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Family Affairs Newsletter 2005-11-01

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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 NOVEMBER 2005

NEWSLETTER NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS:

(NEWS #1:) Transgender 101: Understanding and Supporting Your Transgender Friends. See NOV 15 listing.

(NEWS #2:) A new Lesbian Happy Hour in the Augusta area. See NOV 4 listing.

(NOTES #1:) There are still some seats left for the House Concert with Chris Rutecki & Susan Daigle. See NOV 12 below.

(NOTES #2:) A new social group is trying to start up in Bangor. See the ANNOUNCEMENTS category for details.

(NOTES #3:) THE LARAMIE PROJECT at the Penobscot Theatre Company. Check NOV 2 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, trying-to-start-a-group, etc.

Come help us celebrate our 1st Anniversary Sale at The Furniture Gallery at 321 Bucksport Rd in Ellsworth. Saturday, Nov. 5th from 10 am to 2 pm. Special advance sneak preview for Family members. Savings from 20% to 50% FMI contact David at 667-0062.

New Bangor Social Group. Hey! Are you interested in socializing with GLBT folks but can't find a group for your age? So am I. I am a 26 year old queer person who would like to start a group that would meet to talk, have potlucks, go to the movies, etc. All ages would be invited. Please email me if you are interested. Sarah at flyingfrog1979@hotmail.com . Thanks!

EVENTS:

* NOV 2 (Wednesday), Bangor, THE LARAMIE PROJECT by Moises Kaufman and the Members of Tectonic Theatre Project. NOV 2 - NOV 13 at the Penobscot Theatre Company in downtown Bangor. This piece chronicles the life in Laramie, Wyoming, the year after a horrifying discovery: young and gay Matthew Shepard, dead and bound to a fence in the hills outside of town. Based on more than 200 interviews, THE LARAMIE PROJECT explores the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion to which it can soar through the actual words of Laramie's citizens. FMI and to get tickets call the PTC box office at 942-3333.

* NOV 3 (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 Thursday 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 nativeglbt@wmconnect.com

10/31/05

- * **NOV 2 (Wednesday)** Belfast, **Belfast Outright** meets from 4 - 6 pm. (For GLBTQI youths and allies ages 15-22). FMI call Carolyn at 273-3444.
- * **NOV 3 (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.
- * **NOV 4 (Friday)**, Augusta, **Lesbian Happy Hour**, 5:30 - 7:30 pm (or until everyone leaves). We'll be having this at Margarita's Mexican Restaurant, 390 Western Ave. FMI email Kathy at tessallate@gmail.com
- * **NOV 4 (Friday)**, Rockport, Greater Belfast/Camden/Rockland Area **social/support group for lesbians over 40**. From 6:30-8:30 pm FMI and meeting place contact Pat at 763-3115 or at patput@midcoast.com
- * **NOV 6 (Sunday)**, Belfast, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, 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
- * **NOV 6 (Sunday)** Auburn, 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. FMI contact Marty at 582-8779 or at martymc@earthlink.net
- * **NOV 7 (Monday)**, Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.
- * **NOV 9 (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
- * **NOV 10 (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 Thursday 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
- * **NOV 11 (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
- * **NOV 12 (Saturday)**, Bangor, 5 pm, **house concert with singers/songwriters Chris Rutecki and Sue Daigle**. Come listen to the soulful ballads of love and love lost, the music and the harmonies will fill the evening with songs that will soothe your heart. 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 14. **Reservations are needed.** 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
- * **NOV 12 (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 vabay@verizon.net
- * **NOV 15 (Tuesday)**, Bangor, Jean Vermette will give a **presentation about transgenderism** titled Transgender 101: Understanding and Supporting Your Transgendered Friends. This talk will be from 7 - 8 pm (refreshments afterwards) at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 120 Park St. The talk is open to the public.
- * **NOV 16 (Wednesday)** Orono, **Maine Eat-Out Project**, 6:30 pm. Join our group every other month for dinner at different area restaurants. The November MEOP will be held at The Blues Cafe, 27 Mill St, in Orono. **Reservations are needed.** FMI or to reserve contact Jean at 862-2063 or email megress@tds.net no later than Tuesday, November 15
- * **NOV 17 (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 Thursday 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
- * **NOV 17 (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.
- * **NOV 21 (Monday)**, Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.
- * **NOV 25 (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!

* **NOV 25 (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

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 December 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, 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 national web site at www.glsen.org

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), is New England's leading legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression. GLAD's legal victories in Maine have addressed HIV discrimination, harassment of gay students, co-guardianship rights for same-sex parents, domestic partner benefits and more. Mainers can call GLAD's free, confidential hotline from 1:30 - 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday, at 1-800-455-4523 to receive legal information, resources, and referrals to lawyers in Maine. Mainers can also visit GLAD's website to read more about the law in Maine and to download publications about your rights at <http://me.glad.org> FMI contact GLAD's Maine Outreach Coordinator, Stephen Farrand, at sfarrand@glad.org or at 899-9488.

Howard Foundation. This is a foundation dedicated to building a permanent scholarship endowment for high school seniors and post secondary students. The foundation focuses on students who are entering any profession that promotes diversity and a better understanding of differences in people within our communities. Guidelines for allotting the scholarships are presently being formulated. A second goal for the foundation is to establish a 3-day festival called "Multi-Cultural Days - Bangor" which will be open to every ethnic/cultural group in Maine with a focus on education, food, music/entertainment, dancing, and inspirational speakers. People interested in being on the Planning Committee, or being involved in any way, can contact Dan Williams at 942-9319 or at knead2@netscape.com.

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 7 pm. FMI write Northern Maine Pride, PO Box 2815, Bangor, ME 04401 OR www.northernmainepride.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 martyinc@earthlink.net OR at 582-8779 OR check the web site at <http://www.transcare2000.com>

The Transgender Fund. With offices in Freeport, Maine, The Transgender Fund is a national, completely independent, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charitable foundation. It has been created by and for transgendered individuals. Out funding is derived from contributions by caring individuals of all levels of means. Our strength and independence come from the fact that there is no single benefactor who has seeded the Fund with a large amount of capital. Contributions you make are added to those of your sisters and brothers. Individually, they may seem modest, but collectively they add up to a powerful force that is reinvested in the support of projects fostering the well-being of all our gender variant minorities. FMI write The Transgender Fund, PO Box 50, Freeport, Maine 04032 OR phone 207-846-7997 OR email info@tgfund.org OR check the web site at www.tgfund.org

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, apartment for rent. 2 BR, second floor, private patio, gay building, \$550/month, pets welcome. FMI call Natty at 207-623-8148 or cell at 441-7701.

Bangor, apartment for rent. 2 bedroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, bath. Mid-town, first floor, near bus route. No smoking, no dogs. References and lease needed. Rent is \$500/month unheated. FMI contact Jean at 862-2063 or at megress@tds.net

Belfast, a variety of downtown offerings to rent. Contact Virginia at vabay@verizon.net 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 wallmerle@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. FMI contact Scott at chefguy@adelphia.net

Gardiner, roommate desired. Lesbian with two dogs seeking clean, responsible, non-smoker to share large 2nd floor apartment. Please call Eileen at 441-2785 or email hearme@natisp.com

Lincolntonville, 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.

Montville, house sharing. I have a beautiful house to share in Montville, a convenient drive to Camden, Belfast, Augusta, Waterville, and Rockland. My home has 2 bathrooms and the entire upstairs is available. I live on a dirt road with lots of woods and good place to walk or kayak, but am only 1 mile from Rt 3. I have a fire place and a screened-in deck, plus a good garden spot. I have one old, very lovable kitty and keep the place neat and clean and quiet. Let me know if you may be interested or have someone contact me if you know of someone else who may be interested. Thanks! FMI call Marcy at 589-4177.

Orland, room for rent. Mature gay man looking for someone similar to rent space in my home. There would be a private bedroom and bath, and communal space which includes kitchen, dining room, and living room. I am looking for a congenial, responsible, single man, a non-smoker, social drinker, who would respect the house and our relationship as landlord and tenant and perhaps share some of the home duties. No pets as I already have a cat. Cost would be \$350/month. FMI call Jim at 469-2612. Best times to call are 8 am to 1 pm and then 4 pm to 8 pm.

Portland, room for rent, USM neighborhood. Room for rent with full kitchen privileges. Seeking female tenant for this gay/lesbian friendly, three-bedroom apartment to share with female professional writer. Separate phone line and cable hook-up, hardwood floors, front and back porches, yard, walk-in pantry, great neighbors and great landlord, off-street parking, garage, basement, recently remodeled kitchen, sunny, quiet, old Victorian. Furnished or not. \$450 includes heat/hot water. No pets. No smoking. References required. FMI contact Carolyn at 774-4231.

Southwest Harbor, house for rent. On the water, 2BR, 2 decks, 1 full bath, 2 half baths, W/D, fully furnished. 1st, last, & security. Available now through May. No smoking. Pets allowed. \$650/month. FMI call Mary Jo or Rhonda at 207-989-2099 or email lawlerlane@aol.com

PERSONALS:

Active, self-confident, female, nature lover, 53, seeks same in feminine woman. I love to kayak, walk/hike, sail, bike. I also enjoy quiet moments on the beach, watching the sunset or catching a glimpse of a bird in the wild. You can view my profile on foundheronline.com under seamyestere, or email me at linjoy4joy@yahoo.com

Mature gay male looking for a happy, sincere companion who is also looking for long-term loving mate. I am a very romantic guy who is very respecting of a partner's special needs and personal interests. Honesty and trustworthiness are vitally important to any relationship that might develop. I am retired and love good music (especially classical), theatre, TV, movies, classical dance and more. Candle-light intimate dinners, nice wine by a winter's fireside, good conversation, physical spontaneity are very desirable. Also, dinners out, coastal strolls, entertaining small groups of friends and meeting new friends are positive aspects of a new life together with the right person. I am looking for a non-smoker, light social drinker who is also looking for a life-long companionship. I have a cat and would not want more pets at this time. Please respond to prelude37_2000@yahoo.com

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.

No Items This Issue

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

LAVENDER LETTERS. A snail mail newsletter for lesbian-identified women in the Washington County (Machias) area. FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Gillyin at Lavender Letters, 9 Bobcat Path, Machias, ME 04654

SEACOAST SAPPHOS. A women's social group that covers the 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

SINGLE OLDER LESBIAN ORGANIZATION (SOLO). A group for single, older (45 years and up), lesbian-identified women, in the general midcoast Maine area (Bath to Damariscotta). FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Kathy at naturalpet@suscom-maine.net or check the web site at <http://www.geocities.com/sololesbians/>

SOLO-N-FRIENDS. A loosely organized women's group which often meets for restaurant meals and social conversation. We also do a variety of different activities that are of interest to those who attend. Solo-N-Friends is made up of the members of SOLO and women-loving-women (lesbian, bi, trans) of any age, whether single or partnered. We serve the general midcoast Maine area (Bath to Damariscotta). FMI and to get on the mailing list contact Janet at janet@4footloose.com or check the web site at <http://www.geocities.com/lesbians04/>

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.