

Community Pride Reporter

Proudly serving the Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual, Transgendered Community
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"Hello Norma Jean! "Marilyn" Comes Maine!

"Marilyn Exposed, The Lost Photos of Marilyn Monroe" will be presented at a cocktail hour reception at Jonathan's Restaurant, 2 Bourne Lane in Ogunquit, August 16, from 5:30 to 9:00 P.M.

The show, made possible by the Evans Gallery in Portland, will be hosted by Peabody House. Founded by AIDS activist Frannie Peabody and friends, Peabody House has been home to people with HIV/ADS since 1995. Admission is \$25 and all proceeds will benefit Peabody House.

"Marilyn Exposed, The Lost Photos of Marilyn Monroe" was originally organized by Los Angeles photography dealer C. Ray Hawkins, and brought to Maine by photo dealer, Betsy Evans Hunt.

The show spans 1946 to 1962, the year Marilyn died. Following the trajectory of her career, from Norma Jean, World War II's sailor-hatted girl back home, to the mature Marilyn of the later movies, the show presents an extraordinary journey.

Like nearly all of our pre-television sex goddesses, Marilyn was an actress whose myth ultimately was fashioned less by the movies than by still photography.

Some of the photographs are by celebrated artists including the late Carry Winogrand, Eve Arnold, Bruce Davidson, Sara Shaw (a good friend of Marilyn's), and Bruno Bernard ("Bernard of Hollywood").

Other photographers include Phillipe Halsmer, Andre DeDiener and photojournalist John Boysen.

The show includes a wide array of stylistic approaches by a score of photographers from a great period of American photography and is appealing to both the casual and the serious viewer.

The camera was, indeed, Marilyn's best friend.

This unique collection of photographs will be on view one night only and is not to be Missed! Many photographs are for sale, ranging in price from \$500 - \$5,000. The Evans Gallery's portion of the proceeds from photo sales will directly benefit Peabody House.



Peabody House Sponsors "Marilyn" Event

"Marilyn Exposed" is a rare and eye opening look into the soul of Hollywood's most beautiful and tragic figure. Finally in Maine this exhibit is sure to draw people from all over the State to come and see, admire, remember and rediscover the woman that was "Marilyn".

Marilyn Monroe has been said to be the most sought after movie star of this century, her most well known films include "Some like it hot" and "Misfits"

which she starred opposite Clark Gable and of course "The Seven Year Itch" the movie in which she stood over subway grate and made history with the photo that was taken of her.

Restaurateur Robin Lambert Chairperson of this wonderful fund-raising event, member of the Board of Directors at Peabody House and co-owner of Natasha's encourages one and all to come and enjoy and evening out with Marilyn.

Gay Groups Outraged Over Veto Threat

By Martin Finucane

Boston (AP) Gay activists were outraged Thursday and vowed political vengeance after acting Gov. Paul Cellucci said he would veto a "domestic partners" bill for Boston.

The bill would allow the city of Boston to provide health insurance to the partners of gay and lesbian city workers.

"Gov. Cellucci has betrayed the gay and lesbian community," said Sean Cahill, chairman of the Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance of Massachusetts. "I think he's playing to the intolerant right wing of the Republican party and voters don't want this kind of divisiveness from our leaders."

"Gay and lesbian people are not going to vote for Paul Cellucci and I also think fair-minded moderates are not going to support him if he vetoes this bill," he said.

In addition to allowing Boston to provide health insurance to the partners of gays and lesbians, the bill would allow Boston to provide the benefits to heterosexual unmarried partners.

Cellucci said at a news conference that he was concerned about the institution of marriage and would veto the bill because it would extend benefits to unmarried heterosexuals.

"I am not going to sign legislation that permits and encourages heterosexual couples to get these

health benefits," he said.

"I'm not going to do anything to encourage more of this not getting married and having children," he said.

The controversy was just part of the frenzied activity at the Statehouse on Thursday on the penultimate day of formal sessions.

In other action:

— Cellucci signed a \$19.5 billion budget for fiscal 1999, announcing \$100 million in vetoes;

— The House and Senate moved quickly on a bill to set up a \$60 million program to improve teacher quality and cut taxes by \$200 million, and Cellucci promised to sign it;

— A House-Senate conference committee agreed to a \$296 million affordable housing bond bill and the House immediately accepted it;

— The House sent to the Senate a bill barring gambling cruises from operating from Massachusetts ports, such as the cruises recently started out of Gloucester;

— The House and Senate enacted and sent to the governor a bill that supporters hope will result in better enforcement of the state's wage laws; and

— The House passed a bill, 147-1, designed to fix up the state's sex offender registry law, which has suffered setbacks in state courts.

Much attention had been focused previously on House Speaker Thomas Finneran's skepticism about the domestic partners bill. Little attention was paid to Cellucci.

Cellucci and his predecessor, former Gov. William F. Weld, made a name by being fiscally conservative, but socially moderate.

"Cellucci has been a supporter of gay youth initiatives. He's really been a driving force behind a lot of good stuff," said Cahill.

Now, he said, Cellucci appears to have shifted his stance.

"This is the most important gay rights initiative to come through the Statehouse in five years. Whatever his rationale, this is an anti-gay act," he said

Harry Collings, a spokesman for Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, said, "The mayor has no problem with offering (the benefits) to both homosexual and heterosexual domestic partners. And moreover, the governor should not be dictating what the city does, especially on a home rule petition, approved by the city council, approved by a committee at the Statehouse and approved by both the House and Senate."

"At this point, to step into this, it's baffling," he said.

Pride and Public Opinion

Trent Lott doesn't speak for me. In fact, he doesn't speak for most Americans. If you listen to the Senate Majority Leader, you'll hear that gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people are both sick and sinful.

The thing is, most Americans aren't listening to Senator Lott. Instead, they're watching him. They're watching the leader of the U.S. Senate use an already marginalized group of people to score cheap political points with a faction of the Republican party that does not speak for the vast majority of Americans.

Senator Lott is out of step with mainstream America, pure and simple. In fact, a recent report by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, From Wrongs to Rights, shows most Americans now support basic civil rights for gay men and lesbians.

Having just celebrated pride throughout the country this past month, I'm struck by how much we have actually changed the landscape of America.

Support for gay, lesbian, bisexual and

transgender civil rights has grown throughout our country. The majority of Americans not only increasingly favor the notion of equality for gay men and lesbians, but trends in public opinion toward lesbian and gay equality have liberalized on nearly every major issue over time ñ from equality in employment (in general and in specific positions, e.g., teachers, the military, clergy, doctors, etc.) to housing.

After years of stable disapproval of homosexual behavior, the 1990s have seen a demonstrable dip in public disapproval. By 1996, disapproval rates dropped to 56 percent. And in fact, 63 percent to 73 percent of Americans believe that "homosexual relations in private between consenting adults" should be "left to individuals."

This does not mean the debates, the struggles and the setbacks are over. We need only look to anti-gay victories in Maine, the vitriol from the halls of Congress, the direct mail from the extreme Right-wing, and the bottlenecking of the Hormel nomination to see that as a minority diminishes, it often becomes more dedicated and impassioned.

In the end, only the true believers are left,

and oh, what a run for our money the true believers are giving us. Even Pat Robertson is desperate. In June, he responded to flags flown in Orlando for Pride by saying, the widespread practice of homosexuality "will bring about terrorist bombs, it'll bring earthquakes, tornadoes and possibly a meteor."

The outcome of the various battles for equality, however, cannot be assessed purely from the votes or the venom. The debate about our lives has significantly contributed to a positive shift in public opinion over the past two decades.

We need look no further than the issue of marriage to see this. Despite major policy setbacks in the same-sex marriage debate such as the Defense of Marriage Act, opposition to same-sex marriages is declining and a majority of Americans now support some spousal benefits for same-sex couples, such as social security and insurance benefits.

In other words, our movement is moving America. So, even when we lose, we win, and for that we do indeed have much to be proud about.

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Civil Rights Proposal Receiving Public Hearing

Kennebunk, Maine (AP) The Board of Selectmen has moved to bring a proposed gay rights ordinance to public hearing next month, and members discussed the possibility of a referendum in November.

Selectmen do not have the power to enact such an ordinance without a town-wide vote, but they voted 4-1 Tuesday to allow

a public hearing.

The ordinance, proposed by Selectman Rachel Phipps last April, is modeled after a Portland city ordinance that makes discrimination based on sexual preference illegal, particularly in reference to housing, credit and accommodations. Phipps says she brought the idea forward last

spring in response to the defeat of a statewide gay rights bill in February.

Phipps believes that if Kennebunk's affirmative vote on February's statewide gay rights referendum is any indication, her proposed ordinance will be approved.

"The Kennebunk vote was

close to 2-to-1 in support of human rights," she said.

Since the February vote, similar attempts to enact local ordinances have cropped up in South Portland, Camden, Bar Harbor, Falmouth and Brunswick.

The Kennebunk hearing is scheduled for Aug. 25.

Judge Awards Lesbian Manager \$906,000 in Bias Suit

Judge Awards Lesbian Manager \$906,000 in Bias Suit Boston (AP) A judge has awarded \$906,000 to a lesbian who managed a state social services agency, ruling she was the victim of job discrimination.

Middlesex Superior Court Judge Sandra Hamlin ruled that Lowell-based Community Teamwork Inc., the state's second-largest anti-poverty agency, had no good reason fire Patrica Weber.

Hamlin added that Weber was "eminently more qualified" than the CTI's director, the man who was picked over her by the agency's board

of directors.

Hamlin, who said a "sexist attitude" prevailed at CTI, also ruled that the reasons given for Weber's firing were "a pretext."

"I feel vindicated," Weber, 49 told the Boston Herald. "What they did to me was wrong. I'm glad the law feels that way too. Employers can't fire people for nothing _ because they don't like them, or they're the wrong sex or whatever."

Cheryl Cronin, CTI's lawyer, said the agency is appealing.

"We are confident that CTI will ultimately prevail in this matter,"

she said.

CTI provides a range of services, including housing, education and daycare to low-income residents of 38 communities from Lowell to Framingham.

Weber, who worked for CTI for 18 years, was fired in March, 1996 during a meeting with Executive Director Jim Canavan. A month later, when she applied for unemployment benefits, she learned the reason for her dismissal was listed as "inability to do her job."

Hamlin said in a 38-page rul-

ing that CTI retaliated against Weber for filing a complaint with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination by refusing to provide her a reference.

Weber was turned down for dozens of jobs, before accepting one that cut her pay nearly in half.

"Weber's past work history while at CTI reveals only a dedicated, bright, hardworking employee," the judge wrote. "Nothing whatsoever in the evidence supports defendant's contention that Weber's inability to perform led to her termination."

Man Named In Civil Rights Case

Falmouth, Maine (AP) A man with a checkered criminal past has been accused of violating the civil rights of two women he threatened to kill because they are lesbians.

Brian McCallum, 39, has threatened the two women with violence since 1993, according to the state Attorney General's Office.

"He is a very dangerous individual. We take him extremely seriously," said Falmouth Police Chief Edward Tolan.

On Wednesday, Assistant Attorney General Lise R. Wagner filed a request in Cumberland County Superior Court for a permanent order finding McCallum in violation of the Maine Civil Rights Act and prohibiting him from coming within 300 feet of the women's

home.

McCallum was arrested on June 21 after he violated a June 12 court order barring him from harassing the women, Tolan said. He faces two counts of terrorizing, two counts of violating a protective order and one count of disorderly conduct.

Tolan said McCallum served time in prison outside Maine for an offense involving parts used for bomb-making.

"In 1995 we had an 11-hour standoff at his residence after he threatened a guy in Westbrook with a shotgun," Tolan said.

According to the complaint, McCallum told one of the women on July 5, "I hope your homeowner's insurance is paid up. Get out of here now."

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Religious Leaders Meet to Respond to Right's Political Manipulation of Religion

"People of faith have mobilized nationwide to stand for equal treatment of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. We refuse to be erased from the religious landscape of this country," Laura Montgomery-Rutt, National Organizer, Equal Partners in Faith

Washington, D.C. July 28, 1998 Over 30 national religious leaders from many faith traditions gathered in Washington on July 23 - 24, to express their support for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) people in the wake of recent advertisements paid for by the Christian right.

The leaders vowed to speak out together from a faith perspective to challenge the religious right's manipulation of religion to promote a political agenda, and to affirm the spirituality and equality of GLBT persons and supporters all across our nation. The meeting, along with a national press conference, was held at the Washington Plaza Hotel.

"There is a growing movement of understanding and affirmation for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people of faith across this country. It is in direct response to the basic teachings of our faith communities which call for justice and a proclamation of God's unconditional love," said

Bob Gibeling, Executive Director of Lutherans Concerned.

"We are here to expose the lie that religious belief and acceptance of gays, lesbians, and bisexual human beings created in the image of God stand in contradiction to each other," said Lee Walzer, Vice President of the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

Upcoming plans by members of the Roundtable include a press conference in September, 1998 and a prayer breakfast at the Capitol in January, 1999 during the Second National Religious Leadership Roundtable, with additional actions and events to be announced in the coming year.

"Working together in an overwhelming spirit of cooperation to educate the public and the media about the broad base of religious support for gay rights is a major step in the GLBT religious movement with incredible potential to make an enormous impact for justice and equality," stated Chris Purdom, Religious Roundtable attendee and Co-coordinator of the Interfaith Working Group.

This unprecedented National Religious Leadership Roundtable was co-convened by the Policy

Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and Equal Partners In Faith.

This is an ongoing initiative. The Roundtable gathers representatives of over 30 national faith based organizations, representing millions of people of faith who support equality for GLBT people.

These faith-based organizations include: Unitarian Universalist Association of America; American Friends Service Committee; U.S. Urban Rural Mission, World Council of Churches; Dignity/USA (Catholics); World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations; United Methodist Covenant Relationships Network; Equal Partners in Faith; The Interfaith Working Group; Reconciling Congregations Program; Disciples Justice Action Network; Methodist Federation for Social Action; The Interfaith Alliance; Unity Fellowship Church; New Ways Ministry; Integrity (Episcopalian); Affirmation (United Methodist); The Brethren/Mennonite Council; Gay, Lesbian and Affirming Disciples Alliance, Inc.; Lutherans Concerned; More Light Presbyterians; Metropolitan Community Church; AIDS National Interfaith Network; and more.

Gay Detective Seeks Acceptance In Mystery World

By Erica Noonan

Boston (AP) The city famous for crime fiction by tough-guy authors like Robert Parker and George V. Higgins can add another fictional detective to its ranks.

He is Stan Kraychik, a Newbury Street hairdresser, amateur detective and star of a Boston-based mystery series by local author Grant Michaels.

But Stan isn't the traditional tough guy in a trench coat. He's gossipy and flamboyant, with a schoolboy crush on handsome Lt. Vito Branco of the Boston Police Department.

In his sixth adventure, "Dead As a Doornail," published in June by St. Martin's Press' Stonewall Inn Mysteries, Stan tracks a killer menacing Boston's chic South End neighborhood.

And Stan isn't the only openly gay detective with his own successful mystery series. Los Angeles writer Joseph Hansen and Chicago-based authors Mark Richard Zubro and Fred Hunter have also successfully combined gay lifestyles with classic crime fiction.

"I wanted to do something that would really entertain readers. What could be more outlandish than a gay hairdresser who solves crimes?" said Michael Mesrobian, whose 1981 debut, "A Body to Dye For," under the pseudonym Grant Michaels, is St. Martin's top-selling gay mystery with more than 20,000 copies sold.

Some authors, like Michael Nava, have even cracked the lucrative mass-market audience, with a darker, more serious series featuring Henry Rios, a gay Hispanic lawyer recovering from alcoholism.

And last year, John Morgan Wilson won the prestigious Edgar Award for best new mystery for "Simple Justice," the latest Benjamin Justice novel centering on a disgraced Pulitzer Prize-

winning reporter whose gay partner dies of AIDS.

Wilson's mainstream honor is just one more sign that gay-theme mysteries largely confined to small print runs of trade paperbacks by specialty publishers may be gaining wider acceptance.

Richard Lipez of Pittsfield, who writes the Albany-based Donald Strachey series under the nom de plume Richard Stevenson, said the genre has made great strides since he published his first book, "Death Trick," in 1981, which sold largely in gay bookstores.

"I think the market was always there, but publishers weren't yet ready to bring the books to the readers," said Lipez, whose central character has one of the longest enduring gay "marriages" in the genre.

Until the 1970s, the portrayal of gays in mystery novels was, Lipez said, "pathetic."

"There were your 'ice pick' lesbians," said Lipez. "And in books like 'The Maltese Falcon' by Dashiell Hammett, it was suggested that several of the evil characters are gay. In crime fiction through the ages, gay people were never portrayed as well-adjusted."

Gay women were also marginalized in early male-dominated crime fiction, said Barbara Grier, co-founder of Naiad Press in Tallahassee, Fla., one of the nation's only lesbian presses.

Although a few mainstream mystery authors such as Patricia Cornwell have included lesbians in their best-selling books, most books about gay women detectives are put out by specialty publishers.

Among Naiad's most successful authors is Claire McNab, author of the Detective Inspector Carol Ashton series, about a Sydney, Australia-based investigator. The tenth book in the series, "Past Due," is scheduled for release in October.

Also popular among lesbian readers is the

Robin Miller series by Jaye Maiman, about a New York-based insurance investigator, and the Maris Middleton series by Dallas-based writer Kaye Davis, about a forensic scientist and her lesbian partner.

Although an estimated 70 percent of gay mysteries are still sold in gay or independent bookstores, most Naiad and Stonewall Inn titles are available in large chains and through on-line book stores.

"The chains have really wised up," said Lipez, who also writes book reviews for The Washington Post. "A lot more has happened since bookstores have taken the books out of the gay section ghetto and put them in the mystery section. When straight readers discover them, a lot of them like them."

Although the genre has come a long way in the past two decades, editors and authors say gay mysteries don't attract large numbers of readers, possibly because of their sexual content, which is sometimes graphic.

Some feel it is not the sex but hostility toward homosexuality that keeps readers away.

"Some of my most avid readers are straight women, but heterosexual men don't read my books," said Michael Nava, regarded by many editors as among the genre's most talented writers.

"Straight men see the word 'gay' on a book and their minds close they're too threatened," Nava said. "Straight women have fewer hang-ups and are more interested in plot and character."

Grier agreed that gay heroes can be a tough sell.

"But there is no real crossover market," she said. "I'm still trying to get the one in 10 women who are lesbians to read my books."

Europe's Gay Capital's Residents Paint The Town Pink

By William J Kole

Amsterdam, Netherlands (AP) They're painting the town pink.

Clad in everything from wedding veils to leather G-strings, tens of thousands of homosexuals from 66 countries partied in the cobblestone streets of Amsterdam as the week-long Gay Games got under way Saturday.

But here in Europe's self-styled homosexual capital where gays and lesbians can marry, are welcomed in the military and are close to winning adoption rights not even the bare-chested men with nipple jewelry rollerblading through town were drawing many stares.

"We're used to it," Andre Bakker said with a shrug as he and his wife, Florence, craned their necks for a glimpse of a dozen men in Dutch milkmaid outfits dancing on a passing canal boat.

Founded in San Francisco in 1982 as a gay alternative to the Olympics, the fifth quadrennial sports and cultural festival opened amid clear signs that it has come of age.

Organizers said more than 200,000 visitors were in the Dutch capital for the games, which run through Aug. 8 and will bring together 15,000 competitors half as many as in the mainstream Olympics.

No matter the scattered smirks over the fact that they'll be handing out medals here for such "sports" as ballroom dancing and oil wrestling. Or that a small fringe group of hard-core homosexuals were running their own "Queer Do-It-Yourself Games," featuring purse-tossing and a 200-meter dash in high heels.

The famously accepting Dutch, thousands of whom lined the medieval canals Saturday to wildly cheer on a Gay Games parade of boatloads of transvestites, have rolled out the pink carpet.

"We've certainly made enormous gains in this country, and above all in this city," said Rene Zuidervelt, the editor of Gay News magazine.

"It's not like that in other countries where homosexuals are oppressed," he said. "The Romanians and the Zimbabweans who compete here can get a feeling of solidarity."

Gays and lesbians have been progressively integrated into Dutch culture over the past two decades. This year, lawmakers legalized same sex civil marriage and are leaning toward granting homosexuals the right to adopt children.

"This is certainly adding to our cultural experience," Bill Mayer of Greensboro, N.C., said with a grin as he and his wife, Kathy, watched two gay

men in clingy black dresses and pumps walk past.

About 50,000 people, straight and gay alike, packed a soccer stadium on the outskirts of Amsterdam for the opening ceremonies under the theme "Friendship Through Culture and Sport."

The main event was a concert by Dana International, the Israeli transsexual pop star who gained notoriety and angered orthodox leaders at home for winning May's Eurovision song contest.

Even so, the 1998 games aren't without controversy. On Saturday, the European Gay and Lesbian Sports Federation called on athletes to wear masks in protest of an International Skating Union decision banning its members from future competitions if they compete in Amsterdam.

Critics accused the ISU, skating's world governing body, of homophobia. ISU officials have denied that, saying it was simply an enforcement of long-standing rules forbidding participation in unsanctioned and unofficial competitions.

None of that, though, came even close to stopping the Games from going on.

This year's competition is the first to be held in Europe. New York City was the site of the last event in 1994; Sydney, Australia, site of the Summer Olympics in 2000, will have the first southern hemisphere Gay Games in 2002.

Gay Sports Festival Attracts Partygoers & Evangelists

by Jenifer Chao

Amsterdam, Netherlands (AP) From skimpily clad revelers to Bible-toting evangelists, the Gay Games are drawing an eclectic crowd for weeklong festivities celebrating gay pride and culture.

With the theme "Friendship Through Culture and Sports," the quadrennial Olympics-style sports festival begins Saturday, offering competitors everything from ballroom dancing to wrestling and more cerebral pastimes such as bridge and chess.

This is the first time the Gay Games are being held in Europe since they began in San Francisco in 1982. New York City was the site of the last Games in 1994; Sydney, site of the Summer Olympics in 2000, will have the first southern hemisphere Gay Games in 2002.

Saturday night's opening ceremony will feature the Israeli transsexual pop star Dana International, who gained fame and notoriety in May after winning the 25-nation Eurovision song contest and incensing Orthodox Jewish leaders at home.

Some 30 competition sports will be available at these games, which run through Aug. 8. But without top-level athletes, they threatened to be eclipsed by the many parties outside the stadium.

Amsterdam is renowned for its tolerance of alternative lifestyles and its lively gay community, so these games are almost inconspicuous, apart from some posters and a few more same-sex couples than usual strolling arm-in-arm along the canals.

With up to 14,000 participants and 200,000 visitors in town, the Dutch capital is about to be transformed into the ultimate gay hang-out with enough temptations to sat-

isfy even the most vigorous partygoer.

There are transvestite shows and drag queen contests. For the more athletic, there's even oil wrestling.

One top attraction officially has nothing to do with the Gay Games: Saturday's yearly canal parade of decorated boats. Games organizers promised a flotilla of "cruising" homosexuals and lesbians on the city's famous medieval waterways.

Participants have been warned to refrain from "exhibitionism and sexual behaviors." Both have figured among the main attractions of past parades, and leather G-strings have been the clothing of choice.

But not everyone will be party-hopping. For the straight-laced and intellectual types, there are plenty of alternatives, including art exhibits, symposiums on gay and lesbian issues, and cooking shows.

Participants might get a dose of religion. Up to 100 representatives from the international evangelism group Youth With a Mission plan to stage Christian-themed street dramas and pray with participants.

"God wants to care for people whether they are homosexuals or heterosexuals," YWAM spokeswoman Nelleke Bosshardt said.

Sigrid Johannisse of the Netherlands, who will be competing in the badminton competition, said she's searching for fun and friendship. Even so, she hopes the Gay Games one day will disappear as homosexuals become more accepted.

Although heterosexuals are welcome to compete, few do, triggering criticism within the gay community that the games create needless segregation.

"I hate all the separation," said

Johannisse, a 33-year-old art historian. "In sports, there isn't so much integration... it was just easier to play with gay people."

Eddy Feenstra has a more carefree attitude as he prepares to compete in ballroom and Latin American dancing with partner

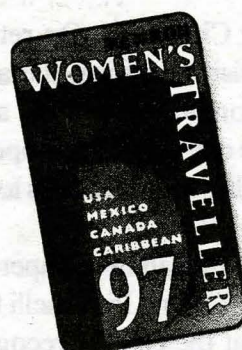
Tonny Ariens.

Girding for victory, Feenstra has finally made up his mind about his costume: He'll be dressed in a body-hugging T-shirt and black pants. "I am doing it for the fun," he said. "I would also like to show off what I am good at."

*habe**



Photo by Phyllis J. Jansz



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My Queer Life

My Queer Life: Rite of Passage

By Michael Thomas
Ford

Yesterday I became a man. It happened in the checkout line of Home Depot, where I was waiting to pay for the 18-inch Weber grill that sat in my cart. "That's a fine grill you've got there," a voice behind me said. The speaker was a man in his sixties. He was wearing plaid shorts, a Red Sox T-shirt, and white socks.

He appraised my grill and nodded approvingly. "I've had my Weber for thirty years," he told me. "You'll get a lot of use out of that baby if you treat her well." "Yep, I can't wait to fire her up," I said proudly. Something about that sentence struck me as sounding familiar. Then it hit me my father had uttered the exact same words twenty-five years earlier. I was five.

We were standing in line at K-Mart. It was summer. And he'd just purchased a new grill. I still remember that grill. As soon as we got home, my father set it up in the back yard. He loaded it up with charcoal, ordered us all to stand back, and set a match to it. We all oohed and aahed as the flames leapt up, burned brightly for a few minutes, and then settled down to a dull glow. From that moment on, the grill was the center of my dad's life.

Every night that summer we waited patiently as he stood over the fiery embers, turning the hotdogs, flipping the burgers, and moving the pieces of chicken to just the right spot.

Like some kind of suburban alchemist, he mixed up secret barbecue sauces and developed his own peculiar rituals for getting the various items to cook just so. The rest of us were forbidden to touch the grill, or even to go near it. "Get away from that!" my father would shriek as one of my sisters attempted to take another hot dog. Racing over, he would snatch the tongs from her hand. "You have to do it a certain way," he explained patiently, carefully lifting the frank and setting it on her plate like an angel descending from heaven.

I was not, of course, the only

boy whose father knew the magic of the grill. All across my neighborhood there were men who stood on patios at dusk, filling the skies with the thin smoke of roasting food. For those of us who stood by and watched, the grills became holy grails of sorts.

Sometimes during the day, while our fathers were at work, the boys of the neighborhood would congregate in a back yard. Unlocking the shed or garage where the grill of the house was kept, we would stand around it, looking at this symbol of manhood whose secrets were as yet unknown to us.

Even empty of glowing coals, they fascinated us. Their steel bowls held the promise of adulthood. The tools that hung from their specially-designed racks gleamed seductively. We dreamt of the day when they would be ours to wield.

Various cultures have their own special ways of marking the passing from childhood to adulthood. Some send the young person out into the forest for a few days to fend for himself. Others mark the transition with dancing, and perhaps the killing of the largest goat. In our society, the celebrations are usually less dramatic. Graduation parties. Trips to the mall for training bras or athletic supporters. The securing of the all-important driver's permit.

For many gay men of my acquaintance, some of these modern-day manhood rituals were at least somewhat traumatic. The purchasing of a jock strap, for example, may have coincided with the discovery that one was not at all skilled in dribbling a ball from one end of a court to another. The first school social, carrying with it the necessity of asking a girl to attend, might have brought terrors of enormous proportion as a young man realized that he would quickly need to develop a repertoire of excuses to explain why he would prefer to stay home watching *Now, Voyager* to dancing the night away with his peers.

As for myself, my own transition to adulthood went largely unno-

ticed. I left high school before graduation. My first shave occurred while I was at camp. Because we lived in farming country, I was driving our truck long before I was legally allowed to, and only got a license years later, when I needed one for identification purposes.

No, for me becoming an adult was a journey with murky road marks. One day I was playing with blocks; the next I was paying my own rent on a studio apartment in New York. Somewhere in all of it, I forgot all about the grill. After all, gay men don't grill. We broil. At least until yesterday. Warmed by the summer sun, I suddenly pictured myself standing by a grill, tongs in hand, and I liked what I saw.

So off I trundled to Home Depot. It wasn't until I was in line and found myself discussing the merits of my new purchase that I thought of my father. When I did, I realized that finally, on the cusp of turning thirty, I felt like a grown-up. And it had nothing to do with the IRAs I'd dutifully contributed to, the books I'd written, or the many other little trappings of adulthood that now decorated my life.

It was because I had my own grill. I decided to invite my friend Jackie over to celebrate my manhood. After setting up the grill, I filled it with charcoal and lit it, just as my father had before me. I waited until the coals were glowing warmly, then brought out the platter of steaks. Lifting one gently with my new tongs, I set it onto the grill and heard the beautiful sizzle that signaled my newfound status.

I felt like howling in some primal way. My euphoria lasted approximately thirty seconds. Then Jackie came over and snatched the tongs from my hand. "Get out of the way," she said, setting her sights on my steak. "You're doing it all wrong."

Michael Thomas Ford is the author of *Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me & Other Trials from My Queer Life*. He welcomes e-mail at Shopiltee@aol.com.

Vatican Paper Assails Registry of Gay Marriages

Vatican City (AP) On returning from a visit to Africa, the archbishop of Florence was in for a big surprise: The city council had opened the common law marriage rolls to gay couples.

In the Vatican newspaper Friday, Cardinal Silvano Piovanelli fired a broadside at the city for recognizing something that "is against the teachings of the church, that doesn't correspond to our society's or to traditional Christianity's concept of family."

Florence is not the only city that has opened its common law marriage registry to gays. So has Pisa, where two women became the first couple in the nation to register on July 9, and in Voghera.

The registry is symbolic, and couples who register are not considered legally married. But the symbol is a powerful one for both gays and those who disapprove of their lifestyle.

The Roman Catholic Church teaches that homosexual activity is

wrong, and the only acceptable family is the traditional nuclear family.

"The registry to my way of seeing doesn't alleviate the suffering and the possible marginalization of those who might be, and often are, the victims of homosexuality," the cardinal wrote in *L'Osservatore Romano*.

Italy's leading gay association, Arcigay, has praised city officials in Pisa, Florence and Voghera, and said opening the registries, even though symbolic, is an important of-

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This practice reflects our commitment to responsible use of earth's resources.

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However we feel this is a small price to pay as Community Pride Reporter does it's part to "Color ME Green."

Government Temporarily Halts Plans to Lower Age of Homosexual Consent

The Associated Press

London (AP) The government said Monday it was temporarily abandoning efforts to lower the age of consent for homosexuals from 18 to 16, bringing it in line with the heterosexual age of consent.

Members of the unelected House of Lords voted Wednesday 290 to 122 in favor of an amendment overturning the more pow-

erful House of Commons, which had already voted by 333 to 129 to make 16 the age of consent for homosexuality. Opponents in the Lords said they represented the feelings of most Britons.

Home Secretary Jack Straw said that he was "reluctantly" abiding by the Lords' decision because overturning it would mean delaying the government's Crime and Disorder Bill.

Straw has said his priority was to ensure the bill, containing key measures on tackling youth crime and other promises made by the Labor party before it won national elections in May 1997, becomes law before parliament rises for the summer recess on Friday.

Instead, Straw said would introduce a new bill to lower the age of gay consent after Parliament reconvenes in October.

Can A Lesbian Win A Seat in Congress?

By David Ammons

Mount Vernon, Wash. (AP) Grethe Cammermeyer, a daughter of the Nazi resistance in Norway and a decorated Vietnam veteran who battled her own government, has jumped headlong into a new challenge.

The retired Army colonel, who wryly calls herself "one of the most famous lesbians in the country" after her successful fight to stay in the military, is running for Congress.

Cammermeyer, 56, has never held public office. Her gay-rights fight recounted in "Serving in Silence," a book and made-for-TV movie made her a celebrity. Glenn Close, who starred in the movie, its producer Barbra Streisand and other show-business notables have contributed to her campaign.

She's favored to win the Democratic nomination Sept. 15. That would pit her against two-term Republican Rep. Jack Metcalf on Nov. 3. Metcalf, who says this is his last campaign, was boosted to victory two years ago by absentee voters in the traditionally Democratic 2nd District.

No openly lesbian candidate has been elected to Congress, but Cammermeyer is one of four Democrats hoping to break the barrier this year along with Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, Christine Kehoe of California and Susan Tracy of Massachusetts.

"This year is a benchmark for proud, out lesbians," says Kathleen DeBold, political director of the Victory Fund, a Washington, D.C., group that backs homosexuals for public office.

"Grethe is so admired, both for her record in the military and for her willingness to stand up and fight homophobia," says state Rep. Ed Murray, a Seattle Democrat who's

homosexual.

Cammermeyer earned national attention with her fight to stay in the Washington National Guard. She was fired in 1992 after disclosing her sexual orientation during a 1989 interview for a security clearance as chief nurse of the National Guard. A federal judge ordered her reinstated in 1994; the government did not appeal.

Cammermeyer and her partner, artist Diane Divelbess, built their home on Whidbey Island in 1995 after Cammermeyer retired as chief nurse of the Guard and a civilian nurse at a veterans' hospital near Tacoma.

On the campaign trail, she doesn't talk homosexual rights. At an ice cream social held by Skagit County Democrats earlier this month, Cammermeyer spoke about education, health care, the environment and countering a Republican Congress she considers radical and heartless.

"I am not a politician," she told The Associated Press. "I'm an everyday person who has a health-care background and an education background. I am a mother, a grandmother and served in Vietnam. I have had the best and the worst of social experience."

Cammermeyer was born in Oslo, Norway, to a doctor and a nurse who sheltered underground resistance fighters in World War II. A now familiar tale has her mother shuttling weapons to the Nazi resistance by hiding them beneath the mattress in Grethe's baby buggy.

Cammermeyer was 9 when she came to the United States with her parents and three brothers. She became a citizen in 1960.

Nursing meshed well with her military ambitions, she has said, because it was a job she could take to the battlefield. She served in the mili-

tary 31 years, including active duty in Vietnam. She earned the Bronze Star for treating wounded soldiers in the Tet Offensive in 1968.

She has four grown sons from her marriage to a fellow officer she met while serving in Germany.

She's well aware why she has such ready name recognition. But the personable, 6-foot-tall Cammermeyer whose first name, short for Margarethe, is pronounced Greta believes most voters are ready to move past her sexual orientation to the issues affecting their own lives.

"What's most difficult is suddenly realizing there are some people who don't want you to approach them or shake their hand or even say hello," she said of experiences on the campaign trail.

State Democratic Chairman Paul Berendt, neutral in the primary, says Cammermeyer needs to let voters know the range of issues she cares about.

"If people see her as one-dimensional, it's over," agrees Murray.

"We don't know how big of a negative it is" to be openly gay in a district with no major homosexual enclaves and a sizable number of religious conservatives, Berendt says.

Cammermeyer's lone primary opponent, businessman and environmentalist Fran Einterz, 44, makes a point of telling audiences he's been in the district for 17 years.

Einterz plans to raise only \$100,000 for the primary election. Cammermeyer has raised \$502,801 so far.

Neither Einterz nor Metcalf has made an issue of Cammermeyer's sexual orientation, although the Metcalf campaign sent out a fund-raising letter that said the Cammermeyer campaign is being underwritten by the national homosexual movement.

Community
Pride
Reporter

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.

C.P.R. pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgendered people.

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All submissions are subject to editing. Please keep letters to the CPR Mailbag to 300 words or less.

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If requested, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of the author for appropriate reasons.

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Submissions are welcome throughout the month and will be published, at the publishers discretion, in the next available issue.

Please contact the office at 207-282-4551 for special publishing needs especially inclusion in a particular issue.

Maine Native Susan Poulin Returns to Oak Street with her New Show

"Ida, Woman Who Runs With The Moose"

Co-creator of the hit show "*In My Head I'm Thin*" spins Maine humor from a woman's point of view.

Poolyle Productions is pleased to be returning to the Oak Street Theatre in downtown Portland from September 3 - 20, 1998 with Susan Poulin's news show *Ida, Woman Who Runs With the Moose*. This comedy, written and performed by Poulin, has received overwhelming critical acclaim and played to sold-out houses throughout New England.

Now Portland audiences have a chance to see this fifty-one year-old home shopping networkaholic, country line dancing, lawn ornament collecting woman for themselves!

Meet Ida LeClair. She lives in the small town of Mahoosuc Mills, Maine with her husband, Charlie. Stories? She's got a double-wide mobile home full of them. Find out what really happens when the husbands go off hunting for the weekend. Hear about the amazing adventures Ida and her friends, Celeste, Rita, Betty, Dot and Shirley have in "the Bonnevillie." You've heard of Maine humor Down East? Here's Maine humor from in-state, the heart of the North country, where the women run with the moose. You've never heard a bull moose caller blown with such style before. And there's not one mother-in-law joke in the entire show! Guaranteed!

Ida, Woman who Runs With the Moose recently received the

Portsmouth Herald's 1997/98 Spotlight on the Arts Award for Play of the Year, and Susan was voted Actress of the Year for her portrayal of Ida. She is currently performing *Ida* at the Minnesota Fringe Theatre Festival.

"Ida, with her beauty parlor-pouped hairdo and WalMart wardrobe, may look like a rural ditz, but she isn't. Honed by earthy common sense, generosity, an irrepressible joie de vivre, and a willingness to give new ideas a try, her observations are razor sharp."

The Boston Globe; "Prepare to hurt from laughing... dry, incisive with that does Maine humor proud."

The Exeter News-Letter; Susan Poulin, a Maine native, is a

writer and performer whose original comedy has been seen throughout the Northeast. She was voted the 1996 Contemporary Story Champion at the First Annual Yankee Yams Contest in Keene, N.H. and has twice been selected as a New Hampshire State Council on the Arts Individual Artistic Fellowship Finalist.

Poulin has been a featured performer in *The Mirth Canal* and *The Mirth of Venus*, both part of the Women's Performance Festival at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston. Her essays can be heard monthly on New Hampshire Public Radio. Poolyle Productions maintains a web site at www.metaglyph.com/poulyle.

What You Wish You Had Brought to the Second Date Instead of the Moving Van: Interview with Marny Hall

By Esther Rothblum

Dr. Marny Hall is a San Francisco Bay Area psychotherapist with twenty years experience specializing in lesbian relationships. In her book *THE LESBIAN HEARTBREAK* she tackles issues of lesbian relationships, sex, break-ups, rituals, and jealousy. "I had had a painful break-up," she told me in a recent interview, "and decided to find some long-term couples who had managed to weather the difficulties that had undermined my relationship."

I was particularly interested in finding couples who had survived outside affairs." She located a handful of long term lesbian couples and contacted them periodically over a number of years. She asked how they met, how their relationship progressed, and how they handled difficult situations such as jealousy, conflict, desire, homophobia, work, and illness.

"I was searching for a formula," said Marny, "but I didn't find anything. Then five years into this experiment, two of the model couples I had been tracking broke up. I had come to think of them as perfect couples. I felt a bit shell-shocked but I decided that I would continue to interview both ex-partners. It was then that I found the answers I was looking for."

Now the ex-partners started talking about their relationships in entirely different ways. One woman, who had said that she was really in lust now told me that they had never had any passionate chemistry!

Another woman used to say that her community of friends kept them together; now she said that she never felt a sense of community! A third

said she wanted to be with her partner until her breath was no longer in her body.

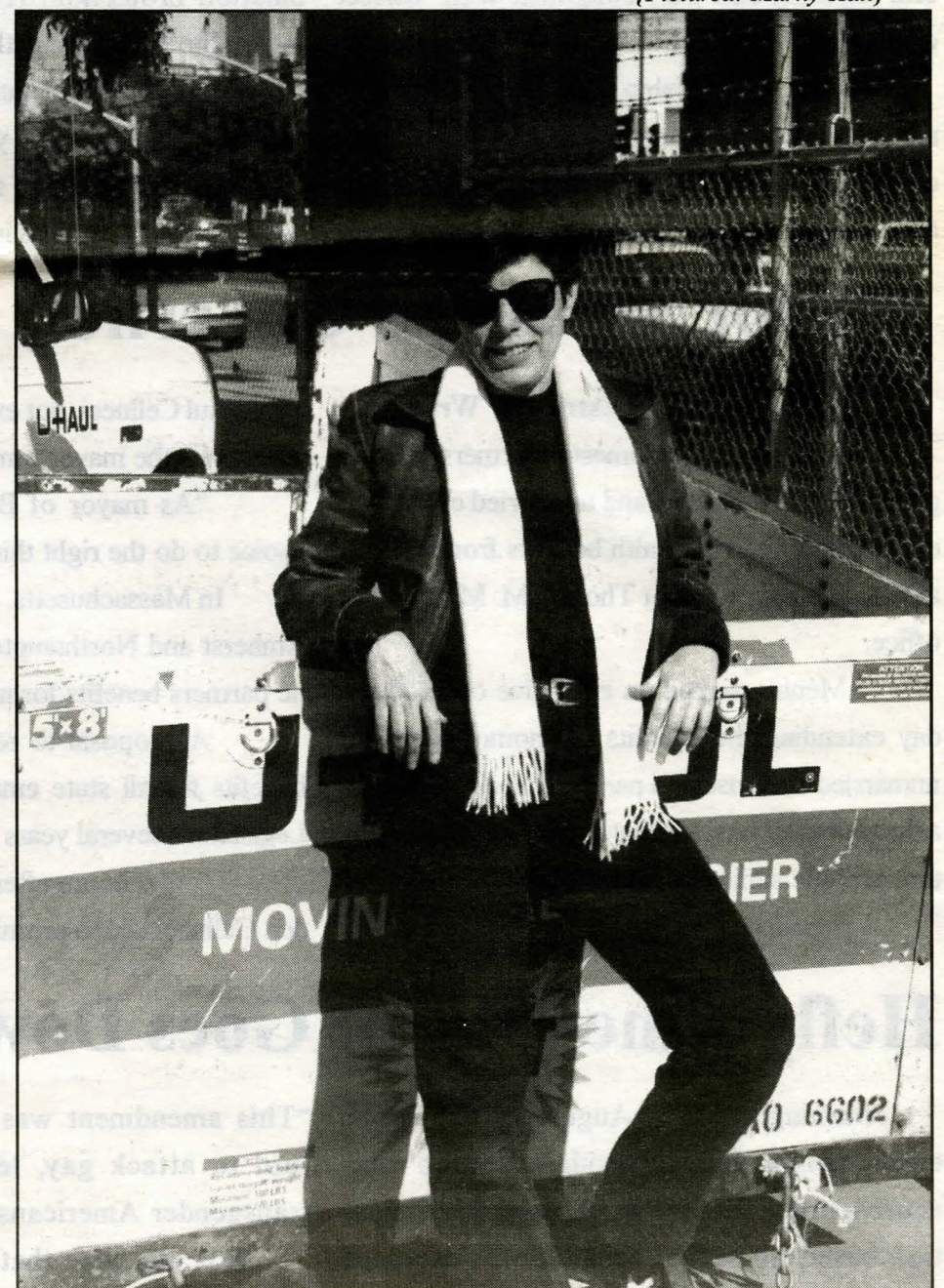
After the break-up she told me that even if her partner were available, she wouldn't go back. These 180 degree turns made me realize that so much of how we process relationships is through the tales that we tell.

The tales do all sorts of things they certify legitimacy, they heal broken hearts, and they explain betrayals." After this revelation, Marny decided to go back and reread the transcripts from the interviews she had conducted with the couples that were still together.

Now she could see shifts in their stories too, over time. Their stories had kept them going through hard times. For example, if one partner had had an affair, the other discovered a motive that explained everything. Perhaps the straying partner had been depressed about her job or angry at her partner.

The affair had been a coded way of announcing these dissatisfactions. In other words, the two partners collaborated on a story that turned an unpardonable betrayal into a forgivable misdemeanor. By reconstruing the potentially damaging revelation in more positive ways, they were able to stay together. "So I thought, why not think of more stories?" said Marny.

Her book focuses on stories that provide alternatives to the "master stories" about forever-after, about terrible betrayals, about bad times. "If I could tell stories about small break-ups or trivial passions or benign other women then I could contribute to partners' flexibility and give



{Pictured: Marny Hall}

them more staying power," Marny told me. Originally planned as a book about successful long-term couple relationships, *THE LESBIAN LOVE COMPANION* took on a life of its own.

"I love the story of 'happily ever after,'" Marny said, "but we can tell other stories too. Everyday stories about contentment instead of epics about do-or-die love affairs."

Stories of downsized disenchantments instead of major dyke dramas. The first time you realize that your lover snores and you love her anyway is not exactly a swash-buckling bodice-ripper.

But it does qualify as a modest tale about a small turning point. Our lives are packed with all kinds of minimalist romances.

Cont. page 10

continued from page 9

An Interview With Marny Hall:

We just have to tune in to them. "The same thing is true about sex," Marny continued. "We're all so familiar with the story about the earth-moving sex. But we can tell a lot of different stories about sex—maintenance sex that depends on cultivating orgasmic habits, sex for comfort or fun, psychodrama sex that exorcises old demons.

Even the fond sexual memories we share with ex-lovers is another form of sex. We might call it ex-sex. These stories aren't the mainstream favorites so they aren't heard, they're inaudible, private." As Marny puts it, her book puts some "amplification" on the stories that many of us are already telling. "The book is for long-term couples.

It is also for the sluts and passionate friends, the celibates and the communally minded," Marny added. "All of us are affected by the traditional stories. Uncoupled lesbians often feel as though they have failed some crucial test. And long-term couples may feel such pressure to live up to these stories that, as a result, they feel they must conceal anything that isn't congruent with 'perfect coupledness.'

Such self censorship makes it hard for partners to be playful or spontaneous. The perfect couple ideal exacts a toll on everyone lesbians who are coupled, unpartnered or who have multiple

partners." "It tends to turn us all into intimacy overachievers," said Marny. "The purpose of my book is to counteract that sense of performance anxiety.

Almost everybody has doubts, and forbidden passions. Almost everybody wonders about the paths not taken. By telling our untold tales and making them normal, I hope that our sense of failure will be reduced." As a psychotherapist, Marny has been witness to many stories by lesbians. An example of the many excerpts from *THE LESBIAN LOVE COMPANION*: "You might want to develop your other-woman fantasy.

Install her as your permanent muse. Pay attention to her. She'll tell you whether to sign up for scuba class or just buy some new lingerie. And after you do what she suggests, check in with her from time to time. Has she changed? Is she suggesting another direction?

You are entitled to keep her to yourself. She is, after all, purely your playmate, soul mate combination projection, reflection, guide. And, Aphrodite forbid, if anything should ever happen to your partner, your fantasy lover will be there for you. She will share your memories and your tears. She will console and commiserate. And, one day, when the time is right, she will lead you

back to the world." As Marny writes in the book: "When it comes to our lives and loves, we need a generous supply of alternative stories: Instructive sci-fi fables and twilight zone mysteries, endless sequels and white-knuckle exploits.

We are both hearth huggers and voyagers. We must make room in our lives for the dream of forever-after and the determination to never look back." Early reactions to Marny's book? Rumor has it that Lily Tomlin loves it! Alison Bechdel, creator of the comic strip "*Dykes To Watch For*", calls it "...a veritable Kama Sutra of emotional possibility."

For further reading: Marny Hall (1998), *THE LESBIAN LOVE COMPANION: HOW TO SURVIVE EVERYTHING FROM HEARTTHROB TO HEARTBREAK*. HarperCollins, 10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022.

Esther Rothblum is Professor of Psychology at the University of Vermont and Editor of the Journal of Lesbian Studies. She can be reached at John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405, email: esther.rothblum@uvm.edu. DYKE PSYCHE is a monthly column.

Mayor Sidesteps Governor, Approves Partners Benefits

by Robin Estrin AP Writer

Boston (AP) Domestic partners and dependents of gay, lesbian and unmarried city workers can now receive health benefits from the city at least as long as Mayor Thomas M. Menino is in office.

Menino signed an executive order Tuesday extending the benefits to homosexual and unmarried heterosexual partners, and put Boston among several dozen cities and towns nationwide that provide similar benefits.

He sidestepped a veto promised by acting

Gov. Paul Cellucci, but executive orders are good only while the mayor remains in office.

"As mayor of Boston, I'm making the choice to do the right thing," Menino said.

In Massachusetts, Cambridge, Springfield, Amherst and Northampton already have domestic partners benefits for municipal employees.

A proposal to require domestic partner benefits for all state employees has died in the Legislature several years in a row.

A few hours after Menino signed his order, Cellucci kept a promise he made last week to

veto the city's petition, passed by the state House and Senate, to extend the coverage.

Cellucci, who has said he would have signed a benefits bill for same-sex partners, targeted unmarried heterosexuals. He argued that children who grow up without a father at home are more likely to end up in poverty, in jail, or pregnant.

Proponents of the legislation said a benefit only for gay couples and not for unmarried heterosexuals could be considered discriminatory.

Hefly Amendment Goes Down: Blow To Religious Right

Washington, DC—August 5, 1998— The amendment to block President Clinton's executive order banning workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation was voted down tonight by the House of Representatives. The vote was 252 to 176. The Task Force hailed the defeat as an important blow to the religious right.

"In what has been one of the most hostile climates against our community in recent memory, we are relieved that a basic sense of fairness and decency is finally prevailing," said NGLTF executive director Kerry Lobel.

"This amendment was nothing but another tool to attack gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Americans.

It is our hope that defeat of the amendment will mark a return to addressing the truly important issues facing our country and a cessation of the spineless scapegoating that has become so popular of late," added Lobel.

In May, Clinton signed Executive Order 13087. The order made complete and uniform non-discrimination policy in the federal civilian workforce. It clarifies that protec-

tion from discrimination should be part of the already existing policies of the federal government. It amends President Nixon's 1969 Executive Order which includes race, religion, color, sex, and national origin.

"We hope this vote takes a some of the wind out of the sails of the right wing and this anti-gay crusade as of late. However, with the November elections still looming, it's doubtful their campaign of intolerance and mean-spiritedness will not go away as quickly as this amendment has," said Lobel.

Do you miss the Community Pride Resources?

Due to many recent complaints about outdated resources we have removed the pages from the paper. So... it's time to update your resources pages.

The categories are:

General

Support Groups

Maine AIDS Alliance and Related Support Meetings

Medical Support

Youth Support

Social Groups

Music & Art

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We place your resource listing for free, our only requirement is that your group is open and free to the community. We will place your resource even if you collect dues to sponsor your own events as long as no one is personally profiting from these dues and you state it in your listing.

Please send your listing to CPR Attn: Resource Listings P.O. Box 178, Saco Maine 04072.

Did you know that *Community Pride Reporter* Prints Special Events! Birth Announcements, Commitment Ceremonies, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Obituaries, and... we do it for FREE!

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Just contact the office or mail us your announcement

Sister Space

A new Lesbian/discussion group is coming to Southern Maine. Topics will vary based on group interest. There will be a "check-in" time during the beginning of the group when individual topics will be discussed.

The group will meet on Mondays beginning August 10th at the Unitarian Church 60 School Street in Saco. School Street intersects Main St. halfway downtown. The cost of the group will be only \$2.00 to defray the cost of the room.

This group is open to all Lesbians. Contact Bobbie at 467-9166 or email msw@ime.net for more information.

JOBS ANNOUNCEMENTS: CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE

PLANT ENGINEER - Facilities Management - This is skilled work in the operation and maintenance of boilers, ventilation equipment, air conditioning equipment and controls for same. Requirements: Boiler Operator's license; experience in the operation and maintenance of boilers and in operating all related equipment; experience in operation and maintenance of air handling and air conditioning equipment; ability to work a flexible schedule; valid Maine Class C driver's license and must have and maintain a good driving record. \$457 - \$476/wk. Accepting applications from Monday, August 3 through Tuesday, August 11, 1998.

HUMAN SERVICES COUNSELOR - Social Services - schedule is 1:00 - 9:30 p.m. - Sunday - Thursday

- A dual function position serving clients as part of a team at the City's Oxford Street adult homeless shelter. Serves as a supervised team leader for part of the time, and provides mental health, substance abuse, employment, and housing services for clients of the shelter the remainder of the time. Client services are primarily onsite, but also involve working collaboratively to assist clients with positive connections in the community. Requirements: Graduation from a college or university with major course work in the social sciences, or equivalent combination of experience and training; working knowledge of mental health, substance abuse, employment, and housing issues; experience serving homeless populations; valid Maine Class C driver's license and personal vehicle available for work use. \$501 - \$672/wk. Accepting applications from Monday, August 3 through Tuesday, August 11, 1998.

PROJECT ASSISTANT - Planning - grant-funded position through March, 2001 - Work involves determining applicants' program eligibility and analyzing buildings for lead paint hazard reduction. Work requires constant contact with the public, contractors, consultants, and City staff. Requirements:

Certification in lead inspection/abatement work; considerable knowledge of building trades, practices and materials; physical ability to inspect buildings and structures and to withstand exposure to varied climatic conditions; Maine Class C driver's license, personal vehicle available for work use, and must have and maintain a good driving record. \$494 - \$515/wk. Accepting applications from Monday, August 3 through Tuesday, August 11, 1998.

ADULT AND SENIOR PROGRAM COORDINATOR - Parks and Recreation - Involves liaison work with numerous City departments and other social service agencies in Portland. Responsible for the management of facilities and programs associated with Portland's adult and senior populations including fiscal responsibilities associated with managing facilities, programs and leagues. Requirements:

Bachelor's degree in recreational administration or an equivalent combination of education and experience; flexibility with work schedule and duties; strong social skills and the ability to raise and manage funds; some knowledge of computer technology; proven ability to work with diverse populations; proven conflict resolution and team-building skills. \$552 - \$739/wk. Accepting applications from Monday, August 3 through Friday, August 21, 1998.

The City of Portland is strongly committed to diversity in its work force. Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply. We are an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer. Apply at/send resume to the Human Resources Office, Room 115, City Hall, 389 Congress St., 04101, fax (207) 874-8937.

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The Station house, P.O.Box 125 Brooks ME, 04921, 207-722-3322.

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Research Project:

Women Choosing Women

Looking to interview women who've left heterosexual lives (15 or more years) for lesbian (woman-centered) ones.

To learn more, contact **Teresa Arendell, Ph.D., Dept. of Sociology, Colby College, Waterville, Maine, 04901.**

207-872-3135; tjarende@colby.edu

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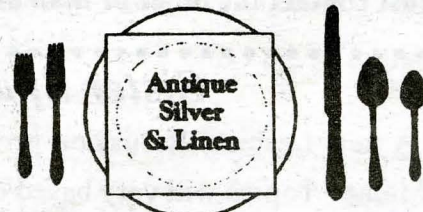
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