Community Pride Reporter, 12/1996

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FARMINGTON, Maine (AP) — With millions of people around the world living with AIDS, health educators and activists in Maine and elsewhere are taking stock of where the battle against the disease is going.

In Maine, 746 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed since 1984, according to the Maine Bureau of Health. Of those, 417 have died. Cumberland and York counties accounted for 391 of the total cases.

Many people who are worried about the disease Monday.

Bob Perry, a Whitefield man who suffers from AIDS, takes 45 pills a day to help fight the infection. A retired chef who also participates in AIDS education programs at schools in Kennebec, Lincoln and Knox counties, the 46-year-old Perry rails against high prices for medication. "I know of patients who do without drugs because it's not covered by state reimbursement," said Perry, whose co-payments for drugs went from $12 a month to $30 in a year.

Many people who are worried they might have the virus that causes AIDS come from miles away to the Tri-County clinic. But it's not because they can't get tested in their home-towns. "We see a lot of Franklin County residents, but we also often see people from Androscoggin and Kennebec counties because lots of times people don't want to be seen at their local clinic," said Christie Foster, an HIV specialist.

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In Maine, 746 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed since 1984, according to the Maine Bureau of Health. Of those, 417 have died. Cumberland and York counties accounted for 391 of the total cases. While 76 percent of the people diagnosed with AIDS in Maine are homosexual and bisexual men, anyone can be at risk, said Veronica Boucher, an educator for Tri-County Health Services in Farmington.

Often, young people believe they are invulnerable to the disease, which can be spread through sexual contact, contaminated needles or syringes, and infected blood. "The attitude is, 'It will never happen to me,'" Boucher said. "They think it's not here. But it is here."

Elsewhere in Maine, the Portland Museum of Art marked World AIDS Day by participating in a day without art. Churches and organizations held memorial services for people who have died from AIDS. Tri-County Health Services planned to pass out condoms and information about the disease Monday.

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World Aids Day causes some in Maine to reflect.
A State Judge barred Hawaii from denying Marriage Licenses

BY BRUCE DUNFORD
HONOLULU (AP) - The judge who declared Hawaii must allow gay marriages put the ruling on hold while the state appeals.

Circuit Judge Kevin Chang agreed with attorneys for the state that Hawaii would have a dilemma if couples were allowed to marry and Hawaii's Supreme Court then overturned his ruling. The stay will remain in effect until the high court rules, meaning gay couples won't be able to marry in Hawaii for at least a year, if at all. "If hundreds, or even thousands, of gay marriages take place, the Supreme Court probably won't even hear the appeal," Deputy Attorney General Rick Eichor said in arguing for the stay. President Clinton signed a law in September that says the federal government will not recognize gay marriages and allows states to refuse to recognize such unions licensed in other states. But if the Hawaii ruling is upheld, gay activists will try to build upon the success and overturn the federal law, said David Smith, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, a gay rights group based in Washington.

Eichor argued that the three gay couples who sued for the right to marry would suffer no real harm if their right to marry were delayed. Dan Foley, a civil liberties attorney who represented the couples, said he found that argument incredible. He said his clients already had suffered from delays in the case.

Foley said the state had demonstrated no irreparable harm in not granting a stay. Eichor said he would file an appeal within 30 days. That will send the case back to the Supreme Court, which in 1993 ruled that the state's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional unless the state can show a compelling interest in continuing it. Eichor has argued that the state's marriage law is intended to promote the best environment for the procreation and rearing of children.

Eichor said children face best when raised by their biological parents.

"A major bridge has been crossed, but the battle will continue," he said. Sixteen states have passed laws against gay marriages and two states have executive orders in place forbidding them, Smith said. Some gay groups want to take immediate advantage of the ruling: David Dudley and Edward Koh, tourists from Boston, requested a marriage license Tuesday from the state Health Department. They were denied.

Joe Mellilo, who sued the state with Pat Lagon, his partner of 19 years, also planned to get married. "We are glad he could see that this discrimination has to be ended," Mellilo said. "As soon as we can we'll get our license and be married today or tomorrow maybe. But we'll have to see how the state will play their hand." The American Center for Law and Justice, which has represented eight state legislators who unsuccessfully sought to intervene in the case, called the ruling an outrage. "We're extremely disappointed that Hawaii chose to unravel a 6,000-year-old institution of marriage consisting of a man and a woman," said Jay Sekulow, chief counsel for the Virginia-based group.

South Africa to be honored for gay and lesbian rights

WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 26, 1996...As the world watched the birth of a new democracy in South Africa following years of apartheid, another political drama unfolded in that nation that would constitute a civil rights breakthrough for gay, lesbian and bisexual people everywhere. Thanks to the efforts of courageous individuals, South Africa became the first nation to recognize the human rights of its gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens by including sexual orientation in the Equality Clause of the country's new constitution.

When the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will honor individual South Africans who have made a difference for gay people in their nation and around the world. The awards will be presented at "Honoring Our Allies" benefit ceremonies in New York and Washington, D.C.

WHAT: Two receptions—one in New York City, the other in Washington, D.C.

WHEN: Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1996, in New York City, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1996, in Washington, D.C., 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: In New York, the Matthere Marks Gallery, 522 West 22nd St. In D.C., the TransAfrica Forum, 1744 R St., NW.

WHO: Slate to accept the awards are Cheryl Carolus, African National Congress deputy secretary general; Zackie Achmat, long-time Cape Town community activist, filmmaker and founder of the Association of Bисexuals, Gays and Lesbians; and Sheila Lapinsky, Johannesburg activist instrumental in working with the ANC in the early days to include sexual orientation. Besides Carolus, Achmat and Lapinsky, honor... See South Africa Page 14

New Board Elected at Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance

ML/GPA held its annual election of the board of directors in September. Eleven of 16 Board members were either newly elected or shifted responsibilities. President of ML/GPA for three years, Karen Geraghty has stepped down from the president's post, but will continue to maintain a very active political life. ML/GPA wishes to thank Karen for the enormous amount of time and energy that she has contributed to the organization over the last several years.

Newly elected president Betty Smith, and newly elected vice-president Del Wilson, began their responsibilities in mid-September. ML/GPA's leaders are eager to continue its political and educational work, which has characterized the organization over the past several years. ML/GPA has been instrumental in advocating for a statewide civil rights bill, which in 1997 has its best chance ever of getting signed into law. ML/GPA was also one of the founding members of Maine Won't Discriminate, the statewide coalition which helped to defeat Question 1 in 1995.

Betty has been an active member in ML/GPA since 1994, and was elected to the Board in 1995. During the campaign on referendum Question 1, Betty served as co-chair of the Cumberland County MWD chapter. Prior to moving back to Maine, she served as vice-president of the Ft. Collins (Colorado) Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Currently, she is a mathematics teacher at Waynflete School in Portland.

Del was elected to the Board in 1994 and took over treasury responsibilities in the midst of his first year. During the campaign on referendum Question 1, Del served as statewide Coordinator and Volunteer Recruitment Director. Prior to MWD, he was active in ACT-UP and Equal Protection Portland. Currently, Del works as the Manager of Support Programs and Secondary Education Commission on Residential Life at Bowdoin College.

The Board also consists of newly elected treasurer, David Rappaport. David recently moved to Maine from Philadelphia to be with his partner. David comes to us with a myriad of experience in non-profit management.

Long-time ML/GPA Board member Dan Stevens is taking over the responsibility of recording secretary. Dan has served as president and vice-president of ML/GPA and has played very important roles in the legislative and fundraising efforts of the organization. Lauraine Bernier will continue in her post as membership secretary. Lauraine is responsible for maintaining the statewide mailing and membership lists.

Celeste Gosselin, long-time ML/GPA Board member, and Kate McLahlin, newly elected with three recent campaigns under her belt, will both serve on the Executive and Legislative Committee.

Returning to the Board in various capacities are Diane Campbell, Oakland; Brian Kaufman, Gardiner; and Deb Mears, Wilton. New to the Board are Harold Booth, Hallowell; Eben Chadwick, Portland; Michael Rossett, Portland; Jim Schneider, Susan Spirace, Bath; and Mark Sullivan, Hallowell.

Congratulations ML/GPA Board members. Best of luck for a successful legislative session and more!
Strategy for Statewide Non-Discrimination Bill being considered by ML/GPA

Betsy Smith, president, Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance

The 118th Legislature (1997-98) brings with it the best chance ever of passing a statewide non-discrimination bill based on sexual orientation. A large number of pro-gay candidates were elected to both the House and Senate in November, and we have a governor who promised to sign the legislation should it pass a statewide non-discrimination bill. Promising to sign the legislation should cross his desk.

Though we feel there is significant support in the Senate for a non-discrimination bill, there seems to be less support in the House. Plenty of educating and lobbying will be necessary for the House to render a majority of votes for the forefront of the lobbying effort.

Ted 60,000 citizen signatures to ban gay marriage in Maine, there seems to be less support in the House. Plenty of educating and lobbying will be necessary for the House to render a majority of votes for the forefront of the lobbying effort.

The argument that gay marriage is already not legal in Maine and therefore this legislation is unnecessary did not have a chance to resonate with the voters. Cosby's initiative will be voted on by the 118th Legislature; they will either enact it themselves or send it to the people of Maine for a vote. Enacting it themselves will result in a ban on gay marriage before we even have a chance to educate voters on the issue. Sending it to the people will result in another exhausting and costly referendum campaign. Your opinion on this topic is important to us. We would like to hear your ideas of how ML/GPA should proceed in the next several months. Please contact us with your ideas. And please join us at the ML/GPA legislative committee meetings so your voice can be heard.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS for LEGISLATIVE INPUT: * ML/GPA, PO Box 232, Hallowell, ME 04347, 1-800-55-MLGPA (or in Greater Portland 761-3732) * Tom Coffin, legislative liaison, e-mail to: tcoffinme@juno.com

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: * For information on time and location of meetings, call 1-800-55-MLGPA (or 761-3732).

Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance Announces Annual Awards Banquet

The 12th Annual ML/GPA Awards Banquet will be held Saturday, February 8, 1997, at the Augusta Civic Center. Plans are in the making for a very special banquet this year. Please put this date on your calendar.

Each year at the banquet, ML/GPA honors certain individuals and/or groups for their effort in the struggle for equality. We would like your input as to who should be recognized. Please take a moment to think about the individuals who are making a difference. We ask that you nominate the individual(s) who you feel deserve to be recognized.

Please call ML/GPA at 1-800-55-MLGPA (761-3732 in Greater Portland) to request a nomination form. If you get an answering machine, please leave your name, address, and phone number, and state that you are requesting an award nomination form.

ML/GPA........... 1-800-55-MLGPA or 761-3732 in Portland

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Harvard Preacher says Bible is a book of inclusion, not exclusion

by Robin Estrin
CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) - Peter J. Gomes is a preacher who defies stereotype.

He's an ordained Baptist minister who presides over Harvard University's non-denominational Memorial Church. And he's a black, gay Republican.

He's also Harvard's Plummer Professor of Christian Morals. But he knows that title doesn't sit well with the Jerry Falwells of the world.

"I'm sure I don't fit your idea of Christian morals, which is why I think you're wrong," he said in a recent interview in his basement office at Memorial Church, gesturing as if in imaginary debate.

"They have patented the notion of Christian morals, but it is not theirs to coin or mint."

Gomes majored in history at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and planned to study ancient Near Eastern art after graduation. But a religion professor urged him on to Harvard's Divinity School.

There, he said, "I found it was possible to be both intelligent and thoughtful on the one hand and pious and believing on the other that mind and heart thing."

Gomes (lymes with homes) rejects the "gay-bi sexual interpretation" of Exodus as so-called religious right. And in his new book, "The Good Book: Reading the Bible With Mind and Heart," published this month by William Morrow, he argues the Bible's words support him.

Throughout history, he says, some Christians have manipulated the Bible to oppress groups. Jews, women, blacks and homosexuals.

And it's those Christians who claim to be the most devout who traditionally have been the biggest oppressors, he says: the white Southern Baptists who persecuted slavery, for example, and the German Nazis who executed millions of Jews.

But, "Just because white people had abused Scripture didn't mean Scripture was abusive," he said.

"We are black, white, people, women and homosexuals, among others, to see and to hear that the Bible was both for them and with them," he wrote.

"Not only the Bible, but the whole of God's created world and its expressions is abundant in the presence of the Divine, a presence that all are invited to find and to find together as part of the totality of the religious life of the church."

"But in the Bible, there are lessons about love and life that are relevant to all people, that are always appropriate for all people."

"The biblical writers never commented on a form of homosexuality in which one was married, monogamous and faithful to one person, but were able to recognize that love and commitment is possible between people of the same sex."

Gomes feels the Bible is a book of inclusion, not exclusion, and sought to live out the implications of the gospel with as much fidelity to it as any other form of sexual orientation. He and his wife know of homosexuality was prostitution, pederasty, lasciviousness and exploitation."

"Gomes' moral imperative to write the book became especially clear five years ago. It was 1991, and a conservative Harvard undergrad said to him, 'If we can't have an entire issue to attacking homosexuals. The authors, most of whom were conservative Roman Catholics, argued that homosexuality could be condemned on biblical grounds.

The journal outraged many on campus. And Gomes was asked to address a Harvard Yard rally from the porch of Memori­al Church, over which he presided for 22 years.

He was asked to speak as a calming influence, not as a gay man. Indeed, few knew of his sexual orientation at the time. After all, this was the man who had played at the inaugural of Ronald Reagan and George Bush.

Gomes hadn't planned on disclosing his sexuality that day. But he did, he wrote, because he wanted to demonstrate "that there was more than one way to read the Bible."

His book, however, devotes only five pages to his own "coming out." His primary intention was to help others find meaning and virtue _ and, ultimately, religious life."

The Right Reverend Lord Runcie, the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, calls Gomes' work "easily the best contemporary book on the Bible for thoughtful people and one "we desperately need."

Gomes also contends the Bible is silent on abortion, and that abortion protestors have misinterpreted Exodus 20:13: "Thou shalt not kill."

A more accurate translation from the Hebrew would be, "Thou shalt do no murder," Gomes said.

In Hebrew, murder refers to the premoderated taking of life outside the womb; killing was associated with the ritual slaughter of animals for sacrifice.

"Not only is the Bible therefore silent on the question of abortion, but the one text used to justify opposition to it is wrongly construed in English," he wrote. Gomes, 55, is a short, stocky man with an expressive face, demonstrative hands and a strong, theatrical voice. He has a lifelong love of antiques _ his church office and his Plymouth home are full of them _ and is partial to three-piece suits, adorned by a gold pocket watch.

Gomes preaches to a wide variety of faiths in his Sunday sermons at the 17th century Memorial Church. Time Magazine once called him one of the country's top seven preachers.

The only child of a middle-class black couple in Plymouth, Gomes fell in love with religion as a small boy. His mother was a Baptist, and he attended Sunday morning services at the town's predominantly white Baptist church.

But Sunday nights, he and his family would go to the tany Bethel A.M.E. church with some 20 other black worshipers.

"The Good Book: Reading the Bible With Mind and Heart" by Peter J. Gomes. William Morrow And Co. Inc. $25.

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To Your Health: Lesbian Health Project Update, Part II

By Tania Jo Hathaway

In October, this column described LHP/SM's participation in the Breast and Cervical Health Program (BCHP) at Portland Public Health known as Women First. Thank you to those readers who wrote; this column presents their letters and discusses the training LHP/SM provided for the BCHP.

To review, BCHP is a federally funded program administered in six areas in Maine by the Bureau of Health. The program targets women who are thought to be at a higher risk of developing breast 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.

LHP/SM has been serving as a consultant to the BCHP's Portland-based coalition. However, LHP/SM does not endorse lesbians receiving services through this program since we cannot guarantee that lesbians will receive care by lesbian knowledgeable providers.

Several readers wrote their opinions on this matter. From N.M. in Portland: "It is far more important in my mind that lesbians get the necessary screening tests, regardless of whether or not they come out to their doctor.

From P.C. in Augusta: "Thank you, LHP/SM and Women First, for conducting outreach to lesbians around cancer screenings. I never would have gone to a regular doctor, but I have been to one of [LHP/SM's] screenings. From this, I detected some problems which I am now treating, without LHP/SM, who knows how long these problems would have gone on and what else could have developed."

From J.M. in Auburn: "I thank you for your policy of not supporting the work done by Women First until the program's health care providers have been educated about the special needs of lesbians. Should I choose to participate in this program, I will know up front that while I can get a pap and mammogram, it may not be safe to come out."

LHP/SM Trains Coalition Members

In mid-November, LHP/SM was invited to provide a statewide training to BCHP Coordinators. There are six Coalitions throughout the state; LHP/SM provided a 3 hour training to raise awareness and sensitivity about health issues for lesbians. The Coalition Coordinators—most of whom are not health care providers—will now take what the information back to their members and implement appropriate outreach and services for lesbians.

Following the training, Coalition Coordinators agreed that lesbians are underserved in most of the BCHP geographical areas and that the #1 priority is to train health care providers to be lesbian-knowledgeable before services can be implemented.

Tania Jo Hathaway is the coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, PO Box 11048 Portland ME 04104. (207)657-5864.
News From the Granite State

Teen Sexuality Documentary goes WWW - with an appreciative international following

CONCORD, NH — Academe Today, the on-line service of the Council of Higher Education, heralded it as a featured web site for its subscribers. NHK (Nippon Hosso Kyokai, the national broadcasting network in Japan) aired the web site look and functioning on its new satellite internet television channel over an entire month. Health educators in England, Norway, Belgium, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Canada e-mail back for more information and how to secure the documentary on video. Teenagers from school districts in Florida and California which restrict information about sexuality ask how they can get this documentary to their school staff; a youth in Brazil, writing back in Portuguese, thanks the documentary’s creator for letting him see himself as real.

"Your work has inspired me," writes back 27-year veteran elementary school principal James McDonald. "I must praise you for bringing out the truth. I've never heard the kids speak for themselves."

That response has been just the tip of a cybersecurity iceberg known as Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion, the new world wide web site for a documentary that was created and premiered in a most unlikely state for this project - New Hampshire.

Habib is the photographer editor of the Concord Monitor newspaper and a member of Impact Visuals Photographic Journalism Agency. His 40-minute documentary—upon which the web site tour is based—profiles eight young people of diverse race, ethnicity, socio-economic level, geographic locale, and sexual orientation. Web designer John Decker of Craneca Multimedia in Detroit was excited at the very prospect of translating Habib's imagery and narratives to the web. And his manner of presenting the material in an electronic format has paid off.

"Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion tops the menu of photo essays," writes Mike Smith, of the Detroit Free Press. "This in-depth project is the best documentation I've seen. The stories of the kids are extremely compelling."

Paralleling Habib’s dramatic and emotional photographs, the site also features commentary from seven prominent cultural scholars — including Susan Bordo, author of Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture and the Body — who examine messages and standards the popular culture communicates about sex, love, beauty and the body.

Habib's work in New Hampshire was featured in many magazines, including Mother Jones, American Photo, Student Assistance Journal and Photo District News. The photographs have won major prizes and have been featured in many prominent publications. The site also features commentary from seven prominent cultural scholars and standards the popular culture communicates about sex, love, beauty and the body.

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Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion is the four-year documentary study by award-winning photojournalist Dan Habib, who has served as technical advisor for content.

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Women's Health Consortium

The women's Health Consortium is a grant funded volunteer collaboration of local service providers and community members working together to ensure and maintain a cohesive approach to the provision of services for women in the Greater Seacoast Area.

The SEXUAL MINORITY HEALTH PROJECT has been developed to increase awareness and to address the specific needs of lesbian, bisexual and women-who-love-women in the Greater Seacoast Area. The Project is working to assist women in overcoming the many barriers they face in receiving proper healthcare. A few of those barriers are fear, lack of money, lack of transportation and a lack of understanding by healthcare providers as to what the needs are for sexual minority women.

The Project includes a workshop series, free screening clinics and general resource information for sexual minority women. One aim of the project is to target the low-income population of sexual minority women over 35 years of age, although they do offer many other programs for women of all ages, sexual orientations and class backgrounds.

For more information, call 603-431-1666 or write to Women's Health Consortium, 379 State Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

NH PFLAG

PFLAG NH: Seacoast has embarked on a new project. It recently placed its entire library holdings of more than 300 books in the New Hampshire State Library Loan System. This means that anyone in the state may go to his or her town library and borrow any of those titles.

Your public library will have a list of books dealing with sexual orientation and identity in all its forms—gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning. The Wiggan Memorial Library (Stratham Town Library) has assisted PFLAG NH in this project. Many thanks should go to director Michael Sullivan.

For more information, call 603-773-5196 for Betty Batchelder, who is the librarian for PFLAG NH's Seacoast Chapter.
Jury says Real Estate office did not discriminate against couple

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) - A Hillsborough County jury has cleared a Hollis realty office of any wrongdoing in its handling of a home owned by a gay couple.

Hollis residents Marc Smith and Michael Snell had sued over a $1.5 million from DeWolfe Simmonds Realtors. The couple claimed the firm had blacklist their home because they're gay and failed to secure it to notify him before entering the house.

Smith and Snell collect antiques and art work, and Smith collects jewelry. They said they asked Heline to have agents call them in advance before showing the house, and to have visitors, including agents, sign a guest book.

The jury, which found no evidence of discrimination, reached its verdict on Friday, after five days of testimony. "This is all over as far as I am concerned," said real estate agent Nancy Heline on Monday. "I think it is a shame that this kind of thing is allowed to happen...to destroy someone's reputation when there is no basis for it. DeWolfe and I are the victims in this case," she said.

Smith, who had accused Heline of saying she regretted having "got involved with you two queers," said he intends to testify before the state legislature next year when a proposal to create gay rights bill has a hearing. Smith, who had accused Heline of saying she regretted having "got involved with you two queers," said he intends to testify before the state legislature next year when a proposal to create gay rights bill has a hearing. Smith, who had accused Heline of saying she regretted having "got involved with you two queers," said he intends to testify before the state legislature next year when a proposal to create gay rights bill has a hearing. Smith, who had accused Heline of saying she regretted having "got involved with you two queers," said he intends to testify before the state legislature next year when a proposal to create gay rights bill has a hearing. Smith, who had accused Heline of saying she regretted having "got involved with you two queers," said he intends to testify before the state legislature next year when a proposal to create gay rights bill has a hearing.

Heline said. "Our policies have not changed," she said.

Last week's civil case represented only the first half of Smith and Snell's fight. In October, the couple also filed a $15 million lawsuit against the town of Hollis and the police...
Keep Passing the Open Windows
Some Parting Words...

by Aimsel L. Posti

Sometimes life can take unexpected, and unwelcomed turns. Such is the case with yours truly and I was recently forced to make a really difficult decision. But I'm counting on everyone I know who has supported me and been my friend to help me see the positive in this situation: I'm moving home. I'm gonna hang out at the folks' house in Andover, Massachusetts for the next 6 months or so. I gotta pay some bills and figure out what to do with my life. And this means leaving Portland. My sacred Portland.

People have asked me if I am sure. I honestly don't know, but I do know a few things. I have no money, no girl and my car is falling apart. Are these reasons enough to leave? Only time will tell. But as of December 16th, I'll be residing in Andover with Ma and Dad. WISH ME LUCK. I haven't lived at home since I was 19 so my trauma factor is QUITE high.

The good news is that Andover is only a 90 minute drive from Portland and it's only 25 minutes outside of Boston. The bad news is that this is the last issue of Community Pride Reporter I'll be writing for. I owe a lot to Winnie Weir, who let me start writing literally the moment I arrived in town. And much thanks to both Cathy Clark and Winnie for allowing me the artistic freedom to do my own thing. And a HUGE thanks to everyone who has offered me kind words and who have kept reading CPR...This has meant a lot to me...

There certainly has been enough in the A&E world over the last 21/2 years to have made my job easy. Visits from Sarah McLachlan, Joan Armatrading, Tori Amos, Indigo Girls, Cowboy Junkies, disappear fear, Shawn Colvin, Melissa Etheridge, Ani DiFranco, Tiek and Patti and others...A constant supply of excellent local music from the like of Kate Schrock (good luck with your new album, Kate!!), Darren Brahms, Lynn Deoves, Val Bennett and Erika Gilbert to name a few...Keep supporting local artists!!!

I also couldn't write this without thanking all the people who have been there for me during my darkest hours. You all know who you are and we both know that it doesn't end here. The people who mean the most to me in this world live in Portland so I know I'll always keep coming back.

Oh, and before I forget, to my recent Tracy Chapman dance partner; We simply must dance again sometime... I So anyways, I'm getting all depressed (for something new) writing this so I want to invite everyone I know to come down to Sisters (45 Danforth st.) on Saturday Night, December 14th. It's my last night in Maine and I want to drink Dewars, dance, smoke cigars and give you my new address and phone#.

So many people have touched my life since I moved here in April of 94. I can't believe I'm really leaving. Once I get my act together, I may be back. Until then, remember the following things and live by them. I do.

1. Keep Passing the open windows (don't give up hope)
2. Noone can make you feel inferior without your permission
3. dewars and cigars go together well
4. Get obsessed and stay obsessed with whatever you want 'cause life is too short not to.
5. and lastly, keep the music playing

(and Happy Holidays too)

XOXOXOXO AIMS

p.s. this just in...it's Friday a.m. the day after Thanksgiving and after spending 2 nights at home (although my folks are pretty cool), I may have to have a full blown nervous breakdown soon. But, this will certainly motivate me to pay off my debt and move the hell back to Portland...

More than “Just a Little bit of Star Quality”

Madonna and Antonia relight the fire of EVITA

By Aimsel L. Posti

Since about 1985 I've been fighting off any desire to like Madonna's music. At first, with stupid songs like "Lucky Star" it was easy. Gradually, as the years and scandals wore on, my defenses were lowered. Finally, with the release of her "Erotica" album it was all over and I can still say that "Rain" is one of my favorite songs. It's not that I don't like her, in fact I think she's as cool as shit. I'll even go so far as to admit that I bought her coffee table book a few years back. I even have a picture of myself that was taken in front of her house (well the gates anyway) in the Hollywood hills. I didn't mean to stalk her, but the friend I was visiting had directions to her house. I couldn't resist. And I can't resist the need to officially proclaim with sincere emotion MADONNA'S EVITA IS REAL!

ANTONIO BANDERAS CAN SING! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE MOVIE! O.K. now that I've taken a few breaths...

I saw Evita in 1984. Since then, it's music has been close to my heart and when I first heard the news that a movie was being made, I got nervous. I also got over it. Madonna has done complete justice to Tim Rice's legendary see Star Quality page 12
A second look at Sheryl Crow

by Dixie Townsend

Did you ever meet someone who just rubbed you the wrong way? I was impossible that the two of you could share anything in common. You didn't like them; didn't even want to like them. Then, before you knew what happened, they stole your heart. Tell me that never happened to you!

When I first heard Sheryl Crow's "All I Wanna Do", a couple of years ago, I thought to myself: "here's another one-hit wonder!". I don't like this song, and I am not going to like this song no matter how much they play it on the radio. Then I bought the album, was caught completely off guard, and totally blown away. "All I Wanna Do", although he most commercially exploited, was by far not the best song on Tuesday Night Music Club. Even after Crow's debut album's commercial success, she was passed as a fluke, this could never happen again. Sadly enough, that's how I felt until a few weeks ago.

When I heard "If It Makes You Happy", the roller coaster ride began again. I love this song. Crow's new self-titled album is far and away better than her debut. Crow touches on a lot of different issues on this album and she does it eloquently, quietly and blatantly.

In "Hard To Take A Stand", Crow takes on the abortion issue and the violence surrounding it. In "Home", Crow really hits a soft spot with the age old, I have-everything-I-ever-thought-I-would-want-and I'm-still-not-happy, syndrome. The songs on this album were all written and produced by Crow, and are truly amazing. Maybe this time around, Ms. Crow will get the respect that she deserves.

Alabama Rain

What do you get when you combine the following ingredients: William Faulkner, Magic Realism, Stoped Time, a Magic Well, a town where it hasn't rained for 40 years, a magnolia tree that refuses to die, and five sisters — one who's dead but refuses to leave the house, another who's been pregnant for at least 30 years, a third possessed by her sister's "just plain hateful" spirit, another who walks to the "end of the world" and the youngest, who risks her own life to save them all? The latest episode of the X-Files? Noooooo. Move ever, Ben Mulder, here comes the LaDean Sisters!

Mad Horse Theater Company has found the perfect cure for cabin fever with its current production Alabama Rain. Written by New Hampshire playwright Heather McCutchen, this whimsical tale centers around the eccentric inhabitants of the LaDean Boarding House "way outside of Culman, Alabama". The five sisters wait (and wait and wait) for tourists, for rain, for the birth of a child, for time to move forward, for just about everything. This lyrical exploration of inner courage and the fulfillment that comes from embracing an uncertain future has delighted audiences throughout the country. The interplay between the sisters reflects not only their southern heritage and the small town culture that surrounds them, but the kind of family dynamics that speaks to us all.

Alabama Rain will run from January 30 through February 23 at the Mad Horse Theater Company, 955 Forest Avenue, Portland, Me. Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 pm, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 pm and Sundays at 5:00 pm. Tickets are $18.00 ($16.00 for students and seniors). Tickets for Saturday night performances are $20.00 ($18.00 for students and seniors). Our "pay what you can" night is Sunday February 2nd. Buy 1, Get 1 Free Night is Thursday February 6th. For more information and reservations, call 797-3338.

Mad Horse Theater Company is Maine's longest-running resident ensemble theater and performs in an intimate 120-seat theater. Mad Horse is a registered Non-Profit 501(c)3 organization based in Portland, Maine.
Maine Community AIDS Partnership (MCAP)

The Maine Community AIDS Partnership (MCAP) is a collaborative project of the United Way of Greater Portland and the Maine Community Foundation. MCAP's mission is to bring new resources to Maine for HIV prevention and services. A statewide volunteer Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from clergy, state and local government, medical and social services providers, community leaders, and people living with HIV, guides MCAP's activities. MCAP's role as a fundraiser differentiates it from other efforts such as the Maine AIDS Plan (MAAP) and the Maine Community AIDS Partnership (MCAP). MCAP's activities. MCAP's role as a Development Project and the Maine HIV Advisory Committee.

MCAP seeks to increase the capacity of communities and systems to respond courageously and effectively to the HIV epidemic.

Needs Assessment provide the foundation for all MCAP activities. MCAP is committed to the collaborative process in all aspects of its work. MCAP is committed to involving persons living with HIV in all aspects of the process. MCAP encourages unrestricted gifts and will consider donor preferences as they relate to identified needs. MCAP participates in an on-going evaluation process of ourselves and our grantees.

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services (MASS)

Since its beginning in 1987, the Board of Directors and staff of Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services (MASS) have been committed to the following:

- Providing clear and concise information regarding the transmission and prevention of HIV
- Providing support and encouragement to all who have been infected with, or affected by, this disease
- Providing a forum whereby social prejudices, myths and irrational fears related to HIV/AIDS can be dispelled.

Located in Brunswick, Maine, MASS is the only AIDS support service agency serving the mid-coast area. Since its inception, MASS has managed the well-established Buddy Program for the State of Maine. As a result of this program, hundreds of volunteers have been trained to provide one-on-one emotional support to persons with HIV/AIDS, their caregivers, and family members. We continue to facilitate a support group for persons with AIDS, as well as family members.

With regards to our work in the field of AIDS prevention, our agency has provided thousands of individuals, young and old, with specific, age-appropriate information regarding the transmission of HIV, as well as how HIV is not transmitted. Students in elementary schools, high schools and colleges, as well as employees of mental health agencies, daycare centers, substance abuse facilities, and persons employed by government and private businesses now have a better understanding of how this disease is transmitted, as well as how it can be prevented. 

We at MASS also believe that our education work has created a safer and more caring environment for all who are living with this disease.

Tom Antonik Exhibit

Portland photographer Tom Antonik has exhibited his photographs in group shows and special exhibits at the Danforth Gallery, June Fitzpatrick Gallery and The Aids Project. Since being diagnosed with AIDS 10 years ago, he has turned more and more to his photography to as a means of expression and documentation of his personal journey through communities forever changed by HIV/AIDS.

The black and white photographs in this exhibit include people who have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS - many of whom, have since died from the illness. Antonik's photographs serve as a compelling tribute to the men and women who lived and died courageously in the face of AIDS.

The exhibit will be on display at the Lewis Gallery of the Portland Library from December 2 - 31. It is free and open to the public during regular library hours.
The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt...

Each of the 3x6 fabric panels remembers someone who has died of AIDS. The panels were created by families, lovers, and friends in homes and community centers, across the country and around the world.

The entire quilt includes more than 45,000 memorial panels, representing only a fraction of the AIDS deaths in the United States, and even fewer of the deaths worldwide. Still, the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt is the most visible symbol of the epidemic.

The NAMES Project continues to accept panels in memory of those who have died of AIDS, as well as organizing displays such as this one, knowing that the Quilt’s eloquent silence opens hearts and minds to the realities of this epidemic. The mission of the NAMES Project Foundation is to illustrate the enormity of the AIDS epidemic by showing the humanity behind the statistics through the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

If you can lend a hand, volunteer at the local AIDS service organization, make a contribution to The NAMES Project or are interested in making a panel, we invite you to contact our local chapter.

The NAMES Project/Maine PO Box 10248 Portland, ME 04104 207-774-2198

Food For Life & Other Dish

Edited by Lawrence Schimel this book is a celebrity cookbook benefiting organizations that provide meals for people with AIDS. Included are favorite recipes from 55 well-known queer and queer-friendly notables who have donated their culinary secrets. Along with recipes, Food For Life & Other Dish includes brief comments, anecdotes and photos of contributors.

An appendix lists meal-providing organizations and explains how readers can volunteer and contribute directly. Each day over 10,000 meals are served to home-bound people with AIDS by thousands of volunteers working for grassroots organizations. Food For Life & Other Dish is intended to support this community, linking readers to celebrity contributors, grassroots "gourmets" who volunteer for AIDS organizations across the country, and people with AIDS who will benefit most directly from the monies raised by sales of the book. In the face of the AIDS epidemic, Food For Life & Other Dish is a small gesture, offering hope and nourishment—which nurture both body and soul.

Pets Are Wonderful Support

120B Brackett Street Portland, Maine 04102 Phone: (207) 874-0091

Internet: paws@ime.net http://www.ime.net/PAWS/

Charles Wynott Co-founder

Not all battles are fought with a sword.
Luscious Jackson: Feel the vibe of Fever In Fever Out
by Aimsel L. Ponti, Arts and Entertainment Editor

Luscious Jackson Rule! Let's get one thing straight though, their name has nothing to do with Michael. Get this, they named themselves after a guy who played basketball for the Philadelphia 76ers back in the 60's. His name was Luscious Jackson. His nickname was Luscious. That's it...

The four women who make up Luscious Jackson met in New York City and have been playing together since 1992. When drummer Kate Schellenbach was 15 she played with the Beastie Boys. How cool is that? Anyways, "Fever In Fever Out" is the foursome's latest offering on the Grand Royal label and this album grooves, rocks and just seeps into you. Know what I mean? Probably not if you haven't heard this record but having listened to it many, many times over the last few weeks, I can tell you that this album is like a favorite sweater. Some records are like clothes. You have to obsess for a while, try different stuff on and then when you finally grab your old standby favorite sweater, you say to yourself "Why didn't I put that on in the first place?" I find myself doing this a lot with music. First I'll put in one CD, then another, and still unsatisfied I'll reach for one that I know will offer the perfect blend of music, lyrics and ambience.

It is this category that "Fever In Fever Out" falls into. I seem to have a lot of music that slips between the cracks, or behind the stereo as the case might be and I can kind of forget about for a while and not really miss it. On the other hand, if I couldn't find my Luscious Jackson disc, there would be bitterness and temper tantrums in the house of Aim.

The vocals offered by Jill Cunniff as well as by Gabby Glaser are both perky and pleasing. The women of Luscious Jackson can sing and play with that certain flair and edge that have made me a new, but very enthusiastic fan.

The new album has a pulse of its own which is perhaps best captured on the first single, "Naked Eye" as well as "Mood Swing" and "Why Do I Lie?"

Other releases include 1994's EP "In Search of Manny" and 1994's "Natural Ingredients," both on the Grand Royal Label.

Star Quality from page 8

lyrics and I am besotted myself that Antoni Banderas can really sing. O.K, so he's not as brilliant as Mandy Patinkin's performance of Che, but I'm telling you, Banderas pulls it off. Who knew? Obviously Hollywood did.

This double cd is charged with the raw energy of a Broadway show combined with slick production and vibrant music. The music of Evita is timeless, epic and powerful. The songs are both beautiful and tragi and whatever Madonna did to get herself ready to record them worked. She sings with the passion she knew she had to for this project to work. This is not just another Madonna album. It's not even close.

From the zip of "Buenos Aires" to the familiar sadness of "Don't Cry for Me Argentina," there's an urgency and spirit to this album that may earn Madonna both a Grammy and an Oscar. Add to this the most impressive "High Flying Adored" from Banderas. The bottom line: Madonna and Antonio and Co. have done for Evita what I certainly didn't expect them to do. They've kept it's fury and it's magic alive. I hope the film does the same.
But I love Christmas Music...

By Almo L. Ponti

This Holiday season I am overwhelmed with thoughts of how broke I am, how many empty "career" plans are, lovability complaints and the usual assortment of negativity. BUT! LOVE CHRISTMAS MUSIC.

I was overwhelmed with thoughts of how broke I am, which is fitting as I think about the Christmas season. It's a time when comfort lies between a place where comfort lies between a place where comfort lies between a place where comfort lies.

Staging, film production and finally a career and the completion of a thought production, he is "creation is the process that is evidently taking Extensions all the way." He has embraced him for over a year. He has made this a full time project. It has just about the clash of spirituality and sexuality and the way they affect each other. This story is about the same issues that effect each and every one of us, about the need for connection with another human being. About feeling connected and grounded with another. That has everything, yet nothing to do with sex."

As the writer and director of this film Bob feels that he is able to sense more clearly the concepts surrounding the completion of this project. "I am still surprised at how much time and effort this story steals from me. The more I give it the more it takes. And it hurts because as I follow this man, as I document his spiritual and sexual struggles, I realize that I am actually battling my ghosts as a gay man who was raised as a Roman Catholic. Consequently, the project can only move as fast as I am willing to process and heal myself."

Having completed two days of filming and a two day photo icon study at the Vatican and other churches in Rome, Poirier will be shooting the rest of Extensions in Portland in the next few months. "But," he says, everything is not about a gay Roman Catholic priest and spent hours upon hours conjugating the life style with his own and attempting to make sense of the factual while carefully unweaving the emotional complexities. Extensions is not only a story about a gay Roman Catholic Priest. This is a wondrous adventure into a filmmaker's first attempt at creating life on screen.

For Bob the story has changed, and attempted to make sense of the factual while carefully unweaving the emotional complexities. Extensions is not only a story about a gay Roman Catholic Priest and spent hours upon hours conjugating the life style with his own and attempting to make sense of the factual while carefully unweaving the emotional complexities. Extensions is not only a story about a gay Roman Catholic Priest. The next best thing for Extensions is on December 11; a Star-packed special Wednesday night comedy show at the Comedy Connection with Jim Lauletta, Ed Sion, Quin Collins, Mark Scola, and host George Ham. For tickets and Information call Bob at 828-4030 or the Comedy Connection at 774-5554. Or you can pick them up when shopping at Drop Me-A-Line, Coffee by Design or The Whimsical World of David Cedrone in downtown Portland.

Clarity, in Film-Time by
Brooke Woodruff

Extensions is a film about a devotion towards men and an unrequited love affair with God. It is a true story about a silent struggle. Extensions illuminates the space between religion and society. A place where comfort lies between a prayer and the touch of a man's hands. What spirituality is a conflict and uncertainty is in the hands of God.

One thing is certain, Bob Poirier is not letting anything stand in the way of his film. Extensions. Bob is a native of Maine who has established himself as a freelance Associate Producer in Portland's growing film community. He attended the University of Maine where he studied drama. Bob's career has led him on a winding path, from stage acting, film production and finally to directing. It is time, he feels, to put his knowledge into action.

His daynight and night life are devoted fully to the realization of the script and the completion of a thought producing project. Bob explains that for him, "creation is the process that is engaging...full time means completion."

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(Whindham Hill). This is great all year round. Pianist George Winston's playing has a melancholy tinge to it which somehow is appropriate. This is an instrumental album that is ideal for when you want to walk in, rather than fight off the winter blues. Sometimes you just got to feel sad, especially in December. Trust George.

2. Have Yourself a Jazzy Little Christmas (Verve) This is probably my all-time favorite Christmas album. It's got everyone from Oscar Peterson to Billie Holiday. From Mel Torme to Dinh Washington crooning "Ole Santa." There are instrumental tunes, old-stand-bys and a superb blend of jazz greats. If you only invest in one Christmas music album this year, make this be it.

3. Ella Fitzgerald-Ella Wishes You A Swingin' Christmas (Also on Verve) Self-explanatory

4. Boris Karloff narrating How The Grinch Stole Christmas Also self-explanatory

I discovered, and bought this album just the other day. If I could put together a Christmas compilation, this would be it. This album came out in time last year and there is such an amazing collection of musicians on it that I find it hard to believe. Are you ready? Dig this: Dick and Paul, Pochie Snow, Julia Fordham, Jane Siberry, Gypsy Kings, Mary Karlen, Jewel, Bel Canto, Channah and more. I didn't make this up! Find this one, it's incredible.
by David Cook

A funny old place isn’t it. While politicians have been debating the merits of having gays in the military, the largest heterosexual scandal in American military history is unfolding. In what could be called an epidemic — if it weren’t just business as usual — thousands of women over a period of decades have been raped by their male comrades. And who knows how many more have been abused and harassed at a level insufficient to attract perpetrators are male.) The putative ratio in the military, policy to serve by pretending they are heterosexual, that sexual misconduct is OK (so harassment at a level insufficient to attract would generate too much tension among the troops. But really, it’s demeaning, but a lot of men have been treating a lot of women this way for a long time. It’s ironic, isn’t it, how the gay community has to mobilize over and over again to fight for our rights and reputations, while members of our accusers’ community prove once again that they aren’t moral enough to sit in judgement of us. They say our lifestyle is perverse and goes against God. I wonder what that god thinks about women being gang-raped in military barracks.

They say we aren’t moral enough to teach their children because we are all child molesters. I wonder how they can rationalize away the fact that most kids are molested by members of their own families. They say we shouldn’t be allowed to marry, because same-sex marriages will destroy the family. Gee, do you think same-sex marriages will cause more destruction than deadbeat dads, drug abuse, gangs, rampant domestic violence, horrifying levels of child physical and sexual abuse, an ever-widening gap between the haves and have-nots, ruined neighborhoods, and a fifty percent heterosexual divorce rate?’’

Golly gee, I’m not sure; maybe I’d better do third grade all over again! Obviously, bigotry flies in the face of common sense. Maine’s own Carolyn Cosby, for example, has been working against gay and lesbian rights for several years now and shows no sign of having had the great revelation that she is aiding and abetting the same moral thugs who have oppressed women for so long.

Homophobia and misogyny have their roots in the same social disease; weaken gay rights, you weaken women’s rights. Or, to coin a cliche, “no one is free until everyone is free.” Yet this message hasn’t penetrated to those who think that they can curtail others’ rights while retaining their own. They are, however, sorely mistaken. We’d all better start seeing the sexual scandal in our military as a cautionary tale whose moral is that bigotry unchallenged will ultimately turn us all.

Southern Maine Pride 1997 Logo Contest
Design this year’s logo and get a whole bunch of people looking at your stuff.

The logo should include the international theme “Equality Through Visibility,” or a slogan of your choice, the dates June 18-22, 1997, and “Pride, Portland, Maine.”

It is limited up to three colors plus black and white. It must use either a white or black background (submitted on the appropriate one(s)). We must receive 3 sizes of the design:

T-shirt, postcard, and button versions (sizing is your choice). The logo will be owned and used at will by Pride.

The winner will receive resume recommendations and materials, design acknowledgements, Pride merchandise, free admission for two to all events Pride week, and an $80 gift certificate to the restaurant of their choice.

The decision will be made by the Board of Directors of Southern Maine Pride and announced on Monday, January 20, 1997.

Prizes to be distributed during the Pride Festival in June. Further information at 207-879-7323. Deadline: January 15, midnight. Mailing to: Pride, PO Box 11592, Portland Maine 04104

Divorce, from page 2.

South Africa, from page 2.

Phumzile Mtetwa, of the National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality in South Africa.

Engagement in New York will be provided by the Lavender Light Black and People of All Colors Gospel Choir, and in D.C. by Evelyn Harris, singer and former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock vocal group. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be served. Contact Marilyn Hylor at NGLTF for more information, (202)332-6483, ext. 3219.
The Wednesday, June 18 PrideLights to midnight, with more lighting and to youth, will have different hours, 8 PM hope to supply a speakers night. A hib it opening reception. Thursday we be a little better, not necessarily bigger.

approached some nationally known per­

The result of the importance is to educate both gay and non-gay peoples about the sharing and thehood of ad­

As volunteer perks, the committee has budgeted opportunities for Pride Committee members to attend the re­

Twas the night before Christmas....

Daralyn S

Maxwell

"Twas the night before Christmas and downstairs in my house I was doing some

laundry, and ironing a blouse.

As I finished and washed up, preparing for bed, I had visions of holiday merriment all in my head.

I put on a nightgown and let down my hair, and I already felt asleep in my bedroom.

As I finished and washed up, preparing for bed, I had visions of holiday merriment all in my head.

I put on a nightgown and let down my hair, and I already felt asleep in my bedroom. I was amazed, being Jewish, and had expected him not but since he was here, I should see what he had brought!

He stepped at the bookcase and set down a photo; One of my heroes-Peter Lorre as Mr. Moto. It got serious, though, as he wandered about; The excitement almost made me scare him with a shout!

I pulled apart wrapping, I shook my head slowly but alas He had gone back out the door.

And so, I

Whether you're gay, a

or straight, whether you're single or married, gay pride events are for everyone.

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every night that Santa drops in on me.

BOY what a sight!

And so, I will say to all those who read this; This is the hope you enjoy some holiday cheer.

Whether you're gay, a cross-dresser or await SRS Your holiday will be what you make it, I guess.

Be good to your friends or your kin; Have a wonderful Christmas, and the rest of your lives.

Daralyn Maxwell wishes upon stars, and offers heartfelt holiday greetings, from Portland, Maine. Write to her at CPR or by e-mail at dalmax@ime.net

I then looked at my stock, of which there were many; beginning with a gift certificate from J.C. Penney.

He had seen to everything, that wily old man And I'll thank him forever as much as I can.

I pulled apart wrapping, ripped boxes and bow Found a great book on gender politics I should know.

I found leggins, a vest, and even a blouse; those was a winner ticket for Publisher Clearing House.

I shook my head slowly to be sure that this was real and looked for a contract, or some screevy deal!

But no, this was mine, and all mine was to keep Then I realized that I had not yet been to sleep.

And then here's the catch, it is not

Community Pride Reporter

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Our Mission

Community Pride Reporter serves as a source of local, state, national and international news, information, ideas and opinions by and for the gay, bisexual and transgendered people of Maine and New Hampshire. CPR strives to maintain non-partisanship and a sense of humor in reporting of the rich diversity among us, with the intention of informing the world community of our uniqueness, and to show all reasonable care is taken to prevent such errors. If an error has been published, the Publisher may consider printing a correction at its discretion. No assumptions should be made concerning the sexual self-identification of either businesses or advertisers.

Submissions Welcome

CPR encourages readers to write! Material submitted for publication must be legibly signed and include address and phone number for verification. All submissions are subject to editing. Please keep letters to the CPR Magazine to 300 words or less. Slightly longer and more composed submissions may be considered for a guest editorial at the Publisher's discretion. If requested, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of any author for legitimate reasons. Questions regarding submissions should be directed to the publisher.

Community Pride Reporter December 1996 / January 1997 Page 15

Dad I was amazed, being Jewish, and had had

I was amazed, being Jewish, and had had

I was amazed, being Jewish, and had had

I was amazed, being Jewish, and had had

I was amazed, being Jewish, and had had

I was amazed, being Jewish, and had had
Identity Support

New Hampshire PFLAG Meetings
Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & Main Streets. Meets 3rd Sunday from 2-4 pm, at the First United Methodist Church, 28 Race St., Nashua. Meets 1st Tuesday from 7:30 pm at Cathedral Church, 202 State Street, Concord, NH 03301, or call 577-2722.

Lesbian/Gay Catholics
The organization of Catholic Women offers support for Lesbian/Gay Catholics and their families. Third Sunday of every month at 6:30 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral Church, 523 1st St., Portland. Coffee and dessert after the Mass. For information contact 569-1528. Lesbian/Gay Catholics
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Northern Lambda Need
an educational, informational, social, and service organization serving lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are 2nd Sunday of every month at the Pineville YMCA, 87 St. Lucia St., Daniel, contact phone 207-879-1307. Lesbian/Gay Catholics
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Community Pride Resources

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**HIV Related Support Meetings**

**Portland:**
- Monday: Youth support group for HIV/AIDS run by Catholic Family Services, 500 Congress St., 6th floor, 5:30-7:30 p.m., contact 774-TALK.
- Tuesday: Community AIDS Support Services (CASS), Eastern Maine Medical Center, 142 High St., 7:00-9:00 p.m., contact 774-TALK.
- Wednesday: Youth support group for HIV/AIDS meeting at the Portland Public Library, 211 Folsom St., 5:30-7:30 p.m., contact 774-TALK.
- Thursday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meeting at the Portland Public Library, 211 Folsom St., 5:30-7:30 p.m., contact 774-TALK.

**Waterville:**
- Monday: Support group for people living with HIV/AIDS meets at 5:00 p.m., contact 435-7903.
- Tuesday: Living Well, a support group for HIV/AIDS clients, meets at 6:00 p.m., contact 435-7903.
- Wednesday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meets at 5:30 p.m., contact 435-7903.
- Thursday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meets at 5:30 p.m., contact 435-7903.

**Bangor:**
- Tuesday: People living with HIV/AIDS meet at the YMCA, 435-7903.
- Wednesday: People living with HIV/AIDS meet at the YMCA, 435-7903.
- Thursday: People living with HIV/AIDS meet at the YMCA, 435-7903.

**Augusta:**
- Thursday: People living with HIV/AIDS meet at the Augusta Civic Center, 435-7903.

**Saco:**
- Friday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meets at the Saco Hospital, 435-7903.

**Waldoboro:**
- Friday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meets at the Waldoboro Community Center, 435-7903.

**Wells:**
- Saturday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meets at the Wells Central School, 435-7903.

**Wiscasset:**
- Friday: Support group for HIV/AIDS meets at the Wiscasset Community Center, 435-7903.

**HIV Related Phone Support By Region**

**National Center for Lesbian Rights Youth Project:**
- Call 1-800-528-NOIQ:
  - Bisexual Alliances of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGLY): 1-800-347-TEEN.
  - Staffed by trained volunteers.

**Bridgton:**
- Call 1-800-347-TEEN.
- HIV/AIDS support group for the Bridgton area meets at the Bridgton Public Library, 1-800-347-TEEN.

**Dover (NH):**
- Call 1-800-347-TEEN:
  - Gaynet: 1-800-347-TEEN.
  - Portland: Staffed by trained volunteers.
  - Do you have questions or need referrals? Call 1-800-347-TEEN.

**Maine Gay Chorus:**
- Call 1-800-347-TEEN:
  - Staffed by trained volunteers.
  - Do you have questions or need referrals? Call 1-800-347-TEEN.

**Maine Gay Women's Chorus:**
- Call 1-800-347-TEEN:
  - Staffed by trained volunteers.
  - Do you have questions or need referrals? Call 1-800-347-TEEN.

**Fishers Island:**
- Call 1-800-347-TEEN:
  - Staffed by trained volunteers.
  - Do you have questions or need referrals? Call 1-800-347-TEEN.

**Women in Harmony:**
- Call 1-800-347-TEEN:
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**Phone Support By Region**

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**Health Care:**
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MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCES "VOLUNTEER NIGHT"

ML/GPA will host one of many volunteer nights on Monday, December 16. Due to the number of people expressing interest in getting involved with ML/GPA, an introduction to the organization (complete with tasks, pizza, and fun) will take place on December 16, from 6-8pm. With the 118th Legislature about to assemble, with the annual banquet planned for February 8, with Carolyn Crosby looming over gay marriage ban, with hate crimes against gay youth at an all-time high, there is plenty of work to be done.

ML/GPA Volunteer Night. Monday, December 16, 6-8pm. Located at 1 Pleasant St (4th floor), Portland. Please contact ML/GPA if you are interested in volunteering.

Spruce Run

The Spruce Run Association hotline provides support to people whose lives have been impacted by domestic violence. The hotline needs additional volunteers. The association provides volunteers with free training, lots of support and some fun and parties, too. The next hotline volunteer training will begin in mid-January in Bangor. The forty-three hour training occurs in twice a week sessions lasting three and a half hours. Volunteers do not need any prior experience. Volunteers work from their homes at night or in the association office during the day. Those interested in getting more information can call 945-5102 by January 6, 1997.

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December 1997 Calendar of Events

November 1 - December 31 Exhibition of Maine artist Dahllov Ipcar's illustrations and prints at the offices of the Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick ME. FMI (207)729-6333


December 12 - 22 "A Child's Christmas in Wales" presented by Vintage Repertory Company at Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 PM and Sundays at 3 PM plus two matinee performances on Dec. 21 and 22, 2 PM. Adults $12; under $6; matinee for family of four - $30. FMI and reservations (207)775-5102. December 13 - 19 "Everything Relative" showing nightly at Railroad Square Cinema, Waterville ME. Nightly at 7:30; Saturday and Sunday at 12:40. Six lesbians and one straight woman reunite at the summer home of one couple—a "must see" lesbian "Big Chill." December 13 - 14 8 PM - Boston Gay Men's Chorus annual holiday concert at New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, Boston MA. FMI 961-424-8900.

December 16 - 22 Christmas Tree Weekend at Parker's Motel, Lincoln NH. $112 per person, double occupancy; $159, per single occupancy. All prices include a donation to NH AIDS Foundation. FMI 800-766-6835.

December 16 - 7 PM - Lesbian/Gay Catholocics of Dignity/Maine hold a supportive Mass on World AIDS Day for Lesbian/Gay/Transgendered Catholics and their friends/families, as well as anyone affected by HIV and AIDS. Mass held at St. Lukes Cathedral, in the side chapel, 143 State St., Portland ME. Coffee and desert offered after the liturgy. FMI call Rosemary or Janet (207)646-2800 or write to Dignity/ Maine, PO Box 8113, Portland ME 04104-8113. All replies will be confidential.

Sunday, December 13 - 1 PM - Southern NH AIDS Task Force candlelight vigil for World AIDS Day at the American Stage Festival. Volunteers needed. FMI (603)559-8446.

Thursday, December 19 - 2 - 4 PM - Growing Through Grieving is intended to help those who have lost someone they loved through death. Meets first and third Thursday of each month at Mercy Hospital (144 State St., Portland ME) in the Administrative Conference Room, level B1. FMI (207)787-8347.

Tuesday, December 17 Noon - Coping with Caregiving provides support for those who care for a chronically/ terminally ill or disabled person. Meets the second and fourth Friday of each month at Mercy Hospital (144 State St., Portland ME) in the Administrative Conference Room, level B1. FMI (207)787-3477.

Sunday, December 15 12 - 6 PM - Holiday Open House and Tree Trimming at Mandy's. An Amelia's Event. FMI (603)632-7146.

Monday, December 16 8 PM - Poetry Readings at Oak Street Theater (Open sign-up 7:30 - 8:00). Sponsored by Oak Street Theater and the Cafe Review poetry magazine. 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)775-5103.

Thursday, December 19 3 - 4 PM - Growing Through Grieving is intended to help those who have lost someone they loved through death. Meets the first and third Thursday of each month at Mercy Hospital (144 State St., Portland ME) in the Administrative Conference Room, level B1. FMI (207)787-3477.

Saturday, December 21 2 PM - Mature Women's Chorus annual holiday concert at ME) in the Administrative Conference Room, level Bl. FMI Jonathan's, Ogunquit ME. FMI (207)468-2088 or (800)468-2088.

Tuesday, December 22 - 4 PM - Bangor Community Choir at College of the Maine Arts and Sciences at the Bangor Mall. FMI (207)366-2746.

Wednesday, December 23 - 3:30 PM - Growing Through Grieving is intended to help those who have lost someone they loved through death. Meets first and third Thursday of each month at Mercy Hospital (144 State St., Portland ME) in the Administrative Conference Room, level B1. FMI Jonathan's, Ogunquit ME. FMI (207)468-2088 or (800)468-2088.

Tuesday, December 24 - 2:00 PM - Specialized Holiday Middle School, Rte 12 Saco ME. Free and third Thursday of each month at Pleasant St., Brunswick ME. FMI Thursday, December 19 .3 - 4 PM - Bizarre Bazaar sponsored by Rainbow Business and Professional Association. Happy Hour: 5 - 6:30. Dinner: 6:30. At Embassy Suites, Portland ME. FMI (207)775-0077.

Tuesday, December 25 - 4 PM - Matlovich Society presents Rick MacPherson, freelance writer for the Casco Bay Weekly, "Maine's Quer Culture: Checking For A Pulse." Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME. FMI (207)761-4380.

Thursday, December 27 - 3:30 - 9 PM - Matlovich Society presents Rick MacPherson, freelance writer for the Casco Bay Weekly, "Maine's Quer Culture: Checking For A Pulse." Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME. FMI (207)761-4380.

Tuesday, December 31 Northern Lambd Auckland New Year's Eve Party in New Sweden ME. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088.


Monday, January 6 - 6 PM - Poetry Readings at Oak Street Theater (Open sign-up 7:30 - 8:00). Sponsored by Oak Street Theater and the Cafe Review poetry magazine. 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)775-5103.

Monday, January 6 - 12 PM - Poetry Readings at Oak Street Theater (Open sign-up 7:30 - 8:00). Sponsored by Oak Street Theater and the Cafe Review poetry magazine. 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)775-5103.

Thursday, January 9 - 5 PM - Refusal of Service to Homophobes at Perkin's Inn, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)787-3477.

Thursday, January 16 - 5:30 PM - Refusal of Service to Homophobes at Perkin's Inn, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)787-3477.

Tuesday, January 20 - 5:30 PM - Refusal of Service to Homophobes at Perkin's Inn, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)787-3477.

Wednesday, January 21 - 5:30 PM - Refusal of Service to Homophobes at Perkin's Inn, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)787-3477.
New Years Portland

New Year's Eve is only six weeks away! Make your plans now to attend the Arts District's most celebrated event of the year, New Year's Portland. This year's celebration includes more than 150 afternoon and evening shows, to include something for everyone. The celebration begins on Tuesday, December 31.

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 reads: CPR PO box 178, Saco, ME 04072.

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