

Letters, Opinions, Etc.

The Changing Face Of Housing Developments In East Winston

Northwood Estates was one of the most prominent Black neighborhoods in the early seventies, but the homes never were as nice as the homes on Country Club. Never mind the fact that when you compare the number of homes in each community, the amount of nice homes never seems to be equal to the number in the white community.

This is 1991 and the situation is worse. Most of the houses in the Black community may have been well built, but they have not been kept up, either because of lack of funds or lack of knowledge.

I don't know much about community politics, but I do know when a community or section of town is lacking and deprived when compared with other communities and sections of town. Look at East

Winston and compare it to the north, south and west sides of Winston. It doesn't take an expert to know that if there were one person to answer for the housing growth and financial prosperity of a community, then that person would be fired, in East Winston.

As stated I don't know that much about community politics and this is why I can't answer the question of why the housing situation is so bad on the east side of Winston-Salem. Can you? Others in the East Winston community have made suggestions on what can be done to resolve the housing situation:

Nathaniel Shelf said, "Clean up East Winston - dope and everything."

Mr. David Cooper said, "The housing outlook is

great. There are a good supply of houses on the market and for the first time home buyer, there are lower interest rate programs. One may find out about them through the N.C. Housing Finance Agency (or through his favorite mortgage lender)."

Maybe we should take it upon ourselves to ask, "Why is the housing situation so bad in East Winston?" Then learn what we as members of the East Winston community can do to make the situation better.

Bottom line is that from an outside view (one who has recently moved back to Winston-Salem) there needs to be more concern and involvement from the community in the East Winston housing situation.

By Vanessa Powell

Literary Review: A Rumor of Revolt

By Jennifer Jones
Black Book Alliance

A Rumor of Revolt,
T.J. Davis

As we know, all Black American historical episodes aren't always recorded in American

history books. Some events are deleted, some are rearranged and some are simply classified as brief, unusual, unsolved circumstances - a "rumor" (of some kind) from the underside of America's

colonial past.

Historian T.J. Davis' exploration of some spectacular events involved in New York City on March 18, 1741 provides an illuminating look at scores of arrests followed by signs of arson and suspicions of conspiracy - all by slaves.

The *Rumor of Revolt*

serves as a useful and integral part of history bringing in clear view the accused, the accusers, the slaves and the slave holders. The judicial system represented is in itself a farce.

Most amusing is a brilliant slave named Caesar, who knows not only what he wants, but how to get it.

T.J. Davis allows the unfolding of the book to be not only gripping but a sure fire way to enhance your African-American history.

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Legal Aid

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their legal belts or are they genuinely concerned about the general welfare of the people they represent. Also, what type background checks do they run on the individuals to see the kind of housing track records they have.

Someone has suggested that many Legal Aid attorneys don't even actually go out to the homes in question to see what type environment their clients live in or promote for their families. They further state that Legal Aid attorneys compile their information from files given to them from the housing services department.

A quick perusal of the areas in question leaves one with a viewpoint. Examine the area on the East Side of town between 21st and 25th Streets. You can't help but notice the number of units that are boarded up. These houses are empty while they city has to deal with hundreds of homeless families. Ask a real estate agent and they'll quickly offer an answer. People are afraid to invest money and time into these units when there is no guarantee they'll receive a return on their investment.



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