

The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association

Inventing The Future

by George Bradfute

At 9:30 a.m., the soft leather chairs of the Meeman Conference Center were occupied by only a handful of people. But by ten o'clock a full complement of thirty V/E residents was on hand at Southwestern to invent the future of our neighborhood. Leader JOHN OSMAN of the Brookings Institute began directing our attention to the year 1990 by asking each one of us to select a goal for the neighborhood that we would like to see brought about by 1990.

The next two hours flew by as each person worked on his goal, writing it out first by himself, then working in groups of three to add some additional refinements and to predict its impact on the neighborhood, the residents, the city, and other neighborhoods.

By noon we were scribbling our goal statements on giant sheets of newsprint and taping them to the walls for all to see and comment on. While some retired to their homes for lunch and others struggled to add a finishing touch, co-leader MAY MAURY HARDING of Southwestern met with John Osman to study all of the goals. By collecting people with similar goals, they formed twelve groups which were to work together during the afternoon sessions.

Warned to avoid indefinite goals like patriotism and motherhood, most of the goal statements still dealt with general ideas such as the effectiveness of neighborhood organizations and institutions. The most popular goals were (1) the improvement of educational opportunities, and (2) a community harmonious and cohesive regardless of its diversity. Other goals were strengthening VECAA and the institutions of home, school, and church; a community center; elimination of crime; innovations in land use; an Urban Resources Center at Southwestern; and improved neighborhood communication.

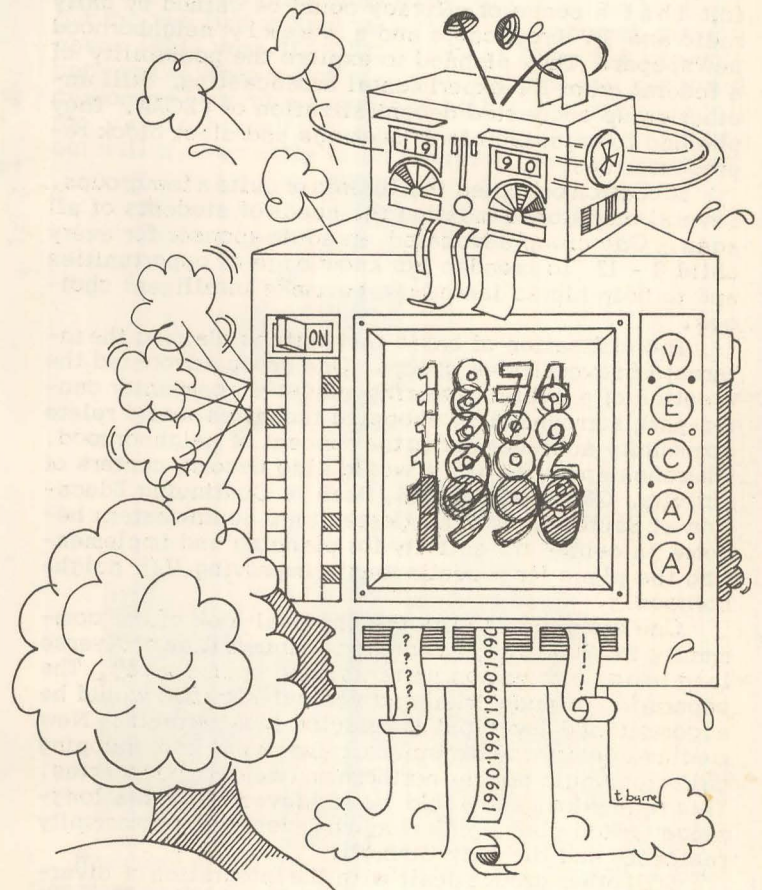
The afternoon session got underway with the mind-bending concept of the "history of the future". John Osman happily announced that it was now 1990 and all our goals had been achieved. Now all we had to do was exercise our "future memories" a bit and write down some events that had happened in the past 16 years that had made our goals come true. The result was a future history which led from 1989 back to 1974.

The key event from the future history was the event remembered for the year 1974. Its execution sets the entire future history into motion. The last task for the day was to pick a couple of tactics which could be used here and now to get the 1974 event to happen. We were asked, too, to tell what our personal involvement would be in these tactics.

That's where it all ended. Writer's cramp. Mind stretched. Body tired. Even John Osman, instructing the conference every step, was ready to call it a day. At 5 o'clock Marnee Harding was gathering up the pa-

pers (so summaries could be typed for posterity).

But the end, apparently, is but the beginning. A bunch of us see that what we do now can be useful in making 1990 what it ought to be. So you can expect to see a lot of the tactics in action this year. Look for things to happen in the schools, in VECAA, in relations with Southwestern. The future, invented on April 20, is now under construction.



Future Memories

by Hershel Lipow

Bike and pedestrian pathways.....a community center with cultural and recreational facilities.....crime-free streets.....that's the way 1990 will be if the "future memories" of the I-F participants prove accurate. Although goals were varied, they all reflected a personal commitment to make their futures come true.

Several groups emphasized the tactic of electing

You are invited to the May meeting of VECAA on Monday the 20th at 8 00 p.m. at McLean Baptist Church. Sergeant Dufour of the Sheriff's Department will talk about Neighborhood Watch, a program to alert residents to cut down on burglaries.



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Training hour 6:00
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you want The Bible Church"

Future Memories CON .

city officials who were sympathetic to their strategies. They planned to personally solicit voters. Another group felt that a sense of efficacy could be gained by daily radio and TV broadcasts and a weekly neighborhood newspaper. They planned to explore the possibility of a federal grant for experimental broadcasting. Still another group suggested decentralization of VECAA. They planned to organize block meetings and elect block representatives.

Education occupied the futures of quite a few groups. Several envisioned meeting the needs of students of all ages. One group advocated an adult sponsor for every child 8 - 12 "to broaden his knowledge of opportunities and to help him to learn how to make intelligent choices."

The utilization of basic institutions claimed the interest of several other groups. One group advocated the creation of a public gathering place; a community center-park surrounded by shopping facilities would relate community achievement to the concept of neighborhood. Churches and schools would also become centers of activity. GRANVILLE DAVIS, Dean of Continuing Education at Southwestern, suggested that Southwestern become "a center of activity for planning and implementing the plans for a continuously improving V/E neighborhood."

One group dealt with the physical look of our community in 1990. They suggested an integration of diverse land uses, circulation patterns, and open spaces. The separation of pedestrian and vehicular traffic would be accomplished by closing selected local streets. New medium density condominiums, rental units and shopping galleries would dot the northern and western boundaries. This redevelopment would be achieved through a long-range action plan which would be adopted by community residents and the City Council.

Still other groups dealt with the integration of diversity and common goals. The sense of belonging was thought to be the key to such issues as crime and block-busting. One group suggested that all residents get

birthday cards from 7 of their closest neighbors. New-comers would be met by a welcoming committee.

When John Osman asked, "What will you personally do to invent the future of the Vollintine/Evergreen community?" he opened the door to the future. That door remains open.

**DIRECTORY OF
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**

VECAA - Irvin Sachritz at 276-6216 or 526-6431.
The Evergreen News - Rick Thomas at 278-2210 or 725-0680.
Real Estate - Joe Hough at 274-5551 or 396-3130.
Social Services - Kathryn Baker, MSW, at 276-2970 or 725-0680.
Schools - David Vincent at 275-0248.
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Around The Neighborhood

TERRY CONWAY of 855 University is a finalist in the Miss Tennessee Teen-ager Pageant to be held in Nashville this month. Terry is a junior at Catholic High and is a member of the Liturgy Committee and Choir at Little Flower Church. She was chosen Volunteer of the Year in 1972 for her work at the Public Library. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. THOMAS J. CONWAY.

This year's crop of high school graduates includes several Evergreen News "roadrunners". DEBBIE GREEN of 1005 Stonewall and LISA ST. CYR of 805 N. Evergreen will graduate May 28 from Northside and GEORGE BRADFUTE of 513 Stonewall will graduate May 23 from Central.

VECAA steering committee chairman IRV SACHRITZ of 899 Sheridan spoke April 14 to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on the subject, "A slice of bread and a slice of baloney doesn't make a baloney sandwich." Those who heard the talk reported it to be an informative discourse on the V/E neighborhood and VECAA activities.

National Neighbors, an association of integrated neighborhood organizations, holds its annual meeting in Atlanta June 6 - 9. Any resident who can attend should contact IRV SACHRITZ at 276-6216.

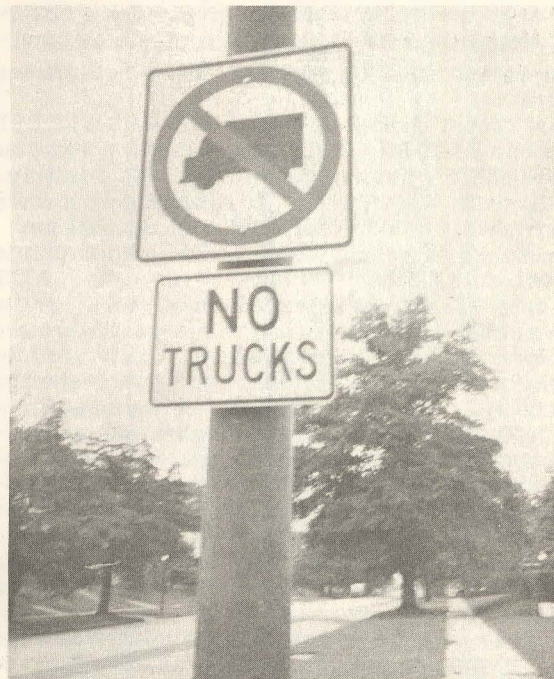
Only 15 high school newspapers in the nation got First Place standing in the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The Central Warrior was one of this select group, and our congratulations go to all the staff, especially RUTH AMY of 816 Charles Place and PAT NEAL of 1977 Snowden.

Evergreen Presbyterian Church will again host the Summer Night Studies each Wednesday in June. Residents of the V/E community are invited to participate. Leaders will be Miss PAM RUSSELL, Mrs. MARY FREEMAN, Rev. DAVID FREEMAN, Rev. BILL MELTON, Mr. LEWIS DONELSON, III, and Dr. FRED NEAL.

The social event of the month is undoubtedly the 5th Annual Old-Fashioned Carnival on Sunday May 19 at Little Flower School. Fun and games will be the order of the day, from 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Co-chairmen of the event are JANIE CONWAY and TOM GANTERT and they promise plenty of food and entertainment for all. Midwayrides and games are 25¢ each, dinner (spaghetti and chicken, served 11:30 to 6:30) is \$1.50 for adults and 75¢ for children. Raffle tickets benefiting the

school will be sold, with attendance prizes given away every 30 minutes and a colossal sweepstakes with prizes including a color TV, carpeting, bicycle, etc.. Men, women, and children with old-fashioned costumes are invited to enter the Old-fashioned Dress Review Contest at 4 p.m. This year's carnival will be the first for Little Flower's new pastor, Father JOHN SCOLA.

Every summer there are young people wanting to do yard work and yard owners with yard work to be done, but the two find it hard to learn about each other's needs. This year, JEAN BRADFUTE at 272-2668 has volunteered to keep a list of yard workers and potential customers, for the benefit of both. She can't cut all the yards herself, or guarantee services or payment, but will try earnestly to get interested parties together.



Residents of University St. between Jackson and VOLLIN were successful in petitioning the City Council to prohibit heavy truck traffic on University at this point. A "No Trucks" sign is being erected to make the ruling public.

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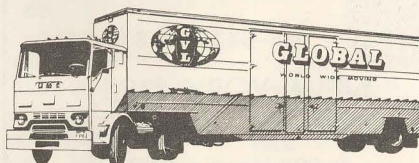
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Bar Exam

by Rick Thomas

In the V/E community taverns are conspicuous for their absence, yet within the community's boundaries three—will, for the moment, two—bars daily vend their wares. The lack of attention they draw might suggest a lack of business but each week hundreds of thirsty tipplers are cared for. All three taverns are located at the Jackson-Watkins intersection with two on the south side of Jackson and one across the street. The proximity of the bars does not indicate a highly competitive situation as all three cater to different groups.

"Plumbers Lounge," the smallest of the three is temporarily closed and this reflects one of its dominant characteristics—a frequent change of owners and names. Formerly "Wind, Wave and Tide," "The Ritz," and "The Shed," Plumbers Lounge seats 31 people and might be classified as a working-class tavern. The clientele are mostly blue-collar whites (although a few blacks frequent it) and the hard hats decorating the walls attest to this orientation. The customers are fairly old and many come from the North Memphis area. Some observers characterize them as "loud." The music is country and western and shuffleboard and bumper pool games are provided.

The most recent managers were ROSEANNE LITTLE and her sister JUDY MOODY. Mrs. Little is familiar with the community, having grown up on N. Parkway. The owner lives in Whitehaven. If it's not open when you get there, wait a couple of weeks and it will be.

The tavern most resembling a neighborhood pub is "Alex's," two doors east of "Plumbers Lounge." ALEX KASAFLES, who has run the bar for twenty years, grew up in the neighborhood and many of his customers are present or former community residents. Alex's attracts a wide variety of people reflecting a good cross-section of the community. Regular patrons, including many Southwestern professors and students, feel it has an English pub atmosphere that encourages a real esprit-de-corps among the customers. The crowd is mostly regulars with few strangers showing up. A majority of the customers are white professional people and few females frequent the tavern. The juke-box is uniquely stocked with hits of the 1940's and 1950's and the furnishings are of that vintage.

Alex, whose favorite position is standing with his arms folded, is not happy unless there is something to complain about. He is known for his memory and has nicknames for all of the regulars. Alex now lives in Highland Heights and is a main attraction of the tavern.

Across the street is "Paul's Jay-Jay Lounge" operated by Paul Wallace since March, 1973. Mr. Wallace, who lives in the Hollywood area, considers his place a

discotheque and unlike the others features live entertainment. Newly redecorated with paneling and carpets Paul's provides dance bands and an occasional big name performer. May 9-11, for example, Pig-Meat Markum will present his show.

The clientele of Paul's is racially mixed with a large proportion in the 25-35 age group. It is strictly not a neighborhood bar and customers come from all over town. Sandwiches and steaks are served to a crowd that sometimes numbers 200.

Paul's has live entertainment Thursday through Monday. It stays open to 3:30 on weekdays and all night on weekends.

During the next few weeks Evergreen News staff members will be spot-checking around the neighborhood to determine how smoothly circulation of the paper is going. We hope the readers will contribute information concerning the regularity and timeliness of distribution.


Happenings


MAY

- Thursdays-----Square Dancing at Lewis Center for Senior Citizens. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$1 per person per night.
- 6-----Kindergarten pre-registration at Vollentine Elementary School.
- 9-----Child Development (Pre-School) students graduate from Northside High School.
- 9-----Public Speaking class at Lewis Center. George Fleischer will conduct a mini-course in how to build confidence and improve speaking skills. Thursdays, beginning 9:30 a.m. \$6 fee.
- 14-----Charm and personal development class at Lewis Center taught by former model and fashion expert. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. \$6 for six classes.
- 17-----Vollentine School field trip. The entire school will tour Cook Convention Center.
- 20-----Patrick Horsburgh, professor of architecture at Notre Dame, will give a free lecture on environment and architecture. The talk will be presented at Southwestern's Frazier-Jelke Science Center, Room B, at 7:30 p.m.
- 21-----Vollentine School field trip. The entire school will visit Overton Park Zoo.

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