

Community Pride Reporter

*Proudly serving the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered
Community of Maine and New Hampshire*

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Cris Williamson and Tret Fure



In Portland for National Coming Out Day, *Special* guest; "Women In Harmony"

Saturday, October 11, in recognition of "lesbian & Gay History Month," Above and Beyond is presenting a very special "National Coming Out Day" event.

Singer-songwriters Cris Williamson and Tret Fure with special guests, Women In Harmony Musical and life partners for 15 years, Cris Williamson and Tret Fure will appear at Portland's historic First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in concert celebrating the release of their new CD, "Between the Covers." World renown performers, Williamson and Fure have been instrumental in setting the stage for women, and particularly for lesbians, to participate in all areas of the

music industry.

Hailed as a "brilliant composer and lyricist," by The Boston Globe, Cris Williamson is one of the premiere singer-songwriters of our time. Her anthemic 1974 collection, *The Changer and The Changed* remains one of the best-selling independent releases of all time "Between The Covers" is Williamson's twentieth release.

Musician extraordinaire, Tret Fure, was one of the first women sound engineers in the country. A producer, writer, vocalist and master of countless musical instruments, "Between the Covers" is her sixth release and second full length collaboration with Williamson.

Joining Cris Williamson and Tret Fure in the intimate setting of Portland's First Parish Church will be "Women In Harmony". This 50 member chorus of women's voices, conducted by Sonja Dahlgren Pryor, began in the summer of 1993. Members of the group are representative of the diversity of the "Southern Maine Community" young and old, lesbian, Bisexual, and straight; all ethnic backgrounds and walks of life. Some are professional musicians, others are novices who simply love music and the art of singing.

Cris Williamson and Tret Fure with special guests, Women In Harmony will perform at 8 pm on Satur-

day October 11, 1997 at The First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 425 Congress Street, Portland. Tickets are \$20 for limited Preferred Seating and \$16.50 for General Admission.

Immediately following the show, audience members can join Cris Williamson and Tret Fure in support of Southern Maine Pride. Tickets are available for a VIP Reception at the Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring Street Portland Reception Tickets: \$10

Tickets for both the concert and the VIP Reception are available at Drop Me A Line, 611 Congress Street, Portland and Macbeans Music, 141 A Maine St, Brunswick, or can be charged by calling 207-773-6974

Survey in Maine Would Preserve Gay Rights Law

A majority of Mainers say they would vote to keep the state's gay rights law on the books, and a little over half will support passage of the forest-cutting "compact" this fall.

Results of the survey released by Strategic Marketing Services of Portland also show strong confidence in the economy, with 69 percent declaring themselves optimistic or very optimistic.

Strategic Marketing surveyed 450 registered Maine voters who are likely to go to the polls in November. They were asked a series of wide-ranging public policy questions in telephone interviews between July 29 and Aug. 4. Fifty-eight percent said they would not vote to repeal Maine's gay rights law, 33 percent would vote to repeal it, and 9 percent are undecided.

Lawmakers approved the non-discrimination law earlier this year, but opponents launched a petition drive to put the question before voters. It is still unclear whether the question will appear on this November's ballot.

A leader of the repeal forces, Michael Heath of the Christian Civic

League of Maine, said he was disappointed by the poll figures, but not surprised, and said he does not believe the edge is insurmountable.

Heath, executive director of the conservative group, said he has long believed "that this was going to be an uphill struggle."

On other issues, 61 percent of those polled by Strategic Marketing said they will vote this fall to widen the Maine Turnpike, 30 percent are opposed and 8 percent are undecided.

The omnibus poll, which has a 4.6 percent margin of error, included some questions to gather information for clients of the polling firm. Strategic Marketing did not release results of questions asked on behalf of the company's clients, said spokeswoman Victoria Kuhn Walker.

Strategic Marketing is a division of Pan Atlantic Consultants. Victoria Murphy, a principal in Pan Atlantic and former chairwoman of the Maine Democratic Party, was not involved in the survey, said Walker. "It was a completely nonpartisan survey," Walker said.

Common Circle for Human Rights

currently living within lesbian and gay families or who are questioning or coming to terms with their sexual orientation.

The Common Circle is excited to bring this nationally recognized exhibit to the Belfast area and hopes in doing so to break through some of the silence, invisibility, and denial which often occurs around non-traditional families and sexual orientations.

If you or your group wishes to assist us with this event, be named as an advisory member, or if you want to write a one page statement about your experience as a family member or gay or lesbian person, or wish to participate in a panel discussion or an on-going roundtable on the challenges and commonality of living as a family, please call 338-5889.

We need your help and support to make this as broad based an event as we hope and expect it will be. For information about this event or any other aspect of the Common Circle's work please call 338-5889.

The Common Circle for Human Rights, a local group whose purpose, among other things, is to educate individuals on issues of social justice and equal rights wishes to announce the following event to which the public is invited.

From September 5th through September 13th the photo/text exhibit, "Love Makes A Family" which depicts 20 diverse families comprised of various members who are lesbian or gay will be shown at the Spring Street Gallery in Belfast. On September 5th from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. will be an opening reception. On the same night from 7:15 to 9:00 P.M. at the Abbott Room of the Belfast Free Library there will be a panel discussion that will encourage audience participation.

The text that accompanies the exhibit allows one to see the many perspectives, challenges, and the commonality we have in striving to live within and as part of family systems. It will also provide validation and support for those people

Focus on Families Co-Founder Formally Apologizes

A man who calls himself a co-founder of Focus on the Family publicly apologized to women, ethnic minorities, gays and lesbians, religious groups and the media during a blitz to promote his book. Gil Alexander-Moegerle claims he was one of seven people who co-founded Focus on the Family, a \$100 million-a-year Christian organization that counsels people seeking advice in dealing with family struggles.

In his book "James Dobson's War on America," Alexander-Moegerle criticizes the group's well-known leader and his followers, accusing them of veering from their original mission of helping people raise their children and preserve their marriages. The author believes Focus has become too political and said Dobson has made "a harmful foray into big-time politics."

"I am ashamed of my former colleagues for their attacks on you and for their pattern of slamming the doors

of reasonable access in your face," Alexander-Moegerle said in a written statement. "I encourage you to bang those doors down, to investigate and to report the truth about the threat James Dobson and other religious extremists pose to the American tradition of tolerance, inclusivity and the separation of church and state," he added.

Alexander-Moegerle, who lives in Los Angeles, made the comments in a news release prior to his appearance at the Colorado Springs offices of the gay and lesbian activist group Ground Zero.

He said his book is the first insider critique of "the character, style and political agenda" of James Dobson, who co-founded Focus on the Family in Arcadia, Calif., in 1977.

Paul Hetrick, a Focus on the Family spokesman, denied Alexander-Moegerle helped found the nonprofit

organization, saying the author worked for a Chicago advertising agency and served only as a consultant before becoming an employee in 1980.

Hetrick speculated that Alexander-Moegerle was still angry over a lawsuit he lost in Pomona (Calif.) Superior Court in which he sued Focus on the Family for allegedly firing him inappropriately after seven years. Hetrick said Alexander-Moegerle voluntarily resigned from the organization after divorcing his wife and marrying his secretary.

Hetrick said Alexander-Moegerle accused Dobson of interfering with his personal life after Dobson suggested he and his first wife avoid divorce by getting counseling. "We just disagree on these matters. But that's not fueling Gil's fury. What's fueling his fury is that he failed to achieve what he wanted ... which was to be able to divorce his wife, marry

his secretary and continue to be employed at Focus," Hetrick said.

The spokesman also denied any allegations that Focus on the Family is a sexist, racist and homophobic organization or has changed its focus on preserving families since its inception. "That's utter nonsense," Hetrick said. "This group has not changed its mission, its purpose or its emphasis since it was founded."

An estimated 5 million Americans tune in to Dobson's weekly radio program "Family News in Focus," which is broadcast by more than 2,500 stations around the world. About 8,000 letters pour into the Colorado Springs Focus on the Family offices daily. Hundreds of employees field 3,400 telephone calls a day. Many people seek advice, comfort and prayer in dealing with family struggles like alcohol abuse, sexual problems and marital difficulties.

Adoption Decision Published

(AP) A trial referee's decision in a lesbian adoption case was published in August in the Connecticut Law Journal, but was actually issued over a year ago.

Superior Court Referee Hadley W. Austin ruled that the state Adoption Review Board could consider a lesbian's petition to adopt the 5-year-

old son of her partner. The ruling overturned a Probate Court decision.

Because of confidentiality requirements, the Adoption Review Board said Tuesday it could not discuss the status of the case, which involves a Ledyard couple referred to in court documents as Anne and Malinda.

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Marriage Case Filed in Burlington

(Burlington Vermont, July 22, 1997) Three same-gender Vermont couples filed suit in Chittenden Superior Court, seeking the right to marry. The couples, Stan Baker and Peter Harrigan, Nina Beck and Stacy Jolles, and Lois Farnham Holly Puterbaugh, sued the State of Vermont as well as Shelburne, South Burlington and Milton, respectively, because the clerks in those Towns refused to issue marriage licenses to the couples. In a joint statement, the couples' attorneys, Susan Murray and Beth Robinson from the law firm of Langrock, Sperry & Wool in Middlebury, maintain that "the refusal to allow our clients to marry violates both state marriage laws and the state Constitution, which require that all citizens and families have access to the legal protections and obligations of civil marriage." They add that "marriage is a fundamental, individual personal choice, which should be available to all Vermonters."

Mary Bonauto, co-counsel in the case form Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, a New England-wide legal organization which advocates for gay and lesbian civil rights, pointed out that "married couples receive over

150 supports and protections under Vermont law which are not available to gay and lesbian couples, no matter how long they have been together, no matter how committed their relationship is, and no matter how much they need those legal protections."

No state currently recognizes marriages between couples of the same gender, although a court in Hawaii has ordered that state to allow such marriages. That decision is on hold pending an appeal to the Hawaii Supreme Court.

Stan Baker and Peter Harrigan have been together as a couple for four years, and live in Shelburne. They explain that they want to marry for the same mix of reasons that other couples choose to marry: they love each other, they want to make a public commitment to one another, and they seek the legal protections and obligations of civil marriage. Harrigan explains, "Marriage is a fundamental right, central to me as a human being. I am deeply devoted to my relationship with Stan, and would like our commitment to be supported by legal rights afforded other committed couples."

Lois Farnham and her partner, Holly Puterbaugh, have lived to-

gether as a couple in Vermont for twenty-five years. Farnham is not entitled to receive Puterbaugh's social security benefits, nor are they granted the right to make necessary medical decisions or act as each other's guardian in their old age. Puterbaugh notes that "Lois has done as much as any other spouse to earn my retirement benefits, but she's not entitled to them under present law."

Nina Beck and Stacy Jolles are a couple of seven years, parents of a two year old child, and residents of South Burlington. Two years ago, when Beck was rushed to the hospital, Jolles experienced firsthand the effects of discriminatory marriage laws. "The doctors did not treat me as a family member," Jolles recalls, "and if I had not had a signed medical power of attorney from Nina, they would not have let me be with Nina or participate in any medical decisions that needed to be made."

Speaking about their child, Beck declared that "our son will be better off if his parents can marry and enjoy the legal support and protection that the civil marriage laws provide. He needs and deserves to know that his parents have a legal connection to one another, as well as to him."

Homosexuality is NO Reason for Therapy

Homosexuality is not a mental disorder and doesn't need treatment, and there's no good evidence that so-called reparative therapy works anyway, the nation's biggest group of psychologists says.

The American Psychological Association also urged mental health professionals to "take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness from homosexuality." The association's policy-setting body made the statements in a resolution passed recently. The resolution affirms APA's position that homosexuality isn't a mental disorder and doesn't need treatment, the association said.

The resolution says some believe the controversial practice of reparative or conversion therapy, aimed at changing a person's homosexuality, is ineffective and harmful, while others say it's effective and helpful. "Well-designed scientific studies to test either belief have not been done," the resolution said.

tion said, "therefore, claims of effectiveness need to be very carefully considered."

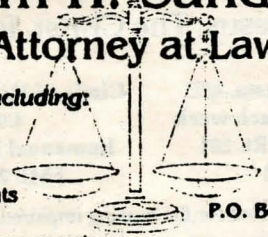
Kim Mills, a representative of the Human Rights Campaign, a lesbian and gay political group, said in a statement that the resolution "reaffirms the fact that since there is nothing wrong with homosexuality, there is no reason that gay, lesbian or bisexual people should try to change their orientations."

Robert H. Knight, director of cultural studies for the conservative Family Research Council, said there is evidence that therapy can change homosexuality. People "have been successfully treated for decades," he said in a statement, and "a growing population of ex-gays is becoming more visible in America today." Knight said the psychological association "is trying to snuff out genuine hope for those struggling with gender identity problems."

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October 17, 18, 19 1997

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GMT weekend retreat is held twice a year at a wonderful, rustic, turn-of-the-century lodge in central Maine. The weekend provides an open environment where gay men can make new friends, share experiences, develop trust and gain a better understanding of ourselves and others.

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About the Lodge: Pilgrim Lodge is located on one hundred acres along the shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee. The Lodge's four field stone fireplaces offer crackling fires to warm you beneath its birch bark chandeliers. The grounds offer a magnificent lake view. There are 25 boardwalk-connected cabins, all with fireplaces and screened-in porches with rocking chairs. Gay Men Together will be an alcohol and drug free environment

Registration: pre-registration is necessary. \$45 (\$25 extra for Thursday arrival) Make checks payable to: Gay Men Together, 7 Cattail Lane, Alfred, Maine 04002. For more info call: (207) 499-0166. Registration fee includes: six meals, snacks, workshops, and all other materials for various activities. Directions will be mailed to you with your confirmation letter.

AIDS: Death Toll Dropping

The death toll is dropping especially among white gay men but that means the need for outpatient care funding is rising. With the Congress scheduled to debate funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program this week, a new statistics A from the Centers for Disease Control underscore the need for an increase.

The new numbers describe the first nine months of 1996 and show AIDS deaths not only continuing to decline but doing so more rapidly compared to the first six months of 1996, which was the first period since the beginning of the epidemic in which mortality fell. This means a growing number of people living longer with the disease, increasing the need for outpatient care faster than the funding for it has grown.

Several factors may have contributed to the decline in deaths, including increased prevention on the part of gay men in the 1980's, but the dramatic effects of protease inhibitors are not believed to be fully reflected in these statistics. In the first nine months of 1996, there were 30,700 AIDS deaths, 19% fewer than in the first nine months of 1995 when there

were 37,900. The first six months of 1996 had shown a 13% drop in deaths compared to the first six months of 1995. In the nine-month period, the decline in deaths was seen in all sub groups although not shared equally among them.

Deaths among men dropped by 22% while those among women dropped by 7%; deaths among whites dropped by 28%, among Hispanics by 16% and among Blacks by 10%; deaths among those infected through gay sex dropped by 26%, among injection drug users by 15%, and among heterosexually-infected people by 4%.

In part, these figures likely reflect the current rates of increases in cases of AIDS in the various populations, with slowing rates of diagnosis among white gay men and growing rates of diagnosis among women and minorities, although those figures are not currently available.

They are also believed to reflect differences in access to health care, including the expensive multi-drug "cocktails" which were making a difference even before their introduction of protease inhibitors.

Therapies Comdemned

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) said today that the American Psychological Association (APA) did not go far enough in its vote on a resolution regarding "reparative" or "conversion" therapy, a practice designed to alter the sexual orientation of a non-heterosexual person.

The APA Council of Representatives meeting this week in Chicago, today voted overwhelmingly to pass a "resolution on appropriate therapeutic responses to sexual orientation." The resolution affirmed that homosexuality is not a mental disorder and that the APA opposes all portrayals of lesbian, gay and bisexual people as mentally ill and in need of treatment due to their sexual orientation.

However, it stopped short of calling for an end to conversion treatments. Task Force executive director Kerry Lobel, in a letter to APA, had urged the organization to condemn the practice. "Attempts to change an individual's sexual orientation through conversion therapies are morally and ethically wrong," said Lobel. "Such practices are a therapeutic perpetuation of the homophobia that exists in society today.

Equally repugnant are the coercive tactics employed by some psychologists who attempt to lure clients into treatment in the name of pseudo-science." "The real victims of those misguided therapies are clients attempting to bear the weight of homophobia in society and within their own families," she argued. "As they seek counseling, they should experience self-validation and support for living a

healthy and full life regardless of their sexual orientation. While some adults may give their consent to conversion therapy, many are coerced into doing so. The most vulnerable are young people at the mercy of confused parents or adult guardians seeking to erase their own shame or guilt about their child's sexual orientation.

Allowing conversion treatments to remain a viable option assures that many will endure potentially costly, painful, and traumatic procedures that could increase rather than relieve suffering." The APA declassified homosexuality as a mental illness in 1973. Recently, there has been an increase in publicity around the use of conversion therapies to alter homosexuality.

For example, a June conference held at Georgetown University provided a forum for such ideologues as Dr. Joseph Nicolosi, head of the National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality, who believes that homosexuality cannot lead to a happy and productive life. Lobel argued that, without a strong APA statement to counter their basic assumptions, their claims gain undeserved weight. While she commended the APA's reiteration of its 1973 policy change as well as efforts to ensure a fair and open therapeutic environment, Lobel argued that "anything short of full condemnation for this repugnant practice leaves the door open for reparative therapy's further escalation."

Media Bias in Cunanan Case

The headlines titillated us from news stands, while the daily newsclips and sound bites lured us to our televisions every night. Often, based on the headlines or sound bites associated with news reports, one would think that alleged serial killer Andrew Cunanan, committed the murders because he was gay.

Gay Serial Killer one headline dubbed him. Several others suggested that the alleged killer was on a "revenge binge" because of a possible HIV-positive status. Then there were the stories that "warned" that he might be dressing as a woman to elude capture. Nearly every conceivable gay stereotype came out of the closet and onto the frontpages or television news during media coverage of Cunanan's run from the law.

So far about the only negative gay stereotype that hasn't been pegged to Cunanan is that he was a child molester. Clearly, the press still has much to learn about reporting on the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. But, were reporters wrong to point out the fact that Andrew Cunanan was gay?

Should they have de-emphasized the fact that he was apparently supported by wealthy older men? Was it improper for them to seek out representatives of the LGBT community to give the "gay perspective" on the story? Was it in bad taste for the media to offer a "glimpse" into the gay world as a backdrop to news reports?

The answer to all these questions is a qualified "no." The fact that Cunanan was gay and was a well-known "party boy" were factors that were important to the story. The press rightfully acknowledged this. It was appropriate and even fair for the media to come to members of the LGBT community as they researched the story or looked for commentary and reaction.

It was also appropriate for the media to put the story in some kind of context for most of mainstream America to better understand it. The media was doing its job. But many times the media was faulty in doing its job or simply over did it.

For example, the press often pandered to many stereotypes of gaymen in attempts to "analyze" his motives or offer a "peek into" the gay community. Also, the press focused too much on the LGBT community and how it reacted to the killings even after it was clear that not all the murders were of gay people and that any body could be at risk. There was too strong an association with Cunanan's alleged crimes and the gay world.

An example of the press at its worst? The media went too far in its efforts to determine Cunanan's HIV status. Instead of letting the issue drop with his death, one paper leaked the results of an HIV test done on Cunanan after an autopsy. So now that the "HIV revenge binge" theory has been torpedoed, what will an inquiring press turn to next in their quest to find a motive?

The media missed an opportunity to raise the consciousness of the public around issues concerning the LGBT community to a new level. Violence against members of our community is unfortunately a routine thing. Most of these stories never make the news. Many of them have resulted in death. Currently there are at least five serial killers of gay men still at-large.

Members of the press could have demonstrated that they had finally learned the lesson that lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered persons are just as good or bad, talented or incapable, responsible or irresponsible, beautiful or ugly as anybody else. Instead, they showed that they either know very little about us or that they're too willing to give into the sordid, lurid, titillating images that remain prevalent. I wasn't surprised that the media took this route.

This story had all the elements of a highly-spiced hard-boiled drama thriller. It was guaranteed to capture the interest of most Americans and certainly the media, which would play it for all that it could. Even if the central characters in this drama had been straight the story would still have an element of titillation perhaps the media would have looked for a drug connection or a Mafia tie-in. But there would be fewer negative stereotypes associated with the story and the type of speculation and innuendo raised in the reporting would never have been broached if we were not talking about so many gay people.

The LGBT community must realize that the media is a business. They have a product to sell and they will sell it by making us all repeat customers. This is best done by keeping people "hooked." At the same time, members of the LGBT community must make sure that when the story relates to us, the media holds itself to the same standards it would if the adjective gay were replaced with any other. They must be careful not to link things that should not be linked.

Gay people aren't alleged to have committed the murders, Andrew Cunanan is. That he was gay is only important in so far as most of the alleged victims were gay. Otherwise, that fact should not have taken on a life of its own.



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"Charting the Future. Reclaiming the Past."

October 1st Lesbian & Gay History Month

New York, August 7, 1997-The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is proud to announce that October is "Lesbian & Gay History Month:

A Celebration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History." The theme of this fourth annual event is "charting the Future Reclaiming the Past," which will highlight the often ignored contributions of gay figures and the community in history.

During Lesbian & Gay History Month, the lesbian, gay, bisexual and Transgender community examines its political struggle, cultural achievements and collective creativity. "Lesbian & Gay History Month creates a more honest and complete understanding of history by telling untold stories," said Joan M. Garry, GLAAD's Executive Director. "It provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the distance we have traveled as a community and to honor the stewards of that journey."

GLAAD is pleased to be co-sponsoring Lesbian & Gay History Month with a number of other national organizations, including the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, Dignity USA, the Bisexual Network of the US (BiNet USA), National Latino/a Lesbian & Gay Organization (LLEGO), GenderPAC, The human Rights Cam-

paign, Parents, Friends and Family of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), LEAGUE at AT&T, Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International, It's Time America and the National Youth Advocacy Coalition.

In addition, GLAAD is proud to welcome American Express Financial Advisors as Lesbian & Gay History Month's primary corporate sponsor. "Lesbian & Gay History Month is a unique approach to celebrate the many accomplishments of the gay and lesbian community," said Marie Tobin, American Express Financial Advisors' Community Relations Program Manager. "American Express Financial Advisors applauds this effort to educate the public and its -of nurturing an inclusive society."

In January 1994, a high school teacher in Missouri, appalled by the exclusion of lesbian and gay history from textbooks, set out to make a change. Rodney Wilson organized teachers and community leaders to educate the public about lesbians and gay men past and present. They formed a national grassroots network to create a celebration and education campaign that continues today. The month of October 'was selected to commemorate the anniversaries of the first two lesbian and gay Marches on Washington in October 1979 and 1987.

Coretta Scott King Receives Award

Mautner Project also to be Honored

Human Rights activist Coretta Scott King was honored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) for her efforts on behalf of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered persons in the struggle for civil and human rights.

Mrs. King will receive the "Honoring Our Allies" award from NGLTF at an awards ceremony to be held on September 15, 1997 in Washington, D.C. Mrs. King, founder of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta, has been a strong advocate for peace and justice through nonviolent action across the nation and throughout the world.

She has been outspoken on lesbian and gay issues for years and has appeared at press conferences and pride rallies throughout the country. She has often spoken of the lesbians and gay men who were involved in the civil rights movement all throughout its history, notably Bayard Rustin, the organizer of the famous 1963 March On Washington, at which Dr. King gave his infamous I Have A Dream speech.

Most recently, Mrs. King has spoken in support of legislation in Congress that would make it illegal to fire someone on the basis of sexual orientation. The bill, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) was recently introduced in the U.S. Senate. "Mrs. King has been a tremendous ally in the effort to achieve fairness for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people" said Kerry Lobel, NGLTF executive director. "She truly embodies what this award is about and we're very honored that she will be here with us as we celebrate her thirty-plus year commitment to the principles of equality for all people.

The vision of she and Dr. King in the civil rights movement has set the standard for fighting back with dignity. They demanded that this nation examine its core principles and their struggle has created the handbook for human rights movements that followed." John J. Sweeney, president of the AFL-CIO will also be given an Honoring Our Allies award.

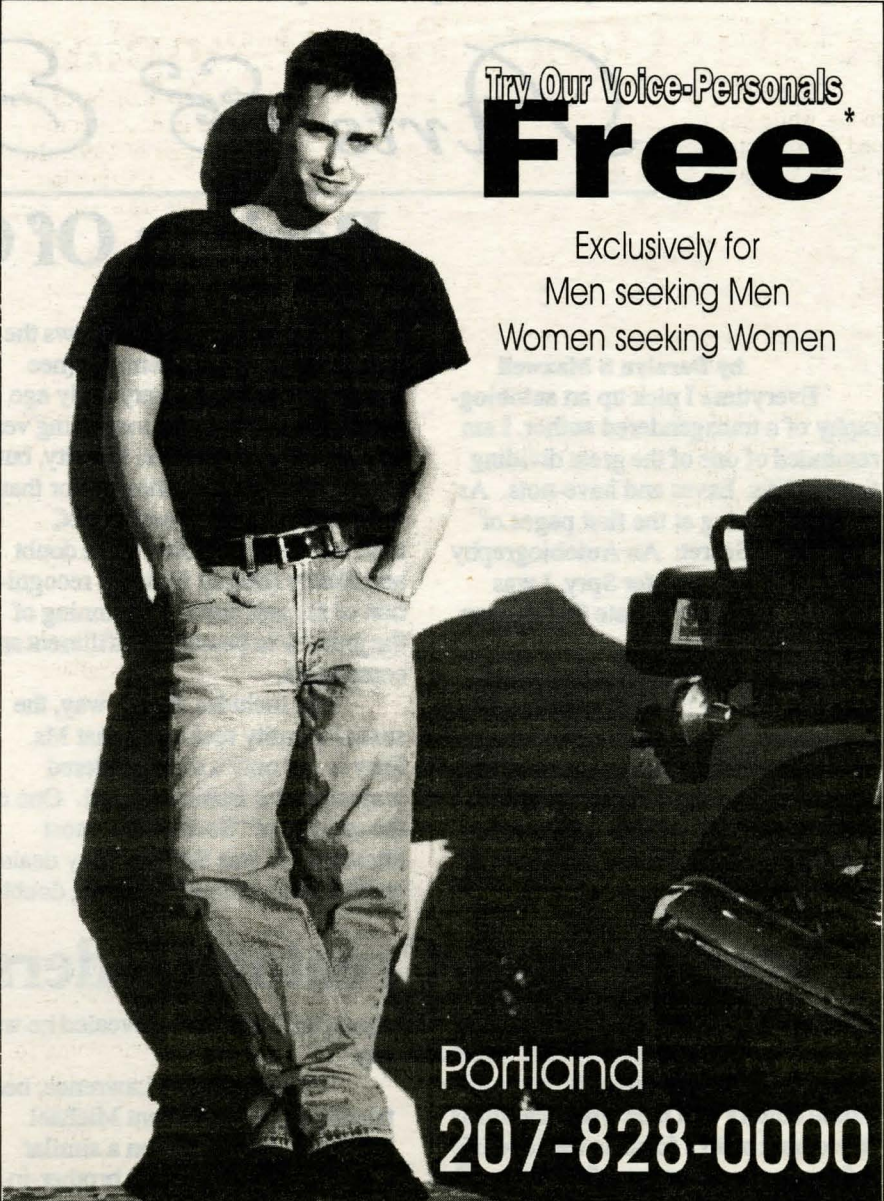
Sweeney will be honored for his efforts to further include lesbians and gays in the labor movement. He has been involved in the labor movement for over thirty-five years and is the former president of the Service Employees International Union.

The Mautner Project, this year's third honoree, is a service organization for lesbians with cancer. The project, named for Mary Helen Mautner who died of breast cancer in 1989 offers a variety of direct services, support and outreach and education.

The Mautner Project was formed in 1990 in Washington, D.C. "The Mautner Project has helped to save the lives of many women who were diagnosed with cancer," Lobel stated. "It is a very valuable life support operation and resource in our community and I am very proud that we can honor them for their great work."

Past winners of the Honoring Our Allies award include Attorney General Janet Reno, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala and Surgeon General Dr. Jocelyn Elders in 1994, the Congressional Black Caucus in 1995 and South African President Nelson Mandela and other South African's who helped to craft the new government's Equality Clause last year.

The all-inclusive clause bans discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in South Africa.



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Arts & Entertainment

Review: Of Orlando's Sleep

by Daralyn S Maxwell

Everytime I pick up an autobiography of a transgendered author, I am reminded of one of the great dividing lines in life: haves and have-nots. As such, in looking at the first pages of "Orlando's Secret: An Autobiography of Gender" by Jennifer Spry, I was perfectly prepared to hate this woman and her life. Silly me!

Still, one of the first thing that struck me about "Secret" was the fact that it doesn't present anything close to a perfect picture of transgendered life. Rather, it allows the reader to absorb some of the trials of self-correction instead of beating him or her over the head with it.

"Orlando's Secret" follows the gender awakening of Jennifer (nee John) Spry who, at a very early age realized that there was something very wrong with her personal identity, but no one concurred or allowed for that. It travels the road of self-doubt, renewed determination, more doubt and finally (hurray for her!) recognition of the self and the beginning of the journey to personal fulfillment and completion.

This includes, by the way, the sexual identity reckoning that Ms. Spry is not only a transgendered woman, but a lesbian as well. One of the aspects of "Secret" that most attracted me was that Ms Spry deals quite frankly with the nagging doubt

that accompanies such a personal journey, and doesn't minimize the hazards of succumbing to denial.

The heartbreak of separation from family and the rejection by alleged friends is all too often glossed over by the transgendered author in favor of that oh-so-seldom rosy conclusion.

While she obviously enjoyed "some" of the aspects of the privileged class, such as intercontinental traveling, Spry went to such exotic places as Thetford, Vermont (near and dear to my home in Vermont) and some pretty outbacky-type places in Australia.

For anyone who would like to read an articulate and well-presented story about coming out as a

transgendered lesbian, I would strongly recommend this book. It glosses over little and emphasizes that in perseverance there is hope. Having been exposed to some pretty unrealistic treatises of transition and transsexuality, it is refreshing to read about the warts of this issue, especially since I can personally identify with almost ALL of Ms Spry's experiences, both heartbreaking and enlightening.

Hopefully, this book will allow others in the g/l/b/t community see what realistically goes on in the head (and heart) of someone trying to navigate the oft-treacherous waters of transsexuality. I hope that Drop Me a Line will add this to their shelves. It is a worthwhile read.

Comic Strip's Creator Understands fuss Over Gay Character

"For Better or For Worse" creator Lynn Johnston understands the problem some editors will face when she shifts the comic strip's focus to the love life of a gay character for a few days. That doesn't mean she'll be happy if they don't run it.

"It's not frustrating for me but for the people who are harassed because they have to put up with this every minute of their lives," Johnston said Wednesday from her home in Canada.

Kansas City-based Universal Press Syndicate said Wednesday it wrote to 1,700 newspapers informing them of the upcoming sequence. The comic strip, which deals with the Patterson family and their relatives and friends, angered some editors and readers in 1993 when a 17-year-old

character, Lawrence, revealed he was gay.

The outing of Lawrence, best friend of college student Michael Patterson, was based on a similar revelation by Johnston's brother-in-law and its profound affect on her family.

The upcoming four-day sequence, running Aug. 20-23, focuses on Lawrence and his love interest, Ben, who is considering moving to Paris to study piano. At least 20 daily newspapers have told Universal Press that they will use syndicate-supplied reruns from 1995 instead, said Elizabeth Andersen, who edits the strip for Universal Press.

"It is a decision that took a lot of thought on our part," said publisher John Goossen, publisher of The Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal, which

has a circulation of 62,000 daily and 70,000 on Sunday. "We kind of looked at what we feel the standards of the community are.

"We feel that the comics page is different from what we cover in our news pages, where we cover the newsworthy activities of the gay and lesbian community as news."

Papers in Ohio, Texas and Alabama were among those who won't run the Lawrence-Ben series, Andersen said. Specific names were not immediately available.

Thirteen newspapers canceled "For Better or For Worse" when Lawrence came out. At least 25 other papers requested rerun strips.

Lawrence has remained a regular character since then. Ben has also appeared repeatedly, once showing up at a prom with Lawrence.

Universal pointed out that, as in 1993, the number of objecting newspapers is tiny compared with the strip's overall distribution. "That makes it kind of a non-story," Andersen said. "I think editors are just playing it safe."

Johnston, who lives near North Bay, Ontario, said she was disappointed by the latest flap but said the decision to run the strip is "certainly up to the editors."

"I remember when we went through this before," she said. "In these small communities, everybody knows the editors and the editor can't go have coffee and a doughnut without someone saying, 'Why are you running that junk in the paper?'"

"I got wonderful calls from editors who said they couldn't run it even if they wanted to. I respect that, I understand that."

"The Great Pumpkin Ball"

Presented by ML/GPA

Remember, when Halloween used to be a ball?

Mark your Calendar for what promises to be a highlight of the 1997 Fall season: ML/GPA's first annual costume party! Organizers are planning an evening for serious Halloween revelers (you know who you are!) and or those who just want to enjoy a memorable night out on-the-town while supporting ML/GPA.

The date is Friday, October 31. The Ballroom By The Bay, Holiday Inn, Portland. A night of "something for everyone" music

including disco, oldies, country and some crowd pleasing surprises. (You know there should be a few surprises, too. It's being presented in association with the people who brought Bob Smith, Kate Clinton and Susanne Westenhoefer to Maine!)

Tickets will be \$10 in advance and \$13 at the door. Watch next month's Community Pride Reporter for details on The Great Costume Contest (and great prizes) or call 207-773-6974

So, don't miss out on what promises to be a night you won't soon forget!

Library Book Taken Hostage

A library patron has refused to return a book on gay sex which she says "doesn't meet the standards set forth by society." Linda McGeogh, who requested "The New Joy of Gay Sex" be banned from the Belmont Library, had a friend check out the book and put it in a storage locker after waiting for the library to act.

"We're not going to bring it back," said McGeogh, 38, who contends the book's gay content has nothing to do with her request. "It's something that should be kept in a bedside table, not in a public library." But librarians and book lovers say a ban violates the First Amendment by limiting the public's access.

"We believe very firmly that everybody should have access to what

the library has and nobody should have to ask for it," said San Mateo County librarian Nancy Lewis. "For us, it's a First Amendment issue."

McGeogh asked the library to dump their only copy of the book after she came across it on a June visit with her 8-year-old daughter, 7-year-old son and a friend. "I went through it and was absolutely shocked," McGeogh said.

Lewis said she will appoint a panel to make a recommendation. But she has final say in the matter. The book has been overdue since June 11. McGeogh will be billed for a \$6 overdue fine and the cost for a replacement copy if she doesn't return the original, library officials said.

Arts & Entertainment

Portland Ballet Company: Celebrates Schubert

Guests To Inaflide Boston Bad Dancers Chris Alloways- Ramsey and Jonathan Shockley

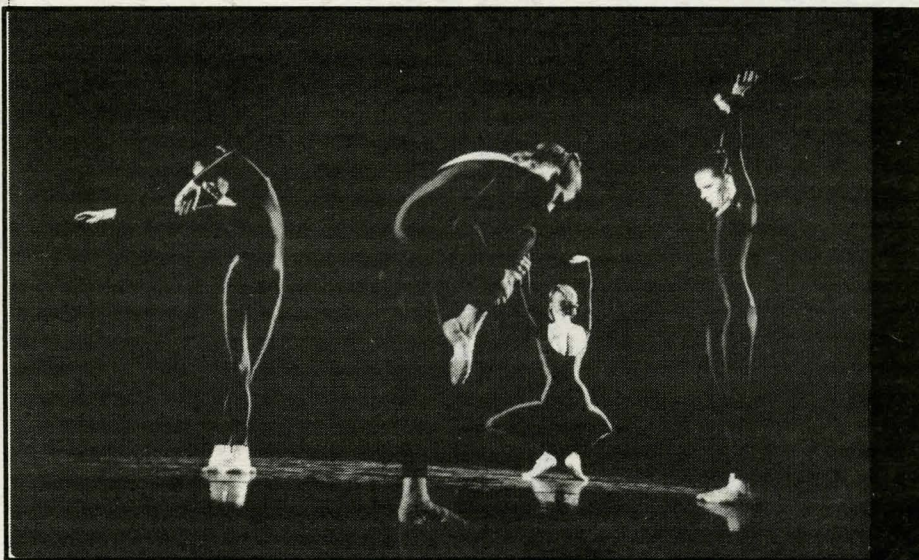
On Friday, October 3 and Saturday, October 4 at 7:30 p.m. Portland Ballet Company, presents "A Schubert Sampler." The evening of dance marks the 200th birthday of composer, Franz Schubert.

According to Eugenia L. O'Brien Artistic Director) PBC will be joined by some very special guests: Boston Ballet dancers, Chris Alloways-Ramsey and Jonathan Shockley; Violinist, Lawrence Golan;

and pianist, Judith Hunt Quimby.

The evening of dance will feature four world premieres by choreographers Andrei Bouncy, Andrew J DiGiambattista, Roxanne Rigoloso and Daelma Santos. In addition, by popular demand, PBC will present an encore performance of Ravel's Bolero.

Performances take place on Friday, October 3 and Saturday, October 4 at 7:30 p.m. At The Auditorium at Portland High School All seats \$12. Call Portland Ballet Box Office at 207-772-9671.



M.W.&,P.A, Sponsoring Poetry workshop

Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance is sponsoring a poetry workshop with award-winning poet William Carpenter on Saturday, September 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the MWPA office, 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick.

"This is one of our most popular poetry workshops," said Jill Shultz, program director of MWPA. "We try to offer it at least four times a year to meet the demand."

The workshop is designed as a creative seminar where participants may respond freely to each other's work. Participants should bring 11 copies of two short poems to class. The cost is \$45 for MWPA members, \$65 for others. Call 729-6333 to register; enrollment is limited to 10.

Miriam Carpenter of "Stockton Springs" is the author of several collections of poetry including The Hours of the Morning, winner of the Associated Writing Program Award; Rain; and Speaking. Fire at Stones, written with Robert Shenerly. His novel, A Keeper of Sheep, received national acclaim.

The sponsor, Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance (MWPA), is a nonprofit literary organization that promotes the value of literature and the art of writing by building a community of writers, readers, and publishers within Maine. For more information call 729-6333 or write to MWPA, 12 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME 04011.

For more Information, Contact: Jill Shultz, MWPA, 729-6333

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Saturday, October 11

Cris Williamson and Tret Fure



"A beautiful celebration
...The deepening of their
commitment and artistry
is an inspiration to me."

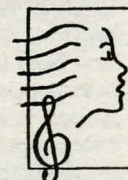
Bonnie Raitt

"Cris and Tret continue to
rock, defining the genre of
music which is both
positive and empowering.
Go Girls!"

Patty Larkin

We came here as strangers
We leave here as friends
I haven't felt like this
Since I don't know when
What a heavenly feeling
There are angels nearby
And I hear them singing
A new lullaby

Cris Williamson
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-Desson Howe, THE WASHINGTON POST



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'Camp' Camp: A Resounding Success

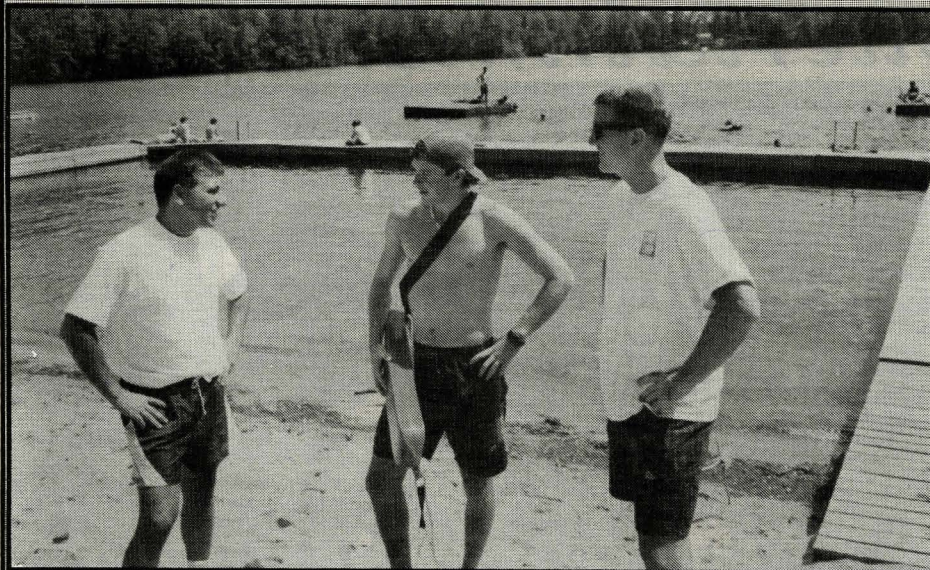


Photo: Sam Page Jeff, Ben and Steve enjoy a sunny day on the Waterfront.

by Steve Fleming

Kezer Falls, ME It was a week-long celebration of diversity, individually, and community for over 100 campers and staff at the first annual 'Camp' Camp, a summer camp for lesbians and gay men, held August 24-30 in Kezar Falls, Me. Participants came from as far away as Reno, NV, San Antonio, TX and Minneapolis, MN, to join in the creation of the nation's first adult gay/lesbian camp.

It was a dreary, rainy Thursday afternoon, when the first 'Camp' Camp planning committee members began arriving at the Maine Teen camp in Kezar Falls, which was just wrapping up it's eight-week summer session as a sports and arts camp for teens. At that particular moment it was hard to imagine that within a couple of days, the Maine Teen Camp would be transformed into the nation's first adult gay/lesbian summer camp. Yet, that is exactly what occurred. Over the next several days, key staff people arrived, planning and team building sessions took place, a sensitivity training was provided for the Maine Teen Camp staffers who were joining the 'Camp' Camp staff, and the site was cleaned and "gayed up" in anticipation of the arrival of the first campers on Sunday afternoon.

The first day of camp dawned sunny and warm, and the sense of joyful anticipation was contagious. Members of the Welcome Committee greeted each camper as he/she arrived by car or bus ('Camp' Camp provided van transportation from NYC and Boston), and the camper was given a tour of the facility, and encouraged to choose a place to live. Options included large and small cabins, ranging from single occupancy to the largest, "Keith Haring," at 15 men. Campers engaged in a variety of activities to get to know each other and the staff, and were officially welcomed at the opening campfire by Bill Cole, founder and director of 'Camp' Camp. "Those of you who have had the courage to participate in this experience are pioneers," said Cole, inviting campers and staff alike to "stretch" themselves during the week by taking risks - whether on the ropes course or on the stage, or by chatting with someone new at lunch.

In the week that followed, the activities were various and rigorous, including mountain biking and wind surfing, tennis lessons, pottery, stained glass, and jewelry making, team sports,

performing arts, and daily jaunts into the sublime and ridiculous. Camper groups, identified by rainbow colors, provided mealtime entertainment with humorous songs and chants. Two mock kidnappings, of a Cabin mascot ("ST. Tara of the Sissies") and an elephant puppet named Ellie, kept campers amused with ever changing developments. A "treasure hunt" which took place during a full downpour on Wednesday evening may have provided the most complete opportunity for getting in touch with one's inner child. Fortunately the hot tub was available to reduce the chill on rainy nights, or to soothe aching muscles. Also, 'Camp' Camp staff included three massage therapists who provided massages to campers and staffers throughout the week.

Other camp highlights included a "Talent/No Talent Show," an outdoor Tea Dance, evening campfires and off-site hikes, bike trips and canoe trips. The interaction between the predominately straight-identified Maine Teen Camp staffers, and the 'Camp' Camp campers and staff could not have been more respectful, comfortable and balanced. Several Maine Teen Camp staffers indicated that they would gladly swap the teen clientele for an adult gay/lesbian clientele. In addition, the food provided by former New Hampshire native Sandra McDonald (now living in Santa Fe, NM) was healthy, plentiful, and delicious.

"We could not be more pleased," said Jeff Perrotti, 'Camp' Camp staffing coordinator and program director, "People had a great time. We proved it could be done, that there is a market for this, a camp for men and women ('Camp' Camp was over one-third female). We had campers who had just come out of the closet, and campers who have been out activists for years, together in a supportive setting. We had campers ranging in age from 19 to 64. We were over ten percent people of color. We had Manhattanites and native Kezar Fallsians. My favorite was the person who wrote on his/her evaluation, "I have never been happier being gay!!!" To me, that's what 'Camp' Camp is all about."

For further information, visit the 'Camp' Camp web site at www.campcamp.com or contact Bill Cole toll free at 1-888-924-8380; via fax at 1-609-683-1795; or via e-mail at billcole@worldnet.att.net.

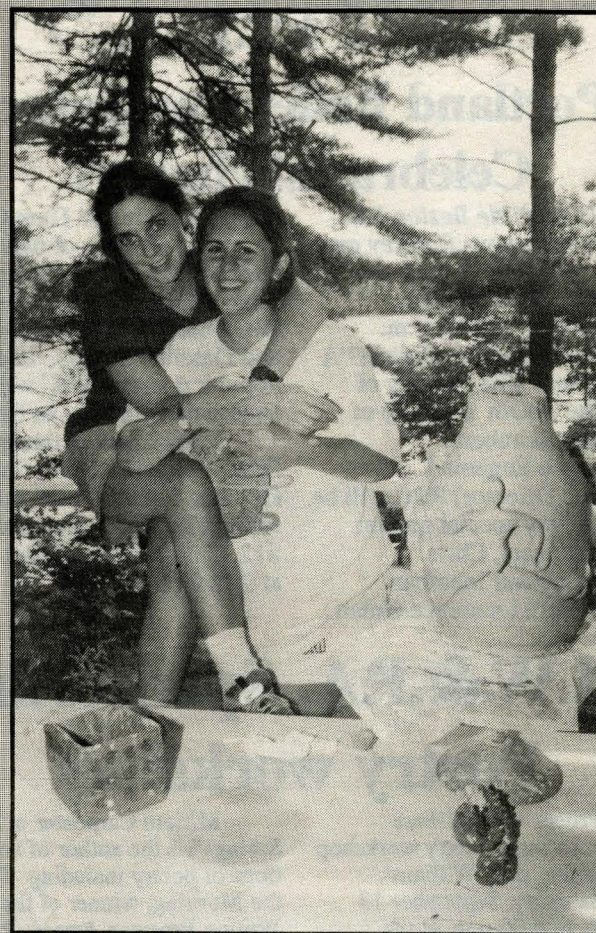


Photo By: Sam Page

Two Jessicas are proud of their work in 'Camp' Camp's open-air pottery studio overlooking the lake.



Photo: Sam Page

Julie belays Ben while he navigates "The Web" on 'Camp' Camp's challenging ropes course.

Keystone Theatre Cafe

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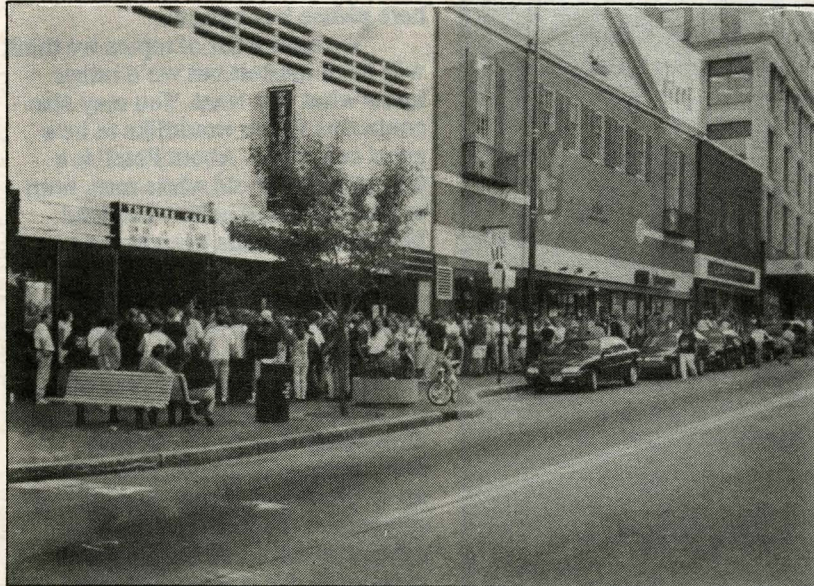
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Look for More of Keystone Theatre's
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issue of Community Pride Reporter

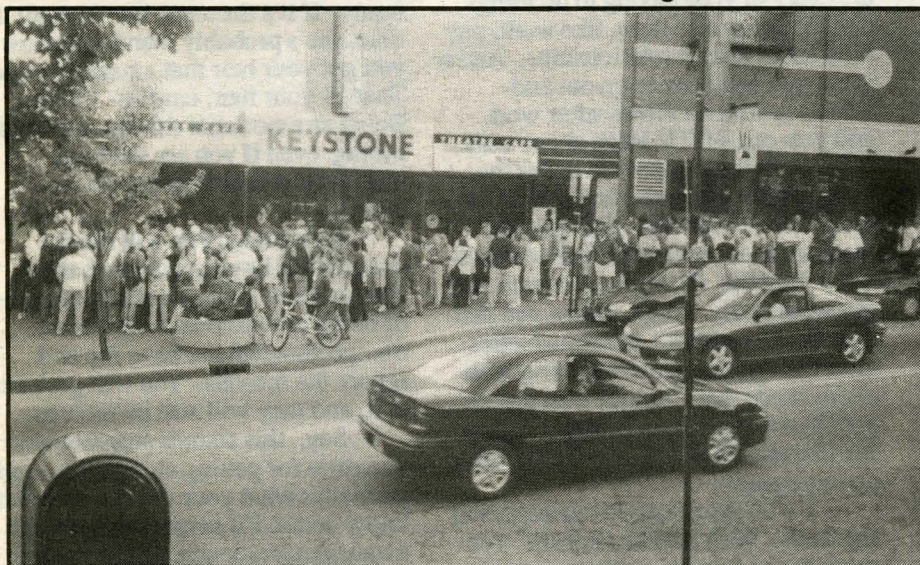
For Movie Listing & Times 871-5500



An unusual marriage of music and film left people standing in line beginning at the doors of Keystone and ending well past L.L.Bean's!

A smashing and unexpected success that left the Theatre out of food and opened for three showings
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Keystone Theatre & Cafe has been bringing the Greater Portland area public a wide and varied assortment of films and has shown a great deal of imagination with it's latest "The Dark Side of OZ".

Never in the the history of Keystone Theatre has there been such an

incredible turn-out. The music of Pink Floyds' "Dark Side of The Moon and The first hour or so of Americas' great classic film "The Wizard of OZ".

The Crowd Cheared the conclusion of the marriage, which can only be called "A Horse of a Different



Color". They heard the lonely sound of a heart beat, as they watched Dorthy press her ear to Tin Mans' chest.

Never before have so many Portlanders been so incredibly mesmerised. The owner of the Theatre was pleasantly amazed at the crowd that never seemed to end. And at the

end of the evening which was supposed to end at 9 pm (But did not, so that all who came to enjoy this special) the owners and their staff were at last able to click their collective heels and remind themselves " There is No place like Home!"

Community Pride Reporter

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The Community Pride Reporter is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. This practice reflects our commitment to responsible use of our earth's resources.

Using recycled paper sometimes results in the paper having a toned down or grayish tinge. However, we feel this is a small price to pay as Community Pride Reporter does it's part to "color ME Green."

Bi Space

Welcome to Bi Space, a new monthly column about bi people, bi culture, and bi issues. This column is intended for all bi and bi-supportive readers. Naturally, it is bi-authored. This way we can share the work and bring our different perspectives of gender, age, location, and experience. If you have ideas, questions, &/or issues you would like us address here, please let us know.

We have a list of topics we think will be of interest, but we'd rather know what you want. You may also contact us if you would like to be a guest columnist. About Petel'm a thirty-four year old white man, born in Boston, raised in New England. My orientation has been bi for a long time:

I remember same-sex attractions back to about age twelve, opposite-sex slightly farther. However I've only been out, to myself or anyone else, for a year and a half. Before that, things were complicated. I've been a feminist most of my life, although in my youth that was more a matter of sympathies than action. I've been politically active, including queer-supportive, for six or seven years, and I've worked in anti-racist politics.

But for much of that time I enjoyed being one of those "straight white men" that women, queers, and people of color seemed okay with, who was cool. Coming out meant

letting go of that privilege and getting down to something more real, more personal, and sometimes scarier ... though far more rewarding than the closet case I was could have guessed. I'm also a major science fiction geek. It would be fair to say that much of my identity comes from watching Star Trek since age six. Certainly the commitment to diversity began there; given my occasional lusts for Uhura, Spock, and Kirk, maybe my sexuality did too.

So much for the myth of queer "recruitment": it was mainstream TV's fault, and I'm thrilled to be happy about that at last. I'm finishing a doctorate in American Literature; I'm an office boy in a major AIDS-research nonprofit; I have two cats; I enjoy walking through Boston hand-in-hand with wonderful people of various genders and sexualities; I'm trying to eat better; I will get through Claudia Christian's absence from the final season of Babylon 5; and I'm looking forward to giving something back to queer communities and our allies.

About BobBI: I might be a quiet, semi-retired social worker, happily making quilts and strolling on the local beaches, if the oppression of queer folks and bisexuals in particular hadn't pushed me right past the waiting rocking chair and into the struggle for our rights. When I came out, twenty-two years ago, I was a happily mar-

ried, incipient social worker with two children, 10 & 13. Five years later, I was a widowed clinical social worker, part way through a ten year relationship with another woman, and mother to two teenagers, one of them also bi.

Five years after that, I had left Nebraska and was on my way to Maine. My bi activism flowered when I found the ME Bi People's Network (MBPN), BBWN, and BBMN (Boston's bi women's and men's networks.) Such rich resources and great people! At the 1989 Harvard bi conference, an unexpected invitation to write a chapter for Bi Any Other Name put my name in print.

Then, an ally and I co-founded the Unitarian Universalist Bisexual Network (UUBN). We even made a banner and led a bi contingent at the '93 March on Washington. Finally free from the closet of an agency job and with no children to support, I became a sexual orientation educator, working to make the world safe for bisexuals, especially in the health and mental health arenas.

That has been my major work ever since. I'm a passionate folk music fan and enjoy playing, singing, and listening to traditional music. I have a passion for fiber arts: quilting and other fabric play. Love to walk those Maine beaches. And I just fell in love with a little kayak I met a couple of weeks ago. Stay tuned....

Trans Forum: As I Was Saying....

by Daralyn S Maxwell

It becomes obvious to one, after a while, that you can only sustain so many mind-boggling self-discoveries before you conclude that most of life runs on little lesser-impact self-realizations and evidences of truth. And so it is with me, in my evolution toward womanhood.

There are, as well, a few inescapable facts, such as the experiences that a mother and daughter "might" have shared in the youth of the child. These were not available to me, obviously, and so I have had to draw my own conclusions. I share some of them with you here, partially so that anyone following in my footsteps might save a few moments of anxiety over one detail or another; and for the rest of my readers this merely serves as a lesson on consumerism and other fascinating details of daily life.

1 - Cheap panties suck. Absolutely nothing is as annoying as losing the shape of your underwear after about 30 minutes of a 10 hour day. I mean, JEEZ, if you can't spring for the good stuff and you haven't even transitioned yet, plan on being trailer trash and buying your next formal dress at Walmart.

2 - Get a life. You have absolutely GOT to go out and make

friends. Well of course it's hard! What good things in life are all that easy? Besides...friends dampen the drudgery of your having to do things that everyone else does, like work, pay bills and fret over relationships. And it gives you someone to go out and schmooz with on Friday after work and you can BOTH bitch about stuff.

3 - Tell the cosmetic ladies the truth. "Well of course that concealer and blush are for me! Ya think my mother sends me out for HER cosmetics?" Besides, if you ever want to find out what really works, unless you just won the Megabucks, good cosmetics aren't cheap, and experimenting with every shade that Clinique ever issued gets damn expensive. Besides, Crusty the Clown (ala Simpsons) doesn't need an understudy.

4 - Tell your lingerie salesperson the truth! Well JEEZ LOUISE! You think the cosmetics stuff is tough, try stuffing yourself into a way-too-small brassiere. Ok...Mom didn't take you out for your first bra when you were 13. Hey...your name was Fred, not Emily. A good fit will save hours of not only misery, but wear marks on your body. Besides, it's nice to have something to wear that doesn't require the 5th Fleet to remove.

5 - Get over it!! Ok...you're ready to go out. Where to go?? I've

got it...Shop & Save (skip Shaws-they're jerks and homophobes). Well sure the cashier is going to look at you funny. If it's the same one I get all the time, she's probably wondering how you got your hair that amazing color. That IS your hair, isn't it? Ooops. Being an emotional shut-in gets really boring, even if you are the most brilliant conversationalist on the planet.

Eventually, you will rebuke yourself for having a conversation already dealt with and accuse yourself of being mundane and repetitious. So...go somewhere, have fun and ignore the morons. You will get better at it, and they will still be morons.

Say...this sounds suspiciously like rules for getting along with people no matter what your deal is. If I didn't know better, I'd suspect that my life as a transgendered woman follows the basic rules of decency. To have a friend, you gotta be one; and telling the truth doesn't have as many repercussions. Cool! Ok...I gotta go....I'm outta radishes or something.

Dal Maxwell applies makeup and massacres vegetables in Portland Maine. She can be reached thru CPR or at her e-mail address: dalmax@ime.net

CPR Mailbag: Community Pride Reporter

Now let me get this straight: In the July/August edition of CPR, David Cook "Waxes nostalgic and laments over the long-lost 'good old days' of the Fine Arts Cinema-a place (like most public sex environments) where the male visitors predominantly do not self-identify as

gay, bi or any sense of the word queer. A place where many of the men who engage in unsafe sex with other men return home to their wives or girlfriends. So the 'good old days' equals anonymous, unsafe sex with closeted, repressed men? Hmm... a fascinating new spin on

the meaning of gay pride. Of The "broad rainbow of possibilities" in defining pride, I must admit this one slipped my mind. Thank you, David, for confirming my suspicions as to which "community" you're committed to "servicing."

Rick MacPherson, Portland

Rant: A response

by David Cook

As I see it, the primary issue is the right of people to the pursuit of happiness and, by extension, their rights to freedom of speech and assembly and safety from unreasonable searches and seizures.

If we accept your assumptions about the composition of the Fine Arts' audience and its activities and their consequences, then what you

should be demanding is more STD prevention and sexual awareness education, especially "on the streets." The idea is to accommodate the real lives and real behavior of real people, not to repress those people in the hope that what they do that you don't like will somehow go away. It doesn't matter whether they "self-identify" as gay, bi, queer, closeted, or repressed they are

entitled to the same consideration as "out-and-proud" card carrying queers. They certainly do not deserve the tone of contempt in your letter nor the police harassment that has been going on at the Fine Arts for two years.

As to the cute double entendre in your last sentence, I really don't think that invidious comparisons of our respective sex lives has much to do with anything.

Letter to the Editor

Dear CPR,

We want to alert community members to potential risks in seeking counseling services from Mr. Ari Kane (also using the names Theseus Counseling Services and Gender Outreach Institute) with offices in Augusta, Maine, and Brookline, Massachusetts.

This alert is of particular concern to transgenders, transsexuals, &/or transvestites. Be advised that the Complaints and Investigations Division, Office of Licensing & Registration of the Maine Department of Professional and Financial Regulation informs us that Mr. Ari Kane is not licensed in Maine.

This means Maine does not recognize him as a mental health professional in any capacity, and he has not completed the testing, education, and other parts of the professional credentialing process necessary for licensing or registration. He is not a PhD, MD, licensed psychologist, social worker, or counselor. In June, we attended a workshop on transgender issues presented by Mr. Kane at Symposium XXIII.

At the beginning of this workshop, Mr. Kane asked each attendee to introduce him/herself by name and home town which everyone did. Later in the workshop, Mr. Kane gave some details about a client's request for services in dealing with a family member's specific trans issue. Mr. Kane identified the client by gender, profession, family constellation, and Maine hometown in a way which would have allowed any workshop attendee to locate this person with one or two phone calls.

Bobbi interrupted Mr. Kane to point out that he was violating the client's confidentiality and the code of ethics of a mental health professional (She assumed he was one since that was how he had introduced himself) and that their information he had revealed made it possible for each of us to locate that client.

Mr. Kane brushed off her interruption saying "Well, I was just trying to give an example." She responded to the effect that professional ethics do not allow use of that

kind of example. He didn't respond to her comments, changed the subject, and went on with the workshop. We are concerned that Mr. Kane while represents himself as a mental health professional, he doesn't appear to be bound by a professional code of ethics, and that he may breach the confidentiality of other clients who use his services &/or the confidentiality of workshop attendees.

Mr. Kane is not violating Maine state laws which govern professional services unless he accepts money from a person to whom he has misrepresented himself &/or the person believes he has been harmed while in paid "treatment" by him. Current or past violations in Maine or other states may be reported to David Spencer, Maine's Assistant Attorney General who can work with clients and Attorneys General in other states. Information may be given anonymously. Sources of information will not be revealed without the donor's consent. These concerns about Mr. Kane's practice are also being pursued in MA.

Boy Sues over Anti-gay Slurs

Saying school officials did little to stop boys from taunting him with anti-gay slurs, a 12-year-old Pacifica boy has sued the Laguna Salada Union School District and school administrators.

The suit, filed in San Mateo County Superior Court, identifies the boy only as "Student Doe" and targets administrators and unnamed students at Ortega and Vallemar middle schools in Pacifica.

The student, who has switched to an alternative school, has said he endured taunts of "faggot," "girl" and "gay-gay" for years by boys who

thought he was gay. He said the name-calling worsened in 1995 and 1996, when he began losing weight, developing migraines and asthma, and became depressed.

Teachers and administrators knew the student was being "harassed, assaulted and battered and discriminated against," but did little to stop the abuse, even after he sought help, the suit says.

"The school district had enforced policies and procedures to prevent sexual harassment, discrimination and violence to girls, yet refused to enforce the policies with

respect to Student Doe simply because (he) was perceived as gay and because they were afraid of controversy," the suit alleges.

The school offered an in-class training session on sexual harassment, but the boy said his classmates thought it was a joke. The students were given 20 minutes to read a booklet that contained one passing reference to boys who harass other boys. Mark Davis, an attorney for the school district, had not yet seen the lawsuit. "I'm still hopeful that the matter can be resolved informally and without formal litigation," he said.

Community Pride Reporter

P.O. Box 178
Saco Maine
04072

207-282-4311
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207-282-4551

Our Mission

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

Our Editorial Policy

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

Submissions Welcome

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

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All electronic transmissions are due by the 25th of each month. All other submissions are due by the 20th of each month.

Community Pride Resources

ML/GPA

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

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

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

Northern Lambda Nord

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

The Matlovich Society

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

National Association of Social Workers, ME.

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

Hate Crimes & Bias Incidents:

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

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

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

The Rainbow Business & Professional Association

A state-wide, non-profit organization established to create a gay, lesbian, bi and transgendered "chamber of commerce" for Maine. Meetings for networking or dinner with speaker events, held in the Greater Portland area, second Monday of the month. FMI write P.O. Box 6627, Scarborough, ME 04070-6627, call 207-775-0015 or e-mail wildboys@mainelink.net.

Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights

Trains and deploys volunteers state-wide to speak with citizen groups in their towns and regions about their lives and the lives of others who experience discrimination in Maine. For information on activities in your county: 207-879-0480 or write: MSOP, 123 Congress St., #1, Portland 04101. You need not be a speaker to work with Speakout!

Identity Support

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings

Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & North Main Streets. (use Washington St. entrance). FMI call 603-472-4044.

Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at Stratham Community Church, Emery Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle). FMI call 603-772-5196.

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

Maine P-FLAG Meetings

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

Brunswick/Bath: Brunswick-Bath Chapter of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) meets on the last Thursday of each month at 7pm in the room across from the library, Mid-Coast Hospital, Brunswick. Please use the back door from the back parking lot. FMI call 207-729-0519.

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

Women's Center

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

NA: Just for Today

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

OutandAbout

a lesbian support and educational group, meets on 1st & 3rd Wednesday monthly, 7:00 pm., United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave, Portsmouth, NH. FMI: POB 5691, Portsmouth, NH 03902, or call 603-430-5418.

Am Chofshi

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

Ester Congregational Church

United Church of Christ in Exeter, NH has adopted an Open and Affirming Statement &

welcomes all God's children to worship, Sundays, 10 am 21 Front St. (near Court St.) Co-pastors the Revs. Michael L.C. Henderson & Jane Geffken Henderson. FMI call Ingrid at 603-772-6221.

Lesbian/Gay Catholics

The organization Dignity/Meine offers supportive Masses for LGBT Catholics & their friends/families. Meets every Sunday at 6:00 pm in St. Luke's Cathedral, side chapel, 143 State St., Portland. Coffee & dessert after the liturgy. FMI call Rosemary or Janet: 207-646-2820 or Laurie: 207-878-0546 or write: Dignity/Meine, POB 8113, Portland 04104. All replies kept confidential.

The Appollo Society

an out-reach, networking and social organization for New England's gay and lesbian atheists, free-thinkers, ethical humanists and Hellenes. Free speech/civil rights advocacy group offering freedom-from-religion support, religious de-programming and fun! FMI call 207-773-5726 or P.O. Box 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

Community of Hope

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

Central Maine Gay Men's Support Group

We provide a safe place to discuss issues going on in our lives or just to be with people in a safe non-alcoholic environment.

FMI call 207-621-1888 or 207-621-4254.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Discussion Group

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

Support Group—Penobscot & Surrounding Counties

For men who have sex with men. Monthly meetings to talk about issues and concerns. Call 207-990-2095 for more info & meeting times.

Q-Squad

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

TransSupport

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

Gender Talk North

Gender support. Write for newsletter, P.O. Box 421, Peterborough, NH 03458. 603-924-8828. E-mail gtnorth@top.monad.net Web page (under construction) <http://top.monad.net/~gtnorth/index.htm>

Trans Counseling

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

Maine Bisexual People's Network

Meets as a part of Bisexual Discussion & Support Group (see listing below). For counseling &/or other bi support, write: PO Box 10818, Portland, ME, 04104-6818

Bisexual Discussion & Support Group

Discussion and support group for women and men. Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays monthly, 7:30-9pm in room 1,

Payson Smith Hall, Falmouth st., University of SoME, Portland. Open to non-students and students of all ages.

FMI Fax: SHOLMES@maine.maine.edu or Call 780-3757 (private voice mail)

Polyamorous Life Support (PALS)

Do you love more than one person? You may be polyamorous. Polyamorous Life Support (PALS) is a discussion/support group for people interested in creating/nourishing committed, loving, multi-partner relationships. Whether curious or already multiply intimate, call 207-773-6132 FMI.

Prisoners of Gender

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

Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group

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

Dover, NH

Gay/Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered support Group meets Sundays 7-8pm, Quaker Mtg.

House, Central Ave. Social times too. FMI call 603-743-GAY2 eves.

Lewiston/Auburn

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

Bangor Lesbian Support Group

This Lesbian Support Group welcomes any woman who self-identifies as a lesbian. They seek to create woman-only, lesbian-positive space to explore issues and affirm themselves and each another as lesbians. Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm.

Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center

334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: call 207-947-5337.

SNAP.

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

DEGLO (Down East Gay & Lesbian Org.)

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

Maine Gender Resource & Support Service

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

All Maine Transgender

Group Support for all Crossdressers, Transvestites, Transgenders, Transsexuals. All inclusive group, gay, lesbian, bi, straight. Confidential and discreet, Bangor meeting place. Meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Call 207-947-1686 for time and place, or FMI write AMT P.O. Box 145 Brewer, ME 04412.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group

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

Mothers and Kids Group

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

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

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

Tuesdays: People living with HIV disease and all friends, families, lovers and caregivers, 10:30 am-Noon. TAP, 142 High Street Suite 632, Portland, ME 04101.

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

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

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

Thursdays: People living with HIV meets from 5:30-7 pm. TAP, 142 High Street Suite 632, Portland, ME 04101.

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

The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 142 High St., 6th floor. except the Tuesday group, Living Well. FMI on that call Sandy Titus at Stratogen Health Care. Call Jane O'Rourke at 207-774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.

Family and Friends Accepting Change Together (FFACT), a support group sponsored by Northern Maine AIDS Network for friends, families &

careproviders. Meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm, at the Aroostook Medical Center, conference room A. Presque Isle. FMI, Deb Madore of Health 1st, 207-768-3056 or 1-800-432-7881.

Auburn: People living with HIV disease, Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm at Auburn Family Planning. Call Diana Carrigan, Androscoggin and Oxford Case Manager and Support Services Coordinator for TAP at the Auburn office, 207-783-7301.

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

Children's Support Group: Fun activities and outings for children who are affected by HIV/AIDS. Meetings are held twice monthly on Mondays 3:30pm - 5:00pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, Park St., behind City Hall in Bangor. FMI call 207-990-3626.

Women's Support Group: Women living with HIV, meets the last Wednesday of each month 10:45am - 12:00pm. Call 207-990-3626.

Biddeford: People affected or infected by HIV, Mondays, 5:30-7:00 pm. So. ME. Medical Center classroom opposite cafeteria on 2nd floor. Call John Bean, York County Case Manager, 207-774-6877.

Farmington: Thursdays: 6:30-8:30 pm. HIV+ support group. Call Christie

Foster at Tri-County Health Services, 778-4553, for location.

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

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

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

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

New Hampshire:

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

Keene: Support group for families, friends, partners of persons living with AIDS or who have died of AIDS. Confidential & anonymous. Meets every other Wed., at Planned Parenthood, 7-8:30 pm. Call Dorothy Anderson at 603-756-4735.

Keene: Support group for HIV positive people and those living with AIDS meets alternate Mon. 6:30 pm. For details

call Schultz, 603-357-5270.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Phone Support By Region

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

Man 2 Man hotline -Providing HIV/AIDS information, and referrals for identity and emotional support services. Staffed Mon-Fri 8:30 - 4:30. Call 207-990-2095 or in Maine 1-800-429-1481.

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

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

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

HIV-AIDS Prevention Project:

Staffed Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7 - 9 pm. Call 207-498-2088 or (Maine) 800-468-2088

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

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

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

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

Bangor: Eastern Maine AIDS Network: 990-3626

Penobscot County: HIV/AIDS Hotline-1-800-429-1481

Belfast: Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: 338-1427

Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: 725-4995

Bridgton: Community Task Force

on AIDS: 583-6608 -

Rumford: Community AIDS Awareness Program: 823-4170

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

Waterville: Dayspring: 626-3435

Ellsworth: Down East AIDS Network: 667-3506

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

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

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG) Contacts in Maine (* indicates monthly meetings)

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

*Dover-Foxcroft: 564-7986 -

Sharon

*Brunswick/Bath: 729-0519 - Sally

& Gene

*Lewiston/Auburn: 783-6964 -

Estelle

*Portland: Rita, 766-5158 or Sue,

774-3441

Waldoboro: Sue - 832-5859

CONTACTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline: 603-623-6023

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

Concord: Judy, 603/485-3943

Webster: Betsy, 603/746-3818

Nashua: Nancy, 603/880-8709

Kensington: Nora/John, 603/772-3893

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-5196

Francestown: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2545

Holderness: Olivia, 603/968-7254

Rumney: Ann, 603/786-9812

Center Sandwich: Tish, 603/284-6434

DOVER, NH:

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual &

Transgender Helpline for information, referral or need to talk. M-F 6-10 pm, Sat.-Sun. 9am-2pm. 603/743-GAY2.

Maine AIDs Alliance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Service: PO Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011. Call 207-725-4955.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Medical Support

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England

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

FREE FAMILY THERAPY

available for individuals & families (of any type) who are affected by HIV disease. FMI, contact Chris Behan, MSW at Center for Training and Special Programs. 207-773-6658.

Teen Life Center

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

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic

Portland STD Clinic provides full range of services from screening & treatment, education & counseling and HIV antibody testing and counseling. Located in Room 303 of City Hall. Anonymous HIV testing by appointment on weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm. Call 207-874-8784. For other STD services: 207-874-8446.

Coping with Caregiving

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

Breast self-exam classes

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

Youth Support

OUTRIGHT

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

Outright Too: Supportive, informative and social meetings for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning youth age 22 and under. Safe place for questions, growth, and fun. Held twice monthly. FMI call 207-990-3626, Shawn or Shannetta

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

Portland: Meets every Fri., 7:30-9:30 pm, The People's Building, 155 Brackett St., 2nd floor, Portland. Safe & supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5077, Portland, ME. 04101.

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

Concord: Meets every Thurs., 7-9

pm at UU Church, 274 Pleasant St., next to concord Hospital & Orthopedics Clinic. 603/664-9169.

Monadnock: Meets every Thurs., 7-9 pm at "The Place To Go", 46 Concord St. (Rt. 202 N), Peterborough, 603/547-2545.

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

Seacoast: Meets every Sun. 5-7 pm (movie night), Tues. 6-8 pm (drop in), & Friday from 7 to 9 pm (support group) at the UU Church Annex (next to fire station), 206 Court St., Portsmouth NH. FMI call 603/431-1013, P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03801.

COLAGE

A national support group run by and for the children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents. FMI call COLAGE, 2300 Market St., #165, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

THE MAINE YOUTH PROTECTION COUNCIL

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

Social Groups

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

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

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

W.O.W. (Wild Outdoor Women): Recreational group meets monthly for outdoor activities followed by pot luck socials.

Activities: biking, hiking, camping, canoeing, kayaking. FMI: Jen @ 207-787-2379

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

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

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

LINC: Lesbians Inviting New Connections. A network serving women in

New England. FMI call Pauli at 603-668-9245.

Mountain Valley Men (MVM): A group of gay men of all ages in 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: MVM, Box 36, Ctr Conway, NH 03813; Paul or Dave at 207-925-1034; e-mail DFISPALP@AOL.COM.

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

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

Chilton Mountain Club: Gay and Lesbian outdoor organization with about 1,200 members throughout New England. Activities include hiking, back packing, biking, canoeing, skiing ect; Monthly newsletter listing trips each month. Call either Tracy Green at 207-828-2535 or Mike Boisvert at 603-669-1936.

Online/Internet

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

The Maine GayNet Home Page
An ever-changing display of events and information. Meetings, contact people, resources, & referrals. Point your WEB Browser to: <http://>

www.qrd.org/www/usa/maine. FMI e-mail Paula Stockholm: paula@maine.com.

San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Tourism Guide

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

Music & Art

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

Maine Gay Men's Chorus
a community chorus which brings men together to enhance social tolerance

and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. FMI call 774-2704 or write M.G.M.C., P.O. Box 10391, Portland, ME. 04104.

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

Calendar Items

Thursday, Sept 18th, 7 - 9 pm T42 High Street, Portland

8-Week Drop-in Discussion Group for all gay, bisexual, married, and other men who have sex with men meeting weekly from Sept 18 - Nov. 6. Open to all men regardless of serostatus. Come and meet other guys to share experience around sexuality, coming out, concerns about HIV etc. This is a free program designed to provide a safe, supportive, and confidential space for all Men who have sex with men. Sponsored by the AIDS Project Portland. More info: Gerry 774-6877 Tuesdays, Sept 16, 23, 30, 7 - 9 pm, 42 High Street, Portland

Meet other guys to share experiences around sexuality, dating, coming out, etc. Groups are open to all HIV-

negative men who have sex with men: gay, married, bi. Groups are safe and confidential opportunities to talk and get support for staying HIV negative, dealing with testing issues, coming out, finding community, coping with the bars, alcohol, etc.. **This is a free program but you must preregister Call Gerry at 774-6877**

Saturday, Sept 20, 7pm York County Community Dinner at the Willow Tree Restaurant, Rte 1, Wells, Maine ('ust south of the Shop n Save Plaza in Wells Come to a free community dinner for all gay, bisexual, married, just coming out, been out for years etc men who have sex with men A delicious meal and entertainment will be provided. Let's find each other in York County. Sponsored by the AIDS Project Portland. Free but please RSVP by calling Gerry at 774-6877

Dignity Maine/New Hampshire

The Mission of Dignity/New Hampshire is to create a community among the Catholic GLBT people of New Hampshire and their friends. Our goal is to affirm each other in our faith, as well as to promote the Catholic tradition through liturgy, prayer, retreats, social activities, community building activities and service projects. Our Liturgies are open to all peoples, regardless of beliefs. We meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month in Manchester. Please call 603-647-0206 for times and directions.

SINGLE MEN CONVERGE!

Single Men's Weekend in Provincetown celebrates its fifth year November 6 - 9, 1997. The weekend is an unique opportunity for single gay men to interact and participate in a variety of activities including wonderful workshops, provocative discussion groups, playful parties, tantalizing tours, delectable dinners and jubilant dances.

The festivities begin Thursday evening with a Pizza Party (\$10). Back by popular demand, Friday's day long seminar Finding Mr. Right, led by Dr. Larry Harmon, is an interactive and

playful workshop on meeting the right man, dating him, and developing a successful relationship (\$25 includes lunch). On Saturday and Sunday participants select from over 60 different workshops, events and parties scheduled (\$50 (\$60 after Oct. 31 st)). The weekend's grand finale on Sunday evening is a delightful dinner show. To receive a brochure (available September 2) or register, call (888)88P-TOWN, email ptown@capecod.net or write Single Men's Weekend, PO Box 1982, Provincetown, MA 02657.

MEDITATION & MYSTICISM

Sundays 7-8:15 PM each week - an introduction to Sant Mat. The format: readings (including poetry) from the writings of various Mystics and Saints on the spiritual journey, followed by a 30-minute silent meditation. Free, new people always welcome.

Location: Silo Seven, 7 Bomarc Road, BANGOR. The facilitator: James Bean- who writes for Maine Well-Being Press, produces a syndicated radio program on spirituality called Spiritual Awakening, and facilitates classes in Maine on meditation and Shabda Yoga. FMI call 207-368-5866.

ADVOCATE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT"

BIDDEFORD, MAINE. Sexual Assault Response Services is expanding its York County services. In addition to a new office in Sanford, we will sponsor a sexual assault advocacy training program beginning on Monday, September 15, 1997. It will run from 6:00-9:00 p.m. for six weeks on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

This 40 hour training program will cover issues of sexual assault and child sexual abuse; medical, police, and legal protocols; and crisis intervention. Upon completion of the training, people will be prepared to work on our 24 hour hotline. Continuing Education Units are available. No previous experience necessary. Interested applicants should contact Mary Axelsen at 1-800-313-9900.

GLADD AA

group meets each Monday 7:30 - 9:00 pm at the First Congregational Church, 177 North Main Street, Concord, NH. Use Washington Street Entrance.

Special Announcement

We are writing this notice to inform you of some of the changes we are experiencing. First, we have a new office located at 175 Lancaster St., Suite 214 B, Portland, ME 04101. Any and all correspondence should be sent to the new address beginning Oct-1-1997, drop-in are always welcomed. We can be reached by phone at (207)282-4311 or if you want to send a Fax the number will remain 282-4551 until further notice.

Display Ads, are as follows, \$14.00 per column inch up to an 1/8th page size ad. All larger sized ad prices will remain the same. Rate sheets are available, just give us a call.

The newspaper has also changed in size as you may have noticed. This change was necessary to enable us to keep the paper printed and also to meet it's growing financial responsibilities. We also have had to institute new policy's for CPR. These are as follows:

- 1) All payments are due in advance.
- 2) If you do not have an extended contract you must send advanced payment for your ad no later than the 27th of each month or your Ad will not be placed.
- 3) Non-Profit Organizations are eligible for a 10% discount for Advertising.

Sincerely yours, Catherine Clark, Publishing Editor CPR
& Angel Castro, Managing Editor CPR

Gay/Lesbian Travel

"CALL US FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS!"

We Can Book:

RSVP Cruises • Atlantis Events • Windjammer Cruises • Ollvia Cruises
• Dude Ranches • Rafting Trips • Airline Tickets • Hotel Reservations •
Car Rentals • Cruises • Much More

IGTA

International Gay Travel Association
Maine's First Member Travel Agency

ADVENTURE TRAVEL, INC.

Two Elsie Way • P.O. Box 6610
Scarborough, ME 04070-6610
(207) 885-5060



Gay Lesbian Weekend College

Gay and Lesbian Weekend College Offered in L.A. The Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education and the School's Outprogram of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center have joined forces to offer a weekend college of minicourses September 19-21. The program, entitled "Queer 2000: Where Do We Go From Here?," covers gay and lesbian issues in the areas of psychology, film, communication, politics and culture.

Individual courses discuss each of these subjects from the perspectives of the past, the present and the future; selected topics include "Coming Out," "Computers and the Gay Community," "How to Argue for Gay and Lesbian Rights," and "Lesbian Culture: Creativity, Conflict and Coalition." Co-sponsoring the event are the city of West Hollywood, Frontiers newsmagazine, A Different Light bookstore, PlanetOut, and ONE/International Gay and Lesbian Archives.

The keynote speaker is Tom Rielly, co-founder of the Digital Queers community-service group and Chief Executive Officer of PlanetOut, the largest Internet service for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. Rielly will address college participants on "The Digitally Queer Future: Peril and Promise." Program instructors are psychologists

Pat Alford-Keating and Greg Travis, anthropologist Walter Williams, historian David Bianco, film historians Sue Scheibler and Stephen Tropiano, social scientist Yolanda Retter, literary critic Luke Johnson, photographer Pat Branch, and brain scientist Simon LeVay (author of the gay biomedical thriller, Albrick's Gold).

Torie Osborn, long-time lesbian activist and former director of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, will moderate the concluding event, a town meeting where enrollees can debate an agenda for the lesbian and gay future. Other events include a historical exhibition organized by ONE/International Gay and Lesbian Archives and a game of Queer Jeopardy 2000.

All classes and events will be held in West Hollywood, California. Registration costs \$75, with a special rate of \$60 for those who register by September 5. Full-time students may participate for only \$35. For registration information, contact the Gay and Lesbian Center's Community Education Department at 1625 North Schrader Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90028. Telephone number is (213) 461-2633. Or visit the college's web site at <http://www.PlanetOut.com/Queer2000>.

Writer shares Marketing Tips

Portland Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance is sponsoring a one-day workshop, "Marketing the Personal Essay," led by Deborah Dalfonso. The class will be held on Saturday, September 13 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, Mackworth Island, Portland. The cost is \$45 for MWPA members, \$65 for others. Call 729-6333 to register; enrollment limited to 15.

Dalfonso will share her step-by-step method for finding the right publication and developing an idea into a marketable essay. She believes that her approach will work for anyone whose writing is of publishable quality. This method has been remarkably successful for her; she freelanced for six years before she received her first rejection letter—a record that astonishes most writers.

Deborah Dalfonso of South Portland has published over 50 essays in such publications as *Lear's*, *Reader's Digest*, *Yankee Magazine's* *Travel Guide to New England*, *Cosmopolitan*, *American Health*, and *Parenting*, and is a frequent contributor

to *Down East*. One of her essays will be included in a textbook, *Models for Writers: Short Essays*, forthcoming from SL Martin's Press in January 1998. She is currently co-authoring a biography of Christina Olson, forthcoming from Down East Books in July 1998, and has another book under contract.

The sponsor, Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance (MWPA), is a nonprofit literary organization that promotes the value of literature and the art of writing by building a community of writers, readers, and publishers within Maine. Those interested in more information are urged to call 729-6333 or write to Jill Shultz at 12 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME 04011. For further information, CONTACT: Jill Shultz, MWPA, 729-6333

CALENDAR PSA: Learn How to Publish your Essays with Deborah Dalfonso. Saturday, September 13 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf in Portland. Call Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance to register, 729-6333.

Poems Wanted

A \$1,000.00 grand prize is being offered in a free poetry contest sponsored by Celestial Arts, open to everyone. A whopping \$25,000.00 in prizes will be awarded during the coming year!

Even if you have never entered a competition before," says Poetry Editor Tina Thom as, this is an opportunity to win big. Even if you have written only one poem it deserves to be read and appreciated. Beginners are welcome!" To enter send one

original poem on any subject, using any style, to: Free Poetry Contest, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd., Suite 4, Ashland, OR 97520. Or enter online at www.famouspoets.com.

Be sure your poem is 21 lines or less and your name and address appear on the page with the copy of your poem. The deadline for entering 15 September 22. A new competition starts October 1. All entrants will be professionally affirmed.

Recipients Question Status of Benefits

Those eligible for reciprocal benefits through the state are questioning whether they would have to pay the money back if the benefits policy changes.

The Legislature passed the reciprocal benefits concept this year. It allows two adults that cannot legally marry to share health benefits. The relationships eligible would include a parent and a child; an aunt or uncle and niece or nephew; and gay couples.

But the attorney general's office is looking into the legality of offering such benefits. Attorney General Margery Bronster has said essentially that most Hawaii companies are not required to provide medical coverage under the law.

One man who gets coverage from his partner's state health plan is concerned that he may have to pay the

state back for the premiums it has already paid. Daniel Thomas Peralta also said instead of that, the state could simply demand that he pay 100 percent of the premiums. Peralta now pays 40 percent.

Other are holding off on signing up for the policy until the state or courts reach a decision. "This whole issue has pitted the gay community against the straight community," said Susan Reardon, who has decided to wait before applying for medical benefits.

Businesses are arguing that they may have to cut back on benefits for families to give medical coverage to reciprocal beneficiaries, she said.

Deputy Attorney General Cynthia Quinn said the office has not determined whether state workers would be forced to repay the money.

A Fight for Custody

Elise Green says she initially raised the child of her former lesbian partner. Now, in a case that might set an Arizona precedent, she wants to be named its mother, with custody and visitation rights. "We're seeking to have her established as a parent of a minor child, with rights to shared custody and guarantees of visitation," Nancy McDade, attorney for Green, said Wednesday.

Green and Shari Wilson, 32-year-old lesbians, began living together in August 1990. "Ms. Green and her lawyer have talked about the need to expand the definition of 'family,'" Wilson, the biological mother of Hayley, now 2, conceived through artificial insemination, said in a statement recently.

"I do not question that there are situations in which one partner in a same-sex relationship should be allowed to have visitation with the partner's child. But that would not require any new law or any new definition of family."

Wilson declined to be interviewed but said in her statement that Green had deserted her for another woman with three children. Green said she stayed home from her job for the first 15 months of Hayley's life and was her primary caregiver. Wilson said Green stayed home because she "could not find a job that suited her."

Green filed a suit two months ago seeking an order under a statute that requires mandatory DNA testing; if she were to pass the test, she would be listed on the child's birth certificate as its mother or father. "There's no provision anywhere in that law for a woman who did not give birth to sue to be declared a parent," said James Stroud, Wilson's

attorney, who argued in a Pima County Superior Court hearing for the suit's dismissal.

A letter in the court file that Wilson wrote Green in May, several months after the couple broke up, says when she decided to have Hayley she felt she and Green would stay together. "I thought of you as her mother and as her primary parent. But I stopped seeing you that way when you abruptly left our family," it said.

In an interview with *The Arizona Daily Star*, Green said Wilson had told her on Mother's Day "I want you out of our lives." She said Wilson told her to stop visiting the child. Green's maternity suit is not an attempt to replace Wilson's role as a parent, McDade said. "We're fully recognizing her role as a parent as well." Green, an inspector with the U.S. Customs Service, said the relationship ended shortly after she returned to work.

McDade likened the case to that of a traditional family breakup in which a child's relationship with one parent is severed. Both lawyers said the case is without precedent in Arizona. "It is unusual, but I expect it will become more important as society changes," McDade said.

"If custody rights are denied, Green will seek visitation under a recently adopted state law that can grant such rights to someone who has been treated as a parent by the child and who has formed a meaningful relationship." That's where the case belongs, Stroud said but he stressed that the case is one of non-parental visitation rights. And he said Wilson will oppose such rights if the case reaches that point.

Nationwide Photo/Text Exhibit Coming to Belfast

"A family is a bunch of people, or not so many, who love each other," explains seven-year old Liza. Liza's family is one among twenty families represented in the photograph-text exhibit, "LOVE MAKES A FAMILY," which will be on display in Belfast during early September.

In this traveling exhibit, Amherst photographer Gigi Kaeser depicts a variety of families with gay or lesbian family members moms, dads, grandparents, and/or young adults. An accompanying text for each photo includes edited remarks from interviews with family members, conducted by writers Peggy Gillespie and Pam Brown. Six copies of the exhibit are currently touring the United States, including the display which will be shown in Belfast.

The "LOVE MAKES A FAMILY" photo exhibit will be displayed at the Spring Street Gallery from September 5-13. An opening reception will be held on Friday, September 5 between 5-7pm. Immediately following the reception, a panel discussion will be presented at the Abbott Room in the Belfast Free Library. The discussion, entitled "Living In Gay and Lesbian Families in Mid-Coast Maine" will feature six panelists who will describe their family life experiences. Panelists will include gay/lesbians who are parenting children, parents with

gay/lesbian children, other family members and a person whose family definition extends beyond the nuclear family. Many will be local people.

According to Sandra Gill is, Executive Director of PFLAG, "This exhibit reminds us all that the fundamentals of love and support are to be found in all types of families, including gay and lesbian families. At PFLAG, we find that ignorance about gay and lesbian people is the greatest single barrier to strong and healthy families and communities. 'LOVE MAKES A FAMILY' can be an important tool for overcoming ignorance and homophobia in that it presents truthful images of gay and lesbian people in the context of family."

The exhibit is the second community-wide event offered by the Common Circle for Human Rights. To allow for further discussion on family issues, the next Common Circle meeting on Tuesday September 23rd, will allow for more networking to occur between gay/lesbian and other non-traditional families. Support for the event is provided by Southern Maine Pride, the Maine Community Foundation and the Maine Equity Fund. For more information about the exhibit or the panel discussion, contact Mitzi Lichtman at 338-5889.

Well Child Health Clinic

Visiting nurse association & hospice well child health clinic for children two months to 10 years. SouthPortland Church of the Nazarene 525 Highland ave., South Portland, first Friday of every month next clinic: Friday, September 5, 1997 8:30am to noon by appointment only \$2.00 immunization fee for any South Portland resident for: uninsured families

Families whose insurance does not cover routine office visits medic-aid. services include physical exams, immunization and lead tests. for further information and to make an appointment, please call the VNA & Hospice at 780-8624. Adult immunization clinic health screening clinic for adults minimum age: 18

Offering Blood Pressure checks; Blood Sugar checks; Cholesterol Screening; TB Skin tests; Hepatitis B vaccine; Measles, Mumps, and Rubella vaccine; Tetanus/Diphtheria vaccine; Flu vaccine (seasonal); and Pneumonia vaccine to adults age 18 and older. To be held the 3rd Tuesday of every month 1-4PM. Appointment Required Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice 50 Foden Road, South Portland Tuesday, September 16, 1997

FMI Call the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice [780-8624] to make an appointment or for cost information. Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice and American cancer society guidance in grieving: Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice and American cancer society guidance in grieving at Methodist Church, Elm St., South Portland second Monday of every month. Next meeting: Monday, September 8, 1997 7:15pm.

FMI, please contact: Kathleen Keane Reed, RN (207) 780-8624 or Grace Moulton, RN (207) 799-3179 Rev. Tom White (207) 799-0407

"ADVOCATE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT"

BIDDEFORD, MAINE. Sexual Assault Response Services is expanding its York County services. In addition to a new office in Sanford, we will sponsor a sexual assault advocacy training program beginning on Monday, September 15, 1997. It will run from 6:00-9:00 p.m. for six weeks on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

This 40 hour training program will cover issues of sexual assault and child sexual abuse; medical, police, and legal protocols; and crisis intervention. Upon completion of the training, people will be prepared to work on our 24 hour hotline. Continuing Education Units are available. No previous experience necessary. Interested applicants should contact Mary Axelsen at 1-800-313-9900.

YCAN Needs You

York County AIDS Network (YCAN) needs talented and energetic volunteers to serve on the Coordinating Committee, subcommittees, write grants, provide HIV antibody test counseling, and assist with fundraising. York County AIDS Network is a group of eleven providers of health and social services who have been meeting since 1995. The mission of YCAN is to promote and maximize resources for those affected and infected with HIV in York County.

While YCAN has been tremendously successful in fundraising through grant writing to date, the organization needs to expand in order to continue doing the work that needs to be done in York County. We also are in critical need of people from York County with HIV infection to serve on committees.

York County is an area of high need due to the rural nature of the county; the relative lack of services; and the number of cases of HIV infection and AIDS. For example, York County has the second highest case rate of cumulative AIDS cases in the state and, in 1996, the second highest number of people testing HIV positive in the state. As of 12/96, Maine had reported 766 AIDS cases, for a case rate of 63.8/100,000 population. Only three counties in Maine reported case rates greater than that statewide average. They were: Cumberland County (at 109.26/100,000 pop.); York County (at 81/100,000 pop.); and Androscoggin County (at 66/100,000 pop.)

In 1996, 89 positive HIV tests were reported by health care providers in Maine. Cumberland County had the highest number of positive HIV tests at 34; York County had the second highest at 9; and Penobscot County had 8. All other counties reported less HIV positive tests

in 1996.

York County has been well served for case management services by the AIDS Project, Portland. Some HIV prevention outreach education occurs for specific populations (injection drug users, men who have sex with men), delivered by workers from The AIDS Project, AIDS Response of the Seacoast, and Portland Public Health Division.

However, availability of medical care, lack of knowledge of existing services, and lack of accessible anonymous HIV antibody testing have been cited by YCAN members as priority needs. The Coordinating Committee was successful in securing funds from a New Hampshire foundation last year to open four rotating anonymous test sites (in Kittery, Sanford, Kezar Falls and Wells).

Several unforeseen drawbacks prevented the test sites from opening as scheduled last year ranging from lack of a project coordinator to carry out the necessary work; to lack of approval by the state of Maine to function as an anonymous test site; to counselors to staff the test sites. With the hiring of a part-time project coordinator between May and August, approval from the state was received. YCAN is still in need of 8-10 HIV antibody test counselors, though, before the test sites can open.

If you have a few hours a month, energy, and commitment to HIV issues, please join YCAN in its important work. Call the office for a volunteer application (363-9256). Plan to attend a network meeting. Our next meeting is Sept. 8 from 2-4 p.m. at The AIDS Project's Kennebunk office, 208 Lafayette Center, 2nd floor. Donations are always welcome: YCAN, PO Box 680, York, ME 03909.

FBI Agency Request assistance from Community

Aug. 11, 1997 I have come to believe that often times there is opportunity in many of the crises in our lives. Crises can motivate us to change the way we view our world, or even more, to change the world. Recently the gay and lesbian community experienced a crisis, as Andrew Cunanan became one of the most wanted people in America.

I think we handled this situation fairly well, but many, including the FBI, have stated that the FBI could have done more during its investigation to reach out to our community. Such a public admission by the FBI is unusual, and perhaps indicative of the changes in the FBI and in their relationship with us.

As a gay man and career FBI agent, I can attest to recent changes in the FBI regarding the gays and lesbians. The FBI now has a number of openly gay and lesbian agents and support personnel (some are in supervisory positions), and the Bureau hires openly gay and lesbian applicants for these positions. During the Cunanan investigation, the Special Agent in Charge of the San Diego FBI office spoke of assigning an FBI agent as a permanent liaison to the gay and lesbian community.

We are also discussing other ideas and approaches with the FBI, which might help all of us in the future. This is an opportunity for us to take the

initiative and reach out to the FBI with our ideas, recommendations, or complaints. Request that the agent in charge of your city's FBI office appoint a permanent liaison to our community. Contact FBI Director Louis J. Freeh at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and request that he adopt this liaison program nationwide and undertake other measures to improve the FBI's relationship with us.

This moment in time affords us an excellent opportunity to take the lead and create positive changes. Our community, the FBI, and the entire country will benefit from our actions. Sincerely, Frank Buttino, San Diego, CA

Frank Buttino's Biography: Frank Buttino was born in Canastota, N.Y., and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Colgate University. After two years as a high school teacher, he received an appointment in 1969 as a Special Agent of the FBI from Director J. Edgar Hoover.

Buttino received assignments to Tampa, Fla., and later Detroit, MI, where he took part in investigations of the radical left and the Ku Klux Klan. After a year studying the Cantonese dialect of Chinese at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Ca., Buttino was assigned to San Diego in 1973.

Buttino was one of a handful of

FBI agents assigned undercover work in the mid-1970's and his subsequent organized crime investigations led to the conviction of several major organized crime figures. He was one of the first FBI Agents selected for specialized training by the Drug Enforcement Administration, and his successful investigation of a corrupt FBI Agent made national headlines.

In 1989, Buttino, assigned to foreign counter intelligence and terrorism investigations, led the FBI's investigation of the Sharon Rogers van bombing in San Diego one of the most extensive and important in the FBI's history. Despite Buttino's distinguished record, his valued recognition by every FBI director, and job performance ratings of "superior" and "outstanding", the FBI fired him after learning he was gay.

June 1990, Buttino filed a lawsuit, charging the FBI with discriminating against him based on sexual orientation. In December 1993, as Buttino's federal class-action lawsuit began, Attorney General Janet Reno issued a statement regarding the 96,000 employees of the Department of Justice, which includes the FBI.

The statement prohibited any agency within the Department of Justice from discriminating against any employee or applicant based on sexual orientation. In March 1994, the FBI adopted specific employment guide-

lines, agreeing not to discriminate against applicants or employees on the grounds of sexual orientation or homosexual conduct among consenting adults in private.

The FBI now has a number of openly gay and lesbian agents and support personnel (some are in supervisory positions), and the Bureau hires openly gay and lesbian applicants for these positions. Frank Buttino has been featured on 60 Minutes, and has appeared on numerous TV shows, including, Larry King Live and, The Oprah Winfrey Show. He has written, A Special Agent: Gay and Inside the FBI, which was published by William Morrow. The book chronicles Buttino's life, his twenty-year FBI career, and his landmark civil rights case.

Now, a retired FBI Agent, Buttino lectures on college campuses and speaks to corporations, clubs, and organizations. Since coming out in 1990, Frank has devoted much of his personal time to volunteer organizations such as Mama's Kitchen, the Citizens Patrol, the Society of Law Officers, and P-FLAG.

He serves on the Board of Directors of the San Diego Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center. Frank and his partner of four years, Phillip, reside in San Diego.

Education and Service Opportunities In Maine

Service opportunities (32) are available today through The Maine Conservation Corps and The AmeriCorps* College Conservation Corps of Maine. The AmeriCorps* College Conservation Corps of Maine is comprised of four teams 'vlio perform conservation and outdoor recreation related service work, one team which performs environmental education for one year, and another which coordinates volunteers statewide. In exchange for their service AmeriCorps Members receive a living allowance of \$7,945, an educational award of \$4,725, health insurance, and if eligible, a semester at either Unity College or The University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Become an AmeriCorps Member today!!?,! AmeriCorps what's that? Well AmeriCorps is the national service program that provides thousands of Americans of all ages and backgrounds with education awards in exchange for a year or fl- of community service AmeriCorps members help meet the nations critical needs in the

aseas of public safety', education, human needs, and the enviroment. Through more than 400 programs, AmeriCorps involves 25,000 people in results driven community service. One of those programs is The Maine Conservation Corps and The AmeriCorps* College Conservatioti Corps of Maine.

This program has enjoyed such great success over the years that we are now looking for new Arneri Corps Members!! Positions include College Corps Members, environmental educators, and volunteer coordinators. If you are an outdoor enthusiast, and want to get involved and "GET THINGS DONE FOR MAINE" then the Maine Conservation Corps and the Americorps College Conservation Corps is the place for you. College graduates and non-college graduates are welcome to apply today For more information or an application call or write: Michael Harrison 124 State House Station, Augusta, MB 04333-0124 phone (207)287-4931 or e-mail us at corps.conservation@state.me.us

Victory Fund Endorses 14 Candidates

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund today recommended 14 more highly qualified openly gay and lesbian candidates to its national donor network, giving them access to financial and technical support they need to run winning campaigns. All 14 candidates underwent rigorous screening to determine their electoral viability and suitability for the offices they seek. The current Victory Fund recommended candidates and their races are:

Tammy Baldwin [DJ for U.S. Congress [WI-2]; Primary: 10 Sept. 1998

Deborah Glick [D] for Manhattan Borough President; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

Susan Leal for San Francisco City Treasurer; Election: 4 Nov. 1997

Jay Fisette [D] for Arlington (VA) County Board; General: 4 Nov. 1997

Phil Reed [D] for N.Y. City Council; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

Margarita Lopez [D] for N.Y. City Council; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

Malcolm Gideons for Atlanta City Council; General: 4 Nov. 1997

Cathy Woolard for Atlanta City Council; General: 4 Nov. 1997

Annie Parker for Houston City Council; General: 4 Nov. 1997

Jim McGill for Wilkinsburg

Borough Council; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

Dennis Van Avery [DFL] for Minneapolis School Board; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

Wally Swan [DFLJ for Minneapolis Board of Estimate; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

rod Krueger [DFLJ for Minneapolis Library Board; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

Debra Silber [DJ for Brooklyn (NY) Civil Court; Primary: 9 Sept. 1997

"The Victory Fund's goal is to elect outstanding gay and lesbian citizens to every level of public office in every state in this nation," says Victory Fund Executive Director Brian Bond. "This slate of exceptional candidates is a clear indication of the progress we're making toward that goal."

The only national organization whose sole mission is to increase the number of qualified, openly gay and lesbian public officials, the Victory Fund has already racked up two early wins this year by helping to elect Richard Gordon to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and Bill Weinberger to the Los Angeles Charter Commission.

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Level II, Journeymen's Electrical license preferred; ability to climb poles. \$420.40/wk. Apply at the Human Resources Office, Room 133, City Hall, 389 Congress St. **Application deadline: 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 1997.** The City of Portland is strongly committed to diversity in its work force.

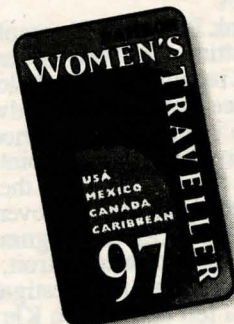
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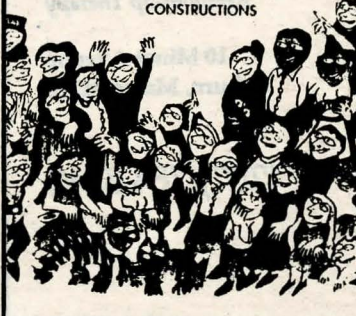
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