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Life without the Express

By Andy Newman

On Friday, Feb. 1, the last edition of the 108-year-old Evening Express will roll off the printing presses at the Portland Press Herald Company. The Express, which was the place to look for the latest in Portland news, became a casualty of the downturn in advertising revenues.

The company announced it would ax 90 of its 600 employees, blaming 60 of those on the death of the Express, and 30 on increased production costs. The Express was the last daily newspaper in Portland.

The Express played a major role in the city's cultural and economic landscape. It was the voice of the downtown area, and its demise has left a void.

But the rebirth of the Press Herald could be a long time coming. It will need more advertising revenue if it is to become the big, bright newspaper it plans to be.

And while executives at Guy Gannett repackage the Press Herald, it may be possible that the city's cultural corridor will have to be reimagined.

The art of a new city

By W. D. Cutting

There are no places left in the city. Portland is facing the effects of rapid social and economic change. Norfolk workers are being hit by layoffs, but the changes have hit downtown hard.

The companies that generate the bulk of downtown's business are leaving. The cultural corridor is already in distress.

Maybe so. But, if you look around, it may just occur to you that, in the absence of design, evolution has taken over. The cultural corridor is already in distress.

It may even be possible that Portland has already been "saved."
Attention Maine Property Owners:
You Can Appeal Your Property Taxes!

FACT: As many as 40% of Maine properties are over-assessed.

CONCLUSION: $88 million is refundable to Portland residents.

All you need to determine your eligibility for a Property Tax Reduction based on your current Maine property tax bill is an appeal form, completed computer analysis of your tax facts, and assistance by trained tax consulting professionals.

YES! Please send me the Property Tax Reduction Kit at an all inclusive charge of just $49.95. My check or money order is enclosed.

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Please note: This offer is extended to every property owner in the city of Portland. Offer expires December 31, 2000.

{MORE}
Anti-war protests continue

.Portland-area residents who oppose the U.S.-led war in the Persian Gulf were back on the streets Saturday, Jan. 26, marching in both Portland and Washington, D.C. At both rallies, demonstrators vowed anew and to the bitterness of布什 insisted that they expected Americans will return to their habits.

A score of more than 100 anti-war demonstrators gathered Portland's Monument Square, then marched up Congress Street to a State Street Church in waves alternately silent, chanting and singing. They sang "Shall We Overcome," and "Down by the River," and called signs that read "How Many Lives Per Gallon?" and "Peace Is Paramount." The crowd included both pro- and anti-war sentiments.

Westbrook planning board may be ousted

The Westbrook Planning Board is likely to reject its chairman, Peter Deegan, 22. The board's vote could come as early as Feb. 3 or 4. Deegan, a member of the planning board for the past two years, won the position in January's election, but has been on the planning board for only a short time. The board's decision could be appealed to the Westbrook Superior Court.

Save $1 on any COVER GIRL product

Save $1 on any CLARISON product

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Select stores only. 9/2-1/28/91.

Save $1 on some NAVY perfume

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Save $1 on 100% Natural Mink from Ultima's Colonials

Additional "I" OFF with this coupon. Limit one per customer.

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Community Cable Network

Call in Portland: 726-2900

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Work And The Family (1 hr)

Neil Nolen

SUPER WINTER SALE

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with 5x7 enlargement orders of 4 x 4 or 5x7 prints. 3x5 enlargements for free. 2x3 and 1x1.

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MINUTE PHOTO

LOCATION

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Not valid with any other offer.
50% OFF SALE
All Winter Merchandise
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- Suits  Accessories
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We are now showing cranberries - including baking aid

Happy Valentines Day
Treat yourself or a friend to
Something Special
during our
Winter Sale
Save dozens on fine jewelry and objects for
your home at astonishing
affordable prices.
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Newsbriefs Weekly
Continued from page J

Good news for another business in Westbrook because the planning board won't approve a 10-foot variance.

Oakhurst leaks ammonia
An ammonia leak at Oakhurst Dairy temporarily shut down business and forced the plant to be evacuated, but no injuries were reported.

Oakhurst President Harvey Bennett said the plant was closed for two hours Thursday when a ruptured refrigeration pipe was repaired. He said refrigeration systems more than 17 years old see ammonia and other spring leaks. "Occasionally the older pipes leak because of variances," he said. "It's a vicious gas and if people are around it when it hits the air they could get sick, he said.

Employment was encumbered when one worker needed an ambulance. Bennett said some milk was left unattended during the evacuation had to be thrown out.

Portland adopts park ordinance
Conceptual for about 80 parks
will now have to get a permit first, thanks to a bill introduced by the Portland City Council Jan. 25.

"It's a negative reaction, but I brought home the question of planning," said Donna Williams, former member of the Parks Commission. "The ordinance should improve how the park is used," she said, because it requires a tightening up of health, safety and parking regulations. Portland's experience of renovation, in compiling a list of all the park locations to be included in the plan. He said he will report the list and a recommendation for a 90-day city fee to the city council at at a 9:00 meeting. About 90 of the more than 50 parks in the Portland area will be subject to the new rule.

School for deaf may close dorms

The Governor Baxter School for the Deaf wants to close its residential program to make room for expanded educational and recreational activities. Thirty students, the school's chief administrator said.

Superintendent Kathy Fries said she expects the proposal to draw opposition from members of Maine's hearing-impaired community and some parents of students at the school in Blackbird Island in Falmouth.

"Most of the deaf people in Maine grew up at this school," Fries said. "At times, this school operated seven days a week and the students only were home for the summer. Today we're a residential school and we're expected to be more like a day school," he said.

The proposal was still not approved by Gov. John K. McKernan and the Legislature, but Fries said the school is moving forward with its proposal.

Fries said the Baxter school and others like it across the nation have seen a drop in the number of students staying in school and have been forced to decrease the past several years.

When the Maine State School for the Deaf, which opened in 1837, moved to Blackbird Island in 1952 and was renamed the Governor Baxter School, 185 students lived at the school. She said Today, 34 of the school's 70 students stay an average of 300 nights a year. The school, which offers a weekly regimen, has about 200 students and about 100 workers. Fries said that the Baxter school, which is the Portland City Council delayed voting on Henderson's appointment in the planning department, received a complaint that the commissioner had not considered Henderson's qualifications.

"We want to ensure that we are doing the best job we can," said South Portland City Manager Jerre Brown.

He's one of them. WE MAKE NEWS MATTER

You don’t have to wear blue jeans

...to read Casco Bay Weekly.

Casco Bay Weekly
WE MAKE NEWS MATTER

JOE REDMAN, owner of Joseph's, sells thousands of dollar suits, hundred dollar neckties and knows that not all of Casco Bay Weekly's readers wear blue jeans. How does he know that? He's one of them.
WHITING DOWN THE NOISE

Whitening down the loud news that appeared in the Evening Express only a half page will help, Downes advised. Articles about round meetings and other local news will simply have to be shown, he said.

A couple of other new "products" debuted on Jan. 18. The dozen of the Wheels and Homes sections are the areas of advertising that have dropped most dramatically at the paper. Rather than being displayed in one section, news classifieds go to the back of the Homes section and amenable classifieds go to the back of the Wheels section. They are "lightly begging to support advertising initiatives," said Ureneck. But the new sections are nothing but a series of between-they-know-what is needed. The news is found in the middle of the week, on Jan. 21, a headline that said "Flea-to-

"We have not reached bottom yet and we are not sure of when that bottom will be reached."

Guy Gannett, publisher of the Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram, in an interview.

COMPOSING ROOM TECHNICIANS PULL UP THE EVENING EXPRESS

The Guy Gannett empire

Guy Gannett Publishing Co. was founded by the late Frank B. Gannett, a Maine businessman who in 1821 began buying print media in Portland and later expanded to nearby Lewiston. In 1985, Gannett purchased the Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram. The company, known as The Portland Newspaper, is a subsidiary of the Portland Union-Register, Inc., and is one of the largest newspaper publishers in the United States. The company publishes daily newspapers throughout the state of Maine, as well as newspapers in other states.

And scheduled to debut in the Press Herald in April are "two new sections in "evening" sections, which will provide community news for one of five suburban areas surrounding Portland."

The Press Herald already publishes four different evening editions. Besides the paper geared for Portland, there are Western Maine, York County and coastal editions. With the addition of the new sections, the Press Herald will emerge as a morning to six areas. One will focus on South Portland, Cape Elizabeth and Scarborough; another will focus on Ellsworth, Yarmouth and Freeport and a third will focus on Westbrook, Cape and Raymond.

One day each week, the tabloids will be included into the local sections of newspapers delivered to subscribers and sold in stores in those areas. Along with community news, they will also have entertainment and lifestyle features in those communities.

But in order to launch these additions, the Press Herald must first make advertising and "whitening" the Express from the Press Herald's demise. But the new sections are walking a fine line between telling readers what they need to know and telling advertisers what they want to hear. On Jan. 21, a headline that said "Flea-to-

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Not that we have your undivided attention...

Classical Countdown
106.3 hours of commercial free music chosen by our listeners. The date:
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Brought to you by the following sponsors where you will find the bullet to choose your enjoyment:

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WITHOUT THE EXPRESS

Express also advertised in the Press Herald. The advertisers in the Express were small and packed with which it was marginally more expensive for them to have ad in both the Press Herald and that ad in the Portland hoe alone.

Tony Perez, who owns Maine Media Inc., a Portland ad agency, said many advertisers were drawn to the two newspapers because they (The Press Herald) would reach more people via the papers' combined circulation. But now the investor is able to be an advertising as a writer's message to fewer people, and only half as often. And, on Jan. 1, the company missed its sales goal. "It's a lot more money, they are paying more for less," was the way Perez characterized the turnover.

Looks great, less filling
Ureneck stepped from the meeting where he planned the next issue's first page and ventured through the Portland Press Herald newsroom. At Chambers's, he was to go to the reader, keeping the final changes to a story for the next morning's paper. So in to the Read Guy City Councilman Frank Sleeper Studies into a phone receiver on his shoulder while scribbling notes. "When I look around the newsroom, I find a tremendous amount of pride in the caliber of people here," Ureneck said. "It's '90 and '91, and '92, and this is going to be one hell of a newspaper."

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Friday, Feb. 8
Doors open 7 PM
Tickets: 831 CALL AHEAD, 531, 4641, 775-4155

Executive Director Lori Ureneck

"When I look around the newsroom, I find a tremendous amount of pride in the caliber of people there. In '91, '92 and '93, this is going to be one hell of a newspaper."

Executive Director Lori Ureneck

"Decisions that affect the newsroom are being made by consultants and advertising people and lawyers rather than an editor who has his finger on the pulse of Portland."

former reporter Dennis Bailey

The committee emerged from the Gannett newsroom. And the Evening Express is gone with it. Many who have left the papers don't think so. 'I wonder if Watergate would happen today?" said Tom Bradley, who left the Gannett papers in '89 after 13 years and now works in the Guy Gannett newspaper network for 11 years before he jumped ship. For seven years, he was editor of the Aldeniana section of the Togus. "I have a lot of respect for most of the people who work there," Halvorsen said, adding that writing at the paper had improved markedly over the past two years, becoming "vivid, with more concrete detail, better organized and more grammar.

"But other reporters say it's smooth sailing under the command of Captain Lou. "I feel like I'm in a sea of democracy," said Martha English, who's been the police beat for two years. "I've worked at other papers that have said "I really, really need my job and my colleagues and editors. They value my ideas and contribution."

"I believe I've always been treated fairly," added Peter Gottesman, the Express's full-time legal writer. "It's the perfect place to work. But if you know of the right people, they're always there." "The people have a lot of respect for most of the people who work there," Halvorsen said. "I've never known an editor at a newspaper who was as universally admired as Ureneck.

I hate it I've gotten out of a sea of democracy."

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DANCE TO YOUR FAVORITE HITS WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY.
D. M. I.'S THE WEEK!
A once-great voice, now silent

When the last copy of the Evening Express rolls off the presses, Portland will suffer the loss of a once-great and still influential newspaper.

For the last decade, the power that be at Guy Garnett have been tinkering with the Express' morning editorial, the Portland Weekly. After opening business as far away as Sanford and Rockland, they imagined that the Press Herald would be a regional paper. During the boom years of the late '90s there was even talk of going out of business. More recently, they announced the closing of some bureaus and the addition of new sections. At present, they publish a schizophrenic hybrid, more concerned with color photographs than with solid local reporting.

At some time, these well-intentioned but misguided technocrats did us all a great disservice by simply ignoring the Evening Express. Though merely a remnant of the great newspapers - not unlike the Express and the Herald were, at one time - the Express nonetheless remained more attentive to the needs of its readers than the careers of the technocrats. Though their record of achievement is not good, we support the press. But we are not prepared to accept the flag in mourning for a once-great and still influential newspaper.

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Though the future of the Express remains uncertain, we believe that the readers of both the Herald and the Express will support the new Press Herald to give me an


disturbed by Gulf policy

I am profoundly disturbed by the press policy of our newspaper. Not that I disagree with the editors, but I am not arming the enemy. My purpose here is not to discuss the value of the paper or to argue about its content. Instead, I want to challenge the editors to reconsider their policy.

The press serves a vital role in society. It is the voice of the people, and it is up to us, the editors, to ensure that the press fulfills its duty.

I have noticed that the Express has been focusing on the negative aspects of the war. While it is important to report on the suffering of the people, it is equally important to report on the efforts of the troops and the support of the American people.

I urge the editors to consider the impact of their policy on the readers and to find a way to balance the coverage of the war with the needs of the community.

The editors of the Express have done a good job in covering the war, but I believe that they have not given enough attention to the positive aspects of the conflict.

I hope that the editors will take my concerns into account and find a way to improve the coverage of the war.

Sincerely,

Robert Bob


disguised by CBW editorial

I am disguised by your recent editorial in the Jan. 17 issue of the Express. You advocate negotiation, yet you say it is too late for a negotiation. I oppose any negotiation, and I support your position.

The recent editorial was written by the United States and the United Nations. The Express has been supportive of both organizations. It is difficult to see how the Express can continue to support the United States and the United Nations while opposing negotiation.

I urge the Express to reconsider its position and to support negotiation as the only viable option.

Sincerely,

John Baker

patiotic protesters

In the past week there has been an overwhelming amount of coverage of the war in the Express. I believe that this coverage has been biased and one-sided.

I would like to suggest that the Express consider the perspective of those who support the war. The Express has given a lot of attention to the protests against the war, but it has not given enough attention to the people who believe that the war is necessary.

I urge the Express to consider the voices of those who support the war and to report on their perspective.

Sincerely,

Tom Smith

letters

Harrigan offers an apology

I am writing to offer my apology for the recent editorial in the Express. I understand that the community of Sanford and Rockland is frustrated by the closure of the Evening Express.

I want to assure the community that the Express will continue to publish. We are working hard to ensure that the Express remains a strong and vibrant newspaper.

I am sorry for any inconvenience that the closure of the Evening Express may have caused. We appreciate your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Guy Garnett

editorial

Sometimes we get into a rhythm of life, in which we are comfortable, and we become complacent. Sometimes we get into a cycle of life, in which we are comfortable, and we become complacent. Sometimes we get into a cycle of life, in which we are comfortable, and we become complacent.

The Express has been a trusted source of news and information for many years. It has provided a voice for the people of Sanford and Rockland, and it has been a voice for the people of the nation.

I am proud to be a part of the Express, and I am proud to be a part of the community of Sanford and Rockland.

Sincerely,

J. B. Harrigan
Weekly Calendar: 10 NO I. O. REO

Live Music: '02/5: The Ken Gosper Trio
Comedy: '02/5: Paul Viti

Theatrical Performances:

'The Marriage of Figaro' by W.A. Mozart, in the Portland Opera House, 585 Congress St., Portland. For more information, call 797-0444.

Kinderkonzert: A Kinderkonzert for children and families will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Knights of Columbus for the Portland Opera. 165 Commercial St., Portland. For more information, call 761-1522.

I'monk koncert: I'monk koncert is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. in the Knights of Columbus for the Portland Opera. 165 Commercial St., Portland. For more information, call 761-1522.

High-brow stuff: The Portland Spring Quizes, that small but mighty ensemble of art-y nerds, will be held in rapture this evening at 8 p.m. in the Portland Art Museum. 233 Middle St., Portland. For more information, call 797-1000.

Goose flesh, certainly. For someone who has had the added thrill of seeing two bands for $4 - a high-brow stuff - this concert is free and open to the public. (See Art/ Around Town listings for gallery hours and running dates.) For more information, call 703-2000.

The sound of the blues: The sound of the blues is the sound of people feeling good. Find out more for yourself at the Portland Music Hall on Saturday, Feb. 5, 9 p.m. at the Portland Maine. 585 Congress St., Portland. For more information, call 797-0444.

Cheap thrill deep blue: The sound of the blues is the sound of people feeling good. Find out more for yourself at the Portland Music Hall on Saturday, Feb. 5, 9 p.m. at the Portland Maine. 585 Congress St., Portland. For more information, call 797-0444.

You have the thrill of knowing you helped to preserve one of the area's best musical organizations, plus the added thrill of hearing your name straightened and your soul stretched and your mind altered. When it's the Portland Music Hall, you will have the added thrill of seeing two bands for $4 - a thrill that's so rare these days as to be unheard of.

All this and more will be waiting for you at Renato's, 934-4090. For more information, call 797-3058.

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**WHATS WHERE**

**SILVER SCREEN**

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**SCREEN**

**FEBRUARY SALE now in progress**

**BILLIE HOLIDAY**

**HOLIDAY**

**STAGE**

**TANTRUM THEATRE**

**TANTRUM THEATRE**

**STORY SALAD**

**SALAD**

**CASCO BAY WEEKLY**

**WEEKLY**

**You don't have to be the highest bidder**

**Casco Bay Weekly**

**MAKE LIFE WORTH SLEEPING**

**PARKS • GALLERY**

**PARKS • GALLERY**

**RICHARD • PARKS • GALLERY**

**RICHARD • PARKS • GALLERY**

**STATE-OF-THE-ART SLEEPING**

**STATE-OF-THE-ART SLEEPING**

**Comforaire**

**Comforaire**

**Sleeptech**

**Sleeptech**

**RICHARD • PARKS • GALLERY**

**RICHARD • PARKS • GALLERY**

**PARKS • GALLERY**

**PARKS • GALLERY**

**You don't have to be the highest bidder**
Phoenix Studio Stained Glass

Entertainment Weekly

STAGE

DANCE

Winter family festival

If you know what to look for, the stained glass arlisan...

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

Fayette Park (Fayette Court Ave. & Besler Blvd., Portland). 9 am. Winter Family Festival opening ceremony.


Outdoors Center: 5:30 pm. Parent-child snow mobile game. 5:30 pm. Children's snow shoe race. 6 pm. Learn newynchronized (adults).


11:30 pm. Three-legged potato race. 12:30 pm. Three-legged potato race.

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

Buddy Coupon

Two can learn to Scuba dive for the price of one.

Or come for 1/2 price and meet a buddy there.

Classes begin February 12th

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INDOORS

Port Billiards, 39 Forest Ave., Portland.

The Portland Public Library's monthly book sale has become one of the city's most popular events. This month's sale features a wide selection of books, from fiction to non-fiction, and in many languages. The sale is held on the last Saturday of every month from 9am to 5pm. For more information, call 774-1000.

SPORTS

USA Track & Field hosts a major meet at the Maine State Gymnasium on Saturday, 11am-5pm. The meet draws some of the best athletes from across the country, including world-class runners and jumpers.

ON THE WEB

http://portlandpubliclibrary.org

FREEZE FRAME

Portland Public Library
125 College St.
Portland, ME 04101

ountain Swap Meet

Date: Saturday, 11am-5pm
Place: Maine State Gymnasium

Make sure to check out the Mountain Swap Meet, which includes a variety of items for sale, including clothing, books, and more. This is a great opportunity to pick up some new items for yourself or for someone else.

For more information, call 774-1000.