

**NLC**

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American members.

Besse is one of 40 NLC Board members – not including the Board's president, first vice president and second vice president. The Board, which is made up of elected officials from cities and towns throughout the nation, also includes High Point City Council Member Bernita Sims.

Besse previously served

as the chair of the NLC's Large Cities Council, which comprises representatives of cities with populations of 200,000 or more, or the largest city in a state.

The National League of Cities serves as a resource to and an advocate for the more than 19,000 cities, villages and towns it represents. The organization is devoted to strengthening and promoting cities as centers of opportunity, leadership and governance.

**ESR**

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ferred a major financial setback due to unforeseen circumstances as well as clients who are caught in the cycle of generational poverty and chronic homelessness.

The agency's target population is the working poor, and its mission is to help them move toward self-reliance. As part of that mission, ESR, which is head-

quartered on 1550 University Court, will dedicate Fifth Street Apartments II on Thursday, Jan. 26 at 10 a.m. The apartments are adjacent to the agency.

This project is a collaborative partnership between ESR and the NC Housing Foundation. The eight new low-income rental apartments will house veterans, those with physical disabilities and the chronically homeless.



A picture taken in a Rolling Hills stairwell in 2009 shows some of the structure's wear and tear.

**Sale**

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Hambrick, who is considered the mother of the Rolling Hills community, said PK Management has made no effort to interact with the residents or explain its plans for the community. The letter, which residents say were tossed on the ground near their doorsteps, has been the only the communication from the company.



Meranda White and her children Jaila, 5 and Brycen, 3.

"From the 28th of December until now is ample time to introduce yourself to the neighborhood and let them know what your plans are," declared Hambrick, 59. "We're still in limbo, wondering what, when and how is going to happen to us."

Meranda White, a mother of three, moved into the complex in August and says she feels uncertain of her future. Some rumors are swirling that the complex may not remain a low income establishment under the new management.

In a City of Winston-Salem media release, Woods says that PK Management "has access to capital market resources that can be used to make significant improvements to the property," but whether or not the company plans to invest its dollars in Rolling Hills is still a mystery.



Flowers

"There's been no communication whatsoever; we didn't know anything (about the pending sale)," declared White. "It makes you wonder what's really going on, and how we're going to get treated, and if we're going to have someplace to live at all."

Teresa Blanco, the regional manager for PK Management, declined to comment then abruptly ended a telephone conversation on Monday, when The Chronicle inquired about what plans, if any, the company has for the complex.

Rolling Hills faced a variety of challenges under HAWS management. Residents have publicly complained about everything from infestations of bedbugs, roaches and vermin to the ragtag physical condi-

tions of the complex. Resident Telliah Flowers said she is hopeful the company will make some improvements to the property.

"If they're going to keep us down here, they need to at least do some work with the apartments," said the mother of two. "Either they need to move us out of here or they need to get out here and start doing some work to make these apartments livable for these families."

City native Phillip Carter, who has advocated for Rolling Hills residents on several occasions, said last week that he believed the sale could be a fresh start for Rolling Hills.

"I think it could be a good thing, but the only way it could be a good thing is if the owner and the residents understand that it has to be a partnership," Carter stated. "We believe in good faith that they (PK Management) are coming and they're going to work with the residents and the residents are going to work with them and this is going to be one of the most premiere complexes in Winston-Salem."

Hambrick, who has lived in Rolling Hills for more than seven years, is not as optimistic. She says she is offended by the company's lack of communication with its tenants, and concerned about what may lie ahead for her community.

"I'm very upset," said the great-grandmother. "I'm a human being, and I feel like I have the right to know what's going on."

**A GOOD SIGMA BROTHER**



Submitted Photo

Delta Sigma Chapter President Reginald D. McCaskill, left, presents the chapter's 2011 Sigma Man of the Year Award to Brother Willie Conner. The award was among several handed out Saturday during a Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Founders Day event at Winston-Salem State University. Conner is the chapter's financial secretary, and the fraternity's North Carolina social action director. More information about Founders Day activities will be featured in the Jan. 19 edition of The Chronicle.

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