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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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## Black leaders in total support of bonds

### Corpening appoints committee to promote bond issue

By MARDELL GRIFFIN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The city's \$98.7 million bond package is set for voters in November, and, except for a handful of disgruntled citizens at a public bond hearing last week, everyone appears to be delighted.

It seems eerie, almost like talking to the Stepford wives, to have everyone contacted singing the praises of what has now become a joint venture by Winston-Salem and Forsyth County officials seeking public approval of bonds to the tune of nearly \$100 million.

But even those people -- like former County Commissioner Mazie S. Woodruff -- known to be outspoken about issues in local government with which they disagree, and people -- like the almost-always quiet North Ward Alderman Patrick Hairston -- known to be underspoken, are all speaking in unison in favor of the bonds.

The only note of discord was struck by Mayor Wayne Corpening. He absolutely refused to divulge who is raising money and who is contributing money

to fund a city/county committee that will make a concerted effort to get the bonds passed.

Appearing before members of the local media last week at a City Hall press conference to announce

that the city's \$55 million in bonds and the county's \$43.7 million in bonds were being combined as one package by a committee organized to gain public support for the measures, Corpening said "corporate friends" would be asked to donate needed operating

funds.

No public money would be used to pay for promotions on radio, television and "every way you can take" to get the word out about the bonds, he added.

"I hope we have enough friends to put up the money to put this thing over," Corpening said of funding for the media blitz the group is planning in order to publicize the bonds. "... It's a beg, borrow and steal proposition."

He said he would be spearheading the fund-raising effort.

Tuesday, when reached at his office and asked whether any money had been raised, Corpening said, "No, but we'll get it."

When asked what companies he had approached for donations, Corpening said he was not actually soliciting the funds himself, but, instead, "It's up to me to get people to raise the money."

Then when asked what businesses his fund raisers would contact, he said, "I don't think you need

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### Mayor refuses to reveal funding sources

By MARDELL GRIFFIN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Mayor Wayne Corpening has refused to disclose who is soliciting funds and who is being asked to donate funds to support a committee that is being formed to seek support for the bond referendum slated for public vote Nov. 3.

When asked who was doing the fund-raising,

Corpening said, "I don't think you need to know that."

But according to an attorney for the North Carolina Press Association, Corpening's group probably falls under laws that require public disclosure of their records, including funding records.

Corpening and Forsyth County Commission Chairman Dr. James N. Zigar announced

formation of the "Citizens Committee to Shape Our Future" during a press conference last Thursday at City Hall. The city and county governments are working together to get a total of \$98.7 million (\$55 million city and \$43.7 county) worth of bonds passed in the November referendum.

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## Hunt charged with first-degree murder

Supporters angry with Sparrow

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Members of the Darryl Hunt Defense Committee and some local African-American leaders say that the district attorney's intent to try Hunt on first-degree murder charges is not the fairness that he promised before he was elected.

District Attorney W. Warren Sparrow said Monday that his office will proceed with prosecuting Hunt for first-degree murder.

Hunt's trial for the murder of 57-year-old Arthur Lee Wilson is scheduled to begin Monday, Sept. 21.

Wilson was found robbed and beaten to death in 1983. Hunt is one of three men charged in the murder. The other two, Sammy Lee Mitchell and Merritt W. Drayton, were convicted last year of second-degree murder.

"I think that the (African-American) community by giving Sparrow the majority of its vote made the statement to the community and to Sparrow that we were looking for fairness in that office," said Defense Committee member Khalid Fatah Griggs.

The Defense Committee members say that since both Mitchell and Drayton were convicted on second-degree murder

charges involving the same crime, it is not fair to try Hunt for first-degree murder.

"The man (Sparrow) has a responsibility to try the case, but he also has the responsibility to be fair," said former North Ward Alderman Larry D. Little. Little is founder of the Defense Committee.

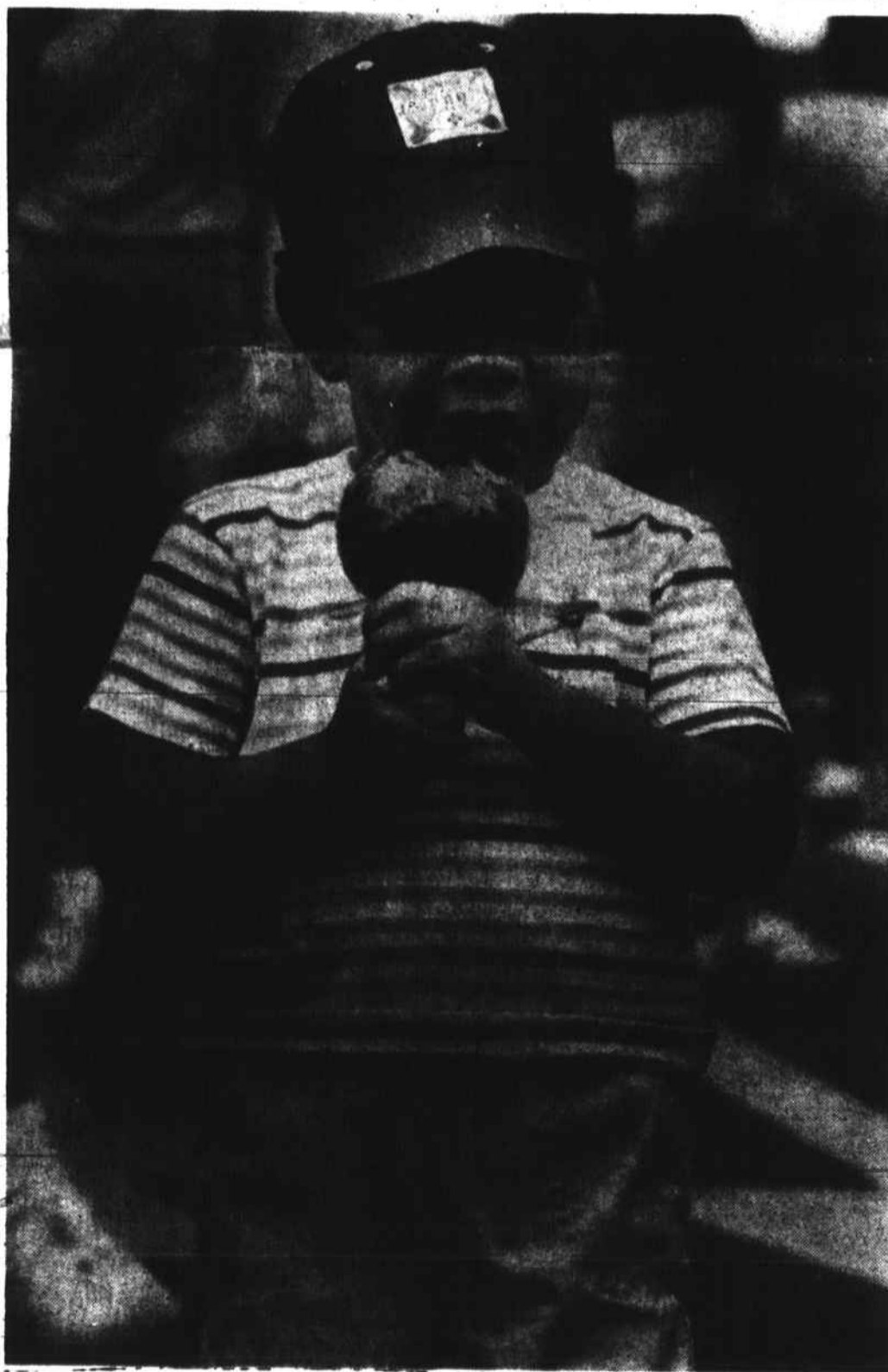
"I don't believe he (Hunt) is involved at all," he said. "But if you take the state's evidence as true -- that information tends to say that Hunt is minimally involved. If Mitchell was the principal in the murder, why is Sparrow pushing for first-degree murder for Darryl Hunt?"

At Mitchell's second trial in October, a witness, Barbara Jean Bason, testified that she saw Mitchell hit Wilson in the head with a stick while Drayton and Hunt kicked him.

But witnesses for the defense testified that they saw three African-American males attacking Wilson on Sept. 17, 1983. They said that they could recognize one of the males but that he was neither Hunt, Mitchell nor Drayton.

Little says trying Hunt under first-degree murder is a tactic that Sparrow is using to get a conviction-prone jury and one that does not include African-Americans. Sparrow, he said, is

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### An Apple A Day ...

Little George O'Neal Jr., 2, stops for a bite of his candy apple before continuing his stroll through Streetscene last Saturday in downtown Winston-Salem (photo by Mike Cunningham).

## Coalition kicks off drive against Bork's court confirmation

By MIKE GLOVER  
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa -- On the eve of congressional hearings on the nomination of Robert Bork to the Supreme Court, a coalition of 17 women's and labor groups announced plans to fight the "harsh and frightening" appointment.

"This campaign is a referendum on the status of individual rights in America," said Criss Farley of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union. "The Bork nomination is an affront to the Constitution."

Leaders of the groups said they would organize members to lobby Sens. Charles Grassley and Tom Harkin to oppose the Bork nomination.

They said opposition to Bork's nomination "is very broad-based" in Iowa, and a host of groups will be fighting against the controversial federal appeals court judge.

"This is probably just a peek" at the opposition, said Betty Baird of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus.

The groups announced their effort at a Statehouse news conference. Opponents ranged from the Iowa Federation of Labor to Planned Parenthood of Mid-Iowa to the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys.

"It is too important to leave the issue to politics as usual," said Patricia Hulting, of the Women Attorneys.

Leaders of the groups argued that Bork is "outside the mainstream of American political thought" and said administration officials are misleading the public by portraying him as a moderate.

"He is not a conservative," said Ms. Farley. "He is a radical. His philosophy, if it prevails, would dramatically reduce the role of the Supreme Court in protecting individual liberty and would seriously undermine the force of the bill of rights and the liberties it protects."

The Bork nomination has become one of the major political struggles of the year, and congressional hearings on the issue open this week. Most observers see the outcome in the Senate hanging on a large number of uncommitted senators, and leaders of the groups at the news conference said they would pressure both Grassley and Harkin to oppose the nomination.

Grassley, a member of the Judiciary Committee, has praised Bork's "strict constructionist" view of the Constitution and as an expert in judicial restraint.

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## Trollinger gets award

By MARDELL GRIFFIN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Contract Office Furnishings Co., on the corner of University Parkway and 14th Street, has been named Distributor/Supplier of the Year for the Raleigh/Durham/Triad area by the Raleigh/Durham/Triad

Minority Business Development Center and the Atlanta Regional Office of the Minority Business Development

Trollinger

Agency. Thomas P. Trollinger is owner of Contract Office

Furnishings.

Trollinger was surprised to learn that he had won the honor when contacted at his office about the award. "We're elated," he said after having a chance to spread the word around his office. "I think it is something special to receive. There are a lot of excellent minority companies involved."

Cynthia Clemmon, with the Triad Business Assistance Center, said Trollinger was nominated for the award by the local office. Some of the criteria considered in selecting a winner are: length of time in business; stability; how well the business compares to other similar minority businesses and

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Mitchell

## First black named to head ESC

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

When Curtis V. Mitchell took over managing Winston-Salem's Employment Security Commission, he became its first African-American office manager.

But this is only one first for Mitchell. He became the first African-American office manager in the state in 1975 when he took over the ESC office in Albemarle.

Mitchell, a Yanceyville native, assumed his new position in Winston-Salem on Aug. 10. He replaces the office's former head, Grover Teeter.

"I'm enjoying myself," Mitchell said about his new job.

Mitchell said that his duties

include planning, coordinating, developing and training staff. The office serves four counties, Forsyth, Stokes, Yadkin and Davie, he said.

He said that he plans to make the Winston-Salem office the most productive and best in the state.

Mitchell, 40, has been with North Carolina's Employment Security Commission for about 12 years.

He is a 1969 graduate of North Carolina Central University in Durham, where he received his undergraduate degree in geography and general science.

After college he served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1971.

He began his career with the Employment Security Commission soon after his stint in the army.

"When I got out of service I went to the ESC seeking employment," Mitchell said in a telephone interview. "They happened to have a temporary position open in their Roxboro office."

Mitchell said that he worked in the temporary position until he was given a permanent assignment in New Bern as an employment interviewer. He worked in the New Bern office from 1971 to 1975.

While at the New Bern office, Mitchell began his climb up the career ladder. He was promoted to supervisor in the New Bern office and then to area coordinator for WIN, a work incentive program for

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