

Community Pride Reporter

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VOL. 4, Number 6

December 1996 / January 1997

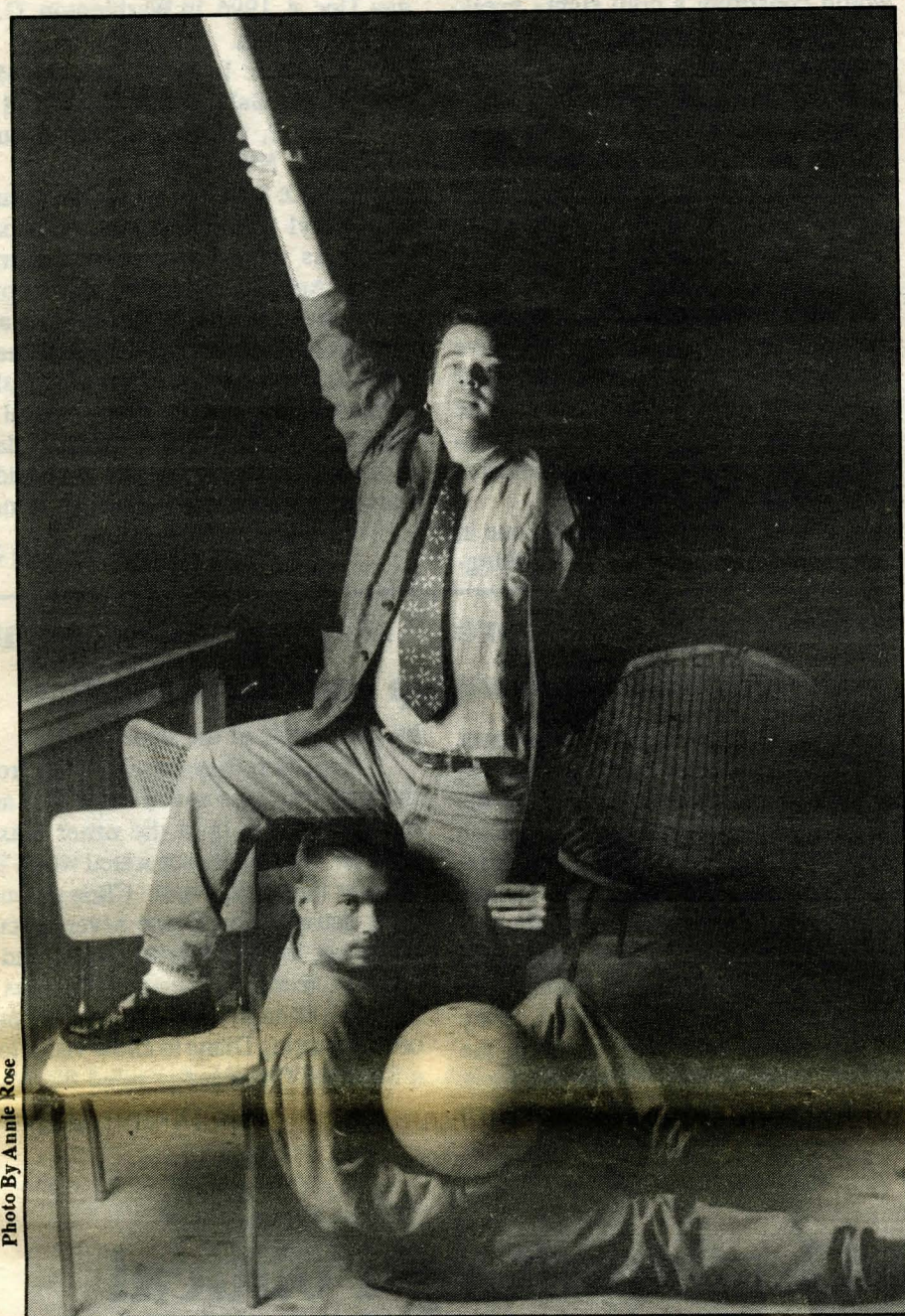


Photo By Annie Rose

J.D. Merritt as Jody and Dennis Scott as Carl in *Lonely Planet*

The Mad Horse Theater Company presents a tender, powerful play about friendship...

Lonely Planet

Carl is a frequent visitor in Jody's map shop, a place full of globes and maps, but devoid of customers. The mystifying Carl appears to hold down many jobs, from auto glass repairman, to bartender, to art restorer, to college professor. For some reason, no visit to Jody's Map Shop is quite complete without Carl bringing in a couple of chairs. As the friends argue, dream, play games and tell stories we come to discover the stunning answers behind these mysteries, answers which in turn illuminate their lives....and ours.

Illumination is the common symbol of this holiday season. Chanukah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, celebrates the cleansing of the Temple; and Christmas celebrates the birth of the Christ child, given by God as a symbol of his love. The light shared by these religious holidays is the light of unconditional love; love that holds no boundaries; love that is nurturing and wholesome. Steven Dietz's play, "Lonely Planet", is a deeply moving and profound story about an extraordinary friendship, a story of unconditional love. "Lonely Planet" is not traditional holiday fare; there are no Menorahs or Christmas trees to bring

back the warm glow of our childhood, yet it is a play full of Light.

The NAMES Project will display panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt at the theater during the run of "Lonely Planet".

"Lonely Planet" will run from December 5 - 29 at the Mad Horse Theater Company, 955 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine. 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 performances are \$20.00 (\$18.00 for students and seniors). The preview performance on December 5th is already sold out, as are the Thursday December 12th, and Sunday December 29th shows. Tickets for the Opening Night Gala on Friday December 6th are \$25.00. The pay-what-you-can-night is Saturday December 8th. Buy 1, Get 1 Free Night is Thursday December 19th. For more information and reservations, call 797-3338.

See Pages 20 and 21 for information about Mad Horse Theater's benefit Performances.

World Aids Day causes some in Maine to reflect.

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. 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.

A World AIDS Day observance in Portland December 1, drew attention to the disease's threat against women. Activists at Monument Square said women shouldn't be lulled into a sense of false security because the majority of patients are gay men. Organizers said 14 to 16 women in Maine test positive for the virus causing AIDS each year.

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 in New York City, it's in Portland, 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.

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 hometowns. "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.

Seasons Greetings from the Staff of The Community Pride Reporter

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 incredulous. 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 will 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 fare 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 gays sought 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 Melillo, 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," Melillo 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 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 lesbian, gay and bisexual citizens by including sexual orientation in the Equality Clause of the country's new constitution.

Now, 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 two "Honoring Our Allies" benefit ceremonies in New York and Washington, D.C.

WHAT: Two receptions — one in New York City, the other in Washing-

ton, D.C. — to present the NGLTF "Honoring Our Allies" award to individual South Africans.

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 Matthew Marks Gallery, 522 West 22nd St. In D.C., the TransAfrica Forum, 1744 R St., NW

WHO: Slated 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 Bisexuals, 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

After Lesbian "Divorce," co-parent seeks right to maintain relationship with her daughter

On November 6, 1996 the Vermont Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case concerning what happens to the children if their mothers—a lesbian couple—separate. According to Christine Titchenal, she and Diane Dexter were in a committed relationship for several years and tried to have a child together through donor insemination. When those attempts failed, they adopted a baby, with Diane assuming the role of "adoptive parent" since Vermont law at that time did not permit adoption

by two people of the same gender.

Together, they raised Sarah from the time she was seven days old, and each acknowledged the other was a mother. The couple separated when Sarah was three and a half. Chris pursued legal action when Diane severely curtailed her visitation with Sarah, and it became clear how damaging this was to Sarah. Although Chris sought a court order requiring Diane to allow visitation, a Superior Court judge ruled the court

See Divorce, 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 Betsy

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 last 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.

Betsy 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, Betsy 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 County Fundraiser and Volunteer Coordinator. Prior to MWD, he was active in ACT-UP and Equal Protection Portland. Currently, Del works as the Manager of Summer Programs and Secretary to the 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 responsibilities 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 McLaughlin, newly elected with three recent campaigns under her belt, will both serve on the Executive and Legislative Committees.

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 Rossetti, Portland; Jim Schneider; Susan Sparaco, Bath; and Mark Sullivan, Hallowell.

Congratulations ML/GPA Board members. Best of luck for a successful legislative session and more!

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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 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 passage of a bill. ML/GPA will be at the forefront of the lobbying effort.

Though the horizon seems bright on that front, we will unfortunately be faced with at least one piece of anti-gay legislation. Carolyn Cosby has submitted 60,000 citizen signatures to ban gay marriage in Maine. 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 honored this year. Please take a moment to think about the individu-

als 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.

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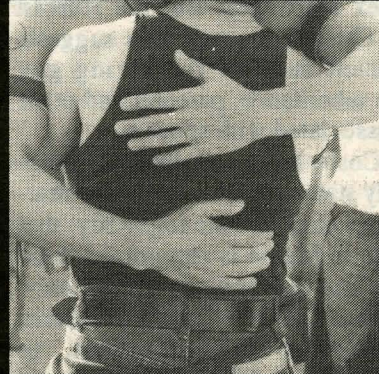
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Gay activists: Marriage Ban Initiative puts all eyes on Maine

by Glenn Adams

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Gay-rights advocates say all eyes will be on Maine as the state debates a "divisive" proposal to disregard same-sex marriages in the months ahead.

A group called Concerned Maine Families set the stage for a likely 1997 referendum by collecting what appear to be far more signatures than needed to force the statewide vote.

The proposal would ban same-sex marriages in Maine and direct the state to refuse to recognize those performed in other states.

"I think it's a sad day for the people of Maine (to be) thrust into the national spotlight on such a divisive issue," said Karen Geraghty, spokesperson for the Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance.

Pointing to the provision that disregards same-sex marriages performed in other states, Geraghty questioned whether the Maine law could survive a legal challenge. But for now, she said, the alliance views the initiative as a legislative issue.

Concerned Maine Families leader Carolyn Cosby said volunteers collected about 20 percent more signatures than the 51,131 needed to force a November 1997 referendum.

"We will be at the Legislature in January," said Cosby, whose group led last year's unsuccessful referendum campaign to restrict gay rights in Maine.

"With more than 60,000 signatures collected and more still pouring in, the people of Maine have taken a giant step toward defining our cultural norms, the public policies of our state and the meaning of a family," said Cosby.

She plans to turn the petitions over to state election officials, who will verify the signatures and send the mea-

sure to the Legislature. The bill will go to a public vote unless lawmakers pass it first.

Tuesday's announcement came as a poll conducted for a gay rights organization found a majority of Americans supports allowing states to prohibit same-sex marriages. But the Human Rights Campaign's poll also suggests significant support for giving gay couples inheritance, parental and other rights associated with spouses.

Cosby has maintained the initiative only states explicitly what the marriage laws already state implicitly: that marriage in Maine is recognized to be between one man and one woman only.

Its statement of purpose declares the initiative is designed, in part, "to encourage the traditional monogamous family unit as the basic building block of our society, the foundation of harmonious and enriching family life."

Cosby said the bill partly was prompted by a 1993 ruling by the Hawaii supreme court that said it might violate that state's Constitution to deny marriage licenses to same-sex couples. She said it is reasonable to assume gay Mainers would go to Hawaii to marry and return to Maine.

She also cited a new policy of the University of Maine System to extend benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian faculty as a reason why the referendum is needed.

"Maine citizens have the right to determine what will be their cultural norms and definitions without the deliberate interference of out-of-state activists bent on forcing Maine to accept their counter-cultural standards," said Cosby.

In September, President Clinton signed a bill denying federal recognition of same-sex marriages.

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 stereotypes.

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 might not 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 quite 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 antique decorative arts 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 (rhymes with homes) rejects the anti-gay Biblical interpretations of the 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 certain groups: Jews, women, blacks and homosexuals.

And it's those Christians who claim to be most devout who traditionally have been the biggest oppressors, he says: the white Southern Baptists who perpetuated 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.

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

But it's also for the white, Christian mainstream — those who might come to understand that the Bible's authors never meant to persecute, he said. However, he does not expect everyone to be swayed by his ideas.

His words, he said, will do nothing "for those whose minds are already so firmly made up they operate out of prejudice."

Gomes says he felt a moral imperative to examine the text of the Bible and explain what he sees as its true contextual meaning.

Those who use the Bible to denigrate homosexuals have taken the book's words out of its historical context, he argues. "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination," Leviticus 18:22 reads.

When the Old Testament was written, Gomes argues, homosexuality was seen as a risk to the Jews' cultural identity and procreation. But that does not mean God disapproves of all homosexual relationships.

"The biblical writers never contemplated a form of homosexuality in which loving, monogamous and faithful persons

sought to live out the implications of the gospel with as much fidelity to it as any heterosexual believer," he wrote. "All they knew 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 undergraduate magazine devoted an entire issue to attacking homosexuals. The authors, most of whom were conservative Roman Catholics, argued that homosexuality should 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 has 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 prayed at the inaugurations 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, religion.

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 premeditated 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 tiny Bethel A.M.E. church with some 20 other black worshippers.

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

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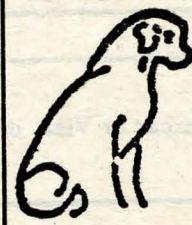
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By Tania Jo
Hathaway

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

To Your Health: Lesbian Health Project Update, Part II

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 with 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 con-

ducting 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: "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."

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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.

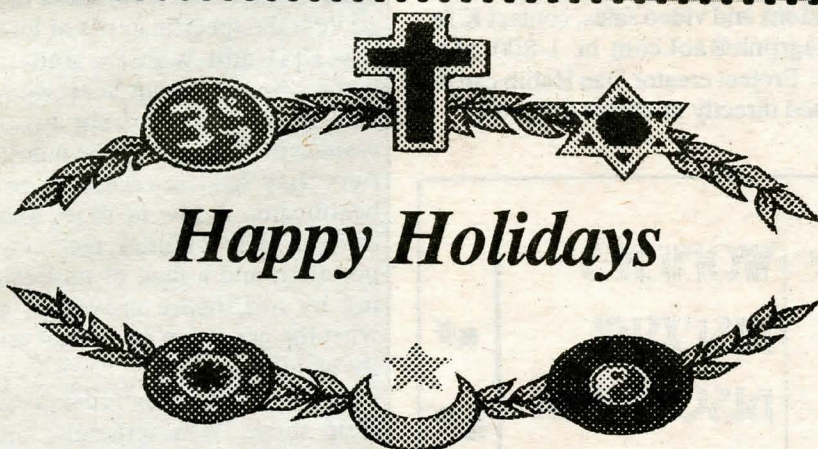
Free Cancer Screening Clinic offered by LHP/SM

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.

The screening includes a pap, pelvic, and breast exam.

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.



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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, cited it as a featured web site for its subscribers. NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyokai, the national broadcasting network in Japan) aired the web site's look and sequencing 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 diversity of decisions that we all make and the consequences that face each decision."

That response has been just the tip of a cyberspace 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 understanding teen sexuality — New Hampshire. Since the site went on-line in February 1996, it has received over 75,000 hits (visits) to its dozens of pages containing interviews with teenagers and scholars and over 60 color photographs.

Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion is the four-year documentary study by award-winning photojournalist Dan Habib, 31, of Concord,

New Hampshire. Habib is the photography editor of the Concord Monitor newspaper and is a member of Impact Visuals Photojournalism 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 Crankcase 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 project has been featured in many magazines, including *Mother Jones*, *American Photo*, *Student Assistance Journal* and *Photo District News*. The photographs have won major awards from the Pictures of the Year competition, the Associated Press, and the Society of Newspaper Design, and has current or upcoming exhibits in China, Amsterdam, and Philadelphia.

Knox Turner, of the New Hampshire-based private schools policy devel-

opment group, KTA, is on the documentary's advisory board and also served as technical advisor for content. "We were always confident this documentary would be accessible to teens and adults throughout the country. What is remarkable," he cites, is that Dan Habib's work in New Hampshire would strike such an international chord of truth."

"The reason we created this web site was the same reason why I took on this project — to facilitate a more balanced, honest discussion around teen sexuality and the popular culture," Habib says. "These issues have become overly politicized and polarized, and that obscures an honest look at teenage realities. Based on the feedback I've gotten directly from those looking at the site, many people around the world are craving such a dialogue."

Of course there have been those who object to that dialogue. Some groups and individual have voiced concern that the documentary lacks a moral prescription and leaves issues open to interpretation.

But admissions counselor Heidi Fischer of Brattleboro, Vermont's School for International Training (SIT) reminds adults we need to listen. "What struck me about Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion was its honesty and direct presentation of the challenges teens face on a daily basis. It doesn't take sides, or preach; rather it lets the kids speak for themselves."

This project was made possible, in part, through the financial support of The Granite State AIDS Consortium, The New Hampshire Episcopal Diocese, and The Haymarket People's Fund.

Teen Sexuality in a Culture of Confusion can be found on the internet at <http://www.intac.com/~jdeck/habib/>. For more information about on-site presentations and video sales, contact KTA at ktagrpn@aol.com or 1-800 514-2085. Project creator Dan Habib can be reached directly at dhabib@igc.org



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 Wiggins Memorial Library (Stratham Town Library) has assisted PFLAG NH in this project. Many thanks should go to director Michael Sullivan.

For more information, call 603-772-5196 for Betty Batchelder, who is the librarian for PFLAG NH's Seacoast Chapter.

Women's Health Consortium

The women's Health Consortium is a grant funded volunteer collaborative 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 603-431-1669; or write to Women's Health Consortium, 379 State Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

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Saturday, December 21, 1996
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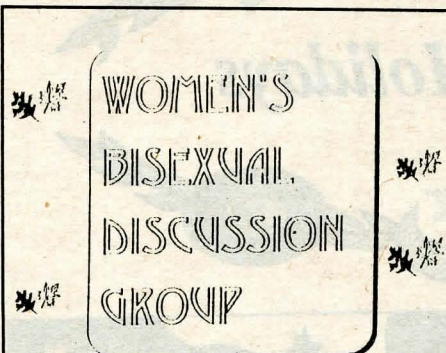
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Deadline for ticket sales is November 10, 1996
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For More Information on Women Meeting Women
Call 603-881-4268
E-mail DBalbat@aol.com

<http://members.aol.com/DBalbat/WMW/brochure.htm>



When: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM - discussion
7:30 PM - 8:00 PM - social time

Where: Women's Health Consortium
379 State Street, Portsmouth

If you would like, bring a dessert or snack to share

For more information, call 431-1669

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 sought \$1.5 million from DeWolfe Simmonds Realtors. The couple claimed the firm had blacklisted their home because they're gay and failed to secure it against a theft. They sued DeWolfe agents for breach of contract and for inflicting emotional distress.

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 Helene 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 Helene of saying she regretted having "gotten involved with you two queers," after he complained about the missing jewelry, said the jury's decision shows that gays and lesbians "need protection in New Hampshire.

"These things happened to us because we are gay. The laws in this state have to change," he said. State laws prohibit discrimination based on gender, race or religion — but do not mention sexual orientation. Smith said he intends to testify before the state legislature next year when a pro-

posed gay rights bill has a hearing.

During the trial, Smith testified that real estate agents did little to market the house and ignored his request to notify him before entering the house.

Smith and Snell collect antiques and art work, and Smith collects jewelry. For sake of security and privacy, they said they asked Helene to have agents call them in advance before showing the house, and to have visitors, including agents, sign a guest book.

The men claimed Helene and other agents ignored those requests, and that a small box holding \$60,000 to \$80,000 worth of jewelry and \$2,300 cash was stolen from the house during an open house for brokers in June 1994.

According to Smith, his trial offers lessons for others. "If we did any good, at least we made them fix up their sloppy procedures," Smith said.

But Helene said she does not show homes unannounced against the wishes of the owner. "Show instructions are different for every home," Helene said. "Our policies have not changed."

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 Hollis Police Department, charging that officers neglected to investigate several vandalism and housebreak incidents. Hollis police have denied the allegations.

Holiday cards carry poignant Message

DOVER, N.H. (AP) — He won't decorate a Christmas tree this year, but red ribbons still will be a part of Andrew Martin's holiday season. Martin hasn't been in the mood to celebrate since his partner, Gil Ornelas, died of AIDS in March. But he hopes the Christmas cards the couple created — featuring red ribbons symbolizing AIDS awareness — will spread a message of hope. "After he died, it's been a very healing part of my mourning to do this card," Martin said. "His message was basically to create awareness and hope during the holiday season." Instead of a tree, a stained-glass red ribbon, adorns Martin's home. He sports a red ribbon pin on his vest. And most importantly, the red ribbon is depicted on the holiday cards the couple's business has sold to thousands of seacoast residents for the past three years. This holiday season's card features a male angel with his head down, holding a red ribbon. "I like to think that's him (Gil)," Martin said. "It's a tribute card this year." The couple's company, Cards That Care, has produced four designs so far, three Christmas cards and one Valentine's Day card. Each features a red ribbon. "The first year we did the wreath and they just sold so well," Martin said. "What we wanted to do was design a Christmas card to send to our friends." They started with 50 cards the first year. Soon, a friend encouraged them to produce 1,000. Since then, the num-

ber of cards produced has doubled every year. Without his partner this year, Martin created 4,000 cards now on sale in local stores. Martin said the response from the community has been extremely positive. Ornelas was diagnosed with AIDS about four years after he met Martin in 1987. As the disease progressed, Martin became involved with Strafford Hospice Care in Rollinsford. "I just wanted to know and be prepared for what was coming ahead," Martin said. Ornelas died in the living room of his home, Martin said. He was never hospitalized. "It came quickly and peacefully," he said. "I learned that death could be a very beautiful experience," he said. "Gil taught me to enjoy life and realize how valuable it is and not to sweat the small things. I miss him very much." Martin said he will try to carry on Cards That Care for as long as he can to keep his partner's memory alive. All proceeds will go to Strafford Hospice Care and AIDS Response-Seacoast in Portsmouth.

Book challenges sexual stereotypes

German philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer once said "All truth passes through three stages: first it is ridiculed; secondly it is violently opposed; third it is accepted as self-evident. It is this quiet truthfulness which photographer John Gettings eloquently portrays in his new book "Couples: A Photographic Documentary of Gay and Lesbian Relationships", available from University Press of New England.

While he doesn't consider himself a social activist, Gettings relished the idea of using his talents as a fashion photographer to further the notion that human beings were not meant to live in closets. So, on June 26, 1994 at the rally celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riot in Central Park, Gettings and his assistants set up a daylight photography studio and posted handbills "Looking for couples for my project".

In all, Gettings captured 124 gay and lesbian relationships on film that day. Of those, 85 are included in his book—including people who are young or old, tall, short, lean and not-so-lean, nurses, veterinarians, librarians, travel agents, office managers, students, social workers, writers, and factory workers.

In the spirit of his documentary approach to gay and lesbian relationships, Gettings asked each couple such questions as "how did you meet", "where do you live", "describe your relationship", and "what about coming out"? The answers are a touching collage of humanity.

To order directly from University Press, call 1-800-421-1561. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.



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The Women's Health Consortium is funded by the Foundation for Seacoast Health, the Greater Seacoast United Way, the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation and the Avon Breast Health Access Fund

The Women's Health Consortium presents:
THE WOMEN-LOVING-WOMEN WORKSHOP SERIES

POWER OF ATTORNEY:

How to protect and define your family despite the state's lack of definition for alternative families.

Monday, December 2nd, 6:30pm-8:30pm
facilitated by Suzie Colt, local attorney

This presentation/discussion will include estate planning, cohabitation agreements, child custody agreements and how to protect our access to our partner's healthcare.

HOW TO BE ME IN A LESBIAN COUPLE:

Exploring the natural stages couples move through in relationships.

Tuesday, December 17th, 6:30pm-8:30pm

facilitated by Marlene Richardson, MSW and Ruth Rosenheck, MS
This presentation/discussion will look at the natural stages of relation every couple moves through, how to deal with conflict throughout these stages and how to maintain a sense of self in the midst of conflict.

STAYING HEALTHY OVERTIME:

How to obtain healthcare for our whole selves.

Monday, January 6th, 6:30pm-8:30pm
facilitated by Shiela VanDerveer, Health Educator

This presentation/discussion will explore the client/provider relationship, what our rights are as women-who-love-women seeking healthcare and how to be treated as whole beings vs. body parts.

All programs are FREE and take place at
The Women's Health Consortium
379 State St. Portsmouth, NH
Call to reserve your space at 431-1669

Arts & Entertainment

Keep Passing the Open Windows Some Parting Words...



by Aimsel L. Ponti

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 my hat at the folk's 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 am doing the right thing. 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 1/2 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, Tuck and Patti and others...A constant supply of excellent local music from the like of Kate Schrock (good luck with your new album, Kate!!), Darien Brahms, Lynn

Deeves, 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 AIMSSEL

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. Ponti

Since about 1983 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 UNREAL!

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

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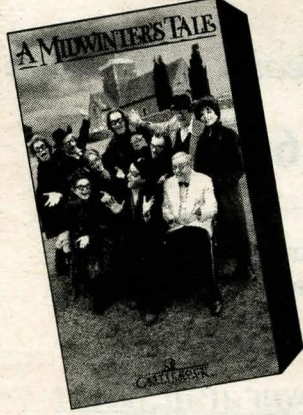
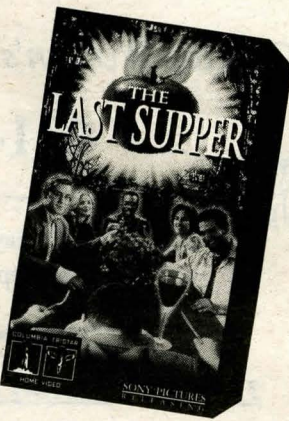
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A second look at Sheryl Crow

by Dixie Townsend

Did you ever meet someone who just rubbed you the wrong way? It 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 of 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, Stopped 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 pain 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 over, Fox 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. Performance 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

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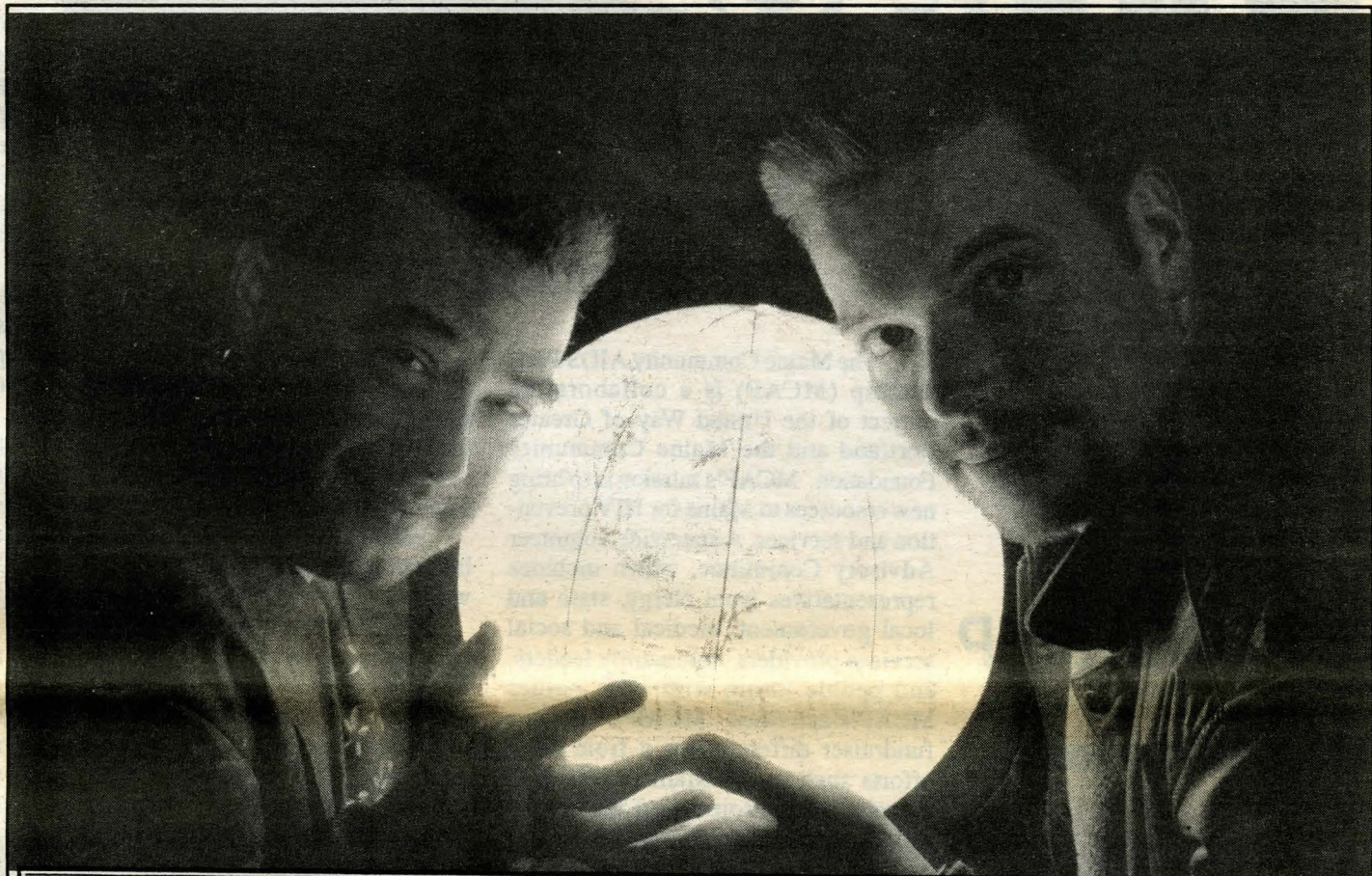
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by Steven Dietz

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By Steven Dietz

Directed By Andrew Sokoloff

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MAINE

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A PROJECT OF:
UNITED WAY OF GREATER PORTLAND
MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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 Development Project and the Maine HIV Advisory Committee.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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

Needs Assessments provide the foundation for all MCAP activities.

MCAP is committed to the collaborative process in all aspects of its work.

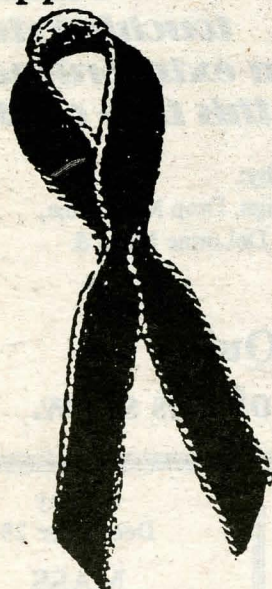
MCAP is committed to involving persons living with HIV in all aspects of the process.

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.

MASS

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services



P.O. Box 57 Brunswick, Maine
04011-0057
207-725-4955

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
- *provide 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.



PEABODY HOUSE

A home for people in the advanced stages of AIDS

Peabody House

Maine's first comprehensive model of shelter, support and care for people diagnosed as living in the advanced stages of AIDS. It is a comfortable residential care facility located in the historic Western Promenade area of Portland, Maine. Peabody House has the capacity to accommodate a total of six residents, and provides a supportive environment for their family and friends.

Peabody House maximizes human dignity and individual autonomy through a client-centered approach for care provided by a team of nurses, physicians, social workers and pastoral counselors. The care plan is delivered through a collaborative process involving Peabody House staff, community health care providers, the resident and his or her family.

Services are enhanced by an ever-growing staff of volunteers who provide direct care, supportive therapies, house-keeping, meal preparation, clerical services and maintenance of the gardens.

Peabody House is a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization. Funding comes from diverse sources including government subsidies (Medicaid, Department of Housing and Urban Development, City of Portland, and State of Maine), corporate and foundation contributions, and individual and family donations.

Residents are expected to contribute a portion of their income to help cover the costs of their housing and care. No one will be turned away due to an inability to pay. Peabody House is named for Frannie Peabody who became a strong voice for people living with HIV after the death of her grandson in 1983. Frannie saw, all too clearly, that many men and women in the community lacked the emotional and financial resources to be cared for during the final days of their lives. Since then, many people have joined Frannie in her dream to create this sanctuary and home.

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 3 X 6 fabric panels remembers someone who has died of AIDS. The panels were created by families, lovers, and friends in homes

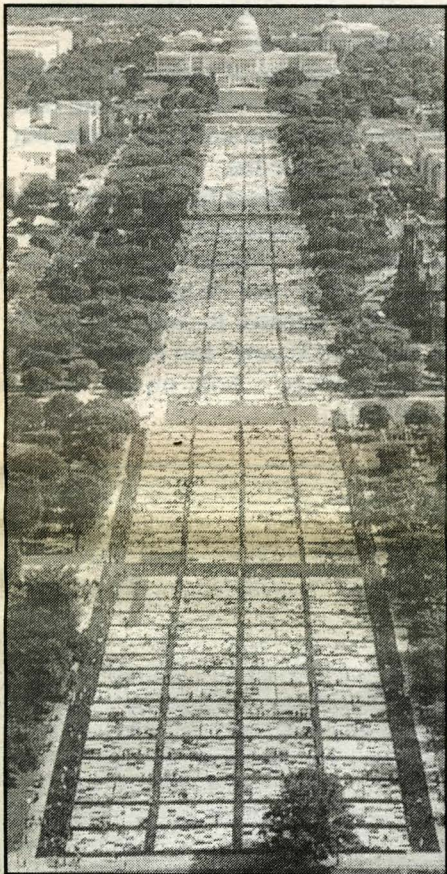
and community centers, across the country and around the world.

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 Projector 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



The Quilt at Mad Horse

During the run of *Lonely Planet* three panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display at Mad Horse in cooperation with The NAMES Project Chapter of Maine. The goals of the NAMES Project are to:

-illustrate the impact of the AIDS epidemic - and the need for an immediate and compassionate response by revealing the names and lives behind the statistics;

-provide a positive and creative means of expression for those whose lives have been touched by the epidemic; and...

-raise vital funds and encourage support for the people with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones.

Mad Horse is deeply honored to display this eloquent and powerful piece of art in the struggle against AIDS.



NAMES PROJECT MAINE
PO BOX 10248
PORTLAND, ME 04104
(207) 774-2198

Not all battles are fought with a sword.

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.



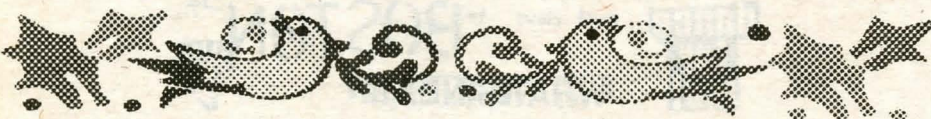
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Luscious Jackson: Feel the vibe of Fever In Fever Out

**by Aimsel L. Ponti, Arts and
Entertainment Editor**

Luscious Jackson Rule! Let's get

one thing straight though, their name has nothing do to with Michael. Get this, they named themselves after a guy who played basketball for the Philadelphia

76'6 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.

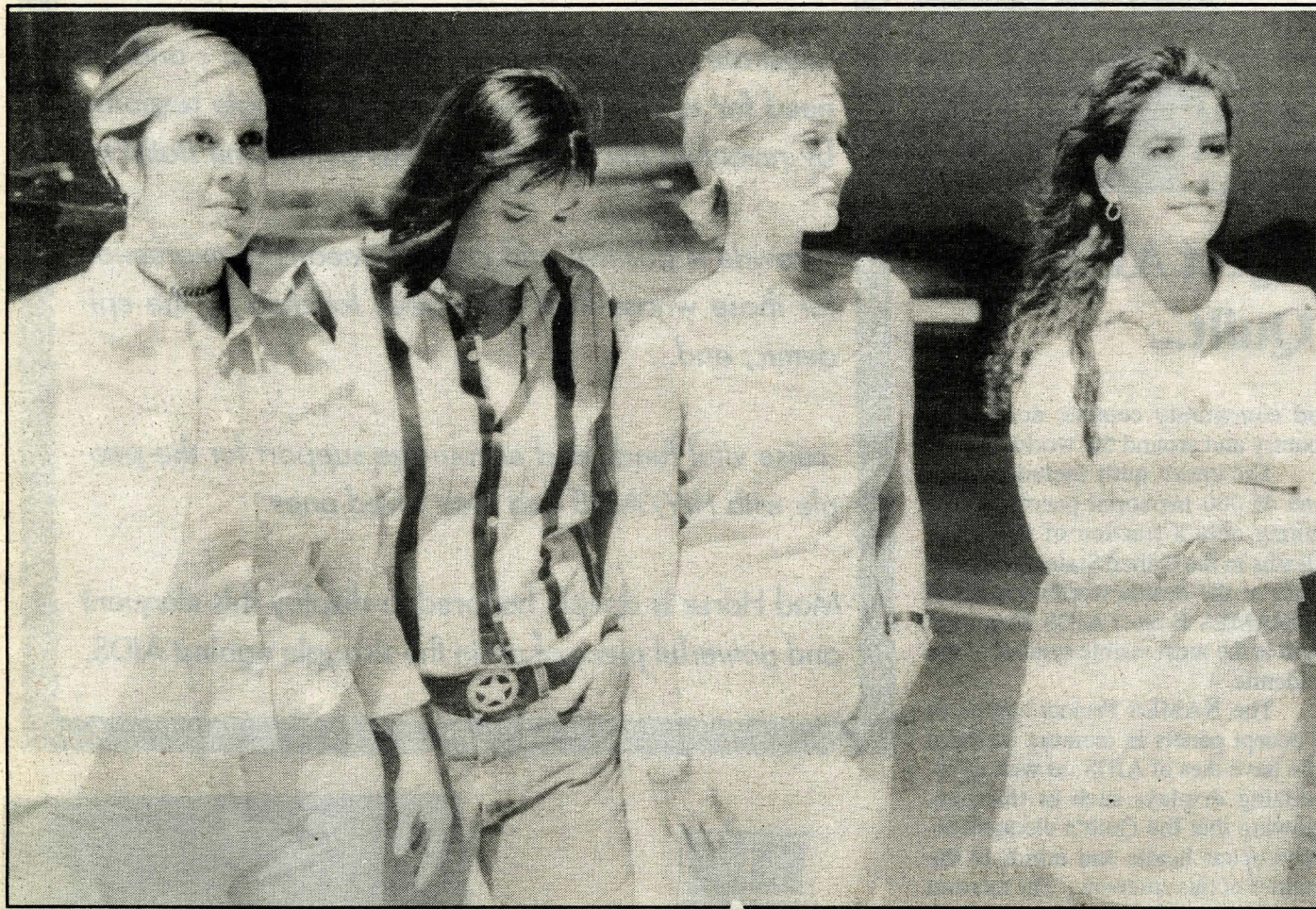
It is this category that "Fever In Fever Out" falls into. I seem to have a lot of music that slips between the cracks, or behind the stereo as the case might be and I can kind of forget about for a while and not really miss it. On the other hand, if I couldn't find my Luscious Jackson disc, there would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

The vocals offered by Jill Cuniff 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.

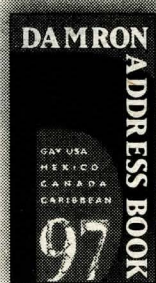
The new album has a pulse of it's own which is perhaps best captured on the first single, "Naked Eye" as well as "Mood Swing" and "Why Do I Lie?"

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



Luscious Jackson Left to right: Jill Cunniffi, Kate Scheidenbach, Vivian Trimble and Gabby Glaser

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Star Quality from page 8

lyrics and I am beside myself that Antonio 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 tragic 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 Antonia 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...

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WHAT'S NEXT?

But I love Christmas Music...

By Ainsel L. Ponti

This Holiday season I am overwhelmed with thoughts of how broke I am, how unsettled my "career" plans are, how life complaints and the usual assortment of negativity. BUT I LOVE CHRISTMAS MUSIC. Call me old-fashioned, politically incorrect, or just plain sappy, but as of November first, I listen to Christmas music almost daily. It's not about religion, Jesus, Vacancy at the Inn issues, or any of that stuff. It's about a spirit. It's that same spirit that I feel when I'm string-

ing lights around my apartment and looking at all the cool 1960's Christmas cards I bought this summer at a yard sale.

There are five Christmas music albums that I want to tell you about. And again, it's not about religion. It's about the simple joy of music that can get me through grey December days when I stare outside and try to will the sky to snow. For what it's worth, here they are:

1. George Winston- December

(Windham 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 wallow 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 Tormé to Dinah Washington crooning "Ole Santa."

There are instrumental tunes, old standards 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

5. Various Artists: Winter, Fire and Snow (Atlantic)

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 this 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: Tuck and Patti, Phoebe Snow, Julia Fordham, Jane Siberry, Gipsy Kings, Mary Karlsen, Jewel, Bel Canto, Clannad and more. I didn't make this up!! Find this one, it's incredible.

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. Where sexuality is a conflict and uncertainty is in the hands of God.

One thing is for 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 windy path, from stage acting, film production and finally to directing. It is time, he feels, to put his knowledge into action.

His daylight and night life are devoted fully to the realization of the script and the completion of a thought provoking product. Bob explains that for him, "creation is the process that is engaging...full time means completion. I have made this a full time project... it has become the focus of my life." With an obsessive devotion, Bob is undoubtedly taking Extensions all the way.

Devoting all his time to this project has given Bob the opportunity to get closer to the realities of the story. "Clarity comes from finally connecting with the character and the piece. Having spent enough time with the material I feel that I am prepared to tell a good story," says Poirier.

For Bob the images for this film have embraced him for over a year. He has listened and recorded the trials and tribulations of 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 it is a wondrous adventure into a filmmaker's first attempt at creating life on screen.

For Bob the story has changed, developed and grown. "I've been able to follow this man through this particular segment of his life as he deals with his sexuality and his spirituality. The nice part of having worked with him for over a year, is finding the small moments of his story." Poirier explains, "It's not 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 subject to the fundraising. "We're working really hard to secure the funds. Many people, friends and strangers, have volunteered to host House Parties, or have made donations. The support has been wonderful but we need it to carry us throughout the completion of production and the distribution phases, which are incredibly expensive." "The distribution plan includes an outreach program designed to reach gay and straight audiences such as social organizations and university groups." "It also includes the film festival circuit and video release."

As far as financing is concerned, this film is not different from any other. Bob has already solicited the help of Crandall Toothaker and Frank Cloutier, Bob and George at Zootz, Deb and Phil at The Underground, Shawn Walsh, Bruce Wild and many other friends. The next benefit 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 Scolia, 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.




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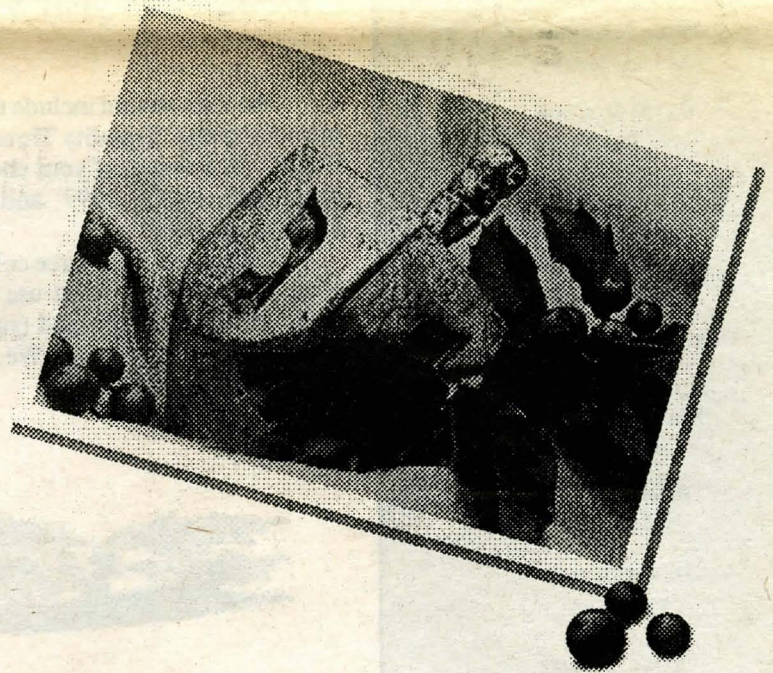
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RANT: "Let he who is without sin..."

by David Cook

America's 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 public notice?

A laissez faire attitude on the part of military higher ups has sent the signal that sexual mis-conduct is OK (so long as its target is women and the perpetrators are male.) The putative rationale for preventing gay men and lesbians from serving in the military (or, under the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy to serve by pretending they are someone they're not) is that their presence would generate too much sexual tension among the troops. But really, it's hard to imagine that the queeniest fags and butchest dykes I know could have wreaked as much havoc as we see revealed in this latest of many military sex scandals.

I suppose it should come as no surprise that the "bitches and whores" stereotype that underlies male imperialism

is alive and well in our male-dominated military. Under this dialectical catch-22, a woman must be one or the other — bitch or whore. If she willingly fraternizes with her male comrades, then she's a whore by definition, and a whore gives up her right to say "no." A woman who does not willingly fraternize (or who dares to decide when to fraternize and when not to) is a bitch and therefore needs to be taught a lesson; she, too, gives up her right to say "no." (If this were a board game, the instructions might read something like "Find all the bitches and turn them into whores.") 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 judgment 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 cliché, "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 left un-challenged will ultimately turn on 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 OR white. It must use either a white or black background (submitted on the appropriate one(s)). We must receive 3 sizes of the design:

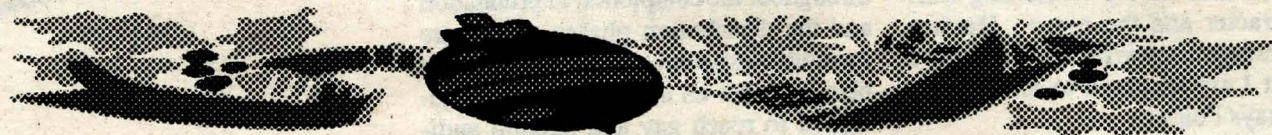
T-shirt, postcard, and button versions (sizing is your choice). The logo will be owned and used at will by Pride.

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 is January 15, midnight. Mail to: Pride, P.O. Box 111502, Portland Maine 04104



Divorce, from page 2.

was without the power to hear and resolve this kind of dispute. The appeal to the Vermont Supreme Court followed. Julie Frame of Burlington, Ms Titchenal's attorney, commented that the case is in large part "a child's rights issue," and that "no parent should be able unilaterally to destroy a child's relationship with the other parent with no redress in the courts."

Mary L. Bonauto, an attorney with Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD), which submitted a friend of the court brief in the case, stated that these cases are "increasingly common, having evolved from a trickle to a steady stream" since gay people separate just as non-gay couples do. "Here, Chris is being forced to seek legal recognition of her now-dissolved family because Diane is denying the parent-child relationship of the other mother. This is a classic case of what we have been arguing to the courts for years: that birth, marriage, and adoption are not the sole markers of what constitutes a legal family, and that agreements coupled with an ongoing course of conduct are important evidence of the intent to create a family."

former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock vocal group. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Contact Meryl Hooker at NGLTF for more information, (202)332-6483, ext. 3219.

South Africa, from page 2

ees are President Nelson Mandela; Kadar Asmal, South African Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry; Cyril Ramaphosa, former Secretary General of the ANC; Justice Edwin Cameron; activist Simon Nkoli, Kevan Botha and

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

Entertainment 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

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."

Changes for Pride 1997

Organizations grow; they change; they adapt. That's what's happening with Southern Maine Pride. Along with dealing with the increasing detail and management needs of putting on an annual event, its fund-raisers and handling the administrative needs, the committee has made changes to deal with community responsiveness and likes/dislikes.

First, this year's logo will be the result of competitive design. See the announcement elsewhere in the CPR. Next, events, in planning, are going to be a little better, not necessarily bigger. The Wednesday, June 18 PrideLights concert will be shortened to an hour, to follow an under-discussion history exhibit opening reception. Thursday we hope to supply a speakers night.

Friday our Pier Dance, still open to youth, will have different hours, 8 PM to midnight, with more lighting and lower beverage prices. Saturday, June 21, hosts the Interfaith service, the rally from 11:15 to 11:30 AM, with the parade stepping off from City Hall to Deering Oaks at noon.

For the Saturday festival we have approached some nationally known performers with favorable responses and hope to have a surprise MC/Marshall to announce in May. There's also the likelihood of more food available, plus games and a children's area at the festival. Sunday is once again the PAWS cruise from 6 PM to 10 PM, a sellout always.

There will be a series of fundraising and fun events all spring. PrideLights, those fabulously gay mini-holiday pink festive lights, will be available throughout December to help you with your seasonal decor.

In the events arena, we've planned a few house parties, a coffeehouse and concert project in the works, and our fabulous Drag Ball in March. In addition, our volunteer party will actually be

a fundraiser Sunday Brunch (free to volunteers) on Sunday, June 22.

This year we have established a partnership with Symposium and both Boston Pride and Cape Cod Pride. We will be exchanging Pride Day volunteers and various resources. Our committee volunteers get a free stay overnight in Boston, June 7 or Cape Cod, July 11, and all the benies of volunteering in exchange. With Symposium being planned for Portland on June 13-15, at SMVTI, Pride hopes to work constructively to support the happenings success. Pride, once again, will hold a summer retreat for Pride committees and volunteers from DC to Bangor in August.

Out of towners are treated to Ogunquit and local hospitality, a conference with no workshops, no speakers, just fun. For both local volunteers and out-of-state guests, the weekend features a cruise/whale watch on Casco Bay and a lobster bake on Orr's Island. It too is open to all. Organizationally, the Pride Committee Board is now primarily involved with running those things common to all the separate events.

The Event Coordinators are now "hired" agents of the Board, with a budget and job definitions, but are generally free to make independent decisions. The result to the community is a personable way to approach impacting your favorite Pride event by simply talking your ideas past a specific Event Coordinator. It's also a quicker means to manage much of the event operations. Southern Maine Pride now has two co-chairs: Michael Rossetti, Executive Director, and Laurie Fortman, Operations Director. Michael chairs the Board and its year-round and Pride week activities. Laurie supervises the Event Coordinators and also occasionally is chairperson for Board meetings.

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

gional and international conferences of Pride Committees. In March we will send, hopefully, four members to the Northeast Regional Conference in New Jersey. In October, we hope to send at least as many members to the International Conference in New York City. (London hosts the 1998 International Conference.)

Both conferences are not only a means of developing a more professional Pride committee, but also a great chance to meet and make friends with Pride people from around the globe. Finally, by resolution passed by the International Association of Lesbian/Gay Pride Coordinators on November 2, 1996, I/G/B/T parent support organizations will be requested to be (Grand) Marshalls and speakers at Pride events around the world, a resolution proposed by Southern Maine Pride and co-sponsored by the San Francisco, New York, Philadelphia, and Tiajuana Pride Committees.

The intent of the resolution is to educate both gay and non-gay peoples about the sharing and love of non-traditional families and parenting. Maine's responsibility is support of that resolution is now to communicate to all L/G/B/T parent's organizations the existence of the resolution and to connect those groups with their local Pride committees. It's a task which certainly needs help, advice and community assistance. Pride welcomes all ideas and all community groups to impact this year's celebration. To do so only requires attending Pride committee meetings or volunteering some time.

The committee ALWAYS meets the third Monday of the month, from 6 to 8 PM at (and by the courtesy of) the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street. Please attend or call 879-READ for more information.

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Our Mission

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

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Submissions Welcome

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

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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 afloat in my head. I put on a nightgown and let down my hair and almost fell asleep in my overstuffed chair. When all of a sudden, arose such a clatter, I almost got whiplash seeing what was the matter. Since I don't have a chimney, or even a furnace flue Poor Santa broke into my bedroom, what else could he do? I hid in the kitchen, and peered 'round the wall As that jolly old fat man wobbled down my hall. I was amazed, being Jewish, and had

"Twas the night before Christmas...."

expected him not But since he was here, I should see what he had brought! He stopped 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 decided to face him, and put on a frock as he emptied stuff into my aunt's pickle crock. I padded up to him, careful not to scare Hoping he'd leave all the stuff with him there. He saw me and said, "This is yours, don't you know." Then he pulled out more things, and prepared to go. "You know, Ms Maxwell," he said, "I thought it was odd that my elves sent me here; not a usual job! I like your style though, and I hope you do well." We agreed that this was something only time would tell. He then told me a secret, with nary a

pause, I looked faintly just like a young Mrs. Santa Claus. I was flattered, and wanted to say so, but alas He had gone back out the window and cleaned up all the glass. I then looked at my gifts, 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 leggings, a vest, and even a blouse; there was a winning ticket for Publisher Clearing House. I shook my head slowly to be sure that this was real and looked for a contract, or some screwy deal! But no, this was mine, and all mine was to keep Then I realized that I had not yet been to sleep. But then hey what the heck, it is not

every night That Santa drops in on me, BOY what a sight! And so, I will say to all those who read this; That I hope you enjoy some holiday bliss. Whether you're gay, a cross-dresser or await SRS Your holiday will be what you make it, I guess. Be good to your lovers, your friends or your wives; Have a wonderful Christmas, and the rest of your lives Dal 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

Community Pride Resources

MLGPA

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

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG)

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

Northern Lambda Nord

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

The Matlovich Society

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

National Association of Social Workers, ME.

Chapter, Sexual Minority Issues Committee welcomes new social work members. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby legislators on issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. FMI call NASW, 207/622-7592.

Hate Crimes & Bias Incidents:

Have you or someone you know been a victim? Call the Civil Rights Section of the Maine Department of the Attorney General -626-8844.

Citizens Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights: (CAGLR),

New Hampshire's oldest progressive gay/lesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all those interested in these goals to weekly meetings, programs, socials and various other events. Newsletter. Call Info-line (603) 224-1686 or write to PO Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0730.

The Rainbow Business & Professional Association:

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

Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights:

Trains and deploys volunteers statewide to speak 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: 207/879-0480 or write: MSOP, 123 Congress St., #1, Portland 04101. You need not be a speaker to work with Speakout!

Identity Support

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings

Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & North Main Streets. (use Washington St. entrance), FMI call 603/472-4944. Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at Stratham Community Church, Emory Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle), FMI call 603/772-5196. Nashua: Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Church, Lowell & Canal Streets., FMI call 603/880-0910. Plymouth: Meets first Sunday, 7-9 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church. FMI, call 603/968-7254 or 603/786-9812. Upper Valley Region: Meets second Wednesday, 7 pm. Hanover. FMI, call 603/643-8331.

Maine P-FLAG Meetings

Portland: Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. FMI, 766-5158 or 774-3441.

Brunswick/Bath

Meets 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Wed. FMI, 729-0519. Lewiston/Auburn: Meets last Sunday, 6:30-8:30 pm. FMI, 783-9789.

Women's Center - Belfast

Weekly meetings, 9A Main St., 2nd floor (above Jaret & Cohn) FMI, 338-5702. Group meeting every Wednesday, 6:15 pm. Women's Spirituality Gatherings, Mondays 7-9 pm.

NA: Just for Today

meetings every Wednesday, 8:15 pm, at St. Luke's Cathedral, State St., Portland. Use Park St. entrance in rear. Also Friday meeting, 8:00 pm, Immanuel Baptist Church, corner Deering & High St., Use entrance off Deering St.

Out and About

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

Out Among Friends

Lesbian social/discussion group. Meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7-8:30 pm, in the downstairs club room of the

Portland YWCA, 87 Spring St. \$1 donation. Contact phone: 207/879-1037.

Am Chofshi

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

Exeter Congregational Church

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

Lesbian/Gay Catholics

The organization Dignity/Maine offers supportive Masses for l/g/b/t Catholics & their friends/families. Third Sunday of every month at 6:00 pm in St. Luke's Cathedral, side chapel, 143 State St., Portland. Coffee & dessert after the liturgy. FMI, Rosemary or Janet: 207/646-2820 or Laurie: 207/878-0546 or write: Dignity/Maine, POB 8113, Portland 04104. All replies kept confidential.

The Appollo Society

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

Community of Hope

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

Central Maine Gay Men's Support Group

Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm. FMI call 622-1888 or 622-4254.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Discussion Group

1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 7-9 pm. First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland, ME. FMI, Larry Godfrey, (207) 594-2957.

Support Group—Penobscot & Surrounding Counties For men who have sex with men. Monthly meetings to talk about issues and concerns. Call 207/990-2095 for more

info & meeting times.

Q-Squad

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

TransSupport

Support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, their families, friends. Meets in secure locations to provide support, education & social activities. Write TransSupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, 04112 or phone 207/945-3092.

Gender Talk North

Gender support. Write for newsletter, P.O. Box 211, Keene, NH 03431. 603/924-8828.

Trans Counseling

Cheshire Counseling Assoc., PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431. 603/357-5544.

Maine Bisexual People's Network

Meets to affirm in all a positive nature of bisexuality & work toward greater acceptance in the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities. Support & referrals available. FMI write P.O. Box 10818, Portland, ME. 04104.

Polyamorous Life Support (PALS)

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

Prisoners of Gender

(Refusing to be Barbie, Ken or both). Meets every Friday at 1:15 pm at Davis Room, Memorial Union, UM at Orono

Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group

Meets every Tuesday, 7-9 PM, at Women's Resource Center 101 Fernald Hall at UM Orono. FMI call (207) 581-1425.

Dover, NH

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

Lewiston/Auburn

A new gay, lesbian, bisexual support group for the Lewiston/Auburn area meets Mondays at 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Spring St., Auburn.

Bangor Lesbian Support Group

This Lesbian Support Group welcomes any woman who self-identifies as a lesbian. They seek to create woman-only, lesbian-positive space to explore issues and affirm themselves and each another as lesbians. Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, 334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: (207) 947-5337.

S.N.A.P.

Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests. Monthly support group for men & women healing from sexual abuse by clergy of any denomination. Meets in Portland location on third Friday of the month. FMI, call 207/774-5025.

DEGLO (Down East Gay & Lesbian Org.)

Meets 2nd Saturday of the month, 5:30 pm at the UU Church, Park Street, Bangor.

Maine Gender Resource & Support Service

Information, referrals and education for the transgender community, helping professionals and the general public. Write MeGRESS, PO Box 1894, Bangor, ME 04402-1894 or call (207) 945-3092.

All Maine Transgender

Group Support for all Crossdressers, Transvestites, Transgenders, Transsexuals. All inclusive group, gay, lesbian, bi, straight. Confidential and discreet, Bangor meeting place. Write AMT P.O. Box 145 Brewer, ME 04412 or call (207)947-1686

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group

For dates, places and times write GLB Parents Group, P.O. Box 10818, Portland, ME 04104.

Mothers and Kids Group

Social events and group support for lesbians and their children. Emphasis on inclusion of lesbians in the process of becoming pregnant or adopting. Meets monthly in the greater Portland area. FMI write: P.O. Box 2235, South Portland, ME 04116.

Maine AIDs Alliance

Member Organizations

AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Portland, ME 04101-3820, Call 874-1000.
AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn: P.O. Box 7977, Lewiston, Maine 04243-7977. Call 786-4697.
Community AIDS Awareness Program: c/o Mexico Cong.Church/UCC, 43 Main St., Mexico, ME 04257. Call 364-8603.
Community Task Force on AIDS Educ.: P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 583-6608.
Dayspring AIDS Support Services: 32 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330. FMI, call 207/626-3432.
Down East AIDS Network: 114 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04605. Call 667-3506.
Eastern Maine AIDS Network: P.O. Box

2038, Bangor, ME 04401. Call 990-3626.
Names Project/Maine: P.O. Box 10248, Portland, ME 04104. Call 774-2198.
Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: P.O. Box 113, Paris, ME 04271-0113. Call 743-7451.
Peabody House: 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. Call 774-6281.
People With AIDS Coalition of ME.: 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.
PAWS/Pets Are Wonderful Support 120 Brackett St. Portland, ME 04102. Call 775-PAWS. E-mail paw@ime.net. Home page: http://www.ime.net/PAWS/
The AIDS Project: 142 High St., 6th fl., Portland, ME 04101. Call 774-6877.
Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: P.O. Box 956, Belfast, ME 04915. Call 338-1427.

Medical Support

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic

Confidential screening and treatment for STD's for residents and non-residents at a walk-in-clinic. Low cost, Medicaid accepted. Anonymous, confidential HIV testing by appointment only. Clinic open Tues. & Thurs., 3:30 to 6 pm at Portland City Hall Room 303. FMI call 874-8784.

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England

Serving men and women, offering annual exams, pregnancy testing, birth control info. & supplies (free condoms!), testing and treatment for infections and STD's, menopause support and more. Evening hours, affordable services, and complete confidentiality. Medicaid welcome. 970 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call 207/874-1095.

Free Family Therapy

available for individuals & families (of any type)

who are affected by HIV disease. FMI, contact Chris Behan, MSW at Center for Training and Special Programs. 207/773-6658.

Teen Life Center

Youth Clinic sponsored by City of Portland Public Health, Monday-Friday (10:00-11:30 am) The homeless health team's youth clinic is a place where you can receive free health care in a friendly environment. Located on Chestnut St. across from Portland High. Confidential health services with access to other support you may need. Drop in between 10 to 10:45 am.

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic

Portland STD Clinic provides full range of services from screening & treatment, education & counseling and HIV antibody testing and counseling. Located in Room 303 of City Hall. Anonymous HIV testing by appointment on weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm. Call 874-8784. For other STD services: 874-8446.

Youth Support - Outright

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

Central Maine: Weekly, confidential meetings for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 795-6677 or 1-800-339-4042 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

Portland: Meets every Fri., 7:30-9:30 pm, The People's Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor, Portland. Safe & supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box

5077, Portland, ME. 04101.

Waldo-Knox: Meets every other Sunday in Camden for g/l/b or questioning youth 22 & under. Confidential, supportive, safe space for growth, discussion & fun. FMI Lisa at Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition 338-1427 or write P.O. Box 956, Belfast, ME 04915. Collect calls okay.

Concord: Meets every Thurs., 7-9 pm at UU Church, 274 Pleasant St., next to Concord Hospital & Orthopedics Clinic. 603/664-9169.

Monadnock: Meets every Thurs., 7-9 pm at

"The Place To Go", 46 Concord St. (Rt. 202 N), Peterborough, 603/547-2545.

Nashua: Meets every 2nd & 4th Thursday at UU Church corner of Canal & Lowell Sts. (near Dunkin Donuts). Call Steve or Gypsy at 603/672-0792. Email: OutrightNH@AOL.com

Seacoast: Meets every Sun. 5-7 pm (movie night), Tues. 6-8 pm (drop in), & Friday from 7 to 9 pm (support group) at the UU Church Annex (next to fire station), 206 Court St., Portsmouth NH. FMI 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. FMI, COLAGE, 2300 Market St., #165, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

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

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

Mondays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, partners & caregivers, 6:30-8:00 PM.

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

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Living Well focusing on quality of life and empowerment.

1st Wednesday: PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), 5:30 pm. Call 775-PAWS. Charles Wynott, Program Coordinator.

Thursdays: People living with HIV meets from 5:30-7 pm.

2nd Thursday: Client Advisory Board, open to all clients of The AIDS Project, 1:30 pm.

The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 142 High St., 6th floor, except the Tuesday group, Living Well. FMI on that call Sandy Titus at Stratogen Health Care. Call Jane O'Rourke at 774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.

Arroostook County: Family and Friends Accepting Change Together (FFACT), a support group sponsored by Northern Maine AIDS Network for friends, families & careproviders. Meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm, at the Arroostook Medical Center,

conference room A. Presque Isle. FMI, Deb Madore of Health 1st, 207/768-3056 or 1-800-432-7881.

Auburn: People living with HIV disease, Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm at Auburn Family Planning. Call Diana Carrigan, Androscoggin and Oxford Case Manager and Support Services Coordinator for TAP at the Auburn office, 783-4301.

Augusta: Every 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 pm, Dayspring AIDS Support Services offers support for people with HIV & those who care about them. FMI, call 207/626-3435.

Bangor: Man 2 Man HIV prevention program for men who have sex with men. M2M offers education, HIV testing, support groups, HIV/AIDS Hotline and workshops. To volunteer or FMI on the program call 207/990-2095 or write: Man 2 Man, POB 2038, Bangor, ME 04402.

Biddeford: People affected or infected by HIV, Mondays, 5:30-7:00 pm. So. ME. Medical Center classroom opposite cafeteria on 2nd floor. Call John Bean, York County Case Manager, 774-6877.

Brunswick: Meetings for family and friends who have loved ones with HIV/AIDS at Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services, 8 Lincoln Street. FMI on meeting days and

times call 725-4955.

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

Gardiner: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays: People Living with HIV meets from 1:30-3 pm at the Physicians Building behind KVRHA Annex. Call MASS at 725-4955.

Lewiston: 4th Thursday: Great Sexexpectations monthly drop-ins for gay, bi & questioning men of all ages. 7:00-10:00 PM, ACLA office (4 Lafayette St.) FMI, Sean-207/786-4697.

Rumford/Mexico Area: Mondays: AIDS Support Group/Phoneline meets from 7-8:30 pm at Mexico Congregational Church, Main Street, Mexico. Call 364-8603.

New Hampshire:

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

Keene: Support group for families, friends, partners of persons living with AIDS or who have died of AIDS. Confidential & anony-

mous. Meets every other Wed., at Planned Parenthood, 7-8:30 pm. Call Dorothy Anderson at 603/756-4735.

Keene: Support group for HIV positive people and those living with AIDS meets alternate Mon. 6:30 pm. For details call Schultz, 603/357-5270.

Peterborough: Support group for family, partners and friends whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS meets Tues. at noon. Call Maria Rosario-603/924-7191, ext. 1126 for details.

Monadnock Region: For info., referrals, testing, buddies, speakers & volunteer opportunities call AIDS Services for the Monadnock Region at 603/357-6855 or 1-800-639-7903 or call United Way Help-Line, 1800-368-4357.

N.H. Seacoast "Connections" support group for care givers, parents, families and friends, all those whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS. "Connections" meets every month on second Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Exeter Congregational Church 21 Front St. Exeter, NH. Discussions, information sharing and support are offered in a friendly and private atmosphere. FMI (603)772-6221, or (603)436-8963.

Phone Support By Region

National Center for Lesbian Rights Youth Project: 1-800-528-NCLR.

Boston Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGLY): 1-800-347-TEEN.

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

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

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

Portland:

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

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

Ingraham Volunteers: Call 774-HELP (774-4357).

The AIDS Project: 774-6877. Located at 142 High St., 6th floor, Portland 04101. Call for information and support group meetings in Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick.

Bangor: Eastern Maine AIDS Network: 990-3626
Penobscot County: HIV/AIDS Hotline-1-800-429-1481

Belfast: Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: 338-1427
Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: 725-4995

Bridgton: Community Task Force on AIDS: 583-6608

Rumford: Community AIDS Awareness Program: 823-4170

Lewiston: AIDS Coalition of Lewiston/
Auburn: 786-4697

Waterville: Dayspring: 626-3432

Ellsworth: Down East AIDS Network: 667-3506

Oxford Hills: Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: 743-7451.

Mid coast: Gay men's HELP LINE, 6:00-9:00 pm (only) M-F. 207/863-2728, FAX, 207/863-2794. Also, gay youth info.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG)

Contacts in Maine

(* indicates monthly meetings)

Augusta/Hallowell: 623-2349 - F.E.

***Dover-Foxcroft:** 564-7986 - Sharon

***Brunswick/Bath:** 729-0519 - Sally & Gene

***Lewiston/Auburn:** 783-6964 - Estelle

***Portland:** Rita, 766-5158 or Sue, 774-3441

Waldoboro: 832-5859 - Sue

Contacts in New Hampshire

P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline:

603/623-6023

Concord: Judy, 603/485-3943

Webster: Betsy, 603/746-3818

Nashua: Nancy, 603/880-8709

Kensington: Nora/John, 603/772-3893

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-5196

Francetown: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2545

Holderness: Olivia, 603/968-7254

Rumney: Ann, 603/786-9812

Center Sandwich: Tish, 603/284-6434

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

MUSIC & ART

Women In Harmony

is an eclectic choral ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O. Box 5136 Sta. A, Portland, ME. 04101, or call 207/774-4940.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus

is a community chorus which brings men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. FMI call 774-2704 or write M.G.M.C., P.O. Box 10391, Portland, ME. 04104.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists community. FMI, call 775-3420.

Online/Internet

The Maine GayNet Mail List

Share your ideas and opinions with other list members. To subscribe to this list, send e-mail to majordomo@abacus.oxxy.edu. In the message part, write "subscribe me-gaynet"

The Maine GayNet Home Page

An ever-changing display of events and information. Meetings, contact people, resources, & Referrals. Point your WEB Browser to: <http://www.qrd.org/QRD/www/usa/maine>. FMI e-mail Paule Stockholm: paula@maine.com.

Social Groups

W.O.W. (Wild Outdoor Women)

Recreational group meets monthly for outdoor activities followed by pot luck socials. Activities: biking, hiking, camping, canoeing, kayaking. FMI: Jen @ 207/787-2379 or 207/773-5083.

Maine Frontrunners

a gay and lesbian running club sponsoring weekly run in Portland. We meet at the beginning of Back Cove Walkway (corner Baxter Blvd. & Preble St. Ext.), Saturdays, 9 am. FMI, Jim-761-2059 or John-828-4896.

SOLO

Monthly Gatherings for Older, Single Lesbians for fun & friendship. FMI, Kathy 207/688-4737 or 207/725-0179.

Wilde-Stein Club

Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at Memorial Union, Sutton Lounge, UM at Orono.

Seacoast Gay Men

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

Mountain Valley Men (MVM)

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

Out on MDI

For gays, lesbians, bi's and our friends. Very active social/support group. Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Newcomers always welcome. FMI, write OUT ON MDI, PO Box 367, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-0367 or call (207) 288-2502 and leave a message.

DECEMBER/JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 1 - December 31 Exhibition of Maine artist Dahlov 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 5 - 29 Mad Horse Theater Company presents "Lonely Planet," Thursdays at 7:30, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 and Sundays at 5:00. Tickets \$18 (\$16 for seniors and students). Pay What You Can Night: Sunday, December 8. Buy One, Get One Free Night: Thursday, December 19. FMI and reservations, (207)797-3338
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 5 PM plus two matinee performances on Dec. 21 and 22, 2 PM. Adults \$12; under 16 - \$6; matinee for family of four - \$30. FMI and reservations (207)775-5103.

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 9617)424-8900

December 20 - 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

Sunday, December 16 - 7 PM - Lesbian/Gay Catholics 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 in St. Luke's Cathedral, in the side chapel, 143 State St., Portland ME. Coffee and dessert offered after the liturgy. FMI call Rosemary or Janet (207)646-2820 or write to Dignity/Maine, PO Box 8113, Portland ME 04104-8113. All replies will be confidential.

Sunday, December 13 3 PM - Southern NH AIDS Task Force candlelight vigil for World AIDS Day at the American Stage Festival. Volunteers needed. FMI (603)595-8464

Thursday, December 5 3 - 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)879-3477.
Thursday, December 5 Mountain Valley Men, potluck supper at 6:30 pm, followed by Yankee Swap (\$5 limit); Center of Hope, Redstone NH, entrance on far side.

Saturday, December 7 10 AM - 3 PM - Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance annual Holiday Open House—more than 65 Maine authors and illustrators will be present to sign their new books. Refreshments will be served. 12

Pleasant St., Brunswick ME. FMI (207)729-6333

Saturday, December 7 9 AM - 4 PM - Holiday Craft Show & More—Saco Middle School, Rte 12 Saco ME. Free admission.

Sunday, December 8 12 - 5 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 10 6 - 9 PM - Training for CPR for adults, children and infants. Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland ME. Registration required—\$20 fee per person. FMI or registration (207)879-3536.

Thursday, December 12 7:30 - 9 PM - Matlovich Society presents Rick MacPherson, freelance writer for the Casco Bay Weekly, "Maine's Queer Culture: Checking For a Pulse." Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME. FMI (207)761-4380

Friday, December 13 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)879-3477.

Saturday, December 14 Northern Lambda Nord Christmas Party—a "Yankee Swap" gift exchange. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088.

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)879-3477.

Saturday, December 21 8 PM - 1 AM - Women Meeting Women Holiday Dinner/Dance at the Alpine Grove, Hollis NH. Advance tickets only, \$25 per person includes dinner and dancing. For dancing only, \$8 at door. For single and coupled women. No smoking. Full bar, dancing to the music of KJs BCN & Co. Deadline: November 10. FMI call Diane at (603)881-4268 or e-mail DBalbat@aol.com

Thursday, December 26 7:30 - 9 PM - Matlovich Society presents the video "We Are Not Invisible." This video sheds a refreshingly positive light on being young and gay. Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME. FMI (207)761-4380

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

Tuesday, December 31 New Year's Eve with The Shirley Lewis Blues Band at Jonathan's, Ogunquit ME. FMI (207)646-4777.

Tuesday, December 31 Blunfest/New Year's Portland—teen talent showcase with music, poetry, and storytelling. FMI (207)772-9012.

Monday, January 13 - 6:30 PM - Networking Meeting of Rainbow Business and Professional Association. 150 New York Ave., South Portland ME. FMI (207)775-0077

mid-January Training begins for Spruce Run Association hotline volunteers (providing support to people whose lives have been impacted by domestic violence). Bangor. FMI (207)945-5102.

MAINE LESBIAN/GAY POLITICAL ALLIANCE HOSTS "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 Cosby looming overhead with a 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

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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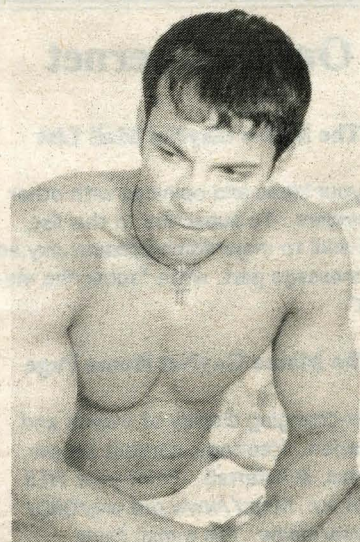
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ΔΔ BRUNSWICK COHOUSING community forming. Come build or buy a home. Rural neighborhood clustered along pedestrian lane and common green. 70 acres preserved meadows and woodlands. Resident design includes gardens, common house, play areas. Multi-generational, inclusive. Construction begins '97. Join us! 207/773-5915. ΔΔ

Need to Share can you help: my owner is new to Maine and is looking to share an apartment in Portland. This human is a 43 yr. old TV. Honest and dependable non-smoker, work-a-holic looking to share w/non-smoker dependable person. Please call (207) 361-1586.

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ASTROLOGY

ΔΔ "The Moon Is Your Friend" Utilize moon's energy advantageously with this unique pamphlet. Explanations and charts of New and Full Moons and Void of Course Moons for 1997. FMI call 207-490-0589. Alaina, 7 North St., Sanford, ME 04073. Only \$8.50.

PERSONALS

ΔΔ Searching for real friend: TSF-32, long red hair, thin, with brown eyes that sparkle and I'm a pretty smart writer and filmmaker, iso F, 29-50 with Individuality, Goals and Desires who is not afraid to Dream. Write: Community Pride Reporter PSN 101; P.O. Box 178; Saco, ME 04072.

ΔΔ Seeking soul sister: Kind and compassionate TSF, 40's seeks TSF - F for fun, friendship and exploring the possibilities. Write: Community Pride Reporter PSN 102; P.O. Box 178; Saco, ME 04072.

rbpa

Rainbow Business & Professional Association
P.O. Box 6627
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22 YO male: 5' 7", slender, brown/brown, out college student, likes dancing poetry, travel, and outdoors ISO male 20-27 who is out, cultured, into kissing, eroticism, and not into bar scenes. Write: Community Pride Reporter PSN 103; P.O. Box 178; Saco, ME 04072.

Female 24, red hair, blue eyes, out college student likes nature, reading, animals, movies, writing ISO female 24-35 who is independant, intelligent, and fun. Must be out. Write: Community Pride Reporter PSN 104; P.O. Box 178; Saco, ME 04072.

47 yo f, iso, f for long term relationship. I am 5' 2" and thin, brown hair and blue/green eyes. I am Honest and sincere with likes in Music, movies and long walks. I am searching for a woman with similar interests. Write: Community Pride Reporter PSN 105; P.O. Box 178; Saco, ME 04072.

Support

USM students G.L.B.T.Q. who wish to connect with others can contact Laurie @ 874-3232 or Julie @ 874-3301 or Paul @ 874-3255 for support, help or friendships.

FOR INFORMATION AND REFERRAL ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE MIDCOAST AREA FOR GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN.



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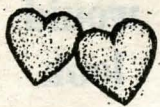
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New Years Portland

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Community Pride Reporter

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