

**Cancer**  
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tions on this matter. While everyone seems to agree that there are risks and benefits associated with screening and that the risks often outweigh the benefits, agencies such as the American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Physicians, American College of Preventive Medicine, and American Medical Association believe that the best candidates for screening are men 50 years of age and older who have a life expectancy of at least ten years. The American Cancer Society recommends that clinicians offer both screening tests (PSA and DRE) to all men every year beginning at age 50. They note that men at high risk should begin testing at age 45; these men include African Americans and men who have a close relative (father, brother, or son) who had prostate cancer before age 65. African Americans are considered to be at high risk because the prevalence of this disease is so much higher among this population for many reasons that are not completely understood.

So, with all the conflicting evidence and recommendations, which ones should you follow? This must be an individual choice that every man makes with his doctor after learning about all the risks and benefits of prostate cancer screening. We have given you a few things to think about in this article; your doctor can tell you much more and can help you decide what is best for you.

— Contribution by Jaimie Hunter, MPH, CHES  
Do you need further information or have questions or comments about this article? Please call toll-free 1-877-530-1824. Or, for more information about the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity, visit <http://www.wfubmc.edu/minorityhealth>.

**Churches, neighbors want to revamp their community**



The Rev. Kelly Carpenter is Green Street United Methodist Church's pastor.

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Several churches and neighborhood associations are teaming up to revitalize the community that they all inhabit.

Ardmore Baptist, Ardmore United Methodist, Christ Moravian, Green Street United Methodist, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic and Redeemer Presbyterian, along with the West Salem and Ardmore neighborhood associations want to revitalize the area of Peters Creek area between Link Road and the new baseball stadium, which is set to

open in the spring of 2009. The partners are known as the Peters Creek Community Initiative.

Their efforts will officially start on Saturday (Oct. 4) with the Peters Creek Festival. Starting at 12:30 p.m. at West Salem Shopping Center, the event will offer free food, music and dancing. Afterward, volunteers will scour the creek and Peters Creek parkway to pick up trash.

"Our goal is to help residents, businesses and other organizations work together to bring new life to this community," said Rev. Kelly P.

Carpenter, senior pastor at Green Street and one of the organizers of PCCI. "Our focus is on the parkway and the hillsides that border it."

For the last two months, PCCI has been training volunteers through the Communities of Shalom program of the United Methodist Church. PCCI had scheduled meetings Monday at Sampan Restaurant with merchants in the area. A meeting with residents in the area will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at Green Street UMC.

**Jobs**

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Eric Horton said he didn't mind the line.

"It ain't nothing to me, I'm patient ... it ain't like I'm the only one with a record," said Horton, 36, who was released from prison four years ago after doing a 12-year bid for murder.

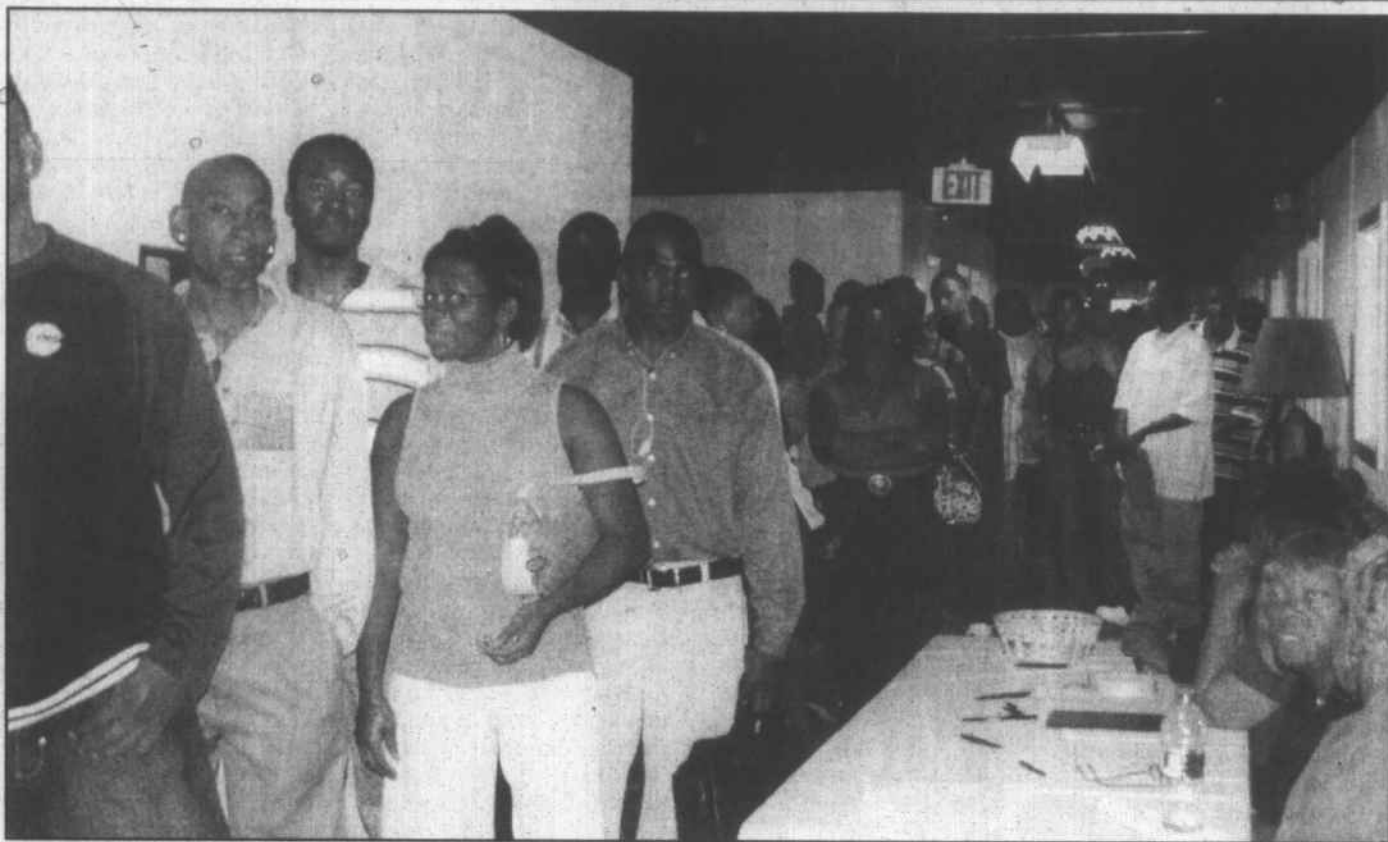
"I think (the fair is) real good," added Horton, who is currently employed but attended the fair in search of a second job. "I give them a thumbs up for taking the time out."

Not all ex-offenders have been as fortunate as Horton in their quest for employment.

Thirty-four year-old Corey Bishop, who had one brush with the law in the late 1990s and another in 2007, says he has been turned down time and again for employment because of his record. His second arrest stemmed from frustration and feelings of helplessness at not being able to obtain employment, Bishop said.

"When I found out I wasn't gonna get no job, I did what I had to do," he declared. "What they want us to do? We've all served our time ... I've got four babies; I've got to eat."

Tabernacle's Min. Ernest Tatum said he was hopeful



A crowd gathers to enter the job fair.

Photo by Layla Farmer

that the fair would offer an alternative for people like Bishop who feel they have no viable options.

"We want to offer everything that we can so that people don't have an excuse (to offend) anymore," he remarked.

The work is especially important for Tatum, who is an ex-offender himself. Released from prison in 2000 after eight years, Tatum wasted no time in

turning his life around, completing the studies he began while incarcerated. He is currently pursuing an MBA at Winston-Salem State University.

"God has really just blessed me. He has put me in a position to be an example to others," Tatum remarked.

Unfortunately, everyone was not as dedicated to the cause as Tatum and the other organizers. Of the six or

seven local employers that agreed to be in attendance, only one, Carolina Narrow Fabric on Patterson Ave., had made an appearance by the 12:00 hour of the fair, which ran from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

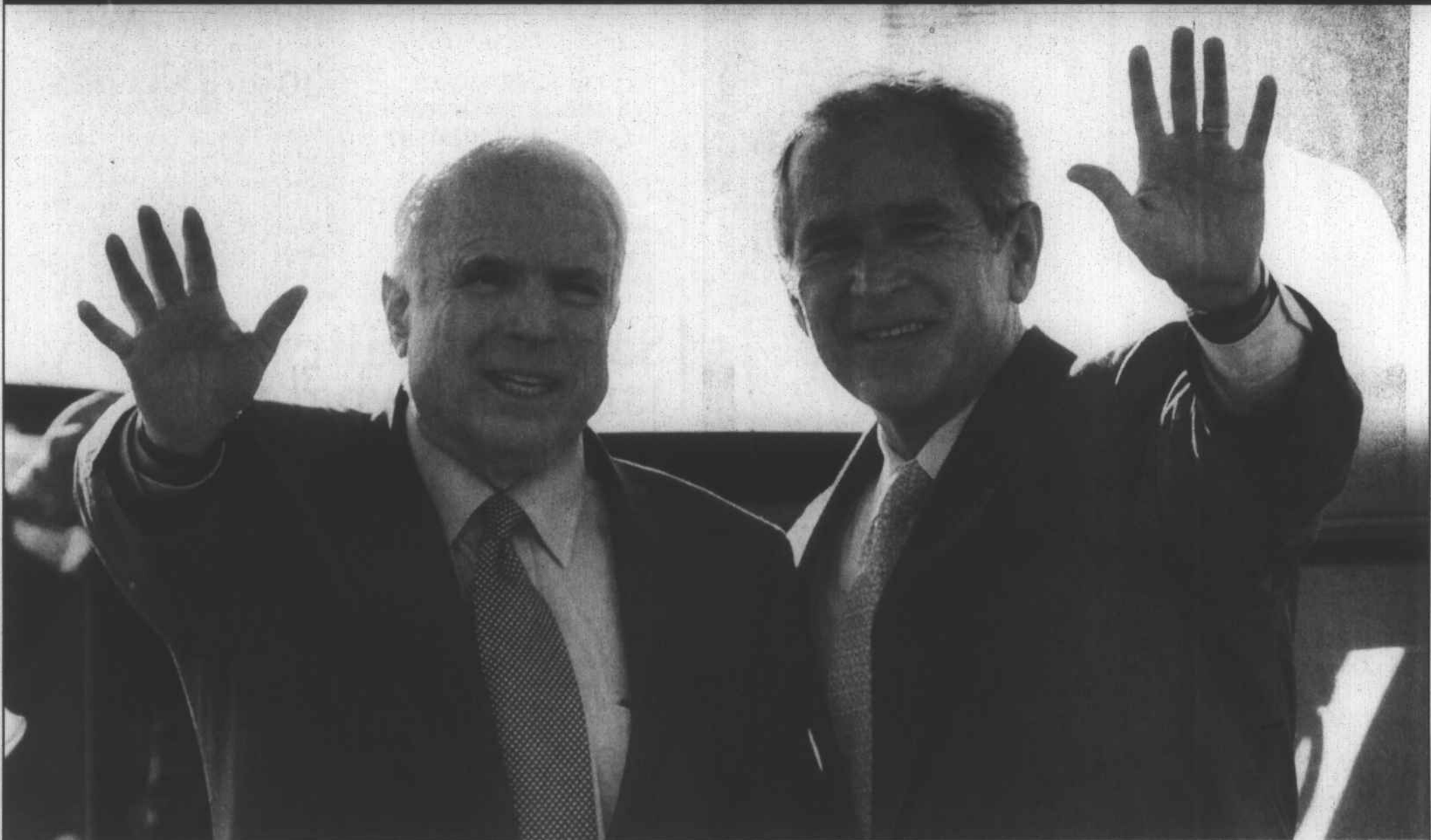
Tatum said that the dismal employer turnout would not deter organizers from the task at hand.

"This just makes me that much more determined," he said.

Monte Baldwin, 33, said he was glad for the fair.

"I'm trying to get back on the right track, living life in a positive way, being able to influence somebody else," Baldwin said of his motivation to attend. "(This fair) makes me feel like I've got a chance. It's an opportunity. It makes me feel like I've still got life ... I feel confident, not doubtful."

**NO THIRD TERM.**



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