The Evergreen News

DO NOT PUT IN MAILBOXES



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

P.O. BOX 12011

Memphis, TN 38182-0011

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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 P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN

VECA MEETING

"Fix Up, Clean Up, & Green Up" MAY 18TH, 10:00 am- 12 noon Nazareth Hall, 840 Dickinson

Speakers on home remodeling and landscaping will be available to look at your sketches and discuss your ideas.

WHY I WANT TO PASS THIS GRADE Josalyn Tresvant Composition Mrs. E. Smith - 601

I would like to pass this grade for a numerous amount of reasons. However, in order to do this I must have the ample ingredients to make this idea cook.

Those requirements consist of determination, intelligence, book sense, as well, as common sense.

These are the necessities needed. Now, if I have these requirements I can pass it. Now why would I want to do it:

Because, in order for me to go to the seventh grade, I need this grade. I also want to pass this grade for myself, to show me that I am important. That I can use my sixth sense to solve problems.

I would finally like to pass this grade for all the people who gave their lives and time for me. Therefore, I would like to say to my teachers; parents, black leaders, friends and family and God, thank you for your support.

WE'VE GOT STYLE III

by Julia Baker



There are few "givens" in life. We were all born; we will all eventually die; we can learn a lot about life by carrying a cat home by its tail - and we all recognize a Spanish style house.

For the sake of confusing a given, there are several distinct Spanish styles of architecture.

The Mission (often confused with Italian Renaissance) features an "old mission shaped" dormer or parapet at the main roof or porch roof, open overhanging eaves, and large, squared-off windows. The porch roof is supported by large square piers, arched above, and the plan is usually square. (The Italian style has small classical columns at the covered entrance and tall, arched windows.)

Spanish Colonial is one story, completely rectangular structure with very small windows and more than one entry door facing front, like a duplex.

Spanish Colonial Revival (Spanish Eclectic) is a bungalow style with little or no eave overhang, one or more arches above doors, particularly in the South. It is often "L" shaped (has a cross gabled roof - for you architects out there).

All these styles, however, share some common features. They have flat or low pitched roofs, at least one arched entryway, and white stucco or smooth plastered exterior walls.

SPANISH DECO IN VECA

Imitating the Hispanic spirit in building was a national craze of the early 1920's and the mission

-continued on page 2

WE'VE GOT STYLE - II continued

and Spanish Eclectic styles became popular in our VECA area as builders adapted these popular "silent western film sets" in our fast growing area.

There are several nice examples of the Spanish Eclectic style on Tutwiler, between McLean and Evergreen, and I was invited to view Fred Durbin's home on Tutwiler one recent evening.

I'm sure you are all familiar with the Durbin property's "stop and take a second long look" land-scaping and statuary on the front patio and under the porte cochiere. It takes vision and a lot of guts to do what Fred did and get away with it - and the finished product is, well, quietly arresting.



Fred purchased the little white Spanish bungalow in 1986. Some doors had been "walled up" some years before to make a "mother-in-law's apartment," but the interior rooms are still surprisingly spacious, with mission style archways leading from room to room.

The interior can be best described as deco cat house gaudy. Fred is quite a collector and there are interesting, fun things to look at in every corner and cranny of every room.

The living room features a French Empire day bed in burgundy and white striped satin, and two Victorian gentleman's chairs. Wall decor on the Sante Fe pink walls include a beautifully framed Maxfield Parish print and other period prints.

In the dining room, the eyes are immediately drawn to a 20's alabaster lamp - a polar bear poised on a large iceberg, which sits on a 20's curved sideboard. The effect of the large black and white leopard print area rug is hard to describe, but it is somehow perfect with the beaded and embroidered pink, mauve, lime and yellow Scarlett Winter lampshades on the brass standing lamps, and the purple iris stained glass window.

The breakfast room has been papered in a Victorian styled print of pale teal. Upper cabinet

doors on the butler's pantry have been removed to expose the shelving and painted in a bright, glossy teal. Here, Fred displays his collections of colorful fiestaware, books, old family photos, and his child-hood bronzed cowboy boots. A geometric deco stained glass window makes the room even cozier.

The sitting room off the large kitchen is the "Marilyn Monroe" room, with two walls of Marilyn prints and photographs. The large master bedroom has been painted a comfortable deep brick red, with the main wall papered in a matching deep red oriental print. This eclectic room features a large antique, carved mahogany bed and deco burled wood dressing table and brass and leaded glass lamps.

Fred fenced in his back lawn after a Lick Creek raccoon family made dinner of Fred's six Japanese Silky's (ornamental chickens). The six foot fence affords some protection from raccoons, and a lot of privacy to enjoy his in-ground pool and four tiered running water fountain.

This is another home that would sell a lot of tickets in a VECA home show. It is unique (and colorful) inside and out - a really fun home.

Thanks to Fred Durbin for sharing his home with us. Fred is one of those rare folks who never met a stranger. He is a registered nurse and is an active member of Little Flower Church.

The vast majority of the old houses in which people live today are what architectural historians would consider commonplace. They are vernacular interpretations of classically defined styles, and they were most often the work of a carpenter/builder. According to Classic House Plans, by Lawrence Grow, "The historic preservation movement encompasses more than "masterpieces" or historically important "George Washington Slept Here" kinds of houses." Everyday period homes deserve recognition. There is no such thing as an average home there are "stylistically common examples."

Your help is still needed in our committee for Historic Preservation or Conservation. Please say YOU CAN COUNT ON ME. Show your pride in your home and neighborhood. Together we can make this an even finer area. Please call 276-1066 to volunteer your time.

THE FRIENDS OF SHELBY FARMS

An Urban Support Group

The Friends of Shelby Farms is a natural outgrowth of the coalition that blocked the extension of Kirby Parkway through the "big cypress" rear of what is now the Shelby Farms Forest State Natural Area. When the Shelby County Mayor's Office unveiled the "Rauch 1990 Final Concept Plan," (so named for Pittsburgh planner Geoffery Rauch) in November, 1990, it became obvious that not only the natural area forest, but the entire park is endangered by a combination of insensitive planning, government mismanagement, and the general absence of any real vision.

From garden clubs, concerned citizens, and virtually every environmental group in the county, the not-for-profit Friends of Shelby Farms, Inc., began to shape itself to be a support group for the well-being of this park. The purpose of the Friends is to ensure that the public is properly informed and educated on the environmental concerns and planned development of Shelby Farms (the 4,500 acre tract of public recreation land acclaimed to be "the World's Largest Urban Park"), and to encourage a more democratic process in the management of these public lands.

Specific goals of the Friends are: (1) to have Plough Park expanded to encompass the entire northeast portion of the park area, (2) to see that a well-planned and landscaped environmentally sensitive road system, similar to East Parkway, acknowledges its presence on parkland, (3) to determine if there is strong public interest in more active recreation, and if so, to help select and develop areas that would allow for this in a matter that would not disrupt the overall natural pastoral feeling of the park, and (4) to help bring about the establishment of an autonomous authority over the entire park to prevent further piecemeal development of the area.

It appears, due to public outrage, that the Shelby County Mayor's Office may be yielding on some components of the "Rauch Plan." The "Kimbilio" wild animal park will not likely ravage the Plough Park picnic area. The proposed development of two conference hotels and a 36-hole PGA

style golf course seems to be dismissed as a workable concept. Does this mean the park should be considered "saved" for future generations? Well, hardly.

Using interstate substitution funds, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is rapidly moving ahead with their "Sunday Special" road design for Kirby Parkway. This off-the-shelf, six-lane concoction shows little awareness that the road passes through a lovely urban parkland and richly deserves a most special treatment. The design of this inappropriate road is proceeding with the full knowledge and encouragement of our local officials.

Very recently, a shopping center styled Farmers Market has been proposed on Agricenter land. Now hardly anyone would be opposed to this sort of development, yet here is another example of piecemeal planning which puts additional fixed architectural hardware in place that has nothing to do with any master plan for the park. It should be remembered that the highly acclaimed "Eckbo Plan" was essentially killed by one piecemeal development after another.

Because you care about your neighborhood and know there is strength in numbers, you chose to become a member of your neighborhood association. As members of a neighborhood association, you know how quickly a poorly planned government project can divide, erode, or completely destroy a neighborhood. We like to think of Friends of Shelby Farms as a neighborhood association of sorts - people joined for a common cause - the protection of our neighborhood park, because if you live in Shelby County, that's exactly what it is. Shelby Farms belongs to all the citizens of Shelby County, and it is our tax dollars that pay for its upkeep and, unfortunately, at times its destruction. We encourage you to become involved with the Friends of Shelby Farms and help keep this wonderful park in a form that future generations will treasure. For more information, write to the Friends at P. O. Box 22095, Memphis, TN 38122, or call us at 323-6947 or 682-2355.

DINO'S SOUTHWESTERN GRILL

by Annice Jennings

The Evergreen News takes pride in highlighting this neighborhood restaurant. Dino's is one of the few "Mom and Pop" type of eateries existing today.

The decor is homey with old-fashioned tieback window curtains. While dining there, you might enjoy looking over an interesting display of pre-WWII Italian picture postcards that line one wall in the main section of the restaurant.

The restaurant is open from 7 am to 9 pm, Tuesdays through Sundays. Italian specialties and home style Southern cooking are featured. If you are not in the mood for spaghetties, raviolis, or the hearty daily specialties of a meat and vegetables, the menu offers salads, soups, and sandwiches. Good cooks are behind the scene here!

Once you have dined here, it's easy to understand why this restaurant remains busy and popular. A private room can accommodate groups up to 50. Carry-outs are available. For real Italian food call Rudy Grisanti at 278-9127 or visit them at 645 N. McLean.



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Rev. James M. Duke III, Pastor office: 274-3677 "The Lutheran Church of Midtown"

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS

by Laurel Becker

Low to moderate-income VECA residents may be eligible for home improvement loans. First American Bank is offering a Special Needs Home Improvement Loan program for homeowners who want to repair or remodel their houses.

According to William J. Bobbitt, Assistant Vice President of Community Development for First American, in order to qualify, the applicant must:

- 1. Own or be purchasing a home
- 2. Not exceed \$31,300 total annual income
- 3. Have a reasonable credit record
- 4. Be able to repay the loan without hardship
- Use the proceeds of the loan to make home improvements.

A loan of \$5,000 or less will have a fixed interest rate and can be repaid in up to five years. A loan of more than \$5,000 can be repaid in up to ten years, however, interest rates may be adjusted once after the first five years. The adjusted rate may go up or down with a maximum increase of two percent. All interest rates will depend on financial market conditions. -continued on page 4

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS

Designed for low to moderate income homeowners

Loans are available up to \$15,000 to help you repair, modernize or remodel. Call or stop by any First American office for details.





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HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS -continued

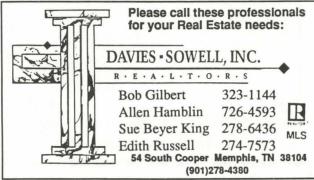
An account with First American Bank is not required to be eligible for a home improvement loan, said Bobbitt. However, the applicant must show written evidence of the work that is to be done.

The Special Needs loan is secured by a Deed of Trust on the applicant's principal residence and the loan may not be assumed by anyone else if the property is sold.

"We are encouraging people to revitalize communities such as VECA by targeting loans to low and moderate income households," said Bobbitt.

For more information, or to apply for a home improvement loan, contact one of fifteen First American branch banks.







1991 OUTSTANDING NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP

by Lance Andrade, President VHNW

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the residents of Vollentine Hills for your support and a job well done. Because of the hard work to maintain the integrity of our community, we received this very special award. And, giving special thanks to Helen Evans (Leader of the Year Nominee) who activated Vollentine Hills Neighborhood Watch and motivated the people in this community to a successful neighborhood watch group.

Their motto for their group is "Community Unity." They are active and involved in many facets and phases of their neighborhood. Their ultimate goal is to keep their neighborhood "Crime Free" and to maintain a safe and clean neighborhood. They also have a desire to branch out into other communities in Memphis and try to instill the civic pride in those neighborhoods, like they have in theirs.

The following are just some of the activities this group is involved in:

- *Annual Ice Cream Social in conjunction with National Night Out
- * Annual neighborhood Christmas Party
- *Kindness Committee, which welcomes new families into the neighborhood
- *Walker Groups groups of neighbors who volunteer to walk through the neighborhood to keep an eye on activities
- *Neighborhood Improvement Group Group members canvass the community
 to see that property owners abide not
 just in city ordinances, but in zoning laws.
 They also make sure the sidewalks are
 clean.

This is why the Memphis Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Program chose the Vollentine Hills Neighborhood Watch Group as the OUTSTANDING NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP FOR 1991, at their annual brunch in March at the Omni.

Annual VECA Dues \$7.50

Make checks payable to VECA and send to: VECA Treasurer - 705 N. Belvedere, 38107



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*

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Sunday School Worship Service

10:50 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

Evening Worship

5:45 P.M. 6:30 P.M. Fellowship Dinner

Prayer Service

Nursery Services Available

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