

HAWS salutes its residents

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Every year for the last decade, the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem has rented out a spacious banquet hall, decorated it lavishly and shone the spotlight on HAWS' most valuable commodities - public housing residents.



Evans

The 2003 Residents Recognition Banquet was held July 31 in the Adam's Mark Grand Pavilion. About 300

residents from 11 public housing communities came out looking sharp - in shiny dresses and dark-colored suits - to receive plaques or to cheer on their neighbors.

"We feel it is important to celebrate residents and celebrate their accomplishments," said Bumetta Evans, head of HAWS' residents services wing. "It is one of our favorite events that we do."

Dozens of awards were handed out during the banquet. Awardees were honored for giving back to their communities, for volunteer service, for receiving scholarships and for completing HAWS initiatives such as the homeownership and family self-sufficiency programs.

"We really want people to know that our communities are



Photos by Kevin Walker

Guests walk under a canopy of balloons to make their way into the 2003 Residents Recognition Banquet.

thriving communities with productive citizens," Evans said.

Jacqueline McIntyre was one of four people who received awards for recently earning col-

lege degrees. McIntyre, who is the resident representative on the HAWS Board of Commissioners, also has made great strides in the family self-sufficiency program and is one of the first residents of Gateway Commons, the former Kimberly Park.

"We all have dreams," said McIntyre, who received an associate degree in business administration in May from Forsyth Technical Community College. "This is a part of my dreams that are unfolding."

Happy Hill Gardens residents Antoinette Crawford received a community service award. She is involved in a bevy of activities in her community, everything from neighborhood clean-up projects, to working with young people.

Crawford, who grew in Happy Hill, said she is not alone. Contrary to popular opinion, Crawford said public housing residents are a proud and ambitious bunch who have found that working together is always bound to generate success.

"We have downfalls (in public housing), but we try to bring people up. We are trying to bring our communities up," Crawford said. "I am trying to give back all they gave me when I was young."

HAWS cut no corners for the Residents Recognition Banquet. The Grand Pavilion was tastefully decorated in red and white. Jazz musicians were hired to set the mood, while a catering staff made sure that guests were satisfied. HAWS is among a small minority of housing authorities that hold such an event for residents. Representatives from several housing authorities from other N.C. cities were on hand for the banquet to see how HAWS pulled it all off.

"Not many places honor the residents. (They) mostly honor the executives and the higher-ups. We thank the housing authority for giving us this," said Doris Kimbrough, a resident of Healy Drive Towers and a member of the HAWS Board of Commissioners.

City Council member Nelson Malloy has lived in public housing for many years. He has been honored at past banquets. Malloy said that HAWS is doing the right thing by putting its residents first.

"It is all about the residents," he said. "There would be no HAWS if it were not any residents."

Evans is especially pleased with this year's banquet. The large number of awardees is due, in great part, to a surge in the number of people who are taking part in and succeeding in the family self-sufficiency program, which gives people tools to help them stand on their own. Evans said the growing number of residents who are taking advantage of the program is award enough for HAWS.

For a complete list of award winners, see page C2.

Area fire departments are to receive federal money

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Seven fire departments in North Carolina will receive a total of \$486,236 from the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security. The funds were announced late last week by U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole.

Locally, the Wallburg Fire Department will receive \$98,226 and the City View Volunteer Fire Department will be given \$28,323. The funds are expected to be used for fire operations and firefighter safety.

"Firefighters represent our first line of defense against terrorism. This assistance program will ensure that the individuals trained to protect our communities have the equipment they need to carry out their duties," Dole said in a statement.

The Firefighter Assistance Grant Program is designed to supplement departments' budgets. It was passed by

Congress and approved by President Bush. The program is designed to aid fire departments



Dole

and the public they serve.

The 2003 Assistance to Firefighters grant program offers assistance in four major areas: fire operations and firefighter safety, fire prevention, emergency medical services, and firefighting vehicles acquisition.

"This money will be a great help to our department, and we will use it to replace our air packs," said Mark Reid, chief of Wallburg Fire Department.

Newell coalition will meet Aug. 14

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Coalition Committed to Help Re-Direct the Behavior of Challenging African-American Youth in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County from Birth to 19 will hold its fourth meeting on Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Reynolds Park Recreation Center, on Reynolds Park Road. The public is encouraged to attend.

Dr. Virginia Newell, founder of the group, is interested in the community's involvement in finding solutions to decrease the number of young males in the criminal justice system.



Newell

News Clips

Compiled from staff, wire and submitted reports

Forsyth County receives Model Emergency Medical Services recognition

Forsyth County has been recognized by the N.C. Office of Emergency Medical Services as an Emergency Medical Services Model System.

The county received the certification at the July 31 meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners. The county also will be recognized at the Aug. 12 meeting of the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council in Raleigh.

Compliance with requirements to receive this recognition is voluntary for counties statewide. Drexal Pratt, chief of the Office of Emergency Medical Services, presented the certificate of recognition to county officials. Pratt noted that Forsyth County already met many of the requirements of the model system.

N.C. EMS rules implemented in January 2002 require all counties to develop an EMS system application for review and approval by the Office of EMS.

Sandra Reid appointed as area administrator for the Piedmont Region

The N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has announced that Sandra Reid has been appointed as area administrator for the Piedmont Region of North Carolina. The Piedmont Region includes these counties: Surry, Stokes, Rockingham, Guilford, Forsyth, Alexander, Davie, Davidson, Iredell, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Rowan, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Anson, Richmond, Stanly and Union.

"I am confident that Sandra will make an excellent area administrator. She is sensitive to the needs of juveniles in North Carolina, as well as her staff," said DJJDP Secretary George L. Sweat. "I look forward to working with her as we con-

tinue our endeavor to provide the children, families and the public with the best possible juvenile justice and delinquency prevention services."

Reid earned her B.A. degree in psychology and human services in 1985 from Elon College. After graduation, she began her career in juvenile justice as a Juvenile Court counselor in District 15A. Over the years, she has served as a court counselor in the 18th and 15th districts.

In 1994, she was appointed chief court counselor in District 15A.

She attended N.C. Central University and received her master's degree in agency counseling in 1999, and in 2002 she became acting area administrator of the Piedmont Region.

"I knew that I wanted to work (with) at-risk youth in high school, and when I went to college my aim was to be a court counselor. I truly feel that it's a ministry to work with these kids and their families," Reid said. "I'm grateful to be in a position to help guide policies and procedures that will help to ensure our services will be available for all troubled youth."

Ecologists honor professor

The Ecological Society of America (ESA) has selected Dr. Godfrey Uzochukwu, professor and director of N.C. A & T Waste Management Institute, for this year's "Profile of Ecologists."

Uzochukwu is being honored for his accomplishments in ecology. A poster highlighting his career will be displayed at the Education Mosaic Mixer at the 2003 ESA Annual Meeting in Savannah, Ga., Aug. 2-8 and on ESA's Web site.

Uzochukwu was recognized as N.C. A&T's 2003 Administrator of the Year. He coordinates and highlights the environmental programs of the university, including the interdisciplinary Waste Management Institute Certificate Program as well as student scholarship and internship programs.

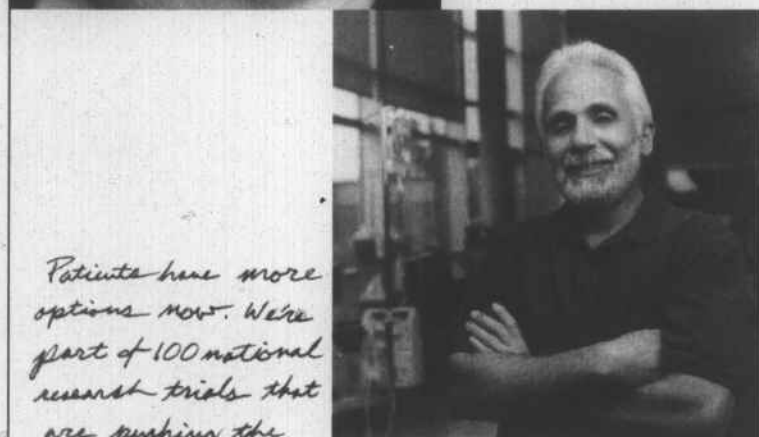
Uzochukwu received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Oklahoma State University and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was a post-doctoral scholar at Texas A&M University.



Uzochukwu



A cancer diagnosis isn't what it used to be. We have new treatments and so much new technology. I'm Judy Hopkins, M.D., and I believe in the power of science to cure cancer. We're getting closer all the time through leading-edge research.



Patients have more options now. We're part of 100 national research trials that are pushing the boundaries of medicine and giving our patients access to the very latest cancer treatments and technology. I'm Don McCall, RN, and I see patients getting a second chance.



I'm Patricia Robinson. I'm part of a clinical trial testing a promising new treatment for multiple myeloma. I've tried other drugs, and this is the only one that's helped me feel better. No other hospital in the region has this trial. I'm thankful to get my life pretty much back to normal.

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