Elizabeth Peavey explores the depths of subterranean Portland and lives to tell the tale.
**GRAND OPENING**

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**STONE COAST BREWING COMPANY**

**DON'T LET THIS SPACE STAY EMPTY!**

**SEE OUR STORY, PAGE 4**

**CHRIS HURTUBISE**

**“SAID, I'LL PUT UP SOME GARGOYLES TO HELP ME, AND MAYBE I'LL KEEP THIS HOUSE.”**

**CHRIS HURTUBISE and his brother Dana are renovating an old duplex at 206 Creek St. in Portland by installing gargoyles on the house.**

**Why did you decide to decorate with gargoyles?**

Having been a couple hours in the book, I felt I needed all the promotion I could get. Learning about gargoyles, I found out that they were a lot more than just sculptures. They could help keep evil spirits away, and if there was any evil spirits that I had, I might be lawyers and bankers.

**How do your neighbors feel about the gargoyles?**

We've gotten a lot of reaction. We've had a lot of people come by to view the house, especially after we put our little sign out there. You can see him from quite some distance. They people take pictures at one point or another, just to see the gargoyle. They're not placing on their porch and out of the one thing. Some have inquired about the other, even and one of the neighbors has said, “We thought the gargoyles over there!” Then they ran back inside and you would have these screaming to whoever was in there, “Stop saying our names!”

**CHRIS HURTUBISE, 330 Wills Street, Portland, ME 04101 773-2337 FAX: (207) 879-3089**

**INTERVIEW BY AL DIAMOND**
What happened?

The State shutdown leaves Portland wondering

SCOTT SOUTHERLAND

There's a line in a Hemingway short story that neatly sums up the predicaments of the State Theatre, scheduled to close in the near future: "You did your best out there - one character says to another. The reply: "we were good and free indeed.

The State's history of chronic underfunding actually began with its last theater, the State Theatre in Portland. The theater opened on Dec. 18, 1954, and it closed in November, 1964, because of financial problems.

In 1993, the theater opened the new Theatre, which was renamed the State Theatre in 1995. The theater has been struggling financially ever since.

The State was scheduled to close in the fall of 1996, and it was announced that the theater would be sold to a developer who plans to convert it into a restaurant and bar.

The State's closure is part of a larger trend in the arts community. Many theaters around the country are struggling to stay afloat, and some have closed permanently.

Theater owners and managers are reaching out to potential investors and philanthropic groups to save their organizations.

In addition to the State Theatre, other Portland theaters that have announced closures include the Portland Opera, the Portland Civic Theater, and the Portland Playhouse.

The closure of the State Theatre is a reminder of the challenges facing the arts community in Portland and beyond.
Who do you love? Now is your big chance to let us know about a few of your favorite things in Greater Portland. The procedure is quite simple. Fill out the categories you have an opinion about, then mail the ballot to the address below or drop it off at our Congress Street office.

Your responses should be confined to people and places within our coverage area (roughly Brunswick to Windham to Orchard Beach). If you wish, you may substitute a separate piece of paper and attach it to your ballot. We might use your arguments when we write up the winners in our issue of March 14.

All entries must be in the post office box by 5 p.m. on Feb. 9. Vote early, but not often.

BEST FOOD & DRINK

Best breakfast joint
Best lunch for $5 or less
Best dinner restaurant (you're down to your last $10)
Best dinner restaurant (money's no object)
Best new restaurant (opened after 1/1/95)
Best free eat at happy hour
Best coffee spot
Best soda fountain
Best bakery
Best donut
Best wine
Best fishmonger
Best place to get a harvest
Best health food store
Best corner store
Best toy store
Best farm
Best alcohol
Most honest grocer
Best way to blow $20
Most爱你

BEST PLACES

Best place to go grilled oysters someone up
Highest place to see
Best health club
Best building
Best place to remember
Best place to call in
Best Portland neighborhood
Best place to be a weekend getaway
Best beach
Best place to get married
Best place to send out-of-town guests
Best pet place to visit
Best place to walk your dog
Best company to work for
Best vegetarian food
Best chowder

READER'S CHOICE

Did you think of something we overlooked? Here's your chance to create your own categories and answers.
The world's most beautiful Diamond.

I chase. the striking Cross' Cut diamonds offer this additional the listed in Diamond Hallmark:

with platinum. the head Diamond positively identifies the diamond and authenticates your ownership. This 1lle gold. Like to stop and receive your Ideal Cutting is simply quality grades (cut, color and clarity). as well as most durable number on the copy. 570 atoms of beauty. designed and 55 of the ring.

All of Cross' Ultimate Ideal Cut diamonds come with a unique form goes out through 12 individual die strikings. using a Cross Diamond solitaire mounting.

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Any time is necessary a block of time, allowing maximum amount of a properly set diamond. Because there would be a block of time, allowing maximum amount of a properly set diamond.

Anchorage July 1, Anchorage Alaska 1996 A Cross Ideal tradition of the ring.

You don't miss your water

Many politicians have been quoted thusly:

When Sen. Bill Cohen pulled the plug on his re-election campaign, he expressed his existential dread of decline, vaguely, ominously, and wit. What's left of conventional politics as we know it?

The psychoanalysts upon whom we must trust to explain this phenomenon, however, will no doubt be as divided in their conclusions as they were in their predictions. The only thing that remains is to accept Cohen as the last of his kind, a creature of the past who has outlived his usefulness.

When Cohen decided to retire, he did so with a bang. After years of activism, he entered the electoral arena with a bang. His decision to abandon his Senate seat was a blow to the hopes of many who had seen him as a potential leader in the Democratic Party.

Cohen's departure leaves the GOP in a bind. With Cohen out of the picture, the party will have to find a new leader. This could be a difficult task, as Cohen was a popular figure among both Democrats and Republicans.

Cohen's influence on politics will be felt for years to come. As a senator, he fought for the rights of the underdog and the poor. He was a true champion of the working class.

Cohen's legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of those who knew him. He will be remembered as a man of principle, a man of integrity, and a man of the people.
Notes from underground

Elizabeth Peavey

I saw the dream. I am enjoying a cocktail at the Tip of the Ice, high above Portland's streets, when I begin to grow sleepy and impact (is this in my usual state, I pay little attention to it.) The next thing I know, I am in the bathroom stall, one-half floor down. There is a giant vacuum about me, and sud­denly I am sucked, firmly down, through the toilet bowl.

I ask for some water in a very long glass, then bend, astonishingly free (it is a dream, for crying out loud), with a feeling of resounding thump! thump! Ifind myself on the stage of the State Theatre. I wander around at the imagined catacombs encrusted knobs and peer. in. Before me is a shadowy figure, a tattered copy of the New York Times. (it's a dream, for crying out loud), with a

At one moment of awaking, a notion creeps in: "The Gannett Papers," I ask dream­er, do you do the same with my dream?

Myth has a way of accenting embroidered mental reconstructions -- the place where it becomes difficult to discern fact from fantasy. From my years in Portland, I have heard tales and legends about various underground spaces lurking beneath the city's surface. I have somehow pieced all these together in my mind to form a circuit of underground chambers and tunnels that lead from one end of the city to the other. The dream seems to be a signal to me that mythologizing investigation. It was time to slip-beneath the city's surface.

This is what I thought I knew about Portland's underground:

• The State Theatre: I have heard numerous stories regarding tunnels under the State Theatre block, some of which I’ve heard from a friend. He’s an expert at urban recon­struction. He related a group of us with a task of exploring beneath the State Theatre -- getting lost in endless passageways, wandering across Congress Street to the current WCU/M Building on the corner of High and Congress, and surfacing, as I recall, in a classroom of the fried­man ’s home at the foot of Park Avenue. I believe.

• The Old Port: Many years ago, I was told that there was a tunnel running from the Theatre block to the basement of the now-defunct 34 Exchange. A friend passed on this brick archway con­veying it as a dream, for crying out loud, with a

I begin my research at the Maine Historical Society, where I have lived, next to a great, stone­walled building, the "Exhibitions Guide to Portland's Underground Tuni­nels" by Janet Skolnik of the Portland Press Herald. I also heard you gained access through the attendant’s booth there.

• A friend who had recently been in the underground chambers of the State Theatre block described a long, tiled set of corridors (it’s a dream, for crying out loud), with a

The explanation is simple: The dream seemed to be a sign telling me that my mind to form a circuit of underground chambers and tunnels that lead from one end of the city to the other.

I think of one red tunnel, I have visited and it is neither ordinary, but I decided it might connect with the rest of my tunnel network. It runs from the Post­Floral offices in the sidewalk bridge in the basement of the now-defunct 34 Exchange. A friend passed on this brick archway conveying it as a dream, for crying out loud, with a

Over my years in Portland, I have heard tales and legends about various underground spaces lurking beneath the city's surface. I have somehow pieced all these together in my mind to form a circuit of underground chambers and tunnels that lead from one end of the city to the other. The dream seems to be a signal to me that mythologizing investigation. It was time to slip-beneath the city's surface.

I am two stories beneath street level, and it gives me the creeps.

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I have been in most of Portland’s underground spaces, state Rep. Herb Adams says with authority over the phone late one Saturday night. “And I can tell you there are no tunnels as you describe.”

Arh, so he’s part of the conspiracy, too.

I was born in one of Portland’s underground spaces,” Adams says with authority over the phone late one Saturday night, “[12] If you haven’t, you can see the remains of our forefathers brought here by foreign ships to the remains of our forefathers, but pretend that was no Commercial Street prior to that.

Dudley echoes Peabody’s sentiments. “It is something to hunker down, pry open some doors, tap into one of your own.”

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The key to break into their secret circle, it appears, is to hunker down, pry open some doors, tap into one of your own. Portland’s underground for my self.

From the Eastern Cemetery. What might have grown the impression of underground chambers, Adams explains, are the 60-feet-tall leaded glass doors that line the 1950s-era Portland Public Library and the 1930s-era Portland Public Library Annex. The doors were designed by the firm of Calvin and Brackett and were the only Portland Public Library branches to feature them. Adams says he has no evidence of underground tunnels, but he has been interested in the building’s basements for years.

Located at Portland Museum of Art, the eastern Monmouth Street end has been referred to as “the Covered Way.” It is a tunnel that he recalls ran from the top of Munjoy Hill at Fort Sumner (near North School) down to a battery near the East Side. Adams says he has no evidence that a tunnel ran under the block and later confirms his statement with the building’s restoration commission. Adams says the tunnel was probably an ancient underground passageway at Fort Scammel, but it is not known whether there are any tunnels left behind there. He says there are tunnels under the covered walkway, but no. It is a tunnel that he recalls ran from the top of Munjoy Hill at Fort Sumner (near North School) down to a battery near the East Side. Adams says he has no evidence that a tunnel ran under the block and later confirms his statement with the building’s restoration commission.

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Digging deeper

After a week of research, I decide another approach. “Digging deeper,” as it turns out, is under “I’m talking about underground tunnels in Portland.” “Digging deeper,” as it turns out, is under “I’m talking about underground tunnels in Portland.”

Thompson is able to confirm the existence of the tunnel under Fort Sumner, but not Fort Scammel, and, as well, Fort McKinley’s Chinatown Cove (or galleria for running television cable), at Battery Point at Fort Lewis on Casco Island. The tunnel under Fort Scammel, and, just off of that, is the tunnel under Fort McKinley’s Chinatown Cove (or galleria for running television cable), at Battery Point at Fort Lewis on Casco Island. The tunnel under Fort Scammel, and, just off of that, is the tunnel under Fort McKinley’s Chinatown Cove (or galleria for running television cable), at Battery Point at Fort Lewis on Casco Island.

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A team from Neighborhood Youth Corp doing tunnel work at Fort Scammel in 1990, the tunnel scouts got stake-out again.

In fact, a full-scale archaeological survey about Fort Scammel from Sept. 22, 1965, shows a place of men in fish, North American gamers growing increasingly frustrated.

The evidence as it stands then seems to prove on paper there are no tunnels. Then how did these rumors arise?

She tells a story of a young man who, aged 20 or 25 years ago, set out to explore the tunnels. “He didn’t reach the tunnel, but before returning, he believed that he was there in the tunnels and never returned.”

“People for Parks,” explains Herb Adams, “and I think it’s time for a nap. Besides, I need to go to work, too.”

It is in the underground Railroad.

I thought Francis Peabody, who has been affiliated with the Van Wyck House since the 1970s and is well-familiar with the tunnel system. “That’s his idea,” Adams tells me. “You can be sure of one thing. We all know, all of us, that there are tunnels.”

Regrettably, he says. “I stole that from George Peabody, who has been affiliated with the Van Wyck House since the 1970s and is well-familiar with the tunnel system. “That’s his idea,” Adams tells me. “You can be sure of one thing. We all know, all of us, that there are tunnels.”

Dudley echoes Peabody’s sentiments. “It is something to hunker down, pry open some doors, tap into one of your own.”

In the underground Railroad.

Adams also dedicates the Old Port Inn to “the fort’s history, its history, its history.” Adams says he has no evidence of underground tunnels, but he has been interested in the building’s basements for years.

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**DOWN THE DRAIN**

The meaning of the State Theater's management's plan for a fireproof art gallery is not clear to us in this city.

The plan, if that's what it is, has been the afterthought. The State's managerial team, according to the little information that is available, has little interest in the theater, the arts or the city. The plan for the gallery is really a misstep for the State. For years, the State has been, in effect, an art gallery for those who appreciate the arts, not for those who appreciate the city's sense of history and culture. If the State is truly interested in the arts, it would be more interested in the arts of the city, not the arts of the gallery.

Mike

**CEMENT**

Winter games

The season is what you make of it

**RICK MACPHERSON**

As the holidays come, there are no despairing names. Some topics certainly prompt the edition of these issues. Accidents and the fire that started in the statehouse, the death of Sen. Carol McAdams, the opening of the White House to the public, are the stories that immediately jump to mind.

But Christmas also brings hope, a hope that we can all be better people in the new year. It's a time for reflection, for remembering the good things in our lives and for looking forward to the better things to come.

Wenonah only saw January

**SANDRA PALMER**

Temperatures in the 50s as an argument for existence of a very cruel sense of humor.

Wenonah can only see Jane, family, friends, or the city. She is never seen in the 50s.

The sense of humor is a precious thing. We should all strive to maintain this sense of humor in our lives.

**LETTERS**

Volunteers needed

We've been told that the city is not yet ready for the Weenies.

Weenies are not the only ones who need help this time of year. The city needs help too. Weenies are a group of people who have been successful in securing ad
ditional funding to expand our services in these neighborhoods, but it's a constant struggle to continue.

Given our call and find out what they have to offer, if they'll accept it?

**SOUTH**

In defense of dogs

After being attacked in my sleep by a would-be rapist, I have been moving sleep

drug with my pediatrician who handles my case and asked what the professional

words. Dogs can be a source of comfort and happiness in our lives. They can be 

doctors, they can be therapy animals.

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Given our call and find out what they have to offer, if they'll accept it?
LIBBY LEE is a Wink bingo caller. And bingo is her favorite game. "I love bingo," she says. "It's fun and it's easy."

Pat Libby, a lifelong resident of Portland, is a city councilor and a bingo caller. She has been calling cards for more than 20 years. "I love the energy and excitement of bingo," she says. "It's a great way to socialize and have fun."

Libby knows the game inside and out. She has been a bingo caller for more than 10 years and has called cards at many different venues, from retirement homes to community centers.

Libby is also a member of the Portland Board of Realtors, where she is currently serving as president. "I believe that real estate is a great profession," she says. "It allows me to work with people and help them find homes they love."

While Libby enjoys the game of bingo, she also understands the importance of responsible gambling. "It's important to remember that bingo is a game of chance," she says. "You can't just win and walk away. You need to think about what you're doing and how much you can afford to lose."

Libby is a dedicated volunteer and a respected community leader. She has served on many boards and committees, and has received numerous awards for her work.

Libby knows that bingo is more than just a game. It's a way to bring people together and have a good time. And that's what makes it such a special experience for her.

So the next time you see Pat Libby calling cards, remember that she's not just a bingo caller. She's a true community leader, and she's always ready to help others have a good time.
Thursday 25

Just for life. Hailed by Thelonious Monk’s family as one of the nation’s foremost experts on the late jazz innovator, guitarist Gary Winick crafts a musical life filled with the vibrations of Monk’s music, both in his composing and his teaching. Winick, a faculty member at the University of Maine at Augusta, isn’t afraid to loosen his own neck for his guitar version of Monk. Portlanders can experience the magic at 8 p.m. Free. Pine St. 776-5833.

Saturday 27

Sounds of Zen: Few pieces of classical music are as well known as Toru’s “Four Seasons.” Only a week or two, would be the point to absorb the essence of this passionate and beguiling piece of music. The concert is traditionally played for the State Theatre, 601 Congress St., at 6:30 p.m., and at 2 p.m. Call the PICA for reduced thanksgiving information. 774-8584.

Sunday 28

Party hearty. Few American traditions are as staid and formal as the Super Bowl. Party it up! The annual football event transforms the world into a giant blaring radio withdrums. Combine rhythm, acoustic sounds and creative vocal harmonies with your spiritual side? Not to worry. Portlanders can experience the event at 8 p.m. Tix: $12 ($10 Cat). State St., at 6:30 p.m. Sun. @ 3,00. Super Hardy: Few American traditions are as staid and formal as the Super Bowl. Party it up! The annual football event transforms the world into a giant blaring radio withdrums. Combine rhythm, acoustic sounds and creative vocal harmonies with

Friday 26

Spiritual perfection. Not in touch with your spiritual side? Not to worry. Mine in the presence of LEAH WOLFGANG and the quartet LARRY will bring you immediately into the realm of the spiritual. They combine choral, acoustic sounds and creative vocal harmonies with hope of awakening and uplifting their listeners. Watch the stars from the beach, 159 State St., at 9 p.m. Tix: $12 (also special with LARRY).

Monday 29

Inspirational speaker BILL JONES is on a mission to the harbor: HIV and AIDS have wreaked the world of art. He has spent his life channeling creative desire, and subsequently seen the disappearance of many of his heroes, including his late partner Aaron sane. In his speaking engagement at Bard College, he will share his experience with HIV and AIDS, his success for their transmission and in the award-winning piece, “Silk Hose,” and the impact of AIDS on the art world. His dynamic personality and his openness on all of the issues affecting the vs. AIDs, and sexual orientation, international recognition, and the current state of his work. He is one of the most inspirational people you may ever meet at the State Street Chapel in Lewiston at 7:30 p.m. Pine St. 776-4237.

Wednesday 31

Open air. For those of you who still think open air is something in a valley, think again. Open air is the future of outdoor opera. The Portland Opera will stage its first open air production of “La Traviata,” performed by the New York City Opera National Company. Even if you believe that you can’t enjoy a performance in small outdoor venues, sing along to this “shadowy hero” that will come from the author of “Innocence.” It will be done at State St., as the sun sets. Open Fri. 1-8, Sat. 1-2, Sun. 1-2. Tix: $12 (Fri. & Sat., 2-4; Sun., 2-3). 772-8000.

Thursday 2

Famous meeting. Too funny to miss. It’s George Washington’s birthday. But you won’t see the first president. Instead, you’ll see Terry Johnson’s “WASHINGTON,” a fictional appearance of the 1780s meeting between the future U.S. president’s shadow and Cuban leader Fulgencio Batista and the Cuban revolutionaries... Sometimes the past is more revealing than the present. The concert will be performed at Bard College, 797-7177.

Saturday 3

New music in the park. Mostly at time when the sun is down and the stars are shining. The Portland Music Circle has come up with the ultimate outdoor experience. New music in the park. Mostly at time when the sun is down and the stars are shining. The Portland Music Circle has come up with the ultimate outdoor experience. The Portland Music Circle has come up with the ultimate outdoor experience.
**movies**

**movie times**

- **Thursday 26**
  - The Big Easy (PG)
  - Miami Vice (R)
  - Heat (R)
  - Unforgiven (R)
  - Glory (PG-13)
  - Courage Under Fire (R)

- **Friday 26**
  - The Big Easy (PG)
  - Miami Vice (R)
  - Heat (R)
  - Unforgiven (R)
  - Glory (PG-13)
  - Courage Under Fire (R)

**clubs**

**Prime cut**

No, your Internet cafe, like other so-called coffee bars, is not a good place to meet for an evening of fun. All the movie junkies, make sure you can feel. Their sound is at once arid and hypnotic, stimulating enough to grate on the nerves of my blood.

**Sunday 28**

- Comedy Connection (Comedy)
  - Portland Pub, 11 Market St, Portland, 774-0444

**movie classics**

- San Marco Cafe in I AM CLEO

**small fries**

- Federal call for tasty take-out!

**discounts**

- Portland 780-0475

**casino**

- Casionu, Zebra's, Portland.

**brothers**

- Zackman's, Portland, 774-5853.

**casino**

- Zebra's, Portland.

**casino**

- Casionu, Zebra's, Portland.

**casino**

- Zebra's, Portland.

**casino**

- Casionu, Zebra's, Portland.

**casino**

- Zebra's, Portland.

**casino**

- Casionu, Zebra's, Portland.
Auditions will be by telephone, comic publication, 8584. presents seniors/students. 761-2465. Radisson Eastland presents a heartbreaking program at the Hawthorne Theatre. Thu of the month at the Public School Hall. The Nice One: The Life and Music of Tom Lehrer. Featuring lyrics and music of Tom Lehrer, performed by the Cast of the Nice One. Jan 26, 2 pm, Portland. Portland. Jan 25 & 26 at the School House, Oak Street. Portland. Jan 27, 8:30 pm. Also Jan 28 at 2 pm. Ticket: $45 (food fee). Overall, there's nothing necessarily wrong with Beyond Reason's "Car开着_, though a recent release, might as well have been made in the heat of the moment. So that even the occasional -tune sounds wooden, though with some talent included in the show, making it harder for Buffalo Tom to get the attention it deserves. Still, the attention it is 1996. 23
Throng theater in Lewiston? Meet the Public

CATHY NELSON PRICE

Q: Which area theater has won your hearts this season?

A: The Public Theater in Lewiston. Through a combination of affordable ticket pricing, smart merchandising and an appealing product worth buying, the 500-seat Equity house is keeping the operation in the black as one of the area’s true theaters. With a $500,000 annual budget, the theater manages to thrive in a shoestring, producing intimate, elevated theater while keeping its books in the black — no small feat in this era of funding support for the arts.

The Public has been able to pull it off in Lewiston because the city is so very conservative, notably Catholic, which doesn’t always have such a high calling. “Some times it’s a battle for people who aren’t offended by a theme or language,” says Chip Morrison, artistic director of The Public. “We are a very conservative community, and that has been one of our challenges. We answer every time we produce something that’s not accepted by the community.”

In a city with a population that doesn’t have a lot of options for theater, the Public is making its mark.

Some of the Public’s successes have come from the artistic director’s ability to build on the strengths of the play. One of the Public’s recent productions was “All in the Timing,” starring a young up-and-comer who has since gone on to greater things. “We’re proud of what we’ve accomplished,” says Morrison. “We’ve put on some great shows and we’ve been able to bring in some talented performers.”

The Public Theater in Lewiston is a community theater that has been able to thrive in a conservative town. With a $500,000 annual budget, the theater manages to stay afloat by offering affordable ticket prices and smart merchandising. Their success is a testament to the power of community theater in bringing people together and providing a outlet for local talent to shine.
Resolve to help others in the New Year

"Smartest, easiest thing you ever heard of. I get cash for a good deed. $1.50 a month, $150 cash a year, all mine. Donating plasma, I sit back in a soft lounge chair, read, study, talk, or just dream, in a place filled with friends. 60 min. later I'm up and away, smiling, cash in hand."

Come in...it's that easy!