

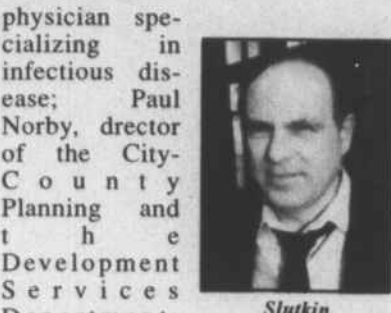
Combating 'violence like a disease' discussion planned

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

On the heels of the city's latest homicide, a TED talk by Dr. Gary Slutkin entitled "Let's Treat Violence Like a Contagious Disease" has been announced for Tuesday, Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. at The Enterprise Conference Center, 1922 South Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The event is free and open to the public.

Following Dr. Slutkin's video talk, there will be a presentation entitled "Locating Distressed Areas in a Community" by Jason Clodfelter from MapForsyth. This will lead into a facilitated discussion about the public health aspects of gun violence in the community and what the public can do about it.

Panelists will include Dr. Kevin High, chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Wake Forest School of Medicine and a



Slutkin

physician specializing in infectious disease; Paul Norby, director of the City-County Planning and the Development Services Department; and Lynne Mitchell, Personal Health Services director at the Forsyth County Public

Health Department. "Let's Treat Violence Like a Contagious Disease" is an idea originated by Dr. Slutkin after he returned to the United States after serving with the World Health Organization in combatting infectious disease in Africa. His work is highlighted in the film

"The Interrupters," which takes the principles of fighting infectious disease and applies it to the task of decreasing gun violence. It frames gun violence as a public health problem and suggests new ways to address the issue of gun violence prevention.

This program is being hosted by the Wake Forest School of Medicine's Translational Science Institute. This is the final event in the Summer Film Series, which is an effort to raise awareness about gun violence as a health disparity in our community.

On Sunday, Danny Joe Harris, 17, was shot to death near Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Jenisha Shattiera Crawford, 26, sustained serious injuries, and Brittany Shardiney Robinson, 24, sustained minor injuries when an unknown assailant fired shots into a home.

County departments win safety awards

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Several Forsyth County Departments recently earned North Carolina Department of Labor Safety Awards, which are given for maintaining above-average worker safety and health programs. Awards are given in Gold and Silver categories.

"A safety award shows employees and the community that you are committed to a safe work environment," said N.C. Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry, who presented the awards. "A good safety record is something to be proud of, and employers deserve to be recognized for their efforts."

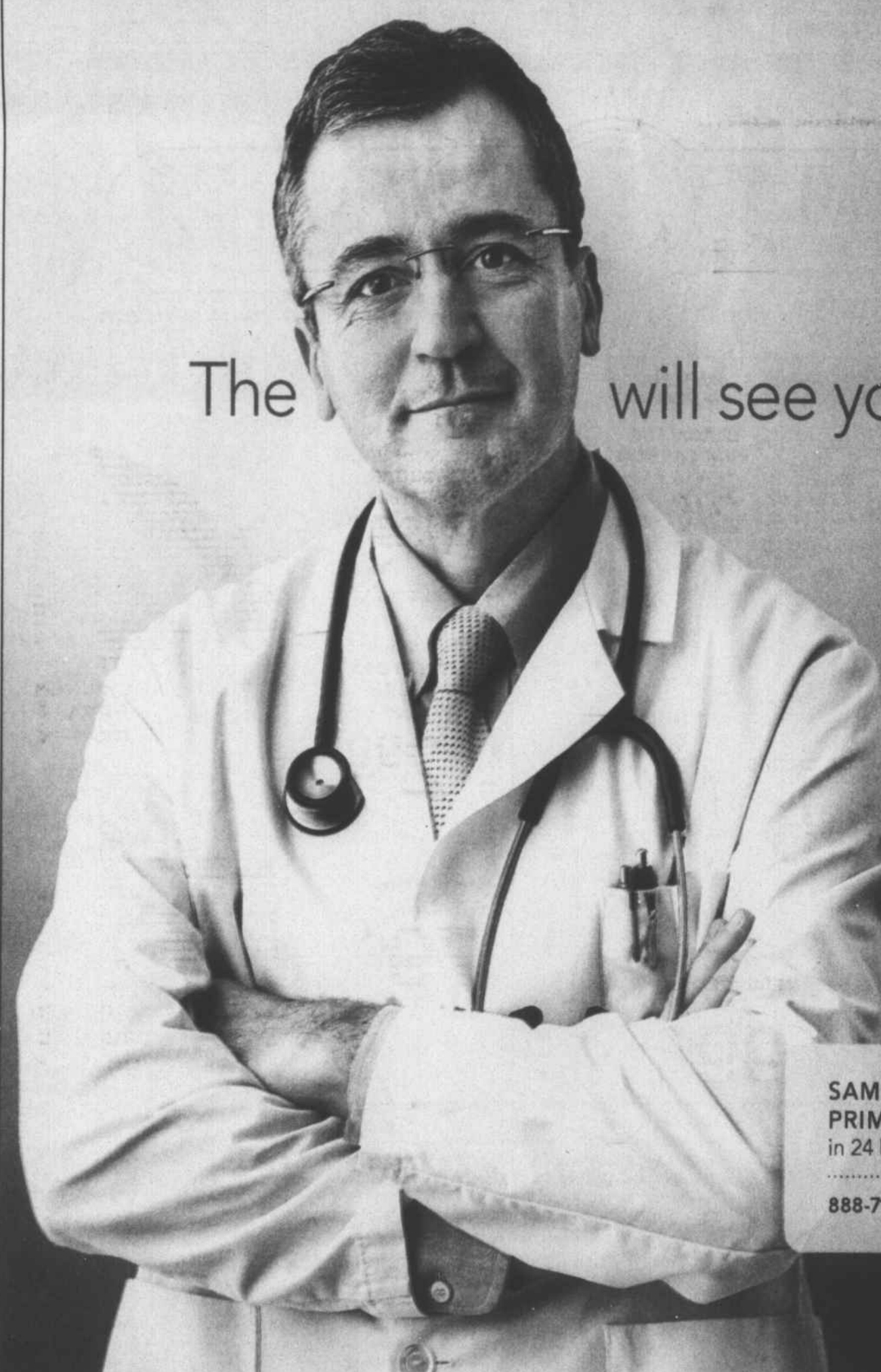


This is the second year that Forsyth County has participated in the program.

First-year Gold Awards went to Forsyth Animal Control, General Services - Grounds Maintenance Division and Youth Services. Second-year Gold Awards were presented to the Central Library, the County Commissioner's and Manager's Office, Emergency Services -EMS, Emergency Services - Fire Department, Environmental Assistance and Protection, Finance, General Services, Management Information Services, Public Health Administration, Public Health - Highland Avenue, Register of Deeds, Sheriff's Office, Sheriff's Office Detention Center, Social Services, Tax Administration and Triad Park.

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