

# The Evergreen News

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

P.O. BOX 12011 Memphis, TN 38182-0011

Volume XVI, Number 6, November 1990

VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with its 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 P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN 38182-0011.

## VECA FESTIVAL BIG SUCCESS

Through the efforts of many volunteers the VECA festival was very successful. Over 500 people attended the afternoon event September 15th on the grounds of St. Therese - Little Flower School. These are pictures of some of the people and happenings at the festival. If you weren't there this year, we missed you and hope to see you next year.

VECA would like to thank the following people and institutions: Michael Johnson, Anise Jennings, Morris Jennings, Chris Kirby, Jutte Dinkelacker, Diane Hanson, Carol Warren, Charlotte Swailes, Mike Kirby, Martha Heinemann, Grace Wallace, Julie Borys, Chiquita Isom, June Scudder, Susan Ogle, MOMMIES, Jack Hough, Bill Powell, Tom Kirby, Jim Martin, Tom McGowan, Steve Gadbois, Lydia Henegar, Stan Less, Mac Bettis, Lish Burgess, John Boatner, City Of Memphis Emergency Management, Memphis Public Library, Terry Howie, John Phillips, Ron McDonald, McLean Baptist Church, Saint Therese Church, Saint John Orthodox Church, Open Door Bible Church, Evergreen Presbyterian Church, Trinity United Methodist Preschool, Carol Bowden, Chuck Fox, Jan Kirby, and Memphis Police Department North Precinct's Sidney McKenzie.

A special thanks goes to First American Bank, for sponsorship of the festival. Thank you all for a wonderful time.





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## SAM COOPER (I-40) UPDATE

By Julie Borys

In our last issue we reported that the midtown neighborhood organizations had met with Mayor Richard Hackett on July 30th regarding the extension of Sam Cooper Boulevard. The neighborhoods felt that each of the proposed plans was too damaging to the surrounding communities and environment, as well as, at a cost of \$16.2 million, too expensive. Mayor Hackett appeared to support the request of the coalition of neighborhoods to study a plan to improve the Sam Cooper Boulevard/Freeway where it ends at Tillman and pledged that any land not used for road would be returned to residential use.

Barley three weeks later, instead of tabling the Sam Cooper extension, the Administration proposed that the extension plans be speeded up. The Administration moved forward on the planning priority from 1995 to January, 1991. As of October 8th, Mayor Hackett was refusing to discuss housing redevelopment for the Sam Cooper right-of-way area.

Midtown needs quality housing and safe shopping areas, not more highway. None of the designs proposed will in any way benefit VECA or the rest of Midtown. These designs for Sam Cooper will detour potential customers, visitors and residents past Midtown and roll them down to the river. The sole purpose is to speed four-wheeled humans past neighborhoods that will be carefully screened from view to hide the systematic official neglect we have suffered.

The Boulevard extension points like an arrow at the heart of Midtown. City Administration holds the bow. Mayor Hackett states he receives many complaints from lost tourists and out-of-towners who must slow their daily commute to get through our in-town neighborhoods. Is their voice more important than yours? The Transportation Coalition will continue to work together and with the City's leaders to find a solution that is agreeable for all concerned.

A forum sponsored by the Neighborhood transportation coalition will be held on November 15th at Springdale United Methodist Church, 751 Trezevant at 6:30 p.m.. Please call the VECA hot line to find out more information.

Continue to let City leaders hear from you regarding the extension of Sam Cooper. The decision may be made without your input if you don't let your voice be heard. Write or call Mayor Richard Hackett, 125 N. Mid America Mall, 38103.

## NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT'S DILIGENCE GETS RESULTS

Tom Schrodt's perseverance on the issue of overgrown weeds along Lick Creek or the "ditch" has led to a solution.

Tom lives on Dickinson, near the creek that runs through our community. During spring and summer, the creek banks become overgrown with weeds. Mr. Schrodt found this to be a problem and decided to take action. Mr. Schrodt did an investigation of the titles of land ownership and discovered that the creek from Stonewall east to Evergreen is a street right-of-way owned by the City of Memphis. The city is therefore responsible for maintenance. Area residents affected should have been contacted about the Lick Creek clean up. This is good news for some in the VECA area.

This section of the creek has not received any maintenance for many years and Mr. Schrodt's efforts are greatly appreciated by the neighbors.

## VECA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, December 10th

7:30 pm

St. Therese Church

Nazareth Hall

840 Dickinson

Lula Coffee will give a presentation on winter wildlife in our community. Please make plans to attend!

### AMBASSADOR APPOINTED TO THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF MEMPHIS

The Children's Museum of Memphis appointed Jo Anne Brown, VECA's Neighborhood Ambassador, July 1, 1990. Jo Anne is a VECA resident, kindergarten teacher at Snowden, and one of the founding organizers of MOMMIES, a neighborhood parent child play group. Jo Anne is committed to enthusiastically spreading the word throughout VECA about the dynamic learning experiences offered at the Children's Museum.

Any adults wishing to volunteer at the museum should call 458-2666 or 458-2678. Congratulations, Jo Anne, as you continue to serve children in the VECA and Memphis area with your work at the Children's Museum.

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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.  
*'A fellowship with open doors in worship and service.'*

### 60th ANNIVERSARY, ST. THERESE PARISH

St Therese Church, fondly called Little Flower, located at 1644 Jackson Ave., is celebrating its 60th anniversary as a parish this year.

On November 18th Bishop Daniel Buechlein will celebrate with the parish in a church service recognizing and giving thanksgiving for the 60 years of service St Therese has given to the Vollintine Evergreen area. All former Little Flower parishioners and interested community residents are invited to attend the anniversary church service.

Following the 10:30 Mass on November 18th, the annual Turkey Dinner will be served in the cafeteria of the Little Flower School (Susanna Center). This dinner is open to the public. Take-out meals are available.

On November 25th Little Flower will sponsor its anniversary Concert of Sacred and Secular Music. The concert will begin at 3:00 P.M. in the church. This year the admission is free. The concert will be directed by Mr. Anthony Carstone, the parish music director. The concert will feature the St Therese Choir and various musicians from throughout the city.

St. Therese Church was founded in 1930 by Rev. Msgr. James Whitfield. It was the first integrated Roman Catholic Parish in West Tennessee. Under the leadership of Monsignor Joseph Leppert, Father John Scola, Father Edwin Creary, Father Edward Byrnes, And Father Robert Ewing, the current pastor, Little Flower has been known in the community for its commitment to care for all people. Please help St. Therese join in celebration of its 60th anniversary.



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## NEIGHBORHOOD MINI-PARK MEETING

Community residents Angela Hollis, Jo Anne Brown, Sharon Baker, and Debbie Cochran, have been working hard on bringing a city park to the VECA area. The MLGW strip of property on Tutwiler between Dickinson and Avalon is being considered for a mini-park by the city and the planning group. Preliminary plans have been submitted to the city Park Commission for review. The park planning committee and VECA would like input from community residents adjoining the proposed park.

The meeting will be held November 19th at 7:00 P.M. at St. John Orthodox Church at Tutwiler and Dickinson. VECA is excited about the possibilities of a neighborhood play space, and we need to hear your ideas. Call the VECA hotline if you have any questions, 276-1066 .

## MOMMIES

Are you at home with your child and would like an organized play time for your child? Would you like to meet other parents in the area? MOMMIES is such an organization, meeting weekly at the Open Door Bible Church. This is a non-denominational community-based playgroup offering an excellent opportunity at no cost to provide play and learning for your infant, toddler, and preschooler. This program is affiliated with the Parenting Center of Memphis.

Parents plan the activities and play for the children in the group. This is an exciting way to provide socialization for your child in an environment outside your home with the support of other parents.

There are openings in both play groups, infant-toddler and preschool. Call Angie Hollis at 274-0376 for the infant-toddler play group. Parents or caregivers interested in the preschool group should call Vickie Davis 278-5003 or Susan Ogle 276-0979.

## HOLLYWOOD ON SHERIDAN

The Turner television network is filming a made for T.V. movie in Memphis. Sheridan street in the VECA area was chosen as one of the filming locations for the movie version of Shelby Foote's novel September September. The movie is called Memphis and will be shown sometime in 1991. The next issue of the newsletter will feature stories and pictures about this novel event in our community.

## CONSUMER WATCH

A few calls have come into the VECA hot line concerning a small contractor, Zelmo Boyce and his brothers Jonathan and Lenard. VECA did not get the names of the individuals making the complaints. It is hard to verify information given to VECA without names.

Please if you have any information regarding this person and his work please call and leave your name and phone number. There is no Boyce listed with the state Real Estate Board that carries a listing of licensed contractors, nor is there a business licence for a Zelmo Boyce in Memphis.

Please be careful when contracting for work on your home. The office in Memphis that handles business licenses can be reached at 576-4249. Calling this number may help prevent fraud. You should also check references and ask for proof of bonding before the job begins in case of unsatisfactory work.

NEW DECADE

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ADVERTISING

The Evergreen News is accepting business advertisements. A column ad which is two inches long costs \$20 per issue or \$100 for 6 issues. Send copy for ads to VECA at P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN 38182-0011.

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