

# The EVERGREEN NEWS

*A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association*



## Primary Concerns

On Thursday, August 5, about 4,000 V/E residents will be going to the polls to express their preferences in the primary and general elections. At stake are party nominations for the positions of U.S. Senator; State Public Service Commissioner (Western Division); U.S. Representative (District 8); State Senator (Districts 28 and 30); State Representative (Districts 89 and 98). Also on the ballot are candidates for the Democratic County Executive Committee.

In the general election positions to be filled include a variety of judgeships, Shelby County Sheriff, Memphis/Shelby County Assessor of Property, General Sessions Court Clerk and Constable. There will also be a special city election and a referendum item. Voters must choose to vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary.

This article deals primarily with candidates for the State legislature. These House and Senate districts are on more of a neighborhood scale and occupants of these seats are potentially more responsive to local input.

Vollintine Avenue splits the V/E community at the state legislative level. On the south Ward 36 (including 36-1, 36-2 and 36-3) fall into Senate District 30 and House District 89. North of Vollintine precincts 40-2 and 41-2 (plus small portions of others) are included in Senate District 28 and House District 98. The voters in the northern section are racially mixed while those south are predominantly white.

In the Senate District 28 Democratic primary, incumbent "ED" GILLOCK faces FRANK HOLLAND. Gillock, an at-

torney, has spent eight years in the Senate. Holland is self-employed and has training in business administration from U.T. He has no previous experience in government. The Republican primary features VALERIA B. ROBERTSON and AL SIMPSON. Mrs. Robertson (628 N. Trezevant) is a housewife with some training in health and is active in civic clubs. Mrs. Robertson has no previous experience in government although she has been an unsuccessful candidate for the school board. Her opponent, Mr. Simpson, is a retired Navy man who now operates a TV sales and service business.

In the Democratic primary for House District 30, incumbent "JIM" WHITE faces "GIL" MARTINEZ and CAREY WALKER, Jr. Martinez (884 N. Willett), the former director of the Chickasaw Basin Authority, is now a real estate consultant. Walker operates a security and construction business. He has served as state commander of the American Legion and is active in church affairs. Walker has been an unsuccessful candidate for other offices. White, an attorney, is a former government affairs reporter. During his first term he pushed bills on ethics, open meetings, and consumer protection. MICHAEL F. TQOLEY, a self-employed businessman, is running unopposed in the Republican primary.

For State Representative for District 89, "TOM" ROBINSON is unopposed as the Republican candidate and PAM GAIA is unopposed as the Democratic candidate. Ms. Gaia, the incumbent, has worked closely with V/E residents and introduced a bill to improve VECAA's legal status.

In District 98 incumbent HARPER BREWER, Jr., must defend his seat in the Democratic primary against NORMAL T. HENDERSON, JERRY WYATT and JIMMY BURKES. Henderson and Wyatt opposed Brewer two years ago. Brewer (990 N. Idlewild), an administrative aide at Cypress Junior High, has worked for a state income tax, consumer protection and improved lien laws. Henderson (1034 Michelle Circle) is a job developer and counselor for the City's probation program. Wyatt, who is unemployed, formerly worked with the Urban League and served on the state Democratic Executive Committee. Burkes is making his first political bid.

There are no Republican candidates for the District 98 position.

### Meetings

The Department of Transportation is holding a public hearing on the Overton Park expressway on August 18 at the City Council Chambers. You are urged to attend and express your opinion.

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Start planning now for the VECAA picnic to be held in September. This community-wide event will include food, fun and games. Anyone interested in participating on any of the committees involved in the planning can call HAROLD CHANDLER at 274-3679. Watch the News for additional details.

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## House of the Month

Each month the News is honoring a home that has undergone substantial renovation, thereby helping to preserve the quality of the neighborhood. The home for August is one of the oldest in the area. Built in 1924, the old Cianciola house at the corner of Auburn-dale and Jackson has recently undergone restoration at the hands of Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Elder. Two years ago Mrs. Elder toured the house and liked it; in 1975 the Elders bought it. Mr. Elder, a contractor, and Mrs. Elder, an interior design enthusiast, set about making improvements on the four-bedroom home that are thought to be worth over \$15,000 had they been done commercially. With new paint inside and out, newly-swirled ceilings, new carpets, modernized wiring, and new appliances, the home is one of the show-places of the community. In fact, the Elders report that many passing motorists stop and ask for a tour.



## House Notes

VECAA's Housing Complaint Board has achieved reasonable success in its efforts to identify and rectify neighborhood dwellings which violate the City's housing codes. Chairman JOE SOHM reports that at least fifteen complaints have been filed with the Department of Housing Improvement. Some improvements in response to the complaints have al-

ready been noticed. The Board hopes to foster neighborhood preservation by involving the residents themselves. If you are aware of any houses that are deteriorated by virtue of peeled paint, rotten wood, trash or litter, overgrown weeds, etc., call Joe at 278-6962.

\* \* \*

In connection with the city's Community Development (CD) Program, a mechanism has been established for the provision of grants and low-interest loans to residents of the CD priority areas. This means that residents of the V/E community living in the area bounded by Cypress Creek, University, Vollintine and Evergreen may be eligible for housing rehabilitation loans. In an effort to preserve housing rather than demolish it, a large portion of CD funds will be used on structural improvement. The grants and loans will be used to correct violations of the City housing code and, under some circumstances, for renovation. To be eligible for a loan you must be the owner-occupant of a one-to-four unit dwelling and demonstrate the ability to repay the loan. Interest rates range from 1% to 6% depending on the participant's income. Rehabilitation grants which require no repayment are limited to low-income households. For further information on rehabilitation grants and loans call the Office of Community Development at 528-2860.

\* \* \*

A portion of the V/E community has been selected for a concentrated code enforcement program by the Department of Housing Improvement beginning in late August. The area (referred to as Potential Priority Area III-L) is bounded by Jackson, McLean, the L&N Railroad and Watkins. The program will involve a systematic door-to-door inspection of housing conditions.

In a primarily residential area the two basic areas of concern are 1) mechanical defects in plumbing, heating and wiring, and 2) a lack of maintenance which may lead to or promote more serious damage in the future. While these deficiencies appear to be easily recognized, a trained inspector is often required to spot potential problems.

While this portion of the V/E community is generally composed of well-kept and attractive housing, there are units that need improvement. Although some residents may resent having inspectors examine their property, the benefits

<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>
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<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>

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far outweigh the temporary inconvenience. The Office of Community Development and VECAA both see this as an effective tool for preserving our neighborhood. We are fortunate that the City has taken such an interest in our community.

The enforcement program will take about three weeks and require eight inspectors. Once the program is underway, questions may be directed to VECAA chairman MIKE KIRBY at 274-8709.

## Dear Editor...

Portions of the V/E neighborhood have integrated housing. Some, not all, but some of these new neighbors have come to our area from slums and they are "slum carriers."

They have moved to our neighborhood in an effort to get away from the slums, but through indifference and ignorance they have brought the slums with them.

They may not notice, but those of us who have lived here when it was quiet, clean, and orderly, we notice.

We notice the slum carrier when he:

1. empties his car ash tray in his own driveway on the edge of his neighbor's yard;
2. when he cuts the grass when it become knee-high;
3. when he cuts his yard and leaves the grass clippings away;
4. when he uses his car horn instead of the doorbell;
5. when he leaves garbage and trash around his trash can;
6. when he drops litter in his own yard and on the walks in front of his neighbors' houses;
7. when he turns the volume on stereo, television or radio so loud it can be heard not only outside of his home, but inside the next house or even across the street;
8. when he lets his dog run loose to snap at neighbors or turn over garbage cans.

It is distressing to try to live on the same street with those who use loud and obscene language outdoors, litter

Address all correspondence to: The Evergreen News, 1906 Mignon Avenue, Memphis, TN 38107.

# Jim Sasser

for your U.S. Senator

Lucius Burch, Jr./Knox Walkup  
Shelby County Co-Chairmen

with paper, cans, garbage, dogs, loud music, car horns and only clean their yards when the Health Department is called, only keep up their dogs when the Human Shelter is called, only turn down their music makers when the Police Department is called and only remove junk cars when the Abandoned and Junk Car Agency is called.

Who can reach these people?

Will the Evergreen News try?

Signed

A Twenty-Year Resident

## Shopper's Choice

Thanks to a new gift shop that has recently opened, the corner at McLean and Tutwiler is bustling once again. The shop called "Jackpot Treasure Chest" is in the building formerly occupied by the Southwestern Pharmacy. The owners, JACK and PAT TATE and TOMMY and COURT CHAFFEE, decided to go ahead and open on July 19 despite the fact that some of their remodeling chores were unfinished. They have been hard at work for three months getting the place into shape. The new paint on the exterior walls and awnings has improved the looks of the corner, while the addition of interior paneling and display cases has made the inside more attractive.

The shop's main offering is a well-known line of silver and crystal. These items are accompanied by flatware, fine silver plate, Chinese baskets, decorative pots of all sizes, soup tureens, tankards and wine bars. These are all quality products offered at discount prices. There is also quite a selection of glassware for everyday use, plus bowls, plates, cups and mugs. The shop's interesting array of restaurant ware includes odds and ends such as cream pitchers, bowls, teapots, etc., all at a great discount. For those interested

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in clothes they have a line of ladies sweaters and pants sets that are attractive and offered at a reasonable price.

Noris this all the Jackpot Treasure Chest carries. New items will be arriving all the time. The theme that ties all this varied merchandise together is "quality at a discount." It seems that some of the neighborhood bargain hunters discovered the place the first couple of days, for by the 23rd the shop had sold out of several items.

The Tates and the Chaffees will be on hand Monday through Saturday from 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. to welcome new customers. JACK ADAMO, a neighborhood flower expert, has already been by with a welcome gift of roses. The new shopkeepers apologize for the absence of a sign and carpet. The old drug store floor is still visible but no one appeared to notice with all those items to examine on the shelves. The shop should be an interesting new addition to the commercial life of our neighborhood.

The Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association (VECAA) is a non-profit neighborhood organization founded in 1970. Its boundaries are roughly Watkins, Cypress Creek, Trezevant and Overton Park Avenue. VECAA's initial goal was to enhance and maintain a stable biracial community with quality housing, services and facilities. It has been active in promoting stability, assisting in school desegregation, opposing commercial rezoning and in general promoting those activities that serve to create a viable mid-town community.

Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association  
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Memphis, TN 38107.



## Around The Neighborhood

Congratulations to D'ARMY BAILEY and his new wife ADRIANNE. The couple was married recently and honeymooned in Jamaica. D'Army is an attorney and Adrienne, who is from Chattanooga, has recently been involved in television production. The couple lives at 1856 Monticello.

Vollintine Elementary School in May was honored as the Central Area "School of the Month" and was in the running for "School of the Year." The competition is sponsored by the City Beautiful Commission and is based on the school's efforts at beautification and cleanliness.

In cooperation with the city Sanitation Department, the Community Development Program is sponsoring a special trash pick-up for the I-B priority area. V/E residents living in the area bounded by Cypress Creek, University, Vollintine and Evergreen should carry on Wednesday, August 4, all forms of refuse to the curb. This includes discarded appliances and furniture, miscellaneous junk, tree branches and leaves, even abandoned automobiles. All items piled on the curb will be carried away on this date.

Southwestern College, through a grant from the Tennessee Committee on the Humanities, is sponsoring a day long workshop on August 14. As a follow-up to the College's Spring symposium on American values in crisis, the workshop will introduce participants to a six-week course based on lectures presented by seven humanists during the symposium. The workshop will cost \$10 including three books that will be utilized. August 9 is the deadline for registering.

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9:30 A.M. - Church School

10:30 A.M. - Choral Communion

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THE REVEREND FATHER

CHARLES H. SYKES

RECTOR