

THANKS...

to all contributors to *Community Connections*. Keep sending in your announcements, news items, clippings, and original articles. The deadline is ALWAYS the 15th of the month;

to our *Community Connections* advertisers. These businesses want YOUR business. Please return their support;

to Ron Lambe and TVS for news clippings sent to *Community Connections*;

to those who have reported being harassed or being victims of violence. ▼

Thanks from CLOSER:

to Dan Marshall for facilitating the weekly rap-groups from June through August;

to Dan and Joan Marshall for hosting the

Community Connections is a monthly news publication serving the Southern Appalachian gay and lesbian community, and dedicated to helping improve the lives of lesbians and gay men.

Community Connections focuses on the gay/lesbian community and gay/lesbian issues. Gay-related news, commentary, and letters to the editor are welcomed. Letters must be limited to 250 words, and must be signed.

Deadline for submission of all materials is the 15th of the month prior to the issue. We reserve the right to select manuscripts and to edit for length, clarity, and pertinence to gay and lesbian issues.

Call Cynthia at 252-4037, or send material to Editor, PO Box 18088, Asheville, NC 28814. Publication of names or photographs of a person or organization in articles or advertising is not to be construed as an indication of the sexual orientation of the person or organization.

The opinions expressed by letter writers, commentators, and cartoonists are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of *Community Connections*.

We cannot be responsible for claims made by advertisers.

Classified ads are printed on a space-available basis and are free.

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To advertise:

Call Ron at 258-3318
or write *Community Connections*, PO Box 18088, Asheville, NC 28814.

If you would like to help produce or coordinate *Community Connections*, call Cynthia at 252-4037.

*Incorporation and non-profit status pending

planning retreat for the Board of Directors;

to Bill Allen, Charlotte Goedsche and Cynthia Janes for the membership renewal letters;

to Kelly Finn for her enthusiasm, her caring, and her willingness to serve CLOSER as a member of the Board. ▼

Thanks from SALGA:

to Teri Gibbs and Carlos Gomez for doing such a fine job of representing SALGA in the media;

to Charlotte Goedsche, Ellen Hines and David Hopes for revising the brochure;

to Cynthia Janes and Michelle Greenspan for typesetting the revised brochure. ▼

Thanks from WNCAP:

to all those who donated items for the 1991 auction, helped solicit items, and helped put it all together for August 10. Thanks to you it was a big success!

CONGRATULATIONS...

to CLOSER's newly elected officers: John Rider, President; Nancy Snead, Vice-President; Jim Fowler, Secretary; and Rick Wooley, Treasurer;

to Dan Marshall, who replaces Kelly Finn on CLOSER's Board of Directors;

to Joan Marshall, who was one of 14 women honored by the Western Carolina Women's Coalition. (See story on page 8.) ▼

WNCAP Volunteer Orientation/Buddy Panel Announced

reported by Elaine Ferguson

The Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) is offering a new monthly program: Volunteer Orientation. This program consists of a series of sessions designed to provide a "job description" for each volunteer activity and to educate the volunteer with current up-to-date factual information concerning HIV/AIDS. Topics include information for answering questions typically asked by the public concerning WNCAP activities and HIV/AIDS.

The program is designed for both current volunteers and new or prospective volunteers. Anyone who wishes to be a volunteer needs to attend the Volunteer Orientation. If you are even thinking about becoming a WNCAP volunteer, this program will give you an overview of WNCAP and the opportunities available.

PLEASE NOTE

Send AIDS Obits to Bush

Convinced that George Bush is going to do no more about upping the importance of AIDS on his agenda than Ronald Reagan did in his 8 years of mismanaging response to the epidemic, ACT UP is preparing to go after Bush with a series of protests and demos this fall. But before they launch their major assault, ACT Uppers intend to soften Poppy (and Barbara) Bush up a bit by sending copies of obituaries of those who have died of AIDS to the White House. So start clipping and mailing obits to President George Bush (or Mrs. George Bush), The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20500. If the obit doesn't specifically mention AIDS, just make a small note in the margin noting it as the cause of this person's death.--from "Dish," *Southern Voice*, 7/18/91.

Couples' Resources

"Resources for Gay and Lesbian Couples" lists two dozen social, political and support organizations, and more than 70 books, tapes and films. The list is available free from *Partners Resources*, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109. ▼

WNCAP Buddy Training

Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) announces a new Buddy Training program beginning in October; dates, time and place to be announced later. Call Elaine Ferguson at 252-7489 for information or to sign up.

"Lifestyle" Section Added
Community Connections has started

a photo page titled "Lifestyle," a name we hope will clarify that there is no single gay/lesbian lifestyle.

Send us your photos of your events--parties, anniversaries, vacations, birthdays, family additions (including pets), job promotions, graduation ceremonies, holiday celebrations, dining out, etc. Photos will be returned if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope; otherwise, they will not. Send to Lifestyle, PO Box 18088, Asheville, NC 28814.

If you prefer, *Community Connections* can take the photo for you. Call Lorena Russell at 254-2805 to make arrangements.

WANTED: HELP!

Like the paper? Want to make it better? Want to contribute a couple of hours a month to the community? Want more contact with people? Are you reliable?

Community Connections needs help! We need volunteers and we need them now! We need:

- Organization news editor; and
- Calendar editor.

Call Cynthia Janes at 252-4037. ▼

Correction

One of Angie Sheets' "Space Monkey Art" sculptures was inadvertently mislabeled in the last issue of *Community Connections* and attributed to Christy McKinney. McKinney's work, "Appalachia Eyes," is a black-and-white photograph of the artist's little brother and sister in an old abandoned house in Mars Hill. Both McKinney's photographs and Sheets' "Space Monkey Art" sculptures will be on exhibit at the Charlotte Street Cafe during September.

Current volunteers are also encouraged to attend to update themselves on WNCAP programs and new HIV/AIDS information.

There will be two Volunteer Orientation sessions in September, and participants may attend either. Sessions will be held Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8 PM, September 9 and September 30.

On these same evenings, as well as on September 17, WNCAP will also present Buddy Panels for anyone interested in becoming a buddy to a person who is HIV+ or has AIDS. A Buddy Panel is a group of people who are now buddies or have been a buddy, sharing their experiences as a buddy. This is a great opportunity for people to ask questions about what it's really like to be a buddy. It gives prospective buddies a chance to ask questions of someone who is already walking this path.

Two of the Buddy Panels will be presented on September 9 and 30, 8-9:30 PM, following WNCAP's Volunteer Orientation. A third session will be

presented as CLOSER's September 17 program. CLOSER is our area's support group for lesbians and gay men. (See *Community Resources*, page 23, for details of place and time of CLOSER's meetings.)



Everyone needs a buddy.