

# The EVERGREEN NEWS

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

Memphis, Tennessee

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## AN UNUSUAL PARTNERSHIP

Most business partners meet at the office every day and mostly talk shop. Not so for Brin and Dale Baucum—these partners are married and work together at their home at 1864 Lyndale.

Dale is a potter who sometimes serves as a photographer's assistant. Brin is a photographer who sometimes serves as a potter's helper. As Dale explains, "many times an artist needs an assistant and, in our case, the price is right."

Dales designs, throws and fires the pottery he sells. He describes his functional stoneware and porcelain (kitchenware, casseroles, teapots, etc.) as "pretty traditional work" in the line of American crafts. But he did not start out to be a potter and craftsman; "for a while, when I was first at Memphis Academy of Arts, I wanted to teach, but then I began to realize that you could be a craftsman and make a living—and that appealed to me."

Brin's background includes a major in both photography, and interior design at the Art Academy. But she says, "I didn't really want to do interior design the rest of my life. Daddy had a darkroom when I was little so my interest in photography has always been there." Currently, Brin develops film for commercial enterprises and also does free-lance work in black and white.

Both Brin and Dale like having their studios in their home. Brin explains, "I've always worked out of our home, first on Stonewall for five years and for the last three years here in my grandparents home on Lyndale, which we bought. On Stonewall my darkroom was in the kitchen."

Dale interjects, "Yes, and when Brin had a big project then we had to go to the Colonel's for dinner. The first thing we did here even before we moved in was to convert the basement into a darkroom."

The move also meant that Dale could have his studio out back instead of across town. For his "pot shop" he then doubled the garage, rewired it and added a passive solar heating system.

Both Baucums agree that their home-based studios have been even more important since the birth of their son Samuel, 17 months ago. They say that there has been even more of a partnership since then. Dale says, "We always have shared responsibilities but now we take turns babysitting, work in shifts and try to get a lot done during naps."

Brin and Dale feel right at home, living and doing business in the VECA neighborhood. As Brin explains, "I'm a true VECA native; I grew up on Tutwiler, and Samuel is the fifth generation of my family to live in this house."

Dale annually has two big sales—on the Fourth

of July and the first weekend in December. He's also visable at local craft fairs and sells his work at home by appointment. Brin also does free-lance work in photography by appointment.

By Tina Egge

## IN MY OPINION

The *E/News* would like to start a new feature called In My Opinion but needs your help to do so. This feature would consist of letters to the editor. The *E/News* reserves the right to print only those letters that are signed and are of interest to the community. If you have an opinion you'd like to express, write the *E/News* at 668 Stonewall, Memphis, 38107. Be sure to include your telephone number so we can verify that you did write the letter.

## VECA OFFICERS

March 23, 1981, is the day that the membership of VECA elects new officers. This is a very important meeting, and all members are urged to attend and vote for the offices of president and vice president.

The duties of the president are to represent VECA at public, government and civic functions; to appoint the recording and corresponding secretaries, treasurer, all standing and ad hoc committee chairman and other members of the executive committee; to call meetings of the executive committee at least once per month; to recommend policies and actions to the executive committee; to establish the date and place of annual and other general membership meetings; to prepare the agenda for executive committee meetings and give reasonable advance notice to executive committee members; to supervise submission to the *E/News* by publication deadline of any general VECA news desired to be published; and to preside at general membership and executive committee meetings.

The duties of the vice president are to preside at general membership and executive meetings in the absence of the president; to represent VECA at the Council of Midtown Neighborhoods; to supervise the preparation and filing of charter and by-law amendments; to keep current any necessary government permits or licenses; and any other duties assigned by the president.

If you are interested in being a VECA officer or know someone who is, call Dorinda Smith at 276-2933.

## NEXT VECA MEETING

Sunday, February 1, 1981, 2 p.m. Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church. Buddy Chapman of the Memphis Police Department will be the speaker.

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## VECA NEWS

The VECA Executive Committee met on January 6, 1981, and discussed the following items:

**Security Patrol.** VECA continues to investigate the idea of organizing residents interested in subscribing to a professional security patrol. The service offered in Central Gardens has made a drastic cut in crime in the area, and residents are very pleased. The more subscribers the lower the cost; if 500 houses sign up, the cost is as low as \$17 a month. Tom Kepple noted that burglar alarm systems would cost about the same or less than the security patrol. A real estate agent attending the meeting suggested that property values would increase with the addition of the service. Some questions raised concerning the subject were how much authority does the service have, would subscribing to this service lower insurance rates and would the large geographic area VECA covers affect the response time. John McGee, Tom Kepple and Tim Mashburn were appointed to serve on a subcommittee to further look into the matter.

**Baron Hirsch Synagogue.** The synagogue located on Vollintine is up for sale. The suggestion was made that the Lewis Senior Citizen Center might be interested in the additional space.

**Membership.** Julie Borys proposed that VECA change its by-laws to include a sustaining membership category. The \$10 one-time membership fee was unanimously approved by the committee and will be voted on by the membership February 1.

**Downzoning.** Joe Sohm reported that Mike Potter of MMIA is willing to give VECA information on the process of downzoning. VECA's goal is to downzone the area from R 3 to R 2 which is the single family category. Property currently used as duplex housing would be allowed to remain as such. The downzoning would prevent converting single family homes into duplexes or triplexes. A subcommittee consisting of Joe Hough, Joe Sohm and Tom Kepple is determining a pilot area to start the process.

**Rainbow Circle.** Phil Arnold, an attorney representing the residents of Rainbow Circle in their suit against placing a Northeast Mental Health Center facility in their neighborhood, informed the committee on the current status of the action. In recent action an injunction was neither granted nor denied by the court to stop plans for the facility. Due to the possibility that a clause in the law allowing this type of facility is unconstitutional, the residents have brought suit. The executive committee of VECA and the Council of Midtown Neighborhood Associations approved the following resolution:

"The executive committee of VECA and the Council of Midtown Neighborhood Associations endorses the legal and legislative efforts of the residents of Rainbow Circle to oppose as an inappropriate land use the placement of the group home proposed by the Northeast Mental Health Center on that street."

**Membership Meeting.** February 1, 1981, is the date for the next VECA membership meeting. Buddy Chapman of the Memphis Police Department will be the speaker. The meeting will be held at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m. There will be a membership meeting March 23 at 7:30 p.m. to elect new officers.

By Dorinda Smith

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Congratulations** to Marcia and Dennis Heitzmann of 1606 Galloway on the birth of their daughter Carolyn Anna who arrived December 27 and weighed in at 6 pounds, 5 ounces.

**Welcome** to Cindy Whipple who recently purchased a home in the 600 block of Stonewall.

## THANKS!

The *Evergreen News* would like to thank the following people for their donations: Rose and Elbert Jones, Martha, Ken and Whitney Swanger, and John Bottenfield.

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**BURGLAR ALARMS**

Memphis, like other cities throughout the country, has witnessed an alarming increase in the number of home burglaries committed. The V/E community has, unfortunately, also been affected by this trend, and it has become a matter of concern for many neighborhood residents.

Probably the most effective deterrent to burglary to date is plain old neighborliness. This amounts to each resident acting as his brother's keeper for adjacent residences. This includes the noting of strange persons around the property and the subsequent reporting of any unusual activity to the homeowner or the

authorities.

The V/E community is fortunate to have a large nonworking population — especially senior citizens and young mothers — who are in a position to keep a watch on nearby homes. Unfortunately, we too often do not even know who our neighbors are and are therefore unable to contact them about unusual activity.

To improve this situation former VECA co-chairman Irvin Sachritz suggested a return to the frontier "circling the wagons" procedure wherein individuals banded together for mutual protection. The diagram provides a handy form to be filled in and posted. It will offer a close reference to those who we might need to call in case of an emergency.

<p><b>YOUR BEST BURGLAR ALARMS - YOUR NEIGHBORS</b></p>	<p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____</p>	<p><b>EMERGENCY NUMBERS</b></p> <p><b>POLICE: 528-2222 FIRE DEPT.: 458-3311</b></p>
<p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____</p>	<p><b>YOUR HOUSE</b></p>	<p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____</p>
YOUR		STREET
<p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____</p>	<p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____</p>	<p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____</p>

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1981

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Memphis, TN 38107



### VECA CENSUS DATA

Land use and long-range neighborhood planning and downzoning are all matters of continuing concern to residents of the V/E area. The Federal Government has offered for the first time to give census data to neighborhood associations, corresponding to their neighborhood boundaries, to assist organizations like VECA with these localized projects. The Census Bureau guidelines stipulate, however, that only one such organization may be given data for any given area and that local (city) government must recognize the existence and boundaries of such an association.

Realizing that city-wide many community associations have overlapping geographic boundaries, the Memphis & Shelby County Office of Planning and Development denied official recognition (for the purpose of census data only) to any groups with this problem. Consequently, neighborhood groups were put in the position of seeking alternative solutions.

VECA's boundaries are Watkins (west); Overton Park, I-40 right-of-way (south); Trezevant/Springdale (east); and Edward/Brown, Cypress Creek (north). Several overlap situations exist for VECA, but the only area in question concerning census data is VECA's overlap with Mid Memphis Improvement Association on the south. MMIA's northern boundary is North Parkway. For years, residents

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between North Parkway and Overton Park have been well-served by and participated in the activities of both groups.

Tom Kepple—VECA's president, and Kay Portman—MMIA's president, have decided that it is in the best interest of both VECA and MMIA not to allow government regulations to jeopardize the identity of either neighborhood association. VECA and MMIA have agreed that for the purpose of obtaining copies of census data only, MMIA will include the area between N. Parkway and Overton Park in its application for recognition, and VECA will not. VECA will then have access to that information through MMIA. Once again, VECA and MMIA have demonstrated cooperation to achieve common goals.

By Ann D. Moore

### CORRECTION

The Dec '80-Jan '81 *E/News* stated incorrectly in the article "From Groceries to Greenhouses" that the National Cotton Council once owned the Rivalto building on McLean. The Council only leased it from an individual.

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