

Central Relocation Places Families With Government Payments 3 Ways

Charles Bennett, Allen Hayes and Henry Atkins have a lot in common.

All three are former Southside neighbors. Not too long ago they were all notified that their families would have to move to make way for two Model Cities projects, the Multi-Purpose Service Center and the Open-Space Park.

They and their families had been living in substandard or run-down homes. Every one of them said they were glad to get to move. But to where? And how?

That's where the Central Relocation Agency (CRA), another Model Cities project, came in. Today all three men and their families are living in roomy, safe homes that more than measure up to the City's building codes.

Each man also represents a different way in which CRA can help a family who has lived in their home at least 90 days, and who is notified they must move because of government action.

Bennett lived at 501-B Loflin Street in a three-room rented duplex with his wife and six children. When his house was marked for demolition, he was contacted by CRA.

Bad credit prevented him from getting an FHA (Federal Housing Administration) loan. Even after a successful term on Consumer Credit Counseling's debt management program, he was turned down for a loan a second time.

ASSUMES LOAN

CRA case worker Sherry Sharpe located a rambling, five-bedroom house at 520 Whiteoak Street and put Bennett in touch with the realty firm, Craven-Johnson-Pollock. With some careful whittling of payments, it was agreed that Bennett would assume a loan on the house.

Because Bennett was being displaced, he automatically got \$2,000 from CRA, which he used as a down payment on his new home. For the first time in his life, he is buying instead of renting a house. And he has an additional \$315 coming for moving expenses.

"Why, we could have put our whole place into this one," Bennett laughs as he indicates the living room. "I'm glad we had to move. We wouldn't have got as good a place as this one on our own."

For the first time, Bennett, a city of High Point employe, and his wife have a room of their own, and the children — ranging in age from 5 to 15 — have space to play.

Allen Hayes, an Alma Desk Company employe, formerly of 319 Taylor Street, has a different situation. With the money to which he was entitled from Central Relocation he is renting a brand-new apartment in Farmington Forest, facing Brentwood Street.

RENT SUPPLEMENT

Hayes, his wife Fanny and their 16-year-old son are using CRA's replacement payment to supplement their monthly rent for the next four years. This rental assistance amounts to \$660 a year, shaving their \$105 per month rent to \$45.

Ms. Hayes agrees that she was grateful for the move. "That old house was so run-down. I've never lived in a new house before — I can't believe it's me."

Henry Atkins represents a third type of assistance provided by Central Relocation for displaced families. Because Atkins had saved some money, he is receiving a total of \$3,500 from the agency. With his savings and this lump sum, he made a down payment

on a new home at 500 Hill Street.

Atkins, who rented a house at 605 Hulda Street, and his wife are both employes of Carolina Springs. Unlike many Model Neighborhood residents, he had very good credit and was able to buy the home of his choice.

Central Relocation helps all families, like the Bennetts, Hayes and Atkins, who must move because of government action. Such reasons for moving include condemnation of a sub-standard dwelling, or a City building project.

Director Yvonne McCall cautions families notified of a move not to act until they are contacted by CRA. If they make arrangements on their own, she says, they are in danger of losing the payments they have coming to them from the government.

As the three families above show, the agency can help families in several ways — to foot the actual moving bill, to buy a house, or to help pay rent. In many cases, families can go from a shabby, rented dwelling to a new or relatively new home of their own.

Correction

In the September 15 edition of *What's Happening*, the picture of Commission candidate Guthrie Timberlake of Spring Valley was mistakenly identified as candidate Lillian Martin of Harrison. Mrs. Harris was not pictured in the newspaper.

Apologies to these two Model Neighborhood residents for the error.

Young Men, Women Committed To Action Attend Black Expo

A busload of Young Men and Women Committed to Action are in Chicago this weekend attending Black Expo '72.

This club, organized several months ago, is sponsored by the YWCA, Fourth Street branch. Though only 24 members are on the club's roster, club president Cecil Garlington reported that some 38 High Pointers were to make the Chicago trip.

Black Expo is scheduled to have such entertainers as the Jackson Five, Roberta Flack, Sammy Davis Jr., the Temptations and Isaac Hayes on the three-day program at the International Amphitheatre.

Young Men and Women Committed to Action meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the YWCA. To join, a person must simply come to a meeting and pay the Y a yearly membership fee of \$5.

The purpose of the group, according to Garlington, is "to advance solidarity among black people in their thrust for social, political, and economic self-determination." The present members have the average age of approximately 24.

YMWCA recently played host at the Y for the sixth district black political convention to elect delegates to the state convention.

New members are welcome to the club. For more information, contact the club president.



EMMA BENNETT, wife of CHARLES BENNETT, with youngest daughter, TONI.

Know Your Rights

(Part two of three parts. If you buy furniture or other goods on credit and then miss some payments, the seller may try to repossess the merchandise. If you do not want to let him have the things he must go to court.)

What kind of court action will the creditor start in order to get his merchandise back?

He will file a complaint with the court asking for a judgment for the amount owed and asking for "claim and delivery" of the goods.

What is "claim and delivery"?

It's a complicated legal term which means this to you: the sheriff can come to your home and take the goods before the trial is held and before the court decides finally who is entitled to keep them.

Has there been any change recently in the law of claim and delivery?

Yes. The United States Supreme Court ruled a couple of months ago that no one's property could be seized under claim and delivery without a prior hearing. Under the old rule, which had been in effect for many years, the creditor could simply file a paper with the court and the sheriff could immediately go to the person's home and take the goods.

Under the new rule, however, the creditor must file his paper with the court and request a hearing. The debtor must be given five day's notice of the hearing and will be able to come with or without a lawyer and state his own common-sense reasons why the goods should not be taken away from him until the trial. A judge or the clerk or court will then determine on the basis of both arguments who will get possession of the property until the full trial is held.

What is likely to be the result of this new rule?

Creditors will not use "claim and delivery" as often as they have in the past, and debtors will have a better chance of being heard if they think they have been wronged.

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Editor Emily Hedrick



Above, Farmington Forest Apartments, where the Allen Hayes family now lives; below, the remains of the Charles Bennett home at 501 Loflin Street, which is marked for demolition. The family of eight previously occupied the three rooms on the right-hand half of the duplex.



BERTHA KANOY of Astor Dowdy Towers.