

The Evergreen News

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by VECA, Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association

DO NOT PUT IN MAILBOXES

1663 Tutwiler

Memphis, TN 38107

Volume XV, Number 1, January 1989

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.

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

Annual VECA Meeting

Monday Evening
January 16
at 7:30

Lindsay Memorial Presbyterian
Church
1663 Tutwiler

Election of Officers
A Retirement Farewell to
VECA President Bill Bullock

OFFICERS NOMINATED

The VECA Nominations' Committee met and unanimously nominated Julie Borys for VECA President and Sally Dewing as Vice President.

Julie Borys has been a driving force in VECA for 10 years. Most recently, she was the VECA leader and spokeswoman in the rezoning controversy at Jackson and Hawthorne. She has been involved in education issues and worked to develop a neighborhood role in the schools. She has also been the distribution manager for The Evergreen News. She has written some terrific articles for The Evergreen News, including a wonderful story about the Kensington Block Party. Julie lives on North Idlewild and is involved in volunteer activities at Little Flower Church, various other community groups

and is a board member of The Center for Neighborhoods.

Sally Dewing, current VECA Vice President, is again nominated for that position. A novice in neighborhood work, Sally views her first terms as a learning experience. She was involved in the rezoning controversy as liaison with local churches. She is also involved in housing problems in the neighborhood caused by probate proceedings. She is leading the neighborhood effort to deal with the railroad right of way property between University and McLean. She lives on Jackson.

Painting, Fixing and Trimming

VECA will fix houses of low income
and elderly residents

MUST LIVE in the area between
Watkins-Faxon-Jackson-Dickinson

Nominate a neighbor or yourself

276-6505

PRESIDENT BULLOCK

President Bill Bullock will be chairing his final meeting for VECA in January.

Bill has led an efficient and well-organized administration. The neighborhood association has been meeting regularly in both a general

session and the monthly Executive Committee.

VECA has enormously expanded its work. It has tackled a large number of issues such as crime, housing, education and zoning. The detailed work of the organization has been carried out. Relationships are being developed with other neighborhood groups. The quality of The Evergreen News has significantly improved during Bill's tenure. The organization has developed an expertise in dealing with zoning issues. A legal fund for zoning cases has been established.

VECA has blossomed during Bill's tenure as President. Bill, you have been a terrific president!

"WHERE ITALY COMES TO YOUR TABLE"



Giovanni's

Authentic Italian cookery includes Bistecca Bracciola, Pollo alla Potentina, Scampi, Trota alla Livornese, Lobster Tail served on a bed of imported Fettuccine, Salmone en Fettuccine Portofino, Salmone Prima Vera, Trota alla Fiorentina, Filet of Sole alla Giovanni, Snails, Veal and Roman Cheese, Veal Piccata, Veal Marsala, Petti alla Giovanni, Eggplant Parmigiana, Oysters Rockefeller, Stuffed Mushrooms, Steaks (including Entrecote Sauce Au Poivre) and Seafood. Tues-Thurs 4-11, Fri. & Sat. 4-11:30, Sun. 4-10:30. Closed Mon. Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club.

282 N. CLEVELAND
2 blocks north of Poplar • 725-6660

NEW EDITORS NAMED

The November meeting saw the retirement of Mike Kirby as Editor of The Evergreen News after two years in that position.

A new administrative structure was announced so that the newspaper staff will now function as a VECA committee sharing responsibilities.

Mary Wilder was named as the Managing Editor of The Evergreen News. She will act as a coordinator who monitors scheduling and brings together the other editors on a regular basis. Most recently, Mary was director of the Rape Crisis Center. She lives on North Idlewild.

Craig Jordan will become Copy Editor. The Copy Editor receives the news stories from the reporters and edits them to a form that can be used for the paper. The Copy Editor also takes information supplied by reporters and writes some of the stories. Craig works as a

chaplain with Methodist Hospital, North. He lives on Sheridan.

Dotty Sachritz will become News Editor. She will work with the reporters to get news stories. She will also be in charge of finding reporters and writers. If you would like to contribute to The Evergreen News with an occasional story, call Dotty at 276-6216. Dotty lives on Sheridan and is involved in a variety of volunteer activities. She has been with VECA since its founding in 1969.

Christy Dinkelacker will remain in her position as Advertising Editor. She has direct contact with advertisers before the issue goes to press. Christy lives on North Idlewild, teaches art at Memphis State, and has a daughter, Jutta, who played a starring role as Wendy in the Circuit Playhouse's production of Peter Pan.

Teresa Bullock will continue doing her exceptional job as the Format Editor. Teresa works at Memphis, Light, Gas and Water and developed her talents for desktop publishing while working at the agency. She lives on Belvedere.

DINO'S
SOUTHWESTERN GRILL



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STYLE

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Specialties:
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and
Spaghetti

278-9127

VACANT LOT

The VECA Housing Committee is doing an inventory of all vacant lots in the neighborhood. During the summer, VECA will do a survey once every three weeks to make sure that the weeds are being cut. The offenders will be contacted. If they do not respond, their names will be submitted to the city for prompt action.

If there is a vacant lot on your block or near your home write the VECA Housing Committee to place the property on the Patrol. Address: Housing Committee, VECA, 1663 Tutwiler, Memphis, TN., 38107.

Little Flower and other area church pastors, VECA was formed to maintain the neighborhood and promote its integrated community. Little Flower was an outgrowth of eastward movement from Saint Brigid in the Greenlaw neighborhood. The Church was started in 1930. The first building on the property was the School. The main floor was the school and the second floor, the sanctuary. This depression era approach to building use served the parish until 1950 when the church was built next door. The second floor was converted to classrooms and a cafeteria. If you have ever looked at the building, perhaps you have wondered about the third floor. The vaulted ceiling of the old sanctuary was not completed, as was the second floor, and remains empty. The school was used from 1931 to 1985 with grades one through eight. The parish continues its school's use through an ecumenical effort with United Methodist Neighborhood Centers. The school is currently used as a preschool for handicapped children sponsored by United Methodist Neighborhood Centers and is known as Susanna Center.

Father Ewing states that he sees VECA in a transition: "A lot of young families are moving into the area. People are taking pride and rediscovering this neighborhood." Father Ewing said the church would like to open itself to more community events. He stated Little Flower is not an isolated church in the community and wishes to become more socially active. Ewing's goals are to rekindle the concept of home parish and reinvolve neighborhood residents who attend church elsewhere.

Volunteer

Return to VECA at 1663 Tutwiler,
Memphis, TN 38107

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Reporter Evergreen News _____

Deliver Evergreen News _____

Membership _____ Business Committee _____

Phone _____ Housing Committee _____

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

SPOT REZONING STOPPED BY VECA COMMUNITY

VECA responded to a request involving the spot rezoning of a property from residential to commercial use at 930 Watkins. Mr. Terry Starks of 930 Watkins, made a request to spot rezone his property for the purpose of establishing a recording studio. The hearing before the Board of Adjustment was November 30. Readers will remember this same strategy, spot rezoning, was used at Hawthorne and Jackson involving Mr. Ed MacAteer.

Jack Hough who lives on Garland, worked to organize an informed and decisive response. The VECA Zoning Committee prepared the legal material for presentation. Speakers at the Board session were Jack Hough, Julie Borys, Joe Hough, James Ivy, and Jay Bailey. Jack Hough spoke about the negative impact of spot rezoning in the VECA neighborhood. A slide presentation by Julie Borys demonstrated the need to maintain the residential corridors in the VECA neighborhood. Neighbors of Terry Starks--James Ivy, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Beard, Mr. Leo Kline, Mr. Herman Meyers, and Jack Hough, spoke to their immediate concerns living next door to a business. Joe Hough, real estate appraiser and VECA resident, addressed the impact on property values in an area such as VECA where the integrity of residential zones are not maintained. Jay Bailey, living on Idlewild summarized the history of VECA and the importance of the neighborhood in keeping its multi-ethnic, integrated community working together and maintaining the VECA residential corridors intact. Other neighbors in attendance were Mrs. Margaret Hough and Mrs. Dorothy Robinson.

The audience expressed support. Coun-

BEHIND THE SCENES

The Housing Committee has been working behind the scenes with problem properties through direct contact and letters. To avoid embarrassing anyone, the committee does not reveal households which have complied.

However, the VECA community should realize the positive effect that this committee has on the neighborhood.

The Housing Committee also needs members. Call Mike Kirby at 274-3875 if you would like to volunteer for committee membership.

Vollentine Food Market



Chris and Patrick Tong, owners

Vollentine at Avalon Tel.: 278-3990

*Fresh Meat and Produce
We deliver to VECA area*

JACKSON AT BARKSDALE UPDATE

This house has been the subject of articles in the last two issues of The Evergreen News and in the Neighbors section of The Commercial Appeal.

City Court Judge Sam Perkins dismissed 41 counts for high weeds without a murmur about what had transpired. In fact, the owner had not complied, and the city had cut the weeds.

The VECA Executive Committee authorized a letter to owner, Karen Kinard, indicating that VECA would clean up the property, help her find contractors and provide a list of realtors if she would agree to sell this property. Kinard indicated to a VECA representative that she was no longer able to take care of the property and had no thoughts of returning to live in the house.

All offers were made in a thoughtful, calm and caring manner. Ms. Kinard rejected the offer and indicated that she would "take care of the property". A lady who was with Ms. Kinard shouted at Veca representatives indicating that,

"We know you can only make us cut the weeds. You cannot make us do anything else."

The Housing Committee has encouraged the Department of Housing Improvement in attempting to obtain another court date on code violations. The committee now feels the house meets the definition of a "public nuisance" and is therefore subject to governmental intervention.

Ms. Kinard is to appear in Division 2 of City Court on Friday, January 6 at 1:30. It is important that neighbors appear in the court audience to indicate their concern.

RESTORATION AREA ANNOUNCED

Housing Chairman, Troy Mashburn, announced a major VECA housing initiative in the area bounded by Faxon, Watkins, Jackson, and Dickinson.

The neighborhood will conduct a door to door survey of residents. VECA hopes to identify residents willing to join VECA and work to solve some housing problems in the area.

The area was selected because there is a core of volunteers willing to help in the area. One street in the area was studied intensively through a property analysis and survey.

VECA intends to ask owners to repair any properties exhibiting problems. VECA will offer assistance to low income neighbors interested in improving their property. VECA intends to make this area a model for the neighborhood, an attractive source of affordable housing for moderate income home buyers. We will ask government and lending institutions to assist us by providing loans for home ownership.

Volunteers Needed For Committee

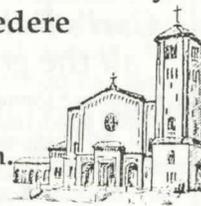
**Residents living in area between
Watkins-Faxon-Jackson-Dickinson**

**To participate in Neighborhood
Restoration**

Call Carol Warren - 276-6505

**St. Therese
Little Flower Catholic Community
Jackson at Belvedere**

Sunday Eucharists
8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.
Fr. Bob Ewing, Pastor
276-1412



"All Are Welcome"

DICHTEL AWARD

Margaret Dichtel was one of the founding members of VECA and its first president. She strongly believed that neighbors working in a community organization could accomplish together what they as individuals or government could not do. Her faith in the value of neighboring and the importance of grassroots community action is the VECA philosophy.

The Margaret Dichtel Award is presented to a member of VECA who embodies the principles of neighboring and community action. A current VECA member must make each nomination. Members desiring to nominate a VECA resident should submit a letter stating the candidate's contributions and achievements. To be considered for the award, the nomination must be received by February 1, 1989.

The Award will be presented to a current VECA member who lives in the VECA area. There is no specific length of membership required and the awardee need not be an officer. The awardee will be an individual who works to strengthen the relationships of community members, tackle problems that threaten the integrity of the community, make the neighborhood a better place to live, improve VECA's image city-wide, and evidence a commitment to the neighborhood and the concept of a neighborhood.

Nominations should be sent to Mrs. Lois Fingerett, Chair, Selection Committee, 949 University, Memphis, TN 38107.

VECA UPDATES

This column reports on VECA activities. The Troy and Tim Mashburn families on Faxon were nominated for Neighbors of the Year

in The Commercial Appeal. A large picture of the families appeared in The Commercial Appeal. Troy and Tim are members of the VECA Executive Committee and Troy recently completed two years as VECA Housing Chairman.

Janis Foster of The Center for Neighborhoods attended the November meeting of VECA and spoke about the emerging role of the Center.

Steve Simpson, Principal at Snowden, visited the VECA Executive Committee to discuss school policies. Mr. Simpson also attended the VECA Picnic in August and has maintained a close contact with Julie Borys, VECA Education Chair. The Snowden Principal impressed the Executive Committee with his caring attitude and responsiveness to the neighborhood.

Rumors continue about The Lunati House. There has been extensive renovation. VECA expects the property to be resold as a residence.

VECA residents are enjoying The Commercial Appeal as it runs articles involving both neighborhood residents and VECA's activities.

OPEN DOOR BIBLE CHURCH

1792 North Parkway
Memphis, Tennessee 38112
(901) 278-4311

Gary D. Starbuck, Pastor

Sunday Services: 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.
"Growing Together in the Lord Jesus Christ"

**SAINT THERESE CHURCH OF THE
LITTLE FLOWER**

Little Flower has a new pastor, The Reverend Bob Ewing. Father Ewing is an ardent supporter of midtown neighborhoods and is pleased to be assigned to Little Flower. Father Ewing comes to the community from Central Gardens and Immaculate Conception Church. Little Flower has long been active in the community. Under the leadership of Father Leppert at

cilwoman Barbara Sonnenberg spoke on behalf of the VECA community's request to deny the spot rezoning at 930 Watkins. Klondike Civic Association President, Alma Morris, and Civic Leader, Bonnie Collins, stated clearly the need for denial of the rezoning request in order to maintain residential neighborhoods.

The Board of Adjustments rejected Terry Starks' application for a zoning variance at 930 Watkins. The property will have to be returned to residential use.

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

*University Park
Cleaners*

FASHION CARE SINCE 1919 613 N. McLEAN

VECA Roofs

The Evergreen News has been running a series on VECA roofs, many of which are reaching the end of their useful life because they were replaced in 1971 after a storm destroyed large numbers of roofs.

We have noticed dozens of roofs being replaced since this series started. However, word reaches us that several roofers are doing very shoddy work. It is important to select a competent roofer. The August issue of the Evergreen News covered this important topic.

This month we cover the basics of what the roofer should do.

You will want high quality replacement shingles. A high quality fiberglass shingle, rather than an asphalt shingle, is preferable.

The roofer should clean up and remove all debris. It is against the city code for a contractor to leave shingles for the Sanitation Department.

There may be water damage of the roof decking. It is extremely important to replace these damaged boards. If the damage is severe, this will be

a very expensive part of the process since it can involve extensive carpentry.

If there are three existing layers, one of the layers, and probably all of the layers should be replaced. It increases the cost of the roof, but it improves the safety of your roof because it removes much of the weight from the roof. Removing the existing shingles will be cost effective because it will prolong the life of the new roof.

VECA Resident Marsha Starck, who recently had a roof replaced, offers additional tips.

- Nails are preferable over staples.
- Get a written contract which lists the warranties. The warranty should specify whether labor and material are provided without cost during the warranty period.
- Get several estimates.
- Obtain and check references.

TOWNSEND'S MEAT & PRODUCE MARKET



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