

VOLLINTINE EVERGREEN

N E W S

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

Volume XXXII, Number I

JANUARY 2006

JANUARY 23 IS VECA'S ANNUAL MEETING

All Vollintine-Evergreen residents are invited to VECA's annual meeting to be held beginning at 6:00 p.m. on January 23 at McLean Baptist Church (815 North McLean at Jackson). The event will showcase the church's new Family Life Center on ground level.

Though VECA hosts various other events during the year, this event is the most important for laying the foundation for a productive year. The new VECA Board and its officers will be elected, the new VECA CDC Board will be introduced, and the Dichtel Award, Borys Award, and Heinemann Award will be presented. Besides business, there will be good food, entertainment, and a chance to talk with old and new neighbors. Call the VECA office if you need a ride or have any questions.

CODE ENFORCEMENT MEETING WITH RHODES OFFICIAL

Some residents have voiced concerns with the increased number of Rhodes College students living in our neighborhood. While most students living in the neighborhood have had a positive impact on the community, we continue to receive complaints on a few properties occupied by Rhodes students. The Code Enforcement Committee will host a meeting with John Blaisdell, Campus Safety Director at Rhodes College. Please join us on January 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the VECA office to discuss students living in Vllintine-Evergreen. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chris Kirby at 491-6320.

GREENLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The V&E Greenline, a walking trail on the site of an abandoned railroad bed, runs through the Vllintine-Evergreen neighborhood between Springdale on the east and Watkins on the west. It has several distinct segments, each with its own special beauty. The Greenline is maintained entirely by volunteers, and it has become a nationally recognized asset of our neighborhood. In 2005, it was named national "Trail of the Month" by the Rails-to-Trails organization.

The Greenline has a number of "Signature Corners," entrances marked by carved wooden signs. Neighbors have adopted some of these spots. They keep the grass short, pick up the litter around the trashcan, and take full garbage bags to the curb.

The entrance into the "Cut" section on the west side of University needs your help! We are looking for a volunteer - or group of volunteers - to adopt this spot and spruce it up on a regular basis. It takes only a few minutes each time. If you are interested, please contact the VECA office and leave your name, number, and e-mail address. You can call 276-1782 or e-mail veggreenline@vecacdc.org.

The V&E Greenline Committee meets in the VECA at 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month (except December and July). Everyone is welcome!

For more information and updates about the Greenline, please visit our beautiful new web site at <http://www.veggreenline.org/>



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 (McLean Baptist Church)
Block Club Festival	April 29 or 30 (TBA)
Historic Home Tour	April 30 (throughout the neighborhood)
Potluck Supper & Pool Party	July 8 (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	February 7, April 4
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	first Monday monthly, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	January 9, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	February 6, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	March 6, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.



FOR SALE BY VECA CDC

New construction

1902 Vollintine

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

Corinthia Davis,
Accounting Consultant

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)

1680 JACKSON AVENUE • MEMPHIS, TN 38107

Coordinating Editor Nedra Bailey

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@vecacdc.org

276-1782 phone • 276-1784 fax

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

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The natural disaster due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in southern Louisiana (especially New Orleans), Mississippi, and Texas has reminded us of how quickly things can change for anyone no matter where they live. The Memphis area will never experience an ocean surge from a hurricane, but we are vulnerable to earthquakes with no warning and to tornados, wind-storms, and ice storms with little warning. We all should realize each of us may need to be self sufficient for some time, even if public officials and agencies are prepared and responsive.

Here are some tips for everyone: in house or in apartment, owner or renter, rich or poor.

In good times, before any disaster strikes:

- have a first aid kit in a handy location, with a fresh 30-day supply of prescriptions or other medications needed by any family members, laundry bleach for use as a disinfectant, and old clean towels for bandages
- keep a stash of nonperishable ready-to-eat food (with a can opener), pet food, and fresh bottled water
- have tools such as a hammer, saw, ax, candles, and waterproof matches
- have properly-charged fire extinguishers throughout the house, especially in the kitchen, bedroom area, basement, and garage
- have flashlights and a radio that operate by batteries or a hand-crank (dynamo) in a handy location, and be sure that any batteries are kept fresh
- remember that phones, even cell phones, may not operate after a disaster
- consider switching from ordinary cellular phones to satellite phones (which don't depend on local towers working)
- have some cash in a safe place, because ATMs may not work and credit cards may be unusable
- know the areas around your home and place of work: if you don't, after a disaster you might find your familiar routes unusable and have to venture onto unknown routes
- keep at least one car in good running condition, with plenty of gas, properly inflated spare tire and tools (know how to change a tire if you must!), air pump, battery jumper cables, automotive fire extinguisher, empty gas can, first aid kit, and fresh bottled water
- be able to open garage doors and driveway gates even if power is disrupted
- make sure that all family members know what natural gas smells like (actually, it's another chemical added just so we can smell a leak)
- make sure that all family members know where and how to cut off gas, electricity, and water (you may have two water cut-offs, at the meter near the street and just inside the house)
- keep any necessary cutoff tools where they would be needed (e.g., hang the proper wrench next to the gas meter outside)
- securely strap your gas water heater to a wall or brace to help prevent it from toppling and rupturing a gasline
- carefully survey your entire house and deal with any items that might pose a serious hazard if they fell (shelving, large pictures, etc.), especially at the head of each of your beds
- consider purchasing a gas- or diesel-powered electric generator (and be sure to keep fresh fuel available)
- have a family plan and a designated meeting place
- make sure young children have identification tags marked or sewn inside clothing, and make sure those who need them have medical alert tags
- make sure pets have collars with nametags
- carry adequate property insurance, and know what your policy does and doesn't cover
- at a safe distant location (perhaps with a relative), store medical information, bank account numbers, credit card numbers, property insurance policies, an inventory and photos of major personal possessions with serial numbers, etc.

If and when an disaster strikes:

- apply first aid as needed
- stay where you are if possible unless ordered to evacuate
- monitor the situation using your radio
- carefully turn off gas, electricity, and/or water as appropriate (remember that electricity doesn't mix well with either gas or water!)
- if electric power is disrupted, turn off and unplug appliances themselves (otherwise, when power is restored, a power surge can damage your appliances and can even damage transformers in your neighborhood, causing a new power outage!)
- place signs in visible locations if there are injuries or other immediate medical needs
- remember that sources of safe drinking water may be your water heater tank, toilet tanks (not bowls)

VECA CDC HIRES NEW ACCOUNTING CONSULTANT

VECA CDC's staff members welcome Corinthia Davis, our new accounting consultant, who joined us on December 1. She recently relocated to Memphis from New Orleans, where she started and owned Davis Professional Accounting Services L.L.C.

Corinthia has found Memphis to be a friendly place. According to her, "I have found that material things can be replaced. It's the little things that are important." Corinthia's 11-year old daughter enjoys Hutchison School, and already feels comfortable here.

At this time Ms. Davis is planning to work at the VECA office on Thursdays. We look forward to her work with us on behalf of our Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood.

HOUSING COUNSELING

VECA CDC's housing counseling program is certified by both HUD and THDA for:

- First Time Home Buyer Counseling
- Mortgage Default Counseling
- Reverse Mortgage Counseling (HECM)

276-1782

USEFUL CONTACTS

This list of phone numbers, email addresses, and websites will become a regular feature in this newsletter if readers find it useful. Suggestions (including additions and corrections) from readers are welcome.

VECA office	276-1784, vecacdc@vecacdc.org
Mayor's Citizens Service Center	576-6500
Property Code Enforcement	576-7380
www.memphistn.gov/HCDWeb/content/reportcomplaint.aspx	
Construction Code Enforcement	379-4200
Police North Precinct (north of Jackson)	377-3700
Police West Precinct (south of Jackson)	274-7012
Memphis Mayor's Office	576-6000
Memphis City Council	576-6786
Center for Neighborhoods	526-6627
Housing and Community Development	576-7300
Planning and Development	576-7197
Public Works	576-6742
Environmental Maintenance (sanitary sewers)	529-8025
Drain Maintenance (stormwater sewers)	357-0100
Memphis City School Board	416-5300
Cypress Middle School	416-4624
Snowden School	416-4621
Vollentine Elementary School	416-4632
Memphis Shelby County Health Department	544-7600
Shelby County Mayor's Office	545-4500
Shelby County Commission	545-4301
Shelby County Assessor of Property	379-7333
U.S. Rep Harold Ford, Jr.	544-4131
Memphis Area Legal Services	432-4663
Memphis Light Gas and Water	544-6549

Jared Powelson, OD Mika Cassinger, OD

MIDTOWN EYE CARE

COMPREHENSIVE EYE HEALTH EXAMS
 GENERAL AND SPECIALTY CONTACT LENS FITTINGS
 MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF EYE DISEASE
 LARGE SELECTION OF DESIGNER FRAMES • ACCEPT MOST INSURANCES

16 N. McLean at Madison (across from Finos) • 725-EYES

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

Alex's Tavern

1445 Jackson Ave. • 278-9086

Proud To Be A Part Of The VECA Neighborhood For Over 40 Years—Since 1953!

- Coldest Beer In Memphis
- Great Burgers
- Four Big-Screen TV's & Satellite Sports

Voted "Best Jukebox In Memphis" And "Best Bar In Memphis"

FRAMES SUGARS RICES

ACB's Outlet Store

DISCOUNT GROCERIES and SALES

651 Jefferson • (901) 523-9515

Huge Savings On:
groceries, lamps, furniture
closeouts of all kinds...
below wholesale prices!!!

Bring This Coupon For 20% Off

CANDY Candle Sticks RUGS JAMS & JELLIES Fruit Stings GIFTS

CYPRESS CREEK UPDATE

by Doug Wright, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

Statement of Progress on the Cypress Creek Sub-Area III Cleanup Project as of November 23, 2005

Under the oversight of personnel from the state's Division of Solid Waste Management, Velsicol Chemical Corporation has completed excavation of contaminated soil at three properties near Cypress Creek. The two properties on Edward Avenue are currently being landscaped and the property on Vollintine Cove is ready for the installation of a marker layer and two feet of clean soil to bring the backyard back up to its original level. Every effort will be made to make these properties look as good as or better than they did before the contaminated soil was removed.

Risk-based Remedial Action Level (RAL) comment reviews are ongoing, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is reviewing the Velsicol information and responses to the comments of experts from other agencies. The RAL will be used to determine the level for the next round of cleanups.

Velsicol has accepted more than 5,000 tons of pesticide-contaminated soil at the soil consolidation area at their plant. This soil is from the Edward Avenue and Vollintine Cove locations and from the Springdale Apartments development. The Division of Remediation supervises the Springdale Apartments project. Velsicol will be required to prepare another consolidation area or expand the existing area before receiving additional pesticide contaminated soil after the current area is full.

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 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.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

(source: www.memphispolice.org)

The Memphis Police Department's mission is to protect the public safety of all citizens of Memphis, but our officers cannot do it without the eyes and ears of you - the community. The following tips will help to make you and your family safer while also showing you how to become a part of the MPD Team, so that we may serve and protect Memphis - our community - together.

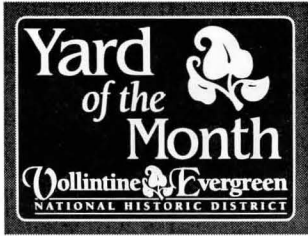
At HOME? Protect Your Residence!

- Lock your doors and windows when leaving your residence. Most residential burglaries occur during the daytime.
- Know who is at your door before opening it. Screen doors and chain locks provide false security.
- Obtain identification. If they show you an ID for a service company (i.e. cable, phone, etc.) call their employer and verify who they are and why they are at your door. Consider installing peepholes in all entryway doors.
- Mark your possessions with your drivers license number, so that it can be traced only to you if it is stolen. (You can borrow an engraver from any one of our precincts!)

Burglary Prevention Tips

- Make your home look occupied, and make it difficult to break in.
- Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time, lock your doors.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day.

To be continued in the next issue.



YARD OF THE MONTH HONOREES!

Congratulations! Please drive by and admire the Yards 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.

NOVEMBER — 1630 MICHELLE CIRCLE

November's yard of the month winner is Ada Gaston of 1630 Michelle Circle. A resident of VECA for 31 years, her love of gardening is evident in her yard. Pink is her favorite color and is displayed in her beautiful pentas. Dusty Millers add a nice contrast. Her mums are also in full bloom. A sign of her green thumb, her petunias and mums returned from last year. Her yard also has nice Japanese maples, crape myrtles and shrubbery.



DECEMBER — 1992 EDWARD AVENUE

Pictured here in their front yard with reindeer are Michael and Delores Key who are December's yard of the month winners. Residents of 1992 Edward for 18 years, they decorate each year during Thanksgiving weekend. It takes both Michael and Delores two days to decorate their yard. Their lights are spectacular, hanging from the house, along the fence, on bushes and on various decorations. The highlight of their yard is a sleigh being pulled by six reindeer.

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.

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

Church Of The
Good Shepherd

Organized 1885
Memphis

HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 7:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAYS 10:30 A.M.
1971 JACKSON AVENUE
901-725-9768

Reverse Mortgage

You don't pay the mortgage, the mortgage pays you!

- No monthly mortgage payment
- Can pay off an existing mortgage
- Can pay you monthly income
- No credit / income qualifications
- Continue to own your home
- Government backed FHA Loan

If you are 62 or older, call us to find out how much tax-free cash you qualify for.

Josh Baer
Reverse Mortgage Specialist
(901) 202-5974 ext. 5



HIGH POINT HIGH POINT FUNERAL CHAPEL

3788 Summer Ave. (901) 454-5795

www.highpointchapel.com

~Memphis' newest and most affordable option~
~Proudly serving all of your final needs~

Burial * Cremation * Pre-Need * Floral * Monuments



St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Sunday
Orthros at 9 am • Liturgy at 10 am

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

1663 Tutwiler Avenue at Dickinson
(901) 274-4119



All Saints Presbyterian Church

5pm Sundays
on the corner of Peabody & Mclean

*Is it shocking to think of God as a pursuing lover?
Then Christianity is shocking.*

-Joy Davidson

Little Flower Primary School

Now Enrolling
Pre-kindergarten & Kindergarten
through 2nd Grade

1666 Jackson Avenue
Memphis, TN 38107
725-9900

Scholarships
available!

EVERGREEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

613 UNIVERSITY AVENUE (ACROSS FROM RHODES COLLEGE)
(901) 274-3740 www.evergreenpres.org

Sunday
9:30 am Church School • 10:55 am Worship
5:30 pm Jr. & Sr. High PYF

Recreation Outreach Ministry Afterschool
278-4430

Safe and fun for K-8 students • Monday-Friday 2:15 - 6:00 pm

Evergreen Playschool
725-4195

Providing safe, fun, creative and supportive environment for
children 4 months-K • www.evergreenplayschool.com

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.

276-1412



"All Are Welcome"

OPEN DOOR BIBLE CHURCH

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

Gary D. Starbuck, Pastor
Nursery Available

Sunday Services: 10:45 am and 6:00 pm

*"A common people
with an uncommon love"*

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

Please make checks payable to VECA

I Know Vollintine-Evergreen Community Because I Live Here!




Michael Legz
Affiliate Realtor

Cell: 901.270.7178
Direct: 901.729.2897
Ofc: 901.725.1968
Email: Mike@kendallhaney.com



Curious about the history of your house?

Let architectural historian Judith Johnson research your home's past. This attractively bound document, plus graphics when available, makes a great gift.



THE HOUSE DETECTIVE
901-324-4618

We measure our success one family at a time.

Call one of our 29 qualified agents today!



SOWELL & COMPANY
R-E-A-L-T-O-R-S
54 S. Cooper Memphis, TN 38104
(901) 278-4380 <http://sowellandco.com>




Everyone in VECA Knows Agent Pitts

The Hobson Co., Realtors
901-761-1622

Mary Frances Vookles Pitts
agentp@midssouth.rr.com



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.