Community Pride Reporter, 08/1996

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Protest results in removal of store’s offensive T-shirts

by Leslie Robinson

It was a virtual blueprint for direct action. First one person got angry. Then he organized. A protest was held, which concluded with a confrontation. Then, victory. All in under two weeks.

The protest took place Tuesday evening, July 9th, outside a T-shirt shop in Hampton Beach, New Hampshire. The protest was because The Shirt Factory had been selling T-shirts that say “AIDS Cures Fags” and “Silly Faggot, Dixie are for Chicks.” But after a formal request to stop selling the shirts—and with all those demonstrators and media types surrounding him—the store’s manager agreed not to sell the T-shirts anymore, with one condition attached by the store owner.

The situation developed a week and a half prior to the demonstration, when Carl Bletzer of Portsmouth was on a date in Hampton Beach, a hugely popular resort town. He and his partner spotted the “AIDS Cures Fags” T-shirt, which was prominently displayed in the front of the shop. In addition to those words, the shirt also features two men having anal intercourse inside a circle with a line drawn through it. Bletzer asked the sales clerk to tell the owner how offensive they found the shirt.

Bletzer began calling local gay and AIDS advocacy groups. It was determined that this store and another also owned by David and Shirley Maleh were the only ones selling the “AIDS” shirt along Ocean Boulevard, Hampton Beach’s main drag. Several other establishments were also selling the “Silly Faggot” shirt. The repeated attempts of Bletzer and his allies to talk to David Maleh failed. “He dodged us,” Bletzer said.

This was what brought roughly 70 people together that humid summer night. The protesters included AIDS workers, people with AIDS, gay activists, and sympathizers. The town let them park for free in a municipal lot. The police chief, too, was supportive, saying anyone who heckled them would be arrested.

About 40 picketers walked in a circle outside the store and chanted slogans like, “Two , four , six , eight. Hampton has no place for hate,” and “Gay, straight, black, white. Same struggle, same fight.” Many carried signs reading “Hatred for Sale,” or “Boycott Homophobia Here and Everywhere,” or “Love and Respect are Better Values.” As if on cue, everyone put their signs down and entered the store, where earlier David Maleh had told Maine’s Channel 13 that he would continue to sell the shirts.

Bletzer, spokesman for the picketers, addressed Maleh and Maleh’s 17-year-old son, Danny, who manages the store. Bletzer said, “We formally request that you remove these T-shirts of hate, particularly the one that says ‘AIDS Cures Fags’. Donna Roberts, speaking for those afflicted with AIDS, echoed the request.

David Maleh agreed that carrying the “AIDS” shirt wasn’t acceptable. But as to the “Silly Faggot” shirt, he said lots of local stores sell it, and “I think it’s funny.” It was suggested that he could set a precedent by removing it and get gay business into the bargain. One demonstrator volunteered to buy a Hampton Beach T-shirt immediately if Maleh would stop selling the other shirt.

With such assurances in his ears, Danny Maleh said, “In this case we will be proud to say we will stop selling them.” He looked at his father after starting to speak those words, who nodded slightly.

The demonstrators clapped and cheered. Bletzer declared the picketing and protest finished, and said his group will verify that the shirts have been removed. He reiterated that the Malehs’ stores will get gay business. “We’re not singling you out. You guys are taking the lead,” Bletzer said to the Malehs.

Afterwards, Danny Maleh said the issue for him is competition along the beach. But he said he really would take See PROTEST, page 4
WASHINGTON (AP) - Venturing into increasingly divisive social issues, the House overwhelmingly voted to outlaw gay marriage in federal law even if a state decides to allow same-sex couples to marry.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry called the legislation an attempt at "gagging, purity and simple a classic use of wedge politics designed to provoke anxieties and fears." Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, another supporter, said that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country." He added that polls in Hawaii and across the country "show that a majority of people don't support legalizing same-sex marriage across the country."
1996 Marriage And Family Protection Bill

An Act to Protect Traditional Marriage and Prohibit Same-Sex Marriages

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Title 19 MRSA

Sec. (2) FINDINGS AND PURPOSES (a) Findings — The People of the State of Maine find that -

(1) the union of one man and one woman joined in traditional monogamous marriage is of inestimable value to society; the state has a compelling interest to nurture and promote the unique institution of traditional monogamous marriage in the support of harmonious families and the physical and mental health of children; and that the state has a compelling interest in promoting the moral values inherent in traditional monogamous marriage.

(b) Purposes — The purposes of this chapter are:

(1) to encourage the traditional monogamous family unit as the basic building block of our society, the foundation of harmonious and enriching family life;

(2) to nurture, sustain and protect the traditional monogamous family in Maine society, its moral imperatives, its economic function and its unique contribution to the rearing of healthy children;

(3) to support and strengthen traditional monogamous Maine families against improper interference from out of state influences or edicts.

sec. 33 Polygamy and other relationships prohibited

(1) Marriages contracted while either of the parties has a former husband or wife not divorced, living, are void.

(2) Persons of the same sex shall not be permitted to contract marriage.

sec. 93 Certain marriages performed in other states are not recognized in this state.

ML/GPA Presents

DECLINE TO SIGN

Carolyn Cosby is back. She is once again attempting to put an anti-gay initiative on the ballot. This time her question to the voters on why they should not sign the petition. During the "search and send" strategy, we will train groups of voters on why they should not sign. WE NEED YOUR HELP! DECLINE TO SIGN will be conducted state wide and will require the time and effort of many volunteers. Please call the DECLINE TO SIGN Hotline Number to get information on meetings and volunteering.

DECLINE TO SIGN has two main focuses:

1) to station as many polling places as possible on election day.

2) to carry out a "search and send" strategy plan on all other days.

SANDERS, SWEETSER BOTH OPPOSE ANTI-GAY MARRIAGE BILL

Montpelier, Vt. (AP) — Vermont's incumbent congressman and primary challenger agreed Friday that Congress had no business inserting itself into the emotional debate over gay marriage.

Rep. Bernard Sanders, I-Vt., voted against the bill to outlaw gay marriage in federal law even if a state decides to allow same-sex couples to marry. Nonetheless, the House voted 342-67 to pass the Defense of Marriage Act.

Sanders' wife and chief of staff, Jane, said the congressman opposed the proposal because he believed it improperly interfered with states' authority by violating the full faith and credit clause of the Constitution. "We're not legislating values. We have to follow the Constitution," Jane Sanders said. "And anything that weakens the Constitution should be (addressed) by a constitutional amendment, not by a law passed by Congress."

"You're opening up a Pandora's box here," she added. "You're saying that any state can refuse to ... recognize the laws of another state if they don't like them." State Sen. Susan Sweetser, Sanders' main rival, said she agreed. "This is not a federal issue. It's a state issue," Sweetser said. "This was an issue that I think sidetracked Congress. Why are they voting on whether states should allow or ban gay marriages?"

Nickles, R-Okl., said he would not support an anti-discrimination amendment because it could force organizations like the Boy Scouts of America to hire homosexual scout leaders or require landlords to rent apartments to gays.

Barr said the bill was narrowly drafted to address one issue - the Hawaii case - and he didn't want it to become a vehicle for another agenda. "I am opposed to amending this legislation in any way," Barr said. "If others have new proposals they want to bring before the Congress, then they should draft those and raise them on their own merits."

Zingale said polls have shown that most Americans, regardless of their thoughts on homosexuality, oppose discrimination against gays in the workplace.

The Human Rights Campaign released a study reporting that 251 of the nation's Fortune 500 companies have policies forbidding such discrimination. They include IBM, Time-Warner, American Express and Johnson & Johnson, the study said.

It said 66 of the 100 senators and 238 of the House's 435 members have similar staff-hiring policies.
PROTEST, from page 1
the "Silly Faggot" shirt down.
Maleh said the "AIDS" shirt was a
sample to test. Sent a dozen of them,
the family put six in this store at 117
Ocean Blvd. and six in the other Shirt
Factory store at 197 Ocean Blvd.
Bletzer, speaking in the demon­
stration, said he doesn't
believe the shirts are a First Amendment
issue. "This is not freedom of expres­
sion. This is commercialism for a profit.
There's a difference." The shirts are
about hatred and ignorance, he said,
and they erode tolerance.
He said part of the protest's
purpose was to alert the public that bigotry
exists. People who believe otherwise
need to be educated,
said Bletzer, especi­
ally since there is a bill protecting gays
against discrimination currently before
the New Hampshire House.
Another of the demonstration's
organizers, Joe Murphy, stood outside
the store after the protest had ended and
thanked the participants, along with the
Hampton police. One of the police of­
icers on the scene, Sgt. Knowles , shook
Bletzer's hand and said, "You can orga­
nize anything for me anytime."

Spending an Afternoon Volunteering at the AIDS Quilt
Author Takes Giant and Unexpected Spiritual Stride

by Allen McGee
Ebb and flow . . . emotions on this
day seemed to mirror the surging cur­
rent of the nearby Piscataqua River.
The day was July 14, a brilliant
Sunday. The place was Portsmouth's
Prescott Park, where the AIDS Quilt was
making a much-anticipated appearance.
For me, it was one more of many events
I had agreed to become involved in as a
part-time volunteer at the Prescott Park
Arts Festival. True, I had recently lost a
cousin in Georgia to the disease . I didn't
know him well, but his loss did tinge
the event with an added element of cu­
riosity.
The day started off innocuously
enough, with the usual hustle and bustle
of forty odd volunteers and festival staff
going about their assigned tasks, mak­
ing the exhibition ready for what was
expected to be a large turnout. Tarps
were laid out, and sections of the quilt
were carefully placed on each in prepa­
rations for the opening ceremony, during
which individual segments would be
unfolded.
As the sections of the quilt were
opened to view, I glimpsed a teddy bear
attached to one panel. It resembled my
daughter's much loved 'Ff-Bear." A sud­
den wave of grief engulfed me with such
ferocity that I could hardly breathe. In
a desperate attempt to compose myself,
I panned the other volunteers for my
wife. There she stood with tears flow­
ing freely.
We had been told that to
cry at the showing would be noble. What I had
been struggling with was not nobility but
wretchedness. Feelings of dread at the
awful toll this disease exacts from its
victims, fear for the susceptible inno­
cents, indignation at losing so many
promising and productive lives prema­
turely, sadness for those left behind, all
coalesced into that wretchedness.
Subconsciously, I think I knew that
this was coming, but I had not prepared
See QUILT, page 5

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Standon at The Shirt
Factory continues in
Hampton

HAMPSON, N.H. (AP) - The anti­
gay T-shirts that touched off a
demonstration at a Hampton Beach
shop two weeks ago are back on the
market, and the store manager says
he believes the protests have been
ended.
After a July 9 protest by gay
activists, owners of The Shirt Facto­
ry agreed to stop selling two styles of T-shirts that denigrate ho­
omosexuals if, they said, other stores
on the beach did likewise.
Monday afternoon, however,
one of the styles was being sold.
Manager Danny Maleh said The
Shirt Factory had complied with the
agreement it made with the protest­
ers, and blamed them for not fol­
owing through with the other beach
businesses. He is selling the T­
shirts, he said, because other Ham­pton Beach shops are selling them.
"They can protest as much as they
want. They're just helping to boost our
business," said Maleh, one of the shop's owners, David and
Shirley Maleh.

The Malehs and their rela­
tives own nine of Hampton Beach's
T-shirt shops. The leader of the July 9 protest, Carl Bletzer of Port­
smouth, said Monday the continued
sale was "very deceitful." I think it just depicts the type of fight we are
going to have on the beach," said
Bletzer, a member of Concerned
Citizens of the Seacoast, a grassroots anti-defamatory group.
Bletzer said he has visited 41
businesses that sell T-shirts on
Ocean Boulevard and asked them to sign a "Commercial Pledge of
Decency." Thirty-one of the shops
have signed the pledge, which reads: "We, the undersigned busi­nesses, hereby pledge in good faith to the community of Hampton Beach and the town of Hampton, to immediately cease and desist sales, display or any form of dis­tribution of the T-shirts that depict the
derogatory statements towards homosexuals or any variation of those
themes."
Bletzer also said he has kept
David and Shirley Maleh up to date on
his progress with other stores.
The Malehs would not comment.
Gay Pride March prompts question:
"Why do we need to parade . . .?"

by Jasper M. F. Salach

I am writing this after seeing no coverage in the local newspapers or on Channel 9 news about the local gay pride events that took place Friday, June 14 in Concord, N.H. and Saturday, June 15 in Henniker.

June is Gay Pride Month around the nation, and with this year's community has named it National Gay History Month. Many people ask me why do we need to parade in the streets and public places.

This is my answer: We are not marching for what we do in our bedrooms. We march for equality, respect, affirmation, and to celebrate our added diversity to this great nation. We march in the streets to demand equal protection under the law through all the institutions of the U.S. Government. This means protection from acts of hate and discrimination in the workplace, protection from being evicted from our homes on the basis of our sexual orientation, protection from hate messages of slander and untruths, protection from harassment in schools, where one-third of all teen-age suicides are gay and lesbian suicides, and protection to serve proudly for our country without the fear of losing our right to protect and defend because we happen to love people of the same sex. No institution has the right to teach hate and untruths and to practice discrimination.

We deserve as citizens of this country the same treatment and respect of our inherent worth and dignity. We march as a community of men and women to say enough is enough.

We are against with the persecution of same-gender relationships. Our love is as pure and honorable as your love.

Enough with saying that all we are is about sex. We are about love and families. We are about long-term committed relationships and growing old together with the welcoming blessings of God.

Enough with saying that we have no morals. We are church-going citizens and people striving to work on our fullest potential like most people do in their lives.

Enough with the oppression of trying to keep us from obtaining equal recognition in our communities that would affirm our committed, loving relationships. God blesses our unions too and one day we will obtain the right to marriage.

We also march for those who have died before us in the fight for equality. The thousands of men and women who were put into concentration camps during World War II because they were homosexual. The many gay men in the 1700s who were executed. And we can't forget about the many men and women who were thrown into mental institutions and then given electric shock treatments to cure them of their homosexual tendencies. We march against these atrocity and we march to say no more!

There was a Concord gay pride parade on Friday, June 14 and I estimate about 250 people showed up to march. I can truthfully tell you our numbers are in the tens of thousands in this fine state of ours. I can also tell you one day we will pass a law in this state that will grant us our full civil liberties, because no one is fit until all are protected under the law equally.

May peace be with every action you take and all words you speak.

State Sen. Roberge remarks erode citizenship and school safety

GLSTN/NH Objects to Anti-Gay, Anti-Government Statement

Northwood, NH — In the Manchester Union Leader, on May 21, 1996, State Senator Sheila Roberge made the following remarks concerning the Supreme Court's overturn of the Fourteenth Amendment rights of all students to equal protection of the laws, and the right to participate in the political process. Senator Roberge plainly stated that, because she disapproves of lesbians and gays, they should have no rights. She implies that she is pleased that the landmark basic intent of the Supreme Court decision has come to New Hampshire and been defeated.

Gay Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network of New Hampshire (GLSTN/NH) regards this statement as offensive to the basic values of American society, as offensive to Senator Roberge's lesbian and gay constituents — along with their friends and families. The US Supreme Court clearly affirmed the Fourteenth Amendment rights of all citizens to equal protection of the laws, and the right to participate in the political process.

ARBITRARY EXCLUSION AND HATE CRIMES

Adolescents of all sexual orientations need the loving help and support of their families, friends, teachers, and communities as they grow and mature into adults. To single out an arbitrary group and deny it fair and equal protection of the laws constitutes the classic definition of discrimination. To characterize that group as ineligible for inclusion in our society and government, is to encourage hate speech and behavior.

Chilling Message to Youth

More to the point, Sen. Roberge, as a member of the Education Committee of the NH Senate, has sent a chilling message to school children, same-sex partners, teachers, faculty, and students, and parents. It is an example of an Education Committee member of the NH Senate that GLSTN/NH has grave concerns about the effects of Sen. Roberge's remarks in the schools of our state, and on our youth.

The Human Price of Oppression: Teen Suicide

GLSTN/NH works to ensure that schools are places where all people are respected and valued, regardless of sexual orientation. Turner said, "We urge Sen. Roberge to consider the devastating effects of her remarks on all adolescents struggling to understand their sexuality and that of their friends. We remind her that over 30 percent of completed teenage suicides are by gays and lesbians, often after multiple attempts."

See NH GLSTN page 19

Quilt, from page 4

myself well for it. Being here to participate was one thing, becoming involved was quite another. Geoffrey and I had been talking about the quilt and answering questions was possible. Actually viewing the panels spread before me and contemplating the lives they represented was not.

After the opening ceremony, I was assigned a panel to watch over and was able to settle myself a bit. Occasional attempts at sharing a moment sent by a family who had lost a three-year-old child, a lover who had lost a soul mate, or a young child who had lost a parent, would only send me back to my watch with more tears welling.

"That's your Uncle Mike, Andy!" I looked across the quilt at what seemed to be a grandmother, talking to her young grandson about a person represented by one of my panels. The boy was at that age where you really didn't know if he could comprehend what he'd been told. I wasn't sure if the statement was meant for him, or if the woman was setting things in her own mind.

"Was he a family member?" I asked.

"My son. One of my six children. Funny how they're all raised the same, yet seem to turn out so differently. He was such a joy!"

As our conversation continued, I learned that this woman had been on the AIDS lecture circuit for several years since the loss of her 28-year-old son. He was a line dance instructor who had worked locally and in Boston. She had decided to channel her grief into a course of action that would pay tribute to his life. Her time of mourning had passed. Now she could talk of Mike with a warmth and affection that made me ashamed of my own unfocused grief.

Later, I looked across the quilt and

see Quilt, page 17

Coalition to End Discrimination Report

by Brendan Densley

The New Hampshire Coalition to End Discrimination (CED) is pleased to report that on Thursday, June 13, the Judiciary and Family Law Committees voted 11-4 to send House Bill 1294 to the full Legislature in its spring session. HB 1294 would add "sexual orientation" to New Hampshire's existing rights of equality.

The Judiciary Committee originally voted in February to send this bill into extended study. However, a busy schedule and Family Law Subcommittee's vote on Amendment Two made the committee reconsider their decision, and the vote was taken after little discussion.

An amendment was added to the bill which noted that the state recognizes that discrimination exists against gays and lesbians, but that by passing this legislation the state does not promote or endorse homosexuality.

This is the second attempt to add "sexual orientation" to New Hampshire's Civil Rights Legislation. The first attempt to pass the bill (HB 1147) failed in the NH Senate by one vote in 1994.

"We are very excited by the Committee's vote," said CED spokesperson Ken Reed. "We urge the Senate to consider this bill and pass the measure by August 1st. We also look forward to a vote in the full House on August 6th."

For more information please contact Brendan Densley, Coalition to End Discrimination spokesperson (603) 556-6160, bderley@newhampshire.ksiene.net

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Hate policy repealed after landslide election

Grateful community begins healing process

Merrimack, NH — On June 3, 1996, after ten months of heated controversy, and a bitterly contested election, the Merrimack School Board repealed the anti-gay Policy 6540 passed on August 14, 1995. The assembled townpeople gave the Board a standing ovation. The policy, proposed by then-Chairman Chris Ager, was identical to the failed amendment sponsored by US Senators Bob Smith (R-NH) and Jesse Helms (R-NC) to the 1994 Education Funding Act. Written by Rev. Lou Sheldon, of the California-based Traditional Values Coalition. Police had to intervene in a lawsuit filed in US District Court by parents and teachers claiming violations of First and Fourteenth Amendment rights under the US Constitution. The far-reaching implications of the Sheldon-Ager (Smith-Helms) policy brought worldwide media attention.

RETURNING TO TRADITION

"Now that the hostilities of the past two years are subsiding, the healing process is beginning," observed School Board Chair Ken Coleman. "The people are drawing together once again to solve their problems as a community. This has been the tradition of our town, and that is why we have been able to build a school system recognized around the state for its quality and efficient use of taxes. To watch the return to this tradi­tion makes me proud to serve as an elected official in Merrimack," Coleman said. "The Sheldon-Ager (Smith-Helms) policy clearly did not represent the val­ues of Merrimack. In retrospect, all the controversial issues of the past two years, such as school prayer, creation­ism, and this infamous anti-gay policy, came from the outside. Sheldon's per­sonal involvement and numerous trips to speak at local churches are only the most visible of many smoking guns in the Radical Religious Right's battle to subvert our schools. The people objected to this intrusion on local control, and have taken back control of their School Board. The power of democracy has brought out the noblest qualities of the people of Merrimack."

REJECTING THE EXTREMIST AGENDA

The elections of Coleman and Brenda Grady in 1995, and Rosemarie Rung in 1996 proved beyond doubt that the people of Merrimack never sup­ported the extremist agenda advocated by Ager's majority coalition. "Whenever the voters had an opportunity to make their wishes known, they rejected the extreme and majority coalition in the strongest possible terms," com­mented Rung. "In 1995, Coleman and Grady won landslide victories in a record turnout, sending a clear message that the town did not support the Ager coalition. This year, the voters had an opportunity to change the fundamental policy direc­tion of the School Board. I ran against the old majority coalition to the tune of two to one margin (68 percent) in the largest turnout in town history (150 per­cent of last year's record). The people have spoken loudly and clearly, and have mandated a return to our tradition of excellence."

F ROM ES ES MADE, PROMISES KEPT

As her first official act, Rung moved to repeal Policy 6540, saying "This policy never should have been enacted." Superintendent Jane B. Neil remarked that no other district in the state or nation had ever enacted such a policy and none had followed our ex­ample. Rung also proposed Policy 6541 to replace it. "I wish we could simply repeal 6540, but we need to clear the air after all the unforced rumors that have circulated around town," Rung said. During the campaign, she discovered that many people believed the purpose of Policy 6540 was to prevent the schools from "promoting" homosexuality, or from persuading students to "choose" to become homosexual. People who have given serious thought to their own sexual orientation understand that sexual orientation is not a voluntary or arbitrary choice. Others needed reassur­ See HATE, page 19

President Clinton signed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act; President Clinton strongly opposed anti-gay ballot initiatives in sev­eral states; President Clinton directed the Justice Department and the Equal Em­ployment Opportunity Commission to vigorously prosecute those who dis­criminate against PWAs, leading to ac­tions against health care providers and failure of the campaign to create the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Welcome our contributions to public service; President Clinton has appointed the most inclusive Administration in his­tory — over 10 openly gay and lesbian

See CLINTON, page 19

DOMA/ENDA Action Alert

Re: The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the Employment Non-Discrim­ination Act (ENDA)

From: People For the American Way Action Fund

Background: The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), a key piece of reli­gious right legislation which would al­low states to deny the legitimacy of same-sex marriages and deny federal recognition of all same-sex marriages, is rapidly moving through Congress. This assault on gays and lesbians is just an election year ploy to divide Ameri­cans. Many members of Congress are likely to vote "yes" on DOMA because of the fear of being seen as "pro-gay" in an election year in which gays and lesbians are being demonized by the re­ligious right. A major strategy promoted by People For the American Way Ac­tion Fund and other progressive organiza­tions is to change the subject of the debate away from an anti-gay diatribe toward a discussion of discrimination against gays and lesbians in the work­place. When DOMA comes to the Senate floor, the Employment Non-Discrim­ination Act (ENDA), which prohibits employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, will be offered as an amendment to DOMA. We believe many senators would be willing to support this amendment since ENDA has 30 Senate co-sponsors and polls show that 84% of Americans support prohibiting job dis­crimination against gays and lesbians.

Those supporting DOMA would then be forced either to vote against DOMA in order to prevent ENDA from becoming law or to vote against DOMA, and in so doing pass ENDA. Our goal is to get as many senators as possible to vote and speak for ENDA and against DOMA when the Congress reconvenes.

This legislation is moving quickly. DOMA already passed the House of Representa­tives, and the Senate decided to bypass the committee process and place this legislation directly on the cal­endar. DOMA can be brought to the Senate floor at any time. We need your help now.

ACTIONS: 1. Please write a Dear Senator letter urging senators to vote YES for ENDA and NO on DOMA. If your organization does not have a posi­tion against DOMA, please write them a letter in support of ENDA. Please send the original to Nancy Buermeyer at Hu­man Rights Campaign early this week (1101 14th St. NW, Ste. 700, Wash­ington, DC 20005; phone: 202-628-4166; See DOMA, page 16
HIV/AIDS Awareness Project Receives Continued Funding

The Aroostook County Action Program (ACAP), in conjunction with Visiting Nurses of Aroostook, was recently awarded a $20,000 continuing grant from the Maine Community AIDS Partnership (MCAP) announced Connie Sandstrom, ACAP Executive Director. The funding, she said, is the result of a program designed to build awareness of HIV/AIDS and to increase the amount and types of services available to persons with HIV, their friends and caregivers. Ten HIV/AIDS projects, including ACAP's from around the state, will share $150,000 in grants from MCAP. Bettsanne Holmes, MCAP Chair said, "Last year, MCAP projects helped over 4,700 people of every age, from every background, in every corner of the state...We can take great satisfaction in what we accomplished, but we cannot be satisfied until NOT one more person in Maine dies from this dreadful and preventable disease." ACAP will expand upon its successful broad-based community training program. Educational programs in the county have reached doctors, nurses, social workers, hospice volunteers, and social service programs. Workplace training programs focus on needs identified by employers. "We are coordinating educational efforts in local business. Many employers are anxious to respond effectively to HIV/AIDS Community Education Specialist at HEALTH 1ST. "We offer workplace training programs for providers, for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, have been identified and will be included in a Service Providers Directory for People with HIV in Aroostook. Madore added that "Continued funding will allow us to further identify service providers and increase services available in the county. We will also provide the opportunity to present additional educational programs that are vital, timely information necessary for individuals responding to the AIDS crisis...An established support group for families and friends of persons with HIV will be continued. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Academy House in Presque Isle. Family and Friends Accepting Change Together (FFACT) is a support group for people whose personal life has been changed by the AIDS crisis. Madore stated, "People in this group come together from many different backgrounds and circumstances, but they all have one thing in common, their lives have been changed forever by HIV Disease...A speaker's bureau has been developed with assistance from the American Red Cross. Individuals have been trained to speak to local and regional audiences. We present the facts as we know them and participants have the opportunity to ask questions about AIDS. "What we are trying to do is create an opportunity for the general public to ask questions about AIDS. "We are trying to do that. We have the opportunity to dispel the myths and misconceptions that prevent us from responding credible, courageously and effectively to HIV Disease. Next funding cycle we will work at expanding the number of speakers as well as new opportunities," said Madore. Collaborative efforts with Artists For AIDS Awareness (AFAA), an organization of artists concerned with the impact of HIV/AIDS education and prevention, have been very successful in raising funds for education and prevention projects in Aroostook. Funds raised this year will target youth and school HIV prevention programs as well as other projects in the planning stages. Madore, a member of AFAA stated, "This group has been instrumental in providing the foundation for grass-roots coalition building. Their goal is to nurture a more compassionate, supportive and understanding community. Their strength and commitment is derived from their own experiences within their communities. This group is committed to the realization of an AIDS service organization in Aroostook," AFAA projects include "A Day Without Art" commemorating World AIDS Day. See SURVIVING, page 17

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August, 1996 Page 7
Defending Clinton
Gays Debate Response to President's Stance on Marriage
by Jamie Wolters

Can same-gender marriage become for Democrats the albatross that abortion has been to the Republican Party?

That's certainly the hope of GOP leaders who are pushing through Congress the "Defense of Marriage Act," or DOMA, an attempt to preempt the future possibility of legal same-gender marriage.

On May 22, President Clinton took the bait by announcing that he would sign the bill if it is passed by Congress.

"Everyone of us must act out of our own individual consciousness," said David Mixner, a former Clinton adviser. "I'm going to work like hell to kick Newt Gingrich out as Speaker of the House and defeat Jesse Helms."

Mixner said he will vote for Clinton, but he will contribute no more money to his campaign. Mixner described an incident of a few years ago when he was in the hospital room with a sick friend and the man's lover of 10 years.

"The family came in with a court order and an armed guard escorted the lover out of the room and didn't permit the lover to re-enter the [couple's] house," Mixner said. "By signing that bill, I think Clinton is prolonging that pain."

Attorney John Duran, who also attended the forum, said the president shouldn't start feeling too comfortable. "The decision in the Hawaii case is years off, however."

The issue was a hot topic at a June 10 West Hollywood forum, sponsored by Out There, an entertainment-industry advocacy group.

Gay/Lesbian Business Directory
published by RBPA
The Rainbow Business & Professional Association has published Maine's first gay/lesbian business & professional directory. RBPA was formed a little over a year ago to promote gay/lesbian owned, operated, and gay-friendly businesses and professionals. In their first year, over 100 people have joined the organization.

The group sponsors monthly meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month.

Montreal Enjoy a colorful tour by motorcoach to exciting Montreal during Fall Foliage. 2 meals & more
September 27-29 $189 pp/ad

FIRST national survey of violence against transpeople being distributed
by Jean Vermette

Whether you are a crossdresser, a drag king or queen, stone butch, a transsexual, or intersexed, and whether you are lesbian, gay, or bisexual, this straight, this is a survey that you should partake in.

With hate crimes against members of the transcommunity continuing unabated, the Gender PAC lobby is fighting to have "gender identity/presentation" included in national and state hate crime legislation.

GenderPAC is hoping to remedy the situation by nationally distributing a short, anonymous survey for all interested transcommunity members to fill out. All transgendered people are urged to participate, whether they have been the victim of hate crimes or not, so that as wide and accurate a representation of the transcommunity as possible can be gotten.

Transpeople interested in taking part in the survey can request their copy by contacting:
Jean Vermette Maine Gender Resource & Support Service PO Box 1894 Bangor, ME 04402-1894 ph: 207-945-3902 ΔΔ

Mother who was denied custody, wins new hearing.
by Bill Bergstrom

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) A Panhandler mother, ecstatic about a ruling that her lesbian lifestyle didn't qualify taking away her child, was granted conditional custody of her son on Monday.

Attorney John Duran, who also attended the forum, said the president shouldn't start feeling too comfortable. "The decision in the Hawaii case is years off, however."

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INSURANCE TIPS:
Are my fine arts, antiques & collections covered under my homeowners policy?

by Carolyn A. Jabbert

Yes, and NO!

The standard homeowners policy will have limitations. When there is coverage, the loss is usually settled on an actual cash value basis with depreciation taken into account. More importantly, there is no coverage for fine arts breakage, and then only for the named perils listed in your policy.

Your homeowners can be endorsed to provide coverage for the appraised value of the antique or fine art piece. All companies require a recent sales invoice specifically describing the item and its value and prefer a professional appraisal with photo. The item is then insured for its appraised value. The premium rates charged are surprisingly inexpensive and afford your broadened coverage for that specific item insured to full value.

But, understand how it all works. Read your policy carefully. These endorsements will likely state that the insurer is only obligated to replace the property with property substantially identical to the article lost or damaged.

4. The amount of insurance stated in the policy.

Much of the property usually insured on the floater can be easily purchased by the insurer at discounted prices. Thus, the insurer is likely to offer to replace the lost or damaged property rather than make a cash settlement. If the replacement offer is rejected by the insured, the insurer’s cash settlement is limited to the amount for which the insured could reasonably be expected to replace the item. This amount is the insurer’s discounted price since the insured could reasonably be expected to replace the item at that price.

In the case of rare items such as art and collections, detailed negotiations and experts are brought in for consultation by all parties involved. It is best to keep records and update your appraisal every three to five years.

As always, check with your policy and phone your agent to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have regarding coverage issues. The time to ask “Is it covered?” is before you find your you really need it and don’t have it!

by Martin Swinger

I realized the other night, through this column, Not a ‘review’ or one to ten scale opinion of your work, but a paragraph or so about your work and why would anyone promise to give me money if I suffer a loss? They promise because they are gambling that the loss won’t occur or, if even it does, it won’t cost as much money as I, and the other people they insure, will have paid them and will continue to pay them. Insurance companies evaluate the risk of loss very precisely. That is what an Actuary does. They determine what the likelihood is that the loss will occur and how much the insurance company needs to charge in premiums over what period of time to cover that loss and make a profit. The key to minimizing their risk is to have a large and diverse population of people being insured.

There are many different types of insurance such as, life, disability, liability, health, property, etc., etc., etc. Just about anything can be insured. The overall financial planning concept that insurance directly addresses is RISK MANAGEMENT. Insurance is used to manage the risk of financial loss. The more risk a person is willing to take the less insurance they will want. The less risk a person is willing to take the more insurance they will want. Please be aware that insurance should be used to manage risk and not to eliminate it. After all, insurance does cost money.

Good Luck!

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Medical attention available at Portland Street Clinic

PORTLAND, ME: The Portland Street Clinic, located in the Community Resource Center, 15 Portland Street, Portland, provides free comprehensive health care for adults with limited income or who have no insurance or doctor.

The Clinic is open evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays, by appointment only. To make an appointment, please call 874-8982.

This clinic is sponsored by Mercy Hospital and administered by the City of Portland Public Health Division. The clinic’s staff works closely with Mercy Hospital and other health care providers to arrange whatever tests or medical procedures patients need. All of the services are free.

Support Groups at Mercy Hospital

PORTLAND ME - Coping with Caregiving provides for those who care for a chronically/terminally ill or disabled person. This group meets on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at noon in the Mercy Hospital Board Room, sixth floor. For more information, call 879-3477.

Growing through Griefing is intended to help those who have lost someone they loved through death. The group will meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Mercy Hospital in the Administrative Conference Room, level B1. If you or someone you know is struggling with the death of a loved one, come and join us. For more information, call 879-3477.

Coping and Sharing offers mutual support for cancer patients and survivors. This group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., in the Mercy Hospital Board Room, sixth floor. For more information, call 879-3030.

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SINGIN’ OUT!

on your art, maybe what you feel you have to contribute to the community. I’ve done this somewhat with the artists I meet in NY and Boston and Philadelphia. I’ve not really figured out how to make you artists accessible resources for each other and interested readers. What comes to mind is the idea of introducing the varied artists through this column. Not a ‘review’ or one to ten scale opinion of your work, but a paragraph or so about your work and what effect sexual identity has on it.

by Martin Swinger

I realized the other night, through this column, Not a ‘review’ or one to ten scale opinion of your work, but a paragraph or so about your work and why would anyone promise to give me money if I suffer a loss? They promise because they are gambling that the loss won’t occur or, if even it does, it won’t cost as much money as I, and the other people they insure, will have paid them and will continue to pay them. Insurance companies evaluate the risk of loss very precisely. That is what an Actuary does. They determine what the likelihood is that the loss will occur and how much the insurance company needs to charge in premiums over what period of time to cover that loss and make a profit. The key to minimizing their risk is to have a large and diverse population of people being insured.

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Good Luck!

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4:00 pm Saturday, Immanuel Baptist, 136 High Street
FMI: 207.773.0119

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Every person is welcomed! Please join us!
EDITORIAL- ME

Fam-ily: n, a group of people united by certain convictions or affiliation.

Webster’s Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary

It seems our court system may be beginning to recognize that we still have rights regardless of our orientation. A Florida judge found this to be true when his decision to deny a mother custody of her child because of her lesbian lifestyle was overturned. (See story, page 8.) Well it’s about time; cheers to the 1st District Court of Appeals.

We make progress with the court systems. Slowly our rights are being recognized, and yet at the same time, Congress can to pass bills into law based on assumption, unsubstantiated claim and lack of evidence which will restrict human rights and make it illegal to discriminate against one sector of society.

The Anti Gay Marriage Bill that has just passed the House and is on its way to the Senate was passed with no compelling reason to do so, except perhaps haps, fear and prejudice. No evidence has been offered to show that our family life has an adverse effect on society or our children.

What gives anyone the right to judge, without evidence, what type of family has the greatest value. There are “traditional homes” with one father and one mother, where the children grow up in abuse and neglect, where they learn bigotry and hate. There are “non-traditional” homes where children grow and thrive with nurturing love and learn respect and acceptance of diversity. While the reverse is also true, that doesn’t invalidate “non-traditional” families.

With the divorce rate for heterosexuals fast approaching fifty percent, few children are raised in “traditional” homes in our society. There are many “families” consisting of step-parents and step-children, and yet there isn’t anyone rushing to congress to pass bills to invalidate these families. It seems that it is all right to break with tradition if you are heterosexual, yet it is not if you are not. At the same time, we are supposed to believe that the Anti Gay Marriage bill is not an issue of bigotry or discrimination.

Some may feel that marriage is not an issue to them, or that the bill before Congress is a smoke screen, a political ploy. It doesn’t matter what you call it, if that bill gets passed, and gets put into law, it robs us of our right to choose marriage and to participate equally in it’s privileges, benefits and responsibilities.

This goes against the very principles this country was founded on, that all people are created equal, with the same rights and privileges under the law. Some might say that we should have separate but equal rights. I hear the echo of the not so distant past and another civil rights battle. It seems we’ve already proven once in history that if it is separate then it is NOT equal.

EDITORIAL- NH

by Leslie Robinson

We are in an interesting period, as we try to push forward and others try to push us back.

The signs of the times seem to be everywhere recently. Nationally, it has looked like the previously unthinkable could happen - a state could legalize gay marriage. But in the face of Hawaii’s potential action, the House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly on July 12 to define marriage federally as a union of one woman and one man.

Georgia Republican and bill sponsor Bob Barr was in a tizzy. “The flames of hedonism, the flames of narcissism, the flames of self-centered morality are licking at the very foundations of our society, the family unit,” he said, giving new meaning to the term “flame.”

Here at home, gay and AIDS activists learned of their own power when their picket and protest against a T-shirt shop in Hampton Beach convinced the manager to remove gay-bashing T-shirts. (See story on pages 1 & 4)

On the other hand, that such shirts are made and sold, that the one reading “Silly Faggot, Dix are for Chicks” is a hot seller, shows how acceptable it remains to use us as a dartboard. You can be sure the people at the Shirt Factory wouldn’t dare, if they were so inclined, to display T-shirts with racial slurs.

I admit to having some qualms about the T-shirt issue. The first Amendment is a friend of mine; I’m not a big fan of censorship. But I agree with the protest’s organizers that the shirts promote hate, and I’m certainly not a fan of that, either.

Perhaps if the store’s owners had looked upon the AIDS quilt, on display in Portsmouth last month (see story on p....) they would have berated themselves for ever having sold shirts saying “AIDS Cures Fags.”

Other sign of the ebb and flow we’re experiencing occurred on the same weekend in the same town. On June 29 in Portsmouth, a man was beaten to death on Pierce Island, a cruising locale. Two suspects were later arrested. So far it’s unknown if this was a robbery or a hate crime - but such an incident always raises the specter of the latter.

On June 30, many sitting in the pews of the Unitarian Universalist Church had not yet heard of the horrific crime. They had come for this church’s first gay pride service.

There were many striking moments during the service, which was conducted by seven gay and lesbian church members to a packed house. To me, the sweetest moment came as Marc Fredette wound up his talk about his life, often painful, as a gay man.

“This retiring, insensitive man said, “I’m standing up for myself. Will you stand up with me?” A moment passed. Then everyone, straight and gay shot to their feet. All applauded. Fredette was ecstatic, the beam on his face lighting up the church.

Leslie Robinson
**Guest Editorial: Poll Watchers Hurting Movement**

by Wayne R. Besen

It was a scorching June afternoon in 1969 when the Vietnam War was raging and music at the Stonewall Bar, in New York's Village, abruptly stopped. A large, hairy man wearing leather chaps exposing his furry buttocks let out a terrible shriek and bellowed, "Everybody run, the cops are coming!"

Before the terrified patrons could escape, New York's finest came through the door wielding fearsome billyclubs and screaming hoarsely, "Get out of here!"

The latest polls show that 95 percent of America's are opposed to gay marriage, has turned what should have been a robust debate into a right wing monologue.

Our leading activists have forgotten that it is not their job to jump on the bandwagon of popular causes, according to the polls, but to champion the morally just in the attempt to persuade the masses.

Though our politicians are correct in assuming that this is an unwinnable battle, even with a full-scale effort, they have woefully missed the point. That is that the gay rights movement is a long-term struggle and though we will lose many battles, the only way we can lose the war is by not fighting. If we would have held our ground and educated rather than retreated, we most likely would have swayed another ten percent of the population to support gay and lesbian marriage.

Sure, this isn't the majority we needed, however we would have enlightened millions of people, creating allies for future fights. In retrospect, the acquiescence of our right to marry will be seen as one of the biggest mistakes in our movements history.

Wayne Besen has been previously published in the Miami Herald, TWN, Bay Windows, and The San Jose Mercury News. He was the founder of Sons & Daughters of America, a Ft. Lauderdale based gay and lesbian organization and is asking for volunteers at all levels, including those who would be willing to serve on the Advisory Board.

If you love animals, if you understand the need to protect the lives of many of us, if you can help, or if you would like more information about volunteering or donating (time, money, pet food, litter), call 775-PAWS (7797).

Carolyn A. Jalbert of Portland and Sylvie G. Audet of Waterville were pronounced life partners after exchanging vows on June 21st at their Holy Union in a media-covered ceremony. Reverend Kathleen Allen of the Westbrook Unitarian Universalist Church presided over the ceremony. There were 87 guests in attendance. Carolyn's and Sylvie's five children were attendants for their mothers. A reception at the Westbrook American Legion Hall followed the ceremony.

Carolyn is President of Jaltbert Insurance Services in Portland, and Sylvie is employed by Kimberly Clark. They reside in Portland with their five children.

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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 New Hampshire. CPR strives to increase awareness and acceptance of the LGBTQ community, 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 and are not necessarily those of the publisher. Community Pride Reporter may endorse candidates and can present 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. An error has significantly detracted from the clarity of information presented, the Publisher may consider printing a clarification at her discretion. No assumptions should be made concerning the sexual self-identification of either contributors or advertisers.

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. CPR may, in its discretion, reproduce or reject any material.

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**Just Married**

Carolyn A. Jalbert & Sylvie G. Audet

Carolyn A. Jalbert of Portland and Sylvie G. Audet of Waterville were pronounced life partners after exchanging vows on June 21st at their Holy Union in a media-covered ceremony. Reverend Kathleen Allen of the Westbrook Unitarian Universalist Church presided over the ceremony. There were 87 guests in attendance. Carolyn's and Sylvie's five children were attendants for their mothers. A reception at the Westbrook American Legion Hall followed the ceremony.

Carolyn is President of Jaltbert Insurance Services in Portland, and Sylvie is employed by Kimberly Clark. They reside in Portland with their five children.

Dear Editor,

I manage and book a comic (stand-up) by the name of Julianne Gavin. On March 29, 1996, I booked a show for her in York County Maine. Julianne being an out lesbian comic used Gay and Lesbian in material in her history. That evening, at the conclusion of the show, the owner of the club said that his club is a straight club and he was not happy with her material. He not only insulted her, but only partially paid her.

Julianne is on tour through the U.S.A. now, so I, having power of attorney, took this discriminating man to small claims court in York County and won the case. It does pay to make the time to go to the courts when necessary.

Kat (Kat's Musical Enterprises)
Community Pride Reporter's Guide to

DOWNTOWN PORTLAND

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Music buyers at the store I work at are always fascinating to me. One of the music buyers at the store I work at came up to me clutching Howle's cd that had a baby photo of Danielle on the cover and had been ordered for the store and said, "Aimiel, check this out." With an old ily the music turned out to be equally amazing. Books you can't judge by the cover, but does the same apply to cd's? Amazing. Books you can't judge by the cover, but does the same apply to cd's? Sometimes the case of Danielle Howle is making a making a name for herself with the release of "About to Burst." Her voice is quite catchy, with a slight southern-punk-country-folky-thing happening. And she writes equally catchy songs. I have taken quite a lik ing to "Red Candles." "There are some red candles from the closet. I'm going to light them up and let it be Christmas.

The entire cd, 16 songs in all, has found its way into my cd player several times this month and now I find myself singing along with Danielle and cleaning my apartment too, as some of the tracks certainly provide a rock'n'roll soundtrack to vacuuming and washing windows. Howle's sound is also perfect to listen to while driving with the windows rolled down. There's something especially satisfying about finding a musical gem on the independent label. Look for "About to Burst." If the store you shop at doesn't have it, ask them to order it. It's on cd.

Howle is a quirky one too. One of the music buyers at the store I work at came up to me clutching Howle's cd that had been ordered for the store and said, "Aimiel, check this out." With an old baby photo of Danielle on the cover and a very cool title, "About to Burst," I had to hear it. So, we proceeded to surgically remove the shrink wrap and sneak the disc into the store's stereo system. There's something especially satisfying about finding a musical gem on the independent label. Look for "About to Burst." If the store you shop at doesn't have it, ask them to order it. It's on cd.

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An August Wave of Live Music Approaches... As a July one leaves...

by Aimsel Posti

Hey there. As usual I have much
to tell of shows gone by and shows that are coming through Maine. disappear fear were at Raoul's on the 16th. July 20th. This show and the one at Mama Kin in Boston a few nights earlier were two of the best performances I've seen them put on. First of all, Rick, their new guitarist, was amazing, adding his finesse to an already tight sound that lasted almost two hours. The band played many songs from their new album "Seed in the Sahara" as well as several from their '94 self-titled album. A few times they delved back a few years and played the "classic among fans"; "Sexual Telepathy" and "Sink the Diver" not to mention their songs that lasted almost two hours. The band giving his finesse to an already tight sound was amazing, add- ing his finesse to an already tight sound that lasted almost two hours. The band playing with an acoustic guitar and a local guy named John who played the bongo drums on three songs. Jonatha sat down with me and we chatted for a while about what's happened over the last few months. She then told me she had to write a set list so I simply said "Just give me a pen!" So yes, I actually wrote out a set list for her, and she performed just about every song I had written down, plus a few more from her most recent release "Plumb." This performance was particularly excellent as Brooke's sense of humor and knack for telling anecdotes were in perfect form. She has the unique ability to make an audience crack up one minute and then choke up the next while she sings one of the many beautiful written songs she continues to pen. Add to this an absolutely exquisite voice. We love you, Jonatha...

Kate Schrock, local piano play- ing goddess with an incredible voice that moved to Chicago a few months ago, also visited Raoul's. Kate was in town to do some work at a recording studio and she also performed at Border's Bookstore. Although the attendance at Raoul's wasn't so hot, Kate played some new songs and some music from her "Refuge" album and those of us who were there very much appreciated the music.

Now it is time to get out your Au­ gust calendar and mark a bunch of dates. On Thursday, August 8th, Sisters (45 Danforth St.) will be featuring three women who are well worth the $5 cover. Lynn Deves and Diana Daniel will be playing live along with their special guest, Erika Gilbert. Deves is celebrating the release of her tape "Connecting the Dots," which contains 11 original songs. Besides your $5, bring a little more cash so you can support a local artist and get yourself a great tape. The show at Sis­ ters promises to be fun, entertaining and certainly full of terrific music. And then there's Jonatha's in Ogunquit. On August 2nd, Libby Roderick will be performing and the very next day, the Fratirations. So you're set for Friday and Saturday. Then on Wednesday the 7th, Susan Werner will be playing along with Ann Clark. And on the 9th you can see Odetta live.

For more listing of shows and ticket info call Jonathan's, at 1-800-464-9934 in Maine or they can also be reached at 207-646-4777.

And finally, I heard Tori Amos might be playing at The State Theater. Take a deep breath as this is unconfir­med. I just thought I'd throw my fel­low Tori obsessors into a tizzy. Seriously though, I think she's coming. Keep your ears open.

And keep Passing the Open Win­dows, ALP. ΔΔ

THEATRE REVIEWS: "Grease" & "The Rocky Horror Picture Show"

by Rose Mary Denman

Wow! Two plays in one night at the Seacoast Repertory Theater! Gonna party!! First, dinner in town with a good friend, then on to Bow Street for GREASE. Maybe it's my age, I didn't much care for the 50's when I was a young girl, so why would I like the Rocky Horror Picture show? I was refreshed when I walked into Raoul's and see the place packed. A few minutes after grabbing a table, Jonatha walked by so I said hello. Her first words to me were "Oh yeah, I remember you Aimsel, you gave me your cold last minutes after grabbing a table, Jonathan walked by so I said hello. Her first words to me were "Oh yeah, I remember you Aimsel, you gave me your cold last year?" She was referring to the Story's album "The Good Old Days." I mean, please boys ... yuk! And watching a sweet, thoughtful, young woman slowly being pulled into the lure of her less­...
by Daralyn S. Maxwell

How sad that the title "As Worlds Collide" was frit­tered away on that non-epic 1950's sci-fi movie. It should have been available for me, or one like me, so that I could better illus­trate what happens when parts of your personal life smash into each other.

It is likely that most transsexuals heading toward transition, and their trial year, have at some point faced a person from "another area" of live who just kind of pops up. On my planet, the cross con­nection is amplified by the fact that I work in a service industry that many of the people I associate with in my bud­dng female life might inadvertently drift into, where the last traces of my male life are playing out. Seeing me so "out of context" is sort of a shock and they may not have been prepared for the en­counter.

At the same time, there are the more frequent situations whereby I run into a business associate in a social set­ting and they get a glimmer of my emerging existence. It proves to be in­teresting and although I certainly don't consider myself outed by these interac­tions, it is awkward for a moment until we both regain our footing.

The truly intriguing part of this is that I find that most of my contempo­raries-including my own waning male existence-are not as quick to absorb what I am saying. I guess that either I am not hid­ing my feelings well, hormones are af­fecting me more than I thought, or else these guys are smarter than I give them credit for. Or all of the above.

As I say, the "Lavender Menace" action worked so long for me to come forward that he finally confronted me and expressed his feelings of betrayal that I had not trusted him with my "personal growth" story. It was more than a small one, that something was going on and it seemed not to take a rocket scientist to get to the heart of it.

But it was my words do collide on occasion, and little psychic asteroids come in contact with otherwise uncon­nected bodies, I can only hope that the explosive remaining controversy...it stays light and that my planet doesn't spin out of orbit.

Comments about this series can be sent to Dal Maxwell at CPR or email her at dalmax@ime.net.

What was the "Lavender Menace"?

By David Bianco

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, some straight feminists, most notably National Organization for Women founder Betty Friedan, came to regard feminism's public image would be marred by a too-visible lesbian presence in the movement. In Friedan's choice phrase, lesbians represented a "lavender menace" to American feminism.

It was a loaded slogan. From the perspective of the mid-1990s, it is easy to forget the mindset of the Cold War, and the hysteria linked to such phrases as the "red menace." Although Friedan later backed off and said the lesbian is­sue was just a "lavender herring" to di­vert attention from the real issues fac­ing women, lesbians understandably felt stung by both phrases.

Complicating Friedan's statements was evidence of actual discrimination within NOW, where lesbians in positions of leadership were being silenced or forced out of office. A group of women from the Gay Liberation Front felt that the feminist movement needed some consciousness-raising, and planned an incident that would mark a turning point in the relationship between lesbians and the women's movement. It would also be one of the most creative direct actions in the early history of what was then called the "gay liberation movement."

On Friday night, May 1, 1970, the lights went out on the hundreds of women gathered for the second annual NOW convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey. As the darkness fell, the walls which read, "Take a Lesbian to Lunch" and "Is the Statue of Liberty a Lesbian?" The "Menace" demanded the microphone from the stage and accused the women's movement of internalized sexism, and of discriminating against lesbians.

The rest of the scheduled speakers were canceled, and the assembled women spent the rest of the evening lis­tening to the concerns of lesbians. Al­though the event had its angry and emo­tional movements (such as when some lesbians came out publicly for the first time), for the most part the "Lavender Menace" kept a sense of humor about what they were doing, which helped re­lax many women present who had never before been exposed to public discus­sions of lesbianism.

When the lesbians who had pre­pared remarks finished speaking, an open microphone was declared, and one of the women who chose to come for­ward and talk about her struggles with her own sexuality had actually been a scheduled speaker (on another topic) for the evening. She was the well-known professor and author Kate Millett, who herself would later become a lightning rod for debates over sexuality in the women's movement.

During the rate of the weekend, the Lavender Menace put together well-at­tended discussions and workshops on issues related to sexual orientation and feminism. On Sunday, the congress even passed a tongue-in-cheek Menace resolution declaring, "Be it resolved that Women's Liberation is a Lesbian plot..."

The Lavender Menace action was a landmark in an ongoing struggle within the lesbian movement. Lesbians in the early 1970s were feeling increasingly like tokens or showpieces in male-domi­nated groups like the Gay Activists All­liance Women, the Redstockings, and other groups had tried to silence lesbian issues. After the 1970 Congress to Unite Women, the women's movement was more open to lesbian concerns, and just 16 months later NOW passed a resolu­tion declaring "the oppression of lesbi­ans as a legitimate concern of femi­nist activism."

It took Friedan many more years to come around to support of lesbian rights, and she is said to have told a re­porter in 1973 that lesbians in NOW had been "bombed by the CIA."

As for the Lavender Menace them­selves, they did not disappear after their highly public debut. They marched in that summer's first-ever New York City Christopher Street Liberation Day Pa­rade, and (under the name Radicallesbians) published an influential essay, "The Woman-identified Woman."

What was the first gay-themed TV movie?

"That Certain Summer," which aired November 1, 1972 on ABC. The movie stars Hal Holbrook, whose 14-year-old son comes to spend the sum­mer with him and discovers that Dad is in love with Martin Sheen. It appeared at a time when television was beginning to explore controversial topics- includ­ing, like the people I associate with in my bud­dng female life might inadvertently drift into, where the last traces of my male life are playing out. Seeing me so "out of context" is sort of a shock and they may not have been prepared for the en­counter. But that summer." It was ex­clusively tame, especially when com­pared to films that had recently played in the cinemas such as "The Boys in the Band" and "Sunday, Bloody Sunday." Sheen and Holbrook played the very model of an "acceptable" gay couple- they never touched, denounced open dis­courses of love and wondered out loud if homosexuality was a sickness.

At the end of the film, the son leaves his weeping father, and - unlike in the origi­nal script - doesn't even show any re­grets.

Gay and lesbian reaction to "That Certain Summer" was mixed. Some gays and lesbians thrilled to see any por­trait of their lives on television, and relished the opportunities for conversa­tion with their families that the show - and the mered life of my worlds do collide on the heart of it. So, as a rocket scientist to get to the heart of it. But it was my words do collide on occasion, and little psychic asteroids come in contact with otherwise uncon­nected bodies, I can only hope that the explosive remaining controversy...it stays light and that my planet doesn't spin out of orbit.
by Heidi L. Vanderheiden

People have all sorts of stories of how they came to think mine was particularly amusing. Some time after getting my undergraduate degree from UCONN, I decided to host a Halloween party with an unusual theme: cross-dressing. The friends decided it would be a lark. When he turned his pencil. I wore a skull face on it, and his heavy chain hot as a man. I was exactly the type of androgynous, semi-feminine man I sometime. I really must rowed flowered skirt.

into the face of one of my sports heroes from school days of long ago. He was staring at a panel with his younger brother's and serenity part AIDS treatments and my given me morial quilt visiting Prescott Park of the day's memorial. As we gave me (then-) long, blond hair. I had always wanted to do drag, but thinking about it for some time, and I'd just never realized it before. When he turned around, his full dark-brown beard raised the effect. I pulled my (then-) long, blond hair into a Steven Segal ponytail, and drew a scruffy goatee on my chin with eyebrow pencil. I wore garter borrowed from my best friend Martin: a Misfits shirt, with a skull face on it, and his heavy chain and thick skateboard around my neck. For effect, I stuck a pair of socks stuck down my Lee blue jeans.

We went inside, and an hour or so later I was being teased for my flamboyance. Being somewhat drunk, I ran and hid in the closet of the master bedroom. My housemate Byron said, "Someone should get her out of there." So Vicky came in to get me, and we started kissing. Byron then opened the door, Vicky and I walked out, and I heard someone in the group of friends in the bedroom say, "Heidi's come out of the closet." Heidi has been published in Sojourner, Boston Magazine, Loci on-line magazine and the Boston Bisexual Women's Newsletter. She facilitates bisexuality coming out groups, and helped coordinate Boston's 1995 bisexual conference.

Vicky, a lesbian friend, wore her usual made "drag," as she was rather butch; she was extremely attractive. She was wearing jeans, a white shirt with a black vest over it, and cowboy boots. She had short blond hair, and a cute freckled nose. We had beauty pages, and all the "girls" took their little walk across the floor to the hoots and whistles of us men.

We are also grateful for the support of MCP in continuing this vital project in Aroostook. It is through this funding that we are able to continue the progress we have made to date. We are also grateful for the special collaborative efforts of the American Red Cross and Artists For AIDS Awareness (AFAA). Many other County businesses and organizations too numerous to mention have assisted us in working toward achieving our goals of reducing fear and discrimination and increasing services for people affected and infected by HIV.

QUILT, from page 4

SURVIVING, from page 7 he was afraid to find out the results. I told him I understood, and I thought I did, but not as well as either of us would have liked.

April, Ken got another HIV test. It came back negative. The clinic that had tested him the first time had only administered the Eliza test which can give a false positive for a variety of reasons. When an Eliza test yields a positive result, a second test known as the Western Blot, is usually performed which screens specifically for HIV antibodies. For some reason, this confirming test was never run, and he was given the false positive results from the Eliza.

When Ken told me that he was negative, I immediately commented how happy he must be. He said that he was OK with the news now that he had a couple of weeks to get used to the idea. The feelings and experiences he began to describe to me echoed many of the same feelings and experiences that my Vietnam veteran clients with PTSD had been sharing with me. "Why did I survive when so many of my friends died?"

Suddenly these two internships seemed closer than I had ever imagined. Ken went on to tell me that his being HIV positive had been a powerful motivator for him to do something he had always wanted to do: become a nurse. Now a piece of his identity had been taken away as quickly as it seemed to be acquired.

I soon realized that Ken was not alone. Not only were HIV-negative gay men in Philadelphia feeling a sense of loss and hopelessness in the age of AIDS, gay men everywhere were struggling to find a sense of themselves in an era of fear and anxiety about being HIV-negative. For the past 15 years social workers, medical professionals, and counselors have focused our efforts on HIV-positive gay men, without addressing the issues that arise for those affected but not infected with HIV.

The issues and conflicts that continue to plague HIV-negative gay men such as survival guilt, loss, and failure to cope may create a sense of helplessness as well as hopelessness in terms of thinking that HIV infection is inevitable if one is gay and sexually active. This can make gay men to a dangerous and fatalistic conclusion that it is only a matter of time before they, too, become infected.

Gay men, beasts had always had to struggle with internalized homophobia simply because it is assumed that everyone (especially growing up) is straight. We leave to be the most stereotypes in grade school just like everyone else. Separating the myths from the realities of our lives is always a process. Today, when so many think that "gay" is an acronym for "Gay or Lesbian Yet?", we must be careful not to permit a part of us to believing the myth.

Believing the myth adds to the despair; it also is a self-esteem. And self-esteem is an important part of staying HIV-negative. That is why The AIDS Project Education Department (we are trying to come up with a better name for this part of our outreach) is sponsoring a three-week workshop for HIV-negative gay men. This workshop will explore issues relevant to gay men who want to explore being negative and ways to remain negative. Other workshops may also be offered in the future dealing with issues of self-esteem in gay men.

Gay men have always had a part of this group, then please call Victor at The AIDS Project at 774-6877.

Remember: STAYING HIV NEGATIVE IS STEPS IN GRAD SCHOOL JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE. S. 

PAST OUT from page 16 and lesbians to the power of television to shape straight perceptions of gays and lesbians. Two years later, the Gay Activist Alliance and the National Gay Task Force were protesting a homophobic episode of "Marcus Welby," before it even aired - and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation continues such activities today.

David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. If there's anything about the history of gay and lesbian you've always wondered about, contact him at his home or through his e-mail address: ArtBianco@aol.com

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OUT OF TOWN!

by Paul T. Bernard

One of the most common statements I hear from tourists is "I didn't know you could do that!

It's usually in reference to something like car rentals or hotel reservations. So maybe the question, "What does a travel agent really do?" deserves an answer.

As the name implies, a travel agent is an AGENT - someone who acts as a middleman or broker between two parties - one party wishing to sell a service or product - the other party wishing to buy a service or product. In this case, the agent represents literally hundreds of "sellers" or "vendors." At current count, there are close to a thousand airlines located all over the globe - some major ones, like Delta, British Air, or Air France - some really small lines located all over the globe - some specialized airlines and air holidays; some really small airlines that concentrate on inexpensive travel to a narrow geographic area.

The latest styles of professionally driven motorcoaches. The motorcoaches are particularly suitable for the handicapped and elderly, and are also quite comfortable for groups of all sizes. Our clients have a good knowledge of geography, 2) to recognize "recognized " and "licensed," an agent has a good knowledge of geography, 3) to have a good bit of imagination, 3) to know where to get hard-to-find information, and 4) knows his customers. If you are looking for that one special place to visit on your next vacation, go see a good travel agent.

Even if you take only one or two trips a year, those trips are important to you and you want to make sure that everything goes as you want. It's really important to deal with a travel agent who understands what you want. Whatever your major concern is, be it price or the quality of the product, you need to let your travel agent know this up front. It will save you a lot of time and energy. But the important key is that you should try to build a relationship or friendship with your agent. The more the client knows about you and what you're looking for, the better the service and products that he can arrange for you.

The following is a partial list of some of the things a good travel agent can do for you:

BUSINESS PROFILE: Custom Coach and Limousine

Custom Coach and Limousine was founded in 1988 with one mini-motorcoach. Today their fleet includes the latest styles of professionally driven motorcoaches. The motorcoaches are particularly suitable for the handicapped and elderly, and are also quite comfortable for groups of all sizes.

The company is based at 35 Rigby Road in South Portland and employs 25 people, including their own full-time on-site maintenance staff. They keep all of the vehicles in like-new condition at all times.

There is no other transportation company in the state offering as many choices of 1st class, professionally operated vehicles available for hire. We cater to the type of individual who is looking for the very best transportation possible for corporate, individual or group needs or to celebrate a very special occasion. There is no secret to our success - we operate all modern, meticulously maintained equipment and employ the best possible professional drivers. Our drivers make your transportation 100% carefree," says Greg Isherwood, founder and president.

Knowledgeable reservationists are accessible 24 hours a day and can arrange for clients' ground transportation needs locally or worldwide, with their own fleet or with affiliate companies in over 400 cities.

Isherwood states, "Our clients have very high standards. We handle a tremendous amount of celebrity and dignitary travel and we offer a variety of corporate transportation programs for many Fortune 500 companies doing business in Maine. We also offer our services for private individuals to enhance their special occasions and celebrations. Our mid-week stretch limousine and limousine rates, along with our dinner packages, for example, make treating yourself or someone special to surprisingly affordable stretch limousine service possible.

The Motorcoach Division offers group charter service from Maine to any destination in North America for organizations of all kinds. "We provide several colleges, tour planners, universities, camps, etc. with charter motorcoach services, customized to fit their needs," says Isherwood. "Our motorcoach charter rates are competitive, yet the extra services that come with our chartered coaches are unsurpassed. In addition, the people in our motorcoach tour department are always busy planning memorable day and overnight excursions to many wonderful locations such as Quebec, Montreal, and New York City, just to name a few. A quarterly newsletter that includes our upcoming trips is always available. The next time an occasion presents itself requiring nothing less than the luxury of a stretch limousine, call Custom Coach and Limousine at 885-5060 and I'll make sure that you get one."

Plane reservations, seat assignments, & boarding passes; Car Rentals; Hotel Reservations; Cruise reservations; Vacation packages; Train reservations; Airport Limousine service or transporta­ tion; Theater tickets; Sight-seeing tours; Travelers checks; Foreign currency; Travel insurance; Make travel arrange­ ments on short notice for a vacation, go see a good travel agent.

"Where can I go for a vacation this year?" is the customer or consumer. A customer calls his/her local travel agent and utilizes the services of the agency to set up a vacation or business trip. And here's where the real work of the agent comes in. The agent is the "expert" - someone you go to who has the necessary knowl­ edge and ability to take care of the proper arrangements for your trip.

There are some agents out there in the world who are what we call "order takers." They'll gladly take your "order" for plane tickets, hotel reservations, car rental, etc. and add nothing to the transaction. This type of agent is doing nothing that you couldn't do yourself - except maybe a little faster. This is not the type of agent to whom you could go with an open-ended question like -

Plane reservations, seat assignments, & boarding passes; Car Rentals; Hotel Reservations; Cruise reservations; Vacation packages; Train reservations; Airport Limousine service or transporta­ tion; Theater tickets; Sight-seeing tours; Travelers checks; Foreign currency; Travel insurance; Make travel arrange­ ments on short notice for a vacation, go see a good travel agent.

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DEFEND, from page 8

needs to reconfirm his commitment to equality for gay men and lesbians by making a strong statement in his convention speech. At this point, there are no firm plans to force a fight on the convention floor, said Duran, a delegate. But he noted pointedly that "some of us have been trained by ACT UP and we can disrupt a convention."

Bauman said a convention fight is unlikely. "The vast majority of the dele­gates we've spoken with from the open gay delegations are not in favor of a fight," Bauman said. "We believe that the unity that is necessary for us to win this election and renegotiate this Con­gress is far more important than creat­ing a divisive television battle over this issue."

In an attempt to ensure that unity, Bauman squired Democratic National Committee chairman Gala\\u2014Don Fowler\u2014on last June 10 luncheon at Off-Vine Restaurant in Hollywood, where gay leaders vented their frustration over the president's stand.

The president has said long ago that he did not support same-gender marriage, Fowler said in an interview with Frontiers after the luncheon.

State "What the Republicans have done in the past several weeks . . . is not based on any real desire to protect family values. It's just to inflame passions, to create prejudices, to drive wedges between gays and straights."

President Clinton has done more for gay and lesbian Americans than all previous presidents combined, Fowler said.

"I think he should be given more credit," Fowler said. "Gays and lesbi­ans have not gotten all of the positions from the president they want, but almost nobody else has either."

Other gay leaders said Clinton and his advisors may be hoping for a fight, so they can demonstrate that they can be with gays. Allen White, a publi­cist and gay activist, said that was the reason only a paltry 200 people turned out to protest Clinton's San Francisco gay marriage bill, so that they could go into every congressional district in the country and say that Bill Clinton does not support marriage between men and women.

"There is now a new day in San Francisco and we no longer will accept being used as a scapegoat for political gain," White said.

Hattoy said gay men and lesbians need to look beyond Clinton and realize that much work needs to be done before mainstream America will accept the idea of gay marriages.

"Get your boyfriend's or girlfriend's hand and go get married," Hattoy said. "Just don't expect the presi­dent to be at the wedding."
CLINTON, from page 6

appointees, including former Assistance \( \text{HIT} \) Secretary Roberts Acheson and Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Bruce Lehman, the first open lesbian and gay man to be confirmed by the \( \text{Senate} \) and Deborah Batts, the first openly lesbian federal judge in the nation's history.

* President Clinton signed a law requiring that women, including lesbians and minorities, are included in National Institute of Health supported research.

* President Clinton named the first Senate Lacon to the gay and lesbian community, Marsha Scott;

* President Clinton appointed openly gay, Physian Scott Harrington to lead the President's Council on HIV/AIDS, along with several other openly gay community members;

* President Clinton invited openly lesbian health advocates to policy formulation meetings for the first time in history.

Working to save lives and improve health care

* President Clinton increased public health spending for HIV/AIDS programs by nearly 40%, including a 120% increase in HIV/AIDS research programs and 26% rise for AIDS-related research;

* President Clinton fought to protect Medicare from hundreds of billions of dollars in proposed cuts by Congress. These cuts would have been devastating to 50% of PWA's relying on Medicare.

* President Clinton convened the National Task Force on AIDS Development, accelerated the approval of protease inhibitors, and removed dozens of bureaucratic obstacles to the effective and decent treatment of people with AIDS.

* President Clinton established the Office of AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health, created the Office of National AIDS Policy, and convened the first White House summit of HIV/AIDS; Smith and Jesse Helms. So serious and far-reaching were the effects of the District Court, claiming violation of their First and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

Disturbance of the religious right agenda raise troubling questions about the responsibilities of US citizenship. "We are a nation of laws," concluded Turner. "More than any other action taken by this body, Policy 6450 has diverted attention from the legitimate business of the School Board, "Grady commented. "For two years, the Ager coalition dabbled with political 'hot-button' issues. At the same time, new curricula in several disciplines remained stalled in committees, lacking encouragement and proper direction from the Board. The old major- ity coalition actually removed analytical and problem solving skills from the basic goals of the school system. Now, we can improve the quality of education."

The Merriamack case, which raises several Fourteenth Amendment issues, has not even gone to trial, but Sen. Roberge could not wait to voice her opposition to the Evans vs. Romer decision and, its implications for a school system in her district. She has sent a hostile message to the voters of Merriamack, who rejected the homophobic policy with a super-majority (68 percent) mandate in the largest turnout in town election history."

HOOMPHOBIA AND POLITICS IN SENATE DISTRICT 9

Sen. Roberge is well aware of the problems that homophobic statements can cause. For example, in Bedford, where she lives, homophobia recently was used as a political weapon. The outcome of the recent school board election was heavily influenced by a last-minute campaign of homophobic literature and phone calls. In Merrimack, a neighboring town in Sen. Roberge's district, the school board forced passage of the most severely restrictive anti-gay policy in the country. Written by Rev. Lou Sheldon, of the California-based Traditional Values Coalition, the language failed in the US Senate in 1994 when it was sponsored by Senators Bob Smith and Jesse Helms. So serious and far-reaching were the effects of the Sheldon--Ager (Smith-Helms) policy that a group of parents filed suit in \( \text{US} \) District Court, claiming violation of their First and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

ROBERGE REJECTS THE VOTERS OF MERRIAMACK

Against that volatile background in her own district, Sen. Roberge spoke in apparent defiance of a closely related \( \text{US} \) Supreme Court decision. "In the Evans vs. Romer decision," commented Turner, the Supreme Court unmistakably said that the Fourteenth Amend-
AUGUST, 1996 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 21 - August 31
* A Coffee by Design 620 Congress St. presents Richard Sandifer’s “The Environmental Landscape,” a collection of color photographs. An open house will be held on Thursday, August 1 from 5 - 8 pm. FMI, call (207)772-5533

August 17 - 19
* Symposium XXII - College of the Atlantic, on the ocean, Bar Harbor, ME. FMI (207)244-4062.

August 22 - 25
* Delta Maine-ly For You Women’s Campout - This Woman’s Campout is held at a private campground on a pristine lake in Western Maine. Cabins and Campsites are available. Children under 17 are welcome. An Adult only section will be available. A local Womanist/Aboriginal will also be available. FMI (207)383-6980.
* Delta 20th Annual Quaker Lesbian Conference - Newburyport, NY. FMI QLC, 52 Greenleaf St., Medford, MA 02155.

August 30 - September 2
* Delta Portland Round up Conference - Sponsored by Lesbian and Gay Members of AA. University of Southern Maine, Campus Labor Day Weekend. Registration $35 or one day $20. Sunday night Dance tickets available at the door for $6.00 per person. FMI (207)782-1178 or (207)666-3343.

August 23 - 25
* Delta Women’s Outdoor Adventure Coop. Overnight/Backpack the Southern Mountains near Crawford Notch, NH. FMI (603)483-0436 bw & 9 pm.

Saturday, August 3
* Delta 10:30-11:30 AM - Women’s Empowerment 16 Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI (207)892-2192.
* Delta 8:00 PM - 1 AM - Northern Lambda Nord - Mid-Summer Dance Community Center 16 Champlian St. Van Buren, ME. Admission $6. BYOB FMI (207)498-0690.

Sunday, August 4
* Delta 7:00-9:00 PM - PFLAG Plymouth, NH. Meets at the Congregational Church, Plymouth. FMI (603)968-2754 or (603)786-9812.

Monday, August 5
* Delta 7:00-8:00 PM - Women’s Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women’s Center. FMI Jana (207)772-6599.

Tuesday, August 6
* Delta 7:00-9:30 PM - PFLAG Seacoast Area, NH. Meets at Stratham Community Church, Emery Lane, Stratham. FMI (603)772-5196.

Wednesday, August 7
* Delta 7:00-9:00 PM - Drop-In & Open House, Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI (207)498-2088.

Thursday, August 8
* Delta 7:00 PM - PFLAG Northern ME. Meets at the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI (207)498-2088.

Friday, August 9
* Delta 10:00 AM - Dance Portland - A festival of dance. Choreographer’s Showcase, FMI. Tickets and Reservations call, (207)775-4253.
* Delta 10:30-11:30 AM - Women’s Empowerment 16 Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI (207)892-2192.
* Delta 7:00 PM - An Amelia’s Event - Volleyball, Croquet, and Yard Games followed by a Clambake at Kim’s. FMI (603)675-6865.

Saturday, August 10
* Delta 7:00-9:00 PM - Drop-In & Open House, Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI (207)498-2088.

Sunday, August 11
* Delta Women’s Outdoor Adventure Coop. Hike Mt Monroe, Franklin & Eisenhower, in Coos County, NH. FMI (603)228-5692 bw & 9 pm.

Sunday, August 18
* Delta 7:00 PM - Equal Rights Network Planning Meeting. This meeting will be held during SYMPOSIUM XXII at the College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, ME, and is open to Symposium participants and non-participants. FMI call Jean Vernette (207)485-3092.
* Delta 7:30 - 9:00 PM - PFLAG Concord, NH. Meets at the 1st Congregational Church, Washington & N. Main Sts., Concord. FMI call Kathy at (207)472-4944.

Monday, August 19
* Delta 7:00-9:00 PM - Women’s Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women’s Center. FMI (207)772-6599.

Tuesday, August 20
* Delta 7:00 PM - PFLAG Portland, ME meets at Woodfords Congregational Church, Woodfords Corner, Portland. FMI, Rita (207)776-5158 or Sue (207)774-3441.

Wednesday, August 21
* Delta 7:00-9:00 PM - Drop-In & Open House, Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI (207)498-2088.

Thursday, August 22
* Delta 7:00 PM - PFLAG Northern ME meets at the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI (207)498-3308.

Friday, August 23
* Delta 8:00 PM - Karaoke Night at Sisters- to- benefit Women in Harmony. 45 Danforth St Portland, ME.
* Delta 8:00 PM - Dance Portland - Performance - FMI (207)775-7361.

Saturday, August 24
* Delta 10:30-11:30 AM - Women’s Empowerment 16 Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI (207)892-2192.
* Delta 3:00 PM - Down East AIDS Network Annual Auction - (DEAN) Ellsworth City Hall. Preview begins at 3pm the Auction starts at 6pm. Items include: crafts, antiques, art and services. Monies raised will be used to support DEAN’s ongoing community prevention education and support services. FMI and donations call Ron King (207)667-3506.
* Delta 8:00 PM - Dance Portland - Performance - FMI (207)775-7361.

Sunday, August 25

Monday, August 26
* Delta 7:00-8:00 PM - Women’s Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women’s Center. FMI Jana (207)772-6599.

Wednesday, August 28
* Delta 7:00-9:00 PM - Drop-In & Open House, Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou. FMI (207)498-2088.

Saturday, August 31
* Delta 10:30-11:30 AM - Women’s Empowerment 16 Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI (207)892-2192.
* Delta 8:00 PM - 1 AM - Northern Lambda Nord - Labor Day Weekend Dance - Community Center 16 Champlain St. Van Buren, ME. Admission NLN members $5, non-members $7. BYOB FMI (207)498-0900.

Notice - MLGPA Fundraiser

MLGPA will be holding a yard sale fundraiser. If you have any items you’d like to donate, call Celeste at the beginning of September at (207) 657-6092.

Symposium XXII


College of the Atlantic, on the Ocean, Bar Harbor, Maine.

Enjoy Keynote Speakers, Live Entertainment and workshops. Call 207-244-4062 for more detailed information and registration.

Symposium XXII is brought to you by members of the Gay, Lesbian, Bi, and Transgender Community of Hancock County.
### 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 yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. Pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, Romantic, seasonal cottage or year-round studio on working organic farm. Call 207/828-5289. ΔΔ

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

**ΔΔ MOUNTAIN BIKE ADVENTURES FOR WOMEN:** Secluded, primitive camping and guided mountain bike tours. Enjoy personalized tour of beautiful Lakes Region in Naples, Maine. Ride from your tent to the trails or country roads. PMI, 207/787-2379. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ CALENDAR ISLANDS SAILING SCHOOL:** Learn to sail this summer! Private & group lessons. Women's camping & sailing adventures on the islands of Casco Bay. Special cruise to Monhegan Island. Sunset cruises. Charters. Call 207/286-3443 for details. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ ROOMMATES WANTED:** Pre-op T/S without much baggage but an engaging personality looking to share huge 3br apt in greater Portland with GFs. All utilities included. Call Dal at 775-6435. ΔΔ

**ΔΔ MISCELLANEOUS**

Enquiring minds want to know you think is most important to the future of Maine's gay/lesbian/bi/trans communities. Maine Equity Fund has a challenge grant from National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership, will raise more locally and distribute $120,000 over the next two years to meet our communities' needs. Have a voice as we set our funding priorities; tell us what's important, what works, what doesn't. For your copy of community survey, call Majorie Love at (207) 773-6164, or write c/o the Maine Community Foundation/Maine Equity Fund, P.O. Box 148, Ellsworth, Maine 04605. ΔΔ

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### Subscription Form

Yes, I want to subscribe to the Community Pride Reporter. Subscription rate is $25.00 (or 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: P.O. Box 178, Saco, Maine 04072
GENERAL
ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on L/G/B issues. Primary goals are to support and advocate for the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Join us and support our call to 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. Meetings are 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army, 39 Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The Phoneline. Call 207/498-2088.
The Rainbow Society is an educational and cultural organization of lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends committed to sharing our history as well as providing persons affirmation, acceptance, and discussion in a supportive environment. Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn By The Bay, 19 Spring St., Brunswick. Please provide "telephone number of person to contact" and "accessibility to the mobility impaired." Call 207/761-4380.

National Association of Social Workers, ME, Chapter, Sexual Minority Issues Committee welcomes new social workers and members. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby legislators on issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. Call Service NO. 207/662-7592.

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 207/626-8832.

Clubs/Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights (CAGRL), New Hampshire’s oldest and largest gay 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. PMF write PO Box 6627, Scarborough ME 04070-6627, call 207.775.0015 or e-mail wis@wisdom.net.

Maine Speakey Project for Equal Rights: Trains and deploys volunteers statewide to speak with citizens in their towns about their lives and their rights. The project is dedicated to combating discrimination in Maine. For information on activities in your county: 207/787-0480 or write: MSOP, 123 Congress St., #1, Portland 04101. You may not be a speaker to work with Speakey!

MUSIC & ART

Women in Harmony is an a cappella women’s choir open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member of Women in Harmony, please contact us at 207/874-3818. Nancy: 603/480-8709

Kensington: Norah./John., 603/772-3893

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-3196

Gy Gordon, 603/543-2545

Holderness: Olivia, 603/686-7254

Rumney: Ann, 603/786-9812

Concert Series: Tues., 603/284-6643

DOVER, NH: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Helpline for information, referral or to talk. M-F 6-10 pm, Sat-Sun. 9am-2pm. 603/743-GAY2.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Medical Support Group: Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic: Confidential screening and treatment for STD’s for residents and non-residents at a walk-in clinic. Low cost, medicare accepted. Anonymous, confidential HIV testing by appointment only. Clinic open Tues., Thurs., 3-6 pm at Portland City Hall Room 21C. Call for information and support groups meet 4th Monday of every month, 7:00 pm in the City Hall basement. Contact phone: 207/874-1959.


FREE FAMILY THERAPY available for individuals with families (of any age) who are affected by HIV disease. PMF contact Chris Behan, MSW at Center for Training and Special Programs. 207/773-6658

Teen Link Center: Youth Clinic sponsored by Portland Public Health. Monday, 10:00-11:30 am. The homeless youth clinic’s youth clinic is a place where you can receive free health care in a friendly environment. Located on Chestnut St. across from Portland High. Confidential health services and access to other support you may need. Drop in between 10 to 10:45 am. Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic: Portland STD Clinic provides full range of services from screening & treatment, education and counseling and HIV antibody testing and counseling. Located in Room 303 of City Hall. Anonymous HIV testing by appointment on weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm. Call 207/874. For other STD services: 874-8446.

Identity Support

New Hampshire PFLAG Meetings Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington St., Main Streets, (use Washington St. entrance), PMF call 603/472-4944.

Seacoast: Meets 1st Monday from 7-7:30 pm at Stratham Church Community, Emory Lane, Stratham (just to right ofrt of Rt 101 circle), PMF call 603/772-5196.

Nashua: Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm at Utsavarian-Universalist Church, Lowell & Castra Streets., PMF call 603/880-0910.

Portsmouth: Meets first Sunday, 7-8 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church, PMF call 603/495-5630 or 603/786-5785.

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

Maine PFLAG Meetings Lewiston: Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. PMF, 774-5191.

Brunswick/Bath: Meets 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wed. PMF, 774-5191.
**Maine Frontrunners:** A gay and lesbian running club sponsoring weekly run in Portland on Tuesday nights at the beginning of Buck Cove Walkway (corner Baxter Blvd. & Preble St. Ext.), Saturdays at 9 am. FMI 766-7303 or 781-8338.

**SOLO:** Monthly Gatherings for Older, Single Lesbians: for fun & friendship. FMI Cathy 207/698-4777 or 207-725-0119.

**Support Groups:**
- **Sexual Support Group for the Lewiston/Auburn Area:** Meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30 pm at the UU Church, Park St., Bangor.
- **Maine Gender Resource & Support Services:** Call Mass at 725-4955.
- **Transsexuals: Support Group:** Meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30-7 pm. Call Steve at 603/756-4735.
- **Polyamorous Life Support Group:** Meets Fridays, 7-8pm, QuakerMtg.House, Central Ave. Social meeting includes a potluck dinner, conversation, and group experiences. FMI call (207) 581-1425 .

**Parents**
- **Gay/Lesbian/ Bisexual Parents Group:** Call 207/786-4697 or Writing Paul at 207/925-1034.
- **Youth Support**
  - **OUTRIGHT Too:** Fridays, 5:00-7:00 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, Park St., behind City Hall in Bangor. 207/990-3626.
  - **Concordance Youth Support Group:** Meets 2nd Monday of the month, 6:00 pm at Tri-County Health Services, 778-4553, for people 13-19.

**Support Groups**
- **Lewiston/Auburn Area:** Meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30 pm at the UU Church, Park St., Bangor.
- **Maine Gender Resource & Support Services:** Call Mass at 725-4955.
- **Transsexuals: Support Group:** Meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30-7 pm.

**Supervisor:**
- **Sexual Support Group:** Meets every 2nd and 4th Thursdays: People meeting 6:30-7:30 pm, the People's Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor, Portland. Safe & Supportive discussions and for gay, lesbian, bisexual, questioning youth under 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 756-6677 or 1-800-339-4042 and register for the UOUT support group.

**Portsmouth**
- **M2M (Man 2 Man HIV prevention program):** Meets every Thurs. 7-9:30 pm. The People's Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor, Portland. Safe & Supportive discussions and for gay, lesbian, bisexual, questioning young people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP.
- **OutrightNH:** Meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30 pm at Toddy Hill South, 114 State St., Portsmouth. FMI call 603/431-1013, P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH.

**Parent Support Group:**
- **Maine Parent Support Group:** Call Maria Rosario-603/924-7191 , ext. 1126 for details.

**Maine AIDS Alliance**
- **Member Organizations:**
  - **AIDS Lodging House:** PO Box 3820, Portland, ME 04101-3820, Call 874-1000. 
  - **AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn:** PO Box 7977, Lewiston, Maine 04243-7977. Call 786-4697.
  - **Community AIDS Awareness Program:** P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 538-6608.

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

**Maine AIDS Network:** P.O. Box 903, Bar Harbor, ME 04610. Call 947-7027.

**Albany Maine GayNet:**
- **Albany Maine GayNet Mail List:** Join the ever-changing display of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender mail. For info., send mail to MAINE@ABACUS.OXY.EDU.
- **Home**
  - **Maine AIDS Network:** For info. send mail to MAINE@ABACUS.OXY.EDU.

**ATTENTION:**
- **Organizations & groups please check your free listing for accuracy of information. Call 207/282-4311 to change.**
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