

The Evergreen News

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by VECA, Vollintine - Evergreen Community Association
DO NOT PUT IN MAILBOXES

1663 Tutwiler

Memphis, TN 38107

Volume XIV, Number 4, July, 1988

VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with its residents. The Evergreen News contains information about VECA, neighborhood residents, businesses, and government policies. VECA is bounded by Watkins on the west, Cypress Creek on the north, Trezevant on the east, and North Parkway on the south. Contact VECA by writing to: 1663 Tutwiler, Memphis, TN 38107.

VECA HONORS Martha Heinemann By Mike Kirby

Martha Heinemann was selected by VECA as the first recipient of the Margaret Dichtel Award for service to the neighborhood. Margaret Dichtel was a long time member, founder and president of VECA.

Martha lives on North Belvedere where she is involved in neighborhood preservation efforts. She has been VECA Treasurer for ten years. She is on the Housing committee, the Evergreen News staff, and the Executive committee. She is not just a formal participant, but she gives many long hours to the work of the organization.

Martha Heinemann reflects the values and concerns that Margaret Dichtel exhibited in her dedication to VECA. There is joy and genuine affection throughout the neighborhood for Martha's special contribution.

EVERGREEN NEWS CARRIERS NEEDED
Problems in delivery call Julie Borys:
272-2672

All Residents of the VECA Area

Meet Your Neighbors and have fun!

ANNUAL VECA PICNIC

RHODES POOL

6:00 TO 9:00 p.m.
Saturday August 6

Bring hors d'oeuvres, snacks and refreshments; beer allowed; VECA will provide soft drinks.

KENSINGTON BLOCK PARTY By Julie Borys

It's a warm Sunday afternoon in May and a throng of people are gathered in the shade of mighty oaks. The conversation is animated, the conversationalists noteworthy. Is it another Memphis-in-May people-watching-people event? No, it's the Second Annual Kensington Block Party and the gang's all here. Where else could you find a kayaker, environmentalist, mathematician, social workers, office supply company owner, newspaper people, radio talk show host, dedicated English gardener, librarian, ministers, cotton baron, the neighborhood's most important grandmothers and stranded motorists?

Hosts Ray and Julie Roberts have tips for a successful block party: keep it simple, make it

DINO'S SOUTHWESTERN GRILL



*Specialties:
Ravioli
and
Spaghetti*

645 N. McLEAN

278-9127

potluck, let one person be in charge of details, give early notice and follow up the week of the event, have something planned for the kids and have extra tables ready for all the wonderful food.

As a reporter, I found out there are very exciting residents on Kensington. For instance, Nicole Mochow had just placed third in the Great River Race and Ed Wingfield was fresh from a run for St. Jude. Math prof Steve Gadbois updated us on the jungle in its third season at Barksdale and Jackson. Agent Orange and plastic explosives have been considered from time to time, but would probably be frowned on by environmentalist Dick Mochow of the Sierra Club. Just kidding, Dick.

I found out J. Edge is more than Office Supply and Mr. Inderbitzen was in the cotton business. Richard and Laurie McFall work for the Commercial Appeal. Ann Held is a minister at Balmoral Presbyterian Church. Ray Roberts is a WHBQ radio talk show host. Julie Roberts reflected about how hard it is to grow an English Country garden in Memphis.

The unexpected guests, a young couple en route from Louisiana to St. Louis, were invited to eat and relax while waiting for repair parts. Coincidentally, the young lady was also a gardener and offered to share plants she was moving to her new home.

OPEN AGAIN

Carl's Bakery has reopened with all the goodies you remember:

- Cookies • Donuts • Sweet Rolls • Cakes • Pies • Danishes
- More breads than ever, including rye and pumpernickel. Rolls. Buns. Everything "from scratch."

Carl's BAKERY

1690 Jackson Ave. at Evergreen 276-2304
Open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday thru Friday

PAINT THE TOWN RED? WE ALWAYS HAVE

By Julie Baker

Yes, Memphians are painting the town red this summer. We were all given red zinnia

seed through the Sanitation Department, perhaps to compensate for the abundance of Cheetos wrappers and other trash that recently seems more prevalent on VECA streets.

VECA families have ALWAYS painted the town red. A drive down Evergreen or Auburndale in July gives a good indication of our "yen" toward red—tomato plants high-light front beds, side beds, and back yard plots. Give a VECA gardener a spot of sun and he will produce something edible.

The Vollintine-Evergreen area is blessed with good, rich topsoil, tended for over 60 years by families who kept backyard gardens, more often out of necessity than for the pleasure of "playing in the dirt" many of us enjoy today. Whatever the reason for gardening—stress release, pleasure or necessity—many VECA families suffer garden fever and are proficient gardeners.

By August the jars are filled and the back porch deep freeze is deep filled. You can stuff eggplant with zucchini, or vice versa, but NO, you can't make a good eggplant cake. Perhaps Carl's Bakery will find Eggplant Cake an interesting challenge and a local sensation.

While we don't have an "Overabundant Gardener's Hotline", some elderly neighbors would be tickled "red" to receive a sack of homegrown; or those of us plagued with tomato wilt would be tickled to trade a sack or two of zucchini, peppers and eggplant for red, ripe, juicy apples.

There's only two things that money can't buy - true love and home grown tomatoes.

Vollentine Food Market



Chris and Patrick Tong, owners
Vollentine at Avalon Tel.: 278-3990

*Fresh Meat and Produce
We deliver to-VECA area*

TOWNSEND'S MEAT & PRODUCE MARKET



"OLD FASHION SERVICE"

643 N. McLEAN BLVD.

276-1636

PROBLEM DAWGS

By Mike Kirby

VECA seems to be developing a dog problem. Barking dogs, loose dogs, and sometimes threatening dogs.

The Evergreen News discussed this matter with Robert Lee, the head of the Animal Shelter, the agency which provides the dog catcher service.

Lee stressed that the best solution to a "dawg" problem is a discussion with the owner asking for voluntary compliance. Many times the owner does not realize that a loose dog may be a security threat or a noise problem to the neighborhood.

What are the owners legal responsibilities? Each dog over the age of 6 months must have a license. There is a leash law which means it must be tied or behind a secure fence.

If voluntary compliance does not work, then it is time to call the Animal Shelter at 362-5310. Do not expect this to be an immediate solution. Some effort will have to be made to obtain the resolution to the problem.

When we called the Animal Shelter, the phone was busy 3 times and it was not answered twice. We reached a courteous receptionist on the sixth attempt.

Because there are thousands of complaints and a small staff, the agency has developed a priority for responding. Threatening and

vicious dogs have first priority.

Further, a call in which the citizen provides his name and the exact address of the problem has a better chance of response. If a number of different neighbors call in a complaint, the call will also have a higher possibility of response.

A return call to the Animal Shelter in two days is worth the effort. It alerts the the agency about the concerns of the citizen and pressures the agency to respond to the problem more effectively. As taxpayers, all VECA citizens have a right to effective public services.

If the problem is noise from extended barking or a vicious dog, a call to the Police Department at 911 is an option. You should factually and unemotionally explain your concerns to the dispatcher.

Dogs are wonderful pets and can be a great security aid. However, insensitive owners may need a reminder to be more careful.

Re-elect Senator Steve Cohen

**Hard Work, Straight Talk
It Works for You.**

*Paid for by The Cohen Reelection Committee,
Henry M. Turley, Jr., Treasurer*

LET'S GO A'STROLLING

By Annice Jennings

Where? To the Memphis Zoo and Aquarium. Right in our neighborhood. Get your exercise, entertainment, and education all at the same time.

This 36 acre facility, established in 1906, houses over 400 different species and plays host to over 500,000 visitors per year.

Visiting hours are from 9 to 5, 7 days a week with free admission on Mondays, from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children over the age of two.

Join the Memphis Zoological Society. Your participation as a member allows you free admission to the Zoo, a bi-monthly newsletter that keeps you in touch with Zoo activities, invitations to behind the scene tours, other special events, and a great way to show your pride in the zoo.

As a member, you can return as often as you like without additional admission charge. Membership provides free admission to over 50 zoos nationwide.

You can find out about the many planned special events by picking up your membership application at the gate on your next visit. Join and become a part of the WILDEST CROWD IN TOWN.

EVERGREEN PLAYSCHOOL

"Learning through Play"

for ages 6 months-4 years

Evergreen Presbyterian Church

613 University 274-3740

Registration now open for Fall '88

CHANCE FOR A BETTER LIFE

By Grace Wallace

Editors note: Grace Wallace, a long time member and immediate past president of VECA, is in charge of one of the Literacy Centers and is soliciting your assistance. Her home phone number is 276-6198.

The Memphis Literacy Council is a non-profit organization of volunteer tutors trained in a unique method of teaching adults to read and write. Illiteracy is a vicious cycle which keeps thousands of people jobless, poor and without hope. The 1980 Census revealed that over

80,000 adults in Memphis and Shelby County are functionally illiterate.

The philosophy of the Council is, "Each One Teach One," which neither places unreasonable demands on the tutor nor rigid demands on the students. Any literate, concerned, compassionate person can be trained to teach others.

The Memphis Literacy Council needs support of the citizens in VECA in this effort. Please contact Grace Wallace at the "Reading and Writing Center for Adults" at the Comprehensive Pupil Services Education Center at 1266 Poplar Ave., phone 722-3495. The center is in need of tutors for the adults whose names are on long waiting lists.

HERITAGE HOMES CO.

2883 Poplar Avenue,

Chickasaw Crossing

Memphis, Tennessee 38111



ANNICE JENNINGS
AFFILIATE BROKER

Off: 901/454-7800

Res. 274-1419

MLS Computer Service

I live in your neighborhood

WET BASEMENTS

BY Mike Kirby

Because I am tired of drought stories, I though it would be fun to remember the torrential rains of December and January.

The water came through the walls, up from the floor and through the floor drains. There were many causes: a high water table, underground streams, inappropriate drainage outside the house, and an old and inadequate sewer system.

The solution is a permanent drought or installing a pump. Now is the time to install a sump pump when it can be done in a leisurely way.

The handyman can install one or a plumber

will perform the task. The following steps make this a reasonable job for the handyman.

Step 1 is to identify the low point in the floor where the water will drain. This is usually next to a floor drain. The direction of the floor drain pipe should be identified so a hole is not made over the pipe.

Step 2 is to mark a hole in the concrete. Carefully cut a hole in the concrete. It may be possible to do this with a hammer and chisel if the concrete is soft. Otherwise, a small power hammer can be rented for about \$25. The dirt in the hole should then be removed to just below the depth of the bucket.

Step 3 is to install hole liner. The hole can be lined with a 5 gallon plastic bucket found at paint stores. These buckets are sturdy, easy to work with, and long lasting. Cement should be placed at the bottom of the hole and then around the bucket so the hole is sealed. The section from the lip of the bucket to the floor should be slightly sloped to let the water drain into the hole. The cement should be allowed to cure.

Step 4 involves installing the sump pump. The pump fits into the hole and will be covered with water. A plastic float with a switch will be tied to the electrical cord and will activate the pump as the water rises in the hole. PVC pipe is attached to the pump and it is tied into the house drain system. The floor drain should not be used for the plumbing since that can be a source of water accumulation in the basement. If the floor drain is the source of basement problems, then it may be necessary to cap that drain.

Free for the Digging By Julie Borys

Is your phlox in a flux, your hydrangea in hiatus? Are your lilies listless, your jonquils jaundiced, your iris irksome? Perhaps they are overcrowded. Late summer through fall is a good time to divide many perennials.

"Free for the Digging" is a great way to get rid of extra plants, perhaps with no shovelling on your part. Call Julie Borys at 272-2672. She'll try to put you in touch with an "adoptive gardener" who will dig up the plants under your supervision or swap cuttings with you. Call Julie and she will match donors and recipients.

OPEN DOOR BIBLE CHURCH

1792 N. Parkway 38112

PRESENTS

KIDS' KRUSADE with PENNY and PUPPETS

July 18-22 Mon. - Fri.

7 p.m. nightly

For further information call: 278-4311

\$\$\$\$\$\$ VECA DUES \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Return \$7.50 yearly dues to VECA at 1663 Tutwiler, Memphis, TN 38107

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

VECA ROOFS

By Steve Shelton

The last two installments of this series pointed out that VECA roofs are in serious trouble since they have reached the end of their useful lives. It has been 17 years since a severe storm created massive roof replacements in the VECA area.

This month we will cover selecting a contractor.

ELECT Joseph L. (Joe) Patterson
JUDGE Division 9
General Sessions

August 4, 1988

Paid for by Committee to Elect Joe Paterson Judge Pat Duffy, Treasurer

There are some cautions on how NOT to select a contractor. Never select a roofer who comes door to door. Never select a roofer who is from outside the city.

There are also some cautions to be exercised. You should be extra careful about contractors selected from classified ads or from the yellow pages. Furthermore, the largest and most prominent contractors in the city may not necessarily be attuned to homeowners and may not be a good choice because of cost.

Further, some stores that sell shingles employ independent contractors—and the stores might not accept responsibility for shoddy work of the contractor.

How do you select a roofer?
• Many of your neighbors have roof replacements and can supply names of contractors. These neighbors will have opinions about the quality of work.

• Walk down the streets of VECA and select some houses with recent roof work. Even though you do not know the owner, a ring of the doorbell will bring a bevy of information.

• By all means, call the Better Business Bureau. Do not employ a contractor with a bad record or with no file. Roofers should not be selected because of a professional appearance. Most roofing companies look grungy. The consumer should look for quality work, rather than the pristine appearance of the workers.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMER STOCK THEATRE
at Shelby State Community College
A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM
HARVEY
HANSEL AND GRETEL
A Memphis Music Variety Show
BESET '88
Beale Street Ensemble Theatre 528-6733
July 14 through July 30
Altenating Repertory

REPORTERS NEEDED
Compile Information for stories
Call Mike Kirby: 274-3875

When you care enough . . .
to look your very best!

University Park Cleaners

FASHION CARE SINCE 1919 613 N. McLEAN

Volunteer
Return to VECA at 1663 Tutwiler,
Memphis, TN 38107

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Reporter Evergreen News _____
Deliver Evergreen News _____
Membership _____ Business Committee _____
Phone Bank _____ Housing Committee _____

McLean Baptist Pre-School
Now Enrolling for Fall
15 months and up
After school pickup at
Snowden - Vollentine - Springdale
Full day Summer Program for School age
815 N. McLean
For Further information call: 274-9440

Evergreen News Staff
Mike Kirby, Editor
Julie Borys, Distribution Manager
Christie Dinklacker, Advertising Liason
Dottie Sachritz, Advertising Sales
Annice Jennings, Writer
Steve Shelton, Writer
Teresa Bullock, Layout Designer
Ron Goff, Photographer
Julie Baker, Editing and Writing
Martha Heinemann, Editing and Finance
Margaret Cardwell, Editing
Marsha Starck, Editing