

The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association

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BOSI'S — A FAMILY TRADITION

Some of the best baked ham and Italian sausage in Memphis is sold at Bosi and Sons Grocery Store at 1701 Jackson. The ham has Bosi's special ham glaze sauce and the sausage is made from a secret recipe which was inherited from a friend. This is only one reason that Bosi's is a "great little grocery."

It is one of a vanishing breed. The aisles are narrow and items are piled high to make room for everything. Both Sylvio and Gene Bosi are there everyday (except during hunting and fishing seasons) talking to customers. Butchers Stephen Shea and Bill Brewer are right there to answer your questions; there is no buzzer to ring. Checkers Joann Hollowell and Leah Gallis always have the time to ask how you are. Tom Dorian, who stocks the shelves, is very willing to help you find that special item. Bosi's is definitely a store with character accented with a personal touch.

"We really like serving the VECA neighborhood," says Gene Bosi. "We like being able to call people by name and to know who's trading with us. These are some of the nicest people I've ever met. It's really amazing, too, how many people who haven't seen each other in years run into each other in here."

Service is the main concern at Bosi's. "If we can do a service for people, even if it's only to give change, we feel like it's been worthwhile," Gene believes. One of the many ways Bosi's honors this pledge of service is by delivering lunches and dinners to fire stations throughout Memphis.

Among the specialties offered is a good, inexpensive sandwich for lunch. You can get a fantastic country-type bologna, turkey or salami sandwich or choose your own favorite from the varied selection. Party trays are also available starting at a price that frequently undercuts major supermarkets. "We are competitive with anybody," says Gene. "We're not like the 7-11 at all."

There has been a Bosi's for over 30 years at three different locations, all within walking distance of each other. For 29 years, Anthony Bosi — father to Sylvio and grandfather to Gene, was the butcher. Just about all the Bosis have been involved; it has always been a family business.

Over the years, Bosi's has withstood the test of competition from the big chains. Pic Pac was one of the first to draw some customers away; but people came back to the friendliness of personal service that is customary at Bosi's. There was talk at one point of expansion, but things didn't work out. Maybe it was for the best because our neighborhood just might have lost Bosi's — a grocery store with a distinctively friendly personality.

By Tina Egge

HISTORY FOR SALE MARCH 13TH

MIFA (Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association) is presenting a program on the history of the VECA and MMIA neighborhoods on Thursday, March 13th, at 7:30 p.m. in the library of Snowden Junior High School (elevator available). Copies of the recently completed Vollintine/Evergreen history (among others) will be available for purchase at a special introductory price of \$2.00 at this meeting only. In the future, additional copies may be obtained at the March 24th VECA meeting or at the MIFA office, 166-A Poplar (First Presbyterian Church Annex) — phone 527-0208 — for \$3.00.

MIFA's dedication (nearly a year of volunteer research) has culminated in an informative living-history of the V/E neighborhood — recounting not only the past, but recording the present as well. The cover is a montage of the Vollintine/Evergreen neighborhood rendered in the distinctive style of resident artist Brad McMillan.

MIFA planned this special neighborhood meeting with the cooperation and support of The Snowden Community Partnership Committee who was responsible for obtaining the use of Snowden School.

VECA commends MIFA for a job well done!

By Ann D. Moore

NEXT VECA MEETING

Monday, March 24th at 7:30 P.M., Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church. Agenda: Election of VECA officers and program on "Understanding the Criminal Justice System." Everyone Welcome!

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VECA NEWS RECAP

***NOVEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Decided that it would not be useful for VECA to take a position with regard to the closing of West Drive because that matter is still in litigation.

***NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

Decided that suit would be filed to force action to be taken on Saints (Vollintine) Courts on January 2, 1980, unless condemnation took place or the owners began rehabilitation before January 1st, because Mayor Chandler had assured VECA on August 29th that either rehabilitation or condemnation would take place by January 1st. On December 18th, the City Division of Housing and Community Development asked the City Council to condemn Saints Courts so that Community Development could take possession and begin rehabilitation. The Council voted to give the owners three more months to obtain financing (H.U.D. had just granted a 90 day extension of their loan guarantee to the owners) or condemnation would be approved. The Council did vote to ask the Mayor for emergency expenditures to secure the buildings and fix the roofs immediately. Because of these developments, VECA President Margaret Dichtel decided that suit would be withheld pending the Council's March 18th extension deadline.

***I-40 NEWS:** Representatives of VECA met on January 8th with the Mayor (at his request) and other City officials to discuss the City's latest idea for improving the commuter traffic flow between the two incomplete ends of I-40. VECA's Executive Committee adopted a statement at its January 15th meeting, agreeing and disagreeing with various parts of the Mayor's ideas. This statement was presented to City officials and read at a joint VECA-MMIA-Hein Park-Midtown Council meeting with City Public Works Director, at Snowden School on January 17th. Attendance numbered between 400 and 600 according to estimates of local press representatives.

***JANUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

The I-40 statement was unanimously approved with two additions to it, and Margaret Dichtel was authorized to negotiate with the City to try to resolve the I-40 problem. (Copies of VECA's I-40 statement may be obtained at the VECA general membership meeting on March 24th or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Frank Moore, 1467 Tutwiler Avenue, 38107.) Other business discussed included County Court Clerk Dick Hackett's request to Frank Moore for input from Midtown neighborhood groups on his proposed Midtown branch of the Clerk's office; Julie Borys' report on the Adopt-a-School program; Margaret Dichtel's report on plans for scheduling the Police Department's crime prevention van for different blocks on different dates in the V/E area; Jan McPherson's report of Circuit Playhouse's season ticket offer; and Ann Moore's report on the status of the publication of *The E/News*.

It was encouraging to see about 40 VECA members brave the cold to attend this meeting. (VECA now has more paid members than ever in its ten-year history!) The homemade refreshments catered by Katherine and Jim Martin were appreciated by all. Good things happen when people care.

***REMEMBER:** Elections of President and Vice-President of VECA are scheduled for the next VECA general membership meeting on March 24th, 1980, at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church (1663 Tutwiler Ave.) at 7:30 p.m. Also planned is a program with representatives from the local criminal justice system to answer questions about the procedures used to achieve justice after an arrest is made. As proposed at the January VECA meeting, a sign up sheet will be available for anyone wishing to schedule a visit from Lt. Jim Myers and the Police Department's crime prevention van. The van seats 23 people and is one of only a handful of such mobile units in the nation. This service is offered free of charge and is an excellent opportunity for you and your neighbors to learn more about crime prevention.

By Frank and Ann Moore

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CURBS, NEUTRAL STRIPS, AND SIDEWALKS

The numerous curbs, neutral strips (the area between the sidewalk and the curb), and sidewalks in the V/E area facilitate (among other things) our safe enjoyment of close-to-home outdoor activities. The numerous stately old trees in our area contribute greatly to the park-like charm that is one of our neighborhood's most desirable qualities. By regularly maintaining and repairing that part of your property which is closest to the street, you will be protecting and preserving an important aspect of midtown life.

The following information answers some of the more frequent inquiries and directs you to the appropriate agencies.

CURBS: For repairs, call the City Asphalt Plant at 528-2911. The Sanitation Department will pick up bagged or boxed lawn debris, small limbs and prunings, and appliances and furniture at the curb — but not building materials of any type (must haul yourself). Place them between the sidewalk and the curb, not in the gutter. Wednesday is curb pick-up day. Call the Mayor's Action Center at 528-2500 to request a pick-up.

NEUTRAL STRIPS: Property lines go all the way to the curb, so the owner is responsible for the maintenance of the neutral strip and the sidewalk. The City Street Maintenance Department (528-2911) will cut down dead trees there, at City expense, that are not too big for their equipment. Call MLGW (523-0711) to get trees trimmed, at MLGW expense, that are in danger of interfering with power lines. The Park Commission won't use their equipment except on their property, such as center of the street median strips (725-4444).

SIDEWALKS: For repairs to sidewalks or approaches (aprons) of driveways, the owner must employ a bonded and licensed contractor, who must first get the City Sidewalk Department to inspect and approve his

work before he pours the concrete. If an owner refuses to repair his sidewalk or driveway approach, call 528-2703. If CSD feels repair is necessary, they will send the owner a notice to have the repair done within 30 days. If it is not, the City will have the repair done, bill the owner, and place a lien on his property until the bill is paid.

By Frank Moore

HELP STOP VEHICULAR LITTER

Vehicles that are abandoned, parked in yards, or parked by the curb up and down a street spoil the appearance of a neighborhood, inconvenience residents, and damage property values. Real estate agents state that they avoid recommending areas where vehicles are parked in yards because it is usually a sign that the residents don't care about the maintenance or appearance of their yards or, by inference, their homes.

Unfortunately, it is not illegal to park in the yard unless the vehicle is inoperable. For removal of vehicles that are inoperable or abandoned and located on private property, call Mr. Freddie Moore of the City Housing Improvement Office at 528-2514. The vehicle will be inspected and, if inoperable, tagged with a notice that it will be towed after 72 hours if not moved.

If an abandoned or inoperable car or truck is on a city street, call the Police at 528-2345, and they will have it towed away.

Vehicles parked by the curb up and down a street detract from the appearance of the homes and can cause traffic and parking problems for other residents, especially near multi-unit rental houses. If off-street parking is not available, be courteous to your neighbors and park in front of your own residence. The owner of a multi-unit property should provide off-street parking for his tenants. By doing so, he will improve the appearance and the value of his property and he will also promote good will among his tenants and their neighbors.

By Frank Moore

EVERGREEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Wonderful Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m.

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VALID THRU APRIL 20TH

Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association
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1980

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ADDRESS _____

Membership \$2.50 — Per Person
Make Checks Payable to VECA

Send to: Mr. Tom Kepple
899 Hawthorne
Memphis, TN 38107



EVERGREEN NEWS UPDATE

HATS OFF TO THE HOT DOG MAN — Mr. John Bottenfield of 1563 Jackson Avenue, the owner of Obleo's Dog House — a downtown restaurant noted for gourmet hot dogs — is a V/E resident who cares about his neighborhood newspaper. In January, *The E/News* received two checks totaling \$200 (the first for advertising; and a second, very generous personal donation). VECA joins *The E/News* staff in expressing gratitude to Mr. Bottenfield for both his community involvement and his financial commitment. *Thank You John Bottenfield.*

EVERGREEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFERS PRESS TIME — Affirmative action through community projects is a tradition at Evergreen Presbyterian Church. Once again, V/E area residents are being well served by the generosity of this neighborhood church. In January *The E/News* and VECA were notified that board approval had been obtained — allowing use of the offset press at the church for 3 months printing of our newspaper. (The choice of months is to be at the discretion of *The E/News* with a \$25 per month service charge.) *The E/News* and VECA are grateful for this pledge of support. *Thank You Evergreen Presbyterian Church.*

EVERGREEN NEWS NEEDS NEW EDITOR — If you have a gift of gab, a friendly smile, and a desire to serve your community — you may be the next managing editor of *The E/News*. This challenging job requires no newspaper experience — only a willingness to preserve the 10 year tradition of a monthly V/E newspaper. Major responsibilities include coordination of staff assignments and duties. Also, since *The E/News* and VECA share the mutual goal of preservation of a viable midtown neighborhood, as editor — you (or an assigned *E/News* staffer) will be a member of the VECA Executive

EVERGREEN NEWS STAFF

MANAGING EDITOR: Ann D. Moore, 274-2163

LAYOUT EDITOR: Fran Griffith, 276-9162

BUSINESS MANAGER/ADVERTISING: Sue Fagan, 272-3776

DISTRIBUTION: Joe Hough, 274-5551

CONTRIBUTORS: Tina Egge, Sue Fagan, Ann D. Moore, Frank Moore

TYPISTS: Sue Fagan, Ann D. Moore

**PRINTING COURTESY ANN & FRANK MOORE —
PRINTING SERVICE BY B & M PRINTING COMPANY**

Deadline for copy and ads for April issue is March 6th. Deadline for copy and ads for May issue is April 3rd.

**Address articles or news to The Evergreen News,
1467 Tutwiler Ave., Memphis, Tn 38107**

Committee.

After 1½ years of service as editor, Ann D. Moore will resign on March 24th with the completion of the April issue of *The E/News*. A volunteer is needed to fill this position immediately. If you are interested, please call Ann at 274-2163, contact any VECA Executive Committee member, or plan to attend a meeting which will be held on Thursday March 27th, at 7:30 p.m. at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church for the purpose of determining the immediate future of *The E/News*.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Since the summary of the status of *The E/News* which appeared in the last issue of *The E/News* in November, 1979, the combined supportive efforts of individual V/E residents and neighborhood institutions have guaranteed regular publication for at least three more months. If you wish to insure future monthly publication of *The E/News*, mail contributions to *E/News*, Business Manager, 1855 S. Rainbow Drive, Memphis, TN, 38107.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Refrigerator with freezer, 17 ft., G.E., good condition, \$60.00; Two sets — gas logs, 26 inches and 22 inches. Call 272-3856.

Help Wanted: Night Manager for liquor store, good proposition for dependable person. Call before 1 p.m., 525-1909.

Trinity United Methodist Church
Galloway at Evergreen

Church School — 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship — 10:50 a.m.
Wednesday Evening — 6:00 p.m.

Church
274-6895

Pastor
274-6896

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Morning Worship — 11:00 a.m.

Church
274-1820

Pastor
323-6400