

VOLLINTINE EVERGREEN

N E W S

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

Volume XXXI, Number 6

NOVEMBER 2005

FIRST FOREST FAIRE A SUCCESS

On Saturday morning, October 15, about one hundred Vollintine-Evergreen residents and others gathered at Dlugach Park just north of Rhodes College for our first "Forest Faire", a free celebration of urban forestry. Thirty five trees were sold, most of which will be planted Vollintine-Evergreen.

Thanks are due to many:

- Andree Glenn, Marci Hendrix, Don Richardson, and John Rutkauskas (Neighbors for Trees), for planning and organizing;
- Bruce Webster, our state urban forester, for his informative talk on the benefits of trees;
- Rich Beckwith, for his tree planting demonstration and landscaping plan;
- City of Memphis Division of Park Services, for allowing the event and helping prepare the park for it;
- Rhodes College, for the donation of a large blue atlas cedar to be planted this winter;
- Kroger Supermarkets, for the donation of drinks and snacks;
- Jerry Humphreys and Joe Kerley, as well as Jeremy Gilliam and Bill Schreier of ValleyCrest Landscape Maintenance, for providing vehicles and trailers to transport trees;
- VECA's Historic Committee, for helping purchase t-shirts;
- Sherry Henson for logo design; and
- the Exotic Animal Rescue League, Lichterman Nature Center, Memphis City Beautiful, the City's Storm Water Department, the V&E Greenline Committee, Sierra Club, Park Friends, Scott Banbury, and Buckman Laboratories, each of which participated and contributed in their unique way.

To find out more about VECA's Neighbors for Trees, call the VECA office or stop by a meeting, normally at 5:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.



WANTED: DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR BOARDS

At the general membership meeting each January, Vollintine-Evergreen residents elect their representatives to the VECA Board, as well as the VECA president and vice-president. All terms are for one year, so the entire Board is voted upon. This year, as has been the case every year in the past, some current Board members are willing and able to stand for election again, while others need to be replaced.

The VECA Board appoints the CDC Board. Those terms are for two years. So the CDC Board will have some members continuing, but there will also be vacancies.

The VECA Board ordinarily meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Monday of each month, and the CDC Board ordinarily meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. Board members usually also serve on one committee. If you are interested in being nominated to one of the Boards, need additional information, or know someone who would be able to contribute their time and talents, contact any VECA staff person or any member of either Board.

Do Not Place In Or On Mailboxes

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 Block Club Reception & General Membership Meeting	January 23, 2006 (tentative; TBA)
Block Club Festival	April 29, 2006 (TBA)
Historic Home Tour	April 30, 2006 (throughout the neighborhood)
Potluck Supper & Pool Party	July 8, 2006 (tentative; Rhodes College)
Historic Committee	second Monday monthly, 7:00 p.m. (various locations; call office)
Code Enforcement Committee	fourth Thursday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Block Club Committee	first Monday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Cypress Creek Committee	third Wednesday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Youth Committee	call office to help
Tree Restoration Committee	third Tuesday monthly, 5:30 p.m.
V&E Greenline Committee	third Tuesday monthly, 6:30 p.m. (but not July or December)
Housing Committee	second Tuesday monthly, 5:30 p.m.
Commercial Revitalization Committee	first Monday monthly, 7:00 p.m.
Managing Committee	last Monday monthly, 5:30 p.m.
VENews deadlines	December 1, February 7, April 4
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	first Monday monthly, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	November 7, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	December 5, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	January 2, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.



FOR SALE BY VECA CDC

New construction

look for several new addresses here in our next issue as we acquire properties for five YouthBuild houses

Current renovations

1522 Jackson • 1810 Hunter

For more information, contact Judith Johnson of Crye-Leike Realty at 603-0054.

VISIT VECA'S WEBSITES



www.vecacdc.org

www.vegreenline.org

VECA & VECA CDC STAFF

Steve Gadbois,
Executive Director
(gadbois@vecacdc.org)

Ruth Gibson,
Homeowner Counselor and Office
Manager (wruth@vecacdc.org)

Vernua Hanrahan,
YouthBuild Program Manager
(vh1956@bellsouth.net)

Brooke Stevens,
Rhodes College Bonner
Service Scholar

VOLLINTINE ↔ EVERGREEN NEWS

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Submissions can be submitted on paper (even handwritten),
on disk, or by email to: veca@vecacdc.org

276-1782 phone • 276-1784 fax

email: veca@vecacdc.org and
vecacdc@vecacdc.org

ART SHOW

November 5th is the opening date for an art show by Vollintine-Evergreen resident Dottie Sachritz at Artists on Central Gallery, 2256 Central Avenue. The show, titled "East Meets West" will showcase Dottie's Far East and Southwest themed work. Original work and prints will be available. You can meet and greet her from noon to 4:00 p.m. on the 5th. The show will continue through the month of November.

PRAYER VIGIL

by Gloria Fulton

A prayer vigil was held at the VECA office on August in honor of National Night Out, a night set aside to celebrate communities throughout Memphis and the nation. There were ice cream parties, barbecues, potlucks, and just plain fun in all parts of the city. The Stonewall Block Club usually has a prayer party, but this year, to make it more inclusive for friends, family, and neighbors who wanted to participate, we held the affair at the office.

With lighted candles, we formed a circle and gave thanks and praise to God who helped us make it this far. Prayers were offered for our elderly, young people, teachers, school administrators, parents, families, friends, and community. Elizabeth and Johnathan Gibson played "Amazing Grace" together on trumpet and saxophone. Refreshments and fellowship followed the prayer vigil. The occasion was so successful that we will make this an annual event.

Thanks for Annette Anderson, Janis Cannon, Barbara Coleman, Vickie Fulton, Steve Gadbois, Elizabeth Gibson, Johnathan Gibson, Ruth Gibson, Andree Glenn, Willette Gray, Gregory Holmes Jr., Bettye Johnson, Clemmie Jones, Ivanhoe Jones, Belinda Kersch, Ramera Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Pearl Taylor, Atria Townsend, Alma Warren, and Margaret Winfrey.



BENEFITS OF URBAN FORESTRY

- Keeps downtowns and neighborhoods cooler in summer
- Keeps homes and businesses warmer in winter
- Reduces energy consumption
- Preserves clean water and air resources
- Absorbs and blocks noise
- Provides wildlife habitat
- Reduces water runoff, prevents erosion and raises the water table
- Adds natural character to cities and towns
- Enhances economic stability by helping to attract businesses and tourists
- Contributes to community cohesiveness and stability
- Gives human scale to the urban environment, softens buildings and screens harsh scenery

WANTED

for use at the VECA office:
an upright vacuum cleaner

WHAT CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE?

Many Vollintine-Evergreen residents make annual tax-deductible contributions to United Way, which funds various worthy causes here in Memphis and Shelby County. Most donations are unrestricted, which United Way allocates to agencies providing much needed services. VECA CDC has in the past received grants to support neighborhood projects.

Through the United Way campaign, donors have the opportunity to make a "directed gift" to United Way for a specific cause or for a specific agency of the donor's choice. VECA CDC is one such agency. On the other hand, VECA itself is NOT such an agency, so DON'T DESIGNATE YOUR GIFT TO VECA, donate instead to VECA CDC. Remember, VECA was established in 1971 as a 501(c)4 tax-exempt organization, which allows it to lobby but prohibits it from receiving tax-deductible contributions; VECA CDC was established in 1995 as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, which allows it to receive tax-deductible contributions but prohibits it from lobbying.

VECA CDC's United Way and Combined Federal Campaign donor number is 5377. This number can be written on United Way's donor forms to direct the donation to the VECA CDC. To further direct the donation (to a specific project or committee, such as the V&E Greenline or Blocks Clubs), notify the VECA office.



YARD OF THE MONTH HONOREE!

Congratulations! Please drive by and admire the Yard of the Month. If you would like to nominate a house for Yard of the Month, please email us at vehistoric@yahoo.com or call 278-9838.

SEPTEMBER — 699 DICKINSON

September's yard of the month winner is VECA newcomer Karen Avent of 699 Dickinson. After only beginning work in May of this year, Karen has transformed an almost bare yard into a yard of the month winner. To achieve these results in such a short time is remarkable. Coleus and vincas provide color while elephant ears add a different texture. For an immediate impact, she installed sod in the front yard.



OCTOBER — 2027 HALLWOOD

October's yard of the month winner is Bobby Brown of 2027 Hallwood. Since moving into his house 8 years ago, Bobby has lost 5 very large trees from storms. He has had to restore both his yard and house after these storms. The results are very impressive. His yard is fairly symmetrical which gives his yard a slightly formal feel which goes well with the symmetrical architecture of his house. His plantings include vincas, cannas, crepe myrtles, carnations, daisies, tiger lilies, and azaleas.

HISTORIC COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL 30, 2006 HOMETOUR

If you are interested in or want to learn more about historic home styles and architecture, the Historic Committee would love to have you as a docent or volunteer for the 2006 Home Tour. Please email us at vehistoric@yahoo.com or call 278-9838.

TEACHERS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On March 23-24, 2006, Tennessee JumpStart will be presenting "Your Toolbox for Building a Financial Foundation", a free financial education conference for teachers highlighting topics such as budgeting, credit, and savings. Come build your financial knowledge and increase your skills while earning 7 contact hours.

The conference will be held at the Fogelman Executive Conference Center at the University of Memphis, 4:00-8:15 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The event is open and free to all Tennessee teachers and college students pursuing a teaching degree. You must register by December 31. For more information, visit www.tnjumpstart.org.

CYPRESS CREEK UPDATE

by Doug Wright, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

September 5 Statement of Progress on the Risk Assessment Review and Sub-Area III Cleanup:

Additional sampling has been completed in August in the backyards of several residences near Cypress Creek and in the bed of Cypress Creek upstream (east) of the University Street bridge. These creek bed results show low or non-detectable levels of pesticides, but the back yard samples show that one additional residence will qualify for cleanup. Twelve residences (including the additional residence) currently have dieldrin levels that warrant excavation and clean backfill, but work cannot proceed without the permission of the landowners. Risk-based Remedial Action Levels (RAL) comments reviews are ongoing, and the state's Division of Solid Waste Management is currently reviewing additional information from Velsicol in regard to their response to the comments of EPA, TERA, and the state of Tennessee's Dr. Ruth Chen. The Tennessee Department of Health may also provide comments regarding the RAL within the next several weeks. Velsicol has accepted more than 300 tons of pesticide-contaminated soil from a residential backyard next to Cypress Creek and currently plans to excavate and backfill at eleven properties in late September or early October if the landowners will allow it. Voluntary access permission will be required to perform any pesticide contamination cleanups along Cypress Creek. The Division is continuing to work with the Tennessee Department of Health on the ongoing Health Consultation, and a community meeting is expected soon after the release of the Health Consultation report.

STORMWATER AND SEWER SURVEY

This survey is an important part of VECA's participation in Lichterman Nature Center's "FloodCAP" program. Information will be collected by VECA, and maps will be generated that will make it easier for officials to pinpoint areas of our neighborhood with the most problems. To create those maps and pinpoint those problems, WE MUST HAVE YOUR ADDRESS, but we do not need your name.

IF you have stormwater or sewer problems, YOUR BEST CHANCE OF IMPROVEMENTS IS TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS SURVEY, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

You may fax this survey to the VECA office at 276-1784, mail it or drop it off at the VECA office at 1680 Jackson Avenue, 38107, or complete and submit it on-line at www.vecacdc.org.

If you have questions, call 276-1782. Thank you for participating!

Street Address (required) _____ Zipcode 381_____

How many years have you lived where you live now? _____

How often do you have problems with stormwater or sewage backing up into your basement? (Don't count any rainwater that seeps in through your basement walls and runs directly to the drain.)

- several times every year about once a year once every few years rarely never

If you have problems, how would you describe what backs up?

- usually fairly clean stormwater usually smelly sewage different each time

Is there a storm drain in the street on your block?

- YES NO

Do you have a sump pump in your basement?

- YES NO

How often do you have a professional clean out your main drain?

- several times every year about once a year once every few years rarely never

Name (optional) _____

Phone Number (optional) _____

Jared Powellson, OD Helen Gardner, OD

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Wed. and Fri. Mass - 8:15 a.m.

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



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276-1412

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VOLLINTINE-EVERGREEN AWARDS

THE MARGARET 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. Her faith in the value of neighboring and the importance of grassroots community action remains the VECA philosophy.

The Margaret Dichtel Award is presented annually to a Vollintine-Evergreen resident and VECA member who embodies the principles of neighboring and community action. There is no specific length of membership required and the awardee need not be an officer. The awardee will be an individual who strengthens relationships between community members, tackles problems that threaten the integrity of the community, makes the neighborhood a better place to live, improves VECA's image city-wide, and demonstrates a commitment to the neighborhood and the concept of a neighborhood.

THE RICHARD BORYS AWARD

Richard Borys moved to the Vollintine-Evergreen community in 1975 and served on various committees in the early years of the organization. Despite dying young at the age of 44, Dick's life was an example of public service. Dick came to Memphis as a VISTA volunteer. He helped design and start the Memphis City and Shelby County Pre Trial Release Program. In 1976 he was awarded the outstanding service award from the Memphis and Shelby County Bar Association for his contributions to the Criminal Justice System. At the time of his death Dick was a vice president at the Regional Medical Center ("The Med").

Dick was active with his children in soccer, coaching up to three teams at a time. He was a member St. Therese Little Flower Church, located at the center of the Vollintine-Evergreen community. Richard Borys served the community in his work, in the neighborhood, at church, and through his children, Claire, Alex and Pete. Dick's wife Julie M. Borys still resides in Vollintine-Evergreen and has served as VECA president, on the VECA CDC Board of Directors, and as active volunteer over the years.

The Richard S. Borys Award was created to recognize public officials who through their work contribute to the Vollintine-Evergreen community. The awardee need not be a Vollintine-Evergreen resident or a VECA member.

THE MARTHA HEINEMANN AWARD

Martha Heinemann grew up in Hot Springs, Arkansas, graduated from Southwestern at Memphis (now Rhodes College) in biology, and earned her Masters degree from University of Arkansas in biochemistry. She was a research chemist at the University of Tennessee and the Veterans Administration hospital. Besides her volunteer work with VECA, Martha was associated with Rhodes Alumni, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Brooks Museum, and the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

The Heinemann Award honors a Board member who has rendered exceptional service to either the VECA Board or the VECA CDC Board. The Nominating Committee will select one winner from either Board.

NOMINATIONS

Each nomination must be by a current dues-paying member of VECA and should consist of a letter stating the candidate's contributions and achievements. Send nominations by December 31 to the Nominating Committee, care of the VECA office.

DICHTEL AWARD

1988	Martha Heinemann
1990	Julie Borys
1991	Mike Kirby
1993	Mary Wilder
1995	Willette Gray & Gloria Singleton
1996	Rhodes College & The Terry Circle Block Club
1997	Linda Nichols
1998	Steve Gadbois
1999	Charlotte & Pete Swailes
2000	Sherry Henson & Belinda Kersch
2001	Bill Rehberg
2002	Tom Fagan
2003	Fredha Feaster
2004	Craig Jordan & Len Cobb
2005	Betty Johnson
2006	???

BORYS AWARD

1991	Steve Shular
1992	Vernua Hanrahan
1995	Janis Foster
1996	William Stemmler
1997	Charles Cook
1998	Barbara Swearngen Holt
1999	Carol Chumney
2000	Wayne Risher
2001	Charles Granderson
2002	Don Campbell
2003	Rickey Peete
2004	Will & Rob Keeler
2005	Twarla Guest
2006	???

HEINEMANN AWARD

2003	Janis Cannon
2004	Helen Johnson
2005	Tom McGowan
2006	???

UNITED WAY NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH TAX RETURNS

Help low-income families file their taxes and claim the Earned Income Tax credit, a federal benefit for some families earning less than \$37,263 annually. Volunteer a few hours per week to prepare taxes for those unable to afford tax preparation. You'll receive free training on computers at our professional sites; help with questions by trained IRS professionals; flexible hours (day-time, evenings and/or weekends); and a wonderful sense of joy from giving to others.

For details, call Nidia Logan of the United Way of the Mid-South at 433-4303.

VECA NEEDS MEMBERS

Name: _____

Telephone Day: _____ Telephone Evening: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

MAIL TO: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, 1680 JACKSON AVENUE, MEMPHIS, TN 38107

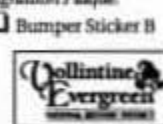
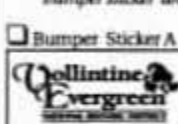
I'M INTERESTED IN:

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



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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.