

The Evergreen News

DO NOT PUT IN MAILBOXES

A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by VECA, Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association

P.O. Box 12011

Memphis, TN 38182-011

Volume XVII, Number 4, September 1990

VECA FALL FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

20TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 15TH

12:00-6:00

SAINT THERESE-LITTLE FLOWER PLAYGROUND

1644 JACKSON



ENTERTAINMENT

Folk Music, John Boatner-popular piano, story telling, puppet show

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Trinity United Methodist, Evergreen Presbyterian, McLean Baptist and Sunnana Center preschool and daycare programs.

RADIO STATION COOL 101

Will come to play music and give away prizes for the teens.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Carol Chumney and Kevin Pfannes, candidates for this district's State Representative, will be present to discuss their platforms and to meet the community.



FOOD

Open Door Bible Church will sell barbecue prepared by team members from the award winning Willingham's barbecue team.

Saint Therese Church will sell their famous Ravioli.

Saint John Orthodox Church will sell hamburgers and hot dogs and desserts.

Evergreen Presbyterian youth group will have baked goods for sale.

NO ADMISSION FEE

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY AND CELEBRATE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

VECA'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with residents. The Evergreen News contains information about VECA, neighborhood residents, businesses, and government policies. VECA is bounded by Watkins on the west, Cypress Creek on the north, Trezevant on the east, and North Parkway on the south. Contact VECA by writing to: 1663 Tutwiler, Memphis, TN 38107

SAM COOPER UPDATE

On July 30th, Julie Borys, VECA president met with the presidents of 11 other midtown associations and Mayor Richard Hackett to discuss proposals to complete Sam Cooper Boulevard (I-40) up to the east side of Overton Park.


As was discussed in the last issue of the Evergreen News, Allen and Hoshall had made seven proposals, all of which would have been disastrous to the Old Binghampton and Tillman, Lester, and Binghampton communities. All seven proposals had the express intent of increasing traffic on North Parkway, endangering the VECA, Evergreen Historic and Hein Park communities.

The coalition of Midtown Associations would like the city to consider terminating I-40/Sam Cooper at Tillman and disperse the traffic onto Poplar, Walnut Grove, Broad and Summer/North Parkway. This would require an improvement of the intersection and streets at Broad and Tillman but would not disrupt housing or encourage unnecessary traffic in the area.

The organizations present proposed, and the Mayor agreed, to further study and determine if Sam Cooper Boulevard can safely be terminated at Tillman. The organizations asked that better access be made to the northern leg of I-240 where Sam Cooper Boulevard begins. This would encourage maximum use of 240 through and downtown bound traffic. The driving time for Sam Cooper and I-240 is virtually the same but getting onto I-240 in East Memphis is a slow process so many commuters just stay on Sam Cooper through town.

**St. Therese
Little Flower Catholic Community
Jackson at Belvedere**

Sunday Eucharists
8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.
Fr. Bob Ewing, Pastor
276-1412



"All Are Welcome"

The organizations did not expect the terminating of Sam Cooper at Tillman to have major impact on the Tillman/Binghampton community. The Mayor commented positively on the suggestion that Housing and Community Development funds could be used to make improvements that would further reduce any impact on the community as a result of ending Sam Cooper at Tillman.

The Mayor stated at the meeting his pledge was any land not used for I-40 would be returned to residential use. The Midtown neighborhood associations were pleased with the meeting and hope to get back with the city and its representatives to continue the work on a solution to the Sam Cooper/I-40 improvement plans.

Please join the effort by writing the Mayor to urge the continued dialogue and write to support the modified use of Sam Cooper Blvd.

Write to: The Honorable Richard C. Hackett,
125 N. Mid America Mall, 38103.

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BLOCK CAPTAINS

VECA is currently putting together a neighborhood wide system of "block captains" as part of its efforts to strengthen our neighborhood. We have recruited block captains for many blocks, but volunteers are still needed in some areas. Many of you are involved in the neighborhood and even now may be doing much of what our block captains will be doing.

The block captains will provide a link between their immediate neighbors and the larger VECA organizations that we are all a part of. They will greet new neighbors on their street and make sure that everyone is informed about VECA.



We do have incentives for you! If a block captain furnishes us with the necessary information, we will print a "Street Directory" to be copied and distributed to those neighbors on the street. We will update it each year if desired. The directory will be returned to the block captain and will not be released to any one else. In addition, we will do all we can to keep the block captain informed of meetings, special programs, Neighborhood Watch and other important matters concerning the community.

Anyone interested in more information should call Steve Gadbois: 278-4116 at home, 726-3720 at work.


Kevin Pfannes
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Working for our Neighborhood!
Paid for by the Kevin Pfannes Election Committee
 Barbara Williams-Treasurer

ST JOHN ORTHODOX OPEN HOUSE

You may have noticed the procession around the building at midnight on Easter morning, or a cookout and crowd on a Sunday afternoon, or the reappearing piles of scrap and the hammering and sawing Saturdays, or the toning of the bell to announce worship - and you may want to see what's going on at the church at 1663 Tutwiler. You will have an opportunity, because St. John Orthodox Church, the new owners of the property, invites you Sunday, September 9, 1990, for its open house. It will be a social and educational event - parishioners will be available to show visitors the building and answer whatever questions may arise, literature will be available, there will be activities for all the children and refreshments. Come and visit your new neighbor.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(E.L.C.A.)


 1548 Jackson Avenue
 (at corner of Willet)
 Sunday Church School (all ages)-9:15 a.m.
 Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Rev. James M. Duke III, Pastor
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LEGAL CORNER

DOGS LOVE 'EM AND LEASH 'EM The Summer months bring the best and worst out in our community's dog owners. A refresher course on the city ordinances regarding pets might be helpful to pet owners and other residents in the VECA area. Relevant ordinances are:

Sec. 5-57: All dogs six months or older are required to be licensed and tagged. Licenses may be purchased from a veterinarian or from the animal shelter.

Sec. 5-60: Dogs running at large are not permitted in the city of Memphis. Dogs must be on a leash or confined to a fenced in area.

Sec. 5-61: If a dog is not licensed or is running loose the City Animal Shelter will pick the dogs up and remove them to the City Shelter. The Owner has three working days to redeem his dog before it becomes the property of the city. At this time the Animal Shelter may put the animal up for adoption or have it humanely put to death.

Sec. 5-64 Vicious Dogs It shall be unlawful for any person to harbor or keep a vicious dog within the city unless the dog is restrained by leash, chain or locked in a cage or fence. If a dog has attacked and bitten a human without provocation the animal shelter manager may find such dog should be declared a vicious dog. If, in the opinion of the shelter manager the dogs are keep for the purpose of fighting pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-3-105, then the dog shall be declared a vicious dog.

The dog can be impounded and a hearing set for the victim and the owner of the dog within ten working days of the impoundment or incarceration. The failure of the owner to appear at the hearing shall result in the dog being declared vicious and humanely put to death by the animal shelter. At the hearing the manager will hear testimony and evidence from the interested parties. After

hearing the evidence, the manager may find the dog vicious for the purpose of protection or may find the charges unwarranted. If the dog is found to be vicious for the purpose of protection, the owner may claim the dog with the conditions of possession of said dog. If the dog is declared vicious, the dog shall be put to death by the animal shelter. There is an appeal process under this ordinance.




This is a summarization of the City of Memphis and Shelby County Animal Control Ordinance. For a complete copy, contact the Animal Shelter or the Mayor's Action Center.

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District 89

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John Freeman, Coordinator

RECOVERY ROAD

You may have read in the paper or heard through talk in the community that Recovery Road was going to move into space on McLean next to Dino's. Recovery Road was not able to get the necessary permits to occupy the space.

Recovery Road is a business operated for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts. It is styled as a bar or arcade to meet the entertainment needs of the young recovering addict. There are arcade games, pool tables, live music and food and soft drinks for sale. Recovery Road provides a safe place for young people who are trying to stay clean but still have a need to be out in a social setting.

The space on McLean is zoned LC which is light commercial. This includes restaurants, markets, business offices, beauty parlors etc. The Parking for this business strip is limited, as are many of VECA's older business complexes. When Mr. Paul Abbott looked at the space he was informed by the landlord that there was adequate parking. The question of the zoning may not have been considered. However, when it came time to get the building permits it became apparent there was a problem with the zoning and adequate parking. Recovery Road's plan to operate the number of arcade machines and the stated

number of seated customers to be served placed their business in a HC zone classification. This is a heavier commercial use than the area is zoned for. The VECA neighborhood association stayed in close communication with the Recovery Road people and Memphis and Shelby County Code enforcement on this issue.

As was the case with Terry Starks recording studio on Watkins and Ed McAteer's business office on Jackson, the zoning was not correct and permits for occupancy were denied. Business people are in partnership with the community they hope to serve and must respect the limits of a community to accommodate radical departures from existing codes and zoning ordinances.

VECA has struggled for twenty years to maintain a fragile balance in our community. Many in Memphis do not care about our VECA community and are willing to ask us to make changes that will in the long run leave us open to abuse. It was not the intention of Recovery Road to put VECA at risk by placing a business with a heavier commercial zoning in light commercial area but that would have been the effect. Uniform enforcement of the codes and city ordinances is the means of survival for communities like

HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

The housing committee has been working on improving the condition of housing in VECA by monitoring conditions of the homes. Individuals in violation of housing codes have been asked to clean up and fix up their property. The punishment for non-compliance has been fines. Recently the court's powers have been increased. Effective July 1, 1990, the state legislature gave the local county environmental court the power to imprison violators. Violators who fail to appear in court in response to a health, housing, fire, building and zoning code violation, or who fail to correct the violation within the designated day given by court order, can be jailed as well as fined. This strengthens the ability of the neighborhoods to negotiate with violators, and gives the courts power to punish violators when they do not comply with its orders. Monitor those housing problems and report your concerns to VECA housing committee or call the VECA hot line. Center for Neighborhoods has a copy of the law giving enforcement powers to the court. If you want a copy call CFN 526-6627.

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• Make checks payable to VECA and sent to •
• VECA Treasurer - 705 North Belvedere, 38107 •
•.....

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 (901) 324-5812 J. Jeffrey Irwin, Pastor

We invite you to join us for:

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:50 a.m.

Wed. Potluck Supper and Vespers 6:00 p.m.

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