

Trump's V.P. Pick?



Fayetteville Bound

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THE CHRONICLE

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NBTF Hall of Fame moving closer?

A building the Arts Council will purchase could be the future home of the venue and museum

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth County Board of Commissioners approved funding for SciWorks' move downtown and the Arts Council purchasing a building that could potentially be a future home for New Winston Museum and the National Black Theatre Festival Hall of Fame.

Building a new home for the combined SciWorks and Children's Museum on the site of the old Sheriff's Office was among the bond issues the County Commissioners considered. Instead of putting it



Photos by Todd Luck
This building on Spruce Street could be the future home of the New Winston Museum and National Black Theatre Festival Hall of Fame.

on the ballot, they decided to fund it another way. During its Monday, June 27, meeting, the commissioners voted 5-2 to approve a capital project ordinance dedicating \$17.3 million to the project, with County Commissioners Walter Marshall and Richard Linville voting against it.

The money largely will come from the sale of surplus county land. Linville thought the amount was too much and opposed the sale of land. Marshall also opposed the sale of county land because the county might need to use it later.

SciWorks Director Paul Kortenaar said he expects it to take 18 months for planning and another 30 for construction and moving in to the new combined museum.

"We'll move forward with appropriate haste to build the new museum," he said.

Kortenaar said that \$17.3 million will cover the construction but another \$3 million will be needed for infrastructure costs later in the project. The museums will be

See NBTF on A2

END OF AN ERA

Ebony and Jet now in hands of a little known firm

BY ERICK JOHNSON
CHICAGO CRUSADER NNPA

Sitting next to a lake at Oak Woods Cemetery in Woodlawn is a stunning million-dollar marble crypt that contains the remains of John H. Johnson, the founder of his namesake publishing empire that produces Ebony and Jet magazines.

It's been 11 years since America's first media mogul moved into his final resting place. On the well-manicured lawns of Oak Woods, some of Johnson's neighbors are Olympic great Jesse Owens, Chicago's first black Mayor Harold Washington and other famous blacks who ascended to the pinnacles of sports, politics and business.

For Johnson, his fame and fortune would come from the media industry.

With little money, he would become a household name from an iconic magazine that would make him a millionaire many, many times over. When he planted his 11-story headquarters on the city's tony Michigan Avenue in 1972, Johnson established himself as a fearless Black entrepreneur who crashed one of corporate America's most famous streets. He found a way to build the first black-owned skyscraper in Chicago after a white owner wouldn't sell him the land underneath.

Etched in gold leaf above the ornate doors of Johnson's crypt is a quote that gives visitors a glimpse of a man who achieved wealth and prestige during a period where

there were few opportunities for blacks: "Failure is a word I don't accept."

A decade after Johnson's death, the empire that for 71 years sat on millions of coffee tables with colorful, inspiring stories about black life and culture is a shell of itself. Once a powerful symbol of black pride and minority ownership, both Ebony and Jet are now owned by Clear View Group, a little-known investment firm in Austin, Texas. For a company that refined the Black Press, many believe the sale is a sad ending that was years in the making. No longer family-owned, many believed Ebony would never be the same.

The word came on June 14 when Johnson Publishing CEO Desiree

INSANE 2015 FALL FASHION



purchase was finalized at the end of May.

"For Johnson, his fame and fortune would come from the media industry."

Rogers confirmed that the

Rogers said Johnson

See Ebony on A2

Rejected Whole Man Ministries continues to raise funds

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Whole Man Ministries is continuing its efforts to expand its program to house homeless veterans after being denied a grant request in this year's city budget.

Whole Man Ministries, a church located on Lexington Avenue, made a request for a city grant of \$25,000 for its



Photo by Todd Luck
Gerald Green and Whole Man Pastor Barry Washington are working to house homeless veterans.

Homes 4 Our Heroes veterans' efforts. The requested funds were \$15,000 for a part-time housing placement coordinator and \$10,000 for utility and rental assistance to veterans.

Currently Gerald Green is acting as housing coordinator on a volunteer basis. He finds veterans in shelters or substandard housing and works to get them vouchers from Veterans Affairs to get them into permanent housing. The funds would've made his position a paid one and allowed the program to give additional assistance to those it places.

See Whole Man on A2

ECSU reinstated as 'discount' UNC school

BY CASH MICHAELS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

When the state Senate originally proposed several weeks ago to designate struggling Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) as one of three historically black UNC campus schools to introduce a \$500 per semester proposal for in-state students in order to boost enrollment, many critics suspect-

ed closing ECSU to be the true motive of the bill.

There were concerns that the tuition discount would hit the schools hard, and even though they were promised at least \$70 million in the upcoming budget to make up the difference, there were no guarantees in the years to come. Plus, critics alleged, the cheapened tuition could tarnish the image and reputation of the UNC schools involved.

Protests rang up from black lawmakers, the N.C. NAACP, students, alums and supporters of ECSU, in addition to Winston-State University and Fayetteville State University (the other two UNC System schools involved), forcing Sen. Tom Apodaca (R- Hendersonville) to withdraw his bill, complaining that his intentions had been misunderstood, and he only wanted help the three

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