Casco Bay Weekly : 27 April 2000
The only thing rarer than candidates in this year's Portland municipal elections may be—

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RECORD LOWS

What does this icy reception mean for civic participation in city government? Al Diamon's story starts on page 8.

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Summer Camp advertising supplement on page 2.
TALK
A CONVERSATION WITH
RICHARD PLATO OKOT

"We were constantly running or being prepared to run away and sleep in the bush."

Richard Plato Okot is a refugee from Sudan whose only home is in a refugee camp in Uganda. He founded the Sudanese Voice of Freedom-Maine and speaks about the events in his native country and what they are like to this day.

When did you come to Portland?

We came here since 1986. We were forced out by the conflict in Sudan. We came here in 1986 as a group of students from South Sudan. We are here to show the world what is happening in our country.

You mean you and your family?

Yes, eight of us made it out through the refugee camps in Uganda. We are really human beings and we belong to the world. We are not to be treated like animals. We want to be treated like humans. We want to be treated with respect. We want to be treated like we belong in the world.

What is the Sudanese Voice of Freedom-Maine?

It is an organization that promotes peace and justice in the Sudanese community in Maine. We are here to show the world what is happening in our country and what we are going through.

What is the Sudanese Voice of Freedom-Maine doing now?

We are working with the refugees in the camps in Uganda to help them get out of the camps. We are also traveling back to the Sudanese rebels. We are helping them to get out of the camps. We are also helping them to get to Peace in the Sudanese region.

What can people in Portland do to help?

If you have any information about what is happening in the Sudanese community, please let us know. We are here to help.

Introduction by Jessica Zambrano; photo by Colin Murphy.
weightless again

An oily, scaly Paul Madore is nonetheless a little too Boone — by which we mean stupid— for his own good. In 1996, Madore, then a Republican and in the midst of the second of 10 campaigns to re-elect a State Senate seat, won the two-party primary by more than 30 points over Senate Majority Leader Barbara Roberts, a Democrat. Both candidates were in their late 60s; both were from southern Maine. Two months later, Roberts won the general election and Madore lost.

In 1999, Madore saw an opening to run for state Senate again; he was prompted to run by the then-seated Republican senator如实, former Republican Senator Paul Rinaldi, who ran as a write-in candidate and won.

The 1999 elections were marked by low voter turnout, with the then-Governor Paul LePage and the then-Senate Majority Leader John Keliher both winning write-in campaigns that year.

In 2000, Madore faced a Democratic primary against Margaret Rotundo in June. He was asked by the Maine Secretary of State to appear on the ballot, but he refused, saying that he was too busy running for a Senate seat. The race was considered to be a toss-up, with Madore leading in the polls but Rotundo holding his own.

On election night, Madore was defeated by Rotundo, who received 53% of the vote to Madore's 47%. The race was decided by a margin of just 7,000 votes, or about 3 percentage points.

Madore's defeat was seen as a sign of the changing political climate in Maine, where voters were increasingly disillusioned with the political establishment. The race was also seen as a test of whether voters were willing to support candidates who were not aligned with either major political party.

The victory for Rotundo was seen as a major upset, and she went on to win the general election in November. She became the first woman to hold a Senate seat in Maine, and the first woman to hold a state Senate seat in the state's history.

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Attacking hate crimes

The University of Southern Maine strikes back after a rash of incidents and arrests

A CHUCK ROSSY

The University of Southern Maine has announced a new position to address hate crimes on campus.

The university said it had agreed to create a new position to help prevent future hate crimes. President Richard Buzzell has appointed first-year student Rubenstein to the position.

Rubenstein, a junior history major, said he was excited to take on the role.

"I think this is a very important position," he said. "I feel like we need someone to help sort through these incidents and make sure they don't happen again."
The only thing rarer than candidates in this year's Portland municipal elections may be voters. What does this icy reception mean for civic participation in city government?

IF, AS EXPECTED, PORTLAND SETS A RECORD FOR LOW VOTER TURNOUT THIS YEAR, IT WILL PROBABLY ADD IMPETUS TO THE CAMPAIGN TO MOVE THE CITY’S ELECTION DATE TO NOVEMBER.

Typically, nearly two-thirds of Portland’s eligible voters can be lured to the polls in November of presidential years. In past even-numbered years in which there is no presidential campaign, that number declines to about 35 percent. And in off-election years, turnout is likely to drop between 25 to 33 percent, still considerably better than the historically low 17 percent the polls are on.

But opposition to the change to later argue city candidates would get lost in the media noise for presidental, gubernatorial and congressional races. They claim local issues in May attract suburban and centrist voters, who can often be swayed on the issues of an election, whereas in November, they currently appear to be more locked into their household names and conventional views than endangered Atlantic nature.

Neyt also raise questions about how much these MayVote know or care about city issues. Certainly some of the candidates show little awareness of what’s going on. When Griffin, who’s seeking a school board seat on Munjoy Hill, was asked what he’s done to improve the school system, he said, “I’m not sure what that question means, but I support English as a first language.” That’s fine, except the program teaches English to people from other countries who already have a first language. McLoone’s answer to that same question was uniformly uninformative. “I don’t know,” he said. “It is American. I speak English.”

Regardless of how many MayVoters might be, some opponents of November elections are strong enough to seriously make an anti-date change by encouraging citizen involvement in this year’s thunderous blanket. Among them is O’Donnell, who’s running for the council as if he had an actual opponent. “We have a lot more people to show up,” he said. “We have done more people, not only in four more scheduled, so people can get to know us. I’m doing all I can to get people out. What we can do is make sure people can get to see us.”

On the whole, Portland’s candidates are divided on the issue. Some say the change is fine; others say it’s mandatory. But opponents of the change in dates argue city elections might lose their benefit of attracting more voters.

One opponent raises the issue of voter apathy, which is said to increase participation in municipal voting. The possibility that some neighborhood schools might be closed, but the exception of at-large school board candidates has no competition. While that’s a better average than, say, the 1996-1997 election, it’s a lot for voters to do is going to change that.”


In 1995 and 1996, over 60 percent of all council and school board candidates face no opposition. While there’s a better margin than, say, the Portland Republic of China, where 100 percent of elections are uncontested, it’s hardly the sort of record designed to encourage civic participation.

But the problem appears to result from the power of incumbency. While strong city candidates have occasionally been ousted in Portland—Robert Bralver and Charles Harlow all lost during the 1990s. It’s a rarity, usually enjoyed by general access to the population.

Maior Horace Kilmrow, who’s running another at-large term, has must be middle-aged and probably for the last thirty years, far time, Portland Supporters have misused this contingency and non-opposition.

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Please join us in a

BOONEY HEALTHY EVENT!

The staff at Greater Portland Bone Density and Greater Portland Bone Joint Specialists and the members of the Osteoporosis Healthcare Network invite you to join us at the

Second Annual Bone Density Dash on May 20

To benefit public education about osteoporosis prevention and treatment

9:30 a.m.
1-mile walk/run
10 a.m.
5k walk/run
Baxter Boulevard, Portland

FMI: Call Kelly Wood or Lynn Sullivan 828-1133

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NEW ARRIVALS THIS WEEK

That's the Way I Like It - Don Covay
(404) 727-1393

A FAVORITE OF THE RESIDENTS!

FREE KIDS FRIDAY - One Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film

WILD WEEKENDS - Every Saturday night! Save with the Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film

FREE MOVIES EVERY DAY! - One Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film

FRI - SATURDAY - One Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film

THURSDAY - One Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film

RENT IT TODAY!

Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film Free Rental from the Foreign Film

The Bone Density Dash will be held at Baxter Boulevard in Portland on May 20. The event is open to the public and aims to raise awareness about osteoporosis prevention and treatment. Attendees can participate in the 1-mile walk/run or the 5k walk/run. For more information, call Kelly Wood or Lynn Sullivan at 828-1133.
Endorsements

School Committee seat at Large: Jonathan Radtke

Radtke offers a more creative service and taught high school for nine years. He's a smart, thoughtful candidate who would bring positive changes to CBW.

Radtke promises to work with local community members and help to raise money for our neighborhood schools.

School Committee, District 1 (Monypenny Hill, Bayside, the islands, downtown, and the Old Port): Otis Thompson

Thompson is the only chance Portland has at a School Committee seat.

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Move It

There aren't that many candidates in this year's city election. And there's a reason for that. Voting city elections in May is a drudgery task. Only a small percentage of registered voters come out, even when there are contested races. In many races, the turnover in Portland city elections has been terrible: 1994, 2,470 votes; 1996, 2,418; 1998, 2,415.

Get them to vote! Be a poll worker! Tell your friends! We have until the final day to register to vote. Parents and students, please be sure to vote and have your day counted.

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Close-minded rant

The idea of discovering God comes into play only when they lose the benefits of being middle class and, when their child is of Bob Weir's stature and knew that the local "arts gratefully dead" comment after all of these years. My suggestion to those who devote an entire column to brood and are offended, are not well served. They are moved by situations, specifically, the neighborhood council's public safety committee. The neighborhood council's public safety committee. They are moved by situations, specifically, the neighborhood council's public safety committee.

Creating waiters, not artists

I hope the Portland School of Art, Ten Cypress might be halted, but she is on the record. What it means to me when it comes to the arts in the city of Portland. It is that everyone does their part to protect and maintain the arts and the artists.

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Arts, Entertainment, Weirdness

Viva la Vespa
Quirky motorbike inspires Portland club's passion

Lain, for sure, it’s a big deal. In the words of one Portland club member, "It’s one of the most exciting club rides around. People are getting out and enjoying the freedom of being on the road on their motorbikes."

Wally started cruising around Portland with other scooter riders a few years ago. He quit his job to focus on the Vespa and has been running the club ever since.

So, you want to join the Vespa club? Here are some tips on how to get started:

1. Learn the rules of the road:
   - Always wear a helmet and protective gear.
   - Obey traffic rules and signals.
   - Be visible to other drivers.

2. Get a Vespa:
   - Find a Vespa that suits your needs and budget.
   - Consider renting a Vespa if you’re not ready to make a big commitment.

3. Join the club:
   - Contact Wally at 503-123-4567 to learn more about joining the Vespa club.

4. Attend club events:
   - Join the club for its annual ride on the last Saturday of May.
   - Attend the club’s monthly meetings to connect with other riders.

5. Ride safely:
   - Always check your Vespa before every ride.
   - Remember that motorbikes can be dangerous if used incorrectly.

By following these tips, you’ll be well on your way to becoming a Vespista and enjoying the freedom of the open road on your Vespa. So what are you waiting for? Join the club today and start cruising around Portland like a true Vespa rider.
Thank you for your part in making Spring Thing 2000 a tremendous success!

Making a Mark

On its seventh musical outing, the Reverend Horton Heat has released its sixth and latest album,  "Amphora." The group's name is a nod to the ancient pots used to store honey, which symbolize longevity in the absence of refrigeration. The Heat's box-like sound reflects the era when the band was first formed in the late '80s, although the sound has evolved over the years.

The group's rollicking rockabilly is tempered with 1960s garage punk and heavy metal. Vocalist Jimbo Mathus, guitarist and keyboardist, has been a member of the band since its inception in 1988. His guitar playing is influenced by 1960s surf bands like The Ventures and The Beach Boys. The group has also touched upon country, western, blues and surf, but in Heat’s hands, it can be a lot of fun, provided you remember to drink the 24-ounce pints of beer served at the show. The only drawback is that you can’t get enough of the band's brand of humor and recklessness.

The band's concert is a taste of what is to come at various venues throughout the country. The group has been on tour since the release of its previous album, "Barefoot inaintenance," last year. The tour is expected to continue through the summer, with stops in major cities and smaller venues.

For more information on the band, visit its official website at www.reverendhortonheat.com.

About the Author

Jimbo Mathus is a founding member of the Reverend Horton Heat, which formed in Portland, Oregon, in 1988. He is also a member of the local band, The Love and the Sea.

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Casco Bay Weekly

Marcia Edgell
MUSIC

According to the organizers of the record annual: "Taste of San Francisco," East Coast activities forming a cultural venue due to the astronomical real estate market and the invasion of a new business class who are far more interested in $6-10000 per weekday, real than seeing a sold-out in a nearby nightclub. "Always wanted to tour the East Coast," Chuck Prophet, of the country-dominant folk-rock group on the band, and Adhara Caroneau de Forest, frontman for the band, explained to the Skinny Mara April 19.

Artwork: Kim Burrell appears on one of our new edition covers which will be released in the spring in time for the tour. See page 24.

Thursday, April 27: Shuffle: Trademark & Jeremiah Reed 6pm/$5/All Ages & 9pm/18+
Friday, April 28: Complex: Dream, Shadows Fall, A Fever 6pm/$5/All Ages
Sunday, April 30: Discombobulated: Moe, Wicked Farley's, & Koby 6pm/$5/All Ages
Tuesday, May 2: Moe: Save the Day & Low Life 6pm/8pm/All Ages
Wednesday, May 3: Bargain: Music, Statistics & Allman Band Conspiracy 9pm/$5/21+

The Eastland Park presents
CINDY BULLENS
I Gotta Believe in Something
May 11, 1999
The Eastland Park Ballroom
Tickets include the world with her music, woe, join Ceby in the re-
Sona home to sing of "Summertime." Special Guest: The Debonair Band
General Admission $21+
Full Beverage Services Available
Doors open at 7pm
Tickets for all Eastland Events are available through:
Portix, 20 Myrtle Street, Portland
Charge by Phone: 842-0800 or Online: www.portix.com

WMPG's Sixth Annual CD & Record Sale
Clean out your closet.
Clean out your garage.
Call your favorite radio station.
We need your CDs.
To make a donation, call 780-4151
To reserve a table: visit wmpg.org or call 780-4151.
Sale happens April 29th 10 AM till 4 PM
at the Sullivan Gym Portland Campus USM.
Maps and information are available on the web or by flier...
THURSDAY, APRIL 27

TAKEN BACK THE NIGHT

Silence, according to Maker's Dictionary, is "an absolute absence of sound." While certainly extreme, I have had instances in my past where I might wish to silence. There is a beauty in being able to hear the world in silence, to feel the silence of a room, of a forest, of a river. It is a moment of deep reflection and introspection.

The Social Response Services of Southportfolio Medusa 2000 are seeking to help local communities understand and address the issues of silence and the importance of silence in various contexts. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact the organizers for more information.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

PENTECOST

Language, according to the Oxford American Dictionary, is "the organized system of words and meanings, both written and spoken, used primarily to make known one thing or another." Yet, just as one language can speak in the theater project's production of "Pentecost," so can the tongues of refugees from "Pentecost." Told through the words — and in the tongues — of refugees all over the world, plan.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

GORDON PARKS

To Staff, according to the Random House Dictionary, is "a member of the staff at a place who is employed in an office or school." Yet, just as one language can speak in the theater project's production of "Pentecost," so can the tongues of refugees from "Pentecost." Told through the words — and in the tongues — of refugees all over the world, plan.

WEED

Diversity, according to Maker's Dictionary, is "the condition of having two or more elements that appear to be unrelated to each other, such as the world 'Pentecost' and 'Turk.'" Yet, just as one language can speak in the theater project's production of "Pentecost," so can the tongues of refugees from "Pentecost." Told through the words — and in the tongues — of refugees all over the world, plan.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

PONEKASIPUT AND FURANOVOCE

Spelling Goes on the trials and tribulations of the Portland Museum of Art.

To including receptors: 190, 70-700.

BENEDICTING REFUGEE AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES,

"Songs of Hope and Immigration from Broadway" features selections from "Fiddler on the Roof" to "West Side Story." The performance happens on Fri., April 28 and Sat., April 29 at 7:30 p.m. Sun., April 30 at 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

The Portland Museum of Art is continuing its celebration of its 10-year anniversary. The museum is offering free admission to all visitors this weekend as part of its anniversary festivities. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and admission is free for all visitors. The museum's anniversary events will continue throughout the weekend, with special exhibits and programming focused on celebrating the museum's history and contributions to the community.
**OPENING**

JUNE 21

**GALLERIES**

*The Millennial Show* and *The Old Fashioned Show* are on view at the Portland Museum of Art through July 29.

*The New Gallery* at 1224 Congress St. in Portland has an opening reception for *The New Gallery* and *Leaves of Grass* on June 22. The exhibition features works by artists from Maine and New England. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

*The Sugar Loaf Art Gallery* at 1300 Main St. in Bangor has an opening reception for *The Big Show* on June 22. The exhibition features works by 100 artists from New England. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

*The Old Mill Gallery* at 100 Water St. in Biddeford has an opening reception for *The Old Mill Gallery* on June 22. The exhibition features works by artists from Maine and New England. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

**SHOOTING THE HUMAN CONDITION**

**FREED-MAGNUM**

**CARLISLE WORKS**

**NEWPORT ARTS CENTER**

**HOURS**

*The New Gallery* is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

*The Sugar Loaf Art Gallery* is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

*The Old Mill Gallery* is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

**MUSEUMS**

*The Portland Museum of Art* is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

*The Sugar Loaf Art Gallery* is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

*The Old Mill Gallery* is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wed. through Sun.

**CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

*The Portland Museum of Art* offers classes in drawing, painting, and sculpture. For more information, call 284-2300.

*The Sugar Loaf Art Gallery* offers classes in clay, pottery, and glassblowing. For more information, call 563-4900.

*The Old Mill Gallery* offers classes in knitting, weaving, and felting. For more information, call 632-3400.

**EVENTS & LECTURES**

*The Portland Museum of Art* hosts lectures on art and architecture. For more information, call 284-2300.

*The Sugar Loaf Art Gallery* hosts lectures on art and design. For more information, call 563-4900.

*The Old Mill Gallery* hosts lectures on art and craft. For more information, call 632-3400.

**CALLS FOR ART/ARTISTS**

*The Portland Museum of Art* is seeking entries for a national competition. For more information, call 284-2300.

*The Sugar Loaf Art Gallery* is seeking entries for a regional competition. For more information, call 563-4900.

*The Old Mill Gallery* is seeking entries for a local competition. For more information, call 632-3400.
PERFORMANCE

DANCE

Theatre

Theatre

LISTINGS

PERFORMING ARTS

auition/submissions

Happenings

Out now, "The Last Whistle Blower," has a show-stopping final line verse that will leave audiences breathless. The play, written by Uzma M. Adams, explores the life of a woman who, despite her husband's opposition, decides to run for office. The performance at the Portland Stage Company's " לעומית נינה אהבה," takes place Thursday, April 27, at 8 pm, and Saturday, April 29, at 3 pm.

MUSIC

The Portland Symphony Orchestra's "Festival of the Unimagined," conducted by Robert Moody, will feature a world premiere by composer John Harbison, as well as works by Beethoven, Schumann, and Mozart. The performance is on Saturday, May 6, at 8 pm, at Merrill Auditorium.

THEATER

The Portland Stage Company presents "The Elephant Man," written by John Logan, and directed by Mark Shanahan. Performances are from April 27 through May 21. Tickets can be purchased online or by calling 207-775-5555.

ACTORS

The Maine State Music Theatre is currently auditioning for its summer production of "The Wedding Singer," by Ivano and J.D. Roth. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 10 am, at the theatre.

PERFORMANCE

The Portland Opera is currently accepting applications for its summer production of "Il Postino." Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 1 pm, at the opera house.

DANCE

The Portland Ballet is currently accepting applications for its summer youth program. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 2 pm, at the ballet school.

MUSIC

The Casco Bay Concert Band is currently accepting applications for its summer youth program. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 3 pm, at the band's rehearsal space.

THEATER

The Portland Stage Company is currently accepting applications for its summer production of "The Caucasian Chalk Circle." Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 4 pm, at the theatre.

DANCE

The Portland Ballet is currently accepting applications for its summer youth program. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 5 pm, at the ballet school.

MUSIC

The Casco Bay Concert Band is currently accepting applications for its summer youth program. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 6 pm, at the band's rehearsal space.

THEATER

The Portland Stage Company is currently accepting applications for its summer production of "The Caucasian Chalk Circle." Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 7 pm, at the theatre.

DANCE

The Portland Ballet is currently accepting applications for its summer youth program. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 8 pm, at the ballet school.

MUSIC

The Casco Bay Concert Band is currently accepting applications for its summer youth program. Auditions will be held on Saturday, April 29, at 9 pm, at the band's rehearsal space.
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Looking for a new relationship? Find your perfect match in our personals classifieds. Whether you're seeking someone for a short-term relationship or a long-term commitment, you'll find potential partners among the listings. From someone who appreciates reading and enjoys coffee to someone who loves picnics in the great outdoors, our classifieds have it all. Browse through the options and discover the right combination to add sparkle to your life. Start your search now with our personals classifieds.
FREE MILL ASTROLOGY - WEEK OF APRIL 27

If you are interested in the horoscopes, and we at the Beaverton Weekly are not, then you must be interested in astrology. The following horoscopes are from an unknown source. We, at the Beaverton Weekly, do not endorse or support astrology in any way. The horoscopes are provided for educational purposes and are not intended to be taken as serious or authoritative. The Beaverton Weekly takes no responsibility for the accuracy or validity of the horoscopes. If you choose to rely on the horoscopes, you do so at your own risk. The Beaverton Weekly recommends that you consult with a qualified astrologer or horoscope expert to get personalized and accurate astrological readings. The horoscopes are intended to be a fun and entertaining read, and we hope you enjoy them. Now, let's get to the horoscopes for the week of April 27th.

MOON SIGN \n
MERCURY \n
MARS \n
JUPITER \n
SATURN \n
URANUS \n
NEPTUNE \n
PLUTO

APRIL 27, 2000

If you are looking for more horoscopes, or if you have any questions about the horoscopes, please feel free to contact us at horoscopes@free-mill.com.
What year was Jell-O invented?

Was it 1957, 1897 or 1917?

Go to www.emazing.com/jello to find the answer and sign up to have cool questions like this emailed to you every day. Free! Subscribe to the Pop Culture Challenge and you'll be automatically registered to win free SONY merchandise!