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Family Affairs Newsletter 2005-06-15

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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.**

15 JUNE 2005

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) The events for Southern Maine Pride, and contact info are listed below, JUN 15-18.

(NEWS #2:) MAINE WON'T DISCRIMINATE is busy working on the campaign to uphold the new law that prevents discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. They can always use volunteers, folks interested/willing to write supportive letters to newspapers, donations, etc. You can sign up to receive their informative emailings by going to the web site www.MaineWontDiscriminate.com

(NEWS #3:) Coming soon to Bangor, A Chem-Free Dance for GLBTI folks between the ages of 16-30. This will be a chemical-free dance and a safe environment where younger GLBTI folks can go without worrying about being harassed or bashed. We will have a DJ and food along with soda for sale. We are hoping to have the dance twice a month, on Sunday evenings. More info will follow as things are set up. FMI contact Rob at gaynexgenex@wmconnect.com The FAN will post dates and times for these dances as we are notified of them.

(NOTES #1:) GLBTI Writer's Group trying to form. See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category.

(NOTES #2:) For gay men looking for a Maine opportunity to meet with about 150 other gay men in a relaxing and fun, conference-style gathering (on the seashore no less), check the listing for Gayla on July 9-16 below.

(REMINDERS #1:) 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, commitments, graduations, promotions, new jobs, awards, shows, ongoing classes, etc.

Writer's Group. Area lesbian wishes to contact others who may be interested in starting a gay/lesbian writer's group. We could discuss original poetry, short stories, or novels. This idea is only in its formulative stages, so for now I just want to know if anyone is interested. I think we would want a minimum of, say, 4 members. We could either meet at one of our houses, or possibly Borders would allow us to use the oak table and chairs upstairs. Anyone interested in such a project please email Stephanie at sreiser@tds.net

EVENTS:

• JUN 15-18 (Wednesday-Saturday), Portland area. The 2005 Southern Maine Pride include:

- Wed., June 15 = Pride Lights & Remembrance
- Wed., June 15 = "Out-rageous", Outside Karaoke Contest
- Thur., June 16 = Gay & Lesbian Comedy Night
- Fri., June 17 = Rainbow Scavenger Hunt
- Sat., June 18 = Pride Parade
- Sat., June 18 = Pride Festival
- Sat., June 18 = Saturday Night Pier Dance

Tickets are available in Portland at: Drop Me A Line, Blackstones, & Condom Sense. In Bangor, tickets can be purchased

at Bull Moose Music. FMI check the web site at <http://www.joshparkin.com/smp/schedule.html>

* **JUN 16 (Thursday), Bangor, Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond Street Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (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, snack, etc. within a Native American context. We meet every Wednesday to help one another explore our goals, fears or just to sit around the circle and make new friends. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **JUN 16 (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.

* **JUN 16-18 (Thu-Sat), Portland, The Maine Gay Men's Chorus' 2005 Pride Concert: DOUBLE TROUBLE**. This will be at the Williston West Church at 32 Thomas St. Thursday, June 16th at 8 pm. Friday, June 17th at 8 pm. Saturday, June 18th at 8 pm. Tickets available at www.maine-gay-mens-chorus.org or at Drop-Me-A-Line at 773-5547.

* **JUN 17 (Friday) Greater MDI area. Out On MDI Potluck Dinner**. This is a social potluck drop-in open to anyone lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. This month's gathering will be held at Susan and Deann's place in Bernard. FMI and/or directions/time email Ann at alfhildanda@mac.com

* **JUN 18 (Saturday), Bucksport, 6 p.m. PIGS (Pride In Gastronomy Social) dinner**. Join other GLBTI family members for a fun evening at one of the local restaurants to hob-nob and visit with old and new friends. This month's PIGS dinner will be held at Ming's Garden Chinese Restaurant (right on Main St in Bucksport, about 1/2 block from the Bucksport/Verona bridge). RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED. FMI and/or to reserve contact Jean (no later than Friday, June 17th) at 862-2063 or at megress@tds.net

* **JUN 19 (Sunday), Bangor, 12:30 pm, the annual WALK WITH THE ONE(S) YOU LOVE** in support of all people being allowed to love whoever they want. The event is open to all GLBTI folks and straight allies who are interested in supporting equality in our communities. The walk starts in Pickering Square at 12:30 and ends at West Market Square at about 1:30. Bring a friend and a flower! We will be stopping at the State Street bridge for a small dedication in Charlie Howard's memory. FMI contact Dan at knead2@netscape.com

* **JUN 20 (Monday), Bangor, Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.

* **JUN 20 (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

* **JUN 23 (Thursday), Bangor, Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond Street Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (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, snack, etc. within a Native American context. We meet every Wednesday to help one another explore our goals, fears or just to sit around the circle and make new friends. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **JUN 24 (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

* **JUN 24 (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!

* **JUN 25-26 (Saturday-Sunday), Hebron, Maine Youth Summit 2005!** 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 GLBTIQA young people. This year's summit will be 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

* **JUN 26 (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, (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

* **JUN 27 (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

* **JUN 30 (Thursday), Bangor, Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond Street Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (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, snack, etc. within a Native American context. We meet every Wednesday to help one another explore our goals, fears or just to sit around the circle and make new friends. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

* **JUL 1 (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

- * **JUL 3 (Sunday)**, Belfast, 9:00 - 11:00 am, group **planning meeting for the lesbian retirement home**. Group will meet at Virginia's place in downtown Belfast. FMI/location/directions etc. contact Gabrielle at gabrielle@prexar.com or call Virginia at 338-1729
- * **JUL 3 (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
- * **JUL 4 (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
- * **JUL 7 (Thursday)**, Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond Street Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (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, snack, etc. within a Native American context. We meet every Wednesday to help one another explore our goals, fears or just to sit around the circle and make new friends. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com
- * **JUL 6 (Wednesday)** Belfast, **Belfast Outright** meets from 4 - 6 pm. (For GLBTQI youths and allies ages 15-22). FMI call Carolyn at 273-3444.
- * **JUL 7 (Thursday)**, Bangor, the **Second Annual Memorial Walk in honor of Charlie Howard**. Time, location, etc. TBA FMI contact Dan at knead2@netscape.com
- * **JUL 7 (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.
- * **JUL 8 (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
- * **JUL 9-16 (Saturday-Saturday)**, Ferry Beach (near Old Orchard Beach), the annual **Gayla Conference**. Gayla is a week-long conference for gay men. This year it celebrates 27 years of magic at Ferry Beach. During this magical week, 150 gay men gather to create an affirming, safe, and fun-filled community. A variety of tracks and workshops are offered. FMI contact Robert at chaparito@yahoo.com or check the web site at <http://www.ferrybeach.org/summercon/gayla.html>
- * **JUL 9 (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
- * **JUL 10 (Sunday)**, Acadia National Park, join us for an afternoon of **kayaking** on one of the streams or lakes of Acadia National Park. Bring your own kayak (or canoe). For those folks who are interested, we'll grab a bite to eat somewhere afterwards. FMI contact Jean at 862-2063 or megress@tds.net
- * **JUL 11 (Monday)**, Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.
- * **JUL 11 (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
- * **JUL 13 (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
- * **JUL 13 (Wednesday)** Bangor, **Maine Eat-Out Project**, 6 pm. Join our group every other month for dinner at different area restaurants. The July MEOP will be held at the Sea Dog Restaurant and Micro-Brewery (26 Front St). **RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED**. FMI or to reserve contact Jean at 862-2063 or email megress@tds.net no later than Tuesday, July 12th.
- * **JUL 14 (Thursday)**, Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond Street Congregational Church, 28 High St. This group is open to all GLBTI native Americans AND their friends (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, snack, etc. within a Native American context. We meet every Wednesday to help one another explore our goals, fears or just to sit around the circle and make new friends. FMI contact Rob at 327-1009 OR email nativeglbti@wmconnect.com

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 September 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.

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 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

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD). Based in Boston, GLAD serves the New England area with legal information for the GLBTI community in the areas of job & housing rights, transgender rights, marriage rights, parental rights, youth rights, and HIV rights. The legal information Hotline number is 1-800-455-4523 or check the web site at www.glad.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 441-7701.

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.

Bridgton, apartment for rent. One bedroom, kitchen, bath, living room (with fieldstone fireplace), off-street parking, close to town. 45 minutes to Portland, 25 minutes to Windham. No pets, no smokers. Rent \$800/month includes heat, hot water, electricity. FMI contact Merle at wailmerle@verizon.net

Eddington, housemates wanted. Looking for gay, bi, gay-friendly professional and/or graduate students only to share large, furnished home in Eddington. Wide pine floors, living room, dining room, large kitchen, fireplaces, storage, and enough other rooms for each of 3 tenants to have two private rooms each. Very comfortable. No pets, drugs, or heavy drinking. Smokers OK if you smoke outside. Free use of hot tub, ping pong table, washer and dryer, 36 inch cable TV. Only 20-25 minutes to the UMaine campus. The rent for each person would be \$425/month plus utilities. Security deposit, lease, and references from the last place you lived. Available June 15th, 2005. FMI contact Scott at chefguy@adelphia.net

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.

PERSONALS:

Looking for love. Male seeking a qualified individual for the position of Boyfriend, with possibility of advancement to Significant Other and/or Life Partner. Qualifications: ideal candidate must be caring, loving, sensitive, honest, good communicator. Sense of humor a BIG plus. Responsibilities: going out to dinner, going to the movies, talking, listening, laughing hysterically, renting DVDs, going camping, going on road trips, and many other mutually enjoyable activities. About the employer: he is charming, sweet, funny, witty, and loyal. Location: Maine. To apply, email Rob at robnmp@wmconnect.com . Equal opportunity employer.

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.

For sale or swap: 1998 Yamaha 100 dirt bike. Garaged; never used. \$700 or possible swap for kayaks or canoe. Leave message for Chris at 359-8322.

Moving Sale: Antique furniture, original artwork, household items, etc. Call after 8 pm weekdays OR anytime on the weekends for details and appointment to view. Location: Franklin. Phone Francine at 565-2309

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 "FAMILY 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 exhibit? 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.