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THE
(F)AMILY (A)FFAIRS (N)EWSLETTER

FORWARD THIS OR PASS IT AROUND
TO AS MANY GLBTI-FAMILY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE.
THE MORE FOLKS WHO TAKE PART, THE BETTER.

1 MAY 2005

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) Northern Maine Pride will be holding a fund-raising yard sale on Saturday, May 21st (see below). Procedes will be used to help fund this year's Diversity Day celebrations. NMP would welcome any items in good condition that folks would like to donate to the yard sale. To make donations or FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 or David at 745-4678 or northernmainepride@earthlink.net

(NEWS #2:) There is now a new gay/alternative bar in Bangor. It's called Benjamin's After Dark. Check out the listing below in the BUSINESSES category.

(NOTES #1:) Tickets go on sale May 1st for The Maine Gay Men's Chorus' 2005 Pride Concert: DOUBLE TROUBLE. Dates for the concert are June 16-18, at 8 pm, in Portland. Tickets are available online at www.mainegaymenschorous.org or at Drop-Me-A-Line at 773-5547.

(NOTES #2:) Pre-registration for the Maine Youth Summit 2005 has now begun! This year's theme is: BUSY BECOMING. The Maine Youth Summit is a place for youth 22 and under to come together for a weekend with other youth from around the state and to educate themselves about the health issues of GLBTIQQA young people. This year's summit will be June 25-26 at Hebron Academy in Hebron, Maine and will feature Leslie Feinberg (transgender activist, organizer, and writer) as the keynote speaker. Contact outright@outright.org for pre-registration packet. Check out www.outright.org for the Maine Youth Summit link. Questions? Contact Lyndon at 1-888-567-7600 or lyndon@outright.org

(REMINDERS #1:) Equality Maine reminds us that the proposed amendment to the Maine constitution (LD 1294) would not only define marriage as a man and a woman, but could nullify all domestic partnership benefits including health insurance, co-guardianships, inheritance, and disposition of remains that the GLBTI community has recently gained. The amendment forbids any branch of government, state or local, from recognizing for purposes of benefits any relationship other than a married heterosexual couple. The public hearing for LD 1294 is scheduled for mid- to late-May and we need your testimony now! **We are especially seeking testimony from couples who have experienced problems in areas such as those above, by being denied the right to marry. For complete details on testimony, go to: http://tinyurl.com/6vjuv . For info on how to take part and how to submit your testimony contact bsmith@equalitymaine.org** OR **mbonauto@glad.org**

(REMINDERS #2:) You can help the newsletter by sending me notices of upcoming GLBTI-related activities that you hear about in your area. Trust me, I would rather receive the same notice from 8 people than have everyone assume that I know about it and miss the chance to tell other GLBTI family members. Email megress@tds.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This category is for non-social notices about GLBTI community members that you think other GLBTI community members might like to know about...things like: births, deaths, adoptions, committments, graduations, promotions, new jobs, awards, shows, ongoing classes, etc.

1. **Gay potluck trying to organize.** I am trying to organize a monthly gay men's potluck night in the Bangor area. If you are interested in taking part, contact Gary at 299-0720.

2. **No Cost Mammograms, Breast Exams, & Paps.** Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender/Intersex Friendly program. Caring Connections provides mammograms, breast exams, Pap tests, and further diagnostic testing to women 40 and over who qualify financially and do not have insurance that would cover these services. Qualified women in their 20's can receive breast exams, ultrasounds and other tests at no

cost if they have a breast health symptom of concern. Women age 30 to 39 can receive these services if they have a symptom or a family history of breast cancer. FMI call 941-2808 ext 338 or email whi@ywcabb.org

3. Sign interpreters for deaf sought. Northern Maine Pride is looking for sign-interpreters for the deaf who can volunteer a few hours to sign for the stage events at this year's Diversity Day on Saturday, June 4th. Interested persons can contact Dave at 745-4678 or Rob at 327-1009.

4. Job Opening: Graduate Assistant opportunity at the University of Maine, Orono. Title: Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender (GLBT) Liaison Graduate Assitant. Department: Dean of Students. This is a 9 month position from August 30, 2005 through May 30, 2006, with possibility of renewal for Fall 2006. Compensation: Graduate assistant will be paid a stipend of $1001 per month and receive a tuition waiver for up to 18 credit hours per year of graduate tuition (full-time graduate status). Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. FMI contact Angel Loredo, Associate Dean at angel_loredo@umit.maine.edu

EVENTS:

* **MAY 1 (Sunday),** Belfast, 1:00 - 3:30 pm, **group planning meeting for the lesbian retirement home**. Group will meet at Viginia's place in downtown Belfast. FMI/location/directions etc. contact Gabrielle at gabrielle@prexar.com or call Virginia at 338-1729

* **MAY 1 (Sunday)** Augusta, 4 - 6 p.m., Transcare2000 Social **Support Group, for transgendered individuals**, their families, friends, partners and interested professionals age 18 or older. This is a moderated group to provide non-sexual social time to explore gender in a safe environment. Donations asked to help defray the cost of room rental. FMI contact Marty at 582-8779 or at martyrnc@earthlink.net

* **MAY 1 (Sunday)** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 5-7 pm, at the Unitarian Church, 120 Park St. This group is open to all GLBTI Native Americans AND their friends and supporters (whether Native American or not). Individuals are encouraged to bring a snack or drink. One of our goals is to create a circle of friends to share stories, snacks, etc. within a Native American context. FMI contact Sharon at 990-0605.

* **MAY 2 (Monday),** Bangor, 6 pm, **planning meeting for the 2005 Northern Maine Pride Festival**. Come one come all. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Organizational meetings will be held on Monday evenings at 6 pm at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 120 Park st, Bangor. FMI contact David at 745-4678.

* **MAY 2 (Monday)** Rockland Area, **Coastal Outright** (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22), meets Mondays at the Coastal AIDS Network Warren office, 7 pm. FMI contact Carolyn at 273-3444

* **MAY 2 (Monday),** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.

* **MAY 4 (Wednesday)** Belfast, **Belfast Outright** meets from 4 - 6 pm. (For GLBTQI youths and allies ages 15-22). FMI call Carolyn at 273-3444.

* **MAY 5 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Man2Man**, 6-8 p.m., (for gay/bi/trans men) meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network at 370 Harlow St. This is a chance to meet and socialize with other like-minded individuals from the area and guests from all over. Occasional discussions include dating issues, relationships, eroticizing sex, and other topics relevant to mens' health. Meetings, calls, etc are completely confidential. Names and other information are not kept or given out. FMI Jason at 990-3626.

* **MAY 6-8,** Provincetown, MA, 25th Anniversary **Spring Fling for the transgender community** at the Provincetown Inn. Sponsored by the Tiffany Club of New England. The weekend is mostly non-structured and is perfect for couples or singles. FMI check the web site at www.tcne.org or call the club at 781-891-9325 on Tuesday nights from 7-11 pm.

* **MAY 6 (Friday),** Rockport, Greater Belfast/Camden/Rockland Area **social/support group for lesbians over 40.** From 6:30-8:30 pm at the By-Water Cafe in Rockport. Coffee and pastries are available for purchase. FMI contact Pat at 763-3115 or at patput@midcoast.com

* **MAY 6 (Friday),** Ellsworth, **Drag Show Benefit And Dance for DownEast AIDS Network**. Show will be at the White Birches Motel on Rt 1 (Thorsen Road). Admission is $5. All benefits go to DEAN. Doors open at 8 pm, show starts at 9pm with dancing to follow. There will also be door prizes and a 50/50 cash drawing (the other 50% going to DEAN). ID will be needed. This is the "She's a Lady" Drag show, hosted by The Lady Emma. The best performers from the area will be there: Evette, Samantha, Divine, Emma, Topaz, Katrina, Chanelle, Mike, and others...a star-studded cast of the best queens in northern Maine doing what they do best: Being a Lady. FMI contact Nathan at midcoastmaineguy@hotmail.com

* **MAY 9 (Monday)** Rockland Area, **Coastal Outright** (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22), meets Mondays at the Coastal AIDS Network Warren office, 7 pm. FMI contact Carolyn at 273-3444

* **MAY 9 (Monday),** Waterville, 7 pm, **The Waterville Area Guys Group (WAGG)** is forming as a social group for gay/bi/questioning men and men-who-have-sex-with-men. We gather for friendship and fellowship - not a sex group! Our next meeting is at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 69 Silver St. This will be a potluck dinner. Please bring something to share with the group - as simple or as fancy as you like. After we eat we are planning an open topic discussion, wrapping up by 9 pm. Hope to see you there! FMI/directions, contact Bill at watervilleareaguysgroup@yahoo.com

* **MAY 9 (Monday),** Bangor, 6 pm, **planning meeting for the 2005 Northern Maine Pride Festival**. Come one come all. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Organizational meetings will be held on Monday evenings at 6 pm at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 120 Park st, Bangor. FMI contact David at 745-4678.

* **MAY 11 (Wednesday)** Bangor, **Maine Eat-Out Project**, 6 pm. Join our group every other month for dinner at different area restaurants. The May MEOP will be held at THAI SIAM (right in downtown Bangor, across from the Grasshopper Shop). **Reservations are needed**. FMI

or to reserve contact Jean at 862-2063 or email megress@tds.net no later than Tuesday, May 10.

* **MAY 11 (Wednesday)** Ellsworth Area, **Gay Guyz Group (GGG)** Potluck Dinner, 6-9 pm-ish at various locations in the greater Ellsworth Area. FMI and to get directions and time contact Wayne at wayne@mrlanguage.com

* **MAY 13 (Friday),** Bangor, **Lesbians Over 40 Happy Hour,** 5-7 pm. Interested in meeting other lesbians over 40? Let's meet for happy hour at the Lounge in the Four Points Sheraton at the Bangor airport. Parking is free with validation at the lounge. Nice lounge, quiet atmosphere, not too many people, and there is a pool table. What do you have to lose? Meet new friends. Hope to see you there. FMI contact Linda at 827-0061 or email linjoy4joy@yahoo.com

* **MAY 14 (Saturday),** Belfast, 6:00-ish to 8:30-ish, **lesbian potluck**. Join us for the Second Saturday Supper Gatherings at Virginia's place, a third floor walkup in downtown Belfast. FMI and/or directions call Virginia at 338-1729 or email atbay@midmaine.com

* **MAY 14 (Saturday),** Bangor, 5 pm, **house concert with singer/songwriter Martin Swinger**. Everyone I've talked with who has seen Martin perform says that he puts on a WONDERFUL show, so don't miss this one. This is how a house concert works: You show up at the house with a potluck food offering. You make a donation for the artist (suggested donation is $10/person, ALL donations go directly to the artist). You and the other guests eat a great potluck dinner and get to hob-nob with the artist. After dinner you are entertained with a close-up and cosy performance by the guest artist. The maximum number of guests for this performance is 15. **Reservations are needed. Spaces are still available.** Dinner will be from 5:00-7:00 pm, concert will be from 7:00-9:00 pm. FMI and/or to reserve contact Jean at 862-2063 or at megress@tds.net

* **MAY 16 (Monday),** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.

* **MAY 16 (Monday),** Bangor, 6 pm, **planning meeting for the 2005 Northern Maine Pride Festival**. Come one come all. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Organizational meetings will be held on Monday evenings at 6 pm at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 120 Park st, Bangor. FMI contact David at 745-4678.

* **MAY 16 (Monday)** Rockland Area, **Coastal Outright** (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22), meets Mondays at the Coastal AIDS Network Warren office, 7 pm. FMI contact Carolyn at 273-3444

* **MAY 18 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **EqualityMaine LGBT Exposition at the State House**, 9 am - 1 pm. All LGBT organizations invited! Free of charge, lunch provided. FMI see http://tinyurl.com/54fzl

* **MAY 19 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Man2Man**, 6-8 p.m., (for gay/bi/trans men) meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network at 370 Harlow St. This is a chance to meet and socialize with other like-minded individuals from the area and guests from all over. Occasional discussions include dating issues, relationships, eroticizing sex, and other topics relevant to mens' health. Meetings, calls, etc are completely confidential. Names and other information are not kept or given out. FMI Jason at 990-3626.

* **MAY 21 (Saturday),** Bangor, **Yard Sale to benefit Northern Maine Pride** and help fund the 2005 Diversity Day events. 9am - 3pm at the Hammond St Congregational Church (28 High St, corner of Hammond & High Streets). This is an indoor sale and will be held rain or shine. FMI call David at 745-4676 or Rob at 327-1009.

* **MAY 21 (Saturday),** Bangor, 6pm - 8pm, **Italiano Supremo Dinner**, it's an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper, including salad, garlic bread, and drinks. Tickets are $5 in advance, $6 at the door. Vegetarian sauce will be available. Kids under 12 eat free if accompanied by 2 adults. This is a fund-raiser for Northern Maine Pride to help fund the 2005 Diversity Day events. FMI call Rob at 327-1009 or David at 745-4676.

* **MAY 22 (Sunday),** Mt. Desert Island, join us for an afternoon of **cycling the loop road in Acadia National Park**. It's beaches, trees, great views of the ocean, fresh air, easy peddling on a paved road, (even full-loop and partial-loop options for the less adventurous), followed by dinner at a restaurant in Bar Harbor for those folks who want to partake. Ride will start at noon. FMI contact Jean at 862-2063 or at megress@tds.net

* **MAY 23 (Monday),** Bangor, 6 pm, **planning meeting for the 2005 Northern Maine Pride Festival**. Come one come all. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Organizational meetings will be held on Monday evenings at 6 pm at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 120 Park st, Bangor. FMI contact David at 745-4678.

* **MAY 23 (Monday)** Rockland Area, **Coastal Outright** (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22), meets Mondays at the Coastal AIDS Network Warren office, 7 pm. FMI contact Carolyn at 273-3444

* **MAY 27 (Friday)** Rockland, **Rainbow Family Potlucks**, 6 pm, at the First Universalist Church at 345 Broadway in Rockland. The Rainbow Family includes LGBTIQ people and their family, friends, and allies. These gatherings provide the opportunity for us to gather as a community, to enjoy each other's company over a great meal, and to share information. Please come and bring a friend. If you would like to be on our email list to be notified of future events, or if you have questions, email Annie and Lucie at lbak@att.net . See you there!

* **MAY 27 (Friday),** Bangor, **Lesbians Over 40 Happy Hour**, 5-7 pm. Interested in meeting other lesbians over 40? Let's meet for happy hour at the Lounge in the Four Points Sheraton at the Bangor airport. Parking is free with validation at the lounge. Nice lounge, quiet atmosphere, not too many people, and there is a pool table. What do you have to lose? Meet new friends. Hope to see you there. FMI contact Linda at 827-0061 or email linjoy4joy@yahoo.com

* **MAY 30 (Monday)** Rockland Area, **Coastal Outright** (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22), meets Mondays at the Coastal AIDS Network Warren office, 7 pm. FMI contact Carolyn at 273-3444

* **MAY 30 (Monday),** Bangor, 6 pm, **planning meeting for the 2005 Northern Maine Pride Festival**. Come one come all. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Organizational meetings will be held on Monday evenings at 6 pm at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 120 Park st, Bangor. FMI contact David at 745-4678.

BUSINESSES
(NEW LISTINGS OF GLBTI-OWNED BUSINESS and GLBTI BUSINESS INDIVIDUALS):

The complete directory-to-date of folks who have asked to be listed is available on request. Also, it will be emailed to everyone next on June 15. If you are a GLBTI business owner or an "out" GLBTI business person associating with a non-GLBTI-owned business (within a 50 mile radius of Bangor) who wants a free listing, then contact me. I'm Jean at megress@tds.net or at 862-2063.

BARS & NIGHTCLUBS:

Benjamin's After Dark
gay/alternative bar
123 Franklin St (under Panda Garden restaurant)
Bangor, ME 04401
ph: 207-990-0440
Open Tues/Thur/Fri/Sat from 8 pm - 2 am.

REAL ESTATE:

Bev Uhlenhake
c/o Epstein Commercial Real Estate
PO Box 2444
Bangor, ME 04402
ph: 207-945-6222
fax: 207-945-5824
email: bev@epsteincommercial.com
web: www.epsteincommercial.com
Leasing and sales of commercial and investment property.

GLBTI COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

The Charles O. Howard Foundation promotes education about diversity, acceptance, and tolerance. The foundation organizes a number of social events throughout the year to help raise funds for its work. Friendly volunteers are always needed. FMI contact Dan at 942-9319. Or check the web sites at www.charlesohoward.org or at www.mainevoices.org

Equality Maine (formerly MLGPA), has been providing education and legislative advocacy for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1984. It sponsors a variety of social and legislative educational events each year and is always looking for volunteers and new members. If you're not a member, you should be. FMI contact Equality Maine at 207-761-3732 or toll free at 1-800-556-5472. Their email address is info@equalitymaine.org and the web site is www.equalitymaine.org

Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN). To promote the safety and well-being of all students and teachers in our schools, without regard to sexual orientation. We undertake to educate and train school personnel, and to reach out to students who may be questioning their sexual orientation or who know that they are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. We are teachers, parents, school administrators, counselors, and other interested citizens; men and women, gay and straight, working together. FMI contact the Downeast Maine Chapter at PO Box 373, Ellsworth, ME 04605. OR phone 244-3837 or 667-2358. OR check the local web site at www.bridgesofrespect.net . OR check the national web site at www.glsen.org

Mainely Bears is a social group in Maine for gay bears and their admirers. Most of our events are held in the Mid-Coast and Downeast areas from Brunswick to Camden, Belfast, Waterville, Bangor, Ellsworth, Bar Harbor, to Machias. FMI regarding Mainely Bears, contact bgrbear@hotmail.com OR write to us at Mainely Bears, PO Box 8318, Bangor, ME 04402-8318 OR check the web site at www.mainelybears.com for upcoming activities.

Northern Maine Pride works to promote pride within our community and diversity and acceptance outside our community. They sponsor a variety of social and pride events during the year and are always looking for new members and volunteers to help with planning and organizing. Meetings are held every Monday at 6 pm. FMI call Dave at 745-4678. www.northernmainepride.com OR email: northernmainepride@earthlink.net

Transcare 2000 provides transsexual education, professional educational seminars, group moderation, counseling, and referrals for the trans community. Private duty nursing care and consultations by a registered nurse for post-operative transsexuals. Presentations on "Post Operative Transsexuals, a Study of Integration." FMI contact Marty at martyrnc@earthlink.net OR at 582-8779 OR check the web site at http://www.transcare2000.com

LIVING SPACE RENTALS:

If you are a GLBTI family member who has a living space (room, apartment, house/apartment sharing) that you would like to rent to another GLBTI family member, OR if you are a GLBTI family member looking for a living space to rent from another GLBTI family member, then this is the category to post to. Send your listings to me, Jean, at megress@tds.net

Augusta, apartments for rent. Great location, gay manager, pet friendly, 2 or 3 bedroom apartments in very quiet building. Get a $100 discount on your first month's rent. FMI call Natty at 207-623-5090 or cell at 441-6853.

Augusta/Rockland area, apartment or house-sharing wanted. Employed lady looking for a housing situation. I would prefer to start small

and perhaps rent or barter for a room or small space in exchange for painting, cleaning, dog/cat care, or like services, until I can find a more permanent arrangement. I can be reached by phone at 207-685-3329 or through my email address at 1mermaid@midmaine.com . Ask for Martha.

Bangor, apartment available. 2+ BR, Formal dining, nice sun porch. Wood flrs, claw foot tub, deck and fenced yard. All utilities and W/D included. Quiet 2 Unit building. No dogs/smokers. $900 mo. Contact Angel at reangel@midmaine.com OR 942-5216.

Bangor, house rental wanted. I am looking to rent a house somewhere in Bangor. I have 2 cats who are housebroken and very clean. Minimum requirements: two bedroom, price range $550.00 - $750.00. Contact Gary at gm1956@adelphia.net

Belfast, a variety of downtown offerings to rent. Contact Virginia at atbay@midmaine.com OR at 338-1729.

Fairfield, house sharing available. Professional male seeks same to help me with expenses by sharing my home in Fairfield. Must love my 3 small dogs! Call Steve at 453-7401 for details or interviews.

Portland, apartment sharing available. Simply...quiet...sunny... Female housemate wanted to share three-bedroom, first-floor apartment in USM neighborhood. Old victorian, GREAT neighbors, FABULOUS landlord, off-street parking, wood floors, huge walk-in pantry and newly remodeled kitchen, front and back porches, clawfoot tub, yard, charming garden, garage, basement storage. Share with funny, respectful, professional writer (woman 53). No pets, no smoking, rent includes heat/hot water. FMI contact Carolyn at 207-774-4231.

PERSONALS:

no personals this issue

SELL/BUY/TRADE/GIVE:

If you're trying to sell/buy something, want to trade for something else, or have something to give away, this is the category to post to. The FAN makes no guarantees about anything listed here, we simply provide the free listing as a service.

HOME FOR SALE. Bangor east side, 4-BR, Cape style with large yard, excellent condition. Available Aug/Sept, 2005. $155,000. FMI contact Mike at polarpops@verizon.net or call 945-5709.

THE WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, AND HOW OF THE FAMILY AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER.

All communications to FAMILY AFFAIRS should be sent to megress@tds.net (Be sure to include the words "family affairs" in the subject line).

WHAT IS "FAMILY AFFAIRS" ?

FAMILY AFFAIRS is a free, twice-a-month, social activities newsletter for the GLBTI (gay/les/bi/trans/intersexed) community. It is sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month. It is centered in Bangor and covers a 50 mile radius around the city.

WHO CAN SUBMIT NOTICES TO "FAMILIY AFFAIRS" ?

Anyone! This is your chance to organize your own activities and get some GLBTI-family company for those fun and interesting things you'd like to do. Do you want to host a potluck, attend a concert, or have someone to join you on that bus tour to Boston? Are you looking for someone to join you at the hockey or baseball games, for hiking, or to go to that special art exibit? Are you looking for canoeing, golfing, camping, or fishing partners? This is the best place to look. Think up something fun to do, organize it, and let us know about it....it's easy!

CAN I ORGANIZE AN ACTIVITY THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE "EVERYONE" ?

Yes. People who want to organize an activity for the GLBT and/or I community are free to set whatever requirements or restrictions they want to on the activity they're organizing. If you want to organize a "women only" camping trip, a "men only" drumming night, a "youth from age 18-24 only" dance, or a day trip to a water park for GLBTI "couples with children", that would be fine.

CAN I POST A SOCIAL ITEM THAT'S NOT GLBTI FOCUSED?

But of course! Not everyone who watches women's basketball is a lesbian! If you want to organize an activity around something that is "mostly-straight-but-GLBTI-friendly", then do it!

HOW DO I GET ONTO OR OFF THE MAILING LIST ?

Just email me and ask to be put on (or taken off) the list: megress@tds.net

CAVEATS:

All newsletters are emailed BCC, and the email list is not given out to anyone. Still, keep in mind that while this newsletter is for the GLBTI community, not everyone on the mailing list may be a "family" member. People ask to be put on the list and I put them on. There is no interview process or attempt to verify "queer" status. It's up to you to behave appropriately for whatever level of anonymity/security you feel you need.