Musical Notes
by Kris Menard

We are fortunate to have in our area a number of musicians whose abilities are as diversified as the neighborhood itself. Many of these people are connected with Southwestern in one way or another while others are commercial performers or perform strictly for their own entertainment.

One of the foremost musicians in the community is CHARLES MOSBY of 1869 S. Rainbow Circle. Prof. Mosby is chairman of the music department at Southwestern as well as a talented performer. His formal education began in piano at a college where he received his bachelor's degree in music (and wrote the school pop song). He earned a master's degree from Florida State and has done post-graduate work at the University of Chicago.

Prof. Mosby one time won the 1969 Army Talent Contest which led to an appearance with Arleen Francis on national television. He is currently a soloist with the Memphis Symphony and judges many talent contests in the Mid-South region. He has presented piano recitals in seven states. Prof. Mosby and his wife ROSE have lived in the neighborhood for ten years.

CHARLOTTE MCLAINT of 1973 Snowden is another noteworthy member of the Southwestern faculty. She teaches organ, harpsichord, piano and music history. Ms. McLain's interest in music goes back to when she was four years old. It was during World War II and she wanted a toy. As few were available her mother bought her a real accordion. Lessons came free with the instrument and her career in music began.

Prof. McLain completed her undergraduate work at the University of Indiana, specializing in organ. Her graduate work was completed at Peabody College in Nashville. She and her husband MICHAEL have lived in Memphis for the last eight years.

TONY GARNER of 521 Hawthorne has been an instructor at Southwestern for nine years. He conducts music for a variety of organizations in the city including the Southwestern Singers, the Southwestern Orchestra, Memphis Opera Theatre, Theatre Memphis and the Evergreen Presbyterian Choir.

Prof. Garner has a degree in church music from Southwestern and studied for five seasons under Isaac VanGrove. In December he will receive his M.A. degree in music history from Memphis State. He and his wife BETTE have recently returned from a tour of Rumania with the Southwestern Singers.

Chief among commercial artists in the neighborhood is LEO LeBLANC of 405 N. Avalon. Leo plays steel guitar and has quite a few contemporary credits to his name. He has recorded an album for RCA Records and has a single to be released soon. He has provided accompaniment on records for such notable artists as Mac Davis, Liza Minnelli, the Osmond Brothers, Tony Joe White and the Gentrys.

Another real performer is singer-guitarist SID SELVIDGE of 1694 Autumn. Formerly an anthropology instructor at Southwestern, Sid is now a full-time musician. He has recently released a song called "Portrait" on the Enterprise label and has a new album, "Cold of the Morning", coming out this month.

One of those neighborhood residents who plays for fun is DINO PACCASASSI of 1686 S. Rainbow Circle. Dino's parents encouraged him to play the violin when he was a child and he eventually studied under Frank Braccianti and Joseph Wilkie. Forty years ago he began playing with the Memphis Symphony and he plays occasionally at Holy Name Catholic Church.

And one of the pioneers in Memphis music is Mrs. NELMA ASPERO of 1700 Faison. Mrs. Aspero graduated from the music department at Southwestern when it was known as the Vander High School of Music. She then attended the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston where she studied piano. In 1930 she introduced the idea of music camps to the Memphis public school system, where she taught both Southaven and Vollentine Schools. She is married to the City School System for ten years and gave private lessons at home in addition. Mrs. Aspero has since become a well-known Memphis lawyer. She has lived in the neighborhood for sixty years.

This list, of course, only scratches the surface. The numerous other musicians range from young composer-guitarist SCOTT ADAMS (1906 Mignon) to Southwestern professor JOHN WEHLAN (1952 Jackson) to former voice teacher Miss. VERON TAYLOR (1955 Crump). These residents point out anew the talent and diversity so abundant in the V/E community.

**Meetings**

VECAA is sponsoring a "Meet the Candidate" political rally on October 19. The rally will be held at 7:30 p.m. at McLean Baptist Church. In attendance will be candidates for U.S. Congress (Ford and Allsindates), candidates for the State legislature (Tooley, White, Gain and Robertson), as well as a representative from the Sasser campaign. These rallies give neighborhood residents a chance to talk face-to-face with the candidates.

VECAA meetings have been tentatively set for Nov. 11 and Dec. 12. The November meeting will deal with crime prevention while the December topic will be education. Both meetings will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. Watch the News for information on location.
Revised Riders' Guide

Three years ago the News printed an article on the Memphis Transit Authority but routes serving the Vollintine/Evergreen community. Recently revisions have been made in both routing and scheduling that neighborhood residents should know about. Refer to the map below in reading the following comments.

Of the eight routes running through the community, seven will remain in service after the Nov. 14 changeover date. The eliminated route is the Jackson Express which operated during rush hours. This loss will be compensated for through improvements on the 52 Jackson route. The 3 Summer route remains unchanged through the neighborhood although the 3 Summer-Treadwell route has been redesignated Summer-Macon. There have been no changes in the 19 Vollintine and the 53 Jackson routes. The 40 Raleigh route remains the same through the neighborhood although it now serves Frayser. The only other east-west route, the Summer Express, has been redesignated the Summer Blazer: its stops between Watkins and Trezevant are being reduced from five to three or less.

The only north-south route, 31 Crosstown, remains the same. There is still the possibility that a McLean route will be added sometime in the future.

The schedules remain very much the same although the 40 Raleigh bus will run every 45 minutes instead of 25 and the 52 Jackson-Macon will run every 30 minutes on Saturday rather than every 45.

According to DON BURGESS, Superintendent of Schedules, new improved route maps should be available by Nov. 10. The changes will go into effect on Nov. 14. Be sure to consult the transit authority for specific times and routes.
Shopper's Choice
by M. Bruce Schisler

With authentic, rustic, cheerful, informal Southern cafe atmosphere, the Service Cafe on Jack son is one of the few places left in Memphis to get a good old American-style breakfast. (It opens, by the way, at 6:30 a.m.) This consists of one egg, bacon, ham or sausage, grits, toast and coffee for $1. ($1.20 will get you two eggs with juice, sweetrolls and hotcakes also moderately priced.) As a breakfast hangout it is ideal because the food is well prepared and plentiful, the price is right, the customers friendly, and the proprietors, chef, and waitresses eager to please.

The proprietor, since March, 1960, has been GEORGE J. VERDOS of the Memphis restaurateur family. Prior to the purchase of the Service Cafe, George and his brother CHARLES (owner of the downtown "Red CLaws") ran the Jackson Coffee Shop at 217 Jackson Avenue from 1950 to 1960. From 1923 to 1939 the brothers owned the restaurant business from their family, JOHN C. VERDOS, widely remembered at the Jackson Lunch Room, 729 Jackson Avenue.

At the Service Cafe, the breakfast menu offerings are served from a steam table, semi-buffet style, from which the customer makes his selection and is then served by a waitress. The selections, by the way, are multitudinous. There are 12 to 15 main course meat dishes and 17 to 20 fresh, Southern style vegetables from which to choose. All lunches and dinners (meat with three vegetables) cost $1.70, with dessert 35¢ extra and coffee (strong) 20¢. If preferred, dessert can be substituted for one vegetable at the same price. A vegetable plate (three vegetables) runs $1.25.

From the main course meat dishes, try either the barbecued lamb necks or the braised beef tips in gravy. Be sure to request the large, scrumptious homemade rolls. Dessert is a specialty at the Service, as the chef, SIE HENRY WALKER, serves delicious homemade puddings (banana, bread with fruit, and rice) as well as homemade cobblers. The Cafe also features excellent service with its top-of-the-line waitresses, MABLE SULLIVAN (50-year veteran), VONNIE VIER.

House Notes

While blockbusting no longer is a significant problem in the V/E community, complaints concerning various financial and insurance companies have been increasing. In ways more subtle than blockbusters, banks and insurers can discriminate against particular neighborhoods in the services they offer. Various techniques such as "redlining" are used to discourage prospective homeowners from buying in a given area. Some of these discriminatory techniques are illegal and all are unethical. However, these institutions will continue to contribute to the decline of older neighborhoods if they persist and stop.

The best way to do this is to either pay attention or turn to the open. If there are at least two homeowner's insuring institutions that support your block and if there is no legal action taken if necessary, you can request that the following notices be reported for Brewer's compendium:

1) Report any lending institution that:
   a. refuses to make a mortgage loan because of the location
   b. refuses to make a mortgage loan for this reason
   c. charges fees not levied in other neighborhoods
   d. demands a higher interest rate than prevailing
   e. requires a shorter than average pay-back period

2) Report any insurance company that:
   a. refuses homeowners insurance because of the location
   b. charges higher than normal rates for homeowners insurance
   c. raised the deductible on a homeowners policy

If you have experienced any of the above, please contact
JOE SOHM at 278-0962.
Around The Neighborhood

The parish house of First United Lutheran Church (1542 Jackson) is undergoing renovation and will soon house the administrative offices of Lutheran Social Services of Tennessee. The Church will continue to provide some YWCA activities in addition to housing 12 to 14 Social Service employees.

The Lewis Center for Senior Citizens has announced that swim finals will be administered at the 1188 N. Parkway location on Oct. 20. V/E senior citizens should call 272-7408 for an appointment.

Also at the Center numerous art-craft-and-hobby classes are beginning in October. These include painting, ceramics, pottery, weaving and many other less conventional 8:30 to 9:30 and classes last from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Southwestern College has announced its spring housing opportunities, extending pool hours in conjunction with the proximity of Memphis. The pool will be open to students and will be supervised by a responsible staff able to handle the situation.

Southwestern has also added a sport of interest to the neighborhood. Soccer is now being played at the varsity level with a home game scheduled for Oct. 9 against Auburn at 11:30 a.m.

WANDA WILSON of 1495 Jackson has been receiving a lot of publicity lately. She was featured in the "Interesting people" column of the Press Scimitar for her jobs as truck driver for her own container company and as owner-operator of the P & H (Poor and Hungry) Cafe. Ms. Wilson is now involved in the filming of part three of "Walking Tall" in which she plays a bad-guy.

V/E Membership Drive

Beginning the weekend of October 22 all households in theVoltinite/Evenmore community will be telephoned and the families asked to either become new members of VGCA or to renew their original memberships.

In order for VGCA Inc. to continue the work it is doing for the community you must "Come together to do the job" for the good of the city, and for your home and neighborhood. With your financial support we can continue to serve our people and continue the work we are doing. For a membership of only $2.50 you can help us reach our goal of $2,500.00. Many individuals and businesses are discovering the satisfaction that comes from being part of a community organization. Persons such as writers, educators, farmers, doctors and others, and problems of the retired and elderly have been only a few of VGCA's major concerns. Your community organization needs your continued moral and financial support.


NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

Membership $2.50 - Individual, Family, Business

Make checks payable to VGCA.

Send to: Mr. Irvin Sachritz

899 Sheridan Street

Memphis, TN 38107.