Community Pride Reporter

Proudly serving the Community.

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The Oak Street Theater - Portland (Maine) will be presenting a Gay and Lesbian Performer’s Festival in late April and early May, offering Portland audiences the chance to see three nationally known performance artists present their one person shows about their lives as gay and lesbian Americans. The Festival will directly benefit Southern Maine Pride’s office/community center fund.

The Texas Trinity, (April 17,18,19 all 8pm) is written and performed by Paul Bonin-Rodriguez who has been touring his trilogy of shows to venues including the Joseph Papp Public Theater, NYC and the O Solo Mio Festival in San Francisco. The trilogy consists of three shows that chronicle the coming of age of a gay man in a small Texas town. Thursday, Talk of the Town, introduces the main character and his discovery of his sexual orientation. Friday, the Bible Belt and Other Accessories, advances the biography through the evolution of a political consciousness. Saturday, L’Ove in the Time of College, speaks to the real substance of romance and being a gay man.

You’re Just Like My Father, (April 24,25, 26 all 8pm) is written and performed by Peggy Shaw. Peggy is the co-founder of the acclaimed Split Britches lesbian theatre collective who have toured Europe and North America for the past twenty years. Her one-woman autobiographical show uses simple costume pieces that belonged to her father to explore the nature of her masculine side and its relationship to her sexuality.

Skint & Ornaments (May 1,2,3 all 8pm), the third and final week is written and performed by Craig Hickman. The Boston-based Craig Hickman is a hot new African-American poet and performer. His lyrical piece uses short vignettes containing strong imagery to evoke memories of childhood and adolescence. He uses poetry, monologue, African and jazz dance/movement and storytelling to explore gender, sexuality, race, and relationships.

ALL THESE FINE PERFORMANCES WILL bring a quality of performers into Maine of a rare richness that both our community and non-gay people can appreciate as well. It is an unfortunate truth that seeking out the Oak Street, for all is superb work, is still very limited. For more information on the performances, the artists, or FOR TICKETS call the Oak Street theater at 207-775-3103.

West End or Dead End?

by Michael Rossetti

In politics, the object to exercise power is to keep your supporters around and remove those who might threaten your position. In the chess game of Portland’s district 2, Dave Garrity, may just be the person that the status quo fears most.

Karen Gareghty, certainly the better known of the two in the g/l/b/t community and Dave’s only real opponent in the race, is not necessarily a household word among non-gay voters. The gay vote in this district, if they go to the polls could determine the race, if they stay home, the gay vote is largely inconsequential. All that is sure is that Karen is running, a not well liked alternative amoung the city councilor.

Non-district voters also have a stake in the race. On the one hand, Karen Gareghty is a forceful lobbyist in Augusta for gay and lesbian issues. She has held local Portland positions such as a Community Advisor at King Middle School or Board member to West Side Child Care. The question is does that make her a viable alternative to Dave Garrity whose more substantial history at City Hall at non-gay specific, city wide issues makes him an experienced and ready Councilor.

Dave’s most notable City Hall moment was during his twice appointed Cable Committee position, standing up to Time Warner Cable Systems, thwarting their efforts to rip off local consumers by scrambling already received programming when they upgraded their system to fiber optics. Dave took it all the way to the Attorney General. Add in David’s fight against the loss of a Harborview Park during the new South Portland Bridge construction, property revaluation fights, spot re-zoning, the fight to see a megalith and many smaller causes for the people and you begin to see a good candidate.

Although Karen is known for her work on the Bias Crimes Task Force, the Maine Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance and Maine Won’t Discriminate, Karen has also stood up for the gay community. Dave’s press work on Portland’s Equal Protection campaign clearly helped it win. David’s testimony against the police department practice of sending letters to owners of cars seen “cruising” near the Western Prom, helped to convince the Public Safety Committee that it was a violation of civil liberties.

The status quo does not seem to like David. David had a clear chance at getting the district’s legislative nomination and being one of the first openly gay candidates to the Maine legislature, but a lesbian, new to the district was thrown into the mix. The result was enough votes were taken from Dave during the party caucusing to throw the vote to Michael Saxt, a non-gay, but gay friendly candidate. It was no accident that the third candidate, who has not been much of a political personage since, ran using a very old political maneuver. It was, in deed, a sad demonstration of how we get our voter choices and just how committed our so called gay and lesbian political leadership is to queer political power.

Perhaps the question is not can Garrity beat Gareghty at the polls, but can those in the gay community who must exercise their democratic perogatives and who support David expect any sort of a political future themselves?

Make a Showing — Make a Difference! Attend the Public Hearing on the EQUAL RIGHTS BILL

Tuesday, April 8th 1:30 Augusta Civic Center   This could be our year!
Governor King Lets ban become Law without his Signature

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Saying his decision was not an easy one, Gov. Angus King will let the gay marriage ban enacted by the legislature last week become law without his signature rather than force a referendum by vetoing the bill.

King said he has "a deep respect for the institution of marriage and its religious roots," but he does not believe the bill remedies a problem because there's no movement in Maine to make same-sex marriages legal.

The governor also said he does not believe traditional marriage is under assault in Maine.

"I believe that this bill has very little to do with marriage and nothing to do with love," said King.

Concerned Maine Families, which led the initiative that forced the legislative vote, said the law protects traditional marriage from threats by militant gay activists.

The governor had three options after the bill was enacted by overwhelming margins last week by the House and Senate: sign the bill, veto it, which would force a referendum, or let it become law without his signature.

King said a referendum would trigger a bitter and divisive statewide campaign that would not benefit the public.

The governor also said he expects the law to be successfully challenged in court. He believes it violates both the equal protection and full faith and credit clauses of the Constitution.

"This bill will briefly become law in Maine, but it will not have my name on it," said King.

During last week's debate, several legislators said they opposed the bill on technical and ideological grounds, but would rather have it become law than subject the state to a rancorous campaign. Others cited strong constituent support for the bill as a reason to vote for it.

Lawmakers Ban Marriage

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Lawmakers from the state of Maine overwhelmingly approved a measure making the state the 16th to ban gay marriages, avoiding a referendum campaign on the issue in the fall.

The Maine Senate voted 24-10 on Wednesday for the ban, one day after the House voted 106-39.

Because the bill was initiated by a petition drive, a vote of the Legislature to kill it would have automatically triggered a November referendum.

Gov. Angus King has said he would not veto the measure.

"The people of the state of Maine, now represented by their political leaders, have wisely moved to protect the institution of marriage from the marauding of opportunistic gay activists," said Carolynn Cosby, whose group, Concerned Maine Families, led the petition drive to put the issue before the Legislature.

While many lawmakers said they voted in favor to avoid a divisive statewide referendum, opponents charged they were giving in to fear.

Democratic Sen. Susan Longley challenged the premise that the state has a compelling interest to promote traditional marriage.

"The definition (of marriage) is changing," said Longley, adding that the fitness of a person to be a parent "has nothing to do with sexual orientation."

She also said the ban is not needed because a similar federal law is already on the books.

President Clinton in September signed the Defense of Marriage Act, which allows states to declare themselves off limits to same-gender marriages.

Republican Sen. John Benoit said forcing a statewide referendum would kick off a nasty debate among Maine voters.

"I don't want to see people at each other's throats ... hashing this out," Benoit said.

Test of wills as Same-Sex Deadline Looms

HONOLULU (AP) — Same-sex marriage watchers, mark April 11 on your calendar.

That's the deadline for the House and Senate to approve a bill that would change the state Constitution to ban same-sex marriages.

But both sides remain steadfast in their positions, and it will be a test of wills as both sides wait for the other to blink first.

The two sides meet again Tuesday in conference committee in hopes of breaking the stalemate.

The House is proposing a constitutional amendment, to be ratified or rejected by the voters in the 1998 General Election, to limit marriage to one man and one woman.

The Senate is proposing a constitutional amendment to provide authority to the state to regulate marriage, including reserving the practice for opposite-sex couples.

The Senate measure allows for such a restriction so long as "that reservation shall not be effective only if laws don't deprive anyone of civil rights on the basis of sex."

A companion House bill creates a "reciprocal beneficiaries" law allowing couples who can't marry to have rights of hospital visitation; joint property ownership; inheritance rights and the right standing ability to sue for wrongful death.

The Senate wants to expand the proposal to include about 200 rights and benefits, including state workers' health and death benefits accruing to a life partner; the ability to file joint tax returns; workers' compensation benefits and criminal victims' rights; family leave and other rights.

If lawmakers don't compromise by April 11, there won't be enough time to take the necessary votes and other steps before the session ends April 29.

In the absence of real progress, interest groups plan a news conference and vigil at the Capitol in the next few days.

Senate negotiators sent a sharply worded six-page letter to their House counterparts, saying they are "frustrated over the absence of real progress" on resolving the same-sex marriage issue.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Terrance Tom, lead House negotiator, shot back a four-page memorandum accusing the Senate of rhetoric, misrepresentation and innuendo.

"Let's get to the heart of the matter," Tom wrote Thursday. As best as I can understand from your letter, the Senate conferees believe that any constitutional amendment which does not give the Hawai'i Supreme Court the power to impose same-sex marriage on Hawai'i unreasonably discriminates against a segment of our population."

The House conferees won't support any constitutional amendment which gives any power whatsoever to any court or any administrator to impose same-sex marriage on the people of Hawai'i, Tom said.

Senate negotiators say they are willing to consider revised language that makes protects nontraditional families while addressing House concerns.
10 - Year old girl Testifies for same-sex Marriages

by Robert Emrie

WAUSAU, Wis. (AP) Sol Kelley-Jones, a 10-year-old Madison girl, smiled at a panel of state lawmakers Monday and described herself as a "really lucky kid" with lesbian parents who love her.

Her friends often ask who her real mother is, the girl said in testifying against a bill to ban same-sex marriages in Wisconsin.

"I say they are both my real mom," Sol said, her feet dangling from a chair, flanked by her two mothers, who said they had been in a "marriage relationship" for 18 years.

“We are a family in every way,” said Sunshine Jones, 45. "What we don’t have under the law is equal protection as other families do.”

Dana Kelley, 41, putting her arm around Sol’s shoulder, explained how not being legally married affects the benefits she gets at her job with a utility company.

"We don’t have health care benefits," she said. "If we didn’t get married, we would “die tomorrow and I could be deprived bereave­ment leave to attend their funeral,” Kelley said, in a break in the proceedings.

"Passing this bill will be a giant step backward. It hurts my family and my child.”

Rep. Lorraine Serati, R-Spread Eagle, wrote the measure banning same-sex marriages following recent court decisions in other states.

None was more impassioned than Sol and her two mothers, who said they had been in a “marriage relationship” for 18 years.

"We are a family in every way,” said Sunshine Jones, 45. "What we don’t have under the law is equal protection as other families do.”

by Sau Chan

BOSTON (AP) - Senior year in high school is usually a time for reflection and anticipation.

All Carla Moniz remembers about her senior year is the loathing and hatred of other students - all because she let it slip one day in fourth-grade class that she was attending an after-school gay and lesbian youth workshop.

"I had rocks thrown at the back of my head, I had things thrown at me on my school walls in large red letters ‘CARLA’S DEAD!’ ‘Dyke’s Die,’ ‘Kill All Gays.’ ’ I told my fourth-grade teacher who graduated last year. ‘No one ever came to my defense or would admit to knowing who was responsible for the violence and harassment.”

Moniz’s experience was among the 161 reported attacks against gays and lesbians in Massachusetts last year, according to a report released Tuesday by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs.

The report said 25 percent of those incidents took place in public schools and colleges.

Massachusetts, since 1993, is one of the few states that prohibits discrimination against students because of sexual orientation.

The governor’s Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth is now working to ensure the establishment of support groups for students who are rejected and may be at high risk for suicide.

Yet this same effort to protect young gays and lesbians may be making them more visible targets for verbal abuse, threats and assault, Moniz said. She believes harassment has increased since more schools are making their sexual orientation known because they feel they have more protection.

Moniz said it’s a "lull" in its efforts due to visibility. Before 1995, it was a "big deal."

But in the past year, she said, "everyone’s talking about it much more. I was surprised by the lack of education," she said.

Also reported was the case of a 10-year-old boy in Sandwich who was taunted and attacked after his fourth-grade classmates found out that his mother had a lesbian lover.

He was told "your mommies are faggots so you’re a faggot boy," and was called “faggot boy,” according to the report.

His teacher claimed she never saw the assault, and the youth was punished when he defended himself verbally. At one point, the youth was hit from behind so hard that his head struck his locker and fell. A classmate wearing cleats kicked him repeatedly, the report said.

Moniz recalls how an ice scraper hurled at her as she walked to her car one snowy day.

"I just got in my car and drove away, and that scared me,” said Moniz, who was senior class president at the time. "I was scared not only for my safety, but because I accepted and tolerated this violent behavior.”

As she speaks, an array of photos behind her is a stark reminder of the daily hate Millennials saw written on my school walls.

"I had rocks thrown at the back of my head, I had things thrown at me on my school walls in large red letters ‘CARLA’S DEAD!’ ‘Dyke’s Die,’ ‘Kill All Gays.’ ” said the pastor of Plymouth Congrega­tional United Church of Christ in Madison, whose parishioners spent a little time searching the scriptures for examples of ‘archaic, cultural laws of ancient times by which we might judge our neighbors as lesser than ourselves.”

Serati’s bill was meant-spirited, di­visive and insensitive in its call for com­mitment, the rev. Charles Wolfe said.

"It is simply a stone, a rock, which the Wisconsin Assembly is being invited to pick up and fling at the gay and lesbian popula­tion of Wisconsin. It is nothing more than that,” he said.

Testifying from by telephone from New York City, Anthony Falzarano, execu­tive director Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays, warned the committee that redefining the tradi­tional Judeo-Christian marriage was part of the gay activists’ agenda.

If successful on the marriage issue, gays will “demand their rights in many, many avenues,” Falzarano said.

He said he led a gay lifestyle for nine years and now counsels others who struggle with the issue.

The governor’s Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth workshop.

Before 1993, no one in my school ever "I have walked through the halls of reportsaid25 percent of those incidents took place in public schools and colleges.

Moniz’s experience was among the 161 reported attacks against gays and lesbians in Massachusetts last year, according to a report released Tuesday by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs.
Bard Banned? Proposed resolution could ban Shakespeare Plays

by Paul Nowell
CHARLOTTE (AP) _ "Hamlet" could not be performed with Mecklenburg County funding under a resolution that’s coming up for a vote before the county’s board of commissioners, a Shakespearean scholar says.

"It would be difficult to teach Hamlet ... in relation to American family values when he is considering whether to murder his stepfather," said Dennis Kay, who holds the Shakespeare chair at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

The Liverpool native spoke out Thursday in response to county commissioner Hoyle Martin’s proposal to cut taxpayer support to art groups that perform works that include "perverted forms of sexuality."

"... any activities by private agencies that promote, advocate, endorse, behaviors, lifestyles and values that seek to undermine and derive from the value and societal role of the traditional American family _ a husband, wife or single parent and possible offspring _ are not compatible with our community’s moral beliefs," the proposed resolution said.

An earlier draft of Martin’s resolution used harsher language, accusing gays and lesbians of believing "they have a right to recruit children for experimenting sexually."

On Thursday, the new version said: "... a generation of children are growing up in a society in which many adults, some naive and some proscribed by other things, no longer seek to protect children from premature exposure to sex and pornographic or perverted forms of sexuality."

Kay said the exact wording of the resolution was not his biggest concern.

"Whichever form this resolution takes, the image tends to portray one of intolerance," he said.

Kay called the language in the resolution "poisonous."

If approved, he said, it could be interpreted by some as an attempt to censor great works of art that delve into controversial subjects.

For example, he said: "The absence of the (Shakespearean) tragedies and the personal relationships in such plays as "Twelfth Night" and "The Merchant of Venice."

"How can you define 'family values' over the centuries?" Kay asked.

Martin, a Democrat, did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment on the professor’s analysis.

The resolution is expected to be on the commissioners’ April 1 agenda.

Martin is proposing that no county tax dollars be given to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Arts & Science Council, which gets $2.5 million of its $11 million annual budget from the city.

All county funding of "performing arts, contract agencies, non-profit agencies, and all other outside organizations, who is or proposed on a case-by-case basis by county commissioners, the resolution said.

Some community leaders have expressed concern that the resolution could hurt Charlotte’s progressive image. The proposal has drawn criticism from the gay and lesbian community as well as from a group of officials on a case-by-case basis by county commissioners, the resolution said.

"There’s definitely more reporting," said Rob Johnson, a victim advocate at the Fenway Community Health Center.

"Whether there’s more harassment at schools though we don’t know since we haven’t kept track of the numbers until recently."

The report also indicated that the seriousness of overall attacks has increased in Massachusetts. In 1995, one person was hospitalized, last year five people ended up in hospitals, Johnson said.

The attacks will not stop, he said, until the public can humanize rather than demonize gays and lesbians.

Bard Banned? Proposed resolution could ban Shakespeare Plays

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) _ Several hundred worshippers _ gays, straights and Christians _ watched in awe as church leaders illuminated the 103-foot Mount Davidson cross in a rainbow of lights.

"It’s amazing," said the Rev. Jim Mitsulki of the Metropolitan Community Church, who led an Easter eve service at the monument.

"You see it and it says more than words." The 53-year-old cross, situated in a public park atop a hill that overlooks San Francisco, had not been lighted for Easter for years.

NY Assembly passes Gay Rights bill for the Fifth straight year

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) _ For the fifth straight year, the Assembly adopted a gay and lesbian civil rights bill to curb discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The Democrat-led Assembly on Monday approved the measure 89-55.

It was sponsored by Manhattan Democrat Steven Sanders. In the Republican-led Senate, where it has failed for the past five years due in part to a vote, the measure is sponsored by state Sen. Roy Goodman, a Republican from Manhattan.

The bill adds sexual orientation to the list of classes protected from discrimination and would bar discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations and education.

"It’s a beautiful place to have a service."
Medical Research on Lesbians in Maine

by Tania Jo Hathaway

Wow! It's here: an opportunity for lesbians in Maine to participate in the first-ever Maine-based medical research conducted on us! As if that were not landmark enough, it's the first-ever research anywhere, any time, any place to address the risk of osteoporosis among lesbians.

Here's how it works: you travel to a site in Portland or Bangor. MCORE (see below) will gather basic health information from the research subject (that's us). Next, MCORE will administer a heel bone density test which is exactly what it sounds like: you have to take your shoe and sock off and a little machine is placed on your heel. It reads your bone density in a flash. You'll get your bone density test results for the future. And that's it! You are free to go, knowing that you've just made lesbian health history in Maine.

How did this come to pass? The Maine Center for Osteoporosis Research and Education, in conjunction with the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, submitted a request for funding to the Lesbian Health Fund (LHF). The LHF, a project of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, exists for one reason: it funds medical research and only medical research on lesbians and only lesbians.

The Lesbian Health Fund (LHF) grants but a few research projects each year; it is especially exciting that they considered this project worthy of their much sought after dollars.

The Maine Center for Osteoporosis Research and Education (MCORE), an affiliate of St. Joseph's Hospital in Bangor, has consulted with LHF/SM from the early stages of the process which began nearly 18 months ago. MCORE's original proposal was returned by the LHF with requested technical changes. Once those were made, the LHF granted the full amount of the original proposal.

Then, MCORE had to overcome the skepticism of its Catholic affiliate organization, whose Internal Review Board had some not-so-small concerns about the Lesbian Health Fund as a funding source.

This battle won, MCORE is ready to carry out its study titled "Assessment of Risk Factors for Osteoporosis and Bone Density in Premenopausal Lesbian and Heterosexual Women." MCORE will be comparing two groups of heterosexual women to the lesbian group. One group will be recruited through normal research recruiting methods. The other group will be the (heterosexual) sisters of lesbians in the study. At the time of the appointment, lesbian participants will be asked if they have a sister(s) who might be willing to be in the study. MCORE will contact the sister when told to, and request that she set up an appointment. If enough sisters participate, the research results will be even more ground-breaking.

So here it is: our chance to be part of research history in the making; our chance to contribute to the much-needed medical research on lesbians; our chance to make a difference in lesbian health. Please call 1-800-839-8311 to set up an appointment in either Portland or Bangor. Ask for Christine or Barbara. Tania Jo Hathaway is the Coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine, PO Box 11048, Portland, ME 04104, tel 657-5864.

GLSTN of Southern Maine

Maine Assistant Attorney General Steve Wester will address the April meeting of the Southern Maine Chapter of GLSTN Gay, Lesbian, Straight Teachers Network. Wester, who directs the Civil Rights Unit of the attorney general's office, will discuss the current status of bias crimes in Maine schools, along with new efforts to make schools safer for all children and youth.

All educators and community members are welcome at meetings of GLSTN-Southern Maine, an area chapter of the national GLSTN organization. GLSTN brings together gay and straight educators and community members who work to end homophobia in schools and to make schools safe for gay youths and gay teachers. GLSTN-Southern Maine meets the second Monday of each month in the library at Waynflete School at 6:30 PM.

The April 14th meeting of GLSTN-Southern Maine will be held at the Waynflete School Library, 64 Emery St. (entrance in back), Portland Maine. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. With Wester speaking at 7:15. For further information, call Betsy Smith at (207)773-9547.

The program for the May 12th meeting will feature Joni Foster, HIV Education Coordinator for the Maine State Department of Education.
House Passes Anti-Discrimination Bill

by Norma Love

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) - Backed by new support from the Roman Catholic Church, New Hampshire's House voted today to bar discrimination against homosexuals in housing, jobs and public places like hotels and restaurants.

The House voted 205-125 to send a bill to the Senate. The bill was endorsed by the Catholic Diocese of Manchester; in the past, the church had opposed it.

Today's vote is the third time the House has taken up the issue in three years. It sent a similar bill to the Senate in 1994, but the Senate killed it.

The House voted last year to study the issue further.

Supporters argued today that the protections afford basic human and civil rights to a group that frequently faces discrimination. Appeals would be to the state's Human Rights Commission.

Supporters noted existing exemptions for small family businesses and some rentals would not be affected by the bill.

"This is not a legal recourse at present in our state," said Rep. Carol Moore, D-Concord. "This discrimination happens in our state all the time." Moore argued evidence shows homosexuality is determined by a person's genetic makeup, not by his choice. People fear homosexuality because they fail to realize people they know and care for are gay, she said.

"If you have your colleagues, your friends, your seatmates (in the House), the co-sponsors on your bills," she said.

Moore said the bill would not force businesses to extend health insurance coverage to the partners of gays or change existing laws against same-sex marriage.

"This has nothing to do with insurance," she said. "There's nothing in this bill that sanctions homosexual couples."

Opponents argued the bill sanctioned a sinful lifestyle.

Rep. Stephen Adams, R-Concord, also said voters should decide through a constitutional amendment if they want to extend the protections to gays.

"It's important we let people of the state have the final word on the laws that govern them," he said.

Rep. Gary Daniels, R-Milford, said the bill asks people to embrace homosexuality as socially acceptable.

"How can we embrace a set of new ideas primarily responsible for the spread of AIDS in this country?" he said.

CAGLR Second Annual Honors Awards Dinner

On May 17, 1997 CAGLR will host our second annual Honors Awards Dinner at the Center of New Hampshire in Manchester. Once again, it is time to recognize individuals and organizations from the gay and non-gay community who have provided a service, volunteered their time or skills, or had a major impact on improving the quality of life for gay and lesbian people in New Hampshire.

Tickets are now on sale for $25.00 each. Send a check, along with a stamped self-addressed envelope, to CAGLR, P O Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0731. Help us to celebrate our community and thank those who make us proud of it. Black tie is optional.

volunteer opportunities for the women's health consortium

- computer wizard - this job consists of making the computers in our office configure and compatible with each other.
- outreach worker - this job consists of helping to promote our screening clinics and workshops that take place at our women's wellness center through poster campaigns, workshops and other outreach strategies.
- Project volunteer - we always have projects in the works such as helping to upkeep our resource library, graphic design and any new project development.
- Office Support - this job consists of answering phones with information of our programs, assisting in upkeeping our database and doing mailings etc.
- Women's Wellness Center volunteer - we offer an array of programs, workshops etc. at our center and need people to man the office during workshops and/or to facilitate workshops. If you have an expertise you want to share with the community this is a great opportunity to begin and/or expand your work.

If interested in any of these opportunities or to find out more on volunteering, please contact Sheila at 431-1660.

Same-sex marriage bill defeated

A bill aimed at blocking same-sex marriage by defining it as a heterosexual union for the purpose of rearing children was defeated in the New Hampshire House by a vote of 261 to 85. The bill was supported by the head of the NH Christian Coalition as a supplement to the "Defense of Marriage Act." Opponents (including CALGR, the NH ACLU, Family Planning and Planned Parenthood) argued that some heterosexual marriages do not produce children while many gay and lesbian people do, and the state shouldn't define marriage as a breeding program. It was also noted that NH law already prohibits same-sex marriage and that this was simply another occasion for some gay bashing.

Mountain Valley Men

A group of gay men of all ages in northeastern New Hampshire and southwestern Maine who get together for potluck supper meetings at 6:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Center of Hope in Redstone (NH); outdoor activities and meetings are listed in the monthly newsletter; FMI: MVMM, Box 36, Ctr Conway, NH 03813; Paul or David at 207-925-1034; email DFISPALP@AOL.COM.

The AIDS Quilt

The AIDS Quilt is coming to Hanover, NH from May 2nd to the 4th. If you can help with this huge project, please call ACORN at 603-448-2220, or Peter at 603-523-7098.

PANELMAKING WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT THE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 5 SUMMER STREET, HANOVER AT 6:30 PM. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THOM AT 603-632-4145.

Women Helping Women

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

1-800-221-0547

MIDCOAST MAINE GAY MEN'S HELP LINE

COLLECT CALLS ACCEPTED.

Women Helping Women

FOR INFORMATION AND INTERESTED ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE MIDCOAST AREA FOR GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN.
Legislative Update: Gay related legislation looms Large

Washington, D.C. The year started off with a barrage of gay-related activity at state capitals across the country, and the action continues. Nearly 150 gay-related and HIV/AIDS-related measures have been introduced since state sessions began in January according to the latest survey by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). For the second year in a row, marriage measures dominate in number, though activists are taking the offensive in many states with anti-discrimination measures. History may also be made in 1997 where for the first time a statewide pro-gay civil rights initiative may be on the ballot.

"The numbers once again illustrate the most important work being done in the battle for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender equality is being done by activists at the state and local level," stated NGLTF executive director Kerry Lobel.

MARRIAGE:
Approximately 46 bills banning same gender marriage have been introduced in 28 states. This includes two bills pre-filed in Kentucky where there is no 1997 legislative session. In two states, Alabama and New Mexico, any person performing a same-gender marriage ceremony would be fined. As same gender marriage is not legal anywhere in the country, all ceremonies performed are private, not civil, ceremonies. Montana's bill has passed the House and soon will be up for a vote in the full Senate. Four marriage bills passed the full legislature. Those in Mississippi and Arkansas were signed into law, while those in Virginia and North Dakota are awaiting action by the Governor. Virginia's Governor Allen is expected to sign the bill. It is unclear whether the Governor of North Dakota will take, though he has stated he believes the legislation is not currently necessary. Four states - Maryland, New Hampshire, Washington, and Wyoming - defeated their anti-gay marriage measures. In Washington, activists have begun a new chapter in the quest for equality. Last week the group Hands Off Washington kicked off a campaign to put an anti-discrimination measure on the ballot. The measure is similar to the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act. Activists are hoping to gather upwards of 200,000 signatures by July 3 to put the measure on the November ballot.

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP:
At least five measures have been introduced in four states. They remain alive in Hawaii and California, while Colorado and Virginia's bills were defeated. In Colorado, activists are battling a bill that would prohibit University of Colorado regents from extending employee health benefits to the domestic partners of gay and lesbian employees as well. The motivation of the bill's sponsor is not to support the provision of domestic partner benefits, but to undermine such benefits to gay and lesbian employees.

HATE CRIMES:
Hate crime bills that include crimes based on sexual orientation were introduced in at least nine states - Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia. The Virginia and Montana bills are dead. Ironically, New Hampshire, Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia are considering bills that in three recent bombings, including those against a lesbian bar and a women's health clinic, the bill being tied up in committee because it is considered "too controversial." Georgia currently has no hate crimes law.

Legislators in Arkansas and South Carolina, neither of which have a hate crimes law, are considering bills that exclude crimes based on sexual orientation. The Virginia legislature passed a resolution calling for a committee to study hate crimes in the state. Sexual orientation is not listed among the bias crimes to be studied. A number of gay men have been killed in Virginia by a serial killer and last June two lesbians were killed while hiking on the Appalachian trail. The murder has not been solved, and many people fear it may have been a hate crime.

FAMILIES:
In California, a bill is pending to prohibit discrimination on the basis of marital status in state adoptions. In Georgia, a bill strengthening the role of durable power of attorney was introduced. In the absence of marriage rights, the durable power of attorney is an important legal provision for gay and lesbian families.

In Tennessee, activists are fighting a bill that would ban gay and lesbian people from becoming foster parents.

SCHOOLS/CAUCUS:
In California, a bill banning discrimination against gay students in public schools and colleges was introduced. The Dignity for All Students Caucus bill would prohibit bias based on sexual orientation in school employment, curriculum and the treatment of students on campus.

Meanwhile, at least three bills adversely affecting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth were introduced. Two of these measures are what proponents call "marital rights" bills. Such legislation is aimed generally at making it harder for schools to teach children about diversity, including about gays. In Washington state, the bill would explicitly ban the teaching of homosexuality as "positive, normal behavior."

Also in California, a bill that would prohibit the removal or phase out of armed forces recruiters from public university campuses is pending. A few of California's public post-secondary institutions have removed armed forces training units because those programs engage in discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

SODOMY:
Measures to repeal sodomy laws were introduced in Arizona and Virginia. Arizona's bill is still alive, while Virginia's died in committee.

HIV/AIDS:
Numerous bills addressing HIV/AIDS issues have been introduced in at least eight states. The measures range from repealing the compassionate use of medical marijuana to establishing needle exchange programs.

Contact information for state activists and organizations working on legislative issues is available from NGLTF at 202/332-6483. For additional information on the Washington Employment Non-Discrimination ballot initiative, contact Hands Off Washington at 206/353-2-32.

This information was gathered by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force from a variety of sources, including newspaper reports, state activists and organizations, state legislative libraries and other organizations, including the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. Due to the large number of bills introduced, it is virtually impossible for this data to be completely accurate and comprehensive. Individuals with information on legislative activity not in this report should contact NGLTF Field Department at 202/332-6483, extension 3303.
Esduardo Marscal & Dancers

by Angel Castro

Rehearsals began in October of 1995 and by February of 1996 the company had its first performance at the Riverton School in Casco Bay. The company decided to set up their own dance company and trained from childhood the dancer with whom they feel comfortable working. "Many people come and go in and out of Esduardo's dance troop and he admitted though he misses his dancers when they leave he likes seeing and working with new people. It keeps things fresh and he likes the variety of people as well as the variety in styles each one brings to the troop." As he hears the wonderful words of admiration coming from his dancers he breaks in joking: "I paid them fifty dollars to say that." Though after seeing them working together I could not help but feel there was a real love between them. Esduardo is also offering a series of Dance classes located at Casco Bay Movers on Thursday evenings more information can be obtained by calling Casco Bay Movers. I hope to see Esduardo Mariscal & Dancers company and I hope all of you dance art lovers will also. Look for future dates and times in future issues of CPR

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Arts & Entertainment

Caffeine Dreams

By Aimse L. Ponti

Hi. I hope you are all quite well. I myself was headed home from a brief visit to Portland when I got an attack and needed to stop here in Saco and write this article. The truth is, Neill (my new '89 gold Corolla) and I have managed to sneak up here quite a lot and I finally decided I wanted to write again. So here I am and here are my caffeine induced thoughts and observations for what they're worth.

First of all, Kate Schrock just released an album called "Music & Wine." It's amazing and available at local record stores all over Portland. Although now a resident of Chicago, Kate visits often and in fact put on a great performance not along at Roaull's. She is now joined by her brother Nate Schrock who plays bass and guitar as well as local drummer goddess, Ginger Cote. They sound incredible. So check out Shunyata, call your favorite radio station and request to hear it and look for Kate to be playing in the area later this Spring.

And then there's U2. I think I like them again. The new single "Discotheque" from the just released "Pop" album doesn't do it for me but another track does. "Starin' at the Sun" for me captures the essence of the U2 that I used to love. Killer song...

I shouldn't have to remind you of this, but in case you don't have it em-bedded in your brain, the Ellen Morgan factor that was only confirmed when I went to Portland is a sanctuary and a home, a place where old friends of mine, they are wonderful musicians and songwriters. And then on the following night, May 24th they are letting me into the DJ booth to play some Aimez l music. Come down and say hello.

Paula Colle... I heard she played at Roaull's. How cool. I saw her the following week at "The Paradise in Boston. She's is just unbelievable. "This Fire" is an album that you just have to hear to believe. Or perhaps believe to hear. Hey I heard the Indigo Girls are going to be at UNH and then Colby. The new album is called "the Shaming of the Son" and I suspect it will be released soon.

As for myself. Well it's really hard to say. I know I'm going to be back here because there's an emptiness in my soul that is only filled when I am in Maine. God, that was kind of a depressing thing to say. My apologies.

Today, at around noon I got myself a Hazelnut coffee at Green Moun­tain, put on the 10,000 Maniacs album "In My Tribe" and just drove around, delaying my departure as long as I could. Portland is a sanctuary and a home, a fact that was only confirmed when I found myself in Massachusetts sulking on the subway in Boston. Well, dinner with my grandmother awaits down the highway so I'll talk to you later.
The American Family Association would like us all to write three advertisers and let them know just how we feel about "Ellen" coming out and broadcasting her sexual orientation all across America with Diane Sawyer.

LEADING 'ELLEN' ADVERTISERS

It is no secret that ABC/Disney continues to push homosexuality full-throttle. American Family Association has already announced its objection to ABC/Disney television's decision to finally make Ellen DeGeneres' character on her popular prime-time sitcom come out.

ELLEN will become the first in network history to have a homosexual lead character. AFA vice president Tim Wildmon said, "After hyping the media since last September, Disney and ABC have finally decided to scorn the moral sensibilities of millions of Americans. We will be publicizing the advertisers who are willing to push the homosexual agenda.

The April 30 episode will show the main character, Ellen Morgan, coming to grips with her sexual orientation, according to USA TODAY. She discovers that she is attracted to a woman, played by Laura Dern (Jurassic Park), and goes to see a therapist, played by Oprah Winfrey. It was announced today that Diane Sawyer will interview Ellen DeGeneres on ABC/Disney New's Prime Time Live April 23, a week before the actress's sitcom character on "Stay Dr.'s" makes her debut. AFA vice president Dixie J. Townsend said, indicating that the actress will freely discuss her sexuality.

American Family Association has compiled a list of the three leading ELLEN advertisers from January 1 through March 22, 1997. We urge you to contact Disney/ABC and ask them to stop promoting the homosexual agenda. Please ask your friends and family members to pray about this serious issue.


* PRODUCTS: Carefree panty shields, Imodium AD, Johnson's baby products, Monistat 7 feminine products, Mylanta II, Neutrogena skin and hair care products, Pepcid acid controller, Reach toothbrush, Shower to Shower body powder, Stetayfree pads, Tylenol pain medicine.

* Point your browser to: http://www.jnj.com/feedback.htm

* Walt Disney Company/ABC, Chrm. Michael Eisner, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91321, Phone 818/560-1000, FAX 818/560-1930.

* Point your browser to: http://www disney com Mail

* A letter sent to us complaints of the International Lesbian & Gay Association of Pride Co-ordinators their NEW INTERNET ADDRESSES WWW: http://www.interpride.org E-mail: info@interpride.org Read on:

Women in Harmony: an evening of karaoke

Friday April 11, 1997, at 8pm, 45 Dadsford Street, from 8 pm to 11 pm. There is a three dollar cover charge. All proceeds from the door charge are being donated to Women in Harmony courtesy of Sisters. Come join the fun!! This is the second annual karaoke night for the group and hopefully it will be a success.

Women in Harmony is a Portland-based women's chorus in its fourth year, conducted by Sonja Dahlgren-Pyeer, current director of the Rockport Community Chorus of Rockport, MA. For more information, call 878-5981.

Ferron

Ellen's baby products, Johnson's, baby products, Mylanta II, Neutrogena skin and hair care products, Pepcid acid controller, Reach toothbrush, Shower to Shower body powder, Stetayfree pads, Tylenol pain medicine.


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THE TEXAS TRINITY
written and performed by Paul Bonin-Rodríguez
A trilogy of three shows that chronicle the coming of age of a gay man in a small Texas town. Paul Bonin-Rodríguez has been touring his trilogy of shows to venues including the Joseph Papp Public Theatre in New York and the O'Solo Mic Festival in San Francisco since they were created in the early 1990s.
April 17 - Talk of the Town
April 18 - The Bible Belt and Other Accessories
April 19 - Love in the Time of College

YOU'RE JUST LIKE MY FATHER
written and performed by Peggy Shaw
Performer Peggy Shaw is the co-founder of the acclaimed Split Britches lesbian theatre collective who have toured Europe and North America for the past twenty years. Her one-woman autobiographical show uses simple costume pieces that belonged to her father to explore the nature of her masculine side and its relationship to her sexuality.

skin & ornaments
written and performed by Craig Hickman
Boston-based Craig Hickman is a hot new African-American poet and performer. His lyrical piece uses poetry, monologue, African and jazz dance/movement, and storytelling to explore gender, sexuality, race and relationships.

Local Singer/Songwriter Lynne Deeves Has Only One Way to Go: UP

Picture it -No, not Sicily. Yet another bitterly cold 'spring' night in Maine. Ya, you say, tell us something we don't already know. The place - Raoul's Roadside Attraction, Portland, March 17. The house was slammed with people. At 8:00 p.m., local singer/songwriter Lynne Deeves took the stage. Looking relaxed in tie-die purple overalls, she was at ease with the crowd, and they with her. From the back of the smokey room, muted white spotlights cast a soft glow on her and bassist, Victor Leclair. With a quick smile and a few teasing words, Lynne kicked off the evening as the opening act for Canadian born Folk Singer, Ferron.

For the uninitiated, Lynne's musical style could best be described as a quasi-aeousical combination of Melissa Etheridge meets Bonnie Raitt and they have lunch with the Indigo Girls. But once out of the gate, the Lynne's comparison to others soon faded as she performed her own music from her new CD Connecting the Dots.

Just before going on stage I had a chance to sit down with Lynne. She told me she felt, "very honored for the opportunity to open for Ferron." For those of you who don't know, up until two years ago Lynne was schlepping her way into Top 40's oblivion. After what she called, "a life altering car accident," her priorities changed and she began separating things in her life into categories: good, bad and ugly. In the end she was left with a clearer perspective, a spiritual openness to life, and...her music.

In keeping with her new found passion, one of the evenings crystallizing moments came when Lynne delivered an especially strong rendition of Fear Is Their God, which spoke to the anti-discrimination campaign run by Maine Won't Discriminate. Here Lynne proved that, unlike most, she could travel that political line without falling prey to preachy-nose or sentimentality.

Midway through her performance Lynne told the audience a 'fabulous prize' would be given to the first person to answer a Ferron-trivia question at the end of her set. She lived up to her word, and the lucky winner walked away with a chi-chi poo-poo travel kit which included everything but a suave valet tucked neatly inside.

During the approximately 45-five minute set, the strength of Lynne's voice, her enthusiasm and her original upbeat lyrics shone through. Her songs were personal, and by the look of the audience, transcended gender. And the connective themes woven throughout her performance: prioritizing one's life, the insanity of discrimination, and finding real love were universals shared by the entire audience.

One of the most intimate moments came at the end of the evening when Lynne shared a song she'd written as a gift for her partner of ten years.

Lynne Deeves has a voice we all wish we'd been blessed with and the lyric writing talent to back it up. Listening to her CD is a pleasure, seeing her live is something that should not be missed.

The night's performance was a milestone and gave Lynne a chance to showcase her quite obvious talent, adding another giant step to a very successful personal and artistic journey.

Lynne's next performance will be May 24, at Raoul's Roadside Attraction, where she will open for Disappear Fear. On June 21, she will be performing at the Gay Pride celebration in Deering Oaks (time has yet to be determined). Her new CD, Connecting the Dots is available at Bull Moose, MacBeans's, The Music Gallery, Wild Rufus and Good Vibrations.
The Cult of Ani

By Aimee L. Ponti

Ani DiFranco continues to burst at the seams with her folk-punk-rock music and her feet remain firmly planted in the soil of independent music. She's been on the cover of Ms. Magazine and I've seen clips on her all over the place. Some loyal fans are getting upset at the sight of her in a bob haircut. I, for one, am happy to see that she's rate-free stance in the music industry. Some people feel that she has sold out, but I think it's all in good faith. I myself only truly understood this album is highly anticipated when I saw her perform in Lewiston, Maine. I'm sure she made the cult of Ani after seeing her perform "Squid" on April 22nd. Although fans have been trading her live tapes with a Grateful Dead fervor for some time now, this album is highly anticipated as it is her live show that captures her true essence. I myself only truly understood the cult of Ani after seeing her perform live. At her recent performance at Bates College in Lewiston, I'm sure she made believers out of a new slew of people.

Ani show is in many ways a musical rite of passage. Her performance is a mixture of raw passion, hitting humor and guitar insanity. With a voice that could charm a madman and lyrics that are like angst-ridden poetry, the audience can learn a thing or two about themselves.

When a raging storm like Ani plays for you she loves songs of protest, love, self-discovery and despair is bound to seep into your soul, like it or not. Okay, so I saw the woman live on March 16th in Lewiston Bates College Gym. She still has her fans, however, joyfully bashing me not in the Bates College Gym. Maybe I'm just plain getting old, but I hate standing during a show. Such was the case at this particular show. Besides having to stand in a cavernous space, the sound system left much to be desired. There is no blame to place anywhere, so I won't. And I certainly don't hold it against Ani or her band, but let's face it, gyms are for basketball and stuff like that. I like a good theater say for example...The State Theater...Oh, is that still a touchy subject? But keep in mind I'm not a local girl anymore.

Anyway the sound system stank, but it was evident that the mostly twenty and under crowd didn't mind the acoustics and a good time was had by all. Ani served up a fine mix of songs including "Shameless", "Shy", "Cradle and All" and others, she also performed some new ones.

Although I can't recall it's title, one of her new songs was particularly well penned and seemed to be a peace offering as well as a rebuttal to those fans who have questioned her actions of late. The woman just wants to do her thing, she said, "Let her! Wacky hair and all.

One last note: My vote for the two best songs (By Anyone) from 1996 are "Dialate" and "Untouchable Face".

Iphigenia

by Angel Castro

A contemporary version of an old Greek story as seen through the eyes of the women involved.

The dialogue was well written, strong and it times disturbing in it's ironic presentation. Many of the performances were very well done.

 Clytemnestra portrayed by Jane Nichols, mother of Iphigenia was very convincing as the once sweet and loving mother concerned with the fate of her beloved Electra, turned bitter and cruelly cled her after her daughter was killed in sacrifice by the hand of her husband.

 Electra portrayed by Irene McDowell was superb as the second sister. The butt of her mother cruel bitter words and misappropriated wrath, she gave as good as she got from her mother. A tortured and dark soul she waits for her long lost brother to return from the war to kill their mother. Bravo Irene I'll keep my eyes open for you.

Chrysothemis portrayed by Babo Harrisone was another daughter. In very contrast to her sister Electra she seemed outwardly oblivious and in her garden attempted to disassociate herself from the bitter verbal battles between her mother and sister.

Her light "Oh well" attitude was thought shadowed by the angry dialogue surrounding her in her one refuge the garden, Babo's character came to life in a way I had not expected...

Enter the brother; Orestes portrayed by Hamish Linklater was another very good performer. Returning from the war though unwilling to fulfill his destiny of patricide, but Electra was determined though herself not able to commit this crime against nature forces her brother to finish their mother off. She exists the stage with his mother then shortly returns bloodied and dazed, it is evident that the mostly twenty and under crowd didn't mind the acoustics and a good time was had by all.

The only performance which was a disappointment was that of Iphigenia portrayed by Alicia Goranson. She seemed stiff and unemotional for the most part and when a scene called for deep emotion she seemed to go over the top.

To end I have to say one small actor with one small part caught my attention. Sarah "Squid" Lord who played the statue of Artemis was an absolute standout. She was not only visually expressive but verbally just as expressive, she showed a great deal of articulation and talent. Watch out for this little "Squid", she has a special spark! Best of luck to all. I'll be watching.

Lloyd's Prayer

by Kevin Kling

March 26, 1997 (PORTLAND, ME) Mad Horse Theatre Company continues its enormously successful 1996-97 season with an outrageous comedy about a con man, an angel and a boy raised by raccoons Be Aimee L. Ponti.

Mad Horse Theatre Company proudly presents for the seventh season of our esteemed patrons Lloyd's Prayer in a limited engagement featuring Bobaloo the Beast Boy of Borneo! See the Half Horse, Hal Racoon child rescued from the Wildcats of the East by the Rev. Lloyd P. Jones. Bobaloo has hair covering 95% of his body, that's 95% of his body. In addition to our main attraction see four of the seven plagues of Ancient Egypt The Wall of Fire, the Wall of Locusts, the Wall of Blood and the Wall of Pestilence! Live on stage experience THE WRATH OF JEHovah! All of which you can witness in the perfect safety and comfort of our main theatre. And there's more, much more! Meet Popey the Human Carp with scales over 95% that's 95% of his body. Caught off the shores of Tanzania by the Rev. Lloyd P. Jones, Popey is Half Man, Half Fish and ALL LIVING! And after the show make sure you stop by Lloyd's Holy World for Great Savings on all your religious needs. Don't Walk to see Lloyd's "ayer, A Comedy at Mad Horse Theatre Company, Saving YOU since 1986.

"Lloyd's Prayer is one of the funniest, life affirming plays that I've ever seen. Kevin Kling is a marvelously inventive and theatrical playwright who creates a world that is part Avenue Q, part revival meeting and part Kafka says director Andrew Sokoloff. "It's a world where miracles happen as a matter of course, where the divine is an active part of life. But what is truly miraculous in the play is the redemptive power of love and the journey we take to become human.

The cast of Lloyd's Prayer includes Mad Horse Company members Michael Howard and J.D. Murriel and Guest Artists Susan Doran and Raulia Tieuon. Production designers include Mad Horse Company members Tom Fauz (sound), Joan Sand (lighting) and Susan Pienick (costumes). Mad Horse Associate Director Andrew Sokoloff directs the production. Guest designers include lighting designer Joseph Furul who designed A Funnny Thing Happened in the Year to the Canary last fall for Mad Horse. Frequent Guest Artist Christopher Pepe, who has appeared in Longfellow, the Man or the Wall of Fire, Popey the Human Carp and ALL LIVING! is at it again as Mad Horse's Costume designer Patrick Duffy, who works is regularly seen at the Old Street Theater, makes his Mad Horse debut.

Lloyd's Prayer

April 10-May 4, 1997

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Thur 4/24 Scarborough Public Library call 885-4721

Mad Horse Theatre is a multi-arts 129 seat located at 955 Forest Ave in Portland ME. The physical nature of the building guarantees "a bad seat in the house". Mad Horse is Maine's only resident en-vue theatre and is celebrating its 10th Anniversary Season. Mad Horse Theatre Company is a register Non-Profit 501 (c)3 organization.

For further information and reservations please call 797-3338.
An evening with Peter Schickele

by Rose Marie Denmen

Do you have to be a member of the "Over Forty" crowd to know who Peter Schickele is? Since attending the event entitled "AN EVENING WITH PETER SCHICKELE" on Friday, March 7th, I've asked several of my class students, and it seemed that if there was no gray in their hair, they had no idea if Peter Schickele was animal, vegetable or mineral! Oh well, I think I'm getting used to dating myself.

Anyway it was Friday. I had seen the ad for this event for a couple of weeks ... but I wasn't sure I would have either the time or the energy to go ... so I waited until the last minute before calling the CPR office.

"Hello, Angel ... can you work a miracle for me?" fifteen minutes later, Angel called me back to say she had wrangled two complimentary tickets for me to attend the event at the new and improved "Merrill Auditorium" also known as the City Hall Auditorium. I'd been a fan of Peter Schickele for about fifteen years, listening to him make-up or something. There's only a piano on the stage and a podium a bit off to the side and I'm sitting there feeling really posh in our second row center front balcony seats, while at the same time thinking he would not be doing PDQ BACH. I'm still thinking ... "PDQ BACH? Where's Schubert?" Even Susan seems to be enjoying herself. We finally got to the end of the evening, great, I can take Susan home and then drive to my own house to get into my own little bed, which is what I've been thinking of for over an hour now! "So, Susan, did you enjoy the evening?" Here was the real lesson of the evening for me "Yes, I really did."

I didn't give any hint of what he was going to do, so I had no expectations. He was funny, and I saw a very gentle and full hearted man share stories about his daughter going off to camp, walking his son to school, and singing an anniversary song to his wife. "Now there's the rub ... NO EXPECTATIONS!" This was not the first time I had ruined an evening for myself because of expectations. Next time I'll try to remember this lesson.

"Who?" And, by the way Peter Schickele was doing a whole day-long workshop on Schubert the next day. A friend of mine said it was really wonderful.

Above and Beyond

Fresh on the heels of the success of their first special even (Suzanne Westenhoefer at the State Street Church), Richard Lawler of Above and Beyond says that they are finalizing details for "A Gala Night of Comedy" starring Kate Clinton.

The Friday June 13 event will take place at the Southern Maine Technical College in Portland. Presented in conjunction with Symposium XXIII, proceeds will benefit the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance. Plans call for the gymnasium floor to be converted into a giant cabaret with additional bleacher seating to accommodate "everyone and anyone who wants to be part of a giant, laugh-filled celebration ..."

"Funny Gay Male" Bob Smith is also scheduled to be on the evening's lineup.

For information on Super Supporter Cabaret Tables (in support of ML/GPA) and/or General Admission seating, call 207-773-6974. A limited number of high profile sponsorship opportunities are also available. Call 1-800-55-MLGPA for details.

The Super Supporter Cabaret Tables of 4 can be reserved now. General Admission tickets are scheduled to go on sale after April 15.

"Scattered Scapes" at Coffee by Design

Portland artist Cindy Mackay made Maine her home when she moved in 1980 to pursue a BFA in painting from Maine College of Art. Since graduation, she has taught art part-time at both pre-school and high school levels, and continues to paint. Her subject matter consists of light and color, the intent being to create a familiar, sometimes surreal quality for the viewer. Her work has been shown throughout Maine at Hobe Sound Gallery, Dead Space Gallery and West Side Cafe in Portland, Fox Island Gallery in North Haven, Viale Paroli Gallery in Kennebunkport, and the Artmisan Gallery in Belfast. She was selected to create a billboard for the Maine Arts Festival in 1996.

Coffee by Design, a specialty coffeehouse, features the work of Maine artists. The coffeehouse is located at 620 Congress Street, near the Portland Museum of Art. Hours are Mon - Fri 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more information, please call 772-5533.
Land, Inc. is pleased to announce the first annual Alice Austen-Gertrude Tate Photography Contest and Juried Exhibition offering a first prize of $1,000. All photographers are encouraged to enter. The theme of this year’s photography contest is gay relationships - friends, families, lovers. The deadline for entries is April 30, 1997. The exhibition will open in June in observance of Gay Pride Month on Staten Island, NY. Alice Austen (1866-1952) was one of this country’s first women photographers to record the people, places and events of her time as they really were. She took pictures with a passion, creating one of the finest photographic records of turn-of-the-century American life. She is represented in the collections of The Library of Congress, The New York City Public Library, the Staten Island Historical Society and the Alice Austen House Museum.

Openly gay city council member Tom Duane commented, "I applaud the highly positive and creative manner in which Lambda has chosen to celebrate the loving 55-year relationship of Alice Austen and Gertrude Tate on the centennial of their first meeting. (The contest) ... is a tribute not only to these two incredible women, but also to the borough of Staten Island.

The contest and exhibition are intended to encourage creativity, and the art and communicative power of photography. In addition, the contest and exhibition seek to promote understanding and interaction between the gay and straight community by breaking down stereotypes and providing positive role models, especially for young people, both gay and straight.

To enter, photographers must submit at least three photographs, but no more than six; photographs must be no smaller than 8” x 10” and no larger than 16” x 20”. All photographs must be submitted together in a single package, mounted but not framed. The back of each mounting should indicate the photographer’s name, address, telephone number, the title or subject of the photograph, and an optional sentence about the subject or the photographic process. Submissions must include a non-refundable entry fee of $5.00 per-person made out to Lambda Associates of Staten Island, postmarked by April 30, and mailed to Photo Contest, Lambda Associates of Staten Island, PO Box 140665, Staten Island, NY 10314-0010. For more information, call the Lambda Line at 718-876-8786.

Entries will be judged by a panel of three professional photographers and/or celebrity judges. From among all the entries photographs will be selected by the panel of judges for public viewing at an exhibition to be held in June on Staten Island. (Those photographs selected by the judges must then be suitably framed by the photographer subject to approval by the contest committee and returned to Lambda Associates of Staten Island by May 28.) The prize winners will be selected by the judges from those photographers whose works are selected for the exhibition. The winners will be announced at the exhibition opening in early June.

Lambda Associates was formed in 1982 to serve the social, cultural and educational needs of Staten Island’s gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. Lambda provides a safe, comfortable environment for gay men and lesbians to meet, share common interests and work for the betterment of the community.

Washington, D.C. - Sheila Kuehl, speaker pro tem of the California State Assembly, will deliver the first keynote address of the Tenth Annual Creating Change Conference on Thursday evening, November 13, 1997 in San Diego. Creating Change is the preeminent national gathering for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender political movement. Pre-conference institutes and trainings will be held November 12 and 13, with the core conference opening on the evening of November 13 and running through mid-day Sunday, November 16. All events during this tenth annual national conference are sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Bay in downtown San Diego.

Kuehl, one of the Golden State’s foremost political pioneers, became the first woman and first lesbian to hold the office of speaker pro tem, after only two years in the Assembly. Kuehl’s long career in public life spans her years as Zelda Gilroy on the “Dobie Gillis Show” and her work as an attorney and law professor in Southern California. Now, as a nationally watched pacesetter in California, Kuehl urges others to run for office, saying, “In a representative government we have to have representative people.”

Attendees at the Tenth Annual Creating Change Conference choose from over 80 workshops and small group sessions designed to enhance the confidence and skills of activists and organizers who work at the local and state levels. Topics will include: freedom to marry, media activism, sex and gender identity, youth organizing, anti-violence, workplace organizing, public speaking, organizational development, campus organizing, leadership skills, legislative lobbying, and current hot topics and trends in the movement.

Discounted registration rates are in effect until April 15, 1997. For more information or to receive a Creating Change 1997 brochure, call 202/332-6483, ext. 3329, or visit the NGLTF web site at http://www.nglif.org/cc/7. To reserve a room at the Holiday Inn on the Bay, call 1-800-877-8920. Mention the NGLTF Creating Change Conference for the conference rate of $99.95 single/double; or $109.95 triple or quad. Creating Change is a registered trademark of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. NGLTF is a progressive organization that has supported grassroots organizing and pioneered 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.

Community Pride Reporter April 1997 Page 13

Political pioneer Sheila Kuel to kick off tenth annual Creatint Change Conference

Washington, D.C. - Sheila Kuehl, speaker pro tem of the California State Assembly, will deliver the first keynote address of the Tenth Annual Creating Change Conference on Thursday evening, November 13, 1997 in San Diego. Creating Change is the preeminent national gathering for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender political movement. Pre-conference institutes and trainings will be held November 12 and 13, with the core conference opening on the evening of November 13 and running through mid-day Sunday, November 16. All events during this tenth annual national conference are sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Bay in downtown San Diego.

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The End of AIDS? Not Exactly

Airline Commended for commitment to the American way

Washington, DC The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) commends American Airlines for its commitment to quality service for all customers, including gays and lesbians, and urges activists around the country to stand up for the American way.

The airline company has come under attack by Radical Right groups like the Family Research Council and Concerned Women for America because of its sponsorship of gay pride events as well as its support of several gay organizations. The conservative groups label the airline company's friendliness as an open endorsement of homosexuality. For the past several days, the airline's switchboards have been deluged with callers demanding that American put an end to its gay-friendly policies. Radical Right leaders have also blasted the carrier for going beyond "mere tolerance" for gays and lesbians, in a letter to airline executives.

"Our community has got to show our allies that we stand behind them when they're on the battlefield," said Kerry Lobel, Task Force Executive Director. "American Airlines is a major sponsor of many national gay organizations like NGLTF. This company offers discounted fares to those traveling to many gay-sponsored events around the country. American is also the first airline to adopt a written non-discrimination in employment policy that covers sexual orientation.

"We need more major companies and industry leaders to come out for fair and equitable treatment of all," Lobel stated. "If we don't show support for these companies, that level of funding that will accelerate medical breakthroughs; and a national commitment to health care access for everyone."

The pious intoning of phrases like "the end of AIDS" won't get us there. Political mobilization and moral courage will.

Dr. John D'Emilio is a noted historian and author. His works include Making Trouble: Essays on Gay History, Politics and the University (Routledge, 1992), Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States, 1940-1970 (University of Chicago Press, 1983), and he is the co-author of Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America (Harper and Row, 1986). He is currently working on a biography of the late Bayard Rustin.
Our names are Dominic and Pimpa Ellison, the most recent owners of Portland Hot Tubs. This letter is in response to Paul Jacobs and David Swanders complaints about our establishment. Unfortunately, they made a few mistakes in relating the event that took place that day, as well as an error in interpreting the reason that it occurred.

Mistake #1: They were not refused a hot tub, nor will they ever be. They were nächsten refused the full value of their certificate ($25.00) in exchange for the hour that they had reserved using Paul's credit card. They chose not to take the tub, for which we required another $20.00.

Mistake #2: When they refused to honor the gift certificate or they would have been informed of our policy (at that time) concerning all gift certificates over one year old and that the "expires one year from this date" mark on them. Our policy was to move towards the purchase of a new tub, or a new gift certificate. This policy was posted on the wall of the waiting room.

Mistake #3: This policy is not illegal since Portland Hot Tubs is a DBA for a new company that purchased the complete assets of the old business. In this case, our lawyer informs us, we do not inherit the debts of the old Portland Hot Tubs, but none of the business before that. The Tub Shop therefore, we are not legally responsible for any of the old gift certificates still out there.

On top of that, we are not even legally responsible for any debts before September 1996; however, since that time, we have accepted several hundred gift certificates for which we were never compensated and have thus lost any restrictions whatsoever.

Apart from legal responsibility, the issue of standard business practices is considered. We asked several business owners in the area what would have been the acceptable thing to do concerning all of these old gift certificates for which we had received no compensation—and their response was that we should impose a limit of some sorts. We did so—we thought it was a fair one, since $10.00 is about the extent of their profit margin when we make on renting our tubs for just one hour. In other words, we forego all profit, but our expenses are paid by giving the $10.00 for an old gift certificate.

Mistake #4: We never yelled at the Attorney-General's Office, Casco Bay Weekly, Maine Times, Voice of the People, BBB, Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, WPXT/Fox 51, WMTW, Forecaster Newspaper, WCHS-TV, Suburban News, American Journal, City Manager's Office of the City of Portland, our landlord, and last but not least, the Internet.

We are not unsympathetic to people with financial problems who wish to use our tubs. There are many people who have received free tubs or discounts because they asked nicely. However, Paul and David tried to force us to give them a free tub by declaring that they would slander and libel us if we didn't. What would you have done?

I apologize for this being such a long letter about a matter that you probably consider unimportant. Yet there is one thing left that we consider to be the offensive in their letter: They interpret our refusal of their gift certificate to be possibly homophobic. To put it simply: there are members in both my wife's and my immediate families who are not only members of the Gay Community, but are politically active. One example is my sister Genevieve, who was the parade marshal for the 15th annual North Hampton Gay/Lesbian Pride March in Massachusetts just last year. As well, my family has many friends in the Community and welcomes the Community to the use of Portland Hot Tubs without complaint. We have dealt with and many members of the Community in to use our tubs and we are sure that they will act as good references if you need them.

Thank you for your patience Dominic and Pimpa Ellison ps Our new policy concerning old gift certificates is to receive them at full value, but only Monday thru Wednesday.

Mistakes:

Mistake #6: Paul stated at that time that he had lost the gift certificate. We did get angry with however, in his letter he states that they tried to use it last year for a reservation on Valentine's Day but when they found that it was all booked up. Perhaps he lost it twice?

Mistake #7: Threatening us loudly in the waiting room! Paul loudly said something like "You know, I don't want to threaten you or anything but I know lots of people that I can contact in the media about this." This sounded a lot like a threat to me, and as we proceed recallant, he obviously made good on it. Following is a list of all of the organizations or persons that received copies of the letter: at least as far as we know:

The Cape Courier, Maine Community Foundation, WGME-TV, Maine Public Broadcasting, Casco Bay Weekly, Maine Times, Voice of the People, BBB, Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, WPXT/Fox 51, WMTW, Forecaster Newspaper, WCHS-TV, Suburban News, American Journal, City Manager's Office of the City of Portland, our landlord, and last but not least, the Internet.

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CPR MAIL BAG: Portland Hot Tubs

Our Mission

Community Pride Reporter serves as a source of local, state, national and international news and opinion and 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 adapting 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, personal and political, expressed in Community Pride Reporter are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the publisher. Community Pride Reporter may enforce deadlines if we feel reporter our community most completely.

Community Pride Reporter disclaims legal responsibility for any 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

Community Pride Reporter 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. Illustrations and photographs composed submissions may be considered for a guest editor at the Publisher's discretion. However, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of the author for any reason. Questions regarding submissions should be directed to the publishing editor.

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Commnunity Pride Resources

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings:

Connor: Meets 1st Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington, NH. Main Street, at 1st Congregational Church, 345 Broadway, Portland, ME 04101. Call 207-564-1915.

Families, Parents, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

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

New England P-FLAG Meetings:

Concord: Meets 1st Sunday from 7-9 pm at Strawbridge Community Church, East Falmouth, MA. 16-18 Main St., Use entrance off Deering St. FMI call 207-879-1037.

Portland: Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St Portland, 207-774-1535 or 207-774-3411.


Lewiston/Auburn: Meets last Sunday of the month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 7-9 pm. FMI call 207-338-5702.

Belfast: Weekly meetings, 9A Main St, 2nd floor (above Jax & Doc). Group meeting every Wednesday, 6:15 pm. Women’s Spirituality Gathering, Mondays 7-9 pm. FMI call 207-338-5702.

NA: Just for Today

Identities

Exeter Congregational Church

United Church of Christ in Exeter, NH has adopted an Open and Affirming statement and welcomes all God’s children to worship, Sundays 10:30 am. FMI call 207-774-9029.

Southern Maine Lesbian & Gay Catholic

The organization DignityMaine offers support Masses for LGBTQ Catholics & their families. Meets every Saturday at 4:00 PM at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI call 207-774-5025.

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 Sundays at 6:00 PM at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland, ME. FMI call 207-774-5025.

Maine Gay Men’s Support Group

Meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. FMI call 207-774-9029.

Maine Lesbian/ Bisexual Support Group

Meets every 1st Friday at 11 am at Davis Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, 156 High St., Portland. FMI call 207-774-9029.

Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group

Meets every 1st Friday at 11 am at Davis Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, 156 High St., Portland. FMI call 207-774-9029.

LGBTQ Support Group

Meets the 3rd or 4th Sunday of each month at 3:30 PM at the YMCA, 80 Water St., Portland. FMI call 207-774-9029.

Out in Maine

Lesbian/Gay Support Group welcomes any of the month 8:00 pm In the process of becoming pregnant or adopting. FMI call 207-774-9029.

Out and About

A lesbian support and educational group, meets monthly. Monthly meetings on the Wednesday of the 23rd day of the month. 7:00 pm.

Out of Gays

Lesbian/Gay Support Group, Meets 1st & 3rd Fridays 7:30-9:00 pm, in the downtown clubhouse of your choice. 87 Spring St. Fr. donation. FMI call 207-287-1037.

Am Celebr6

A Maine Lesbian/Gay support group, meets monthly, FMI call 207-883-6404.

Bisexuality

Bisexuality is an orientation to be attracted emotionally and physically to both women and men. It is an identity that is distinct from, and does not include, homosexuality or heterosexuality. Bisexual individuals have experienced attraction to more than one gender and have had relationships with both men and women. They may identify themselves as bisexual, which means they have a sexual orientation that attracts them sexually and emotionally to both men and women. Bisexual people are not inherently more likely to be sexually active than individuals who identify as gay, lesbian, or straight. However, bisexual individuals may experience a greater degree of internalized oppression than their gay, lesbian, or straight counterparts, which can lead to feelings of isolation, rejection, and discrimination. Bisexual individuals may also experience discrimination from both gay and straight communities, which can contribute to their sense of marginalization and alienation.

Sexuality

Sexuality is a complex and multifaceted aspect of human experience, encompassing sexual attraction, behavior, identity, and personal and social relationships. Sexuality is shaped by a variety of factors, including biological, psychological, social, and cultural influences. Understanding sexuality requires recognizing the diversity of human experience and the complexity of the relationships between biological, psychological, social, and cultural factors.性別

性別是人類經驗的複雜多面向，包括性吸引、行為、身份，以及個人及社會關係。性別受多種因素影響，包括生物、心理、社會和文化。理解性別需要認識人類經驗的多樣性和關係的複雜性。
OUTRIGHT
Banger: Fridays 5:00-7:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, Park St., behind City Hall in Bangor. FMI call 207-990-3590.
Central Maine: Weekly confidential meetings for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and younger. Meetings are Monday nights at 7:00-8:00 p.m. at 1-800-339-4042.

HIV Support Meetings
Portland: Mondays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Portland AIDS Network, 622 Congress St., Portland, ME 04103.

MUSIC & ART
Women in Harmony
an eclectic choral ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Open to anyone from becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send email to WIM/Choral 
Harmony to W.O.W. (Women's Organization for Wellness) Box 367, Southwest MDI, Southwest Harbor, ME 04654.

Social Groups
Maine: This group is for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and younger. Meetings are Monday nights at 7:00-8:00 p.m. at 1-800-339-4042.

SPECIALIZED GROUPS
Community Pride: Meet the third Wednesday of every month, 7-9 pm at Bar Harbor, ME. FMI call 206-645-2645.

Women's Groups: Meet the second Saturday of each month, 10-12 noon at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 262 Park St., Portland, ME. Call 207-873-5601 for information.

 Cannabis: Meet monthly at the office of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, 870 Park St., Portland, ME 04101.

OutRIGHT: Founded in 1977, OutRIGHT is a community support group for gay men, lesbian, & questioning young people in Maine. FMI call 207-774-5402.
April Calendar of Events

March 13 - April 27
Cindy Mazzick’s “Scattered Scenes” on view at Coffee By Design, 620 Congress St., Portland ME. FMI (207)772-9600

March 15 - April 12 (Saturdays)
1 PM: Seafront Repertory Theatre presents “The Wedding Singer,” 500 Main St., Brunswick ME. FMI (207)725-5515

March 20 - April 6
“Pushing Through” at Oak Street Theatre, 72 Oak St., Portland ME. FMI (207)775-5103

April 2 - 8
“La Cerimonia” at The Movies, 10 Exchange St., Portland ME. FMI (207)772-9600

April 2 - May 7 - 9 PM
McNiff Working with John Cole. Wednesdays at Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick ME. To register (207)729-6333

April 3 - 20
“The Glass Menagerie” at Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave., Portland ME. FMI (207)774-4472

April 5
National Maritonne Theatre presents “Peter Pan” at Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, 119 Ocean St., Lewiston ME. FMI (800)639-2919 or (207)762-7728

April 5 - 8 - 4 PM

April 5
YWCA Susan B. Anthony Celebration, Holiday Inn Centre of Manchester NH. FMI (603)625-5785

April 7 - 6:30 - 8:30 PM
“How to Write Successful Query Letters” with Ken Testor at Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick ME. FMI (207)729-6333 (class also meets on April 14).

April 8 - 7:8-30PM
“Connections,” a support group for caregivers, parents, friends and family—all those whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS. holds its monthly meeting at the Exeter Congregational Church, 18 Front St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)772-6221 or (603)436-8963

April 9 - 9:30 AM - noon
Women’s General Support Group, facilitated by Louise Buck-Bacon at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 10 - 7:30-9:00 PM
Mattovich Society presents Wendy Chapkis (Asst. Prof. of Sociology and Women’s Studies [ISSM]) reads from her books “Live Sex Acts: Women Performing Erotic Labor and “Beauty Secrets: Women and the Politics of Appearance.” Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME. Book signing to follow at Drop Me A Line, 611 Congress St. FMI (207)761-4380

April 11 - 8-11 PM
Women in Harmony presents an evening of kareoke at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., Portland ME. $3 cover charge—all proceeds at the door go to Women’s Harmony, FMI (207)788-5981

April 12 - 2:30 PM
Workshop: Balancing the Chakras Through Tuning. An Amelia’s Event. Potluck at 5:30 PM (call Peggy at 229-3484)

April 12 - 9 -11 AM
Women Centered Spirituality, with Penelope Morrow, witch and feminist theologian, at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669. Bring a pillow.

April 12
An evening of lesbian theatre—Boston MA. Attending with Women Meeting Women. FMI (203)382-6148

April 12 - 7:30 PM
Spring Fling Women’s Dance at the Horseshoe Fish and Game Club. Nashua NH. FMI (603)647-0610

April 12 - 8 PM
Indigo Girls at Whittemore Center, UNH. Tickets through Tickemaster (617)931-2030

April 12 - 7 PM
Maine Women’s and Publisher’s Alliance celebrates National Poem Month with two nationally known poets in an evening of poetry and jazz at Jewett Hall, UM Augusta. FMI (207)725-6333

April 12 - 5 PM (M), 6PM (F)
Spring Barbecue in New Sweden with Northern Lambda Nord. Bring something to throw on the grill, your beverage, and a dish to share. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088

April 13 - 9 AM - 1 PM

April 14 - 6-30 PM
Assistant Attorney General Steven Wessler speaks on “Safer Maine Schools: Monitoring Bias Crimes” at GLSTN-Southern Maine meeting at Waynflete School Library, 34 Emery St., Portland ME. FMI (207)773-9547

April 14 - 6 PM
Reading Rainbow NH. FMI (603)641-1606

April 14 - 7-8PM
“Swingers” at The Movies, 10 Exchange St., Portland ME. FMI (207)772-9600

April 15 - 9:30 AM - noon
Women’s General Support Group, facilitated by Louise Buck-Bacon at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 16 - 5:30-7:30 PM
Maine Speak Out Project Cumberland County meeting. See newsletter for meeting site or call Janis (Cumberland County Coordinator) at (207)846-5323 or Speak Out office (207)879-0480 FMI.

April 16 - 9:30 AM - noon
Women’s General Support Group, facilitated by Louise Buck-Bacon at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 16 - 7 PM
Carlton Pride Night at the Franciscan Center (a ministry of the Compassion Center, a gay-friendly Catholic group), 141 Canal St., Nashua NH. FMI (603)588-8740. Bring notebook and pen.

April 17 - 4-6 PM
Women’s General Support Group, facilitated by Louise Buck-Bacon at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 17 - 6:30-8:30 PM
How to Navigate Managed Care with Charlotte Sprague, RN at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 18 - 1-3PM
One-house—refreshments and information—at the Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 18 - 4-6 PM
Women’s General Support Group, facilitated by Louise Buck-Bacon at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

April 19 - 6-8 PM
Gulf of Maine Books and Sexual Assault Support Services Midcoast Maine present Frances Driscoll reading from her new book “The Rape Poems” at Gulf of Maine Books, 134 Maine St, Brunswick ME. FMI (207)729-5083

April 19
Community Day at Aroostook Centre the mall in Presque Isle—volunteers needed to staff this service. $40 fee includes all. FMI call (207)774-5099

April 19 - 3:30 PM
Gulf of Maine Books and Sexual Assault Support Services Midcoast Maine present Frances Driscoll reading from her new book “The Rape Poems” at Gulf of Maine Books, 134 Maine St, Brunswick ME. FMI (207)729-5083

April 19 (It’s Earth Day 1997!)
10 AM - 5 PM
Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine holds the HOPE (Help Organize Peace Earthwide) Festival at the Brewer Auditorium, Brewer ME. Free activities for the entire family, including performances by the House Family. FMI (207)942-9343

April 23 - 9-30 AM - noon
Women’s General Support Group, facilitated by Louise Buck-Bacon at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portland ME. FMI (207)772-9600

April 24 - 7-9 PM
Matlovich Society Annual Meeting and viewing of video “Last Call at Maude’s.” Note that start time is half-hour earlier than usual. Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland ME. FMI (207)761-4380

April 26 - 1 PM
Cabaret—an evening of poetry, storytelling, song and laughter—to benefit the NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. Tickets $10 in advance, $12 at the door. 400 Commercial St., Conference Center. FMI call at Tracey (207)224-8893

April 26 - 7 PM
Take Back the Night Rally and March. Sponsored by the Southern Maine Volunteer Services of Southern Maine and The Family Crisis Shelter. Monument Square, Portland ME. FMI call Anne Marie (207)799-9020

April 26 - 9 PM
Mike Mount, Woodstock VT. An Amelia’s Event. Potluck at 5 PM. FMI call (902)927-2590

April 27
Women Meeting Women “ SIGNS of Spring” Spring Barbecue in New Sweden, bring your snacks, soft drink and smackers. FMI call Sheila or Deb (207)882-6148

April 30 - 9:30 AM - noon
“Swingers” at The Movies, 10 Exchange St., Portland ME. FMI (207)772-9600

April 30 - 6:30-8:30 PM
Buddhism and Meditation for Women with Vidyavati (Aryaloka Retreat Center) at Women’s Health Consortium, 379 State St., Portsmouth NH. FMI (603)431-1669

Coming in May and June
April 3 - 2 - 4
The AIDS quilt on display at Thompson Arena. FMI (207)648-2220

May 1
Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services Eighth Annual AIDS Walk. FMI (207)725-2295

May 9 - 8:30 AM -4 PM
“Saving Lives—Saving Futures,” Youth Suicide Prevention Conference. Memorial Union Building, UNH Durham NH. FMI (603)650-1780. Registration $35

May 10
Northern Lambda Nord Spring Bash at Prescott Isle Snowmobile Club, near Aroostook State Park. FMI (207)498-2088 or (800)468-2088

June 4-8
Positively Social, weekend retreat for HIV+ people. Fee $10. $42 rette fee includes all. FMI (207)499-0166
The Southern Maine Pride Update

Just the facts so far (some changes should be expected between now and then) DEADLINE on ALL Pride scheduling is APRIL 10.

PREPRIDE

April 2 Movie Night
April 26: Portland Uniform Night
June 7: Southern Maine Pride in Boston We will be marching with Banner (maybo float) later we have a table and stuff.

PRIDE IN PORTLAND

STARTS JUNE 18

Wednesday, June 18 Community Recognition Dinner Receptions TBA Thursday, June 19 Opening “Let’s Make a Family” Photo exhibit Pridelights Concert in Congress Square 8 pm SCHEDULED: Freefall: Acapella group Chris Newcomb: folk/guitar2 more performers TBA Friday, June 20, Pier Dance, Maine State Pier, 8 pm to 11 am all ages, Adv $7, Door $10, cash bar, 3 DJ’s light performance finale at midnight (wild!!)

Saturday, June 21 Interfaith Service 9:30-10:30, 1st Parish, 425 Congress Rally City Hall Plaza: Hopefully, Celebrating our first year with Civil Rights Scheduled Keynote: Candice Gingrich AND the Lesbian/Gay/Bl/Trans Parents of Maine PARADE: Starts at noon Registration groups: $30 (mandatory) Floats $40 without sound, $25 with approved sound. Festival Deering Oaks Park 1pm to 4pm Scheduled Performers: Disappear Fear (the duo) Erica Gilbert and Kathy Poole Lynn Deedes ASE: African rythm/song: women’s drumming group 2 more performers TBA We will have a children’s play area (with jumping gym) Expected to have some 40 vendors/food/the Names Quilt Vendor tables 3x3=$10, 6x3=$20 after May 1 add $5 each Gay Men’s Chorus Concert at the New Merrill Auditorium City Hall 8 pm, check out their site on the Web, Fabulous ASE: drumming & Song, African/Carib Rythms, 8pm (benefit for the Center) at Agape, 645 Congress (Hot group, lots of color too) Admission (probably) $10 Sunday, June 22: Volunteers Brunch and BBQ (public invited) Pride’s Own Cruise aboard the Casablanca, Casco Bay 6 p.m. Entertainment TBA, Cash Bar, (Benefit for the Center)

RETRIEVE

Pride Committee’s from Boston, NYC, Philie, NJ, Cape Cod and many more, will be “vacationing” from Pride right here.

Friday August 1: Portland reception for Northeast Pride Committees Saturday August 2: Retreat parties in Ogunquit Sunday August 3: Retreat Cruise and Lobster Bake on Casco Bay Free to Pride Day ’97 volunteers

PRIDE PASS

Pride will be offering a pass to make the combination of events affordable. The full pass will be approximately $35 for dinner/dance/cruise. A 1/2 pass will include both Dance and Cruise for $20.

OUR NEW VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR IS EBEN CHADWICK

To find out how to take part in Pride volunteer fun and connect to back breaking frustration and intense misery E-mail Eben, and find yourself a nice little opportunity. Volunteer work, that is, not Eben. Eben is at eben26@juno.com

LOVE MAKES A FAMILY PHOTO EXHIBIT

The photo exhibit on Lesbian and Parent Groups: $30 (mandatory) Admission (probably) $10 on issues specifically of interest to Maine men, followed by buffet/social hour. For more information call 207-879-7323.

April 21

Pride ’97 volunteers and dance meeting. Open to all, learn about the great stuff planned for June 18-22 in Portland. 6-8pm Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street: info 878-0546 or 879-7323.

May 3, 1997

WOMLAND’S 8TH ANNUAL WOMEN’S COFFEEHOUSE featuring KAY GARDNER and “WOMEN WITH WINGS” with songs to celebrate Beltane; BARBARA and her new poems to “THE DIVINE MOTHER”; DARTHE JENNINGS with original, funny, feminist music; Deborah Keene-Jones and a yoga dance performance; and LARRAINE BROWN with her humorous insights on emcees for the evening! ‘PM at the ABBOTT ROOM of the Belfast Free Library, 46 High St. Refreshments will be available. The $6 more-or-less donation benefits WOMLAND, a feminist spiritual organization dedicated to re-creating balance on Earth. This women-only event is chime-free, smoke-free, and wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 338-3673.

Calendar extras

April 19

Gay/Bi Men’s Roundtable, Augusta. Postponed from April 5. A free forum on issues specifically of interest to Maine men, followed by buffet/social hour.

April 21

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Shared Living


Travel/Vacation

LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. We’re your perfect vacation spot this coming year! We’re offering half-week discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 1180P, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 869-3978. ΔΔ


Happy Anniversary!

To Sherry, my life partner (Though who’d have thought that nineteen years ago?)
