

The EVERGREEN NEWS

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NEIGHBORS HONOR "THE BLUSHING BRIDE"

Flossye and Perry Quinn were married on July 24th, 1930. This July, seventy-five guests gathered at the home of Charlotte and Pete Swailes to honor Flossye and Perry and to share the wonderful memories of their unusual wedding ceremony of 50 years ago.

Flossye and Perry Quinn were married on the stage of the old Loew's State Theatre on Main. Appropriately, engraved invitations to the anniversary celebration read: "Loew's State Is Proud To Announce The 50th Anniversary Of The Marriage of 'The Blushing Bride' Flossye Lamar and Perry Quinn."

On display on the evening of the anniversary party was a scrapbook containing photographs, treasured wedding memorabilia and old newspaper clippings which revealed the Quinn's story. One article quoted Flossye, "We were going to be married real soon — and when we read where a couple was wanted to marry on stage, we made up our minds right away that it would be wonderful." It was a promotion for a new Joan Crawford movie "The Blushing Bride."

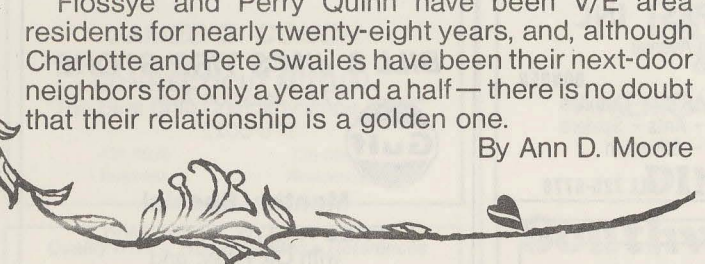
Although the wedding took place between the movie and the vaudeville show with several thousand members of the movie audience as guests, a traditional Methodist ceremony was performed by the late Rev. O. A. Marrs.

Today Flossye recalls, "The main thing I remember about the ceremony was the quietness. The minister stated later that it was the most religious service he had ever conducted."

Among the guests at the anniversary festivities were members of the wedding party — Lois Wilson, who was the maid of honor; Lorene McCollough, a bridesmaid; and her brother, Joseph M. Meadows, a groomsman.

Flossye and Perry Quinn have been V/E area residents for nearly twenty-eight years, and, although Charlotte and Pete Swailes have been their next-door neighbors for only a year and a half — there is no doubt that their relationship is a golden one.

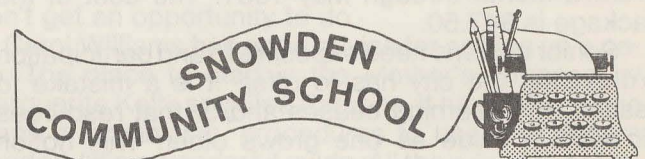
By Ann D. Moore



Editor's Note: We wish to express appreciation to Charlotte Swailes for contacting *The E/News* to cover this special neighborhood story.

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

The VECA Community Yard Sale will be held Saturday, September 20, in the gym parking lot at Southwestern. The sale begins at 10 a. m. and will continue until late afternoon. For those folks who want to sell their own goods, space can be bought for \$10 for the day (this does not include a table). If you have some things you would like to donate to VECA, they'll arrange to pick them up. For more information call Carl Holmes at 278-2746 or Dorinda Smith at 276-2933.



A "community school" is a school that serves the entire community, not just the students who attend from 9:00 until 3:00 on weekdays. So, beginning in mid-September of this year, Snowden School will invite all interested community members to spend their Tuesday evenings at the school, taking part in such varied activities as auto and household maintenance classes, exercise classes, arts and crafts, "getting-ready-for-the-holidays" decorating and baking sessions, etc. A nursery will be open for preschoolers, and there will be volunteers available for tutoring school-age children whose parents are enrolled in the program.

Snowden is one of only five Memphis schools chosen to take part in this pilot program for community education under grants from the Mott Foundation and the Memphis Junior League. The Snowden Neighborhood Partnership Committee is in charge of planning Snowden's part in the project and welcomes all suggestions and ideas. If you would like to take part in the community school's activities or need more information, please call the committee coordinator, Madelyn Conrad, at 278-9559.

By Madelyn Conrad

NEXT VECA MEETING

Sunday, September 21, 1980, 2 p.m., Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church. William Boyd, property assessor, will be the speaker.

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SENIOR ARTS SAMPLER

The Memphis Arts Council is offering a program called Senior Arts Sampler for Memphians 60 years of age or older.

The Sampler is a package which includes transportation and discounted tickets to arts events including dance, symphony, opera, theatre and gallery visits.

Transportation on chartered MATA buses will be from central locations throughout the city. Senior Arts Sampler begins in September 1980 and averages one event a month through May 1981. The cost of the package is \$47.50.

"Senior citizens need exposure to and participation in the best the city has to offer. It is a mistake to assume that learning ceases and/or that resources diminish in value as one grows older. This notion should be dispelled both in the minds of older people and the public at large," says Clem Neighbours, Program Coordinator.

"The Arts Sampler is an ideal gift for parents, grandparents and friends," continues Miss Neighbours. "Churches, corporation and other organizations are also encouraged to buy packets for seniors who cannot buy the packet for themselves."

A grant has been applied for, and if approved, previews of events will be given by musicologists and art, dance and theatre historians, also at central locations.

A similar program was offered during 1978-1980 to seniors in 10 high rises and senior centers. This program, called Arts/Aging for Memphians, was funded by the Tennessee Committee for the Humanities, the Tennessee Arts Commission and the Day Foundation.

For further information, call the Memphis Arts Council at 278-2950.



VECA NEWS

Meetings of the VECA general membership and executive committee were held July 28, 1980, at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church. The next membership meeting was set for Sunday, September 21 at 2 p.m. at Lindsay Church. William Boyd, property assessor, will be the speaker.

VECA members were told of an article on the community which will be published in Memphis House and Garden in November. The magazine is a new quarterly publication which appeared on the newsstands in late spring.

A pep talk on the Community Yard Sale was made, and the membership was encouraged to spread the word on the sale to be Saturday, September 20, in the gym parking lot at Southwestern.

The proposed fare increase for MATA buses was discussed, and a resolution was passed by the executive committee against the increase to be read at a MATA public meeting.

The speaker for the membership meeting was Shep Wilburn of BWB Associates, the architectural firm for Vollintine Courts. Wilburn said construction on the project will begin September 1. The complex will have 124 two-bedroom units, 4 one-bedroom units, two laundry rooms and an office. The original structures will remain with new porches, paint, carpet, etc. Additional parking and fencing will be added. The complex will have a full time manager who will live on site. The first apartment will be rented in the spring of next year, and phase two will be completed in the fall of 1981.

By D. Carlisle

SERVICE NOTICE: Additional copies of the histories of the VECA and MMIA neighborhoods which MIFA compiled are now on sale at Borg's Pharmacy at a cost of \$3.00 each.

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NEIGHBORLY CHILD CARE

As shown by a VECA/MIFA group, a babysitting co-op can be more than just a "free babysitting service." The Midtown Babysitting Co-op has discovered that it can provide the best of two worlds: good child care and a basis for a special closeness and warmth among the parents.

On the surface, a babysitting co-op works like this: when you need a babysitter, you call the co-op secretary who helps arrange for someone else in the group to care for your child(ren). You drop them off and the hours are charged to your "account." Eventually you will keep someone else's children to wipe the slate clean.

However it can go much farther than that, according to Carol Williams, the founder of the Midtown Babysitting Co-op. "It increases neighborhood spirit and closeness. Many neat things have happened with relationships. A lot of families help each other out on projects, share tools, that kind of thing," she says. Dennis Collier puts it another way, "We have met some really nice couples that we wouldn't have met otherwise. We enjoy the periodic meals and get together that the co-op has."

Other advantages have to do with the flexibility and the closeness that the children develop. The kids learn to sleep away from home; "they learn to respond to and mind other adults, and they learn from each other," points out Shirley Swain.

The kids also have the chance to be exposed to different life styles and other home environments. Cathy Edmundson comments, "There are not many

other small children in our neighborhood so it's a chance for Grier to not only be around other children but to see how things operate within another family."

"The best thing," according to Robin Hatzenbuehler, "is knowing that Mark is staying with someone who is very involved with raising children; other parents. It's also great to know that when Dan and I are going out to have a good time that Mark is also going out to have good time."

The co-op isn't just for mothers either; the fathers get involved. Says Collier, "It's good for the kids to be exposed to men besides girls and women. And I really enjoy babysitting for other children, too." Tom Williams feels it's special to be able to see how his children interact with playmates, something that many fathers don't get an opportunity to do.

Carol Williams has good advice for setting up a co-op. The place to start is the Mother's Almanac by Marguerite Kelly and Elea Parsons. It has all the basic steps in organizing, procedures to use, the papers needed. "It's a wonderful guide. All the rules are set up in the book," she promises.

She also suggests that all the children in the co-op be about the same age. The point is to try to spend quality time when you're babysitting. It's easier if everyone is preschool or elementary school age.

Another thing that's important is "finding people who blend together. You all need to have about the same values about child rearing. To start a co-op, then, you should begin by talking to people that you know well, people at church, close friends, people who share your ideas about children," Williams points out.

Rose Ann White adds, "It's easier when you know that members of the co-op have safe, clean houses, and if you know how others will act with your children."

Also a good rule, according to Williams, is to limit the geographic area because people don't want to spend too much time driving to babysitters. In the Midtown Co-op, everyone is within ten minutes.

Of course, the co-op needs to be large enough so

(Continued on page 4)

JAMES G. COUCH

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Overton Park Avenue, between Overton Park and Watkins
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Watkins, between Overton Park Avenue and N. Parkway

By Frank Moore

TELL ADVERTISERS YOU SAW THEIR AD IN *THE EVERGREEN NEWS!*

LEAD A GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Enrollment is now open for the Great Books Foundations Basic Leader Training Course. This course is a workshop/demonstration institute conducted by a staff member of the Great Books Foundation. It is designed to train persons to conduct junior or adult great books reading and discussion groups and also for school and library administrators who will be involved with such a program. There are four 2½ hour sessions in a two-day period to take place in early fall. For more information please call the Continuing Education Office at Southwestern (274-6606) or Madelyn Conrad (278-9559).



(Continued from page 3)

that things get spread out. The Midtown Co-op started with eleven units (families). Now almost three years later they have limited themselves to about 20.

So a co-op helps give parents a chance to go out, spend time alone or together while they're sure that their children are getting quality care, love and tutoring . . . without spending money for it.

If you think that all this sounds like you, the Midtown Co-op will be glad to help you set your group up. For more information, call Carol Williams at 274-1659.

By Tina Egge

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