



Reagan gaining some early ground

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Man using golden years to help others

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Black North Carolina Room Ends Forsyth County Public Library 660 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

THE CHRONICLE

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Diners' safety spawns new rules

Health inspectors will now prioritize eateries

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Restaurant health inspectors will now focus their efforts on places where the threat of food contamination is greatest. The change is the result of new statewide regulations that went into effect in August.



Emory

Regular health inspections used to be given uniformly to all establishments that prepare and serve food to the public for sale. Inspections were done four times a year (once every three months) to each establishment. Under the new rules, eateries will be inspected one to four times a year, depending on the type of establishment.

For instance, places that have a very low risk of food contamination, such as soft drink stands or coffee shops, will only be inspected once a year. On the flip side, places where many different types of meat and other foods are handled and served, where the potential for food-borne illness is greater, will be inspected the most. Sites such as catering businesses, full-service restaurants, school facilities serving preschoolers and nursing homes will get four inspections a year, as they do under the current system.

Sheryl Emory, supervisor of the county Health Department's Food, Lodging and Institutional Sanitation Program, said this change should let health departments to put their limited resources where they are needed most.

"It helps us be focused on the higher risk places and to spend more time there and

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BROTHERS IN SOBRIETY

Substance abuse recovery hub brings together current and former residents

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

The road to recovery can be long and lonely.

One of the beauties of the Fellowship Home is that the men who enter its doors, never have to walk it alone. For nearly 50 years, it has been one of the city's most successful, and understated, drug and alcohol recovery programs, helping a countless number of men kick the habit and regain control of their lives.

Many of the former residents returned to the home, an actual spacious house in West End, Saturday for the program's annual alumni reunion. The event is part celebration and part workshop. In between the spirited outdoor cookout, there were lectures for former and current Fellowship Hall residents and an evening candlelight vigil that paid homage to former residents that have passed away; some as a result of their demons catching up with them.

"We have some former residents who have died as a result of their substance abuse," said Executive Director Thom Elmore.

But successes are much more common than failures at the Fellowship Home. Each year, about 50 men enter the home for stays that average about 22 weeks. They live there under extremely structured rules designed to instill discipline and focus, something most new resi-

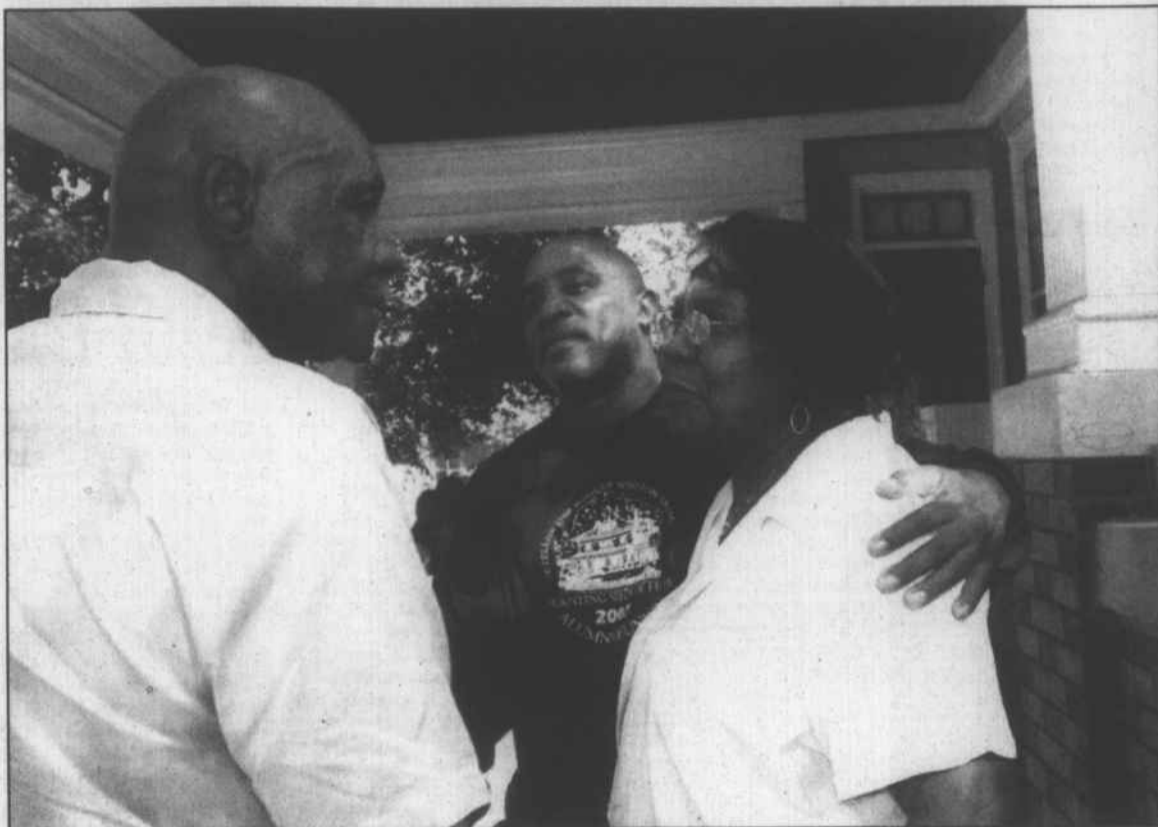


Photo by Kevin Walker

Walter Gray welcomes his parents, Eva Gray-Allen and Harrison Allen.

dents have very little of. Each resident must get a job and save most of his wages for his new, post-Fellowship Home life. The home offers a 12-step-like

recovery program that includes regular support meetings and counseling. The reunion, Elmore said, has become a key element in the recovery for

many residents.

"It provides that peer mentoring for the guys who are currently in the program," he said. "It is good for them to see men

who have been where they are and have made it and are successful."

The Fellowship Home

See Fellowship on A12

Police Department has new eye-catching recruiting tool

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Police Department's mobile station has an eye-catching and functional new look.

A component of the department for the past decade, the mobile unit is used as a home away from home for officers at major crime scenes as well as job fairs and high profile events.

The mobile station was decked out with a graphic wrap from Specialty Graphics of Greensboro earlier this month. The wrap depicts officers at work, along with a police car and the familiar department logo. Helpful contact information, such as the WSPD's non emergency number and web address, add to its functionality.

The graphics the mobile station dons are designed to promote awareness about the

department's ongoing recruitment of officers.

A growing trend in advertising for many different entities, the idea of "wrapping," struck members of the recruitment department when they dined at McAllister's restaurant, which also utilizes the medium. Because it is mobile, the advertising method is more versatile than the billboard advertising and radio spots the department has relied on in the past, according to Sgt. Danny Watts, head of the recruitment arm of the police department. The distinctive wrap is meant to draw the attention of the public, he explained. It has been successful in this realm so far.

"We made our maiden voyage to a job fair in Fort Benning, Georgia," he stated. "We had the bus parked outside and people were just streaming to the bus to look at it." The mobile unit's new look will allow



Sgt. Watts

See Police on A6 A rear view of the van.



WSPD Photo

Former rehab patients reunite

Men and women regained ability to function during their stays

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Rehabilitation patients were reunited with one another and the medical professionals that helped them down the road to recovery last week at a unique reunion at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

The 25th Annual Rehab Reunion was held at the J. Paul Sticht Center on Aging and Rehabilitation, which houses the hospital's 25-bed inpatient physical rehabilitation unit.

Former patients ate and fellow-

shipped during the two-hour reunion. At one time, they had each found themselves in the rehab unit for a variety of reasons, everything from injuries from automobiles accidents to strokes.

Many former patients were eager to share their amazing success stories. One such patient was James Parker, who attended the event with his wife Gloria.

"I'm the one they said who would never walk, use his hand, never get out of bed and never do

nothing and I can tell you right now God ... can make it happen," said Parker.

In 2004, Parker had just come home from his first day back at work after a Christmas vacation with his family when he passed out and hit the floor. It would be four months before he woke up again. It turned out he had a large blood clot in his brain. He had suffered a stroke that completely paralyzed one side of his body.

With time and work, he recovered. Parker had no trouble moving around the reunion, enthusiastically sharing his recovery story with everyone he met, his big boisterous laugh often filling the room. He said he still takes medication to prevent further strokes and can't lift any-



Woodberry

See Reunion on A13



Former patient James Parker and his wife, Gloria.



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