

The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine - Evergreen Community Association

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NEW STREET LIGHT FOR MIDTOWN

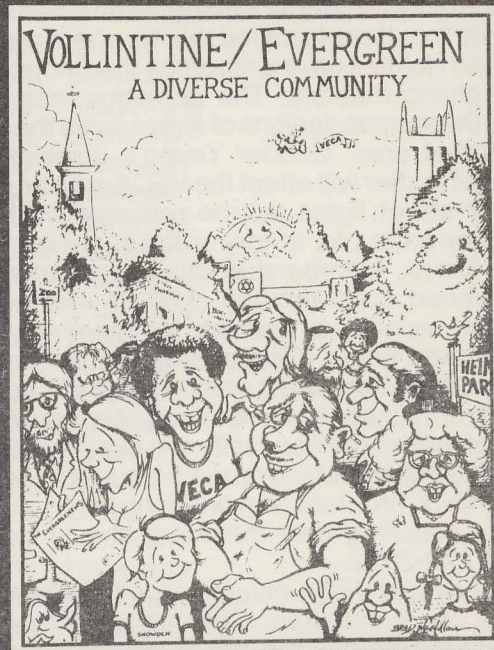
All incandescent street lights, including the old style (pedestal/acorn-globed) lights throughout Midtown, are going to be replaced. TVA has given notice that severe penalties will be imposed in four years upon their customers (MLG&W) who continue to use street lights that do not meet federal lighting standards for energy conservation and safety.

Midtown residents now have an opportunity to have significant input into the types of poles and globes (luminaires) that will be installed in residential areas. The lights themselves will be sodium-vapor; no choice there. The Midtown Demonstration Project (composed primarily of the Cooper-Young area) will have these new lights installed first — in the very near future. The City and MLG&W will go along with the pole and luminaire chosen by the C-Y Neighborhood Association (within financial limitations and federal standards.) Since its choices will more than likely be used throughout Midtown, C-YNA has kindly asked for all of the Midtown neighborhoods to review the choices available and to hopefully reach an agreement. If all of Midtown agrees on the same pole and luminaire, the City and MLG&W will be hard-pressed not to go along, and attractive pole and luminaires can then be afforded because of the bulk purchases which will be possible.

A few test lights have been installed on Oliver, just west of Cooper. Look at them in the daytime and let VECA's representatives to the ad hoc street light selection committee know your opinion. (Carl Holmes, 278-2746, evenings; Frank Moore, 526-1171, weekdays.) Ignore the aluminum poles — they have been ruled out because of maintenance requirements and unsightliness. Concrete poles are likely to be approved, but the molds for the poles now in use in our area have been destroyed and are very expensive to duplicate. A search is underway to find a manufacturer who will produce an affordable and attractive concrete pole. The acorn-shaped luminaires now in use do not meet federal standards. The luminaires selected will have to be 12 to 15 feet above ground, because their greater brightness would blind drivers if placed lower.

The appearance of our area can be enhanced by street lights that are attractive, uniform, and that blend in with the architecture and age of the houses. Now is the time to give your opinion, because the C-Y decision will be forthcoming in the next few days, and it will affect what street lights are erected in the VECA area.

By Frank Moore



E-NEWS SELLS McMILLAN POSTER

The staff of *The Evergreen News* is selling posters from the cover of the community history *Vollintine-Evergreen, A Diverse Community*. Brad McMillan, who was commissioned by Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association to do the piece, donated the art to the *E-News*, and C. A. Davis, another VECA resident, donated the printing.

The poster, priced at \$5, can be purchased from staff members or by calling Brant Smith (276-2933) or Pat Hanna (274-4512). Printed in shades of brown, the poster fits a standard 16 x 20 frame.

NEXT VECA MEETING

The next VECA meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., July 28 at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church. Shep Wilburn, project architect, will speak on the future of Vollintine Courts. Anyone living within the VECA boundaries, Watkins on the west, Overton Park/I-40 right-of-way to the south, Trezevant/Springdale on the east and Cypress Creek (Edwards) to the north, may become a VECA member and is encouraged to attend this meeting.

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After 5:00 p.m., 324-1345**VECA NEWS**

On May 20, 1980 the VECA executive committee met at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church. After president Tom Kepple called the members present to order, Carl Holmes gave a report on the Cooper Young street lighting meeting. The gathering was held to discuss the various designs of street lights the city can erect in that area. Cooper Young's decision in the street light matter will affect the VECA area as many of the older street lights will be replaced in the near future. (See page 1 for a story on the street light issue.)

Julie Borys, membership chairman, outlined the neighborhood concentration of VECA members and called for recruits to canvas for members in low concentration areas. One area particularly short of members is the northwest corner of the VECA boundary, north of Jackson between Evergreen and Watkins. She emphasized the necessity of a large membership when VECA takes a stand on such issues as the I-40 — Overton Park problem. Anyone interested in joining VECA or soliciting new members should call Julie Borys at 272-2672.

Another major VECA objective for the year involves the land use committee. Chairman Joe Hough explained that currently the VECA area is zoned both residential and duplex. It is the hope of the VECA leadership to downzone some areas of the community to residential only. This would not affect now standing duplexes but would keep certain areas from converting to duplexes in the future. The land use committee is also concerned with any proposals for the use of the now abandoned L&N railroad track.

A proposal for a community yard sale for the fall was made and a committee of Carl Holmes and Dorinda Smith was appointed.

The regular VECA membership meeting was held May 26 with the various committee chairmen reporting what was discussed in the executive meeting.

By Dorinda Smith

**EVERYTHING'S
COMING UP ROSES**

Forty-seven years ago Jack Adamo and his wife, Mary, made 1952 Snowden their home and are there today. Many changes have taken place since then. With a wave of his hand, indicating the now residential area across the street, Mr. Adamo remembers, "I used to hunt rabbits in the fields over there."

Strolling past the ivy-covered pillars of the inviting front porch, down the driveway to the backyard, Mr. Adamo modestly proclaims, "All things being equal, anyone willing to learn what to do and when to do it can grow roses." Rounding the back corner of the house and leading his visitor on a leisurely tour through his rose garden, which about eight years ago overflowed to now include "yard number two" and "yard number three" (the yards of two neighbors immediately east of the Adamo home), Mr. Adamo willingly shares the knowledge of over 35 years of experience as a rosarian.

Mr. Adamo's invitation "to bring a jug of water and a picnic lunch and spend the afternoon" is genuine. The spectacular vision of over 600 rose bushes and 40 rose trees during blooming season is reason enough for garden clubs and individuals alike to accept this kind offer. Yet it is the indefinable quality of Jack Adamo — the man — that makes the visit a special treat. A quick wit, a youthful sense of mischief and a home-folks sincerity pervade his manner of speech. When asked how long he has been growing roses, he quipped, "since Granny was a ragdoll." In answer to a question about the pruning of the Peace rose, he replied, "If you prune the Peace rose hard — like an old levee mule, it will balk."

When asked if he has a favorite rose, Mr. Adamo

*(Continued on last page)***MCLEAN BAPTIST
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**FINE FURNITURE BUILT AT
JAYNES' WOODSHOP**

The sign announcing that the "Great Star Grocery" on McLean near Tutwiler had become "Chris Jaynes Woodshop" went up in May. However long before then, the shelves and meatlockers had been removed and bandsaws, jointers and shapers had taken their place. Since January 15, Chris Jaynes and his apprentice, Skip Bustard, have been in the business of building and repairing fine furniture.

Now there are stacks of lumber instead of canned goods, and when the *E-News* visited, there was an almost completed oak wetbar, an antique French secretary in need of repair and a walnut dining table which was acquiring new leaves. There was also a book of things Chris has built in the past for customers to look through.

Although the shop also does millwork, moldings, chair railings, trim, exposed beams and the like, Chris' great love is the design and construction of new furniture. "I like seeing an idea take shape in a custom-made piece of furniture. I like working with various woods. I love the odor of walnut when I cut it; for carving, I prefer Honduran mahogany. With antiques, it's fun bringing a damaged piece back to life," he says.

Chris who lives with his family in the VECA neighborhood, has had plenty of experience. He took industrial woodworking at the William R. Moore School of Technology, was at Springers Antiques for three years and has been in the business for himself for the last four years. His previous shops were at 1728 Poplar and 204 North Evergreen.

All along his concept has been to do something well. Speaking of his woodworking philosophy, Chris says, "I don't just put things together quickly. For that, I could work out of a car trunk. And I'm not cheap. It takes time to work on a design, time to build it. People sometimes don't understand that and the fact that it took time to learn how to do it. What I do is a kind of art, a specialized craft."

By Tina Egge

**VECA PROPERTY VALUES SOAR
PART II**

The following are examples of sales prices of homes sold in the VECA area in the last two years.

Block	Street	Price
500	Stonewall	57,500
600	Stonewall	32,000
700	Stonewall	25,000
800	Stonewall	37,950
900	Stonewall	35,000
1000	Stonewall	31,750
700	Trezevant	74,000
800	Trezevant	72,500
900	Trezevant	36,701
1400	Tutwiler	34,500
1500	Tutwiler	36,000
1600	Tutwiler	47,500
1700	Tutwiler	57,000
1800	Tutwiler	50,000
1900	Tutwiler	37,000
800	University	36,618
900	University	48,300
1000	University	38,500
2100	University Cr.	36,500
1400	Vollintine	27,000
1500	Vollintine	29,700
1900	Vollintine	28,500
2000	Vollintine	49,456
2100	Vollintine	41,000
700	Watkins	25,412
800	Watkins	30,847
900	Watkins	28,750
600	West	210,000
700	West	95,000
800	West	94,000
400	Willett	42,900
600	Willett	32,750
800	Willett	35,847
900	Willett	34,000

By Frank Moore

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(Continued from page 2)

comments that the bloom of Uncle Joe will last longer at room temperature without shattering than any other rose, that the dark red Don Juan is a good climbing rose which blooms profusely all summer and is less susceptible to black spot, or he points out the bed in the garden devoted entirely to the Peace rose. Now retired after 50 years in the insurance business (25 years with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and 25 years with National Burial which later became National Trust Life), Mr. Adamo recollects that customers used to call the office and, failing to remember his name, would ask for "the man who always wears the rose in his lapel." The rose that he wore was Eclipse, a yellow rose, "That will look as fresh in the evening as it did in the morning because the sepals hold the bud together tightly."

A four-page article entitled "Mr. Rose Tells All" appears in the first issue (Summer-1980) of the new quarterly MEMPHIS HOME/GARDEN MAGAZINE. The focus of the write-up is twofold, an entire page is devoted to "Jack Adamo's Rose Garden Calendar" with supplemental tips on growing roses interspersed throughout the story. Also featured are some of Mr. Adamo's notable credentials as a rosarian. Cited are the innumerable trophies (many won multiple times)

from his years of competitive exhibition; his active support of the Memphis Rose Society, which he helped found in 1946; and his service as a nationally accredited judge of rose shows throughout the United States and Canada.

Barely mentioned, however, is the equally impressive fact that Mr. Adamo is (and has been for more than 15 years) an official tester for hybridizers — he is the only one in Memphis. As he explains it, "A hybridizer creates a rose the way a dressmaker creates a dress." Then, a long, complicated process begins to see if the rose can measure up. Mr. Adamo receives test roses, initially identified only by number, from all over the world two years before these roses will be available to the public. Currently roses from Germany, France and South Africa are included in his garden. Twice a year, forms must be completed as to the performance and growth habits of each specimen grown in the Memphis climate. Also twice a year, an inspector arrives unannounced to insure proper procedure, as reproduction of a test rose is prohibited. The reason is obvious. A successful rose means money for the hybridizer. According to Mr. Adamo, the Elvis Presley rose made \$1,000,000 in the first six months on the market last year.

At age 85, Jack Adamo demonstrates a vitality that equals the beauty of his roses. His garden attests to his expertise as a rosarian; his spirit exemplifies the philosophy that everything's coming up roses.

By Ann D. Moore

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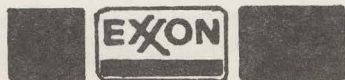
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