

## news notes: nc

from the tarheel state

### 'Love Unabridged' presented at Thalian Hall

WILMINGTON — Inspired by similar awards given throughout the state by other organizations, the Wilmington Community Spirit Awards were created to present an opportunity for members of a vast and diverse coastal community to come together to celebrate each other, to identify and get to know those who serve the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and allied community, and to acknowledge with the honor of an award those contributions. The awards, entitled 'Love Unabridged,' were presented Apr. 24 at Thalian Hall.



Bo Dean, OutWilmington founder (left) and Devon Crosbie

Through the Internet, community members nominated the individuals, businesses and/or organizations to be voted on in six different categories. All those who were nominated, with the exception of one nominee for whom the advisory board of Outwilmington.com had special plans, were then placed on the community center website where community members cast their votes. Cards were distributed at local

venues for those without Internet serve and were included in the count as well.

Awards were bestowed upon:

- Outstanding Community Business: *Michael Moore*: for his store Michael Moore Antiques;
- Outstanding Community Organization on behalf of CARE: *Gaye Heib*, director of the Coastal AIDS Resource Effort and long time volunteer, Dallas;
- Outstanding Ally non-Political: *Cape Fear Chapter of PFLAG*;
- Outstanding Ally Political: *Equality North Carolina*;
- Outstanding Community Event: *Dixie Queen Premiere*;
- Outstanding Nightclub or Entertainment Venue: *Ibiza*;
- Outstanding Activist Female and Male for 2004: *Gayle Tabor*, head of the Coastal North Carolina Lesbians and president of OWCC and Wilmington Legend and long time activist, *Bob Jenkins*;
- Outloud and Proud Award: *Michael Moore*, for years of selfless involvement and activism;
- Boseman-TenHuisen Scholarship: *Devon Crosbie*;
- Giving Spirit Award: *Dave Robertson* and *Mark Griffis*, for their amazing generosity and commitment to the community.

### Legislative alert

RALEIGH — Two specific areas in the HIV arena that need special attention in N.C. are the AIDS Drug Assistance

Program (ADAP) and Primary and Secondary Prevention. Gov. Mike Easley will be working soon on next fiscal year's budget. Contact Gov. Easley and advocate for the additional \$12.1 million needed to address these issues.

If N.C. receives the needed funds, ADAP could raise its income eligibility level from 125 percent of the federal poverty level to 200 percent. Currently set at 125 percent, (the lowest income level in the nation), an individual can't make more than \$11,225 to qualify for this program. ADAP would also be able to take the 591 individuals off of the waiting list and enroll them in ADAP. Nearly half of all people on the waiting list across the U.S. are from N.C.

The state also needs \$3.3 million to prevent new HIV infections. There is a need for prevention programs that are designed to support and educate people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tarheel State government should be committed to HIV eradication. Send a letter to Gov. Easley voicing support for adequate HIV program funding:

Gov. Michael F. Easley  
Office of the Governor  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0301

For more information on how to advocate for HIV related topics, contact Patrick M. Lee, J.D., president of N.C. Positive Living Council at [ncaan@NCPositiveLiving.org](mailto:ncaan@NCPositiveLiving.org).

### 'Gender identity and gender expression' added to prohibited discrimination list

CHAPEL HILL — The Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously approved May 10 an amendment to town policy prohibiting dis-

crimination in employment to include "sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression."

Gender identity or expression refers to a person's internal sense of being male, female or androgynous and includes all the ways a person expresses their gender, including mannerisms, behaviors, dress and appearance.

The town's policy previously used the term "affectional preference" and this was changed to "sexual orientation." With the revision, the Town Code now states: "All personnel responsible for recruiting and employment will continue to review regularly the implementation of this personnel policy and relevant practices to assure that equal employment opportunity based on reasonable job-related job requirements is being actively observed to the end that no employee or applicant for employment shall suffer discrimination because of age, sex, race, color, religion, non-job-related disability, national origin, sexual preference, gender identity, gender expression or marital status." Language in the town's Comprehensive Plan was similarly revised.

The Town Council voted unanimously on Apr. 14 to request that the North Carolina General Assembly repeal the *Defense of Marriage Act*.

### Tabor speaks about domestic violence

WILMINGTON — Creating awareness among allies and friends, Gayle Tabor, board president of the Outwilmington Community Center, spoke to a group of about 20 at the monthly PFLAG meeting in

see NC NEWS NOTES on 26

# A.W.O.L. BALL

## 2004

COMING JULY 17th  
Celebrating our 15th Year!!

# LI AISONS

Video bar

316 Rensselaer Ave. 704.775.117  
New Membership available

[pinkhousenc.com](http://pinkhousenc.com)

# Sordid Sunday

## Lives

### MAY 30

Watch it Again &  
Dress in Character!!!!

\$1.75 Coors Light

## retro trivia

Every Wednesday

\$1.75 Miller Lite

## Will & Grace

every thursday

\$1.75 Bud Light