

Funds for college project not certain

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Block grants, state sales tax receipts may be threatened by government plans

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(This is the final story in a multi-part series dealing with the proposed redevelopment plan for the former Morristown College campus.)

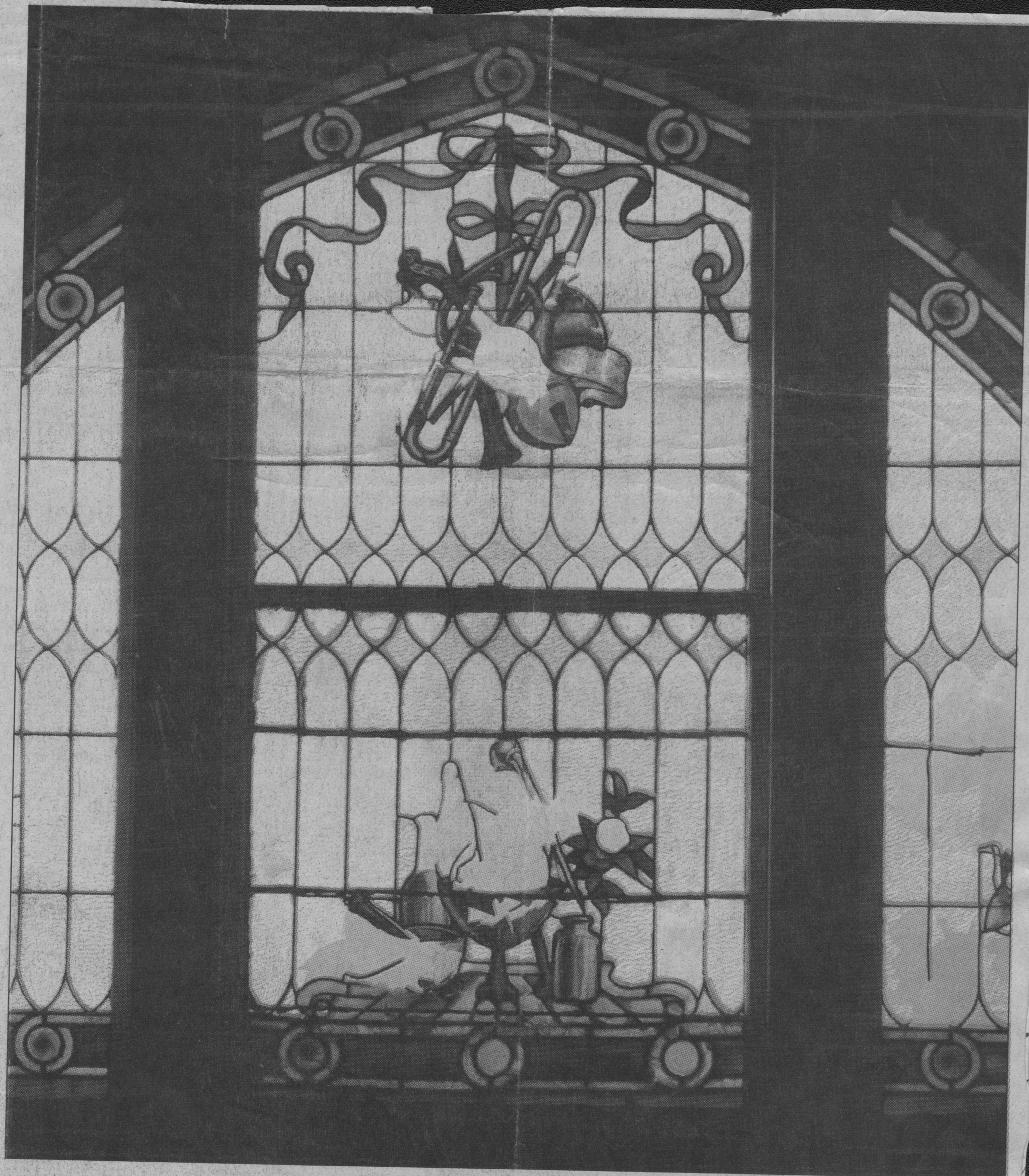
The city of Morristown recently committed \$3 million up front for the first phase of redevelopment of the former Morristown College campus, and must spend several hundreds of thousands more in the future to accomplish long-term goals.

A Knoxville businessman also agreed to pay \$3 million for the initial improvements.

Yet even before the first shovel of dirt turns, questions and uncertainties have surfaced about two of the city's principal funding sources for the project, city officials say.

Under the worst-case scenario, money Morristown that is counting on to pay for the ambitious redevelopment plan could either go elsewhere or go away altogether, city officials say.

The first unanswered question involves Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, which Morristown began receiving as an annual entitlement when the city was designated the center of a so-called "metropolitan



Broken stained glass is what's left to highlight the chapel on the former Morristown College campus.

Chuck Hale/Citizen Tribune