

VOLLINTINE EVERGREEN

N E W S

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

Volume XXIX, Number 5

SEPTEMBER 2003

MONTHLY HOME REPAIR CLASSES RESUME

VECA and VECA CDC have begun a new program in 2003. Home repair classes on a variety of topics are held on the third Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. at the VECA office. Cost is only \$1. You do not need to bring tools or supplies, but you may bring them if you have them.



**HOME REPAIR
CLASSES**

Tentative topics:

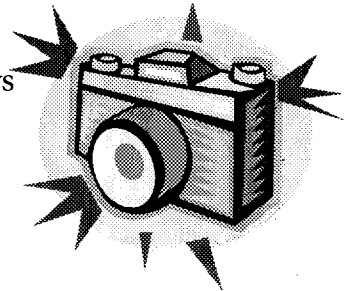
- September 20: windstorm repair issues (roofs, trees, etc.)
- October 18: energy efficiency and weatherproofing
- November 15: windows

The first six classes were well attended and well received.

Suggestions for future topics are welcome. We would also love to have experienced neighborhood residents help conduct a class or two.

BE PART OF A *SOUTHERN LIVING* MAGAZINE PHOTO SHOOT

Photographers from *Southern Living* magazine will be at the next V&E Greenline "Walk & Talk" on Saturday, September 13. The free event is called "Ice Cream Sundays and a Little Music" and will be from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Garden (just west of McLean). *Southern Living* magazine featured the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood in its May 2003 issue, and we are pleased to be considered for another article (possibly in June 2004), based on photos from the "Walk & Talk". Join us!



SPRUCE UP THE V&E GREENLINE

Help keep our neighborhood linear park clean and trimmed. Come by to help from 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. on any of these Saturdays:

- September 20
- November 22
- February 21
- March 20

Meeting location will vary; look for signs along the Greenline or call the office.

Do Not Place In Or On Mailboxes

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 26, 2004
Historic Committee's "Bungalow Tour"	April 25, 2004
V&E Greenline yard sale	June 12, 2004
Potluck Supper & Pool Party	July 10, 2004 (tentative; Rhodes College)
National Night Out	August 3, 2004
Historic Committee	second Monday monthly, 7:00 p.m. (various locations; call office)
Code Enforcement Committee	third Thursday monthly, 7:00 p.m.
Block Club Committee	first Monday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Cypress Creek Committee	call office for update
Youth Committee	call office to help
V&E Greenline Committee (but not July or December)	third Tuesday monthly, 7:00 p.m.
Housing Committee	second Tuesday monthly, 5:30 p.m.
Commercial Revitalization Committee	second Tuesday monthly, 6:00 p.m.
Managing Committee	last Monday monthly, 5:30 p.m.
VENews deadlines, 2003:	October 3, December 2
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	first Monday monthly, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	September 8, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	October 6, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
VECA CDC & VECA Boards	November 3, 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

VISIT VECA'S WEBSITE

www.neighborhoodlink.com/veca

VECA & VECA CDC STAFF

Sean Fegette,
Construction Coordinator
(sean@vecacdc.org)

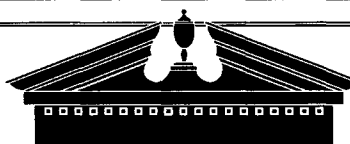
Steve Gadbois,
Executive Director
(gadbois@vecacdc.org)

Ruth Gibson,
Homeowner Counselor
and Office Manager
(wruth@vecacdc.org)

Daryl Lewis,
Neighborhood Preservationist
(dlewis@vecacdc.org)

Wilma Vandermeer,
Financial Manager

Andrew Wilkins,
Property Code Coordinator
(wilkinsandrew@vecacdc.org)

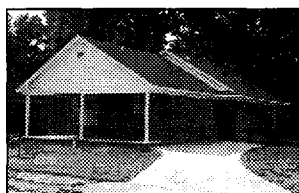


FOR SALE BY VECA CDC

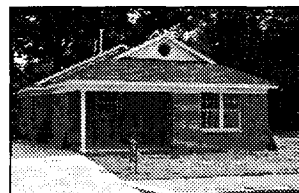
All five are new brick, 3-bedroom,
2-bathroom houses in various
stages of construction:

- 2218 Hunter
- 2348 Hunter
- 2136 Howell
- 2345 Shasta
- 2375 Shasta

For more information, contact
the VECA office at 276-1782.



2113 Brown



2348 Hunter

VOLLINTINE ↔ EVERGREEN

N E W S

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276-1782 phone • 276-1784 fax

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

www.neighborhoodlink.com/veca



DESIGNER NEEDED FOR NEW VECA WEBSITE

If any resident is interested in designing a new website at vecacdc.org, please call the VECA office at 276-1782.



- to Brenda Hayes and Angela Thomas for the donation of a large conference table

NEEDED AT YOUR VECA OFFICE

- shelving
- projector screen

We'll be glad to pick up!

JobLINC BUS SCHEDULE

The JobLINC bus (a Public Library program) will be parked at the VECA office on October 21 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Come see what free resources are available: job listings, resume help, job interview tips, etc.

A LETTER TO THE V&E GREENLINE COMMITTEE

Dear Bill Rehberg,

I want to thank you on behalf of the Chickasaw Group of the Sierra Club for leading the V&E Greenline hike on Saturday, July 12. Your history comments and the information about the sites along the way made this outing a real education in urban conservation efforts.

The work and maintenance put into the trail are outstanding. The V&E Committee work and the attention to detail, to me, are amazing — from the map, the bridge, to the native plantings, to the cleanliness, to the signs, and — yes — to the trash cans and the water for neighborhood gardens.

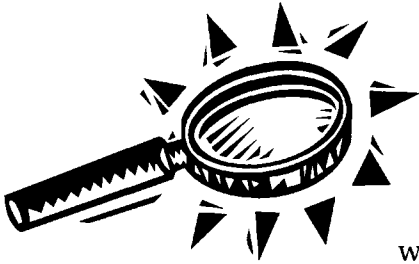
I had comments all morning long about what a great walk the V&E Greenline is. The weather turned out to be about perfect. And, I think we were a convivial bunch. We had 15 hikers from all over the County; Sierra Club members and new folks who read about the hike in VECA's newsletter, The Commercial Appeal, Health & Fitness magazine, and Downtowner magazine. These were Carol Chumney, Jim and Nadia Anhalt, Sharli Euell, Jeanne Bolen, Bob and Becky Ledbetter, Joan Byrne, Carolyn and Woody Pierce, Teri Sullivan, Charlie Rond, Lou Pardue, Gloria Lersla, and myself.

Again, thanks for leading the outing to the V&E Greenline. It made a fine contribution to Chickasaw Groups' implementation of the new national Sierra Club policy of outings having a conservation or educational objective.

Best regards,
Judith Hammond
Outings Chair
Chickasaw Group Sierra Club, Memphis

UPDATE ON THE CYPRESS CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION

by Charles R. Hanson, Vice President, Environmental, Health, and Safety, Velsicol Chemical Corporation



This summer has been a busy time for continuing work on the Cypress Creek environmental investigation. As you may know, Velsicol's Memphis Environmental Center, with the support of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the Memphis and Shelby County Health Department, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), are working cooperatively to collect soil samples near Cypress Creek, between

Jackson Avenue and Evergreen Street, for laboratory sampling. Through July, a total

of 162 soil samples had been collected at 61 residences and 23 other locations that include apartments, open spaces, commercial properties, and industrial properties. After test results are received, they will be reviewed to decide if any additional sampling is needed to complete the sample collection and laboratory testing phase. A report on this phase of the investigation is expected to be completed by September. During this fall, the test data will be evaluated with the support of TDEC, the Health Department, and the EPA to determine if there are any areas of concern that may require cleanup.

We want to thank the community for their high level of cooperation in granting access for sample collection. Each resident and property owner where samples were collected will receive a report on the test results for their property. The investigation's findings will also be shared in a public forum where community comments can be shared and any questions answered. The timing and other details of that forum will be announced at a later date. If you would like to be put on a mailing list to be notified of the public forum or if you have other questions on the investigation, please contact Mr. Gary Hermann, Project Manager, at Velsicol's Memphis Environmental Center at 345-1788 extension 120, or at GHermann@Velsicol.com, or at 2603 Corporate Avenue, Memphis, TN 38132. We welcome your comments and questions at any time.



Donations to VECA CDC (but NOT to VECA) may be tax deductible, and may be directed to a particular CDC program. For more information, call the VECA office at (901) 276-1782.

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Memphis, TN 38104

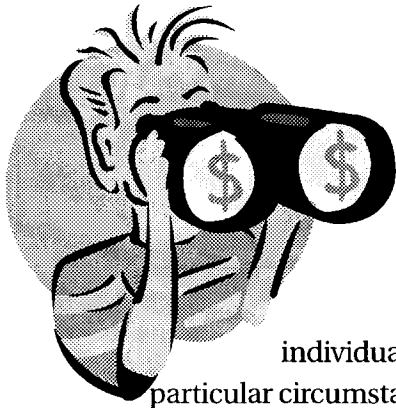
901-274-6006

ASK THE BANKER: FINANCING DEALS THAT MAY BE TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

Question: I frequently see offers for “free” financing of car purchases: \$0 downpayment, no payments for one year, etc. (Similar offers are made for furniture, appliances, etc.) How do these offers really work, and what should I be careful of?

Answer: You must read the fine print to understand this type of deal! Find out all of the requirements in order to qualify for the special rates. For example,

- you might not be able to choose the type of vehicle you want, or you might have to accept a color you don’t want;
- you might have to give up a rebate available to other buyers;
- you might have to finance the loan for a certain amount of time; or
- you might have to meet strict credit history guidelines.



Question: What should I do before discussing finance options?

Answer: Negotiate your best possible price even before discussing finance options! If you mention any special financing deal instead, there is a good chance that you will not get your best price.

Most of this month’s answers were contributed by BancorpSouth.

Information provided in this column is offered in good faith, but individuals should carefully consider whether the advice suits their own particular circumstances and act accordingly.



“THE ASK THE BANKER” COLUMN REPRINTS

The following topics have been printed in the “Ask the Banker” column since March 2002.

- Banking for Young People
- The Life of A Check
- Home Mortgages
- Predatory Lending
- Identity Theft
- Obtaining and Using Credit Cards
- Credit Scores
- Financing Home Improvements
- Home Equity Conversion Mortgages

If you would like reprints of any past articles please contact the VECA Office at 276-1782.

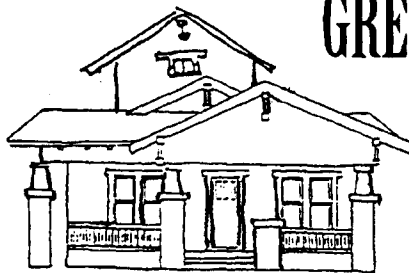
“FAITH INTACT”

McLean Baptist Church has been at the corner of McLean and Jackson since the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood was developed. Its white steeple is the tallest in the city of Memphis. The July 22 windstorm caused considerable damage to the church’s buildings, but faith, hard work, and insurance will allow the church to continue its mission. Roofing, windows, and the steeple will all be repaired. The day care center (which has the highest possible three-star rating) should be reopened by the time this newsletter is printed. Finally, the large sanctuary may be converted to a “family life center”, with the removal of pews and installation of wood flooring.



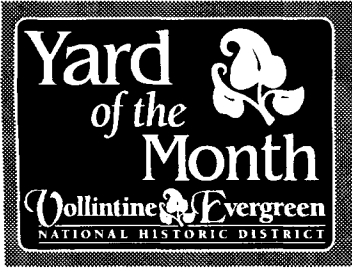
ALERT TO LAWN PARKERS

Parking on the grass will eventually turn your front lawn into a mudhole. It's unneighborly, unsightly, and against the law.



GREAT BUNGALOWS NEEDED FOR NEXT HOME TOUR

The next Home Tour to be held on April 25, 2004 will feature bungalows. If you or your neighbor has a great bungalow home and would like to be included in the tour, or if you would like to be a historic committee member or just volunteer, please call 278-9838 or email to: ve_historic@yahoo.com.



JULY & AUGUST — YARD OF THE MONTH HONOREES!

Congratulations to these honorees! Please drive by and admire these homes.

If you would like to nominate a house for Yard of the Month, please email us at: ve_historic@yahoo.com or call 278-9838.

JULY — 2122 UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

Gregory Francis of 2122 University Circle is the proud owner of July's Yard of the Month. Gregory is also owner of Gregory Francis Designs which includes floral, interior and landscaping design. It can be described as a "One Stop Shop" or the Target of Home Decor. Gregory's front yard is loaded with shade loving annuals and bulbs. In full bloom are Caladiums, Dusty Miller and lots of ferns. Gregory has more than 10 different varieties of ferns on his porch alone. His front yard is only a partial example of his green thumb... the backyard is even bigger and better! Gregory also used his landscaping skills to dress up the University Circle Park and decorates each lightpost on the circle with hanging baskets.



Gregory Francis fills every space in his yard with colorful flowers.



AUGUST — 696 MAURY



Mike Ford has created a unique garden filled with lots of colorful blooms.

Beginning six years ago with two dump trucks of garden mix, Mike Ford and Robert Kueider have made their home at 696 Maury into an English cottage garden in the heart of Vollintine-Evergreen. The profusion of black eyed susans, phlox, angel's trumpets, and 70 varieties of day lilies attest to the fact that the homeowners "don't like anything that doesn't bloom". Architectural features, including an arch and arbor, are set off by flowers, shrubs, and trees. The garden motif continues on the house with almost 400 ivy leaves, made with joint compound and a stencil, decorating the eaves. Like many things in Vollintine-Evergreen, this lovely yard is a symbol of how neighborly we are. Mike and Robert's neighbors have had a hand in their yard - from helping to take down a large oak tree, to sharing plants and flowers, to giving a weeping cherry tree instead of flowers when Robert's father died.

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Saturday Great Vespers at 7 pm

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(901) 274-4119

**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 - 5:00 p.m.
Wed. and Fri. Mass - 8:15 a.m.

Saturday Confession - 3:45 - 4:15 p.m.

276-1412



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EXTENDED CARE: 3:00-6:00pm

HUNTING GROUNDS, DAIRY FARMS, AND HOUSING TRACTS: THREE CENTURIES OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IN THE VOLLINTINE-EVERGREEN NEIGHBORHOOD

by Chad Montrie (*Chad_Montrie@uml.edu*)

[Editor's note: This is the fifth and final installment of this article. The complete version is at the VECA office.]

(Last time: Petrochemicals and Race)

Conclusion

One of the most pressing issues confronting VECA in the new century is the condition of the area's waterways, particularly Cypress Creek. In some respects, the creek has become a "drainage channel," as the Velsicol Corporation claims, not only carrying stormwater runoff from thousands of surrounding acres of land but also litter, automotive chemicals from the streets, pesticides and herbicides from lawns, as well as chemicals

from manufacturing plants and unregulated dumps. This degraded water quality reflects some of the many, varied changes that have taken place in or near the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood, particularly housing construction and industrial development in the twentieth century. To begin to address what might arguably be thought of as a decline in the creek's health, in 1998 VECA established the Cypress Creek Project, which involved students and faculty from Rhodes College in surveying residents in the watershed, assessing water quality, as well as preparing reports of their findings.

More recently, Velsicol has added to VECA's assessments with a report of its own, based on soil tests in five

"sub-areas" in and around the neighborhood. Only in Sub-Area III, however, the residential property along Cypress around Evergreen, did testing reveal toxic chemicals (dieldrin, endrin ketone, and endrine isodrin) exceeding EPA standards. Overall, the results "demonstrated that the concentrations of constituents identified along the various segments of the Cypress Creek Drainage Channel do not represent a level of potential risk to current receptors that requires immediate action." Conclusions of that sort seem to negate the need for efforts like the Cypress Creek Project and insure the likelihood of continuing conflict between past and present users of the waterway, both corporate and residential.

Are you new to the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood?

Come by the VECA office at 1680 Jackson Avenue during regular business hours to pick up a free "welcome packet".

It's loaded with information, coupons, and a form for a free first-year membership in VECA.

THE PIPES ARE CALLING ... AGAIN!

by Beverly Cruthirds

Evergreen Presbyterian Church is delighted to announce the return of "Clanjamfry: A Scottish Festival", this year being celebrated for the fifth time. The festival will be on the weekend of September 19-21 and once again there will be entertainment and activities for the whole family, plus, of course, the stirring sounds of the Wolf River Pipes and Drums, Clanjamfry's official bagpipe band.

The weekend starts on Friday evening with the Ceilidh, a traditional Scottish talent show, in the McCallum Ballroom at Rhodes College. On Saturday, the Scottish Faire fills the lawn of Evergreen with music, vendors, games, displays, clan tents, a children's area and much more. Saturday night, in cooperation with the Mid-South Celtic Arts Alliance, Clanjamfry presents Dochas, one of Scotland's premier up-and-coming Celtic music groups, performing in Evergreen's sanctuary. The grand finale is the Kirkin' o' the Tartans on Sunday morning, a moving church service with many elements of Scottish traditional worship, including the bagpipes in grand procession.

For more information, call the Clanjamfry information line at 458-2043. Leave your name and address to receive a brochure.



LEE BROWN (1949-2003)

Dr. Lee R. Brown, pastor of Springdale Baptist Church on Springdale since 1979 and city school board member since 2000, passed away on August 2.

Dr. Brown grew up in Memphis, and attended Mannassas High School, Memphis State University, Memphis Theological Seminary, and United Theological Seminary (in Dayton, Ohio). His interest in the ministry and education took many forms, including his church's homework center and GED programs. He also contributed his school board salary to a fund scholarship program.

At their August 4 meetings, both the VECA Board and the VECA CDC Board passed resolutions acknowledging Dr. Brown's contributions to his Springdale Baptist Church, the Vollintine-Evergreen community, and the City of Memphis schools.

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MAIL TO: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, 1680 JACKSON AVENUE, MEMPHIS, TN 38107

I'M INTERESTED IN:

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Club | <input type="checkbox"/> V&E Greenline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Home Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Code Enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Revitalization | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer (general) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenways | |

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$10, \$20 OR \$35 PER YEAR
AND ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE; ADDITIONAL DONATIONS TO VECA CDC MAY BE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 dues, Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> Bumper Sticker A | <input type="checkbox"/> Bumper Sticker B | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Designation Plaque |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 dues (household), Gold Star members receive their choice of bumper sticker. |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 dues, Gold Star Heritage members receive their choice of bumper sticker and the Historic Designation Plaque. | <small>Please make checks payable to VECA</small> | | |

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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.