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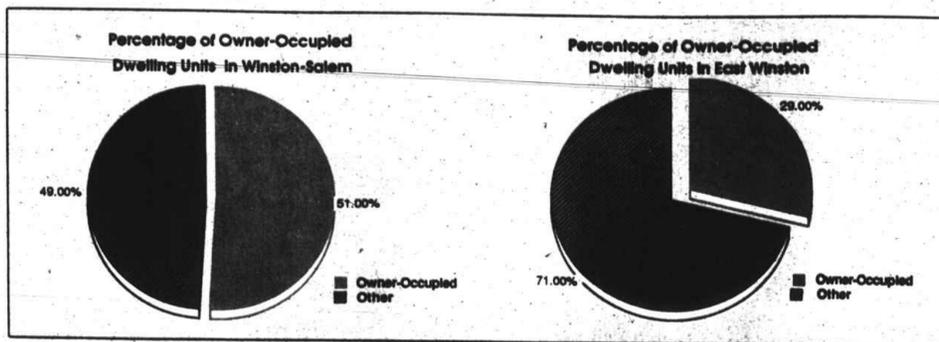
Special report reveals who owns East Winston

By EDWARD SHANAHAN
Special To The Chronicle

Two men, E. Vernon Ferrell and C.W. Myers, dominate the list of real estate investors who own multiple residential rental properties in East Winston.

Another 20 property owners each have title to anywhere from 10 to 40 parcels of residential property in Winston-Salem's largely African-American neighborhood, where some of the worst single-family rental housing in the city is located.

The Chronicle's examination of property ownership records also confirmed that East Winston continues to have a very low rate of



owner-occupied housing, with the vast majority of residents renting their housing rather than owning it.

Census figures available from the city-county planning department indicated that in 1980 there were 5,844 dwelling units in the area covered by the East Winston Area Plan and that only 1,704 of those units - or 29 percent - were owned by the occupants, compared to an owner-occupied rate of 51 percent for the city as a whole.

However, the figures for 1980 may be overstated in terms of East Winston today. The Chronicle's parcel-by-parcel examination of ownership records for the geographic area of East Winston continues to have a very low rate of

Charge unjustified, accused lawyer says

By MARDELL GRIFFIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

The pregnant former secretary of two Winston-Salem attorneys who brought assault charges against her former employers last week is still under a doctor's care following the incident, her mother says. But one of the lawyers involved says the case is unjustified.

"She's not doing too good," said Mrs. Margaret Reid of her daughter, Beverly Reid Corpening. "I just hope and pray to the Lord that she will be OK."

Mrs. Corpening, 31, of 1582 Longview Drive was admitted to Forsyth Memorial Hospital following an incident resulting in charges against Robert Ernest Winfrey, 36, of 2860 Deerwood Drive and Gary Devon Henderson, 37, of 1244 W. Fourth St.

Both men were served with criminal summonses June 26 charging them with assault on a female.

The summonses say that Henderson held Mrs. Corpening while Winfrey twisted her arm, slapped her face and hit her twice with his fists. Mrs. Corpening was bruised on the arms as a result, one summons states.

"There's no merit to it whatsoever," said Winfrey of the case brought against him and his law partner.

He refused to comment further about the charges on the advice of his attorney, Joe Williams of Greensboro.

He did not want to sound abrupt, he added, but as an attorney he knows how important it is to follow the advice of counsel. So, he is going to follow the advice of his.

"Any further statements will be handled by my attorney," he said.

"I have had a thorough interview with both of my clients," Williams said. "I am convinced that they are absolutely innocent of all charges." And he has evidence to prove it in court, he added. He would not elaborate on whether or not there were witnesses to the incident. Henderson could not be reached for comment.

Mrs. Reid said her daughter was home from the hospital but still suffering lower stomach pains and taking medication to "make her rest."

Mrs. Corpening, who stated that she is entering her sixth month of pregnancy, said, "I've been advised by my attorney not to make any comments." She said James Ferguson of Charlotte is her lawyer in the matter.

Ferguson is counseling Mrs. Corpening about the case, he said. But he also declined to comment.

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Easy Rider

Two-year-old Nathaniel Chiles Jr. gets a bird's-eye view of the world as he rides on the shoulder of his father, Nathaniel Sr., during a recent stroll down Main Street (photo by James Parker).

Bias claims levied against Noland Co.

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Enough is enough, say three former African-American employees of the Noland Co. in Winston-Salem.

Tyrone Covington, Sammie O'Neal Jr. and Daulton Hill say that they put up with discrimination at the company for years, but they had taken enough.

Covington and O'Neal quit their jobs at the same time on April 10. Hill left his job because of a medical disability in January.

The three charge that the company openly discriminates against African-Americans, not only in hiring, but the treatment of them on the job.

"There isn't a black out there in a position other than emptying trash cans or driving trucks," Covington said. "There's no advancement, no future there."

When contacted, Frank Hartis who's in charge of the branch here, would not comment on the three men's accusations.

The company, headquartered in Virginia, is a distributor of electrical, industrial, plumbing, refrigeration, air conditioning and heating supplies.

All three men say they have seen white workers with less experience and seniority than they have come into the company and

move from the warehouse to salesmen jobs within the company.

"You have white guys come in, start at receiving, shipping, then counter sales and after that they go upstairs as an office salesman or on the road salesman," Covington said.

The men say that they started out in the warehouse as truck drivers and were in the same position when they left.

Covington had worked for the company for seven years, O'Neal for five years and Hill for three years.

One unfair practice the company has is throwing all the dirty work on African-Americans, the three say.

Covington said that they are told that the last man hired will have to empty the trash can at the warehouse. But that's not the way it has been, he said.

"I've seen many whites hired after me and they don't have to touch a can," he said.

Hill said that African-Americans are not allowed to load their trucks without supervision.

"It got so bad that they hired a 19-year-old white boy for 30 days to watch us," he said. "Can you imagine, you've worked there for years and they don't trust you to load trucks? It's so ridiculous."

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New bill extends Beaty's term for 18 more months

From Staff and Wire Reports

Two weeks ago, Special Superior Court Judge James A. Beaty Jr. wasn't sure whether he would be returning to a private law practice or keeping his judge's robe.

His term as a special judge was to end June 30. With the recent passage of a new bill that is likely to increase the number of African-American Superior Court judges in the state, Beaty will get to don his robe for at least 18 more months.

But if Beaty has his way, it will be for even longer.

The bill creates new Superior Court judgeships in 10 predominately African-American areas and does away with staggered judicial terms.

The bill was enacted Friday

after a bitter Senate debate. It, however, cleared the Senate 35-6.

One of the areas to benefit from the bill is Forsyth County where the new Judicial District 21-A consists of Winston-Salem's South, Southeast and Northwest wards and Precincts 4-1 and 4-2.

Beaty said Monday that he would like a Superior Court judgeship. Superior Court judges are elected to eight-year terms in statewide elections.

He said that he is pleased that the bill passed and that it will provide African-American lawyers a great opportunity to serve as judges.

But as far as he is concerned, Beaty said he plans to start organizing a campaign committee.

"I'm really looking forward to

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QUOTABLE: "We need strong swimmers - those with intellect, creativity, vision, commitment ... We cannot afford those who tread water or those who should be kept in wading pools."

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Transit fight: The little guys win

By MARDELL GRIFFIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

The little guys won at the Board of Aldermen special meeting Monday night.

Or at least that is the way some of the 14 small business owners felt when the proposed transit center site across from the old post office was dropped - permanently -- by the Aldermen.

Amid a swirl of controversy surrounding the selection of a location for a downtown bus center city planners will try to make a Third and Liberty streets site work instead of the highly contested Fifth, Liberty and Trade location.

The site controversy included charges of racism made in the June 25th issue of the Chronicle against federal judges. An article claimed that some of the judges threatened to tie up the plans for a center in lengthy law suits if the

city tried to build the facility near the Federal Building.

A Boston architect, David Crane, contracted by the city to formulate the Central Area Action Plan, suggested that the best location for the bus center was between Main and Church streets south of Third. The plan was published in 1983.

Last year, in a follow up evaluation of his study, Crane suggested that racism played a role in the decision not to develop the site he had chosen.

When reached this week at his new office in Tampa, Fla., he stood by his earlier conclusions that racism was a factor in the decision not to build the center near the Federal Building. "There was conflict when the site was picked near the court house," he said. "There were problems of that (racial) nature at that time."

In recent weeks various groups and individuals have stepped forward to speak out against the site across from the post office chosen by a seven-member study committee as the best place to build a transit facility.

The site was opposed by the predominantly black Ministers Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity. A group of ministers representing the organization were present at the Board of Aldermen meeting on the 27th.

The Rev. Serenus T. Churn Jr. of Mt. Zion Baptist said, "We were here to show our support for the small merchants who would have been driven out of business by the decisions of the city."

A letter from the local Historical Properties Commission was sent to the Aldermen

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