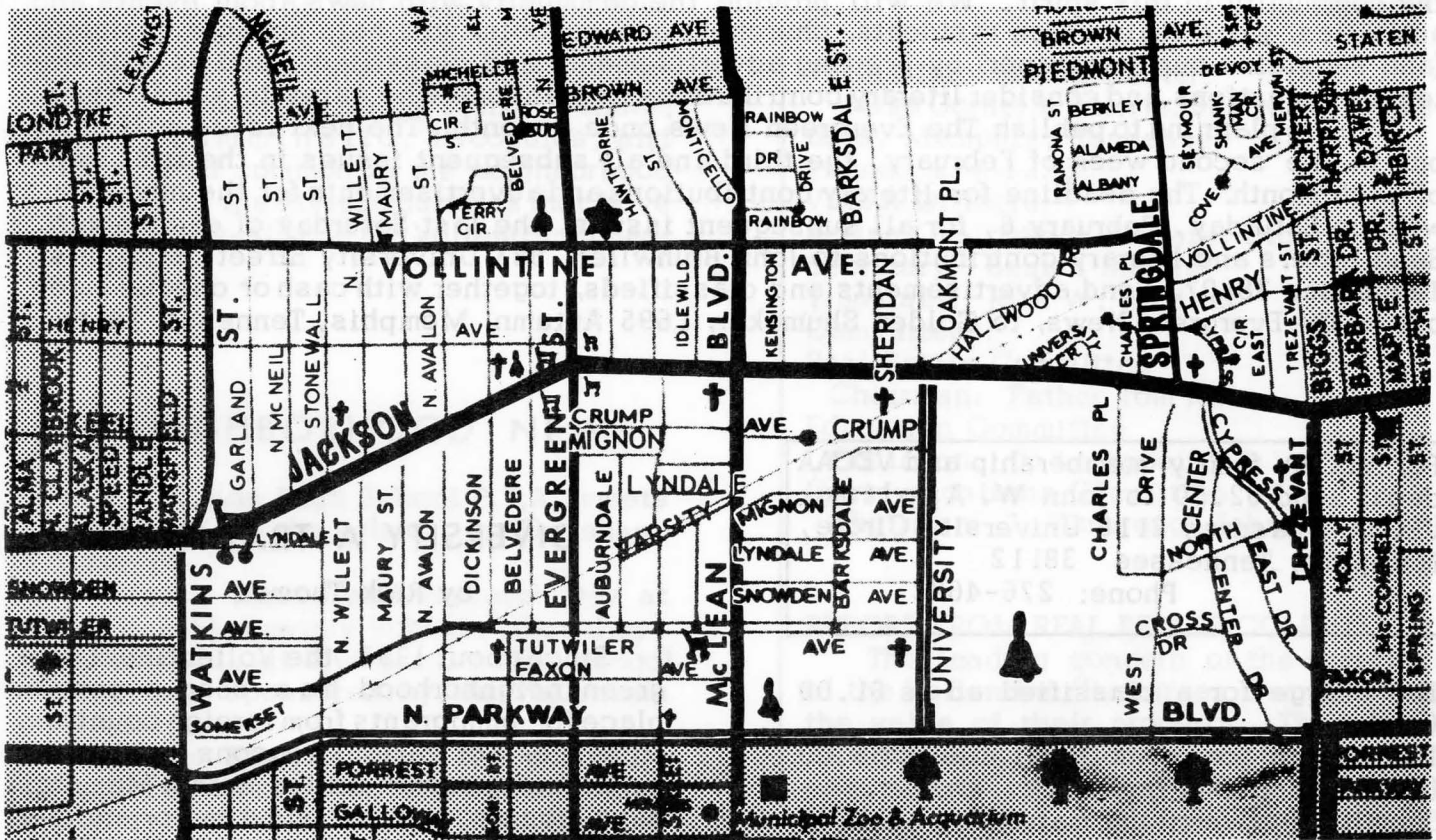


The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association

Memphis, Tennessee 25 January 1971 Vol. I, No. 1



- SHOPPING 
- SCHOOLS 
- CHURCHES 
- SYNAGOGUES 
- PARKS 

This is a map of the community in which we live. It is a community with quiet streets and nice homes, one or two more exclusive residential areas, a couple of high-rise apartment buildings and rental complexes, and two or three thoroughfares with traffic lights and convenient shops. It is a community dotted with churches of all sizes and denominations, some towering over the neighborhood, others as inconspicuous as the places where you can have a quiet game of shuffleboard. Our community has good schools, on every level, from infant care centers to the most respected college in the South. We live within a stone's throw of department stores, super markets, the city's business district, a zoo, a fantastic park, and probably in the very near future, the expressway. At Baron Hirsch Synagogue we can enjoy concerts and other unique cultural events, at Southwestern's Center for Continuing Education we can, among other exciting things, explore the Religions of Man, or, weather permitting, fly a kite with our son on the campus grounds. We have gas stations and cub scouts, even an old railroad track, in short, everything a living community would want.

We also have problems. These problems, however, are not due entirely to the neighborhood as such; they are at least partially caused by us, the people who live in it. It is up to us to try to change what we don't like, or to correct what we believe is wrong. Some of our residents have already taken steps in this direction. About a hundred and fifty men and women with various backgrounds and livelihoods have gotten together to form a neighborhood association. It is called Vollenline-Evergreen Community Action Association (VECAA). Its purpose is "to cooperatively maintain and enhance a healthy, bi-racial community;" its objective is "to foster a community that will include excellent schools, parks, shopping facilities, adequate and effective city services, and provide for improved communication among residents." To these statements, the Steering Committee of VECAA adds that "goals and objectives need continual reflection and periodic review and evaluation."

This newspaper is sponsored by VECAA, and we, its editors and staff intend to serve the community in this spirit. We will provide the community with news about events and activities, write features on residents, churches, and schools, will help promote business, (and subsidize our newspaper) by printing advertisements and classifieds, and we will listen to suggestions and consider literary contributions from anyone who cares to submit them.

We are planning to publish The Evergreen News once a month. The next issue will come out in the second week of February, the third and all subsequent issues in the first week of each month. The deadline for literary contributions and advertisements for the next issue will be Saturday, February 6, for all subsequent issues, the last Saturday of each month. Send letters and literary contributions to John Bruhwiler, 883 University Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38107. Send advertisements and classifieds, together with cash or cheque made out to The Evergreen News, to Golden Shumaker, 1695 Autumn, Memphis, Tennessee 38112.

For VECAA family membership and VECAA decal send \$2.50 to John W. Appling, VECAA Treasurer, 2116 University Circle, Memphis, Tennessee 38112
Phone: 276-4622

The charge for a classified ad is \$1.00 (one).

The charge for promotional ads is \$5.00 (five) per column inch.

Submit all advertising material prepaid to Golden Shumaker, 1695 Autumn Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38112.

Deadline for February issue, Saturday, February 6, for all subsequent issues, the last Saturday of each month.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Portable Singer zig-zag sewing machine.
\$35.00 274-5690

Two metal radiators covers \$10.00 each.
272-2668

WANTED

Free female kitten, at least two mo. old, preferably a tabby. Will give it good home and care. 274-5690

DIVERSITY A TRADITION

by Rick Thomas

Since about 1935, the Vollenline/Evergreen neighborhood has been a popular place for immigrants from foreign countries to settle. For various reasons most of the major foreign communities within Memphis have congregated at one time or another in this section of the city. Today if any part of town still maintains a bit of Old World Charm it is the Vollenline/Evergreen section.

As early as 1910, many English immigrants, farmers no doubt, had moved this far from the focal-point of Memphis, the riverfront. They were soon followed by numerous German-born settlers. At this time, however, more immigrants were concentrated south of North Parkway than in the Vollenline/Evergreen area.

During the 1930's and 1940's this part of town began to attract more foreign-born residents. Russian and Polish immigrants --many of them refugees--came to the neighborhood. Most of these newcomers were Jewish and joined the growing Jewish community residing here. By 1950, a number of Italians and Greeks had moved into the neighborhood and the community became even more cosmopolitan.

DIVERSITY continued

By 1950 the Vollentine/Evergreen area was the only section of town that could still claim any number of foreign-born among its residents and even as late as 1960, one out of every ten Memphians with foreign birth or parentage lived in this same neighborhood.

Our neighborhood was the last stronghold of foreign newcomers to our city. But now that many of the older Jewish residents are leaving the community, the charm and quaintness of the neighborhood fostered by a variety of accents, religious practices, and dietary habits may be lost forever. However, names like Wunder, Levitch, Tumminello, Bacopulos, and Lansky, still common in the neighborhood remind us of the diverse cultures that have lived side-by-side in the Vollentine/Evergreen area.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

-----Northside High School P.T.A. meets at 7:00 p.m. at the school, on Thursday, January 28.

-----Open House and Parents' Day at Vollentine Elementary School. Sunday, January 31, at 2:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. Sponsored by the Vollentine P.T.A.

-----Music Program at Open Door Bible Church featuring Arnie Hartman of the Memphis Union Mission. Mr. Hartman sings and plays several instruments. Sunday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m.

-----An F. B. I. agent will address students at Northside High School on the subject of careers in Law Enforcement, Thursday, February 4.

-----Concert at Baron Hirsch Synagogue featuring Charles Stein, guitarist. The program will be Tuesday, February 9. Tickets are now available.

-----A Public Health Nurse will speak to the students of Vollentine Elementary School on the subject of dental hygiene on Wednesday and Thursday, February 17 and 18.

-----Evergreen Presbyterian Church sponsors a regular athletic and recreational program in its gym on University. Neighborhood participation is encouraged and several hundred residents now take part in activities ranging from ceramics to intramural basketball.

NEIGHBORHOOD continued

-----Catholic Youth Organization sponsors a recreation program every Sunday night from 7:30 to 9:30 in the Little Flower Auditorium. Activities include basketball, ping-pong and an occasional film.

VECAA NEWS



VECAA Information Center:

Miss Cornelia Morris, 987 North Barksdale, Memphis, Tennessee 38107
Phone: 274-1278

VECAA Officers:

Acting Chairman: Margaret Dichtel

Secretary: Beulah Morris

Treasurer: John W. Appling

Committees:

Real Estate Committee

Chairman: Father Tom Kirk

Education Committee

Chairman: To be appointed

Communications Committee

Chairman: J. Kimbrough Johnson

REPORT FROM REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE:

The leading concern of the residents of the Vollentine/Evergreen Community is the value of their property. They would like to think it will retain its value and desirability as a happy place in which to live.

Many of the residents of this area have lived several decades in their homes. They have made this neighborhood, like it, and intend to remain.

To deal with the concerns of the homeowners, VECAA has set up the Real Estate Committee. The general purpose of this twelve-member committee is to promote the neighborhood. After a study of the neighborhood, it will prepare a brochure which will be distributed through companies, industries and institutions to attract residents to the area.

The Committee has also set up a consultation service. Any resident wishing to discuss property values or any other matters about housing in this area can contact Mr. Charles Rambo, 274-8786 or Mr. Joe Hough, 274-5551

Mr. Rambo or Mr. Hough are willing to visit the homes at any convenient time for this consultation. Also serving on

MEET THE NEIGHBORS

In this column, we feature residents we should like you to know. The people interviewed are not necessarily more deserving than others. They are selected because we consider them representative of the neighborhood or unique--which again makes them representative, for we live in a unique community.

This month, we have chosen a couple who have lived here since before the Second World War.

FORTY YEARS ON STONEWALL by George Bradfute

January finds Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Maxey going into their forty-first year in their home at 826 Stonewall. It was 1930 when their friends, the John Wests, convinced them they should move into this newly-developing section, even before the streets were paved. The house they bought was four years old, and the neighbors were few.

The Maxeys are Texans by birth, she from near Austin, and he from Anson. They met in Dallas when she was studying at the Landon Conservatory of Music and he was a student at the dental college there. It was while there that he heard of the opening of the new dental school at U-T here. He came to Memphis in 1921 and under the tutelage of the late Dr. Cattell who was like a father to the students, he went on to graduate with highest honors with the first class of dentists. He went into practice with Dr. C. H. Taylor and had an office in the Exchange Building until his retirement in 1968.

When young, Dr. Maxey liked horseback riding and baseball (he's a Cardinal fan), later turned to fishing, hunting and golf. His major sport now is walking, preferably a hike to John's Bakery for a bag of sweetrolls. He also enjoys growing roses, with a special interest in the Sweetheart variety. "But if you want to see some fine roses," he says, "go across the street and get Sam Harris to show you his."

Mrs. Maxey has long been active in Church work, having taught Sunday School and been a women's circle leader. For TV entertainment she likes the Lawrence Welk show.

MEET THE NEIGHBORS continued

Dr. and Mrs. Maxey are charter members of Evangel Baptist Church. When pressed for a word of advice for the younger generation, Dr. Maxey said, "Live a clean, working life. My father trained us to take responsibility and to work a long hard day."

VECAA continued

this committee is Mr. Louis Silver with the Commercial Appeal in the Real Estate Section.

The committee hopes to start a welcoming program for the new residents and visitation of the others.

Anyone who would like to know more about the Committee, make suggestions or join should contact the Chairman, Father Tom Kirk, 276-1412.

SPORTS

Southwestern has in recent seasons developed a first-rate college division basketball team. The team is now in its fourth consecutive winning season (with a 7-5 record) and has already defeated such large schools as Washington University and Georgia State. Two seasons ago Southwestern barely missed a spot in the NCAA tournament and promises again this year to be a strong contender for the College Athletic Conference championship. Win or lose, the Lynx play fast, exciting basketball and provide plenty of entertainment.

Other basketball teams active in the neighborhood are those fielded by Cypress, Snowden and Northside. Northside now sports an impressive 14-4 record and is in a four-way tie for the division lead.

Southwestern's swimming team is also active this time of year and competes at the University of Tennessee Medical Units gymnasium.

Co-Editors: John Bruhwiler, George Bradfute. News: Rick Thomas.

Art: Warren Lowry. Business: Golden Shumaker. Clerical: Emma Palmer, Martha J. Edwards. Circulation: Cornelia Morris.

Supplies and Printing courtesy of Southwestern At Memphis