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Winston-Salem Chronicle

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St. James packed for Russell

By MARDELL GRIFFIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

The pews of St. James AME Church overflowed last Friday morning as the community drew together to mourn the death of one of Winston-Salem's pioneer African-American politicians.

Messages from the present and former governor and other dignitaries punctuated the service performed by long time friends of former alderman and mayor pro-tem, Carl H. Russell, Jr.

Mayor Wayne A. Corpening

read statements from North Carolina political figures from across the state including Governor James G. Martin.

Martin told the family he wanted them to know their loss was shared by this community. To Mrs. Russell he said, "Our state is a

"... The kind of change that he brought about does good for all people... Brother Russell, Big Daddy, we thank God for you... May he allow the memory of Carl H. Russell Sr. to inspire you to lead the life well lived."

--Rev. P.R. Cousin

Senator Terry Sanford, Fifth District Congressman Steven L. Neal, Lt. Governor Bob Jordan, and former Governor James L. Hunt.

much better place because your husband shared himself."

Sanford called Russell a good

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Family members embrace at the gravesite. From left are Carmen Russell Bonham, Carl Matthews, Carl Russell Jr and Mrs. Florrie Russell (photo by James Parker).

UPDATE

AKA's to build 20 rental houses

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Now that the project has financial backing and approval from the city and N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Co., the next step for a housing complex proposed by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. is to form another corporation, a sorority member said.

East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell, a member of the sorority, said Tuesday that Phi Omega Inc., a corporation formed by the sorority, is now preparing to form a joint group with N.C. Development Corp., to oversee the implementation of the project.

N.C. Development Corp. is a subsidiary of North Carolina Mutual.

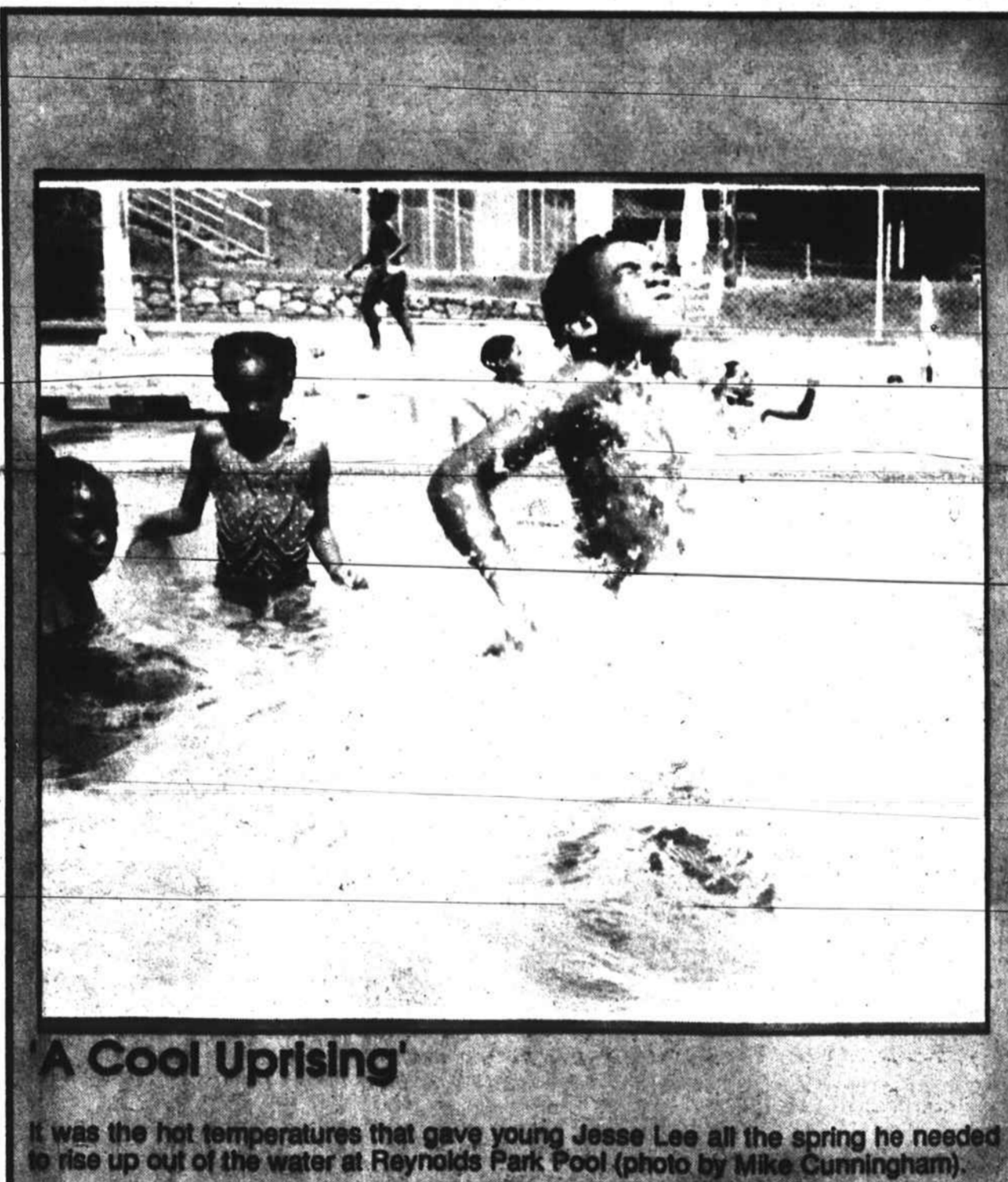
The new corporation will be called Preferred Apartment Ventures Inc., she said.

The total cost of the project is \$750,000 with \$225,000 financing by the city and \$450,000 by N.C. Mutual. The sorority is responsible for the other \$75,000, Mrs. Newell said.

The project will include 8 one-bedroom units, 12 two-bedroom units and a 2,500-square-foot community building.

The Board of Aldermen gave the go-ahead for the rental property townhouses, to be built on the city's land between Second and Third streets and

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A Cool Uprising

It was the hot temperatures that gave young Jesse Lee all the spring he needed to rise up out of the water at Reynolds Park Pool (photo by Mike Cunningham).

Hasan's Nemesis

City grants Larco \$800,000 contract

Not more than a month since the city threatened to foreclose on an African-American businessman who was late paying on a \$29,000 loan, the Board of Aldermen awarded that company's nemesis an \$800,000-plus contract to widen Indiana Avenue.

And, the board also voted to extend additional credit incentives to two developers who owe the city over \$290,000.

Larco Construction, formerly L.A. Reynolds Construction Company, received a \$848,091 to widen Indiana Avenue between Akron Drive and Polo Road despite "a terrific amount of suspicion" some aldermen have regarding Larco's past job performance and poor "human relations" in dealing with his employees and subcontractors.

Alderman Virginia Newell, during the meeting, moved to deny the contract to Larco partly because the company has been known to be slow in completing projects. Among them, the paving of Old Town Road and Old Vineyard Road. According to Rodney Sumler, a consultant to Larco, and Al Beaty, the city's assistant city manager, Larco's lateness was attributed to the weather and the performance of some of Larco's minority contractors.

Sumler, who says he was hired by Larco to "improve it image", says that quite often minority subcontractors "held up Larco" on jobs and kept them from meeting deadlines. When asked, however, whether minorities were responsible for the delays on the Old Town Road and the Old Vineyard Road projects, Sumler said he wasn't sure. He said the weather could have been a factor.

Bill Smith, president of Larco told the Chronicle that three African-American contractors and two female contractors will participate on the Indiana Avenue project. They are: Triad Construction Company, owned by

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Anti-crime programs working

By MARDELL GRIFFIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

The combined crime fighting efforts of East Winston residents and city officials are showing results. And more projects are being planned, including the purchase of tracking and drug sniffing dogs.

The endeavors are aimed at detecting and deterring crime in the city which one alderman says causes some elderly residents in her ward to sleep on their floors to

avoid being hit by stray bullets.

Crime and harassment dropped dramatically in Happy Hill Gardens Apartments after police officers began walking patrols and increased police car cruises in the area according to some residents of the city owned property. They also cite the closing of an illegal drink house near the apartments for slowing criminal activity in the neighborhood.

The percentage of people victimized by crime dropped from 80 to one percent in another area after

residents started a crime prevention program, according to a block captain in the community.

He is now organizing a more wide reaching program in the city that has the cooperation of police Chief George L. Sweat and other police department and city personnel.

Church buses dispatched on Sunday mornings to transport senior citizens to worship services were sometimes unable to get

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Newell for mayor?

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell says that she is considering running for mayor. And with the mayor's race in 1989, she said that she has plenty of time to make up her mind.

Mrs. Newell, whose term as alderman ends in 1989, would not say much about her plans.

"I'm thinking about it," she said Tuesday. "I'm still out there testing the waters."

Mayor Wayne A. Corpening, could not be reached for comment about his plans by presstime. His term ends in 1989.

She said that she will make her decision by the end of this year.

Several people have approached her offering support if she decided to run, Mrs. Newell said.

"Some people are talking to me about it," she said. "Folk are saying 'Are you going to run? I heard that you might and I want to

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South African leader vows to 'seize power' from P.W. Botha

By LAURINDA KEYS
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) -- The black leader of the country's largest labor federation urged blacks Wednesday to "seize power from the intransigent government" and dared President P.W. Botha to put him in prison. "I'm here to bury P.W. Botha, not to praise him," declared Elijah Barayi, President of the Congress of South African Trade Unions

national convention, to shouts of approval from the 1,400 delegates. Barayi also lauded members of the outlawed African National Congress, the largest guerrilla group fighting to end white rule, as "freedom fighters." "There can be no freedom in this country unless the African National Congress is involved," Barayi said, praising ANC president Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela, imprisoned leader of the ANC's military wing. "I know that by

(my) saying this the Botha regime will one day lock me up, but let them do so," said Barayi, 57, a mine administrator and former gold miner. "This intransigent government will not hand over power. The black majority shall have to seize power from the intransigent government." Waves of chanted cheers, stamping feet and fists thrust in the air interrupted his speech. The black audience crammed into a hall at the Witwatersrand University repeated

its enthusiastic response when messages of support from the ANC and the Soviet trade union movement were read. The government repeatedly has warned black unions to stay out of politics and says the trade federation is linked to the African National Congress. By law and custom, apartheid establishes a racially segregated society in which the 25.6 million blacks have no vote in national affairs. The 5 million whites control the economy and maintain separate dis-

tricts, schools and health services. The trade federation claims more than 700,000 members and says it has molded 33 unions into 13 since it was founded in December 1985 with the aim of creating single unions for each sector of industry. Union leaders vowed to use the united black labor force to challenge the government directly in the political arena. Barayi said the federation had to "play our leading role as organized workers in the struggle for national libera-

tion and socialism." The delegates planned to spend the next two days in closed sessions debating a series of draft resolutions that veer close to illegality under the government-imposed state of emergency. The resolutions call for international boycotts of South African gold, platinum and diamonds, an end to foreign bank loans to South Africa, withdrawal of landing rights for South African Airways and further diplomatic isolation of South

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