

The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association

IN THE MONTH OF AQUARIUS the emphasis is on youth. For this neighborhood, the concept of "youth" is not restricted to children or teenagers or those under thirty--although they too are represented in this issue. "Youth" for this neighborhood applies above all to the people who have moved here and decided to make our established community their new home, for they, at the rate of approximately one new family a day, will influence the future character of the neighborhood. Of the more than one hundred and fifty families who have moved here since September, a number came from other neighborhoods in the city, quite a few moved in from suburban areas, while some transferred here from other states. The homes they bought range from \$12,000 to \$40,000, most of them extraordinary values. Along with their families, they brought into our community a variety of occupations and talents.

The following is a list of some of the people we were able to talk to. We believe they are representative of our new neighbors, but our cordial welcome goes out to every single one of them.



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The house at 1812 Mignon is now the new home for MR. and MRS. ERNEST L. CREECH, from Clovis, New Mexico, where Mr. Creech served with the Air Force as a Senior Master. Now retired, he works as a watchmaker at Shainberg's. Mrs. Creech is a hairdresser and mother. As a hobby, the Creech family collects antiques.

MR. and MRS. JONATHAN RODGERS found their home on 2082 Hallwood Drive. Mr. Rodgers is an Evangelist Minister and Mrs. Rodgers "just" a housewife. With four young children, it is probably her husband who has the easier task. They are both avid readers. The Rodgers moved here from Whitehaven.

On the same street, at 2108 Hallwood, in the house they "had always wanted," DR. and MRS. THOMAS CLOAR can watch their two preschool-aged children romp with a pair of West Highland Terriers in the biggest living room this side of the Southwestern gym where Dr. Cloar works out in the intramural sports--when he is not demonstrating to his Psychology class how white rats behave a lot like people, or viceversa. Mrs. Cloar teaches Art at the Lausanne School. The Cloars moved here from Raleigh.

1985 Edward has become the new home for MRS. MABLE WADELL from Bartlett. Four of her five children attend neighborhood schools while her oldest is finishing out this year at Bartlett High. Mrs. Wadell is a widow who bolsters her pension by doing day work.

MR. and MRS. ROBERT L. WILLIAMS and their three children moved from Augusta, Ga. to a spacious home at 865 Sheridan. Mr. Williams takes part in the production management at Kimberly Clark. Mrs. Williams is a secretary for B. and S. Parts. She likes to paint and sew while Mr. Williams prefers golf, touch football, and in the winter, bowling.

MR. and MRS. JAMES E. BUGGS moved to 1023 Sheridan because they liked the house. As a shipping clerk at the Furniture Center,

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Mr. Buggs must know what he is talking about. The Buggses have one preschool-aged child.

DR. and MRS. CHARLES O. WARREN and their infant son left Scenic Hills for a home on 1696 Forrest. Dr. Warren is at present on leave from Southwestern to do research in the Bio-Chemistry Department at St. Jude's with Dr. Bruce Sells who lives on 1925 Jackson.

MR. and MRS. JAMES A PRITCHETT who own the Custom Auto Glass Co. on Union Ave. bought their new home on 756 N. Auburndale. They don't have too much time for hobbies, but in the summer they enjoy a little fishing.

VECAA NEWS



For VECAA information: 274-1278
For VECAA membership: 276-4622.

REPORT FROM REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE:

The question asked with some anxiety by many homeowners in our community, especially north of the L&NRR, is: What effect do the changes occurring in the neighborhood have on the value of my house? For some reassurance, read Joe Hough's column, A Question of Demand. Next month, we hope to discuss how we can "stabilize" the real estate market in the Vollentine/Evergreen Community and protect the value of the properties within the neighborhood. For more information on the Real Estate Committee, contact its chairman, Father Tom Kirk, 276-1412.

The regular VECAA meeting will be held at McLean Baptist Church, February 15th at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The guest speaker will be: DR. JOE WESTBROOK, Area Director, Department of Area Services, Memphis Board of Education.

Our appreciation goes to the Commercial Appeal for the very positive editorial on VECAA in the Sunday paper (Feb. 7). After an appraisal of the objectives and activities of VECAA the editorial closed saying that such efforts "could give the inner-city and Mid-town areas of Memphis new life".

KINDERGARTENS

Among the kindergartens and child day-care services in our community the following deserve special attention:

Vollentine Kindergarten. Sponsored by Vollentine School PTA, supervised by the Board of Education. Tuition for half days is \$15 a month, for full days \$30. The teacher is Mrs. John Faber, who has 17 years' experience in kindergartens. For information call Vollentine School at 274-6336.

Evergreen Presbyterian Kindergarten. Sponsored by the church for 18 years. Class is conducted by Mrs. Anne Heffernan from 8:30 to 11:30, Monday through Friday. Though preference is given to members of Evergreen Church, the kindergarten is open to the public at a cost of \$20 per month, plus a supply fee of \$20 per year. For information call Mrs. Heffernan at the church (274-3740) or at home (685-7853).

McLean Baptist Day-Care Center. Though no educational program is offered, the center keeps children of all ages while parents work or shop. Hours are 7 A.M. to 6 P.M. Monday through Friday. Mrs. John Barlow is the director and her assistants are Mrs. David Wilson, Mrs. Elzada Tate, and Mrs. Annie Mai Tate. Cost is 50 cents an hour per child up to a maximum of \$2.50 per day. Weekly rate is \$12. The number of beds for babies is limited and the parents of babies are advised to phone in advance (275-3460).

In March, we will begin a study of Vollentine Elementary School.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: Components for stereo set, including 2 large speakers, 2 amplifiers, and a Garrard RC-121-D record changer with stereo and monaural stylus cartridges.
\$50.00 Phone: 276-3806

editorial: john bruhwiler/features: george bradfute/news: rick thomas/art: warren lowry advertising: golden shumaker/clerical: emma palmer, martha j. edwards, sallee bruhwiler.

Address correspondence to: John Bruhwiler, 883 University St., Memphis, Tenn. 38107. For ads call Golden Shumaker, 276-6553.

SCOUTING

Four scouting centers serve our community. For information about Scouting at Evergreen Presbyterian Church call Mr. Gilbert Barrett, 272-2636; at Little Flower Church call Mr. Francis Bradley, 276-3275; at Trinity Methodist Church call Mr. H. M. Robinson 276-1308; at Friendship Baptist Church call Mr. Roscoe Hunt, 276-8659. A number of boys from this area are also scouting at the Dave Wells Community Center at 921 Chelsea Ave.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

-----Snowden Jr. High will tap this year's Honor Students on Friday, Feb. 19. The program will be followed by a tea for the honor students and their parents.

-----Snowden Jr. High PTA meets at 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23. This is Founder's Day and the program will trace the Snowden PTA to its origins as one of the first in the state.

-----Vollentine Elementary will hold its PTA meeting on Thursday, Feb. 25, at 1:30 p.m.

-----A representative from "Project Concern" will speak to Northside students on Thursday, Feb. 25. This group deals with solving the problems of the disadvantaged in Memphis.

-----Cypress Jr. High will hold its monthly PTA meeting on Feb. 28. Dr. William Payne, a district supervisor for the Board of Education will discuss the effects coming decentralization will have on the school.

-----Family Planning Seminar at Southwestern on February 17. In connection with Family Planning Week sponsored by Planned Parenthood, five panelists will discuss population issues, including such controversial subjects as abortion, sex education and genocide. The discussion begins at 8:15 p.m. in Lecture Room B of the Science Center.

-----Festival of award-winning short films at Southwestern on March 1 and March 8, both Mondays. A total of thirteen films, many done with animation and experimental techniques, will be shown on the two nights. Show time is 8:00 p.m. and admission is by contribution.

-----Spaghetti Supper and Country Fair at Baron-Hirsch Synagogue on Sunday, March 7, from 4:00 to 11:00 p.m. Admission is \$1.00.

Supplies and printing courtesy
Southwestern at Memphis.

NEIGHBORHOOD continued

-----Art Exhibit by Bill Elrod at Southwestern in Clough-Hanson Gallery. The artist is on the faculty of Southwestern and Memphis Art Academy. Through February 28.

-----Southwestern's Center for Continuing Education begins its spring program this month with several study groups on various topics. Sessions begin on Feb. 10, Feb. 11, Feb. 17, and Feb. 18. The groups are conducted by Southwestern faculty and staff and tuition is \$15.20. For further information call 274-6606.

-----Race Relations Day at McLean Baptist Church, Sunday, Feb. 14. Rev. James Netters and his congregation from Mt. Vernon Baptist Church will hold a joint service with McLean Baptist at 7:30 p.m. Singer Mertis Ewell will perform following a panel discussion at 6:30.

-----Northside High Student Council Members Enrichment Club Members, and Y-Teens will attend a dinner at the Downtown YMCA, Feb. 17. The program theme will be "Brotherhood Triumphs Over Race."

A QUESTION OF DEMAND

by Joe Hough



In 1968, the real estate market in the Vollentine/Evergreen Community was described as stable and only moderately active, being dominated by single-family owner-occupied residences. What then, we ask, has now changed the stability of this market? Careful observation suggests there are at least four identifiable factors influencing the number of houses for sale in our area:

One, the Vollentine/Evergreen Community is a mature residential neighborhood inhabited by many senior residents. Older couples, widows, and widowers often seek to rid themselves of the responsibilities of home ownership and move into an apartment. Homes are also sold by estates, as the heirs no longer desire to own and occupy the old family residence.

Two, there has been a substantial out-migration of Jewish residents who have been a foundation pillar of the neighborhood since its initial development in the late 1920's before the Depression.

Three, an in-migration of black families

DEMAND continued

is taking place into what is considered a desirable, good quality, middle-income residential district that will be an attractive place to live and rear a family.

Four, the current redistricting of school zones which places all families north of the L&NRR in the Northside High School district, and all families north of Jackson in the Vollentine Elementary and Cypress Junior High districts is causing some anxiety.

Without making an attempt to rank or judge these factors, it becomes evident that they result in a degree of uncertainty about and lack of confidence in the future of this neighborhood as a desirable place to live.

Nevertheless, indications reveal the demand for housing in the Vollentine/Evergreen Community remains quite strong as evidenced by the number of houses that have actually sold in the past year to both black and white families. However, the long marketing periods and the number of unsold offerings clearly reveal the demand is considerably less than the supply available. In short, the supply of houses for sale exceeds the demand. Buyers are able to be selective and sellers are forced to be competitive. It is not a seller's market at present, it is a buyer's market. If you wish to receive fair market value for your house, this is not the time to sell.

P.S. Mr. Hough is a real estate economist. He is married and has three children. He has expressed his belief in the Vollentine/Evergreen Community by recently purchasing the residence at 871 University.

I VERSUS E

From 1911 to 1940. VollIntine Street was officially recorded as VollEntine, both on street signs and city maps. Between 1931 and 1956, the E gradually gave way to the I. In 1941, an official city map has the name spelled with I, by 1956, every map and every single street sign had adopted the I. But not the School. Vollentine School was built in 1930, when the E was still ruling supreme, and it remained faithful to it. That's the reason why today the street is called VollIntine and the school VollEntine. Now get this: the man both the street and the school were named after was Hiram Volentine who spelled his name with E but only one L which makes both modern spellings false. We mentioned this to Dr. N. Unsinn, our neighborhood scholar, who promised to research the matter for our next issue.

MEET THE NEIGHBORS

AQUARIAN BEAUTY

BY Rick Thomas



A life-long resident of 910 Belvedere, Mary Faith Grymes has at 21 already distinguished herself in many ways. Now a Southwestern senior, Mary Faith attended Snowden Junior High and Central High School where she was editor of the school newspaper. While at Snowden, she won the Commercial Appeal's Mid-South Authors Contest with a short story. The same year she received honorable mention in the poetry division.

A foreign languages major at Southwestern Mary Faith has served as a newspaper reporter, student government representative and junior class secretary there. She has made the Dean's List as both a junior and senior and was tapped for the senior women's honor society.

Mary Faith was first honored for her beauty in 1969 when, at 19, she was selected first alternate in the Miss Memphis contest. The following year as a junior she was chosen Miss Southwestern Beauty. Her most recent honor came last December when she was picked as a member of the Liberty Bowl Court after placing fifth in the beauty contest. As a member of the court she participated in all of the Liberty Bowl festivities, meeting various celebrities and enjoying exposure over national television. Mary Faith has also been featured as a model in an advertisement that was distributed nation-wide.

Besides being a beauty queen, Mary Faith is also known as a musician, singing and accompanying herself on the dulcimer. As a child, she taught herself to play this unusual instrument and first performed for Snowden Junior High at the age of thirteen. Mary Faith has played for numerous conventions in addition to appearing as guest musician on a series of children's TV programs. Also an autoharp player, her special interest lies in Appalachian ballads. In 1967 her musical talents were highlighted in an article in Mid-South Magazine entitled "The Ballad of Mary Faith Grymes."

After graduation Mary Faith plans to join Pan American Airlines as an international stewardess, making regular flights to Europe. Until then, she will concentrate on her studies and give an occasional dulcimer lesson in her spare time.