As this article is written spring is ready to burst on the V/E community. Daffodils are up, forsythia and quince are in bloom and our acres of azaleas are on the verge of flowering. The community has a long history of appreciation of flowers and trees, reflected in the well-kept lawns of its residents and the landscaped grounds of Southwestern. Not surprisingly, many of the city's garden clubs got their start here and a number of neighborhood residents are active in such organizations.

The names of many such clubs reflect their origins, like the Belvedere Garden Club and the Evergreen Garden Club. The former originated on the street whose name it bears but its 17 or 18 members are now spread over town. Many members, such as immediate past president Mrs. CHARLES E. RAUSCHER of 745 N. Auburndale, still live nearby, however. Besides monthly meetings (whose programs sometimes stray from gardening nowadays) the Belvedere Club publishes a yearbook and donates gifts to welfare societies at Christmas.

The Evergreen Garden Club grew out of a larger organization called the Evergreen Club which met in the house on the northwest corner of Evergreen and Overton Park Avenue. When the parent organization disbanded in 1938, the garden club remained and it has a dozen or so members still active today. Its original club plants were the rose and the dogwood tree and the club takes credit for most of the dogwoods planted in the neighborhood. Other activities include monthly meetings, a yearbook, and the donation of trees as memorials. At one time a strictly neighborhood club, its members are now widespread. Both secretaries are community residents. They are Mrs. M. L. PATTON of 1753 Galloway and Mrs. CHARLES YOUNG of 1755 Forrest. And they also boast as a member one of the neighborhood's leading rose experts, Mrs. C. H. CALDWELL of 1975 Lyndale.

Because of our proximity to Overton Park many clubs have been established around this theme. Those include the Overton Park Garden Club, one of the few area clubs with definite boundaries, and the now inactive Park Vista Garden Club. The former was founded in 1946 and its territory partially overlaps that of the V/E community. Its flower is the daffodil and its 25 members meet monthly. The club makes periodic donations to support programs for the visually handicapped and has a long history of working with the city in its gardening efforts. Mrs. FRANK YATES of 1884 Overton Park is this year's vice-president. The Park Vista Garden Club was centered around the Buena Vista area but has been
active in providing flowers for Snowden School.

Two other groups that got their start in the V/E community are the Flora Garden Club and the Chloris Garden Club. The Flora Club, founded in the 1950's, was the neighborhood residents and many, such as Mrs. Z. A. Berry of 925 N. Garland, are still active today. Its president for the past several years also resided here. The clubs ten members meet regularly and recently had a flower show at Wesley Towers. The Chloris Garden Club started in the neighborhood some 10 years ago and like the Flora Club has spread over the city. In addition to monthly meetings and the publication of a yearbook, the Chloris Club donates flowers to senior citizen's homes. Miss Mayel Holmquest of 1743 Crump is this year's vice-president and the current president also is a neighborhood resident.

Other clubs that started elsewhere often have ties with the neighborhood. The secretary of the Sesame Garden and Arts Club, for example, is Mrs. Nelson Hatchett of 1734 Forrest. The city-wide Field and Garden Club plants and maintains the Holly Court on Southwestern's campus.

Perhaps the one true neighborhood club is the Hein Park Garden Club. The largest and most active of such organizations in the area, it offers monthly programs to its 100 odd members. In addition to gardening, program deals with such diverse subjects as art, fashion, self-defense and the zoo. An annual tea is held along with a September family picnic. Members are kept informed by means of a yearbook and a newsletter entitled "Helmsite".

Founded in 1935, Hein Park is one of the city's oldest garden clubs and its efforts go beyond local beautification to the preservation of in-town residential areas. Its officers for this year are Mrs. William Mackey of 600 Center Drive, president; Mrs. George Burkle, Jr., of 610 Center Drive, vice-president; Mrs. E. Paul Jones of 799 West Drive, secretary; and Mrs. Richard Eckels of 633 Center Drive, treasurer.

Around The Neighborhood

Thanks to the persistence of various V/E residents, we now have a police officer regularly patrolling the neighborhood and traffic patrolmen monitoring our major thoroughfares with radar.

John Carter of 581 N. Avalon was recently awarded a Personal Sales Award Plaque by the Amway Corporation for his outstanding sales achievement record in the home products field.

Welcome to Miss Amanda Hill who is the new owner of the home at 2124 Voluntane. Miss Hill formerly lived at 942 Alaska. She is a teacher of home economics at Manassas High School.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sparks who were married January 7. Mrs. Sparks is the former Debbie Barlow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Barlow of 1815 Jackson. Debbie was featured in the "Meet The Neighbors" column when she was a junior at Northside High.

The Voluntine-Evergreen Community Action Association (VECCA) is a non-profit neighborhood organization founded in 1970. Its boundaries are roughly Watkins, Cypress Creek, Trenzevant and Overton Park Avenue. VECBA's initial goal was to enhance and maintain a stable biracial community with quality housing, services and facilities. It has been active in promoting stability, assisting in school desegregation, opposing commercial rezoning and in general promoting those activities that serve to create a viable mid-town community.

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Planners' Progress

(One of the benefits of long range planning is that it lets a community decide what kind of changes it wants for itself. While in many ways we might wish things to stay "just as they are" there are other places where we could hope for an improvement or two. Your land use task force is looking at several items such as zoning, major streets, and housing conditions, and it hopes to make some recommendations soon. Here is a review of the zoning question now being considered by the task force. - Editor.)

The big zoning concern now is R-3 vs. R-2. R-3 is a duplex zone, allowing two families in a single building. R-2 is a single family zone, allowing only one family per building. Most of the residential buildings in the neighborhood are single family, but the city zoning ordinance of 1955 zoned most of the neighborhood R-3 (duplex) and this zoning still holds today.

One might ask why in 1955 this seemed to be good planning. One can assume that the planners expected that the city's population growth would most likely be accommodated by conversion of homes into duplexes, or the addition of apartments to existing homes, which also requires R-3 zoning. Several areas less fortunate than our own have been zoned R-4 (multi-family), even though most of the buildings were single family.

Aside from the theories (policies) that set this up, what are the practical implications of zoning property for duplex or apartments when it is now single family? Looking at the last 20 years we see on the surface very little effect - most of the homes have stayed single family, very few having been converted to duplex or apartment.

Some new duplexes have been built on vacant lots, and in many cases these have been a definite asset to the neighborhood. The present market price of a midtown residential lot is $8,000-$12,000, and since most homes in the neighborhood are worth much more than this, it is unlikely that a house will be torn down to make room for a new duplex.

The proposal now before the land use task force is for changing most of the R-3 zone up to R-2. This would have the effect of preventing further duplex construction or conversion. The proponents of the up-zoning say that this action will assure homeowners that their streets will remain single-family and thus encourage them to maintain and improve their property. They further believe that to retain R-3 zoning would keep homeowners under a threat of possible changes, and that this uncertainty would retard home improvement.

Some areas have lots of duplexes already and, under the proposal, these areas would remain R-2.

The zoning change would be accomplished by city ordinance passed by the Council after a review by the Planning Commission. The new zoning would allow existing duplexes to continue to be used as such, even if the new zoning is R-2.

The City Council would have to see strong community support before giving its approval, and the task force wants to give the matter a public airing (of which this review is a part) before it is taken to the Planning Commission. Revisions may be necessary, and the wishes of individual residents to be included or excluded should be made known. Eventually a public meeting will be held, to be announced in this paper, but anyone wishing further information now should call Joe Bough (task force chairman) at 271-5551 or 396-3330.

Community Development

If Memphis had $372 million, it could meet its needs for such things as housing, parks and drainage. That was the conclusion reached at a public hearing on March 5 in the City Council chambers.

Under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 Memphis will have only $32 million in federal funds to spend on these projects during the next three years. The city's Action Program Advisory Committee has recommended that North Memphis, including portions of the V/E area, be selected for comprehensive treatment along with eight other priority areas. The portion of the V/E area included is north of Vollentine, east of Watkins and west of University. (See the February, 1975, issue of the News for a more detailed account.)

The City Council will have a public hearing the latter part of March in order to finalize these areas and develop plans and budgets for comprehensive treatment.

Classifieds

WINDOW AIR CONDITIONERS: Inspected and Cleaned—$16.50 for single unit, $14 per unit for two or more. Call Ed Wingfield at 274-3340.

WANTED TO RENT: 3 Bedroom w/ living room house in mid-town area. Call 276-9289 after 5 p.m. or 726-1055 (leave message).

EVERY SUNDAY 7:30 pm
BINGO
AT LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL
$5 CASH PRIZES $5 MINIMUM $515 WEEKLY

TENDER LOVING DAY CARE
HOT LUNCHES
7 A.M. - 6 P.M., MONDAY-FRIDAY
75¢/HOUR, $5.50/DAY, $18/WEEK
AGES 2-6
275-3460
MCLEAN BAPTIST CHURCH

OPEN DOOR BIBLE CHURCH
1712 N. Parkway
Sunday School 9:30
Morning Service 10:45
Training hour 6:00
"If it's the Bible you want, you want The Bible Church"
'Y' Notes

The neighborhood YWCA at First United Lutheran Church (Jackson at Willett) announces its first showing of artists completing its oil painting course. This will be held March 23 from 2 - 4 p.m. There will also be a display of handwork and crafts to illustrate the types of skills to be learned at the "Y".

Pre-registration for courses beginning in April will also be held at this time. Joining such ongoing activities as dance, exercise and karate will be the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese Flower Arranging</td>
<td>April 1-5wks. Tues., 7-9 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>April 2-5wks. Wed., 9-11 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>April 3-6wks. Thurs., 1-2 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>April 3-8wks. Thurs., 8-9 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oil Painting</td>
<td>April 3-8wks. Thurs., 7-9 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Candlemaking</td>
<td>April 9-5wks. Wed., 10-12 a.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crewel/Needlepoint</td>
<td>April 9-6wks. Wed., 1-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<td>April 10-6wks. Thurs., 7-9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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Furniture work is no stranger to the neighborhood, with Modern Upholstery located here on Jackson, but when BILL and MARY ANN WADE of 873 Dickinson think of furniture, they think small. For several years Mary Ann's hobby has been balsa doll furniture. Recently her uncle encouraged her to exhibit some of her handiwork at the Fairgrounds Flea Market, and we thought you'd like to see it here. In the photos you can see the craftsman herself in action and one of her creations, a complete bedroom suite.

The Wades have lived in Midtown for five years and moved to the Dickinson address in November. Mr. Wade is with the maintenance department of Gallagher Property Management and his hobbies are basketball, bowling, and science fiction. Mrs. Wade works in the pathology lab at St. Jude Hospital.