

# Community Pride Reporter

FREE

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

VOL. 3, Number 6

January - February, 1996

## Maine Youth Protection Council has new Executive Director

Erik Richard looks to bring fiscal stability and credibility to Council

Portland, ME: Since 1993, the members of the Maine Youth Protection Council have worked with issues of racism, homophobia, and sexism. The organization had undergone tremendous growth and revitalization in the past year including the addition of several new members and a new Executive Director, Erik Richard. In 1996, with broad based community programs, the Council will take steps toward ensuring that once again youth will take an active role in making their community and schools safer for minority youth.

The Council was originally established to identify all programs affecting youth in Portland and to offer recommendations to Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council for solutions to these issues. In the early stages, MYPC identified the homeless rate as a top priority. Since this time, up to 10 other agencies in the city have taken an active role in dealing with homeless youth. In January of 1995, the Council made a

move away from Portland West and established its current mission statement to lead in the fight against youth oppression. The organization has been recognized for its contributions and funded by Haymarket Peoples Fund and The Community Training and Assistance Center (CTAC) as well as community supporters. Listed among the members of the

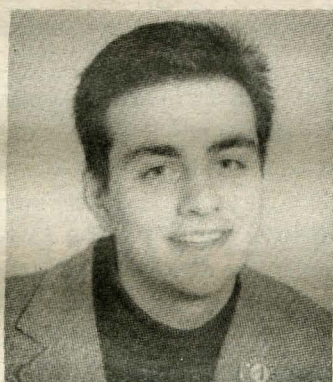


Photo by Studio 101

Erik Richard, Executive Director with a vision

See MAINE YOUTH, page 2

## Landmark Federal Court ruling against dentist who refused to treat patient with AIDS

Boston, MA- In a landmark victory for people living with HIV and AIDS, a federal court in Bangor, Maine has ruled that a dentist's written policy of refusing to treat people with AIDS or HIV is illegal discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"This is the first legal decision in the country to reject the argument that a doctor can refuse to treat a patient with HIV or AIDS because of the fear of transmission of HIV from a patient to a doctor or other patients," according to Bennett H. Klein of Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders in Boston, MA, co-counsel for the plaintiff. Added co-counsel, David Webbert of Augusta, Maine, "The Court has sent a clear signal to doctors and dentists that discrimination against the one million Americans with HIV will not be tolerated and is medically unjustified."

The case is *Sidney Abbott v. Randon Bragdon, D.M.D.*, United States District Court for the District of Maine, Civil Action No. 94-0273. Bangor den-



Sidney Abbott of Bangor wins the first round in battle against discrimination.

tist Randon Bragdon, D.M.D. refused to fill Plaintiff Sidney Abbott's cavity simply because she had tested positive for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS. Dr. Bragdon claimed that he had the legal right to refuse to treat a patient with HIV because the risk of transmission of HIV from a patient to the dentist or other pa-

See LANDMARK, page 3

## Further investigation reveals inconsistencies in employee's claims about Windham restaurant

Owner of Miller's Diner disputes charges made by former employee

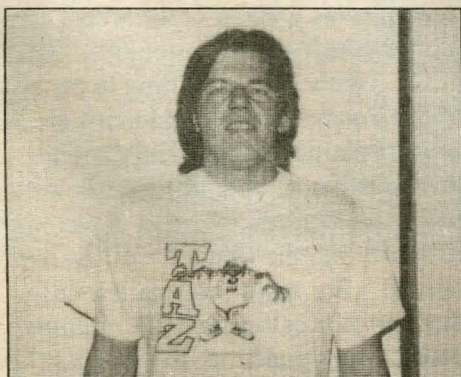
by Bruce Balboni

"There were two facts in the article that were correct - he worked here and he was fired," said Don Miller in reference to the article in CPR's December issue regarding the termination, November 11, 1995, of Bruce Grover from the employ of Don Miller, owner of Miller's Diner on Route 302 in Windham, Maine. CPR spoke with Don Miller, Friday, January 12th and Dan Boynton, Saturday, January 13th, in an effort to clarify and bring balance to the allegations made by Bruce Grover and published in

the December issue of CPR.

Grover had claimed that since he was awarded unemployment benefits, November 13, 1995, that proved that he had been fired without cause. However, Don Miller appealed that decision. When CPR interviewed Grover mid-December, 1995 he indicated his intention of attending the appeal hearing and fighting for his unemployment. According to Don Miller, Grover did not attend the hearing, held early January. When one of the parties to an unemployment dispute does not attend the hearing, the absent party usually loses by default and, in this case, Grover would probably have to pay back whatever benefits he had received.

Grover made several claims against his employer, Don Miller and against fellow employees, especially Dan Boynton. Grover states that he was fired November 11, 1995 and when he asked 'why' Don Miller refused to tell him. Miller has confirmed that he was unwilling to discuss the reasons for firing Grover with him, but Miller goes on



Bruce Grover: Did he tell CPR and the Unemployment Bureau the truth?

See INVESTIGATION, page 2

## Ethics Commission subpoena's records

Concerned Maine Families (CMF) asked to turn over finance records from campaign

by Winnie Weir

According to a news story appearing in the Portland Press Herald's January 18 edition, the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices served Concerned Maine Families (CMF) with a subpoena requesting campaign finance records.

This action by the Commission is yet another attempt to resolve alleged inconsistencies and errors in reporting contributions made by CMF during the course of the referendum campaign. Carolyn H.T. Cosby, leader of CMF, is calling the actions of the Commission "political harassment" of her and CMF. CMF has gone to Superior Court to block the subpoena.

As previously reported in Community Pride Reporter, Linda Bean Folkers complained that she was listed as having made a \$3,500 contribution to CMF when in fact she did not. Folkers says she contributed \$250. In June, copies of all CMF financial records were requested by the Commission as part of their investigation. Cosby stated that this action was an attempt to influence the outcome of the referendum question and in July did answer questions and did

provide some financial records. Folkers continued to be in contact with the Commission and pointed out inconsistencies in the explanations Cosby provided to the Commission.

When the Commission voted in September to continue the investigation,

See ETHICS, page 18



Balboni photo

Carolyn Cosby's 'home away from home.'



## INVESTIGATION, from pg. 1

to say, "Bruce didn't tell you the entire truth. He didn't tell you that on October 15, 1995 he received a substantial performance review and that many things needed to be corrected and that if he didn't correct them he would be terminated. These items were not corrected, particularly his mouth." Miller says that Grover's profanity was a big problem, that he swore loudly in the presence of customers, that business was being lost and, "that's why he was fired."

Grover had used the fact that Miller had given him a raise on October 15, 1995, at the time of the performance review, to question why anyone would fire somebody who had just been given a raise, but Miller said that, again, Grover left out the whole story. In explaining the raise of October 15, 1995 Miller said, "When I gave him the performance review he (Grover) said something about more money. I said to him, 'I tell you what I'll do. I'll give you a 10% raise on the condition that you meet these criteria.' There were four or five criteria

and to show him good faith I gave him half the raise right then because I really thought the guy was going to do it. He said, 'Oh, great, no problem, I'll really take care of these things and there won't be another problem.' Nothing changed, not a damn thing changed."

As far as Grover's claim that he was a shift supervisor Miller explained that Grover was 5th in the chain of command - below Dan Boynton. Miller added that the only reason Grover had the keys to the place is that he was the last one out on the weekend nights. Further, Miller does not remember telling Grover that he, Grover, was "one of the most diplomatic employees . . ."

Miller takes exception, specifically, to any claim by Grover that anything that went on at Miller's Diner had to do with Grover's sexuality. Grover had said that the "trouble" started when he, Grover, began hanging around with the two lesbians who work at the Diner, but Miller says that just the fact that there were lesbians working there proves he has no bias against gays and lesbians, as Grover claims.

Miller went on to deny or explain everyone of Grover's claims and accusations. The one Miller is most concerned about is Grover's claim that Dan Boynton telephoned him, Miller, the night of November 10, 1995 to suggest to him that he fire Grover because Grover had just revealed to him (Boynton) that he (Grover) was a cross-dresser. Miller says there was no such phone call. Boynton says the same. Boynton added that Grover never came out to him as a cross-dresser.

## Boynton denies allegations made by Grover

Dan Boynton said that Grover's version of events at Miller's Diner is "point blank — not true, just on the basis that I had no idea about Grover's sexuality." Boynton did not want to get into a 'he said - then he said' kind of discussion but he did give the following statement regarding Grover and his termination — "Bruce Grover was a disgruntled employee because when I was hired I went above him in the chain of command and he always pretty much

held that with a grudge against me."

In response to Grover's claim that Boynton left the restaurant a mess for him, Boynton countered that the time cards would prove that in fact, he (Boynton), would stay late to help Grover set up. Boynton also says that the quote Grover attributes to him about Boynton being 'the most prejudiced person' is simply not true. Boynton also says that Grover never told him he was a cross-dresser, so again, the phone call Grover alleges Boynton made to Miller never happened. Boynton asserts that, "the situation with Bruce had nothing to do with his sexuality, cross-dressing or whatever."

Both Miller and Boynton pointed out that the description of the damage done by Grover to his car is simply impossible and both maintain that any suggestion that anyone at the Diner vandalized Bruce's car is ridiculous.

Bruce Grover did not return our phone calls when we tried to reach him to ask him to respond to this new information. ΔΔ

## MAINE YOUTH from pg. 1

Council's Advisory Board are both Cultural Affairs Coordinator of the City of Portland, Victoria Hershey, and Portland's Deputy Chief of Police, Mark Dion.

Last year, as one of its most successful projects, the MYPC sponsored Youth Day '95 at Congress Square. This was a community event focused on youth empowerment and education. The event, staged in the heart of Portland's burgeoning "art district," drew over 300 people and featured bands, poetry readings, art displays and contests. Literature from numerous city and state wide agencies and resources was available. Many young people felt the event was

one of the most successful youth events of the year.

The MYPC's youngest Executive Director in their history has the support of both Council and Board Members. These members believe that Erik's dedication to the Council's objectives and his commitment to the 1996 agenda can help make this the organization's best year ever.

"I look forward to working closely with Erik throughout the next year," said board member Vicki Manning. "The Board plans to offer him as much support and assistance as he needs and we are very confident in his abilities and dedication to projects past, present and future."

Erik Richard, once the youngest person to run for public office in the city of Portland, heads up the Council as Executive Director. Erik was honored last August as one of the Top 25 Youth Activists in the nation by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Richard began working on youth issues in 1987 when he founded Community Kids, Inc. in Rumford, Maine. That organization was successful in producing alternatives to drug use and abuse by youth in that community. In 1992, Richard left his home town at age 15 to avoid the continuous harassment by peers after being "outed."

"As Executive Director I want to bring the Maine Youth Protection Council to a point of fiscal stability, heighten its credibility and growth in the State of Maine, as well as have the Council stand as a national role model not only to other youth, but to society as a whole," Erik states.

The 1996 projects begin with the Maine Safer Schools Program, the Youth of Color Caucus, and Youth Day '96.

The Maine Safer Schools Program, modeled after similar projects in Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Washington, and Minnesota, focuses on guaranteeing equal educational opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans youth in their schools. The Council will lead efforts to build the Coalition and create the Steering Committee. The effort will start by holding hearings state-wide giving youth the opportunity to testify as to their experiences with homophobia within their school system. It can be assumed that the Coalition will submit recommendations to the Department of Education in late 1996 or early 1997.

The Youth of Color Caucus will be a Portland based project offering unity and embracing diversity among Portland's youth. This project was created in light of the recent and not so recent event of harassment and violence

directed toward young people of color.

Recently, Advisory Board Member Victoria Hershey said, "When you have a city as diverse as Portland, we need to take responsibility to sit down and learn about each others traditions. What better way to start working together than through a youth caucus." The Council is currently reviewing possible coordinators for the Caucus to form organized goals and objectives as well as offering guidance and advise.

Thirdly, the MYPC is also slated to begin to form a sub-committee for its annual Youth Day in late February. The Council hopes that Youth Day '96 will generate an even more enthusiastic response than last year's event.

One program that is currently nameless will focus on sending out questionnaires regarding racism and homophobia to guidance counselors, principles and school board candidates. Erik Richard feels very strongly that though he was defeated in the race for the Portland School Committee last May, that issues of racism and homophobia entered into discussion when they otherwise may not have if he had not run.

"It is unfortunate that these issues seldom play a role in School Board elections in our state. It is important for constituents to know where their officials and candidates stand on crucial issues that can tear apart communities and lives," said Richard. It is the Council's goal to find out how the candidates opinions compare to those of the school administrators.

With 1996 promising to be the Maine Youth Protection Council's most active year, any interest and participation from community members is welcome. In addition, personal donations to assist with the Council's efforts are needed. For more information about these projects or to join MYPC's efforts, contact the Council at: PO Box 4427, Portland, ME 04101 or (207) 775-4944.



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## Anti-Gay Bill Moving Forward in Legislature

by Karen Geraghty

A week after Senator Dale McCormick, (D-Hallowell) announced her plans to withdraw a state-wide anti-discrimination measure and called for "healing" after the divisive battle of Question One, Senator Georgette Berube (D-Lewiston) announced her intention to proceed with an anti-gay bill in the current legislative session. This bill is a "hold over" from the first half of the session, which began in January 1995.

The bill is L.D. 1448 - An Act to Reconcile Rights and Responsibilities with Respect to Sexual Orientation. The bill was drafted by Michael Poulin, a Lewiston attorney who worked to defeat the Human Rights Ordinance in that city. Most serious of MLGPA's objections to this legislation is that it provides protections based only on orientation, not behavior. That can mean you aren't covered if you "practice" sexuality. The bill seems to devote more attention to loopholes and exclusions from protections than even to the limited protections it offers.

It treats gay people differently in age of consent and child abuse, and it bans us forever from adoption, foster care, school curricula, marriage, domestic partnership - even employment benefits. It specifically exempts any agencies and organizations that work with anyone under 18 years of age. That this bill does little to correct inequalities was clear to its drafters: it specifically permits "different treatment" in policies and practices based on sexual orientation.

The limited protection from discrimination that it offers is only the result of your "crime victim status": if you are the victim of a hate crime and as a result of reporting that crime your employer finds out you're gay and fires you - then you might be protected from discrimination based on crime victim status.

Within the last week, Senator Berube indicated that she may try to



amend her bill so that the only two items still included in the bill will be a ban on same gender marriage, and the protection from discrimination when gays are beaten up.

In MLGPA we are directing our efforts at pressuring Senator Berube to follow Senator McCormick's lead and withdraw her bill, or in the event that fails we are trying to get a unanimous "Ought Not to Pass" from the Judiciary Committee. At this time there has been no indication if there will be a public hearing on the bill.

Members of the Judiciary Committee are listed below. If you are represented by one of them, please call and voice your opposition to L.D. 1448. Then call MLGPA at 1-800-556-5472 and let us know you made the call.

Sen. Peter Mills (Senate Chair), R-Skowhegan, District 13; Sen. Sean Faircloth, D-Bangor, District 9; Sen. Joan Pendexter, R-Scarborough, District 31.

Senators can be reached at 1-800-423-6900 (toll free during session only) or 287-1540 (anytime).

Rep. Sharon Treat (House Chair), D-Gardiner, District 91; Rep. Richard Nass, R-Acton, District 11; Rep. Lloyd LaFountain, D-Biddeford, District 19; Rep. William Lemke, D-Westbrook, District 29; Rep. Fred Richardson, D-Portland, District 32; Rep. Robert Hartnett, R-Freeport, District 48; Rep. Elizabeth Watson, D-Gardiner, District 82; Rep. David Madore, R-Augusta, District 95; Rep. Debra Plowman, R-Hampden, District 114; Rep. Kyle Jones, D-Bar Harbor, District 130.

Representatives can be reached by calling the clerk's office at 1-800-423-2900 (toll free during session only) or 287-1400 (anytime).  $\Delta\Delta$

### Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance Reacts to Anti-gay bill in the Legislature

On hearing today that Sen. Berube will be continuing her efforts to pass an anti-gay bill in this Legislature, Karen Geraghty, President of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA) issued the following statement.

"I am outraged and so will every other single person who voted "no" on Question One. The radical right elements in our state still haven't gotten the message. Maine voters said loudly and clearly that Maine shall not make laws whose purpose is to limit the rights of any group of people - including gay men and lesbians.

Senator Berube proposes that the only protection from discrimination that a gay person should get is when he or she becomes the victim of a hate crime. MLGPA, anti-discrimination bill sponsors, and Governor McKernan and his staff all considered a similar

set of protections for hate crimes victims in 1993. It became clear to us then that such a proposal could never be translated into practice. For instance, how could it be administered, how long would it last, what types of crimes does it cover, etc. The real issue is that discrimination against gay people should not take place. It's morally abhorrent to say that we will only be protected from job discrimination if we get beaten up first.

Senator Berube also proposes a pre-emptive prohibition of any partnership benefits or marital status for gay couples. This sounds like another "monster in the closet scenario" - imagining things that are not there. We haven't even proposed gay marriage or domestic partnership benefits but our opponents already want it prohibited. Many respected and successful corporations have long provided partnership benefits to unmarried employees whether they be heterosexual or homosexual...

### LANDMARK, from page 1

tients was a "direct threat to the health and safety of others" under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Dr. Bragdon attempted to challenge the scientific basis for policies of the United States Centers for Disease Control and the American Dental Association that people with HIV may be safely treated with the use of standard infection control procedures known as "universal precautions" which are utilized for all patients.

In a twenty-eight page decision written by United States District Judge Morton Brody, the Court rejected Bragdon's argument that "performing invasive dental procedures... creates a significant risk of transmission of HIV" through contact with plaintiff's blood by a needlestick injury or spattering and misting of blood or bloody saliva. Dr. Bragdon, according to the Court, offered only "speculation," "conjecture" and "tangential statistic" about the likelihood of HIV transmission during dentistry. In determining whether the possibility of HIV transmission justifies discrimination against a patient, the Court stated the "[N]either the duration or severity [of HIV transmission] outweigh the evidence as to how the disease is transmitted and the slight probability of transmission... in light of modern dental methods, treatment of plaintiff does not pose a direct threat to the health and

safety of Defendant, his staff, or his patients."

The decision is particularly important in light of Dr. Bragdon's zealous belief that health care providers should not be required to treat patients with HIV. Dr. Bragdon has spent thousands of dollars to mail his writings to the entire membership of the Maine Dental Association to persuade dentists not to treat patients with HIV. Although there is no documented case of HIV transmission from patient-to-dentist, Dr. Bragdon argued that HIV could be transmitted in dentistry through needlestick injuries, splashes and splatters of blood or bloody saliva; that masks and gloves are inadequate barriers; that HIV can survive in dental suction and water unit lines as well as aerosols created from dental drilling; and that HIV-positive patients have a high risk of having active tuberculosis. If the Court had been persuaded by Bragdon's claim, a doctor or nurse would have been able to refuse even to draw blood or assert an IV line in a patient with HIV.

(Editor's note: In speaking with Bennett Klein, Esq. of GLAD, he indicated that this case would "undoubtedly be appealed." CPR will be following the developments.)  $\Delta\Delta$

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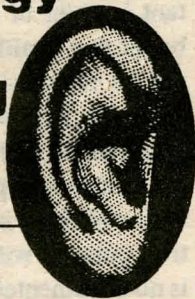
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# News from the Granite State

Former Congressman, Tom Andrews (D-Maine) to discuss  
"The Politics of the Family."



Balboni Photo

Former Congressman, Tom Andrews  
(D-Maine) will be in Portsmouth.

On Saturday, January 27, at 2:00  
pm, the Social Concerns Committee of  
the Unitarian Universalist South Church

in Portsmouth will sponsor a forum on  
the "Politics of the Religious Right." The former Democratic Congressman from Maine, Tom Andrews, will be the featured speaker. Andrews was selected in August, 1995 as the new President of People For the American Way, a nationally respected advocacy organization with more than 300,000 members across the country. This group has been in the forefront on THE defining issues of our time including civil rights and free expression, reproductive freedom and the challenge to the Religious Right's so-called culture war.

Tom Andrews served two terms (1990-1994) as a Democratic member of Congress from Maine and was elected president of his freshman class. He became known as a congressman who took courageous stands and political risks. In 1994 he ran for the Senate at the urging of retired Senate Majority Leader

George Mitchell. He lost to Olympia Snow. Since January of 1995 Andrews has been a consultant to the National Democratic Institute and the Economic Policy Institute in Washington.

Andrews will speak about "The Politics of the Family," relating how the Religious Right, while calling itself "pro family," has pushed a political agenda that greatly harms American families. The Religious Right has been extremely successful in using language, symbols and (frequently untrue) stories to advance its extreme right-wing political and economic social agenda. Andrews will offer progressive activists a new way to respond to these increasing attacks on families.

UU South Church is located at 292 State Street, Portsmouth. For further information, call JoAnne Dowd, 603/659-4754; Paige Roberts, 603/427-0034; Bo Stasiuk, 603/659-8524. ΔΔ

## Sexuality, Orientation and Gender:

### Providing competent health care services to sexual minorities

On Tuesday, January 30 the Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force in cooperation with PFLAG, NH will present a one day seminar at the Sheraton Tara Hotel in Bedford NH, entitled "Sexual Orientation and Gender: Providing competent health care services to sexual minorities."

This one day intensive training is intended for administrators and frontline health care workers who would like to increase their understanding of the health related needs of sexual minorities. Participants will consider concepts related to sexual development, gender identity and construction, affectional and sexual orientation. They will have an opportunity to acquire the skills and sensitivity needed to provide unbiased and comprehensive

health care services to sexual minorities. Attendees will participate in discussions with a range of sexual minorities including transgender and transsexual individuals, enhancing their ability to work with all people seeking health-related services.

Faculty includes Wayne Pawlowski of Planned Parenthood in Washington, DC where he is Director of Education and Training. Pawlowski has worked with numerous organizations including the Peace Corp, VISTA and SIECUS providing sexuality trainings around the world. He received his Masters in Social Work from Catholic University and maintains a private therapy practice in Washington DC. Pawlowski was last in New Hampshire for PFLAG's "Respect for All Youth" confer-

ence some three years ago.

P. Clay Stephens has worked in health care of man and women for more than 20 years as a lay health worker, administrator, clinical researcher, physicians' associate and policy consultant. Ms. Stephens has volunteered with various nonprofit educational institutions providing services to sexual minorities, commercial sex workers, injected drug users, native Americans and other marginalized populations. She is currently completing her doctoral degree in Public Health at Yale University.

For more information or to register (cost: \$25, some scholarships available), phone David Polando at 603/595-8464.

## Consortiums, Coalitions & Networks Forming

Flora Piterak and Jim Bretz, inspired by nationwide grass roots groups working on rural issues, came home from the Detroit Gay and Lesbian Task Force Conference more determined than ever to build a strong coalition in the entire state. Piterak and Bretz are starting a "Rural Concerns Consortium." A planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 27 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm in Keene. Participants will work on plans for a Symposium in Manchester or Concord sometime this spring. The agenda includes planning workshops in the morning, a town meeting in the afternoon and an evening dance. For more information on the planning meeting, call Jim at 603/536-4011.

An Opening Night for the "Rainbow Network" (The Net), happened in December, 1995. More than 250 people gathered in the Seacoast Repertory Theater in

Portsmouth to take the first steps toward building a unified gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Warren Blumenfeld and Senator Dale McCormick (D) Maine, gave insightful, amusing and moving talks. Founders of "The Net" Ruth Rosenhek and members of several area gay, lesbian, bi and trans groups shared

their vision - - to end the fragmentation in the gay, lesbian, bi and trans community. "The Net" held its first general meeting to develop an organizational structure on January 9 at Portsmouth City Hall. For more information, call Ruth at 207/439-7085. ΔΔ

Source for news: PFLAG, NH's  
January-February Newsletter

## House Judiciary Committee Hears Anti-Discrimination Bill

HB1294, protecting gays from discrimination in housing, public access and employment was scheduled to be heard by the House Judiciary & Family Law committee on Thursday, January 18 at 1:30 pm. The primary sponsor of the bill is Rep. Bill McCann of Dover, NH. Jim Bretz of the Coalition

to End Discrimination (CED) has urged PFLAG members and others to get involved by telephoning or writing their State Representatives to urge support for this bill.

(Editor's Note: More on this story as the bill makes its way through the long process.) ΔΔ



## Maine

## AIDS Plan

A Blueprint for Action

In the December/January issue CPR, we ran a story on the unveiling of *The Maine AIDS Plan* and said we would allocate space in each issue of CPR for reprinting portions of the Plan for our readers. We cannot hope to reprint the entire document and would urge readers to secure their own copy or borrow a copy and read it cover to cover. It's a monumental work well worth the read. In this issue we are printing excerpts from the Introduction and Executive Summary along with some facts about HIV/AIDS.

**A Blueprint for Action:**

AIDS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, was first recorded in the United States in 1981. Since then, over 270,000 people in this country have died from the epidemic. In Maine, more than 200 people have died of AIDS, and another 2,000 are estimated to be living with HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), the virus that leads to AIDS.

Economically, the cost of this disease is staggering: an estimated \$102,000 for each individual diagnosed with AIDS. Taking into consideration the number of Mainers believed to be infected today, a minimum of 204 million dollars will be required over the next decade for care and treatment alone.

And those are only the financial costs. The life costs are far greater: the loss of loved ones, family members, friends, relatives and co-workers.

For those who become ill, the costs are unthinkable. This virus has caused many to live and die in isolation and poverty. Thousands have had to suffer through stiff barriers of oppression just to get treatment. Thousands more have been so afraid of losing their jobs, their insurance, their homes and the love of friends and family, that they have literally wasted away without care.

The great tragedy of this disease is that it's almost completely preventable. In medical terms, we have the knowledge and the technology to stop the spread of HIV in Maine.

But HIV is not simply a medical issue. Our fear of this disease and denial of those who have contracted it have forced HIV to become an issue of basic human rights. In fact, this disease would never have progressed as far as it has if it weren't for discrimination.

With some irony perhaps, HIV has been referred to as "the equal opportunity disease." The virus has not discriminated; men, women and children from all walks of life have been infected. And even though HIV is not particularly vigorous as viruses go, it has thrived in an atmosphere of stigma, fear and mis-

information.

The "Maine AIDS Plan" begins with the plain facts, such as how HIV transmission occurs and how to prevent it. In practical terms, such issues are easy to talk about and easy to understand. In fact, our society is already well aware of how to prevent HIV.

In social terms, however, we're still far behind. As a country, we have been unable to address this epidemic effectively. Yet one of the most powerful ways we can prevent HIV is by ending discrimination; by respecting people whose lives may be different from our own; and by standing together as a community in times of crisis, such as this.

These actions require more than knowledge. They take courage and commitment.

In the summer of 1992, responding to the lack of activity from our state leadership, 25 people gathered together to think about Maine's future and AIDS. Among them were health care practitioners, educators, service providers, bureaucrats, legislators, activists and people living with the disease. For four days they shared their ideas and formulated a strategy. When the conference ended, they had resolved to construct a specific, five-year course of action addressing HIV treatment, prevention and policy. This was the foundation for the "Maine AIDS Plan."

... The "Maine AIDS Plan" is a resource guide with basic information, statistics and personal observations about how HIV affects different populations throughout the state, and how each sector of society can enlist its best resources to meet the challenge.

"The Maine AIDS Plan" is a profile — of courageous, caring individuals, each of whom, in his or her own way, has made us all stronger. And this Plan can help every one of us make a small but crucial difference in our homes, community or workplace.

"The Maine AIDS Plan" is a blueprint for action.

The Plan is a grassroots, community effort written by and for Maine people all across the state...

The Plan is user-friendly...

The Plan is a tool with up-to-date facts and resources, concrete steps for action and local, state and national resources.

The "Maine AIDS Plan" is, in the end, a process.

**HIV/AIDS in Maine: Who is at risk?**

Anyone who engages in unprotected sex or who shares needles for in-

jecting drugs (or otherwise piercing the skin) may be at risk for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Even though HIV/AIDS has affected all segments of Maine's populations, since the late 1980s three significant epidemiologic trends have become evident:

**Rural**

The increasingly rural character of HIV/AIDS: Recent AIDS diagnoses are more likely to have occurred among residents of non-metropolitan and rural communities in the central and northern areas of the state.

**Women**

The slow but persistent increase in the number and proportion of women with HIV and AIDS: From one woman in 1988 to 11% of all Maine AIDS cases in 1993. Presently, close to 40 Maine women have AIDS, and many more are HIV infected. Because some women have such little knowledge of (or control over) their partners' habits, they may be at risk unknowingly.

**Male-to-Male Transmission**

The majority of recently diagnosed cases of AIDS in Maine (73%) are among men who have sex with other men: Because HIV/AIDS is so closely associated with sex and with gay men, people living with HIV/AIDS have been shunned, discriminated against by all segments of society and denied necessary services. Because of society's wavering response to this disease,

America's gay community itself has organized against this disease: from education and treatment efforts to the formation of service organizations and actually changing the way society treats all terminal illnesses.

**HIV affects other populations****Hemophiliacs**

Although hemophiliacs have proportionally suffered the greatest infection rate from HIV and AIDS, since 1985 the blood products used to treat hemophilia have been tested and treated to eliminate the risk of HIV and other diseases. Still, from prior dependency on the blood supply, it is estimated that 70% of all hemophiliacs nationally are infected with HIV.

**Maine Youth**

Twenty-three percent of Maine persons living with AIDS are between the ages of 20 to 29; most of them probably became infected in their teens. According to a survey conducted by the Department of Education, of the 54% of high school students who have had sexual intercourse, only 50% indicated that they (or their partner) had used a condom during the three months prior to the survey.

Fifty-six percent of high school seniors and 51% of juniors reported at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the 30 days prior to the survey. In a separate survey, up to 46% of college students said that their having sex was due directly to alcohol use.

Approximately 25-30% of children born to HIV infected mothers will have HIV infection.

**Injection Drug Users**

Sharing needles for injecting drugs accounts for 14% of AIDS cases in Maine. Over 22% of positive HIV antibody tests in 1993 were attributed to

See AIDS PLAN, page 18

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# Task Force asks AG Reno to take action on Oregon Killings

## Put Feds on alert in anti-gay initiative states says NGLTF

Washington, DC: Citing the recent murders of two lesbian activists in Medford, Oregon, and a tragic history of violence against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people in other states with anti-gay ballot initiatives, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has asked U. S. Attorney General Janet Reno to lend federal assistance in investigating and stopping homophobic homicides.

"We are writing to inform you of a situation which unfortunately is becoming too commonplace in our country and to seek your assistance in helping protect the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people," said the three-page letter. . . "As you may be aware by now, two women were murdered 'execution style' in Medford, Oregon [in early December]. While the specific circumstances of this case are not yet known, we are concerned that these seemingly calculated murders were motivated by hatred toward gays and lesbians."

Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill, both openly lesbian activists and up-standing community citizens, were abducted on Monday, December 4. On Thursday, December 8, the bodies of Ellis, 54, and Abdill, 42, were found in a pick-up truck in Medford. Local media reports indicate the two were bound before being shot side-by-side in the head at close range.

Ellis and Abdill were prominently involved with the local chapter of Parents, Friends & Families of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and their community church. Both played highly visible leadership roles in the battle against Measure 13. The measure, sponsored by the Oregon Citizens Alliance, was defeated in November 1994. The police are investigating the killings as hate crimes, but have not confirmed them as such.

"Our concern is that however the facts in this case turn out, hate crimes against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender persons continue to be an epidemic in this country," said the letter. "In the atmosphere of hatred and gay-baiting which are expected to be waged by the Far Right during anti-gay ballot and legislative state initiatives, it is clear that such crimes will increase."

The letter went on to detail the rise in anti-gay violence, especially in states with homophobic initiatives. The ballot initiatives are designed to overturn existing protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and prohibit such protections in the future. Typically accompanying the measures is a wave of incendiary propaganda ranging from charges of child molestation to "special rights" to bestiality and "AIDS spreaders, disseminated by initiative sponsors to persuade voters to support the measures.

In the letter, signed by NGLTF executive director Melinda Paras, the Task Force asks the Department of Justice to monitor the situation in Medford and, if possible, "lend assistance to local law enforcement in assuring the collection of all information necessary to determine whether or not this was a hate crime." The letter also states, "We strongly urge you [Reno] to consider the possibility of having local FBI or other federal offices in states with anti-gay and lesbian initiatives or legislation be on alert for increased violence and civil rights violations against our communities."

The record of anti-gay hate violence in initiative states and nationwide includes:

From January 1992 to early December 1994, a total of 151 anti-gay murders were reported . . . This includes 59 murders in 1994, 62 in 1993 and 30 in 1992. "One way to look at this data," said the letter to Reno, "is that in the years since anti-gay initiatives emerged on the scene in Oregon, Colorado, Idaho

and Maine, and made national headlines, anti-gay murders have almost doubled..

In 1992, the Lesbian Community Project in Portland, Oregon tallied 968 incidents of anti-gay violence, more than any other victim service agency in the U.S. in that year. Measure 9 was introduced in Oregon in 1992 . . .

From 1991 to 1992 anti-gay violence rose 129% in Colorado (from 89 to 204 incidents).

Most recently, the Maine Gay and Lesbian Political Alliance (MLGPA) reported at least 10 known anti-gay incidents between June and October 1995, the height of the anti-gay Measure One campaign. . . By contrast, MLGPA reported only four such incidents in all of 1994. During the week after the initiative was defeated, yard signs by Maine Won't Discriminate . . . were found with bullet holes in them.

"We are concerned about the high incidence of hate crimes that continue to occur in this country. . . We are especially concerned about the documented increase in such crimes that occur in connection with right-wing sponsored



Roxanne Ellis (right) and Michelle Abdill were the latest victims in escalating anti-gay violence in U.S.

ballot initiatives. However the facts turn out in the [Oregon] case, these deaths are another wake up call, reminding us of the increased violence against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people which we can expect beginning in 1996 as the Far Right begins initiative and legislative campaigns against our communities."

Activists expect ballot measures in at least Oregon, Idaho and Washington, among other possible states in 1996. The US Supreme Court held hearings on Colorado's Amendment 2 last autumn and is expected to rule early this year.



## Task Force raises level of concern on Oregon murders to Feds following recent statements by killer

### Knowing victims were lesbian, "made it easier to kill"

Washington, DC: New developments in the case and jail house statements by the confessed killer of two lesbian activists in Oregon have raised the level of concern about the cause of the murders, which have been reported in the press as a "botched robbery."

In a letter to U.S. Attorney Janet Reno, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) executive director Melinda Paras cited recent statements made by Robert James Acremant, who has been apprehended and has confessed to killing Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill of Medford, Oregon. "Mr Acremant's reported comments of this past weekend have increased the concerns" about the motives behind the murders, said Paras.

The "Oregonian" (12/17 and 12/18/95) and the "San Francisco Examiner" (12/17/95) have both reported lesbian-phobic statements made by Acremant while in custody. In press interviews, Acremant said the sexual orientation of the victims had nothing to do with the murders, but then goes on to say that the fact they were lesbians, "made it easier [to kill them] because I don't like them." He's also quoted as

saying he did not feel any remorse for "these people." The Examiner story made Acremant's disdain for lesbians even more explicit: "I don't care for lesbians. Bisexual women don't bother me a bit. I couldn't help but think that she's [Ellis] 54 years old and had been dating that women for 12 years; isn't that sick? That's someone's grandma for God's sake. Could you imagine my grandma a lesbian with another women? I couldn't believe that. It crossed my mind a couple of times — lesbo grandma, what a thing, huh?"

The "Oregonian" (12/18/95) went onto report that Acremant said he asked Roxanne Ellis "out of curiosity" if she and Abdill were lesbians, a fact the article points out he may actually have already suspected. Apparently, the article says, Acremant had spent time looking over county records and had noted that the victims, who he knew lived together, were listed as co-owners of the property management firm. Ellis told Acremant they were a lesbian couple and that they were open about it. He is quoted as saying, "it kind of made me

See NGLTF, page 7

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## MONEY TALK: Earned Income Credit



by Peter J.  
Callnan, CPA

In a previous article, I mentioned the Earned Income Credit (EIC) which is available to low income taxpayers. It is a tax credit which was expanded in 1994 to include taxpayers who do not have children. To qualify for the credit without a child you need to meet the following requirements:

- \* Have adjusted gross income less than \$9,230
- \* Be between 25 and 65 years old
- \* Not claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return
- \* Have a home in the U.S. for at least half of the year
- \* Are not electing married separate status
- \* Have earned income less than \$9,230.

Earned Income can include non-taxable payments such as voluntary sal-

ary deferrals to retirement plans, voluntary salary reductions under cafeteria plans and employer provided dependent care benefits. There are other special rules for military personnel, clergy, household employees and prison inmates that I won't discuss here but are covered in the instruction booklet.

Keep in mind that it is **earned income** that is used to calculate this credit with the EIC Table and not total income, adjusted gross income or taxable income. It is separately computed using a worksheet in the instruction booklet. The maximum credit available to taxpayers without a qualifying child is \$314.

If you have a qualifying child, the requirements are different. A qualifying child is generally any child you can claim as a dependent but, it isn't a requirement. To be a qualifying child they must be:

- \* Your child, adopted child, grand child, stepchild, or a foster child who lived with you all year,
- \* Under 19 years of age at the end of 1995 (24 years of age if a student)

or any age and permanently and totally disabled,

- \* Lived with you in the U.S. more than half of the year.

If you have a qualifying child the requirement for the earned income credit are as follows:

- \* Your adjusted gross income is less than \$24,396 (\$26,673 if more than one qualifying child)
- \* Your earned income is less than \$24,396 (\$26,673 if more than one child)
- \* Fill out Schedule EIC and attach to your return.

Now this can all be quite confusing and the IRS must have realized it because they will figure the amount of your credit for you if you simply write EIC on the line where you take the credit and list your non-taxable earned income. You will still need to attach Schedule EIC if you have a qualifying child.

Well, that is a brief summary of how to take advantage of the earned income credit. If you qualify it is a good opportunity to reduce your tax liability. Good Luck! ΔΔ

## New Hope Sponsors Moveathon, Seeks Business Sponsors

Rockland, ME: New Hope for Women, the Rockland-based organization providing support services for victims of domestic violence in Midcoast Maine, is planning their first annual Women & Friends on the Move Moveathon for June 1, 1996. This Moveathon will take place simultaneously in Damariscotta, Rockland and Belfast, and will consist of walkers, bikers, runners, hikers, kayakers and anyone else eager to support New Hope by completing a 3.6 or 12 mile course. This is a major fund-raising event for New Hope for Women and is will raise community awareness about domestic violence.

At this time, New Hope is seeking help from local area businesses willing to sponsor the event. Sponsor's logos will be used in event advertising and major sponsors' logos will appear on all event brochures and advertising. New Hope estimates that hundreds of concerned citizens will participate in this event, either as active movers or through financial pledges. Business people interested in sponsorship or supporting a team of employees should contact the New Hope offices at 207/594-2128.

A meeting of all people interested in volunteering to help with this Moveathon will be held January 24 at 6:00 pm in the PBMC Room of the Knox Center for Long Term Care in Rockland. Volunteers unable to attend this meeting should contact New Hope for Women for more information. ΔΔ

Signs, similar to those carried by rally participants in last summer's Maine Won't Discriminate kick-off rally (photo right) were found with bullet holes shot through them by MWD volunteers out retrieving roadside and lawn signs following our Victory on November 7. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is urging federal monitoring of states with anti-gay initiatives.



Balboni photo

### NGLTF from page 7

sick to my stomach that she was someone's grandma," after which he burst into laughter.

"I'm writing to indicate our continuing concern regarding the investigation in the murders . . . especially in light of recent developments, and to again urge the Department to monitor the investigation by local law enforcement," said the letter to Reno.

. . . Newspaper articles also reported that the suspect's family said that Acremant was desperate for money and that he intended to rob, not kill, the victims, and that the murders took place after the robbery went wrong. But it has also been reported that money and credit cards were left behind at the murder scene, raising serious questions about the suspect's claim that robbery was the initial motive. Since then, the killer has also stated he plans to sell his story of the murders to the "highest bidder." . . .


## New Community Educator hired at TAP

by Winnie Weir

The AIDS Project (TAP) has announced that Victor R. Rash, MSW, has been hired as Community Educator.

According to a recent press release from TAP, "A new year means new beginnings and some of the new beginnings to be implemented by Victor at TAP include: expansion of the diversity of community outreach to include all populations affected by HIV, and educational workshops targeted at specific populations to increase awareness of self-esteem, safer sex and HIV (as well as prevention of HIV).

One of TAP's goals for the new year is to be very accessible to the community as a valuable educational resource for HIV information. A major piece of this involves volunteers to expand programs and services. The AIDS Project invites everyone to be a part of this exciting new growth. Call Victor Rash at 207/774-6877 to volunteer. ΔΔ



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## TO YOUR HEALTH: Where's the fat??



by Tania Jo Hathaway

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) such as heart attack and stroke are the #1 killer of women in the United States — beating out all cancers combined.

CVD is one of those illnesses that, for most people, accumulates over the long-term; ice cream and potato chips, brie and chocolate torte, cheese and butter are so delectable that we work these foods into our daily and weekly diet with seemingly little consequence (other than an expanding waistline). Or so it seems.

Truth is, fatty accumulations on the walls of our arteries narrow the passageway through which blood must pass, and those same fats are known to contribute to high blood pressure. There you have it — a body that is a prime candidate for heart attack or brain attack (stroke). All this from too many bowls of chocolate fudge brownie, too much buttered pop-

corn, too many french fries — you get the picture.

Lesbians, get your mammograms and pap smears (for early breast and cervical cancer detection) and on the way home, get a good low-fat cookbook and get started on living well now for future health.

But isn't some fat good? Which kind and how much do our bodies need in order to function well? Here's a short answer to a complex question. Saturated fat (dairy products, coconut oil, palm oil, meat) will clog arteries; unsaturated fats do not clog arteries, and in fact, two types of unsaturated fats are necessary for good health.

The two types of unsaturated fats that are essential for good health are polyunsaturated fats known as Omega-6 (extracted from vegetables such as corn, safflower, and sunflower) and Omega-3 (fish oil, flaxseed and walnuts). Generally speaking, our bodies need no more than one to two tablespoons of high-quality oil per day.

One more note on fats: trans-fatty acids should always be avoided. Trans-

fatty acids are found in nearly every processed food product on the market (chips, cookies, TV dinners). Read your food labels to get an idea of how much of this damaging product you get in one day! Any partially saturated or hydrogenated oil is trans-fat. Trans-fat not only clogs arteries but prevents good oils from doing their work! NOTE: Any oil which has been made into margarine has trans-fats! Use small amounts of butter instead — it's better for your arteries!

One key to lowering fat in your diet is figuring out what percentage of your daily intake of calories is calories from fat. For many Americans, it is near 40%, way high by even 'liberal' fat experts like the American Heart Association, who says that total calories from fat should not exceed 30%. Most whole food gurus suggest between 20 to 25% of daily calories should come from fat.

In order to calculate the percentage of fat calories in your diet, you will need three things: 1) the formula 2) a good fat-and-calorie-counter book 3) the determination to keep track of fat.

1) The formula is printed on this page. Cut it out and put it in an easily accessible place. If you are having trouble figuring out how it works, call the Lesbian Health Project;

2) For a good fat-and-calorie-counter, see your local library or bookstore;

3) As for determination, here's some encouragement: while all this calculating may seem laborious at first (it IS laborious!), in time you'll be fast at the figuring and if you jot down your calculations, you can return to them for quick referencing. Also, since most of us have favorite things that we eat over and over, you'll find yourself spending less time calculating.

Remember, eating well and cutting fat are ongoing struggles. It rarely happens overnight and most of us 'slip' into high-fat eating now and again (like during the holidays!).

Seen a good cookbook lately? Write to us with an answer to everyone's nemesis: low-fat, quickly prepared meals with an emphasis on non-meat dishes. We'll print them next month!

Tania Jo Hathaway is Coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine. For information: PO Box 11048 Portland ME 04102. (207) 657-58664.

## OUT OF TOWN !



by Paul T. Bernard

**BITS & PIECES** - I received a call the other day from a panicked cus-

tomer who had lost her ticket. She wanted to know what to do. Well, this is how the airlines deal with a lost ticket:

When you show up at the ticket counter on the day of your flight, most airlines will make you fill out a Lost Ticket Application AND buy a new ticket. WHY DO I HAVE TO BUY A NEW TICKET? It's the airline's way

of making sure that you are serious about this. After about 4-6 weeks, you will receive a refund for this new ticket - minus the fee for processing the Lost Ticket Application (usually \$50-\$60). Remember, those tickets are almost as valuable as cash.

Even though it is difficult for someone else to use your tickets or cash them in, you should always treat these tickets as if they were cash. That means putting them in a safe place until you are ready to travel. I have had two calls within the last 4 months about tickets being stolen from customers' offices. Put your tickets in a safe place - preferably locked up. I almost had to follow this procedure a couple of years ago. I

had accidentally included my air tickets in with a bunch of envelopes that I dropped in the mail one day. Fortunately, someone at the post office called to tell me that they had found them and I was able to pick them up before my flight.

New Security Measures - About 4 months ago, the FAA and DOT increased security levels at all airports in the US. This was in response to threats from several terrorist groups. Now, when you arrive at the airport, you must provide some sort of positive ID before you will be allowed to check in. This means that the ID provided must match the name on the air ticket. For domestic flights, allow at least an hour or more, and for international flights, the airlines recommend checking in at least two hours before your flight.

Gone are the days when you could buy the return half of someone else's ticket. I don't see this changing in the near future. This means that you should allow plenty of time to check in at the airport as the process has now been slowed down.

**UPCOMING EVENTS** - Below is a list compiled from several sources showing just some of the tours available to gays and lesbians. Those listed as (M) are Men Only and (F) are Females Only. Unless otherwise stated, these tours are available for males and females.

- Δ Cancun, February 3 with Atlantis
- Δ Whistler Gay Ski Week, February 4 with Advance Damron
- Δ South Africa, February 4 with Our Family Abroad
- Δ Best of Australia tour, February 7 with Above & Beyond Tours
- Δ Berlin Film Festival, February 8 with Reel Travel
- Δ British Virgin Islands (M), February 8 with Toto Tours

- Δ Honduras Diving, February 10 with Undersea Expeditions
- Δ Sea of Cortez Sailing (W), February 10, with Mariah Expeditions
- Δ Carnival in Rio, February 10 with Above & Beyond Tours
- Δ Caribbean Cruise, February 10, with All About Destinations
- Δ Caribbean Cruise, February 11 with RSVP
- Δ Costa Rica, February 11 with Our Family Abroad
- Δ Bahamas Cruise, February 16 with Ocean Voyager
- Δ Maui, February 17 with Toto Tours
- Δ Caribbean Cruise, February 18 with RSVP
- Δ Mardi Gras-New Orleans, Feb.20 with Destination Management
- Δ Sydney Mardi Gras-Western, February 21 with Pink Triangle Adventures
- Δ Winterfest - Munich, February 22 with Ski Connections
- Δ Mardi Gras-Sydney, February 22 with Men on Vacation
- Δ Thailand, Singapore & Hong Kong, February 27 with Our Family Abroad
- Δ Yellowstone Ski Extravaganza (W), March 3, with Woodswomen
- Δ Hawaii for HIV+(M), March 3 with DestinationDiscovery
- Δ Barrier Reef Recovery (M), March 4 with Men on Vacation
- Δ Cozumel Diving, March 6 with Above & Beyond Tours
- Δ Exploring Costa Rica (W), March 7 with Woodswomen
- Δ Nepal, March 8 with Himalayan High Treks
- Δ Egypt, March 15 with Our Family Abroad

These are just some of the hundreds of tours available to gays and lesbians. Contact your local IGTA travel agent for more information. ΔΔ

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## Insurance Tips: Do you need Renters or Tenant Homeowners coverage?



by  
Carolyn A.  
Jalbert

Personal loss exposures exist when personal resources are subject to perils that may adversely affect an individual's or family's financial condition in the event of a loss. Two of these for your consideration are personal property losses and liability exposure. Can you afford to replace all you own if you suffer a major loss?

If you are renting, it is likely that your landlord provides insurance coverage for the building. However, your landlord is not responsible for your personal property. You must carry renters or tenant homeowners coverage which provides you with both personal liability coverage and protection for a specified amount of your personal contents. In addition to what is covered, you should also be aware of what may be specifically excluded.

If you can be found negligent for damages to your unit or the premises, coverage is provided up to the liability limit specified under your tenant homeowners. Example: You accidentally allow the bath tub to overflow which results in structural damage that the landlord may seek to recover from you. Another example: You are found liable for an injury to another tenant or guest if they were to trip over an item you left near your entrance or stairway.

Your liability protection provides you with coverage for the costs of investigating claims and defending lawsuits up to the limit you carry. The insurance carrier reserves the right to appoint your defense counsel and investigate.

Your personal property is covered for the named perils listed in your policy. Review these. Most homeowners and tenant homeowners policies provide no real coverage for your business exposures in the home. When in doubt, we recommend that you contact your agent and be specific about your in home business.

Never hesitate to request clarification of what is or is not covered by your policy from your agent. They prefer you call them to inquire rather than for you to assume you have coverage that you do not.

Jewelry, collections, silverware, fine arts, golfer's equipment, cameras and rare coins have very limited coverage under a homeowners policy. They can be insured under a Personal Articles Floater which will provide you with coverage on a direct loss basis for a specific dollar amount supported by an appraisal of value. Antiques must be insured under a Personal Articles Floater to avoid being depreciated in the event of a loss. Coverage under the Personal Articles Floater is worldwide with the exception of Fine Arts pieces or collections.

We recommend that you consider purchasing Replacement Cost coverage for your personal property/contents which will allow you to replace 'old' with 'new' without depreciation for a covered loss. It is important to remember that you only have coverage up to

the limit stated on your policy even though you carry Replacement Coverage. The Replacement feature allows you to replace an old couch or television with a new model, otherwise you would be reimbursed at the depreciated level.

Boats, snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles can be insured separately or often times can be endorsed to your policy to provide you with liability and physical damage protection. Again, when in doubt, call to be sure you understand whether or not you are adequately protected.

This coverage is relatively inexpensive. An average tenant homeowners policy which provides coverage for \$20,000 in contents, \$300,000 liability, \$1,000 medical payments, replacement cost coverage and carries a \$250 deductible costs about \$100 annually. Most companies offer discounts when you place your homeowners/renters/condo and auto coverage with them. For further information, contact a qualified insurance agent.  $\Delta\Delta$

## 55+ Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group Forming in Portland

by Winnie Weir

Recently Cliff Fisher stopped by the CPR offices to talk about a support group he is attempting to facilitate in Portland for gay, lesbian and bisexual people 55 years old and above.

CPR: Tell me something about yourself and about this group.

CF: I am a graduate student at USM in the counseling program and I hope to graduate at the end of the summer. One of my courses requires that I lead a group dealing with a topic in which I have special interest.

CPR: What is your special interest in older lesbian, gay and bisexual people?

CF: First, I've noticed a relative lack of support groups for older people, both in the gay community and generally. I guess because we're older, we are supposed to be well connected, but I wonder if that is true. My guess is that there are some older gay/lesbian/bisexual people who would welcome a support group designed specifically to focus on what it's like being older in our community.

CPR: What else is motivating you?

CF: I think it's real important to ask older people to share their life experiences and stories with others. Our society doesn't do that very much. It helps to have someone listen to our stories, and I think it helps others to hear how their own lives have been similar or different. I think this is true

especially in the gay community where many of us do not have children to pass our life experiences on to. I think it's important to have a safe place where our stories can be shared. CPR: How long will the group run, and how often will it meet?

CF: As soon as there are three or four people who are interested in coming we will start. I need to limit the size of the group to eight or nine people. My involvement in the group will need to end at the end of the semester, but my hope is that the connection people will make will continue on in the form of get-togethers to talk, potluck dinners, or for whatever reason people find they have things in common with other group members. We will meet as often as once a week, but the frequency and location can be decided later depending on the needs of those who are interested.

CPR: Is there any fee involved for this group?

CF: No, the purpose of the group is for people to get to know others in our community, and for me to gain experience in leading a group.

CPR: How do people get in touch with you?

CF: Look for the announcement in the classified and resource sections in this issue, and give me a call. If I'm not there, people can call back in the evening until 10:00 PM or leave a number where I can call them.  $\Delta\Delta$

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MON - THURS 5PM - 10PM • FRI AND SAT 5PM - 11PM



## Community Pride Reporter

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Portland, ME  
04101

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# EDITORIALS



Well, it's a new year but there seems to be a lot of the same old, same old. We're into the second verse (or is it the third) of "Where, oh where has my government gone?" and wondering if the Washington boys club has any notion that there are real people across the country waiting on their decisions.

Anti-gay violence, physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual continues across the country as does homophobic discrimination in their attempts to "keep us in our places." Anti-gay initiatives are being introduced in the halls of state government (Oregon, again) and equal rights bills are also being introduced. New Hampshire is one state beginning their second attempt to pass such legislation.

Books are being banned and teachers being fired for using gay-positive materials. The radical right is on the move. And so must we be on the move

as a community. It comes as no surprise to any of us that during the referendum campaign differences of opinion, as well as differences in philosophy and methodology, left some wounds that need healing. Work is being done toward that end and our community will be the stronger for it. Good thing, too. There's another biggie on the horizon and the homophobes are already poised to spring into action.

I speak of the marriage bill in Hawaii, a bill that hasn't even passed yet and already rock-solid opinions are being formed in the larger gay community. We, of course, don't have to stretch much to know that the right is trying to head the bill off by passing prohibitive legislation. What rattles my cage is the charge that same gender couples marrying is mimicry of heterosexual marriage, therefore we should not expend energy or finances to secure that right.

The right to marry is one piece of a much larger picture. The right to adopt is one piece of a much larger picture. The right to be free from fear of losing a job or an apartment or being beaten up

because you love someone of the same gender are all pieces of this larger picture. It's the picture of full and complete equality - no caveats, no qualifying restrictions that don't apply to all citizens. In any fight for justice and equality there are many pieces, but throughout the battle, it is imperative that the larger picture remain in focus.

I don't want to adopt children, but that doesn't mean I don't want that right for by brothers and sisters who do. I want to get married to my partner. That right should be there for us when we decide that's the next step in our relationship. If you don't want to marry, exercise your freedom of choice not to. It's not about church or religion, it's a matter of justice and equality. I want the whole plate full, not just the crumbs from some radical right winger's table! How about you? ΔΔ

*Winnie Weir*

## RANT: "Yes, Columbus did discover America"



by  
**David Cook**

I recently saw a marvelous photograph at the Portland Museum of Art depicting a car completely covered with social activism slogans in front of a storefront similarly decorated. The 1938 work by Jon Gutman is entitled "Yes, Columbus Did Discover America," from one of the slogans which ends "... and the international bankers have taken it away from us saps." Another line declares that all we get from the government is "fear, war, lies, hunger."

Viewing this powerful photograph got me thinking about how little popular outrage there is now at America's economic plight compared to what there was during the Great Depression. In the 30s, the labor union movement was loud and vociferous. Many people were publicly condemning capitalism. Some were openly supporting the Communist Party. There was widespread agreement that poor people in general and the working poor in particular were taking it on the chin so that the rich could get richer.

Now what have we got? An impotent union movement, unaffordable health care, schools that don't work, people without homes, children without parents, workers without jobs, and the highest concentration of wealth in the history of the country. Where's the outrage? Where's the protest? Why isn't the country shutdown from coast to coast

with a general strike?

The answer is simple: Americans don't really believe that government should work for the collective good. Benefits that Europeans have enjoyed for years — free health care, free education, protection from disabilities, long vacations, an empowered union movement — are considered downright sinful by Americans. What's worse, not only isn't our government used to do good for its people, but it is actually used to feather the nests of big businesses and their rich owners. In particular, de-regulation initiatives during the eighties (widely supported by voters) resulted in the destruction of many large enterprises and brought about serious concessions from labor, usually followed by layoffs. (As I write this, AT&T has just announced a 40,000 worker layoff which we are told we should be grateful for because it could have been much larger.)

While the French take to the streets over government actions that will reduce their standard of living (already much higher than ours), Americans sit by and watch their elected officials plan drastic service cuts coupled with a tax cut for the wealthy.

Because rank and file Americans basically don't believe that government should be used to "do good," American social service programs have traditionally been designed to be inefficient, inaccessible, inadequate and punitive and to leave the recipients feeling guilty and resentful. I discovered this personally when I was on unemployment for six months: from the initial process of signing up and substantiating my claim, to

the reporting requirements, to the penalties for breaking even the tiniest rules, to the piddling size of the benefits, that system design is clearly intended to prevent people from getting the support they need when unemployed. And, from all reports, welfare and health care services are infinitely worse.

In Europe, people pay what Americans consider to be confiscatory income taxes, sometimes as high as 60-70%. But they get fully paid health, education, welfare, child care and unemployment coverage as well as far more vacation and holiday time than Americans have. And their purchasing power with what's left of their income goes much farther than ours. In America, we pay one of the lowest income tax percentages in the civilized world and we get nothing but a bloated defense budget and an incompetent social service bureaucracy for our money.

Most of us can't afford a house and can barely afford a car. While citizens in other western democracies save their money, Americans have to borrow just to stay afloat. Yet, instead of holding our public officials accountable for fashioning a government that works for us, we have allowed them to give away our jobs, squander out tax money, and dismantle what little is left of this government "of the people, by the people, and for the people." Yes, Columbus did "discover" America — and now our elected officials are taking it away from us saps! ΔΔ

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: HIV is the cause

by David Scondras

(The author is president of Search For A Cure, an AIDS treatment advocacy organization based in Boston.)

It is unfortunate that the debate of the cause of AIDS has been sidetracked by undiplomatic choices of words. I think I know why the AIDS Action Committee was angry at seeing the Provincetown Coalition's August, 1995 newsletter, which basically suggested that HIV does not cause AIDS. Letters to the editor supporting the Coalition's position have suggested that AAC's response was inappropriate, excessive or misdirected, and undervalued the Coalition's freedom of speech. It was also suggested that those who support the HIV hypothesis are holding onto dogma about AIDS rather than being data-driven in their analysis.

Rather than debating over how polite AAC's choice of words was, it is important to focus on the scientific question of what causes AIDS. Knowing what causes AIDS guides the efforts to find a cure to the illness and the development of successful therapies.

It is impossible in a few sentences to give a sense of the dramatic scale of information on the connection between HIV and AIDS. There are, between 1983 and 1994, over 90,000 citations in the medical literature covering an astonishing number of facets of the pathogenesis of AIDS and its connection to HIV's life-cycle.

AIDS does not stand alone. It is very similar to diseases found in many types of animals, including horses, sheep, cats and monkeys. Like AIDS, these diseases lead to a breakdown of the immune system and to neurological disorders. Since 1904 scientists have been finding that they are

caused by viruses, specifically lentiviruses. It was, therefore, less than a shock when we discovered that people with AIDS all had a similar lentivirus in their blood.

There is also a massive amount of epidemiological data to support the theory that the virus, known as HIV, causes AIDS. For example, the people in France who received HIV contaminated blood got AIDS. The group of people who received the blood cut across all groups — some were older, some younger, most straight, some gay, some users of many drugs, but most were not drug abusers. (I mention this because Duesberg's drug-consumption and other non-contagious risk factor hypothesis as a co-factor or cause of AIDS is essentially disproven by this horrible "natural experiment.")

There is the compelling fact that levels of HIV virus very clearly match the stage of the illness, that when the virus levels go way up after a long period of asymptomatic infection, CD4 levels crash, opportunistic infections occur of a more and more serious nature, and AIDS is the diagnosis. In the United States, hundreds of thousands have died so far of the disease. Almost all have been tested for HIV. All have had the virus. The handful of HIV negative people who have been shown to have immune suppression who are pointed to as proof that something else might cause AIDS, have been shown to have either errors in measurement of T cells or have had other known diseases which compromised their immune system.

In addition, there is a massive amount of data about HIV itself that points to its causing the disease. HIV launches a massive attack on T-helper cells, which are clearly reduced and dysfunctional in AIDS. When neurological symptoms occur, HIV

can be shown to be present in large amounts in brain cells.

But the most important information to date that backs up those who believe that HIV causes AIDS are two facts. First, people with HIV who do not progress (or progress very slowly) to AIDS all have very low levels of the virus. Secondly, some people who have AIDS, with wasting syndrome, opportunistic infections and very low T-cell levels here in Boston who have taken the Abbott protease inhibitor which reduces HIV by a factor of about 1,000, gain weight dramatically, have significant increases in their CD4 counts and see disappearance of opportunistic infections.

You know, the flat-earth society disbanded only in the 1970s and there are still people who believe that NASA faked the moon landing. There are people who believe that the Harvard Primate Center invented AIDS and distributed it to the world and there are people who believe that Elvis Presley is still alive.

This issue is too important for anyone to make up their mind based on letters to the editor. The scientific evidence is clear, convincing, and most importantly, available for you to look at yourself. For example, pick up a copy of the September 7 issue of "Nature," the premiere scientific journal of Great Britain which has a study of over 6,000 hemophiliacs, showing that those who got HIV got AIDS, and those who did not get HIV, did not get AIDS.

To be sure there are many questions left about HOW the virus causes AIDS, but NOT about whether the virus is the culprit. No one in the scientific community seriously doubts that getting rid of the virus would get rid of the disease. ΔΔ

## CPR MAIL BAG:

Dear CPR:

Yes, we won and the joy of this Christmas is well deserved. However, I agree with many that we haven't seen the last of Carolyn Cosby and Controlling Maine Fanatics (CMF). Think of her as a hemorrhoid that is chronic and irritating as hell.

Early on in this circus, I ran into State Senator Ann Rand, who was so supportive in passing Portland's ordinance. I mentioned my disgust about the whole thing and Ann told me not to be deceived, that Cosby is a very intelligent woman. Pick up any gay newspaper and you will have no doubt that the religious right has us in their sights. If we can continue the spirit that drove Maine Won't Discriminate, we can beat them again. They should remember that we are the community that provided the only leadership in the early days of the AIDS epidemic while Regan was pretending that we didn't exist, and with our leaders dying right and left.

I theorize that the best warfare is economic warfare. Identify supporters of such madness and boycott them.

When you hit them in the purse, you make them take notice. A restaurant owner here in Belfast was heard to loudly proclaim that he voted yes, which is unusual for somebody Jewish. That establishment is no longer on my family's approved list. And it was one of my favorites.

As an AIDS educator, I feel compelled to report that AIDS diagnoses in this country have surpassed the half-million mark and don't appear to be stopping. It sometimes seems that we get all the challenges in life, but we are the best people for it.

Don't give up the fight.

Ben Moore, Northport

Dear CPR:

Mr. Balboni's editorial on reopening Deering Oaks Park to "gay" cruising was as objectionable as it was perfectly ridiculous. I would ask that Mr. Balboni put such issues in their proper context, particularly as they do or do not pertain to the gay community.

The Oaks was frequented not by

openly gay men celebrating their sexuality, but mainly by married men soliciting male prostitutes. Most of these men self-identify as heterosexual (including the prostitutes, who are often soliciting for drug money). These men are looking for brief, anonymous, non-defining sexual encounters, not pursuing gay liberation. To suggest otherwise is absolutely ludicrous.

It's also extremely hypocritical to lambaste homophobic bigots for disseminating false and scurrilous lies about gay men and then to advocate for anonymous, public sex on the stereotypical basis that its what liberated gay men do rather than what straight and closeted men do.

Finally, to suggest that men having anonymous, public sexual encounters are practicing safe sex is highly irresponsible. Studies have shown that they are taking inadequate precautions at best, and that many, despite HIV and AIDS awareness, still engage in high risk behaviors. Many behave as if their supposed heterosexuality is an impenetrable shield against the disease. Oth-

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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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ers expose themselves to the dangers to add to their "excitement."

Mr. Balboni's editorial wasn't terribly far from the things written about our community by Carolyn Cosby. I hope that in the future CPR relies less on stereotypes and spends more time honoring the real life experiences of gay men and lesbian women.

James Melanson,  
Portland



# JANUARY - FEBRUARY '96 CALENDAR

## Monday, January 22:

•Δ 7:00-8:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

## Wednesday, January 24:

Δ 6:00 PM - New Hope for Women volunteers meeting to organize Women & Friends on the Move Moveathon fund-raiser. PBMC room of Knox Center for Long Term Care in Rockland. FMI, 207/594-2128.

Δ 6:00 PM - Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition's Annual Meeting. St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Court & Elm Sts., Belfast. Potluck supper followed by selections from the performance "Quilt" and a brief business meeting. FMI, 207/338-1427.

•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, January 25:

Δ 7:30 PM - The Matlovich Society, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Alan Hamilton presents "A History of the Bisexual Movement." He will explore the relationship between today's bi movement and today's g/l/trans. movement. Free hotel parking, accessible to the mobility impaired. FMI, 207/761-4380.

## Friday, January 26:

ΔΔ Chiltern Mountain Club cross country skis in the White Mountains of NH. Call John: 617/648-9185.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Stand-up comic Julianne Gavin & Friends at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland. \$5 cover. 207/774-1505.

## Saturday, January 27:

•Δ 10:30-11:30 AM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.

ΔΔ 11:00 AM-12:30 PM - Rural Concerns Consortium planning meeting. Keene, NH. Will be planning a Symposium in Manchester or Concord sometime this spring. FMI: Jim: 603/536-4011.

ΔΔ Chiltern Mountain Club cross-country skis Greeley Ponds, beginning the 7-mile roundtrip in Waterville Valley, NH. Call Mike: 603/644-7658.

Δ 2:00 PM - Forum on "The Politics of the Religious Right" with Tom Andrews, President of People for the American Way speaking on "The Politics of the Family." UU South Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI: 603/659-4754.

## Sunday, January 28: Super Bowl Sunday

ΔΔ 2:00 PM - Kate Schrock's Maine farewell performance at The Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath. Original music with a full grand piano. Tix: \$7/\$9. FMI, 207/442-8455.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Singing duo, Justina & Joyce AND Yagottawanna appearing at Raoul's, Forest Ave., Portland. \$6..

## Monday, January 29:

•Δ 7:00-8:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, 772-6599.

## Tuesday, January 30:

Δ 8:00 AM-5:00 PM - Seminar on "Sexuality, Orientation & Gender: Providing Competent Health Care Services to Sexual Minorities" sponsored by NH HIV/AIDS Task Force with PFLAG NH. Sheraton Tara Hotel, Bedford, NH. \$25 (scholarships available). FMI, David Polando, 603/595-8464.

## FEBRUARY

## Friday, February 2:

Δ 8:00 PM - State Theatre in Portland presents "The Capitol Steps" a "politically correct, bipartisan" comedic troupe of former D.C. Congressional Staffers. Touted as "the only group in Washington that attempts to be funnier than Congress." Tix: Cabaret \$22.50 + \$10.50 entree, Reserved floor - \$19.50, Reserved lower balcony - \$20.50, Reserved upper balcony - \$16.50. FMI, 207/879-1112.

## Saturday, February 3:

•Δ 10:30-11:30 AM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.

Δ 7:30 PM - Catie Curtis, folk singer & songwriter, Saco Maine native opens 'Onstage Series' at Portland's State Theatre, 609 Congress St. "Truth From Lies," her latest release will be debuted. \$12 tix and limited seating (180). FMI, 207/879-1112.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - WOMEN IN HARMONY presents its Winter Concert, "Songs of Freedom and Joy." Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. Tix: \$10 (\$8 seniors & students). Available at Amadeus and Drop Me A Line.

## Sunday, February 4:

Δ Mt. Pleasant Dayhike sponsored by EMS. 4 mile hike with Eric Wood of EMS. A great opportunity to begin winter hiking. Bring snowshoes or use our for the day. Free, limited to 10. FMI, 772-3776.

## Monday, February 5:

•Δ 7:00-8:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

## Tuesday, February 6:

•Δ 7:00-9:00 PM - PFLAG-NH: Seacoast Chapter, Stratham Community Church, Emery Lane, just south of Stratham traffic circle. FMI, 603/778-3072 or 603/772-5196.

## Wednesday, February 7:

•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, February 8:

Δ 7:30 PM - The Matlovich Society, Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. "What's Normal, Anyway?" Psychiatrist Tony McCann will walk us through the history of psychiatric thought about sexual orientation and suggest consumer tips for choosing a

gay-positive psychotherapist. Free hotel parking, accessible to the mobility impaired. FMI, 207/761-4380.

Δ 7:30 PM - Legendary singer, London Wainwright III at State Theatre, 609 Congress St., Portland. Second performer of the 'Onstage Series.' He will debut his new album, "Grown Man." \$19.50 tix and limited seating (180). FMI, 207/879-1112.

## Friday, Feb. 9 thru Sunday, Feb. 11:

ΔΔ First Annual Valentine's Weekend in P-Town. See advertisement, pg. 13. 1-800-487-1802.

ΔΔ Chiltern Mountain Club ski weekend at Stowe, VT. Call Elaine: 203/528-4621 or Jonathon: 860/727-5669.

## Friday, February 9:

ΔΔ Chiltern Mountain Club cross-country skis in the White Mountains of NH. Call John: 617-648-9185.

## Saturday, February 10:

Δ 10:00 AM-3:00 PM - 2nd Annual Warm Up Festival at Maine College of Art, in collaboration with Portland Museum of Art & The Children's Museum. See MECA's new studios, observe and participate in art demonstrations. Events for the family all day long. Free! FMI, 207/775-5098.

•Δ 10:30-11:30 AM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.

ΔΔ Chiltern Mountain Club's third annual winter bird watching outing in the Boston area. Call Arthur: 617/482-7229.

## Sunday, February 11:

ΔΔ 1:00-3:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Business Meeting at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

## Monday, February 12:

ΔΔ 6:00 PM - Rainbow Business and Professional Organization Dinner Meeting at Vallee's Steak House, Exit 8, Portland. Topic for discussion: "AIDS in The Workplace," with Dr. Robert McArdle and Robin Lambert, VP Human Resources for Konica Photo. \$15 for non-members, \$13 for members. Call 207/797-5404 to reserve your space.

•Δ 7:00-8:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

## Tuesday, February 13:

•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 are primarily for support, discussion and resource sharing. FMI, Ted - 603/778-0102 or Ingrid - 603/772-6221.

•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 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.

## Wednesday, February 14:

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

•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, February 15:

Δ 7:00 PM - Distant Journeys slide show, "Travelling in the Alps" with Andrea Ellison, guide and co-owner of Distant Journeys, for slide show and discussion of hut-to-hut travel in the Alps. EMS, Maine Mall, So. Portland. FMI, 207/772-3776.

## Friday, Feb. 16 thru Monday, Feb. 19:

ΔΔ Third annual Womensphere Winter Retreat for Women: Workshops, skiing, Coffeehouse with "Late August" and lots of feminine energy. Walnut Hill in Raymond, NH. FMI 603/942-9941.

## Saturday, February 17:

•Δ 10:30-11:30 AM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.

ΔΔ Chiltern Mountain Club backpacks Mt. Bond in the White Mountains of NH. Call John: 508/529-3105.

Δ 6:00 PM - Quilted Heart Ball, sponsored by The Names Project/Portland Maine, begins with cash bar reception. Dinner is 7:30 pm followed by dancing to the music of "Shadow Play" with Flash & Tina Allen. \$40 per person, Black Tie. A benefit for The Names Project/Portland.

## Sunday, February 18:

Δ Frozen Waterfalls Dayhike sponsored by EMS. A fresh & unique look at the collection of waterfalls on the northern side of Mt. Adams in NH's presidential range. 6 miles, moderate difficulty. Photo op! FMI, 207/772-3776. Limited to 10.

## Monday, February 19:

ΔΔ 6:00-8:00 PM - Southern Maine Pride Committee meeting. Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. All Welcome. FMI, 871-9940.

•Δ 7:00-8:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

## Wednesday, February 21:

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

•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.



# Classified Ads

## TRAVEL/VACATION

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

**ΔΔ 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 STONE WALL B & B:** Lovell, Maine. Country farmhouse in beautiful western mountains. Peaceful, private setting; Mt. Washington views. Spacious rooms/suites; all private baths/Jacuzzi. Near Sunday River, Shawnee Peak, X-C skiing. Gay-owned. Smoke-free. For reservations: 207/925-1080 or Out in ME @AOL.Com ΔΔ

**ΔΔ BACKPACKING,** Canoeing, X-Country skiing, Native American cultural trips, Teen trip. Wilderness skills and environmental awareness. Small groups, vegetarian food, all abilities. Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Maine, Newfoundland. Contact: Earth Treks, Dept. C, RR 2, Box 785, Montville, ME 04941. 800/589-4770.

## PERSONALS

**ΔΔ SON/COMPANION WANTED!** Unusual GWM, into travel, health, arts, auctions, fleas, antiques, outdoors, rapport, kink etc. Seek compatible young man to share good times. I'm clean, healthy, sincere, understanding. No drugs or phonies. Ron, PO Box 1169, Sanford, ME 04073. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ HIV+ SINGLES PUBLICATION:** Safe and confidential. Free copy, 36 word personal ad, voice mail, and mail forwarding! Local and nationwide! All life-styles. Gay, HIV+ owned and operated. Write: Intropoz+ Magazine, 564 Mission St., Box 415, San Francisco, CA 94105, or call 1-800-820-2948. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ LONELY GWM,** 28 years old, 5'8", brown hair & eyes, seeking someone for friendship and maybe more. Will answer all letters. Randy Kiper, #100254, Kentucky State Penitentiary, PO Box 128, Eddyville, KY 42038. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ GWM,** HIV neg. 29, 5'11", 195 lbs. Athletic, in great shape. Clean, enthusiastic and witty. Presently incarcerated. Awaiting release. Seeking honest, sincere, accepting correspondence, possibly more. Ray Fulcher, #116536, Kentucky State Penitentiary, PO Box 128, Eddyville, KY 42038. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ GWM,** 21 years old, 6'1", 170 lbs., brown hair & eyes. I am very clean, healthy and in great shape. I'm seeking sincere other for correspondence, friendship or possibly more. I'm currently incarcerated, but soon to be released. Write, please. Dave Youngerman, #114108, Kentucky State Penitentiary, PO Box 128, Eddyville, KY 42038. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ GBM,** presently incarcerated. I'm 5'7" tall, 140 lbs. Smooth, clean and in great health. Don't smoke, drink, nor do drugs and above all, I'm honest, caring and for real about this ad. Seeking new friends, then a relationship. Jonathan Johnson #32336, 3-12-R-7, Kentucky State Penitentiary, PO Box 128, Eddyville, KY 42038. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ LONELY GWM,** 44, 5'11", 155 lbs., brown hair. Stable, sensitive, loving. Seeking friend or more, 25-35, slender, compassionate, sincere. I like to fly, ski, hike, racquetball and more. Will answer all letters or I will call you. Boxholder, PO Box 3324, Auburn, ME 04212. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ \*MIDNIGHT KISS\* on NEW YEAR'S EVE at RAMROD (Boston).** You: from Portland wearing flannel boxers and overalls. Me: from Seattle (Troy) moving back to Boston beginning of February. **LET'S TALK.** (206)860-7363. ΔΔ

## HELP WANTED

**ΔΔ WOMEN OWNED** commercial and home cleaning company looking for motivated individual(s) to join the team. 22-28 hours a week, Monday-Friday to start. Some cleaning experience preferable. Neat appearance a must. \$6 per hour with potential move to supervisory/working level responsibility and wage. Call Fresh 'n Up Cleaning, 207/926-4365. 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

**ΔΔ 55+ GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL** Support Group. Interested in getting together with others to talk about issues concerning older members in our community, sharing stories of our lives, or just to talk? Counseling student is starting a support group in this month for anyone 55+ interested in joining. FMI, 207/729-6959. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ SINGLE 40+ LESBIAN** **POTLUCK** gatherings starting in southern Maine area. First gathering will be Saturday, January 27 at 6:00 pm

in the Portland area. Call 207/773-7393 for more information and directions. OLOC, OLE and Golden Threads women encouraged to call. ΔΔ

## FOR SALE

**ΔΔ CONDO:** Modern 1000 square foot condo; flexible space for home or office; stove refrigerator, freezer, laundry, gas heat, parking. Arts district. 194 High Street, Portland. \$55,000. Financing available. 207/641-2085. ΔΔ

## SUBMISSIONS

**ΔΔ LOOKING FOR** submissions of poetry, photography, short stories, drawings, etc. on the topic of spirituality by women with HIV/AIDS, for "ATHENA: A Journal for Positive Women," sponsored by the Maine Woman's Fund. Send submissions to: ATHENA, The AIDS Project, P O Box 5305, Portland, ME 04101, or for more info call Jane O'Rourke at TAP, 207/774-6877. Deadline for submissions is February 15. ΔΔ

## ON-LINE SERVICE

**ΔΔ FREE TRIAL MEMBERSHIP** to new local on-line service. ABACUS has millions of files, over thirty on-line games, classified ads, restaurant reviews, events calendar, public and private messages, adults only areas, live chat, Internet E-Mail and more! FMI, call 207/781-7073. ΔΔ

## PRIDE '96 VENDORS

**ΔΔ Pride '96 Rally and Festival** is taking reservations and applications from VENDORS for food, crafts, t-shirts, jewelry, books, etc., etc. Call now at 207/773-7393 (Penny), to reserve your space and/or ask questions. Leave your name, telephone number and address. Come one, come all to the best & biggest Festival in our 10 year history. Non-profits encouraged to rent space at a nominal fee. ΔΔ

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

**ΔΔ SPANISH LESSONS:** Affordable, private tutoring. Individuals or small groups. Chris Milliken 207/883-4802. ΔΔ

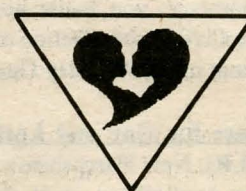
**To place a classified ad, type or neatly print your ad and send to CPR, 142 High St., #623, Portland, ME 04101. \$10/40 words, 15¢ per word over 40.**

**Organization wishing to have their meetings and events published in the CPR calendar must submit them typed or clearly written, preferably one month prior to the event. Next deadline is February 1st.**

*The Sweetness of Life*  
**CHECKER INN**  
*A Women's Guest House & Apartments*  
*Open Year-Round*  
*Indoor Hot Tub - Parking*  
25 Winthrop Street  
Provincetown  
Massachusetts 02657  
**508-487-9029**  
**800-894-9029**  
*Dotty Mulcahy, Innkeeper*

**WANT HIM? GET HIM!**  
America's Hottest, All Male Fantasies & LIVE  
1-900-443-8446  
**1-900-I-GET-HIM**  
Discreetly billed as Worldinfo \$2.99 min

**What is more important than a great relationship?**



**NOTHING.**

Whether you're a lesbian or gay man, single or partnered, this specific weekend is an opportunity for fun, romance and relationship. Join us in PROVINCETOWN, MA for Valentine's Weekend

• Chocolate Reception • Brunch •  
• Dancing • Entertainment •  
• Saturday's Program •  
**DARE TO GET THE LOVE YOU DESERVE**

**February 9 - 11**  
**Friday evening - Sunday**

For information: 1-800-487-1802  
Reservations required • Space is Limited  
\$50 Registration Fee



# COMMUNITY PRIDE RESOURCES

## GENERAL

**ML/GPA** is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on L/G issues. Primary goals are to involve the L/G community in Maine's political process, promote civil rights, develop and review legislation, endorse candidates, build a coalition, and oppose anti-gay legislation and referenda. Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of every month in Augusta. FMI call 1-800-55-MLGPA.

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

**Northern Lambda Nord** is an educational, informational, social, and service organization serving lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are 2nd Sunday of every month at 1 pm (ME), 2 pm (N-B), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The Phoneline. Call 207/498-2088.

**The Matlovich Society** is an educational and cultural organization of lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends committed to sharing our history as well as providing person-affirming presentations and discussions in a supportive environment. Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Free parking and accessible to the mobility-impaired. Call 207/761-4380.

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

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

**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.

**National Hotline for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender youth:**

Call 1-800-347-TEEN, Sponsored by the Indianapolis Youth Group. 7-10 pm Sunday to Thursday, 7 pm to midnight Friday and Saturday. Staffed & trained, peer (youth counselors). Confidential and anonymous.

**New Hampshire:** Teen Crisis Line - 1-800-639-6095.

**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  
Franconia: 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, bii'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.

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

**Exeter Congregational Church:** United Church of Christ in Exeter, NH welcomes all God's children to worship, Sundays, 10 a.m. 21 Front St. (near Court St.) Co-pastors the Revs. Michael L.C. Henderson & Jane Geffken Henderson. FMI, call Ingrid, 603/772-6221.

**Dignity, Etc.:** Supportive worship for l/g/b/t Catholics, every third Sunday, 6:00 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), 143 State St., Portland. (Across from Mercy Hospital). Coffee and dessert follow service. FMI: Dignity, PO Box 5301, Portland 04101. Call Rosemary & Janet: 207/646-2820, Laurie: 207/878-0546, Glenn: 207/878-9682.

**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 041014.

**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.

**W.O.W. (Wild Outdoor Women):** Social group meeting monthly for outdoor recreational activities followed by pot lucks. Activities include skiing, skating, sliding and other seasonal outdoor fun. FMI: Jen @ 207/787-2379 or 207/780-8535.

**Q-Squad:** Support group for lesbian, gays, bisexuals, & transgendered. Serving Franklin County, based at UM Farmington. FMI call and leave message, (207) 778-7380.

**TransSupport Group:** For crossdressers, transsexuals, their families, friends, & others interested in transgenderism. Meets in secure locations to provide support, education & social activities. 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.

**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.

**Prisoners of Gender:** (Refusing to be Barbie, Ken or both). Meets every Friday at 1:15 pm at Davis Room, Memorial Union, 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.

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

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

**Mountain Valley Men (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 10818, Portland, ME 04104.

**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, 6 pm 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 603/431-1013 or write P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03801.

**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.

**THE MAINE YOUTH PROTECTION COUNCIL:** Works to create safer communities and schools for minority youth. If racism or homophobia affect you, help be part of the solution. Call 207/775-4944 for information on the council and sub-committees. There is a place for people of all ages and backgrounds.

#### 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.

**Augusta:** Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm, Dayspring AIDS Support Services offers support for people with HIV & those who care about them. FMI, call 207/626-3435.

**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.

**Farmington:** Thursdays: 6:30-8:30 pm. HIV+ support group. Call Christie Foster at Tri-County Health Services, 778-4553, for location.

**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.

#### New Hampshire:

**EXETER - "Connections,"** support group for care-givers: parents, families, friends-all those whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS, meets second Tuesday from 7-8:30 pm. Exeter Congregational Church, 21 Front St., Discussions, info. sharing and support. Confidentiality assured. Wheelchair access. FMI, 603/772-6221 or 603/778-0102.

#### Maine AIDS Alliance

##### Member Organizations

AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Port-

land, ME 04101-3820, Call 874-1000.

**AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn:** P.O. Box 7977, Lewiston, Maine 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 fl., Portland, ME 04101. Call 774-6877.

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

Online Resources for  
Maine's LGBT Community

#### The Maine Gay Network

#### ΔThe 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."

#### ΔThe 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) ΔΔ

#### Friday's in February

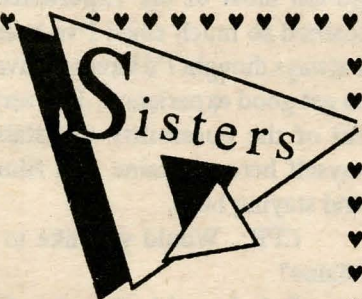
FRIDAY 2/2 Bunch of Munchies for Happy Hour  
Grunge/Alternative Party

FRIDAY 2/9 Food for Devouring at Happy Hour  
Doin' it with DJ Lena

FRIDAY 2/16 Chompin' and Chewin' at Happy Hour  
Live with Mindy Raye

FRIDAY 2/23 Gettin' the idea about food for  
Happy Hour Yet?

Guest DJ's T&T for a hopin' good time



Wednesday  
69¢ foreplay

Thursday  
69¢ foreplay

Sunday  
Karaoke with

Line Dancin'  
Then Mixin' it up

Lucien

with DJ Julie

45 Danforth Street, Portland, Maine

Telephone: 207/774-1505

SATURDAY, 2/10  
VALENTINE'S DAY  
WITH DJ JULIE

Enjoy some sweet specials!

#### Subscription Form

Yes, I want to subscribe to the Community Pride Reporter. Subscription rate is \$25.00 for 12 issues. (More if you can, less if you can't.) CPR is mailed in a plain envelope.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to Community Pride Reporter and mailed to: 142 High Street, Suite #623, Portland, Maine 04101



# Arts & Entertainment



## This is not about Snow...

by  
Aimsel Ponti

Already  
well into Janu-  
ary are we, and  
it's probably

snowing out, but we're not bitter - we live in Maine. So, there I was, thumbing through the pages of my new Alice Brady Cookbook that my brother Tom gave me for Christmas, contemplating just what to throw into my new crock pot, when it occurred to me: What's a gal like me going to write about this month? Thankfully, the media has already handled the snow situation quite amply so I can skip that and talk about my constant passion - music.

I've always been respectful of the generation of musicians who paved the way in the 60's and 70's and still are on the scene today. Among those women are Holly Near, Carole King, and Joni Mitchell. I certainly have developed quite a taste for old Joni albums, and now, with the recent release of new albums, I am finally lending an attentive ear to both Ferron and Joan Baez. Ferron's new "Phantom Center" and Baez's "Ring them Bells" are both compelling, musically incredible, and note worthy albums which may get buried in the Melissa Etheridge and Co. avalanche...

Baez recorded her album live at New York City's legendary "Bottom Line," and had her share of special guests lend an instrument and vocal chord to the recording sessions. Indigo Girls accompany Baez on one of the album's particularly great tracks, "Don't Think Twice." And, one of Aimsel's fa-

vorites, Dar Williams (She's got a new album out this month!) collaborates with Baez on one of William's songs, the beautiful "You're Aging Well." On the whole, this album is passionate, emotional and it sounds great.

Lesser known outside of women's music circles is Canadian singer-songwriter Ferron. Her "Ain't Life a Brook" certainly has chalked up it's fair share of listeners over the years. Now in 1996 her "Phantom Center" album is being distributed by Warner Brothers Records, giving new ears the opportunity to enjoy Ferron's songwriting gift.

My point is, hey, don't forget about all the musicians who have been constants in our lives in some capacity for many years, whether you've been aware of it or not. Nothing's finer than putting Joni Mitchell's "Blue" in the CD player, followed by some Nina Simone, Judy Garland and Janis Joplin. Having finally gotten my turntable in working order after about three years, I also recommend dusting off the occasional Carly or Carole album and have a nostalgia attack from time to time.

Alrighty then, let's talk TORI... Heard the first single yet? Oh, I'm sorry I got a little bit ahead of myself. I mean Tori Amos, goddess supreme, who has a brand new album out on January 23rd. It's called "Boys for Pele" and the first single, "Caught a Lite Sneeze," is quite cool. Tour, Tori, Tour...

Sarah McLachlan, resting on the laurels of "The Freedom Sessions" recording is back with a song that was for the film "Brothers McMullen."

Never saw the film, but the single

See SNOW, page 17

## ARTIST PROFILE: Film maker Bob Poirier

by Skip Brushaber

Bob Poirier is a twenty-five-year-old film maker living in Portland, Maine. He grew up in Biddeford and graduated from UMO with a degree in International Affairs/French. Poirier has done graduate work in theater at the University of Maine in Orono, worked as an actor and in television production. He is presently employed at Varied Directions International, a film production company and is currently working on his first independent film, "Extensions, A Short Film."

CPR: What was your path to becoming a film maker?

Bob: It primarily started with a desire to act. I did a lot of theater in high school. I did technical work because I was afraid to get on stage. Things changed in my sophomore year of college when I decided to come out of the closet. I decided I couldn't be afraid, I'd have to be what I want to be, no one was going to give me anything or make me anything, I'd have to do it myself.

I began to work toward my goals as a performer. I started saying I will end up in film as an actor, director, story teller. I enjoyed doing scene work and shows at the Pavilion Theater at UMO because it was a smaller space and there was more contact with the audience. You could really work the small bits and communicate like you can in film. After college, I went into television production because I wanted to get experience working on a set. I was writing, directing, and producing commercials for Fox 51 and I was working on their Kids Club running promotions and that sort of thing. It was a wonderful experience. None of that was actually film experience. It has been very difficult to work my way into that vein.

CPR: What is your sense of the film climate in Maine?

Bob: I think it's very difficult for young people in Maine. I was lucky last May to find this company, Varied Directions International. That's where I've gotten most of my experience. I've learned so much since I've been there. I always thought I'd have to leave Maine to get good experience. I'm very hopeful of the possibility of establishing myself here in Maine as a film maker and staying busy.

CPR: Would you like to stay in Maine?

Bob: I would, of course. Growing up I had that feeling of... "Oh I need to get out of here." But since I've come back for grad school, I've realized how wonderful the Portland area is. I've been to New York and been to LA, and although there is a certain energy to LA that I like, I don't want to live there the rest of my life or have a family there. I

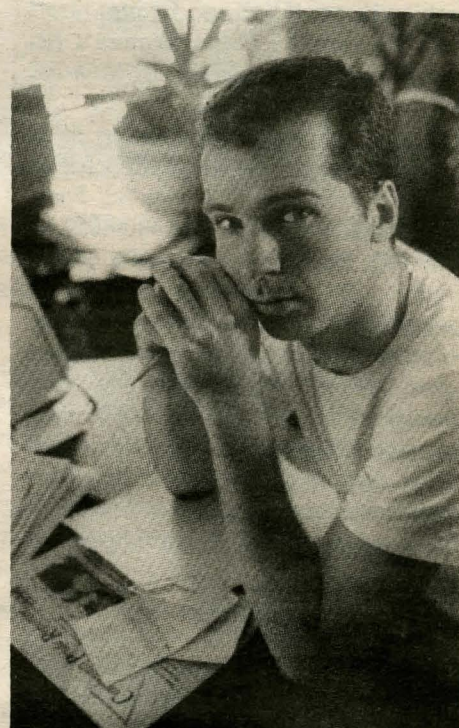


Photo by Jacques Sheickel

want to have it here. I'm really holding out for the film industry here in Maine. I want to help make it really happen!

CPR: What was the motivation to make the film you're working on right now?

Bob: It started as a character study for a feature length script I am working on; a character bio that has since grown into a completely different story. Mostly what I saw in that character was a personal struggle which has been my own. It's about growing up Roman Catholic and dealing with my sexuality.

A lot of this film is about asking questions about what faith, morality and the value of human communication means to each of us. It frustrates me to see other people in the same boat just taking whatever is given without question. We're all born with a full plate and some people just eat it. They don't even know what it is.

CPR: Tell us a little bit about the film.

Bob: It's a documentary. The first character to appear in the film I read about in Casco Bay Weekly. His name is Robert Lipps, the Extension Cord King of Munjoy Hill. Robert embodied everything I wanted to say about connecting to a community. He's amazing. He's developed an amazing connection with the community by doing volunteer work.

Robert is a developmentally disabled man. I find it amazing that on the first sweep society would say he is one of the more likely not to succeed in the work place or in social circles. He has developed a huge network of friends and extended family through his involve-

See PROFILE, page 18

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# THEATRE REVIEW:

## "The Turn of the Screw" by Henry James.

Adaptations by Jeffrey Hatcher.  
Directed by Greg Leaming.

by Chris Milliken

The "Turn of the Screw," at Portland Stage Company (through January 28th) is a production well worth experiencing. The play, directed by Jeffrey Leaming, P.S.C.'s artistic director, is masterfully crafted. Susan Appel, who plays the woman, gives a solid and convincing performance leading the audience through a world of physical and psychological tension. She is the precise example of the flawed heroine. Joey L. Golden, who plays the man and other supporting characters, is convincing in his ability to change personalities within the sight of the audience.

The story is a ghost tale, spinning bits of biblical innuendos and teachings, with horror, and the challenges of child rearing. The play begins with a young governess who, by the seduction of words, takes the responsibility of two emotionally disturbed children. Unaware of their trauma before arriving at their country estate, the young woman finds herself with duties beyond her ability to perform. Reaching into her past, she draws upon her own religious upbringing in an attempt to succeed at her much prized position.

The conflict this heroine encounters is the supernatural, and like Sisyphus, she is destined to repeat her fate/mistakes over and over again. The viewer is left to decide whether the phantoms of this tale are real or imaginary which lends a magic potency to the production.

Virginia Woolf wrote of Henry

James's ghosts, "They have nothing in common with the violent old ghosts . . . they have their origins in all of us. They are present whenever the significant overflows our powers of expressing it; whenever the ordinary appears ringed by the strange."

Woolf's assessment of these demons is very accurate and Mr. Leaming, supported by his actors and exceptional technical crew have brought these ghosts to life. The story is decidedly fictitious, but what it says about sex, power, and abuse is very real. The play's success lies in its ability to haunt our souls by appealing to the darkness within us all.

Like all successful art, "The Turn of the Screw" delivers a message that is specific in its time and place, but transposes itself to the universal. The insights to the complexities of child rearing live in this story and one cannot leave without addressing his/her relationships and responsibilities to children. More important, the boundaries people dare not cross between generations and personal experiences create lasting memories and challenges for the audience. \* A word to the wise, if you are a survivor of child abuse you may wish to view this play with some support in place.)

In closing, the great strength of this production is the professional manner in which all aspects of the play come together. The lighting and sound by Dan Kotlowitz and JR Conklin respectively were seamless and natural. The set by Judy Gailen provides an imaginative and convincing atmosphere for the story to grow and seduce the viewer.

Very well done, Portland Stage Company! ΔΔ



Photo by Philip Rogers

Joey L. Golden (*The Man*) and Susan Appel (*The Woman*) from the world premiere of "The Turn of the Screw," PSC, through January 28.

## The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf

By Jessica Payson (11 years old)

Once upon a time, there were three little pigs. They lived with their mother until one day their mother told them, "You must go and make a life for yourself, but beware of the Big Bad Wolf!" So they did.

The first little piggy got a job sell-

ing those little boxes filled with juice that came with a straw. The second little piggy got a job as a lumberman. The third little piggy got a job as the governor of Maine. The first little piggy stole the straws off the little boxes. He built a house with straws. The second little

See LITTLE PIGS, page 18

## KATE SCHROCK- LOCAL FAV HEADS FOR THE WINDY CITY

by Aimsel Ponti

Talk about bittersweet. . . One of my favorite local musicians is packing her bags and heading for Chicago. Kate Schrock has been gracing stages in and around Portland for sometime now and has decided to venture out of New England. Hopefully, Chicago will offer

music scene.

Although Schrock says she'll definitely make it back to Maine to play some shows, here are the listings for the last show. . .

The Chocolate Church Arts Center  
804 Washington St. Bath  
(207-442-8455)

Sunday, January 28th, 2 p.m.

\*with a full Grand Piano

\$7 in advance/ \$9 day of show

Tix available at Bull Moose

Music (Brunswick & Portland),

Play It Again (Yarmouth),

Chocolate Church Box Office.

Try to catch one of these performances, especially if you've never heard Kate perform live. With her sweet, powerful vocals and accompanying piano, these shows will surely be her memorable "So Long. . ." to Maine. ΔΔ



Schrock greater booking potential and will surely gain her a new legion of fans. We wish Kate and her manager, John the best of luck and ask that they please let us know when they're heading back to this area.

Kate Schrock has been playing the piano for most of her life. Her unique ability to play something after hearing it only a few times is amazing as are her own compositions and the passionate way she plays them.

Schrock independently released her album, "Refuge," at the end of 1994, and since then it has received airplay in Maine and other states as well. With the song "Mission Beach," Schrock has become a household name in the local

### SNOW, from pg. 16

"I Will Remember You," is yet another display of McLachlan's songwriting finesse and vocal rapture. Here's the thing - if you're a serious McLachlan fan, look around for the CD-5 (cd ep) of this song as it features four bonus tracks, including a remix of "Possession," and a live version of "Drawn to the Rhythm." This is a definite disc to keep an eye out for.

Other than that, I am finally going to see K.D. Lang live. Initially, I was hesitant to spend over forty bucks on a ticket and have to drive to Boston. But then I got a grip and scored a couple of balcony seats at one of my favorite theaters, The Wang Center. Finally, K.D. live. I wish she'd make a stop in Portland. Who knows, it's happened before.

So, I hope the new year has been OK for everybody so far. On the back of the Ferron album there's a line from a Marion Woodman book. I read it and just kind of sighed and looked out the window at the world.

"But if you travel far enough, one day you will recognize yourself coming down the road to meet yourself. And you will say- Yes." ΔΔ

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## PROFILE, from page 16

ment in the community. When you look at more educated people, you automatically expect that they will succeed. And they often don't. What is it that they aren't doing or don't have that Bob does. The story is in his work.

Bob is working with Diedre Nice to rebuild the old stone church on Munjoy Hill. What strikes me about watching Bob work in that space, which is thoroughly run down, is how it lights up when he walks in. The space lights up because Bob lights up. He gets so energized by what he does and what it means. It's a great sense of pride and a great sense of fulfillment. This old stone church that has been unused for ten years becomes alive.

My other character is a priest who's on sabbatical. He is dealing with several issues in regard to the Catholic Church. A lot of the ways the church functions politically keeps him from doing what he feels the job of a priest is: to connect people who love each other. He operates in this church that has a large number of people in it, but even with this large number of people coming together, the space is very cold. It strikes me that Robert's spirit and energy can light up a whole empty church, but all these people can't light up this other church.

CPR: What impact do you think your film will have on our community?

Bob: What I hope to do for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community is to deal with issues more realistically than a lot of film makers do. Some straight film makers have difficulty dealing with the issues and don't. Some gay film makers don't deal with them either so as not to expose their sexuality in public. Some of them only deal with the gay aspect of life. That's not bad, but I hope to give a more realistic representation of what we're all about. I want to hold up some of the things the right wing community points to and say yes this is part of our culture. I want to take it further and say, "yes, and this is why."

There was an article in CPR about gay cruising recently. It's not about good, bad, unhealthy or immoral; but why does this happen? Why is this a major source of connection for many people? What system has fostered this? I was introduced to sex in that dark public place. Growing up, I didn't know that being gay could be a positive thing. My first experience was in a Deering Oaks kind of setting. I'm not very happy that was my first sexual experience, but that was the only connection I had because I was growing up Roman Catholic. Being gay was a bad thing.

CPR: Do you have any role models as film makers?

Bob: Not one in particular. I've

never been one to hold one person on a pedestal and say I want to be that person. I can admire someone and ask, "How does she do that so well?" There is no one role model, but there are people whose talents I admire.

CPR: What's your dream or ambition as a film maker?

Bob: To finish this film by the fall and then market it, send it out to as many film festivals as possible. That's my immediate goal. The chances are slim that I'll actually make money. Hopefully, it will help me raise enough interest and financial support to shoot my first feature, a story about a young artist who falls in love and has to deal with the conflicts it creates in pursuing his career goals. I'm planning to shoot in the summer of '97. ΔΔ

## LITTLE PIGS from pg. 17

piggy picked up twigs. That's what he built his house with. The third little piggy had enough money to build a big strong house.

Soon after, the first little piggy came home from the market. He heard something. He looked out the window and saw the Big Bad Wolf. The wolf came to the door. "Little pig, little pig, let me come in," called the B.B.W. "Not by the hair of my chinney-chin-chin," said the little piggy. "Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in," he said. He huffed and he puffed and he took a deep breath and said, "The average pig makes \$50,000 a year!" The little pig ran out of the house to get away from the lies and ran to the second little piggy's house.

Luckily he was home. But the Big Bad Wolf wasn't far behind. "Little pigs, little pigs, let me come in!" he called. "Not by the hair of our chinney-chin-chins!" "Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in," he called. He huffed and he puffed and he took a deep breath and his wolf suit came down. It wasn't a wolf at all, she was Carolyn Cosby! (Even worse!) She said, "Militant pigs are waiting at the border!"

The pigs ran out of the house to their brother's house. (He was eating roast beef.) But Carolyn Cosby wasn't far behind. "Little pigs, little pigs, let me come in," she called. "Not by the hair of our chinney-chin-chins!" "Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in!" She huffed and she puffed, and she puffed and she huffed, and she said her lies, but Carolyn Cosby couldn't blow the state down. The End.

Editor's Note: Former Portland resident Cathy Poole submitted this piece, written by one of her students in the Camden school system. It was written following the referendum vote of November, 1995. Once again, "out of the mouths of babes . . . ΔΔ

## ETHICS, from pg. 1

they authorized using a subpoena in order to verify CMF's total reporting. Records were still not forthcoming and so the subpoena was served on January 3. It required a response by January 17 from CMF and on January 16 Cosby appeared in Superior Court in Portland armed with a civil complaint attempting to avoid compliance with the subpoena. The motion was not considered by a judge due to the clerk's office not collecting the \$100 filing fee. The deadline for a response from CMF has been extended in order to allow time for a judge to hear the argument.

Cosby charges that "The kind of information that they are now continuing this investigation for is information that is outside their authority." She also stated, "If you're going to prove to me that this is not political harassment, you will go after my opposition [Maine Won't Discriminate] in the same way."

Marilyn Canavan, who is the Director of the Commission and who has helped CPR in our reporting of much of the information around CMF's reporting problems, pointed out that, in fact, Maine Won't Discriminate had to answer for filing financial reports late and paid a \$200 fine. Canavan also indicated that the questions being looked at now "merited unusual scrutiny." ΔΔ

## AIDS PLAN from pg. 5

injecting drug use.

### Sex Industry Workers

In 1991, 47 Maine women and 61 Maine men were arrested for "prostitution and commercialized vice." Risk for HIV infection is high because many are paid or forced to have unprotected sex with clients.

### People of Color

although non-white and Latino residents make up only 1.6% of Maine's population, that same group comprises 5% of Maine's HIV+ population.

### Homeless People

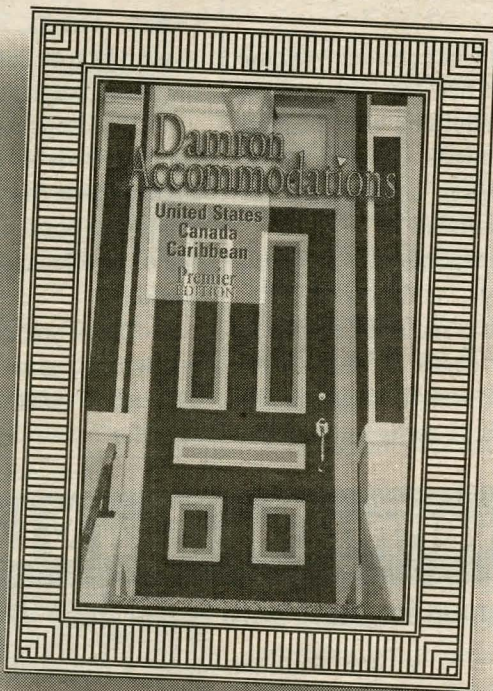
On any given night, there may be 3,500-10,000 homeless people in Maine. Maine's shelter capacity is 650 beds. Mental illness, substance abuse, and using sex to obtain food, shelter, or drugs are common issues for homeless people, thus increasing their risk for HIV. In 1993, 16% of people testing positive for HIV antibodies were homeless.

Next month, we will print some "Action Steps" so you can begin implementing this plan where you live, work and play. ΔΔ

## CORRECTION

Correction/Apology — I want to apologize to Don Miller and Dan Boynton for not checking with them prior to printing the article about Miller's Diner and the firing of Bruce Grover. It was my responsibility to contact them and I did not. I apologize for this lapse in professional conduct. We are printing a follow-up story this issue which contains Don Miller's and Dan Boynton's responses to the claims made against them by Bruce Grover. — Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

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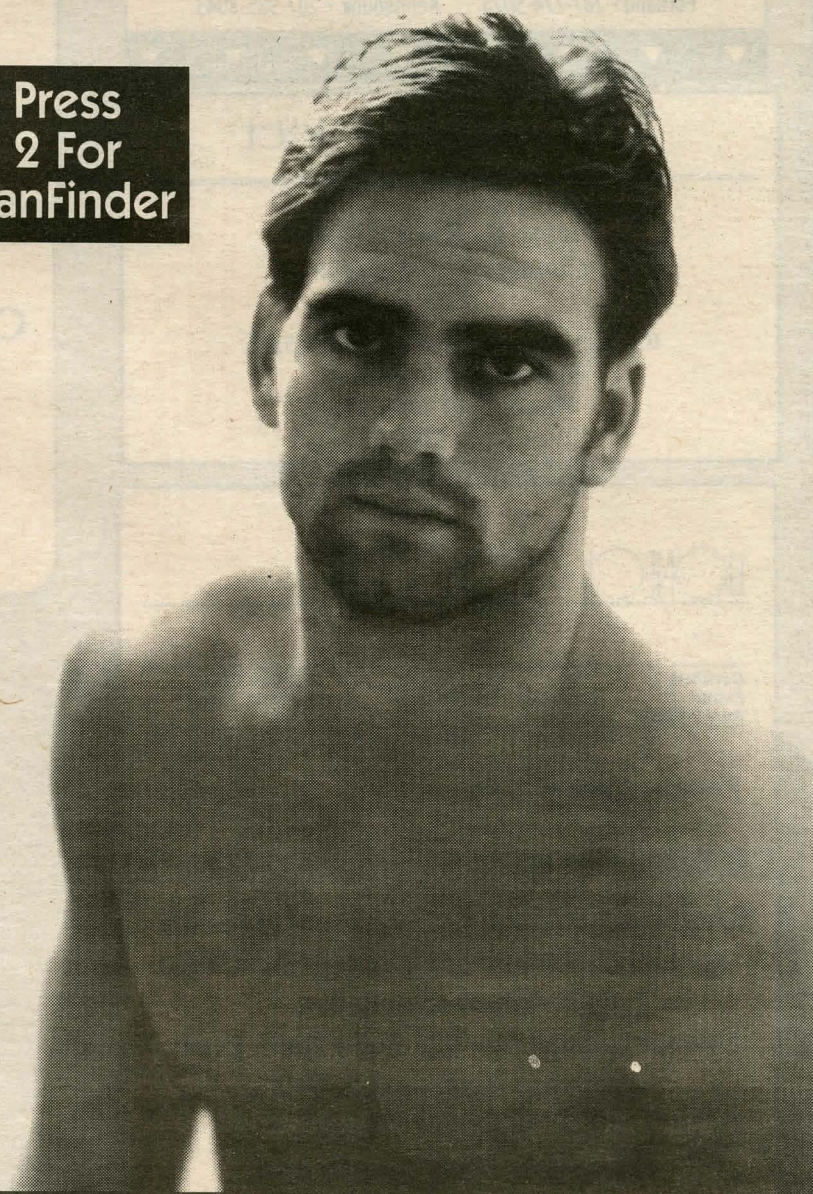
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