# The EVERGREENEWS

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by Vollintine - Evergreen Community Action Association



## Flea Market!

VECAA, needing money badly, is going to sponsor a community GARAGE SALE at the parking lot behind LITTLE FLOWER on Saturday, September 10. It will begin at 9 a.m. and go to 3:30 p.m. To raise the needed monies, they're going to charge \$10 for each space. You will get a lot for your ten bucks though. There will be citywide publicity via public service announcements on all the radio stations. They will also put up a large sign in front of LITTLE FLOWER a week in advance and put up signs at the major intersections the day before. So, there will be a lot more people attending than would normally attend a private sale. Bring your card tables, clean out your attic, and come sell those "expendable treasures". Dealers also welcome. Your space must be registered and fee paid by September 7 to: Garage Sale, 745 N. Hawthorne.

## SPRINGDALE MINISTER

by Patricia Terry

I first met JOHN HULME while riding my bicycle in Overton Park. He and his wife were driving around the area, trying to get to know the neighborhood. After talking with him, I discovered that becoming acquainted, whether with an area or with people, is something he is very good at doing.

Reverend John Hulme serves as pastor at Springdale

Memphis, Tenuessee Volume VII, Number 8 Circulation: 5000 9 August, 1977 Methodist Church. He and his wife ASYLEE moved to Memphis in June. Before coming to the pastorate at Springdale, Hulme was active in other aspects of the ministry. During his years of active duty in military service, Hulme served as chaplain, worked aboard ship, and visited military missions. He views those years, 1954-58, as "rich and rewarding experience" which gave him specialized training that he could not have had otherwise. His travels during that time must have been rewarding, as well. Hulme saw Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Panama, Germany, Sweden, and the list goes on.

Following active duty, the Hulmes lived in Collierville in 1960 and 1961, where Reverend Hulme served as pastor. Hulme noted Memphis' change in size as the most significant difference between his stay here in the 60's and the present. The Hulmes then moved to San Antonio, Texas, where Rev. Hulme was the senior staff chaplain at Brook Army Medical Center in the heart of the city. In San Antonio, Hulme was in charge of religious programs, counseling, and the school for pastoral education. Although there was patient turnover, consistent attendance by members of the community made work at the Army Medical Center similar to working with a regular congregation.

The Hulmes' son and daughter still live in Texas. Reverend and Mrs. Hulme considered staying there, but Memphis is in Hulme's home conference, and he was ready to return to the pastorate. Hulme says, "I enjoy the pulpit very much. I enjoy that facet of the ministry. I also enjoy counseling very much. I have been in supervisory administrative positions for the past fifteen years. I wanted to get back to the pastorate. I've enjoyed that more than anything else. I enjoy working with people."

#### First United Lutheran Church

1542 Jackson SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 A.M. DIVINE WORSHIP 11:00 A.M. Rev. E.L. Epting, S.P.M., Pastor

According to Hulme, the decision to move has turned out to be a good one. "So far as my own disposition, my own needs and the needs of the congregation, I think it's probably a pretty good marriage at this time. It seems to me that the people have accepted me. I think we're making progress. We've been working together, keeping in a good spirit." The Hulmes have made a strong effort to get to know the people at Springdale. They have met with small groups in the homes of members of the congregation in order to become acquainted with them.

Reverend Hulme speaks highly of the Springdale congregation. "The people seem to be looking for something to do for somebody else. They certainly seem to be concerned for one another. There is an intensity of caring for each other. I don't think that's common," he says.

As for future plans for Springdale, Hulme would like to emphasize out-reach, evangelism, and total ministry in the community. He, as well as other members of the Springdale congregation, would like to interest Southwestern students in their church. Hulme thinks that the Church should have more influence in the community than the average church has. "If the Church really was what I think the Church should be, a lot more people would be coming to the Church than do. The Church is a place where there is care and concern, and if it isn't, there is something wrong with the Church."

Hulme is concerned about racial balance both in the Church and the community. He enjoys living in the area because blacks and whites living together makes for "a wholesome atmosphere."

People are most important to Reverend Hulme. He exhibits his concern in his demeanor and his actions. Hulme says that he and his wife enjoy living here. 'The thing that makes the difference anywhere is the people." Such a man and an attitude are certainly an asset to the community.

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## **Housing Board**

V/E residents are urged to report housing-related problems they identify in the neighborhood to VECAA's Housing Complaint Board. The Board can deal with violations of the city's building codes such as structural disrepair, weeds, litter etc., as well as other deviations from neighborhood standards. Action will also be taken in the area of tenant landlord relations when they relate to neighborhood goals. The Board is especially interested in hearing about "undesirable activities", real estate whether legal or illegal, in our community. All complaints, inquiries or comments should be directed to Board chairman JOE SOHM at 278-6962

#### MMIA SURVEY

by Rick Thomas

The Mid-Memphis Improvement Association (MMIA), the community organization adjacent to VECAA on the south, has recently completed the tabulation of a household survey conducted in its area. Over 800 households in the area bounded by Madison, Watkins, North Parkway and East Parkway were interviewed by neighborhood volunteers. The information obtained is to be used in the development of a comprehensive neighborhood plan. Some of the findings are discussed below.

The residents of the MMIA area generally had lived in the neighborhood for some time. The mean tenure for the households interviewed was 12.2 years and the meidan was six years. The largest group of residents (39%) had moved to their present residence from someplace in midtown, while one-fifth had moved there from someplace else in the city. Only 2.4% were lifelong residents. The most frequent reason for choosing a midtown residence was the convenience for reaching the workplace. Other factors making the area attractive were its proximity to other parts of the city and its pleasant atmosphere. The only significant complaint about the area was the need to clean up its appearance in places.

The majority of those interviewed shop, at least for some items, in the midtown area. Groceries and drugs were items likely to be bought nearby. Although a small proportion (17%) utilize area parks, those who do find them adequate.

Most of the residences in the area are single-family dwellings, and 80% of those interviewed were homeowners. The

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houses of respondents tended to be large, with the biggest group having eight rooms (excluding bath). The second most numerous homes included seven rooms. A large proportion (39%) had been renovated by the present occupant.

The survey also obtained information on the demographic characteristics of the residents. Of those interviewed, the largest number were in either professional or managerial occupations. As is typical for this part of town, a large proportion was retired from the labor force. The area's workers split fairly equally between downtown, midtown and "other" with regard to the location of their jobs. Very few utilized public transportation for getting to work.

About ten percent of the households contained children under six years of age. Another 19% contained school-aged children. On the other hand, 35% of the responding households included people 60 and over. Of households with school children, nearly half attend public schools, while more than one-fourth attend private schools in the neighborhood.

VECAA officials will be cooperating with MMIA in the development of their neighborhood plan in order that the various midtown organizations can provide mutual support in achieving their collective goals.

#### Volunteers Needed

For the past seven years many adult volunteers from the Memphis community have had rewarding experiences working one-to-one with seniors at North-side High School. Volunteers supplement the work of the school guidance counselors in post-high school planning with the senior students. Interest and dependability are the qualifications for volunteer participation...training in specifics and continuing support are provided by Memphis Volunteer Placement. Each year large numbers of students apply for the service. WE NEED YOU. Please call Dot Bailey, Volunteer Coordinator, at 774-7504 for information.

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#### Meet The Neighbors

There's a lot going on at 1035 N. Barksdale. MAC and PAT SMITH, both graduates of Southwestern and V/E residents for ten years, have just bought their first home. They're doing a lot of repairs and remodeling, the most spectacular of which is, strangely enough, the garage. Barksdale, until recently, dead-ended in the garage. Mac, with help from other V/E residents DAN HANRAHAN of N. Willet and ROBERT TAYLOR, also of Barksdale, has taken it down and re-assembled it where it should be — in the back yard. The structure is large enough to hold two cars and anything else you might want to store, plus having a big workshop area in the back.

At some later date, Mac said he wanted to put a deck on top for star-gazing. He already has a fancy telescope, so the deck seems a serious plan, not just a daydream. Mac teaches every day in the public school in Holly Springs, Mississippi, which is fifty miles away. He also keeps a "watch-goose" by the name of Heath-cliff, a possum, and three cats.

Pat is a chemist, though Mac says she has "retired to take care of the house." She puts her chemistry to good use though, being an avid canner and "putter-upper" of foods. They even have a flour and corn mill, as in — for grinding! They bought it as a kit and plan to put it together after they get settled. Mac calls her a gourmet cook, a s/f buff (short for science fiction fan) and a seamstress.

They are looking forward to getting settled. They have been working since June on the house and are ready to clear the construction materials out, spread out the furniture and relax. Their neighbors are looking forward to seeing Heathcliff, the watch-goose.

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#### EDITOR'S PLEA

Now that RICK THOMAS has officially left the scene I want to ask for help! Do you know any neighbor that should be featured in our "Meet the neighbors" column? Or a bit of neighborhood history? Do you have any old photographs of the area? Is there a subject you would like some information on? Or a church, club, or school event you want publicized? (bearing in mind we need two month's notice!) Is there a grievance you want aired? Anything pertaining to the neighborhood, I want to hear about - I need to hear about!

It seems to me that the ideal neighborhood paper must involve as many residents as possible. I would like to have different contributors every month. The purpose of the  ${\underline{{\sf EVERGREEN\ NEWS}}}$  is to draw us together, like a small town in the midst of a big city. This is not the VECAA paper, but the neighborhood paper, however closely the two groups work. VECAA began the paper, nurtured it with the talent and energy of its members, but the NEWS is financed by the ads bought by residents and area businesses.

I soon hope to have suggestion boxes in strategic locations, but until then you can send your ideas and suggestions to: THE EVERGREEN NEWS

1032 E. Rainbow Dr. 38107

WANTED: Odd jobs. Painting (interior and exterior), repair work, light carpentry. Neighborhood references. Call Jim at 276-8315.

SERVICES PROVIDED: Your lawn need mowing? Side walk need trimming? I can help you. Call Tom's Mowing Service at 726-9674,

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## THANKS...

----go to VIVIAN HILL for volunteering to help with th typing. Vivian is a rather glamorous lady with a son TERRANCE, age thirteen, who lives on University. She read of our need and simply called up. This does no mean of course that we couldn't use some help. With several sharing the task, the burden is light! ----go to MARY MURPHY, the McLean Baptist Church secretary, who isn't even a V/E resident. Mary printed the  ${\rm \underline{NEWS}}$  last month, using Southwestern's offset press ----go to MARTHA JANE EDWARDS, head of the Southwestern printing shop. Martha Jane, another non-resident, took time from her very busy schedule to break in Mary Murphy on press.

The Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association (VECAA) is a non-profit neighborhood organization founded in 1970. Its boundaries are roughly Watkins, Cypress Creek, Trezevant and Overton Park Avenue. VECAA's initial goal was to enhance and maintain a stable biracial community with quality housing, services and facilities. It has been active in promoting stability, assisting in school desegregation, opposing commercial rezoning and in general promoting those activities that serve to create a viable mid-town community.

Vollintine-Evergreen Community Action Association 1977 NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP 1977

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