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Community Pride Reporter
The newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine.

VOL. 1, Number 11 JUNE, 1994

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STONEWALL DIARY - Part III: Sharing our strengths

By Michael Rossetti

Lupida Sequiero is a lesbian activist who travels through her native Nicaragua educating about lesbian and gay issues, and organizing 'collectives.' The Stonewall committees of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont have agreed to sponsor her travel expenses to Stone wall 25 so she can lobby the United Nations. She will be coming with the full knowledge that to be lesbian or gay, or to teach about the 'crime' in Nicaragua, is against the Nicaraguan Penal Code. Undoubtedly she will be arrested upon her return to her homeland.

In order to raise the airfare for Lupida Sequiero, and to encourage folks to participate in a letter writing campaign to the Nicaraguan government demanding her safe return home and freedom for all Nicaraguan lesbians and gay men, a special banner has been created. This banner will be sent to the Lesbian and Gay Archives as a permanent Stonewall artifact. For a $5 donation you can sign your name to the banner as a supporter of Lupida specifically, and human rights for sexual minorities the world over. The banner will be available at a reception scheduled to follow the Portland Pride Rally on Friday evening, June 17th, at City Hall Plaza. Letter writing materials and more information about how specific groups can borrow the banner for fund-raising will also be available at that time.

This banner represents the spirit of the International March on the United Nations. Across the newly freed Soviet countries, through the Arab world, Asia and South America, hundreds of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people cannot come to Stonewall to lobby and embarrass their governments. They are in prisons or they have already been executed, abducted and murdered, or left to starve in silence for simply loving someone. In 1991, Iran executed over 70 gay, or perceived to be gay, men and women by throwing them over cliffs. It is time to speak for them and for ourselves as people to be included in the United Nations' neglected, but essential, Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As of this writing, the New York City Mayor's office is still impeding the planning of the Stonewall International March. Precise lineup areas and other details are not available. Stonewall plans to follow the obstacles against the march routes, "Where does an elephant sit?" The planners are asking people to refrain from calling the Stonewall 25 Office and to seek information from their state/local committees. (Maine: 207/871-9940, New Hampshire: 603/382-9308.)

There are several good sources of information in New York. The Lesbian and Gay Community Center at 208 W. 13th Street, about three blocks northwest of the Stonewall Inn, will have a "Welcoming Center" for the entire weekend. The Lesbian and Gay Visitors Bureau is another excellent source on W. 20th Street. At airports and all major subway and tourist points you will find Stonewall guide personnel with the latest answers to your direction inquiries. Also, look for the List, Pride Guide, HI X Gay Games Guide, or any of a dozen "Village" publications at any corner newsstand. The local straight papers will also list the areas of New York blocked off from traffic around the UN. If all else fails, bring a radio as the entire event will be broadcast on two FM local stations.

As the event approaches, specific groups will be in charge of various aspects of the march. The New York Lesbian and Gay Coalition is asked to be in the United Nations area at 10 am, although realistically we will not arrive til after noon. When in the UN area, ask a local straight or hospitality guide for directions to the Maine contingent. We will also be known as the Tri-State Alliance. It is expected that we will step off before 2 pm, making it possible to catch the entire rally which starts at 5 pm, featuring an international program of diverse speakers and musical artists.

The Tri-State group is seeking marshals (who get a free T-shirt), light medical assistance, and performers to work with the Stonewall marshals for our group. In an effort to network the northeast region of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, specific groups from each state (youth, political, etc.) will be asked to participate in a letter writing campaign to the Nicaraguan government demanding their safe return home and freedom for all Nicaraguan lesbians and gay men.

Discrimination directed at any group is inconsistent with our time honored Maine values of fairness, tolerance and equal opportunity for all. I will introduce and work for passage of a bill prohibiting discrimination against gays and lesbians in matters of credit, employment, housing, and public accommodation. And I will vigorously fight hate crimes through prevention programs and the support and expansion of current law enforcement efforts.

Sponsored by Pat Peard, Larry Bliss, Ann Donoghoy, and Deborah Rice.
Titus, Griswold and Kidman depart TAP
Selection of new staff well under way, according to Executive Director, Shields

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

The AIDS Project (TAP) will be losing Sandy Titus, their extremely able and caring Support Services Coordinator. Titus provided CPR with the following press release:

"Sandy Titus, R.N., Support Services Coordinator for The AIDS Project for 2 1/2 years, will be leaving her position in July to join Stratogen Health, a comprehensive, unique health care center, emphasizing the partnership approach to health care in order to treat all aspects of HIV disease. Stratogen — the name means new strategies for health, living and coping with HIV — will be opening in Portland in July. Sandy will continue her involvement in the foundation of Peabody House and Peabody House Services and close collaboration with TAP (The AIDS Project) and people living with the virus."

Titus' departure follows on the heels of the loss of Cathy Kidman and Mark Griswold. Kidman has been TAP's Community Education Coordinator for the past 3 1/2 years. She is leaving to get her MSW at the University of New England. Kidman plans to continue her volunteer work with OUTRIGHT/Portland.

Mark Griswold, HIV Prevention Educator, is also leaving. Griswold has been with TAP for 4 years. He will pursue a Master's Degree in Public Health at the University of Laval in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. He's chosen to live in Quebec not only to go to school, but to be with Gaetan, his boyfriend.

Deborah Shields, Executive Director of TAP, said they will miss all three departing staff dearly. She said TAP has always supported their client's and staff's personal growth. She wants to congratulate all three and wishes TAP had more money and was able to pay the kind of salaries that would keep such qualified staff.

Shields particularly wanted to congratulate Sandy Titus on her new job with Stratogen, which will allow her to use her medical skills. She wished good luck to Mark and Cathy in graduate school, adding that TAP is working to fill all three positions as soon as possible. The selection process is well under way, and TAP has had plenty of advanced notice.

In addition to filling these positions, TAP hopes to add three new positions over the summer. One is a volunteer coordinator and the second, if a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health comes through, is to hire a mental health coordinator. The third position, if they get a grant from HUD (Dept. of Housing and Urban Development), would be to add a housing coordinator (in collaboration with Peabody House). TAP is also working with Peabody House on volunteer training issues.

Shields wants to reassure everyone in the community that TAP is here to support its clients and give the same level of service they always have.

CPR MAILBAG

Dear CPR,

I am enclosing a letter which I sent to WCSH regarding the participation of gay and lesbian people as a group in the Maine State Parade. I urge readers to write their own letters of appreciation in an effort to continue the bridge building with various media.

'Dear WCSH: Considering the hassles with St. Patrick's Day Parades in Boston and New York, WCSH should be complimented for its fair and equal inclusion of lesbians and gays, registered as Stonewall 25-Maine, in the Maine State Parade on May 14.

Unfortunately, we did experience verbal abuse on the route, there was much support from the crowd, and the few who did participate under the banner of Lewiston/Auburn Gays and Lesbians expressed a sense of good feeling about the event.

Far too often the media takes the opportunity to show us as militants, but fail to show the lesbian and gay community participating as responsible members of the community at large, which is certainly more the norm. We sincerely hope that the right wing elements of the community do not besiege your office with calls and faxes of complaints about our participation, as seems to be in vogue nowadays. Instead, I am, by this letter, thanking WCSH and requesting that our community forward their comments of appreciation to your station."

Sincerely,

Michael Rossetti - Portland
In a recent memo faxed to lawyer-activist Pat Peard, Carolyn Cosby, Chairman (sic) of Concerned Maine Families, requested that Peard sign a resolution in support of principled and civil debate on behalf of the gay community of Maine. This attempted political maneuvering is ludicrous on a number of levels, not the least of which is the assumption that the diverse gay community of a state as large as Maine has any one spokesperson!

In an effort to sound yet another wake-up call to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities across this vast state, I am reprinting the memo faxed to Ms. Peard. The accompanying Resolution, and Ms. Peard's response.

"Date: May 18, 1994
To: Patricia A. Peard, Esq., Activist, Equal Protection Maine
From: Carolyn H. T. Cosby, Chairman, Concerned Maine Families
Subject: In the face of disturbing indications of gay activist harassment of CMF petition gatherers in public places (and indications of anti-CMF instigating in 10% and Community Pride Reporter tabloids), a renewed CMF appeal to the gay community to join with CMF in a No-Room-For-Hate initiative, i.e., to join with us in a resolution in support of a principled and civil debate.

"It was slightly over a year ago that CMF transmitted to certain gay community leaders, including Rep. Susan Farnsworth and Sen. Jerry Conley, copies of its resolution in Support of Principled And Civil Debate as part of CMF's sincere and heartfelt NO ROOM FOR HATE initiative vis-a-vis the evolving relationship between the gay community and Concerned Maine Families.

"Although this appeal to the principles of cordial and peaceful political debate was brushed aside by representatives Farnsworth and Conley, who seemed at the time incapable of cooperating with CMF in the preservation of a mutually respectful common ground for discourse, new provocations undertaken by the gay community have recently created a situation so uncivilized, destructive, and contrary to the rule of law that we come again seeing your cooperation and that of the gay community with time-honored principles of proper behavior in the political arena.

"FACT:
"The 1994 issue of 10% Maine's monthly newspaper for lesbians and gay men, contained (on page 4) an article ("Concerned Maine Families sighted") which states "anyone seeing CMF collecting signatures should contact Act-Up/Portland at 828-0566 or 10% at P.O. Box 10536, Portland, Maine, 04104"). This type of notice, coupled with recent incidents of activist harassment of CMF petition gatherers at post offices in Maine, smacks of illegal, criminal tactics to deprive all of Maine citizens of the free expression of their constitutional right to peaceably petition their government.

"FACT:
"The September 1993 issue of Community Pride Reporter: The newspaper for the gay, lesbian, and bisexual and transgender community of Maine, contains the following quote by Rich Austin under the topic heading "Battle Tactics": "How can the community interfere in the Rights' signature gathering process so that the required amount of signatures would not be collected by the deadline?"

"Any unlawful interference against the rights of citizens engaged in political activity represents a serious breach of Maine's standards of lawful behavior and ought to be condemned by all participants in the debate regarding the question of special gay rights for Maine. In the face of recent incidents of harassment directed against our petitioners, we have decided to renew our year-old appeal by approaching you as a leading attorney in the gay community. We know that you value the rule of law and that it is important to protect this right as clearly as the rights of CMF petitioners compromised.

"I am in receipt of your fax dated May 18, 1994 and respond as follows: "I do not make any representation to you that I speak for the entire gay and lesbian community just as I am confident you do not speak for the entirety of the radical right element in Maine. However, I can say with complete confidence that the members of Equal Protection Maine have never interfered with anyone's First Amendment rights. Our goal is to preserve the basic civil rights of all Maine citizens. Our organization firmly believes in civil debate and has always conducted itself in the best traditions of political rivalry in Maine. We shall continue to do so.

See RESPONSE, page 22"
City man indicted for gay-bashing
by Steve Cartwright
of the Kennebec Journal
(Reprinted with author’s permission.)

A 29 year-old Augusta man was indicted Thursday on charges of assault, burglary and tampering with a witness in connection with a gay bashing incident. A Kennebec County Superior Court Grand Jury brought the criminal charges against Robert Morton who faces arraignment today at 8:30 am [May 27].

Morton also faces charges under the Maine Civil Rights Act. The State Attorney General’s office is pressing for a permanent injunction, and on Wednesday won a temporary restraining order from Judge John Atwood. It requires Morton to stay away from his alleged victim and refrain from intimidating anyone because of their sexual orientation. The civil suit seeks up to $5000 penalty for any violation. Authorities asked that the victim’s name be withheld to protect him from further harassment. He has acknowledged being bisexual.

Last Friday, Morton, accompanied by another man, allegedly yelled, “fag” at the 26 year old victim, a local man, who was walking his dog on Mill Street. According to an affidavit, Morton said, “You’re a faggot boy and you’re going to die,” then punched the man in the head. When the victim fell to the ground, the attacker continued to punch him, according to the court document. The victim of the assault and the punching went home and called the police, but as he did so the attacker returned, broke down the apartment door and began punching him again saying, “You’re a no good cop-loving faggot boy and I’m going to kill you.”

Moments later, police arrested Morton outside the apartment charging him with the assault. The victim meanwhile was treated at Kennebec Valley Medical Center for trauma and a cut over his eye.

In his affidavit, the victim said he believes Morton assaulted him because he, the victim, is bisexual. “I am terrified of Mr. Morton and fear for my life,” he said. Steven Wessler, in charge of the Attorney General’s Public Protection Unit said the case has all the earmarks of a hate crime. Officials haven’t kept figures long enough to point to trends, but Wessler believes hate crimes are under-reported. He pointed out gay and lesbian people in Maine still lack legal recourse if they suffer discrimination in housing, credit or employment. That is something he hopes will change soon.

Last year the legislature approved a so-called gay-rights bill, but it was vetoed by Governor John McKernan. “You don’t even have to belong to a minority group to be victimized,” Wessler said. He believes the Morton case is a common kind of hate crime — a cowardly act to get some kind of peer approval. Of all hate crimes reported about 35% involve blacks, 25% gays and 15% Jewish people he said. All other groups have no more than 5% of the total.

Sergeant Alan Johnston, a detective with the Augusta police said, “As far as I’m concerned, any case involving a hate crime is serious. All of the officers are aware of those types of crimes and act immediately on them.”

In a statement, State Attorney General, Michael Carpenter said, “Violence motivated by hatred against any minority group will not be tolerated in this state. Law enforcement at all levels is committed to aggressively enforcing the laws of this state which prohibit hate crimes.” Morton is free on bail, police said. ΔΔ

(CPR is grateful to Brian Kaufman of Gardiner for alerting us to this story)

Conference follow up
Youth panelists tell their stories of abuse
By Richard Steinman, Guest Reporter

Editor's Note: In the May issue of this paper Mr. Steinman reported on an all day conference held in Lewiston, entitled “Safe Schools and Agencies for All: A Conference Affirming the Place for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Youth.”

He included accounts of two stories told by youth on a panel. In this issue we are including two more accounts of stories told by two other panelists. In our July issue we will conclude with the last of the accounts. These are heartbreaking stories of what it is like to be young and queer in a homophobic society.

Evan, Age 16

Evan dropped out of school in November because of “physical intimidation. I was being targeted, but not just for my sexuality.” When Evan complained to the principal, the latter blamed Evan for his problems in school—a case study in “blaming the victim.” She said that homophobia was his problem, exclusively, not hers. As a result, Evan alienated his peers, even attacked them physically, stopped going to classes and slept in the halls.

Evan wound up at a private high school where he was the first student to come out. At that school it was cool for students to tape many different notices to the outside of their dorm rooms. When Evan displayed some gay-positive sentiments, they were torn down and forbidden.

See YOUTH, page 19
Key races for Legislature: CPR endorses gay-friendly candidates

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

research assistant, Reba Richardson, list of candidates provided by ML/GPA, and much valuable information from Joanne Dauphinee of N.O.W. (National Organization of Women) and David Shiah of DIRIGO

In those races that are contested in the upcoming June 14th primary, CPR has indicated which candidate supports gay-rights legislation. Your district may not be included because the candidates are unopposed in the primary, or because both candidates are supportive (or non-supportive). CPR will have endorsements for the general election in the October issue.

Some of our decisions on whom to support are based on the N.O.W. survey which was sent to all candidates. The question in this survey specific to our interests is: "How would you vote on gay rights legislation to prohibit discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, credit and public accommodation by adding "sexual orientation" to the Maine Human Rights Act (lesbian and gay rights bill?)"

In the 4th Senate District (Eastport, Princeton, Calais), George Townsend (D) has voted for the gay rights bill. Arthur Dolan (D), his opponent, is against discrimination, but would not say he would vote for the bill, and suggested that gays were seeking special protection through such legislation. Sound familiar?

James Handy (D) in the 21st Senate District (Lewiston), has been a strong and active supporter of the gay-rights bill and worked for passage of EPL (Equal Protection Lewiston). Erik Tiner (D), who is running in House District 90 (Lewiston), credits Senator Handy with winning his support to this cause. Tiner's opponent, Gerald Bouffard (D), did not return our call.

Unfortunately, because of redistricting, Senator Handy is running against Senator Georgette Berube (D) who is also a strong supporter of the gay rights bill. The winner of their contest will face the evil Paul Madore (R), the religious fanatic and right-wing extremist who fought so bitterly and so successfully against EPL. Candidate Tiner believes Senator Handy will be a stronger candidate against Madore in November.

This picture gets a little more confusing in that the winner of Tiner's race will face Susan Madore (R), Paul Madore's wife, in the general election, if Ms. Madore beats Joan Snyder Nason (R) in the primary. Ms. Nason's phone number is unlisted. The idea of the two Madores wielding power in the State Legislature is repugnant. Vote for Nason in the Republican primary, House District 90 (Lewiston).

In the 24th Senate District (Rumford, Hanover, Stow, North Fryeburg), James Wilfong (D) supports gay rights. His opponent, Eugene Boivin (D), returned my call and confirmed that he believes sexual relations between consenting adults is their (the adults so engaged) business. He said he would probably vote for a gay-rights bill.

In the 32nd Senate District (Kennebunk, Biddeford, Biddeford Pool), the incumbent, Democrat Charles Plourde of Biddeford, has consistently voted against gay rights. His opponent, Gary Plamondon (D), does endorse such a bill and he believes and deserves your enthusiastic support.

Guy Nadeau (D) in House District 16 (Saco) is a strong supporter of gay rights. One of his opponents, Mark Anthony (D), is opposed and CPR could not reach the other candidate, Ronald Ayotte (D). CPR endorses Nadeau.

In the crowded House District 19 (Biddeford) race, Joanne Towsen (D) is our pick. She indicated in her response to the N.O.W. survey that she would not only vote for a gay rights bill, she would work for it. Marcel Lizotte (D) said he'd vote for such a bill, but he is anti-choice. None of the other Democrats in that race bothered to answer the survey. They are: Robert Farley, Lloyd Lafountain, and Dana Peck.

In House District 24 (South Portland) Nadine Byram (D) supports gay-rights legislation. Her opponent, Santo DiPietro (D) is the long-time homophobe incumbent and should be unseated. Gerald Kennedy (D) is our favorite in House District 48 (Freeport). Edward Bradley (D) did not answer the N.O.W. survey.

In House District 72 (Auburn) Thomas Dow (D) is challenging Connie Cote (D). Dow supports gay rights but Cote has been a long-time supporter and is a senior member of the important Judiciary Committee.

In House District 73 (downtown Auburn), Belinda Murphy (D) supports gay-rights legislation and her opponent, David Laddernessh (D) does not.

John Michael (D), the outgoing State Rep. from this area wants to remind voters who are Independents that they can enroll in any party at the polls on primary day. You can register to vote on primary day at your City Clerk's Office. Mr. Michael, a long-time supporter of gay-rights, is endorsing the candidacy of Belinda Murphy.

In House District 74 (Auburn), Susan Dore (D), the incumbent, has voted for the gay-rights bill several times. Her opponent, Albert Moreau (D), opposes discrimination but thinks a law protecting gay people is "going too far."

Edgar Morgan (R) in House District 75 expressed a "willingsness to consider" gay-rights legislation. His opponent, Roy Nickerson (R), would not.

Richard Tracy (D) in House District 81 (Norriskigweock, Skowhegan) is the incumbent, and is a consistent supporter of the gay-rights bill. June Meres (D) did not respond to the N.O.W. survey.

Sharon Treat (D) in House District 91 (Gardiner), is the incumbent and has supported the gay-rights bill in the past. Her opponent, Harry DeVo (D), is anti-gay and must be defeated.

House District 92 (Hallowell, Gardiner, Randolph), has three Democrats and three Republicans vying for the primary win. Scott Cowger (D) and Jill Dunson (D) support gay rights, but Democrat Peter Hanley does not. Of the three Republicans, only Peter Crockett has indicated that he supports gay rights.

Patrick Paradis (D) of House District 95 in Augusta is a strong supporter of gay-rights legislation and 2 years ago switched to pro-choice. He is Majority Whip in the House which places him in a key role to help our community. His opponent, Lucille Cloutier (D), is anti-choice and anti-gay and must be defeated.

Louise Shorette (D) of House District 107 (Brooks, Stockton Springs, Winterport), is a strong supporter of gay rights. Her opponent, Joseph Watson (D) isn't.

In House District 122 (Orono, Levant, Bangor) there are three Democrats running, all of whom support gay rights, but Richard Gwinn's support is by far the strongest and he will work for passage.

Paul Vestal (R) in House District 124 (Newport, Bangor, Plymouth) is a strong supporter. His opponent, Harry Rideout (R), ignored the N.O.W. survey as did Republican Robert Yakobitz.

William George (D) in House District 134 (Grand Lake Stream, Eastport, Pembroke, Lubec), has indicated that he would work towards the passage of a gay-rights bill. Albion Goodwin (D) is opposed and Glenn Greenhalgh didn't answer the N.O.W. survey.

See CANDIDATES, page 22

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ALAN CROCKER -
“1 don’t believe the fire was accidental; too much has happened.”
by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

The fire was so bad, it’s impossible to tell how it started,” said Crocker, in quoting State Fire Marshal Tom Harriman’s reference to Crocker’s house trailer in Readfield. It burned on April 28. Crocker said the Fire Marshal based his decision to call the fire an accident on a guess and on the alleged finding of a frayed toaster wire. The State Police and the Fire Marshal initially termed the blaze “suspicious.” It was considered to have been the culmination of 9 months of anti-gay violence directed at Crocker.

Crocker also said that the State Police spokesperson, Stephen McCausland, has never spoken to him even though McCausland has commented to the press extensively about this case. McCausland denies that the fire was a part of the anti-gay abuse.

Alan Crocker contacted CPR by phone and told us that he just couldn’t accept the idea that the fire was an accident. He recounted the onslaught of abuse to which he has been subjected over the past 9 months. He’d wake up to find his front door wired shut. He got phone calls at 3 AM saying, “Get out of town, you’re gonna die.” People would bang on his windows so loudly at night that it would “send me [him] through the roof” he said.

When he reported these events to the State Police he was told, “we can’t do anything.” The police were unwilling to watch the trailer. Crocker wondered, “if I was straight would they say the same thing.” Crocker said, “I should have gotten out a long time ago, but I didn’t want to be run out.”

The Kennebec Journal planned to interview Crocker in the wake of the fire until they got the official word that it’s cause was accidental. Crocker says they canceled the interview and said, “wait until the next thing happens.”

Crocker revealed that the fire occurred on a Thursday afternoon between 12:30 PM and 3:30 PM. He has left his house at this time every Thursday for the past two years. This fact suggests foul play.

Steve Wessler at the Attorney General’s Office has said they will pursue this case as a hate crime but Crocker hasn’t heard from them lately.

Crocker grew up in Winthrop. He knows everybody around the Augusta area and says, “It is home.” He added, “Lots of people are upset about what happened. That’s a good feeling, people really do care.”

ANALYSIS:
Cosby launches new tactic in hate crusade
by Bruce Balboni

“We are blessed to have a brilliant politician and a committed evangelist in Carolyn Cosby,” said Don Miller, Treasurer of Concerned Maine Families (CMF), at their April 14 rally in South Portland. Miller is also a pastor of an Evangelical church in Lewiston and a leader of the anti-EPL (Equal Protection Law) forces.

Cosby’s latest political tactic, which is anything but brilliant, is the sending of a memo to Patricia Peard of EPM (Equal Protection Maine) claiming that gays are harassing CMF’s efforts to collect signatures for their anti-gay rights petition drive. The memo fails to note that every one has First Amendment free speech rights which would include a person’s right to voice their opinion whether Carolyn likes that opinion or not.

The memo asks EPM “to join with CMF in a No-Room-For Hate initiative, i.e., to join with us in a resolution in support of a principled and civil debate.” (See reprint of memo and Peard’s response to it beginning on page 5.)

The memo is written with the same loaded language that appears in the brochure: “What’s Wrong with Special ‘Gay Rights’? YOU Be the Judge!” which CMF signature gatherers distribute during their petition drive. If you compare the false information in the brochure with Cosby’s appeal for a “principled and civil debate” you will see that there is nothing “principled” or “civil” about CMF’s efforts to destroy the lives of gay people.

In the brochure and the memo, Cosby is fond of writing “FACT:” followed by whatever statement she wishes to make. For example, in the brochure Cosby writes, “FACT: Though only 2% of the population, homosexuals commit between 1/3 and 1/2 of all recorded child molestations.” Cosby knows this statement is untrue.

Lucky Hollander, Executive Director of the Cumberland County Child Abuse and Neglect Council, who recently appeared on Channel 13 TV news series called Child Abuse, told CPR that she has spoken directly to Cosby and has provided her with documented proof that 88% of child molesters in Maine are of heterosexual orientation.

Hollander provided CPR with documents showing that, “Many molesters of boy children have previously been ar-

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Netra did her fabulous "Diana Ross." The crowd swooned!

KAOS drew a mixed crowd and everyone had a blast!


Fatima delighted everyone with her original outfit.

The proud co-owners of KAOS are, on the left, Tim Pinkham and Ken Gardner, right. Mike Riley, center, is the Manager of the club.

Opening night drew a capacity crowd to this well-planned, high-tech dance club. The owners introduced the club to Portland with a festive pre-opening party.
As I prepared to "editorialize" this month, Carolyn Cosby and Concerned Maine Families again provided enough fodder for volumes. Cosby says that the gay press, specifically 10% and Community Pride Reporter, are "instigating" anti-CMF harassment of signature gatherers. Interestingly enough, in last month's Editorial I recounted an incident where a member of Act Up/Portland was verbally assaulted and shoved by a gay press, specifically the Pride Reporter. Cosby says to report any sightings of CMF's instigators. A brilliant Maine Families again provided enough tissue gatherers, andmunizy held in So. Portland. Yet Cosby picks a side to present the other referendum question.

Both 10% and CPR asked readers to report any sightings of CMF's signature gatherers, and CPR's Managing Editor, Bruce Balboni, did a brilliant piece on the Prayer Meeting/Workshop held in So. Portland. Yet Cosby picks a comment [out of context] from a story written last September by Editorial Assistant, Rich Austin, to cry foul over. (Later in the memo to Pat Peard, Cosby did put the comment into context.) We are not political novices. We know political maneuvering and posturing when we see it.

Just so readers are not under the mistaken impression that Cosby is taking only one tactic to rally support for the referendum, beware of the "Maine Citizen Review Board" formed this past April. Both Cosby and Jonathan Malmude are involved (if not the founders) in this Constitutional Watchdog Committee." Complete with an 800 number, groups having signed on include Maine Libertarian Party, Congressional Term Limits group, various taxpayers organizations, including Maine TaxBreak.

Their presentation is so slick, that they came dangerously close to having the NAACP sign on. Fortunately, NAACP President, Janet Johnson, is a friend of mine (as well as an ally of our various communities) and happened to mention this group to me. I attended the next NAACP meeting and voiced my concerns about the NAACP being used to lend credibility to the Maine Citizen Review Board. The members voted unanimously not to join. However, in an obvious effort to use the NAACP, a statement appears under the supporting organizations list saying that a representative of the Portland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People attended the kickoff meeting.

Make no mistake about it, these extreme right-wingers are users and abusers. There is not one person reading this column who can afford the luxury of saying or thinking, "Let someone else deal with this." Just read the following words of Martin Niemoller, a German Protestant minister, who led the church's opposition to Hitler and was interned in Nazi concentration camps from 1937-1945. His words hang on my office wall. He wrote,

"In Germany they first came for the communists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me - and by that time no one was left to speak up."

On a lighter note, a word of deep appreciation to the many readers and friends who joined me in celebrating my birthday and the birthday of the founding of CPR. Your generosity and support touched me deeply. It's always good to know that the work we all are doing to produce CPR matters to you, the readers. Thank you to friends from afar who sent donations. Thanks to Cathy Poole and Kate Austin for the great music, and a special thanks to the staff at SISTERS for helping to make this a wonderful celebration. Barbara Winthrop, of Barbara's Kitchen, outdid herself with abundant platters of delicious food. Thank you, Barbara. Then there was the cake from ... Oh well, more on that another time, maybe.

REMEMBER: Tuesday, June 14th, is Primary Day. Get out and vote.

In solidarity,

P.S. Some friends have been chiding me for not "announcing to the world" that I have just recently obtained my first ever driver's license. Well, I have it and I LOVE IT! Now, I need a set of my own wheels. Anyone out there ready to make a sweet deal on a car? Give me a call. Thanks to Rose Mary Denman, I have use of her car when she doesn't need it, so I have been on the road. YES!
GUEST EDITORIAL: Commandments, karma and the Law of Love
by Rich Austin

The Concerned Maine Families article in the May issue of this publication brought about a cry of indignation in my house. My lover, cats, plants, dirty dishes and laundry all screamed at the idea that gays and lesbians are important enough to the radical right wing that they have to convene in strategy sessions to come up with ideas on how to either crush us or brainwash us. And let’s face it, those are their only two options.

The quote Mr. Balboni opened the article with said it all. Intones the fundamentalist minister McIlhenny, “In order to defeat your enemy you have to throw them off balance. My message of love to the gay community is designed with this loving fundamentalist reverend sees both being gay and being a child molester as one and the same, not unlike the Right’s contention that AIDS is a gay disease. These are outstanding examples of strict unforgiveness and damnation from the Old Testament.”

How is anyone supposed to feel secure in a society with wackos who scream, “Remember when the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah!” every time another branch of the family of humanity stands up for itself? It is not comforting to know that so many fundamentalist shepherds are still teaching their flocks hatred according to the laws of the Old Testament. Just like original sin, it is uncanny that ‘original hatred’ has lived on through thousands of years of human history.

The ‘moral indignation’ that the fundamentalist reverend McIlhenny has found so useful in his fight against gay human rights is defined by the Webster’s dictionary on this gay writer’s desk as “based upon firm conviction, rather than upon the actual evidence,” and “a lesson or principal contained in or taught by a fable, story or event.” But then again, if concerned homosexual-loving fundamentalists translate Webster as flawlessly as they have translated the bible over the millennia, these definitions will soon be fodder for more deceptions.

My assertion is this: As human beings, we can’t choose who or what exists, but we can choose what matters to us individually. So, I ask gays and lesbians: Do the radical right fundamentalists and what they’re trying to do matter to us or not? If not, let’s ignore them and go about our lives. If they matter, let’s realize that their fight is being led by the vocal and poorly dressed few, and speak up for ourselves and each other. You see, unlike gays and lesbians, fundamentalists have a stained glass closet they can be forced back into. Remember, religion is a choice! And asked the concerned homosexual-loving fundamentalists: Do gays and lesbians matter to you or not? If not, just relax, because your special rights are already written in the bible (all itstranslations): Love will conquer all hatred. And a people who know love (peace, acceptance, tolerance, diversity, all facets of love) cannot be brainwashed, and cannot be crushed.

See Guest, Page 22
JUNE 1994 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, June 1st:
ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - Free two-step and line dancing lessons at the Underground. FMI, 773-3315.

Friday, June 3rd:
ΔΔ Evening - Prom Night at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland. Buffet, prizes, fun. Tickets $5.

Saturday, June 4th:
ΔΔ BURLINGTON, VERMONT PRIDE, see Pride Calendar

Thursday - Sunday, June 2nd-5th:
ΔΔ Springfest '94 Womyn's Music Festival, held at an 80 acre AAA Campground along the scenic coast of Maine in Lincolnville. ΔΔ Maine-ly For You Womyn's Festival, held at a private campground on a pristine lake in Western Maine.

Friday-Sunday, June 3rd-5th:
ΔΔ A Democratic Convention, Augusta Civic Center

Sunday, June 5th:
ΔΔ Evening - "Glitz & Glamour" Show stopping numbers by local divas. The Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland. FMI, 773-3315.

Monday, June 6th:
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Equal Protection Maine/Portland chapter general meeting at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St.
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Seacoast Gay Men's Annual Gay Pride potluck party. UU Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI, Al Santerre 603/898-1115.

Tuesday, June 7th:
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - P-FLAG NH: Seacoast meets at Stratham Community Church, Emery Lane. Topic: "Pride, Parades, and Public Displays! Are they necessary?" P-FLAG is an international organization whose mission is "to provide support for families, to educate members and the public, and to advocate for civil rights for all, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people." FMI, 603/623-6023.

Wednesday, June 8th:
ΔΔ 3:00 PM - Portland City Hall, State of Maine Room. A Housing Summit to discuss questions of housing, i.e. major obstacles facing low-income and other traditionally disenfranchised people in getting and keeping decent housing. Sponsored by Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council.
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Free two-step and line dancing lessons at the Underground. FMI, 773-3315.

Thursday, June 9th:
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - EPM/Portland Fund-raising Committee meeting at PROP, 510 Cumberland Ave.

Friday, June 10th:
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Building an Inclusive Community (BIC) presentation at UU Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. Howard Solomon, Professor of Lesbian & Gay History, co-chair University Task Force on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Issues, Tufts University, co-chair The Matlovich Society, discusses "Our Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Lives: Where Have We Been? Where Are We Going?"
ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Dustin & Val Live at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland. Cover: $3. FMI, 774-1505.

Saturday, June 11th:
ΔΔ BOSTON PRIDE - See Pride Calendar

Sunday, June 12th:
ΔΔ 2:00 PM - Equal Protection Maine/Bangor chapter meeting. Peace and Justice Center, 359 Main St., Bangor. FMI, Jim Martin, co-chair, 990-3420.
ΔΔ 10:30 PM - "Ecdysiasts a Trois" in the Disco at the Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland. FMI, 773-3315.

Monday, June 13th:
ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Seacoast Gay Men meet. UU Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. Suzanne Bowman from Exeter Seacoast Hospice to talk about AIDS terminal and grief support. FMI, Al Santerre, 603/898-1115.

Wednesday, June 15th:
ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - Free two-step and line dancing lessons at the Underground. FMI, 773-3315.

Thursday, June 16th:
ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Lesbian Movie Night at Sisters, 45 Danforth St. Presented by Poole/Rich Productions. $5 donation to support women filmmakers & support more movie nights. (see ad)

Friday and Saturday, June 17th-18th:
ΔΔ NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIDE - See Pride Calendar

Saturday, June 18th:
ΔΔ PORTLAND PRIDE - See Pride Calendar

Sunday, June 19th:
ΔΔ 3:00 PM - Co-Parent Day at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland. Special beer prices. Give-a-ways.

ΔΔ Evening - Annual "Miss Gay Maine 1994" Pageant at The Disco, Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland. FMI, 773-3315.

Monday, June 20th:
Δ Δ 7:00 PM - Seacoast Gay Men meet. UU Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. M. Dennis Paul, President of Health Education AIDS Liaison, NH and New York President, Michael Ellner will conduct a seminar on AIDS hypothesis: alternate to overcoming fear, depression and angst. FMI, Al Santerre, 603/898-1115.

Wednesday, June 22nd:
ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - Free two-step and line dancing lessons at the Underground. FMI, 773-3315.

Thursday, June 23rd:

Sunday, June 26th:
ΔΔ Stonewall International March for Human Rights in New York City. See Pride Calendar

ΔΔ Evening: A surprise happening at the Underground. FMI, 773-3315.

Monday, June 27th:
Δ Δ 7:00 PM - Seacoast Gay Men meet. UU Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. V. Ginger McCartin speaking on legal and financial implications of the non-traditional alternative family. FMI, Al Santerre, 603/898-1115.

Wednesday, June 29th:
ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - Free two-step and line dancing lessons at the Underground. FMI, 773-3315.

MURPHY'S MANOR

by Kurt Erichsen

It's a petition for gay rights in employment. Sign it, Holdings could save your job!

Sorry, I'm not political.

We need a parade for gay pride in the Gay/Lesbian Pride parade. How about it, hans?

I'm not political.

Bible-beaters are mounting an initiative to legalize gay rights. We're forming a commune to...

No/ I'm not political!

Are you all right? Did you get a good look at the Gaybathers?

"I'm not political!"
VERMONT PRIDE:
Saturday, June 4th:
Friday, June 5th:
M4-6 PM - Marshal Training for Portland Pride. Eastern Prom bandstand. Dinner supplied. FMI, 772-7325.

BOSTON PRIDE:
Saturday, June 11th:
MRound trip van ride to Boston Pride available. FMI, 871-9940.
M9:00 AM - Rally at Copley Square.
M12 noon - Parade Kick Off. FMI, 617/442-9036 or check Bay Windows.
Sunday, June 12th:
MBoston Pride Run-see Bay Windows for details.

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIDE:
Friday, June 17th:
M6:00PM-Concord, NH-State House, Pride Rally and March. FMI, 603/382-9308.

PRIDE CELEBRATION:
Henniker, NH - Pat's Peak FMI, 603/382-9308.

MAINE PRIDE: PORTLAND
Friday, June 17th:
M7:00 PM - Portland City Hall, PORTLAND PRIDE RALLY with a performance by Gay Men's Chorus.
Saturday, June 18th:
M7:00 AM - Ogunquit to Portland Bicycle Ride
M9:00-10:30 AM - MLGPA Open Board Meeting, Room 200, Payson Smith Hall, USM, Portland.
M10:30 AM - Pine & State St. Staging area for Parade participants.
M12 noon - PORTLAND PRIDE PARADE
M1-4 PM - (Approx.) Portland Pride Festival with entertainment, shopping, eats. Tommy's & Post Office Parks.
M6:00 PM - State Theater, 609 Congress St., Gay Men's Chorus Dinner/Show. Tickets: $25.
M8:00 PM - State Theater, 609 Congress St., Gay Men's Chorus presents Freedom Train. Tickets: $10.

Sunday, June 19th:
M10:00 AM - Eastern Prom, Bicycle Brunch to Gilisland Farm, Falmouth, Audobon Center. FMI, 871-9940.
M8:00 AM - Interfaith Worship Service at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, State Street, Portland.
M6:00 PM - Dignity, Etc. meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, State Street, Portland.

Saturday, June 18th - Saturday, 25th:
GAY GAMES IN NEW YORK CITY FMI, 212/633-9494.

Thursday, June 23rd:
M8:00-10:00 PM - "International Rise of the Right Wing" symposium, co-sponsored by NGLTF and IGLHRC.
Panel presentation features international speakers addressing the rise of Right Wing extremism in Europe, Central and South America and Islamic countries, as well as the exportation of U.S. Right Wing extremism to other countries. Washington Irving H.S., 40 Irving Place (1 block east of Union Sq.) NYC.

Saturday, June 25th:
MDYKE MARCH from Brooklyn to Greenwich Village via Brooklyn Bridge. DStonewall Rally, Candlelight Vigil, Sheridan Square in New York City.

Sunday, June 26th:
MStonewall International March for Human Rights Portland Pride is sponsoring one bus round trip for this event. FMI, 871-9940 or 772-7325.
MACT UP March to the site of the Stonewall bar.

Monday, June 27 - Thursday, June 30th:

BANGOR PRIDE:
Saturday, July 9th:
M12 Noon - Pride Parade steps off. FMI, Jim Martin, 990-3420.

ANNE RAND
A democrat for the Maine Senate, and a lifelong Portlanter to fight for us.

"Anne Rand is a strong advocate for civil rights. She sponsored Maine's hate crimes legislation and our first-in-the-nation sexual harassment law when few legislators dared to stand up for civil rights. Anne is a co-sponsor of Maine's Act to Prevent Discrimination. We support Anne Rand for State Senate District 28."

Barbara Wood
Rep. Susan Farnsworth,
Sive Neilan
Butch Fenton
Jason Alston
Sen. Dale McCormick
Maggie Fournier & Cheryl Ciechonski

Endorsed by:
Dirigo Alliance
Maine National Organization for Women Committee for a Safe Energy Future
Maine Council of Senior Citizens
Maine AFL-CIO
International Association of Machinists
Local Lodge S6 (Shipbuilders)
Peace Action Maine
Greater Portland Federated Central Labor Council
Maine Association of Interdependent Neighborhoods
Maine People's Alliance
Maine State Employees Association
National Association of Social Workers, Pat A National Lawyers Guild, Maine Chapter

This time, the best man for the job is a woman.
Vote for Anne Rand on June 14th

Paid for and authorized by Anne Rand for State Senate Campaign, Annie O'Malley, Treasurer, 11 Melbourne St., Portland, ME 04102
GENERAL
ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on LG issues. Primary goals are to involve the LG community in Maine's political process, promote civil rights, develop and review legislation, endorse candidates, build a coalition, and oppose anti-gay legislation and referenda. Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of every month in Augusta. FMI call 1-800-55-ML/GPA.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) is a support, advocacy and educational group for parents, families and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people. Meetings are 2nd Tuesday of every month at Pride's Corner Church, Westbrook. For resource and meeting information call Rita at 766-5158.

Northern Labrador Network: An educational, informational, social, and service organization serving lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are 2nd Sunday of every month at 1 pm (MD), 2 pm (N-B), at Lions Community Center, High St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The PhoneLine in addition to hosting special events for recreation and action. Call 207/498-2088.

The Matlovich Society is an educational and cultural organization of lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends committed to sharing our history as well as providing person-affirming presentations and discussions in a supportive environment. Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Free parking and accessible to the mobility-impaired. Call 207/773-1209.

National Association of Social Workers, ME Chapter, Sexual Minority Issues Committee welcomes new social work members. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby legislators on issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5 pm at the Community Counseling Ctr., 343 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call Perry Sutherland, 874-1030.

Out and About is a nonprofit, lesbian (over 18) support and educational group. Newsletter & calendar of local, current monthly events. Meets Mondays at 7:00 pm. FMI, call 603/659-2139 or write POB 332, Portsmouth, NH 03802-0332.

Lesbian ACOA Meeting, Tuesdays, 7-8:30 pm at 7 Middle St., Brunswick (behind the UU Church by the Public Library. FMI, call Jo, 725-5103.

MUSIC
Women In Harmony is an eclectic choral ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member, volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 7944, Portland, ME 04112, or call 772-0013.

COMMUNITY PRIDE RESOURCES

MAINE GAY MEN'S CHORUS is a community chorus which brings men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. FMI call 883-8099 or write M.G.M.C., P.O. Box 10391, Portland, ME 04104.

A new Women's Jazz Ensemble aims to bring women musicians together to sharpen sight reading skills and explore improvisational, compositional and arranging abilities in a non-competitive, nurturing environment. A little knowledge of music, and willingness to commit to a weekly rehearsal schedule and have fun this summer are all you need. For more information write Kate Austin, P.O. Box 7944, Portland, 04112.

PHONE SUPPORT
Region by region

National Center for Lesbian Rights Youth Projects - 1-800-528-NCT.
Boston Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGLY): 1-800-347-TEEN.

Portland:
The AIDS Line: 1-800-851-AIDS or 775-1267. HIV/AIDS related questions, call Mon.-Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Mon. & Wed. evenings until 7:30 pm. Anonymous.
DIAL KIDS: 774-TALK. For lesbian, gay, bi & questioning youth under 19 yrs.
Ingraham Volunteers: Call 774-HELP (774-4357).
The AIDS Project: 774-5877. Located at 277 Middle St., Suite 340, Portland. Call for information and support group meetings in Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick.
Bangor: Eastern Maine AIDS Network: 990-3626
Belfast: Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: 338-1427
Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: 725-4995
Bridgton: Community Task Force on AIDS: 583-6608
Bangor: Community AIDS Awareness Program: 823-4176
Leviston: Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: 786-4697
Waterville: Dayspring: 626-3432
Ellsworth: Down East AIDS Network: 667-3506
Oxford Hills: Toled Hill Community AIDS Network: 743-7451
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG):

Contacts in Maine
(* indicates monthly meetings)
Augusta/Hallowell: 623-2349
Bangor/Brewer: 989-5180
Brunswick/Bath: see Waldoboro
Leviston/Auburn: 783-7978
Portland: 766-5158
Waldoboro: 832-5859

Contacts in New Hampshire
P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline: 603/623-6023

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meets
Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & North Main Streets (use Washington St. entrance), FMI call 603/668-0741.
Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at Stratham Community Church, Emory Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle), FMI call 603/772-3883 or 5196.
Monadnock Region: Meets 4th Monday from 7-8:30 pm at Unitarian Church, Peterborough, FMI call 603/547-2545.
Nashua: Meets 3rd Monday from 7-9 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Church, Lowell & Canal Streets, FMI call 603/880-0910.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Medical Support
Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic: Confidential screening and treatment for STD's for residents and non-residents at a walk-in clinic. Low cost, Medicaid accepted. Anonymous, confidential HIV testing by appointment only. Clinic open Tues. & Thurs., 3:30 to 6 pm at Portland City Hall Room 303. FMI call 874-8784.


Identity Support
Out For Good: Meets Thursdays 7-9 pm, 445 Main St., Biddeford. Lesbian support/discussion group. Free or $1 donation to help w/rent. FMI write P.O. Box 727, Biddeford, 04005.
Dignity, Etc.: Meets third Sunday at 5:15 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), Portland. All are welcome. Fellowship & potluck supper follow 5:15 pm service. We minister to the lesbian and gay community, FMI write P.O. Box 8113, Portland 04104.

Central Maine Gay Men's Support Group: Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm. FMI call 622-1888 or 622-4254.

OutRIGHTTOO: Sundays, 6 pm at Peace & Justice Center, 359 Main St., Bangor. Support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual youth ages 16-22. FMI, call 285-7180.
OUTRIGHT/Central Maine: Weekly, confidential meetings for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 795-6677 or 1-800-339-4042 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

OUTRIGHT/Portland: Meets every Friday from 5:30-9:30 pm at Willowot West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Safe and supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people.

Youth Support
OUTRIGHTTOO: Sundays, 6 pm at Peace & Justice Center, 359 Main St., Bangor. Support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual youth ages 16-22. FMI, call 285-7180.
OUTRIGHT/Central Maine: Weekly, confidential meetings for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 795-6677 or 1-800-339-4042 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

OUTRIGHT/Portland: Meets every Friday from 5:30-9:30 pm at Willowot West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Safe and supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people.
RESOURCES, cont.

people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5370 Station A, Portland, ME 04101.

OUTRIGHT/Seacoast: Meets every Friday from 7 to 9 pm at the Unitarian Church annex building adjacent to the fire station, 206 Court St., Portsmouth NH. FMI call Teeline at 1-800-639-6095 or write P.O. Box 642, Portsmouth NH 03801.

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

Mondays: HIV negative partners of people living with HIV, 6:30-7:30 pm. Men Living with HIV and all friends, families, lovers, and caregivers, 10:30 am-Noon.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Living Well focuses on quality of life and empowerment for those living with HIV/AIDS.

Thursdays: Women Living with HIV meets from 1:15-2:45 pm. Men Living with HIV meets from 5:30-7 pm.

The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Sq., 5th floor. Call Sandy Titus at 774-6877 or 1-800-736-2183.

SOUTHEAST:

2nd Wednesdays: Support Group at St. John's Place at 6 pm. Call 774-2198.

STONEWALL, cont. from pg. 3

asked to meet with their partners. For example, youth contingents (Outright and others) from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont would march together. Our plan is to hold an "After Stonewall" symposium style, three state, one day gathering in July or August.

Bus seats from Maine will be available until June 10. The buses originate in Bangor and Portland and will make several stops en route on 1-95 for convenience. For bus information call 207-871-9940. From Boston, NOW has reserved some forty buses and several planes. Expect that all these sources could be filled by early June.

New York will be mobbed on Sunday, June 26th, whether it is for the March, the Rally, the Christopher Street Fair or the dances and fireworks. It is strongly suggested you bring your own water and food as restaurants and shops will have long lines. When buying subway tokens (don't expect it to make it New York by car), buy what you need for the day. Carry a subway map and wear sunscreen. Think ahead for all your personal needs and try to get them before you arrive. If you encounter an emergency, take it to one of the Stonewall marshals or guides for assistance. Crisis Centers will be set up with transportation.

Finally, New York is really many little neighborhoods. New Yorkers' are far friendlier than reputed and will be found to be very helpful. Stonewall is their pride and heritage. They are a welcomed and expected guest.
Underground hosts 11th Annual Miss Gay Maine Pageant
Proceeds to benefit Equal Protection Maine

By Winnie Weir, Editor
On Sunday, June 19th (Portland Pride Weekend), the Underground, 3 Spring Street in Portland will be the site of the 11th annual Miss Gay Maine Pageant. Owner Randy Scott and Manager Thom Sambrook provided some background and information about the event.

In 1984 Randy Scott and Sandy Michelle (from Boston) were sitting around discussing friends, business, and the future of the transgender entertainers in our society and in Portland. They thought about it, joked about it, and finally said, “Let’s try it.” Randy worked hard developing the advertising. Sandy helped by hiring Joanna Lee, host/entertainer/show director from Boston, and “Miss Gay Maine” was created. It was a contest in which female impersonators competed in various categories for tiara, cash and trophies.

Randy admits that, “to some people this idea seemed bizarre. Miss Gay Maine was created to acknowledge the part of gay life that no one understood. In the 70’s and 80’s these illusionists had become known as stars in gay clubs and at gay events in many major US cities.

According to Scott, Miss Gay Maine was a hit the very first year. From 1984 to 1990 it was organized by all the local female illusionists, who did a superb job making the yearly event a success.

In 1990, Brent, from the Underground, met with bar owners state-wide to discuss the pageant. They decided to change the contest somewhat. To be a contestant, you had to win a local Bar title. The new rules enabled people from Portland to Bangor to be involved.

“It also created state-wide community harmony as we entered the decade where we are changing the face of human rights to include us,” says Scott. “As people got word of how well our community worked together, and how successful this contest was, we got calls from people involved with Miss Gay New England to discuss buying the franchise. What a compliment.”

In an effort to simplify the event, which is one of the best female illusion shows in New England, contestants will no longer be required to have won a local bar contest. “The main purpose of this event,” according to Manager, Thom Sambrook, “is to provide an evening of entertainment and fun and at the same time raise some much needed funds for organizations in the community working to secure our rights.”

This year the proceeds will benefit the work of Equal Protection Maine as it takes on Carolyn Cosby and Concerned Maine Families. The selection of EPM as the beneficiary of this year’s event seem most fitting as it was just over one year ago that EPM had its first meeting at the Underground.

This promises to be a fun evening to top off Portland Pride weekend. Mark the date. ΔΔ

Take 95 to 295 for $1.95 DRINKS
ALL WELL DRINKS & DOMESTIC BEERS
ALL DAY • ALL NIGHT • ALL SUMMER
FRI NO COVER SAT
MISS GAY MAINE, JUNE 19th
Dancing til 3am every Friday & Saturday.

NACHAS!
By Rita M. Kissen
NACHAS: a Yiddish word meaning “pride,” pronounced with the accent on the first syllable, which rhymes with “Bach.”

I took my spouse to see “Philadelphia” on a rainy Sunday afternoon last month. It was the second time I had seen the film, a good opportunity to reflect on why I liked it so much.

Since I never read reviews until after I’ve seen a movie, all my material about “Philadelphia” has long since migrated to the recycle bins at the Peaks Island dump. But I do recall some highly unfavorable comments in periodicals whose politics I generally share. Casco Bay Weekly, as I recall, ran a headline that accused “Philadelphia” of being mere “cream cheese.” Writers of the queer and straight radical left condemned it as a feel-good-while-you-cry Hollywood tear-jerker, too little and too late.

Much criticism was directed at the fact that Andy, the Tom Hanks character, has AIDS, Joe refuses easily; for him, Andy is still an abstraction, and a frightening one at that. It’s only after Joe inadvertently witnesses Andy’s humiliation by an AIDS-phobic librarian that he begins to move closer. The scene that follows, in which Joe reads the Supreme Court decision on discrimination against people with AIDS, is Hollywood at its most formulatic—close shot of the book moving from Andy’s hand to Joe’s, full orchestral accompaniment as Joe reads the relevant passage, long shot of the two of them from the vantage of the library’s ornate ceiling. But there’s something more going on here than melodrama. This scene, the turning point in the film, is the moment at which Joe becomes an ally, as Andy ceases to be a strange and frightening nuisance and becomes a person.

Even its detractors admit that “Philadelphia” is a “first”—the first mainstream movie to talk openly about AIDS, and the first to present a gay major character who is sympathetic (i.e., neither neurotic, alienated, nor an ice pick murderer). We need lots more major films showing the lives of gays and lesbians—films about gay people who survive rejection by their families, films about AIDS that are far more political and outrageous than “Philadelphia,” films that make us want to act up, as well as pull out our hankies. But we need “Philadelphia,” too. One slightly cynical remark I overheard about this movie was that it’s really a film for straight people. If that’s true, I hope that lots of straight people will see it and come away a little more troubled, a little more ready to take the first step. ΔΔ
The Future of White Men & other diversity dilemmas: an Interview with author, Joan Steinau Lester

J.H. Morgan, A & E Editor

We've all heard a lot about diversity issues lately, and many of us feel confused and uncertain about what it all means, and where everyone will fit in society after these issues are taken-for-granted (even if resonant) hierarchies are turned on their heads. And we may feel uncomfortable about how to treat people we perceive as different, and who now seem to live become startlingly present at work or in the neighborhood.

Many people in the country have been thinking long and hard about these similar questions, and one of these is Joan Steinau Lester, co-founder of Equity Institute, Inc., "a multicultural, national non-profit agency, committed to the elimination of all "isms"." Ms. Lester brings a rare perspective to issues of diversity: active in the civil rights movement of the 60's, she personally encountered prejudice and confusion as a partner in a biracial marriage, in raising her children from this marriage, and later as a partner in a lesbian couple. She has written a book, The Future of White Men & Other Diversity Dilemmas, and was in Portland recently at a book signing at Bookland. I had an opportunity to talk with her about her book and her work, and get a better understanding of what "diversity" can mean.

Joan Lester describes The Future of White Men as a "lighthearted handbook" to questions about diversity; she wanted to get beyond the number-oriented approaches and move into a more personal, humanized, day-to-day vision of issues facing all of us. As sort of "Diversity 101" textbook, Lester wants the book to be "for everybody," and she shows how all people can become more aware of and responsive to the changes in our society.

As a white man, I was intrigued (and a little intimidated) by her title, and by asking her about it I discovered that Lester hopes to show that yes, this diversity issue can be approached with a sense of humor, and that people need not be so afraid of "offending someone" that they stifle their sense of fun. She said that the typical response of people hearing the title for the first time is shocked silence, then laughter, and she's glad. She maintains that humor throughout the book, and this enables her to treat highly sensitive and charged issues deftly and intelligently, without becoming preachy or self-righteous. The Future of White Men doesn't have a trace of the off-putting nonsense and pretension some might expect from such a title, and after reading it I could see that it makes sense. Lester considers Erma Bombeck one of her influences.

This is how Women in Harmony describe themselves:
"We are young and old, lesbian/bisexual and straight, and come from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds and walks of life. Some of us are professional musicians and others are novices who simply love music and the art of singing."

Women in Harmony are a local treasure who share a passion for singing and have a sense of humor too. They performed in front of a full house Saturday night and the audience enjoyed and appreciated every moment. I suspect they'll be singing for us, and for themselves for many moons. The names in the chorus may change over time, but never the love of song. As their opening number asked us, "What would we do without music?"

You got me. 

This really is a book that has something for everyone: African-Americans, Jews, gays, women, Latinos, even the white men in the title, to mention but a few. The book covers topics such as guilt, as its opening number asked us, "What would we do without music?"

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MONEY TALK
Legal Documents
By Peter J. Callinan, CPA
An important area to consider when developing a financial plan is legal documents. Yes, the great mystery of legalities. WAIT! Before you stop reading, let me say it really is not as bad as you may think. Legal documents are needed to answer difficult questions and to designate authority and responsibility. Here are just a few basic documents which you should consider having in place.

WILL: This is one of the most basic documents you should have, even if you do not own any significant assets. It is particularly important if you have established a home with a partner. If you do not have this document, there is no guarantee that your partner will have any part of your estate no matter how small it may be. So, it may only be furniture or artwork, but never overlook the importance of sentimental value to someone who loves you.

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT: Speaking of partners. . . it may save you needless arguments and validate your commitment to each other to draw up a written agreement. This document outlines the implied and explicit terms of a relationship. Use it to answer questions regarding ownership of assets, contribution of income for domestic expenses, establish guidelines for dispute resolution and even outline terms for a peaceful dissolution of the relationship should that prove necessary. This can be a powerful tool to use in defining your prospective roles in the relationship and how the responsibility for the success of it will be shared. Developing it will probably establish clear methods of communicating information and it can include any terms either of you feel are important.

DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY: This document will allow you to appoint someone to act as your agent if for some reason you are unable to act on your own behalf. Be careful with these! It is probably best to have it become effective only in the case of some emergency, which is referred to as a Sprinjng Power of Attorney, because it springs into action after some specific event.

HEALTH CARE PROXY: This can also be known as a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. It will establish who you want to make medical decisions for you should you become ill and unable to make those decisions for yourself. I would recommend that you discuss this at length with whoever you want to have accept this responsibility and be certain that they understand what is appropriate for you.

There now, was that so bad? Keep in mind that these are just a few basic documents and it is always advisable to have a legal expert review them to make certain they are enforceable. Write it down and sign it if you want others to respect it. Good luck !

Movie on Review: This Boy's Life
This movie is the true story of the coming of age of Tobias Wolff, a writer who lives in New York and who teaches at Syracuse University. Growing up during the 50's with his mother, played sympathetically by Ellen Barkin, Toby, who insists on being called 'Jack,' has experiences most of us do not.

His mother decides to leave Florida and drive cross-country in a beat up old Nash (precursor to the Rambler) to find uranium in Utah. She seems to have thought you could just find it by walking around certain areas of the state. She dumps the Nash and changes plans; she's cool. She and her son have a good relationship, but Jack (played by Leonardo DiCaprio) keeps getting into trouble. Then along comes 'stability' in the form of Mom's new boyfriend played by Robert DiNiro.

At first he's just a comball, but then he becomes a frighteningly familiar figure: the dictator father. Seeing Deniro in such an utterly hateful role is unusual, but he plays it to the hilt, and you really grow to despise him.

After mother and son both realize something is wrong, Jack suggests they leave. Ms. Barkin says, 'I haven't got another get-up-and-go in me. I've hit a brick wall here.' Gosh, is that scary!

The homo-erotic element to this film emerges slowly, but when it does, we see that the affair between Jack and Arthur Gayle (played by Jonah Blechman) is pivotal to Jack's development.

Wein is an initially stormy friendship, but Arthur recognizes Jack as a fellow "alien" and they become friends. This friendship turns romantic, then poignant, then doomed, but Arthur gets to be the person who holds the key to Jack's future. You will probably recognize a lot of people in this film. It's well-acted and feels real. That may be why it went in and out of the Mall Cinemas so quickly; this is not a pretty picture of the 'traditional family,' but it is one that is all too common, not to mention the fact that the most sensible, intelligent, and ultimately heroic, person in the story is a gay teenager. Freedom, brutality, love, devotion, treachery and escape, it's all here. I think you'll enjoy it.

Because it's a true story, there are notices at the end about what became of the various characters. I was very disappointed at not seeing a note on Arthur Gayle. Is it possible he's still in Concrete?

WHITE MEN, from pg. 17
relations between minority groups, family issues, how statistics can lie, the strengthening effect of diverse people working together, and the language of the "isms" and how we can change the words to reflect new realities.

The book doesn't stop with simply demonstrating awareness of these issues, either; it calls for action, for us to become "allies" both to ourselves and to the others. Part Five of the book is called "The Top Ten Plus Two" and it answers common questions about things like joking, the changing names for various groups, and the truth in stereotypes. Lester makes her points through stories and personal anecdotes, so I never felt I was being "theorized at" and the book all-around is an enjoyable and enlightening read and a passionate call to action.
CHEW ON THIS
by Rose Mary Denman

OK, now it's official... spring is here. Now that the cold winds of winter are gone, and we no longer need to keep warm with heavy clothes and hot, bulky meals, we can begin to think in terms of lighter fare as we consider our shopping list. Of course, it's still too cool to think in terms of long, cold drinks out on the patio or endless meals of salads, but it is time to lighten up a bit. This can be done quite effectively by adding more fresh fruit and vegetables, especially greens, and decreasing the amount of heavy stews, casseroles or oily foods.

The other day, as I was going around the TV stations with the remote, I came upon a cooking show that apparently focuses on a low fat diet. The two dishes the hostess demonstrated reminded me of my years in Rhode Island, where seafood is even more central to eating than here in Maine. One was a Manhattan Clam Chowder, the other was a light Pasta Primavera. I'd like to share these two dishes from the sea with you.

**Pasta Primavera with Muscles** (Serves 4)

1 lb. pasta
1 1/2 cups chopped, fresh tomatoes
2 cups chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped green pepper
1/2 cup broccoli
1 cup snow peas
1 tsp. chopped garlic
1 cup white wine
2 cups water
1 cup skim milk
1 cup skim ricotta cheese
2 tsp. white flour
2 lbs. mussels
2 tsp. paprika
1 tsp. Old Bay seasoning
salt and pepper to taste

**Manhattan Clam Chowder**

2 lbs. little neck clams
3 cups water
1 cup clam juice
4 cups peeled and cubed potato
1/2 cup diced green pepper
2 cups diced fresh tomato
2 cups onion
Steam clams, take meat out of shells and chop into bite-sized pieces. The water at the bottom of the steaming pan is your one cup of clam juice.

Combine the clam juice, 3 cups of water, potatoes, onions, green pepper and 1/2 the tomatoes in a pot and simmer until tomatoes are tender. Add clams and remaining tomatoes. Heat through and serve. Add salt and pepper to taste.

These two dishes, with perhaps a small salad, crusty bread and goblet of wine, present a lovely dinner for guests. Bon appetite!  

IN THESE TIMES: Lessons from the epidemic, Part X
by David Smith

For the past several months we have been taking a different, and sometimes radical, look at the HIV epidemic. By using this epidemic as a mirror we have seen its reflections - reflections that point to many aspects of our society that are unjust, unfair and dehumanizing. We have constantly been able to see the reflections of compassion, strength and beauty of individuals living with HIV, and the dignity of death and of our own humanity.

Ultimately, this look at society with its failures and follies, brings us back to the moment, back to self-reflection. For the most important lesson that we are learning is that we are all responsible for ourselves. Yes, we can be, and are, victimized by a racist, sexist and homophobic world. Yes, loss and grieving are difficult burdens to bear. But through the eyes and experiences of those living in this epidemic, we have seen that keeping the focus on self is the way to make the journey of life, the way to minimize and avoid some of society's failures and follies.

Self responsibility: this, in the end, is what each of us must deal with. Whether we are coping with a diagnosis of AIDS, negotiating safer sex, living with a loved one who is dying of AIDS, or just hanging on amid the fear and confusion of the world, we are responsible for our own needs. The blame the victim mentality of our world often takes the focus away from us and unfairly puts it on other people, places and things.

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YOUTH, cont. from pg. 6

den. Only his door was censored. The administration sanctioned his being oppressed. According to Evan, students at that school were rarely a problem. They were intimidated by Evan's assertiveness. Evan acknowledged that some problem issues were not connected to his sexual orientation and added that he has now effectively dealt with some of those issues.

Eric, Age 17

"At school I was hurt a lot. Everyone in school knew I was gay. I was really scared." With those penetrating words, Eric began to tell his story of horror to the assembled audience. Eric told the principal, "I need help." The principal responded, "I can't create something just for you." "It's not just for me," Eric informed the principal. "It's for other closeted gay students as well, but my oppression weighs them not to come out." A gay-positive guidance counselor offered counseling help to Eric, but only in the privacy of her office. She was on a temporary contract.

When asked about his thoughts on the question of staying in school as opposed to dropping out, Eric said, "There was basically on one who wanted to keep hold of me." Against this backdrop of personal experiences, Eric says, "That's why I like speaking to schools; to try to make them a safer place."
OUT! of Town

Well, I just returned from a weeklong trip to Orlando, Florida. I spent my week doing the typical tourist things: Disney World, Sea World, and the beaches. Although I have been to Orlando many times, I don't think I have ever seen as many gays and lesbians as I did this time.

It seemed that everywhere I went there were gay couples. After the first few days in Orlando I began to pay more attention. By the end of the week, I became convinced that Orlando is quickly becoming a 'gay destination' - not in the same sense as Provincetown or Fire Island, but more as a 'gay friendly' place.

So what's the big attraction? Well, the attraction is all of the 'attractions.' The Orlando area offers so many different things to see and do. Of course, Disney World is the central attraction. You could spend literally a full week here and not experience it all. About 25 years ago, Disney bought 28,000 acres of land, mostly pasture and orange groves, bigger than the city of San Francisco. There are 3 theme parks: the Magic Kingdom, EPCOT, and Disney/MGM Studios, along with a fourth park on the drawing board. In addition, Disney World also has two water parks (Typhoon Lagoon and River Country), an evening entertainment complex (Pleasure Island), and a zoological area (Discovery Island). Also located within the park are about 20 hotels, each with its own theme and ambiance.

You should plan on spending about 3-4 days to cover the three theme parks here. And at least one evening (preferably a Thursday), you have to go to Pleasure Island. Disney has created an entertainment complex for adults. Pleasure Island contains 7 nightclubs: a country/western club, a comedy club, a jazz club, a 60's/70's club (with 'Go-Go' cages), a "Country Club," a dance club, and a "Juke Jam" club. On Thursdays, once homophobic Disney is now the scene of a mixed dance club called Mannequins, with a revolving dance floor and fantastic light show. At midnight each night, there is a New Year's Eve Party in the square with a live band and stage show with a countdown, fireworks and confetti. The atmosphere at Pleasure Island is relaxed and very 'gay friendly.'

I am convinced that the change in attitude at Disney has a lot to do with the fact that a very large percentage of their employees are gay. Disney personnel policies strictly prohibit any kind of discrimination based on sexual preference. I have never seen so many good looking male employees as I have seen at Disney World, especially at Pleasure Island!

After you have been 'Disneyed' to death, there are plenty of other things to see and do in the Orlando area. For beaches, you are about 75 minutes drive from Daytona Beach or 60 minutes drive from Cocoa Beach. Daytona Beach offers a drive-on beach. For $3 a day you can drive your car onto the beach. Find a nice spot, park it, and watch the continuous parade of cuties up and down the beach. Cocoa Beach is a little more sedate.

And don't forget such places as Sea World, worth about 3/4 of a day, or Universal Studios, worth a full day. There are also water parks, outlet shopping malls, souvenir shops and restaurants everywhere you go. In the middle of all this activity, plan to take a day off and relax, sit by the pool and work on your tan. If you don't, you won't make it the rest of the week and you'll end up going home more tired than when you arrived.

For a 'gay friendly' vacation in 'mainstream' America, Orlando fits the bill.
We need to advocate for our rights as people with HIV. Each of us needs to stand up to the monster of homophobia in our own lives. Every individual must make his or her own choices about how to live and how to nurture oneself, physically and spiritually. This is not to exonerate society and its problems. This is just to grasp the reality that each of us in charge of our own life - no matter how it may appear.

This is the last in this series of articles. We have used the epidemic as a mirror and it has shown us some of the things we are learning about ourselves including the basic assumptions we live by, and the core values of our culture. It has pointed out that we suffer from racism, sexism and homophobia. We have learned about the Patriarchy - our Supra culture.

When we looked at sexuality, we saw that human beings are sexual throughout their lives. Sexual orientation is varied - homosexuals, bisexuals and heterosexuals have always existed but have been hidden because of homophobia. Most people enjoy sex - but are uncomfortable talking about it.

We have learned that AIDS disproportionately affects minorities - African-Americans, IDU’s, Latinos, Gay men. Members of these communities have had to fight valiantly for the care they need in dealing with HIV.

The epidemic has taught us that addiction is a disease - not a moral issue. We know that there is very little treatment available for addicts. Treatment on demand has become an important issue for all of us working in this epidemic.

Therefore, after looking at the epidemic we can see that the information we have learned about is really good news for us because it allows us to see clearly who we are as a people and how we can change.

So, as we close out this series, let each of us reflect on our own life and bring to it all the joy and love that is humanly possible.

Next month I’ll begin a column on living day by day in a homophobic world and I’ll be looking for your input.

Gay florist murdered in Bath
by Bruce Balboni
Melvin Henderson, owner of Kennebec Greenhouse, was found shot through the head in his North Street greenhouse in Bath, Maine, on Thursday, May 5th. The possibility exists that this murder is also a hate crime. Mark Gessner, the confessed killer, who was arrested the next day, told his friend Darrel Ricker that “he wanted to kill the other queer. I shot one this morning.” It is not known who Gessner was referring to when he said “the other queer.” Gessner, 30, worked for Henderson when he was a teenager.

CPR contacted Herb Gessner, Mark’s father, and asked him what the connection was between Henderson’s sexual orientation and the shooting. He had no comment.

Likewise, Darrel Ricker and his family would not comment.

TO YOUR HEALTH:
Vaginitis demystified Part Two
By Peaches Bass

(last month this column discussed the anatomy and physiology of the vagina and monilia, or yeast infection. This month, we’ll cover other vaginal infections and their prevention.)

Another type of vaginitis is trichomoniasis, or trich (pronounced “tick”) for short, which is named for the one-celled protozoan that causes it. Trich is known for its uncomfortable discharge.

Often frothy, the discharge ranges from white to yellowish to greenish; like monilia, the trich discharge causes irritation and irritation of the vulva. Burning with urination may occur; in fact, trichomonads, as the protozoans are called, can be transmitted during sexual activity if secretions from one woman reach her partner’s vulva. Bisexual women should note that although men do not seem affected, they often carry trichomonads in the urethra or prostate gland, and so men can infect women during penile-vaginal intercourse.

The incubation period is about four to twenty-eight days after contact. Trich can be caught from wet washcloths, towels, and sometimes beds linens soiled with discharge. Some experts say that due to trich’s preference for a warm, moist environment, it can also be transmitted in whirlpools and other public baths. Also, when a rise in the vaginal pH occurs, causing an alkaline environment, trich will flourish. The causes for the rise in pH are the same ones previously noted for monilia infections: physical and emotional stress, soap/perfumes/bubble baths, too much douching, and excessive sugar in the body cells.

In terms of diagnosis, the ovular-shaped cells with their four distinctive whiplike strands (flagella) are easy to identify by viewing a wet smear of discharge under the microscope. A specimen exam of the vagina will often show the cervix to be coated with discharge and covered with tiny red spots, giving a strawberry-like appearance.

Mild trich may be treated with a yogurt, vinegar-water, or Lactinex douche. Lactinex is granulated lactobacilli, and is sold over the counter in some drugstores. An un-nicked clove of garlic, wrapped in a piece of gauze, can be used as a suppository. One clove every 12-24 hours for a week is recommended. A douche of goldenseal and myrrh tea, or goldenseal alone, is thought to have some effect.

Unfortunately, trichomonads are hearty, and if the infection has become firmly established, herbal and home remedies may not work.

prescription drug, generically known as metronidazole, is an effective oral treatment in most cases. It is also known by the brand names Flagyl, Metryl, and Protostat, but generic is just as good. When a rise in the white blood cell count, it should not be used repeatedly over short periods of time. Alcohol cannot be consumed while taking metronidazole because it will cause violent nausea and vomiting. Nonetheless, it’s the treatment of choice because it works, and a woman can only take so much discomfort. Some alternatives to metronidazole are sulfa creams, which See HEALTH, page 22
CLASSIFIED

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\(\Delta\) Looking for donations and/or loans to sponsor a Women’s Health Fair in October of 1994. Call or write: Gloria Krellman, RR #1, Box 1145, Woodville, Maine 04579. 442-7061. \(\Delta\)
This is the year we elect a legislature that enacts a veto proof human rights bill. Dick Spencer should be part of that effort. Beyond that he looks forward to working with you on reducing suicide rates among gay and lesbian youth, addressing the health care concerns of gays and lesbians and ensuring fairness for domestic partners in insurance and retirement benefits. Dick Spencer will actively oppose any statewide effort to repeal Portland's human rights ordinance.

In 1975, serving as a freshman legislator and having been appointed chairperson of the Judiciary Committee, Dick developed a reputation of bringing people together and getting things done. He provided the leadership for the first revision of Maine's criminal code in 150 years. Part of this revision eliminated from Maine law all crimes involving consensual sexual conduct between adults.

Dick Spencer now needs your support in Portland's Senate District 26 Democratic Primary. Let's vote YES for Dick Spencer on Tuesday, June 14th.