

# EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by VECA, Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association

Volume XVIII, Number 5

October 1992

## Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association Heritage Day

October 24, 1992, McLean Baptist Church, 815 North McLean, 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

*How old is your house?*

*Is it a Craftsman Bungalow, a Tudor Cottage, a Dutch Colonial or a ... ?*

The Vollintine Evergreen Community Association is hosting a Heritage Day, October 24, 1992, 10:00 to 12:30 noon. This day of activity will take the place of the Fall Family Festival which will not be held this year but will return in October of 1993. The volunteers in the VECA organization are very busy with

the Historic District survey and feel that a day set aside to educate the neighborhood about the designation process is needed this year. A full morning of activities is planned. The Tennessee State Historical Commission will show a movie on the Historical Designation process and National Historic Districts. Representative from some of Memphis' Historic Districts and National Historic Districts will be present with displays and

will answer questions about the communities. Representatives from Cooper Young, Evergreen Historic, South Main, Collins Chapel, Greenlaw, and Hein Park will attend. There will be maps of the VECA area with the outlined subdivisions, dates of subdivision development, and pictures of area homes repre-

sentative of the architectural styles of VECA. Memphis Landmarks Commission, Memphis Heritage Foundation, the Historic District Alliance and the VECA Historic Preservation Committee will be present to answer any questions. A training session for the first round of volunteers to survey their area will

also be held Heritage Day. Those volunteers will be notified personally before the session. Please bring photos, diaries, newspaper clippings; anything you have that will lend to the development of the VECA written history. VECA is looking for information about the area whether it be family history, business advertisements, graduation notices - anything that you want to bring. Come

listen to the State Historical Commission's presentation, or just browse the display tables and ask questions. For more information contact Betty Ackerman, Linda Nichols, or Mary Wilder, 272-2620.

VECA tee shirts will be on sale for \$10.00. VECA caps will be given to all that attend.



Do not place in mailboxes

## St. John Orthodox Church Prayer Service

As you are probably aware, there have been a number of burglaries and other incidents of crime in our neighborhood over the last several months. A large number of our members live within blocks of our church on Tutwiler, and some of them have been victims along with others. Crime is a problem for society at large, and we are certainly not immune to it.

We, as a congregation, see this as our neighborhood and we feel blessed by God to be a part of it. We also want to be an instrument for peace, reconciliation, and the love of

God the Holy Trinity. Consequently, we are beginning a weekly prayer service specifically for our neighborhood on Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. You are invited to participate with us, beginning September 9, 1992, as we pray for God's care of and blessings for, our neighborhood. The service lasts about 20 minutes. Even if you cannot be present, be aware that when you hear the bell ring we will begin our prayers for you and the strengthening of our neighborhood.

## Fall Organizing Meeting

The first 1992-93 meeting of the VECA Housing Committee will be October 17, at 1900 Jackson. Call Chuck Dille at 274-6531 if you are interested in joining the work of the committee. The Housing Committee has been the watch dog of housing in the VECA area for many years. Members of the committee handle residents' complaints which are called in or

written to VECA. Housing code violations, health department violations and housing improvement problems are all areas of concern

Code violations are such things as work being done on a home without a permit, businesses being added on to residential property, abandoned vehicles, large quantities of debris causing harborage of vermin, commercial vehicles being parked in residential areas, and the general deterioration of homes. The committee works with city and county officials to try to solve the problems. VECA also works with the owners of the property. The committee has been an effective way of working on maintaining the homes in our area. The rehabilitation of the home behind the Gulf station on Jackson is, in part, due to the work of the housing committee and the effort of Memphis Division of Housing and Development, department of Housing Improvement. Mr. Gary Kirk of the department was instrumental in helping save that home. If you want to help in your community, the Housing Committee is a great place to start. Come join us on October 17 at 10:00 a.m.

### EVERGREEN NEWS

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**VECA Hotline: 276-1066**

## TRIED 'N TRUE RECIPES FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS



— Lyndale Cornbread —

1 cup self-rising cornbread mix  
1 egg  
1/2 cup oil  
1 cup sour cream  
1 can cream style yellow corn  
(about 8 oz.)

Preheat oven to 400.  
While mixing ingredients, let 1 to 2  
tablespoons of oil heat in an 8" iron  
skillet. Pour in mixture and bake for  
20 to 30 minutes or until done.

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### Sunday Eucharists

8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m. - Rhodes College May-Sept.

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.

Fr. Bob Ewing, Pastor  
276-1412



"All Are Welcome"

# NEIGHBORHOOD FOCUS

## Historic Designation Committee Snapping Your House

The Historic Designation folks are hard at work. You may have noticed someone driving around taking pictures. The committee is trying to determine the styles and forms of architecture in the neighborhood and photos help. HD (Historic Designation) members are also starting to call folks

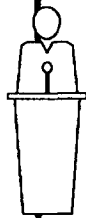
about the surveys. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about your home and immediate neighborhood. The first training session will be held in October (see article on Heritage Day). If you are interested in helping call the VECA hotline at 276-1066.

## Monkey Grass Wanted for the Snowden School Snaz-up on October 17

The parents and children of Snowden will hold their annual Snaz-up Snowden October 17, starting at 10:00 a.m.. This year the school's P.T.A. is asking the VECA community to help by donating your monkey grass to the effort. Bring your monkey grass in clumps to the school at 10:00; the volunteers will plant it around the school. THANK YOU for helping our neighborhood school beautify its grounds.

## Rhodes College and Evergreen Presbyterian Offer Sunday Evening Service

Rhodes College and Evergreen Presbyterian Church, 613 University, are having an informal Sunday evening worship service at Evergreen especially for young adults and college students. The service will be innovative and fresh, seeking to use a variety of avenues to lead to a rich worship experience. The service will last from 6:00 until 6:45 p.m. All are welcome.



### VECA Neighborhood Meeting

Nazareth Hall  
(Little Flower Church) on October 15th,  
840 Dickinson.

Subject: Neighborhood Watch.  
7:00 p.m.

*All are welcome!*



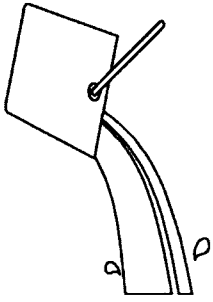
**McLean Baptist Church**  
815 N. McLean Phone: 274-3766  
Harold Simmons, Pastor

Sunday:	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship
Wednesday:	5:45 p.m.	Fellowship Dinner
	6:30 p.m.	Prayer Service

*Nursery Services Available*

## Bailing Out the Basement

Contributed by Rich Helms



You go through it every year. You think, "Perhaps we can sneak through this spring (or fall) without significant rain fall." Well, the rain is here and, likely, so is the water in your basements. If you have had the same problems I've had over the years, your sources of basement water are two:

- When there are consistent and reasonably heavy showers, ground water seeps in through small cracks or areas where the concrete is not sealed;
- When there are "gully washers," sewage water backs up into homes through a waste pipe or drain.

I, like you, have spent countless hours on the telephone with the city trying to get someone to focus on this problem with no success. Finally I said, "If the city won't fix the problem, can I isolate my home from the city sewer system?"

The answer is yes. There are a number of plumbing solutions and your choice can be made based on your pocketbook. Before making a decision, I would suggest you get at least three bids on the job before proceeding. As most of us know, plumbing costs vary dramatically, so be smart and shop carefully.

Solving the problem of sewage water in the basement can be done by installing a back water valve. This is a passive device which simply allows waste water to escape the house, but prevents retrograde flow from the sewer. You can continue to use all household plumbing, provided the sewer is not filled to the maximum. The limitation to this valve is that paper waste can plug the valve, causing the valve plate not to seal. This solution works best for small families or households.

Larger families may want to consider the additional installation of a gate valve. This manually operated valve is closed during heavy rain, and isolates your home from the city sewer system, but prevents the use of the bathroom when the valve is shut. Closing the gate valve is ideal when out of town or during a rainy day when no one is home.

If your problem is ground water seeping into your basement, you may install an automatic sump pump. This may be more costly, but still within reason if problems are regular and expensive; ie., replacing a hot water heater, furnace component, etc. The sump is dug at the deepest point of the basement. PVC tubing, bored with small holes, is tunnelled under the basement to reduce hydrostatic pressure by draining water into the sump. The pump is automatically triggered on by the accumulation of water in the sump. Alternative electrical supplies, such as a gasoline-powered generator, can be considered. It is very important to run the sump waste to a garden bed or distant back yard since the sewer is usually filled to capacity at this time.

Well, there you have it. A dry basement. It has worked for me and it will work for you. Perhaps we can now say good-bye to basement bailing.

### WORSHIP

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Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

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VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with its residents. The Evergreen News contains information about VECA, neighborhood residents, business and government policies. VECA is bounded by Watkins on the West, Cypress Creek on the North, Trezevant on the East and North Parkway on the South. Contact VECA by writing to P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN, 38182-0011.