

# Smart Start team asks lawmakers for more financial help

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

A local delegation representing child advocates, child care professionals, parents and business leaders traveled to the North Carolina General Assembly earlier this month as part of Smart Start's "Tuesdays for Tots" initiative. The constituents met with Forsyth County legislators to discuss important issues facing young children and working families.

"Smart Start of Forsyth County is committed to making sure all of our children start school healthy and ready to succeed," said Chuck Kraft, executive director of Smart Start of Forsyth County and a member of Tuesday delegation. "However, the challenges facing working families in our area are expanding and, as a result, our partnership is being asked to do much more with much less. Today's meeting was an important step in helping our local legislative leaders better understand the needs of young children and working families throughout our community."

"Tuesdays for Tots" is Smart Start's signature advocacy effort that takes



Sen. Pete Brunstetter (from left), with Smart Start's Karatha Scott, Natasha Gore and Chuck Kraft.

place every year during the legislative session. On Tuesdays, local Smart Start partnerships come to Raleigh for one-on-one meetings with legislators to educate lawmakers on Smart Start successes and discuss challenges facing young children and their families. The local Smart Start team meets with

Rep. Earline Parmon and Sens. Pete Brunstetter and Linda Garrou.

Smart Start is North Carolina's nationally recognized and award-winning early childhood initiative designed to ensure that young children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Smart Start is a public-private initiative that provides early education funding to all of the state's 100 counties. Smart Start funds are administered at the local level through 78 local nonprofit organizations called Local Partnerships. The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., (NCPC) is the statewide nonprofit organization that provides oversight and technical assistance for local partnerships.

Funding for Smart Start is currently \$203.6 million in state funds. But the agency has experienced \$25.7 million in budgetary cuts over the past eight years. As a result, the NCPC and local Smart Start Partnerships across North Carolina are asking the N.C. General Assembly for a \$44.7 million increase in funding during the current 2008 legislative session to address critical issues facing children from birth to five years olds and their families.

# Forbes Magazine ranks WFU

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Wake Forest University is ranked 19th among national universities in a recent higher education ranking developed by the Center for College Affordability and Productivity (CCAP).

The rankings were published last month in Forbes magazine and appear on the publication's Web site at Forbes.com.

According to Richard Vedder, the director of the nonprofit research center in Washington, D.C., the new CCAP ranking evaluates colleges on results by measuring student satisfaction and success after graduation.

Factors considered in the new rankings include graduation rates, student satisfaction with courses and professors, and the percentage of students winning Rhodes and Fulbright scholarships.

"It is likely this type of ranking will become increasingly important, and we expect to continue to do very well precisely because of the kind of personal attention and rigorous curriculum we offer," said Wake Forest University Provost Jill Tiefenthaler.



Tiefenthaler

# N.C. Highway Patrol gets new leadership

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Gov. Mike Easley Tuesday appointed Walter J. Wilson, Jr. as the next Colonel of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol (NCSHP). In addition, Easley appointed Jamie J. Hatcher as Lt. Colonel. Wilson replaces Colonel Fletcher Clay, who is retiring June 30. Hatcher replaces Lt. Colonel Cecil Lockley who retired earlier this month. Both Wilson and Hatcher, who are currently serving as majors in the Patrol, will assume their new roles July 1.



Wilson

"These men have demonstrated exceptional leadership throughout their careers in the Patrol," said Easley. "I am confident the team of Wilson and Hatcher, along with the majors with whom they work, will provide strong and steady guidance to the 1,800 officers in the Patrol who risk their lives to protect all of us each time they put on their uniforms."



Hatcher

Wilson, a Tarboro native, has served on the Patrol since 1980 when he was first assigned to Troop C in Wake County. He was promoted to line sergeant in 1989, first sergeant in 1992, lieutenant in 1996, captain in 2002 and major in 2004. Wilson earned

his Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Campbell University and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute in Louisville and the FBI National Academy in Quantico. Wilson is a member of the Memorial Baptist Church in Greenville and the Southern Police Institute Association.

Hatcher, a Duplin County native, joined the Patrol in 1982 and was first assigned to Troop A in Bertie County. He was promoted to line sergeant in 1992, first sergeant in 1995, lieutenant in 1999, captain in 2002 and major in 2005. Hatcher is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico and the Administrative Officers Management Program at N.C. State University. He is a member of Highland Baptist Church in Garner and the North Carolina and National Internal Affairs Investigators Associations.

Both men are also members of the N.C. Police Executives Association, the FBI National Academy Association and International Association of Chiefs of Police.

# Safe Haven

from page A1

cially the first one." The partnership grew out of a federal Weed and Seed grant that the CCS received in 2007.

"We're glad to have an opportunity to show a positive outcome of that funding," Atkinson said of Weed and Seed dollars, which have been cut by Congress recently. "It's a great, great day when you know of a need in the community and you can get the partners to come together and have a tangible outcome."

As the name suggests, Weed and Seed programs seek to "weed" out problems that plague communities and plant "seeds" of change, through programming tailored for each specific location.

"My hope is that it really becomes owned by the community, that they take pride in it and own the resource and really begin shaping it for what they need it to be," said Atkinson. "We want it to be an asset that the whole community comes to treasure and support."

Safe Havens deter crime and foster positive activity in high crime neighborhoods through programs and men-

toring activities designed for a broad range of age groups. The Safe Haven at the Austin Center will employ volunteers and staff members from several community organizations represented in the partnership.

Howard Venable, a long-time advocate for at-risk youth and head of his own nonprofit, Silver Lining Youth Services, has signed on as project manager for the Sarah Austin Safe Haven. He will help Rolling Hills residents gain access to services in the community that may improve their quality of life.

"A lot of the children that interact in the Rolling Hills community ... suffer from the same psycho-social issues ... It's challenging; it's ever-changing, but it's a great privilege," Venable said of the work.

Rolling Hills resident Alicia Malone, lead associate for the project, moved into the community two months ago with her three teenage sons.

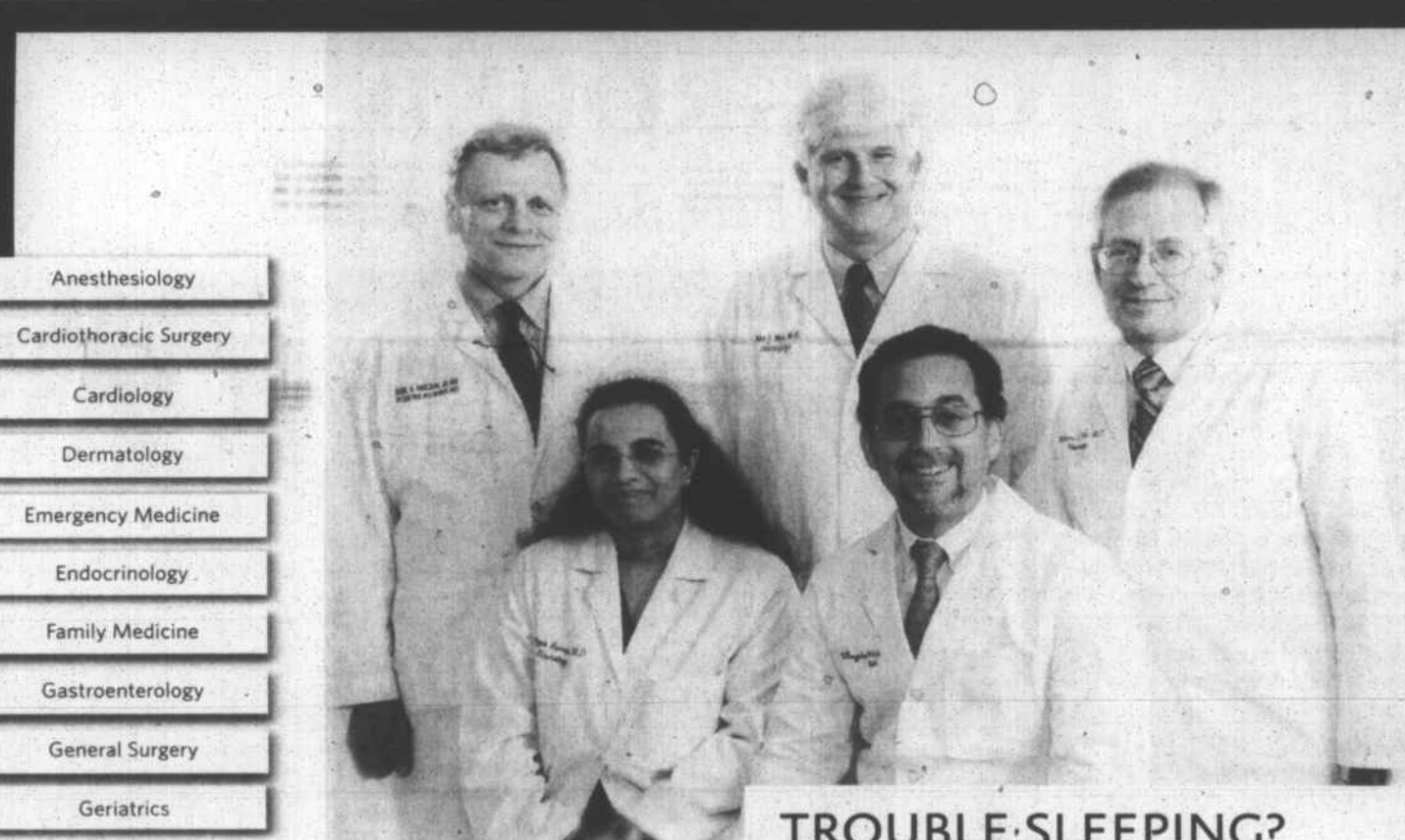
Malone's youngest son, Jayni Glenn, 11, will accompany her on her daily visits to the Safe Haven.

"When I heard about the program, I was very excited," she said. "I hope that we rebuild the community to be a safer place."

# HOMES, SWEET HOMES



Phyllis Caldwell, director of the Center for Homeownership at Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Forsyth County, accepts a proclamation from Mayor Allen Joines last week that acknowledges the significance of June as National Homeownership Month. Joines was among those who attended a Celebration of Homeownership Friday in the Ridgewood Place Development.



- Anesthesiology
- Cardiothoracic Surgery
- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Endocrinology
- Family Medicine
- Gastroenterology
- General Surgery
- Geriatrics
- Hematology/Oncology
- Infectious Diseases
- Internal Medicine
- Nephrology
- NEUROLOGY**
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- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedics
- OTOLARYNGOLOGY**
- Pathology
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For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 336-716-5288 or visit [wfubmc.edu/sleep](http://wfubmc.edu/sleep).

KNOWLEDGE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Standing: Dr. Karl Karlson, Pediatric Pulmonology; Dr. John May, Otolaryngology; Dr. William Bell, Neurology.  
Sitting: Dr. Sandhya Kumar, Neurology; Dr. Vaughn McCall, Psychiatry.  
Not Shown: Dr. John Conforti, Pulmonary; Dr. Maria Sam, Neurology; Dr. Cesar Santos, Pediatric Neurology; Dr. Sara Shoof, Dentistry.

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