Evergreen Community

7655-935
...ENCJ:NE,E:N'CJ::N'E::NVCMBER 523!!

The neighborhood kids are sometimes overlooked in the


er

ellers like getting dressed are sometimes overlooked in the

borhood kids. A whistle down the track brings kids running

from all directions and it's such

of the more popular runs and, as Mr. McLemore points out,

rush to wave at the engineer. Neighborhood kids are eager

gang of neighborhood kids that turns out to see the train go

Tennessee. Mr. McLemore has guided trains through the

neighborhood off and on for all of his 30 years with the L&N.

Our neighborhood switch-engine is operated by the Louis-

ville and Nashville Railroad and makes daily trips between
downtown Memphis and the main L&N yards on Chelsea. To

the casual observer the tracks seem deserted, but the little

engine faithfully pulls carloads of oil, metal parts, lard and
cement originating at North Memphis industries and destined

for all over the United States. On the return run, Engine

523 (or one of several other switch-engines) pulls empty

cars and sometimes raw materials for the manufacturers

on the run.

Various engineers guide the train along the Vollentine-

Evergreen tracks, but one of the trainmen to make the run

most frequently is foreman C.W. McLemore of Cordova,

Tennessee. Mr. McLemore has guided trains through the

neighborhood off and on for all of his 30 years with the L&N.

When the bidding takes place on the railroad jobs this is one

of the more popular runs and, as Mr. McLemore points out,
one of the big reasons is the number of pretty girls in the

gang of neighborhood kids that turns out to see the train go

by.

Engine 523 is, of course, quite popular with the neigh-

borhood kids. A whistle down the track brings kids running

from all directions and it's such an occasion that small mat-

ters like getting dressed are sometimes overlooked in the

rush to wave at the engineer. Neighborhood kids are eager
to talk about their train and describe it in glowing terms.

Little Peggy Crawford, a regular train-watcher living at

Memphis, Tennessee 7 April, 1972

Circulation: 5500

1956 Crump, calls the caboose her favorite car and looks
forward to those days when someone is riding in it. Six-

year-old Amanda Webb of 1910 Mignon occupies herself with

trying to get the engineer to stop and pick her up, while her

neighbor, Jennifer Thomas, assured this writer that it was

a "very fine" train.

At a time when trains, planes and trucks roar through

the countryside oblivious to the humanity along the way, it

is reassuring to live in a community where a passing engi-

neer still has the time to wave to his young friends.

Judge's Dilemma

It is too early to predict the fate of the school desegrega-
tion plans now before U.S. District Judge Robert McRae, Jr.

It is quite apparent, however, that neither the School Board's
five plans (A, B, I, II, III) nor the NAACP's proposal would

present an entirely satisfactory solution for the Vollentine/

Evergreen community. On the contrary, if instituted, at least
two of the plans (the Board's plans I and II) might well precipi-
tate another exodus of long-time residents.

Under Board plans A and B, Snowden (grades 5-6) and Vol-

lentine (grades 1-4) would be paired with an approximate 50/

50 black/white student ratio at each. Under these two plans,

Northside High and Central High would experience no signifi-
cant changes except for a few students from Douglass being

switched to Northside.

Under Plan I, which affects only junior and senior high

schools, the Board proposes shifting the northeast section of

the Snowden Junior High boundary to move 120 white students

into the Cypress Junior High zone, at the same time shifting

the southwest section of the Cypress zone to move 120 black

students into the Snowden zone. Under the same plan, Central

High School would gain 350 black students from the north-

ern section of Hamilton High while losing 35 white students

from its extreme northern section to Douglass and 35 white

students from its north-central section to Northside.

Plan II is essentially the same as Plan A, and in regard

to our community, Plan III does not seem to differ from Plan

A either.

More sweeping changes are proposed by the NAACP. Its

plan calls for clustering Vollentine Elementary with Klondike

and Denver (in Frayser). The Snowden Elementary area would

be clustered with Leath (grades 1-3) and Maury (grades 4-6).

Snowden would be a junior high only, drawing students from

East, Lester, Snowden, Springdale and Lawler Elementary

Schools. Cypress Junior High would draw students from Vol-

lentine, Hyde Park, Brookmeade and Denver. Each junior

high would have a black/white ratio of about 52/48. North-

side would draw students from the Vollentine Elementary zone

and Central High would draw from the Snowden and Spring-

The next VECAA meeting will take place
Monday, April 24, 8 p.m., Fellowship
Hall, McLean Baptist Church. Election
will be held for chairman of the steering
committee. Mass transit will be dis-
cussed. Everyone is cordially invited.
DILEMMA continued

dale zones. Both high schools would have a black/white ratio of about 45/52.

Both the Board's pairing and the NAACP's clustering proposals for Snowden and Vollentine have their merits. The Board's plans for our junior and senior high schools, however, are very inadequate. Plan I proposes token integration at Northside High and Cypress Junior High at the expense of Central High and Snowden Junior High, both of which are already truly integrated schools. Under this plan, the Board expects the V/E community to send 35 more white students to Northside High, bringing the potential number of white students there to about 60, or less than 4% of the total number, and to integrate the entirely black Cypress Junior High with 120 white students or less than 8% of the total number. In other words, the Board expects to recruit all of the potential 120 white Cypress Junior High students from the northern half of the neighborhood which already does the integrating at Northside High as well as at Vollentine Elementary.

The V/E community simply does not have the white students needed to integrate Northside High and Cypress Junior High, and all the maneuvering and token shifting of students proposed in the Board's desegregation plans I and II is folly. The NAACP's plan may not be a popular solution either, but for Northside and Cypress to be integrated meaningfully, the Board would have to transport students.

Business


Have your billfold pictures and cards laminated in clear indestructible plastic. Billfold size articles 35¢ or three for $1.00. Send articles to THE FREEDOM COMPANY, P. O. Box 7242, Memphis, Tenn. 38107.

For Rent

Furnished three-bedroom, two-bath home, 300 Hawthorne, from Summer '72-Summer '73. Call 275-7505.

For Sale

Southwestern area. 2074 Hallwood. Living room, dining room, study, two bedrooms, large kitchen. Beautiful! 275-4759.

Kidney Benefit

The Nurses Association of the City of Memphis Hospitals will hold a benefit bingo match at Little Flower Church on Friday, May 5. The benefit will be coordinated by the Kidney Foundation and proceeds will go toward the purchase of artificial kidneys for the renal unit at Bowld Hospital.

Admission for the 7:30 match is $1 per card and tickets can be bought in advance from members of the nurses association and the Kidney Foundation. Prizes will include an expense-paid weekend at a Holiday Inn, a painting or sketch by a local artist, a dinette suite and many others. There will also be a cake booth, with chances being sold on some very unusual cakes.

The facilities and equipment for this benefit have all been donated by Little Flower and the prizes, by community-minded merchants.

Shoppers' Choice

Sweetrolls and Bagels

by Golden Shumaker

Mr. J.E. Johns has been baking wedding cakes, birthday cakes, and other goodies for his customers since 1948, when he first opened JOHNS BAKERY at 1688 Jackson. The location was formerly a hardware store. About 10 years ago, he and his wife, Mrs. Virginia Johns, bought the launderette next door and expanded the business.

Mr. Johns is a native Memphian, and has been married for 36 years. He and his wife attend Prescott Baptist Church and reside at 3704 Kearney. They have two daughters, Carolyn and Shirley Ann, and four grandchildren. Mr. Johns is an avid sports fan in his spare time.

Expert Suggests Plan

Last month's Evergreen News featured a map of our distribution area with the zoning districts and the regulations for each district. Then on March 20 director John Griesbaum of the Memphis-Shelby County Planning Commission addressed the monthly VECAA meeting. Mr. Griesbaum described the work of the Commission and its staff and its function in current and long-range planning.

He told of the adoption of a multiple-centers plan for Memphis, dealing primarily with the development of suburban centers such as Southland Mall, White Station, Raleigh Springs, and Parkway Village. He noted that the central business district and the medical center together comprise one of these centers. Operation Breakthrough will put 500 new housing units in that area, and the Commission is working with the Downtown Association on a downtown plan.

Focussing on Midtown, Mr. Griesbaum told of the efforts of the Central Garden Area Association which as the result of his encouragement is developing a neighborhood plan. When the residents of that area asked what they could do to encourage home improvement and discourage encroachments of business zones, Griesbaum suggested the neighborhood plan. Through dues assessments, block parties, and teas, they are raising $10,000 and, according to B.B. Winsett, Jr., president of CGAA, have selected a planning consultant to develop the basic information for the plan. The Commission is cooperating providing maps and some staff services. Significant items to be a part of such a plan would be the structural condition of the buildings, noting areas of significant home improvement or deterioration, the pressures for commercial uses, and uses that do not conform to the zoning, as well as business, transportation, education, cultural and recreational facilities. Such a plan could also look to the future, estimating the pressures for higher-density (apartment) housing, and making some plans for the kind of density which seems best for the neighborhood.

Mr. Griesbaum challenged VECAA to consider developing a plan for the Vollentine/Evergreen neighborhood. A lot of volunteer work would be needed, but the enhancement of our neighborhood as a desirable residential area would be well worth the effort.

SPECIAL! HEAVY DUTY RUBBER FLOOR MATS PAIR $1.99

COMPLETE LINE OF FINE BAKERY GOODS
Mar. 12--Mission conference to be held at Open Door Bible Church. Five missionaries from Columbia and Peru will lead the program. One of the missionaries from Peru is Mrs. Tom Brewington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lee of 1473 Snowden.

14-16--Youth outings planned by Evergreen Presbyterian Church. There will be a retreat for junior high-aged church members all weekend and one day trip for grades 3-5. Both groups will go to Camp Pinecrest.

Morris (274-1278).

One new neighbor in the Baron Hirsch area is Har­old and Judy Thompson of 883 Kensington Place. Har­old is an architect and can take design credit for such local landmarks as Buckman Laboratories on McLean and the new wing of the Brooks Memorial Art Gallery. Judy works part-time as a model and utilizes her background in art for making her own jewelry and clothes. Her next project will be redecorating the Dopkwe House, a home for inner city children. There are two children are Al (four) and Kim (two-and-one-half).

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Appling, now at 216 University Circle, will be moving about April 15 to Woodmont Towers, Apartment 203, at 1550 North Parkway. Mr. Appling worked as a research microbiologist at Buckman Laboratories until his retirement in 1964 and since then has worked part-time at CBC as the director of a research project on water pollution. He recently finished a two-year term as VECIA's first treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Thomas moved recently to 1039 Maury. Mr. Thomas is a mechanic with the city Sanitation Department and Mrs. Thomas is a secretary in Psychiatry at John Gaston Hospital. Their children are Spencer, Jenice, and Danny— all students at Manas­sa— Spanish, Ray, and Patricia—students at Vollentine— and Timothy, four years old, and Felicia, one year old.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gilliland and their two-year-old daughter Amy are the new residents at 900 N.
Welcome continued

Dickinson. They moved here from Brueton. Mr. Gil-

liland is a salesman with the Denby Brandon Organiza-

tion.

John Beauchamp recently moved to 2072 Vollintine

from his home in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He is a college

representative for Harper and Row publishers and is a

recent graduate of the University of Alabama.

The home at 874 Dickinson was purchased by Mr.

and Mrs. James W. Wilson. Mr. Wilson is a driver

for Memphis Transit Authority and Mrs. Wilson is a

teacher for Project Read at Mt. Pisgah School. They

have one son, Derek Sean, who is four years old.

After a year and a half, the house at 861 University

was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis "Buzz" Nolan.

Buzz is a reporter with the Commercial Appeal and his

wife, Betty, teaches home economics at Northside High.

The Nolan's are from Mississippi and are camping, hik-

ing, and cycling enthusiasts. They share their new

home with tropical fish and Mists, an English Bulldog

The first of March, RW. "Woody" Biggs moved into

1906 Mignon. Mr. Biggs graduated from Vanderbilt Uni-

versity last spring and has spent much of the time since

then traveling in Europe. At present he is employed as

a substitute teacher in the public school system.

The home at 2075 Hallwood Drive still lacks some

furniture, but not animals. Rodney C. and Connie

Bryant have a boxer, Psyche, and a seal point Siamese

Persian, as well as a two and a half-year-old son,

Craig. Mr. Bryant has an M.A. in psychology from Em-

ory University, plays the trumpet, and is now a medical

student at U.T.

Mrs. Bryant is an actress. They hail from Dalton, Geo-

rgia.

A special welcome must be extended to Jerry F.

Little and his wife, Diane, who moved to 2081 Hall-

wood Drive last October. This month, their home was

vandalized by a group of high school students. Damage

was estimated at $2500.00. The vandals have been ar-

rested, apparently after doing similar damage to other

homes in other parts of our neighborhood. Mr. Little

who is a computer salesman with Univac and Mrs. Lit-

tle, former teacher and bridge devotee, took the wreck-

ing of their newly-decorated home in stride. They con-

sider it a one-time incident and do not expect acts of

vandalism in the future. Like their brand new neighbors,

the Bryants, the Littles have a two and a half-year-old

son called Craig.

VECAA's steering committee has received the Little

case and considered steps to prevent recurrences in the

future. There is, of course, no reason to believe that the

V/Es will see more incidents of this kind, incidents which

days are becoming rather more frequent in suburban living. However, if a similar inci-

dent should occur again, contact not only the police but also VECAA immediately.

Meet The Neighbors

Minority Student

by John Bruhwiler

With the profusion of spring flowers brightening the neighborhood, it takes a long-stemmed beauty like Debbi Barlow to distract a nature-loving eye. Debbie, the oldest daughter of John and Joanne Barlow of 1815 Jack-

son, was raised in the neighborhood. She attended Vol-

lentine Elementary and Snowden Junior High and is, a-

long with such friends as Richard Lowry, Debbie Green,

Mike McConnell and Anne and Lisa St. Cyr, a "minor-

ity" student at Northside High. As the school's only

white cheerleader, Debbie's minority status is particu-

larly apparent.

But Debbie, who is now a junior, loves Northside. She is majoring in science and math, with minors in his-

tory and Latin. She has a high regard for the school's

ultra-modern laboratories and boasts about certain as-

pects of the academic program, such as an advanced

placement biology course, the only one of its kind in

the city; she lauds the student-teacher relationships

and points to the absence of "cliques" often found at

other high schools. Debbie has served a term on the

student council and, on the basis of character, service,

scholarship and leadership, was recently elected to the

honor society. As a cheerleader she attends all of the

school's football and basketball games, cheers at pep

rallies and works as a hostess at various school func-

tions.

Time permitting, Debbie sings in the McLean Baptist

Church choir. On some weekends, she assists her fa-

ther at the Servicemen's House where the church hosts

servicemen. Naturally, she also helps her mother care

for brothers Danny, 2, and Doug, 1. Her sister, Diane,

a fifth-grader at Vollintine, already more than pulls her

own weight.

Upon graduation from Northside, Debbie plans to

take the University of Tennessee at Martin, and then

return to Memphis to go to U.T. Medical School. How-

ever, these are plans for the future. During the com-

ing year, Debbie will be able to pursue her activities

at Northside and enjoy the companionship of her many

friends both at the school and in the neighborhood.

Staff: editors: john bruhwiler, george bradfuture, rick thomas/copy: nancy lowe, golden shumaker/cover pic-

ture: sally hines/typing: sallee bruhwiler, judi dunn.

cathe barnes, cathy awsumb/business: tom hines/circu-

lation: cornella morris/printing: wayne bean, cour-

tesy southwestern at memphis.