

VOLLINTINE EVERGREEN

N E W S

A Neighborhood Publication Sponsored by VECA, the Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association

Volume XXIV, Number 2

MARCH 1998

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UPCOMING MEETINGS & COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise marked, all of these meetings are at the VECA office at 1680 Jackson. To be certain, you can call first at 276-1782. Committee meetings and Board meetings are open to everyone.



VECA Potluck Supper and Pool Party	July 11, 6pm & 7pm (Rhodes College)
VECA Board	first Monday monthly, 7pm
VECA CDC Board	third Saturday monthly, 9am
Housing Code Enforcement Committee	first Saturday of even months, 9am
V&E Greenway Committee	second Monday monthly, 7pm
Acquisitions & Rehab Committee	second Tuesday monthly, 5pm
Commercial Redevelopment Committee	third Thursday monthly, noon (Dino's)
Budget & Finance Committee	second Tuesday monthly, 7:30am
Sales, Rentals, & Loans Committee	third Thursday monthly, 10am
CDC Managing Committee	fourth Saturday monthly, 9am
Historic Home Tour Committee	second Monday monthly, 7pm (TBA)
Vollintine-Evergreen News Committee	April 10, June 5, August 7, October 9, December 4
Article deadlines:	
VECA Board	March 2, 7pm
VECA Board	April 6, 7pm
VECA Board	May 4, 7pm
CDC Board	March 21, 9am
CDC Board	April 18, 9am
CDC Board	May 16, 9am

VECA AWARDS

At VECA's January 26 general membership meeting, outgoing Board members and officers were recognized. Also honored were city councilmember **Barbara Swearingen Holt**, recipient of the Richard Borys award for service by a public official, and **Steve Gadbois**, recipient of the Margaret Dichtel award for service by a resident.

Do Not Place In Mailboxes

THE VECA YOUTH CORPS: FUTURE BUILDERS FOR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

As a result of the VECA-Rhodes College Delta Planning Project, VECA and the Rhodes Kinney Program announce the new and exciting Youth Corps for Service and Leadership. There are 24 openings for a diverse group of students currently in grades 6-8 who live in the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood. Students with leadership potential and an interest in new experiences should apply by March 30. Applications are available at the VECA office, Cypress Junior High School, and Snowden Middle School. Selections will be made by April 14.

Students selected for the program will be asked to make a six-month commitment to exploring new ways of community building, self expression, service and leadership. The Youth Corps will plan monthly activities, beginning in April, and will culminate with an adventurous week of action-leadership camp at Rhodes College the week of July 13-17. The camp's theme is Future Builders, and it will be conducted in collaboration with Bridges, Inc., modeled after Bridgebuilders, the landmark high school program for cross-cultural learning, adventure, recreation and leadership.

The Youth Corps is funded by gifts from VECA, the Rhodes Kinney Program, the Ford Foundation, and the Bonner Scholarship Program. Youth Corps members will be asked to contribute \$10 to a community service fund, but all other expenses are covered! That includes the summer action-leadership camp, all activities, outings, meals, t-shirts, and a special graduation ceremony. Coordinators and trained counselors will come from VECA, Rhodes College, and the Bridgebuilders program of Bridges, Inc.

6th-8th graders: If you are ready for adventure and new experiences in action leadership, this may be for you! We're searching right now for a few good Youth Corps members to help us build the future, so get ready to apply for this great new program.

- Fun & adventure
- Cool t-shirts & all-you-can-eat meals
- Future builders action-leadership camp at Rhodes College
- Soup kitchens, ecology-action & other service projects
- Community adventures & outings once a month
- ...and a chance to do something that makes a difference in your life and in the world!

Have questions? Call Billy Newton, Rhodes Chaplain and Vollintine-Evergreen resident, at 843-3849.


PART-TIME SENIOR AIDE SOUGHT

We would like to thank Ms. Netty Snap for her valuable help working part-time at the VECA office since October. Netty is moving on to another job soon, and we wish her well.

So we are looking for a senior citizen from the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood who would like a part-time job helping out at the VECA office. The position is paid through a grant with Senior Services. There are income restrictions and you must be 55 or older. For more information or an application, call the office at 276-1782 or stop by the office at 1680 Jackson.



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VOLLINTINE-EVERGREEN SPRING ACTIVITY DAY: SATURDAY APRIL 25 ON THE L&N GREENLINE AT MCLEAN

CLEAN UP

All Block Clubs in Vollintine-Evergreen are invited to "Team Up to Clean Up Memphis" from noon to 2pm on Saturday April 25. This is a city-wide clean up sponsored by City Beautiful and Glad Bag-a-Thon. Mayor Herenton will kick off the month-long campaign at the Liberty Bowl on March 28. Representatives of any interested Block Clubs may pick up entry forms at the VECA office. If your Block Club is one of the first 30 to turn in your entry form to City Beautiful, your organization will receive a camera and photo album to record your clean up. You will also be eligible to have your clean up judged — winning Block Clubs will receive \$100 for beautification projects.

PLANT SWAP

After your clean up on April 25, come by to swap or give away your garden goodies: plants, bulbs, seeds, flower pots, etc. If you count the number of bags of trash you collected, you may pick up plants or seeds for your clean up effort. Join Vollintine-Evergreen gardeners and beautify our neighborhood.

COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION

As reported in the last issue of the *Vollintine-Evergreen News*, one of VECA's main projects in 1998 will be completing a study of Vollintine-Evergreen's six commercial districts and beginning implementation of some of the strategies that study recommends. Most of the January 26 general membership meeting at St. Therese-Little Flower Church was devoted to a description of the study, which is being done by ETI Corporation (the same firm that designed the successful Cooper-Young district). In the next few weeks ETI will host meetings in the various commercial districts for our business owners.

Thanks to those of you who have completed and returned commercial revitalization surveys (over 150 of them). It's not too late to send your survey in; if you need one, stop by or call the VECA office (276-1782). Your thoughtful comments will be carefully considered.

SCHEDULE FOR THE COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION STUDY

The following meetings are open to all Vollintine-Evergreen residents and business owners. The Community Meeting in March will be an update on ETI's information-gathering on all six of our commercial districts. The various Design Meetings in April will focus on specific commercial districts.

Community Meeting—

7pm, Monday, March 23, at the VECA office (1680 Jackson Avenue)

Design Meetings—

McLean at Tutwiler: 7pm, Tuesday, April 14, at the VECA office
 Springdale: 7pm, Thursday, April 16, at the VECA office
 Jackson at Evergreen: 7pm, Monday, April 20, at the VECA office
 Jackson at Watkins: 7pm, Tuesday, April 21, at the VECA office
 Watkins at Brown: 7pm, Tuesday, April 21, at the VECA office
 Vollintine at Avalon: 7pm, Thursday, April 23, at the VECA office

THE LATEST BLOCK CLUB GRANTS

At a reception on January 26, Vollintine-Evergreen residents mingled and ate finger food as many Block Club contact persons received \$100 checks to further the Block Clubs' work: improving communication and making our neighborhood a better and safer place in which to live.

Terry Circle used their grant money for Christmas decorations; the Brown/Howell Block Club plans to have a pizza party; Stonewall residents will be planting bulbs or seeds as a sign of unity; Garland Street and the University Lane Improvement Association both want block welcome signs; McNeil's Block Club wants to plant bulbs and crepe myrtles; Wells-Barksdale neighbors and Evergreen neighbors both would like to plant trees and shrubs; Avalon residents and the St. Therese-Little Flower group both plan a flower garden; Tutstone Club (on Tutwiler and Stonewall) needs to clean up and then plant flowers. Thanks to all who took the time and made the effort to apply for these grants. We wish all neighbors success in their projects and hope to hear from them in the future.

GRANT NEWS

In December, VECA received the good word from the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis that VECA has been awarded a \$34,000 grant from the Community Foundation Partnership Fund to continue some of the neighborhood organizing activities. The grant will support a part-time staff member to continue working with block clubs and to begin a membership campaign. (Look for more details on that campaign soon!) We appreciate the support and trust from the Community Foundation for this grant, the three-year NPI grant, and other valuable assistance. The Foundation's Janis Foster remains a wonderful resource and friend.

MUSICAL EVENTS AT ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

St. Mary's, the Episcopal Cathedral in Memphis, is presenting three outstanding musical events in the coming weeks. All are free.

At 5pm on Sunday, March 8, Bryan Rowe will direct the choir of Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church in a Choral Evensong. Mr. Rowe will also present an organ recital at 4:30pm.

At 6pm on Sunday, March 22, Brian Taylor will direct the St. Mary's Cathedral Choir in a plainsong Eucharist appropriate to the fourth Sunday of Lent. The service will also feature the music for that Sunday from Charles Tournemire's L'Orgue Mystique, performed by Dr. Jane Gamble, Associate Organist-Choirmaster.

At 7:30pm on Friday, April 24, Brian Taylor will present an organ recital of music for Easter, Pentecost, and Ascension: Tournemire's Victima Paschali, Messiaen's L'Ascension, and Kenneth Leighton's Veni Creator Spiritus.

Mr. Taylor, who holds degrees from Westminster Choir College and Southern Methodist University, served churches in Michigan, New Jersey, Alabama, and Texas before coming to Memphis. He is currently Dean of the Memphis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

St. Mary's Cathedral is located at 700 Poplar Avenue. The building is handicapped accessible and secure parking is provided. For more information, call the church office at 527-3361.

GREENWAYS NEWS

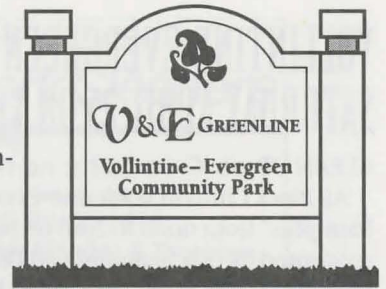
The Greenways Committee has approved a comprehensive work plan and budget which provides the volunteers with resources to maintain the L&N Greenline during the summer. There are plans to mow, clear vines, improve the road bed and to make water service available for the gardens. Garbage cans are being added at various sites and users are encouraged to pick up litter. Attractive signs and bollards are scheduled for installation in March at various sites along the L&N Greenline.

Several large work parties are being planned by the Rhodes VECA Club, coordinated by Rhodes College student Errin Calhoun, for the Springs Section (between University and Springdale) and the West End (between the Sears building and Stonewall). Renata Rosenthal is chair of the committee, Charlotte Swailes is vice-chair, Mike Kirby is treasurer, and Len Cobb heads the maintenance subcommittee. If you have any questions about the Greenline call the Committee's administrative assistant, Joyce Ann Parker, at 276-1782. The Committee meets at 7pm on the second Monday of each month at VECA headquarters, and all are welcome.

A car wash has been scheduled for March 28 at the VECA office. Please bring your car for a complete treatment and you will be helping fund activities related to the L&N Greenline.

The committee has created a fund raising brochure and is seeking contributions from Vollintine-Evergreen residents who recognize the value of green spaces. Brochures are available at the VECA office and on the Greenline at Idlewild. Contributions are important if the volunteers are to carry on their work. Become a "conductor" for \$10, an "engineer" for \$30, or a "station master" for \$100; contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. A special thanks for the following contributions to the L&N Greenline:

- \$20 from Wendy and Richie Trenthem in memory of Chad;
- \$30 from Jan Kirby;
- \$30 from an anonymous donor in honor of Jim Martin's work with the CDC;
- \$50 in memory of Rhodes Professor Fred Neal for the VECA Rhodes Club to plant cherry trees on the Greenline at University;
- \$100 from Len Cobb and Carol Danehower;
- \$250 from Chuck Fox and Mary Wilder.



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VOLLINTINE-EVERGREEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Vollintine-Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with its residents. The Vollintine-Evergreen News contains information about VECA, neighborhood residents, and business 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 1680 Jackson Avenue, Memphis, TN 38107 or call (901) 276-1782.