

Community Pride Reporter

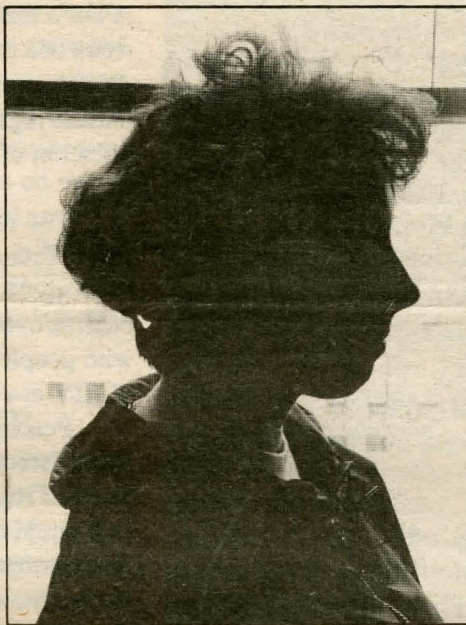
FREE

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

VOL. 2, Number 12

JUNE - JULY, 1995

INSIDE



Suzen said that working for Carolyn Cosby was very stressful because of Cosby's negativism and arrogance.

CMF

Former volunteer of Concerned Maine Families tells what it was like in Cosby's inner circle.

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

The Community Pride Reporter (CPR) recently spoke to a former employee of Concerned Maine Families (CMF) who worked as a secretary for Carolyn Cosby, CMF's leader, but decided she disagreed with CMF's drive to deny civil rights to homosexuals. Suzen shared her views of the organization and some of its members with CPR.

Q: How did you get to know Carolyn Cosby?

A: I first met Carolyn through her son, Mark, because we went to the same church and were good friends and I

would go over to her house to visit Mark.

Q: How did you get involved in CMF?

A: I guess it was my last year in school that I began my involvement with CMF. I had a gay teacher and I never had one before. I remember calling Carolyn because she was really active in the gay issue.

Also, I had met Jonathan Malmude at Carolyn's and I knew he was a professor so I asked them what freedom a teacher had in class to teach their own opinions and so forth. It started out as a curiosity thing and then they really picked up on it and tried to make it bigger than it was.

At the time, I was really naive to that... and after awhile I realized, in

listening to them, the extent of their animosity towards people just because they were gay, no other reason, in the same way people

judged Rosa Parks - just because she was black. Later I thought there was something I could do to stop Carolyn. I decided I wanted to help stop the referendum because I realized the evilness behind it. They were judging people on stuff that had nothing to do with who someone really is.

Q: Give me an example of the kind

of things they would say that would show judgment.

A: They'd say stuff like, "They're disgusting, they're evil."

Q: Why? Why were "They disgusting?"

A: Just because they wanted to show affection to someone of the same gender, that's it, that was it. They would make all these comments that were not true. It was their perception, but it wasn't reality. That's what really started opening my eyes to the negativism that was behind it all, and I wanted to do something to change it but I wasn't sure how. I knew I was real close to them and that they had asked me before to volunteer at anytime.

At first I started volunteering because I wanted to know more about what the gay issue was and to find out for myself if I was thinking the wrong way.

See CMF, page 20

SYMPOSIUM XXI - - a huge success

by Bob Coffey

Maine's 21st Lesbian and Gay Symposium came off with nary a hitch over the Memorial Day weekend. Hosted by Northern Lambda Nord and held on the campus of the University of Maine at Presque Isle, Symposium XXI attracted over 125 people, drawn from regions as far-flung as Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. They were attracted by an ambitious program of speakers, workshops, social events, films and the promise of down home Aroostook cooking.

The organizers of this year's gath-



Tom Antonik Photo

Comedian, Karen Williams taught the crowd how to snap in rhythm.

ering hoped to mark the occasion of Symposium's 21st anniversary by calling on conference participants to reflect upon the history of our community as it has evolved over the past two decades. Tagging the conference with the theme "Coming of Age," organizers drew analogies between Maine's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities to that of a person reaching adulthood. Given the political turmoil that Carolyn Cosby and her right-wing extremists have thrust Maine's gay community into, what better time to pause and take stock

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Photo by Rick Crockett

Kate Schrock-See Artist Profile, pg. 16

A House Divided



Balboni Photo

Peabody House. Is the house that love built headed for a divorce?

Conflict in Peabody House

We have seen the house lose its vision says volunteer
Controversy and confusion surround philosophy of care

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

"He'd call my mother from Peabody House in the middle of the night saying, 'I can't get the nurse, she's down stairs in the kitchen but she won't come up and see me.' He had to go the bathroom or something and he'd ring and ring and ring and no one would show up," said Peter Bernier

about his twin brother, Paul Bernier, who died May 31, 1995, at the South Portland home of former Peabody House volunteer, Caroline Greenleaf. Paul had left Peabody House three weeks earlier. He was 39 years old.

Paul Bernier came home to Maine from San Francisco to die. He

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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-Marcil Hall, Rm 216

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

Capitol Area:
Maple Hill Farms
RR #1, Box 1175
Hallowell, ME 04347
Scott Cowger-207/622-2708
Cheryl Ring-207/26-0818
Meetings: 6:30 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
Meetings: 3rd Sunday, 4:00 PM
UU Church, Bucksport Rd.

Kennebunk Area:
Interim Contact:
Steve Burr 207/985-1468
Meeting: 6:30 pm.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Call for location

Lewiston:
P.O. Box 3485
Auburn, ME 04212-3485
Ester Turner-207/783-6964

Lincoln County (Wiscasset):
Clarks Cove Road
Walpole, ME 04573
Tom Gould-207/563-2269

Midcoast:
PO Box 622
Rockland, ME 04841
Dorothy Meriweather-
207/594-7873

Portland:
PO Box 8124
Portland, ME 04104
Steve Addario/Jessica Maurer
207/761-1788
Meetings: 6:30 PM-
Every other Monday
St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St.
April 24, May 8, May 22

Ogunquit:
PO Box 2250
Ogunquit, ME 03907
John Cavaretta-207/646-2122

Southwest:
Box 6542, RR #2
Hiram, ME 04041
Janice Campbell-207/625-3689

Waldo County:
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Belfast, ME 04915
Cary Leah MacLeod
207/338-4194

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Millbridge, ME 04658
Betty Deniston-207/546-2007
Tom-207/546-7503

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Diane Campbell-207/465-7574

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

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House from page 1

entered Peabody House, March 3, 1995 and left, May 8, 1995 never to return. He then went to Mercy Hospital, for twelve days and it was then that he and his family decided the best place for him was not Peabody House. Paul went to Caroline's home on May 20, 1995 and died there of complications from AIDS, 11 days later.

The Bernier's dissatisfaction with the care Paul received at Peabody House is not a matter of negligence. It is the result of a difference of opinion between Administration, support staff and volunteers regarding the definition and application of a client-centered model of care.

The recent resignation of Sandy Titus, founder and Board member of Peabody House, reflects the deepening conflict over the type of care model used with people who are in the final stages of HIV disease.

Peabody House, located at 14 Orchard Street, Portland, was founded by Sandy Titus, Frannie Peabody, Chris Behan, Mallory Marshall and Peter Haffenreffer. These founders, with the later addition of James Light, comprised the original Board of Directors until May 1, 1995 when it was enlarged from six to eleven. The Board was increased and its membership broadened in hopes of dealing more effectively with enactment of its mission statement.

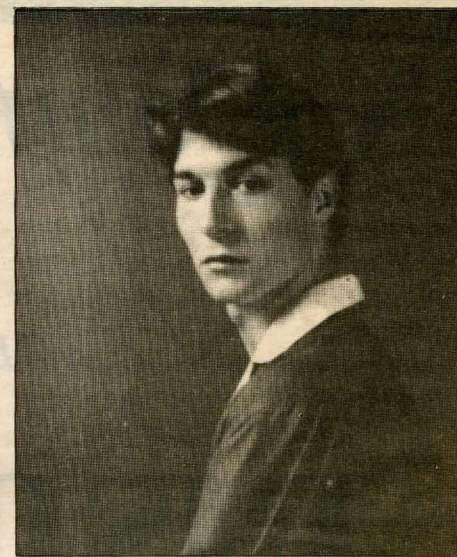
The house welcomed its first client on February 16, 1995. They received a Boarding House license, March 24, 1995.

Peabody House's mission statement reads:

"The mission of Peabody House is to provide a supportive, holistic, home-like environment for people in the advanced stages of HIV disease. It is our goal to maximize human dignity, individual autonomy and the right to self-determination. Our clients will choose the type and amount of care received, from assisted living to total hospice care. They will live with as much freedom and independence as their wellness allows."

It is the definition and application of this client-centered mission statement that has divided the staff and volunteers of Peabody House. Quite simply, one school of thought sees the client as the director of his care, and that the job of caregivers is to give the best information possible and then follow the client's wishes, whether staff likes them or not. The other school of thought suggests that the client is part of a decision making team. When asked what happens when the client disagrees with the team's decision Marg Wolters, Executive Director of Peabody House said, "We don't have that."

Titus recruited Wolters from Minnesota where they had worked together for three years in hospice work. Wolters special skill, and the job she came here to do, is the setting up of a home hospice service. Wolters accepted a six month contract in January to set up Peabody House Home Health Care Services, that job is nearly accomplished. Mallory Marshall, who is no longer on



Paul Bernier returned from San Francisco to die at Peabody House. He left in a medical emergency but chose not to return to Peabody House opting instead to die at the home of his advocate, Caroline Greenleaf.

the Board of Directors, said that Wolters is likely to move on in July.

Wolters said the care they provide is, "client-centered, which is defined by having the individual who is ill participate in the total care plan." Peter Haffenreffer, President of the Board of Directors and one of the original five founders of Peabody House, endorses this definition. Bill Toth, AIDS activist, new Board member, and a person with AIDS (PWA) for seven years also agrees with this definition. CPR met with and interviewed these three people, May 31, 1995.

On the other hand, Chris Monahan, an AIDS case manager interprets the definition of client-centered care differently. He said, "I don't think people realize how radical a truly client-centered philosophy is. If treatment is really client-centered, the client is not a part of the care, the client directs the care team. The doctors, the nurses, the social workers are part of the care team. Their job is to make sure the client has the data to make informed choices. I know from experience that this can be a very difficult model for the provider to work with."

Monahan felt uncomfortable discussing the split at Peabody House publicly but he said, "I think everyone involved with the HIV community is very concerned that Peabody House be successful. The community desperately needs Peabody House but no program is above criticism nor should it be. What is sacred here is the mission to serve the client, not the program itself. The message that it's ok to criticize is important, the attempt isn't to destroy the product or tear down the work of good people."

The disagreement in emphasis on the client's role in his/her care may seem like so much hair-splitting, but these differences have had very real consequences.

Peter Bernier said dealing with Peabody House, "became very frustrating because it seemed like the care they were trying to provide did not sync up with the same type of image we had ini-

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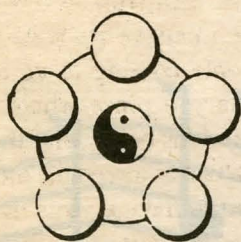
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House from page 2

tially expected, which was client-centered. Paul was very emphatic about basic things such as going to the bathroom on his own. He didn't want to be catheterized or use a bedpan. He wanted to get out of bed and go to the bathroom - those types of things. It seemed like there was an issue with the people providing the care they didn't want to. They wanted to have him catheterized and they never even consulted me. I was his power of attorney."

Caroline Greenleaf was a volunteer at Peabody House. She became Paul Bernier's advocate and his primary caregiver. Paul chose to go to Caroline's house to die rather than return to Peabody House.

Greenleaf describes her experience as an advocate by saying, "In our vol-



Balboni Photo

Marg Wolters, Executive Director of Peabody House, Peter Haffenreffer, President of the Board of Directors of Peabody House and Bill Toth, new Board member, May 31, 1995 at Peabody House.



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unteer training we were told to be advocates for our clients and I feel I was discouraged from doing that. I am a very strong advocate and I admit that. I feel that ultimately I was punished for it and Paul was punished for it. I don't know what my status is at the House, nobody has ever called me. I know that a third party called the Bernier family and told them that if Paul should return to the house that I would not be allowed in the house even though I was his primary care giver, that was amended 45 minutes later to say that I would not be allowed in the house as a volunteer but if Paul insisted on my presence they couldn't prevent that. Nobody has ever contacted me to let me know where I stand as a volunteer at the House."

In a letter to the Peabody House Board of Directors, April 29, 1995, Caroline Greenleaf who was very close to Paul Bernier wrote, "As a volunteer, I have worked at the House since our first resident adopted it as his final home. The time I devote to this organization is now averaging between fifteen and thirty hours a week. I am there every day not because I have nothing else to do (I am self-employed and a single parent) but because I have come to deeply care about the people I have encountered at Peabody House, and because I am not convinced that this organization has as its primary goal, the care of the incredibly wonderful individuals who reside there. The word "care" encompasses not just medical needs; in this case, it must mean love, concern, support, honor. What Peabody House is not right now is a place with heart. It has become a sterile, unfeeling, unresponsive business. The residents and their families and loved ones who look to Peabody house as a "home" soon find that that is a unilateral concept that is only given lip service by the administration.

"The backbone of the House is the group of volunteers that devotes time, energy and brings to the House immeasurable quantities of love. Without exception, the direct care volunteers I have spoken with are there because of Sandy Titus and Frannie Peabody. I know that I may represent that we, the direct care volunteers, share the vision first seen by these two women, and, again without exception, we have seen the House lose

the vision. Some of the most dedicated volunteers are already declaring that they will no longer be involved. The struggles and frustrations have become too overwhelming, and a severe morale problem has developed. As one volunteer so aptly put it, we feel that our major job as volunteers has become to 'protect the residents from Peabody House.' I hope you find that shocking."

In an interview, June 1, 1995, Greenleaf re-confirmed these statements, adding, "I would never go there (Peabody House) to live out the last weeks of my life and I would never let anybody I love go there to live out the last weeks or months of life. That to me says it all."

Frannie Peabody, longtime AIDS activist responded, June 6, 1995, stating "Any new organization has trouble to start with and there are some people who've blown it way out of proportion and that just makes it hard for us." The view that whatever problems there may be at Peabody House are the result of "growing pains" is shared by a number of people.

Marg Wolters emphasized, "Peabody House exists to serve PWAs, if there are situations that develop, that's only a natural, normal process - we're all working together for the same goal. What's happening is that Peabody House is developing its structures so that we can work in the community and fulfill our vision - these include following rules and regulations for licensing. Plus, we need lots of people to support what we're doing and we need to develop policies and procedures to achieve our goals. In that process there may be disagreements."

Bill Toth took me on a tour of Peabody House, May 31. The first time I had seen it was at the groundbreaking when it was a shell. The renovations are beautiful. The second floor consists of several client rooms. Each room is separately designed, maintaining decorative integrity. Each room has a sink, bureau, bed and other furniture suitable for a bedroom. There is a central bathroom. The second floor also has a meeting room, office/library and administrative space. The library is well stocked and there is a picture of the Pope on the

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Director's desk.

The third floor, which I did not see, is the apartment for a live-in staff. Sandy Titus did live there. It is now unoccupied.

The first floor has a front living room, several client rooms, central bathroom and a beautiful wrap-around kitchen which opens on to a porch leading into a gorgeous backyard garden. The basement has a unique sitting area which faces the garden. Large windows here break that basement feeling and give it more of a greenhouse effect. There is an elevator to all floors rendering the facility fully wheelchair accessible.

A volunteer who spoke to CPR on condition of anonymity said, "They're (the Board) doing what they think is right for those clients, but they want to have it all neat and tidy and scheduled, so it'll be all neat and it isn't that way for people who are dying, it just isn't, and things aren't always on schedule and you don't eat when you're supposed to and they're trying to make an institution out of it rather than a home and it is like an institution, it's like a nursing home and that's not what we want."

Bill Toth added later that, "The people need to know that we're really trying to alleviate the problems there are at the house and like any new organization there are bound to be situations that come up. With every new person mov-

ing in there are a host of new challenges. Everyone has an individual personality. For example, they don't like fish or they don't want someone touching them or they do want people touching them. It's a unique situation every time someone moves into the house."

He concluded by saying, "We really need to trust the Board. I honestly feel we can make the necessary changes. I want to get on with the business of taking care of people who are dying of AIDS. The really important issue is, yes, some of these people over the last few months maybe didn't get the kind of care some thought they should have, but I believe they did. I believe it will be a fantastic organization when it's finished."

Peter Haffenreffer, President of the Board at Peabody House said, "Any start up thing is not always going to be an easy street whether it be a business, a health care facility or whatever it is. We're always learning, there's a learning curve."

Sandy Titus who has championed client-centered care and who now prefers to call it client-directed care submitted the following letter to the Peabody house Board of Directors, mid-May, 1995.

"We are here to affirm the vision and mission we have promised people living with the virus, the community who has been so supportive, and ourselves. I believe we all agree that the present situation is untenable.

The primary issue for me is our commitment to client-centered care, and what we could further state, is whole-person care. That is, the care of the soul and of the heart is every bit as important as care of the body. The Peabody House dream came out of the community, people with AIDS were not meeting their basic needs.

The most basic of these in my view is psychological safety, the reassurance that someone is really there for you, is truly present to you, will value your needs above their own. The most outstanding theme in the lives of the scores and scores of people living with the virus that I have been privileged to know intimately, is the need to have people LISTEN to them.

In fact, we have had people at Peabody House already who have not been meeting their needs for a long time. AIDS is a disease of losses. We may experience acting out around requests or demands for systems or things or food to be a certain way. It is a challenge to remember what is really going on and for some, to find joy in meeting that need. Caregivers need support for a paradigm shift in how they might see things.

Is a man asking for strawberries to be cut a certain way or for meat loaf or for Shepherd's pie trying to be difficult or desperately trying to remember foods that taste good to halt the wasting disease which is ravaging his body and taking his life. And couldn't there be a com-

ponent of testing to see if anyone is really there for him?

In addition to affording them safety, I believe we have an obligation to people coming to us to offer them sanctuary, a place where they will be affirmed for being who they are, loved and valued as incredible individuals who happen to have a virus in their bodies. This is far more than being sure they have meals and baths and beds changed. Just as Peabody House is meant to be beautiful, people and systems need to be very well organized to make life in it as peaceful and serene as possible.

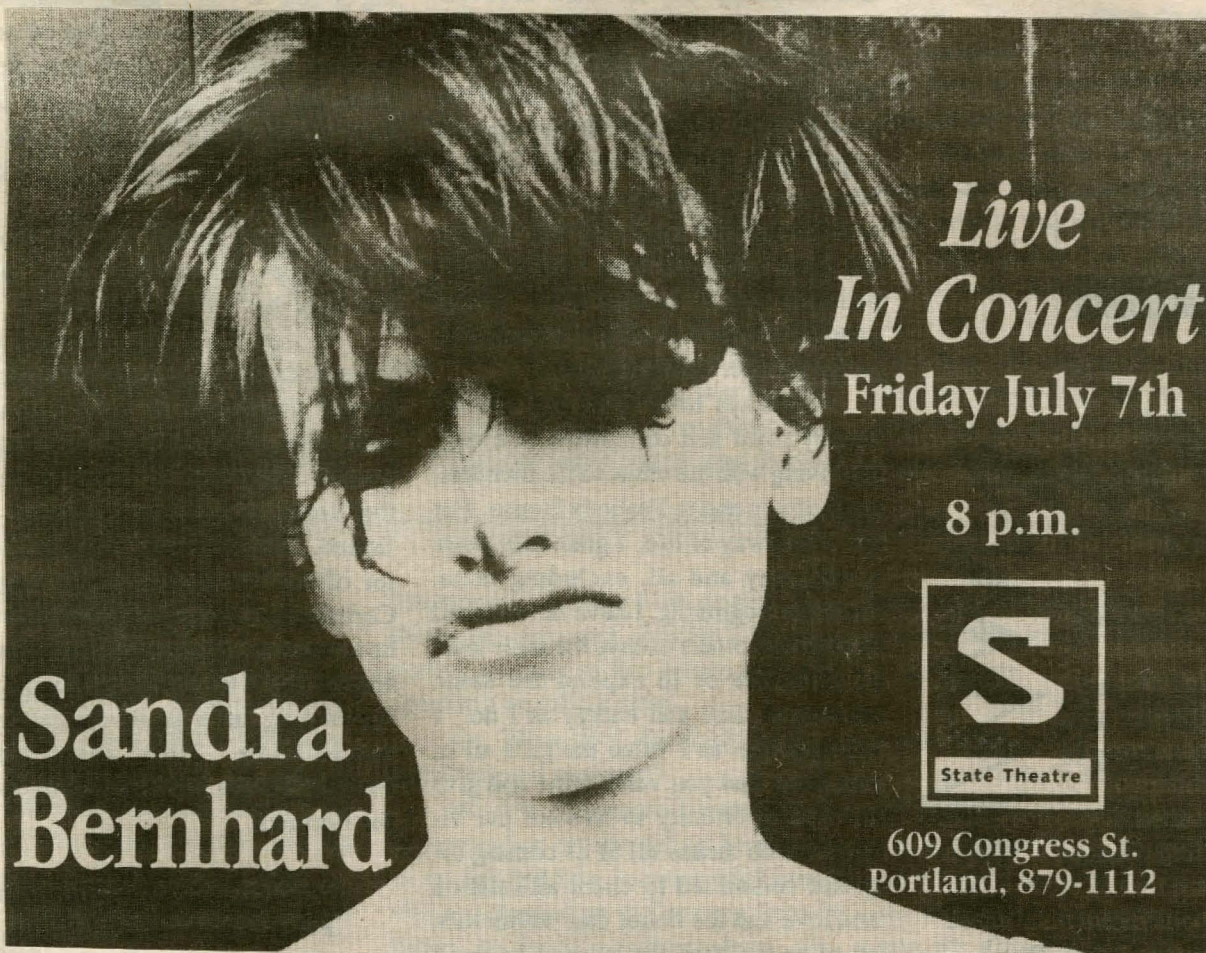
Volunteers, Board and staff alike need to have mentoring, leadership and support to accomplish all of the above. Not very many people have had the opportunity to view life in this way, much less live it out in the work setting.

That leads to another issue, is Peabody House a home or an institution. It was founded as a home which does not infer it should not be a very well run business, with heart. People with AIDS, almost without exception want to be at home as they get sicker and sicker but for some, since there is no primary caregiver, they need a new home where they have that support. That is how Peabody House becomes their family. Family is about relationships and I believe healing of the heart and spirit comes out of that, if it is authentic.

Another issue, I believe is AIDS

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Summer Comedy at the State

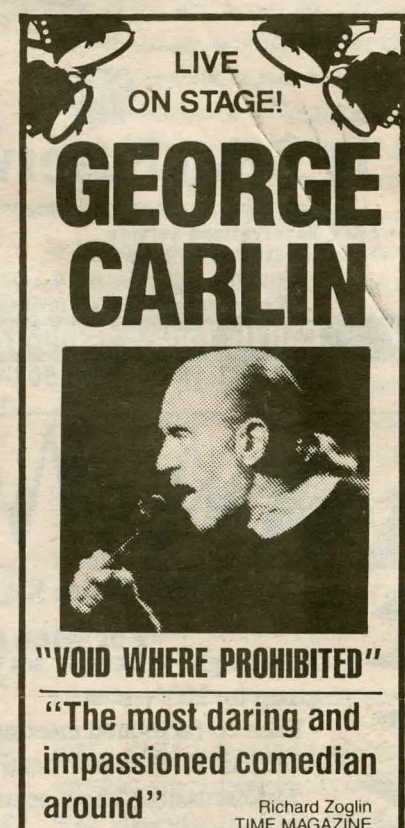


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expertise, and informed consent. The constellation of illnesses and conditions associated with AIDS is very complex and requires a great deal of expertise, and I would say, investment. Gay men with AIDS have been the leaders in challenging the medical system with their knowledge and expertise and demand that they receive what they need. Unfortunately, in this epidemic, advocacy is an essential component, not only for basic care but for the team approach or client-centered model. Health care providers are on the team only by invitation of those with the disease, and I believe have an obligation to creatively problem-solve with the person, offering information of benefits and consequences of any treatment modality or medication, and then supporting the personal decision of the person with HIV. This concept is difficult for physicians and nurses, often requiring again, a paradigm shift from the medical model in which they are trained. I know this well as I have been a leader in that cause and am considered a "problem" as a result by some health care providers in the community.

Still another issue is homophobia and AIDS phobia. I cannot avoid the feeling that much of what is happening at Peabody House may be just that. It can be very insidious and takes open-

ness, education and support to overcome. We have staff without diversity training or support around their fears and prejudices and largely without life experience in the gay community and culture.

In addition to the above issues, I believe we have a crisis of care in the house and a public relations crisis in the community.

I would like to propose the following immediate solution: That rather than be an Executive Director at this time, Marg be made the Director of Peabody House Services to set up the Home Health Agency which is deemed necessary to financially support the house, or, if on assessment, that is not feasible at this time, to spearhead fundraising efforts.

I propose that because of the depth of my expertise and experience in hospice, AIDS care, this community and Peabody House, and my understanding of all of the above issues, I be made Interim Director of Peabody House itself and be given the authority to address the above and the following priorities (in no order):

a) Boarding home rules and regulations spelled out clearly with tight paper compliance, waivers of some rules obtained if necessary. This done with the help of volunteers and Board Members and myself. Being a well run effi-



Balboni Photo

Frannie Peabody and Sandy Titus. Frannie wants Sandy involved in Peabody House. Frannie said, "It's her dream, too."

cient business in no way needs to conflict with the vision or concepts outlined above.

b) The house be rendered physically functional to support care, which includes at a minimum, in each room, linen shelves, bureau for clothes and surfaces for personal and medical supplies, shelf above sink, paper towel and glove holders, two large wastebaskets. Also essential is systems, such as laundry and kitchen, telephone and others. The house needs to be efficiently organized in order to do the work.

c) Mentoring in loving compassionate client-centered care and an attitude of service, with affirmation replacing divisiveness, role protection, and condescension.

d) Repairing relations with the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), The AIDS Project (TAP) and other community organizations.

I offer to live on the third floor with my support system in order to be "house mother" of the family, guarantee continuity of care, to be present for teaching and leadership and for crisis intervention and support. My room and board would serve as my compensation until such time as we can calm down the present crisis and have the opportunity to pull back and evaluate the reality of what we have embarked upon. I see this as an immediate endeavor, not to make me more important than I am or indispensable but to build a solid core of people to do the work and to include others in the ever widening circles

I always have been and am intensely loyal and committed to everyone living with the virus, to the founders, to all of you and to Peabody House. For me, it is a way of life. I gratefully share it with any and all, excluding none. From the beginning, I have never asked or expected others to have the same level of expertise or to expend the same amount of time and energy as I do. I ask now that as I value the gifts all of you bring that you value mine and give me the opportunity to live out our vision, which means all of us coming together committed to client affirmation and love and the belief that within this, all of us together can learn to be more of who we are meant to be as human beings. We need each other.

Sandy Titus

Titus claims she has not received an official response to this letter. Haffenreffer said, "She (Titus) has already sat in on a meeting where we have talked to her... the demands in her letter are something that probably wouldn't work."

Any organization needs several months to iron out its bumps but the question is, what kind of an organization will it be when that process is finished.

According to Sandy Titus, she was asked by the Board to move out of Peabody House in mid-March. She said they did this because, "I told them I was very tired and not feeling supported, the house wasn't finished, the nurses aides weren't trained. I was crying out and they decided that the problem was that they had asked me to move into the house but I said that isn't the problem at all and there's obviously differences between Marg and myself and from the time the house opened I was there working on call - if you're going to take health care personnel who are trained on the medical model you need to model for them and train them and teach them. First of all its client-centered care but then why don't we talk about HIV and AIDS care."

Haffenreffer said Titus was not told to move out, but concedes that, "Maybe she feels that's what happened."

In mid-April Titus stopped going to Peabody House altogether because of further breakdown in communications with other staff regarding medications. Rumors regarding an investigation by the Board of Nursing cannot be confirmed. Bob Steinberg, Assistant Director of the Division of Licensing and Certification for Boarding Homes said he is unaware of any such investigation, adding that if the Board of Nursing was conducting such an investigation, he would know. Titus' absence from Peabody House had a direct impact on the Berniers.

Bernier family dissatisfied

Peter Bernier said, "While Paul was in the hospital we discussed several options and that's when Caroline offered

See House, page 7

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House, from page 6

to have him at her home. I agonized over that quite a lot, I want to tell you because that was a pretty tough decision to make. "Paul had a big say in that because he wanted Caroline and Sandy Titus directly involved in his care and that was not going to happen at Peabody House, Nan Murphy (filling in for Marg Wolters) had already told us that they were not welcome there anymore."

Peter Bernier described the circumstances of Paul's not returning to Peabody House from Mercy Hospital — "He wanted out of the hospital, the IVs

Urban, Chris Behan (Board members) and a number of others on the Peabody House Board, I explained all of this to them in detail, how we felt about what was going on. Some of the Board members were new to the Board and they didn't realize what was going on. This is a very clear picture of an organization that hasn't been fully developed and does not understand what their vision is. I think they know what they want to do, but to put it in motion, they just were at the beginning stages and were not really experienced enough as a group to facilitate it, in my eyes. I don't think



Balboni Photo

The Peabody House groundbreaking ceremony, March 1994. From left to right, Linda Jipson who recently died at Peabody House, Sandy Titus, Frannie Peabody (foreground), Peter Haffenreffer, Mallory Marshall, Tom Andrews and Chris Behan.

fell out twice and he said, 'no more IVs, no more needles,' and so we told the doctor, 'no more.' We felt we were in a real difficult position because Sandy was not allowed in Peabody House and neither was Caroline and Paul wanted them specifically involved with his care, I asked him that specifically at the hospital he said, 'yes, I want them to be part of my care.' So that's when Caroline offered to take him at her home, we went over and looked at her place, thought about it a lot and talked about it and decided that was the best thing for Paul so we moved him there."

Peter Bernier added that Sandy Titus and Caroline Greenleaf stopped coming to Peabody House, mid-April, and, "The thing that made it hard was that Paul had already bonded with them. It was an awful difficult predicament to be in. We as a family were concerned primarily with his personal care and with his wishes and he said emphatically throughout that whole time period that he wanted Sandy directly involved with his care and also Caroline, because they had done such a wonderful job with him and they did. It was unbelievable the amount of love and compassion and care that they gave him. It was unreal, we were just totally flabbergasted as a family, the level of care these people who didn't know him gave to him."

"Nothing had changed in terms of philosophy at Peabody House. I didn't see any big changes, they still only had one person there on duty. I talked to Lee

it's that they weren't trying, I think it's just they didn't know how.


The Board members were compassionate. I was not trying to make trouble but to do what was best for my brother."

Marg Wolters responded to the Berniers specific complaint that she was unavailable to them by saying, "I can only say that I spent many hours with the Berniers, with Mrs. Bernier sitting in my office, so there is a contradiction to that statement. It's all in perception and it's based on need. When somebody is really overwhelmed, they're going to believe their needs aren't met."

"That family was so overwhelmed, there were many issues regarding family dynamics. It's their perception to say I wasn't available to them, but I was available to them, so it's a quandary. I understand where they're coming from because they were really overwhelmed with what was happening to their son and a lot had to do with relationships and a lot had to do with past issues."

"I encouraged them, if we were not going to meet their needs they could take Paul home, I would do that with families in my own hospice, or if I was working in any other organization. Sometimes you're really not able to meet the need, you're not the service that is meant for them. They need to move on because I don't want to interfere with what needs to be done, because they've only got one chance. Their son is not

See House, page 24



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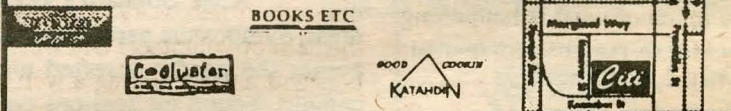
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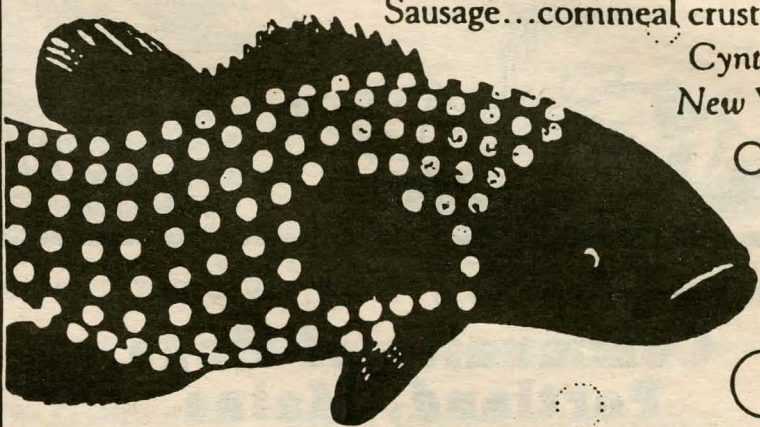
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SYMPOSIUM from page 1

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of where we've been, where we are and where we're going.

Appropriately enough, Symposium XXI began with an address by Mary Bonuato, the intrepid Boston attorney leading the legal challenge against both Cosby's ghoulis "Concerned Maine Families" and against the antediluvian organizers of Boston's St. Patrick's Day parade.

Bonuato effectively outlined the legal history of the American lesbian and gay civil rights movement, touching on key victories and failures in its slow, jerky march towards societal equality. She posited that, no matter how bumpy the ride, legal battles ultimately play a crucial role in the gay rights movement, as they provide lesbians and gays with an opportunity to air their grievances in a habitually hostile social and political environment. Responding to one aggrieved gay teen's testimonial of peer abuse in school and the lack of response from the school's administration, Bonuato advised the youth to take down her phone number, earning her spontaneous applause from the audience.

After Bonuato's keynote address, Symposium participants scattered across the nearly deserted university campus, bound for sessions on sexuality, political organizing, women's health and the inevitable P-FLAG, complete with kindly and supportive parents; enough to wrench a tear from even the most jaded Queer National. Conferencegoers came together again in the evening for a one-two punch of entertainment on stage at UMPI's Weiden Auditorium, renamed "Noel Coward Auditorium" for the occasion by organizers. A contingent of chorus members from the Maine Gay Men's Chorus, dubbing themselves "the Maritones," offered up a far-ranging selection of music to a clearly delighted audience, who seemed to enjoy the stage-whispered banter between in-



Tom Antonik Photo

The Maritones do "Officer Krupke" from West Side Story.

dividual Maritones nearly as much as the concert itself.

Following the Maritones, Karen Williams, a fiercely funny African-American lesbian comedian, took to the stage in a brilliant hour-long performance that left audience members gasping for breath between each guffaw. Skewering cow after sacred cow, Williams took on the lesbian predilection for camping, dental dams (which she labelled a conspiracy foisted on lesbians by dentists anxious to empty their storerooms of the odd little latex squares), and even conducted the briefest of workshops - how to snap in rhythm, for the benefit of several amused Maritones.

At the conclusion of her remarkable tour de force, Williams answered questions from appreciative audience members, which led into a poignant narrative on Williams' coming out story, her experiences working in the black comedy circuit, and her recent reunion with her son, whom she gave up for adoption over two decades ago.

Symposium revelers capped the evening's festivities with a dance in UMPresque Isle's sleek campus center. At times, with a dapper bartender busily taking drink orders, steady traffic to and from an attractive balcony and a floor packed with enthusiastic dancers, it appeared at times as if a gay bar had crash-landed, fixtures intact, in the middle of Presque Isle. Judging from the delirious grins spotted on many faces (many of whom habitually travel several hours to reach gay night spots), it apparently felt like that as well.

The following morning brought with it the second keynote address. Tuma Young, a charismatic Mi'kmaq from Eskasoni, Nova Scotia, recounted his experiences as a self-described "puoin", or "two-spirited" person, as a means of comprehending the integral relationship between spirituality and sexuality as it is understood by the Mi'kmaq. Young called upon clearly moved audience members to recognize and cherish both sides of themselves - male and female - and to disallow one from dominating the other. His highly personal narrative also revealed the history of oppression imposed upon the Mi'kmaq people by European missionaries, who labeled their attitudes towards sexuality sinful, and murdered many of Young's two-spirited antecedents.

Lured by a near-perfect spring

day, many conference-goers defected from afternoon workshops in favor of frisbee-tossing, sun worshipping or shopping in Presque Isle's gleaming new mall. Those that chose to remain had the option of participating in a cancer-screening clinic offered by Bangor's Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, several workshops, and even a Clinton-era "town meeting", in which panel members from all over the region debated and discussed the future of Maine's gay rights movement. After dinner, local volunteers donned tuxedo shirts and staffed games of chance for Symposium's "Casino Night", a fund-raiser originally intended to offset the cost of a toll-free statewide hotline; but, in the wake of the last minute loss of grant monies, proceeds were hastily rededicated to paying off the costs of the conference itself. A handful of casino chips earned players any number of chances to win prizes donated by various individuals and businesses.

After the glorious sunshine of the previous day, Monday disappointed. While not the best weather for a send-off, the cold, monotonous rain sufficiently motivated conference participants, who hurriedly vacated dorm rooms and packed cars, anxious to begin the journey home. Led by Tuma Young, folks participated in a closing circle, which officially concluded Symposium XXI. After numerous hugs and good-byes, people streamed out of the campus center in twos and threes, bound for the parking lot, lugging notebooks crammed with e-mail addresses and telephone numbers.

Will we meet again? It's hard to say for sure, but depending on who you talk to, you might very well start looking for news of Symposium XXII sometime soon, perhaps hosted by Bar Harbor's College of the Atlantic, or Unity College in Unity. In any case, whichever group decides to shoulder the responsibility for hosting this truly marvelous event, they are going to have a hard act to follow.

Thank you / Merci, Northern Lambda Nord. ΔΔ

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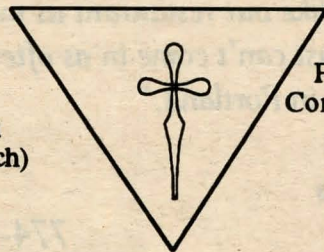
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A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all persons.

BUSINESS PROFILE: U N I International Network, Inc.

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

"U.N.I., a powerful network, put it to work for you . . . and it will keep working for others." So says the front page of a three-fold, full color brochure describing U.N.I. International Network, Inc. Having heard of this new business, but being unclear about its mission, I was glad to have an opportunity to talk with four interested parties in the CPR offices recently.

James N. Kerr, Vice President and Treasurer; Lionel Beaulieu, Secretary; and Sara Lagerstrom and Richard Pierce, both Senior Account Executives, could hardly stay in their chairs as they explained what U.N.I. is all about. One thing was abundantly clear - they all believed passionately in what they were beginning. U.N.I. has a mission statement that says, "The mission of U.N.I. International Network is to generate the maximum funding for the education, prevention, research and treatment of AIDS. It is our goal to provide both unity and support to the gay community. Our members, while realizing substantial personal savings on their daily expenditures, are contributing directly to the fight against AIDS."

In a letter from William Sheehan, President and founder of U.N.I., he says, "Eighteen months ago, secure in my own little world, I had the idea of providing the gay community with an information hub. I knew there were publications out there that provided information on bars, clubs, etc., but I wanted to create a database of every company and establishment that was gay owned or gay friendly." His letter goes on to say how his research lead him to the realization that he was proud to be gay and angry about the treatment our community receives around civil rights. He also began to feel rage against AIDS and the problems of insurance cancellations, huge medical bills, and the fear and hatred by many in our society PWA's face.

What began as " . . . a business of my own and something I could run from the safety of my home," turned into a

strong desire to do something that, "would make a difference - a real difference." Using an idea from a credit card company offer he received to join their club and save on hotel/motel accommodations, Sheehan realized the credit card company could offer discounts because of their "clout." His supposition was that with millions of people in the gay community, we can have "enough clout to get major companies to give us real discounts - and even donate a portion of their profits to our needs."

According to Kerr, major companies are now calling U.N.I. to be included in the U.N.I. benefits and services package. Days Inn, Hertz, Avis, Howard Johnson, Alamo Rent A Car, Thrifty Car Rental, IGTA (International Gay Travel Association), MET Life Insurance, plus many more companies are part of the network of benefits and services offered by U.N.I. to its members.

Annual membership rates are \$99 for an individual, \$139 co-habitant, and \$79 for students. Of the membership fee, \$40 is donated by U.N.I. to the U.N.I. Charitable Foundation for the research, prevention and treatment of AIDS. The Foundation is a qualified charitable organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, several of the companies have arrangements where a percentage of what you purchase goes to the Foundation.

There is a 24 hour toll free national and international line with operators to provide members with information on any number of issues. There is discount shopping service, a dental program, discount pharmacy, discount vision service and student grant program available.

If you are interested, or if you are skeptical, call the company. Ask to speak to Jamie, Lionel, Sara or Richard. Have them send you information. Ask tough questions. My impression is that they want the tough questions, they want people to make an informed choice around joining the U.N.I. family. Their number is 1-800-468-5864. ΔΔ

AROUND THE STATE & NATION

by Malcolm Smith

BANGOR: The judge who presided over the 1984 trial of Charlie Howard's three killers was disbarred by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court May 22.

Former District Court Judge David Cox, who was criticized by some gay activists and others for treating the three young men as juveniles rather than adults during the trial, insuring them shorter jail sentences, was disbarred for illegal real estate practices.

"As sophisticated as we think we have become, it is horrifying to realize that we have failed in the past, and we will continue to fail in the future in emphasizing the value of human life, the value of human rights so that our teaching might curb these irrational acts," Cox said in his

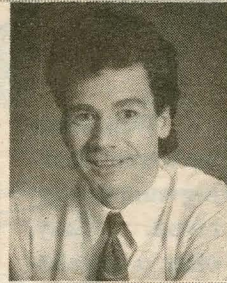
Bangor courtroom before sentencing Howard's killers almost 11 years ago. The 63-year-old Cox, now retired with a medical disability, had no comment on his disbarment. ΔΔ

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.: The wardrobe of some unruly prisoners in Alabama are about to get more colorful — hot pink to be exact.

Fifty of the loud-colored uniforms have been ordered by that state's prison system to use as punishment for male prisoners who expose themselves to female guards.

Prison officials hope the heckling from other inmates will change offending prisoner's attitudes, they said, because nothing else has worked. ΔΔ

Where There's a Will, There's a Way



by: Peter Callnan

How many of us put off the drafting of a Will? I would hazard a guess that many do. In my work as a financial planner the reasons I usually hear include, "I don't own anything of value," and "I'm too young now, I'll do it when I'm older." The fact is that Wills aren't only for wealthy or elderly people. The purpose of a Will is to let your survivors know what you would like to have happen with your possessions (estate) af-

ter you've died. A Will is defined as a legal declaration which provides instructions for the distribution of property after death. It will relieve your survivors of the responsibility for determining what you would have wanted to be done. You should consider contacting a qualified attorney to assist you in drafting your Will.

What does it take to do a Will? In the State of Maine something as simple as a hand written one (a holographic Will) can suffice. It must be signed, dated and entirely in your own handwriting. It should state that it is intended to be your Will and if possible, witnessed by someone. Those are the basic requirements, not too hard

See WILL, page 25



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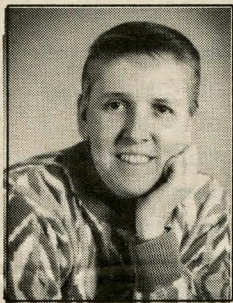
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EDITORIALS



Well, when we weren't looking summer arrived. Okay, okay, a tantalizing hot day or two came and went. It reminded me of how many activities are available in Maine and surrounding areas and how little time I've given myself to enjoy them. In July, Community Pride Reporter will be two years old and we will have published an edition each month for those two years. This year, we are taking a month off. Bruce and I have worked very hard all year without any significant time away from the office. All of our contributors have been faithful to their tasks as well. In mid-July we will put out a truly

summer issue, July/August and then relax a bit from deadlines and typing and ad sales and all the other things that go into making CPR a newspaper. Publication will resume again in early September. Be thinking about dates for coming events, articles you are longing to write, etc., etc. And -- have some fun.

June 16 and 17 is Pride weekend with a host of things to do. Get together with friends and really show your Pride. Celebrate who we are as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people. See the complete schedule of activities on page 13.

I want to take a moment to thank Skip Brushaber for his service to the community and this paper. Skip did a great job with our Arts & Entertainment pages as Editor. It was a great deal of help to both Bruce and me. We wish Skip well in his new adventures what-

ever they might be, and we are grateful that he shared his talent and wisdom with us and with the community through these pages. He will be missed. I also want to publicly thank Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor of CPR, for the commitment and hard work he brings to us all. His investigative aptitude has produced many fine stories for CPR and this month is no exception. His piece on Peabody House and the young man whose obituary is on this page is outstanding. Thanks, Bruce. I love you.

Celebrate PRIDE. We have much to be proud of!

In Solidarity,

Winnie

GUEST EDITORIAL

Why Pride?

by Flora Piterak,
NH Pride Committee Chair

Did you go to the March on Washington in '79? How about '87? or maybe '93? Did you attend Stonewall 25? Where were you for the last seven marches on Concord, NH?

Why PRIDE - what's it all about?

It's about us, you and me. It's about going from Silence to Celebration. It's about closets and knowing that there's something wrong about having to live, love and celebrate behind closed doors.

PRIDE is: A sense of one's own proper dignity or value; self-respect.

When we march, we are no longer rendered invisible. We are making a

statement. We are here, and we're not going back into a closet or a dimly lit bar in a back alley. We are marching for ourselves, for those still in the closet, for our own dignity.

It is so important to be visible and active right now. The political and religious right are working as hard as they can to make us feel that we should be invisible, and ashamed of who we are.

Another definition of PRIDE is: A company of Lions.

A lion is brave and ferocious. Come be a lion. ΔΔ

These comments first appeared in the New Hampshire Reporter, June 1995 Edition and are reprinted in CPR with the gracious permission of the author.

OBITUARY

Paul E. Bernier
Artist, dancer, model



SOUTH PORTLAND: Paul E. Bernier, 39, formerly of Westbrook and San Francisco, died on Wednesday, May 31, of complications of AIDS at his residence on Pleasant Street.

He was born in Portland, a son of Edward Jerome and Lucille A. Bernier. He graduated from Westbrook High School in 1974. He later graduated from the Portland School of Art and studied the following year in Paris.

After Mr. Bernier completed his art studies, he moved to San Francisco and worked as an artist, sculptor and clothing model. He was a gifted dancer and competed extensively in dance competitions.

He recently moved to South Portland. Survivors include his parents of Westbrook, a twin brother, Peter, of Windham; and a sister, Celeste Bell of West Buxton.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Hyacinth Church in Westbrook on June 10. Burial will be in the family lot at St. Hyacinth Cemetery. Arrangements were by the Blais Funeral Home, Westbrook. ΔΔ

CPR MAIL BAG

Dear CPR,

Enclosed please find my subscription form and a check (a little more) for a one year subscription. I also wanted to put in a personal ad...

P.S. I just moved back to Maine and was very pleased to find your pub-

lication. Much better (content wise) than any paper I found in New York! Great work!!

Thank you,

Rait Richardson, Rangeley

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BUSINESS PROFILE: The Dream Part of Our Spiritual Journey

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

Rick Bouchard is a dreamer and he wants to assist and support other dreamers. His business is called The Dream Part of Our Spiritual Journey, and I asked Rick how he would describe himself and what he does with groups.

"As facilitator, I see myself as teacher, support, and spiritual guide. The leader and group members offer dream theory, techniques for working with dreams, and a space for the feelings that arise during dream work. Experiential classes and groups give students an overview of the "process of dreaming," of dream recall, journaling, and dream symbol interpretation and the various tools and techniques to approach the dream.

I believe a dialogue with the "unconscious" can enhance one's spiritual journey. It lends itself to decision making, empowers, comforts, entertains, and challenges you.... "

According to Bouchard, there is usually at least one dream group going on at any time. Currently, they are taking a break, but a new group, potentially two, will be starting in mid-June. He anticipates offering one group in the evening and one in the daytime (morning) which will meet once a week.

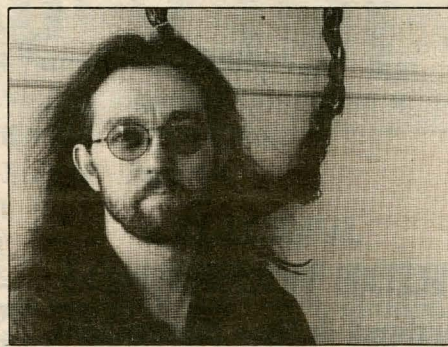
"Group members are asked to make a commitment for purposes of confidentiality and continuity, as well as trust," explains Bouchard. "Knowing the same people are going to be in group each week allows members to go deeper in their work and develop the trust to open up and to do the inner work they come to do," he adds.

Workshops are offered throughout the year. They are open to the public, short-term, time limited, and the contents of the workshops vary. Examples of workshops include: A Year End Dream Journal Review (taking place during the Christmas/New Year holiday season), The Jungian Approach to Dream Work, The Gestalt Approach to Dream Work, Dream Sculpting (or Dream Choreography), Dream Incubation, The Sand Tray, Dream Work and Spirituality, Holiday Dream Work, Exploring Dreams Through Art Projects.

"I have hopes of offering future workshops on Lucid Dreaming, Family and Couple's Dream Work, Dream Work and Terminal Illness (such as AIDS and Cancer), and a workshop exploring the dreams of the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community," says Bouchard.

The Dream Part of Our Spiritual Journey will be offering The '95 Summer's End Weekend Dream Intensive. This will offer members an opportunity to enjoy nature and a cabin weekend of dream telling around a campfire, experiential workshops (day and night!), demonstrations and optional interviews with the facilitator(s), followed by a one-day retreat with newly found dream friends.

Fees for workshops and classes vary, are suggested only, and a sliding scale can be made available. "My own spiritual journey has led me to be more flexible and trusting in the area of commerce. Because this work is important



Rick Bouchard, Dreamer

to me, I do not want money to become an obstacle. I invite dreamers to call if inspired and no one will be turned away due to difficulty to pay. This is in alignment with my own spiritual principles and The Dream part of my Spiritual Journey," said Bouchard.

Bouchard attended the USM where he received a BA in philosophy, and the University of New England where he received an MSW. Much of his work has centered around therapy with adolescents and their families. He was Executive Director for the AIDS Lodging House for approximately three years. "I am moving on to do psychotherapy with families and groups," says Bouchard. "My approach is systemic, Jungian, and homeopathic."

Bouchard concluded, "I believe the dream world has much to teach us. I invite anyone to join the journey of exploring and honoring these gifts! Pleasant dreams."

For more information or to be placed on his mailing list contact Rick Bouchard, P.O. Box 303, Portland, Maine 04112, or call 207/828-2031. ΔΔ

Community Pride Reporter

142 High Street
Portland, ME
04101

Suite #623
Phone
207/879-1342

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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CMF summoned to appear before Ethics Commission

Commission Director recommends full audit by Commission

Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

Carolyn Cosby and Concerned Maine Families (CMF) has been summoned to Augusta on Monday, June 12, to appear before the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to answer questions from the Commission regarding two complaints filed by Linda Bean Folkers against CMF.

Folkers alleges that CMF erroneously listed her at the source of a \$3,500 campaign contribution. According to information from Commission Director, Marilyn Canavan, the transaction in question appears in CMF's April, 1995 quarterly report as an in-kind contribution. The contribution is shown as payment to Attorney Bruce Fein for consulting fees (\$3000) and an advance for future legal expenses (\$500). Folkers further alleges in her complaint that the only contribution she has made to CMF is a check for \$250.

According to Canavan, after Cosby was advised of the complaint, she notified the Commission that CMF had erroneously attributed the \$3500 contribution to Folkers and that the \$3000 bill

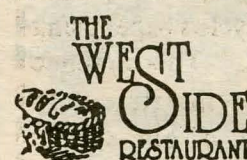
for legal services is still outstanding. CMF did file an amended report containing the correction.

However, Folkers filed a second complaint alleging that Cosby did not reverse all of the \$3500 error in her amended report. Folkers points to an entry in CMF's October 1994 report listing her as the source of a \$500 contribution. Folkers denies contributing that amount and has given the Commission copies of her cancelled checks showing \$250 in contributions. In this second complaint, Folkers also says that "she received a fax from Mrs. Cosby" asking her to "contact the Ethics Commission to affirm CMF's version of a single donation of \$500" last summer. Folkers, according to Director Canavan, says she instead urged Cosby to do a simple, straight-forward correction.

After reviewing several relevant documents and the complaints, Director Canavan issued the following recommendation:

"21-A M.R.S.A. Section 1003(2) states that 'a person may apply in writing to the commission requesting an investigation concerning the registration

of a . . . political action committee and contributions by or to and expenditures by a . . . political action committee. The Commission shall review the application and shall make the investigation if the reasons stated for the request show sufficient grounds for believing that a violation may have occurred.' Subsection 3 states that the 'state auditor . . . shall assist the commission in making investigations and in other phases of the commission's duties under this chapter . . . ' While Ms. Folkers has not asked for an investigation, she has pointed to two entries which she claims are inconsistent with the facts; and she has furthermore produced evidence to support one of those claims. Hence, the Commission staff recommends that the Commission, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 1003 (3), ask the State Auditor to assist the Commission in conducting a thorough audit of CMF's campaign finance reports to ensure their accuracy; and, further, that the Commission ask CMF to produce cancelled checks, receipts, invoices and any other documents that may be relevant to expedite the conduct of that audit." ΔΔ



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JUNE - JULY '95 CALENDAR

Thursday, June 1 thru Wednesday, June 21:

•**Δ 12:00 noon-5:00 PM:** Dead Space Gallery, 11 Avon St., Portland. Photography of Morgan Cohen and Peter Shellenberger. FMI, 207/828-4637.

ΔΔ 3:00 PM (ME), 4:00 PM (N-B) - Northern Lambda Nord's monthly meeting at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Monday, June 12:

ΔΔ 6:30 PM - Rainbow Business and Professional Organization monthly meeting. Katahdin Restaurant, corner Spring & High Streets, Portland. This is a group of gay and lesbian community professionals and business owners organizing, supporting and promoting gay owned businesses and professionals. Speakers from Boston's gay/lesbian business and professional organization will join us. FMI, Victoria Zavasknik - 207/775-0015, or Carolyn Jalbert - 207/878-3755.

•**Δ 6:30-9:00 PM** - So. Maine Internet User's Group (SMUG) meets at the Maine Aquarium, Rt. #1, Saco. \$1.00 donation at the door. FMI Tim Cook, 207/282-7749 (day) or E-mail smug-committee@biddeford.com

Tuesday, June 13:

•**Δ 7:00 PM** - P-FLAG meeting at Woodford's Congregational Church, Woodford's St., Portland. FMI, Rita-766-5158 or Sue-774-3441.

ΔΔ 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, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, June 14:

ΔΔ 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.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Gayme Night at CITI to raise funds for the gay press in Maine. Blackjack, roulette, poker, scrabble, cribbage, chess, pool tournament (3!), and more.

Thursday, June 15 thru Sunday, June 18:

ΔΔ Maine-ly For You Womens' Campout at a private campground on a lake in western Maine. Cabins and campsites available. 4 day event includes bonfires, open mic, BYO BBQ, Dance, softball swimming, fishing and more.

Thursday, June 15:

ΔΔ 7:00-8:30 PM - Support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian & gay civil rights. Drop-in, facilitated support group, free of charge. Service provided by Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. FMI, Vivian Wadas, 207/774-2403 or Joanne Clarey, 207/871-0377. Continues weekly until referendum vote.

JUNE 16-18

PRIDE WEEKEND !

Portland & New Hampshire

For Portland info see pg. 13

Friday, June 16:

•**Δ 6:00-9:00 PM** - Informal auditions for Puck and Pan Theatre's late summer and fall performances. FMI, Tim Grover - 207/766-5023.

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - New Hampshire Pride kick-off March and Rally, Main St., Concord.

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - Women's Night at Northern Lambda Nord's Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, Sheila-207/764-7838.

Saturday, June 17:

ΔΔ 10:00 AM - NH Pride Celebration Pat's Peak, Henniker, NH. Vendors, entertainment, comedy, workshops, a wedding service and more. FMI, Jim - 603/536-4011 or Flora - 603/382-9308.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - NH Pride Dance at Pat's Peak, Henniker, NH. \$5 with bracelet.

Sunday, June 18:

•**Δ 6:00-9:00 PM** - Informal auditions for Puck and Pan Theatre's late summer and fall performances. FMI, Tim Grover - 207/766-5023.

Tuesday, June 20:

ΔΔ 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, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, June 21:

ΔΔ 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, June 22:

ΔΔ 7:00-8:30 PM - Support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian & gay civil rights. Drop-in, facilitated support group, free of charge. Service provided by Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. FMI, Vivian Wadas, 207/774-2403 or Joanne Clarey, 207/871-0377. Continues weekly until referendum vote.

ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - The Matlovich Society presents "Agenda? What Agenda?" Ellen Clegg, editor of the Boston Globe's City Weekly section and a member of the National Lesbian/Gay Journalists' Assoc. will talk about what it's like to be "out" in the newsroom of a metropolitan daily, and what it's like to be a mainstream journalist who sometimes has to turn down story lines being pushed by community activists. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Free hotel parking. Accessible to the mobility impaired.

Sunday, June 25:

ΔΔ 1:00 PM - Out Among Friends sponsored activity: softball. OAF is a lesbian support/discussion group. All women welcome at OAF activities.

FMI, call 207/846-5233.

Tuesday, June 27:

ΔΔ 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, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, June 28:

ΔΔ 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, June 29:

ΔΔ 7:00-8:30 PM - Support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian & gay civil rights. Drop-in, facilitated support group, free of charge. Service provided by Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. FMI, Vivian Wadas, 207/774-2403 or Joanne Clarey, 207/871-0377. Continues weekly until referendum vote.

JULY PREVIEW

Saturday, July 1 thru Friday, July 7:

ΔΔ Sappho's Sisters - A conference where lesbian, bi, and transgendered women who identify as lesbian or bi can focus on their own growth in a safe, nurturing environment. In this 8th year of meeting, the theme is diversity within our community. Lots of time for fun, laughter, relaxation and beach walks. Ferry Beach Conference Center, a UU affiliated facility. FMI or to register, call 207/282-4489.

Thursday, July 6:

ΔΔ 7:00-8:30 PM - Support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian & gay civil rights. Drop-in, facilitated support group, free of charge. Service provided by Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. FMI, Vivian Wadas, 207/774-2403 or Joanne Clarey, 207/871-0377. Continues weekly until referendum vote.

Friday, July 7:

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Live in Concert at the State Theatre - Sandra Bernhard. For

tix, 879-1112.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM (ME), 9:00 PM (N-B) - Open House and Film Night at Northern Lambda Nord's Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Saturday, July 8:

BANGOR PRIDE !

ΔΔ 11:30 AM - Parade starts from Fleet Bank with festivities to follow at Paul Bunyon Park. To help with this event, and we need some help, or to make a donation contact Sean Weber, 207/989-6944.

Sunday, July 9:

ΔΔ 1:00 PM (ME), 2:00 PM (N-B) - Regular monthly meeting of Northern Lambda Nord. Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Thursdays, July 13, 20, 27:

ΔΔ 7:00-8:30 PM - Support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian & gay civil rights. Drop-in, facilitated support group, free of charge. Service provided by Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. FMI, Vivian Wadas, 207/774-2403 or Joanne Clarey, 207/871-0377. Continues weekly until referendum vote.

KEY TO CALENDAR

•**Δ** = not exclusively gay
ΔΔ = gay event/interest

Meeting dates & times for Maine Won't Discriminate can be found in the box on page 2 of each issue of CPR.

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PRIDE '95 SCHEDULE

Monday, June 12:

ΔΔ 6:00 PM - Rainbow Business & Professional Organization dinner. Speakers from Boston's gay business organization will discuss the 'how to's' of success. Reservations required. Call 207/775-0015.

Tuesday, June 13:

•Δ 7:00 PM - P-FLAG meeting: Psychologist, Lee Nicoloff discusses "Finding a supportive therapist for coming out issues." Woodford's Congregational Church, Woodford's Street, Portland.

Wednesday, June 14:

ΔΔ 6:00 PM - Pride Pet Picnic at Payson Park at W. Kidder St., Portland. Sponsored by Time Out & PAWS. "Stupid Pet Tricks" and other competitions. Registration: 871-9940.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - GAYME NIGHT Fund-raiser to benefit Gay Press. CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. FMI-772-JOYY.

Thursday, June 15:

7:30 PM - Free Film: "Stonewall 25: Global Voices of Pride and Protest" at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., (ALL welcome). Rich/Poole & Big Star Video Production.

Friday, June 16:

ΔΔ 4:00-6:00 PM - Women's Chem-free Tea & Social at Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland (across from Hadlock Field). FMI, 207/774-2403.

ΔΔ 6:30 PM - Rally at City Hall Plaza. MC: Edie Hoffman, with Miss Maine 1995 & speakers from FATE, MLGPA, MWD, P-FLAG, PWAC, Portland Biased Crimes Task Force, the City of Portland & music. Featured speakers are our Grand Marshals, former members of the Maine Gay Task Force. Awards: Rainbow Prof. Scholarship, Pride 1995 Citizenship, 1995 Community Service -group.

Rain location: Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring St.

ΔΔ 9:00 PM - **PRIDE PIER DANCE - Maine State Pier, Commercial St., Portland.** Only the biggest party the Portland waterfront will ever see with DJ's Michael Giller, Lisa Vacarro, Laree Love, and Kris Clark, Lights by David Jury of Jerky Space Body Optics. Only \$5 admission. Valid 21+ ID required. No parking available at the Maine State Pier. Secured parking available at the "Fish Pier" 4 blocks west on

Commercial St. (Rain location: CITI, 145 Kennebec St.)

Saturday, June 17:

PRIDE DAY!

ΔΔ 9:00 AM - Blackstone's Block Party on Pine Street. Beverages, eats, music. Dykes on Bikes lineup and float review. (Floats must be registered).

ΔΔ 10:00 AM - Interfaith worship service at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, 143 State St., Portland. Sponsored by Dignity. Service led by Rabbi Harry Sky, Rev. Eric Kelley, Pastor Shaun Smith, Interim minister of Portland's Community of Hope, MCC, the Right Rev. Frederick Wolf, Prof. Marvin Ellison, the Rev. Sue Wilhem and the Rev. Sally Gore.

ΔΔ 11:15 AM - Opening ceremonies at Pine and State Streets with Miss Maine 1995 and the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Trail Marching Band.

ΔΔ 11:30 AM - Parade Line up begins. Please note: all are welcome, but groups' registrations are required. **ALL VEHICLES & ALL FLOATS** must be registered prior to Saturday, and will be inspected for valid state vehicle registration and insurance. For assistance, call Laurie at 878-0546.

ΔΔ 12:00 noon - **PARADE** begins at Longfellow Square, down Congress St. to Exchange St. and down Exchange St. to Tommy's Park (Rain or shine).

ΔΔ Pride Festival

Stage: Tommy's Park - 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Entertainment: Martin Short, Darien Brahms, Martin Swinger, Boogie 2 Shooz, Michael Wormwood and many more. Plus Pride Committee awards.

Vendors: Post Office Park -

11:00 am - 4:00 pm.

For space call Deb: 871-0154.

Names Quilt Display:

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Temple and Middle Streets.

Maine Gay Visual Artist Show:

2:00 - 6:00 pm

Exhibitors: Jeff Carpenter, Shannon Perry, Melanie Thompson, Mark Levesque, Leslie Bailey, Maria Costellano.

Maine Gay History Exhibit & Vintage Auto Exhibit: plans pending at press time. For verification call 871-9940.

(Rain location for the Festival is Holiday Inn by The Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland.)

ΔΔ 4:00 PM - Patio Party &

Barbecue at Sisters, 45 Danforth St.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Maine Gay Men's Chorus in concert: "Our Time". Special guests, The Flirtations. State Theatre, Portland. Tix: \$15, general admission; \$25.50 Cabaret seating includes \$10.50 dinner coupon (available at the box office: 879-1112). FMI, 871-0569.

ΔΔ 9:00 PM - Teen Dance held at and sponsored by Gotta Dance, 657 Congress St. Admission free. 21+ please bring a date.

Sunday, June 18:

ΔΔ 11:00 AM - Time Out's Presumpscot Canoe Brunch, limited to 20 canoes. Participants must register. For registration, rental info or for a spare canoe seat, call 871-9940 by 6/16.

ΔΔ 2:00-4:00 PM - Karaoke Dance Cruise on Casco Bay. Leaves Maine State Pier. Tix \$10. Available at CITI, 772-JOYY.

ΔΔ 4:00-9:00 PM - Beer Bash w/ Dinner Buffet (5-8 pm) & Boogie 2 Shooz performs at 8:30 pm. Tix: \$3. All at CITI, 145 Kennebec St.

ΔΔ 9:00 PM - Miss Gay Maine Pageant, the Maine drag community's premier event at The Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland.

PRIDE CONTACTS

Pride '95 has extensive volunteer needs. To inquire, to volunteer or for further information on any event, call the following contact persons who will be glad to help you.

General information: 871-9940

Michael Rossetti, Director

Volunteer Coordinator: 871-1650

Sheldon Hartman

Parade Registration: 878-0546

Richard Freed, Coordinator

Laurie Fortman, Coordinator

Festival Entertainment: 772-JOYY

Faith Worthley, Producer

Vendor Opportunities: 871-0154

Deb Stevens, Coordinator

Interfaith Service: 874-1140 ext. 358

Glen Richards, Dignity Rep.

Festival Security: 874-0399

Michael McKenzie

Block Party Information: 775-2885

Ralph Cusack, Treasurer

Movie Night: 773-7393

Rich/Poole Productions

Maine Gay Visual Artists: 775-3420

Jeff Carpenter, Organizer

Vehicle/Float Registrations: 878-0546

Laurie Fortman, Coordinator

PRIDE, 1995 is going to be our best celebration ever. Pride's Pier Dance is the only Pride Pier Dance in New England. It's a great new addition to our schedule. Not only will it be our primary fund-raiser for the following year (to be our 10th), but it will also be the biggest and best party Portland will ever see, with great lighting, fantastic setting and four fabulous local DJ's.

This year's Pride is also looking to lend deserved recognition to individuals and groups within our community whose example of community service are notable. We will be giving a Citizenship Award, selecting our Community Service Organization of the Year, as well as offering thank you's to our staff and supporters with the Director's and Committee's Awards.

The 1995 Grand Marshals are the former members of the Maine Gay Task Force. The Task Force, now disbanded, was the earliest activist organization in Maine for gay and lesbian civil rights. As early as 1974, far ahead of much of the country, the Task Force was publishing a newsletter and lobbying for basic human rights for our community, including submitting Maine's first Gay Rights Bill.

The Committee salutes the Maine Gay Task Force for their courage and enterprise. We are honored by their presence.

This year's theme is "Visibility Works." It reflects the belief that visibility dispels stereotypes and misrepresentations. It is our hope that through our visibility we stand a greater chance of attaining the goal of equal protection under the law. ΔΔ

**PRIDE '95
TEEN DANCE
Saturday, June 17**

sponsored by
"Gotta Dance"

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LARRY MILLER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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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 207/761-4380.

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 5136 Sta. A, Portland, ME. 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

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. FMI, 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.

Mid coast: Gay men's HELP LINE, 6:00-9:00 pm (only) M-F. 207/863-2728, FAX, 207/863-2794. Also, gay youth info.

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. Lesbian support/discussion group. Free or \$1 donation to help w/rent.

Out on MDI: For gays, lesbians, bi's and our friends. Very active social/support group. Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Newcomers always welcome. FMI, write OUT ON MDI, PO Box 367, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-0367 or call (207) 288-2502 and leave a message.

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, net-

working 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. POB 1671, Portland, ME 04104.

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, (207) 594-2957.

Q-Squad: Support group for lesbian, gays, bisexuals, & transgendereds. Serving Franklin County, based at UM Farmington. FMI call and leave message, (207) 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.

Gender Talk North: P.O. Box 211, Keene, NH 03431.

Trans Counseling: Cheshire Counseling Assoc., PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431. 603/357-5544.

Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse: A support group for survivors of childhood abuse and/or sexual assault meets Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3 pm. Free, confidential, safe, facilitated. FMI and location call (207) 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 (207) 581-1425.

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

Seacoast Gay Men: Social group meets Mondays (except holidays), 7 pm Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI call (603) 430-4052, or write P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03802-1394.

Lewiston/Auburn: A new gay, lesbian, bisexual support group for the Lewiston/Auburn area meets Mondays at 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Spring St., 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 other 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: (207) 947-5337.

Mountain Valley Men (MYM): 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.

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.

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 The People's Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor, 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: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, partners & caregivers, 6:30-8:00 PM.
Tuesdays: People Living with HIV disease

and all friends, families, lovers, and caregivers, 10:30 am-Noon.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Living Well focusing on quality of life and empowerment.

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

Thursdays: People living with HIV meets from 5:30-7 pm.

The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Sq., 5th floor, except the Tuesday group, Living Well. FMI on that call Sandy Titus at Stratogen Health Care. Call Jane O'Rourke at 774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.

Auburn: People living with HIV disease, Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm at Auburn Family Planning. Call Diana Carrigan, Androscoggin and Oxford Case Manager and Support Services Coordinator for TAP at the Auburn office, 783-4301.

Biddeford: People affected or infected by HIV, Mondays, 5:30-7:00 pm. So. ME. Medical Center classroom opposite cafeteria on 2nd floor. Call John Bean, York County Case Manager, 774-6877.

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 725-4955.

Gardiner: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays: People Living with HIV meets from 1:30-3 pm at the Physicians Building behind KVRHA Annex. Call 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.

AIDS Coalition of Lewiston & Auburn: 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.

CPR Personals

Discreet Phone Contacts By Area Code

MANFINDER™

ME/NH/MA

Augusta **INTO SPORTS:** Paul, 30 y/o looking to meet someone 18 to 35 into sports and staying physically fit. im a btm lkn for a top, if that's you give me a call! #18312

Hamilton **WALKS ON THE BEACH:** looking for someone 19-22 brn/brn, like a nice walk on the beach, candlelight dinners, all around good guy- #39912

Essex **YOUNG BLONDES:** looking for 18-21 blond blue, somewhat musc, built, a good person to go on a date with- #39913

Middleboro **CALL ANYTIME:** Ron, call me anytime .brn/brn, 21, 6' 125, look like I'm about 18, like to do anything go out have fun give me a call- #39923

MA **FIRST TIMER:** Dave, 5'9, 185, lkg for first time exp with a good looking man- #40251

Northampton **OLDER MEN:** Jim, 47, 6' GWM 200, lkg for a meaningful rel with a younger slim 18-26 who is comfortable with an older person, would welcome a conversation with you thanks for calling- #40375

SE Maine **LOOKING FOR A TEACHER:** Ray, really new to gay lifestyle, never done it before, always had a fantasy about it, 5'9 170 33, blnd/beard, always interested in it- #40659

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

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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

Rutland **OUTDOORS KINDA GUY:** 36 WM, like outdoors, lkg for a rel, to be honest and open let's get together, like to do all kinds of outside stuff, like to get with you- #40662

MA **I'M A BAD BOY,** need someone to teach me under 30 musc and demanding, #40716

Cape Cod **PHONE EXPERT:** Shaved and uncut, 5'11. Looking for young dudes. Willing to get off on the phone. Love to cuddle, kiss, make out, etc., etc. #41129

Recording your ad:

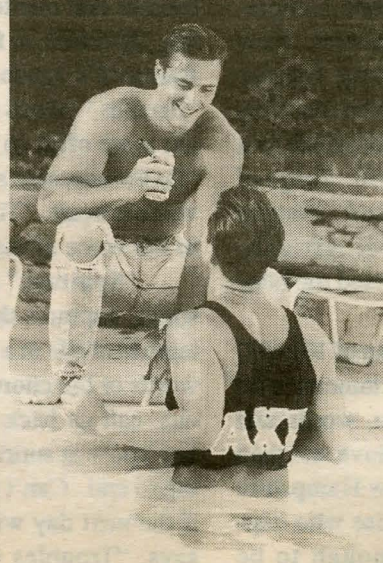
Figure out what you want to say before calling in. Write down what you want to say. Keep it short and simple. Just describe yourself and what you're looking for. Our computerized system will walk you through the rest. Have a pen ready to write down your box number.

Portland **EAGER TRAINEE:** train me eager trainee looking for a hard body to please call me esp BM or HM- #39435

Rockland **LOOKING FOR A 3RD:** Jim, 5'7, blu/ 200 stocky but solid, Chris 6'1 175, roommate, sandy brn into partying, iso 35-50 adventurous like camping hiking, movies theatre, just moved here- glad to have you visit, into leather scene- #39500

Portland **BODY BUILDER WANTED:** seek training and full body worship to pls an 18-30 yr old body builder, you must be demanding and in no hurry- #39778

Share Your Pride With Someone New



Beverly **LOOKING FOR A CD:** Larry looking for someone who likes to be a CD, lv a message in my box or write me- #21898

Central ME **NUDE PHOTOGRAPHY:** Nathan 40 5'11, 175, smooth build, looking for men 50+ like videos nude photography etc, lv a message- #37540

Northampton **TRUCK DRIVERS:** Michael, always had a fantasy to meet a trucker. BM iso WM trucker always been a fantasy of mine, I'm 5'10, blk/brn, smooth, looking for someone thats real- single only- #37658

Townsend **FRENCH EXPERT:** Ray, 35, WM, 5'10, 150, red/brn, iso 18-35, love to have oral fun give me a call- #37692

Randolph **HISPANIC/BLACK MEN:** 41 WM, 6'1, 194, dk hair, blu, very masc, nice home, like to have someone give me a call, like to meet some men, love hisp, BM, if

MANFINDER SALUTES GAY PRIDE MONTH

ur lonesome give me a call- #38339

Rutland **INTO UNDERWEAR:** Kelvin, 30, into smooth hairless men into underwear, give me a call- #38080

Beverly **INTO CD?** Larry, 31, little bit CD, like someone into CD lv a message or write to me- #25788

Portland **GAY COUPLE** looking for a 3rd party for intimate fun or friendship, Brent, 5'10, 170, brn/hzl, likes being a btm, steve 5'6 155 brn/brn beard must hairy

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top, open to a var of experiences and guys who want the same, hairy a plus- #38247

Durham **LARGE MUSCULAR MAN:** Bill, 35, 6'1, 260, very

large musc man, brn/brn, var interests, like cars alot, walks on the beach quiet times, iso rel/friendship down to earth type- #38303

Sanford **CAMPING AND SKIING:** 39 Lt brn/brn 5'10 275 mod hairy, must iso other men in the area to be friends and if a rel happens, fine, looking for someone to get together with, like camping skiing, theatre, give me a call- #38309

Beverly **LOVES TO DRESS UP:** Larry, 31, CD looking for a male who doesn't mind being with a CD, love to dress up #38329

Portland **JUST OUT:** 19 like to meet someone 19-21 new to this like to meet someone brn/blu 5'10 150 like outdoors, beach, just

trying to meet a nice guy to show me the ropes, just wanna know whats out there, give me a call- #38421

Portland **COLLEGE STUDENT:** Mark, just called to see if I could meet someone blnd/blu, 22, 185 cln shaven smooth 6', good shape work out a bit, in college hoping to meet 18-35 for friendship poss rel- #38513

★ Lesbian Personals



Thomaston **ROMANTIC WOMAN:** Joanie, 29 single WF med build, 5'7, love music, kd lang love movies candlelight dinners and romance, lkg for friendship, poss romance- hoping to hear from someone- #40622

MA **LOOKING FOR A BUDDY:** GWF looking for a buddy, 26, willing to spend qual time with someone wonderful, just give me a call and we'll talk- #41391

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Arts & Entertainment



Out on the Town

by Skip Brushaber
A & E Editor

I will be relinquishing my role as A & E Editor with this issue. It has been a good experience and I want to thank all the people who diligently contribute to these pages.

I would also like to thank Winnie and Bruce for their patience and support.

I will continue to write for CPR now and then. Thank you and get out and support the Arts!!! It is important for our community! ΔΔ

CONCERT REVIEW: Songweavers

New Hampshire group stirs the soul

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

The beautiful Old South Congregational Church in Concord, New Hampshire was the setting for the Songweavers Spring Concert on May 19. It was a stunning performance to a sold out audience of over 350. Songs of Russian, Hebrew, African, Native American and traditional African-American spirituals comprised the hour and one-half program.

Songweavers is a group of 180-200 women, including 20 drummers, who weave the magic of music, words and unique arrangements with love and then present their gift to the New Hampshire community (and anyone else who happened to be fortunate enough to be around at concert time!). Founded five years ago by Director, Carolyn Parrott, Songweavers presents two concerts each year. In addition to being a choral director, Parrott gives instruction in banjo, fiddle, voice, is a dance caller and folk musician. According to Parrott, Ysaye

Barnwell, composer and arranger, is her teacher and mentor. It was not surprising, therefore, to find several songs with Barnwell's touch. Among them were "Breaths," which encourages us to "Listen more often to things than to beings. 'Tis the ancestor's breath when the fire's voice is heart. 'Tis the ancestors' breath in the voice of the water..."

"Spiritual," another of Barnwell's songs, captures the fragility and uncertainties of life in a haunting melody. The words of the chorus, in stating the obvious, call us back to reality. "Can't no one know at sunrise how this day is going to end. Can't no one know at sunset if the next day will begin." Verse two says, "Troubles of the world fill our hearts with rage from Suwetto to Stonewall, Birmingham and L.A. We're searching for hope that lies within ourselves, as we fight against misogyny, race, hatred and AIDS."

Two Songweavers had debuts at this performance. Kathy Lowe's song "Opening," was performed. It speaks of being one with the earth, hearing the hum of the earth, the wind and the rain, opening to the world and the world opening to us. It delivered a powerful message. The second debut was Peg O'Neil of Portsmouth as featured soloist singing "The Waters of Babylon" a la "Sweet Honey in the Rock." This shy, unassuming young woman, sent currents of electricity through the audience as she sang, "The wicked carried us away to captivity, required of us a song. How can we sing our holy song in a strange land?" The arrangement included the 180 voice chorus and drummers. Peg's passionate rendition was captivating. So much so, that "The Waters of Babylon" was performed as the encore, to the delight of the audience, who gave Peg and Songweavers a standing ovation. Here's hoping we hear more from this talented woman.

I was impressed with the beautiful harmonies produced by so many voices. The balance was excellent, everyone knew their parts and enunciated their words. Some of the arrangements were complicated, but Parrott guided the chorus through each time with a mastery that approached an art form. There is a great deal of mutual love and respect between director and chorus. We were all privileged to see and hear the outstanding results. ΔΔ

ARTIST PROFILE:

Seeking Refuge with Kate Schrock

by Aimsel Ponti

Her name seems to be everywhere lately, whether it's on local radio stations like WCLZ or WCCY, in the bins at the local record stores or on flyers promoting many live appearances. Kate Schrock continues to captivate audiences, including 1500 people at the State Theater where she opened for Stephen Stills last month. Her lyrics are honest, intelligent and at times, heart wrenching. So, needless to say, her CD was a welcome addition to my collection. With a clean, powerful, and certainly pretty voice and equally impressive talents on the piano, Kate Schrock deserves all the attention she's been getting. Although I tend not to make comparisons between musicians, I will simply say that her sound touches me in a way not unlike that of Tori Amos.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Kate Schrock moved to South Bristol, Maine very early on in life and certainly could be called a Mainer. At 30, she's lived in more places than I have visited. When she was 16 she headed for Putney, Vermont, and spent two years finishing up high school at the Putney School. Then, she was off to New York for a year before spending six months in Paris as a fashion model. There, she lived around the corner from a piano store and was able to spend some time in a room full of grand pianos doing her thing.

After a quick return to New York, Schrock went to Los Angeles where she lived for five months pretty much hating the whole experience. The next stop was Chicago, where she enrolled at the University of Chicago in the philosophy program. This period in her life was a turning point. She got involved in a band called Sin Embargo, and buzzed around the Chicago area for two years, with Kate on lead vocals and some flute and piano as well. It was at this time in her life that Schrock knew that music was her calling. After the devastating breakup of Sin Embargo, she holed up for six months and wrote about 30 songs, supporting herself as a maintenance person.

But, Chicago wasn't meant to hold Schrock for too long either. There were a few weeks, a few years back, that if you went to a saloon in Missouri called Jonny Fry's, you might have seen her performing. She and some friends went in for a beer, saw a piano, and Schrock ended up getting a job. Don't get too comfortable reading about Missouri, because now we're back in Vermont. This time in Bennington where Schrock got a degree in theater from Bennington College. During this time, she spent most of her free time playing music and hanging out with the music students.

Still with me? O.K. Now Schrock went back to New York City where her first big apple gig was at Kenny's Cast-

aways on Bleecker Street. While in the City she worked as a theater tech for off-Broadway shows, all the while straddling the world of theater and the world of music.

Back in South Bristol, Schrock spent a year in song-writing isolation and working as a shipwright, which is a shipbuilding apprentice, in her case, lobster boats.

Since the end of 1993, she's been here in Portland and has been recording demo-tapes since '91. In '94 WCLZ put out a compilation album of local music which features two tracks by Schrock. "Mission Beach" started getting airplay



Photo by Aimsel

Kate Schrock-up and coming star-appeared at CITI last month.

and the process to record her album "Refuge" was well under way, although Kate herself didn't realize this until it was almost halfway recorded. By December of '94, all the songs were recorded, some featuring guitarist Jo Carpenito. Schrock released "Refuge" on her own label "Kakelane Music," and sent it out to 65 radio stations around the country. It's been played in Olympia, Baltimore, Minnesota, and San Diego. My sense is that it's probably been played in other areas as well. Schrock described the whole process of promoting the album and sending it out as "throwing a line in a big sea."

The most important thing to Kate Schrock is that she continues to mature as an artist. It gave me great pleasure to interview her and see her live show down at Citi last month. On Tuesday afternoon, June 13th, she'll be playing a live performance at noon in the new patio area on the corners of High and Congress Streets, sponsored by the Maine Arts Council. As they say, check your local listings for times and dates of other shows.

As far as throwing the line in a big sea goes, Kate Schrock has Maine pretty well hooked. To be on her mailing list drop a line to: Kate Schrock, P.O. Box 994, Portland, ME 04104. ΔΔ



609 Congress St.
Portland, Maine

Friday, June 23

Carol Noonan CD Release Party

Wednesday, June 28

Little Feat

Friday, July 7

Sandra Bernhard

Tuesday, July 11

Buddy Guy

Friday, July 14

The Roches

Friday, August 4

George Carlin

Wednesday, August 23

**Robert Cray Band
w/ Charlie Musselwhite**

Friday, August 25

Harry Belafonte

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Movie Review: "Priest"

by Rose Mary Denman

The first time I saw this movie was the first night it was playing in Portland. I went with a friend and sat in a puddle of tears through most of the second half of the film. Two weeks later, I went to see it again. I had to, there was just too much in it to absorb in one viewing.

It's been two weeks since my second viewing of the "abomination" condemned by Rome, and I can fully understand why the Roman Catholic Church, and probably close to 100% of fundamentalism, doesn't want their members to be within viewing distance of "Priest." Quite possibly it would make them think!

For those who are under the impression that this film is just a movie about a young priest who is torn between his homosexuality and the laws of the Church regarding celibacy, well — dig deeper, my friends.

"Priest" addresses some of the toughest issues facing the Church: celibacy for both heterosexual and homosexual priests, the "seal" of the confessional (a priest may not divulge or act upon any information he has obtained

while administering this sacrament), the duplicity of those who are in positions of power (bishops up), and perhaps even more importantly, the willingness of the laity to overlook some "sins" while riding rough-shod over those who may have committed one of the more socially unacceptable offenses.

The Roman Catholic Church does not hold the corner on the market in its need to address the issues brought up by "Priest." Just about every religious institution, with perhaps the exception of the Unitarian/Universalists and the Friends (who seem to be an awfully sane and accepting lot), must either face these very complicated and important questions or run the risk of eventually going down in the archives of antiquity because they will have lost every woman and man who could have made a difference.

When institutions who claim to live by the mandate to "love one another" spend much of their time and efforts judging and condemning, it is time to give them a wake-up call. "Priest" is sounding the trumpet! ΔΔ

See MOVIE, page 21

Theatre Review: Cat On A Hot Tin Roof "Appearance of Respectability"

by Tennessee Williams
Vintage Repertory Company at
the Oak Street Theatre
May 22 - June 10

by David Cook

If you are reading this review to see whether the play's worth attending, I won't keep you in suspense. Vintage

the word "mendacity," which rolls off the Southerners's tongue with a kind of honed gentility that exemplifies the concept itself — people who wouldn't say "shit" if their mouth was full of it. (More strictly speaking, mendacity means dishonesty and, in this play, there's plenty of it!)

Four characters are essential to this



L to R: (back) David Blair, Jane Bergeron, Skip Emerson, Lew Ann Leen.
Front: Claudia Hughes, Bruce Pineau. Photo by Joe Cimmet.

CONCERT REVIEW: Women in Harmony

by Skip Brushaber

"Women in Harmony" kept alive the tradition of women's choral groups with their Spring concert on May 20 at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Portland. A second concert was held May 21 at the Unitarian Church, Kennebunk. The theme of the concert was "Relationships" (Songs of Love and Friendship).

The concert opened with the lilting "Oh Eyes of My Beloved" by Or

redeemed this part of the program.

Donna Jean Hurd demonstrated her beautiful clear soprano voice in her solo "At Dawning." She has a remarkable talent.

"Women in Harmony" chose another selection by feminist song writer Libby Roderick. Conductor Sonja Dahlgren Pryor described it as a mantra of healing. "How Could Anyone Ever

Rep's production of "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof" deserves an unqualified two thumbs up. I've seen four different stagings of this monumental work over the last fifteen years and The Rep's is in the top two (along with a version done on film for PBS by The American Playhouse). In fact, I'm sorry this review will appear in print so close to the play's final performances and wish the run could be extended — indefinitely!

"Cat On A Hot Tin Roof" deals with classical themes of love, hate, and repression, but, unlike classical drama, Williams spends little time on the vicissitudes of fate, concentrating instead on the illusions that human beings construct (or perhaps accrete would be a better word) in order to keep on living. Myth, illusion, or lie, Williams characters use

work: Brick, star athlete turned sports announcer turned lush is, for all his faults, the preferred son of Big Daddy and Big Mama. Maggie is Brick's wife, who hasn't gotten laid (at least by Brick) for some time. Big Daddy is the laborer turned overseer turned owner of the "largest plantation in the Delta" and he is probably going to die soon. Big Mama is the wife Big Daddy has had for forty years and who wants desperately to believe there's nothing wrong with B-D

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Balboni Photo

Women in Harmony sing for joy at their recent performance in Portland.

lando Di Lasso and "April is in My Mistress Face," a sixteenth century madrigal. Both were well done and demonstrated the beauty of women's voices.

The next part of the program featured songs made famous by five famous women: Dionne Warwick, Edith Piaf, Bette Midler, Ethel Merman and Barbra Streisand. "What the World Needs Now," "La Vie en Rose" and "The Rose" felt a bit weak. "You're Just in Love" and "Evergreen" were good choices and

Tell You" was a moving four line simple song sung with dignity by the chorus with the audience joining in.

The chorus dedicated "Button up Your Overcoat" to the audience just before intermission.

The second part of the program was much stronger and "Women in Harmony" seemed to come back from the intermission rejuvenated. They opened with the song "We Are Women in Harmony" by chorus member Bev Banville.

"The King and I" medley com-

posed of "We Kiss in the Shadow," "I Have Dreamed," and "She (He) is Wonderful" were beautifully sung and seemed to take on a new poignant meaning when sung by "Women in Harmony."

"Best Friend (The Unicorn Song)" was pleasing, with a solo by Sara Foster. She has a very sweet voice and it worked very well.

"Women in Harmony" turned Paul Simon's "Bridge Over Troubled Water" into a rousing spiritual.

They concluded the program with "Brothers and Sisters," which they dedicated to the Maine Gay Men's Chorus.

After a standing ovation, "Women in Harmony" sang the stirring "Singing for Our Lives" with the audience joining in. It was timely after the short, but stirring, speech given during the program about "Maine Won't Discriminate" by chorus member Cobie Smith.

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POETRY with

H.I.V.

by Jen Steele-Betts

Pale white face and dark straight
black curls
He said he did not care
Now his problem is HIV
And all the people stare

She's pregnant and infected to
Parents forgot her name
They have nothing to do with her
Nothing will be the same

We must end this HIV craze
Let's find a solution
Put an end to this dumb madness
End this sick confusion

They make their will and count their days
They're always asking why
He bows his head and starts to weep
"O God, don't let me die."

She calls up, asks how he's doing
He says, "I guess okay."
'We will have to stick together
We might have one last day."

We must end this HIV craze
Let's find a solution
Put an end to this dumb madness
End this sick confusion

Five years later and they're both gone
They're both six feet under
Their parents wish they hadn't left
And they'll always wonder.

Parents wish they hadn't left them
Wish they were still around
Wish they could say, we're so sorry
But now they're in the ground.

We must end this HIV craze
Let's find a solution
Put an end to this dumb madness
End this sick confusion

(Editor's note: Jen Steele-Betts is the 14 year old daughter of Jim Betts, well-known political organizer and political campaign manager. As a student at Yarmouth Middle School, Jen volunteered at The AIDS Project. This poem was written at the conclusion of her community service.)

TRADE, II JANUARIUS 14, 2747

by Alexander Wallace

They talk such nonsense
about
"Stonewall."
Drag Queens fighting cops?
Wasn't like that at all.
"Gender-Fuck" was: new,
but we saw our queens -
Davis, Dietrich
on stage
or at
Saks.
Stonewall
was a
"trade bar"
one of those in the wrong part
of the Village where we went
slumming
to pick up
tricks
you didn't talk about
at the office the next
day.
Drag Queens at Stonewall?
They would have been
set on
fire.
The creme de la creme?
We were
Uptown
safe at
Regent's Row
nursing warming Martinis
in our one good suit and
our Paul Stuart ties
while thighs
grew
cold,
waiting.

Decameron

by David J. Callan

Winking Richard ticked dead queens off
his fingers, as if their bodies had been biting
comments tossed off in bed between kisses and breaths
of air. I rolled the kielbasas over

with the black-tipped tines of the barbecue fork.
The magnolia cones piled among the brown stains
of fallen leaves: the yellow
sky might go black or shake its shiver

any moment. The old man could have
touched me, but he fiddled with the garnish on
the macaroni salad, sucked his Kent. "You're
chasing ghosts, those boys slurping down

tequila at the bar's edge, they're gone already.
My father used to tell me: "If there's one thing that
I've learned, son, it's a light load. Wash it by hand."
Then, young men crowd around the licking flames with
plates.

SONNET

by Allan Watson

Now will you swear before Almighty God
with many friends and relatives around,
that what you do has not a sense of fraud
But of this woman love you do expound?

And he, if to a woman gives this vow
would not another oath be made to give,
as from this testament would church allow
A loving marriage for these two to live.

But if that vow be made by man to man
then somehow churches feel the right to say,
"Your kind of love is not within the plan
For we declare that this is not God's way!"

Yet it be true that God is of all love
So stay your path, it is from God above.

PRIDE in 1995!

PRIDE in 1995!

Yearning

by Skip Brushaber

Birds chorus in the trees
Staying in bed for just five more minutes

Musty barn small
Dawn breaking on the horizon while
struggling with chores.

Shitting in the outhouse
Contemplating the seasons change
by the day.

Sharing meals
Tea in the kitchen on a rainy
afternoon

Swimming naked
Working to exhaustion in the heat
to get the hay in

Dancing under stars
Sex in the meadow covered by a
clear blue sky

Grow you own
Kneeling in warm soil with hope
and anticipation

Hugging a woodstove
Snowbanks halfway up the window
frame

Lying beside you
Warming cold feet in bed on a
January night

Peace and quiet
Taking the time to watch a sunset
from beginning to end

Tree frogs and crickets
When you turn off the lights
it's dark

A Dionysian Victory

by Dylan Cook

The moon rises over a battlefield
It is a shining, ancient Norse shield
Rising silently as an owl
Or death's skull covered with a dark cowl

The moon rests atop balanced branches
Gleaming with the sun's light from
behind
On unfortunate circumstances
Caused by an unbalanced, tipped mind

See what that has done
In the light of an unborn sun

It Is Like . . .

Dylan Cook

. . . leaves that walk across the sky
that
leave no trace
As the face,
covered in a cowl,
Reveals no features
Its eyes are of the owl,
Or a lion on the prow.
It is like night and night's creatures;
No one knows where its secrets lie

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TIGERS

by Chris Radel

Tigers in my eyes
Sweating to your innocence
Could I have been so strangely
Touched by you . . .
Everlasting vines of your
longing
Pull me,
Shall I finger the walls
Oh, my love
To grasp through broken fences
I will desperately search
Wanting only
To taste, to know, to escape
Into you.

Rumors of AIDS Reach the Mall Where Massachusetts Shops

by David J. Callan
for Bill Taormino

I remember when it had no name, but it had
its purposes, its frivolous directives: the gay cancer,
a handful of withered faggots shrinking against
starched sheets in San Francisco. Nothing

of monkeys, Liberace's chauffeur, Rock Hudson's
infamous on screen kiss. I folded the unprecedented
clipping quietly between the jock shots of Jim Palmer,
the occasional letter to Dear Abby. I gathered

any clues about my life: it wasn't indicative
of my involvement that the stacks of *Rolling Stone*
outweighed the small packet of yellowed newsprint
rubber banded, stashed in the bottom of my
hollowed-out victrola.

I came out to the players in my band;
in the roar and thump of my drunken screaming
was saturated with rages I secreted from the more
frequent reports, in knowing every friend

I'd had was an enemy on the other side of me.
Some boys loved me through furious sorrow, sorrowed jokes.
Only laughter left the young fag strong enough to scream
again too late: beer slurred vocal chords into nonsense,

my poems twisted and circled, abstract flowers scattered
on the surface of the ocean. I snap a beer, rent a tuxedo
for the prom at which the boy I love will feel too much
for me and leave. My father's hints at the joy of dating

and I flinch. I drink,
and shout above the voices of the others:
My lovers and friends were dying without me.
The love of my life died without having known me.

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CMF from page 1

I started volunteering the fall of '94. I went over to Carolyn's a couple of times. I wanted to find out what the truth was for myself. I figured the only way to know was to volunteer to find out what they were up to.

They use the Bible behind closed doors, but they won't in public because they don't want to make their opposition to gay rights a moral issue. They fear that will get them into the religious type stuff and they are trying to keep away from that, even though that is their basis.

When I went in I started listening to their attitudes... it was just so negative... they're pompous a lot of times... I don't know that many homosexuals, but the ones I do know are very kind and nice. They don't have a hostile attitude toward other people because they are different.

Q: How long were you a CMF volunteer?

A: I volunteered for 3 1/2 months.
Q: What was it like being there? Give me an example of what you're talking about.

A: Well, whenever they talked about the Community Pride Reporter (CPR) it was always negative. They made fun of the pictures in the paper and they made crude comments about them.

In reference to Winnie (Winnie Weir, CPR's Publishing Editor) they'd say, 'here's this woman who's supposed to love other women and, she is a woman, and she supposedly hates men, but she's trying to look like a man'... mean things like that, but it wasn't only the words, it was the tone of voice and the body language.

Q: How would you describe the tone of voice?

A: Sarcastic, making fun, judging. Carolyn's favorite response was that everyone needed to be mothered. If everyone was mothered properly, then nobody would be gay.

Q: What other kinds of statements would she make about homosexuality?

A: She would say that if lesbians have hang-ups about being with men, then why do they want to look like men. What's funny about that is that not all lesbians have short hair and that's what her thing was - short hair. And that was part of my rebellion. I went and cut my hair off and she didn't like it at all. She was very concerned, she wanted me to put a ribbon in my hair, a bow on the back of my head... something to make me look more feminine. I would tell her that having short hair doesn't mean you're gay.

Q: Are you a lesbian?

A: Yes, while examining my own understanding of homosexuality, I came to the realization that I am a lesbian.

Q: Was she really hung up on someone's appearance?

A: Most definitely.

Q: Her daughter has short hair. What's her daughter like?

A: Tracy Cosby is an icon of her mother. She's a very strong-headed person.

Q: What is Carolyn's husband's role in all of this?

A: He's a strong-willed person, but he defers to Carolyn. He does work with her at all levels of the campaign. He doesn't like gays or homosexuality - period. There's no gray area whatsoever. He says it's evil, it's wrong.

Q: What other public figures has Carolyn commented on as far as their being gay or gay-friendly or appearing to be gay?

A: She's commented on Chief Chitwood (Portland Police Chief, Michael Chitwood) and Assistant Attorney General Steve Wessler (prosecutes hate crimes) saying there was evidence of a conspiracy between them to beef up the bias crime statistics.

Q: She has said that in public. What has she said in private?

A: She once said she wouldn't be surprised if Chief Chitwood was gay or at least bisexual.

Q: What did she say about Wessler?

A: She pretty much said the same

thing about all those public figures because why else would they be so gung ho and be on the homosexual's side. She would imply that people who are for the gays must be gay. She thinks Governor King is evil.

She doesn't want to make it a Christian thing, but she thinks people who go to church should oppose gays. She sees it as a moral issue. She says



Belboal Photo

Pat Peard in what Cosby describes as a "male power suit."

it's immoral, it's against God's word. She quotes the Bible, Romans, Chapter 1, and a passage in Leviticus. People who work for her, even if they are not churchgoers themselves, must agree with her way of thinking or she won't have them.

They would have these hideous laughing sessions in which they would make jokes about 'fags' and 'homos' and lesbians, often referring to Pat Peard (President of the Maine Civil Liberties Union (MCLU) and attorney for Maine Won't Discriminate (MWD)) who, they said, resembled a man. They laughed a lot about the cartoon showing Angus King, "Looking Faggy."

One time during a dinner with Carolyn, David and Jonathan Malmude, they started talking about children who act like sissies. David Cosby remembered a boy he had gone to school with who was a sissy and because of that he was picked on by the others. They tried to 'shape him up,' but since he wasn't like them they made him an outcast.

David boasted that the boy did 'shape up' and said that if children were allowed to take care of problems like this themselves, while they were young, they could eliminate the problem of homosexuals before they became adults.

Q: Who was usually there in the room with you?

A: Ninety per cent of the time it was Carolyn, her husband David, John and Jonathan Malmude.

Q: Who is John?

A: I don't know his last name. He was there to give his insight. One time John, Carolyn, Jonathan Malmude and I went to Malmude's office at St. Joseph's College and they made an inter-connecting call to Colorado for their radio interview out there, February 22, 1995. They called KVOR radio in Colorado Springs, Colorado to be interviewed by Chuck Baker for a program

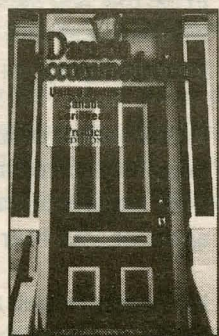
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except for a "li'l ole spastic colon." Appearing only sporadically in the play, but central to its workings are Gooper, the other son, and Mae, Gooper's fecund wife; together they have five children (who Maggie refers to as "li'l no-neck monstas") and a sixth on its way. It is Big Daddy's 65th birthday and the clan is gathered to see whether he will live or die and, if the latter, who will inherit the estate.

Mae and Gooper dwell in the myth of a respectability born partially of their unending ability to procreate and the family makes invidious comparisons between Mae and Gooper's success and Maggie and Brick's lack of it. No one in the family really likes Mae and Gooper, but it can't be denied that Gooper is a successful lawyer while Brick is an unemployed lush who cares for nothing much more than drinking from morning till night, waiting for the "click in my head that makes me peace-

ful." And Mae has 5 1/2 kids while Maggie is childless. Maggie's childlessness stems from Brick's visceral aversion to her, but both Big Mama and Big Daddy would like to believe that the lack of children is due to some shortcoming on Maggie's part. Williams shows us this quick reflex to blame the woman and also, illustrates the automatic respectability granted to heterosexuality, without, I think, engaging in straight-bashing; it's not Mae and Gooper's fertility per se that revolts us; it's the way they wear it as a badge of legitimacy.

In the full text of the play performed by Vintage Rep (versus the sanitized movie version with Paul Newman and Elizabeth Taylor), Maggie picks at the never-healed scab of Brick's history, and especially his relationship with someone named Skipper. This relationship, Skipper's subsequent death, Brick's drinking, and finally his withdrawal from Maggie, are tied up in a tight bundle whose knot is only partially loosened during the rest of the play.

This, of course, is the homosexual subtext for which Cat (and Tennessee Williams's plays in general) is famous, but it is only one of several themes that fuels the play's intensity.

Williams sets all the action in a single room, a highly effective device which, like a magnifying glass focusing sunlight on a dry leaf, provides a dramatic heat that eventually ignites the characters and in so doing, sheds light on them and ourselves. Maggie and Big Daddy's energy is the impetus that drives the play on and forces the characters to confront their own myths (or at least each other's) and which leads to a conclusion that is no happy ending but rather a re-alignment of existing relationships.

Vintage Rep's staging of "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof" is about 2-1/2 hours long, including two intermissions and the performances are as intense and believable as any I have seen. "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof" is well worth dropping everything to go and see. $\Delta\Delta$



David Blair & Jane Bergeron as Brick & Maggie in Vintage Reps "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof." Photo by Joe Cimmet.

Movie Review: "Strawberry and Chocolate"

by Barbara West

The award-winning Cuban film, "Strawberry and Chocolate," the first film from Cuba to go into general release in the United States since the revolution of 1959, and the first major Cuban film in which the central character is gay, ran for a week in May at Portland's independent theater, The Movies at Exchange Street.

The film portrays the growing friendship between two men from widely different spheres of Cuban society. David, an intense young student who is a rigid Communist, meets Diego, a sophisticated writer who is considered suspicious because he is gay and has extensive contacts with foreigners. Initially, both are somewhat stereotyped; David as a shallow and rigid "automatic" Marxist, Diego as effeminate and simply looking for sexual conquests. But, very quickly, Diego becomes the more sympathetic character, compassionate, well-educated, witty, and broad-minded. Ultimately, David is deeply affected by the power of his passion for art and life. It was delightful to imagine Cuban audiences, who waited in long lines to see this film, identifying with a gay man as the hero/protagonist.

Senel Paz's screenplay is a critical look at Cuban society in 1979, a time when cultural/social policy in Cuba was still dogmatic. (Some homosexuals

were sent to detention camps in the 1960's, artistic expression was still governed by socialist realist standards in the 1970's, and in the 1980's people with AIDS were quarantined.) It also offers a refreshingly honest, if occasionally simplistic, portrayal of the tension many Cubans feel between taking the steps needed to survive in a hostile world, and still allowing for individual freedom.

For Paz and director Tomás Gutiérrez Alea, Diego may be a symbol of all those who are different or outside the mainstream of society. If David symbolizes the revolutionary majority of Cuban society, his ability to learn and change seemed to me to offer hope for the future and for the vitality of a revolutionary society that can look openly at its mistakes and correct them. The film could also be seen as a plea for tolerance. Director Alea was quoted in the "New York Times," saying, "It's not strictly a film about homosexuals. It is about the intolerance and incomprehension of those who are different."

It's easy to see why "Strawberry and Chocolate" won most of the awards at the 1994 Latin American Film Festival: best movie, director, script, actor and supporting actress. For us in the U.S. it is a rare opportunity to see Cubans as they present themselves to themselves. $\Delta\Delta$

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called, "On the Carpet." The call was made from 4:00 to 5:00 pm our time, it was 2:00 to 3:00 pm their time.

Q: From Malmude's office at St. Joseph's?

A: Yes. I don't know if St. Joe's paid for that or not. I got the impression the College paid, but I don't know.

Q: How did you come to the decision to start giving information to CPR?

A: They expressed hateful attitudes about gay people and I realized that what they were doing was wrong. They were hurting a lot of people, and I realized I was in a very unique position, that no one would know what I know, and that I could get the word out about what they were doing. I was hoping that the information I gave would be helpful to the gay community so I stayed and contacted CPR. It was a hard decision, but hopefully it will do some good.

I dreaded going there. I was there for 40 to 50 hours a week, and every time I arrived she had to hug me and the same for when I left. That's not a bad thing, but for me it was a boundary issue. She was hugging me all the time. Sometimes I felt like she wanted to make sure I wasn't gay. I think she was questioning that sometimes.

It was really stressful because ev-

ery time I walked in she had to give me the latest from Tony Marco (Leader of Colorado for Family Values) or what Bruce Fein (Virginia lawyer and author of the referendum language) said or what Lockman (Vice-chairman of CMF) did and all this stuff that she thought was real positive... but I could see beyond it and she would get real excited and make a big deal out of these things which were horrible... articles that Lockman would write or that Fein would write and she'd say, "This is going to be great, this is going to be a victory for us, it's really going to move us ahead" and I would really feel sad inside because I would be thinking how this could hurt a lot of people. I got to a point where I didn't even want to hear her voice anymore because everything she was saying was just so negative, what damage she wanted to do next, her 'plan of attack.'

I wondered why anyone would want to attack people on the basis of their sexual orientation. That's what this is all about. I remember one time I got to a place where I just couldn't stand it anymore and I asked her, I said, 'Carolyn, being a woman don't you think if we hadn't have gotten our rights where do you think we'd be right now?' Her comment was, "Men shaped up and gave them to us." And I thought, 'No they didn't. We had to fight for our rights, we had to really fight for them.' The comparison between women's rights and rights for homosexuals didn't sink in with her because of the moral issue.

Q: What does Carolyn think about AIDS?

A: Reap what you sow - she said it was God's punishment to those who dwell in things they shouldn't be dwelling in. It's God's way of punishing gays. She quotes Sodom and Gomorrah. She doesn't feel sorry for anyone who gets AIDS except for the innocent people, like the wife of the husband who didn't tell her or hemophiliacs, people like that, it's not their fault. She blames the gays for giving it to the innocent people. In her opinion the homosexual life-style is evil.

Q: What did you do for her?

A: I did everything. I did computer. I did filing. I did faxing, copying, mailing.

Q: Tell me more about the day to day operations at Cosby's house.

A: One thing that happened involved that gentleman who told Carolyn he was taking the Community Pride Reporter from Shop'n'Save [Ed. note: Cosby has denied any knowledge of the removal of CPR from Shop'n'Save). He is active in CMF and he used to come over and do Carolyn's dishes for her to help her, and one Monday we were sitting there talking, and he was just ragging on gays and homosexuals and saying all this stuff about a woman, a lesbian, very negatively. I asked him who she was, and he said that she was his ex-wife. So I thought, I wondered, if this guy was just angry because his wife left him for a woman. Is that why he's against gays and is that why he's working here, or does he really think all homosexuals are bad and they shouldn't



Carolyn Cosby with Lawrence Lockman, her vice-chairman. Cosby conforms to her own dress code in this photo. So does Lockman.

have a voice in this world like he does. I think he's just angry because of his personal experience.

Q: Describe the interaction between Carolyn and this man who went around dumping copies of CPR.

A: Carolyn never discouraged him from anything, but at the same time she wasn't encouraging him either. He was quite blunt about it - take the law into your own hands - he'd say if he saw any CPRs he'd throw them away or say they made good firewood or fire starters. He justified his actions by saying that gays needed to be stopped at all costs, that they were heathens and must be stopped.

What really frustrated me a lot was that Carolyn and the others at CMF would use Christian ethics and the Bible to their own liking. They would judge people; they wanted everyone including Jews, Buddhist and Catholics to think, live and feel like they did.

I remember one day I was typing away on the computer and she had gotten this phone call from the National Christian Coalition. She just came out and she was ecstatic and it was ten o'clock at night. She wanted to go out and celebrate and I couldn't believe it. It was a work night for her husband and she said like, 'OK, we got to stop and we got to celebrate.' First she wanted to pray and thank God for what the Coalition was going to do...

Q: But they're not...

A: I know. But at that time she was under the impression that they were going to help her financially and this was the break they'd been waiting for and all that kind of hoopla. I guess after that phone call everything started to fizzle.

Q: What do you know about CMF's financial situation?

A: I don't think they are reporting all their financial stuff. [Ed. note: As a Political Action Committee, CMF is subject to certain state financial disclosure requirements.] I went to the printers once with Carolyn in Lisbon or Lisbon Falls. The printer wasn't charging her the general fee. I'm not sure if he was charging them at all, because I never saw money go back and forth, but I'm not sure he was supposed to.

Also, I remember sitting in the kitchen with Carolyn, Jonathan Malmude and John one day. Jonathan

and John said they had some money for Carolyn, but I don't really know what it was, but I know that it made Carolyn very uncomfortable that I was hearing this and in fact she said, 'Gentleman maybe we should not talk about this now.' She said it was nothing against me, but there are some things that are more inner office than the inner office stuff. I said 'OK,' but it made me wonder what they were doing.

There was something about the way they were talking that made me think it was a substantial amount of money and, unfortunately, I don't know anything more about that except that Jonathan and John have some money that they are going to be giving to CMF.

This was after the National Christian Coalition had reneged on their offer. Jonathan and John told Carolyn, "If you need the money you can have it." I don't know where it came from and I don't know if they were planning to report it.

Q: What was Carolyn like as a person? What were the kinds of things that made her laugh or cry?

A: I never saw her cry. She was very concerned with appearances. Once when I was going to be in public at a press conference. She told me not to wear a male power dress, not anything that would make me look like a man, no two-piece dress suits.

Her idea was to be more subordinate and to appeal to people to feel sorry for her and to capture their vote that way and have them say, 'Oh, you're just these lovely Christian people and you're right and look at these other people, the way they are dressed and their attitude.'

She did not want to dress like Pat Peard in any way, shape or form. Her idea of well-dressed is a flower dress with a sweater or a jacket over it. She told me to look like the ideal student type with my book bag and not to come across authoritatively or as someone with power, but as someone others would have sympathy for. The men are to be in suits and ties, which is what they did.

Q: What was the thing you hated most about her?

A: I don't want to say it that way, but the worst thing was her attitude. I say this with caution, but it was such a

See CMF, page 23

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Flaunting It!

by Brian J. Kaufman, Ph.D.

I want to congratulate the brave travelers who blazed a trail to "the County" to become the participants of this year's Symposium in Presque Isle. Trail blazing? Brave? Am I writing about the last century's westward-ho pioneers or modern-day Maine? Okay. Thanks for the reality check. I most certainly am talking about Maine in 1995.

I mention trail blazing as a way of acknowledging the effort that so many folks from the Portland area made in getting to Symposium. Portlanders don't really ever need to leave their fair (literally) city limits when wanting to be immersed within the safety of a caring community. Those of us who live north of the "big city" are familiar with the reluctance of our friends in the southern tier to venture out into the wilderness to the north. In spite of this, many wonderful and talented folks from the Greater Portland area added their wit, wisdom, and vitality to the ad hoc community that coalesced on Memorial Day weekend on the University campus at Presque Isle. So many of us around the state look to you for leadership and inspiration. You guys fought a referendum and won! You're fun to be with! Thanks for



blazing your trail north.

I mentioned bravery also. Sure, it requires a measurable amount of courage to "come out," and to then make a commitment to spend three days immersed in queer culture. Bravery was required for a seventeen year-old man from western Maine who was determined to get to Symposium this year. After Symposium organizers offered him a full scholarship for the weekend, "Van" (not his real name) could not find transportation and contemplated staying home for the weekend with his abusive father. Instead, "Van" telephoned me and told me of his intention to hitch-hike the entire way. Suddenly feeling fatherly, I recounted an inventory of the possible dangers associated with hitch-

ing. He seemed undaunted. Finally, I asked him if he thought that it was worth risking his life to get to Presque Isle.

"Van" arrived at Symposium after about six rides and eight hours had elapsed. When I saw "Van" upon his triumphant return, he looked as if he would never come down from the "high" of the community he became a part of at the event. Tears came to his eyes when he told me how he felt that he had finally found his "family." Next year he's planning a workshop for other youths. As a suicide survivor, "Van" considers himself something of an expert on that subject. This weekend, he became acquainted with so many more reasons to fight the fatal urge. You know who you are. Thank you for welcoming "Van" the way you did. For those of you who have not yet been participated in one of Maine's Symposia, you won't want to miss it. Ask "Van." See if you can keep him from flaunting it! And look for him at Maine's Pride events this month!

Last month I described the eagerness with which some corporations are signing up to train managers in the fine art of terminating "unwanted" employees. The training is designed to get rid of slouches, shirkers, and loudmouths who have "bad attitudes." Of course, the pioneers of our modern labor movement in the United States were among the kinds

of troublemakers targeted in this movement when they heroically fought for safe working conditions and child labor laws.

The lesbian and gay movement has its heroes too. One of them was Ed Mickens, who recently succumbed to AIDS-related complications. He was the publisher of "Working it Out: The Newsletter for Gay and Lesbian Employment Issues," and the author of "The 100 Best Companies for Gay Men and Lesbians." It was his assertion that "employers who do well addressing gay and lesbian issues are the ones that will excel in the years to come." Mickens pointed out that fairness alone would not enable companies to flourish, but that organizations who recognize the concerns of lesbian and gay employees as valid ones show a willingness to listen and respond to the concerns of all their employees. According to Mickens, "anti-gay policies repel not only lesbians and gay men, but also non-gay people of talent who can hear what that says about the organization, its overall beliefs, and where it's -not- going."

If you look at it from his approach, when we demand domestic partner benefits, we are actually helping to assure the profitability of the company! Next month, more on flaunting it to help our employers! $\Delta\Delta$

Chew On This

by Rose Mary Denman



Three friends and I have recently begun a two-year program sponsored by the American Holistic Nurses Association called "Healing

Touch." This program is based upon the premise that if one intends one's touch to be healing to another, that intended healing energy is channeled from the Universe, through the "healer" to the patient.

During our first weekend intensive, I was aware of how many of us were experiencing some very deep and tender emotions as we "worked on one another" under the guidance of our instructor. Several times over the weekend, I could hear gentle weeping coming from one of the treatment tables. Gazing in the direction

of the sound, I would often witness the student healers holding the weeping patient. As the weekend progressed, an energy of love and well-being intensified in our space, and at times, simply walking into the room was enough to experience and absorb this wonderful energy.

Since this first weekend, my friends and I have gotten together on a weekly basis to practice Healing Touch on one another. We have also been practicing on any friends willing to help us work on our new skills. This has been an exciting time for each of us; and as we have shared our experiences with one another, the same theme continues to surface... namely, how good it is to be touched when the intention is solely for our benefit and well-being.

All of this work on friends and new patients, as well as all of the receiving of Healing Touch from others, has reminded me of how often many of us have been touched in hurtful ways: a slap from a parent who thought that hitting was the only way to make us behave; a rough and hurtful experience with a partner who seemed

more interested in her/his own needs and gratification than ours; even the rough handling by a teacher, coach or other adult in authority who needed to prove they were in charge.

Remember how, when we were kids and someone said something that hurt us, we used to rattle: "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me?" Well, we all know that those words did hurt us. Our little rhyme was simply our bravado, our attempt to mask our devastation. Even now, as adults, we profess that the words of others do not hurt us. "He's just a pain in the ass." "She's a bitch, who cares what she thinks." Yet, deep inside, we do care, and we are hurt.

Those of us in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered "community" often profess that the words of judgment and condemnation from others do not hurt us. We talk about their insanity, their narrowness, their political correctness. And all the time we are doing this, we are bleeding inside from the cruelty. But, be it far from us to admit to any hurt or fragmentation. After all, we're tough; we have

a battle to fight.

I'm sorry, but I can't play that tune anymore. When others say false things about me, I am hurt and confused. When I am discounted solely on the basis of being a woman and/or a lesbian, I feel the pain of rejection. When I am attacked, my pain sometimes causes me to want to retaliate.

A growing number of us are learning that admitting our pain and asking for healing feels much more whole than putting on the stiff upper lip and pretending that we are invincible. We are also learning that healing comes to us in different ways: through the understanding heart of a friend, the quiet of meditation, the touch of a healer and even through our own vulnerability. We are learning to ask for a hug when a hug is what we need most. We are learning that, yes, there are those around with whom we cannot afford to be vulnerable, they would only use our vulnerability to their own advantage. But that doesn't mean we need to cut ourselves off emotionally from everyone, only those with whom it is not safe to be vulnerable. With others, those who we have learned we can really trust, we can bask in the energy of their love and kindness and be healed! $\Delta\Delta$

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pompous attitude, self-righteous, a holier-than-thou attitude, to homosexuals and to anyone who is not the icon of the Carolyn Cosby 'wannabe' or anyone who strayed from Christian values. She disparaged President Clinton and his wife, and Angus King and his wife.

Q: What did she say about Angus King's wife?

A: King's wife and her child gave \$1,000.00 to MWD. Mary is pretty outspoken and Carolyn said, 'Obviously

that money is coming from Angus.' She thinks the governor shouldn't be supporting one side of this debate and they shouldn't be taking sides.

Q: What does she think he is, a constitutional monarch?

A: She just doesn't want him to be against her, but she did get McKernan to do her bidding because McKernan was so wrapped up in Olympia Snow's future, so she misses those days. She realizes that game doesn't play with King so she wants to assassinate his character. It's OK for them to assassi-

nate people's character, but they take great offense when outsiders do it to one of their own.

Q: What was the thing you liked about her the most?

A: I hate to admit liking anything about her because there isn't anything she stands for that I accept, but a character trait of hers that is admirable is that she is a fighter and she's not willing to give up. She has a lot of energy. But when I realized how negative it all was and the destruction it was going to cause if it resulted in anything being passed,

that's when I decided I needed to focus on what my responsibility was, and what was I willing to do to stand up to her and do something to stop her, and live up to the challenge to do what I was going to do.

I kept reminding myself to look at the big picture and if I could do anything that would be helpful and if I could expose the seriousness and the depth of the hatred coming from Carolyn that would be good, ultimately. $\Delta\Delta$

House from page 7

going to come back, their son is only going to die once. Let's be sensitive to that and not to putting time into not being able to meet their needs, their frustration, whatever it was."

Wolters said that even though AIDS work is stressful she is drawn to it because, "I believe it's a privilege to work with these people, I believe that in some way I will make a difference in their lives in the short time we care for them. It's really a privilege to be with them because they teach us more about life than about death. That's why I work with them. It's wonderful, it's very rewarding to know that you are present to these people. It's very spiritual and they're very vulnerable and you can support them and love them unconditionally and care for them."

Sandy Titus

Sandy Titus has become the lightning rod in Peabody House's struggle to fulfill its mission. Yet, she is widely recognized as the preeminent end-stage AIDS nurse. Chris Monahan said, "Sandy Titus is a maverick, she's a rebel and she's a radical. I don't think she sees that there is any vision more correct than love nor that there is a model better than a client-centered model. Would she be likely to yield to another type of model? I don't think so."

Peter Haffenreffer offered that, "We all know that Sandy is the best there is in client-centered care. Yes, she's the best."

Lucille Bernier, Paul's mother said, "Sandy is marvelous, when Sandy left the house, to me that was a very different thing in there. One morning poor Sandy had to pack and get out. I know

she didn't leave on her own. I asked her, 'Sandy, did you leave because you wanted to?' and she said 'no.'

"She's an angel of mercy, she's got the biggest heart for the patient, she's all for the patient, she does what they need and what they want, I don't know what more I can say, she belongs in a place for the people who are advanced in the sickness and as far as Caroline (Greenleaf) well to me she's a Godsend. She's a wonderful person, just wonderful."

"Sandy did everything, she's always on the run and taking care of the sick people from house to house. She's devoted herself to this. She has a family, she's got children and she still devotes herself to this."

"And Paul wanted her. He asked for Sandy when he needed something and she would tell him the truth about what to expect. We had a family meeting with Paul where she did that, that's Sandy, she tells you truth."

Peter Bernier added, "Sandy played an important role in that facility. I see her as an angel of mercy, she has so much compassion and love for these people, to cut someone like that out of the picture doesn't make any sense to me at all, particularly when she's very experienced, providing care for these people. Unless they have someone like her or her at Peabody House I don't think it's going to get any better."

Bill Toth observed, "Sandy is much more hands on, right in there working with the person right through their death. I've had people die here in my apartment and Sandy - I've had to call her and say, 'I need you here right now' and she's more of a really hands on operations person. She wants to be



Tom Andrews and Frannie Peabody wield the ceremonial shovel at the Peabody House groundbreaking, March, 1994.

there while it's happening."

Mallory Marshall said, "All the people involved have great respect for Sandy Titus, Chris Monahan and Bob Renwick. These are the finest people in our community."

When Marg Wolters was asked about Sandy Titus' work performance she said, "I have no comment on Sandy Titus' performance, that would be unfair to her . . . I respect her."

Peabody House hopes to solve its problems. Many of those involved consider these problems temporary, the stuff of rumor and personality. Others consider them more systemic. An expanded Board of Directors, two of whose members are PWAs, look forward to the challenge of full implementation of Peabody House's mission statement.

Peter Haffenreffer said, "We're not 100% and maybe we never will be

but we're going to get better and better and better. Peabody House is needed and it may take us longer, without everyone pitching in, to reach our goal, but we will reach it because there is a need, a determination and a will."

Mallory Marshall said the Peabody House story is interesting because its a story of how things grow. It's a family going through a process of inevitable growing pains. It requires the founders to let go, which is difficult.

Marshall emphasized that the original purpose of Peabody House was to provide hospice care in the home so people could stay in their own residences and that Peabody House itself would serve as a refuge for those with no place to go. She said, "dammit, I'm not going to have a bunch of squabbling get us to lose sight of that."

Peter Bernier eulogized his brother, he said, "Paul had such a tremendous dynamic personality, he had so much charisma. He spent his whole life loving other people and giving of himself to others. We as a family tried to make this process as dignified as possible, and we did. He was an artist, a sculptor and painter an excellent dancer, he made mosaics. He was a model yet he was very simple. He didn't believe in having a lot of money. He loved people and enjoyed life."

"I do believe, because of the compassionate and loving help of all the volunteers who worked with us that we accomplished the goal of providing him a peaceful death. He made the decisions right up to the end. I miss my brother and I have that special sense of loss because we were twins, but I am at peace with his death. He's in God's hands now."

TAP plus Portland Public Library equals Southern Maine AIDS Information Network

by Doreen Merrill

I am The AIDS Project's Internet specialist. I say that tongue in cheek because I am on the information highway learning curve and sometimes get the feeling my car is going in reverse. The Internet is seen as a huge beast to people like me, the computer cautious. I can hack away at the keyboard with confidence, but take me away from the known and I get nervous. The Internet, or the Net for those into the latest lingo, demands that I let go of my fears and dive in. It seems its time to wax my surfboard.

The AIDS Project was awarded a grant in collaboration with the Portland Public Library to connect our organizations to the Internet. The grant allows Internet connections at The AIDS Project and the Portland Public Library. Together, our agencies form the Southern Maine AIDS Information Network. The Library staff involved with this endeavor know their stuff and are willing to share what they know with others still trying to catch the Internet wave. The Library has a terminal already set up for people to search the Internet. We at The AIDS Project have a terminal as well, but are not ready yet to serve our public, namely clients. We are

in the process of training our case managers and other staff members as to the nuances of searching the World Wide Web, a multi-media hyper text experience.

The World Wide Web (WWW) is a small part of the huge and ever growing Internet, but it is what's hot. It is software that allows people to read books, newspapers, magazine articles and other sources on the computer screen. While searching for information in the WWW, words that appear in hyper text (bolded or in a different color) can be clicked on with a mouse, sending you automatically to its topic. The benefits of WWW are: it's easy to use, it's pretty to look at and more and more items are being added every day. There are Home Pages, or brief synopsis, on the WWW that typically have colorful graphics and explanations for whatever it is offering. To help people search the WWW, both The AIDS Project and the Library have installed gopher software. Gophers take key words and search the WWW for a match. Related articles appear on your screen offering you choices of what to read and where to continue along each step of the search. Netscape, which is a favorite of mine, is a gopher that keeps track of where your search took you, so should you get lost or decide you need to begin your

search from scratch again, you can easily retrace your steps.

Ease of extracting pertinent and timely information is crucial to people researching HIV/AIDS information. Through the grant award, both The AIDS Project and the Portland Public Library have access to the National Library of Medicine's databases. We also have free links to the Center for Disease Control National AIDS Clearing House and the National Institute of Health databases. Clients can access something called "AIDS Frequently Asked Questions" to answer basic questions about HIV and AIDS. Biology, nutrition, protected sex, drug trials, etc. can be accessed via the Internet. News groups on the Internet contain articles on various topics as well. Readers can search and read any article that interests them and can respond either to the entire news group or to the author of a specific article. The drawback to this service is that the articles are not verified for validity. There are some agencies that post to news groups that we as readers can assume have credibility, such as the New York Times, but there is no monitoring of what is posted, so just about anything can appear. The best advice I can offer when reading on a news group is to use your own

best judgement when reading what is posted. There is thought provoking information, but as always, we need to be cautious as to when and where we use that information.

As The AIDS Project moves into the future with technology, it is also moving its office space. The AIDS Project is moving to the State Theater building at 609 Congress Street in mid-July to accommodate our growth as an agency. Once we move, we will have a terminal with access to the Internet in a semi-private room. Case managers will be well versed in retrieving information, so clients not comfortable with going on line themselves will be encouraged to ask their case managers for the information they need. I will be available to clients to train and answer questions as well.

After we move, and we are unpacked and ready to accommodate surfers, The AIDS Project will notify our clients and the general public. Until our move date, clients and the general public who wish to gain the latest information via the Internet are welcome to go to the Portland Public Library at 5 Monument Square in Portland. Happy surfing. ΔΔ

Look us over, don't overlook us! Center in Caribou serves g/lesbian/bi community

by Bob Coffey

One of Maine's gay community's most significant accomplishments can be found in a rather unassuming building along Maine Route 164 in Caribou. There, overlooking the state highway as it beelines south towards US Route 1, the Northern Lambda Nord Community Services Center serves as a focal point for the far-flung lesbian and gay community of Aroostook County and neighboring New Brunswick. To the casual observer, this small office located at the end of a rather dark and narrow hallway may not seem like much. In fact, its very existence serves as testimonial to the resilience and determination of northern Maine's gay community. That Caribou, the speck in every meteorologist's eye, should have carried off the distinction of host to Maine's first gay and lesbian community center is intriguing enough to take a second look at Northern Lambda Nord's cramped offices.

Northern Lambda Nord's (NLN to local folks) bilingual name is a tip-off to the distinctiveness of the community it aims to represent. Spanning two

nations, three cultures, two languages and two time zones, the contrary nature of NLN's constituency would be enough to daunt any seasoned organizer. Additionally, the huge spans of distance separating many Aroostook communities from one another (which makes breaking the posted speed limits practically a necessity in order to get from one place to another) make long drives in the car a prerequisite for attending NLN's meetings for many folks in outlying regions.

And yet, this hardy band of gay folk, living and working in towns most southern Mainers only hear about in weather forecasts, have managed to stay together for 15 years, have operated a statewide gay and lesbian phone-line for 13 of those years, enjoy the benefits of a well-stocked lending library, and publish a monthly newsletter. One would think that this impressive string of accomplishments would be enough to warm the hearts of red blooded queers all over Maine. Instead, many group members are frustrated by what they perceive as southern Maine's blinders to the oft-cited "other Maine"; that, for many, begins once the exits on the Maine

Turnpike start to thin out.

Jim Fotter, director of Northern Lambda Nord and a recent transplant from equally isolated Cheyenne, Wyoming, recalls his first encounter with southern Maine myopia. He was researching the Caribou area in a Portland library prior to driving north to a job interview in the County. When he quizzed the library staff as to their knowledge of the place, they replied incredulously that they had no clue as to conditions in Caribou, and why, for that matter, would anyone want to go there? Fotter speculates that is the comparative isolation experienced by Aroostook County gays and lesbians that compels them to reach out to other regions of the state, while Portlanders, cushioned by a well-organized and thriving gay community, feel no compulsion to look any further than their own region. "People up here think nothing of driving five or six hours to connect with others, whereas folks living in areas with access to a lot of services don't generally feel compelled to consider that Maine doesn't necessarily stop at Bangor," said Fotter.

Even more irritating for many is the perception that Aroostook County has been written off politically in the upcoming battle with Carolyn Cosby's

Concerned Maine Families. "The burden for organizing here is falling on the shoulders of comparatively few people. We need folks from other areas to start networking with us." Fotter points out that, far from being the conservative backwater northern Maine is frequently perceived as, the communities of the St. John Valley has traditionally voted along Democratic lines, and could be quite receptive.

The success of Northern Lambda Nord would seem to quietly lay to rest the notion that gay life in Maine begins and ends in the bars, coffeehouses and cafes of Portland. The rhythms, ebbs and flows of Maine's gay community at both geographic extremes of the state are as fundamentally different as the cities from which they sprang. And yet, that singular commonality which links gay, lesbian and bisexual people across all kinds of societal divides links the steady persistence of Aroostook's gay people with the heady exuberance of Portland's rapidly maturing gay community. It's a link that northern Maine's gay people have been pointing out for years. As we prepare for perhaps the most crucial battle our still-young civil rights movement has ever faced, now more than ever, that truth needs to be heard. $\Delta\Delta$

OUT OF TOWN!

by Paul T. Bernard



I got a call the other day from someone asking how frequent flyer programs worked. It brought to mind that I might try to

educate people about them.

First, a frequent flyer program is a system to reward loyal customers. Basically, the more you fly - on one airline - the more rewards you earn. So, just why do airlines offer free flights to frequent flyers? Because, in order to *earn* a free ticket, it means that you have to fly 20,000-25,000 miles. This averages out to about 5 round-trips to the west coast, or 10-12 round-trips to Florida. And don't think that the free tickets are *free* - true, you don't have to *buy* them - but the costs are built into the 5-12 tickets that you have to buy to *earn* them.

This means that somewhere between 5-10% of the cost of the tickets that you purchase goes towards the frequent flyer program. Regardless, if you fly on a regular basis, you are crazy not to join a frequent flyer program. This may mean that you have to make some changes in how you travel. It would mean that you now should pick an airline and take all of your trips on it.

Each airline's frequent flyer is different in the sense that each one has different mileage requirements for free tickets and even different ways that they compute the actual mileage. For example, if you were to fly from Portland to Orlando on Delta Air Lines, you would fly from Portland to Boston to Atlanta to Orlando. Because Delta counts the shortest leg of your trip as 500 miles, you would *earn* 1947 miles. On the Portland to Boston leg, which is actually 96 air miles, you would earn 500 miles. But, take the same trip on Continental Airlines, and you would *earn* only 1215 miles, because they count their shortest leg as 250 miles. If you fly first class, most airlines give you double mileage credit for your flight.

Which airline has the best frequent flyer program? That's a hard one to an-

swer - mainly, because they all differ in many ways. As far as the gay/lesbian community goes, there are some major differences that you need to be aware of. Delta Air Lines recently changed its program so that you could give your free tickets to someone else - a lover or anyone. Up until May 1, you could only give your free tickets to family members.

The recognized leader in gay/lesbian travel is undoubtedly American Airlines. Their frequent flyer was the first in existence. Their awards are transferable and very easily obtained. In addition, American Airlines has actively courted the gay/lesbian market. They even named a sales manager to the gay/lesbian travel market - a first for any major airline. Northwest Airlines is another airline that has been very active with the gay/lesbian community and their frequent flyer program is rated as one of the best.

You can also build mileage in a number of other ways. You can *earn* mileage by using your American Express Card, by having MCI long distance service, by renting cars from airline partners or staying at hotel chains that are airline partners. Actually, you can *earn*

a free ticket without ever having flown anywhere - just rack up the miles with these *partners*.

The down-side to frequent flyer programs is that it is becoming difficult to use your free tickets when you want to. A friend of mine wanted to come home sometime this summer from San Francisco and wanted to use his *free* ticket on United. He finally had to settle on dates that were not that convenient for him, because all of the other dates he wanted were not available. The airlines restrict the number of seats available for free tickets, making it difficult to arrange trips. After his frustration with his summer vacation, he immediately scheduled his Christmas vacation flights - had he waited another 3-4 weeks, he probably wouldn't have been able to come home for free.

Despite the restrictions, frequent flyer programs are a good deal. Even if you fly just once or twice a year, eventually you will earn a free ticket - so why not take advantage of it. All you have to do is sign up - and it doesn't cost anything to join. From that point on, every flight that you take on that airline will *earn* mileage toward a free ticket. $\Delta\Delta$

Will from page 9

if you can take the time to sit down and do it. If you want to get a little fancier and set up a Trust then see a lawyer to make sure it is done correctly. There are also many book and computer programs on sale which provide basic outlines of many legal documents such as Wills. The basic point here is that it is a very easy thing to do and having one is better than not having one.

If for some reason you absolutely cannot get around to doing one then you are going to die Intestate, 'legaleese' for

without a Will. Your heirs, the people who get your things, are then decided by Maine law. The heirs of a single person or someone without a legal spouse are as follows under Maine law:

* First, your children divide everything equally.

* No children, then your parents divide everything equally.

* No children or parents, then the issue of your parents divide everything. Your sisters and brothers if living or their children if they are not living.

* No children, parents or issue of parents then it goes to the issue of your grandparents and if there are none, then to the issue of your great grand parents.

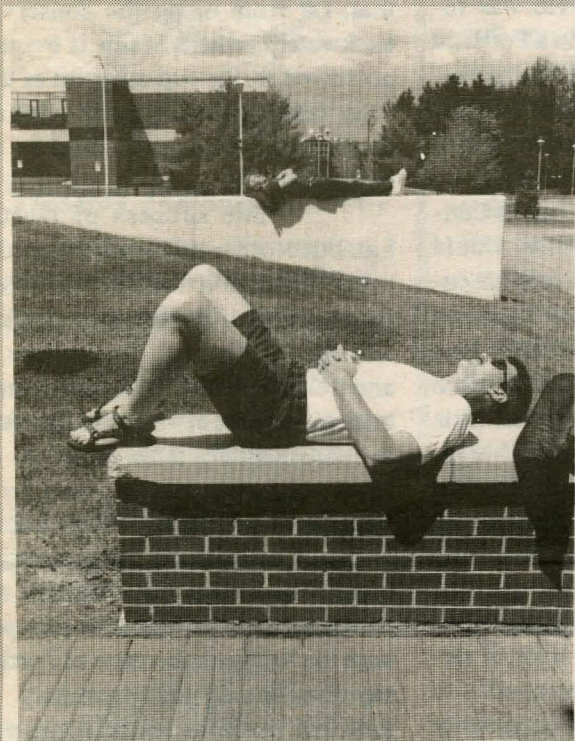
* Finally, if there is absolutely nobody and you do not have a Will, the State of Maine gets your estate.

One final thought, if you have pets that rely on you to care for them it is a good idea to find out who would be willing to assume that responsibility and state this in your will. It may be that

you don't care how your material possessions are distributed after you die, but what about your pet?

A Will is an important legal document. It does not need to be a difficult thing to create and can have a great deal of importance to the people that survive you. After all, someone may actually want that black velvet glow-in-the-dark Elvis portrait you have in storage. Good Luck! $\Delta\Delta$

Photos from Symposium XXI by Tom Antonik



A bit of relaxation
in the warm
afternoon
sun at the
University of
Maine, Presque
Isle
Campus



Harry Gordon,
Herb Pierce
& others
hang out at
the new
Campus
Center



Tuma Young, Keynote speaker
from Nova Scotia



Two of the many Canadians
attending #XXI



Barb Wood made the trip north
from Portland

Lesbian Health Project ends 1st Year with Clinic; Survey is Next

by Tania Jo Hathaway

Picture this: You walk into a medical office for your annual gynecological exam. Maybe this is your first-ever exam, or your first since you came out as a lesbian, or your first exam in several years. Apprehensive as you are, you know that at least it will be assumed by this medical office that you are a lesbian. In addition, you know that you will be treated by a lesbian health care provider or someone else who is very knowledgeable about lesbian-related issues.

You have arrived at the office with your partner/lover/girlfriend and maybe your child. You are there as a family and the staff treats you as such, or you have arrived alone. Either way, you are greeted in the waiting room and encour-

aged to "browse the lesbian literature" on the coffee table. There, in plain sight, are glossy lesbian magazines, the latest issue of "Community Pride Reporter" and several books covering topics like lesbian sex and lesbians in mid-life.

Soon it is time to see the health educator. She gives you literature on lesbian health issues (!), and talks easily with you about the everyday issues lesbians face. Next, you see the nurse practitioner for THE EXAM. The nurse practitioner brings up the topic of health risks that are specific to lesbians!

To top it all off, you are offered these services free of charge, you donate whatever money you can afford. You leave the appointment having been

treated as the whole person that you are, and knowing you have a resource should you need further care.

On Saturday May 20, the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine (LHP/SM) offered the clinic described above. The goal of the clinic was to provide cancer screening services for lesbians who may not receive routine health care due to financial reasons and/or the lack of lesbian-safe, lesbian-knowledgeable practitioners. The Clinic was made possible by a generous donation from Tri-County Health Services, who lent LHP/SM their space for a day; and the volunteers who staffed the Clinic. LHP/SM is looking for a site and volunteers to offer similar services in other parts of

the southern Maine area.

The Cancer Screening Clinic capped one year of organizing activities for LHP/SM. To start its second year, LHP/SM is developing a survey of lesbian health needs. The survey is designed to assess general, gynecological, and mental health needs in order to assist organizers in developing the second year of health related programming.

In addition to the survey, LHP/SM is sponsoring a two-day conference on lesbian health and sexuality October 6 & 7, 1995. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive the survey and other mailings, call or write: (207)772-2699, LHP/SM PO Box 11048, Portland, ME 04104. ΔΔ

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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

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