

High Steppin'
Winston teams prepare for Double Dutch nationals
PAGE C1



Home Sweet Home
United Way's Employee of Year helps people to find homes
PAGE B1

JOIN OPRAH WINFREY HERE FOR THE NATIONAL DOUBLE DUTCH TOURNEY JUNE 23

Winston-Salem Chronicle

50 cents • 34 Pages This Week "The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly" Thursday, May 24, 1990 • VOL. XVI, No. 39

New homeowners: We've been had City says it is not at fault

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

A couple who recently moved into their first real home said the man who built it is not a licensed general contractor, constructed a defective dwelling and owes them money.

Robbin and Surachart Campbell live in what appears to be a beautiful home at 1504 Pittsburg Court. They bought the three bedroom, one story ranch house through the city's Homeowners Second Mortgage Assistance Program. Sponsored by the Twin City Development Corporation in cooperation with the City of Winston-Salem, the purpose of the program is to assist in the purchase of new housing units by low to moderate income households.

Once they were found to be eligible for the program, the Campbell's were supplied with a list of general contractors and developers to oversee the building of their dream house. Despite the city's recommendation that the Campbell's make queries to two or three people on the

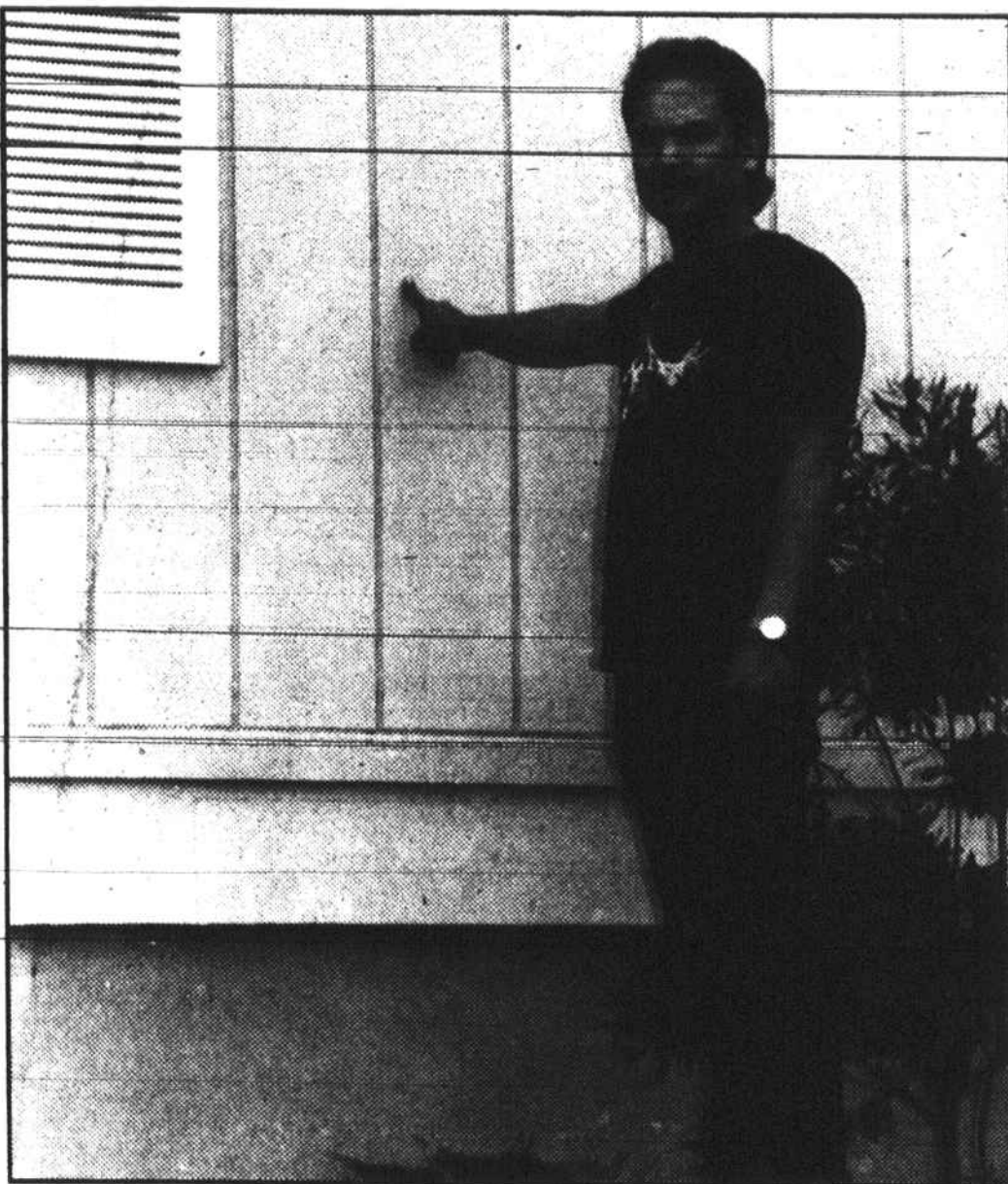
list before making a final decision, in March 1989 they selected Oak Leaf Corporation Inc., and its owner Leon Witherspoon to build their home.

"We saw three homes he had built over in East Winston and they are gorgeous," said Mrs. Campbell. "We talked to him and the people whose houses he had built and he was in very high regard as far as we knew."

The Campbell's wondered why an Astro Construction Company Inc. sign was in front of their home during construction when that was not the name of Mr. Witherspoon's company. Soon afterwards, Mr. Witherspoon told the Campbell's they couldn't have the blue master bathroom fixtures they requested because he couldn't find them. After they accepted this and the bathroom had been completed, the Campbell's found the requested items in a local hardware store.

Mr. Witherspoon charged the Campbell's to hang wallpaper they bought, and two storm doors when

Please see page A11



"We were not treated fairly by the city or Mr. Witherspoon and we want justice."

-- Surachart Campbell

Embezzlement charges prompt cries of racism against local Red Cross

By RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

A former assistant chapter manager of the Winston-Salem Red Cross charged Monday with embezzlement of chapter funds claimed the charge is an attempt to camouflage rampant discrimination and harassment against Afro-Americans working there.

Mrs. Jean Carolyn Cook, of 1260 Springwood Circle, has been charged with embezzling more than \$18,000 from the local chapter from January 1986 through December 1989.

Mrs. Cook has admitted that errors may have been made involving credit union deductions from her paycheck. "I take responsibility for not catching the error. I even offered to pay the money back. The error, if it was my error, occurred because of my general emotional state at the time," she said. The money was suppose to have been taken out by the company that did the Red Cross payroll she said. That company is Automatic Data Processing (ADP). But she denied any wrong doing involving misuse of chapter credit cards and cash advances.

Mrs. Cook was employed with

the local Red Cross chapter from Oct. 10, 1983 to Jan. 8, 1990. She said although her title was listed as assistant chapter manager she actually held six other titles and had to work in



Jean Cook

each separate function as : Director of Administration; Director of Finances; Director of Personnel; Employee Benefits Coordinator; Supervisor of Volunteer Services; and Supervisor of the Emergency Services unit.

Mrs. Cook said she was informed while still in the hospital recovering from back surgery that she had been

Please see page A7

Planned populist meeting rattles black community

By RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

The scheduled meeting this weekend in Winston-Salem of an organization advocating white rights and white self-determination has sent shockwaves through certain segments of the community.

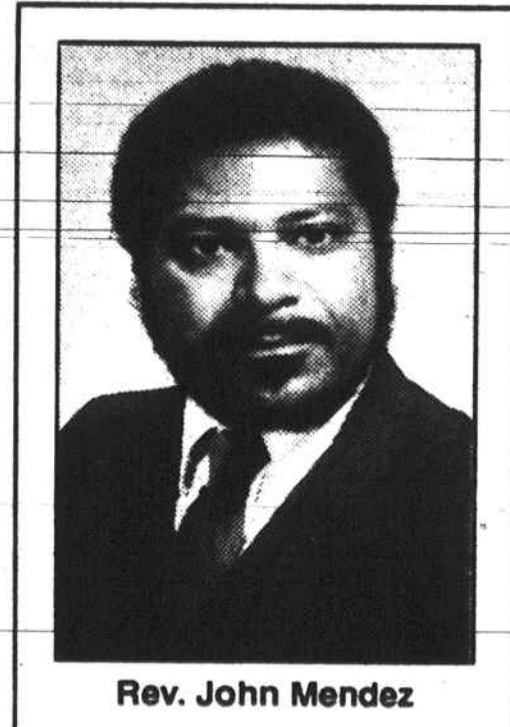
The Populist Party's National Committee has reserved space for their meeting at the Ramada Inn at 420 High Street in downtown Winston-Salem May 25-27. Various groups who watchdog the party's activities have said the Populist Party is made up of former Klansmen, neo-nazis, and members of the anti-semitic Posse Comitatus.

The committee has invited as

guest speakers for the conference John Tyndall, head of the British National Party, and Kirk Lyons, a Houston attorney representing the Patriot's Defense Foundation which defends nationalists across the country in court.

Jeff Jones, manager at the Ramada, confirmed in an interview Tuesday that the party's National Committee was scheduled to meet. But he said, "in researching the group there was no evidence uncovered to lead us (Ramada management) to believe that any incident whatsoever would occur."

That may be. But for those who say they have monitored the activities of the Party and those invited to



Rev. John Mendez

speak, nothing could be further from the truth.

An organization called the Center for Democratic Renewal based in Atlanta wrote in a news release that it

Please see page A9

Lowes anchors E. Winston center

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

to follow suit.

After nearly four months of courting, developer Herman L. Turner consummated a deal Tuesday with Lowes Food Stores to build a \$1.5 million grocery store in the New Walkertown Market Center in East Winston.

Located off New Walkertown Road between Dellabrook and Gerald Street, the neighborhood shopping center has been in the planning stages since 1988. Phase one of the project - the erection of an ABC store is near completion and land preparation work is beginning for the second phase, said Mr. Turner, the CEO of TDS, Turner Development Services.

Mr. Turner began his search for an anchor tenant to locate in the shopping center almost a year ago. An anchor tenant is usually a grocery store or large retail facility which, when signed, motivates other businesses

In early February, Mayor Martha S. Wood convened a luncheon at the Piedmont Club to give Mr. Turner an opportunity to present his plan to Lowes. Among those attending the luncheon were Dennis G. Hatchell, president of Lowes Foods Stores; East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell, Isaiah Tidwell, city executive with Wachovia

Bank & Trust Co.; James R. Grace, executive director of the East Winston Community Development Corporation; Rod Hatcher of Carolina Commercial Brokers, the leasing agent that procured Lowes for Mr. Turner; and Tom Hay, real estate director of MDI, Merchants Distributors Inc. - Lowes' parent company.

Representing New Walkertown Market Associates, the ownership corporation for the shopping center, Mr.

Please see page A7

U.S. Senate Race Analysis

Gantt-Easley run-off: Questions to answer

By MILTON C. JORDAN
Chronicle Legislative Correspondent

RALEIGH -- Scores of questions loom large in the June 5 Democratic primary runoff U.S. Senate race between Harvey Gantt and Michael Easley.

From a strictly political perspective, the questions are:

• Which of these two Democrats has the best chance to beat Jesse Helms in November?

• Which of these two Democrats offer the broadest and longest coattails in November for other Democratic candidates on the party's ticket? This question is especially sensitive for the state's Democratic Superior, and Appeals Courts judges and State Supreme court justices.

Republican opposition in judicial races are expected to argue that incumbent Democratic judges are soft on crime.

These and other questions either define the campaign or muddy the waters, depending upon whose analysis you believe.

Some of the other questions asked:

• Can the North Carolina Democratic party heal its internal schisms quickly enough to back the more qualified of the two candidates?

• Can the party machines slow down enough to promote party unity over self-interest?

While some answers will be clear after the votes are counted on June 5, other issues will be lost in the largest of all questions in this campaign.

That question, of course, is race.

Simply stated, can Mr. Gantt, an Afro-American, conquer the fears and prejudices that seem to still rule much of North Carolina's politics and voting?

Please see page A9

Winston-Salem Chronicle NewsUpdate

Mandela to visit seven U.S. cities
WASHINGTON - Nelson Mandela will spend 10 days in the U.S. starting June 20. He is scheduled to meet with President Bush and take part in a ticker tape parade in New York City.

More state and national news
Please see page A3

INSIDE

BusinessA6
ClassifiedC7-C9
Community News.....B1
EditorialsA4, A5
EntertainmentA10
ReligionB6
Sports.....C1

SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE . . . 722-8624

Budget includes development funds

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Despite rumors that a trimmer budget for fiscal year 1990-91 would mean no money for catalytic projects designed to spur economic development in East Winston, the city manager presented a proposed plan that includes a quarter of a million dollars for the blighted area.

Bryce A. Stuart's proposed budget also includes a 7 cent property tax increase, from 53 cents per \$100 of assessed value to 60 cents.

That means a person who owns a \$94,500 home who pays \$500 in city taxes will pay \$567 in 1991.

In presenting the budget to the city Board of Aldermen Monday night, Mr. Stuart noted that the property tax increase in the general fund is to help current revenues keep pace with expenditures and enable the city to reduce its reliance on reserves to meet operating costs.

The near \$213 million budget includes

Please see page A8

Shortfall forces hard choices

By JOCELYN DANIELS
Chronicle Legislative Correspondent

RALEIGH -- As they returned here for the so called "short session" Monday, state legislators faced a deficit of almost \$500 million. Other issues on the table included gubernatorial veto, prison expansion, improving public education, protecting the environment and a North Carolina lottery.

Initially, it seems that state legislators and the Gov. Jim Martin administration might spend some time simply agreeing to disagree.

Everyone appeared braced for battle. Gov. Martin and his administration, with Lt. Gov. Jim

Please see page A8



Logan Burke