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# Family Affairs Newsletter 2006-02-01

Jean Vermette

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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 FEBRUARY 2006**

**(NEWS #1:)** The presentation by Judith Halberstam, originally scheduled at UMO on FEB 9th, has been postponed. The university is working on rescheduling and we will post that info as it becomes available.

**(REMINDERS #1:)** The Northern Maine Pride board of directors wants to know: **What one or two things would you most like to see as part of this year's PRIDE events?** You can respond directly to the NMP board at info@northernmainepride.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, commitments, graduations, promotions, new jobs, awards, shows, ongoing classes, trying-to-start-a-group, etc.*

1. **JOB OPENING.** Help Wanted. Able bodied person willing to learn furniture refinishing and porcelain reglazing. Must be able to do some heavy lifting and willing to start from the bottom and work up. Transportation required. No experience necessary. Will train right individual. FMI call David at 667-0062.

## EVENTS:

* **FEB 1 (Wednesday)** Belfast, **Belfast Outright** meets from 4 - 6 pm. (For GLBTQI youths and allies ages 15-22). FMI call Carolyn at 273-3444.

* **FEB 2 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St 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

* **FEB 2 (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.

* **FEB 3 (Friday),** Hallowell, **The Augusta Area Lesbian Happy Hour**, 6:30 - 8:30, at the Higher Grounds cafe, located on Water Street in Hallowell (next to the Liberal Cup). Come join us and have a great time! FMI contact Kathy at tessallate@gmail.com

* **FEB 3 (Friday),** Brewer, **The Starlight Performers** will be doing a performance at the Detour Bar-N-Grill on Wilson St in Brewer, starting at 8:30 pm. The Starlight Performers are a wonderful group of men and women who love to perform so that you can enjoy a Sunday evening. They donate the money from every show to a worthy cause. FMI call 989-3386 or email clubdetourbrewer@aol.com See you there!

* **FEB 5 (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 martyrnc@adelphia.net

* **FEB 5 (Sunday),** Belfast, 1-3:00 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 or email Virginia at vabay@verizon.net

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

* **FEB 8 (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

* **FEB 8 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **JUST GUYS**, a weekly, non-sexual, MSM social group will have its first "MEET, GREET, and EAT" meeting at the Dayspring Offices (bottom floor), 9 Green St, in Augusta, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. JUST GUYS meets on Wednesday night each week sharing talk, movies, discussions, good fun, and good friends. Join us, bring a friend, come share! FMI contact Lew at 621-3794.

* **FEB 9 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St 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

* **FEB 10 (Friday),** Brewer, **Lesbians Over 40 Happy Hour**, 6 pm to ?. Interested in meeting other lesbians over 40? Let's meet for happy hour upstairs at the Detour Bar-N-Grill, 611-B Wilson St, in Brewer. Parking is free. 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

* **FEB 11 (Saturday),** Portland, The **Maine Gay Men's Chorus, 6th Annual Cabaret/Fundraiser**, at Holiday Inn By The Bay. The theme is: UNDER THE BIG TOP. To purchase tickets go to the web site at www.mainegaymenschorus.org .

* **FEB 11 (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

* **FEB 12 (Sunday),** Ellsworth, **Chocolate Bar Party**, 1:00 pm, at Energy Rising, 163 Main St (right next to The Grand). Rae has been hosting a chocolate bar party for several years and has yet to find out how many people it takes to eat a 5 pound Hershey's bar. Needless to say, said Hershey's bar will be the guest of honor. Come and help us find out how many people it takes to finish it off. FMI call Rae at 667-8200.

* **FEB 13 (Monday)** Bangor, **Bangor Outright** meets at Eastern Maine AIDS Network, 6-8 pm. (For GLBTQI youths ages 15-22) FMI Jamie at 990-3626.

* **FEB 13 (Monday),** Bangor, **Northern Maine Pride organizational meeting**, 7 - 8:30 pm, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St. FMI call 947-1081 or email info@northernmainepride.org

* **FEB 15 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **JUST GUYS**, a weekly, non-sexual, MSM social group meets at the Dayspring Offices (bottom floor), 9 Green St, in Augusta, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. JUST GUYS meets on Wednesday night each week sharing talk, movies, discussions, good fun, and good friends. Join us, bring a friend, come share! FMI contact Lew at 621-3794.

* **FEB 16 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St 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

* **FEB 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.

* **FEB 17 (Friday),** Hallowell, The **Augusta Area Lesbian Happy Hour**, 6:30 - 8:30, at the Higher Grounds cafe, located on Water Street in Hallowell (next to the Liberal Cup). Come join us and have a great time! FMI contact Kathy at tessallate@gmail.com

* **FEB 17 (Friday),** Brewer, **The Starlight Performers** will be doing a performance at the Detour Bar-N-Grill on Wilson St in Brewer, starting at 8:30 pm. The Starlight Performers are a wonderful group of men and women who love to perform so that you can enjoy a Sunday evening. They donate the money from every show to a worthy cause. FMI call 989-3386 or email clubdetourbrewer@aol.com See you there!

* **FEB 18 (Saturday),** Bangor, the monthly meeting of the **Reading-Aloud-Potluck**, 5:00 - 8:00 pm, at Jean's apartment. The format is: dinner from 5 - 6 pm. and then reading aloud from 6 - 8 pm. Each person attending is asked to bring something to eat, and at least 2 reading selections. Your reading selections can be poetry or prose, something you've read or something you've written, fiction or non-fiction, short stories, book chapters, magazine articles, essays, etc. The time is intended solely for the enjoyment of reading and listening to stories being read aloud. Each "reading" can last a maximum of 20 minutes...no minimum. If you feel uncomfortable actually reading aloud, you are still expected to bring your two contributions and I expect we can find someone who will be willing to read for you. An RSVP that you will be attending is not required, but would be appreciated. FMI and/or directions contact Jean at megress@tds.net or at 862-2063.

* **FEB 22 (Wednesday),** Augusta, **JUST GUYS**, a weekly, non-sexual, MSM social group meets at the Dayspring Offices (bottom floor), 9 Green St, in Augusta, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. JUST GUYS meets on Wednesday night each week sharing talk, movies, discussions, good fun, and good friends. Join us, bring a friend, come share! FMI contact Lew at 621-3794.

* **FEB 23 (Thursday),** Bangor, **Native American GLBTI support/friendship group**, 6-8 pm, at the Hammond St 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

* **FEB 24 (Friday)** Rockland, **Rainbow Family Potlucks**, 6-8 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!

* **FEB 24 (Friday),** Bangor, **Mardi Gras in Maine Party**, sponsored by The Howard Foundation. This will be at the Spectacular Events Center (395 Griffon Rd) from 7 pm to midnight. A fun night for everyone! Cash Bar, Hors D'oeuvres, Music and Dancing. Tickets are $20/person or a table seating 10 for $175. RSVP: 942-9319 or email bangormardigras@yahoo.com . Face mask or head-piece or costume required for entrance. It's a party and have fun. Proceeds to benefit The Howard Foundation and the New Orleans S.P.C.A., helping to reunite families with their pets who were separated by hurricane Katrina. Hope to see you there!

* **FEB 24 (Friday),** Brewer, **Lesbians Over 40 Happy Hour**, 6 pm to ?. Interested in meeting other lesbians over 40? Let's meet for happy hour upstairs at the Detour Bar-N-Grill, 611-B Wilson St, in Brewer. Parking is free. 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

* **FEB 27 (Monday),** Bangor, **Northern Maine Pride special "open forum" meeting**, 7 - 8:30 pm, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St. FMI call 947-1081 or email info@northernmainepride.org

**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 March 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).** On November 8th, Maine's voters embraced fairness for all its citizens by voting overwhelmingly to retain its anti-discrimination law. To learn about and protect your rights under this law, visit GLAD's website at www.glad.org or call the free legal hotline at at 1-800-455-GLAD (1-800-455-4523). GLAD is New England's 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.

**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 inspriational speakers. People interested in being on the Planning Committee, or being involved in any way, can contact Dan Williams at 942-9319 or at knead24u@yahoo.com

**Mainely Bears** is a social group in the State of Maine. We are a gay mens group open to gay, bisexual, and men who are not sure. We have events all over the state of Maine. FMI regarding Mainely Bears, contact Wayne at mainelybears@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 on various Monday evenings from 7 - 8:30 pm. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St in Bangor. (See listings above for actual dates.) FMI write Northern Maine Pride, PO Box 2815, Bangor, ME 04402-2815 or visit the web site at www.northernmainepride.org or email them at info@northernmainepride.org

**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@adelphia.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. Our 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 FAN subscriber with a living space (room, apartment, house/apartment sharing) to rent to someone, or if you are looking for a living space to rent from someone, 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.

**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 wailmerle@verizon.net

**Eddington, housemates wanted**. Looking for professional and/or graduate students 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 $400/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

**Orono, room for rent in LBGT home.** Looking for a graduate student or no-traditional age undergraduate student to share our 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Our house is located 0.5 mi from Mill St in Orono, and 1.5 mi from UM campus on a quiet street. Our family is a Lesbian Mom/University professor and two 4.5 year old (twin) boys. The room for rent is furnished, but can also be rented empty. Two sets of stairs allow access to the room without disturbing others. There is a washer/dryer on the second floor. The rent is $450/month and includes utilities and free entertainment by the twins. (This fall they have been performing selections from the musical OLIVER! Spring and summer it was CATS.) Only those who do not smoke and refrain from recreational use of drugs and alcohol need apply. No dogs, please. Available Jan 1. Contact Laurie at laurie@maine.edu

**Portland, room for rent**, USM neighborhood. Room for rent with full kitchen priviledges. 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:**

Older single gay guy (68) looking for someone to become a trusting friend and more. I am a true romantic and am looking for same. Intimate dinners, good music (preferably classical, but other types as well), theater, dance, good movies etc. I am app 20lbs over weight, but would like to work on that with the help of a gentle, loving companion. If you have any interest, please contact me, Jim, in the Bucksport area, at my E-Mail address which is: prelude37_2000@yahoo.com Please tell me a bit about yourself and we can go from there.

SWF, 40, 5'-2", 115lbs. Soft butch seeking fem with similiar physicalities. Looking for someone who enjoys outdoor activities, eating out, movies, get togethers. Non-smoking, non-drugs. If interested, e-mail Susan at ideal567@yahoo.com.

**SELL/BUY/TRADE/GIVE:**

*If you're a FAN subscriber 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, 2001 FORD RANGER XLT.** 89K miles, 6 cylinder, 3.0 liter engine, step bumper (tow up to 2000 lbs), air cond, power steering, power brakes, bed liner, AM/FM/CD, lo-jac security system. I kept it in great shape. Oil change every 3000 miles, just tuned up (Dec '05), new snow tires. Asking $6900. Call Dave at 561-0690.

**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 Morgan at coastalwomensconnection@yahoo.com OR 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

**OUTRIGHT - PORTLAND.** An organization that supports youth 22 and under who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and their heterosexual allies (GLBTQA). Our programs are every Tuesday from 6-9 pm, the first Friday of the month from 6-9 pm, and the third Friday of every month from 6-10 pm. We are located at 43 Baxter Blvd on the 2nd floor. FMI contact Kolby Southwick, Program Coordinator at 828-6560 or at outright_transition@yahoo.com

**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.