

Community Pride Reporter

FREE

The newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine and New Hampshire.

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MARCH - APRIL, 1995



State Senator Dale McCormick (D), Monmouth, said, "Legislative support has never been stronger . . ." for the anti-discrimination bill.

Introduction of anti-discrimination bill postponed

Bill seen as "competing measure" under Maine's Constitution

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

In a move that is sure to prompt a myriad of emotions among not only the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities, but among our heterosexual supporters as well, Patricia Ryan, Executive Director of the Maine Human Rights Commission, and Senator Dale McCormick, (D) Monmouth, announced jointly last week that a bill to make it illegal to discriminate against anyone in housing, public accommodations, employment and credit based on their sexual orientation will not be introduced in this legislative session.

Concerned Maine Families Press Secretary, Lawrence Lockman, wasted no time issuing a press release, in which CMF Chair, Carolyn Cosby, stated "This decision is an absolute victory for the people of Maine . . ." Cosby also went

on to renew her challenge to Maine Won't Discriminate, through Karen Geraghty, President of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, (MLGPA) to publicly debate CMF's referendum. Referring to Geraghty as "leader of the opposition to CMF's referendum," Cosby noted that March 9 was "day 22 since CMF called for a debate . . ."

According to Ryan and McCormick, the decision not to introduce the bill in this legislative session was reached after extensive consultation with the MHRC's Counsel as well as several other lawyers. The consensus is that if the Legislature were to pass an anti-discrimination bill this year, it would likely be considered a "competing measure" under the Maine constitution, and would appear on the ballot

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Maine Foster Parent Association embarks on recruitment campaign

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

"Our attitude is — a gay parent, a gay couple, who makes a wonderful foster parent is going to be better than a biological parent who is physically, sexually or emotionally abusing a child," said Kathy Chonko, Recruitment Specialist with the Maine Foster Parent Association (MFPA).

Chonko contacted the Community Pride Reporter (CPR) on behalf of the MFPA in an effort to "promote awareness of the great need for more licensed foster homes throughout the state of Maine and the vast misconceptions of foster care." Nearly 2200 Maine children need foster care every year, but

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Kathy Chonko, Recruitment Specialist for MFPA, wants more people to apply to become foster parents.

CPR obtains documents proving out-of-state leadership of CMF

Cosby acknowledges leadership of Bruce Fein and Tony Marco

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

At the outset of the signature gathering campaign to place an anti-gay referendum question on the 1995 ballot, Carolyn Cosby, chair of Concerned Maine Families (CMF), stated vehemently that CMF is an organization 'made in Maine,' i.e. conceived of and led by Mainers as opposed to "those outsiders." She has criticized, just as vehemently, Maine Won't Discriminate (MWD), the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA), and the Maine Civil Liberties Union (MCLU) for enlisting the help of Gay/Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) based in Boston, to help in this battle.

In a letter to the Christian Civic League (CCL), dated December 13, 1994, Cosby, in responding to the League's offer of assistance, laid out what CCL has to do in order to join CMF. Cosby writes, "We (CMF) underscore both Marco's and Fein's significance because we believe their genius is absolutely critical to future success. And, as we consider a working relationship, the depth of that relationship will



Cosby signs her petition last August at Portland City Hall. Her signature symbolically ended CMF's petition drive.

depend on our ability to mutually agree on their leadership."

Tony Marco, founder of Colorado for Family Values, is "the architect of Colorado's Amendment 2" and Bruce Fein is the right-wing, constitutional lawyer from Virginia who wrote Cosby's

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"They've [the so-called gay militants] taken the bait we hoped they would, are convinced we made a colossal blunder -- now let's make 'em pay for it big time! Carry on . . ." Marco to Lockman

Lesbian Health Project offers cancer screening clinic

by Winnie Weir

The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine (LHP/SM), in conjunction with Tri-County Health Services of Lewiston, is offering a cancer screening clinic for lesbians Saturday, May 20 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

"According to several research reports," states Tania Jo Hathaway, Coordinator of the LHP/SM, "the two primary reasons lesbians do not seek necessary health care are lack of financial resources and lack of access to lesbian-knowledgeable health care providers. The cancer screening clinic is designed to address both of these issues."

The clinic will be staffed with lesbian and lesbian-knowledgeable health care providers. Hathaway says, "Tri-

County Health Services is moving out and letting us move in for the day. It is an appropriate and generous offer which allows the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine to provide services we otherwise lack the space and equipment to provide."

The services are offered free of charge. Donations are accepted, and will help the LHP/SM provide future health services for lesbians.

The services include pelvic and breast exams, pap smear, information on lesbian gynecological needs and referral. "We [lesbians] are notorious for not getting regular gynecological examinations," cites Hathaway. "Many of us have horror stories about our experi-

See HEALTH, page 22

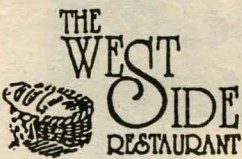
BILL, from page 1

along with the pending referendum.

"This issue is too important to risk confusing matters by putting a partially competing measure on the ballot as well," said Ryan. "We believe voters will say that Maine, as a State, won't discriminate, and we want them to have a clear shot at that issue," she added.

McCormick stated, "We have been working to pass this bill for 18 years. Legislative support has never been stronger and the Governor will sign it. In fact, it is the likelihood of success that raises the issue of this bill being a competing measure."

In an article appearing in the "Bangor Daily News," Geraghty acknowledged that the strategy of MLGPA and Maine Won't Discriminate (MWD) will change. "We'll talk less about the anti-discrimination bill and more about the effect of the referendum," Geraghty added, "Defeating the referendum is certainly the big item, but it doesn't bring protection to gays and lesbians. So, we will go forward with the anti-discrimination measure. It just won't be this year." ΔΔ



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Maine Won't Discriminate Chapters

Fourteen out of the sixteen counties in Maine now have chapters of Maine Won't Discriminate. Below is a listing of the chapters and their contact people with phone numbers.

Aroostook County: Contact person is Dick Harrison (498-0900).

Bangor: Contact people are Jim Martin (990-3420) and Jeanine Crockett (223-5630).

Biddeford: Contact person is Barry Horn (286-3718).

Brunswick-Bath: Contact person is Punnie Edgerton (729-6429).

Capitol Area: Contact person is Cheryl Ring (626-0818).

Franklin County: Contact GASPEA at UME., Farmington (778-7380). Meeting Tuesday evenings. Call

Hancock County: Contact people are Ruth Blackburn (276-0503) and



By Dick Harrison

CARIBOU, ME: Maine's twenty-first gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered conference will be held at the University of Maine campus in Presque Isle from May 26-29, 1995 (Memorial Day Weekend). Symposium XXI will be hosted by the members of Northern Lambda Nord, Maine's oldest community-based group.

"Coming of Age" is the theme of Symposium XXI. It will be both a celebration of the 21st anniversary of this event in Maine, as well as a look at how the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities in the state have matured, both politically and personally.

Symposium planners have finalized most conference details including arrangements for two keynote speakers. Mary Bonauto, counsel with the Boston-based law firm, GLAD - Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, will address the opening plenary session of Symposium. Mary is instrumental in the fight to defeat the pending anti-gay referendum.

Tuma (pronounced "Duma") Young is a Mic Mac and activist, with the Atlantic First Nations AIDS Task Force based in Halifax. He will speak on "The Fine Line Between Spirituality and Sexuality."

Karen Williams, "The funniest woman on the comedy stage today!" and

Peter Rees (667-2358).
Lincoln County: Contact person is Tom Gould (563-2269).

Mid-Coast: Contact person is Dorothy Merriweather (594-7873).

Ogunquit: Contact person is John Cavaratta (646-2122).

Portland: Contact people are Steve Addario and Jessica Maurer (MWD office-761-1788. Leave message).

Southwestern Maine: Contact person is Janice Campbell (625-3689).

Waldo County: Contact person is Cary Leah MacLeod (338-4194).

Washington County: Contact people are Betty Deniston (546-2007) and Tom (546-7503).

Waterville/Oakland: Contact person is Diane Campbell (465-7574).

Meeting dates and times that have been submitted to CPR are listed in the March-April calendar. Once all chapters have established their meeting schedules and submitted them to us, we will add them to this listing. ΔΔ

Maine's twenty-first statewide conference scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend

The Maritones, a twelve voice ensemble of the Maine Gay Men's Chorus will be our Saturday evening entertainment.

On Sunday evening a Casino Benefit will be held to benefit the Northern Lambda Nord Phoneline service capabilities as they seek to obtain an 800 number. The Gay-Lesbian Phoneline of Maine serves the entire state from the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center in Caribou. It has been in operation since 1982, relying on NLN to raise the necessary funds to keep it going.

"Gulf of Maine Books" from Brunswick will be on hand with many titles of interest available. Also on the schedule is an important "town meeting" which will be held during the weekend.

This year marks the fourth time Northern Lambda Nord has brought Symposia to northern Maine. NLN's membership is drawn from Aroostook County, Maine as well as the neighboring New Brunswick counties. Consequently, close relationships have been established between Americans and Canadians. Historically, when Symposium meets in Presque Isle, one-third of the participants are from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, which adds to the international flavor of the weekend. One of the two keynote speakers in Presque Isle has always been a Canadian activist; this tradition will continue at Symposium XXI.

Since 1986 when Northern Lambda Nord first hosted Symposium XIII, the annual conference had rotated around the state from Presque Isle to the Bangor/mid-coast region, then to the Portland area and back to The County. Because there was no Symposium in southern Maine during 1994, this year's organizers anticipate a large turnout.

The new campus center and remodelled dining hall of the University of Maine at Presque Isle offers modern facilities for Symposium's Memorial Day weekend events. Dormitory housing provides all linen, blankets, pillow, towels and soap. Registrants may choose from several weekend "packages":

Plan A includes 3 night's lodging, all meals, and registration (which allows admission to all events) for \$109.

Plan B is two night's lodging, meals and registration for \$95.

Plan C is one night's lodging, meals and registration for \$80.

Plan D is meals and registration for \$65.

Registration only (Plan E) is \$25. Registrations received after May 1

will be higher. A limited number of reduced-price "work exchange" registrations, as well as child care are available if requested in advance.

To receive a registration form, send a stamped self-addressed business-size envelope today to Symposium XXI, P.O. Box 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990, or call the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline of Maine at 207/498-2088 Wednesdays between 7:00 and 9:00 PM. Leave a message at other times. The Phoneline is TTY-accessible.

SYMPOSIUM Seeks vendors & organizations

Symposium XXI has set aside space for vendors to sell their wares, for organizations to have table space for selling fund-raising items, and for non-profit groups to distribute literature.

The new campus center in Presque Isle will be the center of activities during the Memorial Day weekend conference. Symposium XXI will provide tables in the campus center for those vendors and organizations who wish to sell items and/or distribute literature. Organizers anticipate from 125-150 registrants, 50-50 women and men, with about one-third Canadians from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and two thirds from Maine.

Fees for table spaces are: Vendors (profit-making businesses) - \$30; Non-profit groups selling items for fund-raising - \$15; Non-profit groups distributing literature only, free space.

Table space MUST be reserved in advance. Please send requests for table space to Symposium XXI/Vendors, POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990. Include a brief explanation as to what will be sold/distributed.


Workshop topics, discussion leaders sought

Symposium XXI is looking for people to lead workshop discussions during the Memorial Day weekend conference.

Workshops play an important role in the success of the Symposium weekend. Organizers in northern Maine are seeking help from members of our community in other parts of the state to suggest topics for discussion and for qualified individuals to agree to facilitate workshops. One workshop which has been confirmed is "Small Business Owners", a networking opportunity for people who are small business owners to meet and discuss issues such as how they integrate their personal and business lives within their communities.

Workshop facilitators will receive a reduction in the cost of their registration at Symposium. Please send your suggestions for workshop topics and names of individuals who are interested in leading a workshop to Symposium XXI/Workshops, POB 990, Caribou ME 04736-0990.

Include your name and a contact telephone number, plus a brief explanation as to what will be discussed. For more information, call the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline of Maine at 207/498-2088 Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 PM, or Dick Harrison at 207/498-0900 weekdays. ΔΔ



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CMF, from page 1

referendum language for \$3250. Cosby paid Marco \$3900 for a lengthy document he wrote which purports to be an analysis of gay rights. Marco's document is an attack on homosexuals and CMF derives their 'ideology' from it. CMF uses verbatim quotes from this document in their literature. For example, "Protected Class Status for Gays: Civil Right — or Uncivil Wrong?" This statement is a chapter heading from Marco's "book," and it is the title of one of CMF's brochures.

These revelations are important because Cosby has asserted that hers is an in-state, grass-roots effort and she has repeatedly criticized the gay and lesbian rights movement in Maine for having out-of-state ties.

For example, in reference to the lawsuit filed against CMF by the MCLU and GLAD Cosby said, "This unconstitutional action, driven by out-of-state interests . . ." and yet, CMF is wholly directed and substantially funded by out-of-state, right-wing radicals by Cosby's own admission.

Aside from the fact that this letter deals mainly with out of state leadership, Cosby also revealed her negative attitude toward Maine and its inhabitants when she states in this letter that the very word, "Christian" in the name "Christian Civic League" will make their work against gay rights difficult because of "the intensely liberal and amoralistic culture of Maine."

Marco controls Lockman

On January 9, 1995, Tony Marco sent a letter to Lawrence Lockman, Vice-Chairman of CMF in which Marco tells Lockman how to respond to the Maine Diversity Commission's findings. It is Marco who chooses to focus on the September, 1994 draft report of the Diversity Commission rather than the Commission's final report issued in December. Cosby and Lockman held a press conference in Augusta after they received this information from Marco and they repeated word-for-word what Marco told them to say about the Diversity Commission.

For example, Lawrence Lockman included a letter in CMF's fund-raiser mailing, February 9, 1995, in which Lockman uses phrases like, "... gay militant 'Thought Police' brigade empowered to investigate and harass Maine people for any expression of alleged 'homophobia.'" In Marco's letter of January 9, 1995 (written to Lockman) he writes, "... a gay militant-dominated 'politically correct' virtual 'Gestapo' charged to monitor your every thought, word and action." There are numerous other examples of Lockman either copying Marco's text or only slightly paraphrasing it.

Marco concludes his letter by writing, "They've [the so-called gay militants] taken the bait we hoped they would, are convinced we made a colossal blunder — now let's make 'em pay for it big time! Carry on . . ."

Marco writes for Christian American

"The Christian American," a

magazine published by the radical right in Virginia, requested in early January from CMF the, "wording of your ballot initiative to go with Tony's (Marco) article. . ."

Marco's association with the radical Christians is not new. He is the co-founder of DoveTail Ministries. In that capacity he wrote a short document entitled "The 'Other Sins' of Sodom: A New, Biblical, 'Social Justice' Critique of 'Gay Rights.'" Cosby's claim that CMF's effort to deny homosexuals safety from discrimination is based on her desire to protect the sanctity of civil rights law is contradicted by her acknowledged leader Tony Marco. Marco writes in the "Biblical Critique" that his opposition to gay rights is based on Scripture.

CMF to pay Fein \$100,000

"I propose that I receive an initial \$20,000 retainer, and be paid at a rate of \$250 per hour plus expenses. If the case reaches the United States Supreme Court, I would anticipate total legal fees approximating \$100,000, plus expenses," wrote Bruce Fein to CMF, August 18, 1995. Fein is the right-wing constitutional lawyer who wrote Cosby's referendum for \$3250.

Despite his high-priced demands for money, Fein acknowledges in his letter to CMF that, "Although I am a member of the bar of the United States Supreme Court, none of my petitions for review there have been accepted."

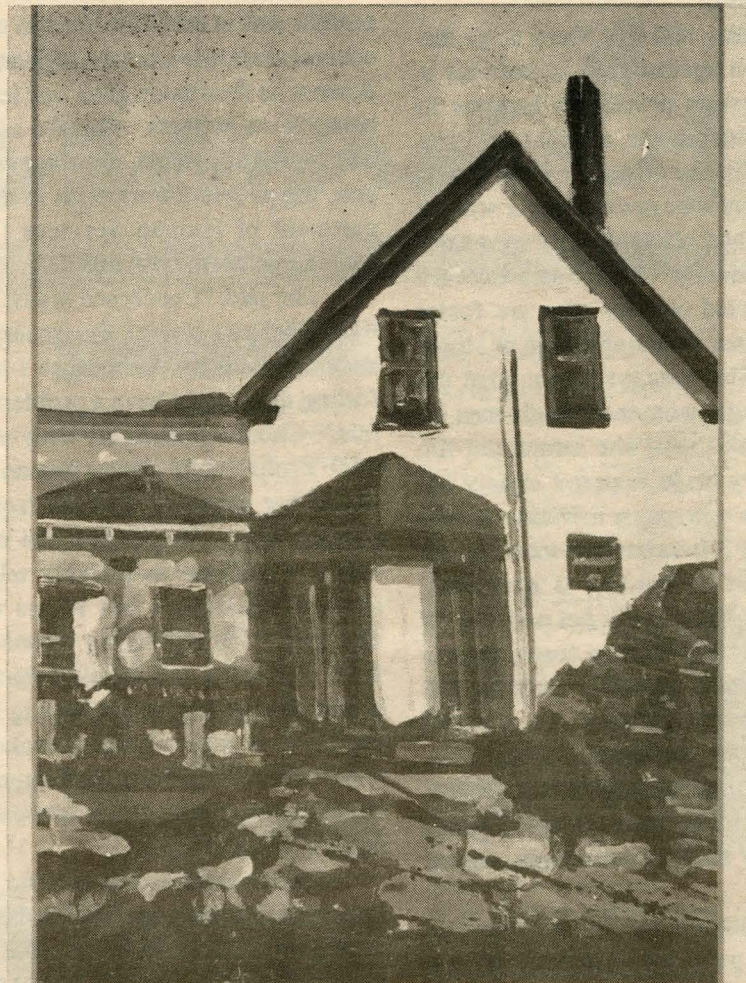
Fein also lacks faith in his referendum language, despite Cosby's statement that CMF, "has the best language in the country." Fein writes, "The Maine initiative, in my opinion, is 65 percent likely to pass constitutional scrutiny."

Fein admits that this referendum will, "preempt local laws" and he admonishes his followers in CMF to be crafty. He writes, "It is exceptionally important that the battle over the Maine initiative and future sister initiatives be conducted with as much talent and savvy outside the courtroom in the public domain as inside. Legal issues that evoke passions pivot approximately 90 percent on prevailing public opinion. We cannot afford the amateurish, impetuous, or myopic."

Cosby also quotes verbatim from Fein in various other pieces of CMF literature. For example, in the letter of August 18, 1995, Fein writes, "... there is no plausible argument that the initiative is anti-gay. It is not. It is pro-democracy." A CMF handout contains the statement, "... the Maine campaign is entirely pro-democracy without being anti-gay." There are numerous other examples in this CMF document that are lifted verbatim from the Fein letter.

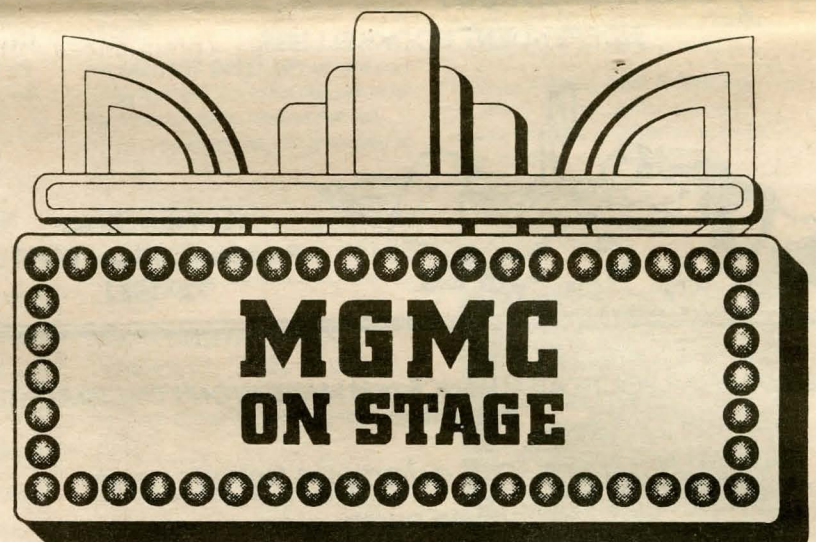
Cosby's claim that the CMF initiative is not anti-gay is betrayed in her six-page fund-raising letter. In that document Cosby raises all the old stereotypes about homosexuals and Boy Scouts, and homosexuals and schools.

(Editor's Note: All materials were provided by anonymous sources.) ΔΔ



Painting "Vic's Store, Stonington," an oil on canvas, donated by A. Chadbourn to the 9th Annual Spring for Life Art Auction to benefit The AIDS Project. The Auction will be held on Saturday, March 18, 1995 at the Holiday Inn By The Bay, Portland. Open Preview from 6-8 pm on Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Silent Auction/Preview is at 5:00 pm. Live auction is 8:00 pm with Auctioneer, Tom Saturley. Admission is \$10.

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presently there are only 900 licensed foster homes.

Chonko said that there is no discrimination against gays or lesbians in the application process to become licensed foster parents, and that individuals, as well as couples, are invited to apply. There is no preference for women over men and all applicants are evaluated individually. Chonko said there are more married couples who are foster parents rather than single men or single women. She does not know what the ratio of single women to single men is.

Chonko said she contacted the Community Pride Reporter simply because it is a newspaper in Maine and the fact that CPR is targeted toward the gay and lesbian community is irrelevant. Chonko said that she is not particularly seeking gay and lesbian foster parents but rather, foster parents, reiterating that sexual orientation is irrelevant. Chonko said, "It (sexual orientation) is not a factor in my recruitment activities whatsoever. It (the gay and lesbian community) is an untapped resource, essentially."

CPR inquired if Chonko was concerned that publicity around gay and lesbian foster parents would create a backlash. She said, "I don't know if I'm concerned. I'm aware that it may happen, and I'm certainly aware that because this article is going to come out that... sure there are groups out there that have problems with this, but again, by law, it is not considered a factor."

Chonko has been in her job for six months and in that time she has not encountered anyone from the legislature or down who frowns on gays and lesbians being foster parents. Chonko said she had "heard things but, to be honest with you, the people I work with in the Department of Human Services (DHS) have no problem with this."

She said, "Concerned Maine Families (CMF) is one of the groups I'm keeping heads up on because I have a feeling they might have a problem with this." Chonko mistakenly believes that CMF's referendum against human rights would bar gays and lesbians from becoming foster parents but, she added, "they (CMF) have actively tried to change legislation but it has never changed. I'm expecting phone calls from them after this article comes out, if they do see it, I'm not hoping for it, but..." I assured Ms. Chonko that CMF's leadership reads the Community Pride Reporter with closer interest than anyone else in Maine.

Chonko said that there is no question on the licensing application that asks sexual orientation. She said that DHS wouldn't know someone's sexual orientation unless the people told it themselves. She explained, "We (MFPA) are a liaison group working with foster parents and DHS. Sometimes foster parents will call in and ask us for advice on this and that. For example, we've had gay foster parents call and say, 'I am gay and I want to tell my foster child. How

do you recommend going about doing this?' We will help them find the best way to deal with this situation."

Chonko said her current recruitment campaign is motivated by a desire to change the whole perception of foster parenting throughout the state. She said, "One of the problems is that a lot of people think foster parents are in it

Lesbian foster parents speak

Kimberley and Cassandra are a couple. They agreed to talk to CPR about their experiences as foster parents. Kimberley has worked in human services for several years. She has experience in direct care with clients and has been a group home manager. She also has been a special needs teacher in ele-



Cassandra and Kimberley are foster parents who happen to be lesbians.

for the money and that is simply not true because they don't get paid much money, not enough to make it a living, which is what a lot of people think. The starting reimbursement for a 'normal' child (not special needs) is \$9.72 per day, and it goes up from there, depending on handicap or need."

"I think a lot of people growing up always thought that the foster family on the block was the poor family, and that these kids were not special, not normal, somehow weird, and the truth is these are just normal kids, just like anybody else. They've just had bad luck with their mom and dad," explained Chonko. She wants to eliminate such popular misconceptions.

Chonko complained, "The media only focus on the negative foster parents. There are problem foster parents, don't get me wrong, but in general, the majority of foster parents are wonderful people, kind, loving people who are concerned about children's safety and child welfare issues, and we just don't hear about them because nobody's interested."

"There are so many kids who need families and if we could just change the image of foster care we wouldn't have to move kids from Biddeford to Aroostook County because that's where the only available foster parents are. It's bad enough when a kid is removed from their biological home, let alone their school, their friends and their grandparents," said Chonko. She appealed for more people to come forward to be foster parents.

mentary school and is currently working in Family Studies at the university level.

Cassandra is trained in early childhood education, has worked as a teacher at the elementary level and has a B.A. in Child Development. She has 10 years experience in the field, including work in group homes, hospitals and preschools.

Cassandra pointed out that you don't need to have this kind of background to be a foster parent, but she said that since they do have it, they bring specific skills to the situation that are very useful.

Kimberley and Cassandra have been together for 6 years, one is 28 and the other is 36. They stressed that the confidentiality of the child is paramount. No identifying information will be given.

I asked them what the most important reality was for them, as lesbian foster parents. Kimberley said, "One of the most important things, if a gay or lesbian couple does choose to become foster parents is that they really have to be open about who they are." Cassandra agreed saying that trying to fabricate a heterosexual life-style would jeopardize your license (as a foster parent), and your own well being. She pointed out that part of the ongoing relationship with DHS requires total disclosure and the resulting stress from dishonesty would be harmful to the child.

Both women thought this factor

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Gulf of Maine Books

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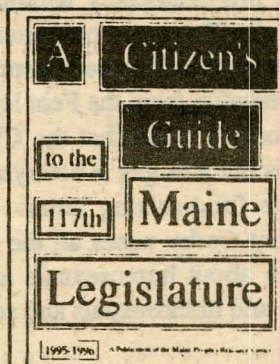
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MFPA, from page 4

was important to stress because some gay or lesbian people who might want to be foster parents might think they have to conceal their sexual orientation, but they do not. There is no specific question in the application process as to one's sexuality. Cassandra and Kimberley presented themselves as a couple. There was no doubt as to who they were. Both women said DHS had no problem with this aspect of their lives.

Cassandra underlined this point by stating, "You sign a declaration at the beginning of the application process promising to be truthful, and if you lie, you are automatically disqualified, and if you are a professional in child care, social work or teaching, you risk your credibility there as well."

Kimberley added, "We now have a special value to the system. Because of our honesty and who we are, we are used as a respite care home for people who have issues with men because there are no men living here." Respite care is temporary, emergency care for children in crisis.

I asked, "Why do you do this?" They laughed saying, "We often ask ourselves that question." Kimberley said, "I was looking for the intensity of the experience. I wanted to be with a child around the clock, to form an attachment with a child, especially with a child who hasn't had a lot of positive experiences with people."

I wondered why one or both of them simply didn't have their own children. Kimberley answered, "I'm too old. It's something we talked about but put off, and being lesbians, there is a financial aspect to actually conceiving a child."

Cassandra said that she chose foster parenting rather than conception because of her work with children and families. By working day to day with children and families she saw the importance of continuity. She noticed that when she worked with the families her work was more satisfying. She said, "I wanted to be on the family side of the equation, providing the continuity."

Both women had only good things to say about dealing with DHS. They said the social worker who handled their application process was great and she seemed to relax when she heard they were together for 6 years. Their sexual-ity was simply not an issue.

Asked how long they had their foster child they laughed and said, "A million years . . . no, about three months." The length of commitment to the child is determined on a case-by case basis, as is much of what happens, including, the degree, if any, of contact between biological parents and foster parents. Some foster kids are clearly short-term placements. Others are open ended.

I asked them to discuss the pros and cons of foster parenting from the view of a lesbian couple. Cassandra said, "As far as our sexual orientation is concerned we pretty much prefer and have been able to keep it a non-issue. We have been referred to as a non-traditional family, but with a young child there is simple acceptance. The child

has two caretakers, that's it."

Cassandra added that in order to make the decision to be a foster parent you need to know what you're getting into, you should have some experience living with children and some knowledge of what traumatized children can do. Some of these kids have seen or experienced trauma. You have to be able to set boundaries with the child and yourself.

Kimberley said, "It's not like parenting your own child, there are a lot of people who come with the child — social workers, therapists, case managers. It's a major invasion of your personal life. We have people coming in our home everyday — that's part of the support services. We have team meetings in our home. It's an adjustment, but they are here in a spirit of cooperation."

The operative phrase here is, "in the best interests of the child." That concept always comes first, but, Kimberley said, "your own sanity is 'in the best interest of the child,' so taking care of your own needs is important."

Cassandra said that in addition to the support from DHS and other agencies they also have support from their families, landlord and neighbors. She said, "Between us we have huge amounts of family. Kim has two brothers and three sisters, giving us a total of five nephews and two nieces, the oldest of which is 7, and there's two more on the way. And I have three brothers and a sister, and we all get together for holidays and other family type functions. Our parents (the child's grandparents) are supportive as well."

I asked them if they would recommend foster parenting to others. Kimberley said, "Consider it and make sure it's what you want to do. The application process is very lengthy, it takes a lot of patience while you're waiting to hear, so you do have time to reconsider." She agreed with Kathy Chonko that nobody who is foster parenting is in it for the money. She said, "The money is pretty minimal, in fact, it costs us money. The state does not cover all the expenses."

They recommended a book for gay men and lesbians who are considering foster parenting — "Lesbians and Gay Men as Foster Parents" by W. Ricketts, 1992, USM, Portland, ME. The book contains case studies, history, court cases and regulations in different states.

The Memo

"When the plan is to place the child with a gay or lesbian couple, the birth parent would be informed of that (if parental rights have not been terminated) and if the birth parent were to object, then the placement would not occur." — Kathy Howley, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Child and Family Services.

In the process of writing this story I was informed of the existence of the foregoing memo. The directive in this memo is not in the DHS policy manual, but it has the force of official policy.

Essentially, the birth parents have a veto over the placement of their child

with a gay or lesbian couple or individual. DHS does not use the word veto, but Ms. Howley acknowledged that the policy has that effect.

Howley said, "To my knowledge this has not been a problem. I don't know of a situation where a birth parent has said, 'Don't do it' or whatever. A question was raised recently from one of our regions where they thought that might become a question, and, in fact, this was a situation where the child was already placed, and the parent had not objected, but there was a concern that the parent would later raise an objection, but I don't think that ever occurred."

Howley provided the following history, "Back in 1985 legislation was passed in New Hampshire that not only prohibited placement of foster children with gay and lesbian couples, but it prohibited them from being licensed. So, some of this was an attempt to not find ourselves in a situation of having this legislated. That triggered it."

Howley continued, "It has been ten years now. We want to review this. We have decided to wait for our new commissioner to get on board (Kevin Concannon). He's only been here three weeks, so he is still new, but what we would like to do is get a group of folks together, after having an opportunity to discuss this with the new commissioner, on behalf of the new administration, and basically look at it and say, 'Is this something that should continue to be our policy or practice.'" She emphasized, "We have no plans to change it or do away with it. We plan to discuss it with the new Commissioner."

I asked Howley who wrote the memo. She said that Peter Walsh was the Director in 1985 (he is currently Acting Deputy DHS Commissioner). I told her that Walsh claimed not to know anything about it. She said the memo

is so old and so rarely mentioned that she was not surprised to hear that Walsh didn't know about it. She added, "It does not come up with any great frequency so some staff would be surprised to hear this."

Howley added, "In all honesty this (issue) would generate great public debate here today." She said that it has not generated threats of legislation, but she expects that publicity about it will. She continued, "Raising this question and bringing it in the public eye certainly has the effect, on a topic that tends to be controversial, to get people's attention." She thought this article may well have the opposite effect of that desired by the MFPA.

Howley said that Concerned Maine Families (CMF) has, "not been a problem for us on this issue." She agreed that this policy probably satisfies those who would object to gay and lesbian foster parents. She acknowledged that it is gays and lesbians who would object, but Howley said "I don't know of a situation where we have actually not made a placement under these circumstances."

I asked her again if the birth parent actually had a veto over a placement decision. She said, "Veto is not an accurate word, but the policy has the same effect. If the birth parent objects to such a placement then we would not do it — a veto."

She said that if parental rights have been terminated DHS would make the placement without regard to the sexual orientation of the prospective foster parent(s).

Anyone interested in getting more information about foster parenting, please call Kathy Chonko, Recruitment Specialist at MFPA at 1-800-734-3909 or 848-7537 or write to MFPA, Aspen Ridge, 11 Liberty Drive, Bangor, ME 04401.



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Northern Maine News Round-Up

Compiled by Malcolm Smith
Bangor/Orono area staff reporter

Gay-bashing in Presque Isle

PRESQUE ISLE: The choking assault of a Presque Isle technical school student has brought about the latest charges under Maine's hate crimes law.

"Our office will aggressively pursue any person in the state who targets gay men for violence," Assistant Attorney General Stephen Wessler told the "Bangor Daily News" after announcing charges against Robert L. Tozier, 35, of Patten. "Acts of hate against minority citizens of this state are illegal and will simply not be tolerated," Wessler said.

While on duty as a monitor at the Northern Maine Technical College in Presque Isle, where both men are students, the victim, identified by state officials as "John Doe," was allegedly verbally attacked, prodded into provoking a fight, then held down on a desk and choked by Tozier.

Tozier knew Doe because Tozier's roommate was a friend of Doe's. Tozier has assaulted his own roommate three months ago after he had seen them together. This assault was not reported at the time due to fear of retaliation.

Wessler is asking for a \$5,000 penalty for each charge against Doe's civil rights, as well as an injunction barring Tozier from contact with homosexuals, and banishment from the school's grounds.

"I was in the military 14 years and I should have killed him," Tozier allegedly said while in police custody. "How would you like a faggot riding with you in your cruiser?"

△△△△△

Abortion Update

BANGOR: The day after Maine's new

governor and several church officials asked for a hold on abortion clinic protests, anti-choice forces signaled a loud "no," and have now added a new clinic to their list of protest sites.

On January 17, Gov. Angus King and several New England Roman Catholic bishops, in response to the murders of clinic workers in Brookline, Massachusetts, urged a moratorium on protests at health clinics that provide abortion services. Bishop Joseph J. Gerry said the church's position on abortion had not changed. "... this action is intended to create an atmosphere in which there can be an open and frank discussion of alternatives to abortion and in which outbreaks of violence can be avoided."

The following day, Ed Gerrish, leader of weekly Wednesday anti-abortion protests at the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center in Bangor, answered Bishop Gerry in both word and action at his weekly demonstration. Other members of his group were there.

"The bishop, being a Christian, knows about the personhood of the people being killed here," Gerrish said. "He [Gerry] should be out here with us."

A month later, on February 23, Gerrish's group began protesting outside the Mt. Hope Avenue office of another physician in Bangor. Gerrish told local media that protests at Mabel Wadsworth would continue.

△△△△△

Bangor dentist who refuses to treat HIV+ people is Advisor to Concerned Maine Families

BANGOR: It has been learned that Dr. Randy Bragdon, D.M.D., the dentist who refuses to treat HIV+ people is a member of the Board of Advisors to Concerned Maine Families. Dr. Bragdon has cited fear of clinical exposure as a reason for his refusal to

treat HIV+ patients. However, his association with CMF raises questions as to his real motives.

The Education Coordinator, Denis Cranson, of the Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN), took Bragdon's supporters to task when he wrote, "I agree with the Myerowitz' (Gail and Zev, authors of a January 12 letter to the editor [BDN] supporting the dentist) that we have much to learn about HIV, much more than we might if it were not for individuals continuing to expound upon and spew forth misinformation based on personal fears and biases." Cranson expressed this opinion in an OpEd piece in the February 8 edition of the "Bangor Daily News."

Cranson listed the facts about occupational exposure and invited the doctor and the letter's authors to utilize EMAN's educational services.

"The American Medical Association, American Dental Association and countless other professional organizations are at odds with Dr. Bragdon's stance on this matter. The Americans with Disabilities Act protects those living with HIV from discrimination," Cranson wrote. He continued, "I posit that there may be other reasons for the choice being made not to treat patients who disclose their status and that these may unwittingly transcend only concerns for safety."

△△△△△

BANGOR: Coverage of the latest anti-

gay referendum developments in a "Bangor Daily News" article helped feed into the myths of Concerned Maine Families' propaganda without mentioning the group's use of misleading tactics and outright lies.

"Carolyn Cosby, 43, lives in a modest house on Portland's outskirts with her husband, David, a postal worker, and their friendly Maine coon cat, Tigger," reporter John Hale wrote in the opening of the February 25-26 lead story.

His description of the opposition bought into the 'powerful, well-financed' gay lobby myth which Concerned Maine Families and Cosby continually spout.

"From her plush quarters in the Portland law offices of Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer and Nelson, Patricia Peard has been directing the legal attack on Carolyn Cosby's anti-gay rights referendum," Hale wrote, introducing the opposition one-third of the way into the article.

CMF has said they want a public dialogue, but officers often refuse interview requests, choosing instead to use newspaper editorial pieces and other means in which they cannot be questioned. Hale's interview is one of the few they have done.

Hale mentioned a concern that groups would turn to out of state sources, but did not mention national contributions listed on CMF's PAC reports. He failed to mention CMF's use of misleading date and outright lies in its brochures.



Up With People invites lesbians, gays, bi's to host students on tour

Winnie Weir, Managing Editor
"Good morning, Ms. Weir, my name is Read Kerr and I'm with Up With People's 'World In Motion Tour.' So began a conversation with the promotion representative of the Portland Advance Team. Preliminary information, including press releases, arrived at the CPR office about two weeks before the call, but I was nonetheless surprised to hear from Kerr.

Up With People will bring nearly 150 international students from 22 countries to the Greater Portland area on March 26 for a six day stay with two performances at the Portland EXPO on Thursday, March 30 and Friday, March 31 at 7:30 pm. The group will appear in Lewiston in late April.

Kerr was looking for host homes for these young people. I asked if he was aware of the target audience of CPR. He

responded affirmatively and indicated that the Up With People organization was committed to providing students with a balanced experience of life, including interactions with gay, lesbian and bisexual families.

Hosts provide not only a place to stay, but also a personal perspective of the community in which they live. Host families provide a bed, some meals, and transportation to a local shuttle point in the morning and evening. They receive two complimentary tickets to the March 30 performance of "World In Motion" and have the opportunity to learn about someone from another country or state. If you would like more information about hosting an international student, tickets or how to become part of one of the five touring casts of Up With People, call (207) 874-1072. △△

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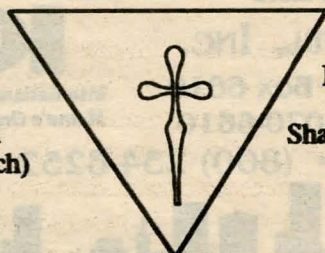


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A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all persons.

Maine Gay/Lesbian Political Alliance holds 10th Annual Awards Banquet



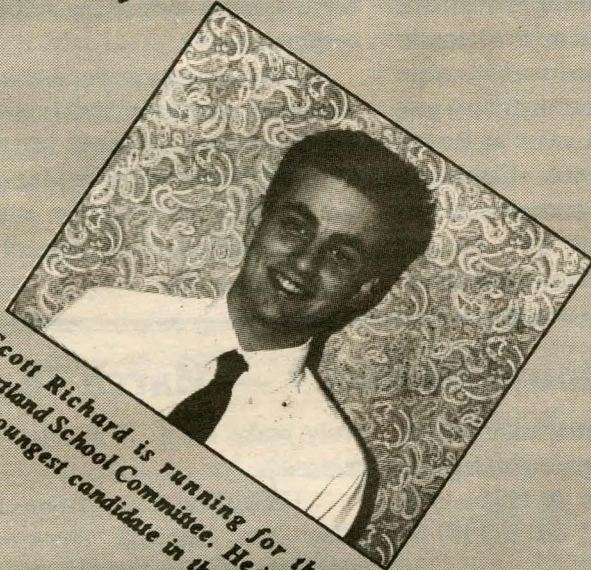
Lucy Carmody represented TransSupport at the Banquet.



Charles Wynott accepted the Cameron Duncan Award on behalf of his partner, Jon Piefer. Wynott, overcome with grief, announced that Piefer was too sick with AIDS to attend. Piefer died March 8. The award was for Piefer's work with PAWS.



Mark McDonald, right, accepted the Community Service Award on behalf of the Maine Gay Men's Chorus.



Scott Richard is running for the Portland School Committee. He is the youngest candidate in the race.



Karen Geraghty, President of MLGPA, spoke at the banquet. She concluded by quoting Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a thoughtful, committed group can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever does."



Rita Kissen, active in PFLAG, received the F. E. Pentlauge Award.

To Your Health: The Lesbian Health Care Consumer - Part II

by Peaches Bass

Surveys have demonstrated that lesbians avoid seeking routine health care, especially from physicians. Other surveys, similarly, indicate that health care providers lack comfort and expertise in treating lesbians. Last month's column discussed ways to advocate at the individual and community level, for improved health care for lesbians.

This month, we'll cover what you can do as a patient or client to get the best possible health care service.

Before you even need to see a health care provider, you should prepare our medical history. You can ask a clinic to give you a blank copy for a guide, or you can usually find a medical history form in home health care or family medical guide at the local library or chain bookstore.

Your medical history includes your relatives—parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, siblings. What chronic diseases exist in your family? What did your relatives die from? What injuries have you had? Any surgery? Childhood illnesses, immunizations, allergies, use of medications, and use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs are also part of a medical history. Give as much detail as possible. Bring your medical history with you to your health care provider.

Even as a lesbian, expect your health care provider to ask if you've ever used birth control, have been pregnant, etc. A good provider won't assume anything, but will ask you open-ended questions to allow you to provide accurate

answers.

If you have a health insurance policy, read it. You should know what is covered, what isn't, what your deductible is, what your co-pay is, requirements for a second opinion or to contact your insurance company before you receive health care. If there's anything about your policy that you don't understand, call the Consumer Service Department at your insurance company, your insurance agent, or your employer's benefits office.

You'll need to show proof of insurance at most health care providers' offices, so remember to bring that with you. The same goes if you have government insurance, like Champus, Medicaid, or Medicare.

If you don't have insurance, be prepared to pay at the time of your visit. When you call for the appointment, ask what the fee will be. If they can't tell you, ask for at least a range or 'ballpark' figure. If they fail to tell you what the visit will cost, consider going to another provider. If you are going to have to set up a payment schedule to pay the bill over time, you should let them know that. Most providers will be willing to make arrangements with you.

When you call for an appointment, write down any special instructions you're given. Ask any questions you want. What will the visit cost? Where are you located? What information should I bring with me? Can a friend come with me? Will I be able to drive myself home?

Before your appointment, keep a list of any questions you want to ask the provider. If you're feeling a little anxious, bring a friend or your partner with you. It can help to have someone else there who can help you remember all the details, or just hold your hand.

If you're asked to sign a consent form, the provider probably won't provide the service. Signing a consent form doesn't mean you can't sue, by the way.

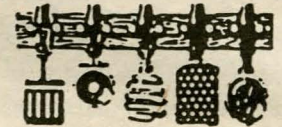
Release forms are usually required before you can have the provider bill your insurance company. These forms are very comprehensive and vague and usually allow the insurance company access to anything in your medical records. You should know this in case there's something you don't want the insurance company to learn about you. Many health care providers are sympathetic; they just want to help you. If you tell the provider that you don't want her to put something in the record, she'll usually accommodate you as long as it doesn't affect your treatment.

Release forms are also needed before one provider can transfer your records to another.

See CARE, page 22

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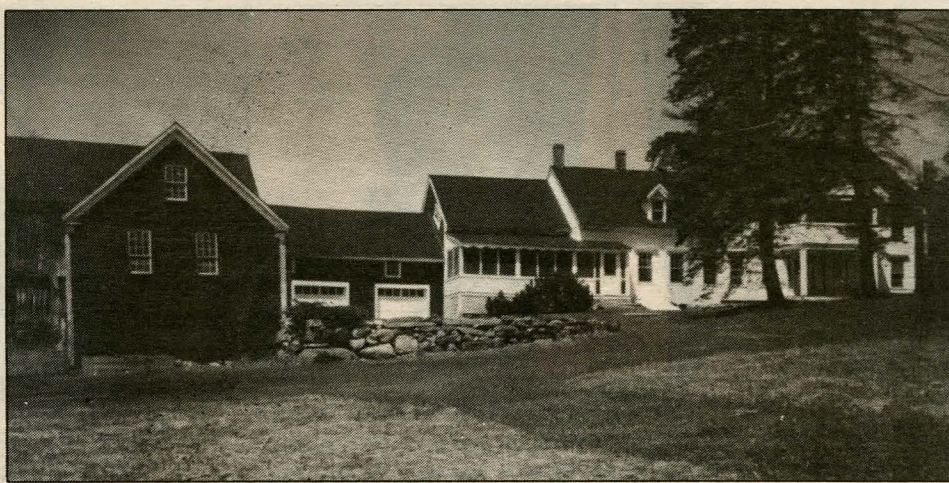
BUSINESS FEATURE: The Stone Wall Bed & Breakfast

by Winnie Weir

"There were two reasons for us deciding to name our B & B the Stone Wall," said Suzi Peterson, one of the owners of this just-opened-for-business charmer. "There's the obvious gay-association, and the fact that we actually do have lovely stone walls that border our property."

Cathy Beals, the B & B's other owner agrees. "After six months, we discovered an ideal 150 year old farmhouse. While the view of Mt. Washington and the surrounding mountains was picture-perfect," said Beals, "the house needed extensive renovations and complete redecorating. All major systems were upgraded, more bathrooms were added, and the interior of the house was completely repainted. Now, six months later, we find ourselves and the Stone Wall B & B ready for business and excited about our new life in Maine."

The Stone Wall B & B is a beautiful New England farmhouse in Lovell, Maine centrally located to the "best



Stone Wall B & B is a 150 year-old farmhouse in historic Lovell, Maine. The place is beautiful

Maine and New Hampshire have to offer," according to the informative and classy brochure these two women have created. The accommodations so far include the Sunrise Suite, the Country Suite, and the Jacuzzi Room. They hope to double that number next year.

So, how did two women from Worcester, Massachusetts come to open a B & B in Lovell, Maine. Actually,

Suzi was born in Providence, Rhode Island where she attended Providence College. She then went on to Simmons College in Boston and received her MLS. She's been a librarian for the past 19 years, the last five years at Brown University in Providence. Cathy is a Massachusetts native and graduate of Lesley College in Cambridge. She has been an office manager for various small

businesses in the Worcester area for several years. The B & B sounds like a perfect transition for utilizing her skills. The two women met through the local "Women Outdoors" hiking club in Worcester five years ago.

Peterson vacationed in the Mt. Washington valley for the past 15 years, climbing all the 4000' mountains along the way. She decided she wanted to live closer to the mountains as soon as she could find a way, and with a history of entertaining hiking/skiing groups at her vacation home in Bartlett, New Hampshire, the thought of a B & B wasn't too long in coming. Combined with Beals love of the outdoors and business management skills (both women are active in the Chiltern Mountain Club and hope to meet more of its Maine members), a vision took shape and has now become a reality.

For more information and to receive a brochure, write Stone Wall Bed & Breakfast, RR #1, Box 26, Lovell, ME 04051 or call 207/925-1080, (outside Maine: 1-800-414-1080). Suzi Peterson and Cathy Beals, Innkeepers, look forward to welcoming you. ΔΔ

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Special Election in Sanford for House District 9 — March 28

by Bruce Balboni

The gay and lesbian community lost a supporter in the legislature when Mona Walker Hale (D) died recently. Norman Paul (D) is running against Robert Carr (R) for the House seat left vacant by the death of Hale. Hale beat Carr for this seat in the last election. If Carr wins this special election the Democratic majority in the House will be reduced to one vote.

CPR contacted both candidates to ascertain their position on the subject of protection from discrimination for gays and lesbians. Paul, who served 8 years in the House, from 1984 to 1992, said he could not remember how he voted on any gay rights legislation.

Paul said he was unable to comment on LD 246 (the bill that passed last year's legislature banning discrimination against gays and lesbians in housing, credit, employment and public accommodations) because he hadn't read it. I reminded Paul that gay rights legislation has been introduced in the legislature every year for the past 17 years and he said, "I don't remember... I don't recall if it came up before me or not." Paul said he had a lot of catching up to do and, he added, "I'm not prepared to make a lot of statements on some issues because I don't know what's pending."

CPR obtained a partial history of Mr. Paul's voting record on gay rights legislation and it is as follows: In 1985, 1987 and 1991 he voted "No," and in 1989 he voted "Yes."

"Some of the nicest people I know..."

CPR asked Paul if he knew any gay and/or lesbian people. Paul replied, "Yes, I do. They're some of the nicest people I know, gay and lesbian. But that doesn't shut the door, as far as I'm concerned, they're human beings."

He claimed to be unaware of Concerned Maine Families and the anti-human rights referendum they are sponsoring that may be on the ballot in November, 1995.

Paul added, "I have my own feelings on the matter, but we've got to be careful about discrimination. In trying to eliminate some of this discrimination we don't want to discriminate in doing so." Asked if he was opposed to the idea of civil rights protection for homosexuals Paul said, "No, I'm not, I'm not until I sit down and see what I have before me and then I'll make the best judgment I can possibly make on it. I'm totally open-minded."

sibly make on it. I'm totally open-minded."

Unlike Paul, Carr is aware of CMF's referendum. Carr said, "I have not taken any full position on that (the referendum) yet. I want to see how it's worded." Carr said that when the gay rights bill came before him during his one term in the House he "took the position opposite to what the gay and lesbian society wanted me to take." He continued, "I am in favor of equal rights for everybody, but I am not in favor of granting any special rights or special interest to the gay/lesbian society, only those that have protection under the civil rights law right now — the minorities, female and handicapped, under the affirmative action plans as they are now ordained. I did not favor adding gays and lesbians to the civil rights statutes."

Carr said he has no official association with CMF and he does have gay and lesbian friends. He said that gay rights, CMF, the referendum etc. have not been a point of discussion with these friends. The election is March 28. ΔΔ

Maine Greens oppose CMF's referendum

AUGUSTA: The Green Party has decided to oppose the referendum foisted on the State of Maine by the reactionary group called Concerned Maine Families, according to a March 6 press release. On Saturday, February 18 the Greens State council unanimously voiced their opposition to the proposed referendum that would limit civil rights and revoke Portland's Human Rights Ordinance.

The Greens further set up a committee to coordinate with Maine Won't Discriminate, an organization created to oppose this attack on civil rights. Tom Stama was asked to chair this committee for the Greens. Mr. Stama said, "Carolyn Cosby and Concerned Maine Families couldn't get their way when they tried to repeal the

Human Rights Ordinance in Portland, so now, they are trying to trick the people of Maine to repeal it for them. The referendum's language is confusing and its implications are not readily apparent."

The key to understanding this proposed referendum is when you realize that any group not listed is cancelled..." from any provision of State or local law, rule, regulation, ordinance, charter provision or policy..."

Mr. Stama further commented, "This referendum named for protection those with physical or mental disability, but left out medical status. Is Concerned Maine Families excluding those with HIV, as found in present state law?" ΔΔ

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Sunday: Free pool
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HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY

Outreach is the key - Maine Won't Discriminate has a new campaign manager

by Bruce Balboni

"I think it's important to be as inclusive as possible. We need to do a lot of outreach beyond the gay community. If there is fighting within the gay and lesbian community we're in trouble. In terms of strategic decisions, I don't expect everyone to be happy all the time, but I can't spend my time worrying about divisions within the gay community. I have to go beyond that."

— Amy Pritchard

Maine Won't Discriminate has hired a campaign manager. Amy Pritchard is from Boston. She is 28 and graduated from American University in Washington, D.C. where she maintains an apartment. She spends most of her time working in political campaigns around the country. She managed the successful campaign for Lynn Rivers' (D) Congressional race in Michigan. Rivers was one of only 13 new Democrats elected last year.

Pritchard has worked as an organizer, on a consulting basis, for the American Psychological Association out on the west coast. She taught psychologists how to do lobbying and grass roots organizing. This work was a very specific project in response to proposed reform legislation on national health care. She worked to build coalitions on behalf of APA with labor and business groups, and she worked with a number of different coalitions for the National Health Care Reform Project.

She is not a lesbian. Since the '94 election she did press for a Pearl Jam concert which raised money for voters for Choice. She has not worked on any other lesbian and gay rights referendum campaigns specifically. Her experience in gay and lesbian issues stems from the political races in which that's been an issue, as it was in the Rivers campaign. Rivers' chief of staff is a lesbian whose partner also works for Rivers.

CPR interviewed Ms. Pritchard recently and the following Q and A ensued:

Q: What is your role?

A: I've only been here a week so I've been running around meeting people and doing a lot of listening. A lot of work has already been done, and I'm reading up on EPP's work and I'm trying to put together a structure. Great work has been done already, some money has been raised, but there is no formal structure to this campaign which I hope to bring right away.

Q: Are you going to be focussed on media?

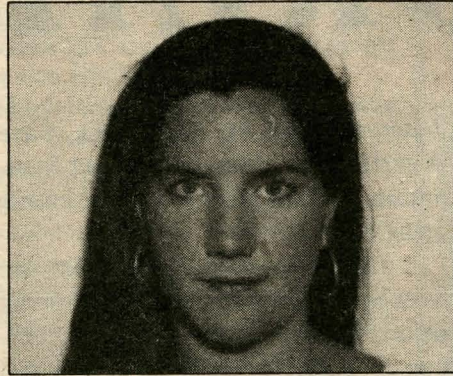
A: Certainly focussed on media but initially I will be focussed on raising the money necessary to defeat this referendum. It's going to be an expensive campaign.

Q: Will you be involved in all aspects of the campaign?

A: Absolutely. I'll be putting together a strong field program down the line. I'll be trying to do as much outreach, outside the gay community, as possible.

Q: What is the current structure of Maine Won't Discriminate (MWD)?

A: There's a board. At this point



Amy Pritchard on the job for MWD.

it's an interim board. It is made up of 10 people from around the state who were responsible for bringing me on and picking our pollster, Celinda Lake. She has tremendous experience polling on this issue and soon we'll be choosing a media consultant.

Q: You know that out-of-state involvement is controversial. How do you answer the charges made by Concerned Maine Families (CMF) that MWD's effort is not "made in Maine?"

A: Concerned Maine Families has a lot of help from out-of-state. MWD is only responding to what they're doing. But certainly, most of the people involved in this campaign are and will be from Maine.

Q: Do you accept the implication that there is something wrong with using out-of-state help?

A: No. I think it's important to draw upon the experiences of other campaigns, both from their successes and their failures. We need to make sure we learn how to do this right.

Q: Are you able to forecast the most difficult element of the task ahead of you?

A: Educating voters and raising the money necessary to educate them.

Q: What do you consider to be the most heinous element of CMF's campaign?

A: Bigotry and the fact that they're promoting discrimination. But we will set our own agenda. This will be a proactive campaign.

Q: Do you have any comment on factionalism in the gay and lesbian side of this fight?

A: I think it's important to be as inclusive as possible. We need to do a lot of outreach beyond the gay community. If there is fighting within the gay and lesbian community we're in trouble. In terms of strategic decisions, I don't expect everyone to be happy all the time, but I can't spend my time worrying about divisions within the gay community. I have to go beyond that.

Q: Have you encountered any divisiveness so far?

A: No.

Q: What is your message to the lesbian and gay community?

A: We need your help, we need your support, we need your energy because it's going to be a long eight months. We need your financial support and we need their time. I want to actively discourage any kind of infighting because that's counterproductive. The important thing is to defeat this referen-

dum. I'm not prepared to comment now as to what the specific methods or strategies will be.

Q: Do you predict victory?

A: Yes. It's going to be long and hard and it has the potential to get ugly but I think we can win. I don't think people want discrimination.

Q: What do you see as CMF's biggest flaw?

A: The language they use in the referendum is deliberately ambiguous. I think they made a couple of strategic mistakes in terms of the language by

excluding other groups, which is one of the ways we will be able to build a coalition. This is not just discrimination against gays and lesbians but it has the potential to discriminate against worker's comp victims, whistle blowers, veterans. There are any number of groups that are not defined within the language of that referendum who have the potential to be discriminated against in the future. I don't think that was their intent. They clearly want to prevent gays and lesbians from having the same protections that everyone has. ΔΔ

New running club in Portland area

PORTLAND: Maine Frontrunners is a new chapter of the worldwide federation of gay and lesbian running clubs, International Frontrunners. Sharing a desire to promote athleticism and camaraderie within the local lesbian and gay community, some of the Team Maine participants at the Gay Games in New York City resolved to start up a running club.

Some of the participants were in the gay and lesbian bicycling club, Outriders, which met for a while in the early 1990's on Thursday nights in Portland.

Some participants have run with New York, Boston and Seattle Frontrunners. From these experiences and with advice from International Frontrunners, we hope to create a viable running club, offering regular runs that will be worthwhile to runners of varying speeds. Join us on Saturday mornings, at 9:00 am at the start of Back Cove Walkway (corner of Baxter Boulevard and Preble Street Extension in Portland), beginning April 1, 1995. For more information, call Jim at 761-2059 or John at 828-4896. ΔΔ

GOOD COOKIN' KATAHDIN

Our Customers Comment on the Food:

- Your food is super - always have a good meal here!!
- Excellent flavor all around, good texture & visually appealing.
- Your chocolate pudding cake is very imaginative and successful.
- Never run out of strawberry shortcake!
- Enjoyed the variety - had a hard time choosing. I'll have to come back!
- The best food we've had in ages. Savored everything. We even ate the beets.
- I like the way you season your food. The herbs make the food so tasty.
- Excellent! Huge portions!
- Our family always insists on coming here and here only when visiting my brother and me.
- A 3/4 bottle of wine was a wonderful option!
- The bluefish and scallops were better than excellent!
- The half-sized portions are an excellent idea.
- The martinis were presented in grand fashion!
- Soup: Can you order by the vat? Superb!
- Roast pork dinner (Blue Plate) was unbelievable. Don't tell my Mom, but it was even better than hers!
- Everything was great! Excellent Caesar Salad!
- I love your crabcakes! Any chance I could get the recipe?
- Enjoyed biscuits; novel veggie mix (beets, squash and parsnip very good.)
- The chocolate mountain was very, very, very good.
- Fish chowda super - always a good meal here!
- Oyster appetizer very imaginative and successful!
- The raspberry peach cobbler was wonderful!
- Nice to have vegetarian selections and good service.
- Not too creamy in the sauces - just right!
- I had the london broil and my husband had the crabcakes. Delish!
- Excellent! Huge portions - can't wait to come back

207/774-1740 • SPRING AND HIGH STREETS
Mon.-Thurs. 5:00-10:00 PM • Fri. & Sat. 5:00-11:00 PM

Community Pride Reporter

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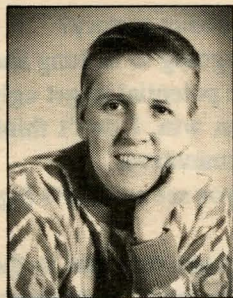
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The Community Pride Reporter is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. This practice reflects our commitment to responsible use of our earth's resources. Using recycled paper sometimes results in the paper having a toned down or grayish tinge. However, we feel this is a small price to pay as Community Pride Reporter does its part to "Color ME Green."

EDITORIALS



Winnie Weir
Publishing
Editor

Spring is in the air -- thank the universe! While it hasn't been a particularly bad winter, this first half of March seems to have made up for it. I long to see the sun for more than just a few fleeting minutes. The only sounds of spring I hear are the seagulls beginning to build their nests outside my office window. If you've called me during the spring you know what a chorus they are. Never mind, if it means spring, I'll take the racket they make.

Another sign of spring looming on the horizon is the increase in activities and events being offered to lure some of us out of our winter hibernation phase. The "Spring for Life" Art Auction is just around the corner (minus the stray blizzard that will never be forgotten, we hope!). The Spring concert of the Maine Gay Men's Chorus, the Daedalus Project for the benefit of AIDS Action in the

Waterville area, the AIDS Walk, Save Deering Oaks clean-up day, and Symposium XXI are just a few of the events being offered.

Of course, plans for Pride Day and weekend celebrations are in full swing around the state. What a great celebration of PRIDE we are going to have this year. As a community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people, this has been a difficult time for us and it's not over yet. But in the midst of the struggles we go through, I would urge us all to take time to smell the spring flowers, to romp and play, to savor the fullness of what life has to offer besides the battles. As Brian Kaufman points out in his Guest Editorial, there have been the depressing events, the continuous struggles to live our lives on an equal basis with those who would deny us equality, but there have also been the gains, the glimmer of hope, the joy of being.

There are those in our community who are working very hard on our behalf in direct action positions. Let's thank them and offer our help to lighten their load. Then let's go for a run or a walk or a drive. Or have a candlelight

dinner with the special someone we sometimes take for granted. I guess what I'm trying to say here is let us not forget to savor the very thing we are struggling to protect, namely our right to be who we are in joy and harmony. Ahh, I can smell those flowers now and, oh is that the sound of a child's laughter. Yes, I think my inner child just got the message. Who said editorials were for the masses!?

In celebration . . .

Winnie

Hey, were hooked up to the Information super highway now. Bruce is on CompuServe: 76275.1372@compuserve.com and I am at CPRPRIDE@AOL.COM - so you can send articles, letters, comments, etc. whenever you wish.

Trans Forum

by Daralyn S. Maxwell

I like to check out the chicks, to use the vernacular of my youth. To my staff I seem to be just another horny member of the service industry. I have, however, a vastly different agenda.

In my line of work I am exposed to a vast cross-section of the female population. Through this, I am able to see exactly how women dress, make-up, carry themselves and deal in a relatively alien situation. All the while appearing enviously lecherous to my cohorts.

We all aspire to achieve that certain look that, if we can't exactly pass, at least allows us to kid ourselves for a

few hours that we really are what we strive for. To the dedicated cross-dresser, the illusion (form) needs to be fairly precise or else you merely have a masquerading male. To the transsexual, the need to exist (substance) becomes vital to the goal of passing through that final portal to femaleness.

In either case, not having all of your facts straight severely limits the ability to succeed. Equally important in this effort, we as transgenderists, cannot get bogged down by trivial details and must focus on the big picture. If I spend all of my time assuming that your basic genetic female always applies her lipstick just so, never chooses the wrong shadow color, and has the perfect outfit

for any occasion, then I completely miss the core issue.

A woman is a woman, good, bad or indifferent. She may stroll gracefully or stump like an also-ran at Saratoga. Every human being on the planet may or may not have their own endearing qualities, but they are divided only by male or female. What happens after that is fate (or kismet, in my house).

My search for balance and fulfillment does not hinge on imitation which, while flattering, is not real. My femininity is an extension of my human traits and will be dealt with accordingly. The only thing that I can truly aspire to is to be the same unique female human that I was as a male human. So while we ponder the future of our mental illusions, let's have some fun. I have waited way too long and travelled way to far to take myself so seriously that my human cannot handle either male or female me.

Besides, so I don't exactly glide across the floor. I don't believe that Fred Astaire or Gene Kelly are waiting breathlessly for me anyway. ΔΔ

(Editor's Note: Welcome to TRANS FORUM, a new column joining the CPR family. This column will feature articles written by people self-identified as transsexuals, cross-dressers, transgendered, etc. in an effort to give voice to the entire range of our many ways of being human beings. We encourage submissions of 500 to 600 words and welcome photos.)

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Please enter my one yearsubscription to Community Pride Reporter. I will receive 12 issues, delivered in a plain envelope. The cost for a one year subscription is \$25 (more if you can, less if you can't.) Please make checks payable to CPR and mail to 142 High Street, Suite #634, Portland, ME 04101.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

by Brian Kaufman

By the time this goes to press, supporters of civil rights will still be coping with the recent decision to temporarily abandon legislative efforts which would have added sexual minorities to those classes protected from discrimination under Maine's human rights laws. As anyone could have predicted, Carolyn Cosby is claiming this news as yet another victory in the battle to preserve bigotry in our state.

Coming so closely on the heels of the troubling rise to power of the RepubliKKKan party in last November's election, many in our community are reeling from the emotional deflation that comes from repeated disappointment. Does anyone remember how confident we all were after the Pentagon spent \$27 million to study the impact of having gays and lesbians in the armed forces, concluding that there is no rational reason to exclude us? What about the elation we felt during the 1992 presidential campaign? Do you remember that heady feeling so many of us had while being courted by Billary, who assured us that one of his first presidential missions would be to end the ban on gays in the military?

Indeed, many of us believed that our arduous work had finally paid off right at home in Maine two years ago, only to have our civil rights victory annulled by the hateful pen of former governor McKernan. So it isn't surprising now when members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered family and our friends who love us wonder what has become of decency and fairness in this last decade of what has certainly been the most literate, educated, and democratic millennium.

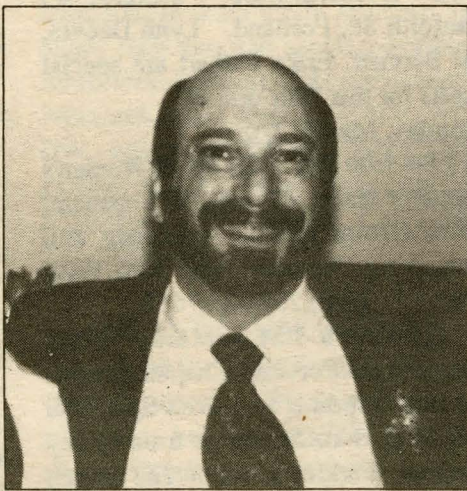
Are fairness and decency simply obsolete? Of course they aren't! Many of us, blinded by disappointment and fearing the anti-gay referendum in November are increasingly willing to believe that we just don't have a chance. We wonder, who will advocate for us after we've spent our energy and money fending off radical conservatives like Carolyn, Jesse, and Newt? It even makes us wonder if the contagion of homophobia has spread to the brink of hysteria, as our community becomes the last which can be legally scapegoated whenever needed to raise money for the radical right.

With increasing frequency we hear references to the similarity between 1995 America and 1935 Germany. Though I am hardly comfortable with the current political climate, the eternal optimist deep within me sees some fantabulous signs of hope and strength for our future.

Several bright spots are glowing on the horizon. Our community has become stronger and more politically involved than ever before as we rise to the referendum challenge. After years of endless efforts to get Mainers interested and involved in passing pro-gay legislation, it is apparent that an old advertising adage is true. People will act to defend themselves against a clear danger far more readily than they would act simply to prevent the danger in the first place. The hope represented by pro-active legislation is just unable to

match the excitement that has been generated by the fear of having our rights attacked outright by the referendum process. Okay, so we're human. And as much as I personally wish that people would have felt compelled to be actively involved in pro-active legislative reforms, I am incredibly grateful for this evil referendum that has so mobilized our community.

The fact that there are now more than a dozen chapters of Maine Won't Discriminate shows that we truly are everywhere, and the consciousness raised throughout our state will continue to promote understanding, tolerance, and perhaps even dignity for sexual minorities. Another bright



spot glowing on the horizon is coming from an unlikely source: members of Generation X. Yes, I read Newsweek and know that Generation X'ers are supposed to be detached and uninvolved with issues of substance, but young people in Maine are looking homophobia in the face and declaring that enough is enough!

Certainly, today's young people are more sophisticated about sexuality than ever before. While macho teens in Texas continue to hunt gay men for sport, some teens in Maine are showing their disinterest in maintaining dangerous provincial attitudes. Maybe with so many other real issues to deal with, they don't have the energy to invest in pretending that they are repulsed by homosexuality when in fact they are simply fascinated by it! In May, I will be bringing a program on homophobia to an assembly at Kents Hill School. Imagine my surprise when I learned that I was being contracted for by a student and not a guidance counselor! This young woman started a group there called S.H.A.P.E. (Students Helping Achieve Personal Equality) because she and others felt they wanted to do whatever possible to increase dialogue and understanding in matters of racism and other forms of prejudice.

Every day, more bright spots are shimmering across Maine as gay men, lesbians, transgendered, and our supporters become involved! I can remember when months would lapse between reports that so-and-so had just come out or had attended their first support group meeting. Is it my imagination, or has the coming-out rate taken off with exponential force? And am I mistaken, or are people having an easier time coming out? It's been a long time since I've heard about young people being thrown out on the street or losing their best friends after announcing their

sexual identities. I've listened to such a succession of coming out stories of late, and each one has ended on a warm and wonderful note. I think this tells us that the years of lobbying for a civil rights bill *are* making a difference in the quality of life for those in our community.

Homophobia is a curable disease. Visibility is the antidote. You are the cure. Alright. We can look in the newspaper or turn on the tube and learn about countless attacks on our community. It's depressing. But, on the brighter side, at least we are fighting. And when we are fighting we are visible. This is important. This is a big change, a momentous difference between this era of gay civil right struggles and those that have gone before us. We are making up for lost time. For the years when our opponents said that we didn't exist (not in their backyards), or that we existed but were mentally ill, or that there just weren't enough of us (whether 2% or 10%) to justify amending state and federal legislation to give us equal protection.

Look at what's happened because we have been sustaining the fight! Now, instead of claiming that we don't exist, our opponents claim there are so many of us scattered about that they must take great measures to ferret us out. They are raising money to enact legislation to make sure that we are not in the schools, or behind the pulpits, or in the house next door. They see us everywhere, and they want us to oil our hinges and quietly slip back into our closets. Yes, it was disappointing when Oklahoma's RepubliKKKan Congressman Steve Largent told a group of lesbian gay activists that he did not support civil rights legislation. On the other hand, it was a milestone, being the first-ever meeting between an Oklahoma congressman and gay rights advocates.

Yes, it is frustrating that conservatives who lament the decay of the family refuse to endorse same-sex marriages. The good news is that it is being discussed in South Dakota, Alaska, and Utah. The disconcerting news that many gay men who feel hopeless and worthless are reverting to unsafe sex is countered with a campaign in Seattle, where television viewers are seeing ads promoting "gay pride" as an effective weapon in the war on AIDS. The hateful and divisive venom spewed by the likes of Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, and Donald Wildmon is powerful, but now people are learning the truth from the gay ghostwriter who has done the right thing by taking a pro-gay activist's stance in denouncing his own work as a campaign of hate that promotes violence.

It is frustrating that gays and lesbians will not be permitted to march in Boston's St. Patrick Day parade, but heartening that the cloak of righteousness has been ripped away. In previous years, the parade was promoted as a religious event, supposedly justifying the ban on homosexual participation. This year, organizers actually confessed to their ugly purpose by registering not as a religious event but as an anti-gay protest.

Closer to home, while some high school students continue to consider suicide to be a more desirable fate than the

Community Pride Reporter

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Our Mission

Community Pride Reporter serves as a source of local, state, national and international news, information, ideas and opinion by and for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people of Maine and seacoast New Hampshire. CPR strives to increase awareness and acceptance of the rich diversity among us, with the intention of infusing the word community with renewed meaning and vitality. CPR pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people.

Our Editorial Policy

Views and opinions, political and personal, expressed in Community Pride Reporter are those of the individual authors only. Community Pride Reporter may endorse candidates we feel represent our community most completely. Community Pride Reporter disclaims legal responsibility for errors in editorial, or advertising content, as all reasonable care is taken to prevent such errors. If an error has significantly detracted from the clarity of information presented, the Publisher may consider printing a clarification at her discretion.

Submissions Welcome

CPR encourages readers to write! Material submitted for publication must be legibly signed and include address and/or phone number for verification. Please keep letters to the CPR Mailbag to 300 words or less. Slightly longer and more composed submissions may be considered for a guest editorial at the Publisher's discretion. If requested, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of an author for appropriate reasons.

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taunting of their peers, the students at Kent Hill are taking leadership and doing their part to end senseless hatred. Let us learn from our young. Be part of the cure. Inject yourself into your community. If you are closeted there are all kinds of things that can be done to help those of us who are not. If you are not closeted, remember that you are a vital resource capable of ridding our culture of a horrible disease.

Speak out, stand up, and fight back against the oppression of small-minded homophobia! ΔΔ

MARCH - APRIL CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 15th:

ΔΔ 6:30-8:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Capitol Area Chapter, Maple Hill Farm Bed & Breakfast, Hallowell. Call the B & B at 207/622-2708 for directions.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Open House and Drop-In. Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207-498-2088.

•Δ 7:30-9:00 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Fund raising meeting. FMI, 207/725-7632.

Thursday, March 16th:

ΔΔ 7:30-9:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Meditation Group for women & men. FMI, 207/725-7632.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Live music at Citi, 137 Kennebec St., Portland. Featuring women performers Kate Schrock with Ginger Cote on drums and Ross on bass. Driving acoustic. Tickets \$3. FMI, 774-2242.

Friday, March 17th:

•Δ 3:00 PM - St. Patrick's Day Parade in the West End, Portland. Sponsored by Shoe String Theatre. Calling all lesbian, gay, bi and trans. Irish people. Meet at the Good Day Market by 2:45 the latest for a fun parade.

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Women's Night at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, call 207/498-2088.

ΔΔ 7:30 PM - Building Inclusive Community presents "Places in the Heart: No Room for Shame" Parenting our gay and lesbian children in the 90's presented by Andy Valley PFLAG. UU Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. Free admission.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Main St., Topsham. Drop in time. Informal and casual. A time to meet new friends, share thoughts & ideas or kick back and relax. FMI, 207/725-7632.

Saturday, March 18th:

ΔΔ 6:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord's 1st Day of Spring BBQ & St. Patrick's Day Dance at a private home in New Sweden. BYO food for the grill, cold dish to share & beverage. FMI, 207/498-2088.

•Δ 8:00 PM - Wild Iris Productions presents ANN REED in concert. First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland. \$13.50 advance, \$15 day of show.

•Δ 8:00 PM - 9th Annual Spring for Life Art Auction to benefit The AIDS Project. Holiday Inn by The Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Admission \$10. Open preview Friday evening, 6:00-8:00 pm and Saturday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Sunday, March 19th:

•Δ 4:00-6:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Ellsworth Chapter. Meets at the UU Church on Bucksport Road. FMI, call Peter Rees, 667-2358 or Ruth Blackburn, 276-0503.

Monday, March 20th:

ΔΔ 6:30-8:30 PM - The Rainbow Business & Professional Network meets at a Portland location. FMI, 775-0015 or 879-1342. Dreamers & visionaries welcome!

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Support Group meeting every other Monday. Focus is on healing, recovery and self-esteem. Newcomers are always welcome. FMI, 207/725-7632.

Tuesday, March 21st:

•Δ 2:30-3:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Teen parenting group sponsored by CHANS. All teen parents and their children are welcome to come and talk with other teens and facilitator. FMI, 207/725-7632.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - The Gathering, USM Campus Center, Portland, Rm. B & C. Topic: "Queer Aging" Bobbi Kepal discusses ideas and strategies addressing the complexities of being gay and growing older. FMI, Faith Worthley, 207/774-4919.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and Lesbian AA meeting at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, call 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, March 22nd:

ΔΔ 6:15-8:30 PM - Discussion Series at Women's Center in Belfast, 9A Main St., 2nd floor. Topic: Dancing with Persephone: Waking the Earth and Welcoming the Sun. Reclaiming the story of Persephone and her mother, Demeter. FMI, 338-1429.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Open House and Drop-In. Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207-498-2088.

Thursday, March 23rd:

ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - The Matlovich Society, Lisa Keen, Senior Editor of *The Washington Blade* analyses "The National Political Scene: What's Happening and What it Means to our Community." If you missed her at last year's MLGPA Banquet, you'll not want to make that mistake again! Holiday Inn By-the-Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Accessible to the mobility-impaired; free hotel parking.

ΔΔ 7:30-9:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Meditation Group for women & men. FMI, 207/725-7632.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Live music at Citi, 137 Kennebec St., Portland. Featuring women performers, Lynne Deeves w/ Victor Leclerc. Long time musical partners on N.E rock scene. Tickets \$3. FMI, 774-2242.

Friday, March 24th:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Main St., Topsham. Drop in time. Informal and casual. A time to meet new friends, share thoughts & ideas or kick back and relax. FMI, 207/725-7632.

•Δ 8:00 PM - The Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents MGMC on Stage. Catherine McCauley H.S. Auditorium, 631 Stevens Ave., Portland. \$10 advance, \$12 door.

Saturday, March 25th:

•Δ 8:00 PM - The Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents MGMC on Stage. Catherine McCauley H.S. Auditorium, 631 Stevens Ave., Portland. \$10 advance, \$12 door.

Sunday, March 26th:

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - An evening of women's music presented by MLGPA and Maine Won't Discriminate. Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland. Lynn Deeves, Val Bennett, Erika Gilbert are special guests for this "fun"draiser.

Monday, March 27th:

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Main St., Topsham. Book Group meets. Reading and discussing "Women Who Run With Wolves." FMI, 207/725-7632.

•Δ 7:00-8:30 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Portland Chapter general meeting. Meets at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, State St. across from Mercy Hospital. Parking in lot behind church on Deering. Newcomers meeting is at 6:30 PM. Get involved!

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and Lesbian AA meeting at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, call 207/498-2088.

Tuesday, March 28th:

•Δ 2:30-3:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Teen parenting group sponsored by CHANS. All teen parents and their children are welcome to come and talk with other teens and facilitator. FMI, 207/725-7632.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - The Gathering, USM Campus Center, Portland, Rm. B & C. Topic: "Devaluation of the Male White Privilege as a Gay Man: How do you fight the patriarchy?" Richard B. Freed, presenter. FMI, Faith Worthley, 207/774-4919.

Wednesday, March 29th:

ΔΔ 6:30-8:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Capitol Area Chapter, Maple Hill Farm Bed & Breakfast, Hallowell. Call the B & B at 207/622-2708 for directions.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Open House and Drop-In. Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207-498-2088.

Thursday, March 30th:

ΔΔ 7:30-9:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Maine St., Topsham. Meditation Group for women & men. FMI, 207/725-7632.

•Δ 7:30 PM - Up With People presents "World In Motion" at The Portland EXPO. Tickets \$12 adults, \$10 Students & Sr. Citizens.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Live music at Citi, 137 Kennebec St., Portland. Featuring women performers, Val Bennet with

Dustin Ladale. Rhythm & blues. Tickets \$3. FMI, 774-2242.

Friday, March 31st:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:30 PM - Safe Space Women's Center of Maine, 67 Main St., Topsham. Drop in time. Informal and casual. A time to meet new friends, share thoughts & ideas or kick back and relax. FMI, 207/725-7632.

•Δ 7:30 PM - Up With People presents "World In Motion" at The Portland EXPO. Tickets \$12 adults, \$10 Students & Sr. Citizens.

Saturday, April 1st:

Deadline for CPR ads, classifieds and calendar listings for the April-May edition.

Saturday, April 1st:

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - April Fool's Day Video Dance sponsored by Northern Lambda Nord at private home in Van Buren. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Sunday, April 2nd:

•Δ 4:00 PM - The Maine Gay Men's Chorus Benefit Concert for Eastern Maine AIDS Network (EMAN), Center for Performing Arts, UMO Campus. FMI, 945-5446.

•Δ 4:00-6:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Bangor Chapter. Meets at the Peace and Justice Center, 359 Main St., Bangor. FMI, call Jim Martin at 990-3420.

Tuesday, April 4th:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - The Gathering, USM-Portland, Luther Bonney, Rm. 326 Topic: Gay Resources on the Internet. Paula Stockholm, presenter. FMI, Faith Worthley, 207/774-4919.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and Lesbian AA meeting at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, call 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, April 5th:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Open House and Drop-In. Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207-498-2088.

Thursday, April 6th:

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Live music at Citi, 137 Kennebec St., Portland. Featuring women performers. Darien Brahms with her band. Rock. Tickets \$3. FMI, 774-2242.

Friday, April 7th:

ΔΔ 8:00-11:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Open House and Film Night. "The Color Purple" at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207-498-2088.

Sunday, April 9th:

ΔΔ 3:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord monthly meeting at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Tuesday, April 11th:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - The Gathering, USM Campus Center, Portland, Rm. B & C. Topic: S/M: Dispelling the Misconceptions. Tracey Woods,

Classified Advertising

Moderator. FMI, Faith Worthley, 207/774-4919.

ΔΔ 7:00-8:30 PM - The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine presents "Protecting Ourselves: Health Care Power of Attorney." Lise Wagner, Attorney at Law, presenter. USM Campus Center, Room A, Portland. Fee: \$10 individuals, \$15 couples. To register or FMI, call 207/772-2699.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and Lesbian AA meeting at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, call 207/498-2088.

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - Portland Chapter of PFLAG, Woodfords Congregational Church. We are parents, friends and relatives of lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and transgendered persons committed to keeping families together by helping other parents learn what we have learned and being a support to one another. FMI, call Rita at 766-5158 or Sue at 774-3441.

Wednesday, April 12th:

ΔΔ 6:15-8:30 PM - Discussion Series at Women's Center in Belfast, 9A Main St., 2nd floor. Topic: "What Makes a Heroine? Whom do you honor and why? Taking a look at values we admire in women and how cultural differences impact our choices. FMI, 338-1429.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Open House and Drop-In. Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207-498-2088.

Thursday, April 13th:

ΔΔ 6:30-8:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Capitol Area Chapter, Maple Hill Farm Bed & Breakfast, Hallowell. Call the B & B at 207/622-2708 for directions.

Sunday, April 16th:

•Δ 4:00-6:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate/Ellsworth Chapter. Meets at the UU Church on Bucksport Road. FMI, call Peter Rees, 667-2358 or Ruth Blackburn, 276-0503.

Tuesday, April 18th:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - The Gathering, USM Campus Center, Portland, Rm. B & C. Topic: Magic: An Eclectic Spirituality. Suzanne Cardinal, presenter. FMI, Faith Worthley, 207/774-4919.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and Lesbian AA meeting at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, call 207/498-2088.

FOR RENT

ΔΔ Open, spacious office. Good for group, individual and family therapy. Also conducive to other types of meetings. This sixth floor office overlooks Portland, the Lakes Region, and Mt. Washington. Located on Congress St. above State Theater. \$10 per hour. Call Bill Barter for tour, keys and scheduling. 773-0205. ΔΔ

ΔΔ On the cusp of Munjoy Hill and the Old Port, sunny, 2 bedroom apartment with double living room. \$600 a month plus utilities. Call 879-7684. ΔΔ

ΔΔ Augusta area: Male couple seeks roommate to share sunny, spacious, fun home. Easy interstate access to Portland, Brunswick, Freeport, L/A; convenient to Western/Central Maine. CATV, W/D, DW, off-street parking, large yard/garden, storage, many other benefits. \$250/month + 1/3 utilities. Call 1-207/582-2725 FMI. ΔΔ

TRAVEL/VACATION

ΔΔ LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. We're your perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 1180P, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 869-3978. ΔΔ

ΔΔ BACKPACKING, canoeing, X-country skiing, Native American cultural trips, youth trip. Wilderness skills and environmental awareness. Small groups. Great food. Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Maine, Quebec, Newfoundland. Contact: Earth Treks, Dept. C., RFD 2, Box 785, Thorndike, ME 04986. 1-800-589-4770.

ΔΔ YELLOW BIRCH FARM: Romantic, seasonal cottage or year round studio on working organic farm in Downeast Maine, 20 minutes from

Eastport. Absolute peace and quiet. Beautiful, remote, unspoiled Cobscook Bay. B & B or weekly rental. Brochure, reservations: (207)726-5807. ΔΔ

PERSONALS

ΔΔ HIV+ couple: seeks other HIV+ couples or singles for friendship and support. Call anytime and ask for Paul. 207/777-1036. ΔΔ

WORKSHOPS/ TRAININGS

ΔΔ Women's Voices Rising: Ongoing women's writing workshops. Break through your inner editor. Trust the voice that cuts through (and is shaped by) our personal lives. Using poetry, music, visual art and mythology as points of departure, we create and share our writing. Supportive, fun atmosphere. Beginners and experienced writers welcome. Portland location. FMI, Marti Lay, 207/892-5375. ΔΔ

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

ΔΔ The Rainbow Business & Professional Network has expanded its membership to welcome gay men and persons not necessarily business owners. We welcome dreamers and visionaries. We are in the process of developing a directory of gay/lesbian/bi owned or friendly businesses. We plan to conduct seminars on issues related to being a business & professional network. We also are planning to have social times together. FMI, call Vicky Zavasnik, 775-0015 or Winnie Weir, 879-1342. ΔΔ

MASSAGE

ΔΔ Treat yourself or another woman like a Goddess. Give the gift of touch. A one hour massage. Psychologically and physically nurturing. Stress reducing. Improves circulation.

Introductory offer in Belfast \$25, in Camden and Rockland \$35. 338-0361, 7:30 am to 7:30 pm. ΔΔ

MISCELLANEOUS

ΔΔ Battered Lesbian Project forming for W.I.L.D., Women Igniting Love and Diversity. Volunteers needed. Seeking to connect with battered and formerly battered lesbians to assess community needs and provide assistance. If your partner/lover is verbally, emotionally, or physically abusive to you, we can help you get free. All inquiries strictly confidential and all calls returned discretely. Call Gabriella at (207) 761-8138. If leaving message, specify full name and best time to return call. Or write to: W.I.L.D., c/o Community Pride Reporter, 142 High St., Suite #634, Portland, ME 04101. ΔΔ

ΔΔ Call for Papers: Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgendered People and Education. Deadline for optional proposals is May 1, 1995. Deadline for papers is September 1, 1995. To receive a Call for Papers contact: Harvard Educational Review, Gutman Library Suite 349, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge, MA 02138; phone (617)495-3432; fax (617) 496-3584. ΔΔ

ΔΔ Looking for a magnificent table to use for Reiki treatments. Energy exchange negotiable including possibility of cash, free advertising and/or free treatments. Call CPR office, 207/879-1342; ask for Winnie. ΔΔ

ΔΔ OFFICE SPACE NEEDED: Capitol Area and Portland chapters of Maine Won't Discriminate are looking for office space. 2000 sq. feet needed in Augusta, 1500 sq. feet needed in Portland. Ideally, we are looking for a donation of space until referendum question is defeated. Also looking for loan or donation of copiers, fax machines, computers. Call MWD office in Portland, 207/761-1788 or 1-800/761-1788. ΔΔ

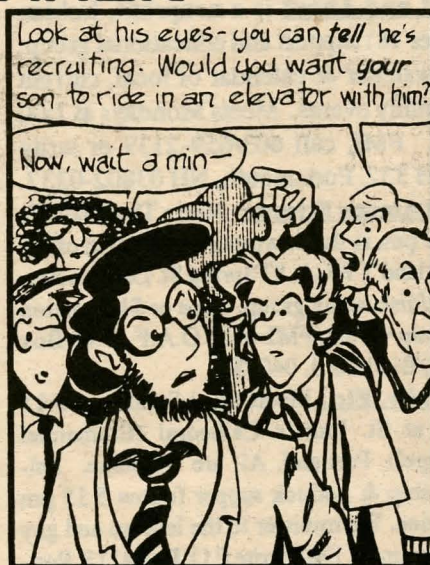
KEY TO CALENDAR & ADS

•Δ = not exclusively gay

ΔΔ = gay event/interest

**GET INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT TO
SECURE YOUR RIGHTS. JOIN
MAINE WON'T DISCRIMINATE**

MURPHY'S MANOR



by Kurt Erichsen

COMMUNITY PRIDE RESOURCES

GENERAL

ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on L/G issues. Primary goals are to involve the L/G 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-MLGPA.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Come and celebrate our children and friends just the way they are! (See listings for Maine & New Hampshire under PHONE SUPPORT and SUPPORT GROUPS.)

Northern Lambda Nord is 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 (ME), 2 pm (N-B), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The Phoneline. 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.

HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS: Have you or someone you know been a victim? Call the Civil Rights Section of the Maine Department of the Attorney General -626-8844.

Building Inclusive Community: A group of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people working to build an inclusive and safe community in Lewiston-Auburn and outlying areas. We are exploring ways to achieve this goal through social gatherings, educational events, support groups, topic meetings and forums open to sexual minorities, friends and supporters. FMI, write POB 3184, Auburn, ME 04212-3184.

Citizens Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights: (CAGLR), New Hampshire's oldest progressive gay/lesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all those interested in these goals to weekly meetings, programs, socials and various other events. Newsletter. Call Info-line (603) 224-1686 or write to PO Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0730.

MUSIC & ART

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 or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 7944, Portland, ME. 04112, or call 772-0013.

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.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists community. For meeting place, call 775-3420.

PHONE SUPPORT

Region by region

National Center for Lesbian Rights Youth Project: 1-800-528-NCLR.

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: 774-6877. Located at 22 Monument Sq., 5th floor, Portland 04101. 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 -

Rumford: Community AIDS Awareness Program: 823-4170

Lewiston: Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: 786-4697

Waterville: Dayspring: 626-3432

Ellsworth: Down East AIDS Network: 667-3506

Oxford Hills: Oxford Hills 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: 729-0519

*Oakland: Steve, 465-3870

*Lewiston/Auburn: 783-9789

*Portland: Rita, 766-5158 or Sue, 774-3441

Waldoboro: 832-5859

Contacts in New Hampshire

P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline: 603/623-6023

Concord: Judy, 603/485-3943

Webster: Betsy, 603/746-3818

Manchester: Hans & Lin, 603/668-0741

Nashua: Nancy, 603/880-8709

Kensington: Nora/John, 603/772-3893

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-5196

Francestown: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2545

Hanover: Shirley/Tom, 603/643-8331

Holderness: Olivia, 603/968-7254

Center Sandwich: Tish, 603/284-6434

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.

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England: Serving men and women, offering annual exams, pregnancy testing, birth control info. & supplies (free condoms!), testing and treatment for infections and STD's, menopause support and more. Evening hours, affordable services, and complete confidentiality. Medicaid welcome. 970 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call 874-1095.

Identity Support

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings

Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & North Main Streets. (use Washington St. entrance), FMI call 603/472-4944.

Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at Stratham Community Church, Emory Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle), FMI call 603/772-5196.

Monadnock Region: Meets 4th Monday from 7-8:30 pm at The Place to Go, 46 Concord St., Peterborough, FMI call 603/547-2545 or 603/623-6023.

Nashua: Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Church, Lowell & Canal Streets., FMI call 603/880-0910.

Plymouth: Meets first Sunday, 7-9 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church. FMI, call 603/968-7254 or 603/786-9812.

Upper Valley Region: Meets second Wednesday, 7 pm. Hanover. FMI, call 603/643-8331.

Maine P-FLAG Meetings

Portland: Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. FMI, 766-5158 or 774-3441.

Women's Center - Belfast - Weekly meetings, 9A Main St., 2nd floor (above Jaret & Cohn) FMI, 338-5702. Group meeting every Wednesday, 6:15 pm. Women's Spirituality Gatherings, Mondays 7-9 pm.

NA: Just for Today meetings every Wednesday, 8:15 pm, at St. Luke's Cathedral, State St., Portland. Use Park St. entrance in rear. Also Friday meeting, 8:00 pm, Immanuel Baptist Church, corner Deering & High St., Use entrance off Deering St.

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.

Out Among Friends: Meets Thursdays 7-8:30 pm, in the downstairs club room of the Portland YWCA, 87 Spring St. Lesbians support/discussion group. Free or \$1 donation to help w/rent. FMI write O.A.F., 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.

The Appollo Society: an out-reach, networking and social organization for New England's gay and lesbian atheists, free-thinkers, ethical humanists and Hellenes. Free speech/civil rights advocacy group offering freedom-from-religion support, religious de-programming and fun! FMI, 773-5726 or P.O. Box 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

Community of Hope: A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all persons. Worship on Saturdays at 4:00 PM at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI write Community of Hope, Shawn Smith, Interim Pastor, POB 1671, Portland, ME 041014.

Lavender Womyn: Lesbian/bisexual women's discussion group. Meets Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm, First Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn, ME. FMI, call 783-0461

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

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Pizza Get-Together: 1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 6:00 pm. First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland, ME. FMI, Larry Godfrey-594-2957.

O-Squad: Support group for lesbian, gays, bisexuals, & transgendereds. Serving Franklin County, based at UM Farmington. FMI call and leave message, 778-7380.

TransSupport Group: Meets regularly, providing confidential support, education and social activities for cross dressers, transsexuals, their families, friends, & others interested in gender dysphoria issues. FMI write TransSupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, 04112.

Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse: A support group for survivors of childhood abuse and/or sexual assault meets every Wednesday from 1:30 to 3 pm. Free, confidential, safe, facilitated. For more information and location call 874-6593. Sponsored by USM's Womyn's Forum.

Maine Bisexual People's Network: Meets to affirm in all a positive nature of bisexuality and work toward greater acceptance in the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities. Support and referrals available. FMI write P.O. Box 10818, Portland, ME. 04104.

Wilde-Stein Club: Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at Memorial Union, Sutton Lounge, UM at Orono.

Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group: Meets every Tuesday, 7-9 PM, at Women's Resource Center 101 Fernald Hall at UM Orono. FMI call 581-1425.

Am Chofshi: A Maine Lesbian/Gay Jewish support group, meets monthly. FMI call Rheatha at 874-2970.

Seacoast Gay Men: Meets Mondays (except holidays), 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 292 State Street, Portsmouth NH. Support, speakers, events. FMI call 207/439-1623 or write P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03802-1394.

Lewiston/Auburn: A new gay, lesbian, bisexual support group for the Lewiston/Auburn area meets every Monday at 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Spring Street in Auburn.

Bangor Lesbian Support Group: This Lesbian Support Group welcomes any woman who self-identifies as a lesbian. They seek to create woman-only, lesbian-positive space to explore issues and affirm themselves and each another as lesbians. Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, 334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: 947-5337.

Mountain Valley Men (MVM): A group of gay men of all ages in the western Maine, Eastern NH area who get together for pot luck dinners, hiking, canoeing, skiing and other activities. FMI, write to Box 36, Center Conway, NH 03813-0036 or call Paul at 207/925-1034.

"Let's Do Brunch": Potluck social gathering from 11:00 am-2:00 pm on the third Sunday of the month at a York County location. Meet new people, see old friends, exchange news and information. FMI, 985-2784.

S.N.A.P.: Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests. Monthly support group for men & women healing from sexual abuse by clergy of any denomination. Meets in Portland location on third Friday of the month. FMI, call 207/774-5025.

Drop-In Lesbian Discussion Group: Meets Mondays, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm (except school vacations & holidays) at USM Campus Center, Room C, (next to the Computer Lab) Portland. Bring your lunch.

Parents

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group: Meeting in the Portland area. For dates, places and times write GLB Parents Group, P.O. Box 13, Augusta, Me 04332-0013.

Mothers and Kids Group: Social events and group support for lesbians and their children. Emphasis on inclusion of lesbians in the process of becoming pregnant or adopting. Meets monthly in the greater Portland area. FMI write: P.O. Box 2235, South Portland, ME 04116.

Gay Parenting Discussion Group: Meeting 2nd Monday of month in Bangor Hall, University College Campus in Bangor. We discuss parenting issues. Open to gay men and lesbians. FMI, call 862-2516.

Youth Support

OUTRIGHT TOO: Sundays, 6pm at Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, Harlow 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 7:30-9:30 pm at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Safe and supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5077, 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 Teenline at 1-800-639-6095 or write P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03801.

F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS-Transform Education: A project of ACT UP/Portland whose purpose is to demand better HIV/AIDS education and combat homophobia in all Maine public schools; to form empowering groups for teens by teens and to create a context in which pro-teen, pro-gay groups are able to change the educational policies in their individual school districts. Straight or gay, boy or girl, HIV+/-, black, brown or white. All welcome. FMI on who to contact or how to organize in your school district, contact F.A.T.E., PO Box 1931, Portland, ME 04104. Phone/fax 828-0566.

COLAGE: A national support group run by and for the children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents. FMI, COLAGE, 2300

Market St., #165, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

Mondays: HIV negative partners of people living with HIV, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Tuesdays: People Living with HIV disease 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.

1st Wednesday: PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), 5:30 pm. Call 775-PAWS. Charles Wynott, Program Coordinator.

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 Jane O'Rourke at 774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.

Lewiston: Information & support meetings for People Living with HIV. Call 786-4697 FMI. AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn.

Brunswick: Meetings for family and friends who have loved ones with HIV/AIDS at Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services, 8 Lincoln Street. FMI on meeting days and times call Brian at 725-4955.

Gardiner: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays: People Living with HIV meets from 1:30-3 pm at the Physicians Building behind Kennebec Valley Regional Health Agency Annex. Call Brian Allen at MASS at 725-4955.

Rumford/Mexico Area: Mondays: AIDS Support Group/Phoneline meets from 7-8:30 pm at Mexico Congregational Church, Main Street, Mexico. Call 364-8603.

Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: Thursdays: Support for people with HIV & their families. 7 pm, 70 Court St., 2nd floor, Auburn. FMI call 786-4697.

Maine AIDS Alliance

Member Organizations

AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Portland, ME 04101-3820, Call 874-1000.

AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn: P.O. Box 7977, Lewiston, ME 04243-7977. Call 786-4697.

Community AIDS Awareness Program: c/o Mexico Cong. Church/UCC, 43 Main St., Mexico, ME 04257. Call 364-8603.

Community Task Force on AIDS Educ.: P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 583-6608.

Dayspring: 32 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330. Call 626-3432.

Down East AIDS Network: 114 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04605. Call 667-3506.

Eastern Maine AIDS Network: P.O. Box 2038, Bangor, ME 04401. Call 990-3626.

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Serv.: P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011-0057. Call 725-4955.

Names Project/Maine: P.O. Box 10248, Portland, ME 04104. Call 774-2198.

Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: P.O. Box 113, Paris, ME 04271-0113. Call 743-7451.

Peabody House: 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. Call 774-6281.

People With AIDS Coalition of ME.: 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.

Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS): 22 Monument Square, Portland ME 04101. Call 775-PAWS.

St. John Valley AIDS Task Force: c/o NMMC, 143 E. Main St., Fort Kent, ME 04743. Call 834-3355.

The AIDS Project: 22 Monument Sq., 5th fl., Portland, ME 04101. Call 774-6877.

Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: P.O. Box 956, Belfast, ME 04915. Call 338-1427.

OBITUARIES

Donna D. Tennant



Donna D. Tennant, 52, of Palmer Ave. in Portland, died at Mercy Hospital on February 17, 1995 after suffering a heart attack while at work. Tennant was a licensed insurance agent and broker, and at the time of her death was the assistant vice president and account executive with the Sedgwick Health Care Division. Her career spanned 34 years.

Her life partner, Carolyn A. Jalbert, said of Tennant, "She was a mentor to many people. A real rock. Donna was a visionary. She could see promise in something before anyone else could attach a concrete meaning to it. She felt there were far too few professionals and mentors in the business world today to help people learn a new career path," said Jalbert. "She would stay after work, she would go in early. She was not afraid to share her talent and her knowledge."

In addition to a demanding career, Tennant enjoyed gardening, working with computers, woodworking and co-parenting Jalbert's three sons, Christian, Kurt and Gregory. Jalbert said, "This was one very talented woman. You name it, she did it. When it came to my kids, she went out and took a course on how to coach tee ball. They worshiped the ground she walked on."

In addition to coaching for Portland North Little League, Tennant's community service extended to Save the Children, and Native Americans Running Strong for America. She was also involved in the recently organized Rainbow Business and Professional Network out of Portland.

Tennant is survived by her life partner, Carolyn A. Jalbert and her sons Christian, Kurt and Gregory, Tennant's son, Timothy S. of Pope Air Force Base, and a sister, Lula M. Smith of Washington State.

A celebration-of-life memorial service was held at the Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church on February 22. The Rainbow Business and Professional Network had discussed establishing a scholarship fund for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. In light of Donna Tennant's commitment to mentoring young people in the field of business, this scholarship fund will be established as the Donna M. Tennant Memorial Scholarship. Donations in Donna's memory may be sent to the fund c/o Carolyn Jalbert, 305 Palmer Avenue, Portland 04103-1650. ΔΔ

JON M. PIEFER



Jon M. Piefer, 36 of Brackett Street died on Wednesday, March 8 of complications from AIDS. Piefer died at home. He was born in Chicago and attended schools there. Piefer was an AIDS activist and volunteer and along with his partner, Charles N. Wynott, he founded the Portland Chapter of PAWS, Pets Are Wonderful Support, an organization dedicated to helping people with AIDS keep their pets by providing support service.

The Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance awarded Piefer the Cameron Duncan Award at their March 4th 10th Anniversary Award Banquet. Survivors include Piefer's father and stepmother, Donald and Eugene Piefer, and a daughter, Jennifer, all of Chicago; a brother Lawrence of Denver, maternal grandmother, Ann McGinnis of Chicago; and an aunt, Edith Viverito in addition to his partner Charles Wynott.

A funeral was held at First Parish Church, 425 Congress Street in Portland on March 13. He is buried in Brooklawn Memorial Park, Portland. ΔΔ

Family Crisis Shelter plans training

by Winnie Weir, Editor

Barbara Hester, Volunteer Coordinator for The Family Crisis Shelter, announced that this abused women's advocacy project is sponsoring a Domestic Violence Advocacy Training for people interested in volunteering at the Shelter.

"The Family Crisis Shelter is looking for volunteers to assist us in providing services to victims of domestic violence," said Hester.

A volunteer training program is be-

ing offered beginning March 30th. Opportunities include providing support and information to abused women, bringing women and children to the shelter, accompanying victims throughout the legal processes and answering the hotline.

While volunteers are needed for all positions, people with time available during the day are strongly encouraged to apply. Application for the training closes March 23. For more information, call Barbara at 874-1196. ΔΔ

Arts & Entertainment

Out on the Town



by Skip
Brushaber

March came in like a lamb being chased by a lion. Spring begins this month, so it is time to think about polishing off those poems and short stories we wrote down in the depths of winter.

CPR is proud to announce that we will be printing an arts supplement with the June/July Pride edition. It will be called "Pride, Poetry and Prose." We encourage fiction submissions of fifteen hundred words or less. These can be short stories or excerpts from larger works. Poetry or verse of seventy lines or less can be submitted. We strongly recommend that all submissions be on Mac compatible disc. Any questions about this, please direct them to the CPR office.

"Pride Poetry and Prose" also welcomes black and white photography and art work.

All work will be returned by mail if accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelop. Otherwise, work can be picked up at the CPR office.

Deadline for all submissions is May 1, 1995. No submissions will be considered after that date.

We are a talented and multifaceted, creative community. So lets do it!!

What's going on?

"Amadeus" at the Penobscot Theatre in Bangor.

The Maine Gay Men's Chorus in Portland and Orono.

"Lavender Land Utopia" as part of Women's Festival at Oak Street Theatre in Portland.

Up With People presents "World in Motion" in Portland and Lewiston.

The 9th annual "Spring For Life" art auction to benefit The AIDS Project.

Check out the calendar for other events. ΔΔ

Paula Poundstone on Stage



by Aimsel
Ponti

When Paula Poundstone walked out onto the State Theater's stage with her 101 Dalmations tie,

one part of an entirely wacky outfit, we knew we were in for a fun evening. "I have weird hair," said Poundstone right off the bat, adding that the clothes were just to match the hair.

This being my first real evening of live stand-up comedy, I was amazed at how quickly two hours goes by, and how terribly funny one woman can be talking about life, oh, and twinkies too. It's a very different experience than a musical concert, and a very refreshing one.

Paula Poundstone, 35, is no stranger to New England. Although born

in Alabama, and now residing in Los Angeles, she grew up in Sudbury, Massachusetts, and she used to canoe on the Saco river. "Not exactly The River Wild, more like a treadmill in a bathtub."

Commenting at length on the "elderly crossing" signs she claims we have here in Portland, Poundstone wondered if that means old folks have to walk two miles down the street so they can cross near one of these signs.

Also early on in the show, she bantered back and forth with an L.L. Bean employee named Sherri, who jokingly claimed she does "everything" for them. Poundstone wondered if her employers were aware of this fact. Although I heard afterwards that some people had a tough time hearing both ends of the conversation, from where I was sitting, it was very funny. Poundstone was relentless, and she often talked with the audience members throughout the show.

See PAULA, page 19

"Naked Man!" - Interview with Jamison Selby

by Alexander Wallace

In Keith Curran's, "Church of the Sole Survivor," which had its world premier at Portland Stage Company last month, five 'perfectly normal' types - an internationally famous Talullah Bankhead-Elaine Stritch-novelist-addict, throatily played by Anne Swift; her aged, lonely, gay, English agent, haughtily enacted by Michael Tilton; the novelist's daughter, whose husband and baby have both died, Deidre Lovejoy;

their dotty aunt, Lucy Martin, who keeps her late husband's room as a shrine; and valley-boy par-excellence, Michael Connor, gather at a Cape Cod beach estate to feel sorry for themselves and trade traumas.

Into this soapy stew swims - and I do mean swims - a 6'4" tall, very white, guppy-like, *totally naked*, hairless 'man' named Pamela, as in, "What a lovely gown, Pamela!" The Naked Man, by forcefully intervening into each trauma, sets the damaged characters on the path to recovery. It is an hilarious, if unfinished play, given a brilliant staging by Director, Greg Leaming.

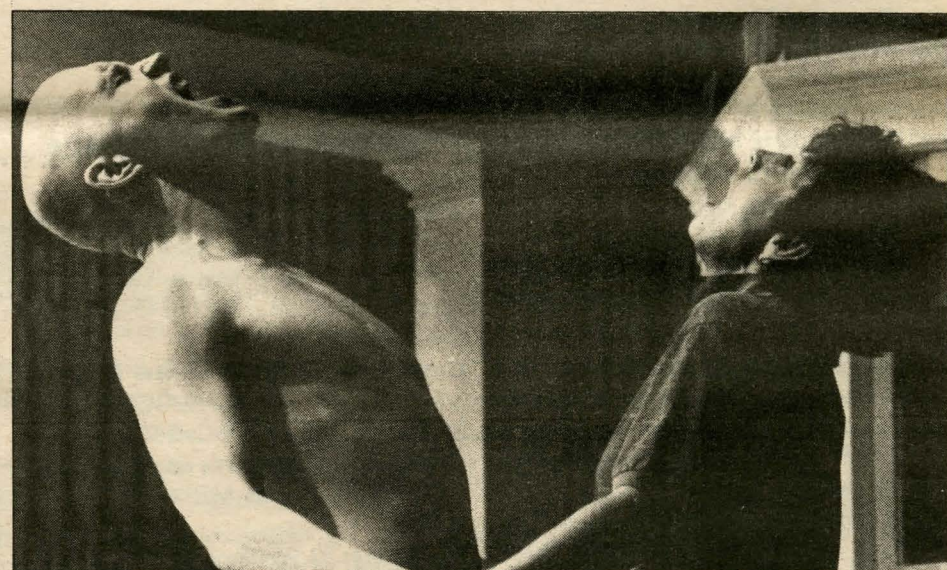
Pamela both anchored the play and set it soaring skyward with a breath-taking comic performance, well-worthy of the proverbial gold star! I interviewed the actor who played Pamela, Jamison Selby, over coffee at my home. He is a 25-year-old, tall, gaunt, bony, exceedingly attractive young man, with a great crooked smile, intelligent blue eyes and *no hair*.

AW: Now, here is this nice respectable young man from upper New York State, running around stark naked in front of 300 strangers a performance, 28 performances - that's approximately 8400 total strangers! Why are you doing this?

JS: I'm getting paid! Besides, Pamela, as a new character, has no boundaries, you're not bound by previous interpretations... he's also free of traditional responses... the nudity is a pure nonsexual fact... trying to create that character, ... I was salivating to do it!

AW: What do you do under the porch?

JS: Freeze to death!



Jamison Selby and Luch Martin howl into the Cape Cod wind in the world premiere of "Church of the Sole Survivor" by Keith Curran. Photo by David A. Rodgers

AW: Do you really glow in the dark?

JS: When I scream, after each kiss, I'm told the top of my head starts to glow red. I have a personal problem glowing blue.

AW: Have you become a celebrity in Portland "NAKED MAN?"

JS: (He mimes 'blue-haired-lady' astonishment.) THEN they wonder what I'm going to do!

AW: Well, Opera Man has nothing on you! Was there anything in your training, from toilet to Rutgers, to prepare you for this?

JS: Not really. I don't know what prep you could do for it. It's not an issue.

AW: How did you audition for the part - considering that in addition to being completely naked, you have to be shaved and hairless?

JS: (He mimes his agent.) I'd been cast as Patrick Delaware (the valley boy) Then they asked me to do Pamela. My

audition lasted five minutes.

AW: Was there any consideration that you might NOT look good in the nude?

JS: We were into rehearsals... I wouldn't shave my eyebrows... about three weeks into rehearsals and someone made a joke about tattoos and Greg asked (Selby brilliantly mimes Director Greg Leaming) "Do you have a TATTOO!? Oh My God! A tattoo! I never THOUGHT about a tattoo!"

AW: So you don't think Pamela could be played by a short, dark, hairy, ugly naked guy?

JS: I think it could and probably will be!

AW: Now, since a lot of dirty old men will be reading this, and just for the prurient interest, has - "TT" - ever gotten out of hand on stage?

JS: In what way? I'm not sure what you mean?

AW: We'll pass. Now, since there

See NAKED, page 18



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Sunday, March 19

Westside Story (The Original Movie)

March 30 - "Don't Worry, Be Happy!"

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Saturday, April 1

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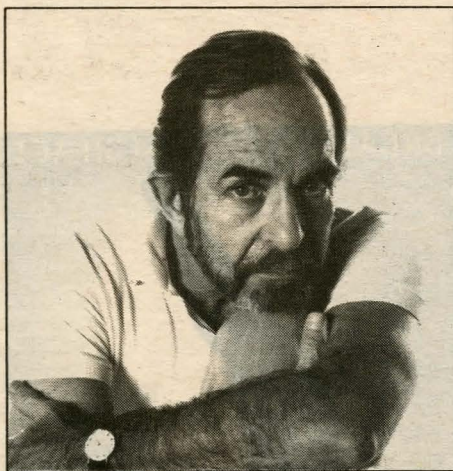
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Artist Profile - Roger Rutherford

by Skip Brushaber

"Roger Rutherford was born in Bombay, India in 1930 of an Eurasian mother and English father. His parents were killed when Roger was only five, in a freak elephant stampede while vacationing in Sri Lanka. The little orphan was placed in a French monastery outside Paris, and remained there until the outbreak of the war. Roger excelled in his studies and it was at this time he was introduced to his two sustaining passions—needlepoint and photography. The monastery was destroyed by the Germans in 1943, and Roger was inducted into the Nazi Fotokraut Unit, where his involvement with erotica began while photographing naked Nazi youth.

After the war he was adopted by Jean Cocktoe, who furthered his mastery of the lens. Having developed an intimate interest in feet, he was awarded the Oxford Shoe Fellowship in 1948 and continued his studies in the United States. After matriculation, Roger groped his way across the country and fell in with the Hopi Indians where he spent two years documenting intimate actions of the tribal youth. A tragedy beset Roger in Yuma, Arizona in 1955



Roger Rutherford, whose nude male photography will be featured at the "Spring For Life" Art Auction.

when his car exploded, destroying all his photographic work. Depressed, but always the Renaissance man, he thrust himself into a variety of experiences: waiting tables in Tesfrites, Chillicothe, and Whippany; acting for television and both Broadways, and finally opening his own restaurant, Balzac.

Having failed at all this, Roger found himself in Atlanta in 1971, where a year ago Nassau Visions Gallery discovered him and a file cabinet of virgin negatives."

The preceding is a thumbnail auto-

biography Roger Rutherford wrote in 1971.

The real Roger was born into a fine, but faded old Georgia family. He served as a US Senate Page and served in WW II defending our nation's capitol. Rutherford reported that he was cruised in DC gay bars by Senator Joe McCarthy, that commie hunter extraordinaire.

Rutherford discovered his talent for photography in New York City, where he became a successful commercial photographer and was one of the earlier photographers of the male nude. His work predated Weber, Ritts, and Mapplethorpe. Rutherford's idol was George Platt Lynes.

Returning to Georgia, Rutherford taught fine art photography on a college level. His work went largely ignored by critics and collectors and he relocated to Houston. In Houston, he experimented with color, nonobjective subjects, landscapes, portraits, and coloring black and white photos.

Rutherford's work was published by the Advocate and his photo "Oil and Water" was included in The Hidden Image: A History of Nude Male Photography.

Rutherford's photographs are sensual, erotic, and masculine. His use of light and contrast is key to his exploration of the nude male form. His use of color pa-

per to print black and white photos exhibit unusual and amazing results.

Roger Rutherford died of AIDS in 1989 just as he was on the brink of fame.

A number of his photos were donated to the Spring for Life Auction last year where they proved very popular. This year, a number of his prints and a few of those of his students have been donated to the AIDS Project Auction by Alexander Wallace of Portland. Mr. Wallace owns the rights to Roger Rutherford's work and will be offering prints for sale to the public in the near future. ΔΔ



"Wet Torso" - One of the Rutherford originals soon to be available through Apollo Arts.

Listen to Your Heart

A review of Andres Verzosa's Ceramic Meditations on the Sacred Heart

by Rose Mary Denman

Rarely has art spoken to me as poignantly as "Listen to Your Heart," a collection created by Andres Verzosa.

"Listen to Your Heart" was Verzosa's senior project at Portland College of Art. There are seven ceramic pieces to the collection, a work which beautifully interweaves three separate themes so that they come together with one clear and powerful message - a call for compassion and understanding toward those living with and dying from AIDS.

For one night and full day, "Listen to Your Heart" was available to the public in the Emmanuel Chapel at the Cathedral of St. Luke in Portland. I went to see the exhibit on Saturday afternoon, and was at once struck by the solemnity of the atmosphere and reverent silence of those who had come to view the work.

Candles lighted the way from the main sanctuary to the chapel. The seven ceramic pieces had been placed on the altar, and small votive candles stood in front of each of them. As I



Andy Verzosa stands with his work. The exhibit was at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral.

circumambulated the altar, it was easy to see the metaphor in the work.

Each of the seven ceramic pieces is shaped in the form of a heart, above which is a crown of thorns from which springs a circle of flames. A cross rises out of the flames. This is the classic depiction of the "Sacred Heart" of Jesus, sometimes referred to as the "Bleeding

Heart." Its symbology for the Church is to communicate the love that was the catalyst for Jesus' sacrificial act on the cross.

Both the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Church use the symbols of the "Stations of the Cross" to be representative of the condemnation, crucifixion

See HEART, page 19

Women's Film and Video Festival

by Jennifer Libby

The second annual Women's Film and Video Festival held at the Portland Museum of Art, March 3-5 was a fabulous hit. All of the shows were nearly sold out.

The films and videos covered a wide array of topics, issues and just plain fun. They ranged from work, religion, politics, poetry, body image, abuse, sexual identity and more.

The video I most enjoyed (it made me laugh, cry and on occasion even made

me angry), was called "Greetings From Out There." It's about a young woman named Spiro traveling the back roads of the south from Virginia to Texas in her van with her small dog and video camera. She made frequent stops along the way talking with various friends about their perceptions of what it is like to be 'out and queer' in the south. All of them had something different to contribute and discuss. Some talked of AIDS. One talked of churches and some about a rural fairy retreat (a place I would love to visit!).

What I liked most about this video was its reality, its lightheartedness, its powerful message that we as queers are everywhere and proud to be out even in the face of danger and discrimination. We do what we want when we can and push it to the limit when we have to, in order to make our dreams come true.

The second film that intrigued me, is "A Pagan Place" by Kate Kaminski. It is a twenty-two minute black and white film about a girl on a road trip. I could certainly appreciate the artistry and I very much admired the young woman's tattooed upper arms and worn boots. I'm still

wondering about flattening cans on the railroad tracks. She would fall asleep in the strangest places with a prayer reeling 'round in her brain. She kept having odd interactions with rather bizarre and twisted men. The somewhat surprising ending left me feeling appalled and angry. It certainly did carry an immense impact, yet still leaves me wondering about some things.

I look forward to the third Women's Film and Video Festival. A humungus thanks to everyone who put it all together for us to enjoy. Thank you. You did a fabulous job. ΔΔ

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- Peter Travers, Rolling Stone

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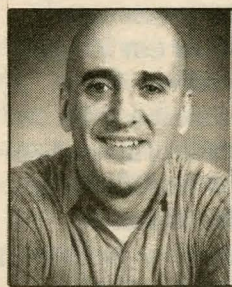
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BOOK REVIEW: "Breaking the Surface"

Written by Greg Louganis with Eric Marcus



by
Bruce Balboni

I remember how I felt when I first heard the rumor about Greg Louganis being gay. It's the same feeling I get when anyone famous is found out or comes out — a mixture of pride, satisfaction and smugness. The smugness is the attitude to the straight world which goes something like this, "See, we are just like you, only better," or "A gay or lesbian person can do anything you can do, and we are everywhere — so there." Childish? Perhaps.

I had the great good fortune to be sitting on the field at Columbia University's Wien Stadium for the Opening Ceremonies of Gay Games IV last June in New York City. Suddenly, the huge video screen at one end of the field was filled with the image of Greg Louganis. He spoke to us and said,

"Hi! I'm Greg Louganis. Sorry I'm not with you tonight in person to celebrate the start of Gay Games IV, but I'll be there in a couple of days, back on the diving board joining the other gay and lesbian athletes from around the world.

"I'm real excited to be part of an event that's all about true Olympic ideals. This is our chance to show ourselves and the world how strong we are as in-

dividuals and as a community. Welcome to the Games! It's great to be out and proud." And so it was — a moment sublime.

Reading the Louganis autobiography was a trip down bad memory lane. I identified with the indifferent father, being called "nigger" because I had dark skin, the low self-esteem, the fear, being lost in hopeless relationships and, ultimately, with a certain measure of self-acceptance. The occasional Stuart Smalley-like, pop psychology aside, I found the message of his story to be uplifting and worthwhile.

Nevertheless, it was frustrating, at times, to read how weak he was and how many opportunities he missed in not coming out sooner, but it is unfair to judge him on that. Coming out, for all of us, is something we have to do over and over, in so many different situations and not in all situations. Given his inhibitions, I was amazed at the speech he gave to the U.S. Olympic Committee following his appearance at Gay Games IV. The USOC had awarded him the prestigious Robert J. Kane Award for excellence and dedication in his sport.

Louganis accepted the award and dedicated it to Dr. Tom Waddell, founder of the Gay Games. Louganis went on to denounce Cobb County, Georgia (outside Atlanta, site of the '96 Olympics) as the site for the volleyball competition in the upcoming Olympics because of the adoption of an anti-gay resolution by the local government. The volleyball competition has been moved (Note:



There were many other voices of opposition to Cobb County), but Louganis was using his celebrity status, forcefully, for the first time, in the service of justice.

I most enjoyed the parts of the book about his lover, Tom — what a creep! But all the break up, spying, fighting and settlement stuff was great drama, though the fact that Tom was sick and dying towards the end of their relationship softened his image as "evil" man. It was frustrating to read how naive Louganis was, how easily manipulated he was, and how — he said it himself — stupid — he was, to let Tom do

what he did to him. I guess it's hard to imagine someone of Louganis' skill and good looks feeling so bad about himself but, why not? These are the feelings that are put there by our parents. They are on the inside, what's on the outside doesn't change them.

As for the pop psychology, there's a passage where Greg is having a diving crisis and he writes, "Then he (his coach) told me to believe in myself." As if that's all it takes. Louganis then won another gold medal. (I asked my shrink to relieve my anxieties in similar fashion, so he did. He said, "Believe in yourself." I'm not sure it's working.)

The chapters on AIDS and the death of his friends and father are emotionally difficult. With so many losses to AIDS, I've become immune to feeling very much about it, but when he wrote, "With so many people close to either death or dying, I couldn't help but feel like it was my turn next. The whole thing was overwhelming, and I got terribly depressed and withdrew into my shell. Looking back, I can see that I started losing the will to live." "Losing the will to live," that passage sent me spinning. I wept, sobbed — how many times had I heard that, felt that?

There aren't too many laughs in this book, but like it or not, Greg Louganis is a hero, a role model, and now, a force for change. I wish him luck and all the time he needs to accomplish the changes he hopes to make.

(Editor's note: I watched Barbara Walters interview Greg Louganis on 20/20. The absurd hysteria around whether or not he put people at risk for HIV infection at the '88 Olympics is just that — hysteria. The fact that Walters chose to scold him for not telling people he was HIV positive is shameful.) ΔΔ

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NAKED, from page 16

are two juveniles in the play and you have, by far, the splashier role, do you ever cut Patrick Delaware some slack?

JS: I think they cut ME the slack! I'm by far the young journeyman in the cast. This is my first Equity show. All the rest of the cast has been on Broadway! They've all been working at a much higher level than me.

AW: Since you kiss all the characters in the play, do you have a favorite kisser-character?

JS: My favorite kiss is the one at the end with Cassie because it's the first time that PAMELA gets kissed. The funniest kiss is with Patrick.

AW: And then, when he gets kissed, Lipton has the best line in the show!

JS: "And sometimes," (he sings) "A kiss is just a kiss, a sigh is just a sigh!"

AW: Since this interview will come out after the play closes, have you decided whether Pamela is an alien, an angel or, what?

JS: I do have my own idea, which I will keep to myself! We've heard everything!

AW: Well, the next salacious ques-

tion, and how shall I put this, without affecting your... performance? I think a great big 'thing' floppin' around up there would have been all wrong! Hell, was size a consideration?

JS: Well, they took care of *that*! (Laughs.) Try making a 'big' entrance through water, under 62 degrees! I'm freezing cold...

AW: The stage lights aren't hot enough?

JS: I'm freezing cold up there.

AW: Well, that answers the question you couldn't answer before, when I asked, "Does Nature ever take his course?"

JS: Oh! Do I ever get an erection? There you go! There you go! I don't think that would be physically possible in that environment! It's too damn cold!

AW: The follow-up to that is that you've stamped your personality and talent on Pamela so emphatically. I can't imagine anyone else playing it. Who? Kevin Bacon? Tom Cruise?

JS: Kevin would do it! He'd shave his eyebrows!

AW: Kevin would *do* it! Not, it's yours! Now, is stardom essential for Jamison Selby?

JS: No! There's a massive group of great actors working in the country, fine actors, who are making a fine living.

AW: People would rather spend \$30 in a disco or \$50 seeing Snoopy Doggy Dog! Would you favor us with a snatch from one of the show tunes Pamela sings in the show?

JS: (He bursts into a perfect imitation of ANNIE, singing: THE SUN'L COME OUT, TUMARRAH! Ethel couldn't have done it better!)

AW: Well, that's about it. Have I asked you everything we need to know? Is there anything else we should know about Jamison Selby?

JS: I don't think so!

AW: Well, since this is a gay and lesbian publication, I really should ask... I guess I should ask... Are you gay?

JS: (HE LAUGHS.)

NOTE: The next production at THE PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY is "Intimate Expressions" by British playwright, Alan Ayckbourn, where decisions made by the actors send the play in as many as eight different versions. PSC will do two versions, on alternate nights. For more information, call 774-0465.

Theatre Review: "Ghost" By Henrik Ibsen

by Alexander Wallace

Ibsen's 1881 High Victorian old potboiler is a wonderful metaphor for AIDS and that's the way THE VINTAGE REPERTORY COMPANY, under Skip Emerson's astute and witty direction, played it during their February run.

Back in the 'good old days,' even the doctors and scientists believed that the sins of the father could be visited on the sons, and a 'curse' duly follows the unhappy Alving family through the generations. You must accept that premise to go with "Ghosts," but it's interesting to note that it is a Judeo-Christian concept. Medicine was much more advanced under Hellenism, the pro-gay culture destroyed by Christianity. The Greeks and Romans believed that Aeskuplaus, the

potboilers! But first, the curse of the Father! Not only has Oswald inherited 'madness,' but it takes exactly the same 'degenerate' form as his father's. Oswald, believing he's 'doomed,' pursues Regina, lustfully. Only her blind female devotion can 'save' him. She, of course, sees Oswald as her ticket to respectability and an escape from her father. Mrs. Alving sees the truth as the only way to stop the madness; she burns her husband's reputation.

But Oswald has syphilis, not a 'curse' from god. Alas, this was before penicillin, and, apparently, brains. And is history always 'doomed' to repeat itself? Seems so. As long as there's a Newt Gingrich to play the Pastor Manders role!



David Blair, Michael Howan and Michelle Mills in Vintage Reps production of Ibsen's "Ghosts"

deity of healing, sent cures in answer to prayers, but the J-C god, Jehovah was a vengeful type and curses were more His style.

"Ghosts" is also a feminist manifesto. Mrs. Alving, the surviving widow, struggles to make her way alone in a male-dominated society. Left a widow early, impoverished by her philandering husband, she works to recoup the family fortunes while hiding the truth from her artist son, Oswald; he needs a father, even a missing one, to look up to. She does very well, becoming wealthy in her own right, bestowing an orphanage, in her dead husband's memory, on her home town.

It's time to dedicate the home and all the 'sins' and 'curses' come home to roost. First in the door is the pompous Pastor Manders, Mrs. Alving's spiritual (and financial advisor) who still lusts after her, but is still frightened off by his best friend, the widow Alving's dead husband. He convinces her that it wouldn't 'look right' to insure the orphanage. Parishioners might think the Pastor was deficient in his trust in god.

We meet Regina, a young woman working as Mrs. Alving's maid. She plainly feels she's better than that, but her father, the scrofulous Engstrand, wants to put her back in her place, running the bar at the sailor's rest he wants to open. And last, the posturing prig, Oswald, home from college, smokin' dad's old pipe and possessed of a dire secret. Mrs. Alving must treat with them all and in the way they demand to be treated. She's flirtatious and girlish with the Pastor, conniving with Engstrand, sisterly to Regina and motherly to Oswald, while still trying to remain true to herself.

And if you think that orphanage doesn't burn down, you don't know your

The production was A-One, all the way. Those of us who have winced through some of Vintage Rep's bare-bones efforts were delighted with the full, Nordic-Kraftsverk antique-filled set, the lavish period costumes and the evocative lighting, which the program attributes to Emerson, Jane Bergeron, Michael Levine and new-comer, Stuart Cook. I hope this quality continues.

Company Artistic Director, Jane Bergeron, in her Elizabeth Taylor mode, held the hurricane still in the middle while still projecting Mrs. Alving's strength. She was stunning. I thought David Blair's Engstrand was much too blatant at first, but the character's daffy, deadly unscrupulousness more than warranted an over-the-top performance. Michael Howard's posturing, perspiring Pastor Manders, doffing his great fur-lined coat like the cares of the world, was just superb. Jerry Falwell needs to take lessons. Less rewarding were the two juveniles: Michelle Mills' Regina, a little too light for an unrewarding role and Rodney Hoel too whiney to garner the sympathy needed to make Oswald's tragedy human.

But Ibsen's premise carries the production and Emerson's direction covered the bare spots admirably. Ibsen was seldom funny, but there is irony in the unfortunate longevity of such deadly concepts as 'the sins of the father.' It's an idea whose time is gone!

NOTE: Next up for Vintage Rep is Joe Orton's insanely funny "Entertaining Mr. Sloane." The very gay Orton had a way of turning the English totally on their 'arses,' and this is one of the best! Call: 775-5103 or 774-1376 for more information. ΔΔ

PAULA, from page 16

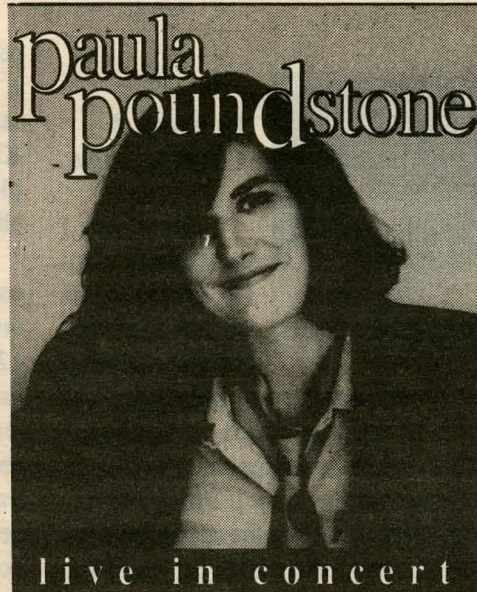
Anyone who has ever seen an episode of "Murder She Wrote" enjoyed Poundstone's commentary and imitations of Angela Lansbury, who always manages to show up at the crime scene right around the time a murder is being committed.

Poundstone touched on her love life only briefly, but it was one of the funniest moments of the night. "I don't date because I don't like sex. There I said it," she explained. Adding that she would much rather think about a nice "freshly stirred glass of Tang".

When she added the fact that the spoon will continue to twirl around a few times in the glass after you let it go, the audience was nearly on the floor laughing.

One of the enjoyable things about Paula Poundstone is that she isn't rude and she uses profanity conservatively, making it more effective, and funnier too. She talks about things we all can somehow understand. Like buying her white underwear in bulk, about every eight years. No floral prints for Poundstone, but blue and pink are OK in a pinch. This got her on the subject she hates, going to the doctor. She said she would "Die of a wedgy before going to an ob-gyn."

Poundstone gave us her humorous two cents worth about Newt Gingrich,



engaged another audience member in a conversation about the mirrors in front of the urinals at the State, and told us about her old job as a waitress at an International House Of Pancakes. "It was a dream, I made it happen." She told us that if people were rude to her, she would touch their eggs.

Paula Poundstone's appearance at the State Theater on February 25th was thoroughly enjoyable, although I recommend cabaret seats for comedy shows at the State.

Poundstone's career will hopefully continue to get her the attention she deserves. As far as the twinkies go, she won't eat them "because they don't have a chocolate outer coating." ΔΔ

HEART, from page 17

and death of Jesus.

Verzosa has taken these powerful symbols and used them to communicate the inhumane judgment and treatment our society has often inflicted upon those with AIDS. Through his work, we are asked to see the metaphor. Like Jesus, people with AIDS are often condemned, not only by society at large, but unfortunately, the condemnation is most ardently practiced by leaders of religious communities.



Station of the Cross III, The First Fall, "My T cells are dropping"

This work is a powerful plea. "Listen to Your Heart," see the pain as some condemn, while others offer support, love and encouragement. "Listen to Your Heart," see the innocent suffering and isolation. "Listen to Your Heart," and allow the message to melt away the hardness of judgment.

I write this review with deep gratitude for Andres Verzosa. His gentleness of heart has found a vehicle through which some who had been unable may now be willing to listen to their hearts. ΔΔ

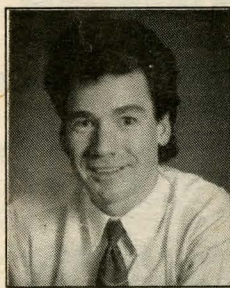
Be a purr-fect friend, help PAWS

PORTLAND: Nine months ago, Charlie Wynott and the late Jon Piefer started Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS), a program that helps PWA's keep and enjoy their pets. Because of the program's non-profit status and its reliance on volunteers, help with veterinary cost and money for pet food are minimal. Many PWA's facing high medical cost, must struggle just to meet their own needs.

However, Charlie has been able to involve a couple of veterinarians to work with PAWS. Pets Are Wonderful Support provides free pet food, walks dogs, cleans kitty litter boxes and provides referrals to reduced cost veterinary services throughout the state of Maine. PAWS will be expanding their services to include public speaking, providing information on "Safe Pet Guidelines," a publication available through our education department.

PAWS will be sponsoring several fund-raisers to help defray the cost of pet care and vet cost. Pet food and supplies can be donated at the Pet Food Donation Campaign at Pet Quarters through the week of March 18 from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. PAWS will also have a team in this year's AIDS Walk '95 scheduled for May 7. If you would like more information, call PAWS at 207/775-PAWS. ΔΔ

FILING AN INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN PART II



by Peter J.
Callnan, CPA

How can I save money on my taxes? This becomes a very popular question during February, March and April. Last month in my discussion of the Form 1040 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return we reviewed the Label, Filing Status, Exemptions, and Income sections of the form bringing us to Line 22 Total Income.

Fortunately, this is not the amount on which our income tax liability is determined. In this month's article I will be reviewing the Adjustments to Income and Tax Computation sections. Here is where deductions are taken to reduce total income to taxable income and understanding these sections is the key to reducing your tax liability.

Section 5: ADJUSTMENTS TO INCOME

The IRS allows several adjustments to reduce total income. One of my personal favorites is the IRA (Individual Retirement Account) contribution. An individual that is NOT covered by an employer sponsored retirement plan can contribute \$2,000 of their EARNED income to an IRA and get a deduction for it. However, if you or your spouse are covered by an employer plan the amount you can contribute is reduced and at some income levels eliminated. IRA contributions have limitations and

restrictions but should be considered as a method of sheltering income from taxes. Other retirement plans such as KEOGH and SEP-IRA for self employed and other individuals are also allowed as adjustments to income.

Expenses incurred in relocating over 50 miles for employment which lasts at least 39 weeks of the following 12 months are now allowed as an adjustment to income. This amount is determined on Form 3903 Moving Expenses and generally includes costs of travel and lodging while moving to your new home and transporting your household goods or personal effects there. Read the instructions to this form carefully to determine what your deduction is.

Some of the other adjustments allowed include the following:

Self-employed persons are allowed a deduction for one half of the Social Security and Medicare taxes they must pay on their income as calculated on Schedule SE. Alimony paid to a former spouse is allowed as an adjustment to income but amounts paid for child support are not. Any penalties reported to you on Form 1099-INT or 1099-OID for early withdrawal of savings can be taken as an adjustment. Presently, no adjustment is allowed for self-employed health insurance and it's unclear if Congress will reinstitute it so, for the time being ignore line 26.

Each person should review the Adjustments section for opportunities to reduce income considered for taxation. After all the adjustments to Total Income have been taken Adjusted Gross

Income (AGI) is determined on Line 31. This amount becomes important for other calculations. The next section is Tax Computation and actually involves reducing AGI by Itemized Deductions or Standard Deduction and the Personal Exemption amount I discussed last month.

Section 6: TAX COMPUTATION

In this section I will focus on a review of Standard Deductions and Itemized Deductions. The other items such as the Exemption deduction and actual tax calculation are important. If you have questions on them review the instructions provided in the booklet or contact a tax professional.

The Standard Deduction is an amount calculated by the IRS and dependent upon your Filing Status. If you believe you would receive a greater deduction by itemizing you should fill out Schedule A - Itemized Deductions. Schedule A lists in detail various expenses which can be taken as deductions from AGI to arrive at Taxable Income. I will briefly discuss them here.

Medical and Dental Expenses: A deduction is allowed for expenses paid (reduced by any amount reimbursed by insurance or your employer) in the diagnosis, cure, treatment and prevention of disease which exceed 7.5% of Adjusted Gross Income.

Taxes You Paid: A deduction is allowed for state & local income taxes, real estate taxes and personal property (excise) taxes. Sales taxes or Federal income tax are not allowed as deductions.

Interest You Paid: A deduction is allowed for qualified home mortgage interest and points, home equity debt (subject to limits) and investment interest (subject to restrictions). NO deduction is allowed for personal interest like auto loans or credit card debt.

Sorry.

Gifts To Charity: Cash gifts to qualifying tax exempt organizations are deductible up to 50% of AGI (excess can be carried forward). Gifts of \$250 or more must be substantiated by a receipt from the organization. For non-cash gifts see Form 8283.

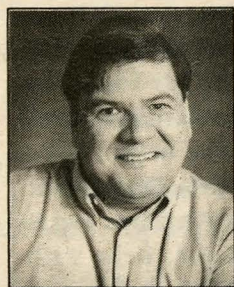
Casualty and Theft Losses: A deduction is allowed for losses from casualty or theft of personal property subject to limits. See Form 4684 to calculate the deduction.

Job Expenses and Most Other Miscellaneous Deductions: Un-reimbursed employee expenses incurred in the performance of their job (See form 2106), tax preparations fees and other items such as investment fees are deductible to the extent that they exceed 2% of AGI.

Other Miscellaneous Deductions:

See the instructions for this line. These miscellaneous items are not subject to the 2% of AGI excess.

If the total of your itemized deductions exceeds the standard deduction amount use it to determine taxable income on line 37. Next month I will discuss the final sections on Form 1040. Each of the items I briefly discussed can become complicated. If your tax situation is complex see a professional. Good Luck! ΔΔ



Out of Town!

by Paul T.
Bernard

The month of February will go down in history as the time when the travel industry was turned upside down and changed forever! I'm sure all of you have heard or seen the reports on the news about how travel agents have had their commissions cut.

Well, here's the whole story. On February 14, Delta Air Lines announced that they were placing a "cap" on commissions. Normally, a travel agent makes a 10% commission on the base

fare (before taxes). That is translated to a \$27 commission on a \$300 ticket, or a \$91 commission on a \$1000 ticket. What Delta announced was that they were placing a \$50 cap on commissions - meaning that the \$1000 ticket would now only yield a \$50 commission. Their brilliant reasoning was that these high priced tickets (which are generally the prices that business people pay) were subsidizing the low price tickets, and that they couldn't continue to subsidize them. I think that their logic is a little bit screwy - mainly because it is the airlines themselves who are pushing these low price tickets - so in effect, they are the ones at fault - not the travel agents.

Studies have shown that it costs a travel agency about \$25 for each ticket written - this figure covers overhead

costs such as rent, heat, telephone, computers, etc. So when we write a ticket for \$300 and earn a commission of \$27, we actually make a "profit" of only \$2. Whereas when we write a ticket for \$1000 and earn a commission of \$91, we make a "profit" of \$66.

Now that all of the other major airlines have followed Delta's lead, what does all this mean to the travelling public? Well, in effect, it means a price increase. What is going to happen now is that agencies are going to charge fees for their services. Already, American Express Travel and Carlson Travel Network, two of the larger agencies in the country, have announced that they will charge fees. For example, if you buy a ticket for under \$300, they will charge you a \$15-\$25 fee. To change a ticket, they will charge you a \$20 fee on top of the fee charged by the airline. However, both companies have said they will issue a coupon for \$15-\$25 toward a future purchase and will waive the fees for

regular, repeat customers.

Not all agencies will charge fees. For example, AAA Travel announced this week that they will not charge fees for services. However, you are paying a fee when you join AAA. You also can still do everything yourself and not incur fees. It means that you will have to spend hours on the phone calling all of the airlines for their best prices, then do the same for car rentals and hotels. Or you can call your travel agent and book it with him/her. Your chance to get better service and the best price is with your local travel agent - not spending hours on the phone talking to an airline employee.

You are going to see continuing changes in the travel industry in the next six months. It will probably mean travel agencies will be charging fees for their services - but please remember that when you deal with a travel agent, you are getting a value-added service - and it is still worth the cost. Your travel agent is your best source of information and your best bet for the best price. ΔΔ

Book Review: A Citizen's Guide to the 117th Maine Legislature

a publication of the Maine
People's Resource Center

by Bruce Balboni

The "Citizen's Guide to the 117th Maine Legislature" is an invaluable document for the professional and the novice alike. It is a 120 page booklet containing everything you ever wanted to know about the legislature and

then some.

Its early pages describe everything from "How an Idea Becomes Law" to "Tips for the Citizen Lobbyist." There are short biographies of every current member of the legislature which include basic facts about them, particularly - how to contact them.

My only complaint about the book is that every legislator is rated by

a variety of groups on a percentage basis. If someone gets a 60% rating from the AFL-CIO what does that tell me about specific legislation? That point aside, this book is a must for any citizen who wants to take an active interest in their government.

There are biographies of the constitutional officers at the end

(Attorney General, Secretary of State, etc.) floor plans of the State house, descriptions of citizen groups and many other useful tables and glossaries.

The book can be obtained by calling the Maine People's Resource Center at 761-1881. Or write to them at 65 West Commercial Street, Portland, Me 04101. Cost: \$13.20.

Discreet Phone Contacts By Area Code

MANFINDER™

MAINE AREA

Portland **FRIENDS OR MORE:** Alan, 30, love to meet other men in the area, like to make friends and if something more develops that's great. #28605

Central ME **OUTDOORS AND QUIET TIMES:** Mike, 37, GWM brn hair, beard, mustache, int in outdoors, and quiet times at home, like to hear from other males under 30. #29347

ME **HORSE TRAINER:** Richard 22, brn blu, gdlkg good sense of humor, personality iso right person to share my life, train horses, like camping, have a good time, like the outdoors dancing, that's about it if ur interested give me a call. #30274

ME **SHARE MY HOME:** Kevin, 27, 5'11, 155, looking for rel, buying my own home, like to have someone here, honest, don't really like bars, if ur int give me a call. #30057

Southern ME **CASUAL LIFE:** GWM 5'9 150 brn/blu, 30s focused person go to school, prof'l in the area, take care of my self, exercise reg, have fun, laugh simple life if u have a big heart like to share my life with someone 25-35, like myself. #25826

Portland **OTHER YOUNG GUYS:** David, 26, brn/brn 6'1 170 iso other young guys to get together with if ur int lv a message. #26276

Portland **JUST LAY BACK:** looking to be pleased grt body time on my hands, looking to lay back and be pleased. #25547

person, from the ocean to mtns, iso 18-35 with sim interests. #27483

Augusta **DINNER AND DANCING:** Paul, 29, 6'1, 175, lkg to meet gay men 18-35 int in movies, dinner, dancing, hiking, swimming if ur int lv a message. #18312

Southern ME **CUDDLE AND KISS:** WM, 5'10, 150 brn/blu, 30s, iso 25-35, somewhere in the coastal area, like dancing, sports, keep in good shape, running biking, beach, like theatre music classical to rock, dinner, laid back love to cuddle & kiss. #2761

Central ME **BI CURIOUS CD?** 5'11, 215, bi curious male, looking to meet discreet gentle, men like myself, into CD, if interested pls call. #23341

Bangor **TV AND TICKLING:** truck driver, iso TV's into tickling and other fun stuff. #24151

Waterville **OLD FASHIONED GUY:** 39, GWM 5'10, 155, slim build, 29w brn blu must iso other 25-35 slim only, not into bar life, looking for friends poss rel love to dance, smoke drink, bowl, theatre arts and movies, will travel. #24702

Central ME **OUTDOOR ROCKER:** Kevin 32 into outdoors, 70s-80s rock and roll, like a good time, work out, into running. give me a call. #21720

Sanford **RUGGED AND HAIRY:** Single guy, 39 5'11 155, dk hair/eyes must iso best friend, masc rugged and hairy guy, lkg for you and you can call me. #21861

Portland **SNUGGLE UP:** Greg, 39, GWM 5'11, 155, brn/blu, must iso a young BM or AM slim, into horseback, candlelight dinners, sports, movies, theatre bowling, skating, country music, dance, like to snuggle- not into bar life, give a call. #10238

Bangor **CHAD, 21,** dk brn/brn 5'9, 180, dk cxion, just joined gym, like movies dancing theatre, summertime, iso friendship poss rel. #19641

Portland **LAW STUDENT 22,** new to area, iso a poss rel with someone 18-24, var of int, 6'1, 165, if ur int, leave me a message. #19876

ME **OUTDOORS PERSON:** Max, 27, brn/brn, 180, camping fishing, outdoors person, walking and hiking, if ur interested give me a call. #20964

Augusta **DINNER AND A MOVIE:** Paul, 6'1 175, iso gm 18-35 int are swimming, movies, dinner, if ur free give me a call. #18312

Portland **PANTY BOY:** Bobby subm panty boy, wknds free and eves free to pls u- enjoy pleasing you. #21275

Bangor **DISCIPLINE AND TRAINING:** Well end'd married Bi Male, 24, 6', iso subm gay bi or str males or couples need discipline and training, discretion assured. #21411

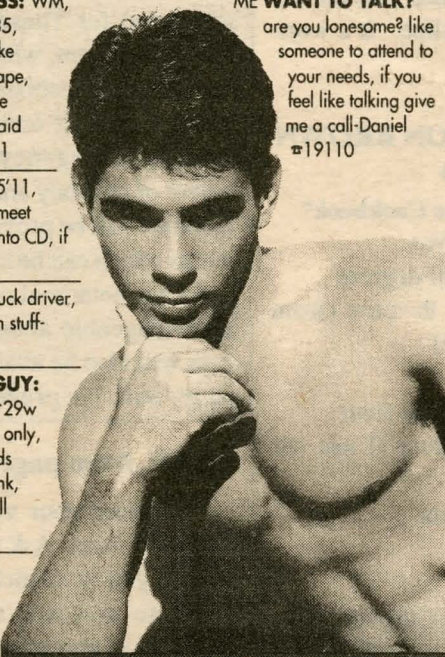
Augusta **TWO MAN TENT:** Paul, looking for GWM 18-35, sports, movies, camping, like fit and trim lv a message. #18312

Bennington **FUN DOWN BELOW:** Brn/hzl 5'7 like anything from early 70s music, rock to new country, I'm shaved and looking for a good time. #18020

Houlton **GET PHYSICAL:** Matt, 6'1, 195, like sports, phys activities, romantic quiet times, affectionate iso someone sim, for a rel- 22, give me a call. #18099

Limestone **NICK,** looking for a man, generous, considerate, nice looking, give me a call. #18198

ME WANT TO TALK? are you lonesome? like someone to attend to your needs, if you feel like talking give me a call-Daniel. #19110



FAST, EASY AND DISCREET... WHAT BETTER WAY TO MEET?

ME **TODD 19 Y/O,** blnd/hzl, btm iso some tops, if ur int lv a message. #19052

ME **MY PLACE FOR INTIMACY,** Conversation, music, massage, videos, cuddling, much more, young find me easy, get to know fun to be with, older men will find me upbeat outgoing, 6' 185, 50, GM professional, will answer all. #19485

Oxford Co. **ATHLETIC GUY DIGS**

Recording your ad:

Figure out what you want to say before calling in. Write down what you want to say. Keep it short and simple. Just describe yourself and what you're looking for. Our computerized system will walk you through the rest. Have a pen ready to write down your box number.

TRUCKERS: 25 5'9 170 athl build int in meeting walkers, truckers, bikers, hairy, bearded rgged const type, like hiking, biking, camping out, welcome visitors and will travel anywhere. #17728

Portland **MONOGAMOUS X 2:** Eric, int in a monogamous minded, indiv 18-35 6'2 135 iso sim to proportion, int in yoga, like to read, if u'd like to hook up. #17870

Portland **SPECIAL NEEDS:** Joe, WM married late 30s with special needs- 5'8, 150, brn/blu health gd shape musc build, lots of int skiing, hiking, sports, looking for buddy, pref married, athl type. #18379

S. VT **LOOKING FOR FUN?** Jeff 30 5'10 160, iso some fun, lv a message or give me a call. #18168

MA/VT/NH

Underville **STRONG RELATIONSHIP:** David, looking for GWM to live with me, own my own home, I very int in strong rel, like you to drop me a line. #29473

Central VT **LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE:** 18 looking for adventure, looking to have a good time, into just about anything pls be discreet. #29715

Exeter **ROLLERSKATER:** Rick, dk/blu 160 like to roller skate, dance, give me a call. #29052

Wilbraham **WANTS TO SWING:** GWM couple 20s iso others to start swinging, if ur int give us a call, throughout new england. #29576

North Shore **NORTH SHORE MUSCLES:** 6', 190 musc gdlkg, iso other guys in the area musc gdlkg also give me a call. #29661

NH **LATE NIGHT FUN:** My lover Paul and I are both gdlkg good shpe, looking for some late night fun give us a call. #30070

NH **LOVE TO SWIM:** Steve 28 WM 6' 160, like almost anything swimming in particular like to go out dancing, looking for someone to hang out with poss rel. #30847

Sanford **HARD AND HOT:** Mark 39 5'11 5'9 165, must like it big hard and hot, partial to blondes, southern accents, friendly men like to meet me. #24795

Central VT **NEW TO SCENE:** Dave, 30 bi WM 6' 185, lkg for 18-35 WM lkg for some good times basic fun, couple would be good, new to scene like to get to know and enjoy myself- iso masc and ht/wt prop. #26477

NH **FANTASY DRESS UP:** 48 WM masc daddy type who likes to hot play with men, like fantasy dress up, const workers mil, locker room, threesomes, if u like to play im your man. #25210

Boston **KARATE KID:** Rob, 32, blk/brn mustache 5'11 180, int in someone sensitive understanding fun and chn, karate, like to read, sing, like someone sim int. #25609

Seacoast **SWISS GUY:** John, from Switzerland, 6'1, 170 blu, very gdlkg 35, very well built swim every iso real tall tp guy who I can get together with on a reg basis. #25915

Western MA **PROFESSIONAL** attr hisp man, 23, 5'11, blnd brn prof'l looking for a rel minded masc wm 23-35 chn cut in shpe non smoker, music movies walks traveling hairy chest a plus, quiet eves at home. #26025

Boston **RAY 21,** 130 5'9 brn/grn olive skin smooth, iso Irish/Italian 20-27 give me a call, willing to make new friends, thanks bye. #26932

Boston **ITALIAN/GREEK:** Alan, 26, 5'10, 165, Italian, Persian, Grk, gdlkg, olive skin, mil hairy cut, hairy chest, into masc, musc, dudes 18-35 int in dating being good friends- give me a call. #28398

Taunton **STEADY PARTNERS:** Jason, bi WM 34, 5'7 150 brn/brn in grt shape like to get together on a reg basis, 25-35 give me a call. #23002

Boston **MASCULINE MARRIED GUY:** Tom, 27, work out reg blnd/blu married iso

another masc married guy under 30 who's looking for discreet fun. #23791

Boston **MOUNTAIN CLIMBER:** Bob, 28, 5'6, 165, blnd/blu, looking for that special person who likes quiet eves special dinners and go out to clubs, get away on wknds as well, mtn climbing, horseback riding, like to paint, crafts, #23814

Springfield **MUSCULAR AND HAIRY:** Bill, 6' 200, musc and hairy, bi, like to meet a guy in my area for a long term relationship, like to go out, quiet times at home, that's about it give me a call. #24361

Manchester **MAGAZINES AND VIDEOS!**

Jack, 22, 5'11, 170, brn beard, smooth body iso another male in my area who is attr, for friendly get togethers enjoy each other company, look at magazines and videos and take it from there. #24623

Boston **TIM 34 WM** brn/brn, 6', iso friendship poss rel, lv a message. #20033

S NH **TODD 28,** looking for some other guys to get together with, 6'1, 175, athl build, lv a message. #20317

Boston **LIGHT COMPLEXION GBM:** Lt cxion 37 6'3 190, into theatre, movies, dancing, iso 30-40 for friendship, poss rel. #20474

Boston **THEATRE AND DANCE:** John, GBM Lt cxion, 37, 6'3, 190, enjoy theatre, movies, dancing, int in meeting 30-40 with same int, int friendship or rel, #20474

Springfield **BLONDE BI WM,** 28, blnd/blu 6'1 180, iso fun loving men who is willing to give me pleasure. #20836

Ft. Devins **CUDDLE AND MORE:** Ray, 35, WM 5'10, 150, red/brn into cars, movies, rides, like to cuddle and more, iso guys 18-35 like to cuddle. #20927

Lowell **CHRIS 24,** 5'4, iso someone who wants to have a good time, interested give me a call. #21082

FREE
IT'S FREE TO PLACE YOUR AD.
CALL OUR 800# & RECORD YOUR AD TODAY!

GRAB THAT PHONE!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

1) To respond to these ads & browse others
Call: 1-900-884-GAYS

2) To record your FREE CPR personal ad
Call: 1-800-546-MENN (We'll print it here)

3) To pick-up messages from your existing ad
Call: the 900 number & Press the star key (*)

Due to our large volume of calls, if you can't get thru, simply try your call later.

900 blocked? Try 1-800-863-9200. VISA/MC.

Questions Call: 1-415-281-3183

Portland **PLAY A LITTLE LEATHER:** Brian, 5'9, 150, beard shrt hair tattoos in good shape looking for a buddy to play a little leather with, a little exotic fun. #26596

St. Johnsbury **COMPANION WANTED:** Noel, looking for a companion to take the road less travelled, give me a call. #27879

Central **MOVIES AND DANCING:** Al, int are writing, being close and calling friends and making new friends, if this sounds int, movies, dancing going out for a good time lv a message. #27929

Portland **I LOVE THE OUTDOORS:** inspired in nature mike 33, 175, red/brn must int are hiking, camping outdoors

★ Lesbian Personals



Portland **POWERLIFTER:** Jim, like power lifting photography, karate, long walks, candlelight dinners, making love, living this message want to meet more lesbian friends, like to be in a relationship. #29654

There's no charge to leave a greeting:
1-800-326-MEET

To pick-up your private responses or browse:
1-900-884-4297

ADULTS ONLY. MUST BE 18+. CS 415-281-3183. STILL ONLY \$1.99/MIN.

DISCREET • CONFIDENTIAL • EASY

Call **1-900-884-GAYS**

To respond to CPR Personals, or to browse the latest ads. Only \$1.99 per minute. 18+.



Chew on This

by
Rose Mary Denman

Have you ever had one of those days, or weeks, when you wished your kitchen table was home plate and you were coming in for a slide mouth first and wide open? Have you ever watched the Susan Powter show and gotten the idea that as long as you count fat grams and keep them within respectable numbers you can eat as much as you want? NOT!!! Like it or not, fat grams count and so do calories. How unfortunate.

Once this was no problem. Just use fake stuff, right? Nutra Sweet instead of sugar, make believe sugar, make believe mayonnaise, make believe soda, make believe chocolate, even make believe bread! Wow! Home plate doesn't look so bad after all!

Well, there is a problem. All this make believe stuff can cause you to be not-so-make-believe sick! Now that we're all hooked, the news is being leaked that the artificial this and make believe that is not good for us. Bet grandma knew that all along.

So, what's a person who wants to be healthy, AND eat, to do? Lots of homework, that's what. Au naturel is the only sane way to go; really... would I kid you about something as serious as food?

The health food store has become something akin to a shrine for me. Oh sure, that's where I get my whole grain pasta, soy milk, organic eggs and veggies. But it's also where I go for "goodies" such as rice pudding sweetened with

honey; and ice cream-like treat called "Sweet Nothing" with no additives, no sugar, no preservatives and no fat, but which actually tastes great; lollipops sweetened with fruit juice concentrate with no fat and only 35 calories per... the list is almost endless. So now, on those nights when I do feel like sliding into home plate, I reach for a pudding first, followed by a huge bowl of air popped popcorn, followed by a lollipop... and as long as I make room for the calories, which aren't bad, I'm home free!

Here's a recipe for a great brown bread that is easy to make, has no fat, and only 80 calories a slice. It's wonderful.

HEIRLOOM BOSTON BROWN BREAD

from "More-With-Less Cookbook"

Makes 4 small loaves.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Lightly oil four 1 lb. cans (from canned beans or veggies)

Combine:

2 cups whole wheat flour

1/2 cup white flour (I use oat flour)

2 tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. salt

Add:

2 cups sour milk (just add 1 tsp. lemon juice to each cup of milk)

1/2 cup dark molasses

1 cup raisins (can be left out without drastically affecting the taste, for those of you who can't do cooked raisins)

Mix until smooth. Spoon into cans evenly. Let stand for 1/2 hour. Bake for 45-50 minutes. Cool thoroughly on cake rack before removing from cans. Wrap airtight and store 24 hours before serving. Enjoy! ΔΔ

HEALTH, from page 1

ences, or at the very least, are invisible as lesbians to our gynecological health care providers."

The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine is a satellite project of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center in Bangor. Organizers are working to establish a permanent health project for lesbians living in southern Maine. This spring, along with the cancer screening clinic, the LHP/SM is offering a workshop on health-related legal issues.

"Protecting Ourselves: Health Care Power of Attorney" is a workshop scheduled for Tuesday, April 11 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, which will explain the legal options lesbians must consider in order to protect ourselves in case of a medical emergency. Topics include power of attorney and living wills. Participants will be provided with the documents which can be completed privately and later notarized. A list of providers knowledgeable about lesbian legal issues will also be available. This workshop will be presented by Lise R.

Wagner, Attorney at Law, at the USM Campus Center, Room A. The fee is \$10 for individuals and \$15 for couples.

On Saturday, April 22 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Peaches Bass, Coordinator of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center Lesbian Health Project in Bangor, will present "Can We Talk?: Lesbians Discuss Sexuality." Peaches is a trainer specializing in sexual health and lesbian health. She will use large and small group discussion, values clarification, videos, and interactive activities to focus on what lesbians think about sexuality and its place in our lives. This workshop will contain sexually graphic material. Strict ground rules will be adhered to, including confidentiality. The host site is The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Square in Portland and space is limited. The fee for this workshop is \$15.

For more information on any or all of these events, to register or to schedule an appointment, call the Lesbian Health Project, 207/772-2699, or write LHP/SM, PO Box 11048, Portland ME 04104. ΔΔ

CARE, from page 7

During your visit, ask any questions you want. Ask to watch the procedure, if you're so inclined. Write things down so you won't forget what you heard. Ask the provider if she has any material you can take home to read. Ask to see your medical record, if you'd like, and ask questions about anything in it that you don't understand.

If your health care provider wants to run any tests or perform any procedures, you should ask a lot of questions. Marchelle Briers, writing in the November 1994 issue of the Mautner Project newsletter, suggests the following:

- What is the test/procedure called?
- When and where should I have it done?
- What does it involve?
- How much will it cost? Will my insurance cover it?

- What are the risks of this test/procedure? How common are they?
- Is there any other way to get the information intended from this test? If so, why is this a better way to get that information?

- Are there alternatives to this procedure? If so, is this procedure better?

- What does the test measure? What is the normal range of results? What do abnormal test results mean?

After the test or procedure, note the results in writing. If your provider prescribes a drug or treatment, Briers suggests getting the following information:

- What is the name of the drug/treatment?

- What dosage am I getting?
- What does it look like? (Pill, powder, tea, ointment, etc.)

- Is a generic or brand-name drug being prescribed? If brand-name, how is it better than generic?

- How much does it cost?
- How long should I take it?

- How does it react with other medications I'm taking? Are there any

foods I should stay away from while I'm on this treatment/medication?

- Does it have any side effects, especially harmful ones that should be reported to the provider?

- What should be done if these side effects occur?

- If it's a prescription, can it be refilled? How often?

- Can this drug/treatment cause addiction or dependence?

- Are there alternatives to this drug/treatment? If so, why is this better?

Remember, write down the answers. Always let the provider know if you're worried or concerned. If you aren't getting better when you should, or if a prescribed medication is causing side effects (nausea, blurred vision, rash, headache, whatever), call your provider without delay.

Health care and healing are a partnership between you and your health care providers. You will always do best if you have confidence in your provider. Sometimes we don't have a choice and have to make do; that's when a personal support system is especially needed.

Being a health care consumer is an active function that makes its own contribution to well-being. If you want to get more involved, or want information, contact the Lesbian Health Project at Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, PO Box 20, Bangor ME 04402, 207/947-5337. In Southern Maine, contact Tania Jo Hathaway, Lesbian Health Project coordinator at 207/772-2699. ΔΔ

Thanks to the Mary-Helen Mautner Project for Lesbians With Cancer for permission to use material from "Information and Questions for Your Health Care Provider," by Marchelle Briers. It appeared in the November, 1994 issue of the Mautner Project newsletter. For more information, contact the Mautner Project, 1707 L Street NW, Suite 1060, Washington, DC 20036, 202/332-5536.

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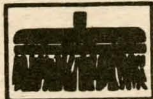
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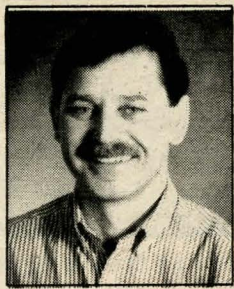


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TIME OUT!

The Scarborough Marsh

by Michael Rossetti

The Scarborough Marsh is one of the most accessible expanses of salt marsh in the state, and is the location for Time Out's April 9 bird and marsh watch.

Scarborough Marsh in spring is the scene of profuse bird nesting. Large flocks of Canada geese stake out hatching areas and brood or simply make stopovers en route to other sites. Throughout the warmer days of spring and summer, hundreds of snowy egrets are easily seen roaming and fishing in the shallow pools. Occasionally, large heron, whose nearly fifteen foot wing span is as graceful and astounding as the sight of the large bird itself, nest here. Even flocks of snow geese have been known to make spring stop-

overs. These are splendid, large birds with snowy white feathers except for the black just at the tips of their wings.

At low tide, especially in the summer, the Marsh can have an offensive "clammy" smell on humid days. The smell occurs because decaying matter at the bottom of the wet areas becomes exposed as the tide goes out. This offensive smell is perfume to those who care about the health of the world's oceans, because the smell indicates that the natural cleansing of the earth is at work. Salt marshes are elemental to ocean life in that much of the flora and fauna that grows in the marsh washes out to the Atlantic along with decaying matter to become the initial building blocks to the ocean's food chain. From microscopic, one celled creatures to insect larva and tiny fish, the richness of the life of the salt marsh gets deposited without rest into the oceans with each turn of the tide.

Humans have left their mark on the marsh, but fortunately for the marsh, what has been built is either abandoned or increases accessibility for interested preser-

vationists. Route 1 and the Payne Road cut across the upper portions of the marsh, while Black Point Road cuts its eastern side. All of these roads are sinking in the liquid soil of the marsh, just as the ancient Kings Highway did back in the 1700's. The railroads were more intrusive than the highways, building the abandoned road bed in the central area and the Boston and Maine bed on its southern parts with tons and tons of sand and rubble. The industrial parks on its western and eastern edges pose far less a threat to the Scarborough Marsh than do summer traffic, inconsiderate tourists and housing developments, all of which contribute to the contamination of the marsh's delicate ecosystem.

Scarborough Marsh has great accessibility and an educational center on Route 9 (the Pine Point Road) where maps and information, as well as canoe rentals are available. On the western side of the marsh, starting from the education center, a nature trail meanders through the upper parts of the marsh area. Also on the western area, just off Route 1 is the Industrial

Park, where roadside parking will allow access to the open areas of the marsh.

Time Out's hike will start from the old railroad access just down from the Oak Hill area. This access point leads through forested areas, allowing us to travel on dry ground, but able still to observe the entire set of zones associated with the marsh. Later this spring, Time Out will explore the eastern side of the marsh by canoeing along the Nonesuch River, on the marsh's eastern side, allowing a closer and more undisturbed look at the bird and wild life of the area.

For an excellent book on understanding the value of the salt marsh, and one of the earlier and important works on conservation, check out "Life and death of the Salt Marsh" by John Teal. Scarborough Marsh is mentioned frequently in this book. Written back in the 60's and published by Little Brown, Boston, it will give you information about the interdependence of life on earth and its very fragile nature. $\Delta\Delta$

The Pride Corner

by Michael Rossetti

Highlights of this year's Portland Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Community Pride Celebration are shaping up to include the Pier Dance, the Festival Stage, the Friday Rally and a Saturday parade with a target attendance of 3,000. It's not possible to give a detailed update on all the planning, as some plans are only in the proposal stage.

Fund raising has allowed us to pay off last year's security bills to the City and have put us on the way to getting this year's parade into the streets. The next fund raisers are March 26 at the Underground with the Divas production of a show called "Free Your Mind." On April 18, Citi will be presenting a Chef's auction, where you can sample food from some of the best restaurants in the area before bidding on great dining certificates to any of them. Also, Blackstone's donates a portion of Wednesday night proceeds to Pride. So, please patronize these generous businesses.

People intending to visit Boston during their June 10th celebration are encouraged to carry banners and join other Mainer's at the Portland Pride float. The float will not be ready for Portland's St. Patrick's Day Parade invitation, but we hope to be part of the Maine State Parade in Lewiston. We also plan to bring the float to Bangor for their July celebration.

The emphasis this year is on "Community Festival" and various community groups have come forward with proposals that will extend the dates of Portland's Pride Festival to potentially 6 days of events. Groups are requested to register, with fee, to help with the planning and insurance costs of the parade. Speakers for the Friday, June 16 rally are being approached, their selection is being based on providing diverse representation of community life. Mar-

shals, setup help and security for the parade, the Pier dance and several other events are needed. Entertainment and vendors are being sought for the Saturday, June 18 Festival. A detailed brochure will be available May 15, with further scheduling announcements in the May-June issue of CPR.

Visibility Works, as Pride's educational arm, will be hosting "Survival Parties" to be held at PJ's in Augusta, Sunday, March 19, at The Bar in Bangor, March 26 and at the Underground in Portland, April 9. The "Parties" are always from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, allowing gay youth to attend. Parties feature a free buffet, skits and "gaymes" with prizes, gift certificates, T-shirts and vacations, along with a more serious question and answer session with local Bias Crimes officers.

Visibility Works aims to provide support for those who are out and those who are coming out by helping to maintain the health of community groups through resource networking. The next Visibility Works, "Constructing our Visibility," workshop will be held Saturday, May 6 at the Unitarian-Universalist Church in Auburn from 1:00 to 4:00 pm with lunch provided. The workshop will examine the successes of community groups in building membership and in running a strong organization.

Current contacts for Portland's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Community Festival are: Michael Rossetti, 871-9940 for general information; Deb Stevens at Blackstones, 775-2885 for vendor information; Richard B. Freed, 772-7325 for parade group/float registrations; Brent at Citi, 774-2242 for festival entertainment and stage help; State Theatre, 879-1112 for Maine Gay Men's Chorus with the Flirtations.

Look for this column each month for more information on Portland's Pride Festival. $\Delta\Delta$

Local Musicians to host benefit concert

PORTLAND: To help raise money for the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance and Maine Won't Discriminate, three popular local musicians are joining forces for a benefit concert. Lynn Deeves, Val Bennett and Erika Gilbert are donating their time and talent to bring us a wonderful, music-filled evening of

friends, frolic, and, of course, "fun"draising. Please join us on Sunday, March 26, 7:00 pm at SISTER'S in Portland. There will be door prizes, raffles, even a prize for the group having traveled the farthest. Bring friends and money. Everyone is welcome. See you at SISTER'S! $\Delta\Delta$

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