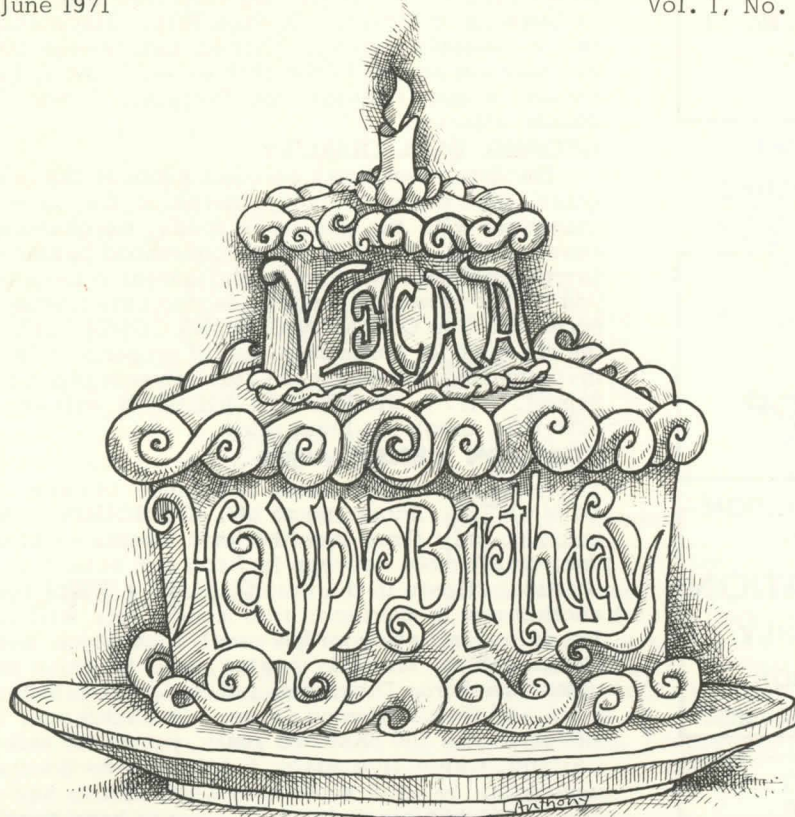


The EVERGREEN NEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine - Evergreen Community Action Association
Memphis, Tennessee 3 June 1971 Vol. I, No. 6 Circulation: 5000



VECAA CELEBRATES

For a non-event such as the anniversary of a neighborhood association, the cake Lawrence Anthony has donated seems somewhat large and elaborate. Yet, if all the people engaged in the effort "to maintain a healthy, bi-racial community" were to receive an appropriate slice, it would be neither too large nor too elaborate.

MIFA NUMBER ONE

If the cake were edible, the first servings off the top would go to the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association (MIFA) whose support VECAA has enjoyed from the day of its inception, especially to Rev. BERKLEY POOL, MIFA Executive Director, whose experience in community involvement made his counsel invaluable.

CHURCHES ON TOP

Next in line would be our neighborhood clergy and their church congregations: Dr. LLOYD O. BARKER and MCLEAN BAPTIST CHURCH, Dr. HOWARD C. WALTON and LINDSAY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Dr. VAN ARNOLD, Rev. MELLEN DARNELL and EVERGREEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. KENNETH MORELOCK and FIRST UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH, Rev. GEORGE COMES, Jr. and TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, and Msgr. JOSEPH E. LEPPERT, Father MILTON GUTHRIE, Father TOM KIRK and LITTLE FLOWER CHURCH. The other neighborhood churches have not yet actively supported VECAA, although Rev. John Simpson of the Jackson Ave. Church of Christ has assured the Evergreen News that his congregation was "here to stay". Father Homer C. Carrier of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church who has sold his home on Hallwood Drive could not be reached for comment, and Baron Hirsch Synagogue is in a state of transformation.

LAWYERS AND TROUBADOURS

Individuals unheralded yet high on the list for a sizeable slice off the top would be members of the Steering

Committee. On this committee, black viewpoints have been represented by Mr. GEORGE BROWN, Director of Legal Aid, Mrs. HARRY THOMPSON, and Miss VELMA LOIS JONES. Southwestern at Memphis has been represented by two vice-presidents, Dr. JULIUS MELTON, Vice-President for Student Affairs, and Mr. M.J. WILLIAMS, Vice-President and Treasurer of the College. Honorable mention in committee work must go to Mrs. WARREN LOWRY who has been known to accompany her measured remarks with the click of knitting needles, and the Messrs. LEE DENSON and LEO LEBLANC who have not only been active in the committee but enlivened a general meeting with guitars and song.

HEALTHY DIALOGUE

Few people will dispute that in committee meetings and perhaps also in the monthly general meetings there has indeed prevailed a "healthy, bi-racial" dialogue, at least in spirit, yet they might question VECAA's success in the community at large. They would like to know what VECAA has done to further its objective "to foster a community that will include excellent schools, parks, shopping facilities, adequate and effective city services, and provide for improved communication among residents."

Many people have in fact done much toward obtaining this objective, and though they may have been only partially successful, they may have, in addition to time and skill, spent enough physical energy to deserve the larger, bottom half of the cake.

SCHOOL PROSPECTS GOOD

In regard to the school question, the first serving would have to go to the EDUCATION COMMITTEE. With the cooperation of Dr. JOE WESTBROOK, Central Area Assistant Superintendent for the Board of Education, and

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CELEBRATION continued

the Evergreen News, the committee has assessed the neighborhood schools, and where there were problems has explored solutions. Dr. BRUCE SELLS, the Committee Chairman, is optimistic about a possible request by the courts for racial balance this fall. He believes our mid-town location would make much bussing of students unlikely.

PARKS: NO ISSUE

In regard to the improvement or creation of neighborhood parks, no plans have been made by VECAA yet. A slice of cake would go to the EVERGREEN NEWS (No. 4) for carrying an interview with Dr. ARLO SMITH, President of Citizens to Preserve Overton Park. Since according to Dr. Smith there is considerable evidence that an expressway through Overton Park would not only put an end to the park as we know and love it, but it might also become a racial divide, the Evergreen News pleaded for support for the conservationists.

STORES SELL QUALITY

The Evergreen News also had a look at the neighborhood shopping facilities. There are no fancy stores in the community, but the paper was impressed with the quality of foods, merchandise, and service the businesses offer. Many of the neighborhood businesses now advertise in the Evergreen News. Residents who patronize neighborhood business will tell you that it is not only a time-saving but a friendly and often profitable experience. The COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE has successfully opposed the rezoning for commercial use of property on Jackson, and it is at present investigating the proposed establishment of a liquor lounge near Vollentine School. Mr. J. KIMBROUGH JOHNSON will keep the paper posted on all activities involving legal work.

COMMON SENSE WINS

Perhaps most deserving of a piece of cake would be the REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE. According to Mr. JOE HOUGH, there is abnormal sales activity on only three neighborhood streets -- McNeil, Avalon, and Sheridan, on all three between Jackson and Vollentine. On Sheridan, one of the prettiest streets in the neighborhood, a white family moved in last month, another one is moving in this month; this will leave five more homes up for sale. Initiation of personal contact by members of the Real Estate Committee on McNeil, Avalon, and Sheridan might prove timely. Good news comes from Dickinson and Garland, again between Jackson and Vollentine, and from Hallwood Drive. On Dickinson, three black families have moved in over the past two years, yet no for sale signs have gone up. On Garland, where five black families have homes, no more for sale signs have gone up, and recently a white family has moved in. On Hallwood Drive, the two black families seem to have been accepted. For the time being, at least, no houses have gone up for sale. It would be naive to believe there are no more people anxious to move. However, there is no longer panic. Many residents may well do what Rev. Kenneth Morelock of the United Lutheran Church suggested, namely use "good common sense" and "stop and consider the issues". Some people may even have discovered that a black family can be a desirable neighbor.

NEWSPAPER SUCCESS

With the Evergreen News, the fostering of "improved communication among residents" has obviously been achieved. The general meeting which appointed editors to create this newspaper would most certainly deserve a share in the celebration. If the paper did nothing else except assure some of the elderly residents that somebody in the neighborhood cared, the effort expended in its production would be worthwhile.

In this connection, a special tribute must be paid to the newspaper carriers, the small army of children, youths, housewives, businessmen, lawyers, engineers, doctors of philosophy, and God knows what, who, tirelessly recruited by Mrs. CORNELIA MORRIS, are as vital to the success of VECAA as the typists are for the production of the Evergreen News. For lack of space, the newspaper carriers will be acknowledged in one of the summer issues.

CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICS

VECAA has not been without its critics, including some of the neighborhood clergy. They would like to see more members of their congregations actively involved in VECAA. One blamed the present loose structure of the organization for a "waning of interest". Be this as it may, with the recent incorporation of VECAA, a constitution has to be written which will define the structure of the association. Now is the appropriate time for bringing suggestions in this regard to the attention of the Chairman of the Steering Committee, MARGARET DICHTEL, who has been the nerve center of VECAA. (Miss Dichtel to be featured in future issue)

Printing Courtesy Southwestern at Memphis

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

-----Southwestern Continuing Education Summer Programs begin June 3 - 10. Faculty and staff members will lead discussions on such interesting topics as the generation gap, the "good ole days", Southern literature, and the Nixon philosophy of government. In all, five study groups will be offered with fees ranging from \$8 - 12. To register, call 274-6606.

-----Vacation Bible School begins on June 7 at the following churches: Evergreen Presbyterian, McLean Baptist, and Open Door Bible Church. Vacation Bible School for Springdale Methodist begins June 13.

-----The Evergreen Men of the Church will meet Monday, June 7. This is the final meeting of the group and Mayor Loeb will be the featured speaker at 6:15 P.M.

-----Movie night at Evergreen Presbyterian, Friday, June 11. The film will be "Tonka", a Walt Disney version of Custer's Last Stand. Show time is 7:30 P.M. and tickets are 50¢ for students and 75¢ for adults.

-----Camp Haiyaka opens June 13. This camp, sponsored by Jackson Church of Christ, is near Shelby Forest and serves boys and girls age 9 - 16. The camp is open to all and costs \$40 for a two-week session. Activities include archery, boating, fishing, and handicrafts. For further information, call 458-2672.

-----The Presbyterian Youth Choir will sing June 16 at Evergreen Presbyterian. The choir is making its 10th annual tour through the South.

-----Bingo at Little Flower School, 8:00 P.M. Sunday, June 27, sponsored by the Little Flower Men's Club.

MORE HUSTLERS

Residents on Monticello Street and Hallwood Drive report that Mr. Jerry Sanders, of Sanders Realty Company, is distributing circulars displaying his portrait, and offering "cash buyers".

It is not only that the law states soliciting for property sales in a "changing neighborhood" ain't cricket, but with the Academy of Arts practically in our midst, people in the Vollintine/Evergreen community don't appreciate door to door picture peddling.

SPORTS

The end of the spring sports season has come and the neighborhood's schools can boast of many fine finishes. In May Southwestern competed in the College Athletic Conference tournament and won the second place trophy on the basis of a strong showing in track. The Lynx runners completed a perfect 5-0 record, while the golf team finished 9-6, and the baseball team, 11-13 (its best season since 1962). The Lynx tennis team finished 3 and 11.

Northside High School was strong in track this year winning three of its meets and placing well in the rest. Its 440 yd.-relay team was the second fastest in the state. A much-improved baseball team finished with one win and eleven losses.

In junior high competition, Cypress came up with an impressive 8-2 baseball season and went on to win the district championship in track. The Cypress tennis team finished 2-4. Snowden Junior High fared well in all areas with the strongest showing in tennis. The Snowden netters won six without a loss to take the district championship. The track team finished third in the district, while Snowden's 5-5 baseball record gave it another third in district competition.

VECAA INFORMATION: 274-1278

This month's VECAA meeting will be held at McLean Baptist Church, MONDAY, JUNE 21 at 8:00 P.M., downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Feature: The Making of a Newspaper. Coffee will be served at the close of the meeting.

SUMMER ACTION

EVERGREEN CHURCH SPORTS PROGRAMS

TENNIS CLASS begins June 7, six weeks, \$8, 4:30 MWF. BASKETBALL CLINIC June 21 - 25 and June 28 - July 2, 9-11:30 daily, 9-16 year old boys, coach Don Duckworth. \$20 per week, family discount.

PLAYGROUND PROGRAM for children begins June 8, 9-5 daily, lunch provided, no fee (sponsored by Park Commission).

DAY CAMP for children, new group starts every 2 weeks, lunch provided, no fee (sponsored by Park Commission), enrollment limited to 40.

SWIMMING CLASS starts June 21, 10 sessions, 9 a.m., held at fairgrounds pool, \$8 for 1, \$10 for 2, \$12 for 3 or more in family

INDOOR RECREATION 2-6 p.m. (must have activity card -- some available -- fee \$1 per year)

For information on any of these programs: 274-3740. Director: Mr. George Williams.

FUN AT SNOWDEN SCHOOL for junior high age and up, including PARENTS.

June 7 thru July 29, Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.: 9-11 SEWING, 11:30-1:30 SLIMNASTICS, 1-2 HOUSEHOLD MECHANICS, 2-4 ARTS AND CRAFTS.

GYMNASIUM ACTIVITIES 9-4:30, SPECIAL CHARM CLINIC 9 a.m., June 10, 17, 24.

No tuition, no formal registration -- ATTEND AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. Information: 275-1412. Director: Mrs. McAskill. (Program sponsored by a federal grant.)

ATHLETICS AT SOUTHWESTERN -- ages 10-18. boys and girls, June 7 thru July 15, Monday thru Thursday. Morning group 9-11:30, afternoon group 1-3:30 (meal furnished at end of each session). FOOTBALL, TRACK AND FIELD, BASKETBALL, SWIMMING, WRESTLING, TENNIS, VOLLEYBALL, MODERN DANCE.

No tuition. For registration you must take a physical exam at the Southwestern gym Thursday, June 3 or Friday, June 4 between 8:30 and 11.

Information: 274-1800, Ext. 353, Director: Mr. W.R. Maybry. (Program sponsored by a federal grant)

FOR RENT

Two rooms for couple or 2 girls, twin beds. Vollentine area. Mrs. Morvell, 274-9834.

WANTED

Dependable lady with good references desires baby sitting in her home. 274-8679.

Unfurnished two- or three-bedroom home in Snowden School area. Young architect and family want in-town location available for July occupancy. Price range \$125-150. Call Gerald Dunn evenings at 684-4948.

ZONING COMPROMISE

The final hearing on the rezoning of the northwest corner of Auburndale and Jackson from R3 to C2 (duplex to commercial) was held on June 1 by the City Council. Due to the rejection of a petition filed to rezone the corner, and the subsequent appeal by the petitioner for reconsideration, the June 1 hearing was called and resulted in compromise: O2 zoning was granted. This classification permits single- and two-family dwellings, churches, banks, small businesses such as barber shops, clinics, offices, etc., within specified limitations.

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THE KIDNEY FOUNDATION P.O. BOX 1717 38101

A PLACE TO COME BACK TO

by Rick Thomas

In every neighborhood there is a place -- maybe a drug store, a grocery, or an ice cream parlor -- which serves as a meeting place for community residents. It may be the focal point of the neighborhood for generations and be the place people come back to when they move away. In the Vollintine/Evergreen Community the place most like this is the Southwestern Grill.

Opened in 1933 to cater to Southwestern Students, this family style restaurant now attracts customers from all over town. One of the partners, Nick Papageorge, closed down his cafe downtown and opened the Southwestern Grill "out east." He was joined by John Semos in 1945 whose brother, Tom, now runs the kitchen. All are Greek immigrants (Greek is still spoken in the kitchen) but have developed quite a flair for Southern cooking.

Reflecting its long ties with Southwestern, the restaurant walls display architects' renderings of some of the college's buildings and a photograph of the 1955 Lynx football team. Another picture consists of the Southwestern graduates killed during World War II. The person possibly most knowledgeable about the restaurant's interior is Rita Rohm who has worked there since 1934. She remembers when plate lunches were 45¢ and a 5-course dinner was 50¢. Today, at \$1.35, their plate lunches of calf liver, turkey and dressing, and roast beef are still the best deal around.

The owners feel they haven't suffered from the recent economic recession and attribute their success to good food and their reputation as a family restaurant. Mr. Semos, who lives at 750 N. Evergreen, is glad to be part of the Vollintine/Evergreen community, calling it "one of the best in Memphis." (The Southwestern Grill was written up in the Fall, 1970, issue of the Delta Review.)

WELCOME

DR. and MRS. DOUGLAS W. HATFIELD moved to the neighborhood from Raleigh. Dr. Hatfield who came originally from Texas is Head of the History Department at Southwestern. He sings in the McLean Baptist choir, and he plays a mean game of tennis. His wife Marion is a former high school teacher. The Hatfields' new home is at 876 University Street.

The house at 871 University is the new home of MR. and MRS. JOE HOUGH. Mr. Hough is a real estate economist and an associate in the firm of Harris, Long, and Gates. Mr. Hough is also President of the Little Flower Church senate, and an active member of VECAA's real estate committee. He has a brother, Jack, and his mother, Margaret, who live at 929 Garland Street where Mr. Hough was raised. He and his wife Maureen have three pre-school aged children.

MR. and MRS. CHUCK MILLER have bought the home at 884 Sheridan. They are both graduate students at Memphis State University. Mr. Miller is studying anthropology on the G.I. Bill, Mrs. Miller psychology on an off-campus assistantship from the City Council where, at present, she is engaged in the job evaluation of the Memphis Police and Fire Departments. Mr. Miller is also a square dance caller. The Millers' children Frank and Sarah attend Vollentine School.

A special welcome to KIMBERLY DENISE GARNER who was born at St Joseph's Hospital May 25, 6:15 a.m., weighing in at 7 lbs. 11 1/4 ozs. Kimberly Denise and mother Mrs. Betsy Garner are in excellent health. Mr. Warren Garner, the proud father, has been employed by South Central Bell for thirty-one and a half years. The Garners live at 2246 Henry Street.

MEET THE NEIGHBORS



IN THE HUMANIST TRADITION

by John Bruhwiler

Jameson Miller Jones, a native of Corinth, Mississippi, first arrived in our neighborhood in 1932, when he enrolled as a freshman at Southwestern. After graduating with distinction in English and Greek, he earned a B.D. degree from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and a Ph.D. from Duke University. In addition to his extensive education in the United States, Dr. Jones also did graduate work at Oxford University in England. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an honorary scholastic fraternity, and Omicron Delta Kappa, an honorary leadership fraternity.

Dr. Jones continued his academic career at Centre College in Kentucky, where in 1948 he became Dean of the College. In 1955 he was appointed Dean at Southwestern and moved to the Vollintine/Evergreen neighborhood to stay.

On August 1, he will resign from Southwestern to become Associate Director of the Memphis Academy of Arts.

A competent painter himself, Dr. Jones has always had a close relationship with the arts in general and with the Memphis Academy of Arts in particular. As Associate Director, he will be assisting with the internal administration and the development of long range plans for community support; that is "the development of specific and clear bases on which people will support the Academy". Dr. Jones believes there is a growing recognition on the part of city dwellers that city life without amenities is hell, that cities keep getting bigger because people believe that in the city their life style will be enhanced, but that with tensions growing, the cost of living rising, emotional life becomes more of a problem. Dr. Jones believes that the arts serve the "education of the emotions".

After a look around the Jones' residence at 1747 Forrest, with its numerous sketches, drawings, water colors, and oils, these words become meaningful. There is every reason to believe that with Dr. Jones as Associate Director the Memphis Academy of Arts will soon have the wide community support it is striving for.

DEAR ANONYMOUSES

One of the things this newspaper wants to do is to facilitate communication among the residents of the Vollintine/Evergreen neighborhood. It does not serve only as a spokesman for VECAA, it strives to be sensitive to the problems of all our neighbors, regardless of their political or ethical convictions. If you believe that one or the other editor is biased, you may well be right. You may rest assured, however, that none is biased enough to disregard another opinion. If we were all of one mind, the Evergreen News would be a waste of time. In the future, we would therefore appreciate signatures and addresses on all letters sent to us, so we can answer them. On complimentary letters -- and there have been many -- addresses are less important. We don't answer those, we just sit back and gloat over them.

Address correspondence to: John Bruhwiler, 883 University Street, Memphis, Tenn., 38107.

Send ads prepaid to Golden Shumaker, 1695 Autumn Ave., Memphis, Tenn., 38112. Tel. 276-6553. (Classifieds \$1.00, Business \$4.00)