

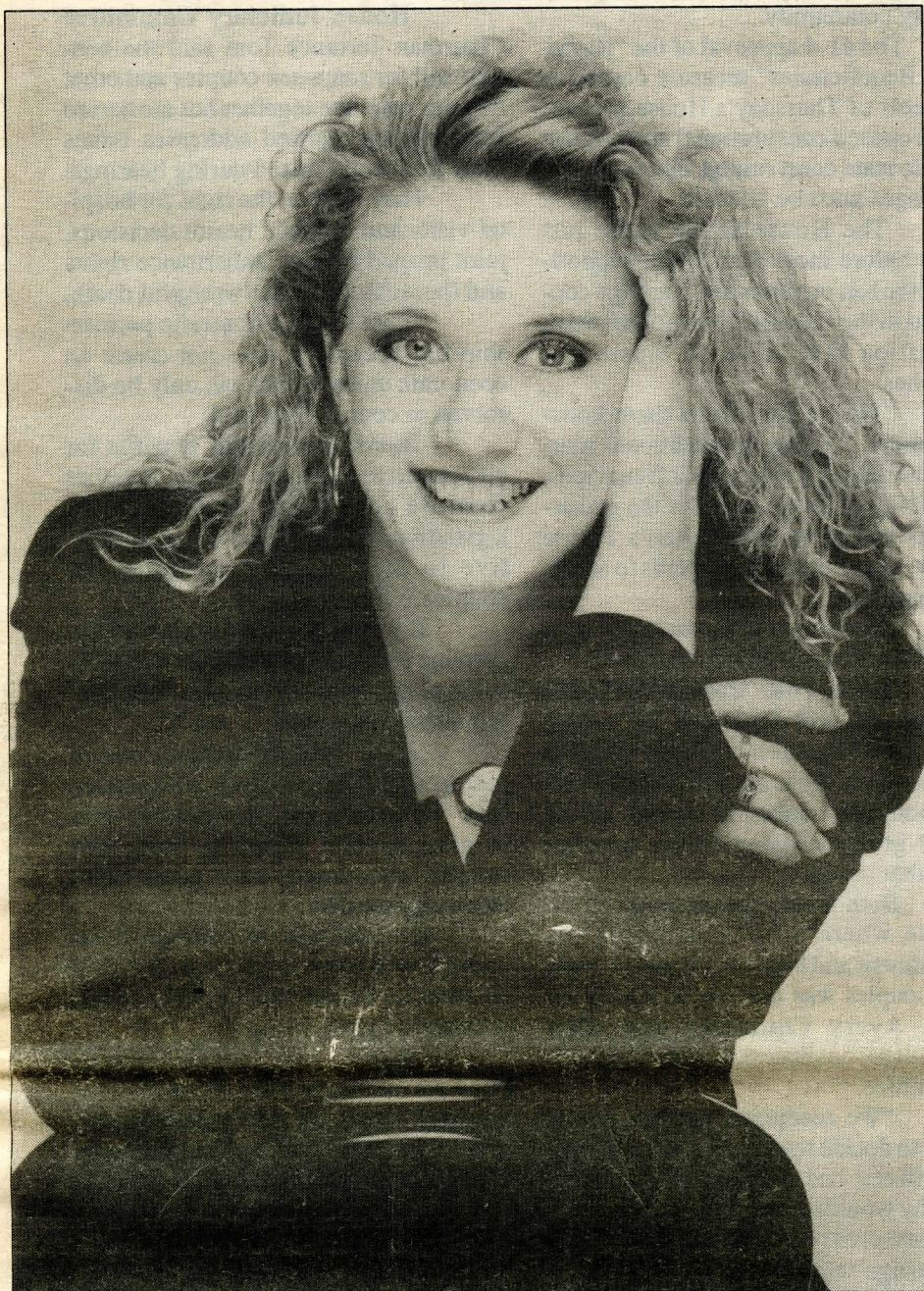
# Community Pride Reporter

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February 1997



Suzanne Westenhoefer

## Suzanne Westenhoefer plays Portland

by Tania Jo Hathaway

"One of the worlds most visible and popular openly gay comedienne, Suzanne Westenhoefer, makes a rare New England appearance Sunday March 2 at Portland's State Street Church. Show time is 7 p.m. A post-show reception with Suzanne at Katahdin restaurant will benefit the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine." Richard Lawlor, Above and Beyond. Read more about Suzanne on page 8.

The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine (LHP/SM), now in its third year of operation, is a community-based organization whose goal is to improve the health and wellness of lesbians living in southern Maine. LHP/SM offers medical and educational services to lesbians; educational training to health professionals; and political advocacy around health issues affecting lesbian communities in southern Maine.

LHP/SM is coordinated by an Advisory Group who volunteer services in their particular area of expertise—health education, clinical nursing, mental health, social work, legal advice, organizational development, etc.

Since its formation in 1994, LHP/SM has conducted free cancer screening clinics for lesbians; conducted outreach efforts to other health-related organizations; offered workshops on lesbian-related health issues; provided telephone referral services; conducted a survey of local lesbian health needs; provided consultation on lesbians health issues to the Breast and Cervical Health (BCHP) program at Portland Public

Health; provided statewide training to BCHP coordinators statewide; and served as the "rural" consult to a national organization developing educational materials for lesbians.

Plans for the spring of 1997 include a free cancer screening clinic and a day-long conference on lesbian health "History of the Lesbian Health Movement."

Thirty-four years ago, the Commissioner of Public Health in New York City—a well-respected "closeted" gay white male — "came out" to his colleagues in the public health field, thus breaking down enormous stereotypes among his peers and essentially birthing the gay and lesbian health movement. The Commissioner's primary agenda was the removal of homosexuality as a mental illness from the American Psychological Association's guidelines, a battle he had been leading for some years. In 1973, the same year he came out to his colleagues, his battle was successful, marking a long-lasting victory for lesbians and gay men both nationally and internationally.

Early attempts to change the organization of America's health system came from professional associations like the Gay Nurses Alliance. These professional organizations formed to advocate on behalf of their specialty and their sexual orientation within the health system, and in 1976 these groups joined together under an umbrella organization which today we know as the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association.

See Suzanne, page 10

## Holiday Inn reports mixed reaction to Transexual Ad

NEW YORK (AP) Holiday Inn Worldwide got gripes as well as cheers for its Super Bowl commercial that tried to dramatize the chain's renovation program by showing a transsexual at a class reunion.

About two dozen people called corporate headquarters about the commercial, said Craig Smith, a spokesman for the Atlanta-based hotel chain. Half of the callers liked it and the other half didn't.

About 30 calls also came in from franchisees, and were 5-to-1 in support of the ad, according to Gary Schahet, head of the hotel's franchise owner group.

The commercial showed a woman striding into a hall for a class reunion, drawing admiring glances as a narrator notes what it cost for her new nose, lips and chest.

She eventually runs into an old classmate who insists on guessing her name. The man shudders as he recog-

nizes her as Bob Johnson from the old days.

"It's amazing the changes you can make for a few thousand dollars," the narrator says. The hotel chain is promoting its own \$1 billion renovation program.

"There have been people who felt it was a very creative approach and funny, and there were those who did not like the creative treatment we took," Smith said. "If we offended anyone with the treatment we took, we apologize." But Smith also said he was speaking for himself, and not necessarily the company, when offering apologies.

He said company executives plan to meet this week to decide how the ad will be used in the future. It was not intended to be part of a more conventional campaign debuting by the end of March, he said.

"This was an attention-getter," Smith said.

## Ellen Degeneres films an impromptu "Coming Out" episode

by David Bauder

NEW YORK (AP) — At a rock 'n' roll fantasy camp with David Crosby, Bonnie Raitt and Aaron Neville, the TV character "Ellen" belts out a song with an eye-opening last verse: "By the way, I'm gay. It's OK. I'm gay!"

Just don't expect to see this particular episode on ABC anytime soon.

ABC executives have confirmed the months-long rumor that they are considering a story line on "Ellen" where comedian Ellen Degeneres' character reveals she is a lesbian.

During a show taping Friday, Degeneres cut three takes of a segment where she sings a song, "I'm Scared of Being Afraid," according to Touchstone Productions, which makes the show.

The third take included the unscripted "coming out" declaration, which sources said was greeted by wild cheers.

A Touchstone official said privately that Degeneres was blowing off

some steam after hearing that her show was being taken off the air during March and April to make room for a new Arsenio Hall comedy.

"It's not intended for a telecast. It is not going to be on any telecast," said ABC spokeswoman Janice Gretemeyer.

ABC Entertainment President Jamie Tarses said last week that a "coming out" episode was being worked on, but that the network wants to see if it works creatively before making a decision on going ahead.

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, which maintains an "Ellen watch" page on the Worldwide Web, criticized Tarses for "waffling" on the story line since rumors began last fall.

"We hope they stop dragging their feet," alliance spokesman Alan Klein said Monday. "The American public is ready, willing and able to see this as soon as possible."



## King eyes same sex Marriage issue as petition signatures are filed

BY FRANCIS X QUINN

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Gov. Angus King has suggested that he would not oppose a citizen initiative to bar recognition of same-sex marriage in Maine, despite his concern that the effort may be constitutionally flawed.

King's comments came as Concerned Maine Families filed what it said were 62,157 signatures with elections officials. If verified, the petitions would force a referendum on the same-sex marriage ban unless it wins approval in the Legislature.

The initiative is an outgrowth of 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.

The Concerned Maine Families proposal includes language declaring that "persons of the same sex may not contract marriage." It also would require the state to refuse to recognize such marriages performed in other states.

Critics of the initiative have maintained that same-sex marriages are not legally recognized in Maine now and that the Hawaii case has not yet reached a final resolution, making legislative action in Maine at least premature.

King partially allied himself with that view Tuesday, telling reporters he believed it was "unfortunate having to deal with this because it's not at this point very much of a live issue."

Nonetheless, even while saying he was unfamiliar with the specifics of the Maine initiative, King declared that he "would be inclined to sign it" if it

were passed by the Legislature.

King heavily qualified his remarks, however, adding that not only had he not seen the initiative or determined how it would work, he would want to hear a full debate about it before making a final decision.

King, moreover, volunteered that he perceived "an issue of whether a state can do something like this," given constitutional language promoting state-to-state cooperation.

"Clearly this would end up in the Supreme Court," King said.

In sketching his attitude toward the initiative, King noted that he had been a strong supporter of so-called gay rights legislation aimed at outlawing discrimination against homosexuals in a number of areas.

In 1995, Concerned Maine Families spearheaded an unsuccessful campaign to restrict gay rights in Maine.

A multi-issue public opinion survey released Tuesday by Strategic Marketing Services in Portland found 56 percent of Maine citizens favoring, and 42 percent opposing, a ban on same-sex marriages and a refusal to recognize such marriages performed in other states.

Survey authors said the results were based on interviews with 450 citizens statewide between Jan. 9-14 and carried a statistical margin of error ranging from plus or minus 7.7 percent to 8.3 percent.

The survey authors said this month's findings were similar to those in the organization's October 1996 poll.

## House approved same-sex couples bedefits bill falls short...

by Bruce Dunford

HONOLULU (AP) A bill to give same-sex couples some of the benefits enjoyed by married couples won overwhelming approval Friday by the state House, but it stops far short of the domestic partnership legislation sought by the gay community.

The 41-4 approval of the "Reciprocal Beneficiaries" measure comes on the heels of Thursday's House passage of a proposed constitutional amendment to undo state court rulings that same-sex marriages must be allowed.

The House action came just hours before more than 3,000 supporters of the ban on same-sex marriage converged in the Capitol for an upbeat demonstration that included music and speeches.

"We are here to let them know how much we cherish traditional marriage in Hawaii," said Lamar Benavides, the master of ceremonies for the gathering sponsored by the Hawaii's Future Today, a coalition of opponents to same-sex marriage.

"Honolulu not Homolulu," read one of the larger signs in the crowd.

Rush-hour traffic on South Beretania Street separated the crowd from a contingent of 33 sign-holding supporters of same-sex marriages. Passing motorists honked in support of the larger group, causing cheers to erupt from that crowd.

Both House measures go to the Senate where a bill combining the amendment and benefits for gay and lesbian couples was introduced Friday by Sens. Avery Chumbley and Matt Matsunaga, co-chairmen of the Judiciary Committee.

"We recognize that the public wants to decide whether marriage should be between one man and one woman, but why would anyone want to deny fundamental civil rights on the basis of sex," Matsunaga said.

The Senate bill proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the state to limit marriage to the couples of the opposite sex, provided "that such reversion shall be effective only if

laws do not deprive any person of civil rights on the basis of sex."

Differences between the House and Senate legislation would be worked out in a conference committee, but leaders of both sides say they are committed to expediting the issue.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Terrance Tom said the benefits bill for same-sex couples and other couples who live together but are barred from getting married addresses issues most frequently raised during hearings.

They include the right for hospital visits and to make health decisions, joint property rights, inheritance rights and the right to sue for wrongful death.

"This is not a domestic partnership bill because it does not create an economic union which can only be dissolved in court," Tom said.

It does not include benefits for all unmarried couples living together "because I don't think we should adopt legislation that would act as an alternative to marriage for opposite sex couples," Tom said.

It would be inappropriate to undermine the value of marriage or to discourage opposite-sex couples from getting married, he said.

Rep. Bob McDermott, one of four freshmen Republicans who cast the only "no" votes, said the measure tries to give special rights to same-sex couples who already have equal rights like everyone else.

He cautioned his colleagues that passage of the bill would start the state on what he called "the slippery slopes to domestic partnerships."

Hawaii was thrown into the same-sex marriage issue when the state Supreme Court in 1993 ruled that the state could not deny marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples unless it could show a compelling reason to do so because it violated the state Constitution's ban on gender discrimination.

Last month, Circuit Judge Kevin Chang ruled that the state had failed to show a compelling reason at a 10-day trial in September.

### NGLTF Government Response to AIDS: A Decade Late

Keith A. Anastasi, Program Associate NGLTF Policy Institute Fifteen years into the AIDS epidemic and over 300,000 lives lost, and the federal government recently released its first National Aids Strategy. Outgoing National AIDS Policy Director Patricia Fleming boasts in the foreword: "the appendices to this report lay out, for the first time, detailed descriptions of the objectives and goals... involved in the Federal response to HIV."

Nearly two decades of sickness and death and the government is praising the release of its first strategy to deal with the worst public health crisis in modern

history. Our government should be embarrassed that it has taken over a decade to produce a National AIDS Strategy. I have lived with HIV, dealt with our federal system of care, and fought for the needs of people with HIV/AIDS and those struggling to remain uninfected for over 10 years. I had hope the report would outline the programs and funding we desperately need and that our government was finally getting serious about a solution for the complex problems of the epidemic. The report falls well short of that hope.

The report shows that HIV infec-  
See NGLTF, page 12

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Los Angeles Times

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# Anita Bryant's crusade two decades ago - a watershed for Gay Rights

BY WILL LESTER

MIAMI (AP) — Singer Anita Bryant had celebrity, money and public sentiment behind her when she answered her pastor's challenge to lead the crusade to repeal a local gay rights ordinance.

The orange juice pitchwoman and former beauty queen, aided by conservatives across the country, helped gain the repeal of the Dade County gay rights ordinance that went into effect 20 years ago Tuesday.

The born-again Christian won that repeal election by June of 1977, but she found an unlikely and formidable foe in a little-known, former anti-war activist with a keen sense of publicity named Bob Kunst.

"We led America's coming out party," Kunst boasts today. "There is no question the opposition was trying to push us back in the closet."

Their resulting battle was played out in the national media and brought the issue of gay rights into living rooms and workplaces around the country.

At the time of the campaign, several states already had removed restrictions on sexual behavior between adults and about two dozen cities had passed laws granting gay rights in areas like housing and employment.

But the crusade by the well-known singer and the skilled public relations campaign led by Kunst and clinical psychologist Alan Rockway was a

watershed, say those who study the movement.

"The Anita Bryant feud was the first time there was sustained national interest in the gay rights story," said John D'Emilio, a historian of the gay movement. "The battle lines were clearly drawn between the new gay movement and the forces reacting against it."

Kerry Lobell, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, says the Bryant campaign played a key role in the movement's coming of age.

"The American public was able to see that bigotry full in its face for the first time," Lobell says. "That campaign and the media attention it generated reached into so many towns and cities where gay people hadn't been as active and visible. It gave them models for activism."

The gay rights ordinance failed twice with Dade County voters, but a state constitutional amendment passed in 1980 to address many of the same issues.

Nine states, more than 100 cities and hundreds of corporations ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, Lobell says. The culture looks at gays, lesbians and bisexuals in a completely different way, she says, noting that in television and the movies, gay characters, story lines and gay actors playing straight characters are not unusual.

The gay rights battle is still con-

troversial when it comes to institutions like the military with its "don't ask, don't tell" policy and the furor over gay marriage.

But conservatives two decades ago may have underestimated the widespread backlash against Bryant's "Save Our Children" campaign. Bryant focused on how the ordinance could force schools to hire gay teachers and drew the backing of church groups and conservative politicians across the country.

Kunst, with experience in sales and marketing, knew how to sell the story and protested to Ms. Bryant's corporate backers, who often dread such publicity. He hired a news clipping service, and was surprised to learn that he was getting editorial support from the most unlikely sources, including small-town papers scattered through the conservative South.

Bryant, who then lived in Miami Beach, quickly lost her singing career, a chance at a television variety show, corporate sponsors and later her marriage, before retreating to her mother's home in Oklahoma where she "curled up in bed in the fetal position." She was assailed from the left for her stance on gay rights and from the right for getting a divorce.

A decade later she married her childhood sweetheart, opened a dinner theater and wrote a book, called "A New Day," about her comeback from her painful foray into politics.

Her former husband and manager Bob Green, who still lives on Miami Beach, says he immediately saw the perils of her gay rights crusade. The show business and endorsement appeal for the singer, who recorded the 1960s hit "Paper Roses," was based on her wholesome, apple-pie image.

"I remember thinking the media would have a field day, that all of the things we worked for would go down the tubes," Green, now a consultant, said in a recent interview. "The convention invitations stopped cold, the singer thing fell through, her career was over."

And so was Green's role as her show business manager.

"We lost just about everything you can lose," he says. "In retrospect, if God wanted the results to be what they were, he could have done it without Anita Bryant."

"From my perspective it was a waste of time," he says. "Not that our cause wasn't just, but if you had a referendum here now, the gays would win, hands down."

At her dinner theater in Branson, Mo., Ms. Bryant has rediscovered loyal listeners, "Lawrence Welk kind of people," says Green. Annette Scott, her personal assistant, said Ms. Bryant was on vacation and not available to discuss the anniversary.

When she released her book four  
**See Bryant, page 10**

## Evelyn Hooker - Unsung Hero

By John D'Emilio Director, NGLTF  
Policy Institute

Evelyn Hooker died in November at the ripe old age of 89. I'm willing to lay odds that not many of us know who she is or what she did. Yet she deserves the status of hero in our community as a pioneering psychologist whose research has changed our world. Her career is also a fascinating case study of the potentially productive relationship between "the expert" and a social movement.

Hooker earned a Ph.D. in psychology in the early 1930s—not an easy achievement for an American woman of that era—and was teaching at UCLA when a former student who had become a friend challenged her to study him and his other gay male friends. "Science" was pretty clear in its attitudes toward homosexuality in the mid-20th century. Physicians, psychoanalysts, and psychologists agreed that homosexuality was a mental disorder that needed treatment and cure.

Since virtually all of the homosexuals whom professionals studied were either institutionalized or seeking

medical help, it wasn't hard to prove that we were sick and disturbed. With the help of the recently formed Mattachine Society in southern California, Hooker became the first professional to assemble a group of non-patient gay men, and match them with a group of heterosexuals with similar demographic characteristics.

She then administered a series of standard psychological tests to each group and asked a panel of professionals, who were kept in the dark about the identity of the subjects, to evaluate the test results. Much to their surprise, and to Hooker's delight, they were unable to tell the homosexuals from the heterosexuals, and rated the gay subjects high in personality development and emotional adjustment.

Two decades later, when I interviewed Hooker for a book I was writing on the homophile movement of the 1950s, she chuckled mischievously as she remembered how baffled the other professionals were by the outcome.

**See Hooker, page 10**

## Vermont bill introduced to Ban Gay Marriages

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — A bill that would ban gay marriages was introduced in the Vermont House, but it may not go anywhere.

The proposal would define a marriage as a union between a man and a woman, bar couples of the same gender from marrying, and prevent the state from recognizing a same-sex marriage performed in another state.

The legislation, sponsored on Thursday by Rep. Nancy Sheltra, R-Derby, and several other lawmakers, is similar to bills that have been introduced in legislatures around the country in response to a court case pending in Hawaii.

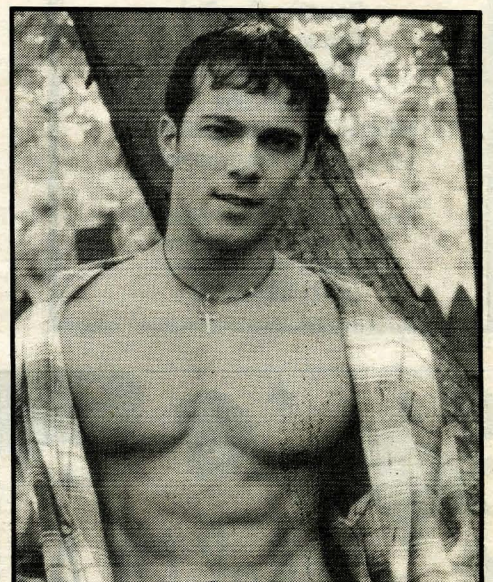
A court there has ruled that gay marriages are legal, but the Hawaii Supreme Court is now reviewing the decision. Opponents of same-sex unions fear that people might marry in Hawaii and then demand recognition in their home states.

Vermont law does not currently recognize same-sex marriages, but some opponents fear that a state court might interpret state law to permit them.

Supporters of allowing gay men and lesbians to marry their partners have been waiting for the Hawaii courts to decide the issue before pressing it in other states, including Vermont.

They prefer for the Legislature not to take any action, and they might get their wish. Speaker Michael Obuchowski said the decision ultimately would be up to the Judiciary Committee, to which he referred the bill. But he said he was not inclined to consider the marriage ban.

"My sense is it won't even get a hearing," Obuchowski said.



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# Homosexuals, often viewed as one dimensional by others

by Brian Willoughby

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP) In a history class debate this year, Allison Hector volunteered to take the side opposing the legalization of gay marriages.

She ticked off her arguments:

—“It’s morally wrong and says so in the Bible. And it’s just very gross.”

—“Children shouldn’t be raised in that kind of environment.”

—“And it doesn’t matter anyway, because God’s killing all queers with AIDS.”

She paused, caught her breath.

“That last one was the hardest to say,” the 15-year-old said.

Hector has a shy, sometimes sly smile. She lives with her mother in Vancouver and attends the Vancouver School for Arts and Academics, where she is a sophomore. She plays in a band, attends the Unitarian church, wants to be a writer and doesn’t back down from a challenge.

Proof of the latter is apparent in the side Hector chose for the debate; she is a lesbian.

No one knows how many gay teenagers there are in Clark County, but Celeste Baskett of Evergreen AIDS Response said she is certain there are more than people realize.

Since June, Baskett’s agency has been contacted by 51 Clark County teenagers interested in its gay and lesbian youth group. A dozen young people typically attend meetings.

“And every month, there are new people coming,” Baskett said.

“I’m sure there are young (gay and lesbian) people who see the meeting fli-

ers and run the other way,” said Baskett, youth outreach worker for the Vancouver-based nonprofit agency, which opened in April. “Either they’re not able to admit their sexuality to themselves, or they’re worried someone might see them looking at the flier.”

Jill Hector, 46 and a single mother, works as a substitute teacher in the Vancouver and Evergreen school districts. She and daughter Allison moved here 11 years ago from New Jersey.

At first, Allison was confused about her sexuality.

“I had crushes on girls back in sixth and seventh grade,” she said.

By eighth grade, it was clear to Allison that she was a lesbian. She told a few friends, then her mother.

“I wasn’t that surprised,” said Jill, who is heterosexual. “I had a semi-general feeling about it, and she knows I’m open-minded.”

So far, Allison said, it’s been a relief to live openly as a lesbian.

“You don’t have to hide it anymore,” she said. “There’s a lot of bad things that could happen, name-calling and stuff, but I haven’t experienced any of that yet. So far.”

Allison finds that some people want to focus on her homosexuality at the expense of other aspects of her life, making her one-dimensional.

“Some people treat me differently when they find out,” she said. “They think I should speak for all queer people, as if my opinion is the same as everyone else who is gay, as if I speak for all lesbians on the planet.”

Others, she said, take a narrower

approach, concentrating solely on the “sex” in homosexuality, or focusing on the more flamboyant members of the gay community.

“All some people see is drag queens, but there’s so much more to it than that,” she said. “And some people want to ‘fix’ me. Well, there’s nothing to be fixed.”

Some disagree with that. In October, Washington for Traditional Values, a Vancouver-based anti-homosexual group, promoted a campaign to “offer hope” to what Executive Director Robert Larimer Jr. described as “people involved in homosexual lifestyles (who) feel trapped, unfulfilled and frightened at the continued exposure to high risk behaviors.”

That word — lifestyle — bothers Allison. Style, she said, has nothing to do with it; it is her life.

“It’s just who I am,” she said.

Noah Stroup of Battle Ground has been called “fag” and “queer,” but he dismisses such actions as juvenile, not worthy of getting upset over.

“It didn’t bother me in the least,” the 18-year-old said. “My friends and family support me, and that’s what’s important.”

Noah’s father, 44-year-old Dean Stroup, said he had an idea that Noah was gay long before his son told him.

“I wasn’t surprised,” he said.

He also wasn’t judgmental. “I told him it was nothing to be ashamed of,” said Dean, who is married. “It was something that was easy for me to accept. I’m

See Dimensional, page 11

# Ban on training gay teachers sparks controversy

by Grant Peck

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) —

A controversy over whether homosexuals should be barred from being trained as teachers has sparked a rare outburst of intolerance of gays.

Education Minister Sukhachit Rangsitphol, an outspoken supporter of the ban, even said that gay men are “sick — both physically and mentally” and prone to becoming male prostitutes.

The comments added to a debate triggered this month by the disclosure that Thailand’s 36 teachers’ colleges would not accept gay students in the belief that homosexuals serve as poor role models for youngsters.

The debate is unusual for this Southeast Asian country, which is remarkably tolerant on issues of sexu-

ality. Amusement is normally the strongest reaction to the everyday sight of men who walk, talk and dress like the most feminine of women.

“Thais are open-minded, not serious,” said Dejdoew Srichai, a developer who received no protest when he launched a gay residential project. “They respect each other’s privacy. They don’t think it’s a big deal.”

So it came as a surprise when the Rajaphat Institute — the collective name for the teachers colleges — recently announced it would not admit gay students.

“Homosexual teachers would affect young students because youngsters look at their teachers and absorb things,” said Sirote Pholpuntin, director of a Bangkok branch.

“Those who would teach young students should be idealistic and perfect, they should be normal.”

What galls supporters of gay rights is that Rajaphat officials have suggested that the real danger is that homosexuals are emotionally unstable.

The announcement of the ban followed a highly publicized murder of a lesbian university student by a

gay male friend. Neither was training to be a teacher, and the killing had no evident link to their sexual orientations.

“The thing people are most concerned about is that certain homosexual people tend to have unstable feelings and have no parental instincts,” said Rajaphat’s Sirote.

Such attitudes have drawn criticism from human-rights groups and others who say there is no evidence that gay people are any more or less emotionally unstable than heterosexuals.

“It’s not right and not fair,” said Natee Teerarojanapongs, a well-known writer, gay-rights activist and director of the Fraternity for AIDS Cessation in Thailand. “They should understand that personality has nothing to do with sex preference, and they should think that no matter what sex people are, if they don’t have the proper character, they should be disqualified to work as a teacher.”

Representatives of about a dozen activist and academic organizations wrote a letter to the education minister protesting that the ban

See Ban, page 10

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## MLGPA Update

The Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance is in full legislative swing. On one front we have the statewide anti-discrimination bill (often nicknamed the gay rights bill). If passed, this bill would alter the Maine Human Rights Act to include "sexual orientation" as a group of individuals to be protected from discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and credit. On another front we have Carolyn Cosby and her anti-gay marriage initiative. She recently submitted her signatures to the state, so she is well on her way to bringing this debate to the public. On yet another front, we will be working to defeat an alleged Christian Civic League bill attacking gay adoption and foster care.

MLGPA is devoting a significant amount of time and resources to the legislative campaign. We will lobby hard for the anti-discrimination bill, which has its best chance ever of being signed into law. We are looking for volunteers who are interested in being part of the legislative campaign. We have legislative branches in Portland, Augusta, and Bangor, with more groups in the making. Work to be done includes a letter writing campaign, phone banking, participating in constituent lobby days,

mailings, and much more. If you are interested, please call the MLGPA office (1-800-55-MLGPA..... or 761-3732 in greater Portland) with your name, address, and phone.

### 12th Annual MLGPA Awards Banquet

MLGPA is holding its 12th Annual Awards Banquet on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1997, at the Augusta Civic Center. Tickets are \$30 and reservations should be made by February 3. If you would like to attend and have not made reservations, please call Harold at 623-8383.

The Awards Banquet is a special celebratory event for the g/l/b/t/ community. Not only do we dine and dance in good spirits with good friends, but we use the occasion to honor individuals who have given of themselves to better our community. Too often we don't get to say thank you to those who are doing the work and fighting the fight. Though we are not able to honor ALL the people who have contributed significantly during the last year, we will at least thank some of them.

Please join us for a very special evening. Call 623-8383 for questions and reservations.

## Women First offers Lesbian Peer Education

by Nina R. Mollicone

The two greatest risk factors for developing breast and cervical cancer are being female and growing older. Many women do not know this simple fact. Thanks to funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Maine is one of 40 states offering life-saving breast and cervical early detection screening and education. The Women First Breast and Cervical Health Program, sponsored by the City of Portland Health Division, provides early detection screening and education for women in Cumberland County and the surrounding rural regions. Emphasis is placed on reaching women over 40, low income women, lesbians and rural women.

A vital part of Women First's mission is education. To meet this end, Women First has trained peer educators, lesbian and non-lesbian, who are available to present programs in the Greater

Portland area on breast and cervical health. The programs, which are about one hour in length, are designed to be presented to small groups of 5 to 15 women in comfortable, relaxed settings. Although the presentations are available to any women's group, the target population is the lesbian and bisexual communities. Programs are free of charge and can be scheduled day or evenings. For more information, to schedule a life-saving program for women you know, or to find out if you qualify for free early detection screenings, call Maureen Clancy, Women First Coordinator, at 874-8774.

On Saturday, March 15, 1997 in Portland, the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, in conjunction with Women First, will offer free women's health screenings with lesbian knowledgeable providers. For more information, contact the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine at 657-5864.

## Full Circle of Women

A radically different, politically incorrect exploration of what it means to be a woman—that is Full Circle of Women.

According to the group's brochure, "it is time for a reformulation of feminism, for a philosophy that embraces all women—not just those who are politically correct, not just those with a certain sexual orientation, not just "genetic" women, but all who identify as women.

"Full Circle of Women is for woman-identified individuals living their lives as women—transgendered, nontransgendered ("biological"), transsexual (preoperative and postoperative), and intersex people living as women.

One of the group's annual workshops will be held April 4 - 6 at the Essex Conference Center and Retreat in Essex, Massachusetts. Workshop participants come together as experts on their own lives, teaching and learning from one another.

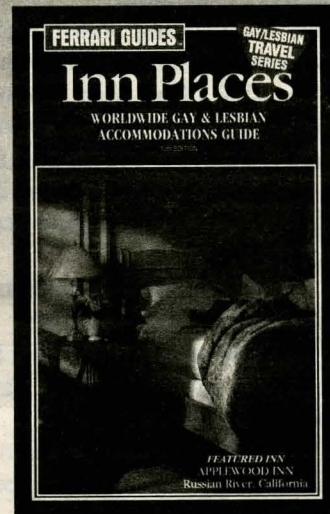
Participation by women who identify as lesbian, bisexual, heterosexual, asexual, or other-sexual is encouraged. Women of all colors, shapes, and sizes are welcome. Anyone unsure of whether the conference and workshops are for them can call 310-670-2222 for further information.

Cost of the weekend is \$265, which includes double or triple accommodations, all meals from a light supper Friday through lunch on Sunday, use of the hot tub and sauna and all workshops. If financial assistance is needed, contact the group as soon as possible. All fees must be paid by March 15, 1997.

Space is limited to 30 participants, so it is important to register as soon as possible. For further information on any aspect of Full Circle of Women, contact: Janis Walworth at the Center for Gender Sanity, PO Box 451427, Westchester CA 90045, phone 310-670-2222, fax 310-216-9463, email: merkin77@aol.com

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Mon-Thurs.5-9:30.Fri-Sat.5-10:30  
closed Sundays



# News from the Granite State

## GLSTN New Hampshire ...teaching respect for all

The New Hampshire Chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network announces its mid-winter general meeting for Tuesday, February 4, 1997 at 7:15 PM on the campus of Phillips Exeter Academy Exeter, New Hampshire, Thompson Science Building in the Lecture Hall. Park on Tan Lane and Enter from the Quad side. Members as well as interested individuals are cordially invited.

There will be special Focus on Issues Particular to Rural Chapters with guest colleagues from GLSTN Maine and GLSTN Southern Vermont.

New business will include GLSTN New Hampshire's year in review, Safe Schools Documentation and other future focus projects, how GLSTN works toward change, member participation, community profiles, revenue sources, communications, the importance of the Jamie Nabozny Decision in Wisconsin, the March 21-23 GLSTN National Conference in Salt Lake City and the April 5 GLSTN Northeastern Regional Conference.

Curious about your colleagues in the tri-state area? The general meeting is a great time and place to meet them, and to keep New Hampshire K-12 education committed to all Granite State students, their families, and the professional environment which supports them.

If you need directions to (we have a map of) the Phillips Exeter Academy campus, please call the NH Office, (603) 463-5608, or drop us a note by e-mail at ktagrpnh@aol.com. Leave a fax number if you want the map.

Background Information Related to This Announcement Three Items: Index 1. About GLSTN New Hampshire 2. Guiding Statistics (Summary) 3. GLSTN New Hampshire 1996, The Year in Review

1. About GLSTN New Hampshire GLSTN New Hampshire is a partnership of Granite State educators and community members affirming that each member of every school community is to be respected, regardless of sexual orientation. It is one of 30 chapters nationwide which bring together teachers, parents and concerned citizens to work to create an environment for schools where respect for all is taught.

GLSTN believes that such an atmosphere engenders a positive sense of self, which is the basis of educational achievement and personal growth. Since homophobia and heterosexism undermine a healthy school climate, it works to educate teachers, students, and the public at large about the damaging effects these forces have on youth and adults alike. Recognizing that forces such as racism and sexism have similarly adverse effects on communities, GLSTN supports schools in seeking to redress all such inequities. GLSTN seeks to develop school climates where difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes in creating a more vibrant and diverse community.

GLSTN New Hampshire has a current membership in which slightly over half are non-gay. Almost half are in pro-

fessions other than teaching. At this time, the New Hampshire chapter are men and women in equal number, representing 36 different towns. It welcomes as members any individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or occupation, who are committed to seeing its philosophy realized in K-12 education.

2. Guiding Statistics (Summary) Sources available Upon Request

97% of all high school students report regularly hearing derogatory remarks about gay people from their peers.

53% of report hearing derogatory remarks about gay people from school staff.

80% of gay and lesbian youth report severe social isolation.

80% of prospective teachers report negative attitudes toward gay and lesbian people.

19% of gay and lesbian youth report being physically attacked based on their physical orientation.

30% of all completed suicides are gay and lesbian youth. That averages out to an actual suicide every 5 hours, 48 minutes.

20% of all hate crimes against lesbian and gay people are committed by teenagers. When a child turns 13, become a teenager, he or she has usually just left elementary school.

3. GLSTN New Hampshire 1996, The Year in Review

January The year brings in continuing and building tensions in Merrimack, with the dreaded Policy 6540 now receiving the scrutiny of national and international media at every board meeting. GLSTN New Hampshire members Randy Kottwitz and Steve Birchall, fourteen year residents of the town, are key to organizing Merrimack's response to Policy 6540. [Note: Policy 6540: Prohibition of Alternate (sic) Lifestyle Instruction. It provides that 'The Merrimack School District shall neither implement nor carry out any program or activity that has either the purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative. A program or activity, for the purposes of this item, includes the distribution of instructional materials, instruction, counseling, or other services on school grounds, or referral of a pupil to an organization that affirms a homosexual lifestyle.' No clarifications were offered. Violation of, or dissent from, the Policy would result in employment termination.

S.P.A.M (the Student Political Action Committee of Merrimack High School, motivating over 800 students to wear pink triangles and black arm bands in protest one month prior) continues to speak up against the Policy. Youth are interviewed by the media. GLSTN NH monitors the events, giving support and resources where requested, but understanding the need to allow issues to be defined and addressed locally. Chair Ager attempts to curb student comment by requiring youth to have their parents present and permissions secured before speaking at the microphone.

February: Merrimack parents and

educators, along with leading state and national civil rights groups, files a complaint in the US District Court in Concord, claiming the Policy violates First Amendment guarantees. Time Magazine story reveals the Rev. Lou Sheldon, of the California-based Traditional Values Coalition, takes credit for role in giving Merrimack School Board Chair Chris Ager language identical to the failed amendment sponsored by US Senators Bob Smith (R-NH) and Jesse Helms (R-NC) to the 1994 Education Funding Act. Rosemarie Rung announces her Merrimack School Board candidacy. She promises to repeal Policy 6540.

March: Conservative Merrimack School Board candidate Ginny Caderette, supporter of Policy 6540, holds a fund-raiser attended by extreme right-wing Republicans from the entire state.

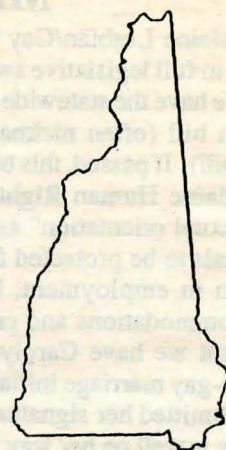
April: GLSTN New Hampshire member Penny Culliton is presented with a 'Pathfinder Award' by Kevin Jennings at the GLSTN/Boston Conference.

May: Merrimack School Board Elections: Landslide victory for moderate Rosemarie Rung, with Policy 6540 having been the issue of the campaign. Largest voter turnout ever for a school board election. GLSTN New Hampshire challenges (in a state-wide press release) State Senator Sheila Roberge's harmful remarks made in the Manchester Union Leader concerning the Supreme Court decision in Evans vs. Romer. Asserting that the landmark decision on gay rights would have no impact in New Hampshire, she said, "I don't view homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle. That legislation has come to New Hampshire and been defeated."

June: Policy 6540 repealed by a 3-2 vote. Replaced by Policy 6541, prohibiting promoting sexual activity of any sexual orientation. GLSTN New Hampshire member Randy Kottwitz announces his candidacy for State Representative, with the strong support of the state Democratic Party. Knox Turner addresses Gay Pride Celebrations for GLSTN New Hampshire on the steps of the New Hampshire State House.

August: Marks the one-year anniversary of the (former) Merrimack School Board passing Policy 6540 and the Vigil for the Victims of Gay Teen Suicide and Violence Against Gays, co-sponsored by GLSTN New Hampshire, held outside the school board meeting. Organized by Randy Kottwitz, and with over 600 present, it was the largest civil rights gathering against persecution of gays in state history.

New Hampshire Public Employee Labor Relations Board issues a decision upholding the April arbitrator's award for the reinstatement of GLSTN New Hampshire Board member Penny Culliton at Mascenic High School, after being terminated two years ago for refusing to censor previously-approved reading: Maurice (E.M. Forster), The Education of Harriet Hatfield (May Sarton), and The Drowning of Stephan



Jones (Bette Greene). [The books themselves were reinstated earlier in the year when the Mascenic School Board actually reviewed their content. However (and it's a big however), the books are not allowed to be read in any course except one, and that is not currently being offered.]

GLSTN New Hampshire Steering Committee votes in its new leadership and becomes a Board of Trustees. Papers filed for full chapter status, achieved in October. GLSTN New Hampshire affirms the mission of GLSTN National and writes a separate mission statement for the work of GLSTN New Hampshire.

September Building Strong Relationships: Co-Sponsors with PFLAG/NH Seacoast a Portsmouth Reading and Book Signing of Rita Kissen's (of GLSTN/Maine) new book, The Last Closet: The Real Lives of Lesbian and Gay Teachers. Co-Sponsors the "Open Door Forums" of Common Ground, a coalition of NH organizations representing a wide spectrum of concerns (labor, education, human rights, economic policy, health and welfare, and religion). Worked closely with two of New Hampshire's six Outright organizations to keep communications open between youth and education professionals. (Concord Outright, Inc. and Seacoast Outright, Inc. are GLBTQ youth support groups which operate outside the public and private school system.)

October: Sponsors a fund-raiser state-wide screening of It's Elementary, with directors Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen, at the Concord Civic Auditorium, with VIP reception following. Special guest speakers: Education Advocate and (New) Chair of the Merrimack School Board, Ken Coleman and Former Candidate, US Senate, John Rauh. Front-page coverage of event by the Concord Monitor and the Manchester Union Leader, both stories being lengthy, fair and constructive. These stories brought favorable state-wide attention to GLSTN New Hampshire like no other coverage before — the result of building strong relationships with press reporters. Penny Culliton is honored for making a stand in public education at the 1996 Bill of Rights Dinner of The New Hampshire Civil Liberties Union Foundation.

November/December: GLSTN New Hampshire invited to work with groups of teachers in two new New Hampshire communities: Peterborough and Laconia: GLSTN New Hampshire invites the Vermont and Maine chapters to its February state-wide meeting to discuss the challenges of membership and programming in a rural, non-urban hub state.



## Young Gays and Lesbians are finding more solidarity in New Hampshire

LACONIA, N.H. (AP) — Young gays and lesbians in the state are now more apt to remain in their home state instead of moving to urban areas that have larger gay and lesbian communities.

This observation was one of many made as a group of young people shared their thoughts and experiences coming to grips with their own sexual preference or having loved ones who are gay or lesbian.

Eleven young people, who spoke during a recent Sunday service at the Unitarian Universalist Society in Laconia, said they hope to educate people about what it really means to be gay or lesbian. Their resolve to find a way to live happy lives here is evidence that things may be changing for gay and lesbian people in the Granite State.

In his address "New Hampshire Teens — Making Sense of Their Lives," Knox Turner, a youth coordinator/consultant who sits on the Concord Outright's board of directors, said the teens of the 1990s have a better chance to know the sense of rural community in New Hampshire than the generations before them.

He said more gay New Hampshire teens are staying home instead of feeling forced to resettle to such cities as San Francisco, Chicago, Boston and New York City. While gay and lesbian people who lived in New Hampshire in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s lived in fear because of intolerance, things are changing for the better, he said. And the gay teens of the 1990s are the ones who are making things change.

Through outright groups in Concord, Portsmouth, Nashua and now

Hanover and Chocorua, Turner said, gay teens are able to talk to other teens and have fun. They no longer feel isolated, alone or suicidal because they adopt the false belief that God does not love them.

The Internet is also providing gay teens with a way to talk to gay teens in other states who are experiencing the same challenges and issues they are, he said.

Turner said the Christian Coalition, a conservative political action group that is opposed to many aspects associated with gay liberation, is actually helping gay teens to form their own sense of community.

By thrusting the societal war upon their shoulders at home, Turner said the Christian Coalition has made the gay teens stronger and more firm in their resolve to stay home in New Hampshire.

"Gay teens and straight allies no longer have to find a definition of community. They have their own and remarkably, it looks a lot like the one we have all been trying to live up to," Turner said.

Greg Root, chairman of the Unitarian Universalist Society's Welcoming Committee, told the nearly 100 people seated at the Unitarian Church that it is the one place he feels safe to discuss his feelings about being gay.

"Every time I stand before this congregation and say I am a gay person, it affirms me," Root said. When he was 17 years old growing up in New Hampshire, he could not be as open about his sexuality as the teen-agers who agreed to speak about their diversity can today, he said.

Turner said the Sunday morning

service is just one of many steps that need to be taken to "achieve social justice in our times."

He said gay and lesbian people are part of the very fabric and spectrum of life itself and cannot be ignored, isolated or treated unfairly by the rest of society any longer.

Next to the altar, the young people lit up to 10 candles representing their joys and concerns about their sexual diversity, the challenges they faced growing up, and the inroads society has made to be more tolerant.

A Laconia man who is a junior at Brewster Academy in Wolfeboro said he is concerned about HIV, the deadly virus that causes AIDS. But he also cited the joy he feels when he realizes more people are welcoming those with different sexual preferences than ever before. Before he lit the candle, he said he also wanted to recognize his father, a homosexual.

A college junior from Gilmanton and a girl who attends Laconia High School read a story about sexual diversity to children gathered at the altar.

The story told of a boy whose father is gay and is divorced from the boy's mother. When the boy visits his father on weekends, the two of them do everything a father and son do to have fun. The lesson the boy learns is love.

"Daddy and his roommate are very happy together and I'm happy too," the story concludes.

Another Gilmanton woman, a freshman at an Ivy League college, told the audience how she came to understand and apply the concept of "fitting into yourself" after she encountered so

many things and lived so many lives growing up.

As a Unitarian, she said she discovered a religion that allows her to be open and accepted, which is something she struggled with growing up here.

A Concord High School student said she has two moms and two dads since her biological mother and father chose to pursue their lesbian and gay tendencies.

She said her mother has had a girlfriend and her father has had a boyfriend ever since she was very young. She never had any problem with it or cause to question it until she went to school and encountered the hatred and prejudice being different brought.

But realizing there is nothing wrong with her parents being who they are, the teen said she will do her part to make the world a safer place for them and others who are gay and lesbian.

A Merrimack High School student said he may have experienced one of the fiercest anti-gay campaigns in state history when the school board voted to adopt a policy to ban all gay literature and references to homosexuality in the classroom his freshman year.

The student said he was reluctant to get involved in the fight to overturn that policy, but eventually worked up the courage to protest and take the abuse that went along with it.

Ultimately, the forces that favored more tolerance and no censorship won their battle. The policy was dropped because the people involved realized it had more to do with observing people's rights than anything else, the student said.

## Coalition Attempts to end discrimination in NH

The New Hampshire Coalition to End Discrimination (CED) is undertaking the challenge to amend the New Hampshire law against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. This bill prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, public accommodations, and housing accommodations.

Already, groups aligned with the extreme right wing are forming throughout New Hampshire and making hatred of gays and lesbians central to their strategy.

This past year, CED was in the New Hampshire legislature fighting for legislation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. There is much more to be accomplished, and it will prove to be a very long and expensive legislative fight. That is why it is

imperative for anyone who believes that no one should be discriminated against to be involved in this struggle for equality.

The New Hampshire legislators need to know that the vast majority of people in New Hampshire - gay and straight - do not agree with discrimination based on sexual orientation, anywhere for any reason.

These are a few examples of discrimination that currently occur: \* Landlords who can evict tenants based on evidence that they are gay—>IT'S LEGAL AND IT HAPPENS!!

\* Restaurants and stores that deny service to people who are, or are even suspected of being, gay—>IT'S LEGAL AND IT HAPPENS!!

\* Employers who fire employees solely on evidence or suspicion that they

may be gay or lesbian—>IT'S LEGAL AND IT HAPPENS!!

\* And the many other wrongs that are done to exclude New Hampshire people from enjoying their full civil rights because of their sexual orientation—>IT'S LEGAL AND IT HAPPENS!!

In order to accomplish this, and keep New Hampshire laws current with the climate of acceptance, the NH-CED needs support. They need financial assistance as well as volunteers. If you

believe that New Hampshire needs to stop discriminating against its citizens, then get involved. Your involvement will not only be appreciated, but will add a voice to the cry for and end to discrimination.

For more information, or to become involved, write to the NH-CED at: The New Hampshire Coalition to End Discrimination, PO Box 74, Concord, NH, 03302-0074.



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### "Season of Awakening,"

Continuing with its 96-97 theme, the "Season of Awakening," Seacoast Repertory Company has chosen to present "Inherit the Wind" and "Clarence Darrow: A One Man Play" running from late January until March 1st at its Portsmouth, New Hampshire theater.

The so-called Scopes Monkey Trial - which pitted Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan against each other in the ongoing battle of teaching evolution and creationism - is the basis for Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee's play. The play will be staged by award winning director Spiro Veloudos and will star accomplished actors Bill Humphries as Henry Drummond (the character drawn from

Clarence Darrow) and Steve Descoulias as Matthew Harrison Brady (the character drawn from William Jennings Bryan).

In the second offering, which will be produced by triple dot productions in association with SRT, Humphries will return as Clarence Darrow. "Inherit the Wind" will be presented from January 25 - March 1, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm and Sundays at 3:00 pm; while "Clarence Darrow" will be on stage February 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, and 16, Saturdays at 4:30 pm and Sundays at 7:00 pm. For more information, please contact SRT at 603-433-4472 or 1-800-639-7650. SRT is a non-profit, education arts organization dedicated to serving the Seacoast community.



# Arts & Entertainment



## "Famous Lesbian Comic" Suzanne Westenhoefer Plays Portland on Sunday, March 2

Post-Show Party To Benefit Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine.

One of the world's most visible and popular openly gay comedienne, Suzanne Westenhoefer, makes a rare New England Appearance Sunday, March 2 at Portland's State Street Church. Show time is 7 PM. A Post-show reception with Suzanne at Katahdin Restaurant will benefit the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine.

The first lesbian to ever have her own HBO television special (for which she was nominated for the coveted ACE cable award), Suzanne Westenhoefer's breakthrough TV

appearances include Comedy Central's *Politically Incorrect*, *Ricki Lake*, *The Joan Rivers Show*, *Geraldo*, *Evening at the Improv* and *Caroline's Comedy Hour*. She was a featured performer on the most recent Comic Relief HBO special.

Suzanne Westenhoefer's road to becoming a "famous Lesbian Comic" began in 1990 at talent contest in a small piano bar in New York City. Never having performed stand-up before, Suzanne did a three-minute routine on her life (and lifestyle) - and won! Since then, her live performances have found comedy clubs and major theaters including: The Rainbow Room and Town Hall (New York City); The House of Blues and Wilshire Ebell auditorium (Los Angeles); The Great American Music Hall (San Francisco); and the Berklee Theater (Boston).

Suzanne was an emcee for the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian/Gay and Bisexual Rights, appeared as part of President Bill

Clinton's inaugural celebration and hosted the closing Ceremony of the 1994 Gay Games at New York's Yankee Stadium. Her first comedy recording - *"Nothing In My Closet But My Clothes"* - was released in January on the Uproar Label.

Suzanne performs at the State Street Church (159 State Street, Portland) on Sunday, March 2 at 7 PM. Tickets are \$20 (limited Preferred Seating) and \$16.50 (general admission). A \$35 VIP package is available which includes a Preferred Seating ticket and a ticket to a Post-Show Reception with Suzanne Westenhoefer. The reception will be held at Katahdin Restaurant (106 High Street in Portland.) Proceeds will benefit The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine.

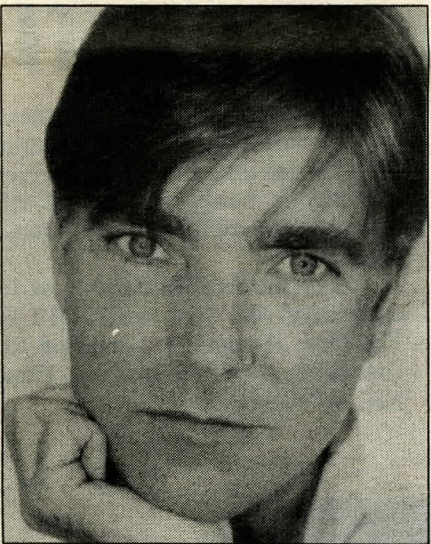
The Lesbian Health Project, now in its third year of operation, is a community-based organization whose goal is to improve the health and wellness of lesbians living in Southern Maine. LHP/SM is coordinated by an Advisory Group who

volunteer their services in their particular area of expertise including health education, clinical nursing, mental health, social work, legal advice and organizational development. Recent projects have included Cancer Screening Clinics, conferences on "Health and Sexuality" and workshops on health related legal issues.

Tickets for Suzanne Westenhoefer are available at *Drop Me A Line*, 611 Congress Street (Portland) and the *CD Exchange*, 2 Exchange Street (Portland) and *Don Rich Plaza* (Windham). Tickets can be charged by calling 207-773-6974.

Suzanne Westenhoefer's Portland appearance is being presented by *Above and Beyond*. Above and Beyond is a new full service entertainment enterprise recently begun by Richard Lawlor and David Seneca. Lawlor is the former State Theatre Marketing director. Seneca is the State's former Production Manager as well as the current Production Manager for Maine Arts. For information call 207-773-6974.

## WHAT'S YOUR GAY & LESBIAN ENTERTAINMENT I.Q.?



by Ed Karvoski, Jr.

1. On the "Rosie O'Donnell Show," Elton John said if he and Barbra Streisand conceived a child, "With my luck, we'd give birth to \_\_\_\_\_." a. a music critic b. an informant for The National Enquirer c. a twin pair of Grammy Awards d. a ten-pound gay nose

2. In a recent episode of "Roseanne," Roseanne's mother, Bev, remarked, "73% of all children raised by homosexuals turn into \_\_\_\_\_." a. choreographers b. priests c. Democrats d. Diana Ross fans

3. In the 1962 film "Advise and

Consent," Don Murray played a U.S. senator who receives anonymous phone calls threatening to expose him as a homosexual who was involved with a man while in . . . a. prep school b. the Navy c. the Olympics d. Key West

4. Drag star and gay porn director Chi Chi LaRue appeared in . . . a. Madonna's "Deeper and Deeper" video b. The Weather Girls' "It's Raining Men" video c. RuPaul's "Supermodel" video d. Richard Simmons's "Sweatin' to the Oldies" video

5. Comic Lea DeLaria told People magazine that her act was an attempt to impress . . . a. her mother b. her father c. her therapist d. Sigourney Weaver

6. Who said "I don't have luck with women." in a film released in 1992? a. Keanu Reeves in "My Own Private Idaho" b. Uma Thurman in "Henry and June" c. Sharon Stone in "Basic Instincts" d. Robin Williams in "Mrs. Doubtfire"

7. The 1970's sitcom "Soap" featured a gay character (played by Billy Crystal) who was referred to in the early episodes as . . . a. "the pansy" b. "the fruit" c. "the fairy" d. "Mary"

8. Gay porn star Steven Marks was formerly . . . a. a TV weatherman in Chicago b. a circus clown in Russia c. a cable-TV talk-show host in New York d. a chorus boy in Las Vegas

9. What performer, also known as a game-show personality, played a bisexual cop in a 1977 episode of the TV series "Starsky and Hutch"? a. Orson Bean b. Art Fleming c. Bert Convy d. Kitty Carlisle

10. In the same 1977 episode of "Starsky and Hutch," who played a female impersonator? a. Charles Pierce b. Milton Berle c. John Davidson d. Kitty Carlisle

11. Who was a guest on a 1991 episode of "The Sally Jesse Raphael Show" examining the topic "Lesbians Who Don't Look Like Lesbians"? a. actress Amanda Bearse b. Martina Navratilova's ex, Judy Nelson c. comic Suzanne Westenhoefer d. radio host Howard Stern

12. In what 1976 film did a flamboyant male character (played by Antonio Fargas) say, "Honey, I'm more man than you'll ever be and more woman than you'll ever get."? a. "Car Wash" b. "Cabaret" c. "Cleopatra Jones" d. "The Christine Jorgensen Story"

13. In what play did openly-gay Olympic diver Greg Louganis make his New York stage debut as a replacement? a. "Party" b. "Jeffrey" c. "Cats" d. "Grease"

14. Jay Davidson received an Academy Award nomination as Best Supporting Actor for "The Crying Game." Additionally, the National Board of Review's D.W. Griffith Awards recognized Davidson by creating an entirely new category titled . . . a. Best Supporting Actor/Actress Award b. Best-Kept Secret Award c. The Auspicious Debut Award d. Best Full-Frontal Nudity Award

15. In a recent Advocate readers' poll, whose performance was named "favorite portrayal of a lesbian in a feature film"? a. Cher in "Silkwood" b. Whoopi Goldberg in "Boys on the Side" c. Patricia Charbonneau in "Desert Hearts" d. Rosie O'Donnell in "A League of Their Own"

See Answers, Page 18

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Ed Karvoski, Jr. is the author of "A Funny Time to Be Gay" (Fireside Books/Simon & Schuster).



## Positively Alive! Plans Annual Dinner Art Auction

Fine food, fine art, and fine company will be the main ingredients for a February 9th fundraising event put on by the local non-profit group Positively Alive! to benefit area residents living with AIDS and HIV. Area artists and businesses, restaurateur Carmen and Marco Giancotti, auctioneer John R. Hale, and musicians from Bates College have all responded to Positively Alive! requests for generous contributions of services and support. The late-afternoon/ early-evening event promises to be a mid-winter spirit-lifter for all.

"We have been touched and heartened by the enthusiasm with which all kinds of people have joined this project," says Penny Hilton, one of the Positively Alive! board members. "We started our group this spring with the idea that people in the Lewiston-Auburn area would really like to help those among us who have to struggle with HIV/AIDS, if only they knew how. We figured that



Penny Hilton, Kim Verville, Kevin Gagnon, Board Members

we could create a roster of fun events that would make the best of everyone's goodwill while bringing an upbeat attitude to the work. I think the thing that

actually makes HIV/AIDS such an uncomfortable subject for most people is the fear-and-guilt dilemma—fear that we can't do anything to help, and guilt

that we haven't tried. Well, as a community we can just dump the negativity and be who we really are: compassionate people who take care of their own, no matter what."

The Positively Alive! First Annual Dinner Art Auction will take place at Marco's Restaurant on Lisbon Street in Lewiston, starting with a four o'clock cocktail hour, during which guests will enjoy musical entertainment and preview the eclectic assortment of auction items donated by artists and benefactors from all over the state, as well as from Massachusetts and Canada. Dinner will be served at 5:30, and the auction will begin at 7 pm.

Attendance at this newest entry into Lewiston-Auburn's charity event calendar is by advance ticket only... Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased from any Positive Alive! board member, or by calling Positive Alive! at 786-8733.

## Monday Night open poetry readings at the Oak Street Theatre

Oak Street Theatre, Inc. and the Cafe Review poetry magazine are pleased to continue their series of Monday night open poetry readings at the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak Street in downtown Portland. These readings are free and open to the public, and are held once a month, generally on the last Monday of the month (the theatre's technical schedule permitting). Cafe Review's Steve Luttrell moderates these evenings,

co-ordinating the sign-ups and introducing the poets. Open sign-ups for the readings are from 7:30 to 8 pm, with the poetry beginning at 8 pm. Ten readers are permitted at each session, with a time limit of five minutes per reader. Readers are discouraged from reading anything other than their own original work.

This series of readings offers a structured alternative to the slam at-

mosphere. Refreshments are served before the readings, and during intermission, but once the readings begin, they are conducted concert style. Information about upcoming readings may be obtained by calling the Oak Street Theatre box office at 775-5103.

The next reading is scheduled for Monday, February 17 at 8 pm. Sign-up will be at 7:30.

## Mad Horse Theater receives anonymous Grant

The Mad Horse Theater Company has received an anonymous donation of \$4,000 to be used as matching grant funds. Part of the funding was for sponsorship of "The Lonely Planet", which ran from Dec 5 - 29, 1996; and the balance sponsors the upcoming production of "Alabama Rain", which will run from January 30 - February 23, 1997.

Mad Horse has a group sponsorship program for small businesses at \$500 and \$1,000 levels. Under the matching grant program, businesses can give \$250 or \$500 and receive the benefits of the group sponsorship levels of \$500 and \$1,000, respectively.

Mad Horse Theater Managing Director Ron Hersom notes that "this program should help the theater con-

tinue building and increasing business and corporate involvement with the theater. With a budgetary goal of \$5,000 in sponsorships for each production, this matching grant program gives us the opportunity to meet, or exceed, our goal."

For the entire season, Mad Horse is seeking to have over 30 businesses involved in its group sponsorship program. For its first production, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", which ran until November 3, 1996, Mad Horse had 2 businesses involved in a group sponsorship - Tabitha Jean's Restaurant and the law firm of Smith, Elliott, Smith, and Garmey.

Anne Tenpenney, owner of TEX'S Tortillas (and a sponsor of last

year's production of "Women of my Father's House") says that "the group sponsorship program is a wonderful way to exhibit community involvement, provide much needed support for great theater, and get some marketing and PR to boot!"

For more information, or to become a sponsor, call Ron Hersom at 878-3547.

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Suzanne, from page 1

In 1994, lesbian health advocates in Washington, DC—concerned that lesbian health issues were not being advanced—formed the Lesbian Health Advocacy Network (LHAN). LHAN is the organization who sets the national agenda for lesbian health; they consist of representatives from N.O.W., the National Coalition of Feminist and Lesbian Cancer Projects, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, and the National Gay and Lesbian Health Association.

The work of LHAN has included meeting with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make recommendations about lesbian health issues which in turn were presented at two briefings to congressional staff; creating a national data base of lesbian health activists across the nation; and spearheading a letter-writing campaign to the National Institute of Health so that two large-scale research projects on women's health would include questions to determine sexual orientation.

Future LHAN projects include work with federal health agencies to expand their capabilities to serve lesbians; assistance to lesbian/gay health clinics; and technical assistance to grass-roots lesbian health organizations nationwide. Other Lesbian Health Projects and Clinics

Maine is fortunate for a rural state: we have two active lesbian health projects. While LHP/SM organizes in the lower third of the state, the Lesbian Health Project at Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center in Bangor at-

tracts clients from mid-Maine to northern Maine.

Nationally, lesbian health projects tend to be organized in urban areas and most are part of a women's health clinic or a clinic organized in response to gay men's health needs. For example, the Howard Brown Clinic in Chicago opened in 1974 to provide diagnosis and treatment of gay men's sexually transmitted diseases. Now it has a program for lesbians and bisexual women. Services include HIV testing, and mental health services targeted toward lesbians.

Similarly, the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City now has a Lesbian AIDS Project. This group serves lesbians with HIV/AIDS and they have conducted survey research on lesbian sex practices.

Examples of lesbian health projects that are part of women's health clinics include the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services in San Francisco and the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, DC. Services include general medical care which is sensitive to lesbians; cancer support groups for lesbians; smoking cessation for gay men and lesbians; lesbian parenting services; legal services regarding health care; and a lending library.

Funds raised at this event will help pay for future cancer screening clinics; pay filing fees for 501(c)(3) (non-profit) status; and create a lending library with books, articles, and videos on lesbians and cancer.

Tania Jo Hatahway is the Coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, PO Box 11048, Portland 04104. (207) 657-5864.

Anita, from page 3

years ago, she made it clear she had not lost her convictions.

"People hated me because I spoke the truth," Ms. Bryant said in an interview on her book tour. "I said back then that it was a death style, not a lifestyle, and that was before we had really heard about AIDS."

While gay rights may have become acceptable to a broader range of people, the opposition is more organized and as vehement as ever, says Lobell.

"There are still people today making the same arguments Bryant made 20 years ago," she says. "But their audience is getting smaller. Almost every major religious institution speaks out against discrimination."

Ban, from page 4

violated human rights and academic freedom.

They also said it was against the tenets of the national religion, Buddhism — "which teaches people to be merciful."

Scoffed Sukhovich: "I'm not going to allow a few people to determine the course of national education. They cite human rights. That's nonsense."

His stand earned him a sharp rebuke in a Bangkok Post editorial, which

Kunst shifted gears to crusade for a cure of AIDS in the late 1980s and early 1990s, traveling the world to pass out leaflets, hold up signs and challenge the establishment. His friend, Alan Rockway, died of AIDS in 1987.

Now Kunst has taken on the issue of the Holocaust, campaigning to raise awareness and protesting the opening of a McDonald's restaurant not far from the entrance to the Dachau concentration camp in Germany.

"My reputation is being a pain in the neck," says Kunst. "I'm not running a popularity contest. I take advantage of opportunities, and fight for what is right."

said his comment "was silly and uncalled for and most of all, it showed an appalling lack of sensitivity for someone holding the post of national education chief."

Bans such as the one on training gay teachers "will make society believe that being gay is wrong," said Natee. "What will happen is that gay people will lose the chance to do good things for society."

## Kind Hearted Woman

by Dixie Townsend

The first time I heard Michelle Shocked's "Anchorage," a sentimental, frank observance of friendship and the unexpected turns life can take, I became a Shocked fanatic.

Shocked's unique, haunting and sometimes mesmerizing voice and music had absconded me, heart and soul. Shocked has an amazing ability to pen lyrics about simple things, the everyday events that shape our lives.

Shocked transports me back to my small town childhood and somehow makes me feel I am twelve years old again and discovering life for the first time.

Long before Ani DeFranco arrived on the scene as this generation's female idol of angst, Michelle Shocked took flight from the hills of east Texas, guitar in hand, to play her own revolutionary folk blues music.

In 1986 a British record company executive taped Shocked with a Sony Walkman at a Texas folk festival, then

released the recording in England, where the "Texas Campfire Tapes" went straight to the top of the indie charts. Now, ten years later, this formerly homeless, ex-skateboarding punk rocker and anarchist is still a premier American singer-songwriter.

Nobody can spin a tale like Shocked, and with her new album "Kind Hearted Woman," Shocked proves she still has the goods.

With "Kind Hearted Woman," Shocked returns home to face death, loneliness, fear and isolation as only she can. Her first single "The Hard Way," could easily be describing any of our lives. "If I was smart I would take your advice, but I'm not so I have to think twice."

"Never a lesson have I learned without first being burned." Although saturated with sadness, Shocked's R&B groove on songs like "Fever Breaks" and "Cold Comfort" beg you to listen to more and definitely makes this album worth the four-year wait.

Hooker, from page 3

Hooker's work shattered conventional wisdom.

Throughout the 1950s, Hooker kept giving papers at professional conventions and publishing scholarly articles about her research. In the 1960s, she began expanding her work to study gay men not just as individuals but as members of a community—a novel way of looking at us. Slowly, networks of dissenting medical and mental health professionals began to form, and Hooker's work was the catalyst that made it happen.

She also kept up her ties with the homophile movement, and provided support and encouragement for their efforts to make change. In 1967, Hooker was approached by the National Institute of Mental Health to chair a Task Force on Homosexuality. Gay activists were thrilled, since Hooker was clearly an ally and, in fact, the composition of the Task Force seemed stacked in our favor. When the Task Force released its report in 1969, the final document was without doubt the most enlightened statement on homosexuality ever to have emerged from our government.

I have often wondered what difference it would have made if the liberal Democrat, Hubert Humphrey, had been elected president in 1968, instead of Richard

Nixon.

Would the government have started to act on the recommendations of its own Task Force? Meanwhile, Hooker's work had started the ball rolling toward an historic achievement: the decision by the American Psychiatric Association in 1973 to remove homosexuality from its list of mental disorders. Simultaneously, the open-minded approach of this pioneering psychologist also had its effects on her own professional organization, the American Psychological Association.

Today, in the 1990s, the APA has probably done more than any other mainstream professional society to advocate for fair treatment of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered people. APA has a staffer dedicated to gay concerns; it produces publications that can be used effectively in advocacy work; it files court briefs and testifies at legislative hearings; and it actively encourages and supports groundbreaking research on issues of sexuality and identity.

We can't give Hooker credit for all these changes, of course. But it is possible to trace the historical lines of influence back to her pioneering scholarly work. Sometimes, as I work at the Task Force to develop its Policy Institute, I watch swirls of activity around me as staff respond to the latest hot spot in some corner of the country. Frankly, I wonder whether it makes sense to be putting resources into research and the production of knowledge when there are so many immediate crises at hand. And then I remember the work of Evelyn Hooker, and the difference it has made, and I know that we need to operate on many fronts at once, that knowledge, as someone famous once said, is a form of power.

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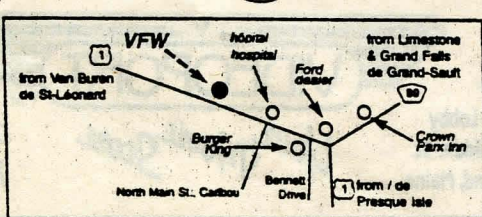
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## National Association of Lesbian & Gay Community Centers

More than 60 people from across the United States attended a day-long organizing institute in November, convened by the National Association of Lesbian & Gay Community Centers (NALGCC), signaling the potential power and growth of grassroots organizing efforts for the gay and lesbian liberation movement. The NALGCC Institute gathered leaders from gay and lesbian community centers, who discussed the need to provide services, promote greater visibility of lesbian and gay issues, and foster community-based organization as vital components to securing equal rights and protection under the law for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Co-founded by the Centers in Los Angeles, New York City, Minneapolis, and Dallas, the NALGCC was formally launched in November 1995 to encourage and support the development of lesbian and gay community centers throughout America; as well as to facilitate communication and networking among the existing 75 centers. In support of these goals, the NALGCC provides technical assistance to new and established centers, undertakes joint projects and campaigns administered at the grassroots, such as lesbian and gay voter registration and mobilization, and acts as a national voice for local organizing efforts.

The NALGCC is the product of a series of ad hoc meetings informally referred to as the "Lesbian and Gay Community Centers Institute (the Institute),"

which have been held every July since 1987 in conjunction with the annual "National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference." Since it was formally founded in November 1995, the NALGCC regularly convenes bi-annual institutes held in conjunction with two of the largest annual lesbian and gay organizing conferences: the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Creating Change conference every November, and the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference every July.

Among other things, the November 1996 NALGCC Institute included a progress report on the national efforts to register and mobilize lesbian and gay voters through local community centers known as Promote the Vote. Promote the Vote is modeled upon the Voter Registration and Education Program of the New York Center. Since 1992, the New York Center has produced America's largest lesbian and gay voter registration and education program. During the past year, the Center's voter mobilization program distributed more than 20,000 official voter registration forms at lesbian and gay bars, clubs, businesses and events.

The next bi-annual NALGCC conference will take place Saturday, July 26, 1997 in Atlanta, to be held in conjunction with the National Lesbian and Gay Health conference. For more information about the NALGCC, or to register for the July 1997 conference, please contact the Center at (212) 620-7310.

### Dimensional, from page 4

proud he's had the courage to tell people who he is."

Many teens, though, aren't as self-assured as Allison and Noah. And some gay teens have markedly different experiences.

Baskett, of Evergreen AIDS Response, said gay and lesbian youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers.

There are young people who have lost friends, been called names, ostracized and isolated.

They have been kicked out of their homes, disowned by family members, given books and lectures designed to "cure" them of homosexuality.

One 17-year-old Vancouver boy said he holds up well for a while, then hides out in his room and cries, trying to make the pain go away.

Some see that pain as being caused by a society that doesn't accept alternate sexualities.

Others, though, say it is caused by the choice of being gay.

"Truly compassionate people do not encourage others to continue in, or

to become involved in behaviors which can result in sickness and death," Larimer said.

Allison's mother, Jill, talks about a different kind of compassion, one she contrasts to Larimer's vision.

She worries not about Allison's sexual orientation, but rather about the people who might harm her because of it.

"I'm afraid that some homophobic nut could hurt her," Jill said. "What are they accomplishing with all this hate?"

How does Allison see her future? She returns to that same-sex marriage question.

"I someday see myself married, in the sense of commitment," Allison said. "I really want that at some point in my life. The idea of having a child? Yeah, but only one, and not for a long, long time."

Fifteen years ago, when Jill had her one-and-only child, she, too, had goals and dreams.

"I wanted to raise an intelligent, sensitive, caring person who is happy," she said. "And that's what I've got."

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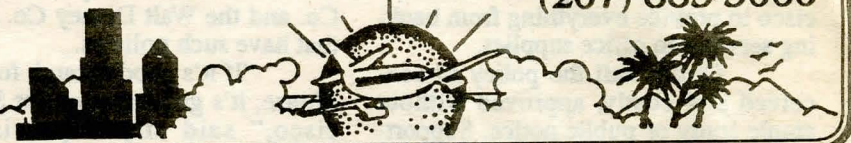
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# First ever Domestic Partner Legislation a worry to business

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco is about to make a unique demand on thousands of U.S. companies extend health insurance and other benefits to same-sex couples, or forget about doing business with the city.

The ordinance, in a city with one of the nation's largest gay populations, affects many of the roughly 10,000 U.S. companies contracting with San Francisco to provide everything from banking services to office supplies.

Critics call the policy ill-conceived and costly, approved without ample study or public notice. Supporters say it's a basic anti-discrimination measure that encourages companies to grant unmarried domestic partners, most of whom are same-sex couples, the same rights enjoyed by wedded couples.

"It would be important to me even if I didn't have a partner, simply as a moral matter," said Joe Leslie, a 52-year-old assistant vice president at Bank of America who, with his partner Michael, stands to benefit from the policy.

Leslie said he and Michael are "as loving as any married couple that ever walked this Earth," and for co-workers' spouses to receive better benefits is simply unfair.

"We do the same work, our spou-

sal status is virtually the same. (Yet) they get benefits I don't get," Leslie said.

Whether or not to extend health insurance and other benefits, like bereavement or medical leave, to a worker's domestic partner has been debated by private industry for years. In San Francisco, Bank of America officials have discussed the policy, but have not enacted it. The Gap, Levi Strauss & Co. and the Walt Disney Co. are some that have such policies.

"If it's good enough for Mickey Mouse, it's good enough for San Francisco," said city Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who co-authored the measure.

Yet despite unanimous approval from the Board of Supervisors and an endorsement from Mayor Willie Brown, the policy has its detractors.

"We really feel the supervisors did not do their homework," said Carol Piasente, a spokeswoman for the city's 1,950-member Chamber of Commerce. "They're not prepared to answer all the questions that come up because they didn't think of all the details."

According to Piasente, confusion abounds.

Who precisely is affected, and what is a contract? Does the legislation apply, for example, to hundreds of air-

lines that technically do business with the city every time they pay a gate tax at San Francisco International Airport? Or to nonprofit agencies that provide services for the city's homeless? Most importantly, how much will it cost?

"We don't have a clue about the costs. That's the problem. Nobody knows," Piasente said.

She also said the local business community failed to complain about the legislation earlier because it was in the dark.

"This thing moved ahead very quickly and kind of caught people unaware," she said.

City officials, still tinkering with some wording of the legislation, don't expect it to take effect for six months. But some companies are scrambling to plan.

"We're continuing to look at how the ordinance affects us and our relationship with the city. No decisions have yet been made on our part," said Dennis Wyss, a spokesman for Bank of America, the nation's third-largest. The bank, which employs 10,000 of its 93,000 workers in San Francisco, provides the city with checking services, among other things.

But, Wyss added, "We don't

think it's good public policy for the city to tie its hands in the way this ordinance mandates. We think San Francisco taxpayers get the highest quality services for their money when the city keeps its options open."

Others complain the ordinance demands extension of benefits only to "registered" domestic partners. While many cities have such registries — including San Francisco, where some 3,500 couples are on the books — most cities do not.

"When you do this kind of legislation at a local level, you're imposing costs on local companies that make them not competitive in the bigger marketplace," Piasente said. "It's the kind of thing that, if done on a national level, some of the unfairness issues would be taken away."

Toward that end, Ammiano hopes the measure spreads. Already, politicians in some cities, including New York, Seattle and West Hollywood, Calif., have inquired about the measure, he said.

Leslie, too, hopes the policy spreads to other cities.

"Not to do it is simply discrimination. It's really stupid," he said.

## NGLTF, from page 2

tion among young people, people of color—particularly women of color, and the poor continues to rise in disproportionate numbers. With HIV spreading dramatically in the South the strategy to deal with these problems remains inadequate. Letting local communities determine and create "innovative prevention efforts" is not sufficient when racism, sexism and homophobia continue to interfere with HIV/AIDS education efforts. The federal government working with HIV/AIDS educators from all communities must develop a basic standard of accurate, explicit, cultural and language appropriate education information that schools and communities are required to provide.

The report contains virtually no mention of how the government plans to deal with the increasing spread of HIV in prisons and the specific needs of prisoners living with HIV/AIDS. Condoms and latex dams are still not available in state and federal prisons and inmates with HIV/AIDS struggle to get proper medical care, nutritious food, and medication. Ignoring that sex and Intravenous Drug use is going on in our prisons will not make the problem go away. The government needs to develop a strategy to deal with these problems; and this report does not offer a plan.

In the area of research the report proposes some of the strategies the AIDS community has demanded for years. For example, The Forum for Collaborative HIV Research, a new group designed "to catalyze collaborations among government researchers, pharmaceutical companies, third party payers,

and the community," is an idea similar to one veteran AIDS Activist Larry Kramer suggested over a decade ago. I supported Larry Kramer's "Manhattan Project" then and I support the government's watered down version now. We have waited too long for the government to take the lead in developing a collaborative effort to fight AIDS.

The development of a vaccine to prevent further infection must remain a top priority but cannot overshadow the need to provide care for those already infected. Care for people living with HIV/AIDS along with the development of a cure must be our nation's top priority. Continued funding of the Ryan White Care Act is an integral part of providing care for people with HIV/AIDS but it alone does not meet the needs of those infected. Mr. Clinton must continue the fight to preserve Medicaid coverage for the more than 50 percent of adults and 90 percent of children with AIDS who rely upon it. The struggle to provide housing for people with HIV/AIDS is an ongoing problem yet the report does not support strongly enough the reauthorization of Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA) set to go before the 105th Congress. With this important program up for reauthorization in 1997, the Clinton administration must commit itself to protecting HOPWA's funding. Without HOPWA thousands of people with HIV/AIDS could go homeless.

The preservation of these and other existing programs is not enough. No strategy is complete until the people it means to help receive all the help they need. The federal government increased

funding for State AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) yet they still remain underfunded with many programs on the verge of collapse. As a person that depends on ADAP for my HIV treatment, I wait on additional funding to expand this program while my life hangs in the balance. The fact is, thousands of people with HIV/AIDS are not receiving life saving drugs like Protease Inhibitors, the latest and most effective treatments for HIV, because they are not available through state or federal programs like ADAP and are too expensive to afford otherwise. The government's contribution in the development of these treatments must include a guarantee that every man, woman and child with HIV/AIDS in America will receive them regardless of their ability to pay. The National AIDS Strategy does not do that and it should. The rise in infection among Intravenous Drug users indicates the government's failure to design and fund programs that work to prevent addicts and their partners from becoming infected. The report states, "HIV transmission is closely related to substance abuse" but its strategy fails to provide a National Needle Exchange Program. The Clinton administration has failed to display the political will to approve a program the governments own studies indicate will dramatically reduce the number of HIV infections. In explaining that "substance abuse treatment is a major form of HIV prevention" the report fails to mention that major cuts in funding for substance abuse treatment programs in 1996 make it more difficult to educate addicts and help them recover.

The national strategy's section

dealing with civil rights does not go far enough. We still battle discriminatory legislation such as measures that criminalize sex by HIV positive people or deny them the opportunity to serve in the armed services. Access to comprehensive, affordable health insurance for uninsured people with HIV/AIDS is still not a legally protected right. There is no strategy to deal with cross-border HIV/AIDS issues, a problem that severely taxes communities trying to coordinate education and service efforts with neighboring countries and deal with complex immigration issues. Our government should take the lead in dealing with these issues but again fails to do so.

The 1997 National AIDS Strategy is a long awaited and alarming beginning. It simply provides a framework from which a complete and thorough strategy can develop. It is often a rehashing of information and ideas that the HIV/AIDS community has been discussing and trying to grapple with for years. The budgetary appendices of the report make it clear that our work is far from over. Our communities will continue to struggle to care for people with HIV and AIDS.

At times the report devotes as much space to praising the Clinton administration for its past accomplishments as it does to laying out an effective plan for the future. We now must continue to fight for our lives and for the funding and programs the government, with over a decade of experience and information to work with, has failed to provide.

## Lesbian who lost custody of daughter to killer dad dies

by Jackie Hallifax

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A lesbian who lost custody of her 12-year-old daughter to her ex-husband, even though he had murdered his first wife, has died of a heart attack.

Mary Ward, who was in her 40s, died Tuesday night, lawyer Charlene Carres said Wednesday.

Twelve-year-old Cassey Ward had

lived with her mother until August 1995 when Circuit Judge Joseph Tarbuck of Pensacola revoked custody, saying he wanted to give Cassey a chance to live in "a non-lesbian world."

Cassey went to live with her father, John Ward, and his third wife in Milton.

Ward pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for shooting his first wife in

the parking lot of a Pensacola restaurant in 1974, reportedly after they argued over custody of their children. He served eight years in prison.

Ms. Ward appealed Tarbuck's ruling, arguing the judge changed custody just because she was a lesbian. Five months ago, the Florida 1st District Court of Appeal disagreed, saying there was evidence Cassey was being harmed by conduct she

was exposed to in her mother's home.

The evidence cited included comments from Cassey on sexual matters, what was called her bad table manners and personal hygiene habits, and her preference for men's cologne.

Ms. Ward had asked the appellate court to reconsider the unanimous ruling or send the case to the state Supreme Court. That request was pending when she died.



# United appears closer to offering Domestic Partner Benefits

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) United Airlines moved a small step closer to offering domestic partner benefits to employees by sending a letter to a city supervisor saying it was studying the law to see if compliance is possible.

But the airline still has not committed to offering employees in registered domestic partnerships the same benefits as married couples. The letter, received Thursday, is the latest development in a stalemate between United and the city over San Francisco's new domestic partners ordinance.

The new law requires companies doing business with the city to offer

spousal benefits to their workers' unmarried and same-sex partners.

United officials said in the letter that "they are going to take a full analysis of the legislation and make a decision on whether they will be able to implement it," Supervisor Leslie Katz said. "They have not taken a position as to the feasibility of compliance," she added.

United spokeswoman Mary Jo Holland did not immediately return a call from The Associated Press. But San Francisco officials were cautiously optimistic. "We're still negotiating, and we'll come up with a position satisfac-

tory for all concerned," Katz said. "We have no indication that United doesn't want to comply."

The airline had to consider offering domestic partner benefits when the Board of Supervisors' Government Efficiency and Labor Committee sent a \$13.4 million United lease back to the Airports Commission in January.

The airline, which makes up 40 percent of the airport's business, wants a 25-year lease for a new kitchen and maintenance center. United says that if it were to offer domestic partner benefits to its 17,000 local employees, it would almost surely have to offer them to its

80,000 workers nationwide.

San Francisco's domestic partners ordinance takes effect June 1, and the city has shown some flexibility in the deadline. On Monday, the Board of Supervisors gave Pacific Bell Mobile Services two years to comply with the law. The firm is erecting cellular phone equipment on a fire station.

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## Gays challenged to "Mold the events that are the raw material of History"

In his inaugural address, President Clinton challenged the American people to end the plague of prejudice in America: a theme of great significance to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. While the President focused on racism and sexism, the message resonated profoundly for many in the LGBT community. Below is a statement from NGLTF executive director Kerry Lobel on the President's address and the challenge facing the LGBT community. Lobel emphasized the action that must accompany the hopes and vigilance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people over the next four years. Lobel charged the community with making history instead of witnessing it. In her statement, Lobel characterizes the mood of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force as hopeful and its mission as formidable as it gears up for the next four years.

History is not the President's to make alone. History is written by all Americans each day, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Ameri-

cans.

Whether through apathy or activism, the LGBT community has a vital role in the countdown to the new century. It is up to each of us, individually and collectively, to decide whether we will merely read the history that will be written or whether we, LGBT people, will mold the events that are the raw material of history.

It is a great day when a President, in his inaugural address, condemns "the divide of race [that] has been America's constant curse." It is a great day, when a newly reelected President, proclaims, "prejudice and contempt cloaked in the pretense of religious or political convictions are no different." We look toward the day when the President confronts homophobia as part of the prejudices that plague our nation.

For the next four years the job of the LGBT community is not just to hope for equality, but to act decisively for it. The use of sodomy laws to criminalize our love and our lives, the obstacles to our right to parent and create families as

we choose, the actions of bigots to keep us from working because we are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender will not end because Bill Clinton made it so.

They will end because we made it so. The next four years are our opportunity to change the landscape of the country. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will mobilize and organize so that the next millennium marks a new and profound chapter in our struggle for liberation.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is a progressive organization that has supported grassroots organizing and pioneered in national advocacy since 1973. Since its inception, NGLTF has been at the forefront of virtually every major initiative for lesbian and gay rights. In all its efforts, NGLTF helps to strengthen the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement at the state level while connecting these activities to a na-

## Gore Pledges continued advocacy for LGBT community

Washington, D.C. Just days prior to the 53rd Presidential inauguration, Vice President Al Gore pledged to continue to advocate on behalf of the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender (lgbt) community in the Administration's second term. The commitment occurred in a meeting with gay and lesbian leaders at the Vice President's office.

Attending the meeting was Roberta Achtenburg, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Elizabeth Birch, Human Rights Campaign; Keith Boykin, Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum; Kerry Lobel, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; Martin Ornelas-Quintero, Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization; Jeff Soref, gay democratic activist; and Jeff Trammel, Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

Kerry Lobel, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) executive director, characterized the meeting as "important, positive and promising." Medicaid, needle exchange programs, expected attacks on lgbt families by anti-gay legislators were the main topics of discussion. The appointment of openly lgbt staff to the Administration was also discussed. The group thanked Gore, who lobbied Senators last year to vote for the pro-gay Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

Medicaid was a big issue at the meeting. Lobel told Gore that proposed per capita caps "could be devastating to people with AIDS." She strongly urged the Vice-President to support increased funding of Medicaid, emphasizing to the Vice President that 90 percent of children and 50 percent of adults with AIDS depend on Medicaid for life-prolonging treatment. Lobel reminded the Vice

President that without Medicaid funding, the new generation of promising AIDS drugs are out of reach for most people. The group also urged Gore to support needle exchange programs as a way to prevent HIV infection.

Concerned about increased attacks on lgbt families, the group also told the Vice President to expect gay and lesbian family issues to be a hot button issue during the Administration's second term. Leaders explained to Gore that along with anti-gay marriage bills, lgbt families are being attacked by the Far Right in the form of bills banning adoption and foster parenting by gays and the prohibition of schools from providing factual, positive information on homosexuality. "Vice President Gore was warm and receptive to us and our issues," stated Lobel. "He made a commitment to monitor both the Medicaid and needle exchange issues. Our job during this next term is to ensure not only that the Clinton/ Gore Administration keeps informed about these critical issues, but that they proactively work to save the lives of people with AIDS and stop the vicious and hate-filled attacks against our community," added Lobel.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is a progressive organization that has supported grassroots organizing and pioneered in national advocacy since 1973. Since its inception, NGLTF has been at the forefront of virtually every major initiative for lesbian and gay rights. In all its efforts, NGLTF helps to strengthen the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement at the state level while connecting these activities to a national vision for change.

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Are you using alternative medicine or treatments?

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# RANT: "Dear Mr. President"

by David Cook

In your first term, you fired the imagination with talk of universal health care, gay rights, respect for our cities, the information superhighway, a sane foreign policy. Your first few months in office seemed like the fulfillment of a dream: tolerance and inclusiveness brought bright, young faces into the White House. You hired minorities and even the mentally ill. You were clear, intelligent, and commanding when answering questions from the press or meeting with foreign leaders. You had plans for America. You knew what you were talking about and seemed to mean what you said. You found out pretty early, though that just wanting things didn't guarantee you'd get them. The head war-monger threatened to resign over gays in the military. And the medical aristocracy slammed health care reform with all the propaganda they could muster. Still, when you came up with "don't ask, don't tell," I was philosophical; after all, you can't change a homophobic institution like the military overnight. And when health care reform fizzled, I was disappointed but still optimistic: I knew you could fix it in the next six years or so. As sexual scandal dogged your heels, I was able to shrug it off. Frankly, I didn't

care where the presidential pudendum had been just so long as it was attached to a president who would do the job we elected him for. And Whitewater was easy to dismiss - after all, your two predecessors were up to their necks in dirty dealings and no one seemed to mind. And I was actually proud of you when you shut down the government during the budget standoff. I even wrote you an E-mail thanking you for standing up to neo-conservative thuggery (or words to that effect.) And you did hold your ground for quite a while. But gradually as accommodation was reached over the budget, something seemed to be going wrong. It was as though you had secretly been replaced by your evil twin in a kind of rhetorical coup d'etat. The new Bill Clinton seemed much more aligned with the Republican consensus over fundamental questions like "Should the budget be balanced?" "In how many years?" and "How?" The answers: Yes, seven years, by punishing the American people, especially the poor. Apparently a decade and a half of voodoo economics was now being interpreted to mean that the rich had let the poor get away with entirely too much, rather than the other way around. By the time you announced your support for the Defense of Marriage Act, I must admit I was getting discouraged; on top of every-

thing else, the evil twin was apparently a homophobe. (I guess I was expecting you to cut me as much slack over my domestic arrangements as I'd cut you over yours). But, it was easier to defend the new Bill Clinton than to contemplate eight years of the very-old Bob Dole. By the time this column appears, you will have started your second term. People like me put you back in for another four years mainly because the possibility of a Dole presidency was too nauseating to contemplate. Now's your chance to fire the evil twin and take back the job we elected you for. A chance to be an activist president. To fight for gay rights against the tyranny of majoritarian rule. To fight the entrenched moneyed interests that have sucked our companies dry and sent our jobs overseas. To fight against for-profit monopoly-control of our health care system. To fight for the poor, not against them. This is your last term, Mr. President. The fact that you can't be re-elected could be viewed as quite liberating, since it frees you from the appallingly wasteful activities of campaigning with all of the practical and ideological compromises that entails. Now you will only have to answer to historians. Will the last President of the millennium be remembered as a catalyst for progressive change or as the guy who sold his soul to get re-elected?

## Gay and Bi men's roundtable

A program for an April 5th, gay and bi men's roundtable in Augusta has been planned and will be a little different from most conferences in that the program will be designed on site by the participants. The direct input format will give a guide to what gay and bi men in southern Maine feel is pertinent to their lives, as well as to provide an opportunity to voice personal opinions freely. Whether it is a need for public sex or the issue of civil rights and marriage, provided that several participants express an interest, no topic will be off limits or dismissed as improper or insignificant.

The day will start at 10 am with informal introductions in the roundtable's coffee lounge. The first order of business, after registrations, is games and orientation. Following the

orientation two roundtable sessions will be broken up by a short lunch break. A recap session of the roundtable comments will follow. In addition, a fourth session on developing personal awareness as a form of mutual support will be facilitated. The fourth roundtable will close about 5 pm and be followed by cocktails, a buffet and socializing at the Augusta home of one of the planners.

The coffee lounge will be open throughout the discussions for those who may be talked out or just wish to gab with a new acquaintance. The idea is to give everyone a chance to air their own topic of interest in a nonpressure, non-judgemental and friendly environment.

Effort to hold the registration fee below \$20 will still cover attendance,

coffee, lunch and the buffet, but cocktails may be improvised. Preregistration is required. A critical mass of 30 men must register by late March. Approximately 50 seats are available and will be registered in order of forms returned.

Further information will be available through organization mailings, bar postings and at the MLGPA dinner. To be included on the mailing please send your e-mail to "rossetti@biddeford.com" or your mailing address to MGM, c/o Michael Rossetti, 57 Watson St., Portland, Maine 04103. Registration info will arrive in a plain envelope with no obvious gay addressing. Please indicate if you would like to help and one of the planning session members will contact you.

## Postal Regulation Causes stir

Washington, D.C., Some anti-gay, right-wing political groups are concerned that new U.S. Postal Service regulations will regulate employees' off-duty conduct and have called on their members to contact the Postal Service in protest. Such interpretation of the regulation is patently incorrect. While no longer a federal agency, the Postal Inspection Service's action is one that falls in line with actions taken by most federal Cabinet-level Departments in making clear that discrimination on the job will not be tolerated. The provision does not seek to regulate off duty conduct.

The regulations, which apply to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the enforcement branch of the Postal Service are contained within a five page code of conduct. Signed last November, the anti-discrimi-

nation provision prohibits employees, acting in an official capacity, to directly or indirectly discriminate on the basis of age, gender, ethnic origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation. The regulation applies to the agency's 4,600 inspectors, police officers and support personnel who investigate crimes committed through the mail.

"The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is to be commended for joining with other federal, state and private employers who have adopted policies that prohibit discriminatory practices by its employees," stated NGLTF executive director Kerry Lobel. "State and local governments, as well as private employers, throughout the country have adopted similar non-discrimination policies

which make clear that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation by its employees is as onerous and unacceptable as other forms of discrimination," added Lobel.

The provision does not state or imply that employees must accept homosexuality or give up their rights to argue against pro-gay policies or actions. "It is interesting to note how concerned the right wing extremists, such as the American Family Association, are regarding the regulation of the private conduct of these employees. Yet, they are among the first to want to regulate the private lives of gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgendered individuals," Lobel pointed out.

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."



# Maine's Grandest "Gay Marriage" in 1997

You may not be hearing wedding bells but the organizers have decided to call it a "seemless" marriage between Southern Maine Pride, Portland, now on its 11th year and Symposium, Maine's 20 plus year old statewide annual conference on bisexual, transgender, gay and lesbian issues.

The Southern Maine Pride Community Festival will take over downtown Portland and the Old Port waterfront from Wednesday, June 18 to Sunday, June 22. Symposium is scheduled to be just over the bridge in South Portland on the SMVTI Casco Bay campus from Friday June 13 to Sunday June 15.

Planners from both committees met on Saturday, January 18, to bring the two camps together. It was sketched out that Symposium will concentrate on workshop presentations, while So.Me.Pride will present intown exhibits and festival events. A major Keynote speaker will be left to Symposium, while Pride speakers will be more

local. Both will be hosting a variety of concerts, comedy events, dinners and dances, crowning the 10 day stretch with the annual Pier Dance on Friday, June 20th, and the Pride Day celebration on Saturday, June 21.

Bridging the two events from June 15 to June 22 and in keeping with the Pride '97's emphasis on honoring members of the gay community who are parents, a photo exhibit entitled "Love Makes a Family", which features 20 "gay and lesbian" families will be on display in downtown Portland. The intimate and sweetly honest exhibit, which successfully withstood a rightwing attempt at censorship in May of 1996, is one of a set of six that travel the nation.

To reach the widest possible audience for the photo exhibit, it's hoped to have the exhibit travel the state of Maine throughout the summer and early fall, including several Portland showings besides Pride/Symposium. Venues for the photo exhibit are being researched

with an open request to those interested to contact So.Me.Pride.

Other decisions were settled amicably. Volunteer help will be requested and shared to handle the tasks as they develop. Both committees have sorted out a list of what possible entertainers are best for which. While sponsorship of events and entertainment will be pursued separately, further meetings have been agreed upon to deal with issues as they're expected to arise.

Contact information is as follows: for Symposium call Deb Howard at 207-625-8499, for So.Me.Pride call Laurie at 207-878-0546. For information on "Love Makes a Family" exhibit, call Michael at 207-879-7323.

**THE HAPPY COUPLE HAVE FORGONE HONEYMOON PLANS IN LIEU OF A WORKING FUTURE.**

Michael Rossetti 207-879-7323 c/o So.Me.Pride pobox 11502 Portland, Maine 04104



by Peter Callnan,  
CPA

Everyone wants to make money but nobody wants to pay taxes. Unfortunately, it is very unlikely that anyone can earn money and not pay some taxes. The true objective is to pay the least amount in taxes as possible. This is what tax planning is all about.

Tax planning generally involves timing the recognition of income and deductible expenses to postpone the payment of tax. The general rule of thumb is to recognize income when your tax bracket is low and maximize deductible expenses when it is high. Therefore, you need to consider approximately what tax bracket you are presently in. This can be done by reviewing last year's tax return and comparing its information to what you estimate will be on this year's return. The top rate of tax you pay determines what tax bracket you are in but, be careful if you are close to another bracket or you may be in for an un-

## TAX PLANNING It's all in the timing.

pleasant surprise. If someone prepares your tax return for you they can likely tell you what bracket you are in.

Recognizing income when your tax bracket is low also means you should delay recognizing income when your bracket is high. For example, let's suppose for 1996 you are in the 15% tax bracket but for 1997 you will be in the 28% bracket. Here it would be better to recognize more income in 1996. If this were reversed and in 1996 your tax rate was 28% but in 1997 you expect it to be 15% then it would be a good idea to delay income recognition until 1997. As you can see there is a 13% difference in the two lowest federal tax rates which is the possible tax savings you could have by doing tax planning. This timing principle applies also to the recognition of deductible expenses but in the reverse of income. Deductible expenses should be accelerated when you are in a high tax bracket and postponed if you are in a low one but may be in a high one next

year. The idea is to put the deductible expenses in the year where they will offset income which would be taxed at a higher rate.

There are many different methods or strategies that can be used to manipulate income and deductible expenses to minimize tax liability depending upon your specific tax situation. If you have a tax preparer, sit down and discuss what your possible opportunities may be with them. If you don't have a preparer then estimate your current taxable income and explore methods to time recognition of income and deductible expenses to keep your tax liability low. Even when there is no change in your tax bracket, delaying the recognition of income will postpone the payment of tax for a year which allows you to have that cash available for other purposes. Tax planning may seem needless or overwhelming but, with a little review and imagination it's possible that it could be very beneficial. Good Luck!

### Springfield Police Chief - Recruiting Gay Officers.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — The city's police chief is actively recruiting gay and lesbian officers.

That word came Thursday in a statement released from Chief Paula Meara.

She said she was intent on shaping a police department that reflects the community.

Meara herself made news earlier this year by bucking traditional stereotypes. She took over the biggest police department in New England to be run by a woman.

### Community Pride Reporter

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### Our Mission

Community Pride Reporter serves as a source of local, state, national and international news, information, ideas and 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.

### Our Editorial Policy

Views and opinions, political and personal, expressed in Community Pride Reporter are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the publisher. Community Pride Reporter may endorse candidates we feel represent our community most completely. Community Pride Reporter disclaims legal responsibility for errors in editorial, or advertising content, as all reasonable care is taken to prevent such errors. If an error has significantly detracted from the clarity of information presented, the Publisher may consider printing a clarification at her discretion. No assumptions should be made concerning the sexual self-identification of either contributors or advertisers.

### Submissions Welcome

CPR encourages readers to write! Material submitted for publication must be legibly signed and include address and/or phone number for verification. 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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### ATTENTION!!!!!!

### CANCELLATION NOTICE:

THE FRIENDS AND FAMILY (ITACT) SUPPORT GROUP MEETING:

SCHEDULED FOR THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

IS NO LONGER MEETING.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION SPECIALIST  
HEALTH 1ST  
PO BOX 1116  
PRESQUE ISLE ME 04769  
768-3056 OR 1-800-432-7881



# Community Pride Resources

## ML/GPA

a state-wide, 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, bisexual and transgendered people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are 2nd Sunday of every month at 1 pm (ME), 2 pm (NB), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 S. Main St., Caribou. FMI write NLN, PO Box 990, Caribou, ME 04736-0990. The Phoneline is staffed every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7-9 pm. Call 207-498-2088 or 1-800-468-2088

## 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 at 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 state-wide, 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 state-wide 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, Emery Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle). FMI call 603-772-5196.

**Plymouth:** Meets first Sunday, 7-9 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church. FMI call 603-968-7254 or 603-786-9812.

## Maine P-FLAG Meetings

**Portland:** Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. FMI call 207-766-5158 or 207-774-3441.

**Brunswick/Bath:** Meets 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Wed. FMI call 207-729-0519.

**Lewiston/Auburn:** Meets last Sunday of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm. FMI call 207-783-9789.

## Women's Center

**Belfast - Weekly meetings,** 9A Main St., 2nd floor (above Jaret & Cohn). Group meeting every Wednesday, 6:15 pm. Women's Spirituality Gatherings, Mondays 7-9 pm. FMI call 207-338-5702

## 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 call 603-430-5418.

## 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. FMI call 207-879-1037.

## Am Chofshi

A Maine Lesbian/Gay Jewish support group, meets monthly. FMI call 207-883-6004.

## 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 at 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. Lukes Cathedral, side chapel, 143 State St., Portland. Coffee & dessert after the liturgy. FMI call 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 call 207-773-5726 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 207-622-1888 or 207-622-4254.

## Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Discussion Group

1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 7-9 pm. First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland, ME. FMI call Larry Godfrey at 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, bi's & transgendered. Serving Franklin County, based at UM

Farmington. FMI call and leave message at 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, multi-partner relationships. Whether curious or already multiply intimate, call 207-773-6132 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 call 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 from 6:30-8:00 pm.

## Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center

334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: call 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 McGRSS, PO Box 1894, Bangor, ME 04402-1894 or call 207-945-3092.

## All Maine Transgender

Group Support for all Crossdressers, Transvestites, Transgenders, Transexuals. All inclusive group, gay, lesbian, bi, straight. Confidential and discreet, Bangor meeting place. February meetings are on the 7th and the 28th. Call 207-947-1686 for time and place; or FMI write AMT P.O. Box 145 Brewer, ME 04412.

## 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

**Maine AIDS Alliance:** 39 Green Street, Augusta, ME 04330. Call 207-621-2924. Fax: 207-622-2662.

**AIDS Coalition of Lewiston/Auburn:** P.O. Box 7977, Lewiston, ME 04243. Call 207-786-4697.

**AIDS Lodging House:** 142 High Street Suite 609, Portland, ME 04101. Call 207-773-7165.

**Camp Chrysalis:** PO Box 990, Belfast, Maine 04915. Call 207-3338-5089.

**Community AIDS Awareness Program:** PO Box 457, Rumford, ME 04276 Call 207-364-8603.

**Community Task Force on AIDS Education:** PO Box 941, Naples, ME 04055.

**Dayspring AIDS Support Services:** 32 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330. Call 207-626-3432.

**Down East AIDS Network:** 114 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04605. Call 207-667-3506.

**Eastern Maine AIDS Network:** PO Box 2038, Bangor, ME 04401. Call 207-990-3626.

**Merrymeeting AIDS Support Service:** PO

Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011. Call 207-725-4955.

**Names Project/Maine:** P.O. Box 10248, Portland, ME 04104. Call 207-774-2198.

**Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network:** PO Box 113, Paris, ME 04271. Call 207-743-7451.

**Peabody House:** 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. Call 207-774-6281.

**People With AIDS Coalition of ME:** 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.

**PAWS/Pets Are Wonderful Support:** 142 High St., Room 330, Portland, ME 04101. Call 775-PAWS. E-mail paws@ime.net. Home page: <http://www.ime.net/PAWS/>

**The AIDS Project (TAP):** PO Box 5305, Portland, ME 04101. Web page - [www.neis.net/aidsproject](http://www.neis.net/aidsproject). E-mail - [aidsproj@neis.net](mailto:aidsproj@neis.net) Call 207-774-6877.

**Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition:** P.O. Box 956, Belfast, ME 04915. Call 207-338-1427.

# Medical Support

## 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 School. 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 207-874-8784. For other STD services: 207-874-8446.

## Coping with Caregiving

Provides support for those caring for a disabled or chronically/terminally ill person. Group meets on 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at noon at Mercy Hospital Board Room, sixth floor. FMI call 207-879-3477.

## Breast self-exam classes

The Breast Health Resource Center at Mercy Hospital is offering free self-exam classes to teach women how to perform breast self-exams, what to look for, what a lump might feel like, and what to do if you find something that doesn't seem right. Classes are on the 3rd Thursday of the month on the 5th floor. FMI, or to register, call 207-879-3791



# Youth Support

## OUTRIGHT

**Bangor:** Fridays 5:00-7:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, Park St., behind City Hall in Bangor. FMI call 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 call 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

# 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. TAP, 142 High Street Suite 632, Portland, ME 04101.

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

**Wednesdays:** Drop-in discussion group for married/gay/bisexual/questioning men. FMI call Gerry at 207-774-6877.

**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. TAP, 142 High Street Suite 632, Portland, ME 04101.

**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 207-774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.**

**Family and Friends Accepting Change Together (FFACT),** a support group sponsored by North-

ern Maine AIDS Network for friends, families & careproviders. Meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm, at the Aroostook 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, 207-783-7301.

**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, 207-774-6877.

**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.

**Kennebunk:** Drop-in discussion group every Tuesday for married/gay/bisexual/questioning men at TAP Office, Lafayette Center, downtown Kennebunk. FMI call Gerry at 207-774-6877.

**Lewiston:** 4th Thursday: Great Sex Expectations 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:

**Derry area:** Support group open to anyone infected with AIDS/HIV. Hosted by the Ecumenical AIDS Task Force, at St. Thomas Aquinas. FMI or reservations, call Jane Dwyer at 603-432-7530.

**Keene:** Support group for families, friends, partners of persons living with AIDS or who have died of AIDS. Confidential & anonymous. Meets every other Wed., at Planned Parenthood, 7-8:30 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.

**Lebanon/Hanover:** ACoRN offers support groups, case management, community referrals and HIV prevention programs for people in the Upper Valley. FMI call John or Mark at 800-816-2220.

**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, 1-800-368-4357.

**Nashua area:** Two weekly self-help groups for those infected with, or affected by, HIV/AIDS. For times, dates and locations, call 603-595-8464.

**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.

**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.

**Winnepesaukee Region:** HIV/AIDS support group meets Wednesdays from 7-9 pm at Lakes Region General Hospital. FMI call Wayne at 603-524-3211 ext 3900.

# Phone Support By Region

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

**Gay & Lesbian Phoneline of Maine:** Staffed Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 pm - 9 pm. Call 207-498-2088 or (Maine) 800-468-2088.

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

**National Hotline for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender youth.** Sponsored by the Indianapolis Youth Group. Staffed & trained, peer youth counselors. Lines are open Sunday thru Thursday 7-10 pm, Friday and Saturday 7 pm to midnight. Confidential and anonymous. Call 1-800-347-TEEN

**HIV-AIDS Prevention Project:** Staffed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7 - 9 pm. Call 207-498-2088 or (Maine) 800-468-2088

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

**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 HELPLINE, 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: Sue - 832-5859

**CONTACTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline: 603-623-6023

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

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

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

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** meets 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.oxy.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 Paula Stockholm: paula@maine.com.

### San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Tourism Guide

An online merchant-sponsored Internet website geared to gay and lesbian travellers to the San Francisco area. It is compatible with most mainstream web browsers. Address: [www.gaysf.com](http://www.gaysf.com)

## MAINE

**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 call Jim 761-2059 or John 828-4896.

**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.

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

**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.

**Wilde-Stein Club:** Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at Memorial Union, Sutton Lounge, UM at Orono.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**ALMA:** Active Lesbians of the Monadnock

# Social Groups

Area (formerly the Monadnock Area Women) meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. FMI call 603-363-4961.

**Dartmouth Women's Meeting:** Meets every Monday at 9 pm at the Women's Resource Center, Dartmouth College. FMI call 603-646-3636.

**LINC:** Lesbians Inviting New Connections. A network serving women in New England. FMI call Pauli at 603-668-9245.

**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.

**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.

**Women Meeting Women:** Lesbian social/support group meeting monthly at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on the 2nd Saturday of the every month from 2:30 - 6 pm. FMI call Dianne at 603-881-4268, or by e-mail DBalbat@aol.com.



# FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## January 30 - February 23

"Alabama Rain" at Mad Horse Theater, Portland ME

## February 1-2, 7-9, 14-15

"Charlotte's Web-The Musical" at City Theater, 205 Main St., Biddeford ME. Adults \$12, seniors and children \$10. FMI and reservations (207)282-0254

## February 2-23

"Valley Song" at Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave., Portland ME (207)774-0465. Tickets \$18-\$29 with discounts for students, groups and seniors

## February 6-23

"Lettice and Lovage" at Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI or tickets call (207)775-5103

## February 8-9

Women's Snow Adventure Weekend—telemarking, snowboarding and alpine skiing. Bretton Woods, NH. FMI (800)232-2972

## February 9-March 1

"Where It's At: The Power of Love" an art installation by Richard Lee at Coffee By Design, 620 Congress St., Portland ME (207)772-5533.

## February 14-17

Womensphere Winter Retreat for Women—a weekend to relax, discover something new and meet other women. Raymond NH. FMI 589 NH Tpk. Northwood NH 03261

## February 21,22,28 and March 1

Buddy Training in Portland. Sponsored by Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services. This program pairs trained volunteers with persons living with HIV disease—buddy provides emotional support 1-5 hrs/wk. FMI call Deb Stone (207)725-4955

## Saturday, February 1

8 PM John McCann and Chris Moore in Oak Street Theater's World of Music Series. Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. Tickets \$6. FMI and tickets (207)775-5103

1-6PM, "The Art of Scene Painting" workshop with Michael Reidy at Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. \$25 plus \$25 material fee. FMI (207)775-5103

8 PM Women in Harmony Winter Concert, "Women Hold Up Half the Sky: Songs About Women and Their Work." Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland ME. \$10 adults, \$8 students and seniors—available at Amadeus Music and Drop Me a Line in Portland and Macbeans Music in Brunswick. FMI (207)774-4940

8 PM Women Meeting Women Dance at the Elks Hall in Chelmsford MA. FMI (603)881-4268

## Tuesday, February 4

7:15 PM. NH Chapter of GLSTN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Teachers Network) meeting on the campus of Phillips Exeter Academy (Thompson Science Building, Lecture Hall), Exeter NH. Park on Tan Lane and enter from the Quad side. Members and all interested individuals cordially invited. Special focus on issues particular to rural chapters with guest colleagues from GLSTN Maine and GLSTN Southern Vermont.

## Friday, February 7

Clay Hill Farm, Ogunquit ME, 5th Annual Valentines Dinner Dance. \$32 FMI (207)646-6661

8:30-noon. Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice Well Child Health Clinic. By appointment only. \$2.00 immunization fee. FMI or appointment (207)780-8624

## Saturday, February 8

7 PM. 12th Annual Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance Dinner/Dance and Awards Banquet. Social hour-6 PM; dinner-7 PM; awards-8 PM; music & dancing 9 to midnight. Tickets \$30/person. Proceeds benefit MLGPA. FMI call Harold at (207)623-8383 or mail check or CC (Visa/Mastercard) to MLGPA, PO Box 262, Hallowell, ME 04347.

2:30-6:00 PM Women Meeting Women, lesbian social/support group for women in southern NH and northern MA meets at UU Church in Nashua NH. FMI call Dianne (603)881-4268

3 PM. Outdoor sports and potluck supper with Lakes and Mountains Connection Women. Center Harbor NH. FMI (603)253-3335

1-4 PM, "Building a Good Voice" with Dianne Holly at Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. \$25. FMI (207)775-5103

## Sunday, February 9

11 AM. Mountain Valley Men cross-country skiing at Brownsfield Bog. Bring a pack lunch. Call Fritz or Brian at (207)452-2239 to confirm trip and for directions.

## Monday, February 10

6:30-8:30 PM. GLSTN (Gay/Lesbian/Straight Teachers Network) Southern Maine Chapter meeting at First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland ME. Everyone welcome at meetings. FMI (207)846-5233

5:30 PM (social hour—dinner at 6:30) Rainbow Business and Professional Association meeting at Embassy Suites, Westbrook St., Portland ME. Guest

speaker is Bill Nemitz, Portland Newspaper columnist. FMI (207)775-0077

7:15 PM. Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice along with American Cancer Society—Guidance in Grieving. Methodist Church, Elm St., South Portland ME. FMI (207)780-8624

## Wednesday, February 12

5:15 PM. Women's Health Resource Center lecture: Herbal Approaches to Menopause. Buck Rd., Hanover NH. FMI (603)650-HERBS

## Thursday, February 13

7:30-9:00 PM Matlovich Society presents "Erotic Justice! Erotic Justice!" a talk by Marvin Ellison, social ethicist and co-chair of the Religious Coalition Against Discrimination, on the Moral Wisdom of Queer People about Sex, Power, and Pleasure. Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME

6:30 PM. Northern Lambda Nord business meeting at the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine, 398 Main St., Caribou ME. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088.

## Friday, February 14

8:00 PM LA Arts presents Cherish the Ladies, women's Irish music ensemble, at Lewiston Middle School Auditorium. Reserved seating \$16/\$14 adults and \$12 seniors and students. FMI and reservations (800)639-2919.

12-5 PM. Artist's Reception at Coffee By Design for "Where It's At: The Power of Love" an art installation by Richard Lee. Reception open to the public.

8 PM. An evening with Kate Clinton. Strafford Room, University of New Hampshire, Durham NH. (603)862-2290. Tickets \$5 for students/faculty staff and \$7 for general public.

## Saturday, February 15

1 PM. Cross-country skiing and potluck dinner at 5:30. FMI call Marie (802)785-4606. An Amelia's Event.

1-5 PM, Professional Actor "Workout" at Oak Street Theater studio, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. \$5 to participate. FMI (207)775-5103

8 PM-midnight. Valentine's Dance sponsored by Northern Lambda Nord at the Caribou VFW Hall, US Route 1, half mile north of the hospital (Cary Medical Center). BYOB. Cover \$7 or \$5 for NLN members. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088

## Sunday, February 16

1:00 PM, W.O.W. (Wild Outdoor Women) gather for cross country skiing at Wolf Neck Farm, Freeport ME.

Potluck to follow in Portland. FMI (207)787-2379

## Monday, February 17

8 PM. Open Poetry Readings at Oak Street Theater. Hosted monthly by Steve Luttrell of Cafe Review Magazine. Sign up at 7:30 for a 5-minute slot. Free.

## Tuesday, February 18

5:30 PM. First meeting of 10-week course "Y's Way to Weight Management" \$35/\$50 non-members, includes cost of text. Greater Portland YMCA, 70 Forest Ave., Portland ME (207)874-1111. Register by February 10.

1-4 PM. Adult Immunization Clinic/Health Screening offered by Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice. Appointment required. FMI or appointment (207)780-8624

## Wednesday, February 19

8 PM. World of Music Series presents Voluntary Relatives at Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St., Portland ME. \$5 FMI (207)775-5103

7 PM. "Stonewall" from REEL-OUT Film Series at MUB Theatre II, University of New Hampshire. Durham NH. (603)862-4655. Cost is \$1.00

## Saturday, February 22

7 & 9 PM. Loew's Theatre, Dartmouth College. Stonewall—a gay love story set inn 1960s NYC. Hanover, NH.

1 PM. Northern Lambda Nord snowshoeing and potluck in New Sweden. Dinner about 4 PM. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088

## Tuesday, February 25

Noon. First meeting of 8-week class "YMCA Healthy Back Program" at Greater Portland YMCA, 70 Forest Ave., Portland ME (207)874-111. \$35 members/\$50 non-members(includes cost of text). Register by February 10. (Also meets Thursdays at 6 PM).

## Wednesday, February 26

7 PM. "The Celluloid Closet" from REEL-OUT Film Series at MUB Theatre II, University of New Hampshire. Durham NH. (603)862-4655. Cost is \$1.00 Thursday, February 27,

7:30-9:00 PM Matlovich Society presents "Resume, Interviews and Being G/L/B/T," a talk by Larry Bliss, Director of Career Services at USM. Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME

## Free Cancer Screening Clinic offered by LHP/SM

The Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, in conjunction with Portland Public Health, will offer a Cancer Screening Clinic for Lesbians on Saturday, March 15 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.

## COLLEGE STUDENT OR 90's GRAD?

Editors Kim Howard and Annie Stevens are in search of true, first person stories for a proposed anthology describing undergraduate experiences of coming out, being out, or staying in the closet on college campuses.

For guidelines, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: PO Box 5345, Tacoma Park, MD 20913; or you can e-mail them at: 154@umail.umd.edu. The deadline for submissions in March 31, 1997. Discretion and confidentiality are assured, if that is a concern.

Kim Howard and Annie Stevens also have a web page. Visit it at: <http://www.wam.umd.edu/~StevensA/book.html>.

## Greater Portland YMCA

The Greater Portland YMCA, Pine Tree Swim Team will be hosting an Auction/Brunch to benefit the YMCA Youth Programs and the Eddie Beckwith Recovery Fund. The Auction/Brunch will be held on Sunday February 9th from 12:00 - 3:30 pm at the Yarmouth High School Cafeteria. a Greater Portland YMCA Family Membership will be raffled off. We'd love to see you there!

## Answers, from page 8

ANSWERS 1. (d) a ten-pound gay nose 2. (a) choreographers 3. (b) the Navy 4. (a) Madonna's "Deeper and Deeper" video 5. (d) Sigourney Weaver 6. (c) Sharon Stone in "Basic Instinct" 7. (b) "the fruit" 8. (a) a TV weatherman in Chicago 9. (b) Art Fleming 10. (a) Charles Pierce 11. (c) comic Suzanne Westenhoefer 12. (a) "Car Wash" 13. (b) "Jeffrey" 14. (c) The Auspicious Debut Award 15. (d) Whoopi Goldberg in "Boys on the Side"

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**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.

## 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.

## 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 pre-op 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.

**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.

**GWM 47** who enjoys cross-dressing and exploring feminine side. ISO penpal/friend for moral support & guidance thru learning experiences. I'm unable to read or write very well, cassette tapes are appreciated. Respond: Community Pride Reporter PSN 105; PO Box 178; Saco, ME 04072.

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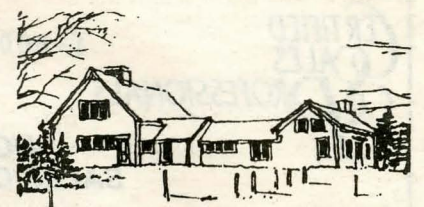
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Contact Deb Stone at 725 - 4955

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Yes, I want to subscribe to the Community Pride Reporter. Subscription rate is \$25.00 for 12 issues. (more if you can, less if you can't) CPR is mailed in a plain Envelope, the return address reads: CPR PO box 178, Saco, ME 04072.

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Please make checks payable to: Community Pride Reporter & mail to P.O. Box 178, Saco, ME 04072. \*We acknowledge the varying degrees to which members of our community are out, and we respect their choice, if printing a return address is ever a problem, please let us know.



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