

# Community Pride Reporter

FREE

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

VOL. 3, Number 2

September-October, 1995

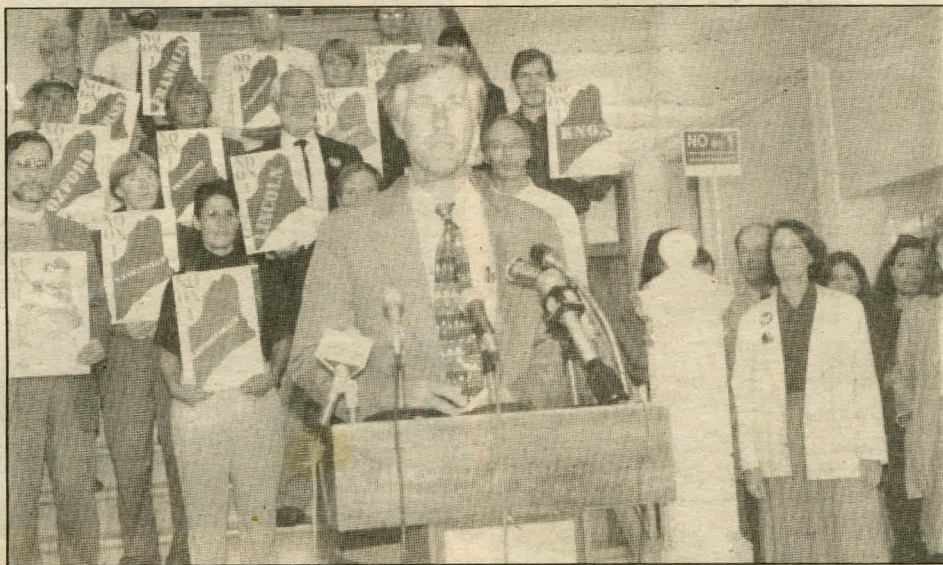
## Police misconduct alleged in wake of porno shop crackdown

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

A young man came into the offices of the Community Pride Reporter, Monday, August 7, 1995, and recounted the following events which allegedly occurred, Saturday, August 5, 1995, @ 10:30 pm outside Video Expo, Congress Street, Portland:

"Me and a friend were sitting in my pick-up truck parked legally in front of Video Expo. Two officers came out of their cruiser, told us to get out of the vehicle, asked us for ID, threw me against the truck, threw my friend against the other side of the truck, searched us, didn't tell us anything, didn't tell us why they were bothering us, they just attacked us, stepped on my heel, they roughed up my friend a lot."

See MISCONDUCT, page 5



Gov. Angus King, flanked by representative of all MWD chapters in the state, says, "It's a shame this question is on the ballot," during press conference in Augusta.

## Maine Won't Discriminate 'officially' launches campaign

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

"Maine hasn't, Maine doesn't and Maine won't discriminate," said Independent Governor Angus King on Tuesday, September 12. Governor King was the first guest speaker at the Augusta

press conference which signaled the official launching of the Maine Won't Discriminate campaign against Question #1 on the November ballot. About the question to limit the Maine Human Rights Act to its present form, King said, "I

think it's a shame that this question is on the ballot because it's going to divide us. . ."

He continued, "Maine people know who their neighbors are and, I think Maine people fundamentally subscribe to the philosophy of 'live and let live,' and that whether or not you have a job, you're entitled to work for a living no matter what you do in your private life that's lawful. It really is as simple as that."

King called attention to the diversity of the groups against the referendum question, saying "This isn't a partisan issue. This is an issue about people, and it's also an issue about the message that Maine sends to the rest of the country." He rhetorically asked, "Do we want to send a message that we are going to discriminate, that we are going to legalize discrimination?" King surprised those gathered by projecting the New York Times headline the day after the election, should this question not be defeated. "Maine Legalizes Discrimination" said King forcefully. "I don't want to see that headline. That's why I'm here

See CAMPAIGN, page 24



Signs of love and support greeted Sandy Titus at Monument Square rally

## Rally held for nurse accused of wrongdoing

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

On Thursday afternoon, August 10, a crowd of approximately 100 people gathered at Monument Square in Portland. Most were friends and supporters of nurse Sandy Titus, who has been accused of negligence in providing medical care to AIDS patients residing at Peabody House. TV cameras and reporters with their microphones followed Titus and others seeking comment and capturing on film the tender and supportive embraces being given to Titus by just about everyone there.

The common thread weaving through the speeches that afternoon was the professionalism, competency and total dedication of Titus to the needs of her patients. "I can't tell you what I've

learned from Sandy Titus professionally and personally," said Ann Marie Melendez, a care-giver who has worked with Titus. "She is just an awesome lady."

Anthony Spotton, a former Maine resident who found himself in a hospital bed in New York not getting any better after seven weeks, called his sister here in Maine saying it was time for him to return home. Spotton's sister called Sandy Titus, who in turn called Spotton to assure him that the wheels were already turning to get him home. "We've done this before," said Titus. Spotton said he felt "safe" for the first time in a long while. He added, "We must not allow care-givers to be spooked by the

See TITUS, page 6

## Investigation of AIDS caregiver ongoing -

"I believe the complaint from Ms. Wolters is meant to be vindictive and bears very little on the truth." R. Renwick to Board of Nursing, 7/12/95

### News & Analysis

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

Community Pride Reporter (CPR) was the first media organization in the state of Maine to break the story (June-July issue, 1995) of serious problems at Peabody House, Portland's hospice facility for terminally ill AIDS patients. Despite an exhaustive investigation and comprehensive story, CPR was unable to determine if a complaint by former Executive Director, Marg Wolters, had been filed with the Board of Nursing against Sandy Titus, RN.

The principle reason for this inability was that CPR was deliberately mis-

led by Wolters. Wolters had filed a complaint. She has since left Maine and returned to Duluth, Minnesota. CPR has obtained Wolters telephone number in Minnesota, but she does not return our calls. Ironically, it was Titus who recruited Wolters from Minnesota to come to Maine to help get Peabody House on its feet. The two nurses had worked together in Minnesota previously.

Wolters' six month contract (January, 1995 to July, 1995) with Peabody House was primarily designed so that

See AIDS, page 8



Sandy Titus and Frannie Peabody are longtime allies in the fight against AIDS



## 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  
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,  
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:  
Meeting: 6:30 - 8:00 pm.  
2nd & 4th Mondays  
Christ Church, Dane Street  
Call MWD York County  
Info Line - 207/985-9793

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.

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:  
7 Congress Street  
Belfast, ME 04915  
Cary Leah MacLeod  
207/338-4194

Washington County:  
RR #1, Box 177  
Millbridge, ME 04658  
Betty Deniston-207/546-2007  
Tom-207/546-7503

Waterville/Oakland:  
RR #3, Box 2299  
Oakland, ME 04963  
Diane Campbell-207/465-7574

Western Maine:  
62 High Street  
Farmington, ME 04938  
Gay/Straight Peoples' Alliance  
207/778-7380

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

## CHANGING MAINE

by Bobbi Keppel

A Gathering for grassroots organizers and educators will be held on Saturday, October 14, 9:30 am-4:30 pm in Augusta. A potluck lunch will enable continued discussion and networking, and participants are asked to bring something to share. This gathering will be an exciting opportunity for activists throughout Maine who are working for social change to gain mutual support and discover new ideas and strategies to help them do their organizing and educating more effectively and energetically.

"Changing Maine" will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Community Church in Augusta, and the event will give those involved in grassroots organizations a chance to talk with others doing similar work and to get a sense of the diversity of social change work happening in Maine. Participants will have

a chance to both educate and be educated through panels and discussions.

Larry Dansinger, convener, promises "No new groups; no new commitments. A day for ideas, insights, and support."

### GOALS FOR THE DAY are:

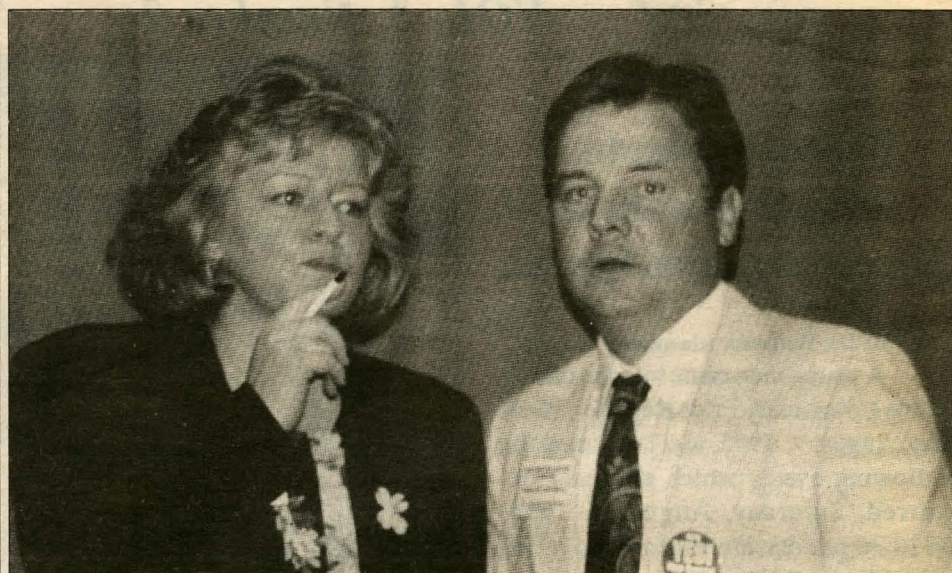
- \*Learning from others.
  - \*Renewing enthusiasm.
  - \*Identifying/re-identifying ourselves as educators.
  - \*Identifying/re-identifying the importance of our work.
  - \*Finding the support to keep on doing this work.
  - \*Re-examining how to do the work more effectively.
  - \*Looking at the big picture of what's going on with social change work locally, in Maine and beyond.
- For more information and a registration form, contact INVERT, PO Box 776, Monroe, ME 04951, or call Larry Dansinger at 207-525-7776. ΔΔ

## CMF Fund-raising Banquet

by David O. Cook

On Friday, October 6 at 6:30 PM at the Italian Heritage Center, you can hear the "fascinating story of how some very ordinary people stood up to the powerful and wealthy nationally organized militant gay lobby." The event, is

supporters the opportunity to meet John J. "Wacko" Hurley, organizer of the So. Boston Saint Patrick's Day Parade and Chester Darling, the attorney who defended the parade's right to exclude gay people from marching.



Bhoul Photo

### Concerned Maine Families' leaders, Cosby & Lockman ponder financial woes?

a \$20 a head (\$35 for couples) fundraiser for Concerned Maine Families (CMF), the organization founded over a year ago to introduce a Maine referendum question challenging existing gay rights ordinances and prohibiting such laws in the future.

Advertised under the title "What Happens to a State when 'Gay Rights' Laws are Passed?" the banquet offers

The event is promoted in a recent CMF mailing which includes a lengthy memo from the desk of Larry Lockman (CMF's Vice-Chairman) reiterating the dangers of gay rights and the duplicity of the "militant gay-rights lobby." In addition, the Lockman memo discusses CMF's "principled stand" which states that behavioral issues relating to homo-

See CMF, page 4

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## Legal ramifications for Maine if referendum question passes

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

A legal information sheet was enclosed in a press release packet issued recently by Maine Won't Discriminate (MWD). Also enclosed was a list of individuals and organizations opposing Question #1, (there are some very heavy hitters listed), newspaper editorials and a sheet entitled, "Who's Behind Question 1?"

Amidst cries of "foul" and accusations around the strategic validity of "unintended consequences," vs a more gay and lesbian emphasis going on within and without the campaign, there is, according to this legal information sheet, an impending disaster of catastrophic proportion facing Maine voters if they pass Question 1. This researched document makes the connection between the Maine Human Rights Act and the 12 additional minority groups who would be subject to the will of the majority. The Maine Human Rights Act made the other legislation possible. We have elected to reprint this information sheet in its entirety.

### THE QUESTION

The following wording will appear on the ballot in November, 1995:

Do you favor the changes in Maine law limiting protected classifications in future, state and local laws to race, color, sex, physical and mental disability, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, familial status, and marital status, and repealing existing laws which expand these classifications as proposed by citizen petition?

### THE STATUTE

If the referendum passes the following statute will be enacted as Maine law:

### AN ACT TO LIMIT PROTECTED CLASSES UNDER MAINE LAW

#### Section 4552-A Limitation of Protected Class Status

Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or any other provision of law, protected classes or suspect classifications under state or local human rights laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, charter provisions or policies are limited to race, color, sex, physical or mental disability, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, familial status, and marital status. Any provision of State or local law, rule, regulation, ordinance, charter provision or policy inconsistent with this section is void and unenforceable.

This section, being necessary for the welfare of the State and the inhabitants of Maine, shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purpose and is not to be interpreted or applied as a limitation or restriction on authority as enumerated in the Maine Constitution.

### THE CURRENT STATUS OF GAY MEN AND LESBIANS UNDER THE LAW

Currently, gay men and lesbians are not protected from discrimination

under either the state or federal constitutions. The Attorney General, Andrew Ketterer, has stated that this is the case. The only laws under which gay men and lesbians currently have protection in Maine are as follows: 1) the Portland Human Rights Ordinance; 2) the Maine



Pat Peard, Chair of Maine Won't Discriminate Executive Committee talks to reporters after recent press conference.

Balboni photo

Hate Crimes Act; and 3) the University of Maine System anti-discrimination policy. Even when we defeat this referendum in November, gay men and lesbians will still not have protection from discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, credit and public accommodations.

### THE INTENT OF THE REFERENDUM

The intent of this proposed new law is to repeal all existing protection for gay men and lesbians. If the referendum passes, the protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation under the Portland Human Rights Ordinance and the Maine Hate Crimes Act will be repealed. That section of the University of Maine System's anti-discrimination policy, which includes protection based on sexual orientation, will be rescinded.

### THE EFFECT OF THE REFERENDUM

Although the intent of the referendum is clear, it is so poorly written that it will have far broader consequences that will reach beyond the gay and lesbian community. If the referendum passes, only the ten groups listed in the question can be protected under any Maine state or local human rights law, rule, regulation, ordinance, charter provision or policy. CMF proposes to build a wall around Maine law and exclude anyone who is not in those ten groups.

Human rights laws extend beyond the Maine Human Rights Act and include all laws in Maine which insure a life with dignity including the basic rights of housing, employment, credit, education and public accommodation.

Because this proposed new law will have such far-ranging consequences, the following is a partial list of groups which will also lose protections they currently have under Maine law, if the referendum passes:

1. Workers' Compensation victims: 5 M.R.S.A. §4552. These individuals are currently protected from discrimination under the Maine Human

Rights Act.

2. Whistleblowers: 5 M.R.S.A. § 4552. These individuals are currently protected under the Maine Human Rights Act. The Whistleblowers' Protection Act (26 M.R.S.A. §§ 831 et. seq.) will also be repealed as would protec-

tion for whistleblowers under the Chemical Substance Identification Law (25 M.R.S.A. §1723).

3. Individuals who testify before the Maine Human Rights Commission: 5 M.R.S.A. §4633, 5 M.R.S.A. §4572(E) and 39-A M.R.S.A. §354. All of these statutes which protect individuals from discrimination if they make a charge, testify, appear before or otherwise assist in any hearing before the Maine Human Rights Commission would be repealed.

4. Smokers: 26 M.R.S.A. §597. Current protection from employment discrimination for smokers will be repealed.

5. Non-smokers: 22 M.R.S.A. §1544. Current protections under

Maine's Smoking Law would be repealed.

6. Low income: 5 M.R.S.A. §4581. Maine's Fair Housing law prevents discrimination in housing based on income and this law would be repealed.

7. Public assistance: 5 M.R.S.A. §4582. Maine's Fair Housing law prevents discrimination based on the receipt of Federal, State or local public assistance, including medical assistance and this law would be repealed.

8. Hunters: 12 M.R.S.A. § 7541. The statute that insures Mainers' basic right to hunt without interference would be repealed.

9. Residents of long term care facilities: 22 M.R.S.A. § 7925. Residents of long term care facilities are now protected from discrimination if their source of payment changes and this would be repealed.

10. Citizens: 5 M.R.S.A. § 7051(1). The current preference for United States citizens in appointment or recruitment in classified service would be repealed.

11. Active duty military personnel: 5 M.R.S.A. § 7051(4). The current protection for civil service employees who enlist or enroll in military service during a time of war, impending war or national emergency would be repealed.

12. Veterans: 30-A M.R.S.A. § 4743 (3). The veteran preference which currently exists in housing projects would be repealed.

13. Veterans: 5 M.R.S.A. § 7054. Currently veterans and their wives, husbands, widows, widowers, mothers and fathers have preference in competitive positions in the civil service and this

See LEGAL, page 4

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CMF from page 2

sexuality will not be used in CMF's campaign. Lockman also mentions the personal sacrifices made by CMF's founder and Chairman, Carolyn Cosby and refers to alleged death threats against her. Pointing to CMF's success to date — having triumphed over various legal challenges, CMF's anti-gay initiative will be on Maine's November 7 ballot, — and warning of the lengths that "gay militants" will go to to prevent passage of the measure, the Lockman memo reminds supporters that success on November 7 is not a sure thing; he ends by soliciting contributions to help the cause.

Since its founding, CMF's tactics have sparked controversy, in part because the principled stand mentioned above is at some variance with public CMF pronouncements, including a pamphlet on "Myths and Facts" of homosexuality, which attacked homosexual character and behavior. In addition, CMF posture that it was a homegrown, Maine, grassroots initiative were called into question when it was revealed that the organization was receiving ideological (and consulting) support from right-wing Christians outside of Maine. More recently, stories have surfaced in the media relating to possible CMF financial problems and alleged indiscretions with respect to Ms. Cosby's personal finances.

In spite of obvious connections to out-of-state religious conservatives, national conservative organizations have kept their distance from CMF (a fact alluded to in the Lockman memo) possibly out of fear that CMF tactics may do their cause more harm than good in the long run and possibly because, both inside and outside Maine, Ms. Cosby is not considered a serious conservative voice. In this context, the October 6 event may be both an attempt to bail out a financially ailing organization and also a way to demonstrate solidarity with anti-gay movements elsewhere. ΔΔ

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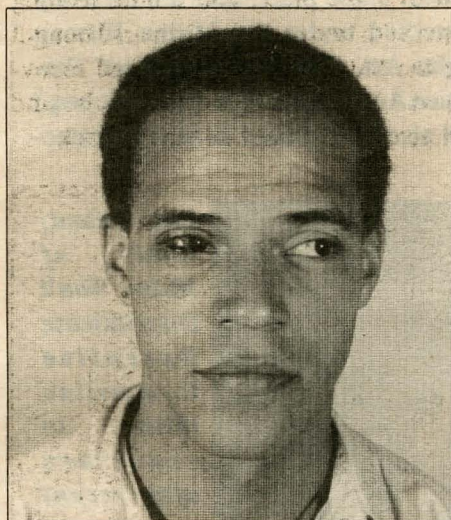
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## Cumberland County Grand Jury defies District Attorney - Charges alleged gay bashers with misdemeanor assault



**William Clarke, victim of a savage beating outside of Blackstones, a Portland gay bar. Grand Jury terms it a misdemeanor.**

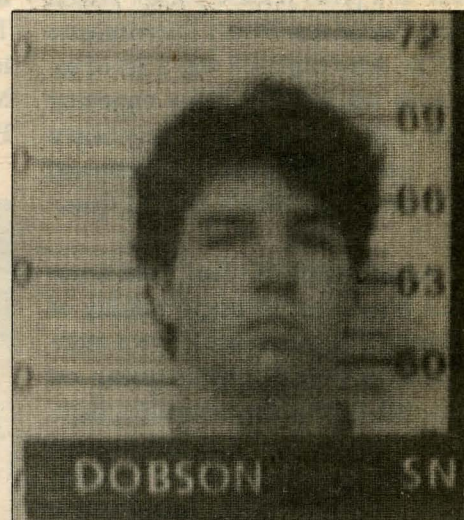
by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor  
Cumberland County Assistant District Attorney, Andrew Bloom, presented evidence to the Grand Jury, September 7, 1995 regarding the attack on

William Clarke outside Blackstone's, a Portland gay bar, July 1, 1995. Bloom presented the evidence expecting the Grand Jury would return an indictment for aggravated assault, a felony. They did not.

Without explanation and despite the savagery of the attack, the Grand Jury indicted Stephen Dobson and Rick Mitchell with simple assault, a misde-



**Rick Mitchell participated in attack on Clark with Dobson. Jury handed him slap on the wrist Class D misdemeanor.**



**Stephen Dobson, 19, indicted by Grand Jury on simple assault charges.**

meanor. The maximum penalty for a Class D misdemeanor, which this is, is 364 days in jail, according to Meg Elam, Deputy District Attorney.

The trial date has not been set.

## Portland's Standing Ovation has new manager

by Bruce Balboni

If you smell the intoxicating aroma of exotic foods wafting out of Standing Ovation, a restaurant near the corner of High and Congress Streets, Portland, you are the lucky beneficiary of the delicious West Indian cooking of the new manager, Elvis Gammon Frank.

Elvis was born on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and raised on St. John, but because of Puerto Rican relatives, he says, "My background is definitely Puerto Rican, with a splash of the islands."

Elvis plans some changes at the deli. He intends to introduce new menus "which will include a very great part of the Caribbean and West Indian, along with Puerto Rican dishes." Elvis



**Elvis Gammon Frank**

suggested that, "these foods will take your appetite for a long journey around the world and back in one place."

Elvis picked up his flair for cooking from his mother and grandmother both of whom had him help around the kitchen. He enjoyed what he was learning and doing and says, "I knew the kitchen would be one of my many destinations in the future."

He has lived in Portland since 1982. In addition to his cooking, Elvis also enjoys singing, interior decorating, sewing, cleaning and meeting people. He is presently a promoter, tailor and designer for the Miss Teen Virgin Islands Pageant.

Elvis is a hard worker who is dedicated to making Standing Ovation a unique and successful restaurant. His confidence to that end is well founded on years of experience. He also has a helper in whom he places great faith - he says, "With God, I know, all things are possible." ΔΔ

## LEGAL from page 3

preference would be repealed.

14. Congressional Medal of Honor winners: 12 M.R.S.A. § 7076(5). This group currently has a preference in receiving hunting licenses and

this would be repealed.

15. Health Care Workers: 22 M.R.S.A. § 1592. Health care workers who refuse to perform specific services are now protected from employment discrimination and this protection would be repealed.

16. Members of the National Guard: 37-B M.R.S.A. § 342(6). National Guard members are now protected from employment discrimination and this protection would be repealed.

17. Union organizers: 26 M.R.S.A. §§ 963,964. Union organizer's protection from discrimination would also be repealed.

## CONCLUSION

This proposed statute was written by Bruce Fein, an attorney from Virginia who was also involved in the anti-gay campaigns in Oregon and Colorado. The language is deliberately misleading and

confusing and it will wreck havoc on Maine law if it passes. Maine communities do not need an out of state lawyer to tamper with Maine law and to tell them what laws they can pass in their own cities and towns. Concerned Maine Families proposes to insure that discrimination will be a permanent part of Maine law.

Maine religious, political, and business leaders, including Governor Angus Kin, Attorney General Andrew Ketterer, and Buzz Fitzgerald, CEO of Bath Iron Works, have joined with 70 groups and organizations, including the Maine State Bar Association, the Maine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Maine Education Association. All have recognized that this measure is flawed and bad for Maine and have come out in opposition to this measure. Join with these leaders and Vote No on question #1 in November. ΔΔ



## BUSINESS PROFILE: SisterSpace

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor  
(SisterSpace Women's Resources, came into the world on June 1 at 337 Water Street in Augusta, and the world hasn't been the same since. Here's what owner J. M. Nickerson had to say about the center, its goals, and its offerings.)

CPR: What is SisterSpace anyway?

JMN: SisterSpace was created with two goals in mind: to provide a safe environment for women to explore new ways of thinking, feeling, and being, and to create a community where women can be both teachers and learners. The Center is a retail area, including books, music, cards and gifts, incense and oils, and many consignment items by local women artisans; we're also setting up on-going groups and workshops. Some of the groups are already up and running.

CPR: What's happening in those groups?

JMN: We have a Wednesday evening Women's Discussion Group which meets from 6:45-9:00 pm and is open to anyone who wants to come, whether to participate or just listen. We've recently had a celebration of the life and work of the late May Sarton, and discussions on such diverse topics as goddess lore, feminism and reflexology. We have regular full moon celebrations; September's full moon celebration will center on how to meditate, how to reach a meditative state. Also on tap for September is a two-part discussion on herbs for September 13 and 20, and then a discussion on the chakra system for the 27th. An experiential group on Thurs-

day evenings from 7:00-9:00 does more hands-on things.

In September we have a Found Poetry hands-on workshop, a sort of collage-making of a poem, on the 14th and a viewing of the video, "Woman and Her Symbols" on the 28th. Both the dis-



SisterSpace owner, J. M. Nickerson, behind the counter during Open House.

cussion group and the experiential group have brought many women out of the woodwork and into each other's lives—they have helped to create that community I spoke of before. We encourage one another to lead the groups, and support each other as teachers. Other workshops are planned for the fall, and I'm always looking for people to teach and lead them.

CPR: What about SisterSpace itself? What's it like?

JMN: Because I spend so much time there, I knew I'd have to make it roomy, comfortable and living room-ish,

or else I'd get bored and restless and grumpy. So that's what I did. When you walk into SisterSpace, it looks like someone's living room. I've got plants all over the place, and a little reading area with two really cool chairs I bought at the Salvation Army and had recovered. Bookcases line the walls, and there's a breakfast table in the back

where people hang out and have tea. Everywhere are gift items created by women—jewelry by Indigo Iris, White Wolf Designs, World of Beads, and other local artisans, sculpture by The Clay Goddess, dream catchers and other Native American traditional gifts, hand-decorated drums, handmade and drawn cards, and homemade massage oils. Response from the community concerning artistic creations has been great.

CPR: What books does SisterSpace carry?

JMN: I am committed to carrying women fiction writers and poets in the store. I also carry stuff on women's spirituality, alternative and natural medicine, sexuality and women's health, personal growth and recovery, lesbianism, and women's political and social empowerment. I have everything from Mary Daly to Marge Piercy to Merlin Stone. Although my stock is small right now, because SisterSpace just opened on June 1, it's growing all the time, and I encourage the women who come into the store to tell me what they're reading and what they are crazy about.

CPR: And people are welcome to just drop by and hang out in the store?

JMN: Sure. I encourage that because what happens is that one meets that one and they talk and get to know each other and share their experiences, and right there happens a tremendous opportunity for growth and exchange. Often a conversation is born out of someone making a remark about a book, and someone else picking up on it—and then it becomes valuable for the people involved and for SisterSpace. That's the great part about it, about having SisterSpace around. That's what SisterSpace is all about—enriching women's lives, adding to the pieces, expanding our community.

(SisterSpace Women's Resources is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:30 pm. If you would like more information about SisterSpace, would like to teach or lead a workshop or group, or have consignment items you would like to display at SisterSpace, please contact Jahneene at 207/621-2994.) ΔΔ

## MISCONDUCT, from page 1

CPR: What do you mean they stepped on your heel?

A: The cop crushed his heel on my foot. CPR: In what way did they rough up your friend?

A: They called him a queer, a hustler, a faggot. They were egging us on to do something. They were pushing us. They called me a hustler, queer and faggot and said I was working the Video Expo.

"They pushed my face down onto the hood of the truck and told me not to look at them, don't say anything unless I'm spoken to. They asked me a question, so I started to answer and they said, 'Shut up, don't talk to me unless I tell you you can talk.' I asked them if I was being charged and they told me to shut up. They wouldn't tell me anything.

"A reporter from Fox 51 showed up and was taking a lot of pictures. They were right there, right there. I think it was a set up. As soon as it happened they were there."

CPR: How did it end? How did the police leave you?

A: They told me to stay on my vehicle, don't get up. They threw my ID in front of me, they said stay right there and the next thing I know, they were in their car. CPR: Do you know the names of the cops?

A: My friend recognized him. His name is Pelletier. This other kid who was

walking by said one of them was Pelletier. They were in full uniform.

"While they had me face down on the hood of my truck they said, 'What are you doing in my city? Do you have a reason to be here? If you don't, leave. You're always out here. Why do you hang out here? What are you doing, selling your ass, hustling?' And they kept asking, 'What are you doing here,' every five minutes, 'What are you doing here.' It went on for over 20 minutes.

"I said I was just visiting, that's all I kept saying. 'I'm just visiting.' Earlier, I did go into the Video Expo to use the bathroom. The cop said, 'We saw you go in there. What are you doing in there? You're not supposed to be in there.'"

CPR: Why not?

A: I know. I'm over 18, I'm 22. They were egging us on by pushing us around. They had a boss-like manner, military type. They said things like, "Don't move, don't talk." There were no charges. I don't see why they did that to us. I gave them permission to search my truck."

### Declines to file complaint

CPR contacted the Portland Police Department, at the request of the young man, to determine what the procedure was for him to file a complaint against the officer who had called him "faggot."

Dep. Chief Mark Dion said that Detective Sergeant Gagliano of Internal Affairs handled such complaints.

When asked if there is a Portland police officer named Pelletier, Dion said there was more than one with that name but that Gagliano could determine, by time and place, who the officer in question was.

To date, the young man has not filed a complaint. When asked why, he simply states, "Because I hate cops."

### Story in "Casco Bay Weekly" triggers crackdown

There have been several arrests at the Fine Arts Cinema and Video Expo following a story which appeared in the

July 27, 1995 edition of "Casco Bay Weekly." In that story, Rick MacPherson, describes his experiences as an undercover reporter exposing the heretofore unknown facts about illicit sex between men which takes place at these establishments.

Though "Casco Bay" framed the story as a health issue, the police simply moved in and arrested people. Portland's Chief of Police, Michael Chitwood, appeared on TV to report that his department had arrested two adults for engaging in mutual masturbation in a darkened corner of the Fine Arts Cinema. Mutual masturbation is next door to celibacy in terms of safe sex. ΔΔ

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# TITUS, from page 1

potential for character assassination, and especially not Sandy Titus . . . All you have to do is stand close enough to her to feel her goodness."

In recounting his experiences and those of friends with AIDS, activist/photographer Tom Antonik said, "Whenever

Sandy's been involved with the care of someone, I know that that quality of care is uncompromised and has never ever been breached. In this epidemic that has brought out the best and the worst of people, I have seen Sandy epitomize what is the best in us. She is about life, she is about maintaining quality of living, she is about possibilities . . ." He expressed that complaints against Titus from within the health care community "is not entirely surprising," and added, "She challenges that the standard models of care are not always good enough." He concluded his remarks by saying, "I need Sandy Titus. I think we all need Sandy Titus."

Georgia Humphrey told of the loss of a close friend to AIDS. He was Humphrey's house mate and wanted to die at home. Sandy Titus provided some of the help they both needed to get through that trying time. "What I know of Sandy Titus is this," said Humphrey, "She is the face of wisdom and the hands of experience. She brings her heart with every visit and she cherishes the human spirit."

Charlie Wynott spoke about the compassion, care and education Titus provided to both Wynott and his partner of six years, Jon Piefer, who died earlier this year. Wynott said, "For one entire week at my home, whenever I'd need Sandy Titus, she was there, whether it was four o'clock in the morning or whether it was eight o'clock at night, Sandy said, 'I'll be right there,' and believe me, she was. . . On the times when things took place that made me wonder what was happening to the person I dearly loved, Sandy was there . . . to explain to both me and Jon what was happening at the time and what to expect to come." He summed up his statement by telling the crowd, "There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that Sandy Titus is competent and caring. This state cannot take this woman's license away and leave me and many more people with HIV and AIDS without the valuable, compassionate services that only she can provide. The only person I want in my room when I am dying is Sandy Titus."

Fred Wilson was the last scheduled speaker of the afternoon. His remarks focused on Titus's relationship to the AIDS and HIV community as a whole. He said that two words "underscored the relationship that Sandy Titus has with those she cares for: love and trust. Anyone who has met Sandy and knows Sandy, knows that love is the Alpha and Omega of Sandy Titus. . . Sandy is trusted by the AIDS and HIV community for many reasons," he

## OUT on MDI Fund-raiser Rocks City Hall

by Paula Stockholm

"I grew up in this town . . . haven't been back for a long time . . . and this just blows my mind!" observed Evan as he gazed a sea of gays and lesbians dancing in the auditorium of Bar Harbor's Municipal Building.

I nodded, understanding that not so long ago holding such an event in a town-owned building would have been unthinkable. Evan had come home to a different Bar Harbor. The event was yet another OUT on MDI benefit for Maine Won't Discriminate - a record hop is what they were called in my day. The ambiance resurrected the term from my memories — this municipal building used to be a school

The August 26th event was a wild success! Well over one hundred of us were here. The gate, before expenses, was over \$1100! The room was just alive with energy - a different energy born of familiarity and celebration. Evan was the only one who had mentioned it, but I think we all felt a sense of being out and safe in new spaces.

The dance floor was packed. Being a wallflower was not an option. There seemed to be few rules about who was dancing with whom - one partner would dart to the sidelines and coerce - or drag - a friend onto the floor. I never dance. I danced this night. Saying no was an exercise in futility.

Around eleven, the music stopped and Ruth Blackburn took to the stage to announce she was not an emcee. She then proceeded to whip the hometown crowd into a campaign frenzy reminding us all of the work ahead and the need for each and every one's help.

Then it was show time!

Lexie Love, Divina, and Desire were in perfect form. The audience, exuberant and appreciative, sat in a cozy semi-circle on the floor in front of the stage. Divina brought the house down with her three numbers. The third, Tina Turner's "Proud Mary," earned her a standing ovation. The cop in the corner was on the edge of his seat - his mouth hung wide open as Divina strutted her stuff.

The event started to wind down after the performances. Clusters of friends paused in the parking lot, cooling in the summer breeze, making plans for tomorrow. Inside, a dozen couples clung to one another for that last slow dance while others picked up and put away chairs.

Although OUT on MDI is only a year and a half old, this group has allowed the gay community in the Acadia region to be much more connected and visible. Their efforts and events, such as this fundraiser, have made living proud as gays, lesbians, bis and transgendered a reality.



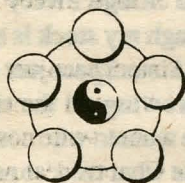
Rosanna Rich & Nancy Lowry on the dance floor at recent OUT on MDI dance and this room, the gym.

DJ Tom sat at one corner of the stage with a stereo system from his living room. Two bookshelf speakers driven to their limits filled the hall with enough sound to satisfy the dancers yet allow conversations. Odds and ends from other events occupied the rest of the stage. A lonely cluster of balloons hung from the ceiling of a room that defied decoration. Two uniformed Bar Harbor police officers watched passively from the dim corners.

continued, "but the main reason is her long term involvement. Long term in terms of the fact that Sandy has been involved with this epidemic since the beginning and involved with this community for the last seven years. But also long term in that HIV is a long term disease, and . . . Sandy is there for us, for our families, for our health care providers . . . Her broad experience has made her a limitless resource of information and insight. We trust

Sandy."

Titus stood, somewhat expressionless, surrounded by a small group of friends, listening to the kind words of the speakers. One had to wonder whether the words she was hearing could begin to dull the pain of the assaultive complaints leveled against her. ΔΔ



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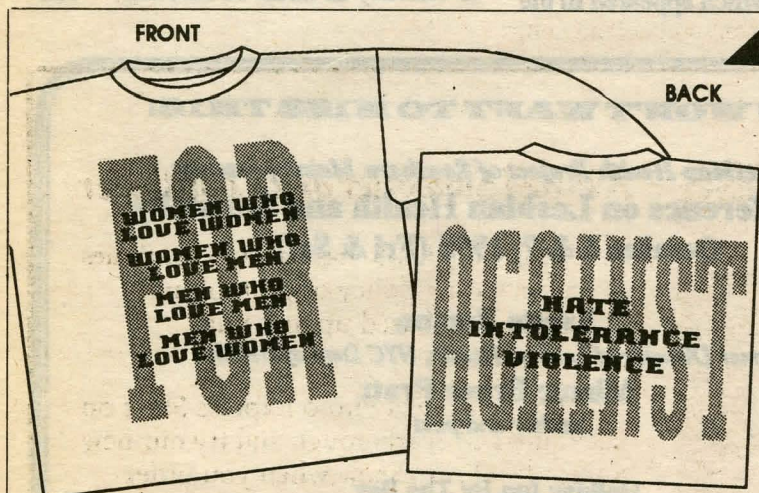
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## A Month of AIDS Case Work at The AIDS Project

by John Bean

Because of the confidential nature of work at a social service agency, and particularly given the necessity of protecting the identity of our HIV-positive clients at TAP, we rarely talk about what we do as case managers. I think the gay community as a whole has a sense of how HIV disease affects an individual, and some information about how an AIDS service organization might try to be of assistance. I wonder, however, if this perception of AIDS work might at times be incomplete.

So, after some brief comments about other local AIDS organizations and their services, I'll present an overview of my August case-work. First, a couple of caveats: identifying details are censored, rendering this account somewhat insubstantial and bland compared to the full story; this report only represents one quarter of TAP's client base, other case managers may have had dissimilar Augusts; lastly, this August, mercifully, had no deaths within my client population - many months do, and helping an individual and his or her family cope with the dying process is a typical case management task.

Rather than give an exhaustive survey of AIDS services, I'll just highlight some of the groups most active with my clients. Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services (M.A.S.S.) runs a volunteer network of Buddies who provide ongoing emotional support to an assigned person living with AIDS (PWA). The People with AIDS Coalition offers a drop-in center, the Living Room North, whose services include a food pantry, clothes closet, medical equipment loan program, dinners, social events, and emotional and logistic sup-

port through volunteer staff. Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) offers pet food and other pet supplies to PWA's. The Names Project offers families, biological and chosen, a chance to grieve/memorialize their loved one in the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The AIDS Lodging House has converted a building in Portland into four subsidized apartments for PWA's. Peabody House has a six bedroom facility for the care of PWA's in the advanced stages of their illness. The HAVEN and Shelter + Care subsidized housing coordinators administer HUD grants to create affordable housing for PWA's. The AIDS Legal Referral Project is a group of attorneys who volunteer and recruit other volunteer lawyers to provide pro bono legal services to PWA's. A variety of physicians, the AIDS Consultation Service, Stratogen Health Care, visiting nurse services, and hospice organizations have taken on HIV disease as a health care priority. These are some of the resources that help me as a case manager address the difficulties a person with HIV faces.

The month of August started off with a client facing eviction due to non-payment of his share of a subsidized apartment's rent. Losing his subsidy would be even worse, financially, than keeping up with his share, but folks living on less than five hundred dollars a month (Supplemental Security Income from Social Security for disabled persons) often get into financial messes. My role was to help the housing agency contact the client, who had no phone. Other housing problems included trying to get a new subsidized apartment for someone at risk for harassment and

possible violence in a tough neighborhood, and helping transfer a subsidy from one county to another, closer to family.

The legal arena included some incarcerated clients needing advocacy around medical care in county jails and longer-term correctional facilities. It is currently very difficult to get a medical appointment with an HIV specialist while in jail, or to any specialist. I enlisted the help of the Maine Civil Liberties Union on this matter, and also asked their help with problems in prison around staff loosely disclosing HIV status of inmates.

Legal needs for other clients, not incarcerated, included referrals to pro bono attorney services for estate planning (one an emergency in hospital, the other as the client made some decisions about who should manage his affairs if incapacitated), and for help fending off creditors, perhaps through bankruptcy.

Throughout August I fielded several requests from clients for volunteer drivers to doctor's appointments. It takes a large volunteer base, and a lot of phone contact, to keep enough drivers on hand to cover rides any day of the week. We also helped get drivers to take children to the affected and infected by AIDS kids camp in late August, Camp Chrysalis. Other volunteer matches that came up in August included housecleaning volunteers for three clients whose poor health keeps them from household chores.

The AIDS Project administers a fund for the medical needs of clients, and as we neared the end of the fiscal year, it was running out. Some of the alternative therapies practitioners who provide services (massage, acupuncture, Chinese herbs),

and other medical providers (psychotherapists, dental clinics, etc.) were notified of the gap until new monies came in. I tried to juggle client needs, fee negotiations, donated services, and the remaining Ryan White Care Act monies so that through August and September the least amount of disruption of these needed treatments would occur.

The last major category of client activity was intakes and general benefits counseling. I met with new clients in southern York County, dealing with isolation and financial woes. A client who'd been out of touch needed help deciding whether or not to switch doctors. A couple of clients were waiting for disability benefits to be approved, and were going in the red with their monthly housing bills and health care costs. The HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS, funds from HUD) monies in the HAVEN program might eventually help, but in the meantime these clients were under a lot of stress. Other clients ran into big car repair bills, or prescription costs, and luckily the collection jars of Every Penny Counts at local businesses had pulled enough money in to cover at least part of these expenses.

So, case management at The AIDS Project looks something like that. Much of the work involves helping people survive financially, with as much control over their lives and dignity as our society has cared enough to safeguard. Otherwise, I try to be of help in solving any problems that come up, and for some, I also become a confidant and advisor. The richness of their emotions as people go through these life changes is both the reward and the hardship of working in an AIDS organization.  $\Delta\Delta$

## Maine HIV Advisory Committee Addresses Viatical Concerns

by Kate Perkins

It is becoming more and more common for persons with HIV to sell their life insurance and use the money for fun, medication, or a variety of other purposes. This practice has spawned a new "AIDS Industry" of Viatical Companies and Viatical Brokers. Anyone who has read a national gay magazine or visited the local ASO has probably seen informational materials or read their ads, and there seem to be more such companies every day.

Unlike most insurance or investment companies though, these businesses are not regulated or licensed and their practices vary widely. As a result, while one PWHIV might receive \$75,000 for the sale of a \$100,000 policy, another might receive only \$45,000 for the same policy. In addition, there are all kinds of riders or side benefits that may be attached to our life insurance policy that may also be subject to the sale, or may not be, depending on whether we know it's there and what the viatical company puts in the small print.

As a result, there can be unintended negative consequences to the sale of a policy and there may be instances where a PWHIV is "ripped off" or doesn't re-

ceive what might, in a regulated environment, be considered fair market value for the policy. Several states have responded to the situation by enacting licensing requirements for viatical companies and regulated their practices. The intent is consumer protection, but the long term effect is unknown. It's really too soon to tell.

Maine has not yet enacted laws that would govern viatical companies and brokers. However, the ME HIV AC is considering such legislation. There are a variety of issues to consider, and

### Viaticals - How it works:

(adapted from info published in a Houston area newspaper)

1. A person with a "terminal illness" seeks to convert his or her life insurance policy into cash. The Seller contacts a Broker to help find the best deal possible.
2. A person with some cash to invest seeks a profitable return. The Investor contacts a Viatical Company to be matched with a seller and to assess the risk of the policy. The viatical company takes a 3 to 5 percent cut of the settlement price upon closing of the deal.
3. The Broker, who charges the

Seller a fee of usually 6 percent of the settlement price, solicits bids on the policy from several viatical companies. Offers range from 33% to 80% of the value of the policy, depending on the life expectancy of the seller. The longer the Seller is expected to live, the more spartan the offer. That's because the Investor must wait longer to collect and is paying the insurance premiums in the meantime. (It can be difficult to find an Investor if the Seller is expected to live more than 4 years.)

4. The Broker and company negotiate the settlement and a Title com-

pany, which charges a fee of less than 1 percent, is brought in to transfer ownership of the policy to the viatical company.

5. The Seller is paid the settlement price by the title company, which has taken the funds from the Investor. The responsibility of paying the policy's premium is assumed by the title company on behalf of the Investor.

6. The Seller dies. The Investor is paid the full value of the life insurance policy by the Insurance Company.

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## AIDS, from page 1

Wolters could complete the certification/licensure process for Peabody House Residence, Home Health Care & Hospice. Though Wolters has left, the home health care function of Peabody House remains incomplete despite the fact that Mallory Marshall, Board Member, told CPR in June, 1995, that Wolters had completed this job.

When this reporter first visited Peabody House in late May, 1995 to conduct an interview, it was clear that Wolters and Peter Haffenreffer, Board Member, expected CPR to do a promotional piece for Peabody House. They were not interested in discussing any of the problems and rumors about problems that were circulating widely in the AIDS community and the gay and lesbian community in general at that time. My knowledge of certain events made them visibly uncomfortable. I could only conclude that like many AIDS organizations, the staff abuses the concept of "client confidentiality" by lowering the veil of secrecy over anything embarrassing to them.

Their reluctance to probe issues related to quality of client care made writing the story especially difficult. Conversely, Sandy Titus, and those who supported her, were quite willing to discuss the goings-on at Peabody House.

As the story unfolded, it became evident that Sandy Titus' definition of "client-centered care" was the flash point for the many disagreements surrounding how to run Peabody House. This philosophical difference metastasized until it permeated every aspect of Peabody House and its staff, and ultimately threatened to bring down the whole enterprise.

Wolters was interviewed June 6, 1995 by CPR. Wolters wrote her complaint letter to the Board of Nursing, June 5, 1995. Despite repeated questions regarding whether Wolters had made such a complaint, she refused to comment. Indeed, Wolters had instructed Peabody House Financial Manager, Scott Irwin, as early as May 11, 1995, to write to the Board of Nursing to ascertain the complaint process. Others in the know also refused to verify whether Wolters had officially complained to the Board of Nursing. Since no one would confirm the rumor that a complaint had been made, there was no way of knowing what the nature of the complaint was.

Jean Caron, Executive Director of the Board of Nursing, was not available for comment, despite repeated telephone calls to her office. No other staff at the Board of Nursing was forthcoming about this matter. Caron has since co-operated with CPR's attempts to obtain information about this case, though she refused to let us have a copy of Wolters' original complaint letter and Titus' response to it, citing patient confidentiality.

## Wolters complaint letter obtained

CPR has obtained Wolters' original complaint letter dated June 6, 1995, Titus' response dated July 12, 1995, and many letters addressed to the Board of Nursing written on behalf of Sandy Titus. There are two instances in Wolters' letter where clients are referred to... by number. Confidentiality was preserved simply by blacking out these two numbers before giving the letter to CPR. Caron could have done as much.

Excerpts from Wolters' letter are as follows:

"... The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention concerns I have regarding the nursing clinical practice of Sandy Titus, RN. I believe Ms. Titus' techniques fall below nursing standards for competent practice. Later in this letter I will present a chronology of what I believe to be serious, actionable behavior on the part of Ms. Titus. Regarding basic level of care, the following examples illustrate my concerns:

- \* A client does not have a bath, sponging or oral hygiene for over three weeks.

- \* A bed-bound client is not turned, PROM, or rubbed, resulting in bed sores and painful extremities.

- \* Clients sit in their own urine, excrement.

- \* A confused client frequently falls out of bed. Restraints are suggested. Ms. Titus rejects this option.

"On February 16, 1995, Peabody House admitted its first client. Sandy Titus RN, Volunteer Resident Administrator, worked in conjunction with VNA & Hospice of South Portland to develop the client's plan of care. On March 3 our second client was admitted with the same coordination in place.

"Upon my assessment of care delivery for these first two clients, I concluded that Ms. Titus was unable to clarify her role here and had confused the implementation of our clients' plans of care. These conclusions were reinforced by expressions of concern by clients' families and by our clients themselves. Each person voiced feelings of confusion about Ms. Titus' role and level of decisionmaking.

"As a consequence of this assessment, during the week of March 13, I recommended to the Peabody House Board of Directors that Ms. Titus be removed as Volunteer Resident Administrator. This recommendation was accepted and Ms. Titus moved out of the residence during the week of March 20, 1995.

"Ms. Titus then began her newly defined role as Volunteer Triage Nurse. Other RNs in the community also volunteered to assist in this capacity for future coverage. The triage role is defined as a 4:30 pm to 7:00 am on-call position. The Triage nurse coordinates client plans of care with the VNA & Hospice during those

hours. As Executive Director I facilitate the care process during the day hours.

"Thereafter ensued a chronology of questionable events which now lead me to the unpleasant task of writing this letter:

April 20: A physician order is given for client X to receive Ativan 0.5 mg p.o. @ HS. I ask Ms. Titus to have the order filled and given to the client.

April 27: I discover the client has no prescription bottle for Ativan, but does have Ativan in each required medication envelope. Further research indicates the prescription is still at the pharmacy.

May 1: A physician order for Tigan Supp. 200 mg is given to relieve nausea for client Y. Ms. Titus disputes the order, stating that the medication will be ineffective. I believed then that Ms. Titus, as Triage nurse, did obtain the medication and administer it on May 2.

May 3: Client's nausea persists and I discover that the Tigan has not been administered. I question Ms. Titus, who explains that the pharmacy has been unable to obtain the drug. In normal clinical practice when a drug is unobtainable the RN is to call the physician, who then adjusts the order accordingly. This procedure was not followed resulting in our client's discomfort.

May 4: I perform a thorough search of the premises and discover medications from previous clients, some with labels scratched off, stored in an office drawer. These medications were later boxed and sent to Augusta on May 11. At our weekly team meeting it is agreed that VNA & Hospice will take over total responsibility for setting up client medications. Sheila Kavanaugh of VNA is present. All envelopes are checked for accuracy according to physician orders. Many errors are found and documented by the VNA & Hospice RN.

May 5: Ms. Titus arrives at Peabody House for the death of a client. Ms. Titus reads client charts and notes the errors discovered by VNA. Ms. Titus calls Sheila Kavanaugh at VNA, who urges her to speak with me. Instead of doing so, Ms. Titus calls Board Members not already present and requests an immediate meeting. At approximately 9:00 am Ms. Titus goes to her car and returns with a grocery bag. Soon thereafter Ms. Titus and myself meet with Board Members Peter Haffenreffer, Frannie Peabody, Lee Urban and Chris Behan. Ms. Titus explains that it is common knowledge that she exchanges medications between clients. She then turns over a grocery bag of medications and notifies The Board of her resignation as the Volunteer Triage RN.

"With this information I have presented to you, I question the ability of Ms. Titus to dispense medications. There appears to be a pattern of poor judgment indicated by her care-giving assessments, unilateral changes of physician orders without follow-up or collaboration, medication errors, and protocol violations involving Schedule II Narcotics/Analgesics.

"I believe that nurses, like physicians, are to cause no harm to their patients, and I have a responsibility to uphold that standard. I accept this responsibility and take action in this letter to fulfill my obligation. I trust that with investigation this issue will be resolved.

Sincerely, Margaret A. Wolters"

Sandy Titus, in her response letter to the Board of Nursing, gave explanations for the questions raised by Wolters. Many of the letters in support of Titus from fellow professionals, family and partners of deceased Peabody House clients and volunteers at Peabody House also answered Wolters' charges against Titus. Some of these letters went beyond the charges and provided a chilling portrait of Wolters, and paint a disturbing picture of Peabody House which raises serious questions about the Board of Directors' inability to find solutions.

In reference to the client who hasn't bathed in three weeks, Titus writes, "He (the client) was very fatigued and exhausted from his bout with pneumonia and HIV wasting disease, as well as what he had been told was a fungus over his entire body. He was an independent autonomous person responsible for and fully capable of his own care and hygiene, and resistant to overtures of assistance. The focus of our care plan was to establish relationships so that we could be of support to him long term. His decision three weeks later to stay in Peabody House was based primarily on his trust of me (Titus). He allowed the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) nurse to assist him with a bath shortly thereafter."

In reference to the "bed-bound" client Titus writes, "Due to the advanced nature of his (the client's) extreme wasting disease and his resistance to intervention, I did not feel it (his bed sores) was uncommon or reflective in any way of poor nursing care. On April 5, 1995 the VNA nurse and I began talking to him about an air bed to relieve as much pressure as possible. He was immobilized from a spinal tap performed at Mercy Hospital which he contended was done without his permission. He did not want to be touched.

"Finally, on April 17, 1995, (By his own admission he was stubborn, but always his sensorium was clear) I convinced him he needed to try the bed and we could keep his own bed in the room in case he did not like the air bed. (Please understand that this dying man had not been in his own special Maxipedic bed for several months and it represented home and sanctuary to him.)

"On the morning of Tuesday, April 18, 1995, when the VNA nurse told Ms. Wolters that the bed was to be delivered at 3:30 in the afternoon, she was told that that would not be possible because it would interfere with a birthday party for Frannie Peabody and would have to wait until Wednesday. We had chosen 3:30 pm intentionally as we knew there would be enough volunteers to help expedite the move. Due to the painful nature of his condition we estimated it should take 5 or 6 people. The VNA nurse made arrangements to have the bed delivered at 2, and I made arrangements for the help. We executed the move smoothly. Needless to say, we were both unhappy that a social function would be put before client's needs, especially knowing that Frannie herself would never want that or condone it."

In reference to the charge about leaving clients sitting in their own urine and/or excrement, Titus writes, "Never in my nursing career have I or could I, leave a

## GAY MALE COUPLES GROUP

A 12-week closed therapeutic group for gay male couples will begin on Tuesday, October 3, 1995, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Group co-facilitators are  
Bill Barter, LCPC and Randy May, LMSW  
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client in urine or excrement. Of all the allegations, this is the one most painful to me. Racking her brain for what on earth this might be alluding to the VNA nurse recalled a morning when a client had been up all night vomiting, that he had been in a lot of distress and had finally fallen asleep.

"There was a small amount of vomitus on his T-shirt and pillow and when the Agency Certified Nurses Aide (CNA) wanted to wake him up to clean him, I suggested that it would not hurt him to wait to be cleaned up until he awakened, that his sleep was more important at that point. I did find clients at Peabody house lying in urine..." At this point in Titus' letter, she refers the Board of Nursing to other letters written in support of herself which deal with this specific allegation.

Anne Marie Melendez, a residential aide at Peabody house, writes, "Peabody house left me to care for four dying patients on the overnight shift all alone. It was not Marg Wolters who gave me staff, even though she was the one who did staffing schedules, and was also told in staff meetings that I insisted on help during my shift. Sandy Titus was the person who volunteered to come in and help if I needed it. She helped me to turn and position and even change people who otherwise may have had to lay in their own excrement and urine due to the fact that it sometimes took two people to move people in that much pain. Sandy would come in at 4:00 am if I needed her. She is the most caring nurse I have ever known and worked with.

"There are people out there who wrongly accuse because they are guilty of what they allege and they know it so they turn tables to cover themselves."

Caroline Greenleaf, a direct care volunteer addressed this subject as well. She writes, "Sandy taught many of us by example. For instance, it is a well known fact that Sandy does not endorse the use of incontinence products such as "Depends" if that use is primarily for the convenience of the caregiver. She has tirelessly changed a client's bed over and over in lieu of subjecting them to the humiliation of a diaper if it is not wanted or necessary. I have witnessed her changing a bed over and over when the client was unable to get out of the bed. ... She (Sandy) never left anyone lying in feces or urine. Nor did she neglect to attend to any matter of client welfare as alluded to in Ms. Wolters' complaint."

In reference to the use of restraints (also known as poseys) to prevent people from falling out of bed, Sandy writes, "The issue of the restraint order is particularly inflammatory and probably was the beginning of the end of my tenure at Peabody House and my untiring efforts to make the dream a reality. The dream had essentially come out of my work in the community and embodied Frannie Peabody's long time work and we were joined by generous, good spirited people who believed in what we wanted to do, and the great need for that.

"The VNA nurse called me the morning of May 2, 1995, extremely upset and angry that Ms. Wolters had ordered the VNA nurse (a different one) to get a restraint order (from a doctor - only doctors can order bed restraints) for client Z. The angered VNA nurse also called the



Marg Wolters, former Executive Director & Peter Haffenreffer, Founder & Board Member

client's case manager at The AIDS Project (TAP). TAP's Housing Coordinator, Paul Lavin, subsequently determined with the State that it was illegal to use restraints in a Residential Care Facility.

"I, likewise, was very upset with the idea, knowing client Z's condition and, furthermore, I was protective of what Peabody House was supposed to be about - a home filled with love and support. I called Frannie Peabody who responded, "No, no, no" and "What can we do?"

"I felt that I had essentially no authority left (since Ms. Wolters told the CNAs on April 21 to stop calling me for help and not to listen to me) and the only thing I knew to do was to call a Board Member. I told him that Ms. Wolters wanted client Z to be restrained and his response was, "Wouldn't it be all right at night and he could just have a bell to ring for help?" I replied urgently, 'no,' that the issue was that client Z was confused and disoriented, that he would not be able to use a bell, that, in fact, a) he was trying to get out of bed because he was needing to vomit and he always tried to vomit in the waste basket or sink, that he needed help vomiting. b) that he was coming over the side rails because he was disoriented and that he needed help with that, and c) most importantly, he was dying and needed a warm loving presence beside him. Many people had the same passionate response to the idea of restraints at Peabody House and offered to sit beside him so that he would have support. He died on Friday, May 5, 1995, surrounded with love and care, not having been restrained, nor did he fall again."

Several volunteers and others who worked at Peabody House commented in their letters about this particular restraint issue. Robert Renwick, a volunteer, wrote, "I was present and had some care for client Z, the patient Ms. Wolters wanted to restrain. I knew client Z to be a very independent man who resisted help unless absolutely necessary. He fell out of bed several times because he wanted to vomit in the wastebasket and not mess up his bed. When someone was with him to hold the pan for him to vomit into he had no problem. I would have stayed with him all night rather than have him restrained."

In reference to the claims made by Wolters regarding the administration of Ativan on April 20th and 27th, Titus simply denies, in great detail, the assertions made.

Likewise, Titus denies the allegation made regarding the Tigan incident on May 1st.

In reference to the May 3rd allegation, Titus points out that the procedure at Peabody House was to call Home Health Agencies (HHA), not the physician. Re-

garding the client's discomfort, Titus writes, "In fact, the client had extensive abdominal discomfort from the time of his admission and in no way did any action or negligence of mine ever contribute to this."

In reference to the May 4th allegations, Titus writes, "The medications alluded to did not require a search to find!!! Anyone involved in care decisions knew that all medications brought in with clients were stored in a drawer in one of the offices. ... Ms. Wolters speaks of a weekly meeting as if it was a regular occurrence. In fact, the meeting of May 4th was the first such meeting of its kind."

Much of the confusion around medications and Wolters' May 4th and 5th allegations is related to an envelope system instituted by Titus. Prior to the envelope system, clients meds were in bottles on their bedside table and frequently were scattered across the table and on the floor.

Caroline Greenleaf, Peabody House volunteer, explained the system thusly, "The system is set up so that the envelope at the front of the box contains the next scheduled dosage of medications. The envelope is marked with the date and the time to be administered. To facilitate monitoring of medications taken or missed, the front envelope is moved to the back of the box in a vertical position once the medication has been taken, or not taken, as the case may be. Whatever medications might have been found in any envelope in the back of the box would not be indicative of current dosages.

"If there was an envelope which contained an excess of any particular medication, it would serve no differently than if the bottle of medication was on the bedside table. Clients and all direct care givers knew that only front horizontally placed envelopes contained correct dosages. Someone not understanding this system might have misinterpreted it I suppose, but had inquiries been made of the people who knew how it worked, it would have been clear that there were not dosage errors and the client was in no danger."

Titus provided more information about the May 5th allegation by writing in her letter, "I turned them (client's drugs) over to Ms. Wolters because I was leaving Peabody House at that instant and did not want one more item of responsibility. I also told her in front of the Board Members how wrong it was not to have protocols and sign-outs for narcotics, that they should be locked up, that Peabody house was in violation of many requirements ... I realized that I was at risk of being set up and that I feared for my license and professional career. At no time did I say it is common knowledge that I exchange medications between clients."

One letter, written by Karen Pettee, volunteer at Peabody House, illustrates a frightening picture of who Marg Wolters

really is. Karen writes, "Marg was very condescending and spoke in an unnecessarily loud voice to client A. Client A was not given any choice as to what she would eat for dinner and was never asked what she would like to drink. Marg asked me to rent the video "Sleepless in Seattle" ("for client A"). The story is about a child whose mother dies and he tries to help his Dad find a new Mom. Client A has two children and is very depressed about being separated from them, so she either slept or looked at the wall during the movie, while Marg laughed out loud and commented on what a "funny movie" it was. When it was time to put on client A's pajamas Marg had no respect for client A's modesty, leaving her uncovered from the waist up, as client A attempted to cover herself with her partially paralyzed arm. I intervened at that point, covering her and then buttoning her pajamas when we got them on. At 10 pm Marg casually mentioned that she'd forgotten client A's 8 pm meds."

This letter and the many others written in support of Ms. Titus provide a shocking litany of inadequate care, untrained staff, vindictive administrators, neglected clients and indifferent Board Members. The facts suggest a sort of bureaucratic malpractice and cry out for the resignation of the original Board Members and the re-instatement of Titus in the role of Clinical Director. It is the Board who bears the ultimate responsibility for the tragic mess Peabody House got itself into and their acceptance of that responsibility would provide a refreshing new start.

Lee Urban, the new Executive Director, did not return CPR's call. Secrecy is hardly the way to go about clearing up this quagmire. As the principle newspaper for the gay and lesbian community in Maine, Peabody House does owe a special responsibility to the Community Pride Reporter to keep us informed of what goes on there. The Board may not recognize this responsibility, but that doesn't mean it doesn't exist. Clearly, they have trouble understanding just what their responsibilities are.

Perhaps the saddest episode in this sordid tale was the spectacle on TV of Portland's Police Chief Chitwood shooting his mouth off about "exhuming bodies" to prove whether or not Titus had administered lethal doses of narcotics. Can you imagine the anguish of the families of the recently deceased Peabody House clients thinking their son or daughter's body will be exhumed? It is simply unbelievable that a man in such high office of public trust could be so insensitive.

(Delthia Vilasuso, RN, Executive Director, Visiting Nurse Association, also wrote a letter to the Board of Nursing which raised questions regarding Titus' conduct at Peabody House. Her complaints largely parallel Wolters' complaint letter, which isn't surprising insofar as Wolters enlisted the support of VNA early on in her vendetta against Titus.) ΔΔ

**WHAT'S NEW AT**

**KARAOKE IS BACK !!!**  
Fridays nights 8:00 pm  
**all gay DJs male + female**

**LIVE BAND :**  
**MOMMA'S NOISE**  
**9/15**

**SAT : AFTER 9 PARTY WITH TOP**  
**40 DANCING**  
also early specials

**NEW: tarot card readings all day**  
**THURS: ALL COUNTRY - LEARN TO 2 STEP**  
**LESSONS**

**happy hour 4 - 6:00**  
Wed - Sat + all day Sun  
50¢ off all liquor drinks

**open WED - SUN 4:00 till close**  
**45 Danforth St - Portland 774 1505**

**CAT SHOW 9/20**  
**DOG SHOW 9/27**  
**cash prizes**  
**Ribbons**

**DID YOU KNOW**  
**YOU CAN PLAY**  
**POOL FREE ALL**  
**DAY SUNDAY !!**



## Community Pride Reporter

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"Time Out!"

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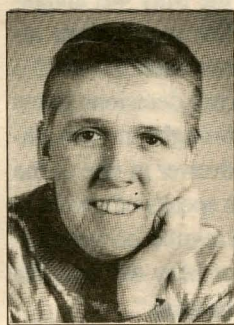
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# EDITORIAL



This issue of Community Pride Reporter is a rather intense issue. These are, after all, intense times for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people.

While the referendum is foremost on many minds, it is frightening to hear people still say that they don't know what it's all about. Even more frightening is the sharp increase in gay bashings across the state, in remote areas as well as cities. Our fears are well-founded and our level of caution and awareness needs to be elevated.

Recently the Grand Jury indicated two Portland men on simple assault, rather than aggravated assault, in the savage attack on a gay man outside Blackstone's in Portland. William Clarke, a black man, the victim of the attack this summer, has been through hell since the beating. One wonders if the Grand Jury decision is tinged with racism. The wrong message has been sent by the Grand Jury. There is no time to waste before the November 7 vote. We all need to be involved on some level

to protect our own lives and the lives of those we love. There are many opportunities outlined in this issue of CPR.

We call your attention to the article on alleged police misconduct which came on the heels of an article appearing in Portland's Casco Bay Weekly written by Rick MacPherson "exposing" the sexual activities taking place in some adult movies and video establishments. MacPherson's article left police no choice but to make a show of force. Unfortunately, MacPherson's weak attempt to "encourage" safer sex has led to two young men being roughed up and scared to death.

An interesting letter came across my fax machine this week. It was a four page letter from Jack Wyman, former Executive Director of the Maine Christian Civic League. It was a letter to pastors in Maine (unknown to CPR) urging them to support, with prayer and with dollars, Carolyn Cosby and the CMF campaign. He praises Cosby and her efforts ad nauseum, and in a not so subtle manner, slaps Paul Madore's Coalition to End Special Rights, (CESR) by saying, "Carolyn has wisely rejected the temptation to wage some kind of statewide 'holy war' against homosexual men and women..." Politics do, indeed, make strange bedfellows.

Speaking of CESR, all is not roses in their little house on the prairie. Accord-

ing to a reliable source, Family Research Council point man, Gary Bauer, has been advised by conservative Maine Republicans with both power and basic knowledge, to rethink FRC's involvement

with Madore. Focus on the Family, a national organization with a large following, is supposedly not making direct cash contributions to CESR, as had been feared, but is paying for and

running misleading ads about the referendum on Christian radio stations.

On a lighter note, we are delighted to introduce Sage Hylton-Lemons of Portland as the new Youth Editor for Community Pride Reporter. Sage did a great job getting articles and reviews from the youth in our community, and we are excited about the possibilities for these pages. As CPR strives to be ever more representative of our entire community, the addition of OUR VOICE for the youth is timely for those of us who are former youth! Welcome, Sage and friends.

In solidarity,

*Winnie Weir*

*Bruce Balboni*

## CPR MAIL BAG

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter for three reasons: Firstly, to relate what a superb publication "CPR" has become, secondly, to relate an anecdote I think your readers will find of interest, and lastly to comment on an item appearing in the June/July issue of CPR.

I and my partner have been making Maine's Sebago Lake area our regular summer "get-away" since 1978 and we've come to love Maine, its beautiful environment and its wonderful people. For the past few years, we've had two bumper stickers affixed to our Honda: a rainbow flag, and one reading "Hate is not a family value." We've never been harassed or taken to task in any way (in Maine) until this year, when we had two less-than-pleasant experiences, as a result of the stickers. Both occurred in the town of Naples. In the first instance, some particularly offensive remarks were (loudly) directed our way as we were sitting in the parking lot of the local lobster take-out. In the second, an equally offensive note had been left on our windshield as we were shopping at the local food market. Of course these experiences were upsetting, and we found ourselves forced to ask, "Why"—why would that have happened at all; what has changed from previous years?"

Our questions were answered and our curiosity satisfied by reading Bruce Balboni's excellent article, "Inside CMF" (CPR, June/July 1995). If we

lived in Maine and were economically capable of doing so, we would give our full-time efforts to opposing this profoundly evil enterprise. As folks "from away," it is our hope and our prayer that the people of Maine will see CMF for what it is and stand up for real, as opposed to sham, family values of the sort proffered by Carolyn Cosby and her minions.

Another of Mr. Balboni's excellent features, "A House Divided: Conflict in Peabody House" (appearing in the same issue of CPR) has raised a question for us: The writer states (on pages 4-5) that "There is a picture of the Pope on the Director's desk." Does it not seem ironic at the very least for the Director of an AIDS service facility to iconize an individual who, in the opinions of many, is responsible for more AIDS deaths than "patient zero?"

Best regards and please accept our congratulations on an excellent and valuable journalistic production.

Sincerely, William Courson.  
Montclair, New Jersey

Dear Editor:

I am concerned about the allegations regarding Sandy Titus. I first met Sandy a couple of years ago and later, after being diagnosed in Portland. Sandy impresses me as a very dedicated, loving and professional person. Her patients are of primary importance in her

work. The thing that really bothers me about all this is the effect it is having on Peabody House and its residents. One thing a terminally ill person does not need is unnecessary concern about their care.

I do know that if I could have my choice about who will take care of me in my final days, it would be Sandy Titus. Sandy, I love you.

Sincerely, Ben Moore  
Northport, Maine

Dear Editor:

My name is Randy Ireland. For anyone who does not know, I am the student at Northern Maine Technical College that was attacked in January (1995). I just wanted to thank everybody for their support while I went through everything, especially Northern Lambda Nord, Karen Geraghty [President, Maine Lesbian Gay Political Alliance], and Steve Wessler [Assistant Attorney General.] For those who do not know, I graduated from NMTC and have been at my job for 31/2 months. I recently moved into my first apartment.

As the vote in November gets closer, I urge everyone who hasn't to get involved in the fight to defeat Carolyn Cosby and the referendum. There is strength in numbers and we can defeat this bill. Everyone should have the opportunity I did. Thank you.

Sincerely, Randy Ireland  
Presque Isle, Maine

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



# GUEST EDITORIAL

I would like to comment on the recent publicity regarding HIV care giver, Sandy Titus who has given so much to our community. Many have recently heard through the rumor mills and various media sources that it was alleged that she provided "questionable" care to our fellow brothers and sisters at the Peabody House. I have known Sandy for several years. I have been at bedside for over 100 of my 200 close personal friends who have died from this disease—AIDS. No, we haven't had even 25 HIV clients pass through the Peabody House as of yet, and thus care giving protocols are just as much a learning process as the pharmaceutical protocols given whenever a new drug for HIV/AIDS hits the trenches. Peabody House is going through a learning process just like any brand new organization. Peabody House has great potentials. Here is my perspective:

First and most importantly, the mission of this HIV hospice was to provide the person with HIV a place that "feels like home." Now, whatever goes on at the administration level, shouldn't even be aware of by the HIV client residing within the house. The patient, after all, has more important issues like "living/dying" with HIV and does not need any additional turmoil in their life. Most of us, at the conception of the Peabody House, went after this project with vigor because we didn't want a hospice where it resembled a "ster-

ile" hospital setting. What was conceived was a hospice setting like a "family home."

... The dream of the Peabody House from my HIV positive perspective, is an atmosphere where if I was living there in my final days, I would want to hear the "Big Ben" chiming in the hall, smelling the home-made pies, rolls, baked ham etc. cooking downstairs, and knowing in those many moments when I am scared to death of dying or dying alone, that someone "in house" will always be there to hold my hand if I should ask for someone. A sterile atmosphere when one can't see, just doesn't cut the mustard!

Peabody House isn't a place for the faint of heart. It also isn't a place to volunteer because it's the trendy disease at the moment to jump on the bandwagon with. Often I have seen volunteer nurses supposedly come into a HIV person's residence, then right from the git-go say, "I'm not lifting that person, or changing anything with his bodily fluids on them!" Even many general all-purpose volunteers freak out when a patient comes close to death. For this very reason, they often stop coming by or discontinue being a hospice volunteer. I can sympathize with many who have a problem dealing with death and dying. For those, all I can say is volunteer in other areas where this won't become a problem for you. If it's too hot in the kitchen, then get out, and let those who can handle the heat do the job! Your services certainly can be utilized else-

where to benefit both the patient and yourself. Hospice work, often like a funeral home director, takes a very special type of person to deal with the many facets of working with the terminally ill. This is often the heart of the problem with community volunteer run hospices. People mean well, but final stages of AIDS is anything but pretty. Having been an HIV care giver to over 200 of my personal friends from initial diagnosis "to time of death," I will say not one was easy to go through.

Lastly, I hope the community will rally to support Sandy's return and acceptance to become active once again "somewhere" if not back into the Peabody House. If any mistakes were made, they can be corrected "all for the better." It's the HIV client who ultimately will suffer if we lose her many fine contributions and support. The Peabody House has sat pretty quiet with regard to the news coverage. Just saying, "Sandy no longer works here" sounds pretty cold hearted considering she was a very instrumental part in Peabody House's conception and it becoming a reality. Too often one forgets the hand that feeds you! For now, many contributions are on hold, until we see this resolved quickly and not become a hush, hush cover-up. No folks, we won't allow that to happen.

Sincerely, B.F.- PWA, Living with HIV and active!

## RANT

by David O. Cook

### Uncle Tom's (Log) Cabin

Senator Bob Dole, in his never-ending gyrations around the axis of ideological purity, recently returned a \$1,000 campaign contribution from The Log Cabin Republicans, America's largest gay Republican group. It's hard to swallow the oxymoronic reality of gay republicanism, especially given the relationship between the GOP and its homophobic Christian fellow travelers, but perhaps gay republicans consider themselves to be an elite form of homosexual. If so, maybe this slap in the face from their beloved leader will wake them up to the reality that, from the GOP's point of view, we're all just queers. And, if the specter of another plodding, plutocratic Republican presidency has got you down, cheer up - maybe the combination of Dole's ingratitude (first he solicited the money, then he returned it) coupled with the sleazy verbal back-peddling of his handlers will backfire at the polls.

### It's About Sex Phobia, Stupid

Meanwhile, back in Portland, we were treated to a fine show of naivete when Casco Bay Weekly printed articles by Rick MacPherson relating in detail what the author saw when he "went undercover" in Portland's porno establish-

ments. The intent, we are told, was to raise awareness about unsafe sex practices; the actual result was public outcry and police raids. CBW's subsequent reaction to what it termed a "puritan frenzy" was to declare petulantly "It's about public health, stupid," thereby side-stepping responsibility for the ensuing panic.

The first article ("Risking Your Life", CBW, 7/27/95) oscillates between the Victorian poles of disgust and titillation. The companion article ("Hoping For Ripples") appears to be some sort of apologia, apparently intended to clarify the author's motives for writing the first article. Unfortunately, its soppy combination of soul-baring, liberal-sounding platitude, and sex addiction dogma misses the mark; after several readings of these pieces, I still don't get the point. It's all very well to claim you are writing about public health, but the content just doesn't jibe with the intent.

Still, the articles are one thing, the public reaction is another. While the epidemiological basis for singling out porn theaters (versus, say, straight pick-up bars) is dubious, the notion that you can prevent the spread of disease by police harassment is even more dubious; all this will accomplish is to drive people further underground and away from the influence of safer sex education efforts. Of course, we know that sex in a porn theater is technically illegal. However,

there's no intellectually defensible reason why this should be so — after all, people pay to get in and for the sole purpose of sexual titillation. And, besides, police often turn a blind eye to such "crimes," preferring, reasonably enough, to devote their limited resources to catching thieves, murderers, rapists and other real criminals.

The activities described in CBW are not news to anyone; they are simply proof of the power and persistence of the human sex drive. So why the over-reaction? It's about sex phobia, stupid!

### Congress Cares About Smut

Portland isn't the only place where fear of sex determines public policy. With much the same sanctimonious bleating that accompanied the debate over funding for the arts, Congress is now on the rampage over porn on the information superhighway and is considering measures to restrict content, access, or both in order to prevent the nation's children from suffering what we are told will be the irreparable harm that results from exposure to porno. One proposal is a parental lock-out capability that will allow Mom and Dad to keep the smut all to themselves while forcing the kids to seek other more low-tech outlets for their own perfectly natural sexual curiosity.

Of course there is no evidence that children who willingly seek out porno-

## Community Pride Reporter

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### Our Mission

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

### Our Editorial Policy

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

### Submissions Welcome

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

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graphic material are harmed by it. But the hypocrisy of the effort is more to the point: At a time when record numbers of children are being born into poverty, Congress is mounting an all-out war on the poor. So-called welfare reform, perpetuation of health care for the rich, and reduction/elimination of educational subsidies are just a few of the ways that our Congress has shown its contempt for children. Let's face it: If Congress really cared about kids, they wouldn't be working so hard to turn America into a third-world country. ΔΔ



# SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER '95 CALENDAR

## Friday, September 15:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Gay, Lesbian, Bi Discussion Group discusses "Creating Community" at First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland. FMI, Larry Godfrey @ 207/594-2957.

## Saturday, September 16:

•Δ 12:15 PM - MLGPA Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. Lithgow Library, Winthrop St., Augusta. FMI, 1-800-55-MLGPA. (Portland area: 761-3732).

## Sunday, September 17:

•Δ 9:00 AM-5:30 PM - Maine Speakout Project Training, Unitarian Universalist Church in Bangor. FMI, 207/879-0480.  
•Δ 7:00 PM - Waldo County chapter of MWD presents "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" as part of a film series on Sunday evenings at the Belfast Free Library in Belfast. Documentary shows the spirit of the man who was murdered while on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. FMI, Paula-207/338-1265 or Clare-207/338-2814.

## Monday, September 18:

•Δ 6:00-10:00 PM - Maine Speakout Project Training-session 1, First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, Main St., Kennebunk. FMI, 207/879-0480.

•Δ 6:30-8:30 PM - Poetry: Uncovering the Self, taught by Jahneene M. Nickerson at SisterSpace, 337 Water St., Augusta. 10 week class only \$25. FMI, Jahneene, 207/621-2994.

•Δ 7:00 PM - Portland Chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate. St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. FMI, 207/780-1333 or 207/761-1788.

## Wednesday, September 20:

•Δ 6:45 PM - Presentation of Leadership Awards by Equity Institute to Gerry Talbot and Ellen Wells for their leadership and encouragement confronting exclusive behavior. Portland Museum of Art. FMI call L. Wallace-773-0581.

•Δ 6:45-9:00 PM - Women's discussion group at SisterSpace, 337 Water St., Augusta. "Roots of Healing" book discussion. Pot luck supper with dishes using herbs. FMI, Jahneene-207/621-2994.

•Δ 7:00-8:30 PM - Free support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian and gay civil rights. Facilitated by Vivian Wadas and Jewel McHale at Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. Drop-in to vent and unwind, tell your stories and get nurtured before going back to battle. FMI, Vivian: 774-2403, Jewel: 773-4211.

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

## Thursday, September 21: (thru October 7)

•Δ 8:00 PM - Opening night of "Kiss of the Spider Woman" at Oak Street Theatre produced by Vintage Repertory Company. Two for one preview special. FMI, 207/775-5103.

## Thursday, September 21:

•Δ 6:00-9:00 PM - MCLU Annual Meeting & Celebration in Bangor. Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Ctr.

will receive an award in recognition of all abortion providers Maine. FMI, 207/774-5444 re: meeting location.

•Δ 6:00-10:00 PM - Maine Speakout Project Training-session 2, First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, Main St., Kennebunk. FMI, 207/879-0480.

ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. The Matlovich Society presents Kevin Jennings, author of "One Teacher in Ten: Gay & Lesbian Educators & Their Stories," and "Becoming Visible: A Reader in Gay & Lesbian History for High School & College Students. He is founder and executive director of GLSTN (The Gay/Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network). Free hotel parking and handicapped accessible. Co-sponsored by Drop Me A Line who will host reception after the program at 615A Congress St., Portland.

## Friday & Saturday, September 22 & 23:

•Δ 6:00-10:00 PM & 9:00 AM-1:00 PM - Maine Speakout Project Training at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 425 Congress St., Portland. FMI, 207/879-0480.

## Friday, September 22:

•Δ 6:00-9:00 PM - MCLU Annual Meeting & Celebration in Portland at Mariner's Church, 368 Fore St. Estelle Rogers, Director of ACLU's Reproductive Freedom Project is speaker at both locations. FMI, 207/774-5444.

## Saturday, September 23:

•Δ 9:00 AM-5:30 PM - Maine Speakout Project Training at the University of Maine at Orono campus. FMI, 207/879-0480.

## Sunday, September 24:

•Δ 7:00 PM - Waldo County chapter of MWD presents "Always My Kid: A Family Guide to Understanding Homosexuality" as part of a film series on Sunday evenings at the Belfast Free Library in Belfast. Movie explains facts about homosexuality specifically countering misinformation spread by radical right. FMI, Paula-207/338-1265 or Clare-207/338-2814.

## Monday, September 25:

•Δ 6:00-9:00 PM - Sexual Assault Advocacy Training programs begins for six weeks. Will be Mondays and Wednesdays. 40 hour training program covers issues of sexual assault and child sexual abuse; medical, police and legal protocols. CEU's available. Once trained, you are prepared to volunteer on 24 hour hotline at Sexual Assault Response Services of So. Maine. FMI, call Anne Marie at 799-9020.

•Δ 7:00 PM - Portland Chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate. St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. FMI, 207/780-1333 or 207/761-1788.

## Tuesday, September 26:

ΔΔ 6:00-8:00 PM - Pride '96 Committee meets at Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, 2nd floor. Agenda includes receiving proposals for '96 events. FMI, 207/871-9940.

•Δ 7:30 PM - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights is guest on WMPG (USM radio) for interview. FMI, 207-

879-0480.

## Wednesday, September 27:

•Δ 6:45-9:00 PM - Women's discussion group at SisterSpace, 337 Water St., Augusta. Topic: The Chakrau System. FMI, Jahneene-207/621-2994.

•Δ 7:00-8:30 PM - Free support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian and gay civil rights. Facilitated by Vivian Wadan and Jewel McHale at Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. Drop-in to vent and unwind, tell your stories and get nurtured before going back to battle. FMI, Vivian: 774-2403, Jewel: 773-4211.

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

## Thursday, September 28:

•Δ 6:00-8:00 PM - "Money in Our Lives" Six week group starts in West Falmouth to explore and challenge limiting beliefs about money. Led by Lu Bauer, CPA. \$150. FMI, 207/797-0466.

ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - The Matlovich Society, Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Maine Won't Discriminate discusses the referendum question. Also a representative from The Speakout Project will discuss training people of diverse affiliations to speak in communities about discrimination. Free hotel parking, accessible to the mobility impaired. FMI, 207/772-2699.

## Friday, September 29:

ΔΔ 8:00 PM until close - Women Artists Night at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland, with DJ Aimsel. No cover.

## Saturday, September 30:

•Δ TBD - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights will be addressing Unitarian Universalist Conference. FMI, 207/879-0480.

•Δ 5:30 PM - The Dirigo Alliance's Fifth Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet. Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Tickets are \$25. FMI, 207/621-2838.

## OCTOBER EVENTS:

### Sunday, October 1:

•Δ 9:00 AM-5:30 PM - Maine Speakout Project Training at Temple Shalom, 74 Bradman St., Auburn. FMI, 207/879-0480.

•Δ Daytime - Eastern Mountain Sports free hiking clinic. Mt. Chocorua (NH), 8 mile easy to moderate hike. Limit 8. FMI, 207/772-3776 & ask for Scott Roberge.

•Δ TBD - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights will be at the Belfast Library in Belfast.

•Δ 7:00 PM - Waldo County chapter of MWD presents "Pink Triangles" as part of a film series on Sunday evenings at the Belfast Free Library in Belfast. Movie is an historical perspective on discrimination faced by lesbians and gay men. FMI, Paula-207/338-1265 or Clare-207/338-2814.

•Δ 7:00 PM - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights will be at St. Bartholomew's Church in Yarmouth. FMI, 207/879-0480.

## Monday, October 2:

•Δ 7:00 PM - Portland Chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate. St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. FMI, 207/780-1333 or 207/761-1788.

## Wednesday, October 4:

•Δ 7:00-8:30 PM - Free support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian and gay civil rights. Facilitated by Vivian Wadan and Jewel McHale at Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. Drop-in to vent and unwind, tell your stories and get nurtured before going back to battle. FMI, Vivian: 774-2403, Jewel: 773-4211.

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

## Friday/Saturday, October 6 & 7:

ΔΔ 8:15 AM - Conference on Lesbian Health and Sexuality, Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Speakers & workshops. FMI, 207/657-5864.

## Sunday, October 8:

•Δ 7:00 PM - Waldo County chapter of MWD presents "Love Makes A Family" as part of a film series on Sunday evenings at the Belfast Free Library in Belfast. Movie shows lesbian and gay families being interviewed in the Religious Society of Friends. FMI, Paula-207/338-1265 or Clare-207/338-2814.

## Monday, October 9:

ΔΔ 6:00 PM - Rainbow Business & Professional Association dinner meeting. Bay Harbor Restaurant in So. Portland. Happy hour 'til 6:30. Dinner at 6:30. Speaker is Dale McCormick, entrepreneur, business owner and politician. Reservations required. Call 207/797-5404. Come by and check us out. We're on the move!

•Δ 7:00 PM - Portland Chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate. St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. FMI, 207/780-1333 or 207/761-1788.

## Tuesday, October 10:

•Δ 7:00 PM - Portland Chapter of PFLAG meets at Woodfords Congregational Church, Woodfords Corner. We are parents, friends and relatives of lesbians, bisexual, gay and transgendered persons offering support and education. FMI, Rita-766-5158 or Sue-774-3441.

•Δ 7:00-8:30 PM - PFLAG: Seacoast, NH sponsoring "Connections," a support group for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Held at Exeter (NH) Congregational Church, Front St. Meetings held second Tuesday each month and are primarily for support, discussion and resource sharing. FMI, call Ted-603/778-0102 or Ingrid-603/772-6221.

## Wednesday, October 11:

•Δ 7:00-8:30 PM - Free support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian and gay civil rights. Facilitated by



# Classified Ads

## TRAVEL/VACATION

Vivian Wadas and Jewel McHale at Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. Drop-in to vent and unwind, tell your stories and get nurtured before going back to battle. FMI, Vivian: 774-2403, Jewel: 773-4211.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

### Thursday, October 12:

•**Δ 7:00 PM** - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights will be at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. FMI, 207/879-0480.

### Saturday, October 14:

**9:00 AM-5:30 PM** - Maine Speakout Project Training at Bates College, Chase Hall, Campus Ave., Lewiston. FMI, 207/879-0480.

•**Δ 9:30 AM-4:30 PM** - "Changing Maine: A gathering of grassroots organizers and educators". First UU Church, Augusta. Convened by Larry Dansinger. FMI & to register, 207/525-7776.

•**Δ 4:00 PM** - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights will be at Circle of Hope Metropolitan Community Church, 156 High St., Immanuel Baptist Church facility. FMI, 207/879-0480.

### Sunday, October 15:

•**Δ Daytime** - Eastern Mountain Sports free hiking clinic. Mt. Webster/Jackson (NH) Dayhike with moderate difficulty. Spectacular views. FMI, 207/772-3776 & ask for Scott Roberge.

**ΔΔ 1:00-3:30 PM** - Gay History Walkathon. A fund-raiser for the Seacoast Fund for an Affirming Community, sponsored by the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation in Portsmouth, NH. GPCF is attempting to raising matching funds (\$50,000) to a challenge grant from National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership. \$31,000 has been raised so far. Let's walk! FMI, 603/430-9182.

•**Δ 7:00 PM** - Waldo County chapter of MWD presents Gay Rights, Special Rights," produced by the radical right, as part of a film series on Sunday evenings at the Belfast Free Library in Belfast. Movie is a classic example of anti-gay propaganda. FMI, Paula-207/338-1265 or Clare-207/338-2814.

### Monday, October 16:

•**Δ 7:00 PM** - Portland Chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate. St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St. FMI, 207/780-1333 or 207/761-1788.

### Tuesday, October 17:

•**Δ 7:30 PM** - Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights will be at the Auburn Lions Club.

### Wednesday, October 18:

•**Δ 7:00-8:30 PM** - Free support group for advocates and supporters of lesbian and gay civil rights. Facilitated by Vivian Wadas and Jewel McHale at Womenspace Counseling Center, 236 Park Ave., Portland. Drop-in to vent and unwind, tell your stories and get nurtured before going back to battle. FMI, Vivian: 774-2403, Jewel: 773-4211.

•**Δ 7:00-9:00 PM** - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

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

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

**ΔΔ YELLOW BIRCH FARM:** Romantic, seasonal cottage or year round studio on working organic farm in Down east Maine, 20 minutes from Eastport. Absolute peace and quiet. Beautiful, remote, unspoiled Cobscook Bay. B & B or weekly rental. Brochure, reservations: (207) 726-5807. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ SPECKLED MOUNTAIN RANCH:** Located in Maine's White Mountain foothills. Come stay at our beautiful B & B and horse farm. We have two rooms available, with delicious vegetarian breakfast. Ride horses, hike, enjoy nature. Call (207) 836-2908. Bethel, Maine. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ EUROPE, ANYONE???** Looking for a group of women who would like to backpack across Europe, summer of '96. Will fly to England, take the tunnel to France, backpack to Venice and take a flight back from Milan, Italy. For more information, please call Suzen @ 207/799-1951. Leave message. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ LOOKING FOR A GET-A-WAY???** 10 acre woodland retreat on mountain side. Great for camping in the rough, hiking, walking, tenting, or pop-up trailers. I want to share my property with our community. Close to NH, Fryeburg & Cornish fairgrounds. Spectacular views, quiet, secluded, well taken care of land. FMI: Phil at 207/625-3541. ΔΔ

## MEDICAL HELP NEEDED

**ΔΔ GM, 40-ish**, seeks Personal Care Attendant. Familiarity with neuromuscular/mobility problems helpful. Call 207/797-8488. ΔΔ

## PERSONALS

**ΔΔ Small endowed?** Short in stature? Like us? Tired of guys searching for only tall or well hung? Finally stories, advice and personals devoted to the small man and our admirers. 100's nationwide. SASE P O Box 610294, Bayside, NY 11361-0294. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ Young Man!** Do you need a true friend who is sincere, supportive and understanding? This 50+ GWM is looking for a sincere young man to share

good times & hot times with. Share my golden years! Ron, P.O. Box 1169, Sanford, ME 04073. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ GWM** who enjoys nude photography, hot videos, massage and safe sex looking to share these with GM 18-40. Drop me a line with phone number. Let's talk and plan to meet. Write Boxholder 337, 9 Vernon Street, Auburn, ME 04210. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ ATHLETIC WM**, 41, strong, quiet type. Independent, empathetic, down to earth, genuine nice guy. Clean-cut, 6ft., 190 lbs., solid muscular build. Coming to Maine. Seeks honest, sincere friend. Warm hearted, modest, fit, all-American type. Please write: P O Box 26873, San Francisco, CA 94126. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ LONLEY, INCARCERATED GWM**, 22, 165 lbs., 6 ft, dark hair, hazel eyes, clean, in great shape and health, HIV-. Presently incarcerated. I.S.O. honest, sincere, romantic, caring, professional gay man for longtime monogamous friendship/possible relationship. I've taken a few wrong turns in life and feel that with that special someone my life could be meaningful again. Age, race not a factor. Waiting. Joe Heiser, #109619, KY State Prison, P O Box 128, Eddyville, KY 42038-01128. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ LONELY, INCARCERATED GBM**, Healthy, honest, faithful, romantic, intelligent, good sense of humor, seeks to explore new ideas and stimulating conversation with anyone who cares to write and can appreciate my erotic nature and burning desire for a sincere relationship. You can write to me Rodney Lanear Shields, #88365, KY. State Penitentiary, P O Box 128, Eddyville, KY 42038-0128 and I'll treat you with friendly correspondence and cheerful surprises. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ GWM**, 6ft., blonde hair, blue eyes, 170 lbs, 40. Live in mid-coast Maine. Professional pianist & composer. Interested in all of the Arts, travel, nature

and much more. Exercise daily and would like same. Looking for a kindred spirit, any race, ages 18-45. All responses answered. T.W., RR 1, Box 344, Wiscasset, ME 04578. ΔΔ

## MISCELLANEOUS

**ΔΔ Front-Runners Club:** Do you like to run for fun and exercise? Would you like to run with other gay men and lesbians? If so, please contact Wayne Moore at 207/942-9812 or write me at P O Box 301, Orono, ME 04473. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ Trying to locate John Frechette:** Moved from Meriden, Connecticut to Maine (probably Ogunquit or Portland area) in 1988 or 1989. Any info, call Tina Manley at 1-800-286-5000, ext. 5889. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS:** The Maine HIV Prevention Community Planning Group makes recommendations to the Bureau of Health regarding requests for and spending of federal (CDC) grant monies. We are a mixture of 'at risk' individuals and professionals. Currently seeking people not usually found on recommending committees - individuals from marginalized communities such as recovering injecting drug users, male teens, African Americans, Hispanics, people of Asian or Pacific heritages, men who have sex with men, HIV+ women and other socially and economically marginalized people. Call 207/622-2962 for an application and information or write to Maine AIDS Plan, 112 State Street, Augusta ME 04330. ΔΔ

## SUPPORT GROUP

**ΔΔ TOWARDS A MORE POSITIVE IDENTITY:** Gay men's support group. Fred Wolf, STD, M.Div., and Chris Behan, MSW. \$45. Insurance reimbursable. Sliding scale fee possible. Individual and couples counseling also available. Call 207/773-6658, Family Institute of Maine, 38 Deering Street, Portland. ΔΔ



Mark Letizia

207 469-3409

HCR 80 Box 68, Penobscot, Maine 04476

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## METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Inclusive, non-homophobic, liberation-based  
The Gospel of Jesus, The Christ, for all people

Northern Lights MCC of Augusta, ME  
4:00 pm Sunday. Communion each week  
2.3 miles from Cony circle on Rt. 201  
FMI: Bill at 207.453.9750

Circle of Hope MCC of Portland, ME  
4:00 pm Saturday,  
Immanuel Baptist, 156 High Street  
FMI: 207.773.0119

*Every person is welcomed! Please join us!*



# COMMUNITY PRIDE RESOURCES

## GENERAL

**MLGPA** 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.

**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.

**The Rainbow Business & Professional Association:** a statewide, non-profit organization established to create a gay, lesbian, bi and transgendered "chamber of commerce" for Maine. Meetings for networking or dinner with speaker events, held in the Greater Portland area, second Monday of the month. FMI write P.O. Box 6627, Scarborough, ME 04070-6627, call 207.775.0015 or e-mail wildboys@mainelink.net.

## 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 142 High St., 6th 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

Francetown: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2545

Hanover: Shirley/Tom, 603/643-8331

Holderness: Olivia, 603/968-7254

Center Sandwich: Tish, 603/284-6434

**DOVER, NH:** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual &

Transgender Helpline for info, referral or need to talk. M-F 6-10 pm, Sat.-Sun. 9am-2pm. 603/743-GAY2.

## 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.

**FREE FAMILY THERAPY** available for individuals & families (of any type) who are affected by HIV disease. FMI, contact Chris Behan, MSW at Center for Training and Special Programs. 773-6658.

### 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** - a lesbian support and educational group, meets on 1st & 3rd Wednesday monthly, 7:00 pm., United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave, Portsmouth, NH. FMI: POB 5691, Portsmouth, NH 03902, or 603/772-8045.

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

**Community of Hope:** A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all persons. Worship on Saturdays at 4:00 PM at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI write Community of Hope. POB 1671, Portland, ME 04104.

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

**Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Discussion Group:** 1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 7-9 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.

**Polyamorous Life Support (PALS):** Do you love more than one person? You may be polyamorous. Polyamorous Life Support (PALS) is a discussion/support group for people interested in creating/nourishing committed, loving, multipartner relationships. Whether curious or already multiply intimate, call 773-6132 FMI.

**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



## The Maine Gay Network

**△The Maine GayNet Mail List:**

Share your ideas and opinions or just plain chat with other list members. To subscribe to this list, send e-mail to [majordomo@abacus.oxy.edu](mailto:majordomo@abacus.oxy.edu). In the message part, write "subscribe me-gaynet."

**△The Maine GayNet Home Page:**

An ever-changing display of events and information. Meetings, contact people, resources, & referrals. The complete text of CPR available online, too. Point your WEB Browser at: <http://www.qrd.org/QRD/www/usa/maine> FMI, e-mail Paula Stockholm: [paula@maine.com](mailto:paula@maine.com) △△

Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI call (603) 430-4052, or write P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03802-1394.

**Dover, NH:** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered support Group meets Sundays 7-8pm, Quaker Mtg. House, Central Ave. Social times too. FMI, 603/743-GAY2 eves.

**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 another as lesbians. Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, 334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: (207) 947-5337.

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

**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.

**DEGLO (Down East Gay & Lesbian Org.)** meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30 pm at the UU Church, Park Street, Bangor.

**Men's Discussion Group:** 7:00 pm, fourth Saturday every month, St. James Episcopal Church, Center & Main Streets, Old Town.

**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.

**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 207/947-5393.

**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 indi-

vidual 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.

**2nd Thursday:** Client Advisory Board, open to all clients of The AIDS Project, 1:30 pm. The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 142 High St., 6th 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.

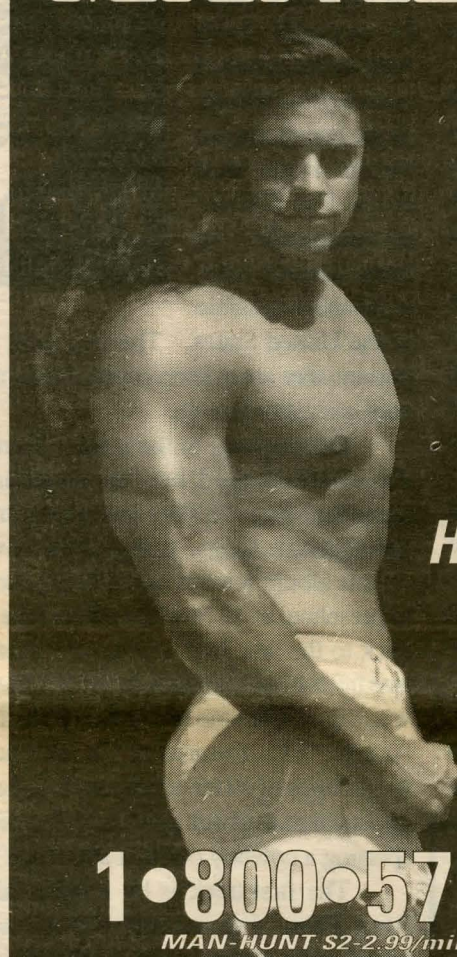
**People With AIDS Coalition of ME.:** 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.

**Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS)** 142 Congress Street, 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:** 142 High St., 6th flr., Portland, ME 04101. Call 774-6877.

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

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# Arts & Entertainment

## "SPIRIT OF 73" Compilation extraordinaire



by  
Aimsel  
Ponti

"Spirit of 73" takes the prize for best compilation album of the year. It's a collection of all female-

led bands ranging from L7 to the Indigo Girls, from Babes in Toyland to Rosanne Cash, from Sarah McLachlan to Sophie B. Hawkins, not to mention Johnette Napolitano and one of Aimsel's favorites, Melissa Ferrick.

Every once in a while an album comes out and I have just a gigantic musical bliss attack and walk around in a daze for awhile. By the time this issue of CPR comes out, I may have recovered, but I'll find you out walking around in a daze when you get this album. 1973 was the year that the Supreme Court made abortion safe and legal for women in the United States. So, it is certainly appropriate to call this album "Spirit of 73" especially since all the songs on it are 70's covers.

Rock For Choice is an organization founded in 1991 by the band, L7 and The Feminist Majority. Its mission is to mobilize the music community as well as young adults to stand up for reproductive freedom. Since 1991, Rock for Choice has been supported by many musicians and has been out on several benefit concerts. When you buy this CD, you are giving money

to support The Feminist Majority's campaign to lift lethal parental consent laws and federal funding restrictions that are forcing young women and poor women to seek dangerous alternatives to safe, legal abortions.

Rock for Choice has a powerful slogan: "You can go quietly or you can Rock For Choice."

I chose to support the cause and, well, to Rock for Choice. I feel this is an important cause to support even without the bonus of such a great album.

In the liner notes are seven steps that Rock For Choice recommends to keep abortion safe, legal and accessible in the United States. The two most important ones are to keep yourself informed and to register to vote.

Getting back to the music. Deny it if you feel the need, but I'm not afraid to admit that the 1970's produced some truly unforgettable songs. Some of the covers on this album remind me of being driven to preschool in 1974 while others take me back to the late 70's, when roller skating was becoming a big deal in my life as was watching the Bionic Woman and Charlie's Angels. Also featured in the liner notes are pictures of all the artists, such as Sarah McLachlan at about age 5 and Amy Ray sporting a cowboy outfit at about age 7.

The first track is by a band called Eve's Plum. I'm not sure if that is supposed to be a tribute to Eve Plumb, you know who she is... Jan Brady. But, I do know that their rockin' version of the disco hit "If I Can't Have You" leaves you wanting more, or as the next track says, "More, More, More" done complete with trumpets by Babes in Toyland. The groove of Ebony Vibe Everlasting's "We are Family" will get you dancing, just as the original does.

The Boston area band, Letters to Cleo's version of the Fleetwood Mac classic "Dreams" isn't bad, but I do think that some songs should just plain be left alone. And although it almost pains me to say this, I think this is also the case with Johnette Napolitano's "Dancing Barefoot." Napolitano's pipes certainly do a hell of a job on this track, but nobody touches Patti Smith. Nobody. Although I will say that, if you're gonna attempt to do a Smith song, you might as well be Johnette Napolitano, as I certainly think her cover of "Dancing Barefoot" is a thousand times better than U2's attempt.

When I was a senior in high school in Andover, Massachusetts, we won a concert sponsored by WBCN, a Boston radio station. The Prize: Our very own Joan Jett and the Blackhearts concert in our auditorium. Although none of us were particularly huge fans, we collectively got into

it when Jett cranked through her classic "Cherry Bomb." In 1992, Jett played this song live with L7 at a Rock for Choice concert. It is this recording that appears on this album. Excellent apartment cleaning music indeed.

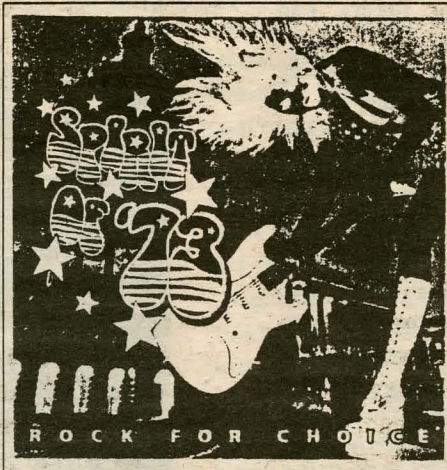
There's a few song's, that for me, truly capture the essence of my 70's experience.

Maria Muldaur's "Midnight at the Oasis" certainly qualifies. The band, that dog, who I was unfamiliar with prior to this album, do an incredible, sometimes acappella, and sometimes rocking, interpretation of this timeless tune.

The band Pet does "Have You Ever Been Mellow," a song

that has always irritated me, somehow takes on a new life. Cassandra Wilson's "Killing Me Softly" slow, deep vocals and soft congas give the song a new twist that seems to lessen the sap factor to a tolerable degree.

See SPIRIT, page 22



## MOVIE REVIEW: "The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love"

by Frank Girolamo

Film lesbians are finally feeling better about themselves. It took a while, and they've come a long way since Shirley MacLaine followed her moral imperative and hanged herself for going gaga over Audrey Hepburn in "The Children's Hour," a long way since Sandy Dennis came out in "The Fox" and got conked on the head by a logger's falling tree. "The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love" is about first love. It's an affair that sends very few people heading for the hills, a breakthrough comedy with sitcom sensibilities and fun for the entire extended family.

Randy Dean (Laurel Hollomon) is the town tomboy. She's the Carrie White of her high school and she couldn't care less. Randy catches the eye of Evie Roy (Nicole Parker), one of the most popular girls at school, and suddenly the beauty out of reach has come seductively close. Hollomon and Parker twirl the movie around their fingers. They're great at making puppy love. It's easy to feel their tentativeness. They are so shy, they can hardly look each other square in the eye. They remind you of the thrill and the horror that go hand in hand with any first date.

Randy is a street wise punk. Evie is privileged; she loves her Range Rover. In a getting-to-know-you conversation, Randy is amused by Evie's naivete and her sheltered life. When Evie says, "Then unshelter me," it comes out of left field and it's a love lyric—the most beautiful music Randy has ever heard.

What's best about this movie is that sexual orientation is hardly the point. It's more about two girls in love and suffering the indignity that is high school. The pointlessness of proms and geometry. They skip classes. They smoke in the girl's room and lie about their overnights. In "Two Girls," living out of the closet is the least rebellious thing Randy and Evie do. That should make some kind of movie history.

Several heterosexuals barge their way into the story, and they are drawn with broad strokes. "Two Girls" is as good as "Say Anything" or "Valley Girl." The circus clowns and barnyard louts here diminish some of the good intentions and finesse of the film.

"Two Girls" believes in the staying power of romance—the innocent, lasting power of a kiss. The film ends with the lovers certain their affair is for life. Who can say? The romance might not see Labor Day, but "The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love" describes a world where true love lasts forever. Some movies are directors' dreams. **AA**

## Women In Harmony Begins Third Choral Season

PORTLAND: Women in Harmony, a Portland based women's choral group, is heading into their third season. The chorus, formed in 1993, has concluded two successful performance seasons and includes women from all over southern Maine, and a few places beyond. The group is truly representative of the diversity of the southern Maine area. There are young and old women, and lesbians, bisexual and straight women who have come together because of their love of music and community with other women.

Women In Harmony has continued to grow and mature in the quality of music that it performs. Under the direction of Sonja Dahlgren Pryor, the music performed ranges from Gregorian chants, to Baroque, spirituals, hymns, show tunes, women's music and songs sung just for fun! Sonny has been actively involved in choral music throughout Massachusetts and beyond for many years and is also currently the conductor of the Rockport Community Chorus, in Massachusetts.

Two concerts are scheduled for this season, one in February and one in late May. Rehearsals are every Wednesday night from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Women who are interested in joining the group should come to rehearsals held at the Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. New members will be allowed to join until October 4. For more information, call 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995 **AA**

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## Artist Profile: Paper-Maker, Jim Neal

by Aimsel L. Ponti

Some of us in the greater Portland area may best know Jim Neal as the "Drop Me A Line" guy. He and his partner, Roger Mayo, opened that wonderful little store on Congress Street back in 1990. What you might not know about Jim is that he is an amazing artist whose work was recently shown at Coffee By Design, a year old (+/-) Portland coffee shop, as the final show of their summer season. If you saw the show,

referred to as the "Purple Heart" card which has raised over \$1000 for The AIDS Project over the past couple of years. This card, which is available at Drop Me A Line, also serves as a way of remembering his good friend Vincent Boulanger who died in 1993.

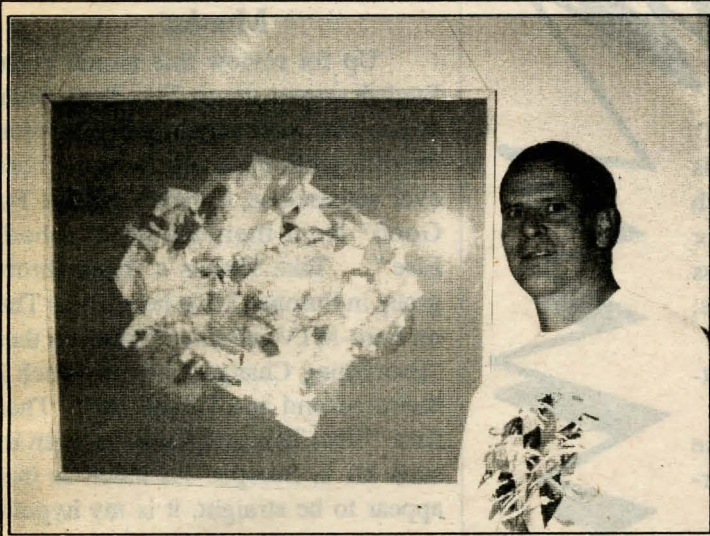
Originally from Galesburg in Illinois, Jim Neal first discovered paper making in 1978 after reading an article in American Artist Magazine. At the time he was a student at Carl Sandburg College, and there he got approval for an independent study of paper making. Initially he produced more functional paper to use for art, but not as art itself. After a brief stay in New Hampshire with an artist, Neal made the move to Portland. Along with being a store owner/paper-maker, Neal is also a wonderful painter.

the first one-man showing of Neal's paper art, and he says the experience was nothing but positive. Many of his papers have dried flowers embedded in them and a few had pieces of mica. All of them were unique and certainly gorgeous pieces of art.

The process of paper making involves a few different things. Neal generally uses abaca, which is sheets of processed banana leaves or cozo, which is traditional plant fiber from Japan and Thailand. From there he boils the leaves for 6-8 hours in soda ash and then it gets beaten to a pulp. Sometimes Neal uses his old blender. Mind you, a person could spend thousands on a Hollander Beater, which is just for paper pulp, but Neal says he does just fine with what he has. He adds that the pulp which is beaten by hand is more irregular and has more textures. One of the nice things about this art form is that a lot of the process has stayed the same over the years. Neal uses a piece of wood and a flat surface to further beat the pulp. "Primitive, cruder techniques lend more character to the pieces of paper," he explained.

Some of Jim Neal's work can be found in upscale stores in New York City and as far away as Germany, Japan, Mexico and Canada. This was all thanks to the contract he landed with a woman named Constance Kay who Neal met in 1991. She suggested he make some card sized pieces and she loved what he submitted to her the following year.

Although you always think of him as the friendly guy from Drop Me A Line, Jim Neal's talents extend far beyond retail. We'll have to keep an eye out for his beautiful work. I feel honored to have someone like Jim Neal introduce me to an art form I knew very little about, but now can appreciate. ΔΔ



Jim Neal, pictured with one of several pieces of his work displayed at Coffee by Design recently. Note his shirt with the heart he designed in memory of Vincent Boulanger, long-time friend.

you know it wasn't paintings, or photographs or sculpture, but an art form that I, for one, didn't know a lot about. Neal's show, "Handmade Papers," beautifully showcased the unusual, and not often seen, art form of paper making.

You may have actually seen Neal's work and not realized it. His quilted heart illustration was used in a poster for the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, and is now the official logo of the Maine Chapter of the NAMES Project. Neal also designed and made what is

worked as a waiter for a few years and then at the Museum of Art where he worked his way up to building manager, staying until 1990. This was the year that he and Roger Mayo opened Drop Me A Line. However, paper making was also on Neal's mind. Back in 84-85, he got involved in workshops with Hedgehog Hill Farm in Buckfield. Ever since then, paper making has been a passion. Neal hopes that down the road he'll have more time to devote to his art.

The show at Coffee By Design was

## MOVIE REVIEW: "Jeffrey"

by Frank Girolamo

Steven Weber is Jeffrey, the centerpiece of Paul Rudnick's movie of the same name. When Jeffrey flashes his wide, eye-popping grin, he's being irresistible, seductive; he's also showing the extent of his pedigree. Jeffrey has a bright smile and a forty-watt brain. He's dull and selfish and humorless. He pouts and whines. If he doesn't get his way, he can work himself into a snit. For some reason, Jeffrey's considered a real catch.

Jeffrey is a pin-ball wizard in a town full of Dolly Levis. When he responds to the AIDS epidemic with celibacy, his decision upsets so many New Yorkers, it's as if the well-being of all downtown was wired to his libido, and desperate to change his mind.

Steve (Michael T. Weiss), is a bartender who sends men to their knees. HIV positive, he is the forbidden apple of Jeffrey's eye and his eye is on Jeffrey as well. A masher courting Jeffrey throughout the movie, Steve pursues his prey like a wolf chasing a squeaky clean mouse. Latex is Jeffrey's constant com-

plaint. AIDS is a nuisance, and suddenly the roller-coaster man is confined to the kiddie rides. The thought of safe sex has him running scared, running to protect his new-found virtue.

What sets "Jeffrey" apart from the recent slew of boy meets boy movies is the writing—there's intelligence in it. Screenwriter Rudnick has a kindly eye for the occasional odd ball, but he doesn't cloud the point.

Everyone is out to heal Jeffrey, to help him with his addiction to sex, his cursed and blessed need to connect. Ann Martle (Christine Baranski) is a gushy mistress of ceremonies at an AIDS benefit. A model of inch-deep compassion, she wears her AIDS ribbon as if it were another accessory.

Motivational speaker Debra Moorhouse (Sigourney Weaver) will, for the right fee, gleefully fleece the perpetually unwell, and top it with a little humiliation.

Father Dan (Nathan Lane) is a Catholic priest addicted to sex and show tunes. He can't wait to get Jeffrey into

See "JEFFREY," page 22

## "A Love Worth Fighting for - Worth Listening to..."

by Aimsel L. Ponti

Streeter Productions, Inc., the new record label of New Yorker Mitchell Gallob, has just put out its first CD called "A Love Worth Fighting For." This album is special because it is a compilation of gay and lesbian singers and songwriters ranging from the relatively unknown to the classic. This is the first all gay/lesbian album I've ever come across, and although some of the music isn't totally to my liking, I do think this is an important addition to anybody's collection, as it promotes visibility, celebrates diversity and covers many styles of music.

Mitchell Gallob dedicated two years making an idea become a reality. His label plans to release other gay and lesbian recordings. "The music you'll hear is as diverse as the gay and lesbian community itself," he explains. "A Love Worth Fighting For," title track is by the late Michael Callen, one of the

See LOVE, page 22

## Railroad Square Cinema hosts MWD fund-raiser

INTERNET: Friday, October 13 through Thursday, October 19, the Railroad Square Cinema in Waterville will show "Ballot Measure 9," a film about an infamous attempt to deny civil rights to gay people in Oregon. The film will be shown from Friday, October 13 through Monday, October 16 at 8:50 pm and on Saturday and Sunday 1 and 5 pm. From Tuesday, October 17 through Thursday October 19, showing will be at 7 pm.

Directed by Heather McDonald, this film recounts the events in Oregon, 1992. A ballot initiative seeks to deny civil rights to gay people. The chairman of the group that sponsors the initiative calls it "a simple battle between good and evil." But the measure is fought by a determined group who face harassment, attack and even firebombing to stand up for themselves, their gay and lesbian friends and family members, and for justice. As the odds even out and election day draws near, "Ballot Measure 9," an award-winning film about what happened in Oregon, acquires the tension and suspense of a thriller.

With Maine facing a similar referendum question this fall, "Ballot Measure 9" may be the most timely film you see this year. "Passionate and exceptionally well made" (L.A. Times), "Ballot Measure 9" "works effectively as a suspenseful tale, one that goes beyond gay rights to encompass such timely and broader issues as human rights, cultural diversity and the American political system" - Variety.



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# OUR VOICE

for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth of today



Bonjour all! This is Sage, and I'm the new Youth Editor for the Community Pride Reporter. As you will probably notice, this section is devoted to gay youth and everything surrounding us. Since I am "Editor" of this section, I guess that means I get to write editorials! Yeah! So, here it goes. . .

You notice that the majority of stuff in this section is about school and how it effects the lives of gay youth. As you can probably tell from these stories, it is complete and utter hell for any "out" or "outed" student. Some are lucky enough to go un-tormented. But for those who are less fortunate, most of the time there is no support for them, or if there is, it is hard to find. There is also much more for the older group of the gay community to do on a Friday night for example. All we really have to do is

go to support groups such as OUT-RIGHT Portland for example, which is not a bad thing, and I support such groups. But there is no other place for gay youth to meet or get together unless it is through other friends or contacts, which doesn't really get us places.

Now, do realize that this isn't written in anger, but as an observation.

I would also like to thank Winnie Weir and Bruce Balboni for this opportunity to be a voice for gay youth.

If anyone reading this would like to submit any writing or art, or anything they feel should be published, please don't hesitate to send it in! Address it to OUR VOICE, Community Pride Reporter, 142 High Street, Suite #623, Portland, ME 04101

Fondly yours,  
Sage Hylton-Lemons

## REVIEWS

### Music:

Up for review this month is the English singing group, Take That. Some of you may have heard about them from the radio with their new song and first ever released in America, "Back For Good" from their album, "Nobody Else." Take That is a "heart throb" group in Europe. I first heard Take That on Euro-MTV in India, "Pray" on their "Everything Changes" album which is their second and I think best. Their first, "Take That and Party," was an instant hit in Europe. As much as they appear to be straight, it is my hypothesis that they are all gay, cute and lovable. But that's just me. I highly recommend this group for your listening pleasure.

Album, "Nobody Else" \*\*\*

### Book:

#### **Boys on the Rocks, by John Fox.**

This is a refreshing book. It's not like any other book you will ever read. It's not examining the gay "life-style," but living it as a teenage boy. It gives a new perspective on a gay youth in the 1960's. Although this is a great book, the author tends to circle around a lot, and the reader may get a little confused until an ending you might not expect.

Book, "Boys on the Rocks" \*\*\*

### Movie:

#### **"Maurice"**

This moving movie, based on the book of the same title, is an interesting look into gay life in the early 1900's. The plot moves quickly as Maurice's college boyfriend becomes frightened after seeing a gay friend caught in a gay act and sentenced to be cured in a facility and "becomes" straight. Maurice and his ex-boyfriend keep in touch, and one night, toward the end, Maurice, while spending the night as a guest in his now "straight" friends house, gets an unexpected visit, and the movie takes a bizarre twist.

Movie, "Maurice" \*\*\* 1/2

Star scale is rated on none being lowest and \*\*\*\* being highest.

## US House of Reps postpones attacks on GLBT youth

The National Advocacy Coalition on Youth and Sexual Orientation (NACYSO) sent out the following "Urgent Action Alert" on September 8. NACYSO is sponsored by the Hetrick-Martin Institute to address public policy issues related to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth through the collaboration of a broad spectrum of national and community-based organizations across the country.

This Action Alert calls on queer youth and their allies to write, call or email Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-Mich.), to urge cancellation of the hearing on homosexuality and the schools. It says:

"Congressional staff of Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-Mich.), chair of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee, has confirmed that the previously scheduled hearing on homosexuality and the schools has been postponed. The hearing is being billed as a hearing on 'Parental Involvement in Social Issues in Education.' The hearing was scheduled for September 12, at the request of Lou

Sheldon of the radical right Traditional Values Coalition.

"Word as of September 7 is that hearings will occur and that [Majority Leader] Gingrich did promise them to Rev. Lou Sheldon. Hoekstra's office is not yet releasing the witness list, but you can bet it'll be stacked. The hearing currently is named 'Parental Involvement in Social Issues in Education.' It has been postponed, but will likely occur between the end of September and Thanksgiving. It allegedly will address the following 3 focus areas, with perhaps a 4th to be added later: 1) Sex education and abstinence, 2) Condom distribution in schools and 3) Homosexual curricula (sic)."

### What Can You Do?

1) Contact Rep. Peter Hoekstra's office and insist that his subcommittee CANCEL the hearing on 'Parental Involvement in Social Issues in Education.' Members of Congress were elected to work on critical problems facing this country, NOT to wage attacks on youth and their families! Hoekstra's

office: (202) 225-4401. Majority Chief of Staff: Jay Eagen: (202) 225-4527. Email: <tellhoek@hr.house.gov>.

2) Call other members of the subcommittee and give them the same message! US Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121. Minority Chief of Staff: Gail Weiss (202) 225-3725. (Call CPR office (879-1342) for names and phone #'s of subcommittee members).

3) Call your state's Representatives and ask them to speak out against the hearing and against targeting a group of young people for attack because of their sexual orientation.

In a fundraising letter to the Traditional Values Coalition, Lou Sheldon wrote, "It is essential that parents across America know about the possibility of homosexual propaganda in the schools. We must protect our children and the children of America." The letter specifically targets for attack Los Angeles, National Education Association, Fairfax VA Family Life Education, Des Moines, IA, Massachusetts and the Minnesota Department of Education. ΔΔ

**If you want to have a voice, let's hear from you. Write a letter, do a review, tell your story.**



## Love always and forever, Trent

by S. H. L., Portland, Maine

The office smelled of latex gloves. Old books covered in dust lined the shelves. Old year books in large stacks on the dull orange rug. Degrees and diplomas graced the walls. Trinity sat in an old wooden chair facing his guidance counselor's desk. The young man was new at Noble High. It was his first year. It was Trinity's first year too.

The man offered Trinity a tissue to wipe the blood from the cut on his face and an ice pack for his head. The guidance counselor typed Trinity's name into the computer and opened his permanent record.

"So, Trinity, or is it Trent?" the man said.

"Call me Trent."

"OK. So, tell me what happened."

"Today?" voiced Trent.

"No, the attack. Start from the attack."

"OK. I came into school and put my bag down near the band room like I always do. I then went downstairs to the basement because I needed to talk to my English teacher. I went to Mr. Karson's room but he wasn't there, so I walked back towards the band room and saw a group of skinheads. I didn't think much of it until they grabbed my arm, pushed me into some lockers, called me fag, queer, cock sucker, and punched me in the stomach twice. Then down the hall a door slammed and they took off. I tried to make myself look normal and walked back up to the band room. Then, between periods, I saw them looking up at me. So I ran to my next period."

"Whoa. Sounds like you've been through a lot."

"Do you want to hear about yesterday?" Trent said as he looked out the window. He saw a group of kids playing in the snow, throwing snowballs, building snow men, having fun. He remembered when he sat in that same field in the last month of summer and wrote his award winning poem, "The Battle of Copenhagen." The smell of the grass and the warm breeze were blowing through his hair. How he watched the last butterflies of summer flying against the wind. Like he was now.

"Yes, please tell." the young man said.

"Yesterday people were coming up

to me and asking me if I was gay and if I was going out with this guy, Alex. They said they didn't know whether or not to believe the rumors, so I thought no need to answer. Finally it got real annoying. Then on the way home, these two kids Allen and Andrew, were calling me fag and queer. So, when I got home, I called my school and said that I wouldn't be attending if these two kids weren't handled. I then called my mom and she said that my social worker, whom I had talked to earlier that day, had called her and told her that everything that had been happening was harassment. So I called the police and filled out a harassment charge. I have to see an officer today at 2:30 pm."

"OK. So what happened today during third period?"

"I got in a fight."

"With whom?" asked the man.

"Some jerks."

"Why do you think they started a fight?"

"Because of what's been going on in school. They said they didn't want a fag in there school."

"Hmm. So what can we do about this?"

"I don't know." Trent said perturbed.

"Well, you need to go back to class, and I'll talk to Mr. Smith and get back to you. OK.? Here's a pass to class. Trent. Try not to get into anymore fights."

"OK. Mr. Day."

Trent was glad to get out of that chair because he was getting uncomfortable, and a spider was climbing up Mr. Day's desk.

As Trent walked out into the hallway, his head was high. He felt proud for who he was.

All the hallway traffic slowed down. As he walked, people called him fag and queer. His friend Kyle heard what was going on and went over and grabbed Trent's arm and said, "Let's get outta here."

They headed for the main door. Before they got to the door, Jason Williams screamed out "Good-bye you fuckin' faggot! Run away you cock sucker!"

The hallway roared with laughter. Trent and Kyle walked out the door. Trent wasn't proud anymore. He left his school and all but one of his friends with no dignity or honor. He left Noble High with a tear in his eye and his head hanging low.

The next day, on the morning an-

See ALWAYS, page 22

## The Reality of the Situation

by E. A., Saco, Maine

Being gay, I have always felt distanced from people. When I first came to terms with my sexuality, I felt completely isolated. My parents cried and screamed in torment. My friends grew tired of defending me and regretted ever meeting me. My classmates looked at me in disgust and my teachers wished I was elsewhere. All this was the result of merely feeling I might be gay. After that thought, I was instantly transformed and labeled as a burden to society. All I could do was stand alone and ask myself, "What did I do?"

I've always felt an attraction towards the same sex, but until a couple years ago, I never thought of myself as being gay. I had always been taught that homosexuals were weird, perverted and the lowest class of society. That is not what I am. So it wasn't until I met a real homosexual that I could identify myself as gay. Through him I learned to accept myself for who I am. Then my parents found out about my new friend and forbid me to have contact with him again. I was lost. My only connection to a real life was cut off.

For a time, suicide was a very real option in my mind. Death was always something that seemed very near. I needed so desperately to speak to someone about the feelings that had been stirred inside me. After months of despair and having all my hopes collapse, I found myself standing with a blade to my chest. In a state of confusion and gloom, I passed out. When I awoke, my mind was clear and my bed soaked with tears and blood. Before that I felt disgrace for my feelings, but I realized it was the people who are homophobic who should be in disgrace for their ignorance.

I have done nothing but follow my natural feelings since. What I choose to do with my personal life effects no one but myself. If anyone has a problem with it, they will have to learn to deal with it, not me. And so I choose to live. Taking my life would only give a feeling of satisfaction to all those who sought to repress me. Over time, in a chance meeting, I was reunited with the person who had first helped me to understand who I am. He connected me with support and other homosexuals so I would never be alone again. I joined the struggle for acceptance that homosexuals have been fighting for all time.

I've encountered many struggles

along the way, and will find more in the future. I have felt loss, betrayal, despair, solitude, disgust and hate. I've received numerous threats, lots of ignorant comments and countless hateful stares. However, I've also made amazing discoveries. Had I not been open about myself, I wouldn't have met some of the people who have changed my life for the better.

I'll soon be seventeen and a senior in high school. I face new and challenging obstacles everyday. I only hope that in some small way I'm helping others who used to be like me-scared, confused, abused and lost. And maybe, over time, people will be helped to understand that homosexuals are like everyone else.

### BETRAYAL

Trust. It's not a word used by young gays. Especially when they tell a friend of theirs a secret that they've been hiding for years. Experiences of betrayal can impact an adolescent monumentally. Experiences that involve "outing" can change that individual's life forever. Depending on the support level given to the individual, outing can lead him/her to feelings of loneliness and hopelessness. In worse situations he/she could become deeply depressed and might end in suicide. Unfortunately, many young gays have very little, if any, support from their peers and/or their family. This is why those of us who do know adolescent gays should go out of our way to make sure that they know that there are people out there who actually do support and love them. However, this has not been the case, especially among the gay community that is allegedly a tight knit group of "warm, loving" people. From personal experience, as well as stories from others, I have known that young gays are either ignored or sexually manipulated because of their naivete, by many other gay individuals. I must reiterate the fact that when teenage gays are going through a very traumatic period of their lives, they do not need to be mistreated and used, especially when they are mistreated by those who are their supposed "brethren".

-Anonymous

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Robyn Ochs, editor

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# TO YOUR HEALTH: Dental dams now a fixture in lesbian culture - Part I

by Peaches Bass

If you're intrigued by dental dams, you are not alone. A dental dam is, as the name implies, a device commonly used by dentists and oral surgeons. It is a square piece of latex rubber that is used to isolate one tooth while protecting the patient's mouth from debris during dental work.

Dental dams, or rubber dams as dentists call them, are usually 4 by 4 inches, 5 by 5 inches, or 6 by 6 inches and come in a variety of thicknesses like the rubber exam gloves that doctors and lab technicians use. They are available in different colors, and sometimes they are mint or vanilla flavored to mask their rubbery taste.

The use of dental dams as safer sex toys is very recent history. Dams have been recommended by many HIV and STD (sexually transmitted disease) educators as a tool for preventing the spread of bacteria, viruses and other infections during oral sex. Five years ago, there was lively debate around two issues: whether dental dams are actually effective for HIV/STD prevention, and whether or not lesbians really need to use barriers during oral sex.

As for the effectiveness of dams, they are made out of the same materials as the latex gloves that health care providers rely on for protection and infection control. They are considerably thicker, at the molecular level, than condoms, which are well-proven as preventive. If you trust rubber gloves and condoms, you can trust rubber dams.

There used to be considerable debate over whether or not oral-genital sex ("cunnilingus," "going down," "eating

pussy," etc.) and oral-anal sex ("rimming") carried a risk for STDs, especially HIV, but over time, we have seen growing documentation that women can transmit and contract HIV during oral sex. The risk of HIV and other STDs from woman-to-woman sex is no longer questioned.

Traditionally, women who have only had sex with other women have been at very low risk for STDs. But "low risk" doesn't mean "no risk," and many a lesbian is shocked when she catches herpes from oral sex with a female partner. Cunnilingus can transmit herpes, hepatitis B, and HIV. Herpes only requires contact with a lesion on the external sex organs, anus, or mouth. Hepatitis B and HIV are carried in vaginal secretions and menstrual fluid. Rimming carries a risk for hepatitis A and gastrointestinal infections, which are transmitted by ingesting feces.

The issue of risk hinges not on one's self-identity as a lesbian or bisexual woman, but on one's actual practices and one's partner(s)' practices. Lesbians are encouraged to learn how to assess themselves for STD risk, and then to decide on what safer sex practices to employ. Many organizations will help women with risk assessment, especially STD and family planning clinics (though their expertise with lesbian

sexuality varies). Lesbians can also call the AIDS Hotline (1-800-851-2437) or the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center (207/947-5337).

The dental dam is used by placing it over the vulva (the opening of the vagina, the vaginal lips, and the clitoris), the perineum (the area of skin between the vulva and the anus), or the anus ("butt hole," "ass hole," etc.). In this way, it provides a barrier between the mouth and area being stimulated.

There are a few helpful hints for using dams. Although manufacturers don't recommend it, the thicker ones can be used more than once, if they are washed with warm water and soap, rinsed, dried, powdered with cornstarch and stored away from heat, light, moisture and cold. Before re-use, the cornstarch should be rinsed off and the dam checked for holes. This is done by holding it up to a light to see if any pinholes of light shine through. If a dam has a hole in it, it shouldn't be used.

Some women complain that the dams are slippery and hard to keep in place, and that one's hands are occupied by holding the dam in place and aren't free to touch or stimulate. One suggestion is to ask the woman being eaten to hold the dam in place, allowing the munching partner to use her hands. Other suggestions are fetish or fashion

oriented. Some leather and sex shops sell garter belt-like harnesses which one can clip a dam into, holding it in place in a woman's crotch. Years ago, at a conference, an HIV educator from New York displayed a pair of latex rubber bikini bottoms made in Italy — basically, a pair of underpants made out of latex. I wonder why this item hasn't turned up in any of the catalogs yet!

Thirty-six square inches is really not too big. It would be difficult to cover the vulva, perineum, and anus all at the same time with one dam. If one needs a larger area of coverage, polyethylene food wrap ("Saran Wrap," "Handi-wrap," etc.) can be substituted.

Plastic food wrap is a lot less expensive to buy than dams; it's easy to obtain and doesn't require special storage conditions, as rubber does. It comes off a roll that allows you to cut as big a piece as you need—you can wrap your body in it! By wrapping a piece of plastic wrap between the legs and around the waist like a loin cloth, one can cover enough area to allow the "oral" partner to move her mouth back and forth from vulva to anus without the risk of transmitting infections from the rectum to the vagina or mouth.

(Next month, this article will conclude with a discussion of different kinds of dams and where to get them.) ΔΔ

## Lesbian Health Project Sponsors Conference

Yvette Burton, formerly the Director of Lesbian Health in New York City's Department of Health, will open a two-day conference on health and sexuality for lesbians at Portland's Holiday Inn By The Bay. Burton currently serves as a consultant to the National Minority AIDS Council, serves on the National HIV Advisory Board for the Council of Negro Women, and teaches in the Graduate School of Social Welfare at SUNY. The title of her keynote is, "The Politics of Exclusion and the Consequences of Invisibility."

The conference is scheduled for

Friday and Saturday, October 6 & 7. The cost is \$90.00 for both days, and includes lunch. Scholarships are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, funded by a grant from the Maine Women's Fund.

Minnie Bruce Pratt, poet and author, will offer Saturday's keynote. Pratt is the author of "Crime Against Nature," "We Say We Love Each Other," "Rebellion, Essays 1980-1991," and the recently released "S/HE." Pratt will discuss lesbian health from a broad perspective, including the political, social, and personal aspects of health. The title of

her talk is "What I Learned From Vera."

Workshops for the two days include menopause, sex toys, lesbians living with HIV/AIDS, basic nutrition, financial planning, alternative health options, surviving cancer, legal issues with regard to health care, butch/femme/gender, and safe sex. More than 20 workshops are planned for the two days.

The conference is being organized by the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine. To receive a registration brochure, or for more information, call 657-5864 or write PO Box 11048 Portland ME 04104.

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## "Out Across Maine" March Takes Shape

by Paula Stockholm

Beyond the endless fundraising, there have been few opportunities for those of us in Maine's lesbian community to put ourselves into the fabric of the campaign - to show our neighbors who we are, and that we do experience discrimination. The exceptions are The Maine Speakout Project, and Out Across Maine.

Out Across Maine is the statewide march in October intended to bring us together; to take ourselves and our message to the streets of Maine; and to have some fun together in the month before the election.

The march is an entirely local event with statewide connections and implications. Local coordinators and participants will determine the character of

their relay segment, choosing the time and route. . . perhaps inviting local politicians and/or celebrities, contacting the press — whatever they feel will work in their hometown.

Lest anyone get caught-up in the concept of a grueling month on the road for everybody involved — this one more resembles a relay march. Local marches will wrap up with a picnic, rally, or house party before everyone goes home to a warm bed. On the next weekend, Out Across Maine will be reborn in a few other communities.

Deb Cooper, the Out Across Maine coordinator, is putting together pink knapsacks to be passed from group to group. In the pack is a camera and notebook for creating a 'family album' of our march for equal protection in Maine.

The big finish is November 5th in Augusta — two days before the polls. Planned is a rally, a press conference, display of our family album of all who contributed their shoe leather. Everyone is, of course, invited to join in the celebration.

Please take a look at the following schedule and choose where you can join in. Several segments still need local organizers. Can you do it? It can be as big or as little as you like or have time to produce - the important thing is that a piece of the March happens in your area, too.

Contact Deb Cooper in Bar Harbor at 207/276-5916 (email: dmc@jax.org). The Out Across Maine committee can provide posters, contacts, suggestions, and generic support for local march units. ΔΔ



## MCC Church moves to new home

AUGUSTA: Northern Lights Metropolitan Community Church, a liberation-based, non-homophobic, inclusive Christian church, announced recently that they will be holding services at their new location on Riverside Drive in Augusta. The Church has previously been renting space from a local Protestant church. "This move represents an exciting opportunity for growth in ministry," said Bill Gordon, pastoral leader for the group.

"Until now," continued Gordon, "our group has been constrained by limited hours of access to the worship space, but now we can begin to move out into the community with outreach seven days a week." The local congregation, which has been in existence for approximately three years, and has met in such locations as a goat barn, is delighted to have space that will provide them location stability for the next year. The local congregation has had difficulty securing space for worship in local churches.

The church will meet in the left side of the 'storefront' of the Riverside Motel, approximately 2.3 miles out from the Cony circle on Rt. 201 in Augusta. This space will include room for worship, fellowship and a church office. There is ample parking and soon will include handicap access. Worship begins on 4:00 pm on Sunday with a congregational meeting the first Sunday of each month, a pot luck supper on the third Sunday of the month and a Singspiration on the fourth Sunday.

Northern Lights is a mission of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, an international denomination founded twenty-five years ago to provide a clear alternative to those who have felt alienated or unwelcome in mainstream churches. The denomination has taken clear stands against discrimination in all forms, and has worked to bring holiness, health and wholeness to its members. Worship includes the use of inclusive language in hymnody, scripture and preaching. There is one other MCC in Maine in Portland. For more information about the church, call Bill Gordon at his residence at 207/453-9750.

During the international General Conference session of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches held in Atlanta, Georgia during late July, the church resoundingly denounced passage of the November referendum question facing Maine voters. By resolution, the Conference called for the defeat of the referendum and stood in solidarity with the people of the UFMCC churches in Maine and with other persons of conscience in what has been understood to be an historic fight against oppression and discrimination in all forms.

Northern Lights MCC of Augusta and Circle of Hope MCC of Portland sponsored the resolution and for the first time sent delegates from Maine to the Conference.  $\Delta\Delta$

## Catholics in Support of Gay Rights to Celebrate Solidarity

WASHINGTON, DC: Dignity/USA, the world's largest organization of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Catholics and their friends, has called on Catholics who disagree with official Church teaching on homosexuality to join in a visible protest on Sunday, October 8. Dignity has named that day, which coincides with a planned Papal Visit to Baltimore, Maryland, "Solidarity Sunday," and is asking supporters to wear a Rainbow Ribbon throughout the day.

In announcing the event, Dignity/USA President, Marianne Duddy stated, "For too long, the Pope and Bishops who endorse discrimination against gay people have controlled the Catholic message about homosexuality; when in fact their attitude is not at all representative of what

most Catholics think. It's time that people understand that most Catholics are fair and decent, and believe that all people should be treated with respect."

Duddy pointed to numerous studies that indicate that the majority of American Catholics support gay rights. A 1992 Gallup poll put this support at 78%.

In contrast, recent Vatican statements have named homosexuality as "intrinsically disordered" and are seen by many as tacitly approving of violence against gay people. Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Director of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, wrote "When civil legislation is introduced to protect [homosexual] behavior . . . neither the Church nor society at large should be surprised when . . . violent reactions increase."

The National Coordinator of Solidarity Sunday, Bruce Jarstfer, a retired military surgeon who lives in San Antonio, Texas said, "The Radical Right has targeted our community for abuse, and to drive the fund-raising for the 'ministries.' Hate crimes against people perceived to be gay or lesbian increase with every sermon or speech based on gay hatred. It is time to call a halt to such verbal and physical violence."

Dignity/USA predicts that as many as 250,000 Catholics will wear Rainbow Ribbons to Mass on October 8. Local contacts in southern Maine are Janet O'Day (207/646-2820), Rosemary Ananis (207/646-6641) and Victoria Zavasnik (207/775-6595-voice mail or 207/775-0015-home).  $\Delta\Delta$

## Augusta UU Church sponsors citizen education project

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

"Dialogues on Discrimination and Equal Rights" will be held throughout the state of Maine in churches, service clubs and community centers as a result of a citizen education project of the Unitarian Universalist Community Church in Augusta. The **Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights** has been, and will continue, training volunteer speakers to conduct these dialogues with their fellow citizens. Speakers will go out in pairs to talk about their own experiences of discrimination, experiences of friends, family and colleagues, or simply to speak about why the issue of equal rights matters to them.

A distinguished group of Maine citizens from diverse political and religious backgrounds and sexual orientations, make up the advisory board of The Speakout Project. Two former Maine

Attorneys General, two former chairs of the Maine Republican Party, the interim Chancellor of the University of Maine, a Catholic priest, two rabbis and a member of the Maliseet tribe in northern Maine are among the board members. The common thread running through this board is a commitment to make Maine a place where all persons and groups are protected equally, by law.

The current task of the Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights is to present accurate information about the legal standing of the non-heterosexual minority in Maine. According to recent polls, most Mainers assume [incorrectly] that non-heterosexuals are already protected equally by law. By engaging in non-confrontational dialogue, volunteers will attempt to open the hearts and minds of citizens to an injustice that should not be tolerated any longer. The

urgency of this task is underscored by the swiftly approaching vote on November 7th on the ballot initiative sponsored by Concerned Maine Families.

Jonathan Lee, coordinator of The Maine Speakout Project, "We need to get people to the trainings. There is no cost to attend because we are trying to make it easy for everyone. However, we need at least 10 people to make it worthwhile to hold a training. The September 8-9 training at Williston West in Portland was cancelled at the last minute." Lee stressed again how short the time is and how much work remains to be done before the vote.

For more information on The Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights, contact Project Coordinator, Jonathan Lee at 207/879-0480. (See September-October calendar for dates of additional trainings and for speaking invitations.)  $\Delta\Delta$

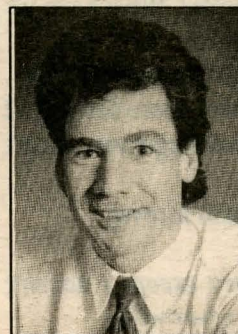
## MONEY TALK: Residential rental property

by Peter J. Callnan, CPA

It has recently become apparent to me that many domestic partners are opting to purchase residential rental property as homes rather than single family dwellings. The reasons for this are varied and I won't attempt to explore them in this article. I will, however, briefly discuss some of the tax considerations of owning and managing residential rental property.

The first thing to consider is record keeping. The simplest way to track income and expenses is to establish a separate checking account for the building. If all receipts and disbursements are through this account, then at the end of the year you will not have to recreate what has happened over the past 12 months. You simply go back through the check register for the information.

The second item is what is considered rental income. The obvious answer is cash received monthly for the use of an apartment but, advance rental payments, such as first and last months rent together, are also recognized as income when received. A security deposit is not recognized as income if kept separate from operating cash and you intend to



Peter J.  
Callnan,  
CPA

return it to your tenant but, if it is used in lieu of rent, then it becomes income at that time.

The next consideration is what qualifies as rental expenses. The obvious answer here is any cash payment made to manage and operate the building, including payments for mortgage interest, utilities, insurance, property taxes, personal services, travel and repairs. Repairs are expenses which keep your building in good operating condition such as painting, replacing broken windows and fixing appliances. Any expense which prolongs the useful life of the building or adds value to it is considered an improvement such as, a new roof, paving a gravel drive, replacing the plumbing or electrical system or finishing off a basement. These larger ex-

penses are recovered over a period of years through depreciation. Current tax law allows owners of residential rental property to recover the original purchase cost of the building and subsequent improvements to it evenly over a period of 27.5 years.

If you use a part of the building for your personal residence, then the amount of expenses and cost of the building and improvements which is depreciable are limited. The portion allocable to your personal use is not deductible as a rental expense. The allocation is usually based upon the number of rooms or square footage taken as a personal residence and not available for rental.

The income and expenses I've been discussing are reported on your individual income tax return by using Schedule E - Supplemental Income and Loss. Domestic partners will report only the income and expenses for their partial ownership in the property.

As usual, this is only a very brief discussion of owning and managing residential rental property. It is always a good idea to contact a qualified financial consultant for advice and information before undertaking any kind of business venture. Good Luck!  $\Delta\Delta$



LOVE from page 17

founders of the People With AIDS Coalition, starts the CD off on an affirming note with it's crystal clear vocals and touching lyrics.

What I think is the best track on the CD is far and away Janis Ian's "When Angels Cry." Her song is both chilling and beautiful as it stresses the importance of maintaining love in your heart despite so much misunderstanding about AIDS.

Other artists on this album are The Flirtations, singing "Angels, Punks and Raging Queens." Dan Martin's "Lay Your Burden Down," with its incredible backup vocals, is another one of the better tracks. You'll also find music from the punk-folk reigning queen, Ani DiFranco, the legendary Holly Near and Cris Williamson, as well as Ann Reed, Gary Bankston and Steve Sandberg.

"A Love Worth Fighting For" is an important piece of work and it features a very impressive booklet, not to mention 78 minutes of music. We'll have to keep our eyes open for other releases by Streeter Productions, Inc. down the road. Much credit to Mitchell Gallob's efforts in putting in the time, energy and certainly money to make this music available to us all on one album. ΔΔ

OUT OF TOWN!



Paul T. Bernard

When is a "DEAL" not a good deal? I received several calls this week from people trying to buy tickets at an advertised sale price of 50% off. What they didn't realize was that the 50% off is 50% off from the full coach fare. The regular leisure fare was \$548, but full coach fare from Portland to San Francisco is \$900. This gives a sale price of \$457. Yes, it still is a savings, but not the amount that everyone would expect. Cruise lines and hotels also advertise sale prices in a similar manner.

There are times when the "deals" that you see advertised in the papers are not the deals they appear to be. Airlines love to advertise airfare specials in a somewhat deceptive manner. For example, a recent ad advertised a special fare from Portland to Los Angeles

for "\$235.00\*." Note the asterisk - in the fine print, it said that the \$235 was for one-way, but that you had to buy a round-trip ticket. That's like a shoe store advertising a particular pair of shoes at \$24.00\*. The asterisk further states that the \$24 is for one shoe, but you have to buy a pair of shoes. And further buried in the fine print are the other restrictions - usually you must travel mid-week, sometimes even limiting you to certain hours of the day or certain flights, that you must stay over a Saturday night, and that you must purchase your ticket at least 21 days ahead of time. And of course, the sale expires on a certain date. Another example of misleading advertising is a "Two for the price of One" special that Delta Air Lines offered recently. First of all, you had to buy a box of Maxfli Golf Balls which qualified you for the Two-for-One special. But if you read the fine print, you would discover the following restrictions: if you were travelling under 1000 miles, you had to purchase a ticket for at least \$299 round-trip; if you were travelling over 1000 miles, you had to purchase a ticket for at least \$499 round-trip. Well, "Two-for-One" sounds great, but in reality, it isn't the big savings that you thought. For example, you want to go to Orlando. Since Portland to Orlando is over 1000 miles, you have to purchase a ticket for at least \$499 - actually, the fare is \$560 - which gives you tickets at \$280 each. Well, depending on the day of the week that you want to travel, you could purchase tickets for \$238 each - without using the "Two-for-One" special. As it turns out, the only time that you saved any real amount of money was on the longer trips - to California or Hawaii. The fare to Hawaii is about \$850. That makes it \$425 each using the "Two-for-One" special. Car rental prices can also be misleading. The renter must realize that the advertised price doesn't include taxes - and in some states, there can be three taxes - state sales tax, state sur-

"JEFFREY" from page 17

his rectory. Innocent Jeff thinks this hungry, holy man is quite mad, and the good Father defends his sanity by comparing himself to his parishioners. "They are the ones who believe in a virgin birth, the crucifixion and Ben Hur," he says.

Dialogue like that keeps the juices flowing while we wait for Jeffrey to finally drop his hankie. That hankie hits the ground, but only when Jeffrey is convinced that his new relationship will be for keeps—that Steve will never get sick, that he will never die or leave. Steve is ready for bed; he'll say anything, and Jeffrey is a nit-wit looking for a fool-proof relationship. He wants things clean and neat and securely pinned in place like a curled red ribbon.

"Jeffrey" is not an AIDS primer. The movie doesn't preach to the choir. It's about contact and the importance of intimacy—a comedy for the battle weary, singed by the mere turn of events, surviving the '90s one day at a time and aching to laugh. ΔΔ

charge tax, and a local airport tax. These taxes can actually add a considerable amount to the rental price. Also, don't be taken in by rental insurance waivers. In most cases, your own car insurance policy will cover your rental car also. Check with your local insurance agent. This can save up to \$15 per day in insurance charges. Also, make sure that the rental rate is for "Unlimited Mileage". Recently, car rental firms tried to do away with unlimited mileage rates, but the public wouldn't buy it. So, unlimited rates are back - but they increased the rental rates about \$5 per day. Just be sure to read all the fine print on advertising - it's the only way to protect yourself. Or better yet, consult your local travel agent - remember, they work for you and can quickly tell you if you are or are not getting a "good deal".

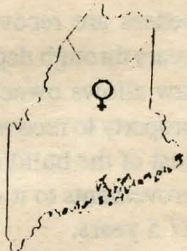
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ALWAYS from page 18

nouncements, the principal came on with bad news. The homecoming dance was canceled. Also, that morning, Noble High took a moment of silence to remember the short and tormented life and memory of Trinity S. West, who had shot himself in the head the night before with a letter by his side.

Dear World,

Why are we like this? Why do we ridicule and harass? Why are we so ignorant and blind? Prejudiced and hateful? How can we hate someone just because of the color of their skin or because of who they love? What have we become?

Also before I go, thank you Kyle. . . Thank you for being there for me. I love you and I'll never forget you. Don't forget me. . .

Love always and forever,  
Trent

(This is a true story except I haven't killed myself and I never will.)

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SPIRIT, from page 16

One woman who shared her extraordinary musical gift with us, and certainly still does, is Joni Mitchell. Two of her songs are contained on this album. Roseanne Cash's version of "River" is one of the prettier track's, and Sarah McLachlan's "Blue" is the most haunting.

It's not like I can mention Joni Mitchell and not mention Joan Baez, so I won't even try. Sophie B. Hawkins delivers one of the most memorable songs on this CD. With only a piano backing her up, she calmly sings and passionately wails on "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down." Damn, I wish Sophie would put out a whole album of stuff like this.

We're almost done, only two more tracks. A lot of folks seem not to have at least an appreciation for, if not a few albums, of Ferron. Amy Ray and Emily Saliers (Indigo Girls) know this and chose to perform one of her songs. If nothing else, Ferron has an incredible way with words, particularly on the song

"It Won't Take Long." "If the body stays in shackles than the minds remain in chains" is a very appropriate line from this song that certainly captures the essence of "Rock for Choice".

Finally, my favorite track on "Rock for Choice" is by a woman named Melissa. No, not Etheridge, the other Melissa, Melissa Ferrick. She has two albums out on Atlantic Records and she writes and sings in a rare, intense, honest manner which continues to attract new listeners. She does, however, lighten up a little and musically smiles on her truly wonderful "Feel Like Makin' Love." Although I was particularly captivated with Roberta Flack's recording, and pretty much thought this was a truly cheesy song, somehow Melissa Ferrick breathes an entirely new life into it.

Since I have rambled about this album for quite a while now, I will end on a simple note. Spirit of 73' is a great album and it supports a very worthy cause. It should be available at most record stores, and the picture of Amy Ray is reason enough to buy it. ΔΔ

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# CAMPAIGN, from page 1

today, and that's why, when I got a call last October asking me my position on this question, I said, from a phone booth on Forest Avenue [in Portland], 'I'm against it!' I didn't have to consult with anybody, I didn't have to take any polls, because it's wrong."

Pat Peard, Chair of the Executive Committee of Maine Won't Discriminate, next introduced Speaker of the Maine House Dan Gwadosky (D-Fairfield). Gwadosky likened his excitement and anxiety at addressing the people assembled with that of children full of hopes and dreams beginning a new school year. He said, "I am very excited about the opportunity of beginning, what I believe to be, a very important dialogue with Maine people about what we want to be and who we are. . ."

In concluding his remarks, Gwadosky zeroed in on the fact that the referendum has been constructed by an 'outsider' (Bruce Fein, Esq.), from Virginia who was also involved in similar attempts to limit equal rights to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people in Colorado and Oregon. "The referendum this fall is about Maine people, but it's not by Maine people," he said, referring to Fein. "It's the work of an individual who has been quoted as saying that he finds The Bill of Rights to be 'vastly overrated'. . . There's no doubt about it, this referendum is the work of extremists, many of whom have vowed they will not stop here. They promise to be back with more and more measures to interfere in our life-styles and

to affect our day to day way of living. We need less government in our lives, not more government"

Gwadosky observed that Mainers are known for their unique, independent spirit and self-reliant ways, and said there is no reason for Mainers to abandon those ways now. He urged people to join with him if they care about Maine and what it

zens, regardless of race, religion, and yes, sexual orientation, are treated fairly and equally, said Ketterer in a clear, robust voice.

Ketterer delivered the following words with the conviction our community has come to admire. "We need to stop the hate against those who are perceived as being different," he said. "We

mainstream here in Maine."

In what could only be termed a definite warning, Ketterer concluded by saying, "To those who condemn and discriminate against people because of their race, their religion, their sexual orientation, or for any other perceived difference, look on this press conference as an education. See this for what it is, a declaration by Maine's elected and public officials that their ignorance is nothing to be proud of, and their beliefs are contrary to those of the majority of Maine citizens."

Peard thanked the speakers for joining Maine Won't Discriminate at the press conference. She also thanked them for their years of service to our state. "The fact that they are standing here together today," said Peard, "is testimony to their leadership and a credit to the people of our state. Maine is uniting against question #1. . . People across this state are coming together and forming groups, and joining with Maine Won't Discriminate to defeat this flawed, misleading, and ultimately very costly measure to the State of Maine." She said that MWD has chapters in every county of the state, and over 4000 volunteers from diverse backgrounds who are working to defeat this measure.

More than 70 businesses, large and small, from across the state including Bath Iron Works, Barber Foods, The Catholic Diocese of Maine, former US Senator George Mitchell, Key Bank of Maine, Fleet Bank of Maine, Maine Council Veterans for Peace, and many others stand in opposition to Question #1. ΔΔ



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stands for, and to vote NO on question #1.

Rounding out the mornings list of invited dignitaries was State Attorney General, Andrew Ketterer, who expressed his pleasure at joining with Governor King, Speaker Gwadosky and Maine Won't Discriminate at the press conference. "Since becoming Maine's 53rd Attorney General, I have worked to assure that all Maine citi-

need to stop the violence against those who are perceived as being vulnerable. Law enforcement has, and will continue, to send a clear, unmistakable message to those who would discriminate or commit violence against persons perceived as being different. The purveyors of bigotry and discrimination are the ones who are different. They do not represent the views of the

# NO on 1

## MAINE WON'T DISCRIMINATE

**Thank you to everyone** who has given their time, resources and money to make sure that Maine Won't Discriminate. You are greatly appreciated. Please remember – we have less than two months left until the vote and your energy is **needed now more than ever.**

Volunteers are the lifeblood of this campaign!

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