

# Affordable rentals welcomed to area

New apartments add to neighborhood's revitalization efforts

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Of all the new residences Homes of Hope has added to West Greenville, some believe the most significant ones may be in the new development at Queen Street and Perry Avenue.

Bradley Place, a development with 10 three-bedroom, stacked rental units, serves as a tool to attract new businesses into West Greenville. It also offers some of the lowest rental

rates Homes of Hope has ever had available.

Additionally, the development bears the name of a teenager who touched the lives of those who knew him.

The nonprofit Homes of Hope organization, in partnership with the city of Greenville, the Greenville Housing Fund and Pinnacle Bank, has officially opened the Bradley Place duplexes.

They represent the last residences the organization will build in West

Greenville this year, said Don Oglesby, the organization's president.

Homes of Hope was awarded \$1.28 million from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and \$25,000 in Home Investment Partnership Funds for the project from the city.

The opportunity to use government money enabled the organization to get rents at Bradley Place "really low," he said. Rents for the Bradley Place units, filled with Energy Star appliances, start at \$250.

Until now, Oglesby said, "We haven't been able to reach the bottom levels of rent. Our rents most of the

time are \$350 and up so this is a great opportunity for that. And the city designated this as a targeted area that they want to see revitalized."

With the addition of Bradley Place, Homes of Hope has built more than 100 homes in west Greenville.

The location of Bradley Place, at the entrance of the community, should have a positive influence, according to Vardry Fleming, president of the West Greenville Neighborhood Association.

"West Greenville in the past was noted to be one of your substandard neigh-

borhoods. Some people are still having problems dispelling that concept," Fleming said. "The quality of Bradley Place, with the appearance, affects the whole concept and causes people to come in with a totally different attitude about West Greenville."

Vardry said he is optimistic that Bradley Place "will make a difference in relation to the quality of business that we bring in here."

Much like the development itself, its namesake meant a lot to a lot of people.

Bradley Burnett was a 19-year-old stationed at a United States Air Force base in

North Dakota when he died in a vehicle accident.

He got to know the folks at Homes of Hope through his mother, Deborah, who used to bring him with her at times when she worked with the organization.

Bradley had a generous heart, Oglesby said. "He was always smiling, volunteering and helping. He never met a stranger," he said.

"In the spirit of its namesake, Bradley Place will uplift and enhance the neighborhood and its residents and further the goals of the community," he said.