

**WRAL ANCHOR TEAMS WITH WORLD-FAMOUS MUSICIAN IN CONCERT**  
*Proceeds will Benefit Harbor, Inc.*

GARNER, N.C. – July 9, 2010 – The musical sounds of the Northwest and North Carolina will blend together in a special concert to raise money for Harbor, Inc.

World-famous pianist, guitarist and songwriter, John Nilsen, will join North Carolina's guitarist, Bill Leslie, for the special event. Leslie is an Emmy Award-winning journalist and internationally acclaimed musician and composer, referred to by famed cellist Yo-Yo Ma as "one of the greats in modern Celtic music."

"Bringing the two together for a concert will be a big hit," said concert organizer Barbara Hemphill, who first invited Nilsen to North Carolina in 2009. "I'm excited he's back for a repeat performance," she said. "One attendee last year told me that for her it was a healing concert."

All proceeds will benefit Harbor, Inc., Johnston County's agency providing shelter, support, and resources for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and women in transition. In July, 2010, four victims in Johnston County were murdered as a result of domestic violence. Two were children, one of whom was sexually tortured.

"When tragedy happens, it reminds us all of why Harbor provides such vital safety shelter and services," said Keri Christensen, Executive Director of Harbor. "The concert will be a great awareness event in addition to raising money. Anytime awareness of Harbor can be raised, it's a great opportunity."

Harbor helped nearly 3,000 people in Johnston County last year.

The concert will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23 in the sanctuary at Mount Zion United Methodist Church ([www.mountzion-umc.org](http://www.mountzion-umc.org)) located at 15772 NC 50 North in Garner. A reception in the Fellowship Hall will take place following the event.

Admission to the event is free, but donations will be accepted for Harbor, Inc.

For more information, please contact Mount Zion United Methodist Church at 919-772-8415.

**EVENT FACTS:**

**Concert with John Nilsen and Bill Leslie**

**Thursday, September 23, 2010**

**7 p.m.**

**Mount Zion United Methodist Church**

**15772 NC 50 North, Garner**

**Admission is free; donations accepted**

**Proceeds to Harbor, Inc.**

**About John Nilsen**

John Nilsen of Portland, Ore. has sold more than 800,000 records and is currently composing his 18<sup>th</sup> album. His 17th recording on Magic Wing, and new solo piano CD, "Places I Go," was released in November, and is John's first solo piano recording in 24 years. "Places I Go" features nine Nilsen originals with two additional tracks and features John's distinct piano sound combining elements of folk, jazz and classical music. Nilsen can be seen performing his original instrumental pieces throughout the United States and elsewhere in the world. Learn more at [www.magicwing.com](http://www.magicwing.com).

**About Bill Leslie**

Bill has produced six CDs including four albums which have hit at or near the top of the world music charts. Bill's "Blue Ridge Reunion" was named Best Acoustic Instrumental Album of the year. Both it and "Peaceful Journey" hit No. 1 on world music charts. With his group, Lorica, Leslie uses guitar, violins, flutes and natural sounds to create hauntingly beautiful melodies reminiscent of both North Carolina and Scotland where Leslie was inspired. His new album will be released in September. As a veteran anchorman and environmental reporter for WRAL Television in Raleigh, Bill has won more 70 major news awards including five Emmys and two Peabody Awards, considered the Pulitzer Prize of broadcasting. Learn more at [www.billleslie.com](http://www.billleslie.com).

**About Harbor, Inc.**

Harbor Inc. has been assisting victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and women in transition in Johnston County for 20 years. They are committed to victim services with the knowledge that domestic and sexual violence are not just family problems, nor are they issues that affect only women. Harbor Inc. offers shelters, court advocacy, housing assistance, transportation, employment assistance and more. Find out how you can help at <http://www.harborshelter.org/>.

###