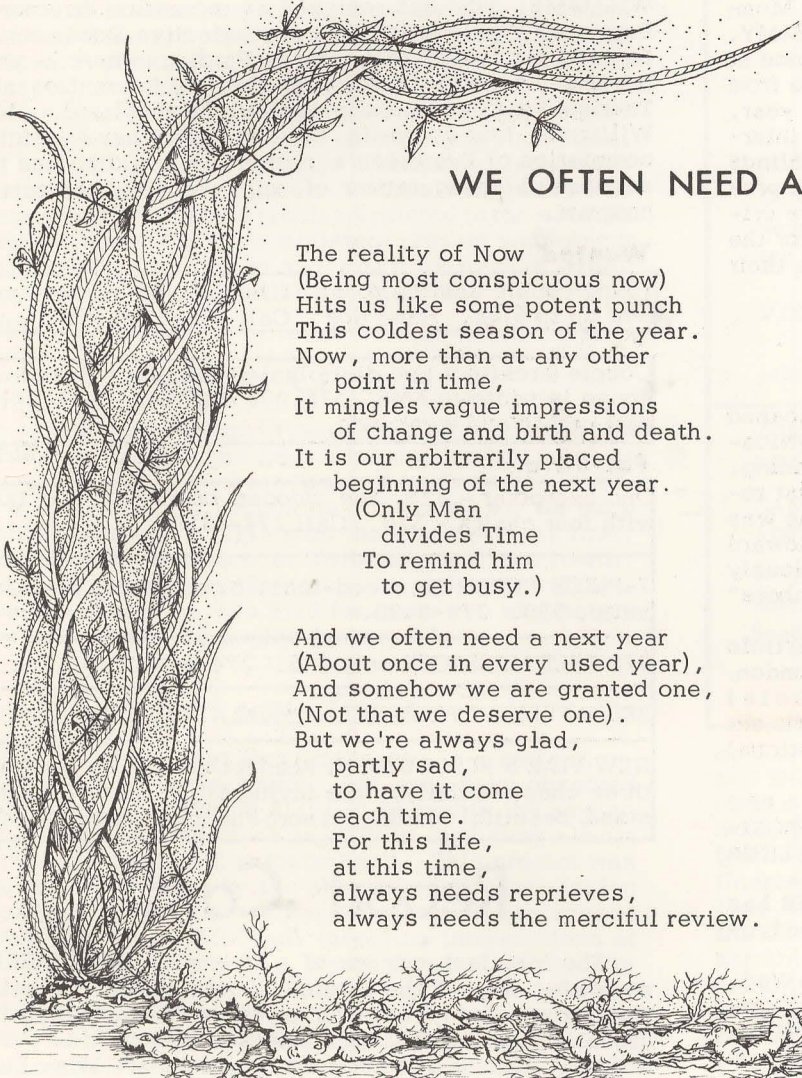


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The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association
Memphis, Tennessee 10 January, 1973 Volume III, No. 1 Circulation: 5750



WE OFTEN NEED A NEXT YEAR

by Brad McMillan

The reality of Now
(Being most conspicuous now)
Hits us like some potent punch
This coldest season of the year.
Now, more than at any other
point in time,
It mingles vague impressions
of change and birth and death.
It is our arbitrarily placed
beginning of the next year.
(Only Man
divides Time
To remind him
to get busy.)

And we often need a next year
(About once in every used year),
And somehow we are granted one,
(Not that we deserve one).
But we're always glad,
partly sad,
to have it come
each time.
For this life,
at this time,
always needs reprieves,
always needs the merciful review.

At this time we ponder
The past so seriously;
We saw so much,
We are proud.
We missed so much,
We regret.
But it makes no matter
How well it flowed before;
Being rightly human,
We hunger for it better.

It's this time, too,
That we make our feeble promises;
We gamble on our future,
But our projections on our lives
Are vain attempts to slyly glimpse
The shadow of some future rain,
The brightness of some future bliss.

We soon shall see that we are human
Braving beginnings year to year,
And that we try each time to build life better
And base it all on faith and will.

WELCOME

The first of the new year seems the best possible time to welcome these new neighbors:

JAMES WILSON of 962 University comes to the community from Knoxville where he recently was graduated from the U-T School of Architecture. He is employed in the firm of Walk Jones and Francis Mah. Mr. Wilson is single and his hobby is furniture design.

EDWARD B. and ARUNDEL SCRIMGER of 966 University are moving soon to their new home at 934 N. Auburndale. Dr. Scrimger is an assistant professor of mathematics at Southwestern and a racquetball fan, while Mrs. Scrimger enjoys cooking and reading. Both are natives of Memphis. Their children are ANALISA, three, and TIMMIE, five.

RUSS and BENTLEY MARANE came to 1941 Mignon from Chattanooga where Russ was director of urban renewal

for the Chattanooga Housing Authority. Since September he has been a city planner with Coloredo Associates. In addition to looking after their son ANDY, who is five, Mrs. Marane has been working with IMPACT.

Welcome to TOM and MARTY TAYLOR of 759 N. McNeil, Memphis natives who came back home after living in Jacksonville, Florida. They have a daughter, ALLISON, who is two. Mr. Taylor is a programmer at the Biometric Computer Center at U-T Medical Units and

Come help plan VECOA's activities for 1973 at the January meeting to be held Monday the 15th at 8 p.m. at McLean Baptist Church.



Mrs. Taylor is a part-time social worker.

HAROLD and BETTY BUTLER moved recently to 984 N. Barksdale. They have two daughters, ANNE, a senior at the University of South Carolina, and KIM, seven, and a son, STACEY, eleven. Mr. Butler is manager of the Travel Center Lot of Dick Moore, Inc., and Mrs. Butler operates Surrat-Butler Antiques on Summer. Mr. Butler is a sports enthusiast and enjoys coaching youth football and basketball.

MIKE and JANET KIRBY own more than their new home at 683 N. Idlewild. Janet just had a beautiful baby girl named CHRISTINA. The Kirbys, who have lived in Memphis 4 years now, also have a 7-year-old son TOMMY. Mike is an assistant professor of political science at Southwestern. He will receive his doctoral degree from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee this year. His specialty is policy studies, and he hopes to interview neighborhood residents soon concerning feelings about the quality of our local government. Janet previously taught at I.C. High School. The Kirbys are originally from Wisconsin. They are very thankful for the warm weather down South. Maybe that explains their cheery dispositions.

Gossip

MARY FAITH GRYMES of 910 N. Belvedere escaped injury during the recent earthquake in Managua, Nicaragua, when her hotel was the only one left standing. Miss Grymes is a Pan-Am stewardess and had just returned from a party at the American Embassy. She was in a group of survivors which included billionaire Howard Hughes. The former Southwestern student was previously featured in the Evergreen News "Meet the Neighbors" column.

JOHN FERGUS RYAN of 1937 Lyndale has an article in the December issue of Mayfair, published in London, entitled "The Bazemore Gala". Mr. Ryan is a social work supervisor for the State of Tennessee Department of Public Welfare and publishes frequently in national periodicals.

Monsignor JOSEPH LEPPERT was presented a new Ford Galaxie by his parishioners and friends early Christmas morning following the midnight services at Little Flower Catholic Church.

Former Evergreen News editor JOHN BRUHWILER has returned from a Christmas visit with his father and brothers and sisters in Switzerland.

The mini-lecture series at the Main Library on Wednesday, January 31, at noon will feature the current Evergreen News editor, RICK THOMAS. His subject will be "Story of a Successfully-Integrated Neighborhood".

A cheery Merry Christmas and Happy New Year came to the neighborhood from the BRUCE SELLS family. While the children enjoyed fourteen inches of snow at their home in Newfoundland, Bruce, former chairman of the

VECAA education committee, found time to share some observations about public schools and to offer a prediction of improved schools for the V/E area.

A member of the VECAA community has become the first woman to serve as president of the Memphis branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Ms. VELMA LOIS JONES, who earned a master's degree from Columbia University, has been a teacher for 15 years. Velma lives at 1969 Edwards, and teaches the 8th grade at Cypress Junior High School.

Children in the neighborhood will miss GEORGE WILLIAMS, who has resigned as recreation director at Evergreen Presbyterian Church, effective December 15. He and his family will move to Sardis, where he will become Regional Director of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism for 13 counties in northern Mississippi. Mr. Williams' four years in the community have seen the completion of Evergreen's recreation building and the successful inauguration of an extensive recreation program.

Wanted

Young couple desires to rent house with yard. Prefer rent up to \$125. Have dog. Call 274-4968.

Couple (architect and dietician) want to buy a 3-bedroom house in midtown area. \$25,000 maximum. 683-8910 - call nights and weekends.

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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Read it through this year, only three chapters daily. The Living Bible, easy to understand, beautiful binding, at Borg Pharmacy, 1703 Jackson.

Report Card

The loss last summer of chairman BRUCE SELLS somewhat slowed the progress of the VECAA Education Committee. Today, however, a reorganized and restaffed group is guarding VECAA's interests in regard to public schools. Included among its members are Mrs. ELSIE BAILEY, GENEVIEVE FRIDLAND, FRANCES JOHNSON, VIRTICE JONES, CHARLES McARTHUR, DR. JULIUS MELTON, DAVID VINCENT and ED WINGFIELD. Most of the group are employed as teachers or related education profes-

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sionals.

Since reorganizing the committee has had three meetings at which the most pressing issue has been the impending pairing of Volland Elementary School and Snowden Elementary. It was decided that the best way in which VECAA residents could help during this transition period was to get involved with some of the dirty work of moving. This idea led to a meeting with the two principals and PTA presidents of the involved schools. The meeting resulted in a plan whereby the respective PTA's would assign a parent or parents to each teacher to help with packing and unpacking and in any other way necessary. It is also proposed that a parent be present in each class on the first day as teachers' assistants to help with the redistribution of textbooks, supplies, etc., and, in general, serve as a steadying influence.

In addition the committee met with six ministers from the community to discuss problems related to the schools and enlist their help. The ministers present were eager to help with the transition and agreed to work within their respective congregations to facilitate the move in any way possible.

Pairing Change

A last-minute change in the pairing of Volland and Snowden schools has been approved by Judge Robert McRae. The change moves grade 4 to Snowden, reducing the crowding at Volland and its need for more portable classrooms. This puts the kindergarten, first, second, and third grades at Volland and the fourth, fifth and sixth grades at Snowden. As announced earlier, school hours will be 9 to 3:30 for these two elementary schools when pairing begins January 24.

Jackson Turns

Few are aware that Jackson Avenue is a state highway, number 14 to be exact. But many have observed that the state is spending \$126,000 to modify the median strip at many intersections on Jackson, including almost all those in the V/E neighborhood. This project was approved, it is said, by the Memphis Park Commission and as this is being written the work has progressed westward as far as McLean, involving intersections at Trezevant, East, Cypress, West, Charles, University Circle (two intersections), University, Sheridan, Barksdale, and Kensington.

The main changes, the cutting of left-turn lanes out of the median, have drawn the attention of MARVIN RATNER and MARGARET DICHTEL among others. They are concerned that the exchange of concrete for grass and trees might not be entirely in the best interests of the community. Their intervention back at the first of De-

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ember saved a tree in the median between University and Sheridan. A meeting between Ms. Dichtel, chairman of the VECAA steering committee, and Richard Id-dins, Jr., of the Tennessee Highway Department resulted in some changes being made to the design of the intersections west of University. The changes, by Harland Bartholomew and Associates, presumably reduced the disturbances to the median. New plans from Harland Bartholomew reached Ms. Dichtel in time for the VECAA meeting December 18. On December 23, a committee toured the intersections, studied the plans and suggested further changes in design for those intersections which were undisturbed at that time.

The committee, JOE HOUGH, RICHARD JOHNSON and GEORGE BRADFUTE, proposed that left-turn lanes be accommodated in most of the intersections by lane markings alone without further cuts into the median, since

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many intersections already have an interruption of 130 - 150 feet in the median. Where median cuts are necessary, limiting the cut to 30 to 50 feet was proposed. It was further proposed that no changes be made at Evergreen now but that a plan be developed for improving the traffic flow and safety at that intersection.

The proposals still must be accepted by the state, incorporated in their design, and approved by the Federal Highway Administration. If this is done before the contractor tears up any more of the median, a valuable community asset may be protected from further intrusions.

Reek Creek

The causes and solutions of neighborhood sewage and odor problems were the subject of a neighborhood meeting December 5 at Vollentine School. The meeting was arranged by the Shelby County Democratic Club (Precinct 40-2), VECAA, and others and was chaired by BROTHER GREENE of the SCDC. Principal speakers were City Engineer Frank Palumbo and Dr. John Buckman of Buckman Laboratories.

Mr. Palumbo explained that the city's sanitary sewers and storm sewers were separate systems. Only when excess rain water gets into the sanitary sewers do they overflow into the storm sewer system, of which Cypress Creek is a part. This overflow is provided to prevent backup in home sanitary sewers. In the neighborhood in question, the relief pipe is a 12-inch line which runs into Cypress Creek in the backyard of 2130 Hubert Circle near Springdale. Mr. Palumbo found that the overflow occurred because an 18-inch main sewer line was slightly inadequate and said he was proposing the construction of a new line which would run due north to the Wolf River interceptor. His detailed recommendation would be forthcoming only after completion of a field survey to take two to four weeks, but his estimate at that time of the cost of a new line was \$200,000.

The members of the SCDC who were present voted to recommend this new construction at the City Council meeting December 19.

Dr. Buckman described his company's long residence in the community (over 20 years) and its efforts to reduce the quantity and objectionable qualities of its effluents. He enumerated nearly \$200,000 worth of improvements work done in the last ten years — a sanitary sewer for chemicals, cooling towers to reuse process water, and a washing system. He said that one of their waste products often plugs the sewer and overflows into the creek. This material contains large quantities of hydrogen sulfide and causes the awful smell that sometimes permeates the neighborhood.

The company has applied to the Health Department for permission to modify their sewer system and to install a basin to keep their sewer overflows out of Cypress

Creek. The Health Department had earlier given the company until July 31, 1973, to correct the problem, and Dr. Buckman gave his personal guarantee that this date will be met.

Nov. 7 Tally

The voting results for the Vollentine/Evergreen community in the Nov. 7 presidential election are now available and there are few surprises. The neighborhood went with the conservative candidate — and usually the winner — in most races and voting was again split along racial lines.

Extending a trend begun in 1964 and continuing through 1968, VECAA voters generally threw their support to the Republican Party. The three predominantly white precincts, 36-1, 36-2 and 36-3, allotted Nixon nearly 80% of their votes. This compares with about 30% support for the same candidate in 1958 and over 50% support for Goldwater in 1964. At the same time, the three racially-mixed precincts in the northern portion of the community — 40-2, 41-2 and 52-1 — gave majority support to McGovern, with his share ranging from 53% to 80%. In the predominantly white precincts, McGovern's best showing was 23% in 36-2. Schmidt, the American Party candidate received only 3% of the vote in his best precinct (36-3). It is apparent that V/E voters do not vote along party lines since most voted in the Democratic primary in August and allotted Wallace a third of their votes in 1968.

The results in the senatorial and congressional races were little different with the predominantly white precincts giving Baker and Kuykendall support ranging from 70 - 85%. Blanton's bid for senator in District 8 received the most support (28%) in the core area in 36-3 while 40-2 and 52-1 gave him a slight majority. Patterson, as was expected, made a strong showing in the District 8 congressional race in the mixed areas with majorities ranging from 56 - 83%.

In the contest for Public Service Commissioner, the white areas gave Garland a slight edge over Clement while the latter was a big favorite in the mixed areas. In other state races, Peeples was given a slight edge over White for the District 30 senatorial seat, Hawkes received 76% of the vote from the only eligible precinct (52-1) for the District 97 house seat, and Haire edged out Daniels by a slight margin. Daniels did, however, capture 72% of the vote in 40-2.

For the position of city court judge, the voting was split between five candidates with McCartie slightly favored by four precincts and Blancett by two.

Across the county 68% of the eligible voters showed up at the polls. In the V/E community the turnout was somewhat better for the white precincts and somewhat worse for the mixed.

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