Ed Karvoski Jr., is a comedy writer, stand-up comedian, actor, and journalist, but he simply calls himself a Renaissance Queen. He will be doing a benefit for the Maine Lesbian, Gay Political Alliance on Sunday October 27 at 6:00 p.m. at the First Parish Church, 425 Congress Street, Portland. Joining him will be "Harmonies Extraordinaire," a local women's music group featuring Lynn Doebes, Erika Gilbert, and Val Bennett. Martin Swenger, local gay folk musician, will be the first performer of the evening.

MLGPA is a statewide, non-partisan group formed in 1984 to educate the public, politicians, and the media about lesbian and gay issues. All of their work is done by volunteers. Although they have never had a full-time staff person, from time to time, they have used part-time consultants for specific organizing or lobbying projects. At the present time, the board of MLGPA is trying to determine how to move from an all-volunteer organization to one with a staff presence.

In the last 12 months MLGPA raised $24,000 from membership dues and the Annual Banquet. The money was used to pay an organizer during the

Big Blue gives green light to Gays
IBM awards dp benefits,

Washington, DC: The IBM Corporation, nicknamed "Big Blue" because of its dominant market position and size, has flexed its muscle in the diversity department and given green to the gay and lesbian community. The Fortune Top Ten giant recently announced it was extending domestic partnership benefits to its gay and lesbian employees and has made a financial contribution to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) for its coalition building efforts.

On September 19, IBM announced it would extend health-care coverage to the same-gender partners of its employees. This makes IBM the largest U.S. business to offer domestic partnership (DP) benefits. More than 400 American companies, universities, associations, municipalities and other groups extend DP benefits, including information processing concerns such as Microsoft, Apple, Intel, Xerox and Hewlett-Packard. An IBM spokesperson said the company was announcing the DP policy to remain competitive and attract gay and lesbian workers, and continue its "long-standing tradition of providing benefits plans for all employees."

On the same day, NGLTF has received an IBM gift of $3,000. The gift, which came from the IBM Chairman's Fund, will be used as part of the Task Force's "Honoring Our Allies" event. The event recognizes the work of gay and non-gay individuals and groups who have championed fairness and equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. The next Honoring Our Allies event will be held in Washington, D.C., December 4, 1996, with plans to salute the work of members of the South African Government and the African National Congress who have advocated on behalf of inclusion of civil rights for gays in that nation's new constitution.

"Corporate America is changing fast," said Robert Bray, NGLTF media director and a former IBM employee. "More and more companies are doing what the U.S. Congress and its Defense of Marriage Act won't do: give recognition and benefits to same-gender relationships. When I worked at IBM in the early '80s there were few openly gay employees. Now, more and more gay and lesbian people are coming out in boardrooms and on assembly lines and are creating real change in the American workplace."

NGLTF urges people to write and thank IBM. Contact Louis V. Gerstner, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, IBM Corporation, Old Orchard Rd., Armonk, NY 10504-1783.

See BIG BLUE, page 15

Is Madison Avenue Ready for a Lesbian 'Ellen'?

NEW YORK (AP) — Madison Avenue is staying tuned to "Ellen" these days as the ABC sitcom begins dropping hints its title character may be a lesbian. Advertising buyers say some sponsors may avoid the show if Ellen comes out of the closet, but they suspect ABC could find others to step in. The reaction, they say, depends on how the issue is handled.

If Ellen gets a girlfriend and "the two of them are going to the zoo together, it's not a problem," said Paul Schulman, who specializes in buying network advertising time. "If they are in bed together, it's a problem." The series has become the television season's hottest topic of conversation since TV Guide reported last week that the lead character, played by Ellen DeGeneres, might come out as a lesbian this season.

While gay characters have been turning up more frequently in supporting roles on TV, no network show has ever had a homosexual central character. The Walt Disney Co., which produces the series and owns ABC, has refused to comment on the report. But the season's opening episode on Wednesday night heightened speculation that the series may be headed in that direction.

In the episode's opening scene, Ellen Morgan, having just woken up and looking frowzy in her robe, serenades herself in the bathroom mirror: "I feel pretty, I feel pretty, I feel pretty and witty ..." when she dries her toothbrush under the faucet, only to discover there's no water. Instead of completing the lyric as written "...gay," she says, "Hey!" Later in the show, a real estate agent showing Ellen and a friend slides of new homes holds a girl doll against the screen and says, "Just think, Ellen, this could be you, walking up to your new home." Then the agent produces a boy doll, and says: "And here's your husband coming home from work." "Oh, I think that puppet's in the wrong show," Ellen replies.

The show finished second in its 8 p.m. time slot in the national ratings with an 8.9 rating compared with 10.9 for "The Nanny" on CBS and 7.8 for "Wings" on NBC. Overnight ratings from big markets released earlier had "Ellen" narrowly ahead. A national rating point is equal to 970,000 TV homes. ABC said there have been no defections among advertisers since the TV Guide report. Among the show's advertisers in the New York area are Microsoft, Intel, Sears, J.C. Penney, Nabisco and General Mills. J.C. Penney and Toyota said they would await development before deciding if they should change their plans. Pepsi-Cola and Nabisco — each scheduled to advertise on the...
President signs Bill outlawing Same Sex Marriages

HONOLULU (AP) - One day after final arguments were concluded in the state’s same-sex marriage case President Clinton on Saturday signed into law a bill denying federal recognition of gay marriages. Clinton signed the bill sometime after midnight in an effort to avoid media scrutiny over the move that has angered his supporters in the gay community. Clinton spokesman Mike McCurry says the bill was designed to embarrass the president and put him on the spot, so he felt it appropriate to sign it in the “middle of the night.” While the president said he agreed with the bill, he urged the measure not be used to discriminate against gays and lesbians.

In the state’s gay marriage case, Circuit Judge Kevin Chang is expected to take until November before ruling on whether the three same-sex couples have the legal right to marry in Hawaii. Whatever the judge rules, an appeal to the state Supreme Court is expected.

A final ruling from the high court isn’t likely until late next year. The state attorney general said he found that using the law is appropriate. Attorneys for the couples produced experts who argued children suffer no ill effects from being brought up by same-sex parents.

Cross - Dressing boy turns up in South Burlington

SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) - The boy who insisted on wearing a dress to Burlington High School is back in school custody after running away from his state-supervised group home. Matt Stickney, 15, disappeared recently.

He called local television stations to tell them he was staying with a group who was providing him with food and shelter. He was in the Burlington area, and the police found him at that time. "He is safe and that was our real focus during this time frame," said Lt. Bill LaWare of the Burlington Police. The boy had been showing up at school in a dress, and the administration had been sending him home. Administrators said his clothing disrupts class and therefore violates the school’s dress code. About 100 BHS students had cut class Friday morning to protest the school’s decision to suspend him.

Stickney’s situation has attracted national notoriety, as television shows have traveled to Vermont seeking the story. Karin Eade, of Outright Vermont, a gay and lesbian advocacy group, has said the situation has turned into a media circus. Last week, he was assaulted by a fellow student. His attacker is now charged with a hate crime.

Court rules Lesbian mom may seek shared custody of ex-lover’s child

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A woman may seek shared custody of a child born to her former lesbian lover, the state Superior Court has ruled. The decision, made public Friday, is expected to affect other cases in the state in which lesbian couples have separated while raising a child.

A three-judge panel of the court reversed the decision of a Philadelphia Family Court judge, who had denied the woman the opportunity to seek custody and visitation rights for a girl born to her former lover. Before separating, the woman had planned to raise the girl together.

In a 16-page opinion, Judge Phyllis W. Beck wrote: "In today's society, where increased mobility, changes in social mores and the increase of individual freedom have created a wide spectrum of arrangements filling the role of the traditional nuclear family, flexibility in the application of standing principles is required." Beck held that the woman seeking custody, identified in legal papers only as J.A.L., her former mate and the baby were "co-members of a non-traditional family," and that J.A.L. clearly filled the role of a parent.

The other members of the panel were Judges John T. Kelly Jr. and John G. Brooks. The ruling does not grant J.A.L. shared custody. It gives her the right to return to Family Court, to try to prove her claim that she is entitled to it. "She must still establish that (partial custody) would be in the best interest of the child," Beck wrote. The child’s birth mother, identified in legal papers as E.P.H., separated from her mate 10 months after the baby was born in 1991.

Three years later, E.P.H denied J.A.L. access to the girl, prompting the woman to sue for shared custody in Family Court.

In June 1995, Judge Allan L. Tershoek ruled that J.A.L. had no legal right to be heard in court, saying she was a "third party" without the role of a parent. The Superior Court judges overruled him, saying Tershoek was "overly technical and mechanistic" in his ruling.

NGLTF : Democratic Platform

Washington, D.C. - Citing strong language on AIDS, support for ending discrimination against gay men and lesbians, and opposition to scapegoating of immigrants, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has praised the proposed 1996 Democratic National Platform.

At the same time, NGLTF criticized the serious shortcomings of the platform, including its exclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender families, and its failure to address the continued witch hunts of gay people in the military, and attacks on welfare recipients.

"We applaud the Democratic platform's language of inclusivity for gay and lesbian people and people with AIDS," said Melinda Parax, NGLTF executive director. "Especially when you compare it to the GOP platform, which gave all of 16 words to AIDS and opposed the 'distortion' of civil rights laws to include sexual orientation."

The Good News

NGLTF cited several positive planks of the platform. These include:

Health and AIDS: The platform contains strong and explicit support for AIDS research, prevention and treatment, and a commitment to "finding a cure for AIDS, combating HIV-related discrimination, supporting HIV/AIDS (Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS Act) funding... and working to ensure that all Americans living with AIDS have access to new and potentially life-saving drugs." Also of importance to people with HIV and AIDS is the strong stand on holding "the line against Republican mean-spirited Medicare and Medicaid cuts."

The GOP platform's statement on AIDS, while positive, was seriously lacking, citing only a commitment to funding for research and care. The GOP language on AIDS in its entirety is: "We remain committed to, and place a high priority on, ensuring that those with HIV/AIDS are notunned to and abandoned by our nation, our states and our society."

Discrimination and Inclusion: NGLTF saluted the platform's inclusion of sexual orientation in a list of those needing protection against discrimination.

"We continue to lead the fight to end discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, age, ethnicity, disability, and sexual orientation," stated the platform. The document also calls for the vigorous enforcement of the Americans with Disability Act, which includes PWAs.

The platform goes further by supporting federal protections against discrimination for gay and lesbian people and the inclusion of gay people in society. It states, "We support continued efforts, like the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians and further their full inclusion in the life of the nation."

See NGLTF, page 12

Maine House: MLGPA

Endorsements as of Sept. 10

by Karen Geraghty, MLGPA President

As with the endorsements for the Maine Senate (See CPR September, 1996), the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance endorses candidates for the 112th legislature who support anti-discrimination legislation and the right of women to control their reproductive choices. In cases where both candidates in the same district support the issues, we “co-endorse” in those districts.

Please call our office to find out how you can meet candidates running for the Maine House and Senate and help them get elected, or re-elected! 1-800-55-MLGPA, or 731-3732 in Greater Portland.

# Candidate 2 David Ott, D-York

3 Gary Wheeler, D-Eliot

4 David McDermott, D-So. Berwick

See ENDORSEMENTS, page 15
Update on DECLINE TO SIGN:

DECLINE TO SIGN is gaining momentum and rallying support for an anti-Cosby showing on November 5. But there is still much work to do and many people needed. If you are hesitant about getting involved in DECLINE TO SIGN, please ask yourself these two quick questions:

Do we, as a community and a state, want to undergo another state-wide, million dollar anti-gay referendum campaign?

Do we, as a community and a state, want to allow Cosby to get an anti-gay bill on the books?

If you answered NO to the preceding questions, then you need to join the forces which are fighting to prevent both. The task is simple: we must not allow Cosby to collect enough signatures to put her hateful initiative on the ballot.

The need is urgent: she is well organized and we need your help to defeat her.

Please join us for DECLINE TO SIGN meetings. We meet every Tuesday evening at the YWCA in Portland from 7-9 pm. Dates are as follows: Tuesday, October 1 Tuesday, October 8 Tuesday, October 15 Tuesday, October 22 Tuesday, October 29

If you can’t make the meetings, but want to help, please consider helping us on election day at the polls. We need handouts of volunteers on election day, November 5. Also, we need you to write letters to editors of all newspapers.

Can you help us?

Time is of the essence——we have none to waste! For more information and to request a volunteer form, please call 1-888-DON’T-SIGN.

MLGPA — DECLINE TO SIGN announces events:

“COCKTAIL PARTY and KICK-OFF” on Sunday, October 6 - 3 - 6 pm at Katahdin Restaurant, corner of High and Spring Streets in Portland. Come join the “host committee of the year” while you chat with old friends, get caught up on the g/l/b/t political scene, and support DECLINE TO SIGN through generous donations. We are not far from election day, when Cosby will be collecting signatures. We need your contributions to defeat her. Please join us and show your support for this effort. Admission is free, donations welcomed.

“GATHERING FOR NATION COMING OUT DAY” on Friday, October 11, 7:00 pm, at Congress Square, corner of High and Congress Streets, Portland. Our goal is to join in with hundreds of thousands of g/l/b/t people worldwide who will be holding similar rallies in their communities on this day — and to remember those in our communities who have suffered violence at the hands of haters. For when we are visible we are also sometimes targeted. This rally is being held in conjunction with the YWCA’s Need for Peace Without Violence. Proud sponsors include MLGPA, GLSTN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Teachers Network), PFLAG, OUTRIGHT, and Southern Maine PRIDE. The event is free and open to the public.

A “MUSIC AND COMIC REVIEW” on Sunday, October 27, 6:00 pm, at the First Parish Church, 425 Congress Street, Portland. Back by popular demand are the Harmonies Extraordinaire — Lynn Deeves (who just released her first CD), Erika Gilbert, and Val Bennett. Together they create harmonies to please the ear. Joining them is national comic Ed Karvoski, author of “A Funny Time to Be Gay.” Ed has worked as a comedy writer, a stand-up comedian, an actor, and a journalist. But he simply calls himself a Renaissance Queen.

ED KARVOSKI has written comedy for Jay Leno and radio deejays at CBS, NBC, and the BBC. As a journalist, his entertainment reports have appeared in national magazines such as the Advocate, Out, Fox, and The Guide. He has also written for numerous regional publications, including Frontiers, Bay Windows, Windy City Times, Dallas Voice, Front Page, Southern Voice, California Nightlife, Orange County Blade, and Gay People’s Chronicle. As a performer, his television appearances include Facts of Life, Fantasy Island, and As The World Turns.

Self-described as “bi-coastal, but all-gay,” Karvoski has lived in Boston, New York, and Los Angeles. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity for a fun-filled evening, where only the best will do! Tickets are $10.00, sliding scale available. Tickets may be reserved by called 1-800-555-5472 or 761-3732 in Portland. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

KARVOSKI, from page 1

Karvoski announces an ordinance to protect us in the city, there are many members of our community through out the state that are victims of discrimination that have no recourse.

At the same time that we are taking up the fight to pass anti-discrimination legislation, we are also be faced with several anti-gay bills that are being brought before the legislature. Unfortunately, this is also a first. Never have we seen our opposition so ready to mobilize against us in a legislative battle. Those that wish us harm “just don’t do much,” but they attack us in the halls of the statehouse. We must be ready for it.

So, come out and show your support. Enjoy the lighter side of the life with Ed Karvoski, a nationally acclaimed comic observer of life. Perk up your Sunday with this extraordinary get together. Join your friends and neighbors for a lighthearted but heartfelt MLGPA fundraising effort.

All members of MLGPA will receive a copy of the 1997 budget as soon as it is complete, which should be November 21. If you are not a member and would like to request a copy of the budget, please call 1-800-55-MLGPA (1-800-555-5472).

LAST CALL FOR EQUITY FUND SURVEYS

By the time you read this, hopefully you will have already received your copy of the "survey of Community Members" that is part of the Maine Equity Fund’s Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Community Needs Assessment. To have a voice in this process, you need to complete and return the survey by October 15.

The Maine Equity Fund is an initiative of the Maine Community Foundation, which has a challenge grant from the National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership which, when combined with matching funds raised locally, will allow it to distribute as much as $120,000 over the next two years to meet the needs of Maine’s gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, and to address the issues of diversity and discrimination that we share with other minority communities.

The results of the survey of community members, and of a separate survey of the service providers and community organizations currently serving the G/L/B/T communities, will determine the grant-making priorities of the Fund. The survey results will also provide important and useful information about the needs, strengths and resources of the G/L/B/T communities in Maine. The “Survey of Community Members” went out in the September mailings of organizations including the Bisexual Peoples’ Network, GLSTN, MLGPA, Northern Lamda Nord, Outright in MDI, Outright, PFLAG, Rainbow Business and Professional Organizations (RBPO), Speak Out, and Transspectrum. In addition, it has been distributed through the bars, social networks, and at meetings such as Am Chofshi, Matlovich, and the Lewiston Community Church. We hope that you received one! If not, you can still call Marjorie Love, the consultant coordinating the needs assessment at 207-773-6164 for your copy.

But, this offer ends on October 15th. That is the deadline for returning all surveys. So, fill out your survey today, so that it is postmarked no later than October 15, and mail it back to us at the Maine Community Foundation/Maine Equity Fund, PO Box 148, Ellsworth, Maine 04605. We promise to put the survey to good use.

PARKSIDE WOMEN’S COUNSELING

Confidential Affordable Empowering Psychotherapists Vivian Wades, L.C.P.C., Lesbian Feminist Practitioner (207) 774-2403 230 Park Avenue, Portland, ME 04102-2628
EXETER SUPPORT GROUP

"Connections", a support group for those who are caring for a family member or a dear friend with HIV/AIDS, will be your last line of defense. Let me explain.

"Connections" opened its doors last Fall at the Exeter Congregational Church when several members of PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) saw a need for a safe, compassionate circle in which to share their concerns and experiences.

Although there are a number of support and resource centers available to Seacoast people living with HIV/AIDS, there are none locally that focused primarily on the harsh realities faced by the caregivers, or by those who had lost a beloved family member or friend.

Somewhere between 30 and 40 people have come through the doors to monthly "Connections" meetings in the past year. What brings them? You guessed it? And Meg Cartwright, the mother of a son who has AIDS, asks: "Why aren't there more?"

On August 22nd, the group will be meeting at the Exeter Community Center, 235 Market Street, Exeter, NH, at 7:30 p.m. Yes, this is the Exeter Community Center! It's where we meet. (For information, call Meg Cartwright, 826-8751.)

Cruising & Schmoozing

Over 200 Women Go on Portsmouth Cruise

by Leslie Robinson

As I walked on board the Thomas Laighton minutes before its scheduled departure, I was one of 200 loving women. Lots of women. And they saw me.

Everybody was trying to see everybody, without looking like that's what they were doing. The excitement was palpable. It was like being part of a battle. We've got the heart. How about that? So it goes! It was a laugh. What a line! I spoke, or listened, or perhaps to cry. We are parents, loved ones, lovers, siblings or care givers. At "Connections" she finds support in awareness and then it is needed. The compassion and understanding of this group and a time just to be heard so I can communicate the feelings that I am dealing with is why I keep coming back.

"Like Meg Cartwright, Joan Ferguson was one of the "Connections" founders. Her son Brooke was diagnosed with AIDS in early 1992 and died in September of 1994. Her health had deteriorated to the point that he could no longer hold his job, or maintain adequate income. "We decided, after a considerate discussion, that the most reasonable option was for him to move to New Hampshire to live with me," Joan said.

Joan says that she and Brooke always communicated openly, but when his relationship became one of caretaker/ mother and adult/son, some of the lines of communication frayed.

"When Brooke voiced his resentment and frustration, I felt that I had to restrain my responses. When we got into a real 'head banger', I would feel guilty for having been angry with my sick child. But he was exhausted, very strong; it was my son who was ill and at the mercy of a devastating, unpredictable virus. What could I say or do to avert him without over-mothering him?"

"With time, and serious heart-to-heart talks, Brooke and I gained perspective and improve the emotional balances between us," Joan continued. "But still, I wanted to be able to share my thoughts and feelings without being weighed down."

See CONNECTIONS, page 5
When Women Meeting Women began in January 1993, its focus was to provide a social/support organization for lesbians - both singles and couples - in southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts. We certainly have succeeded! We sponsor dances, lunch groups, dinners, theater and movie trips, Provincetown adventures, game nights, the ever-popular potluck and much, much more...all opportunities for, as our name implies, women meeting women. We offer a full-range of activities, from gentle walk to mountain hikers. Our support groups are sometime quiet, sometimes intense. They help us together and examine things that are important in our lives. As we share our thoughts and feelings, we learn as much about one another - and ourselves. Topics have included "Lesbian Motherhood," "Strengthening Your Relationship," "Being Single and Loving It," "Co-Dependent Relationships" and "Coming Out in Mid-Life." Women Meeting Women provides an on-going forum to meet many educational opportunities that we have covered topics such as diversity, financial planning, the meaning of Stonewall, legal issues, self-defense and health issues. We've held dance instruction and shared recipes, books and magazines. Women Meeting Women provides information on activities both in our area and the surrounding areas. We often invite guest speakers to join us at our meetings to share information about their organization. We'll share news on important local and national issues and provide facts of interest such as which community groups employ and support lesbians and gays. WMW provides its members with access to community organizations and events as well as access to women with interests similar to your own. The WMW network can connect you with women who offer professional skills or services - tax, law, house cleaning, auto repair, printing, carpentry, yard work...you name it. So if you are looking for social, sports, educational, support, networking and informational opportunities for lesbians, WMW is for you.

Feeling free to join us at our monthly general meetings, held either the first or second Saturday of the month. Full details of all WMW events are published in our bi-monthly newsletter. Annual subscription costs $8.00. For other information about WMW, call (603) 881-4268 or e-mail DBalbat@aol.com

Women Meeting Women...it's the best way to meet other lesbians!

DBalbat@aol.com http://www.members.aol.com/DBalbat/WMW/brochure.htm

CRUISING from page 4

Brooks understood my need to speak a mother's mind and heart without self-recrimination. He encouraged me to be a part of the formation of "Connections," a support group where I could find needed support, be supportive during the final year of my son's life-journey, — and beyond. "Connections," a support group for caregivers, families and friends: all those whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS — will celebrate its first anniversary Tuesday October 8th, at 8:30 p.m. at the Exeter Congregational Church, 21 Front Street. A staff member of AIDS Reponse Seacoast will present this bicentenary evening. All those who are now caregivers, or who have been in the past, will be warmly welcomed.

Several members meet every month on the second Tuesday at the above time and place. Support discussions and informational sharing will be in a friendly, private atmosphere. Confidentiality is assured, wheelchair accessible.

For more information, call 603-772-6221 or 603-436-8963.

Our Saturday outing to the third annual New Hampshire Women's Mu­sic Festival, on Saturday 7th in Northfield, was for the whole family. My partner, my son, and I arrived just as Wendy Keith was beginning her set. We had gotten a late start and missed On Our Way, Songwriters and Sweet, Hot & Sassy. Our violin playing friend, Sue, was very excited about the latter, and about the upcoming festival. When I took the boy to the kids' tent to blow giant bubbles while my significant other dragged the toy bucket and beach chairs out to the parking lot near the edge of the Highlands ski hill. We then perused the vendor booths which offered jewelry (lots, mostly beaded), arts & crafts, clothing, massage, books and food. There were also information booths for services and organizations such as the Women's Business Center, NARAL, Zonta Club, and many others. Just as we got ourselves settled, the New Hampshire Seacoast band Spirit Varnish rocked us with their tunes, original songs, then Peg Loughran gave us a set of traditional folk, followed by the white girl-group, the Lowe Profiles, with their hookyman sing-along style. We loved Susie Burke, who was just recovering from walking pneumonia. She sang some songs from her children's album Sweet Potatoes and had some great personal anecdotes. She sang an acapella Peter & Lou Berryman song that was about a cake recipe relayed by a mother on the telephone while her three children constantly interrupted that was beautiful, yet had us in complete stitches. The percussion group Hands On you yourself next to a group of k.d. stuff. The drumming was so contagious for some. Then we got what we had been waiting for all afternoon - Cate Curtis. She played her song, and then enough of Cate, but her music would have to suffice. She led off with " Radical" from her new album Truth from Lies and I was happy hearing her continue on with many more songs from that album. We also got a kick out of the Cosby Sharidian number about simultaneous eating and driving, which definitely hit home. The New Hampshire feminist Connection, sponsor at the event, offered the time, energy and friendly volunteers to provide a gathering that we hope will return next year.

N.H. FEMINIST CONNECTION HOLDS 3RD ANNUAL WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL By Gaye Boyd

Our second outing to the third annual New Hampshire Women's Mu­sic Festival, on Saturday 7th in Northfield, was for the whole family. My partner, my son, and I arrived just as Wendy Keith was beginning her set. We had gotten a late start and missed On Our Way, Songwriters and Sweet, Hot & Sassy. Our violin playing friend, Sue, was very excited about the latter, and about the upcoming festival. When I took the boy to the kids' tent to blow giant bubbles while my significant other dragged the toy bucket and beach chairs out to the parking lot near the edge of the Highlands ski hill. We then perused the vendor booths which offered jewelry (lots, mostly beaded), arts & crafts, clothing, massage, books and food. There were also information booths for services and organizations such as the Women's Business Center, NARAL, Zonta Club, and many others. Just as we got ourselves settled, the New Hampshire Seacoast band Spirit Varnish rocked us with their tunes, original songs, then Peg Loughran gave us a set of traditional folk, followed by the white girl-group, the Lowe Profiles, with their hookyman sing-along style. We loved Susie Burke, who was just recovering from walking pneumonia. She sang some songs from her children's album Sweet Potatoes and had some great personal anecdotes. She sang an acapella Peter & Lou Berryman song that was about a cake recipe relayed by a mother on the telephone while her three children constantly interrupted that was beautiful, yet had us in complete stitches. The percussion group Hands On you yourself next to a group of k.d. stuff. The drumming was so contagious for some. Then we got what we had been waiting for all afternoon - Cate Curtis. She played her song, and then enough of Cate, but her music would have to suffice. She led off with " Radical" from her new album Truth from Lies and I was happy hearing her continue on with many more songs from that album. We also got a kick out of the Cosby Sharidian number about simultaneous eating and driving, which definitely hit home. The New Hampshire feminist Connection, sponsor at the event, offered the time, energy and friendly volunteers to provide a gathering that we hope will return next year.

N.H. A & E, from page 4

描写了k.d. lang在波士顿的演出经历。他们一起排练，并且在演出时保持了非常高的水平。演出结束后，他们一起享受了庆功晚餐。
Autumn Harvest of Music...

by Aimsel Ponti

Although the weather for sporting big heavy sweaters is upon us, there is an abundance of hot new music releases to keep your blood flowing.

From R.E.M. to Mazzy Star things are getting very interesting this fall and my music addiction is in full swing. First, let's talk about new music.

One of the most esoteric and certainly cool record labels is 4 A.D. Their latest two offerings are from Heidi Berry and Margo Timmins of Cowboy Junkies and CPR's Aimsel at Portland's State Street Church on September 17th.

Rockport Opera House “Crutho Fain (Wild Energy)”

* An original collaboration by writer Lorraine Brown, musician Jeffrey Densmore and choreographer Kareb Tvarian, this show features over 50 local talents. It's billed as an "unusual musical exploration of heroes/heroines' journey".

From R.E.M. to Mazzy Star... one thing is for sure: the fall music scene and her self-titled follow-up album (A&M) to "Tuesday Night Music Club," hit the stores on September 24th. Yeah she's a bit poppy, but I'd be lying if I said I didn't like her sound.

In the land of compilation albums there are a few noteworthy releases. First off, "Honor," a double benefit album on Amy "Indigo Girl" Ray's label, Daemon was just released. Its proceeds will benefit the Earth Campaign. Featured on it is a new song, "Blood Quantum," by the Indigo Girls. Also, a great live album from Bonnie Raitt, a live track from a personal favorite of mine, Jane Siberry, and a bunch of other artists that are both well and unknown. Good cause, good music. Enough said. Blue Plate records also just released their latest "Mountain Stage" CD. Women live from Mountain Stage. With such artists as Ani DiFranco and the Indigo Girls, to name a few on it, this is a must have for fans of live music, especially when it's done by cool women.

Once again, stepping back into the mainstream. R.E.M. are back with their tenth album, "New World Record" (WB). Having only heard it all the way through a few times I can already say it is much better than "Monster." And Patt Smith does back-up vocals on one of it's tracks!

With all the hype that Weird Al, Jeff Foxworthy and Adam Sandler have gotten from the last few albums, I am finally glad that a woman is adding to this mix. And who better than the icon herself, Ellen DeGeneres. Yes, our pal Al Frickie is coming to P-town, (I'm jealous!)

First Parish Church (Temple & Congress) Portland

Funny man Ed Karvoski, Jr. will be headlining at a benefit for Decline To Sign at the First Parish church on Sunday, October 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Also appearing will be Harmonies Extraordinaire featuring Lynn Deoves, Erika Gilbert and Val Bennett. The show is called "Music and Comic Review" and it supports a very worthy cause.

First Parish Church (Temple & Congress) Portland

Maine's own singer-songwriter, Kate Schock, returns to Portland for a one-night solo performance on October 23rd at 8:30 p.m. Tickets for the show are $10 in advance, $12 the day of the show and are available at Bull Moose Music, Play It Again, Amadieu, and elsewhere.

Kate returns to Maine to continue production on her second album, and to perform for her loyal fans. This concert will feature new material, as well as music from her well received debut album, "Refrigerator."
Dar, the Rising Star
by Ainsley L. Ponti
One of the most notable voices in folk music today belongs to a woman named Dar Williams. I remember seeing her play to a crowd of 8 people about four years ago in New Hampshire. She has come a long way since then - quite a long way. Her first album, "The Honesty Room," was re-issued on the Razor & Tie label two years ago and then "Mortal City" was released earlier this year. There's a few things about Dar that set her apart from so many other musicians of today. First, her voice. Hearing Dar sing is almost a spiritual experience as her voice covers three octaves and can hit you like a ten ton truck or the lightest feather. Add to that the fact that Dar's songwriting is nothing short of incredible. On her "Mortal City" album there's a song called "February." With only an acoustic guitar and a cello to back her, Dar sings about the bitterness, loneliness and hopelessness of winter. "One of my most cherished songs," she says, "is the song's opening line. Then she goes on to say "But I know things have got to change, they got pills to put in, they got implants to remove, but I am not forgetting that I was a boy too." I don't think there are too many people out there who can't relate to a least a few lines of this one. And now for the really good part. DAR is coming to Maine. Not once but twice. Take your pick: North or South. On Saturday, October 5th, she'll be at Lewiston Middle School at 8:00 p.m. Tix are $14 (and well worth it) For more scoop on that show call L/A Arts at 1-800-639-2919. Or, if you're local to that area, 782-7228. And then on Friday the 11th, Dar will be at Jonathan's in Ogunquit. Call 1-800-464-9934 or 207-646-4777. So just say Dar. And just see Dar.

ARTIST PROFILE: Kate Schrock
Kate Schrock sensed, at five years of age, that music would play a tremendous part in her life. Music "in her head" became full compositions starkly reminiscent of early George Winston... with lyrics. "Refuge," Kate's debut album release, officially marks the beginning of her musical presence. With the pulse and honesty of an intimate conversation, her sparse, hypnotic piano style and rich vocals pull you into a lyrically intense realm. As raw and as candid as its critical comparison, Joni Mitchell's "Blue," "Refuge" transcends a full range of emotions with unparalleled grace.

Growing up in a small village on the coast of Maine, Kate learned early to foster her independence. After high school, she chose to travel... to the chaos of New York City to the streets of Paris, France, to the solace of Tunisia and finally to the University of Chicago to study philosophy. In Chicago, she fronted the five piece band Sin Embargo, who enjoyed college and local radio acclaim for several years. Fueled by the eventual breakup of the band, Kate began writing for piano and vocals, and developed her unique solo style.

From the midwest back to the northeast, Kate attended Bennington College for a degree in theater performance, but spent most of her time there improvising with the jazz students. At school's end, she moved back to New York, scored an independent short film and began playing on Bleeker Street.

See PROFILE, page 8

HOT NEO FOLK!
"The most impressive new voice to burst through in years."
- Christine Lavin

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SINGIN' OUT! STICK SOMETHING QUEER IN YOUR EAR

by Martin Swinger

Due to busy performance schedule this month’s Singin’ Out! is a reprint of the debut article. Martin will return next month.

It was all over the news in May about K.D. Lang, Indigo Girls, Melissa Etheridge, Janis Ian and Michael Stipe. More and more mainstream artists are coming out after stardom and my hat is off to them. It takes a lot of nerve to come out to the whole world at one time. My interest here is not the gay superstars of tomorrow, there are out new artists across the country searching for friendly ears. It seems to me that very few people in Southern Maine know that such a genre as ‘gay music’ exists, or why it might be desirable. The second part is easy: I want to hear a woman sing to another man because that’s how my heart sings. I want to hear a woman sing love song to another woman because that strengthens my vision of a world where love is good no matter who the recipient may be. The first part is easier - slowly. The word is getting out in the ‘big’ cities that gay music is here. New York City celebrates ‘Gay Music Month’ (October) with a full calendar of music events from ‘A Night of GLAMA’ (Gay and Lesbian American Music Awards) to coffeeshops, church and bookstore venues featuring local and out of town performers.

Thanks to the organizers of Portland and Bangor Pride and the tireless efforts of Maine Won’t Discriminate we’ve been treated to a growing number of gay musicians here in Maine, and I suspect there may be many more musicians who are just waiting in the wings. I hope we’ll be hearing from some of those new voices as the DeLine to Sign campaign is just beginning its gathering forces. Does anyone have the courage (interest) to support what could be a nationwide movement to let our voices be heard? We’ve shown the world to the Gay Men’s Chorus and The Flirtations but what about all the new voices? We ask the world to open their minds and hearts to us, can we open our hearts and ears to each other and listen to our love singing?

If you are a gay musician, drop me a line. Let’s get the word out. There is strength in numbers. If you are interested in new gay music or if you have information about gay music events in Maine please let me know so we can spread the word. If we create the demand for our music the music stores, book stores and performance venues will naturally follow. If we wait to hear it on the radio, we won’t hear it. Let’s play gay music in our cars, kitchens, bars and bookstores, share the music with D.J.’s and make what we hear in our hearts, what we hear all around us. Till then keep SINGIN’ OUT!

Martin Swinger is an out performer of traditional, contemporary and original folk music who is currently working on his second album of Gay Folk Music. His first album titled SINGIN’OUT is available at A Different Light Bookstore in NYC at as well as in Maine. You may contact Martin in care of CPR.

2nd Annual Halloween Masquerade Ball

On Friday October 25, Portland’s Pavilion located at 188 Middle Street, will come alive as costumed partiers come out in force for the event. The most successful fundraiser the Community Pride Reporter has ever held, this year’s event should be just as big. Tickets are $15 per person or $25 per couple and can be purchased through PAWS, 142 High St, #330, Drop Me A Line, 611 Congress St., The Underground, 3 Spring St., or Sportman’s in Lewiston. For tickets and information call 207/767-0109. Don’t miss out on the Halloween fun! ÅÅ

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Celebrate Life," scheduled · this year for

Abilities might include

eric and cervical cancer.

Women defined as being at higher risk include poor women, older
women, rural women and lesbians. Re­search shows that these groups are less likely to get annual pap smears and mammograms—the best medical meth­ods to date for early detection of cervi­cal and breast cancer.

BCPH is funded by federal grant

money and is administered in six areas in
Maine by the Bureau of Health. The
organization implementing the program in
Portland is the city's Public Health Division.

Last winter, Maureen Clancy, co­ordinator of the program for Portland Public
Health, invited LHP/SM to be part of the local BCHP Coalition, Women First. Since that time, LHP/SM has
served as a resource to Women First regarding issues of access to health care
for lesbians.

In the case of pap smears and mam­mograms, the issues revolve around in­clusiveness/visibility/sensitivity from
health care practitioners and affordability of services.

LHP/SM has participated in the program by 1) consulting with Women
First on the development of brochures and other materials that signal
inclusivity to lesbians, 2) providing a volunteer from LHP/SM to attend
a media spokesperson training, 3) providing
a volunteer to be trained to teach oth­ers how to be peer health educators, and
4) providing a volunteer from LHP/SM to be trained as a peer health educator.

In addition, Maureen Clancy and an LHP/SM volunteer attended a lesbian
awareness and sensitivity training spon­sored by the BHCPS staff from Massa­chusetts—the training was targeted to­ward health care providers who will be delivering services under the BCHP.

There are plans for LHP/SM and Women
First to deliver this same training to the directors of the other 5 organizations implementing BCHP throughout Maine.

The Bad News and the Good

LHP/SM applauds the efforts of
Women First to include the health care needs of lesbians in their program. How­ever, LHP/SM cannot endorse this
program for lesbians because we cannot
ensure that the health care providers in this program are knowledgeable about
lesbian health needs.

The key piece missing from the
Women First program is training for its
health care providers regarding lesbian

ARTISTS for AIDS AWARENESS

Artists for AIDS Awareness (APAA)
is an organization of concerned Aroostook County citizens dedicated to
HIV/AIDS education and prevention.

Their goal is to nurture a more com­passionate, supportive, and understanding community. APAA aims each year, "Benefit to
Celebrate Life," scheduled this year for
Saturday, March 22, 1997, raises funds to
support education and prevention activ­ities in Aroostook County.

This year, APAA will fund non-profit youth programs and public schools in the
1997-1998 academic year. APAA under­stands that projects that raise awareness to HIV prevention education activities through the Arts.

A few of the unlimited number of possi­bilities might include theater presentations, short stories, poetry or poster contests, musical presentations or sculpture. Col­laborative projects are encouraged.

Applicants should keep in mind that
APAA will fund projects/programs up
to $5000. Applications must be
received by March 27, 1997.

"It's our expectation that these projects will raise awareness to the people with HIV/AIDS face to the barriers and youth face in making safer
decisions. All programs must involve
youth in planning and implementing arts projects to achieve positive outcomes listed in the Request for Proposals and grant appli­cation," said Deb Madore, an APAA
member.

For more information or an applica­tion form, contact Deb Madore at
HEALTH 1st at Presque Isle at (207)768­3056 or (800)432­7881.

by Heidi
Vanderheiden

... and Rich­ard Aldington and
Antoinette and singer Joan Baez and
and Great and come­munity
Woody Allen and Brett Ander­son and Marie
Baker and Tallulah Bankhead and Dyuma Barus and actress Rosanne
Barr and co*test Elizabeth Bathory and
former congressman Robert Barbin and
Bowie and singer David Bowie and Paul
and actor Marlon Brando and
and sex activist Susie Bright and poet Lord
and writer Jean Claudes and Mont­gomery Cliff and rock star Kurt Cobain and
editor Rachel Cohen at Colored and
and Joan Crawford and poet Countee Cullen
and actress Sarah Bernhardt and composer Leonard
and ambassador's daughter
Henrietta Bingham and Angela

Queen of the hill.
Top of the heap.
Still number one.

Free Cancer Screening Clinic offered by LHP/SM

The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, in conjunction with Port­land Public Health, will offer its third Cancer Screening Clinic for Lesbians on Saturday, December 7, 1996, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

LHP/SM has served over 25 lesbians since it began offering free clinics in April 1995. More than 95% of our clients have returned surveys stating that they were very satisfied with staff, services, and follow up care.

Services are offered free of charge; donations large and small enable LHP/SM to continue offering services. If you would like to send a donation to help sponsor this clinic, please make your check payable to LHP/SM and mail to PO Box 11048 Portland ME 04101.

To set up an appointment, and to see if you qualify for a free mammogram, call LHP/SM at (207)657-5864.

by Tania Jo
Hathaway

... Marianne
DAMRON

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EDITORIAL- ME

Okay, so I went around telling my friends that I made two women extremely happy over the weekend. Of course, my friends, knowing me as they do simply raised an eyebrow and said, “Oh really.” I was forced to admit that the women I made happy were Karen Geraghty and Betsy Smith of MLGPA because I told them that CPR was going to run MLGPA’s fund-raiser on the front page.

Many of you already know that MLGPA has been the driving force behind much of the positive political activism in our community. MLGPA was there during the struggle for the Portland ordinance, during the Vote No on 1 battle with the Decline to Sign campaign. They are advocates for our rights on many fronts, including their lobbying efforts in Augusta. They continually educate our lawmakers and the public at large about who we are and what protections we need.

For those of us who are not so politically savvy, the information MLGPA gathers, compiles and distributes helps us determine who the candidates are who will help us in the battle for equal rights.

It’s time now to come out and show support for those on the front lines.

Bring yourself, bring a friend, bring your checkbook. You may not feel like a political activist, you may not feel political in any way, but one thing is for sure. Every dollar you throw at this group gains, you get to enjoy as well.

So come out and enjoy the festivities and show your support as MLGPA presents Ed Karvoski, Jr., comedy which will kick off at 6:00 PM at First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland.

Check out the October calendar listings for other events being sponsored by MLGPA and the Decline to Sign Campaign.

By David Cook
The Senate’s recent passage of the Defense of Marriage Act and its current re-jection of a gay anti-discrimination measure are reason indeed for gay men and lesbians everywhere to celebrate. Those of us with non-mainstream domestic relationships are being made scapegoats for the truly dire economic and social conditions that many mainstream families are in. Bitterness, anger, and cynicism are the understandable products of this latest predictable maneuver on the part of our elected officials — including the President, whose signature on the Defense of Marriage Act is already promised.

But, while revolting indeed, these developments don’t constitute a defensible rationale for supporting Bob Dole or a third-party candidate for president. The notion that we should somehow “teach Clinton a lesson” by voting for Dole or someone else who is willing to stand by muddled-headed thinking that is sure to leave gay Americans holding the very short end of the gay rights stick.

There are two excellent reasons to vote for Bill Clinton. First, however annoyed we might be at the latest failure of government to recognize our rights, Clinton’s record on gay rights is better than Dole’s. During Clinton’s first campaign, when it really could have cost him votes, he campaigned loudly for an end to anti-gay discrimination in the military. And although “don’t ask, don’t tell” is a very sorry compromise, let’s not forget that it was reached under the threat of resignation of top military advisors and it is better than what we had before. Contrast this with the basic Republican attitude of intolerance for gays in the military. Dole’s own attitude toward gay rights is unclear, but he is so afraid of looking soft on queers that early on in the campaign, he rejected a donation from a gay Republican organization.

As to Clinton’s support for the Defense of Marriage Act, it stinks and I’ve denounced it before in this column. But let’s get real — both parties are against gay marriage and the bill was passed with substantial bipartisan support. It will take more time, education, and activism before gay rights can become a solid plank in a progressive platform. But it’s unlikely to ever become a conservative platform. Gay people are too smart to be taken in as a pretext for discrimination." The platform opposes barring children of "il-legal immigrants" from schools, and that such efforts are "mean spirited and short-sighted." NGLTF agreed with the platform in "opposing Sen. Dole’s promise to end affirmative action." The Bad News The Task Force strongly criticized the platform’s lack of attention to two critical issues affecting gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender Americans: our ongoing legal battles, and our commitment to serve our country in the military. NGLTF also objected to language on welfare reform. Same-Gender Marriage and Families: "There is no recognition in the platform of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender families, including our lov­ing relationships, and the importance of ending discrimination against our families, said NGLTF’s Melinda Paras. "Same-gender marriage and our right to keep or adopt children all are key issues for us. The platform spends considerable space talking about strong hetero­sexual families, but ignores the loving, caring, but vulnerable families we as gay people present."

The GOP platform is openly hostile to gay families, in particular on same-gender marriage. It "endorses..." See NGLTF, page 19.

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

NGLTF from page 2
The GOP platform says, “...we oppose discrimination based on sex, race, age, creed, or national origin, and will vigorously enforce anti-discrimination statutes. We reject the distortion of those laws to cover sexual preference...”

NGLTF also praised the platform’s appeal to stop the scapegoating of immigrants and opposition to ending affirmative action. “We deplore those who blame immigrants for economic and social problems,” stated the platform. While calling for an end to illegal immigration, the platform urged all Americans “to avoid the temptation to use this issue to divide people...” and “…as a pretext for discrimination.” The platform opposes barring children of “illegal immigrants” from schools, and that such efforts are “mean spirited and short­sighted.” NGLTF agreed with the platform in “opposing Sen. Dole’s promise to end affirmative action.”

The Bad News
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By Catherine Clark, Editor

The Community Pride Reporter is published by the Community Pride Coalition, Inc. (CPC), a non-profit organization working for the rights and needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the greater Portland area. CPC is a network of community organizations working for inclusive policies and regulations affecting our state and nation, and for the elimination of all forms of discrimination. CPC provides a forum for the exchange of information and ideas, linking together a diverse group of organizations and individuals who work together to further our goals. CPC is an organization of activists, and the Community Pride Reporter is an activist magazine.

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The NGLTF from page 2
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Blood donor limitations

by Laurie Dett

On September 17th I went to Portland Biologicals Inc., Plasma Center donor site on Congress Street, to donate plasma and quickly found myself a victim of discrimination. After having passed a pre-screening by certified receptionist-medical technician Linda Weeks, I was asked to state the reason for my prescribed estrogen therapy medications. To be brief, I identified myself as Transsexual. After a few minutes wait, I was escorted into the examination room for a standard blood screen.

The physical never took place. Waiting for me was "Physicians Substitutes" Pat Keene who said, "A "chance exists you engage in sex with either men or women and are promiscuous, therefore you may not donate. I'm sorry." When did you last have sex? Are you promiscuous? Do you use narcotics? Dirty needles? Engage in unprotected sex? These questions never entered my conversation, and my sexual orientation was only presumed. That I have been HIV tested twice a year for the last three years or that I have an excellent level of health from my pharmacy medications. My sexual orientation was never brought up. No one seemed to identify me as a transsexual until the end when I gave a medical reason for my prescribed estrogen therapy medications. I was passing with flying colors until "outed" myself.

*I've written for the Coastal Journal and the Times Record in Brunswick, a Free Press article here at CPR. If you have a question for CPR. You can write to me at CPR Mail Bag, P.O. Box 178, Saco, Maine 04072. E-mail: cprpride@time.net

CPR Mail Bag:

To the Editor:

RE: the story on the NH T-shirts...This is the same town that in 1991 the police were threatening to arrest patrons and store owners that wore or sold T-shirts with a condom on it that said "cover me I'm going in". There seems to be something unproductive and misguided with this new T-shirt scandal...I see it as superficial outrage if the queer protestors continue to picket over this one person while the same shirts are sold nearby (and they are sold nearby, more so now.) Is the issue that the community's standard promotes homophobia all over town or that many straights may see as gay wackos near town? I must have missed a new T-shirt scandal."

Simple things

When my partner and I left Wyoming, I wanted to move to some gay ghetto so we could hold hands in public. Instead, we ended up in Caribou—must have missed a turn somewhere. The gift of the Caribou experience was being put out in a community of 9,400 where one doesn't get lost in the crowd. I should note that I was married to a woman for 12 years prior to coming out. The interesting life comparison is that things I took for granted during my "heterosexual life" now have become political statements: Simple things—Any Display of Public Affection—Choosing to Have a Joint Checking Account—Raised a few eyebrows at Caribou Shop and Save—Renting an apartment together and not creating the appearance of separate bedrooms—Refusing to refer to Jim as my "friend" (although he is) at any roommate —Exploring mortgage financing—Writing Jim's name as my spouse on medical information forms—Sending flowers through the local florist on Valentine's Day—Planning a commitment ceremony The ultimate recent self-censorship was failing to dance together at a wedding ceremony last week. And wouldn't you know it, I played 3 Village People Songs in a Row, and then Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive"! We've got to work on that one. One last thought—I was very troubled by the article in the most recent CPR where Mr. Mohr (first name escapes me) said he was voting for Bob Dole to pummish Bill Clinton's compromised positions on gay issues. While I remain angry about Mr. Clinton's position, it seems rather pointless to take the "worse evil.", Talk about "cutting off your vote to spite your race"!! Wouldn't a vote for the Green Party candidate make a lot more sense if one is choosing to make an anti Clinton statement???? Oh well...thanks for indulging my ramblings—not that you had any choice.

Be well
Jim Futter, Brunswick

Submit your opinions on this or any topic to the Community Pride Reporter at P.O. Box 178, Saco, Maine 04072. Submissions are welcome on any topic, but the newspaper reserves the right to edit copy for reasons of space or clarity. The newspaper reserves the right to reject any material it deems inappropriate. Deadline is the 10th of the current month for publication in the following month. No portion of Community Pride Reporter may be reproduced in part or whole, by photocopy or in print, without the express permission of the publisher.
My Transsexual Manifest Part VII

by Darason S.

Almost nine months ago, I sat down and tried to categorize what I thought were finalized feelings about my evolution towards womanhood. In my zeal to explain this amazing phenomenon to the larger community, I overlooked a few basic issues, such as the potential liberation of the soul.

Recently, during the Jewish holidays, I had the opportunity to examine where I am this year: what I see as my life goals at this point; to renew my mission along with my faith. I have found out that while some of my previous assumptions will eventually be true, at the same time, they are my future and not present. Meanwhile, I am finding that certain elements of life exist regardless, and are to be enjoyed at any point in your personal evolution.

I am discovering that I am not alone, and plenty of people in and out of the community are supportive of me and receptive to my identity. We should have the right to see each other as a participant in life, not a bystander. This allows me to accept that I have human value and am not just a curiosity, something I sometimes still feel.

Regardless, I realize that lightning won’t strike every time I move forward in some respect. Making friends becomes a matter of extending, not expecting them to present. And, when I make that effort, I am seldom rebuffed. People see the merit in me regardless of my life goal, allowing me to create useful connections and develop relationships. They are about origins. And while I don’t expect that everyone will agree with me or have to say, or agree it isn’t true, I hope that the readers of this book will keep an open mind. This is the beginning of a community and will allow the ability to accept diversity from within, as you would hope to have diversity accepted from without.

Money Matters: Retirement Planning

by Peter Callahan

Anyone that wants to stop working at some point in their life will need to do some planning to ensure their financial security afterward. Planning for retirement involves more than just putting money aside in a retirement fund for later use. It is necessary to consider what your lifestyle will be like after retirement. This will determine when you can retire and how much money will be needed during retirement.

What do you want to do while you are retired? Give some consideration to the activities you will want to be able to do when you retire. Retirement will allow more time to pursue other interests. These interests will probably require money and should be considered when developing a retirement plan.

How much money will you need to live on? A basic component to a retirement plan is a budget for monthly living expenses. Take into consideration all current expenses and try to project forward what they will be after you retire. Most likely some costs will decrease, like a mortgage payment, and others will not. Medical expenses and consideration to what lifestyle changes will occur as you grow older and what the related costs may be. Keep inflation in mind when projecting what your future income needs will be.

Where will your income come from during retirement? This is of course the biggest question in retirement. This is what a good retirement plan will provide for. The income for your retirement will generally come from spending down the investments you made during your working years. Do not plan on Social Security to be your primary source of income in retirement. It is only a supplement. Plan on having other investments to generate income. That probably means setting aside current earnings in an IRA or other form of retirement plan for your future needs.

These are three broad questions to consider when developing a retirement plan. Most of us go to work every day looking forward to eventually retiring. However, a successful retirement where you can enjoy your lifestyle the way you desire is a question of good timing and careful financial planning.

Good Luck! ∆

Out of Town!

by Paul T. Bernard

Travel agents are becoming proficient at surfing the world-wide-web. Now you have all the tools to take care of your own travel arrangements. But do you really want to do that? For some, the answer is yes - others, no. If you are an old-tim­er and well-traveled individual who feels comfortable making your own ar­rangements, you can probably do just about everything you need to make those arrangements. You can book your flights, your car rental, and pay for them by credit card, you can make reservations for cars and hotels, you can book cruises, and much more.

So why wouldn’t you want to take care of your own arrangements? Actually, there are many reasons. The first and foremost reason is that making travel arrangements is not just buying an airline ticket and making reservations for a car rental and a hotel room. Just like going to an accountant or a lawyer, going to a travel agent is using the services of a professional who is knowledgeable about all aspects of travel. You can book your flights, your car rental, and pay for them by credit card, you can make reservations for cars and hotels, you can book cruises, and much more.

If you feel you need assistance, you can call a travel agent who will give you the information on the Internet - but it may take you several hours of computer to get it. But you can call your local travel agent and he/she can give you that information almost immediately and usually at no cost to you.

I have many clients who are Internet-savvy who still call me when it’s time for them to take a trip somewhere. Why? Because they know that I’ll take care of all of their travel needs so that they don’t have to. For example, I have a client who is taking a trip to southeast Asia next month. His itinerary includes Tokyo, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Sydney, Auckland, and Fiji. He could have completed his entire trip and made all of the arrangements himself, but he felt more comfortable having me take care of it. And for his last trip to New York last month, again he called me to take care of that simple trip. If you have access to the Internet, give it a try. But if you like like Internet, don’t hesitate to call your local travel agent.

BITX & PIECES - Delta launched its Delta Express service to several Florida markets out of Boston with prices as low as $79 each way. I just received a flyer from TOTO TOURS with the following listing of some of the tours available to gays and lesbians in 1997:

- 8 Sheets to the Wind - Sailing the Windward Islands - February 6-14
- Whales & Males in Maui - Hawaii - February 13-23
- No Frills Mardi Gras Down Under - February 4-20, March 24-April 2
- Lush Life - Tropical Adventures in Costa Rica - March 7-17
- The Forgotten Peninsula - Kayaking Baja, Mexico - March 20-26
- Scotia on the Rocks - Scotland - May 22-June 2
- Giraffe Park - Tanzania - June 9 - 22
- Westward, OH - June 21-28
- SawaSwelt/A - Rafting Grand Canyon - July 1-8

MA Governor’s Commission releases recommendations

BOSTON (AP) - A 15-year-old girl from a suburb north of Boston, the gay-straight group at her high school has meant a lot...maybe even her life. She says she was suicidal, hiding the fact that she was a lesbian, until she found the group. One day, she walked in on a meeting while pretending she had some other business in that classroom. Now, "it feels better because I can talk openly and not have to pretend," she says. The girl, who didn’t want her name used, was one of about 300 gay and lesbian youth statewide who rallied Thursday at the State house as the Governor’s Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth released a set of recommendations to further protect gay See COMMISSION, page 19

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For those of us whose paths are slightly different, it is important to acknowledge those who have gone before. At the same time, I hope that they would always be willing to help those who follow, and offer a light to guide the way. It is a truly strong community when the links are forged by the humanity of acceptance and tolerance.

And so, after trying desperately to find the words to gain acceptance without fear of rejection, of what may be a future of acceptance and tolerance. The answer is yes - others, no. If you are a gay-straight group at a particular country, or if there are any travel advisories or restrictions to particular foreign destinations. Yes, you probably can send your information on the Internet, give it a try. But if you like like Internet, don’t hesitate to call your local travel agent.
BIG BLUE, from page 1

Marjie Garber and Greta Garbo and Judy Garland and writer David Garnett and Cary Grant and painter Duncan Grant and Robert Graves and Leaves and Emma Hamilton and Lorraine Hanaberry and Mattachine Society founder Harry Hay and Eric Hennigway and Billie Holiday and '20s singer Libby Holman and Rock Hudson and Howard Hughes and poet Langston Hughes and blues artist Alberta Hunter and activist Loraine Hutchins and National Organization for Women President Patricia Ireland and Mick Jagger and James I of England and Janis Joplin and activist Lani Kahan and painter Frida Kahlo and lawyer John Maynard Keynes and Billie Jean King and ballet impresario Lincoln Kirstein and Calvin Klein and D.H. Lawrence and Beatrice Lillie and Tais doyenne Mabel Dodge Luban and Madoreena and Katherine Mansfield and W. Somerset Maugham and Erik Menendez of the Menendez brothers and Freddie Mercury and Michelangelo and first Afro-American author Claude McKay and poet and playwright Edna St. Vincent Millay and Saint Augustine and Spender and Alix Strachey and Lytton Scott and Socrates and blues singer Szymanski and Tchaikovsky and writer Olivier and Jungian Camille Paglia and Natasha Rambova and Michael Robyn and Plato and Ezra Pound and writer Paul, and tennis star Martina Navratilova and Holly Near and Anais Nin and Lenore and Christine Nixon and A'Lelia Walker and Ethel Waters and Walt Whitman and Oscar Wilde and poet Elzle Wililam and psychiatrist Charlotte Wolff and Virginia Woolf and

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Margorie Garber and Greta Garbo and Judy Garland and writer David Garnett and Cary Grant and painter Duncan Grant and Robert Graves and Leaves and Emma Hamilton and Lorraine Hanaberry and Mattachine Society founder Harry Hay and Ernest Hemingway and Billie Holiday and '20s singer Libby Holman and Rock Hudson and Howard Hughes and poet Langston Hughes and blues artist Alberta Hunter and activist Loraine Hutchins and National Organization for Women President Patricia Ireland and Mick Jagger and James I of England and Janis Joplin and activist Lani Kahan and painter Frida Kahlo and lawyer John Maynard Keynes and Billie Jean King and ballet impresario Lincoln Kirstein and Calvin Klein and D.H. Lawrence and Beatrice Lillie and Tais doyenne Mabel Dodge Luban and Madoreena and Katherine Mansfield and W. Somerset Maugham and Erik Menendez of the Menendez brothers and Freddie Mercury and Michelangelo and first Afro-American author Claude McKay and poet and playwright Edna St. Vincent Millay and Saint Augustine and Spender and Alix Strachey and Lytton Scott and Socrates and blues singer Szymanski and Tchaikovsky and writer Olivier and Jungian Camille Paglia and Natasha Rambova and Michael Robyn and Plato and Ezra Pound and writer Paul, and tennis star Martina Navratilova and Holly Near and Anais Nin and Lenore and Christine Nixon and A'Lelia Walker and Ethel Waters and Walt Whitman and Oscar Wilde and poet Elzle Wililam and psychiatrist Charlotte Wolff and Virginia Woolf and

ELLEN, from page 1

a frequent critic of sex and violence on television and head of the American Family Association, said it would be a "troubling moment in network programming" if the lead character were revealed to be homosexual. Wildmon threatened to organize a boycott of the show's advertisers if it happens. He said those advertisers that stay with "Ellen" will "reveal their true colors and judgment, which is at traditional family values.

But Gene DeWitt, who heads his own media business division, said companies are more aware of the economic muscle of the gay community and pursue that audience. "I wonder if, except for a few overtly sensitive advertisers, whether it really is an issue," he said.

John Lazarus, who heads network ad buying at Bozell's JK&E Media Group, said the discussion about "Ellen" made him think of the controversy that surrounded "NYPD Blue," which debuted a few years ago promising to stretch television's boundaries with nudity and rough talk. Lazarus said that the program had a hard time attracting advertisers but that the controversy has quieted and, "most advertisers have no problems with that show now." For Mandel, who heads network broadcast buying for Grey Advertising, said an openly gay lead character may be "too late or too divorced from the audience." If being a lesbian becomes the primary focus of the show, he said, that could turn off advertisers. But if the character "happens to be gay just like she happens to have blonde hair, that would not be a problem."

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Community Pride Resources

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings
Community House, 3rd Sunday from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, United Methodist Church, 129 Main St., Peterborough, NH 03458. Call 603-924-3210. Meet on the 3rd Sunday at 3:30 pm at Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 80 Spring St. Portland. Free parking and accessible to the mobility-impaired. Call 207/761-4380.

Identity Support
National Association of Social Workers, ME Chapter, Minority Pride of Maine welcomes new social work members. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby for issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. FM call NASH, 207/622-7552.

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 207-287-8444.

Citizen Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights (CAGL)
New Hampshire's oldest progressive gay/lesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all those interested in these goals to weekly meetings, programs, social and various other events. Newsletter. Call info (603) 224-6188 or write to Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0730.

Out on MDI
For gay, lesbian, it's not just our friends. Very active social support group. Moving Out meeting to talk about issues and concerns. Call 207/990-2005 for more info and meeting times.

Q-Squad

Trans Support
Support group for transgender, transsexual, their families, friends. Meets in secure location to provide support, education & social activities. Write Trans Support, P.O. Box 730, Portland, ME 04102 or phone 207/645-5991.

Gender Talk North
Gender support, Write: P.O. Box 311, Keneo, ME 04554.

Trans Counseling
Christian Counseling Agency, P.O. Box 379, Keneo, ME 04554. 207/638-5744.

Biannual People's Network.
Meet to affirm the right of all people to determine their sexuality and express themselves lovingly and freely. Phone: (603) 448-5544.

Polyamorous Life Support (PLS)
Do you love more than one person? You may be polyamorous. Polyamorous Life Support (PLS) is a discussion/support group for people interested in meaningful, satisfying, non-monogamous relationships. Wear a mask or instantly become invisible, call 773-6133.

Prisoner of Gender
Gfining to be Harrie, Ken or both, Meets every Friday at 11:30 pm at Dover House, Memorial Union, UM at Durham.

Maine Transgender Support Group
Meetings Monday evenings 7-9 pm at Community House, Portland. CALL ME 207-775-2214.

Parent Support Group—Penobscot & Surrounding Counties
For parents who have adult gay or lesbian children and have many questions. Contact Susan at 207/762-7552.

The Rainbow Business & Professional Networking Group
A statewide, non-profit organization established to create a gay, lesbian, bi, and transgendered "community of commerce" for Maine. Meetings for networking or dinner with speaker events, held in the Greater Portland area, second Monday of the month. FM write P.O. Box 6627, Scarborough, ME 04074-6627, call 207/775-3000. Or email to mail@mainelink.net.

Maine Sprirtual Project for Equal Rights
Trans and deploys volunteers statewide to talk with citizen groups in their towns and regions about their lives and the lives of others who experience discrimination in Maine. For information on activities in your county, call 207/789-8404 or write NOSF, 123 Congress St., #1, Portland 04101. You need not be a speaker to work with Spiritual.

Youth Support - Outright

Bangor: Fridays, 5:00-7:30 pm, UMaine Union Church, Park St., behind City Hall in Bangor. 207/990-3626.

Central Maine: Weekly, confidential meetings with a person of same sex, elderly, and questioning youth 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 795-6677 or 1-800-539-4042 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

Portland: Meets every Fri, 7:30-9:30 pm. People's Building, 115 Brattle St., 2nd floor. Extension of the school, social, and personal support meetings, discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people. FM call 774-TALK or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5077, Portland, ME 04101.

The Pride Center: Main Campus, 2nd Floor, Monday-Thurs, 12:00-9:00. Call 207/786-7777 for more information.

Outright Youth Support - Outreach
"The Place To Go", 46 Concord St. (Rt. 202), Peterborough, 603/547-2545. NASHUA: Meets every 2nd & 4th Thursday at UU Church corner of Canal & Lowell Sts. (near Durkin Donuts). Call Steve or Gypsy at 603/672-0792. Email: Outright@AOL.com

Outright: Meets every Sun, 5-7 pm (movie night), Tues. 6-8 pm (drop in), & Friday to 7 pm (support group) at the UU Church (corner across from fire station), 206 Court St., Portsmouth, NH. FM call 603/431-1013, P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03801.

COLAGE
A national support group run by and for the children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents. FM, COLAGE, 2300 Market St., #105, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

THE MAINE YOUTH PROTECTION COUNCIL Works to counteract the negative effects of discrimination on the nation's schools and social services. There is a place for people of all ages and backgrounds.
Maine AIDS Alliance

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic: Confidential screening and treatment for STD's for residents and non-residents at a walk-in clinic. Low cost, medical accepted. Accepting both current and past HIV testing. STD screening only. Clinic open Tues. 7th hrs. 3:30 to 6 pm at Portland City Hall room 303. HIV call 784-8156.


Free Family Therapy available for individuals & families (of any age) who are affected by HIV/ AIDS, meets second Tues. from 7-8:30 pm. Easter Congregational Church, 21 Fire St., discussion, info. sharing of issues. Contact confidentiality assured. Wheelchair access. HIV 603/772-6221 or 603/778-0127.

Keene: Support group for families, friends, partners of persons living with AIDS or who have died of AIDS. Confidential & anonymous. Meets every other Wed., at Planned Parenthood, 7:00 pm. Call Dorothy Anderson at 603/756-4735.

Keene: Support group for HIV positive people and their loved ones. HIV/AIDS info. Drop-in, 4th Thursdays, 4:00 pm. For details call 603/357-5096.

Dover-Berwick: Support group for family, partners and friends whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Mining, treatment, education, counseling & HIV testing and counseling. Meet on Mornings on weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm. Call 603/874-8874. For other STD services: 874-6466.

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

Mondays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, lovers, and caregivers. 10:30 am–noon.

Tuesdays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, lovers, and caregivers. 10:30 am–noon.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Living with HIV disease on Tuesday, 1:30-3:00 pm at Aumbay Family Planning. Diana Canning, Androscoggin and Oxford Counties Coordinator for TAP at the Aubum offices, 783-4735.

Augusta: Every 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 pm, Daytime AIDS Support Services drop-in for support for people with HIV & those who care about them. HIV 207/774-2704.

Bangor: Man 2 Men HIV prevention program for those who have sex with men. KOD offers education, HIV testing, support groups, HIV/AIDS hotlines and workshops. To volunteer or HIV on the program call 207/990-2095 or write: Men 2 Men, POB 2038, Bangor, ME 04402.

Bradford: People affected or infected by HIV, Fridays 5:30–7:00 pm, 300 ME. Medical Center campus off South Side. Floor John Bean, York County Care

Network for friends, family, & caregivers. Meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm at the Aumostool Medical Center, conference room A. Kathleen D., HIV, 928 Main Street, 1st Floor, Portland, ME. 207/774-8877.

Auburn: People living with HIV disease, Tuesdays 1:30-3:00 pm at Aubum Family Planning. Diana Canning, Androscoggin and Oxford Counties Coordinator for TAP at the Aubum offices, 783-4735.

lndianapolis Thursdays 7:00-8:30 pm. Support group, 2nd Thursday: Client lvJvlts•y Program, 3rd Thursday: Peer Support Group, 1st Monday: (4 Lafayette St.) HIV Seeks 207-786-4687.

Tampa/Mexico: Mondays: People Living with HIV disease, 1:30-3:00 pm at the Indianapolis AIDS Coalition.

AIDS Coalition of Lawton/Auburn: 786-4697

Waterford: Daytime Drop-in 626-3435


Main coast: Gay men's HELPLINE, 6:00-9:00 pm (only) FAX: 207/626-2723, HIV, 207/626-2794. Also, gay youth info.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P*FLAC)

Contacts in Maine *(indicates monthly meetings)

Augusta/Hallowell: 623-2349 F.E.

Dover/Foosco: 624-7845 Sharon

Stew/Coats: 729-0513 - Sally & Gene

*Lesbian/Auburn 783-6684 - Estelle

Portland: Rita, 766-5115 or Sue, 774-5441

Maine AIDS Coalition of Lawton/Auburn: 786-4697

Waterford: Drop-in Day AIDS Network: 626-3435


Waldoboro: 832-5859 - Sue

Contacts in New Hampshire

P-LAC NH 24 hour Hotline: 603/623-6023

Concord:udy, 603/485-3933

Waterford: Daytime Drop-in 626-3435

Nashua: Nurse, 603/880-8709

Kennebunk: Calls, 603/384-4703

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-5196

Franconia: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2547

Hillsboro: Betty, 603/386-7254

Rumney, An: 603/786-8112

Center Sandwich: Teck, 603/284-6434

DOVER, NH: Gay/Lebian,Transgender & Transgender Help for Information, referral or need to talk. 4-6-10 pm, Sat.-Sun. 9-2 am.

Social Groups

Music and Art

Women in Harmony

an eclectic choral ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to Box 513 6th St, A, Portland, ME. 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus

is a community chorus which brings men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. Please call 277-5404 or write M.G.M.C., P.O. Box 1093, Portland, ME. 04101.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League

will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists. Call HIV, 773-3420.

Phone Support By Region


Portland: The AIDS Line: 1-800-851-AIDS or 775-1267. HIV/AIDS related questions, call Mon-Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Mon.-Wed. evenings until 7:30 pm. Anonymous.

DIAL KIDS: 774-TALK for lesbian, gay, bisexual & questioning youth under 19 yrs.

Ingram Volunteers: Call 774-Help (774-4357)


Brewster: East County AIDS Network 930-3626 - Penobscot County: HIV/AIDS Hotline -1st county counselor. 623-1481

Belfast: Watkin-Knox AIDS Coalition 334-1427

Brewster: Watkin-Knox AIDS emergency Support Services 725-4995

Bridgton: Community Task Force on AIDS: 583-6608

Rumford: Community AIDS Awareness Program 823-4170

Leawood: AIDS Coalition of Lawton/Auburn: 786-4697

Waterford: Daytime Drop-in 626-3435


Maine Frontrunners gay and lesbian running group, sponsoring weekly run in Portland. We meet at the beginning of Back Cove Walkway (corner Bar Harbor Blvd. & Preble St. Ext.). Saturdays, 9 am. HIV, Jim-761-2059 or John-828-4826.

S.O.L.O. Monthly Gatherings for Older, Single Lesbians & Friends, HIV, Kathy 207/688-4375 or 772-0157. Wilde-Stein Club Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at

Memorial Union, 24 Sutton House, UMaine at Orono.

Seacoast Gay Men Social group meets Mondays (except holidays), 7 pm at University Unitarian Church, 292 State St., Portland, ME. HIV call 603 (430) 40-052, or write P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03802-1394.

Mountain Valley Men (MVM)

A social support group of gay men in western ME and eastern NH. Meet not lock meetings the first Thursday of each month. 6-30 pm; programs vary from video viewing to experts on pertinent topics; monthly newsletter; HIV call: Dave (207) 924-1383, or write: DAVE@lispail.com.
October Calendar of Events

October 1 - October 3
Railroad Square Cinema, Waterville, "Stoneknot," 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM, (207)777-9526.

October 4
through December 9
A Collective Vision: A Decade of Patronage from the Friends of the Collection. Portland Art Museum. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

through December 15
Tom Asunder: Collage in Twentieth Century Art. Portland Art Museum. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

October 10 - 14

October 14 - 20
Provincetown, MA - Twelfth Annual Women's Week. FMI (800)648-5671.

Tuesday, October 1
7 - 9 PM - Decline To Sign meeting, YWCA, Spring St., Portland. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Tuesday, October 1
7 - 9 PM - "A Dialogue on Same Sex Marriage" with Amelia Craig, Esq., and Mary Bonauto, Esq. of GLAD, USM Portland, Luther Bonetto Auditorium. FMI (617)426-1350.

Tuesday, October 1
8 - 9:30 PM - The Last Closet, will speak about the lives of gay and lesbian teachers, Stratham Community Church, Emery Ln., of off Route 1. Sponsored by PFLAG, (207)702-3893 or (207)772-1516.

Thursday, October 3
3 PM - Gallery talk with JoAnn Haebeler: Cubism and the Human Form. Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Thursday, October 3

Thursday, October 3
7 PM - Picasso, Braque, Leger: The Artist's Spirit. Lecture, free with Museum admission. Portland Museum of Art Auditorium. 7 Congress Square, Portland, ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Friday, October 4
12:30 PM - Gallery talk with JoAnn Haebeler: Cubism and the Human Form. Portland Museum of Art. 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Friday, October 4
6 PM - First Annual Women In Harmony Spaghetti Supper and Auction (services, antiques, artwork), great food. Immortal Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland, FMI (207)772-9180.

Saturday, October 5
12 PM - Hike up "Old Bailey" - followed by pot luck. Amelia's Event. FMI (207)672-5298.

Saturday, October 5
Chiltern Mountain Club's foliage hiking and biking in Vershire, VT, FMI (617)859-2843.

Saturday, October 5
Chiltern Mountain Club's fourth trail maintenance trip to the Blue Hills, Barbara Bonauto, (207)702-6923.

Saturday, October 5
8 - 12 PM - Women Meeting Women Dance, Ellie's hall on Route 110, Chathamfied, MA, 8th at the door, full bar, for singles and coupled women, music by BCN & Co., no smoking. FMI (603)881-4268.

Saturday, October 5
Chiltern Mountain Club hikes Wildcat Ridge of the Carter-Moriah Range (NH), 9 miles (strenuous), FMI (207)773-2843.

Saturday, October 5
7:30 PM - Solo piano concert featuring Dana Ashworth at Denmark Art Center, Route 160, Denmark ME. $5.00 donations requested, with all funds benefiting the Denmark Art Center and its commitment to local artists, musicans, storytellers, crafts people and residents of the Lakes Region. FMI (207)452-2412.

Saturday/Sunday, October 5
- 6 PM - Northern Lights Sports Fall Clinic Series-Mt. Chocorua Overhight, sign up at the store, limited to 8 hikers.

Sunday, October 6
3 - 6 PM - Decline To Sign cocktail party and kick off at Kashiin Restaurant, free admission, donations welcomed. High St., Portland.

Monday, October 7
6:30 - 8:30 PM - Alternative Approaches & Self Care to Women's Common Health Concerns, sponsored by the Women's Health Consortium. 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669.

Tuesday, October 8
7 - 9 PM - Decline To Sign meeting, YWCA, Spring St., Portland. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Tuesday, October 8
7 - 8:30 PM - Connections (a support group for caregivers, family and friends of GLBT people whose lives are touched by HIV/AIDS) will celebrate its first anniversary at the Exeter Congregational Church, 21 Front St., Exeter, NH (207)772-6221 or (603)436-8973.

Thursday, October 10
5:30 PM - Gallery talk with Barbara Schenkel: The Life and Career of Georges Braque. Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Tuesday, October 10
7 - 8 PM - Art in the Dark Film series-four films by artists who lived and worked in Paris between 1919 and 1939. Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. Free with museum admission. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Thursday, October 10
7:30 - 9 PM - The Matlovich Society takes an easy 30-mile bike ride along the Chiltern Mountain Club's foliage hiking and biking in Vershire, VT, FMI (617)859-2843.

Friday, October 11
12:30 PM - Gallery talk with Barbara Schenkel: The Life and Career of Georges Braque. Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Saturday, October 12
9:00 AM - 3 PM - "Dealing with Conflict" in the Life of a Non-Celibate Gay Man by Bishop Righter, Episcopal Bishop of Maine, who was charged with heresy for presiding at the diocesan ordination of a non-celibate gay man in a communal relationship, will speak at the Bishop Righter at a special coffee hour after the service. Christ Church, 1025 Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth, NH. FMI (603)436-8842.

Monday, October 14
7 - 8 PM - Women's Self-Help Group starting at USM, Women's Center, Payson-Smith, Room 40. Meeting Monday nights, facilitated by Jana Mcauliffe. FMI (207)772-6599.

Tuesday, October 15
10 AM - 4 PM - "A Dialogue on Same Sex Marriage" with Amelia Craig, Esq. and Mary Bonauto, Esq. of GLAD, Bangor Theological Seminary, Bangor, FMI (207)762-1350.

Tuesday, October 15
7 - 9 PM - Decline To Sign meeting, YWCA, Spring St., Portland.

Thursday, October 17
7 - 8:30 PM - Art in the Dark film series-films by artists who lived and worked in Paris between 1919 and 1939. Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Thursday, October 17
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM - "A Collective Vision: A Decade of Patronage from the Friends of the Collection." Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Square, Portland ME. FMI (207)773-ARTS.

Saturday, October 19
Chiltern Mountain Club takes an easy 30-mile bike ride along the Chiltern Mountain Club's foliage hiking and biking in Vershire, VT, FMI (802)234-1919.

Sunday, October 20
12 PM - Hike the Appalachian Trail. Meet at Bernard's Store, Barnard VT. Amelia's Event. FMI (802)234-5670.

Sunday, October 20
1PM - Wild Outdoor Women hike Pleasant Mt., Bridgton, ME. (offers excellent views of White Mtns on continuous 4 hrs. round trip; meet at Naples Causeway across from Rick's Cafe, Rt. 302); potluck in Naples to follow hike, FMI (207)787-2390.

Friday, October 20
1PM - Decline To Sign meeting, YWCA, Spring St., Portland.

Thursday, October 24
7:30 - 9 PM - The Matlovich Society presents "Hillary's Class" with discussion/questions and surprise guest. Portland, FMI (207)761-4380.

Sunday, October 20
7 PM Eastern Mountain Sports Winter Gear Clinic at the store.

Friday, October 21
8 PM - Annual Women's Week. FMI (800)648-5671.

Friday, October 21
6 - 8 PM - Music and Comic Revue (Harmonies Extraordinaire and comic Ed Karvoski-author of "A Funny Time to be Gay") admission $10.00 (sliding scale available), First Parish Church 425 Congress St., Portland, tickets at the door or reserved at 1-800-556-5472 or (207)761-3732.

Monday, October 22
6:30 - 8:30 PM - The Empowered Health Care Consumer (including how to come to your provider) sponsored by the Women's Health Consortium. State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669.

Tuesday, October 23
7:30 PM - Reading by 5 Astrea Lesbian Writers Fund grant winners at A Different Light Bookstore, 151 W 19th St. NYC. FMI (212)529-8201.

Friday, November 1
7 PM - Autumnal Women's Week. FMI (800)648-5671.

Thursday, November 1
9 AM - 3 PM - "Dealing With Controversy," in the Life of a Non-Celibate Gay Man, Bishop Righter, Episcopal Bishop of Maine, who was charged with heresy for presiding at the diocesan ordination of a non-celibate gay man in a communal relationship, will speak at the Bishop Righter at a special coffee hour after the service. Christ Church, 1025 Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth, NH. FMI (603)436-8842.

Saturday, November 2
3 PM - Decline To Sign meeting, YWCA, Spring St., Portland.

Sunday, November 3
6 - 8 PM - Music and Comic Revue (Harmonies Extraordinaire and comic Ed Karvoski-author of "A Funny Time to be Gay") admission $10.00 (sliding scale available), First Parish Church 425 Congress St., Portland, tickets at the door or reserved at 1-800-556-5472 or (207)761-3732.
**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**TRAVEL/VACATION**

**ΔΔ LESBIAN PARADISE!** 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, pub, biking/kiaking trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. We’re your perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 1180P, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 689-3978. Δ Δ

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

**SHARED LIVING SITUATIONS**

**Δ Δ ROOMMATE WANTED:** GF to share incredible 3-bedroom apartment in great Portland neighborhood. All utilities included. Call Dal at 775-6432. Δ Δ

**Δ Δ BRUNSWICK COHOUSING** community forming. Come build or buy a home in a rural neighborhood and clustered along pedestrian lane and common green. 70 acres preserved meadows and woodlands. Resident design includes gardens, common house, play areas. Multi-generational, inclusive. Construction begins ’97. Join us! 207/ 775-5915. Δ Δ

**Δ Δ HOUSEMATE WANTED:** LF, Professional 40’s seeks N/S, LF, GM, to share 2 bdrm rural house. 10 minutes distance from L.L. Bean. Your own 2 rooms, 1 common space. $350 month + 1/2 utilities. (207) 688-4905.

**Δ Δ ROOMMATE NEEDED:** GM, looking for GF roommate in either Bangor or Portland/Gorham area. I am moving out of Bangor apt. and need a place to study quietly. I am a musician, quiet, mature and an excellent roommate. Call Before 4:00 PM (207) 942-2365 lv mag.

**COMMISSION, from page 14**

STUDENTS FROM HARASSMENT IN SCHOOL.

The commission recommended that the state Legislature act to prevent students from being forced to recognize same-sex unions. "President Clinton has also opposed same-gender marriage and said he will sign DOMA, if passed.

GAYS IN THE MILITARY: Paras also criticized the lack of mention in the platform of the continued witch hunts by the U.S. military of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender service members. Paras commended the Administration’s strong fight against Rep. Bob Dornan’s attempt to block HIV-positive service members. At the same time she said the lack of inclusion of gays and lesbians in the military was an insult to their brave and courageous contributions, despite the "don’t ask, don’t tell" policy — which many experts say has actually resulted in more hardships for gays in the armed forces.

While the Democratic platform is silent on gays in the military, the GOP platform states, “We oppose Bill Clinton’s assault on the culture and traditions of the Armed Forces, especially his attempt to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military. We affirm that homophobia is incompatible with military service.”

WELFARE REFORM: While the Task Force agrees with the importance of providing job opportunities as stated in the platform, it is critical of both the GOP and Democratic platforms and attacks on the poor. “We are very concerned that welfare families will be left no safety net of support as they are taken off of welfare,” said Paras. “The President and both platforms all approach this issue by cutting off assistance first and then hoping recipients get jobs so they can buy health care and other critical needs.”

“Ultimately, both the Democratic and GOP platforms should be rated on the basis that they reflect the actual records of the Clinton Administration and of the Gingrich-Dole Republican Congress,” concluded Paras. “Despite attempts by the Republicans to downplay the importance of their platform, it remains the foundation of the party’s ideology and was clearly dominated by the Hard Right in San Diego. At the same time, the Democratic platform, while clearly more positive, has much room for improvement.”

**HELP WANTED**

**Δ Δ HOME TYPING JOBS. $20/hour, up to $500/week. Call 24 hours. 207/892-1423, extension 500. Δ Δ**

**PERSONALS**

**Δ Δ GWM 28 yr. 6’1’’ red hair blue eyes I.S.O. older Professional who is supportive for friendship and maybe more. will answer all. Randy Kiper #100254 KY State Penitentiary Box #12 Eddyville, KY 42038. Δ Δ

**Δ Δ GWM 30 yr. 5’8’’ brown hair & eyes seeking older Professional GM supportive for friendship and maybe more. will answer all. Randy Kiper #100254 KY State Penitentiary Box #12 Eddyville, KY 42038. Δ Δ

**COMMUNITY PRIDE REPORTER**

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Yes, I want to subscribe to the Community Pride Reporter. Subscription rate is $25.00 for 12 issues. (more if you can, less if you can’t) CPR is mailed in a plain envelope. The return address must be CPR PO Box 178, Saco, ME 04072.

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