

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

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

SHOP WNCAP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

At 6:30 PM, on Saturday night, November 14th, the doors of the historic S&W Cafeteria in downtown Asheville will open to an awesome sight. Hundreds of terrific gift items will be displayed in a festive atmosphere, with great food and drink served up by dozens of volunteers, as part of the annual great "Raise Your Hand" auction to benefit the Western North Carolina AIDS Project.

A silent auction and social hour will begin at 6:30 PM, an elegant buffet will be served at 7:30, and the live auction will begin at 9:00. Tickets cost \$25 (including food) or \$60 (including food, wine and preferred table seating), and are now available in four locations in downtown Asheville: Malaprop's, New Morning Gallery, Journeys Travel and Rainbow's End. A limited number of "inner circle" tables seating 8 people are available for \$800 (including food and wine), through the WNCAP office (call 252-7489).

Putting together the auction has been a great thrill for dozens of dedicated volunteers who have been visiting artists, business owners, and other community-minded folks who care about support services for people with HIV/AIDS and about education to prevent further spreading of the disease. Almost everyone who has been asked for an item to be auctioned has found something wonderful to contribute. From a certificate for two quick meals at Picadilly Cafeteria (worth \$12), to a stunning 7 1/2 feet tall Chinese vase (worth \$5,000) donated by Warren Fluharty's Inside Limited shop, the list gets longer every day.

John Cram, for example, has been more generous than ever this year, with gifts



Some of the wonderful Art and Crafts that will be available at the "Raise Your Hand" Auction for WNCAP Nov. 14

from New Morning Gallery, Bellagio and the Fine Arts Theater having a total value of over \$3,500. John's donations range from a set of posters of Lesbian and gay films which have been screened at the Fine Arts, to a gorgeous wooden jewelry box and matching mirror, both with rose inlay, valued together at \$840. Bet Williams, of A World of Clothing in Hendersonville, has also

been particularly generous, giving a large 19th century style silver mirror with gold trim from the Carolina Mirror Company's "Biltmore Estate" collection (worth \$600), and a handmade green and ivory 4' x 6' rug (worth \$859), plus cash underwriting.

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WORLD AIDS DAY DECEMBER 1ST

The eleventh observance of World AIDS Day will be commemorated on Tuesday, December 1, 1998. One hundred ninety one countries around the world are observing this day to draw attention to the AIDS epidemic. Please make plans to join your friends and neighbors as we commemorate World AIDS Day here in Asheville. Several community events have been planned:

* Saturday, November 28, 6-8 pm, PARTY-An Educational Forum at PisgahView Center, West Asheville.

* Sunday, November 29, Prayer Services in local churches.

* Monday, November 30, 7-8:30 pm, Bon Fire at Lake Julian, sponsored by Asheville-Buncombe County Youth Council.

* Tuesday, December 1, 1998, 9 pm, Candlelight Vigil, City/County Plaza.

This year's World AIDS Day theme is "Be A Force For Change." The purpose of this theme is to recognize the millions of young adults worldwide who are affected—directly and indirectly—by HIV/AIDS.

For additional information on these World AIDS Day activities, contact Lori at WNCAP, 252-7489.

World AIDS day this year aims to increase understanding of the magnitude of the HIV/AIDS epidemic globally and that the epidemic continues despite new hope in treatment. Worldwide implementation of the theme promotes action and sound

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