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Family Affairs Newsletter 2005-07-01

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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 JULY 2005

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) A gathering for GLBTI parents with young children? Check the **ANNOUNCEMENTS** category.

(NEWS #2:) TWO new GLBTI bars/clubs !! See the listings in the **BUSINESSES** category.

(NEWS #3:) Chem-free GLBTIQA youth dances. See Gay Newgenex Dance listings on July 10 & 24.

(NEWS #4:) The Ugly Ducklings Campaign. Can you host a fundraising event for a lesbian theatre/film project? See the **ANNOUNCEMENTS** category.

(NEWS #5:) Job Opening. GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders), based in Boston, is hiring a Public Affairs Assistant. Visit the GLAD web site at www.glad.org for a full job description.

(NEWS #6:) Reorganization at Northern Maine Pride. The Executive Committee of Northern Maine Pride has undertaken a process of review and reorganization. For the time being the web site will be closed for redesign. The temporary email address will be robnmp@wmconnect.com. New snail mail address is: Northern Maine Pride, PO Box 2, Bradford, ME 04410. The committee would be pleased to hear from all those interested in working with Northern Maine Pride as we struggle to grow and bring unity to our large service area. Anyone who is not presently on Northern Maine Pride's mailing list who would like to be should contact Rob at robnmp@wmconnect.com or by phone at 327-1009.

(NEWS #7:) A new category in The FAN. I keep hearing about different social groups and gatherings of GLBTI folks in various places around Maine, and they sound like they're doing really neat activities. These are outside the 50-mile radius around Bangor that The FAN covers, and I'm not sure how many FAN readers would want to travel that far for a BBQ or a softball game. Also, I don't have the time to list all the events these groups sponsor. Still, a FAN reader who is located 50 miles from Bangor might be a lot closer to some of these groups than to some of the goings-on in the Bangor area; and some folks in the Bangor area might not mind traveling on a weekend to take part in something different. Soooo, there is now a new category in The FAN. It's called **SOCIAL GROUPS (MORE THAN 50 MILES FROM BANGOR)**. It will list the general location, description, and contact info for whatever groups I become aware of. If any FAN readers want to know more or get on the group's mailing list they can contact the groups directly. Also, if any FAN reader wants to send me info about such groups, I'd be happy to post it. Check the new category.

(NOTES #1:) 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

(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, trying-to-start-a-group, etc.

Parents with young children gathering. Hello, I am a single lesbian parent with a 5 month old looking for other GLBTI parents with young children (possibly infant to age 3) to get together, either with or without the children, in Bangor or other nearby places. The structure of the gatherings will depend on the needs/wishes of those folks who want to participate. If there is anyone willing to help me organize this and get some people together to try it out, I would be grateful. Some activities I was thinking about were possibly: a picnic/BBQ in a park, arts and crafts day, meeting at the Discovery Museum or finding a quiet place just to hang out. You can contact me via email at beth_stepone@hotmail.com Thanks!

Ugly Ducklings Campaign. Hey! Help me fundraise for this fabulous lesbian theatre project! We will come to you! Do you know folks who would be interested in hosting a fundraising evening in their home for an exciting project? We will come to you with a lively and dramatic presentation about the campaign to produce my play UGLY DUCKLINGS here in Maine in September and the campaign to produce a documentary film about the show. FMI about the show, the documentary, the production team, and the project go to <http://www.carolynage.com/prospectusfinal.pdf> To chat about hosting a mini dramatic presentation contact Carolyn at carolyn@carolynage.com

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:

* **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 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, 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 7 (Thursday)**, Bangor, the Second Annual Memorial Walk in honor of Charlie Howard. The event will start at 6:30 pm with a church service at the U.U. Church at 120 Park Street. The walk will commence around 7:15 pm and end at the bridge. Bring a flower. This second Memorial Walk will mark the 21st year of the tragic death of Charlie Howard. There will be a collection at the church for the Charlie Howard Scholarship Fund. Donations will be greatly appreciated! We look forward to seeing you there. FMI contact Dan at knead2@netscape.com or call 942-9319. Thank you!

* **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)**, Bangor, Gay Newgenex Dance, 8-11 pm, Karma club, 123 Franklin St (under the Panda Garden Restaurant). This is a chemical-free dance (no smoking, alcohol, drugs) for GLBTIQA youth ages 16-30. It provides a safe and harassment-free environment, so come join us for a fun time. Refreshments and snacks will be for sale. Admission will be \$3 at the door. FMI contact Rob at gaynewgenex@wmconnect.com or phone 207-327-1009.

* **JUL 10 (Sunday)**, Acadia National Park, join us for an afternoon of kayaking in Acadia National Park. Bring your own kayak. 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)**, Waterville, 7 pm, Pot Luck Dinner. The Waterville Area Guys Group (WAGG) is a social group for gay/bi/questioning men and men-who-have-sex-with-men. We gather for friendship and fellowship. Our next meeting is at the Unitarian-Universalist 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

* **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

* **JUL 18 (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 18 (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 21 (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 21 (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 22 (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!

* **JUL 22 (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 23 (Saturday)**, Mt. Desert Island, **almost-full-moon beach lounge**. Those folks who want to can meet in Bar Harbor for a little bite to eat beforehand, then the group will gather and proceed to Sand Beach where we can set out blankets, watch the moon rise, listen to the surf, and chat-it-up. Twilight ends at 8:42 pm, moon rises at 9:57. FMI contact Jean at 862-2063 or at megress@tds.net

* **JUL 24 (Sunday)**, Mt. Desert Island, join us for an afternoon of **cycling in Acadia National Park**, 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

* **JUL 24 (Sunday)**, Bangor, **Gay Newgenex Dance**, 8-11 pm, Karma club, 123 Franklin St (under the Panda Garden Restaurant). This is a chemical-free dance (no smoking, alcohol, drugs) **for GLBTIQA youth ages 16-30**. It provides a safe and harassment-free environment, so come join us for a fun time. Refreshments and snacks will be for sale. Admission will be \$3 at the door. FMI contact Rob at gaynewgenex@wmconnect.com or phone 207-327-1009.

* **JUL 25 (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 28 (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 29 (Friday)**, Bangor, **Thanksgiving In July Dinner**, 6-8 pm, Hammond St Congregational Church, 28 High St. Northern Maine Pride will be holding a Thanksgiving dinner, with all the fixins, as a fundraiser for NMP. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. FMI contact Rob at robnmp@wmconnect.com or phone 207-327-1009

* **JUL 30 (Saturday)**, Bangor, **New England Boiled Dinner to benefit the Howard Foundation**, 6-8 pm, Hammond St. Congregational Church (corner of High & Hammond Streets). Cost will be \$6/adult and \$3/children 12 years old and younger. FMI contact Dan at knead2@netscape.com or phone 942-9319. Looking forward to seeing you there to enjoy a New England Boiled Dinner where you can meet your friends, make new ones, and enjoy the surroundings.

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.

BARS & NIGHTCLUBS:

Detour Bar N Grill
611 B Wilson St
Brewer, ME 04412
ph: 207-989-3386
email: detourbarngill@aol.com
web: www.clubdetour.us

proprietors: Chase & Troy Blanchard
Central and Northern Maine's hottest nightclub for all. Come check out our all new 2 story nightclub. On the corner of Wilson St & Sparks Ave (right behind the Mobile station). Grand Opening July 1st.

Karma
123 Franklin St (under the Panda Garden Restaurant)
Bangor, ME 04401
ph: 207-299-0513
proprietors: Sabin Beckwith & Chad Hamilton
Pub & Club

BUILDING CONTRACTORS:

Heath Enterprises
PO Box 801
Bangor, ME 04402
ph: 207-745-4678
email: heathenterprises@earthlink.net
proprietor: David Heath

Your one-stop contracting source for Property Maintenance, Management, Demolition, Building, and Remodeling. Foundations to Finish!

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, 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 is the leading legal rights organization in New England, dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity expression. Through impact litigation, education and public policy work, GLAD seeks to create a world in which there is equal justice under law for all. GLAD operates a free Legal Information Hotline weekdays from 1:30 - 4:30 pm at 1-800-455-4523 where people can receive information, resources, and lawyer referrals for legal issues they are facing. GLAD has over 75 publications on various LGBT/HIV legal issues for all six New England states. These publications are available by calling the Hotline or on the web site at <http://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 Rob at 327-1009 OR www.northernmainepride.com OR email: robnp@wmconnect.com

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 martymc@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, 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.

Lincolnton, house for rent. On Levenseller Pond. One bedroom downstairs. Open loft. Wood stove and gas monitor heater. Large porch. Screen house down by the pond. New dock. Plenty of space to garden. Twelve minutes to Camden or Belfast. \$600/month plus utilities. FMI contact Pat at 763-3115.

Portland, room for rent. Bedroom in large 3-bedroom Victorian apartment in USM neighborhood. Share apartment with lesbian-feminist author. Quiet house, great neighbors, fab landlord. \$400 includes heat and hot water. Basement, two porches. No pets, no drugs, no smoking. References. Available in August. FMI contact Carolyn at 774-4231.

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

SOCIAL GROUPS (MORE THAN 50-MILES FROM BANGOR):

COASTAL WOMEN'S CONNECTION. A women's social group that covers the coastal area from about Brunswick to Portland. Dances, BBQs, softball, camping, potlucks, etc. FMI and to get on mailing list contact Betsy at giftedhanz@hotmail.com

SEACOAST SAPPHOS. A women's social group that covers the coastal area from about Portland to Portsmouth. Dances, BBQs, potlucks, concerts, etc. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Cherie at seacoastsapphos@yahoo.com or check the web site at www.seacoastsapphos.org

LAVENDER LETTERS. An snail-mail newsletter for the GLBTI community in Washington County (Machias) area. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Gillian at Lavender Letters, c/o 9 Bobcat Path, Machias, ME 04654.

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.