

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Ground was broken on the Winston Lake Aquatic Park on Friday, July 22, which the city is hoping to make into a major water attraction.

Winston Lake Park, which is located near the corner of New Walkertown and Waterworks roads, is a park with its own lake that's currently used for

fishing. From 1963 to 1992 it also had a pool, which is no longer there. The aquatic park will turn it into a water park complete with a pool, slide and lazy river. The \$5 million construction project, which is expected to be completed next year, is part of the voter-approved 2014 bond. City council members repeatedly referred to the park as a hidden gem that would now get the atten-



tion it deserved. "What we are doing here today is something



that will allow people for generations to come to enjoy the greatness that is Winston Lake Park," said Council Member City Derwin Montgomery, who represents the East Ward, which contains the park.

This was music to the ears of Marva Reid, president of the East Winston Neighborhood Association. For many years the East Ward has lacked a public swimming pool, something that Reid had been advocating to change. She plans to be among the swimmers

who come out to enjoy the pool when it's completed next year.

"I'm so excited for the children in the neighborhood because they get to benefit from this," said Reid.

The aquatic park will have a variety of attractions:

*A pool that will be 82 feet long by 45 feet wide and range in depth from 3.5

See Park on A8



More than 100 people protesting Donald Trump gather outside the entrance of the LJVM Coliseum on Monday, July 25.



N.C. NAACP to bring fight for Smith, Sharpe here

BY CASH MICHAELS FOR THE CHRONICLE

The N.C. NAACP is once again joining with the movements to free Kalvin Michael Smith and Dontae Sharpe - two black men supporters say were falsely accused, convicted and imprisoned for crimes they did not commit - in "major statewide actions" to demand that Gov. Pat McCrory and State Attorney General Roy Cooper "compel justice and hasten the Department of Justice" to release them.

"It is immoral to forget the pain of those behind bars so easily - though they may be separated from us by concrete walls and the label of criminal, they are our brothers and sisters, and they are God's children," Rev. Dr. William Barber, president of the N.C. NAACP, said in the statement

Kalvin Smith is serving up to 29 years in prison, charged with the December

N.C. NAACP Events

Anti-Trump rally takes protest to the streets

BY TEVIN STINSON THE CHRONICLE

More than 100 people marched in the blazing heat Monday evening in protest of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, who made a campaign stop in the city

The peaceful protest that was scheduled to be held in the 2800 block of Shorefair Drive started out slow, with

only a handful of protesters. But that quickly changed when protesters decided the parking lot of the Senior Services Building wasn't a prime location for the anti-Trump rally, and decided to take to the streets surrounding the Fairground Annex, Trumps first official stop following the Republican National Convention.

As they marched on University Parkway, the line of protesters and number of signs discrediting Trump seemed

See Rally on A2

N.C. Republicans rally with Trump in

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Carolina North Republicans flocked to presidential nominee Donald Trump and his running mate, Gov. Mike Pence, as they appeared on Monday, July 25, at the

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Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Annex, which seats 4,000 people.

Thousands attended the where many rally, Republicans running for office spoke, just days after Trump became the party's official nominee at last week's GOP convention. Most notable among the speakers were Sen. Richard Burr and Gov. Pat McCrory, who had not appeared at Trump's numerous recent visits to North Carolina.

Trump opened by saying that he felt Sen. Bernie Sanders, who lost the race for the Democratic presidential nomination, had given up by endorsing Hillary Clinton. Sanders made a speech at the Democratic National Convention on Monday night urging support for



Clinton, after he'd gotten numerous concessions in the platform, such as free college tuition for families earning \$125,000 or less and a public healthcare option.

Trump said he shared Sanders' stance on trade, in opposing deals like the Trans-Pacific Partnership,

which Clinton now oppos-es, too. He said the Vermont Senator's supporters will now vote for him because this was Sander's main issue. During the primary, Democrats criticized Sanders for being too focused on issues of wealth inequality and getting big money out of politics, which he talked about far

more than trade. Trump said that the United States shouldn't take refugees from the civil war in Syria, where the U.S. and its allies are cur-ISIS. rently fighting Instead, he'd build a safe zone in war-torn Syria and make Middle Eastern countries pay for it.

See Trump on A2

1995 brutal assault in Winston-Salem of an assistant store manager, even though there was no physical evidence connecting him with the crime.

Witnesses placed Smith on the other side of town at the time, and subsequent investigations, including by a retired FBI agent, note that the Winston-Salem Police Department's original investigation was shoddy at

Cooper, however, has refused to join with Smith's attorneys to ask for a new trial.

Cooper and McCrory are running for governor of North Carolina this year; Cooper as a Democrat and McCrory as a Republican.

Dontae Sharpe has been serving a life sentence since 1994 for a murder during a drug buy in Greenville. Sharpe was reportedly offered a plea deal by the Pitt County District Attorney for time served, but turned it down, saying that he could not accept it for a crime that he did not commit.

The Duke University Wrongful Convictions Clinic is working on Sharpe's case.

In a recently released statement, the N.C. NAACP and the N.C. NAACP's Youth and College Division designated Saturday, July 30 and Sunday, July 31 as not only special days of advocacy for Sharpe and Smith in Greenville and Winston-Salem respectively, but also days of tribute to the work and memory of the late Darryl Hunt.

At the age of 19, Hunt was falsely convicted of a 1984 Winston-Salem murder. He served 19 years in prison, even though DNA evidence proved him innocent a decade before he was released. After his release, Hunt worked diligently to help other victims of false prosecutions. Darryl Hunt died last March.

The civil rights organization has previously called for justice in both cases, most recently last March when the N.C. NAACP joined with the families of Smith and Sharpe in calling for the governor and state attorney general to intercede on their behalf.

"We are sending a message in North Carolina to all those running for elected office," Barber said. "People of good will not end our advocacy on behalf of these two

See NAACP on A9



Donate Sharpe and Kalvin Smith, Saturday, July 30, in Greenville, N.C., 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. March begins 10 a.m. at Thomas Foreman Park, 400 Nash St.

*Pilgrimage for Justice For

*A Community Worship Service linked to A Pilgrimage for Justice For Donate Sharpe and Kalvin Smith, Sunday, July 31, at Union Baptist Church, 1200 North Trade St., Winston-Salem, 6 p.m.