6-1995

Community Pride Reporter, 06/1995

Community Pride Reporter

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"Principled and Civil Debate" . . .
or Undercover Hate?

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor
Concerned Maine Families (CMF) printed a newspaper entitled, "The Maine Event," for Spring 1995. On the front page they show a cartoon drawn by John Lockman, brother of CMF's Vice-Chairman, Lawrence Lockman. CPR has obtained the original 2nd draft of this cartoon. John Lockman drew Governor Angus King so he would be, "Looking Faggy," and this close-up of King appears as is in the latest CMF newspaper.

The characterization of Governor King as "Looking Faggy" again highlights the difference between CMF's call for "principled and civil debate" and their private bigotry. This disparity was made clear in CPR's last issue in which we reported Jonathan Malmude, Professor at St. Joseph's College and Advisor to CMF, as saying, "Have a great day, Punch out a gay!"

The purpose of this cartoon—the other two by J. Lockman also show See DEBATE, page 3

Greg and his body drawing

The Watershed Workshop for People with AIDS
by Skip Brushaber
The Watershed Workshop for People with AIDS is held every summer at the Watershed Center located in North Edgecomb, Maine. It was established in 1991 as an eight-day residency program for persons with HIV/AIDS to work in clay. The program is coordinated by Lynn Duryea, a ceramic artist, and D. Mackenzie Harris, PhD, a psychotherapist.

The cost of the week long session is $375 per person which includes room and board, all studio time, materials, and firing expenses. The program is supervised by two full time facilitators. Scholarships are available.

The summer studio is located in a former brick factory and it is open twenty four hours throughout the session. The Center is located on thirty rolling rural acres surrounded by farms, nature conservancy land, and the Sheepscot River.

This year, in addition to the regular June workshop, a second week has been scheduled for August. The second week was added because of the growth and popularity of the workshop over the past four years.

The Watershed Workshop stresses both the creative and the healing process. The program brochure states that "No prior experience with clay is necessary, but a 'demonstrated interest' in creative work is." Working in clay and creating objects of art which may exist long after the artist is gone from this life, See WATERSHED, page 23

MWD vs. CMF --
Face off in Augusta

The Judiciary Committee of the Maine Legislature held a public hearing, May 2, to hear comments on CMF's anti-equal rights referendum. Maine Won't Discriminate had over 600 supporters. Concerned Maine Families had perhaps 60. Cosby told reporters, before the hearing began, that MWD's people were from out of state. Cosby's Virginia lawyer stood nearby.

More photos on pages 4-5
Maine Won't Discriminate
Chapter contacts & meeting times

Aroostook County:
PO Box 853
Caribou, ME 04736
Dick Harrison-207/896-5726

Bangor:
PO Box 963
Bangor, ME 04402
Jim Martin-207/990-3420
Meetings: 1st Sunday, 4-6 PM
359 Main St, Bangor

Biddeford:
12 Fortune Rocks Rd.
Biddeford, ME 04005
Barry Horn-207/286-3718
Meeting: April 25, 6:30 PM
UNE-Marshall Hall, Rm 216

Brunswick/Bath:
PO Box 245
Brunswick, ME 04011
Punnie Edgerton-207/729-4930
Ruth Phillips-207/729-4930

Capitol Area:
Maple Hill Farms
RR #1, Box 175
Hallowell, ME 04347

Scott Cowger-207/622-2708
Cheryl Ring-207/26-0818
Meeting: 5-00 PM, Apr 26
May 10 & 25, at Maple Hill

Hancock County:
PO Box 373
Ellsworth, ME 04605

Peter Rees-207/667-2358
Ruth Blackburn-207/276-0503
Meeting: 3rd Sunday, 4:00 PM
UU Church, Bucksport Rd.

Kennebunk: Brand New!
Interim Contact:
Kate Perkins-207/985-2784
Meeting: First Parish Church
Main St, Kennebunk

May 1 at 7:00 PM

Lewiston:
PO Box 3485
Auburn, ME 04212-3485
Ester Turner-207/783-6964

Campaign Manager: Amy Pritchard, 1-800-761-1788
PO Box 11061, Portland Maine 04104

FUND-RAISERS FOR MWD
Saturday, May 20th:
8:00 AM-4:00 PM - Yard Sale, 42 Clark St. Portland. Rain or shine!
Dance with live music, 8:00-11:00 pm, Brunswick Recreation Center, Federal St. Music by Dixieland jazz band, 6 Basin Street. $10 donation (or less, if unable to pay) at door. Sponsored by Brunswick Area chapter NOW and Maine branch Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Sunday, May 31st:
Maine's finest female impersonators in a production of "We Are Family." Featuring Lexi Love and guests from all over the state! An all day affair at CITE, 145 Kennebec Street, Portland, 207/772-JOYY. Kick-off beer bash and BBQ at 4:00 pm. Tickets are $7 in advance, $10 at the door available at Katadhin, Drop Me A Line, MWD Campaign Headquarters.

Sunday, June 14th:
Bonnie Raitt Concert - Arrangements have been made with the artist for special Golden Circle Seating and private Artist's Reception with Bonnie Raitt to benefit MWD. For tickets and more information, call 1-800-761-1788.

Sunday, June 21st:
Concert with Susan Savell and Janet Hood from 4:00-6:00 pm at the Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church, Portland.

For more information about this and/or other fund-raisers, call the MWD office at 1-800-761-1788 in the Portland area.
DEBATE from page 1

CMF's desire to encourage fear and hatred amongst and between Maine's handicapped, elderly, racial and homosexual communities. Even though it has never been shown that granting equal rights to one group denies equal rights to any other group, Carolyn Cosby, Chairperson of CMF continues to spread this particular lie in hopes of gaining support for her anti-equal rights amendment.

This is the cartoon, "The Great Train Robbery" as it appeared in CMF's "The Maine Event."

These other cartoons are earlier attempts by the Lockmans to play on the divisive theme of pitting the handicapped and the elderly against homosexuals. It also should be noted that several months ago, Lawrence Lockman wrote letters to the "Portland Press Herald" denouncing "looking Faggot" as beneath his low threshold of self-righteous indignation.

White House to meet with gay and lesbian elected officials - June 13

WASHINGTON, DC.- For the first time in history, the White House has scheduled a meeting with gay and lesbian elected officials. According to San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal, the liaison between the Administration and gay and lesbian elected officials, the meeting will be held at the White House on Tuesday, June 13. "This much-awaited meeting will give gay and lesbian officials the opportunity to provide input to the Administration and to discuss with Administration officials issues of common concern," says Leal. On the morning before the meeting, the gay elected officials will meet with key legislators.

Elected by popular vote, openly gay and lesbian officials epitomize the strides that the gay and lesbian community has made towards dispelling anti-gay stereotypes and achieving political equality. "We have spent the past two years laying the groundwork for this unprecedented event," said Leal, "and now, to paraphrase Harvey Milk, we will give the American people the chance to judge us by our own leaders, and by our own legislators." Among 32 Victory Fund winners invited to the meeting are Supervisor Leal, U.S. Congressmen Barney Frank and Gerry Studds, and Rhode Island Senator Will Fitzpatrick.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is assisting Supervisor Leal in convening this meeting and established a scholarship fund for those openly gay elected officials who could not otherwise be part of this ground-breaking event. ΔΔ

NOTICE

Support for advocates of lesbian and gay civil rights

"Winnie! Could you please get this in the next issue of CPR? You and your staff are in the trenches and we hope you'll join us! This note, signed by Vivian Wadas, was on an announcement from the Women'space Counseling Center.

The facts are these: Starting Thursday, June 1, 1995, and on every following Thursday night until the referendum vote, from 7:00-8:30 pm, Women'space Counseling Center, 236 Park Avenue, Portland, Maine, will offer an on-going, drop-in, facilitated support group, free of charge, for anyone who is working to support civil rights for lesbians and gays.

The women offering this support group explain that, "Fighting oppression is hard work. Sometimes the stress and strain of confronting discrimination, righting wrongs, advocating for those who are not yet able to advocate for themselves, takes a toll on us. Even supporters need support."

"Women'space Counseling Center recognizes the wonderful work that those of you in the front trenches are doing for all of us and would like to thank you by offering you a safe, caring space to unwind, vent frustrations, tell your stories, get nurtured before going back to the battle."

The Community Pride Reporter encourages those engaged in the struggle for equal rights to take advantage of this generous offer. For more information call either co-facilitator: Vivian Wadas, 774-2403 or Joanne Clarey, 871-0377.
State Senator Dale McCormick said, "The question is should I be fired from a job solely because I'm a lesbian?" That's what this referendum would do. McCormick read a letter from Governor Angus King to the Judiciary Committee in which he said the referendum is wrong, that it is not Maine values. He concluded by saying, "I will be speaking against this referendum and I urge you to do likewise."

State Senator Sean Faircloth (D) Bangor responded directly to Lockman's attack on Wessler. Faircloth said, "I've known Mr. Wessler for a number of years. He fights discrimination and hate crimes in this state and he's not paid for that work. I've never seen him engage in name-calling or personal attack. I hope we all can follow his example."

Pat Ryan, Executive Director of the Maine Human Rights Commission, said, "Make no mistake... this measure makes it legal to discriminate." She also pointed out that if L.D. 310 passes, the poor and children will suffer because they will be subject to discrimination.

Andrew Ketterer, Maine Attorney General rose to speak against Cosby's referendum. He said, "In my view, in a democracy, we are only safe when all of us are safe, not just some of us. What each of us wants is the freedom to be left alone and the freedom to be who we are."

Mike Heath, Executive Director of the Christian Civic league, also criticized Lockman's attack on Assistant Attorney General, Steve Wessler. Heath said, "I have met with Steve Wessler many times and I found him to be an honest representative of the Attorney General's office and I do not believe for a second that he is the man represented here earlier. To further underline the rift between Heath's Christian Civic League (CCL) and Cosby's Concerned Maine Families, Heath said, "Until now we have been alone in our (CCL's) defense of traditional morality on this issue (equal rights) we are pleased to now be joined by Concerned Maine Families." Cosby has insisted that she lead the fight against gays. She and Heath stood on opposite sides of the room and did not speak to each other.
Lawrence Lockman, Vice-Chairman and brother of cartoonist John Lockman, accused the Attorney General’s office and Steve Wessler, Assistant Attorney General of creating false anti-gay hate crime statistics. Lockman said, “The highest law enforcement office in the state is not telling the truth.” Lockman spoke derisively. He said there is no crisis of anti-gay violence in Maine only a crisis of credibility in the AG’s office.

Michael Schools, Board member of CMF and Director of All Catholics for Truth (ACT) said he didn’t want to be there, that he was “deeply grieved” to announce that, “a representative of the Bishop of Maine plans to testify in opposition to CMF’s initiative.” To Schools chagrin the crowd erupted with applause and cheers.

Dennis Daigle, CMF’s “Liaison for Handicapped & Minority Affairs” spoke at the hearing. He also writes the newsletter, “The Christian Observer,” which was distributed at the hearing. The first story was, “Volle’s claim in ‘gay press untrue.” Daigle was referring to CPR’s story last issue in which we reported Paul Volle, head of Maine’s Christian Coalition, saying that the National Christian Coalition did not support CMF’s referendum. Daigle said the National does support CMF. He has since admitted he is wrong. They do not.

Daigle also named Volle, “Bimbo of the Month” because “Paul Volle has come out in support of the gays and against CMF’s referendum.” Daigle is wrong all around. CPR told Daigle that Volle does not support an equal rights amendment for homosexuals and he intends to vote for the referendum even though he thinks it’s unconstitutional. Daigle said he would not retract the “Bimbo of the Month” designation and he would not say why.

CPR tried to reach Paul Volle for comment but he was out of town. Paul’s wife, Caroline Volle, said, “It’s Cosby’s work.”

Portland said, “I urge you as strongly as I can that you unanimously report out L.D.310 (the referendum) ‘ought not to pass.’” Abromson delivered an impassioned defense of freedom citing his visits to the concentration camps of Poland and Germany where he learned that homosexuals as well as Jews, were murdered. Abromson equated the legitimizing of discrimination by Cosby’s L.D. 310 with Germany’s Nuremberg Laws of 1935 which legitimized discrimination against Jews. He concluded by saying, “I look forward to the demise of L.D. 310, to the defeat of the referendum put forth by Concerned Maine Families and to joining forces in a bipartisan coalition to pass Maine’s Equal Rights law in the next (legislative) session.”

Portugal congratulates Bruce Fein, her Virginia lawyer, after his presentation to the committee. Many in the crowd waved watches to indicate that Fein was speaking too long. Judiciary Committee Chairman, Peter Mills (R) Skowhegan interrupted Fein suggesting he submit his remarks in writing. Steve Whiting is at right, he is Cosby’s Portland lawyer.
Malmude quote generates controversy

by Bruce Balboni

"Have a great day; Punch out a gay!" So said Jonathan Malmude, President of Concerned Maine Families (CMF). Malmude reported this statement in its April/May 1995 issue. In the wake of this report, there has been a flurry of faxing, memo writing and letter sending on the part of St. Joseph's, Malmude and CMF.

Malmude's efforts at damage control may have proven fruitless however. Malmude was notably absent from the May 18 Augusta Civic Center public hearing on L.D. 310 (the anti-equal rights referendum question). Also, at SJC's May 8th public hearing on L.D. 310 (the anti-equal rights referendum). May 1995 issue. In the wake of memo writing and letter sending on the part of St. Joseph's, Malmude and CMF.

President Hart many people preferred to stand rather than sit with Malmude.

CPR has decided to print all of the correspondence generated by our initial report. These include an apology from President Hart (right), a memo written by Malmude, a letter written by Cosby and CPR's response letter.

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

To: My Colleagues
From: Jonathan Malmude, History Department
Date: May 1, 1995
Subject: Message to my Colleagues

Please be advised that I hereby condemn the unscrupulous and unprincipled attack made upon myself and Saint Joseph's College, led by Bruce Balboni, the writer-editor of the Community Pride Reporter.

I deny the allegations made against me in the C.P.R. tabloid, and I refuse to dignify any attack being made on Catholic higher education in Maine.

Not only did Bruce Balboni print false allegations against me, but he also encouraged a barrage of hostile communications, directed at me and the College, through his focus on my position as a history professor at a traditional college. One of the messages left on my machine was: "I am not surprised to find a homophobic-Jew-bastard teaching at a Catholic college." Bruce Balboni and the Community Pride Reporter have practiced irresponsible journalism by promoting a campaign of defamation in an attempt to silence my political voice and politically pressure Catholic higher education in Maine.

How far these people will go in their intimidating efforts, toward a greater use of pressure tactics and the fabrication of allegations or evidence, remains to be seen. Any effort to frighten people into compliance with an imposed political view ought to be seen for what it is and condemned by all.

CAROLYN COSBY'S LETTER

April 29, 1995

Dr. Loring Hart
President
Saint Joseph College
Standish, Maine

Dear Dr. Hart,

As you may know, Dr. Malmude is an Advisor to the Concerned Maine Families' Board, a vocal spokesman for CMP's referendum, and a well-known commentator on various public policy issues in Maine and the U.S.A.

Please be informed that the current attack upon Dr. Malmude, Concerned Maine Families, and those associated with this excellent man may be coming from an individual who stole documents from my personal office, may have altered them and provided such materials to CMP's opposition, and may now be engaged in an ultimately foolish and futile game of political deception, disinformation, and character assassination.

I hope this insight into the current, disturbing situation may be helpful to Saint Joseph's College, a fine institution with high ideals and a wonderful regard for ethics, social betterment, and academic freedom.

Incidentally, may I recommend for your reading the excellent opinion piece by Dr. Malmude just published in today's, April 28, 1995 Press Herald newspaper: "Maine's Civil Rights System Must Serve the Needlest First."

Finally, my best wishes to you in your retirement. Certainly you have had a proud and fruitful career, including your tenure at Saint Joseph's. God bless you and yours.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Carolyn H.T. Cosby
Chairman, Concerned Maine Families

May 8, 1995

Dr. Loring Hart, President
Saint Joseph College
278 Whites Bridge Road
Standish, Maine 04084

Dear Dr. Hart,

We are in receipt of Carolyn Cosby's letter addressed to you, dated April 29, 1995, and, Jonathan Malmude's inter-office memo, addressed to, "My Colleagues," dated, May 1, 1995. We feel it necessary to respond to several points raised in these letters.

First, however, we would like to comment on the hysterical tone of Mr. Malmude's memo. In our April/May issue of the "Community Pride Reporter," (CPR) we quote a nine word statement made by Malmude. He is quoted as saying, "Have a great day. Punch out a gay." Malmude characterizes our quoting him as, "an unscrupulous and unprincipled attack made upon myself and St. Joseph's College."

Malmude is not St. Joseph's College, nor is he Catholic higher education. Nowhere in the article in question do we mention St. Joseph's College (or Catholic higher education), except to
Malmude's Op Ed piece in the "Portland Press Herald" April 28, 1995. This piece is another example of Malmude using his status as a professor at St. Joseph's College to enhance his credibility as a spokesperson for CMF. We might add, by the way, that Bishop Gerry and the Catholic diocese in Maine opposes CMF's referendum.

We intend to report everything we can about Concerned Maine Families and its members. We will do this relentlessly and without apology. These people are attempting to deny basic human rights to homosexuals. It is the duty of this newspaper and, beyond that, of every freedom-loving person to oppose them.

We stand by our story one hundred percent.

Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor
Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor
cc: Mr. David Putnam, Chair, Board of Overseers
Sr. Bernadette, Secretary to the President
Sr. Mary Ellen, Dean of the College
Patricia Sparkes, Dean of Distance Education
Sr. Mary de La Salle, Professor of History
Dr. Jonathan Malmude
Ms. Carolyn Cosby, Chair, Concerned Maine Families

Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein President

SINN FEIN HEAD SUPPORTS INCLUSIVITY

A spokesperson for Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams, in Portland to kick off his American Fund-Raising Campaign, said that Sinn Fein supports a policy of inclusivity for all peoples in Ireland. "We can't push for inclusivity in the Peace Process and start excluding people," The spokesperson said. "Inclusivity means everyone, period." President Adams praised the people of Portland, Maine and President Clinton as instrumental in the fight for peace in Ireland. ΔΔ

The MAINE GAY MEN's CHORUS

presents

OUR TIME!

Saturday, June 17, 1995
Dinner 6:00 pm, Show 8:00 pm

General Admission: $15.00
Cabaret Seating: $25.50 (includes a $10.50 dinner coupon)

Tickets on sale at State Theatre Box office -
879-1112
Drop Me A Line, Amadeus, Bookland-Mallside
or from any chorus member.

Get your tickets early as the best seats are sold first and you DON'T want to miss this one!

with special guests:

THE FLIRTATIONS!
AROUND THE STATE

by Malcolm Smith

PRESQUE ISLE — A month after allegedly assaulting a fellow college student and being charged under Maine’s Hate Crimes Law, a Patten man has allegedly attacked a homosexual student, referred to by officials only as “John Doe,” earlier this year. After failing to provoke Doe into a fight, Tozier allegedly threw him on a desk and started choking him.

Doe was a friend of Tozier’s roommate. The decree also prohibits Tozier from the school grounds.

AUGUSTA — The legislature began hearings last month on a bill submitted by the Maine Attorney General’s office designed to improve the protection of women’s reproductive rights.

“As the recent events in Oklahoma City tragically demonstrate, we live in a time where extreme political and social passions on occasion erupt into extreme and unthinkable violence,” said Stephen L. Wessler, an assistant attorney general.

“The look is more funky than sleek, with wall murals, rustic memorabilia and mismatched antique chairs. The food is a cross between hearty and refined — grilled sliced London Broil marinated in Ginger and Scallions... Duck Sausage... cornmeal crust Trout.”

“Folks from away like our restaurant as much as our regular customers. They just can’t come in as often. Don’t miss out while you are in Portland.”

Dan and Gretchen Owners and Cooks

774-1740 • Spring & High
M-Th 5-10, F-Sa 5-11

AROUND THE NATION

NEW YORK — A federal judge ruled President Clinton’s controversial, “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” military policy unconstitutional last month, setting the way for a possible Supreme Court challenge.

“The facts show that people who are raped cannot get pregnant,” said Tardif.

Cross said he did not want to insult anyone, but understood how people might have been offended.

“I know a lot of gay people and I have a couple of gay friends,” Cross said.

“He said the Louganis material was critical of the driver’s decision to conceal his illness after his Olympic diving accident.

The station voluntarily shut down for a week rather than risk Federal Communications Commission discipline after a listener sent that agency a copy of the broadcast.

The high court also cited other reasons for their 4-3 ruling, including “difficulty controlling her temper.”

The justices overturned an appellate decision that private sexual conduct was not grounds for denying custody, which was the original reason Sharon Bottoms lost custody of her 3-year-old son Tyler Doushtou to her mother, Kay Bottoms.

The station’s attorney said the court “relied on unsubstantiated allegations by the grandmother” as to Bottoms’ fitness, and ignored testimony portraying Bottom’s role as a loving mother.

The younger Bottoms was awarded visita­tion rights for one night a week, but not at the home shared with Bottom’s partner, April Wade, who is not allowed to see the child.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Supreme Court is expected to rule in June on arguments over the right of a homosexual group to march in a Boston parade versus the free-speech rights of the parade’s sponsor.

The Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group of Boston said their exclusion from the city’s annual St. Patrick’s Day parade violates a state law banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Forced inclusion violated the organizer’s free speech rights because the Irish-American group’s message did not agree with the parade’s traditional religious and social values, Chester Darling, lawyer for the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council, told the court during the April 25 hearing.

LEIGH, N.C. — During remarks at a North Carolina hearing on April 20, a state lawmaker said that women who are raped cannot get pregnant.

“The facts show that people who are raped — who are truly raped — the juices don’t flow,” Republican Rep. Henry Aldridge said while addressing North Carolina’s House Appropriations Committee. “Medical authorities agree that this is a rarity, if ever.”

Aldridge’s comments came as he was trying to apologize for previous remarks implying victims of rape or incest were sexually promiscuous.

CINCINNATI, OH. — On May 12, a federal appeals court reinstated a voter-approved amendment to the City Charter denying gays special protection against discrimination.

The court ruled that sexual orientation is not “an identifiable class” worthy of inclusion in the city’s human rights ordinance. Further, the court contended that a federal judge misconstrued legal precedents when he rejected the amended.

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HIV identifies and illuminates as silent, tending we... 

**THE VAPORIZATION OF DENIAL: AIDS as Cultural Analysis**

By John Holmerson, HIV Prevention Education Supervisor, The AIDS Project

From a strictly theoretical, if still uncertain, point of view, the goal of HIV education is to prevent the transmission of an emerging virus which kills indiscriminately. But cultural assumptions generally begin with, and often rarely go beyond, rubber stamping the latest news update of the HIV epidemic with that most American of American dreams, EDUCATION = BEHAVIORAL CHANGE.

"If those people would just stop doing (whatever), well then this wouldn't be happening. I mean, all they have to do is use some common sense and say no to (whatever). But what can you expect; they aren't like us anyway, are they? All we have to do is tell them to do (whatever) and IT will all just go away."

This sit-com approach to community denies a reality which clearly documents that motivation for change is more complicated than just saying, "NO!" that changing behavior is deeply rooted in changing cultural assumptions and healing painful personal issues. These assumptions and issues are the connec tive tissue which hold the body politic together, and this is the body in which HIV spreads most easily.

Since the HIV/AIDS epidemic began, the predominating transmission routes and the most affected populations have been highly charged with differing cultural values and diversity issues. Particularly in rural areas, the assumption to maintain by some has been, "HIV won't happen here, and if it does, it will happen to them, not to us. After all, aren't they getting what they deserve?"

And yet, anyone who follows the HIV epidemic knows that the virus respects no one. It continues to spread through denial that we are all sexual beings. It spreads through silence and social disconnection. It spreads through poor individual self-worth where inner feelings of pain are regularly medicated by culturally affirmed activities and substances.

As we struggle to respond to the second decade of the epidemic, it is impossible to avoid the assumptions that HIV identifies and illuminates as silent, but fundamental, markers of popular cultural denial vaporizes, we face the larger, underlying social and cultural values in our community which we each need to work to change.

For too long we have lived under the peculiarly American assumptions that "progress," "science," economic power or the military can keep us on top, can control everything, that we are without limits, without accountability to our time and our place. The sadder lesson for some is how AIDS has shattered that American dream.

What we have left is us, all of us, each of us, vulnerable and responsible. The "thems" are us; we are all connected and there are limits to our knowledge, our resources, our economics, our power and control. That is the new American dream and that is the challenge we face together for the new millennium.

The screens of homophobia, religious judgement, anti-pleasure, anti-sex, racism and classism require the most conscious deconstruction to remove the cultural blinding which obscures the fundamental reality that low self-worth and pain in isolation are core elements in behaviors that medicate that pain, while often confirming and repeating feelings of low self-worth.

Without breaking this cultural reinforced cycle - of pain and low self-worth being medicated through behavior, HIV will continue to spread across the landscape.

Effective HIV/AIDS prevention education will be easier, more effective, welcomed, even less needed when our fear based culture can change by restoring sexuality to a healthier and less shaming place in human activity. Positive elements of this new atmosphere could include:

- communicating effectively with family and friends
- seeking further information about sexuality as needed
- enjoyment sexual feelings without necessarily acting upon them
- expressing love and intimacy in appropriate ways
- communicating and negotiating sexual limits
- communicating desires not to have sex and accepting refusals to sex
- choosing to practice health promoting behaviors
- understanding the consequences of sexual activity
- talking with a partner about sexual activity before it occurs, including limits, contraceptive and condom use, and its meaning in the relationship

When we all demystify, and affirm natural human needs for pleasure and sex by talking and teaching openly about anatomy, healthy physical activities, role modeling and mentoring healthy choices, then HIV/AIDS prevention education activities will become seeds falling on more fertile ground where healthy choices can be made from places of wholeness. When this happens, HIV will be stopped. **Delta**

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**CPR**

Support your local gay press.

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Tell your friends about CPR, AND, Patronize our Advertisers.
The flurry of letters regarding the review and letter concerning the Maine Gay Men's Chorus in CPR's last issue are a most welcome sign. Nothing else in this newspaper has elicited so much reaction from the community. Even though we stand by the review, it is refreshing to have people care enough about one of the gay community's most important cultural institutions that they would actually take time to write to CPR. Just to clear the air a bit however, let's get one thing perfectly clear -- WE LOVE the CHORUS!!! That doesn't mean that from time to time we won't criticize it, if we think that's what is accurate and reasonable.

Dear Editor,

I am appalled and amazed about the letter to the editor regarding the Maine Gay Men's Chorus (MGMC). It is also my opinion that the review done by CPR was very distasteful and disturbing.

Ira T. also stated (he/she) "was not heterophobic" this must be (his/her) own opinion and not one of a psychologist. If there were so many "dozens of people" in the audience with this opinion, then why was each and every applause so long and thunderous? Furthermore, MGMC is not even close to "suffering from internalized homophobia." I enjoyed the program so much on Friday night that I returned on Saturday evening as well. I have supported MGMC for 2 1/2 years. I have seen almost all of their concerts.

Dear Editor - April 24, 1995 · · ·

In Solidarity,

Bruce Balboni
'Movina/Video on Review'
J. H. Morgan
Book & Event Reviews
Ainsel L. Ponti
'Music on Review'
Alexander Wallace
'Theatre on Review'

Dear Editor,

I am appalled and amazed about the letter to the editor regarding the Maine Gay Men's Chorus in CPR's last issue. There was no need for the review to be so offensive. The MGMC has been a wonderful addition to our community. I am proud of them. I will continue to support them.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. White, Lewiston, ME

Dear Editor - April 24, 1995

Just finished reading the April edition of CPR and really just wanted to send you some thoughts. I thought the stories about Maine's Radical Right were simple, straight forward, and very well written. I am sure they would rather not be answered. I am not saying they should not be answering.

Nice work, gang.

The review of the last Maine Gay Men's Chorus concert by Winnie Weir had just the right touch of disappointment without ripping the Chorus apart for its apparent amnesia concerning its own homosexuality during most of the first two-thirds of the concert. I love that Chorus, but next time they do tunes from "West Side Story," how about singing to "Mario" instead of "Maria." Just a thought.

Anyway, I just wanted to let you know that I really appreciate the work that you do for all of us.

With much admiration,

Michael Martin

Dear Editor,

Recently while visiting friends in Portland, I had the good fortune to pick up a copy of The Community Pride Reporter. I was impressed with your magazine's commitment to the Commu-
by Skip Brushaber

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." — from "A Tale of Two Cities," by Charles Dickens

In our community, it is a time for anticipation and renewed commitment. With some trepidation at being labeled ourselves and hopefully to come together as a unified community to battle oppression, and withstand the assault from the radical right. They want our rights and our freedom. Some of the radical fringe want to take our very lives.

Let us always remember as part of our recent heritage, large numbers of homosexuals died in the streets and the camps at the hands of the Nazis. Hence our symbol of liberation, freedom and pride — the pink triangle. A lesser known fact is that when the death camps were liberated, the homosexual survivors were turned over to the German authorities to be further incarcerated.

How do we start building a strong community? We must give up our petty squabbles and try to accept others for who we are. We must also learn to accept ourselves with pride for who we are. Elisha men exercising their white male privilege or separatist women labeling all men as abusers will do nothing to stem the tide of homophobic, racist, misogynous, male-bashing and ethnic intolerance have no place in our community.

We also need to stop reacting to the conservative right and calling them derogatory names. That may be part of their tactics but we can be a power of action. Example: We need not have to respond to the "Washington Blade" ran an article last year covering a talk by Mary Hunt, a feminist theologian. In her talk, she spoke about homosexual marriage and, that possibly, couples should reconsider accepting the heterosexual marriage norm. She goes on to state that lesbian and gay marriages may focus too much on the couple when it's time to be focusing on community. These marriages may help reinforce the myth that when you find Mrs. or Mr. Perfect, the relationship will last forever and you will be totally fulfilled. Hunt's challenge is to create a world with community rather than with coupledom as the ultimate goal. So as a community, let us celebrate lovers, our friends, and our support networks as well.

Communication and mutual support are utmost to community building. Social and affinity groups which are all inclusive offer an opportunity for dialogue and help build a sense of belonging. Many people who belong to smaller groups within our community may feel a sense of isolation. We need to break down barriers which exist in our community if we are to remain a strong and viable political force.

So write a letter to the editor, write an article, form a group, build an intentional family, volunteer your time, and most of all, bask in the glory that you are not alone. We have community.

Sincerely,

Dear Editor,

Lawrence Lockman demonstrates a marked lack of understanding of the gender community in his letter of May 5, 1995 in the Portland Press Herald. First, he lumps all people seeking special status together. He compounds that by putting all sectors of the gender community into one category. He seeks intent on fomenting fear in CPR regardless of validity.

As an aspiring transgender, I can assure you that my goal is not recognition, but anonymity. Mr. Lockman is under the mistaken impression that I wish to be in a limelight. What he needs to understand is that the gender community is made up of a very diverse group of individuals. Not all factions are moving in the same direction.

Transsexuals (which does not presume cross-dressers) need to resolve inner issues that will often, but not always, result in a change of gender. Mr. Lockman seems not to be able to differentiate between sex and gender. The common thread in this is what all members of the gender community want is fair and equal (not special) treatment.

The issue on the table is anti-discrimination, not special rights. Let's strike a deal here, Mr. Lockman. I won't bother you with my problems if you don't superimpose your narrow-minded political beliefs on me. I have enough to contend with without focusing on issues I don't even want to be involved in. Leave me to my anonymity and I will forgive you your disposition. You should focus on exactly what you are so concerned about.

Daryln S Maxwell

Dear Editor,

I was disturbed by the comments in the latest issue of Community Pride Reporter regarding the Maine Gay Men's Chorus.

Winnie Weir (Publishing Editor) and Ira T. Consumer (not very clever) felt the program should have been more gay oriented. This is absurd. It should not matter what material the Chorus chooses to perform, but the quality of the performance. When I attend a concert, I want to be entertained, period.

That is why I continued to enjoy listening to Donna Summer and Snap after there was supposed to be a boycott (what a stupid idea!). I am gay, but that is my sexuality. That does not control what I eat, think, buy or what I choose for entertainment. If that was the case with everyone, I suppose straight people should not have been entertained by "La Cage Aux Folles" (which they were for quite some time and which also won Tony Awards).

We need to stop looking at the world through lavender-tinted glasses. Let the Chorus choose what they want to sing and go because you want to be entertained, not because you want a political statement or a gay-oriented program.

I am also disturbed by the overall tone of your paper. Is CPR a newspaper or editorial sheet? I want facts, not opinions, in my news. The world is not out to get us, although that is what you preach. Just because someone does not agree with your opinion does not mean they are wrong. If we want to be tolerated and accepted, we need to tolerate and accept others. Perhaps you just need some new writers.

Sincerely,

Christopher Winters (not ashamed to use my real name)

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 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 posting 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 Mailing to 300 words or less. Slightly longer and more complete 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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Wednesday, May 17:
• 6:30-8:30 PM - Support group for adult female survivors of incest and/or childhood sexual abuse, offered by The Rape Crisis Center, free and confidential. Co-facilitated for eight consecutive Wednesday in Portland. FMI & to register, Anne Marie at (207) 774-3613.
• 7:00-9:00 PM (ME), 8:00-10:00 PM (N-B) - Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center Drop-In and Open House, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI (207) 498-2088.

Thursday, May 18:
• 8:30 PM - Kate Schrock with Dave Fields on drums and Ross on Bass, performing at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Tix-$3. FMI, (207) 772-707Y.

Friday, May 19-21:
• 6th Northeast Regional Conference on Bisexuality at Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Events include workshops, entertainers, erotic story telling, dance/party & more. Open to bi and bi-friendly people. FMI, Bisexual Resource Center, 95 Berkeley St., #613, Boston 02116.

Friday, May 19:
• 7:00-9:00 PM (ME), 8:00-10 PM (N-B) - Northern Lamba Nord sponsor Women's Night at the Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. Smoke/Chem Free. FMI, Sheila (207) 764-7838.
• 7:30 PM - Building Inclusive Community of Auburn sponsors "Spirituality, Religion and the Gay Community" a panel of religious and secular leaders. Unitarian Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. Free admission.

Saturday, May 20:
• 8:00 AM-4:00 PM - Benefit Yard Sale for MAINE WON'T DISCRIMINATE at 42 Clark St., Portland. Rain or shine.
• 9:00 AM-4:30 PM - Cancer Screening Clinic for Lesbians. The Lesbian Health Project of So. Maine will provide lesbian and bisexual knowledgeable practitioners who will offer the following cancer screening services: pelvic and breast exam, pap smear; information, referral. Location: Tri-County Health Services, Lewiston. FMI or to schedule an appointment (207) 772-2699.
• 8:30 PM - Women in Harmony Concert. Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. Advance tix $10, door $12. FMI, 207774-4990.
• 8:00 PM - Pretty in Pink Prom where boys will be with boys and the women will be handsome. USM Student Center. Adv tix $6 divide, $10 couple, door $7-9. FMI, 207-776-2413. Sponsored by Outright Portland.
• 8:30-11:00 PM - MWD benefit sponsored by Brunswick Area NOW and Maine chapter, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Dance to the music of Dixieland jazz band, 6 Basin Street. Soft soled shoes only. Brunswick Recreational Center, Federal St. $10 donation (less is unable to pay). FMI, 729-5843.

Sunday, May 21:
• 1:00 PM - Out Among Friends sponsored activity--walk. OAF is a lesbian support/discussion group. All women welcome at OAF activities. FMI, call (207) 846-5233.
• 3:00 PM - Women in Harmony concert. Unitarian Church, Main St. in Kennebunk. FMI, call 207774-4940.
• 4:00 PM - Beer Bash and BBQ at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Kicks off all day affair for MWD fund-raiser.
• 6:00 PM - 12th Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial & Mobilization Sunday hosted by NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. Gather at Monument Square, light candles and march to St. Luke's Cathedral on State Street for memorial presentation of the AIDS Quilt, calling of NAMES, songs and music by local performing artists. Bring your own candle and a cup to shield flame from wind. FMI, 934-5055.
• 9:30-9:30 PM - "We Are Family" at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Join Maine's finest female impersonators and held raise funds for Maine Won't Discriminate. Adv tix, $7. Door, $10.

Tuesday, May 23:
• 7:30 PM (ME), 8:30 PM (N-B) - Gay & lesbian AA meeting at NLN's Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207498-2088.

Wednesday, May 24:
• 3:00 PM - Rally at City Hall w/guest speakers. Sponsored by CITI. Tickets are $5 available from CITI, Blackstones or mail request: Pride Dance, PO Box 11502, ME 04104. Must be 21 with ID.
• 9:00 PM - Teen Dance (TBA)

Friday, June 1:
• 9:00 AM-11:00 AM - Interfaith worship service at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, State St., Portland.
• 11:00 AM-12:00 noon - Parade Line-up
• 12:00 noon - Parade kicks off
• 1:00-4:00 - Pride Festival Stage: Tommys Park
Vendors: Post Office Park
Vintage Auto: Federal St.
Nancy's Quilt Temple St.
ME Gay Visual Artists -3 Spring St.

Saturday, June 2:
• 5:00 AM-9:00 AM - Breakfast on Pine Street
• 10:00 AM - Parade Kick-off
• 11:00 AM-2:00 PM - Parade Line-up
TRAVEL/VACATION
Δ 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, Bethel, ME 03534, (603) 869-3978. ΔΔ
Δ Δ 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, RF2 2, Box 785, Thorsdike, ME 04986, 1-800-589-4770. ΔΔ
Δ Δ YELLOW BIRCH FARM: Romantic, seasonal cottage or year round studio on working organic farm in Down east 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
Δ Δ SPECKLED MTN. RANCH: Located in Maine's White Mountain foothills. Come stay at our beautiful B & B horse farm. We have two rooms available, with delicious vegetarian breakfast. Ride horses, hike, enjoy nature. Call (207) 836-2908. Bethel, Maine. 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. 8138. If leaving message, specify full name and best time to return call. Or write: W.I.L.D., c/o Community Pride Network, Suite 349, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge, MA 02138; phone (617)495-3432; fax (617)496-3384. ΔΔ

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

MEETING DATES & TIMES FOR MAINE WOMEN

Healing Circles

Portland - Healing Circles, a workshop for women whose lives have been touched by breast cancer, will be offered in Strong and Portland this June by breast cancer survivors. C. Regina Kelley and Ginny Keegan, an area businesswoman, created Healing Circles two years ago as they underwent diagnosis and treatment and their search for the "healer within" in response to their own breast cancer. Healing Circles is a support group concept based both on women's strengths in coping and women's special needs unique to breast cancer. With the help of a grant from the Maine Women's Fund they are taking Healing Circles to four sites in Maine. Kelley and Keegan are currently working on "The Cancer Empowerment Manual" and are the originators of "Cancer and Creativity," a course offered through the Maine College of Art. MECA is the official sponsor of Healing Circles. Free child care is available. FMI call 865-1677 or 773-1152.

Join them as they gather to share stories and support each other through diagnosis, treatment and the search for the Healer Within. Sponsored by The Maine Women's Fund and the Maine College of Art.
MUSIC & ART
Women In Harmony is an ethnic choir ensemble open to all women regardless of age, height, size, or orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 1, Portland ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

NA: Just for Today
Meetings every Thursday, 6:15 pm. At St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Episcopal Church), 316 High ST. Portland. Call 773-5726 or P.O. Box 8113, Portland ME 04104.

New England LGBT Men's Support Group
Meets Tuesdays from 7-9 pm at 874-TALK. For lesbians, gay,
bi & questioning youth under 19 yrs. Call 774-HELP (4357) for further information.

Northern Lambda: A noneducational, nonreligious, non-sectarian service group. The purpose of the group is to provide support, social gatherings, meetings and forums open to individuals who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered, and to share our history as well as providing a safe environment for others to express themselves as lesbians.

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GENERAL
MLGPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, policymakers, and members of the LG community about their rights and interests. Contact MLGPA if you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 1, Portland ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus is a community chorus which brings together people of all ages, backgrounds, and identities to build a strong sense of community and AGAINST gay/bi/biexual and straight men/sisters/sexual orientation. The Chorus is the only fully transscripts and non-residents of all sexual orientations. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 1, Portland ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

Northern Lambda: A noneducational, nonreligious, non-sectarian service group. The purpose of the group is to provide support, social gatherings, meetings and forums open to individuals who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered, and to share our history as well as providing a safe environment for others to express themselves as lesbians.

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The Nashua Group is a community gay/bi/biexual and straight men/sisters/sexual orientation. The Chorus is the only fully transscripts and non-residents of all sexual orientations. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 1, Portland ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

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Community Pride Resouces
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The Nashua Group is a community gay/bi/biexual and straight men/sisters/sexual orientation. The Chorus is the only fully transscripts and non-residents of all sexual orientations. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 1, Portland ME 04101, or call 207/774-4940.
Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Mabel Wadsworth Women’s Health Center, 334 Harbor Drive, Bangor, ME 04401. Contact: 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, biking, other activities. FMI, write to Box 36, Central Conomo, NH 03813-0036 or call Paul at 928-1057.

“Let’s Do Brunch” Portlack social gathering from 11:00 am-2:00 pm on the 3rd Sunday of the month at a York County location. Meets several times a year. Old friends, news, exchange news and information. FMI, (207) 985-2784.


Parents
Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group: Meeting in the Portland area. for dates, places and times write Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual 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 lesbian mothers in the process of becoming parent or adopting. Meets monthly in the greater Portland area. For write, P.O. Box 2235, South Portland, ME 04106.

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, 6:00 p.m. at Mabel Wadsworth Women’s Health Center, Harlbur 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, and questioning youth 22 years and under. Call “First Call” at 795-6671 or 1-800-332-4642 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

OUTRIGHT/Portland: Meets every Friday at 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Portland AIDS Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor. Portland. Safe and supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning youth. FMI, call 774-TALK (7255) or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5077, Portland, ME 04101.

OUTRIGHT/faxc: Keeps Meets every Friday at 9:00 p.m. at the Vivian Church annex building adjacent to the fire station, 206 Court St, Portland NH. FMI call Teenline at 1-800-639-6095 or write P.O. Box 842, Portland, 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 homophobic in all Maine public schools; to form empowering groups for teens by teens and a creative in which teens, peer groups are able to change the educational policies in their individual school districts. Straight or gay, boy or girl, HIV+ or HIV-, black or brown, white or all. Welcome. FMI on who to contact to organize in your school district, contact F.A.T.E., P.O.Box 193, Portland, ME 04104. Phone 428-1928.

COLAGE: A national support group run by and for the children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents. FMI, COLAGE, 250 Market St., #165, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

What are you doing to protect your civil rights? Call Maine Won’t Discriminate. Get involved!
Out on the Town

by Skip Brubaker, A & E Editor

I am back from my visit to the Wild West. New Mexico was enchanting, but very cold. It was warmer back in Maine. The measure of a good vacation is that I’m rested and glad to be home.

Remember “Poetry and Prose?” I hope we get some last minute submissions because they are rather sparse. There are many talented writers in our community. So submit, already...!

Books on Review

“The Roots of Healing - A Woman’s Book of Herbs”

Author: Deb Soule
Publisher: Carol Publishing Group

by Rose Mary Denman

There are lots of books out there on herbs, but more quite like “The Roots of Healing.” The first refreshing aspect of the book is that the author does not assume the reader has previous knowledge of the use of herbs and, therefore, begins at the beginning - with a short history of women’s herbal wisdom. She then goes on to discuss how we might create our own herbal apothecary, or medicine chest. The rest of the book contains chapters on particular women’s health issues such as menstruation, pregnancy and aging. Each chapter is filled with information as to finding, harvesting and drying herbs, and finally, preparing herbal remedies.

“The Roots of Healing” is, however, more than a book on herbs; it is spiritual at its very essence. Soule encourages each woman who reads that book to allow her spirit to meet the spirit of the plant, and to acknowledge that this spirit is as much a part of the healing properties of the plant as are the flower, stem, leaves and roots.

In an era when so many are seeking to re-establish a more holistic approach to health and healing, it is refreshing to read a book that does just that. "The Roots of Healing" is tonic for both the body and soul!

See BOOKS, page 17

MUSIC ON REVIEW:

Disappear Fear: “Wakin’ Up Our Hearts”

by Ainsel Ponti

If music is the blood that flows through your veins and through your life, consider “Disappear Fear” as a necessary transformation. No matter what’s going on in your life, sometimes you have to stop and recognize your struggles and think about your dreams and question things. You have to breathe the air of despair and you have to laugh and go crazy, too. The music of “Disappear Fear” is almost a sort of soundtrack to much of the insanity and sanity of my life. And I’m not the only one who feels this way.

Although I’d love to see them become huge like Melissa and K.D., and make money and get the spotlight, when it comes right down to it, you’re at the beach at night with your headphones on, it’s the music that matters.

And so my approach to writing about this band, their music, and the three shows I’ve seen recently in three different states may be a tad different. I know that it’s your choice to hear them for yourselves; it’s just that when I love someone’s music so much and I get a little passionate about it, I want to run to the world telling everyone to listen. First though, let me tell you about who they are and what they’re about.

Sonia Rutstein and Cindy Frank, who happen to be sisters separated by less than a year, became “Disappear Fear” back in 1987 after dissolving a band they were both in called “Exhibit A.” After releasing a live recording, they were able to put out 1988’s “Echo My Call” and then ’89’s “Deep Soul Diver.” This was followed by an EP in ’90 and then, the now classic, “Live at the Bottom Line,” which came out in 1992. All of these were put out on their own “Disappear” record label. Last year, Rounder Records had the wisdom to sign “Disappear Fear,” and in June, the self-titled album, which is absolutely amazing, was released. The time you read this, both “Deep Soul Diver” and “Live at The Bottom Line” will be re-released by Rounder, and each will contain a new song.

Originally, “Disappear Fear” was Sonia, her guitar, and Cindy. Today, Cindy sometimes sings with them and also is raising her son, which keeps her from touring extensively. “Disappear Fear” is as much a state of mind as it is a band. It’s the message that matters.

The current line-up, which I saw recently here in Portland at USM, and at the Somerville Theater near Boston, consists of five dedicated musicians with a zest for both music and life.

Talking with someone before the USM show, it was evident that the band believes in what they are doing. They have a tremendous amount of respect for what “Disappear Fear” is. Michael Savri, guitarist, said, “I just love it being gay is to me, as far as the music, not a non-issue, but it is certainly incidental to what she’s saying. There’s definitely the scene and the crowd that comes to our shows, which has always been wonderful, but the songwriting stands on its own.”

Drummer Marc Lawrence, also in tune to the message, does hope to reach a broader fan base. This point is important because art should be judged on its sound, its message, and its passion.

See FEAR, page 18
Theatre on Review: Mrs. Warren's Profession

"Tis pity she's a whore"

by Alexander Wallace

In "Mrs. Warren's Profession," a woman of independent means discloses to her young daughter that the money that has paid for the kid's high class education and her 'place' in London Society has come from a string of cat-houses run by ole Ma Warren. Horrors! The daughter, a straight-arrow 'modern woman,' is alternately repulsed and attracted, and the play is really not about prostitution any more than it is about women. It's about 'them that has and them that gets and how they keep it that way.' And, as Ivan Boosky and Mike Milken will tell ya, even a year in the slammer don't matter if you still have thirty million dollars waiting for you when you get out!

What does defy political correctness in this play is Shaw's ability to create entirely believable women and the four men who prey on them. Using the English drawing room comedy format, Shaw pulls us in their metrosexual classes for their latent Fascism and hypocrisy and in that, the play is perfectly 'right' for all the incipient Ivana Trumps, Carolyn Cosbys and Leona Helmsleys - and their male counter-parts - out there.

Given an absolutely smashing production by Director Greg Leaming, the ensemble cast waltzes, fox-trots and tangos through this period-piece-without-period as if born to The Rouge. If it's a woman's play, the women triumph! Watching Sybil Lines, as Mrs. Warren, slip effortlessly from the elegant English lady she's become back to the Limey slattern she was, without a break, is to understand why NOTHING will ever replace live theatre. Lines is charming, imperious, conniving, arrogant to the men and desperate and heartbreakingly when she loses her daughter. BRAVO!

Linda Dove, almost androgynous and ever-so-slightly-butch as she struggles to become a whole person, fighting the men who would cage her in Victorian laces AND her mother, who wants a doll not a daughter, is properly unsettling at first and then grows into a role that demands she become impossible and alone, at the end. We grieve for her and root for her in her Brave New Role.

Reno Roop as Praed pays a visit to Vivie Warren played by Lisa Dove.

Bushell is a master story teller and uniquely beautiful writer. Again, like Patricia Nell Warren, Bushell writes about the love between two men with passion and romance.

This book captures the reader in its spell, rich in history and myth. It also contains one of the most graphic and horrific descriptions of political torture since Orwell's '1984.' For some, this part of the book may be difficult to read, but it is important and compelling.

Books from page 16

Days of the Dead
Author: Agnes Bushell
Published by: Astarte Shell Press

by Skip Brushaber

In her latest novel, Portland author Agnes Bushell has written a thrilling and thought provoking story which takes place in war torn Central America. It exposes the subversive and blood thirsty activity of the United States government and the drug cartel. "Days of the Dead" also tells of the often unspoken genocide against the Maya by the Guatemalan military.

The two most important characters in the book are openly gay men. Patrick Day is an expatriate American who has joined forces with Maya guerrillas. His Nicaraguan love, Alejandro, has been murdered by right wing thugs and Patrick is offered a chance at retaliation.

Julio Ibarra Cruz, the Sandinistafighter, enters the picture early on as an object of Patrick's passion. Julio's only passion up until this time seems to have been the revolution. Their initial three day encounter sustains them through their horrific trials and tribulations as part of this larger than life story.

Bushell explains with clarity and utilizes the confusing politics of Central America to tell her story. "Days of the Dead" is rich in love, but also contains man's most base greed and desire for power. In this region, man's inhumanity to man appears to be status quo. The reader is also reminded of the Cuban Revolution and the present government's homophobic policies.

"Days of the Dead" is also a political thriller, full of vengeance and deceit. It points to the native peoples as the sad victims of U.S. backed governments throughout the region. It reflects our government policy, past and present, toward Native Americans.

Bushell was just right.

Reno Roop as an Oscar Wilde-ish Victorian Aesthete, all willing langouros and poetic attitudes, has the only proper fix on Victorian life: off to Venice, and ART! Andrew Borba, as the lay-about lover, out to trap the young heiress, reminds one of a young Rex Harrison, with just as much sex appeal. Alan Mixon as an arrogant, mid-level boor of an English Lord who doesn't care where the money comes from and Paul Vincent, cast against type as a fuddy-duddy English person who drinks and whores too much, were both superb. When you can get this level of production and performance, there's absolutely no reason to go to New York to see 'Sunset Boulevard' at ten times the price! Sets, costumes and lighting were all brilliantly done - even the non-period period-music, including some very early Cole Porter - was just right.

A fitting climax, and I use that word in its broadest sense, to Port Stage's current season. "Mrs. Warren's Profession" is just as timely now as it was when first produced. We may have become more 'modern,' whatever that means, but Shaw was 'way ahead of us then and still is, now. Brilliant theatre - and right here in little old Anglo Saxon Portland.
**Fear, from page 16**

What it is, not who produced it. "Nobody is up here because they're making a million dollars; they're up here because we're building this together, we're believing in it," says Sonia of the band. Sometimes you might just catch Sonia and Cindy playing acoustically somewhere. Such was the case at New York City's Bottom Line Theater last month. I wished they had more time to play, but they sounded great, and their harmonies continue to attract new listeners.

I did touch briefly on the exhausted subject of the coming out of Melissa and K.D. and it's impact on things for a band like "Disappear Fear." Sonia recognizes that this was a good thing, adding that it is irrelevant to her career and she has no intention of jumping on a "bandwagon." Keep in mind, that she has never been in the closet. "We're doing our thing, and our music, and I'm saying what I want to like any artist does. It's just the state of things that makes something political or not. At some point being gay will be just a fact," she explained. It's safe to say that if we ever reach this level of acceptance, Sonia will just keep on writing, playing, expressing, and being who she is; a human being. These words, from "Kiss the World Goodnight" capture part of D.F.'s essence: "I'm gonna LOVE OUT LOUD till my heart breaks, till my heart breaks." On the liner notes of the Deep Soul Diver album, this is what you'll read: I Think the world is ready for Disappear Fear, a world that is not scared of itself and who it loves. A world that is ending hunger - in the many forms that hunger exists - no one is left out. So, tomorrow, when the first rays of dawn reach like swords of light to your eyes, begin the new day, a tango with your soul, in love with life because you are."

So there you have it. Disappear Fear is a unique, intense, lyrically amazing, and great sounding band. If you decide to hear for yourself, Amael's recommended songs are "Be The One," "Deep Soul Diver," "Box of Tissues," and their new one, "Wakin' up your Heart." 

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**Artist Profile -- Jonathan Woodward as "MR. SLOANE"**

by Alexander Wallace

"Entertaining Mr. Sloane." Joe Orton's outrageous low-class version of a high-class English drawing room comedy of bad manners and low morals, presented last month by Vintage Repertory Theatre, revolves around the very desirable, very attractive, ambiguous seventeen year old orphan- murderer, Mr. Sloane. Courted by a loony sister-and-brother team, Sloane must exude androgynous sex appeal, total innocence, ambiguous morality, explosive violence and has to be convincingly a teenager. Fortunately, 21-year-old local, Jonathan Woodward, was available. I interviewed him at my home recently.

AW: Where are you from? JW: I'm originally from Idaho. I went to Cape Elizabeth Schools. I worked with Dick Mullins there. He sort of laid the groundwork for me. I did plays in high school... I branched out into community theatre... I tried to test the waters.

AW: So the bug hit early? JW: Yeah, back in the sixth grade. Dick Mullins asked me to do a kid's role in "Pippin"... that was big-time for me, a 6th grader, in a high school production... I thought that was fairly glamorous. I realized there was little else I felt like doing other than being on stage and completely captivating an audience, at a price.

AW: When were you convinced you should be an actor? JW: A wise Italian man once told me you shouldn't be an actor because you want to, you do it because you have to! I wasn't fully convinced. I went to Clark University for a year, left Clark, auditioned for NYU Theatre School... it was a big thing for me. I couldn't go down there to audition in person. I did it on videotape. I did a monologue from "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern," standing at a urinal... and I did a couple of songs. They accepted me, and it was at that point I finally decided that if people like that believed in me, if NYU would want me... I put a lot of stock in them, a lot of faith in what NYU wanted.

AW: And when did you know? JW: I started 8-hour, 3-day a week sessions; that was just one class... intensive professional training... and I absolutely ate it up; absolutely thought I'd died and gone to heaven; I was in a foot puppets.

AW: And your brother does it? JW: Yes and my sister is a jeweler in Baltimore, my aunt is a cellist with The Hudson Valley Philharmonic.

AW: But when did you decide that NOT being a millionaire stockbroker would be your career? JW: I have no tolerance for that stuff, absolutely none. It's not just that I believe in the words... it's the awesome power of holding the attention of a number of people and doing that better than anyone else.

AW: Sounds like an actor to me! Was there any consideration that acting's not macho or that it's gay? JW: When I needed money, I work construction for my dad and I always run into these... severe working class guys, talking to me about what I did and I told them I was an actor. I got the biggest range of reactions! Seventy-five percent of the time these guys were really impressed by that! Well, there was one guy, ran a backhoe and there was an archi...
SLOANE, from page 18

ting around in sandals and he said (backhoe-guy dialect: ) "Dere 's one dals . Must he one of dem homosensual tions, Joe Orton's or the Director, Jane kinda guys!"

AW: I never met an architect who was . . . But what about contemporaries — people your own age, your male contemporaries — is it an issue now?

JW: I might not have even noticed . . . I ran into it a couple of times . . . it was not enough to stop me.

AW: Now, Mr. Sloane, in the play, is a drifter, a murderer with A Clockwork Orange explosive violence; he projects an ambiguous sexuality, more undecided than amoral; he's young enough to be undecided, yet sexually experienced; he's trapped into an unpleasant three-way, yet by the end of the play, we still don't know what his sexual nature is. Now, was that your interpretation? Or is it Orton's or the Director, Jane Bergeron's?

JW: Oh, that's a good question! Oh! I'm glad you were paying attention! And you got that right. Gold Star for Alexander! That does Jane and Joe Orton and myself a lot of credit, because we got together and we did it right! Jane knew what was going on from the get-go. . . . a big opportunity for me . . . I always wanted to work with Jane. Sloane couldn't come across as a raving homo or as a complete misogynist. Jane was very specific about how this guy Sloane had to turn out. It was far out of my realm of experience, a guy from the sixties . . . he may be gay, he may not be . . . ultimately, self-serving . . . the mind over the body . . . spend the body to get what you need.

AW: And you're left with the idea that he's going to enjoy himself with both of them or he's NOT, but he's going to do it!

JW: Or he doesn't care. He could have gotten away, after the murder — he had the car.

AW: Is he 17 in the script?

JW: Seventeen in the script.

AW: To realize that somebody, at 17, has already become so horrible . . . if they said he was 27 . . . there's no doubt on stage that you're 17.

JW: That's the killer!

AW: You don't look at all like Elvis!

JW: No!

AW: On stage, there were times, when I said to myself: "Sloane is playing Elvis Presley." Which would have been right, in 1965. I described you in the review as a young Elvis Presley with a Terrence Stamp accent. Was that on purpose?

JW: No, actually, we weren't counting on Elvis Presley at all! We were focused on "late sixties teddy-boy-homosexuality is a felony in England," the posturing, the wobbling head, the sneer.

AW: Can you do Elvis?

JW: I never even thought about it! I read the reviews and I thought, "Christ! I'm gonna be an Elvis Presley impersonator, in Vegas! That's what my career is gonna look like!"

AW: My next comment is, don't ever let anyone cast you as Elvis.

JW: I would have a hard time with that. I really have very little respect for that scene.

AW: And you don't look anything like Elvis! (In a subsequent performance, "Elvis" had disappeared completely!)

AW: Would you suggest theatre as a career to someone in high school in Maine now?

JW: That's a sneaky . . .

AW: That's very sneaky. But there'll be lots of young people in the Gay Community reading this, wondering, "Can I do it?"

JW: Well, as the wise Italian told me, don't be an actor because you WANT to, do it because you have to, and that passion will drive anyone. Passion will take you, and if you have to do it, you can't be unhappy with it.

AW: Would your answer be different to a gay person as opposed to a straight person?

JW: To a straight person, I'd say: "You're not going to be happy if you can't live with gay people." To gay people I'd say: "You're not going to be able to handle yourself if you can't ACT 'straight.'" If you've got a gay part, it's got to be believable . . . and you've got to say to the straight man, you've got to be able to play gay and be believable.

AW: And you don't look anything like Elvis, you don't look anything like a 17-year-old, you don't look anything like a woman, you don't look anything like a man.

AW: To a straight person, I'd say: "You've got a gay part, it's got to be believable . . . and you've got to do it, you can't be unhappy with it. Because of the relationship between Sloane and Ed . . . it doesn't bother Sloane that Ed is attracted to him and wants and loves Sloane's body. Intellectually, I thought, this isn't a problem for me, but in rehearsals, I thought, "I have to not even notice this and I have to respond to Ed willingly and lovingly and completely." and you have to find an attraction for Ed that's just as believable as an attraction for Kath and the fact that she's a woman and he's a man. There should be no distinguishable difference between my expressions of affection.

AW: With apologies to the two actors who played Ed and Kath, they're not playing the most physically attractive people.

JW: Skip played Ed like a complete slug, with that wig on!

AW: Sloane is able to find them attractive and he does like these two . . . Ed and Kath.

JW: Yes.

AW: Do you want to be a star?

JW: "Do I want to be a star?" Gee, that's a toughy . . .

AW: Long pause.

JW: Long pause . . . pregnant pause . . . what I want to do is maintain my integrity. I want to be successful . . . support myself, have a family, in any form it might take. I want success and a sense that I haven't sacrificed or prostituted myself for anything I didn't really need in the first place.

AW: What's next for Jonathan Woodward?

JW: School again. I'm so eager and I'm so thirsty for the training I'm going to get, it rivals the first semester See SLOANE, page 23
by Brian Kaufman, PhD

Once again, inspiration and contemplation for this article were generated by a succession of articles appearing in, of all places, the sacred and stodgy old "Wall Street Journal" (WSJ). An encouraging headline stated, "Big business boosts effort to win share of gay market: trade show signals change in what has become a field for small concerns."

I love the fact that people who are concerned with the ebb and flow of the nation's economy are taking a serious look at our community and embracing us for the resources we have, not the objects of our desires and dreams. It seems that at the National Gay and Lesbian Business and Consumer Expo, held in New York City at the end of April, more than half of the 225 exhibitors were mainstream, non-gay (I love that term) companies. International Business Machines and American Airlines were two of the dozen or so national concerns who interacted with the more than 15,000 attendees of the Expo.

According to Rick Cirillo, who holds the title "sales manager, gay and lesbian community" for American Air-
OUT OF TOWN!

by Paul T. Bernard

Well, the warm weather is finally within sight. Trees are budding, flowers are beginning to bloom, and the grass needs to be mowed. Summer is on its way. I thought that this would be a good opportunity to write about some summer travel plans.

Of course, summer means Ogunquit and Provincetown. Both Ogunquit and Provincetown offer a variety of activities - beaches, bars, shops, and restaurants. Provincetown probably offers more hotels/B&B's, and guest houses catering to the gay and lesbian community. In addition, they list 10-12 bars and 15 gay-owned and operated gay-friendly restaurants.

The June 1994 issue of "Out & About" offers the most hotels/B&B's to choose from. The 1995 edition of the "Damron Address Book" lists over 60 hotels, B & B's, and guest houses. Several of these places are gay-owned or gay-friendly restaurants.

It's a great opportunity to experience the gay and lesbian community. One that I have had some exposure to is The Yellow Monkey (207-646-9056), which is located on Main Street in the center of town. It's gay-owned and operated. Some of the others listed are: Admiral's Inn (207-646-7093); Seasons Hotel (207-646-6041); Leisure Inn (207-646-2737); and Ogunquit House (207-646-2967). There are two bars in town: The Front Porch (Ogunquit Square - 207-646-3176) and The Club (13 Main Street - 207-646-6655). The Front Porch is a piano bar (and you'll usually find quite a few people gathered around singing), while the Club is a disco. The Club has a cover charge every night and is the place to see and be seen, especially on the weekends.

Ogunquit boasts a 3 mile long beach. The gay/lesbian section is approximately 200 yards north of the beach entrance - it's not hard to find.

For those wanting to try something different, you might leave your car in Boston and take the ferry to P'town. It's a relaxing 3-hour cruise, leaving Boston around 9 AM and returning from P'town around 2 PM.

The same philosophy holds true for calling details, how often that person rides, (generally, a measure of skill and speed) and that person's preferred locale for riding (mud, road, mountain). There will be a tree for each of the major communities from Portland to Bar Harbor. Non-gay and lesbian bicyclists, but certainly gay-positive, are also welcome on the trees since a good cyclist only discriminates by pace.

With a little care and volunteer effort, summer should not only continue but also some memorable weekend rides and enduring new friendships.

To get on the "what's up" newsletter, you should send a SASE to the current Time Out mailbox at P.O. Box 11502, Portland, Maine 04104.

The Club is a disco. The Club has a cover charge every night and is the place to see and be seen, especially on the weekends. Ogunquit boasts a 3 mile long beach. The gay/lesbian section is approximately 200 yards north of the beach entrance - it's not hard to find. For a short diversion, you might take a walk on Marginal Way - a paved pathway that runs from the beach down to Perkins Cove. It's about 3/4 of a mile and is a very enjoyable walk - especially in the evening.

For those who want to try something close to home, but not near the beach - you might try either the Stone Wall Bed & Breakfast in Lovell (800-413-1080) or Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell (207-622-2708). Both are gay-owned and operated.

SHORT TAKES:

There is gay weekend planned for Disney World - June 1-2. Organizers are expecting up to 30,000 gays and lesbians. The weekend includes "Gay Day" at Disney World, a gay/lesbian expo, and several fund-raising shows and activities. There is still room available on some of the package tours.

TNT/Haley out of Boston is offering some really great last minute packages to Mexico and the Caribbean. For example, airfare and 7 nights at the Silver Sands Hotel in the Bahamas for $399 per person; airfare and 7 nights at the Summit Resort in St. Martin for $499 per person; airfare and 7 nights at the Clipper Club in Cancun for $399 per person.

Time Out!

Bicycle "Maine 'ia"

by Michael Rossetti

Dorothy was right, as all handwoven eventually find out, there's no place like home.

Far too often, to participate in organized sports or recreation events, the Boston community becomes the hub for some of southern Maine's gays and lesbians. That's unfortunate, because eventually one's social life also begins to center out of state and we lose another person to the western drift. The other unfortunate reason that gay sports and recreation is not a more viable option is that gay people generally don't like dealing with travel agents. They don't pay commissions because they figure they can sell their rooms without having to pay them. You are better off calling them on your own. If you would still prefer to have your travel agent make your reservations, expect to pay a fee (generally $25 or less) for an agent to do this for you. For those wanting to try something different, you might leave your car in Boston and take the ferry to P'town. It's a relaxing 3-hour cruise, leaving Boston around 9 AM and returning from P'town around 2 PM.

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The portrait shown is not a typical portrait; it is an example of the kind of work we can do for you.
by Rose Mary Denman

One of the things I have learned over the years is that we all have a story to tell. Each of us has triumphed over some sort of adversity. We have all, at one time or another, had to reach deep into our own resources to find the inner strength with which to cope with life's ups and downs. Over the course of a semester, as students write their reflective work for Psychology class, I am always renewed in my awe of the depth and breadth of the human capacity to rise to meet the challenges of life.

A fifty year old sister dies; a child is struck with cancer; a spouse loses a good job. The stories are endless: winning a personal battle with drugs and/or alcohol; surviving child abuse, molestation or rape; leaving an abusive relationship or rape; surviving child abuse, molestation or rape; surviving child abuse, molestation or rape; surviving child abuse, molestation or rape; surviving child abuse, molestation or rape; surviving child abuse, molestation or rape. We all, in some way, still hide things we don't want to, or cannot, face. It isn't necessarily our dysphoria that makes us crazy but it is the most glaring aspect of our lives, hidden or not. I have less trouble dealing with the pending death of my mother than I ever will in telling my sister that I am designed to be her sister. This is denial as much as going into the "purge" mode is. It is an act of mental, emotional and psychological submission which, in the end, will confuse the issue by helping us avoid the very issues that we need to stand firm and face (easy to say from the comfort of my living room, huh?)

One of the reasons that support groups are a good thing is that they remind us we are not alone, we have company of a similar mindset; we are cared for by someone (even if we do have someone compassionate at home). This is also why denial is a bad thing - it strips us of what little dignity we can hold onto, robs us of not only our self-esteem but our identities as well, and costs a lot in purging! Who needs denial; it's just another form of guilt (and if you have a Jewish mother, you have a cornucopia of that anyway!).

So, ladies, let's all rally round the flag of truth in personhood. Where is it written that we have to be so wracked with guilt that we can't bear the thought of actually going out somewhere? Easy for you to say, Dal. Oh, sure! I know that I am as guilty as anyone of putting up a "false front" but I aspire to greater things such as strolling without fear, dressing to go out as opposed to getting domestic exercise, of being the woman who is dying to be me.

Before knowing this, I felt anger and even hatred for this man. When the senior minister told me the story of his grief, I felt a flood of warmth and compassion for him. That was easy. It wouldn't take a St. Francis of Assisi to feel compassion and understanding for this man once his story was known. The real trick is to feel compassion toward another even when we do not know the particular names of the demons and dragons with which they deal.

Often we wish others would treat us well, in spite of or bad behavior. We wish that they would trust that we are good people having a bad day. We wish they would realize that if we treat them with less than gentleness, it is only because we have left our heavy and have stepped into our own private hell.

Why won't they cut us some slack? Maybe it is because they are just like us. We too have a difficult time taking ourselves out of the center of things long enough to realize that "the other" may need us to treat them well, to trust that they are good people having a bad day, and to realize that if we treat them with a bit of gentleness, ours may be the very hand that pulls them out of hell and into the light of heaven.

It is when I think of these things that "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" makes the most sense. **AD**

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**Trans Forum: Notes from the Deep End**

by Daralyn Maxwell

Denial - exotic Egyptian hotspot or emotion? We all possess the ability to determine a comfort level that allows us to breathe and, at the same time, keep our deepest fears under control. The trick in this game is to create a balance where our "breathing" lets us grow while we slowly deal with the fear of discovery, or peer contempt or just that we exist as such.

I lead a full and varied life within my mind and the confines of my apartment. Suggesting that I might like to take a daylight stroll is enough to make me catatonic. I've only been out mentally for ten months for God sakes! Where is your sensitivity, anyway? Sorry, lost my head.

We all, in some way, still hide things we don't want to, or cannot, face. It isn't necessarily our dysphoria that makes us crazy but it is the most glaring aspect of our lives, hidden or not. I have less trouble dealing with the pending death of my mother than I ever will in telling my sister that I am designed to be her sister. This is denial as much as going into the "purge" mode is. It is an act of mental, emotional and psychological submission which, in the end, will confuse the issue by helping us avoid the very issues that we need to stand firm and face (easy to say from the comfort of my living room, huh?)

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We have a right to invoke the denial in ourselves of undue anxiety at our lot in life. I like my lot in life, I just wish the rest of the damn world did as well.

Ten items to consider when going out dressed

by Daralyn Maxwell

1. Don't let your nose hairs grow so long you look like a member of ZZ Top.
2. Don't apply your base with a putty knife - it leaves tracks.
3. Don't shave with a weed-wacker - it leaves a razor burn.
4. Try not wearing the clothes you stole from Grandma that she wore the day she had lunch with Al Capone.
5. The "Minnie Pearl" look is out unless you are under 5'2" in Texas and unhinged.
6. Don't dress like the bimbo John Travolta dated in Saturday Night Fever - not long enough ago to be vintage. Just tacky.
7. Try wearing earrings that aren't bigger than your face.
8. Don't do "emie-meemie-minie­mo" when you are standing at the restroom doors.
9. Yelling, "Yo, anudder brew, my man," at the bartender is a dead give­away.
10. Let "Bruno" in on your secret before you let him kiss you goodnight.
Watershed, from page 1

is an important aspect of the Watershed Workshop. The workshop celebrates life rather than concentrating on disease and death. Participants are encouraged to get in touch with their process in a supportive and loving environment. They gain insight and personal growth through their artistic expression in clay.

Patrick Clark said of his experience at Watershed in 1992, "I shed many layers of my outer casing during this workshop. I wrote, I painted, I made a few pots. I returned home vulnerable and with humility: more in touch with my being than I thought possible."

For more information about the Watershed Workshop for People With AIDS, contact Lynn Duryea at Box 7635, Portland Maine 04112 or call 767-7113. ΔΔ

MAINE AIDS WALK

The Maine AIDS Walk has raised $22,000 so far and money is continuing to come in according to Associate Development Coordinator, Susan Tremblay. She said there were 15 registered teams of walkers and that the Lincoln Middle School Green Team had the most people. The Williston-West team raised the most money. "Despite a very blustery day the Walk was well attended," said Tremblay.

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