

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Healthbeat

Kids get free dental services

More than 2,000 dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and other volunteers across North Carolina took part in the sixth annual "Give Kids a Smile!" on Feb. 1.

Dentists at designated dental offices, dental clinics and community colleges across the state treated low-income children for free. All patients were pre-screened by local dental organizations and selected on the basis of need.

In 2007, 15,000 children across North Carolina counties received more than \$1.3 million in free dental care as part of the "Give Kids a Smile!" program. The American Dental Association has named the North Carolina program the best in the country.

"Give Kids a Smile!" is a nationwide effort designed as a dental education and awareness day, with free oral health care to as many children as possible during national "Children's Dental Health Month" sponsored by the American Dental Association and state dental societies.

In North Carolina, "Give Kids a Smile!" is sponsored by several organizations including the N.C. Dental Society, N.C. Oral Health Section, N.C. Dental Assistants Association, UNC School of Dentistry, N.C. Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, N.C. Community Colleges and local dental societies.

"This is one of the most far-reaching programs of its type in the country," said Dr. William Litaker, president of the North Carolina Dental Society.

"There are hundreds of thousands of disadvantaged children in our state who have only limited access to regular oral care. Through the 'Give Kids a Smile!' program, we'll be delivering free treatment, screening, education and prevention programs to children who need them most."

Bryan gets appointment

Terrall S. Bryan RN, MSN clinical instructor in the School of Nursing at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, has been appointed to the National League for Nursing Summit Program Work Group and to the Planning committee for the 2008 NLN Summit. She will be a moderator for the 2008 Summit.

The National League for Nursing is the organization that accredits schools of nursing and provides conferences and leadership for faculty and schools of nursing. The 2008 Summit is the National Conference in which most schools learn about current trends and changes for the future. It is a competitive process to be selected for any of the committees and positions in the NLN. Beverly Malone, PhD, and past dean for the School of Nursing is the president.

Laura Bush promotes health

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — In a rare break from tradition, first lady Laura Bush offered this week's national radio address to promote healthy living and heart-disease prevention.

"President Bush has handed the mike over to me," she said, according to a White House transcript of the address, which will air Saturday. "And today, I'd like to talk about something that's close to my heart — America's heart health."

Mrs. Bush is the ambassador for the Heart Truth, a campaign to educate women about the risks of heart disease and the steps to prevent it. She said the disease affects more than

80 million people in the U.S. and claims the life of one American every minute.

In Kansas City, Mo., last Friday, President Bush also tried to raise awareness as he signed a proclamation declaring February as American Heart Month.

He met with Joyce Cullen, who learned of the symptoms of heart disease from media coverage of Mrs. Bush's efforts. Cullen credits the experience as helping to save her life.

Mrs. Bush gave the radio address once before — in November 2001 to criticize the Taliban's treatment of women in Afghanistan.

Nursing scholarships available

Students interested in nursing careers can apply for a scholarship/loan through the N.C. Nurse Scholars Program (NSP) for the 2008-09 academic year at the college information site, CFNC.org. Approximately 400 new awards are expected to be made for the coming year, according to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (NCSEAA), a partner in CFNC.

Established in 1989 in response to the dwindling supply of qualified nurses available across the state, the Nurse Scholars awards are available for undergraduate and graduate nursing students. Undergraduate amounts range from \$3,000-\$5,000 for registered nursing programs at the associate or bachelor's degree level, while graduate amounts are \$3,000-\$6,000 for part-time and full-time study.

All recipients must be legal residents of North Carolina for tuition purposes. The scholarship/loans require recipients to practice nursing in North Carolina following completion of the nursing program. Students who do not fulfill the service obligation must repay in cash with 10 percent interest.

The application deadline for the bachelor's degree program award has been extended to March 7. The deadline for the associate degree program award and the graduate degree program is May 3.

The undergraduate application is available at www.CFNC.org/NSP and the application for master's degree students can be found at http://www.CFNC.org/MNSP or contact the NCSEAA at 1-800-700-1775, ext. 1.

Charlotte mother with AIDS puts her story 'on paper'

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

HIV/AIDS is one of the most sensitive subjects in the African-American community.

But that has not stopped a Charlotte woman from bringing it out into the open.

For years, DeVondia Roseborough has been an AIDS advocate, using her diagnosis to inspire, motivate and help bring those living with the disease out of the shadows. She has now put much of her story in a new book, "Put It On Paper."

Billed as a true and triumphant memoir, the book vividly details her life before HIV and after she tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, in December of 2003.

"What happens when you have so much to talk about? You ought to put it on paper," Roseborough said of her motivation to write the book, which is available online at www.lulu.com/devondia.

All her thoughts and feelings about the trials she endured before and after the test have been chronicled in the book. It goes far beyond her impassioned motivational talks, which she gives through her Charlotte-based Rasberrirose Foundation, Inc.

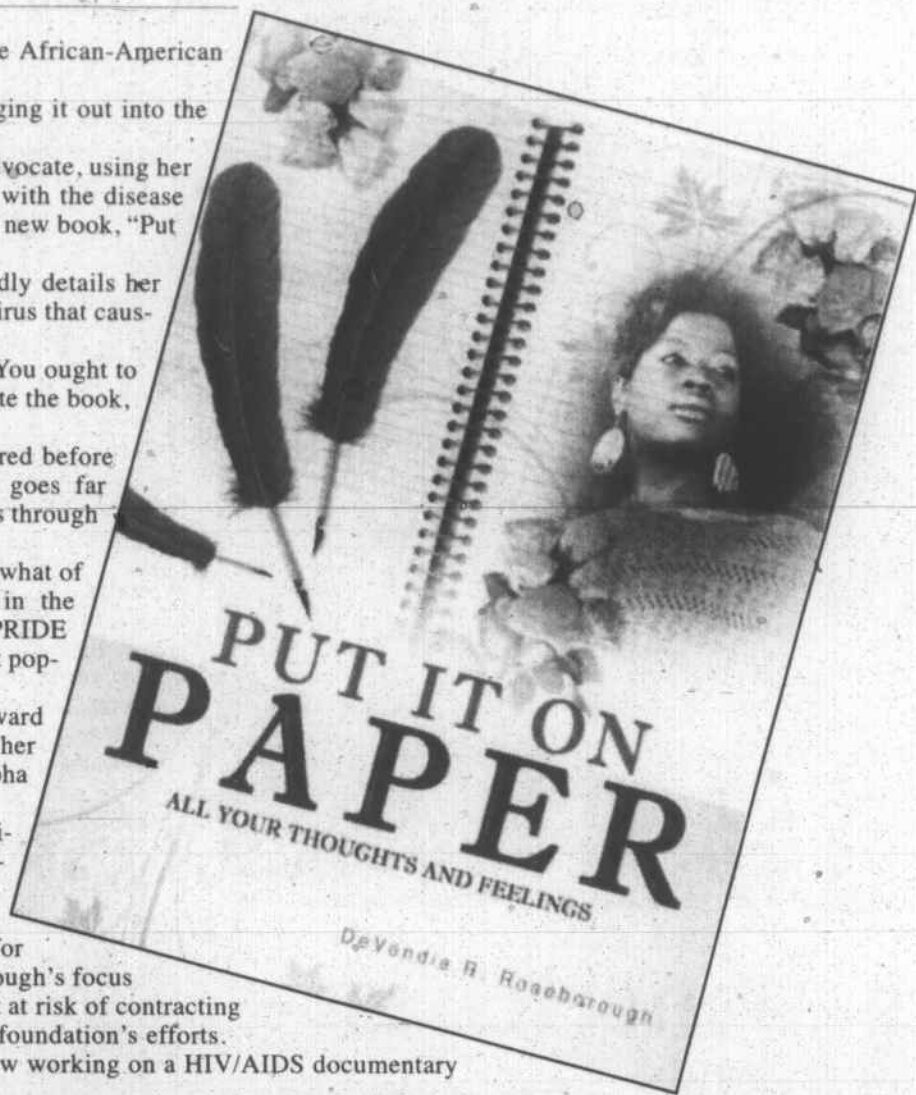
Roseborough's work and advocacy have made her somewhat of a celebrity in the Queen City. She has been featured in the Charlotte Observer, The Charlotte Post, Voices Magazine, PRIDE Magazine, Creative Loafing and heard of on the city's most popular radio stations.

She received the 2004-2005 Volunteer of the Year award from the Metrolina AIDS Project and has been honored for her community involvement and advocacy work by the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorors of Charlotte.

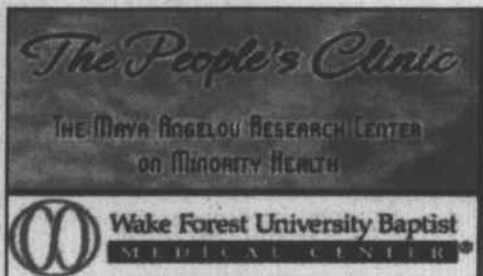
The mission of her Rasberrirose Foundation is to "positively impact the mind, body and soul of young girls — 10-18-years-old — by nurturing self-love, self-allowing and self-knowledge, through implementing values, spiritual fulfillment, the sense of accomplishment and the respect for self and others in a loving and safe environment." Roseborough's focus is young girls, especially black girls, because they are most at risk of contracting HIV. All proceeds from "Put It On Paper" will benefit the foundation's efforts.

Roseborough, a mother of two teenage daughters, is now working on a HIV/AIDS documentary and penning her second book, "Baptizèd N' Warm Milk."

To contact DeVondia Roseborough, go to her Web site, www.rasberrirose.org or email rasberrirose@aol.com. "Put It On Paper" will be sold online at DeVondia's storefront at www.lulu.com/devondia.



Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer



Although most cancer occurs by chance (also called "sporadic" cancer), in some families there are more cancers than one would expect to see by chance. Out of all the breast cancers diagnosed each year, approximately 7-10 percent are due to heredity. Approximately 1 in 500 women and men have a mutation in certain genes which makes them more susceptible to getting cancer. This means that approximately 250,000 women (and men) are mutation carriers.

What is hereditary breast and ovarian cancer?

Hereditary breast and ovarian cancer (or HBOC) is an inherited condition that causes a significantly high risk for developing these two cancers, often before age 50. Most HBOC is caused by a change (called

See Cancer on A13



Heart success earns Forsyth award

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth Medical Center has earned a Bronze Award for Initial Performance Achievement through the American Heart Association's Quality Improvement Program "Get With The Guidelines."

The hospital will be recognized and honored at a special dinner reception in New Orleans at the International Stroke Conference on February 21.

"As the first nationally certified stroke center in the Carolinas, we continually strive to improve our quality of care and to decrease the amount of time from onset of stroke symptoms to treatment," says Robin Voss, vice president of neurosciences at Forsyth Medical Center. "We are very excited to celebrate this new milestone."

"Get With The Guidelines" is the premier hospital-based quality improvement program for the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association. It empowers healthcare provider teams to consistently treat heart and stroke patients according to the most up-to-date guidelines.

The Forsyth Stroke and Neurovascular Center is the first Joint Commission certified stroke center in the Carolinas. The center has a 30-year reputation for excellence, providing lifesaving diagnosis and treatments for disorders of the brain, spinal cord and peripheral nerves, including Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and stroke. Center surgeons perform more than 800 neurosurgical cases annually.



Voss

State residents to be schooled about dangers of shaking babies

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Child abuse prevention experts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Injury Prevention Research Center and School of Medicine and Duke University Medical Center will undertake a \$7 million statewide shaken baby prevention project.

The project, the largest and most comprehensive in the country, is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Duke Endowment and is led by a broad coalition of stakeholders from the National Center for Shaken Baby Syndrome, University of British Columbia and state and county agencies, service providers and non-profit organizations.

State Sen. William Purcell, a retired pediatrician from Laurinburg, and the North Carolina Child Fatality Task Force announced the project Jan. 15 in the legislative building in Raleigh. It is designed to

reach the parents of every baby born each year in North Carolina with the goal of significantly reducing the number of deaths and serious injuries that occur when frustrated caregivers shake crying babies.

"In a baseline survey of parents of children younger than two years old in North Carolina, we found that more than 2,000 of these children are shaken, to a greater or lesser extent, by a caregiver each year and that serious injuries result for some," said Dr. Desmond Runyan, a professor of social medicine and pediatrics at UNC and principal investigator for the

project. Previous research has shown that shaking babies is both common and a leading cause of infant mortality. Nationally, an estimated 1,200 to 1,400 children a year receive medical treatment after being shaken.



See Babies on A13