

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

SERVING WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED COMMUNITY

ANNUAL WNCAP AUCTION SET FOR NOVEMBER 14TH

WNCAP HIRES NEW DIRECTOR



Photo Credit Lisa Morphew

a to R-Mort Jonas. Chair. "Raise your Hand" auction. Honorary Chair. Leni Sitnick. Mayor City of Asheville. Leslie Burnside. Executive Director. WNCAP. Julie Jemerson. WNCAP client

BY MORT JONAS

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY SET FOR OCTOBER 11TH

BY CANDACE GINGRICH

The Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) has scheduled its major fund-raiser of the year for Saturday evening, November 14, 1998. The event will be held in the historic S&W Cafeteria, 56 Patton Avenue, in downtown Asheville. In recognition of the important services WNCAP provides in the Community, Asheville Mayor Leni Sitnick has agreed to serve as Honorary Chairperson.

A silent auction and social hour will begin at 6:30 PM, an elegant buffet will be served at 7:30, and a live auction will begin at 9:00. Tickets will

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National Coming Out Day (NCOD) is celebrated every October 11th. Nineteen-ninety-eight marks a decade of NCOD, and we at the National Coming Out Project are hoping that this tenth anniversary year will be its most successful ever.

The aim of National Coming Out Day specifically and the National Coming Out Project in general is to encourage queer and queer supportive people to come out, be visible, and educate those around them. We accomplish this goal by coor-

inating NCOD events in all fifty states, providing coming out resources including the *Resource Guide to Coming Out* (also available in Spanish), conducting educational and outreach campaigns in the queer and non-queer press, and acting as a resource for all people at various stages of coming out.

There are over thirty million gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered indi-

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Leslie Burnside

ASHEVILLE, NC -- The Western North Carolina AIDS Project is pleased to announce the hiring of its new Executive Director Leslie Burnside of Hickory. Ms. Burnside has served as an advocate for People with AIDS through the AIDS Leadership Foothills Area Alliance as well as being a board member of the Ryan White Consortium of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba counties. She is an experienced prevention educator and has volunteered her support to the HIV community for ten years.

Ms. Burnside recently led the Catawba County Department of Social Service's Families for Kids initiative, a program funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to speed permanence for waiting children in foster care. Under Ms. Burnside's leadership, the agency became one of the leading counties in North Carolina to reduce its foster care population and

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