

The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Working With Vollintine - Evergreen Community Association

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New VECA officers, Mark Lindstrom and Rebecca Smith Richardson

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

Rebecca Smith Richardson of 1474 Tutwiler is the new president of the Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association, elected at VECA's general membership meeting March 28. Newly elected vice president is Mark Lindstrom, of 954 N. Barksdale.

They fill positions formerly held by Dennis Heitzmann, who had been president of VECA for the past two years and Dick Borys, vice president.

Richardson, 30, has been a VECA resident for four years. She has lived in Washington, D.C. and New Mexico. An employee at the Memphis clothing store, La Boutique, she has a degree in marketing management from Memphis State University. Her husband of one year, Michael, is education director for the Memphis Board of Realtors and was once a teacher at Snowden and Central. Before being elected president, Richardson already had been active in VECA's involvement in the abandoned Louisville & Nashville Railroad right-of-way. She chairs the committee on planning strategy for VECA on the L&N issue. Besides her involvement with VECA, Richardson enjoys political activism. She worked on the Mike Cody for Mayor campaign.

Vice President Mark Lindstrom is a landscape architect with Gregory-Grace & Associates of Bartlett. The 29-year-old bachelor has lived in the neighborhood for three years. He moved to Memphis

(Continued on last page)

CORRIDOR UPDATE

By Franklin Moore

Speaking to about 50 people at the Mid-Memphis Improvement Association meeting on March 17, John Hopkins, executive director of Memphis Heritage, stated that "something is going on" with regard to the development of a midtown transportation corridor, but "it is not time to push the panic button."

Hopkins announced that attorney Gail Mathes was preparing to file a request under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain from the Federal Highway Administration the final environmental impact statement prepared by Allen & Hoshall, engineers, for the state of Tennessee. The statement is believed to contain final recommendations for the routing of east-west traffic through the corridor. Hopkins was denied this information by Allen & Hoshall.

Hopkins said even after the statement is made public, the law requires public hearings before construction could begin. Hopkins added, despite the deletion of I-40 from the federal interstate system, the state and city are moving forward with plans for construction and routing, so that traffic can flow through midtown from one end of old I-40 to the other end, and the use of the old I-40 right of way for transportation is still possible.

Hopkins stated that Memphis Heritage's goal is to assist all groups concerned with reknitting the historic neighborhood and healing the wound caused by the removal of houses for I-40. Memphis Heritage wants to open a dialogue with all groups concerned with redevelopment of the corridor for residential purposes to determine common goals, so that a united front can be presented.

In other MMIA news, a vote to change the name of the organization passed, but the determination of the new name was tabled, and members were encouraged to submit their preference to MMIA Board members. The boundaries of MMIA were changed to the following: Cleveland on the west; East Parkway

(Continued on last page)

MAYOR TO SPEAK

Mayor Dick Hackett will be guest speaker at VECA's May 23 general membership meeting at 7:30 p.m., at Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1663 Tutwiler. At that meeting, also, findings of a survey which questioned property owners along the abandoned L&N railroad right-of-way will be discussed. VECA members have been conducting the door-to-door survey for the past few months in hopes of finding out what property owners want done with the abandoned right-of-way.

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**ACADEMY BRUSHES UP
 SUMMER PROGRAM**

By Allison Egger

The Memphis Academy of Arts' Continuing Education Program promises to challenge any creative mind, ages of 2½ and up, with its summer session which runs from June 13-July 15. The summer program is open to both youth and adults with a variety of courses.

The youth program's curriculum has been expanded and improvements made in several aspects. For the first time, new classes will be offered to 2½ through 4-year-olds. An example is "baby gymnastics," says Kay Betts, the director of the children's program.

The regular session for children and young adults ages of 4 to 18 will continue to be available this summer. Teaching students of high school age this summer will be the art academy's regular faculty, and this, says Betts, promises a "more professional focus." This summer, a new, convenient alternative, especially appealing for children aged 6-18 is a five-hour class program. Courses to be offered include: photography, drawing, painting, and textiles.

There will also be a design class open to high school students that will include visits to Brooks Gallery to study paintings.

The adult program, open to anyone either for academic credit or audit will offer a large selection of classes this summer. They include: basic clay, photography, painting and drawing, with three academic credit hours per course available. The cost per credit hour is \$100. Classes taken for audit will be less expensive.

The Memphis Academy of Art's Continuing Education Program was renamed last spring. The "New School," headed by its director, Dolph Smith, offers more workshops, night courses in order to make it easier for working persons to obtain the Bachelor of Fine Arts. For more information, call 726-4085.



Photo by Franklin Moore.

SUPER PRES

Outgoing VECA president Dennis Heitzmann received more than just a T-shirt from an appreciative association for his work over the past two years. He stepped down with the thanks that come from doing a good job. Under his leadership, VECA has grown to more than 300 members and the treasury is well-fixed at \$2,600. Dennis was seldom too busy in his job at Memphis State University, where he is director of the Center for Student Development, to take time to answer questions concerning VECA. During his presidency, clean-up problems were solved, neighborhood security was highlighted and crime was fought head-on with the involvement of the neighborhood watch and patrol service. Also, he got the ball rolling on what to do with the abandoned L&N Railroad right-of-way. Just as, if not more, important, is VECA's strong influence with city and county governments. For all this and much more, the community owes Dennis Heitzmann a good neighborly pat-on-the-back and a heart-felt "thanks."

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PICTURE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Deadline for *The Evergreen News* photography contest is only weeks away - June 31. Businesses and organizations in our community have been more than generous in donating prizes that will provide a sight and taste sensation for our winners.

The first place winner will receive these prizes:

- A family membership to the Memphis Zoo. This allows the winner and his or her family to visit the zoo free for a year. The membership is a \$30 value and has been generously donated by the Memphis Zoological Society. It also includes several other benefits like free subscriptions to *The Memphis Zoo Newsletter* and *Zoociety News*.
- A \$10 gift certificate from Carl's Bakery, 1688 Jackson
- A ravioli dinner for two from Dino's Southwestern Grill, 645 N. McLean.

Our second place winner will receive:

- A \$15 gift selection from the Quality Incentive Company of Malone & Hyde, Inc. The winner can select his or her gift from dozens of items in the company's catalog like cookware, clocks, sports and beauty aids.
- The famous print by Southern artist, Carroll Cloar, "Where the Southern Crosses the Yellow Dog." Many thanks go to Brooks Memorial Art Gallery for donating this beautiful print.

The third place winner will receive a \$10 gift selection from the Quality Incentive Company of Malone & Hyde, Inc. Again, the winner will be able to select his or her gift from dozens of quality merchandise. The third place winner will also receive a Carroll Cloar print, "The Wedding Party," compliments of Brooks.

Judging our contest are Murray Riss, professor of photography at the Memphis Art Academy; Patti

Lechman, chairman of the art department at Shelby State Community College and Peggy McCollough, neighborhood reporter for the Commercial Appeal and weekend picture editor. Lechman and McCollough have been long-time VECA residents.

To refresh your memory on the contest rules, here they are again. Anyone living anywhere with any type of background can enter.

Pictures must be black and white, any size.

The pictures must be taken within the area we call VECA, which is bordered by the former I-40 right-of-way on the south, Cypress Creek on the north, Trezevant/Springdale on the east and Watkins on the west. The Overton Park area is included.

We want the pictures to represent a sense of neighborhood. Photographers should try to capture, in a picture, what makes the community special to them. It can be anything from a family outing at the park to a minister's handshake on Sunday morning.

Deadline for pictures is June 30, 1983. Winners will be published over a period of time in *The Evergreen News*, beginning in August.

Because of the expense in printing the winning photographs, we are asking an entry fee of \$1 per photographer. That's not \$1 per picture, now. You can enter as many pictures as you want that you have taken for just \$1. However, only one picture per photographer can win. Any extra proceeds will go into the publication budget of *The Evergreen News*, a non-profit newspaper.

An important note to remember is that pictures cannot be returned under any circumstances. Mailing expenses and handling time prohibit this.

Send your pictures and \$1 check made payable to *The Evergreen News* to *The Evergreen News*, 1663 Tutwiler, Memphis, TN 38107. On a piece of paper taped to the back of the picture (if you write on the picture itself, the writing may show through) print or type your name, address, telephone number and when and where the picture was taken.

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NEW OFFICERS (continued)

from Pennsylvania five years ago.

Involvement of more segments of the community, including different ethnic groups, old and young, professional and non-professional, is a top goal for the officers.

"My objective is to increase awareness of VECA both in and outside the community," says Richardson. "Internally we can address how VECA can work for you and how to get involved. Externally, we need someone representing VECA at city council meetings, Mid-Town Council and others."

Richardson wants to see a strong VECA in times of non-crisis as well as when emergency issues are at stake. "If the organization is already there in times when there is no trouble, then it's easier to have a tremendous voice in a crisis situation," she added.

CORRIDOR UPDATE (continued)

on the east; No. Parkway on the north; and Madison on the south, except for the area south of Poplar between McLean and Cooper. Owners or operators of businesses within MMIA may now become members.

Work on the Overton West Historic District continues. Boundaries are roughly No. Parkway, the western edge of Overton Park, Poplar, and Cleveland. Volunteers are still needed to research and collect data and are encouraged to immediately contact Janis Foster at 272-3162.

NEWS BRIEFS

•Free blood pressure checks are given every fourth Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at First United Lutheran Church at the Corner of Willett and Jackson. Please enter from the Willett side of the church.

•First United Lutheran Church also announces its vacation Bible School schedule. It will be open to kindergarten through high school age students August 1-5.

•Thousands of years of Israeli cultural, religious and political life will be represented in a unique archaeological exhibit at Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, in connection with the city's Memphis-In-May International Festival. Called, "Treasures from The Holy Land: Israel in Antiquity," the exhibit will be seen through June 12. A \$3 admission for adults is charged, \$1 for senior citizens and children under six are admitted free.

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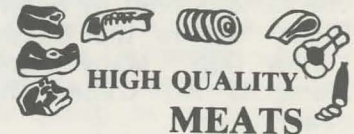


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