

Time running short on Jimi Hendrix's house

SEATTLE (AP) - Time is running short for a group hoping to make the boyhood home of Jimi Hendrix the centerpiece of a community music center.

On Thursday, King County Superior Court Judge Palmer Robinson refused to extend a temporary restraining order that barred the city from demolishing the modest two-bedroom house.

However, Robinson said she thought the effort to preserve the house was worthwhile and gave the owners until Sept. 1 to seek emergency relief from the state Court of Appeals.

Four years ago the James Marshall Hendrix Foundation, headed by Peter Sikov, paid more than \$30,000 to

buy the house where the late guitar legend lived during 1953-56, move it to a city-owned lot and lease the site as temporary storage.

"We have people who are willing to chain themselves to that house to prevent them from tearing it down if we have to," said Henry Lewis, a longtime friend of the Hendrix family.

Sikov and others in the foundation say city officials have repeatedly broken promises to work with them on plans to renovate the house for use in a community center that would offer music lessons, practice rooms and a lending library of musical instruments.

City officials say Sikov and the foundation have

missed every deadline to either move the house or submit development plans for the project. Last year the city moved to reclaim the lot and to have the house moved again or demolished.

Hendrix foundation lawyer B. Bradford Kogut said in court Thursday that officials in suburban Renton, where Hendrix is buried, have agreed to allow the home to be moved to property there, adding that formal approval is likely around Aug. 31.



Sentinel-Voice photo by Marty Frierson

ICED OUT

KCEP FM 88.1 morning DJ Galaxy Glenn greets actor/rapper Ice-T during the Second Annual Player's Toast on Saturday at Club Seven on the Strip. The dress-to-impress affair featured a performance by and toast to venerable 1970's group, the Dramatics.

LA council declines settlement for B.I.G.

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The City Council turned down an offer to settle the Notorious B.I.G. wrongful death lawsuit for \$18 million. Council members voted against the proposed settlement in a closed session Wednesday.

The move was expected and followed a separate request by the slain rap star's family for \$2.1 million in attorney fees and costs.

The federal judge who declared a mistrial in the case last month determined that a police detective had deliberately withheld relevant evidence. The city was ordered to pay "fees and costs incurred as a result of defendants' misconduct."

The family submitted its request for that money Monday, but it was unclear how much the city would actually pay.

The rap star was 24 when he was killed in 1997 while leaving an awards show after-party in Los Angeles. Released two weeks later, his "Life After Death" double album spawned hits like "Hypnotize" and "Mo Money Mo Problems."

Survivors of the rapper, whose real name was Christopher Wallace, accuse a corrupt former Los Angeles police officer of orchestrating the killing at the behest of Death Row Records founder Marion "Suge" Knight, possibly as part of a war between record labels. The family is expected to refile.

Rapper Cassidy faces murder charge in Pa.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Rapper Cassidy can face a trial on a third-degree murder charge, but not first-degree murder, for allegedly taking part in an ambush that left one person dead, a judge ruled Tuesday.

Authorities allege that Cassidy, whose real name is Barry Reese, was one of several men who riddled a van with gunfire as it headed down a side street behind the rapper's home in the West Oak Lane neighborhood on April 15. The van was fired upon at least 30 times by four different guns including as-

sault rifles, authorities said.

The victim had been in an earlier altercation with Cassidy and had gone to his home to make peace, a witness previously testified. Killed in the shooting was Desmond Hawkins, 22, authorities said.

Municipal Judge Marsha Neifield concluded that prosecutors only had enough evidence to try Cassidy, 23, on charges including third-degree murder, attempted murder and weapons offenses. Testimony in the case was heard last month but the

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