

# VOLLINTINE EVERGREEN

**N E W S**

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

Volume XXVII, Number 2

MARCH 2001

## CODE ENFORCEMENT WORKSHOP

A Code Enforcement workshop will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19 in Millard Hall (the basement) at Evergreen Presbyterian Church (613 University Street). The workshop is free and open to anyone who has always wondered about dilapidated houses, tall weeds in yards, cars on front yards, or trash. Various code enforcement officials from the city and the county will be present.

## 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.



Potluck Supper & Pool Party	July 14 (tentative)
National Night Out	August 7
Hot Fun Summerfest	August 11 (tentative)
Fall Festival	September 29 (tentative); September 30 raindate
VECA Block Club Reception & General Membership Meeting	January 21, 2002 (tentative)
Historic Committee	second Monday monthly, 7:00 p.m. (call office for location)
Block Club Committee	first Monday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Code Enforcement Committee	first Saturday monthly, 9:00 a.m.
V&E Greenline Committee	third Monday monthly, 7:00 p.m.
Cypress Creek Beautification Committee	third Tuesday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Managing Committee	last Monday monthly, 7:30 a.m.
Housing Committee	second Tuesday monthly, 5:30 p.m.
Commercial Revitalization Committee	second Thursday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Brown/Howell Block Club	second Thursday monthly, 6:30 p.m. (Cypress Junior High School)
Youth Committee	
VENews deadlines:	April 6, June 8, August 3, October 5, December 5
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	first Monday monthly, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	March 5, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	April 2, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	May 7, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

## DICHEL AND BORYS AWARDS GIVEN AT ANNUAL MEETING

At VECA's annual meeting on January 22, 2000, VECA presented its two highly-prized annual awards to very deserving and well-known community figures.

The Richard Borys Award, presented to a civic figure who has made a significant contribution to the efforts of VECA during the past year, was given to Lt. Richard Granderson of the Memphis Police Department. Lt. Granderson is involved in various programs to save "at-risk" youth, including an "Achievers Program" in which he takes children to various businesses and gives them an opportunity to speak directly to employees ranging from the cleaning staff to the president. He and his officers provide transportation for children to participate in recreational activities and to attend computer training classes at the Douglass Community Center. At the same time, they serve as mentors to the children.

The Margaret Dichtel Award was given to Vollintine-Evergreen resident Bill Rehberg. Because of his interest in revitalizing the neighborhood greenspaces, Bill took on the project of building a bridge on the V&E Greenline across Lick Creek to unite the eastern and western sections of the neighborhood. He worked tirelessly in planning, changing the plan for a crude wooden bridge into a real steel-fabricated bridge. He raised funds and in-kind donations from individuals and businesses, especially Keeler Iron Works and Barnhart Crane and Rigging, and he spent nine months negotiating with the city for everything from permits to "air rights". Bill Rehberg's unceasing efforts in 2000 culminated in the bridge's installation on November 17.

Do Not Place In Mailboxes

## YOUR 2001 VECA BOARD

In accordance with the VECA Bylaws, all Vollintine-Evergreen members attending the January 22 meeting elected the following VECA Board members, as well as the president and vice president. (The VECA Board then selected its secretary and treasurer.)

Kay Blues, Janis Cannon (treasurer), Rick Cartwright (secretary), Fredha Feaster, Martha Heinemann, Hazel Jackson, Jenny Jenson (vice president), Helen Johnson, Cindy Marx-Kraus, Norman Redwing, Jessie Rodgers (president), Lois Scott, Mary Wilder, and Charles Williams

## YOUR 2001 VECA CDC BOARD

In accordance with the CDC Bylaws, last year's VECA Board selected the following CDC Board members. (The CDC Board then selected its chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer.)

Julie Borys, Peggy Brewer, Janis Foster (vice chair), Sylvester Fulton, Paul Herron, Martha Jordan, Teddy King, Dick Mochow (secretary), Janese Perry (chair), Renate Rosenthal, Bob Schneider, Mitchell Spence, Dell Stiner, Modeane Thompson, Jane Venson (treasurer), and Regina Walker

## 2000 VECA TREASURER'S REPORT

by Martha Heinemann

Following is a summary of the budget of VECA for the 2000 calendar year. (All of this is quite separate from the much larger and more complex budget of VECA CDC, which acts as Vollintine-Evergreen's main fiscal agent for grants, donations, etc.) More detailed information can be provided upon request.

### SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

\$3155.00	dues
330.00	contributions
405.62	investment income
1860.00	Vollintine-Evergreen News ads
1100.00	other
\$6850.62	TOTAL

### EXPENSES:

\$3190.00	Vollintine-Evergreen News printing
189.90	awards
2375.63	other
\$5755.53	TOTAL

### EXCESS OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES:

\$1095.09

### TOTAL ASSETS:

\$8887.96

### TOTAL LIABILITIES:

-0-



## VISIT VECA'S WEBSITE

[www.neighborhoodlink.com/veca](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/veca)

## VECA & VECA CDC STAFF

Sean Fegette,  
Construction Coordinator

Steve Gadbois,  
Executive Director

Ruth Gibson,  
Homeowner Counselor and  
Office Manager

Belinda Kerusch,  
Brown & Howell  
Community Organizer

Wilma Vandermeer,  
Financial Manager

## **VOLLINTINE ↔ EVERGREEN** **N E W S**

1680 JACKSON AVE • MEMPHIS, TN 38107

Coordinating Editor ..... Ron Bright

Finance..... Martha Heinemann

Graphic Designer ..... Sherry Henson

Printer ..... Diamond Printing Company

Distribution..... Fredha Feaster

Submissions can be submitted on paper (even handwritten),  
on disk, or by email to [VECA\\_news@hotmail.net](mailto:VECA_news@hotmail.net)

276-1782 VECA • 276-1783 VECA-CDC • 276-1784 fax

email: [VECA@netten.net](mailto:VECA@netten.net)  
[www.neighborhoodlink.com/veca](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/veca)

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- Finance major or minor improvements to home!
- FHA, Conventional & Jumbo Financing!

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

Sunday Eucharists  
 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.  
 Tues. and Thurs. Mass - 5:30 p.m.  
 Wed. and Fri. Mass - 8:15 a.m.

Saturday Confession - 3:45 - 4:15 p.m.

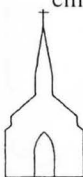


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 Do you know where  
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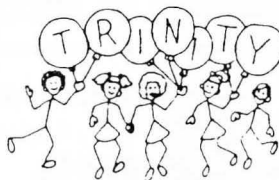
AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM:  
 Safe and fun for K-8 students, Monday-Friday 2:15-6:00pm

SCHOOL'S OUT PROGRAM:  
 Most city school holidays 7:30am-6:00pm

SUMMER SPOT: The cool midtown day camp  
 for K-junior high, Monday-Friday 7:30am-6:00pm

**EVERGREEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 613 UNIVERSITY AVENUE (ACROSS FROM RHODES COLLEGE)

**DAY CARE AVAILABLE**

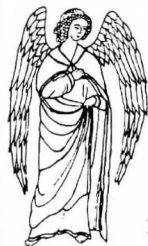


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 years old

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Weekdays  
 Wednesday Vespers at 7 pm  
 Saturday Great Vespers at 7 pm

1663 Tutwiler Avenue at Dickinson  
 (901) 274-4119

## VECA CDC UPDATE

by Steve Gadbois, VECA CDC Executive Director

If you've recently driven along North Watkins just north of Brown Avenue, you've probably noticed that "Watkins Square", the VECA CDC-owned commercial strip on the east side, is in the midst of a much-needed major facelift. Current tenants are Diamond Hair Gallery, Unisex Style Shop, and Melanies Restaurant, which will soon be remodeled and doubled in size.

On the affordable housing front, after six years of significant housing rehab work, VECA CDC is venturing into new construction. Check out the new all-brick 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house being built at 2160 Brown. It was designed by VECA CDC Construction Coordinator Sean Fegette; that design will probably be used on some future projects.

VECA CDC currently has access to a substantial pool of housing funds for rehab and new construction, and hopes to make full use of those funds during 2001. Any Vollintine-Evergreen resident can help in three important ways:

- (1) letting VECA CDC staff know of dilapidated houses that are available from a willing seller, for rehab work (houses already in good shape are generally not a good CDC project);
- (2) letting VECA CDC staff know of vacant lots that are available from a willing seller with clear title and no back taxes, for new construction (this includes lots with structures that should be demolished);
- (3) steering prospective buyers our way — VECA CDC's homeownership counselor and other staff members can make homeownership a reality for many.

In addition, anyone looking for a more formal involvement is welcome to join VECA CDC's Housing Committee which meets monthly.

"Bricks-and-mortar" work like that just described is satisfying and quite visible, and is what CDCs tend to be known most for. But VECA CDC provides many other services that are less apparent and harder to measure, but also quite valuable. Most important of these is the homeownership counseling offered by Ruth Gibson. Ruth helps first-time homebuyers realize their dreams and also helps homeowners at risk keep their dreams intact.

## A FRIEND IN NEED

by W. Ruth Gibson

There is the old saying that a friend in need is a friend indeed. If I did not fully understand this before, I certainly do now. During my recent illness and continuing recovery, I have experienced the overwhelming job of friendship and love from so many of my Vollintine-Evergreen neighbors and VECA affiliates.



Thanks to Tanja Mitchell of Cooper-Young, Steve Lockwood of M.C.D.P., Mary Durham of Parents for Public Schools, Mark Dean and friends at Regions Bank, my neighbors Addeline Davis and Flo Beloch, the tenants at 820 Maury, VECA CDC staff (Steve, Steven, Sean, and Daryl), members of the VECA Board and the VECA CDC Board, Mary Wilder, Mike Kirby, Jan Kirby, Greg Billings (director of bands at Central High School), George Cole (principal of Fairview Junior High School), and any and all unnamed friends who have given, shared, and prayed. It was all heartfelt and very much appreciated.

Although all these friends went beyond the expectations of just friends, I want to say a special thank you to Dell Stiner, Rick Cartwright, Jenny Jenson, Hazel Jackson, Jessie Rodgers, Gloria Fulton, and my family. My sister Shellie was there at my bedside every minute of the days and nights; my niece Sheree ran everywhere trying to do all the things just the way I would have done. Thanks so much for being my family. Hats off to my kids, Elizabeth and Johnathan. I always said, "Nothing they do will surprise me", but they did. They showed an unbelievable amount of courage, responsibility, and integrity. I am so proud of you two.

Then, there is my guardian angel, Dottie Sachritz. There are no words to express the caring and love shown. I cannot begin to estimate the comfort she gave me. All I can say is, "Thank you and a big I LOVE YOU". One last thank you to the guys in the office: Steve Gadbois, Steven Shipp, Sean Fegette, and Daryl Lewis; they are never more than a phone call away.



**2111 Howell:** rehabbed 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom house, with new roof, fresh paint, completely new interior, and central heat and air (\$30,000 or best offer, so monthly note could be as low as \$350)

**2160 Brown:** new all brick, 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house (under construction now)

**2113-2117 Brown:** new all brick, 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house (under construction later in 2001)

**2122 Brown:** new all brick, 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house (under construction later in 2001)



## THANKS EVERGREEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

Once again, VECA held its annual membership meeting at Evergreen Presbyterian Church in January. Thanks for the hospitality!

VECA also appreciates Evergreen's recent monetary contribution to VECA's Youth Corps/Future Builders program. The funds will be used wisely this summer to serve our youth.

Everyone is welcome at Evergreen Presbyterian Church for a new, exciting casual worship experience on Saturday evenings. A gourmet coffee bar at 5:30 p.m. is followed by worship at 6:00 p.m. in Millard Hall (in the basement).

## DENEUVILLE LEARNING CENTER

840 Dickinson Street (just north of Jackson Avenue) • 726-5902  
free classes (with refundable deposit) for women only

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three choices of times:

9:30a.m.-11:30a.m. Monday and Wednesday  
9:30a.m.-11:30a.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
6:30p.m.-8:30p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

**G.E.D. AND PRE-G.E.D. CLASS:**

two choices of times:  
9:30a.m.-11:30a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday  
6:30p.m.-8:30p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

**E.S.L. (ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE) CLASS:**

beginners and intermediate  
two choices of times:  
9:30a.m.-noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday  
6:30p.m.-8:30p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

## DOUGLASS SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES



The Douglass Senior Center, located in Cypress Junior High School at 2109 Howell, announces open enrollment for both its piano class and its water aerobics class. The piano class meets each Tuesday and Friday, and water aerobics meets each Tuesday.

In addition to these special classes, Douglass Senior Center offers a variety of programs including adult basic education, physical education, health promotion, and arts and crafts.

The center is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:15 p.m., and anyone who is sixty or older may attend. There is no fee for participants, but contributions are accepted. For more information, call Diane Tidwell at 722-8717.

## AMERICORPS VISTA POSITIONS

Vollintine-Evergreen residents are invited to apply for either of two full-time paid positions through the AmeriCorps VISTA program. In each case, a modest salary is supplemented by excellent health insurance benefits and a generous educational stipend. Thus, although anyone is eligible to apply, the positions may be of particular interest to retirees and to young people between college and graduate school. Applications are available at the VECA office, and are due (with two letters of reference) by the end of March. Required training will be held April 19-22.

The first position is a Home Ownership Assistant to work closely with VECA CDC's Home Ownership Counselor, managing databases, developing curricula for home maintenance classes, and allowing VECA CDC to serve many more low and moderate income homeowners and potential homeowners. The successful applicant will be empathetic and patient, be experienced with computers (especially databases), and be willing to learn about dealing with banks and mortgage companies.

The second position is a Commercial Revitalization Assistant, helping to manage "Watkins Square" (VECA CDC's commercial strip), pursuing opportunities in the neighborhood's five other commercial strips, and continuing efforts to create an active merchants association. The successful applicant will be knowledgeable about running a small business, have good writing skills and be willing to develop grant-writing skills.

## MCLEAN STREET CIRCA 1970



**VECA NEEDS MEMBERS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Evening: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, 705. N. BELVEDERE, MEMPHIS, TN 38107

**I'M INTERESTED IN:**

**PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:**

- Block Club
- Historic Home Tours
- Housing
- Code Enforcement
- Commercial Revitalization
- Greenways
- V&E Greenline
- Youth
- Newsletter Delivery
- Newsletter Writing
- Volunteer (general)

**MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$10, \$20 OR \$35 PER YEAR**  
AND ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE; ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO VECA CDC MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

- \$10 dues, Individual
  - \$20 dues (household), Gold Star members receive their choice of bumper sticker.
  - \$35 dues, Gold Star Heritage members receive their choice of bumper sticker and the Historic Designation Plaque.
  - Bumper Sticker A 
  - Bumper Sticker B 
  - Historic Designation Plaque 
- Please make checks payable to VECA

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MEMBER FDIC

*Are you new to the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood?*

Come by the VECA office at 1680 Jackson Avenue during regular business hours to pick up a free "welcome packet". It's loaded with information, coupons, and a form for a free first-year membership in VECA.

If You're Looking For That Favorite Little Neighborhood Bar—Stop By And See Us At

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**VECA**

**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, Springdale 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.