

Weaverville Insurance Agent Convicted

By ROBERT KOENIG

Weaverville insurance agent Brenda Wright was convicted on two misdemeanor counts of obtaining property by false pretense in Buncombe County Superior Court on August 25. Mrs. Wright, an agent with Wright Associates of Weaverville, voluntarily surrendered her license to sell insurance on the same day she was convicted on the misdemeanor charges.

This week, Weaverville residents received a letter signed by both Brenda Wright and her husband, Jerry W. Wright, informing them that the Wright Associates insurance business has been sold to an Asheville company, Insurance Resources of North Carolina, Inc..

The letter to former customers does not mention Mrs. Wright's conviction. Wright Associates is owned by Jerry W. Wright. The letter to former customers said Wright Associates would continue to operate as a real estate agency.

In a Tuesday afternoon interview in her North Main Street office, Brenda Wright said the sale of the insurance business was part of a plea bargain agreement with prosecutors. Later on Tuesday in a telephone interview, Mrs. Wright's attorney, Ron Payne of Asheville, denied that sale of the business was part of a negotiated settlement. Payne said that Mrs. Wright is not an owner of the Wright Associates.

Contacted by telephone on Tuesday afternoon, Chris Thornberg, president of Insurance Resources, said he was not aware of Brenda Wright's Aug. 25 conviction.

Thornberg said Insurance Resources of North Carolina, Inc. agreed to purchase the Wright Associates insurance business on a retention basis. Insurance Resources purchased the policies of former Wright Associates customers as part of the sale agreement. The sellers of the Wright Agency will be paid based on the number of former clients that renew policies through Insurance Resources, Thornberg said.

Court records show that Brenda Wright was convicted on two misdemeanor counts of obtaining property through false pretense. She received a suspended one-year prison sentence, a \$5,000 fine and was ordered to serve one year on supervised probation.

Max Powell, a spokesman for the North Carolina Dept. of Insurance said that Brenda Wright may reapply for a license to sell insurance in five years.

The letter issued by Brenda and Jerry Wright states that Insurance Resources was to begin operations in Weaverville on Sept. 26. Thornberg said, "We are in the first stage of getting equipment and setting up the temporary office." For now, the new agency will operate in a trailer located adjacent to the Wright Associates office on North Main Street.

Thornberg said his company will renew policies of former Wright Associates customers and that current policy holders remain covered on all policies sold by agents of Wright Associates. "We're not assuming the liabilities of the Wright Agency," Thornberg said. "We'll be providing service to their former clients."

Weaverville residents with questions regarding policies purchased through Wright Associates can contact Insurance Resources's Asheville offices at 274-3886. Madison County customers can call toll-free at 1-800-222-4228 for more information regarding their policies.

Construction Begins For New Weaverville Shopping Center

Weaverville's mayor and town councilmen were on hand at groundbreaking ceremonies Monday for the new Weaverville Shopping Center at the junction of U.S. 25-70 and 19-23.

Construction for the first phase calls for a 175,000 sq. ft. shopping center, with parking for 750 cars, over 17 acres of property. Another 15 acres are contemplated to be used for a phase 2 plan for a hotel and 48-unit apartment complex, if feasible.

The initial shopping center will include a Roses' department store, according to general contractor Larry Buckner, plus a national chain grocery store, two banks, and leasing space for 12 other commercial businesses.

"Speaking for the town of Weaverville, we are pleased to have this project coming to our community," said Mayor Reese Lasher during the groundbreaking ceremonies. "This will be a green light to progress in Weaverville."

"The town of Weaverville wishes to add its appreciation to the developers for using local people in the planning, design, and construction of this complex," Lasher continued. "This will add over 100 jobs to the community and, in addition, provide opportunities for many years to come."

According to Buckner, grading of the site begins immediately with actual construction scheduled to start in January. A major portion of the shopping center is due to be completed by late summer or early fall of next year.

GROUNDBREAKING took place on Monday for the new Weaverville Shopping Center at the junction of U.S. 25-70 and 19-23. Weaverville Mayor Reese Lasher did the official honors as developers and city aldermen looked on. The shopping center is scheduled for completion by early fall 1987.

Walnut School Open House Set

Walnut Elementary School will host an open house on Oct. 7 from 7 until 9 p.m. Principal Sidney Harrison invites all parents, teachers and friends of the school to attend.



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Sunday	Genesis	28:10-22
Monday	Exodus	3:1-17
Tuesday	Exodus	13:17-22
Wednesday	Deuteronomy	32:1-12
Thursday	Psalms	119:105-112
Friday	Proverbs	3:1-8
Saturday	John	8:12-18

Sounds and Sights of Fall

Ah, the SOUNDS OF FALL: school bells tolling; leather smacking leather on football fields; children verbally playing in fallen leaves, screaming to catch them as they flutter to Mother Earth.

And the SIGHTS OF FALL: vacations ending; routines resuming, and feelings of nostalgia fighting with feelings of anticipation as the days God has made become clothed in his coats of many colors.

Fall is God's message that he is actively at work in his universe; that change is not all that is permanent, but rather he is creatively at work in us: changing, moving, pulsating, and gearing us toward that maturity of wisdom he promises to those who seek him and will allow

him control.

The coming of Fall is not merely a sign that winter is not far behind, but that God is painting universal, multi-colored pictures of his purpose. And he wants to include us.

"Try me," he says, "and see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." (Malachi 3:10b)

As God paints the trees, even so will he paint his purpose in our hearts, making us as beautiful as all nature around us.

Fall is a good time to seek him in his house of worship; and, be picked-up by him there.

If you wish to help sponsor this page or would like to have your church's news included, contact us by mail or phone.

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