



THE (F)AMILY (A)FFAIRS (N)EWSLETTER

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER,
QUEER, AND INTERSEX COMMUNITY

FOLLOW YOUR HEART - DO YOUR PART - CHERISH OUR FAMILY

MARCH 1, 2012

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

No news this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This category is for non-social notices about GLBTQI community members that you think other GLBTQI community members might like to know about...things like: births, deaths, adoptions, commitments, graduations, promotions, awards, shows, ongoing classes, trying-to-start-a-group, etc.

Announcement #1: The Portland Dyke March has been nominated as Best Cause in the Portland Phoenix's "Best of Portland" awards. We are up against some tough competition, and it is such a great honor to simply be nominated, but please go online and vote for us! Portland Dyke March is your event, so this would be a fun win for everyone! Here's the link:

<http://contests.the phoenix.com/thebest/portland/2012/vote/city/portland-cause>

You can vote every day until voting closes.

Announcement #2: With funding from a Washington, D.C.-based foundation, the Family Planning Association of Maine ("FPA") has launched a project to expand services to the transgender community in Maine. Through Project Open Door the FPA will implement nationally recognized, best practice medical protocols to provide hormone therapy and other necessary medical care for transgender individuals who wish to undergo medical gender transition. Later this year, these services will be available at the FPA's Augusta, Damariscotta, Belfast, Rockland, Skowhegan, and Waterville family planning health centers. In addition, the FPA is collaborating with Maine Transgender Network, Inc. to create a clinical training program that specifically addresses lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning health issues. MaineTransNet's Board President, Branden Parker, responded to news of the grant saying, "MaineTransNet is thrilled to be a partner in this innovative program and we look forward to working with the FPA. There is a significant need for accessible medical services in the Central Maine and Mid-coast regions of Maine for transgender individuals." We hope you will be excited about this project as well -- and that you will share this news in your circles. Project Open Door is currently in the beginning stages and we're looking for transgender individuals living in Maine to participate in focus groups. If you are interested in being part of a focus group, please contact me at smackey@fpam.org or by calling 622-7524.

Announcement #3: Announcing a special contest ... with a prize and everything! Express your creativity and help Marriage Equality at the same time! Write a Haiku for "Marriage Equality"

What is Haiku? Haiku is a poetry style (begun in Japan). It is a very brief poem of three lines, containing only 17 syllables. Usually, it is written in a 5 syllable, 7 syllable, 5 syllable format, but some poets have used a 5,5,7 or a 7,5,5 format as well. Here are three examples of Haiku in English.

from the website: <http://dailysportshaiku.blogspot.com/search/label/baseball>

spring so soon? first of
seven million Yanks-Sox games,
icy death, on us

from the website: <http://curezone.com/blogs/fm.asp?i=976508>

dew on gleaming leaves
drops fall in sparkling water
little ripples form

from the 2012 Car Talk desk calendar - February 9th:

Car as cathedral -
every time I turn the key
is another prayer.

Your challenge in this contest is to write a Haiku having to do with Marriage Equality (or some aspect of Marriage Equality). It can be serious, funny, satirical, sad, political, spiritual, surrealistic, etc. etc. etc. ... as long as it relates to Marriage Equality and follows the Haiku format.

If your Haiku is chosen as the winner, you will receive two free tickets to the EqualityMaine Foundation's 28th Annual Awards Dinner on March 24th in Portland, and I will donate an additional \$50 to the EqualityMaine marriage effort.

The contest will end on March 15th, 2012 at 12 noon. The winner will be notified by email and telephone. Also, the winning poem will be printed in the April 1 issue of The Family Affairs Newsletter (along with some "honorable mention" follow-ups).

To enter this contest, email your haiku, your name, and a phone number where you can be reached to Jean Vermette at megress@gwi.net no later than 12 noon on March 15th. I will be the only judge for the submitted poems and my decision will be final. Impress me with your haiku mastery, and help EqualityMaine at the same time!

OP/EDs:

This is your chance to spout off (or offer your insightful thoughts and opinions) about ANYTHING related to the GLBTQI community. Any subscriber is welcomed to submit. Please keep your thoughts as succinct (and civilized) as possible. Subscribers should be willing to allow at least their first name and an email address to be listed with the posting.

No one had any opinions this issue (that they wanted to have published).

EVENTS (CHANGING):

MARCH

March 3 (Saturday). **Portland. Tennis for ME** 6:30pm at the Racket & Fitness Center on outer Congress Street (by the airport). A monthly event for GLBTA tennis players and tennis player wanna-bes. Please call 775-6128 if you need directions. Enjoy a couple of hours of tennis followed by social goings-on in the Club's upstairs lounge. All levels of play are welcome... including sheer beginners who want to take a whack at it (literally). We use a round-robin format so you get to play with lots of people in your general class of play. The real emphasis is on fun. We even invite you to bring a non-tennis-playing guest for the social part if you'd like. Cost is \$25 for players and \$5 for non-players - all included except the cash bar. FMI, email Liz Winfeld at Liz.Winfeld@rbc.com

March 10 (Saturday) **Portland. Dyke March Fundraiser at Flask** on Spring Street in Portland! 8:00 P.M. – 1:00 A.M. Join us, and DJ Jackie, for a night of fun, friends, great music, and dancing! We'll be

asking for a suggested donation (sliding scale of \$3-\$10) at the door to support Dyke March. This is a 21+ event. See <http://www.mainedykemarch.com/> for more information.

March 14 (Wednesday) **Portland. Rainbow Business & Professional Association March Meeting.** 5:30pm to 9:00pm The March meeting is at DiMillo's on the Water, 154 Commercial St., Portland. Students from area high schools will join us to present GLSEN's Gay/Straight Alliance program. This is similar to an event we held in 2011 which was very popular, and produced one of our scholarship recipients! Bring plenty of business cards and potential new members! Dinner is \$25 person. Individual dinners will be ordered from a special menu provided by DiMillo's for RBPA. Parking is FREE in DiMillo's parking lot. Cash Bar.

March 24 (Saturday) **Portland. EqualityMaine's 28th Annual Awards Dinner.** Cocktail Hour from 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M., Dinner & Awards Program from 6:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. Dinner for awardees and supporters of EqualityMaine, Maine's oldest, largest advocacy organization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Mainers. Tickets: \$75/each, with some sliding scale tickets available. Reservation deadline is March 20, 2012. For more information, see www.EqualityMaine.org/dinner, or call 207-761-3732.

March 31 (Saturday) **Bangor. March Dragness 3.** Ladies and Gentlemen! Boys and Girls.... IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!!!...The 3rd Annual March Dragness is COMING YOUR WAY! This Show has Proven to be Queen City Prides BIGGEST and BEST fundraiser... and ALL proceeds will help fund the Bangor PRIDE Parade 2012! So Help Us Make it another one to Remember!! Ticket Prices: \$12 - Advance Purchase (Will be sold at <http://www.showclix.com/event/MarchDragness3> until Midnight on Friday March 30th) \$15 - At the Door. Only 250 Advance Tickets will be Sold - SPACE IS LIMITED We Housed the Show at Hollywood Slots last year, and filled it to capacity... So you'll want to get your tickets ASAP. QCP is also excited to announce MAMA SAVANNAH GEORGIA as the Hostess this Year!! Coming DIRECT FROM BOSTON... She Will make you LAUGH until you CRY! Her performance in Last Years show had people in Stitches with humor! As for a Theme?!.... The HOTTEST night club/disco in the 70's was STUDIO 54, in which the Worlds BIGGEST celebrities attended.... SO THAT'S OUR THEME..... STUDIO 54! So get our platforms, and dust off those bellbottoms.... Glitter EVERYTHING LIKE CRAZY and RSVP to Bangor's HOTTEST Drag Show... OF THE YEAR!!!! This Show is an 18+ event.... with a 21+ After party located at Therapy Lounge!! (PLEASE NOTE: You do not need to enter the gaming floor to attend) Questions?... Comments?... Check out the Event Link on the "QueenCity PRIDE" Facebook Page!

APRIL

April 13 – 15 (Friday – Sunday). **Machias. Fifth Annual Rainbow Ball Weekend, University of Maine at Machias.** Jump on over for a swimmingly good time Friday April 13 – Sunday April 15 at the University of Maine at Machias. This year's Rainbow Ball theme is Under the Sea with a little Masquerade thrown in the mix. The Rainbow Ball is a prom for all LGBTA high school and other youth so they can attend with who they wish and wearing what is most comfortable for them. In addition to the prom there are other activities both fun and educational. It's a great way to make friends and get to know other LGBTA youth around the state of Maine. FMI: Crystal Meserve – crystal.meserve@maine.edu or Lois-Ann Kuntz – lkuntz@maine.edu, please use "Rainbow Ball" in the subject line.

April 26 (Thursday) **Area Varies. Dining Out For Life 2012.** Join Frannie Peabody Center and the fight against HIV/AIDS by getting involved in Maine's inaugural year of Dining Out For Life International. Area restaurants and eateries in cities across the country donate a portion of their proceeds on one night in April (Thursday, April 26th, 2012) in the fight the against AIDS. If you're a restaurant owner or manager or simply a foodie who wants to get involved, check out www.diningoutforlife.com and contact Ed Corley, Director of Development, Frannie Peabody Center, at (207) 619-8013 or ecorley@peabodycenter.org

EVENTS (ONGOING):

Androscoggin County

ALL ABOUT GUYS. Lewiston/Auburn meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. Come join other guys like you in a fun, friendly, open and nonjudgmental environment. Also offering HIV/STD prevention services including free, anonymous, rapid HIV testing (no needles or blood), and safer sex supplies. View our calendar of events and HIV testing hours, subscribe to our email list, and find more info at: <http://www.allaboutguys.org/> or call 207-725-4955. Join our Facebook group at: http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_188652697811490 See full listing, under Social Groups, below for more details.

OUTRIGHT L/A. UU Church, corner of Spring and Pleasant Street, Auburn. Weekly drop-in for youth age 22 and under every Friday from 6:00 - 8:30pm. FMI call 207-795-8956 or email info@outrightla.org or check the web site at www.outrightla.org See full listing below for more details.

YANKEE BOYZ. UU Church, Auburn. Monthly social/support group meeting Sept - June (1st or 2nd Sunday of the month...check the mailing list to verify) for those born female, or intersex, and which female and/or "woman" as an identity does not fit. FMI please see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/YankeeBoyz/>

Aroostook County

NORTHERN LAMBDA. Monthly meeting or gathering on the 4th Saturday of each month. Location varies within Aroostook County. FMI and/or directions contact Tess at 694-2639 or Kent at 538-7630 or email northernlambda@gmail.com. See full listing below for more details.

Cumberland County

AA MEETING - GLBT, Portland, 6:30pm, at Dana Center at Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall Street. More info: <http://www.csoaamaine.org/>

DEMAND EQUALITY NOW PROTESTS. Sundays from 9:00 am to 11:15 a.m. Portland, Immaculate Conception Church, 302 Congress St. Group statement: "We protest at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception because it is the home church of Bishop Malone, who helped direct over \$500,000.00 in church funds and donations to help REPEAL equal marriage rights in Maine. We protest to send the message that the vote may be over, but we won't "get over it". We're not going anywhere. Everyone is welcome, any orientation, any height, any weight, lol. For more information, please see the group's facebook site at: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=176167710924>

GAY MEN'S PROSTATE CANCER GROUP The Maine Coalition to Fight Prostate Cancer has announced the formation of the gay men's prostate cancer support group with an aim to provide a safe place for gay men to share and discuss issues regarding the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. The group is open to gay and bisexual men and their partners and friends. The meeting place will alternate between South Portland and Augusta with even numbered months held at the Cancer Community Center in South Portland and odd numbered months at Maine General Hospital(Conference Room #2) in Augusta, always on the first Tuesday of the month from 6-7:30. For more information please email stuarthunter@comcast.net or mcclenahanbw@gmail.com.

GO PORTLAND MEN'S GROUP. Tuesday nights from 6 – 8pm. Location varies. Call Mat Robedee at (207)871-0216 or (207)749-6818 for more information. To be included in the monthly GO Email list – send a message to mrobedee@peabodycenter.org with the subject "add me".

MAINETRANSNET Portland, 640 Brighton Ave. Peer support meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30 P.M. Bangor/Orono meetings are on the 4th Monday of every month. MaineTransNet's peer support meetings are limited to people who identify as transgender/genderqueer/gender-variant or are questioning their gender identity. Trans women's group is the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Open support meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30 P.M. MaineTransNet's open support meetings are limited to allies, family members or acquaintances, accompanied by the trans person of their acquaintance. E-mail info@mainetransnet.org for more information.

(PFLAG) PARENTS, FAMILY, & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS, Portland. Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St, in Portland. ALL are welcomed, not just parents. FMI call 207-831-3015 or email mdpalmer@gwi.net

PORTLAND FRONT RUNNERS. Portland, Back Cove Parking Lot. Meets every Saturday at 9:05 AM in the middle of the Back Cove parking lot for a run/walk around the cove. Brunch afterwards at Whole Foods around 10 AM. FMI contact Bruce Fithian at (207) 831-7113. Please see full listing below.

SOUTHERN MAINE GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network). FMI about the group or GSTA meetings, contact the Southern Maine Chapter at PO Box 10334, Portland, Maine 04104 or see the website at <http://chapters.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/southernme/calendar.html>

TRANS YOUTH EQUALITY FOUNDATION. New England Parent Support Group. Meets every first Sunday of the month. All parents are welcome. Join us for sharing thoughts, dreams ,goals and resources in a warm and safe environment. Support other parents, get the support you need, share your story. Safe space for children under 18 provided during group. Children and siblings welcome for chat and free time together. Confidentiality emphasized. This group is for all parents or closest care givers of transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming children of all ages. <http://www.transyouthequality.org> On [facebook](#). Contact us to register to join us and learn when and where. contact@transyouthequality.org and 207-478-4087

Hancock County

AA MEETING - GLBT, Ellsworth, Friday evenings at 6:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 121 Bucksport Rd. More information can be found on the Central Maine AA meeting site: www.aamaine.org

GAY GUYS GROUP (GGG) POTLUCK DINNER. Ellsworth Area. Every 2nd Wednesday of the month. 6-9 pm-ish at various locations in the greater Ellsworth Area. FMI and to get directions and time contact Wayne at wayne@maineguyz.org You can also check the web site and get on their mailing list at www.maineGuyz.org See full listing below for more details.

(GLSEN) Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network. For meeting time and place please call 667-2358 or e-mail downeastme@chapters.glsen.org. FMI about the group, contact the Downeast Maine Chapter at PO Box 373, Ellsworth, ME 04605. OR phone 667-2358 or 244-3837. OR email downeastme@chapters.glsen.org. You can check the resource-rich national web site at <http://www.glsen.org> and find our chapter page at www.glsen.org/downeastme.

Kennebec County

JUST GUYS. Longest-standing and largest gay social group in Central Maine, drawing men from Auburn and Brunswick to Waterville and Bangor. Meets every Wednesday night of the year from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Unitarian-Universalist Community Church, 69 Winthrop Street, on the West Side of Augusta.

GAY MEN'S PROSTATE CANCER GROUP The Maine Coalition to Fight Prostate Cancer has announced the formation of the gay men's prostate cancer support group with an aim to provide a safe place for gay men to share and discuss issues regarding the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. The group is open to gay and bisexual men and their partners and friends. The meeting place will alternate between South Portland and Augusta with even numbered months held at the Cancer Community Center in South Portland and odd numbered months at Maine General Hospital(Conference Room #2) in Augusta, always on the first Tuesday of the month from 6-7:30. For more information please email stuarthunter@comcast.net or mccelenahanbw@gmail.com

Knox County

OUT!...AS I WANT TO BE. Lincoln Street Center for the Arts and Education, Rockland. GLBTQ youth, ages 14 to 22, meetings every Wed.5-8pm, and Fri. evenings/6-9pm, FMI, contact Lis at 632-4797 or email

outmaine@yahoo.com . Check the web site at <http://www.outmaine.org> or the myspace posting at www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe See full listing below for more details.

RADIO SHOW: OUT! ON THE AIR. From 5 - 6 pm on Wednesday nights, Midcoast residents can tune their dials to WRFR - 93.3 (Rockland) or 93.9 (Camden) - for a unique portrait of area youth. "Out! On the Air" is created and organized by host Starcia Willey and Rockland's very own youth group - Out! As I Want to Be - supporting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, allied, and intersexed (GLBTQQAI) young people aged 14-22 in the Midcoast area.

Penobscot County

10% SOLUTIONS. Bangor, Rm. 215 of The Commons, Husson University. A GLBTIQ support group which is held on Monday nights. The meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. FMI contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

GBLT ON RYE (Gays, Bisexuals, Lesbians and Transgenders on Real Youth Education). Bangor, Rm. 127 of Peabody Hall, Husson University. Weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30. The meetings are open to all students, staff or faculty at either Husson University or The New England School of Communications. FMI contact Alex Patel at patela@husson.edu or by phone at 941-7990.

MAINETRANSNET Peer support meeting on the 4th Monday of the month in Bangor / Orono. MaineTransNet's peer support meetings are limited to people who identify as transgender/genderqueer/gender-variant or are questioning their gender identity. MaineTransNet's open support meetings are limited to allies, family members or acquaintances, accompanied by the trans person of their acquaintance. E-mail Alex at alex@mainetransnet.org for more information.

RAINBOW FELLOWSHIP. Bangor, Hammond St. Congregational Church. Third Saturday of each month. This gathering is open to the GLBTQI community and straight allies. It is under the auspices of the very GLBT-welcoming Hammond Street Congregational Church. While it usually consists of a potluck dinner at someone's home, there have also been gaming nights and other activities. Persons who are interested should call the church at 942-4381 for details of time and place.

THE BRIDGE ALLIANCE. Bangor. Holds regular GLBTIQ support group which is held on Monday nights. See <http://thebridgealliance.org/> for a calendar, a full events listing, and more information.

Sagadahoc County

ALL ABOUT GUYS. Brunswick meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Come join other guys like you in a fun, friendly, open and nonjudgmental environment. Also offering HIV/STD prevention services including free, anonymous, rapid HIV testing (no needles or blood), and safer sex supplies. View our calendar of events and HIV testing hours, subscribe to our email list, and find more info at: <http://www.allaboutguys.org/> or call 207-725-4955. Join our Facebook group at: http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_188652697811490 See full listing, under Social Groups, below for more details.

York County

No current listings.

Washington County

PFLAG MACHIAS meets every second Wednesday of the month. Any LGBTQIA persons, family members and friends are welcome. Meetings are held at 6:30pm in the downstairs vestry at the Centre Street Congregational Church on 9 Center Street, Machias. For more information please contact: Shallee Page at 207-255-1288; or email downeastpflag@gmail.com and request to join our facebook page: Machias PFLAG Group.

THE 100% SOCIETY meets Thursdays at 5:00pm in Portside located in Kimball Hall at the University of Maine at Machias. This student run organization advocates awareness and acceptance of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer, intersex, and ally issues. For more information please see the webpage, <http://www.umm.maine.edu/100percent.html>, or contact Faculty Advisor, Lois-Ann Kuntz at lkuntz@maine.edu or 207-255-1244.

BUSINESSES:

NEW LISTINGS OF GLBTQI-OWNED BUSINESSES AND GLBTQI BUSINESS INDIVIDUALS:

The complete directory-to-date of folks who have asked to be listed is available on request. Also, it will be emailed to everyone every three months. If you are a GLBTQI business owner, an "out" GLBTQI business person associating with a non-GLBTQI-owned business, or a straight-owned supportive ally who wants a free listing, then contact me. I'm Zack at zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org or at 518-8663. I do not promise to answer the phone, but I do promise to listen to the voicemail and call you back, if requested.

New Business:

Name: Lindsey Piper Nurse Practitioner

Company Name: Bangor OBGyn

Address: 68 Mount Hope Ave Bangor ME 04401

phone: [207-945-6588](tel:207-945-6588)

email: lpiper@bangorobgyn.com

I am a women's health nurse practitioner and practice at Bangor OBGyn on Mount Hope Ave. I welcome anyone who needs breast and/or cervical cancer screening. I could also include prostate exams if a woman needs one- but won't see male identified, bio-males as patients- (it's not my training). I have not been trained in managing hormones (well, except for menopausal stuff), but it is certainly something I am open to learning about and hearing from my patients as well as contacting other providers who manage hormones. I would encourage gender queer and trans folks to call and ask to speak with me first to id themselves so that I can help get them scheduled safely and respectfully. (ask to schedule with or speak with Lindsey Piper).

JOB POSTINGS:

Down East AIDS Network seeks a Case Manager to provide direct support to People Living with HIV/AIDS and their families. This position is based out of Down East AIDS Network's Ellsworth office. The case manager requires strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work with a diverse and underserved population alongside a small and integrated staff. The Case Manager requires good computer skills, the ability to manage multiple tasks, and the ability to navigate complex social welfare systems. A bachelors degree in Social Work, Psychology, Sociology or Human Development is required with 2 years of relevant experience and/or LCSW preferred. Send resume, list of 3 references, and cover letter to: Case Management Recruitment, 25A Pine St., Ellsworth, ME 04605, kenney@downeastaidnetwork.org

PERSONALS:

No new postings this issue.

SELL/BUY/TRADE/GIVE:

If you're a FAN subscriber trying to sell/buy something, want to trade for something else, or have something to give away, this is the category to post to. The FAN makes no guarantees about anything listed here, we simply provide the free listing as a service.

No listings this issue.

LIVING SPACE RENTALS or SEEKING LIVING SPACE:

If you are FAN subscriber with a living space (room, apartment, house/apartment sharing) to rent to someone, or if you are looking for a living space to rent from someone, then this is the category to post to. Postings run for four (4) consecutive issues and may be renewed for additional 4-issue runs if you wish. Send your listings to me, Zack, at zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org.

VASSALBORO Room to rent in Beautiful Antique Cape in very desirable Vassalboro. Gay professional male seeks gay/gay friendly male or female to rent room in a stunningly beautiful antique cape in the very desirable community of Vassalboro. My home is about 6-7 miles from the capitol building. The home features formal and casual rooms, super kitchen, fireplaces and inground pool. The rent includes all utilities except owner and renter would split the cable/internet cost. I am looking for someone who is professional, rather neat and respectful. I prefer no pets and a non-smoker. I might be OK with a smoker so long as there is no smoking inside. I can rent the room empty or furnished. I also have lots of storage space if that is needed. The rent is \$500. per month and on a month to month basis. The space is available January 1st, or sooner if needed. Please feel free to contact me anytime to discuss possibilities. Al @ 951-0407

BELFAST: Offering downtown apartments for rent. One and two bedroom units occasionally available. We offer great light, heat and hot water, parking downtown, laundry facility and trash removal. For more information on availability contact: abelfastrental@gmail.com

GLBTQI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS and RESOURCES:

The Bridge Alliance is a registered non profit organization whose primary goal is to connect the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied (GLBTA) community in Aroostook, Hancock, Washington, Piscataquis, and Penobscot counties accomplishing the following: To facilitate the development of a GLBTA community which promotes and embraces diversity; To promote and encourage the understanding that the GLBTA community plays an important role in Maine's cultural, social and economic landscape; To give back to the GLBTA community through charitable donations or in-kind services; To produce annual events that will assemble the GLBTA community in Northern Maine. See <http://thebridgealliance.org/> for more information.

Bridging The Gap provides no-cost clinical breast exams, mammograms, breast ultrasounds, and other breast health services to women (including lesbian, bi, and trans women) age 20 to 29 who have a symptom of concern and age 30 to 39 who have a symptom of concern or a family history of breast cancer. FMI and to see if you qualify contact Robin at Bridging The Gap at 941-2808.

Caring Connections provides no-cost mammograms and Pap tests to women (including lesbian, bi, and trans women) age 40 to 64 who meet income guidelines and don't have insurance to cover breast and cervical health services. FMI contact Robin at Caring Connections at 941-2808.

Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity, University of Southern Maine, Portland. Education, Support, and Advocacy for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Questioning, Queer, and Allied community at USM. See <http://www.usm.maine.edu/csgd/> for more information.

Community, Inc. Community, Inc. is an up-and-coming non-profit organization that seeks to provide what our entire community has needed for years – a safe, accessible community center where everyone is welcome. Community, Inc.'s mission is to provide a safe space for community members to gather, hold meetings, host events, and, most importantly, be safe and free within the community. Community, Inc. intends to provide both a community space for individuals and groups to use as needed, as well as offering office space for other community organizations serving the community at a reduced rent, so these groups can continue offering their valuable services to our community. For more information, see Community, Inc.'s facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/CommunityIncMaine> or e-mail communityincmaine@gmail.com

Connections! Gay or Bisexual male in Maine? On your own and not getting any younger? Want to be connected by phone with other mature gay men in Maine? Network for conversation, companionship, connections for support, help in recovery from medical treatment, ice storms or accidents. Call or be called or both. If you know of anyone who may not see this message, for the sake of community pass this

information on. Even slight connections among people raise our spirits. To find out more call Peter (in confidence) at 207-348-2212 between 9AM and 8PM.

Downeast (GLSEN) Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network. For meeting time and place please call 667-2358 or e-mail downeastme@chapters.glsen.org. We eat together (usually pizza) and ask participants to pitch in for the cost (usually about \$5). New members always welcome. Our work is focused on making schools safer and more respectful for all students and staff regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We do staff trainings, workshops at other events, and advocate for student needs. Recently we have begun to work with and encourage several gay-straight alliances (GSA's) in local high schools. We are teachers, parents, school administrators, counselors, and other interested citizens; men and women, gay and straight, working together. FMI contact the Downeast Maine Chapter at PO Box 373, Ellsworth, ME 04605. OR phone 667-2358 or 244-3837. OR email mdowneastme@chapters.glsen.org. You can check the resource-rich national web site at www.glsen.org and find our chapter page at www.glsen.org/downeastme.

Equality Maine, has been providing education and legislative advocacy for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1984. It sponsors a variety of social and legislative educational events each year and is always looking for volunteers and new members. If you're not a member, you should be. FMI contact Equality Maine at 207-761-3732 or toll free at 1-800-556-5472. Their email address is info@equalitymaine.org and the web site is www.equalitymaine.org

Gay-Lesbian Phone Line of Maine. PO Box 1116, Presque Isle, ME 04769, 800-468-2088; 498-2088 Hotline for GLBTQ people, friends and family members. We offer information and support by trained volunteer staff or answering service. We also offer HIV/AIDS information with Health First.

Gay Men's Prostate Cancer Support Group: The Maine Coalition to Fight Prostate Cancer has announced the formation of the gay men's prostate cancer support group with an aim to provide a safe place for gay men to share and discuss issues regarding the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. The group is open to gay and bisexual men and their partners and friends. The meeting place will alternate between South Portland and Augusta with even numbered months held at the Cancer Community Center in South Portland and odd numbered months at Maine General Hospital(Conference Room #2) in Augusta, always on the first Tuesday of the month from 6-7:30. The first meeting will take place October 4 at the Cancer Community Center and the next, Nov. 1 at Maine General. For more information please email stuarthunter@comcast.net or mcclenahanbw@gmail.com

Get Out (GO): Get Out connects and supports gay, bisexual & questioning men through educational and community activities. This diverse mix of activities provides alternatives to bars and online hook up sites by drawing attention to the rise in HIV & STD infections, and the importance of establishing and maintaining a visible community. It's a safe and non-judgmental environment for the comfortable exploration of sexual identities. To be included in the monthly GO Email list – send a message to mrobedee@peabodycenter.org with the subject "add me". Follow us on facebook! (207)871-0216 for more info.

(GLAD) Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders. To learn about and protect your rights under Maine's anti-discrimination law, visit GLAD's website at www.glad.org or call the free legal hotline at 1-800-455-GLAD (1-800-455-4523). GLAD is New England's legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression. GLAD's legal victories in Maine have addressed HIV discrimination, harassment of gay students, co-guardianship rights for same-sex parents, domestic partner benefits and more.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Collection at the University of Southern Maine is working to capture the history of Maine's LGBT community. We collect papers of individuals and the records of organizations active in the community. Although we mostly collect print material (books, serials, written documents) we collect almost any object that documents the life and experience of the LGBT community (photographs, books, newsletters, objects, posters, T-shirts, buttons, etc). Following professional standards, we are careful to guard the privacy of individuals involved with the collections and will work with donors who choose anonymity. For information on the collection and donating material please contact Susie Bock, 207-780-4269 or bocks@usm.maine.edu.

Lesbian Radio is on the air Wednesday afternoons from 1 until 1:30 pm. Listen in at 90.9 and 104.1FM and online at www.wmpg.org to politics, news, arts, business, music, poetry--all things Lesbian-y. Deb Gallagher hosts the show live each week. ourlesbianradioshow@yahoo.com

Living Queer Here! A locally-produced radio show aired on station WERU. An exploration into the full range of life created and experienced by the queer community in Maine. Hosted by Gail Mackinson & Cindy Montgomery. The show airs on the 4th Thursday of each month 10-11 am. WERU broadcasts in the greater Blue Hill area on frequency 89.9 FM, in the Bangor area on frequency 102.9 FM, and streams on the web at www.weru.org. WERU also broadcasts the nationally syndicated GLBTI show: **This Way Out** every Wednesday afternoon from 4 - 4:30 pm.

Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center. The purpose of this organization is to provide educational and clinical services in sexual and reproductive health care to women regardless of age, ability, race or ethnicity, sexual orientation or economic status. The Mabel Wadsworth Center provides low-cost, woman positive health care including: pelvic exams, breast exams, health education, instruction in breast self-exam, pap smears, mammography referrals, health advocacy, screening and treatment of STD's. For more information: www.mabelwadsworth.org. 947-5337 or info@mabelwadsworth.org

Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program, offers no-cost mammograms, pap tests, and gynecological exams to qualifying Maine women (regardless of sexual orientation). If you are a woman in Maine and you are due for a Pap test or mammogram, help is just a phone call away. The Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program can help you get the health care you deserve. If you are a Maine woman over 40, have little or no insurance and meet certain income guidelines then you may be eligible for no-cost mammograms, Pap tests, and gynecological exams at your choice of participating area providers. Call today to see if you qualify, 973-3646 or 1-800-350-5180. (TTY 1-800-438-5514) The best protection is early detection! (Jessica Thompson - contact)

Maine Equity Fund. Part of the Maine Community Foundation, The Maine Equity Fund's mission is to strengthen GLBT organizations in Maine and support community-based initiatives that address GLBT issues and needs through grant making. The vision driving the fund is one of inclusive, diverse, prejudice-free communities for the GLBT population and for all people in Maine. Detailed grant information is available on the web and the annual proposal deadline is in September. <http://www.maineecf.org/grants/availablegrants/equityfund.aspx>

MaineTransNet (Maine Transgender Network, Inc.) is an organization dedicated to educating the public about gender identity and raising awareness of the varied forms of gender expression. We provide support and consultation to health and social service professionals, transgender individuals, their families, and interested others. MTN also sponsors transgender peer support groups in various parts of the state and a separate group for partners of trans/genderqueer/questioning individuals. FMI email Alex at alex@mainetransnet.org or check the web site at www.mainetransnet.org. You could also leave a message at 207-408-1685.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues meets monthly in Portland. Membership on the NASW LGBT Committee is open to social workers in Maine who are interested in LGBT issues in general and improving social work services to LGBT populations in particular. Please join us. Contact Frank Brooks at fbrooks1@maine.rr.com for meeting place, dates, and times.

The Naughty North Collective is a state wide radical queer direct action (dis)organization. We are committed to celebrating our queerest selves while resisting the devastating violence inherent in the consumer driven assimilationist gaystream. We will defend ourselves against the brutal silence of isolation thru a diverse and dedicated network of action oriented friends and lovers. We will not deny our anger or fail to recognize the links between queer struggle and challenging power. Naughty North is a defiant orgasm in the face of oppression: all are welcome to get off with us! <http://www.thenaughtynorth.blogspot.com>

Trans Care Collaborative. Mission: To improve the medical and mental health care available to the transgender and gender-diverse population in Maine. To foster a network of medical care, mental health and other support services treating the transgender and gender-diverse community in Maine. To advocate

for the needs of transgender and gender-diverse individuals. This is a Portland-based group *for medical and mental health professionals only*. We meet monthly to discuss trans-related healthcare and occasionally offer events that raise awareness about trans issues. FMI contact: Rick Bouchard, LCSW at 207-650-6450 ... email CONSTL8@maine.rr.com OR Wayne Bachner, LCSW at 207-662-4872 ... email BACHNW@mme.org

The Transgender Fund. With offices in Freeport, Maine, The Transgender Fund is a national, completely independent, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charitable foundation. It has been created by and for transgendered individuals. Our funding is derived from contributions by caring individuals of all levels of means. Our strength and independence come from the fact that there is no single benefactor who has seeded the Fund with a large amount of capital. Contributions you make are added to those of your sisters and brothers. Individually, they may seem modest, but collectively they add up to a powerful force that is reinvested in the support of projects fostering the well-being of all our gender variant minorities. FMI email info@tgfund.org OR check the web site at www.tgfund.org

Trans.Mission. Dal Maxwell, host, gives this description: There's a new public affairs show on WMPG with a definitive transgender slant to it. Whether it be annoying television shows, outrageous comments by famous people, or just noteworthy news items, I'll be sure to have something to say about it. So tune in Tuesdays from 1 -1:30 p.m. EST at 90.9/104.1 (Portland area) or on the web as I take to the air and give my slanted slant on all things transgender. Available well beyond the boundaries of our broadcast area, WMPG can be streamed live from just about anywhere in the world (I believe North Korea is an exception) at www.wmpg.org Website: <http://www.facebook.com/dalmax.trans.mission>

Trans Youth Equality Foundation. Trans Youth Equality Foundation provides education, advocacy and support for transgender and gender-non-conforming children and youth and their families. Our mission is to share information about the unique needs of this community, partnering with families, educators, and service providers to help foster a healthy, caring and safe environment for all transgender children. We are located in Portland Maine but are available to all. We have a social/support group for children that meets once a month. We have a summer zine workshop for youth and any trans youth 18 and under can join. To learn more look at <http://www.transyouthequality.org> and friend us on facebook. 207-478-4087. Susan Maasch/Director

SOCIAL GROUPS:

Buddy Bikers, Gay Motorcycle Group (PORTLAND) Guys who are gay/gay friendly who enjoy group rides. Based in the Portland area, but rides are not limited to Southern Maine. Harleys to Hondas, Choppers to Rice Rockets. SORRY, NO SCOOTERS ALLOWED. Annual event; Biker Boy Brunch, third Sunday of August to Amore's in Ogunquit. EMAIL buddybikers@yahoo.com Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/buddybikers>

Clay Hill Farm Restaurant (OGUNQUIT) hosts a variety of women-only events during the year. Among them are a Christmas Season dinner-dance, a women's Valentine's Day dinner-dance (for both couples AND singles), and a Spring Soiree in June. You can check out the web site at www.clayhillfarm.com . To get on the e-mail list for their Events For Women, send your request to Jackie at Lmsmarketing@yahoo.com

DEPA (DownEast Pride Alliance). (PORTLAND) DEPA's mission is to grow, promote and increase the visibility of GLBT businesses, their owners, and their allies in the communities that support them. Sid Tripp with Proactive Resources Design and Leah Bartley of Smith Barney have teamed-up to co-sponsor a monthly after-hours gay business network called The DownEast Pride Alliance (DEPA). We hope to fill the need for a comprehensive business network geared specifically for gay & gay friendly businesses throughout Southern & Coastal Maine. FMI contact Sid Tripp at 772-3599 or Leah Bartley at 771-0854 or check the web site at www.depabusiness.com

Get Out (PORTLAND and OGUNQUIT) is committed to serving as a bridge connecting and supporting men who have sex with men (MSM), gay men, bisexual men, and questioning men through educational and community activities. This diverse mix of activities will provide these men with alternatives to the gay bars and on-line hook up sites by drawing attention to the rise in STD infections, the steady number of HIV

infections among the gay male population, and the importance of establishing and maintaining a visible community. It is the hope of all participants and supporters that a safe and non-judgmental environment be created to allow for the comfortable exploration of sexual identities. Group Happenings Include: Volleyball, Men's Discussion Group, Coffeehouse, Men's Health, Movie Night, and Dine Outs. To be included in the monthly GO Email list – send a message to mrobedee@peabodycenter.org with the subject “add me”. Follow us on facebook! Call (207)871-0216 for more info.

All About Guys. (BRUNSWICK, LEWISTON/AUBURN) is a group of guys (gay, straight, bi, questioning, trans) building community together. We have regular discussions, workshops, movie nights, and social activities. We acknowledge the need for guys to get together in a healthy and safe environment to socialize and talk about issues unique to them. All About Guys meets in Brunswick on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, and Lewiston/Auburn on the 1st and 3rd Mondays. Come join other guys like you in a fun, friendly, open and non-judgmental environment. Also offering HIV/STD prevention services including free, anonymous, rapid HIV testing (no needles or blood), and safer sex supplies. View our calendar of events and HIV testing hours, subscribe to our email list, and find more info at: <http://www.allaboutguys.org/> or call 207-725-4955. Join our Facebook group at: http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_188652697811490

just guys. (AUGUSTA) Longest-standing and largest gay social group in Central Maine, drawing men from Auburn and Brunswick to Waterville and Bangor. Meets every Wednesday night of the year from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Unitarian-Universalist Community Church, 69 Winthrop Street, on the West Side of Augusta. Ample on-street parking; fenced, discreet, off-street parking across from the church's side entrance. Fully accessible parking, meeting spaces and restrooms; occasional events may be attended by ASL interpreters, and most films have subtitles. Widely-varied programs include glbt-themed movies, game nights, unstructured evenings of casual conversation, speakers on men's health, GLBT politics or safe-sex , potlucks, workshops, hosted dinners on holidays. No reservations (except for hosted meals) and no invitation required - feel free just to show up. For directions, or to get on our emailing list, visit us at justguys.info. To receive a call from a member of our Steering Committee please leave a message on our info line at 619-0859.

Maine Street Bar (OGUNQUIT) hosts monthly women-only T-dances. For more info about them check the web site at <http://www.mainestreetogunquit.com/women.php>

Northern Lambda. (AROOSTOOK COUNTY) A GLBTQ social group that hosts monthly meetings/gatherings on the 4th Saturday of each month. Location varies within Aroostook County. Open to all gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning folks (and their friends & supporters). FMI and/or directions contact Tess at 694-2639 or Kent at 538-7630 or email northernlambda@gmail.com . You can also ask to join their YahooGroup and keep informed on all the doing's via email. <http://www.northernlambda.org>

Out!...As I Want To Be. (ROCKLAND) An organization for all GLBTQQ youth, ages 14 to 22, as well as straight allies. We are an all-volunteer, youth-driven organization. We seek to provide outreach, affirmation, support, and education in a safe space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth in Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo counties and their offshore islands. We meet in Rockland at the Lincoln Street Center for the Arts and Education every Wed.5-8pm, and Fri. evenings/6-9pm, FMI, contact Lis at 632-4797 or email outmaine@yahoo.com . Check the web site at www.outmaine.org or the myspace posting at www.myspace.com/outasiwanttobe

Outright L/A. (ANDROSCOGGIN / OXFORD / FRANKLIN COUNTIES) Outright Lewiston/Auburn creates safe and affirming environments for youth age 22 and under who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and/or questioning. Outright L/A hosts a weekly drop-in, a place for youth age 22 and under to meet other youth, talk, plan events, play games, watch movies, get information on HIV prevention, and much more! Outright L/A meets every Friday from 6:00 - 8:30pm at the UU Church on the corner of Spring and Pleasant streets in Auburn. FMI call 207-795-8956 or email info@outrightla.org or check the web site at www.outrightla.org

Portland Front Runners (PORTLAND), The Portland Front Runners, a GLBT running/walking group, meets every Saturday at 9:05 AM in the middle of the Back Cove parking lot for a run/walk around the cove. Brunch afterwards at Whole Foods around 10 AM. A great way to keep healthy and make new friends. FMI contact Bruce Fithian at (207) 831-7113

Portland Lesbian Coffee House. (PORTLAND) Join our community of women to talk about books, politics, music, raising children or the wacky thing that happened on the latest episode of The L Word. All stripes of the tribe welcome. This is a social group that includes women of all ages and statuses. You can check it out on the web at <http://lgbtfriends.meetup.com/78/> . FMI about dates, times, location, contact Mary at laughingmary@hotmail.com

PRYSM (Proud Rainbow Youth Of Southern Maine) (PORTLAND) An organization that provides safe and supportive community for youth 22 and under who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and their allies (LGBTQA). Drop-in groups are every Wednesday from 5-7:30 pm. Located at 165 Lancaster Street, Portland, ME 04101. Also provide outreach, phone & email support; community education, leadership development, safer-sex/HIV prevention education, and connections to community resources. Volunteer opportunities available! FMI call 874-1022 or email prysm@commcc.org

Rainbow Business & Professional Association (RBPA) (PORTLAND) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the vitality, productivity and growth of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender business and professional community throughout the State of Maine. Since 1992, our aim has been to promote and support the LGBT business and professional community in Maine. RBPA is a rapidly growing organization with a membership that boasts business leaders, entrepreneurs, the self-employed, individuals from the corporate community and non-profit organizations. Check the web site at www.rbpa.org

Saco Bay Gay Men (BIDDEFORD/SACO), A gay men's support group has been started in Saco. We meet at the UU Church of Saco & Biddeford, every Thursday evening. We started out meeting on November 6th and are growing. FMI contact Tom Muise at sbgm@verizon.net

Seacoast Outright. (PORTSMOUTH, NH) but available to GLBTI youth from York county and southern Maine. A peer support group/organization for GLBTI youths. FMI contact Tawnee Walling, Executive Director at 603-431-1013 or check the web site at www.seacoastoutright.org

Seacoast Sapphos (PORTLAND TO PORTSMOUTH) A women's social group that sponsors dances, BBQs, potlucks, concerts, etc. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Cherie at seacoastsapphos@yahoo.com or check the web site at www.seacoastsapphos.org

Trans_Port_Me (PORTLAND) This is a trans support group located in Portland, Maine for people who identify as transgender. Both M2F and F2M are welcome. We are located in downtown Portland and meet on a monthly basis in a safe location. A screening and interview process is in place to insure security and discretion. Admission to this group is by invitation only. My name is Gail and I am your host and moderator, but this is YOUR support group so the more input involvement and participation you provide the better. Internet support is fine, but person to person support, validation and interaction with people who are like us can have a profound effect on our overall well-being and sense of self. Send an e-mail to mailto:g_g_moreau@yahoo.com to join the online support group.

Twin Ponds Lodge (WATERVILLE-AUGUSTA AREA) is a private social club in Maine for adult male naturists and men who are comfortable with naturists. This private social club fills a niche for men seeking a comfortable and welcoming setting surrounded by nature on 75 acres of fields and woods. As a members-only club, we welcome you into a clothing-optional country setting to enjoy relaxation, recreation, and socializing. Passing through the gated entrance, you are greeted by two ponds surrounded by the lodge, lawns, cabins, and tenting areas. There are also areas for RVs with full hookups, including sewer. The lodge also welcomes member day visitors to enjoy the surroundings and recreational opportunities, and to explore the trails that wind through the woods. The Lodge is open year-round and features a large indoor heated pool, hot tub, sauna, and (coming soon) a steam room. The large great room provides seating for socializing, eating, or enjoying the large screen satellite television. The recreation room has a ping-pong and billiard table. (The gym/exercise room is coming soon!) We welcome all men, whether gay, straight, or bisexual. FMI, check the web site at www.twinpondslodge.com or email them at stay@twinpondslodge.com or call John at 207-437-2200.

WAYVES (CANADIAN MARITIMES) For those FAN readers who are near the Canadian maritime provinces there is a monthly newspaper, called WAYVES, which is put out by the maritime GLBT community. It's put out in print copy only, covers all the maritime provinces, and contains feature articles,

regular columns, listings of groups and services, listings of GLBT events coming up, and business ads. A subscription sent to the U.S. is \$30/year CDN. FMI about subscribing contact Jim McMillan at 902-826-7356, email submissions@wayves.ca, or write to Wayves, PO Box 34090, Scotia Square, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, B3J 3S1. You can also check their web site at www.wayves.ca

Yankee Boyz. (AUBURN) A social/support group for those born female, or intersex, and which female and/or "woman" as an identity does not fit. Female-to-male Transsexuals, Transgenderists, Crossdressers, TG Butches, Stonebutches and otherwise very masculine identified female "guys" and their SOFFA'S (significant other, friend, family, allies) are welcome. All sexual orientations are welcome. A place to share ideas and experiences in an atmosphere where we do not have to fight for validation. Meets monthly Sept - June (1st or 2nd Sunday of the month...call ahead to verify). Meetings are held at the U.U. Church in Auburn. FMI see the list website at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/YankeeBoyz/>.

WEB-BASED MAINE GLBTQI LISTSERVES AND E-MAIL LISTS:

Bisexual Group Online. Bisexuals in Maine and other points north (BINNE). This is a discussion group, NOT a dating group. Located in Yahoo! groups at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/binne>.

Coastal Women's Connection. A women's social group providing connections for LBT women in the Brunswick to Portland area. oftball, camping, potlucks, etc. FMI about their activities you can join their yahoo group site (they have an events calendar) at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coastalwomensconnection>.

Deserve to Know. A web site sponsored by The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention which features community resources for men who have sex with men (MSM) and all who are working to prevent the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in Maine. This interactive Web site features a community calendar, HIV testing sites, and other helpful information. D2K will provides an anonymous and friendly place to browse information about HIV, HIV testing and men's health issues. It also features local and national news and information geared toward the MSM community. Check it out at www.deservetoknowme.org

Gay Maine. www.gaymaine.com. The lesbian and gay directory for gay-owned and gay-friendly places in Maine: Bars, clubs, hotels, guesthouses, restaurants, and more!

Gay Ogunquit. A web resource for LGBTQI residents of or visitors to the Ogunquit area. <http://www.gayogunquit.com/index.php>

Laura's Playground. Transgender Suicide Prevention and Support Site. Jessica writes: I'm a moderator at a transgender suicide prevention and support site. It's a wonderful place with a live chat and lots of information. The chat runs 24 hours a day and I don't remember the last time there wasn't a moderator present. We screen the chatters to make sure we keep out 'admirers' and anyone who might harass. All moderators go thru suicide prevention training thru <http://training.sprc.org> as well as training from the administrators and supervisors. And it isn't only for suicidal individuals, a lot of TGs just go there to chat with people who understand their situation. I personally have found lots of support there and made some great friends. The people there are always willing to help answer any questions someone might have. Maine doesn't have much support to offer to TGs north of Bangor, or even much in Bangor. I just want to make sure that people know that Laura's Playground is around to offer support, answer questions, and help people find the resources they need. You can find it at: www.lauras-playground.com

Maine Gay Men's Weekly News Letter is an email newsletter focusing on organizations and activities in southern Maine. It is primarily for gay men, but they do include some general GLBT activities info and links to various GLBT organizations around the state. FMI, to see a sample copy, or to be added to their mailing list, send Joe an email at cascogays@gmail.com with your request.

Maine GayNet Listserve. A long-running listserve for the Maine GLBTQ community which allows members to post notices, opinions, etc. (in a broadcast manner) to everyone else on the listserve. To join the Maine GayNet listserve, send the following command in the body of a message to majordomo@groups.queernet.org: subscribe me-gaynet youremailaddress.

Maine Gay Outdoor Network Events (MEGONE) is a yahoo group site/email list for Maine's GLBT? folks (& friends) for posting announcements of outdoor related events. It's not a formal club or organization--just an informal way to let folks know about outdoor activities that they might like to participate in--whether it's a hike, a paddle, camping trip, nature walk, or even a downtown shopping walk--it's up to you. This is not meant to compete with other groups such as the Chiltern Club--it's just an idea that some of us came up with on a recent trip to Baxter State Park :-). So, if you'd like some company the next time you take a hike, go on a bike ride, paddle, etc., just send an email to megone@yahoogroups.com to let members know the details. To join the group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/megone/> Please pass the word along to other gay-related lists/groups--the more people who join, the more opportunities there will be for connecting with like-minded folks for some great outdoor fun. Right now, the membership is "open" to anyone who would like to join....however, if we have any problems with folks who are not gay-friendly, I may change it to a process requiring membership approval. Also, people posting should use discretion regarding publicly posting time/place to meet--you may want to simply say "anyone interested in details, please email me at _____, or call me at _____ " Any questions? let me know! (mikeondavispond@yahoo.com)

Maine GLBT Community is your "Maine" source for information on LGBT issues, events and news. A virtual community center for bisexuals, lesbians, gay men, and transgender persons in the State of Maine.: <http://grou.ps/MAINEGLBTCOMMUNITY>

Maine Lesbians Listserve Anyone who identifies as a lesbian is welcome to join. The website address is: <http://groups.google.com/group/maine-lesbians> Women can request to join from the website or email me: pputnam@mac.com

Proud Lesbians of Poverty We seek people to join the group as we explore ways to improve the civil rights of GLBTQ's of poverty who cannot afford a lawyer to enforce their Gay Civil Rights, or their original Human Rights as a person. We are open to all people of any background. FMI contact Jan at janshouse@yahoo.com or phone 207-453-2353 or join the yahoo group at <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/ProudLesbians/>

Rubyfruit Cafe. A Maine-based, on-line, lesbian virtual community. Rubyfruit Cafe is a lesbian community magazine designed to showcase our lives, creativity, spirituality, politics, and much more. It is a website that will be driven by your submissions, your music, poetry, videos, photos, and stories. Show us where and how you live (show us your "crib") ... Tell us about your spirituality ... what you think politically and poetically ... sing your song or show us your garden ... share your lives, ideas and hopes with each other. If you find an interesting article, website, product, or new talent, let us hear about it. I want to create a fun, creative, supportive, environment for everyone to relax and just enjoy each other ... to take pleasure in our diversity and talents ... a place of tolerance and celebration. www.rubyfruitcafe.com

THE WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, AND HOW OF THE FAMILY AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER:

All communications to FAMILY AFFAIRS should be sent to zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org (Be sure to include the words "family affairs" or "The FAN" in the subject line). Note that FAN issues often show up in your inbox from thefan@maine.rr.com due to technicalities of the internet.

WHAT IS "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

FAMILY AFFAIRS is a free, twice-a-month, social activities newsletter for the GLBTQI (gay/lesbian/bisexual/trans/queer/intersex) community, sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month. It covers the State of Maine only. The list was graciously begun and maintained for many years by Jean Vermette in Bangor. It is now operated by Zack Paakkonen of Portland. It's crept somewhat beyond a social activities newsletter into a business directory, classified ad service, and community bulletin board.

WHO CAN SUBMIT NOTICES TO "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

Anyone! This is your chance to organize your own activities and get some GLBTQI-family company for those fun and interesting things you'd like to do. Do you want to host a potluck, attend a concert, or have

someone to join you on that bus tour to Boston? Are you looking for someone to join you at the hockey or baseball games, for hiking, or to go to that special art exhibit? Are you looking for canoeing, golfing, camping, or fishing partners? This is the best place to look. Think up something fun to do, organize it, and let us know about it....it's easy!

CAN I ORGANIZE AN ACTIVITY THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE "EVERYONE" ?

Yes. People who want to organize an activity for the GLBTQ and/or I community are free to set whatever requirements or restrictions they want to on the activity they're organizing. If you want to organize a "women only" camping trip, a "men only" drumming night, a "youth from age 18-24 only" dance, or a day trip to a water park for GLBTQI "couples with children", that would be fine.

CAN I POST A SOCIAL ITEM THAT'S NOT GLBTQI FOCUSED?

But of course! Not everyone who watches women's basketball is a lesbian! If **you** want to organize an activity around something that is "mostly-straight-but-GLBTQI-friendly," then do it! However, outside events (such as holiday fairs, festivals, the local chamber of commerce, etc.) that are not focused on the GLBTQI community and do not have a significant GLBTQI component will not be listed in the FAN.

ARE THERE ANY DEADLINES OR REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING?

If you want to be sure that your posting will make it into the next issue, please send it to zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org no later than four days prior to when the next issue comes out (in other words – three days before either the 1st or the 15th of the month). Although I can try to get a last-minute post into the next issue if you mail it later than my deadline, I can't guarantee it will make it. I accept postings from FAN subscribers only, and no obscenity is allowed.

HOW DO I GET ONTO OR OFF THE MAILING LIST ?

Just email me and ask to be put on (or taken off) the list: zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org

CAVEATS:

All newsletters are emailed BCC, and the email list is not given out to anyone. Still, keep in mind that while this newsletter is for the GLBTQI community, not everyone on the mailing list may be a "family" member. People ask to be put on the list and I put them on. There is no interview process or attempt to verify LGBTQI status. It's up to you to behave appropriately for whatever level of anonymity/security you feel you need. Also, listings are posted with information as is submitted to me, and I have no independent knowledge of the accuracy, truth, or falsity of any posts, events, advertisements, job listings, rental listings, etc. Respond at your own risk. Please note also that FAN issues may show up in your inbox as coming from thefan@maine.rr.com instead of from zack@familyaffairsnewsletter.org due to technicalities of the internet and the vagaries of your ISP and e-mail program. It's still the same FAN from the same sender.