

ENTERTAINMENT

Coltrane house to become museum

DIX HILLS, N.Y. (AP) - A house where jazz saxophonist John Coltrane once lived will be saved from demolition and turned into a museum under a plan being considered by local officials.

A developer had purchased the house, where Coltrane composed his classic 1964 album "A Love Supreme," in 2002 and had planned to turn the 3.3-acre property into a subdivision.

But jazz historians and preservationists have been pressing the Huntington Town Council to designate the house a historic landmark - a move that would prevent its demolition and allow it to become a museum. The Council held a hearing on the proposal Tuesday, and sev-



Photo special to Sentinel-Voice

A portrait of John Coltrane, by artist Tim Vahsholtz.

eral local officials told The New York Times for Sunday editions that they favored the plan.

"The house absolutely qualifies for historic design-

ation," Susan Berland, one of Huntington's four town council members, told the Times. "John Coltrane lived there and wrote his best work there."

She said the council would offer to compensate the developer, Ash Agrawal, for the house's "fair market value." Agrawal had no comment on the proposal, the Times said. But at least one neighborhood group, the Ripley Manor Civic Association, fears the museum would bring traffic, loud festivals and other disturbances to an otherwise quiet suburban community.

"So he lived there two and a half years while he did his best work," Ron Kahn, treasurer of the civic association, told the Times. "Should we landmark every house Billy Joel lived in on Long Island?"

Coltrane lived in the house from 1964 until his death in 1967. His family lived there until 1973.

Gunshots interrupt taping of rap video

By Alvin A. Reid

Special to Sentinel-Voice

ST. LOUIS (NNPA) - The sometimes violent world that exists in many rap videos became a reality on Tuesday when gunfire rang out during the taping of a new video starring J-Kwon.

The rapper, whose single "Topsy" was atop last week's Billboard chart, was shooting the video near the parking lot of the Caldwell liquor store. At about 4:30 p.m., a vehicle passed and several shots were fired at a police van parked near Grand Boulevard and Penrose Street.

No one was injured.

The police officers were on the scene for crowd control, and J-Kwon, whose real name is Jerrelle Jones, was

thankful.

"The police; thank you. St. Louis police got down there and controlled the situation real quick," he told FOX2.

"Everybody got security. We made sure there were no kids hurt. We checked everything out before we left the scene."

Police had made no arrests in connections with the gunfire as of press time this week.

The shooting did halt production of the video for more than two hours, but J-Kwon's career has not slowed recently.

"Topsy" is No. 1 and the album Hood Hop has held a spot in the Top 10 for several weeks.

He performed with welterweight champion Corey Spinks as he entered the ring for his title defense in Las Vegas earlier in April and he also appeared on "The Best Damn Sports Show Period."

J-Kwon recently told Vibe he is quite familiar with the streets he calls "Third District" where the video was being filmed and shots were fired on Tuesday.

"Third District teaches you that don't nobody give a about you."

He says he didn't meet his now legal guardian, BD, until early adolescence; he parted ways with his mother, Terri, four years ago after a falling out. Apparently, she wanted him to attend school, and he wanted to rap.

"We weren't seeing eye to eye on this rap (stuff)," recalls J-Kwon.

He lived on the streets and "I used to sleep in the White Castle," he says.

"I was focused on music, my group, and crack," he told the Associated Press.

"You could put a rat in a maze, and he might not go through it the first week, but after that, he'll go through the maze."

He said the drug trade helped him survive on the streets as he made demo CDs. He called his early efforts, "street music."

"I definitely was making evil music," he says. "I had some good music."

Alvin A. Reid writes for the St. Louis American.

Singers claim Nelly pilfered 'Vokal' label

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) - Two members of a musical group called Vokal have accused rap star Nelly in a lawsuit of wrongly taking their name for his multimillion dollar clothing line.

James Tyrone Wilson and Cameron Caines are suing Nelly for trademark infringement and unfair competition. The singers want an injunction to stop Nelly from using the name and millions of dollars in damages.

"Right now, since we don't have an accounting of the profits, we can't completely quantify the damages," Michael Santucci, an attorney for the singers in Fort Lauderdale, said Wednesday.

Vokal Clothing Co.,

which makes Nelly's line of clothes, made more than \$20 million in 2002, Santucci said, so a damage award could be a "seven or eight-figure number."

Lisa Buckley, an attorney for the clothing company and Nelly, whose legal name is Cornell Hayes Jr., didn't return two phone calls to her New York office.

Wilson and Caines have written music, performed live, recorded songs and distributed clothing under the name Vokal since 1994, according to the lawsuit filed last February in U.S. District Court in Orlando.

In 1998, Vokal signed a recording and distribution

contract with Universal Records, around the same time the label signed Nelly. Wilson and Caines said they retained exclusive rights over the name Vokal when they signed with Universal Records, and that Nelly knew about the group and its business activities, the lawsuit

said.

Shortly after signing with Universal Records, Nelly began selling clothing bearing the name "Vokal," according to the lawsuit.

"Nelly's people should have known about this since they were on the same label together," Santucci said.

Entertainment Briefs

AUGUSTA DELAYING
JAMES BROWN STATUE

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) - City officials have delayed the unveiling of a statue honoring James Brown until the singer resolves his legal troubles. Officials originally scheduled the unveiling for May 7 to coincide with the Godfather of Soul's 71st birthday, which is Monday, and the downtown music festival that was named in his honor until recently. The former James Brown Music Festival reverted to its original name, the Garden City Music Festival, in February because of the public backlash after his Jan. 28 arrest for allegedly hitting his wife, Tomi Rae Brown. Brown has denied the allegations. "We need to let Mr. Brown settle those issues in his private life before we move forward with a very public recognition of his professional life," Mayor Bob Young said Friday. Young also cited production delays. The \$40,000 statue is still a clay model waiting to be cast in bronze, a process that will take at least six weeks.


JUDGE DECLARES MISTRIAL
IN SIGEL CASE

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - A judge declared a mistrial in the case against Philadelphia rapper Beanie Sigel, who was accused of shooting a man outside a bar last summer. Sigel, 30, was facing several charges including attempted murder. A jury was unable to reach a verdict after deliberating for five days. Prosecutors said Sigel, a protege of rap superstar Jay-Z, shot and seriously wounded the man outside a Philadelphia bar in July. But, defense lawyers questioned the victim's credibility after he acknowledged changing his story to police several times. Sigel, whose real name is Dwight Grant, had faced 20 to 40 years in prison if convicted. It was not immediately clear if he would be retried. In a separate case, Sigel faces about three years in prison after pleading guilty to federal drug and weapons charges stemming from a 2002 traffic stop. The rapper also is awaiting trial on charges that he fractured a 53-year-old man's eye socket in another case. During his seven-year music career, Sigel's records have sold more than 1 million copies.


QUINCY JONES TO LEAD
'FUTURE' CONCERT

ROME (AP) - Quincy Jones will lead a star-studded concert in Rome's Circus Maximus this month to benefit children living in the world's conflict-ridden areas. "We Are the Future" will be part of the third annual "Glocalization" conference to be held May 16 and 17. Details of the event, which will bring together local leaders to discuss international problems, were given Wednesday at a news conference with Rome Mayor Veltroni and Uri Savir, a former Israeli diplomat and president of the Glocal Forum, a nonprofit organization that tries to emphasize the role of cities in the world. "We Are the Future" follows in the tradition of "We Are the World," the 1985 recording Jones produced to help raise money for famine victims in Africa. That recording also featured a celebrity cast. Alicia Keys, Josh Groban, Usher, Angelina Jolie, Andrea Bocelli and Chris Tucker are among those scheduled to take part in the concert. Countries represented include Greece, Mali, Estonia, Brazil, Russia, Italy and the United States.

Wendell West
Sales Person



Prudential
Americana Group, REALTORS®
777 N. Rainbow Blvd., #250
Las Vegas, NV 89107
Cell 702 204-5161
Fax 702 870-0903
Email wendellw@americanagr.com



MLLS

An independently owned and operated member of The Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.



Metro **HYUNDAI**

NEW AND USED

First and Second
Chance Financing

Win Pearson
894-4444

2025 E. Sahara Ave.

METRO
HYUNDAI