I knew the guy wearing the yellow power tie, a blue double-breasted suit and a gold Key Bank lapel pin wouldn’t give me any money. I must have asked at least 50 Key Bankers all over downtown for spare change. They weren’t just executives of loan officers; I recognized some tellers. None of them gave me a dime. Not one red cent. To be fair, the guy wearing the silver Fleet Bank pin didn’t give me a penny, either.

In late May, I spent five days on the streets begging for change. Dressed in filthy jeans, crummy sneakers and a ripped shirt, I wandered the Old Port and Congress Street to find out how Portlanders treat panhandlers. On top of my long, filthy head of hair, I wore a muddy baseball cap with a picture of me looking like Jesus Christ. I didn’t shave or shower for a week. I looked desperate. I was a mess.

“Could ya help me get something to eat?” I’d ask passersby while standing on the corner of Exchange and Middle streets, or in Monument Square near Victory Deli. “Can you gimme a couple of quarters?” I’d beg. I didn’t do very well. During those five days, spending more than 50 hours on the street, asking about 45 people an hour for spare change, I only made $60.44. That’s $1.20 an hour. Or 2.6 cents from each of the approximately 2,250 people I solicited. Not to sound like Sally Struthers, but that’s about the price of a large cup of coffee.

I learned a lot on the street. And the first thing I learned was that Portlanders are pretty cheap.
We helped Tom Tracy boot up his software business.

Anytown, USA

Sunday, June 17

Doors will open at 8:30 a.m.

Bake Sale

Exchange Street Has a NEW BAKERY

If you have a cake for Fresh Baked Bread, Cookies, Stuffed Focaccia, Pastries, Homemade Sicilian Style Pizza, and... you're welcome.

SALUMERIA!

Located in Levinsky's Plaza
290 Congress Street, Portland

Discount Foods

Food Stamps Accepted
Food Stamps Accepted

A conversation with Diana Murphy

"It's not that hard of a job. It's just pouring blood.

I've seen many accidents; I've seen a bunch of fender benders, but never a real serious accident. This morning I watched a car almost hit a pedestrian on Elm Street. There was a lot of near misses on Portland's streets. On High Street, I saw a woman cut across a line of traffic to make a turn. She wasn't paying attention. She made other drivers pretty angry. I think the city people aren't really going that fast and that cuts down on accidents.

What's the best thing about counting traffic?

It doesn't happen very often here — at least while I'm working. I'm not that much counting in Portland. Out in the country people run red lights all the time, but here people really seem to pay attention. Probably because there's a lot of people.

Do you like Portland?

No, it's different. West Baldwin, which is "Hicksville," we don't have street people out there. No one asks me. I see a lot more to do here than back on the farm.

Do you like Portland forwards?

Well, it's different. West Baldwin, which is "Hicksville," we don't have street people out there. It's actually kind of exciting. I mean, all the time in Portland, I'm getting to know my way around town.

Do you see many accidents?

Not very. There's actually kind of interesting. I do see a lot of traffic at the intersection. People usually don't realize how many people are counting in Portland. I've never really spent any time in Portland, I'm getting to know my world around town.

Do people ask you what you're doing?

Usually I can't because I'm only in a place for a couple of days. If I've started looking at buses, just in case someone asks me.

What do you do to keep from going crazy?

I watch people. I listen to tapes on my Walkman.

What are you listening to now?

Nothing. My batteries are dead.

The best thing about counting traffic?

It pays really well. I'm doing counting the cars that go by. It's not real exciting. I'm doing counting the cars that go by.

Do people ask what you're doing?

Not very. It's kind of interesting. I can't because I'm only in a place for a couple of days. If I've started looking at buses, just in case someone asks me.

What do you do to keep from going crazy?

I watch people. I listen to tapes on our Walkman.

What are you listening to now?

Nothing. My batteries are dead.

By Christopher Berry, photo by Colin Macicie
Why People From All Over New England Buy Their Diamond Engagement Ring From Cross Jewelers

Cross Jewelers, Portland's fast-growing family-owned jeweler, is listed in the Portland Press Herald as one of the area's top 100 businesses. The company has been featured in Maine's top business publication, The Portland Press Herald, and has received numerous awards for its commitment to customer service.

Cross Jewelers is committed to providing the highest quality diamonds and fine jewelry at competitive prices. The company's experienced jewelers use the latest technology to ensure that each piece of jewelry is of the highest quality. Cross Jewelers is also a member of the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) and the American Gem Society (AGS), ensuring that its diamonds are of the highest quality.

Cross Jewelers offers a variety of diamond engagement rings, including round, princess, and asscher cuts. The company also offers a wide selection of fine jewelry, including bracelets, necklaces, and earrings.

Cross Jewelers is located at 242 St. Johns St., Union Station, Portland, ME 04101. The company's website, www.crossjewelers.com, offers a virtual tour of the store and a selection of products available online.

The company is open Monday through Saturday from 10am to 6pm and Sunday from 12pm to 5pm. For more information, call 207-773-1130 or email info@crossjewelers.com.
The surgery involved is the same for men of all ages. Small grafts are taken from those areas at good idea of the pattern of a patient’s hair loss and can plan a transplant according to the back of the head that still grow hair and are transplanted to areas of the scalp that are desired. Approximately the scheme of the entire head is transplanted to give a natural look of the remaining patient’s hair.

The surgical operation can be relatively simple and require a small incision. The main incision is made at the back of the head and the grafts are inserted into the scalp. The donor area is often at the top of the head, which can be covered by hair. The surgery is usually performed on an outpatient basis and can be completed in a few hours. The patient may be discharged the same day or the next day, depending on the procedure.

Hair-Raising Prospects?

The surgical procedure is generally considered to be safe and effective. However, like any medical procedure, it can have potential risks and complications. The patient should be aware of the possible outcomes and side effects of the surgery, such as scarring, infection, and hair loss.

CITY OF PORTLAND

The City of Portland, in conjunction with the Cumberland County Health Department, is offering a course on mammography. The course is open to the public, free of charge, and satisfies the requirements of a variety of special mortgage programs offered by the City (HomePort, Portland, FMA, MSHA and area banks).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15
4:00-6:00 PM
REGISTRATION: 874-8300 ext. 8730

The course has been presented in the interest of a

HAIR-RAISING PROSPECTS?

The operation is a major procedure, and the patient may experience some discomfort and pain during and after the surgery. It is important for the patient to follow the post-surgery instructions provided by the surgeon to ensure a smooth recovery.

If you have any questions or concerns about the surgery, you should discuss them with your surgeon. The surgeon can provide more detailed information and answer any specific questions you may have. It is important to understand the risks and benefits of the surgery before making a decision.

Lost Horizons

If you are considering hair restoration, there are a variety of options available. Hair transplantation, hair restoration, and scalp micropigmentation are some of the methods that can be used. The choice of the best option depends on the individual case and the patient’s personal goals.

The/MAGMOGRAPHY CENTER

Do You Dream of Owning Your Own Home, But Need Some Help Getting Started?

The MAMMOGRAPHY CENTER

City of Portland Training Course

29 112 FOREST AVE., PORTLAND

THE REC-HOME

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRETCHEN!

CITY OF PORTLAND

Mammography Center

do you dream of owning your own home, but need some help getting started?

For more information and a free copy of the American Cancer Society guidelines for breast cancer detection, please call (207) 879-3179.

The MAMMOGRAPHY CENTER

144 North Street, Portland, ME • (207) 879-3179

(Open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; evenings and Saturdays by appointment)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRETCHEN!

THANKS FOR THE FOOD AND THE GOOD TIMES!

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARY DUWE

GooD COOKIN

KATADIN

774-1740

SPRING AND HIGH STREET

M-SUN THURS 5PM-10PM FRI AND SAT 5PM-11PM

PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER OF MAINE PA

1012 Maine Street, Suite 401 Portland • 207-775-2030

THE REC-HOME

29 112 FOREST AVE., PORTLAND • 207-775-6000

SOUNDWAVES, WHITE TRASH FAMILY TEAM WITH SOUNDS

THE REC-HOME

1435 Portland Ave., Portland • 207-767-3323

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SOUNDWAVES, WHITE TRASH FAMILY TEAM WITH SOUNDS

THE REC-HOME

1435 Portland Ave., Portland • 207-767-3323
In the midst of people making their living from the streets, some rely on quick sales from passing shoppers. Two men, Bobby Reynolds and Larry Brown, sell over-priced stuff from small carts on Commercial Street. They line the streets with the poor, and their carts shine in the light of the shoppers. Reynolds, in his late 30s, has dark hair and a slim build. He sells items such as socks, ties, and sunglasses. Brown, in his mid-30s, has a round face and is of medium height. He sells items such as watches, watches, and watches. They both have a sense of humor and enjoy conversing with the shoppers.

Reynolds cares about his appearance, which sets him apart from many other panhandlers. He sometimes wears a couple of days of stable, clean, and shiny clothes. He also shaves every day. He uses his briefcase in his hand to carry his wares. He is always smiling and happy to talk to people.

Brown, on the other hand, is much more easy-going. He often wears a t-shirt and jeans, and he doesn't care much about his appearance. He enjoys talking to people and making them laugh.

The shoppers are divided in their opinions of the panhandlers. Some treat them with respect, while others ignore them. Many of them give money, but others do not. Some of them even ask Reynolds for change.

Reynolds' story didn't change. He still believed in the power of speaking to the homeless. He says, "I believe that every person has potential. And if you give them a chance, they will succeed."
It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. “It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. ‘It’s a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It’s a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It’s a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It’s a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It’s a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels. It's a great feeling when someone gives you a buck. Imagine how a dollar bill feels when all you've been handling is dirty pennies and nickels.
**Send the lifers home**

*By Phil Merrill*

There is a widespread belief that people who move for public policy or the risk of becoming stuck on benefits in their state. In Maine, U.S. Senator George Mitchell faces a challenge to Bill Colby’s bid for a fourth term in the Senate. Some analysts say it’s a toss-up, but I see in no way anything that justifies it. The vote is going to be close, and if there’s no difference in the margin of victory, all it will be is a meaningless vote on the floor. We need to be careful about what we’re doing before we make a decision.

It’s time for the lifers to go home. This is a national issue. There are some people who feel that we should be more careful about what we’re doing with the tax dollars we’re using. The vote is going to be close, and if there’s no difference in the margin of victory, all it will be is a meaningless vote on the floor. We need to be careful about what we’re doing before we make a decision.
There is a myth about radio stations, at least in the eyes of radio listeners who keep their eyes tightly shut. It is that radio stations, commercial radio stations, have some connection to the community beyond finance. Those listeners may consider opening their eyes. Radio stations are part of the entertainment industry and should be viewed accordingly. If stations fill up trash-dealers with food for the needy, that’s commendable. If they organize efforts to clean up public areas, that’s nice. But understand that the huge barriers advertising the radio station at these public events aren’t there just to let you know their call letters. These events are community work, and they’re business, too. Nobody walks on water. We all walk.

Some people insist on their ideals, and local music fans have long said that Portland’s commercial stations should include more locals on their playlists. There are only three commercial stations in town that consistently play local artists — WCYT, WCLZ, and, to a much lesser extent, WPRM. Though both CYY and CLZ claim to play an “eclectic variety” of music, their selection is limited. In fact the two stations are practically interchangeable. In the past month both have been playing releases by Toddy Jones, Bruce Springsteen, Anne Lennox, The Jayhawks, The Rembrandts, Radiohead, Little Feat, Willie Nelson, Billy Pigeon, Jil Sobule, Pope Chubby and so forth.

And both CYY and CLZ will play Carol Noonan, one of the Portland scene’s favorite daughters for her work with the now-unreliable Knots and Crosses, and in all likelihood the stations will give her upcoming release “Absolution” a solid leg up in this market. But chances are no other commercial station in Portland will touch it. It isn’t that Noonan’s record isn’t very good — it is. But commercial radio doesn’t concern itself with raw quality. Radio concerns itself with formats, and Noonan’s release is an anomaly among the Triple-A (adult album alternative) format. CLZ and CYY are — good guess — "Triple-A". They don’t expect the other, strictly delineated formats to even notice.

"Absolution" — the work of a singer-songwriter whose folk-rock sound defies easy categorization. But Noonan is in a strong position. WYOS in Boston, the New England Triple-A power house, has added the album to its playlist — three weeks before the release date. Several other stations outside of Maine are about to do the same. A lot of the attention is because of Noonan’s last band, Knots and Crosses, and a lot of it is simply the result of high regard for Noonan herself. The singer clearly doesn’t want to talk about radio play. It’s unclear whether she doesn’t want to alienate anybody (radio is a minefield of ego), or whether she thinks the conversation will just potential on-air success. She’s not superstitious — just careful. As well she might be. Knots and Crosses had a namesake rollercoaster ride that would make any up-and-coming artist think twice about stepping into the industry.

Noonan, looking unenthused and happy after riding a friend’s horse earlier in the day, sits down at Knot’s to nurse her way through beer and discuss her new album and her new band. Rounder Records’ folk sublabel, Philo Records has slated the release date for June 25. It is the most substantial record company to sign any Maine artist for years, and Noonan’s move from Knots and Crosses’ independent-label status to a medium-sized, nationally distributed company is full of promise. With Knots and Crosses, Noonan had seen what it was like to be in the major leagues, but only from the bleachers. The former group was knocked over by at least five big-name record companies before Island decided to seriously court it. But like a blind date with b.o., Knots and Crosses was unceremoniously dropped — before a record was ever made in that reflection that resonated on the label (more than the band). Island hasn’t signed a commercially significant band in two years. Knots and Crosses broke up about incommunicably after they were signed — internal pressures contributed to the split and the band was clearly too tired to play the industry game any longer.

When Island talked, there was hope; when Island walked, there wasn’t.

continued on page 17
Silver screen

Battles of Power

General Cinemas
Marina Mall Portland

Dinner, June 19

Dinner, June 24

The Tuxedo

Dinner, June 26

The Prestige

Dinner, June 27

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

Silver screen

Battles of Power

General Cinemas
Marina Mall Portland

Dinner, June 19

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Dinner, June 27

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

Two years later, with the triumphant release of "Shrek," his second film, the stop-motion animation was ready for the spotlight. He didn't consider it a stunt — he was ready to dig ever deeper into the art. "I think we're getting better at that," he says. "Shrek" is a more mature film than "Battleground," but it's also more serious and less comical. "We're trying to make a film that's emotional and funny at the same time," he says. "That's the challenge." 

The good news is that "Shrek" is a hit. The bad news is that it's not as universally beloved as "Battleground." But that's okay. "We're not trying to make a film that everyone will love," he says. "We're trying to make a film that everyone who sees it will enjoy." 

Next up, he's got "The Tuxedo." It's a comedy about a man who's transformed into a tuxedo. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of laughs." 

The Tuxedo

Dinner, June 26

The Prestige

Dinner, June 27

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"The Tuxedo" is a comedy about a man who's transformed into a tuxedo. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of laughs." 

Next up, he's got "The Prestige." It's a thriller about a group of magicians who are trying to outdo each other. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of twists and turns." 

The Prestige

Dinner, June 27

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"The Prestige" is a thriller about a group of magicians who are trying to outdo each other. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of twists and turns." 

Next up, he's got "Dinner, June 19." It's a romantic comedy about a man who's trying to win over a woman. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of laughs." 

Dinner, June 19

Dinner, June 24

The Tuxedo

Dinner, June 26

The Prestige

Dinner, June 27

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"Dinner, June 19" is a romantic comedy about a man who's trying to win over a woman. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of laughs." 

Next up, he's got "Dinner, June 24." It's a psychological thriller about a man who's trying to uncover a mystery. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of twists and turns." 

Dinner, June 24

The Tuxedo

Dinner, June 26

The Prestige

Dinner, June 27

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"Dinner, June 24" is a psychological thriller about a man who's trying to uncover a mystery. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of twists and turns." 

Next up, he's got "Dinner, June 26." It's a science fiction film about a man who's trying to save the world. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of action." 

Dinner, June 26

The Tuxedo

Dinner, June 28

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"Dinner, June 26" is a science fiction film about a man who's trying to save the world. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of action." 

Next up, he's got "Dinner, June 28." It's an action film about a man who's trying to fight for his life. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of excitement." 

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"Dinner, June 28" is an action film about a man who's trying to fight for his life. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of excitement." 

Next up, he's got "Dinner, July 1." It's a horror film about a man who's trying to survive in a world that's gone mad. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of scares." 

Dinner, July 1

Dinner, July 5

"Dinner, July 1" is a horror film about a man who's trying to survive in a world that's gone mad. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of scares." 

Next up, he's got "Dinner, July 5." It's a crime film about a man who's trying to clear his name. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of twists and turns." 

Dinner, July 5

"Dinner, July 5" is a crime film about a man who's trying to clear his name. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he says. "We're going to have a lot of twists and turns."
Out of Ethiopia

The name Ethiopia brings tragic images to mind -- an African nation wrecked by political turmoil and natural disasters, yet beset by hope in a seemingly never-ending cycle. But there is another Ethiopia, a rich history and culture that goes largely unrecognized by the media. Marta Morse captures that country in her exhibit "Ethio­enia: A Photographic Journey," a series of color photographs documenting life in Ethiopia in 1981, before the government began to ban photography. When the exhibit returned in 1993, when Ethiopia was opened again to tourism.

She herself is a contrast -- a white grandmother in a colorful dress with a black African child on her lap. During her stay, Morse stayed in an Ethiopian hotel where the water was so hot for a few hours and the only food provided instead of fruit. "I felt like I was in a foreign land," she says. "The people there are so open and friendly. I grew very close to a lot of people there. There are tribal people who have been able to maintain their culture -- although the West is encouraging them to adopt more modern ways."

A former insurance architect/designer, Morse also studied photography at the Maine Photographic Workshop in Rockport. Her fascination with structure is apparent in the numerous shots of Coptic churches, which are often carved directly out of stone hillocks or are set deep in the earth. An ancient form of Christianity that has been all but eliminated by conversion elsewhere, the Coptic faith continues to exist outside the mountainous and rural regions of northern Ethiopia.

"We were asked by the government to leave, though, that Morse captures our imagination, transporting the viewer into the depths of the African past. The only thing that prevents you from feeling estranged is the stunning beauty of the landscape, the people and the animals."

Along with the photographs are items Morse brought back from her stay, including a commemorative t-shirt, an Ethiopian bracelet, and a broad coral necklace that Morse wore throughout her stay. They provide a counterpoint to the photography, which sometimes offers an awkward distance between viewer and subject, a problem Morse, who also works as a portrait photographer, sees as "an opportunity to reflect on the experience." She says, "I would never wish to remove that."

Marta Morse's exhibit opening includes a reception at the Portland City Arts Center, 824 Congress St., Portland, from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, June 15th. The exhibit runs through July 9th. For more information, contact the Portland City Arts Center at 772-9012.
thursday 15

Indian style - Boston-based comedian, MARILYN RUNION has been undertaking you can bet they're deathly serious. No death rock longer than Geno's, after all. 

friday 16

Sundance Film Festival, downtown Portland's Dead Rock theatre is hyping tonight's double bill, 11:00 and 3:00. Tix: $6 (friday) $8 (saturday).

saturday 17

Swamp thing: The slow, deliberate story of Lazy Lester echoes that. In the '50s, when the rhythm and blues boom was reaching its peak, Lazy Lester was a star in the making. He was born in 1931 in New Orleans, Louisiana, and his music was a blend of blues and jazz. He was famous for his harmonica playing, and his music was a mix of blues, jazz, and rock and roll.

Monday 19

Voice lessons. The strange practice of conversing even as they deliver their beautiful, high voices. It's called "crooning," someone once called it. Lester, and this harp player will be the old-fashioned, slow-moving way - taking his own time. He'll bring his show to the Maine State Museum on Saturday, 5/7, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Free admission. The show is called "The Art of Vocal Performance." It's a celebration of the human voice, focusing on the history of vocal performance from the ancient Greeks to the present day.

Tuesday 20

Under sail: The OCEANIC CONCERTS AT THE OAKS series starts tonight at 7:30 PM, while the sounds of the Phil Righi Big Band float over the waterfront in Durin Oak Park.

Thursday 22

All that jazz! The Live at Five jazz series continues today, when the GUTFIELD TRIO takes over at Congress Square. The concert series is sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation, and takes place in green space around town, including the Western Prom and Fort Allen Park. The show starts at 5:00 PM.

Anthony's at the Farm (Ovens, Midline)

Same great food! Same great service! Same fantastic people! (If you haven't tried us, give us a try!ressed as working with the authentic spirit of a Portlander, this year's GUTS TRIO tours up to give some soul rhythms at the corner of Congress and High. The show starts at 5:00 PM.

Saturday 24

Today's free concert is sponsored by the Portland Inc., BID 3, and the Portland Parks and Recreation Department. It's called "FESTIVAL FOR THE ARTS," and it's celebrating the arts in all forms. It's held on the waterfront in Durin Oak Park, and it starts at 5:00 PM.

Guitarist Wittwer is a performer, instructor, and composer who is an expert in the music of Thelonious Monk. Educated at the Berklee School of Music, Wittwer should deliver a goosebump. Free and open to the public.


Sunday 23

Greek Festival: Portland's Greek HERITAGE FESTIVAL kicks off today from noon to 9:00 PM at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 133 Thompson St. The festival continues June 23 from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM and June 24 from noon to 7:00 PM.

Food, music, and dancing with the authentic spirit of the Greek culture will be on display throughout the celebration. And rain won't be able to put a damper on the festivities, because everything will be under the tent, which is the supposed Age of Enlightenment. One man who made a run to women, he can be finished what Farinelli from 7:00 to 11:00 PM.

The admission price also entitles you to ride on the museum's 206 Gray Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105. Tix: 726-0819.

The concerto series, sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation, takes place in green space around town, including the Western Prom and Fort Allen Park, throughout the summer months. The two new performances range from folk to jazz to Renaissance voice $67 to 879 to $74 to 879.

Marin County, whose praises have been sung by critics, tells the story of the singer's glamorous travels in an Italian film that chronicles in an Italian film that runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad Co. and Museum, 98 Cove Street (Route 131). The show opens June 17.

Attendees will find more than 100 exhibits of train-related memorabilia and paraphernalia, including model trains, books, railroad photography. The admission price entitles you to ride on the museum's narrow-gauge railroad along Cove Bay. Tix: $6 adults, $5 children under 12. 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

Delightful surprises are in store at the museum. You can get to the parking lot of the museum's narrow-gauge railroad along Casco Bay. Tix: $6 adults, $5 children under 12. 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

A backwatered and sometimes offbeat (no doubt) comedy favorite who has been a finalist in the International Comedy Competition, 63 Fore St., will appear again tonight at 8:00 PM. He also performs on June 14 at 9:00 PM and June 15 at 8:00 PM.

One of Boston's most popular comics, she'll likely be a crowd-pleaser and a foulmouthed (whew) stand-up who has been a finalist in the International Comedy Competition, 434 Fore St., where she'll be performing today. Tix: $10. 226 Gray Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105. Tix: 726-0819.
Going back to school
Melanie Bennett's photo installation at Gorham High

By Edie Kitchen

The Gorham High School project honed Bennett's ability to photograph, with spontaneity and humor, people outside her close-knit family circle. Like all skilled documentary photographers, she deftly infiltrates a scene and makes herself at home. At instant setups, she is chosen on a pick-up basis and lavished with her subjects' gestures and jokes. In "Gorham High School, Classmates, Before a Big Game," 1995, her keen eye discovers a poignant scene: two of a small bathroom mirror. Crammed into a tiny space between adult walls and shaggy tile, they take the business of "prepping" for games very seriously. Much attention is focused on that cultural icon of beauty — hair. Towel on head, the blend of the capturing the center of the photograph pictures as the hairs were hung to place with hyperbolic

The Bennett's family has always provided hilarious subject matter for her. In the 1980s, "The Boys Experiencing What It Would Be Like To Have A Girlfriend," 1995, her family's pudgy nephews and brawny husband sit around a table, one boy giggles as he clamps his ample breasts with his tiny hands, and the others laugh. We are almost completely immersed and her snarled face speaks volumes about the sticky stuff. A picture of the men's locker room scene that are probably revel in similar deeds — boys adjusting their shorts, strips, socks hanging, and arranging hair for the big game.

Unfortunately, Bennett's photographs of Gorham High are spread throughout the building, diffusing their impact. Here in groups of three and four, most of them can be found in the administrative and gym halls, where they

The Bequest, Decades Exhibition at Storer High School, "1999"

With state aid to the arts in great demand and short supply, rarely is a prestigious grant awarded to a young artist. But Melanie Bennett, a 26-year-old photographer whose quirky pictures of family and friends were featured at Brunswick's ICON Gallery last year, was one of three artists whose work was included in this year's "A Decade in Two Decades: Photographs by Melanie Bennett." Bennett's project's idea was generated during her senior year at Brunswick. For Art provides public access to creative processes and ideas. In fact, her coursework required that she skillfully infiltrate a scene and document the action, leading off with "Fiddler on the Roof, " starring stock veteran Bernard Black, "My Fair Lady" runs August 1-12, featuring MSMT staple John-Charles Kelly.

"Fiddler on the Roof" opens MSMT's 13th season, "embali continued on page 19"

Bennett captures scenes that are both personal and endearing, often the needs of the community. Bennett's project's idea was generated during her senior year at Brunswick. For Art provides public access to creative processes and ideas. In fact, her coursework required that she skillfully infiltrate a scene and document the action, leading off with "Fiddler on the Roof, " starring stock veteran Bernard Black, "My Fair Lady" runs August 1-12, featuring MSMT staple John-Charles Kelly.

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"Fiddler on the Roof" opens MSMT's 13th season, "embali continued on page 19"
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Short cuts
Blame it on radio

The search for someone to blame for the failure of the Portland music scene to "make it" is never-ending, but almost everyone has been accused of failing the scene in one way or another. From the print media (for allegedly being apathetic) to the club owners (for booking national acts or cover bands rather than local, original artists) to the audience, for failing to come out to shows more often. The latest whipping boy is radio, accused of being stuck in the past. There's more than enough reason to pin blame on any of these folks (especially the print media, which often does not cover or comment on, let alone promote, local music, even when it's skilled, but really, if there is anything in need of a societal revamping, it's Portland's radio station.)

Through ignorance (I know that it's far too easy to blame on us radio types in public, looking eager to show how much of a hassle it really got at the root of the problem—which is Portland's musical conservatism. It affects everything in the scene, from club booking to too much of a focus on local audiences.)

I'm not blaming the audience—radio owners wouldn't do anything to the audience since no one has heard the music, because radio owner won't even buy their songs on bands that they've even heard of in Portland. It's a vicious cycle, and I don't know how to break it. But even radio was the only ally I'm really not blaming, the problem would still be there.

There's more than enough reason to place blame on any of these folks (except for the print media, which often does not cover or comment on, let alone promote, local music, even when it's skilled, but really, if there is anything in need of a societal revamping, it's Portland's radio station.)

As if on cue, here comes Craw to bring some relief to Portland's scene.

Crawl to Craw

As it came, here comes Craw to bring some music to Portland's scene of musical desolation. A five-piece out of Cleveland, Craw plays music that best described as noise-rock. On their full-length CD, "The FTC's Aftershock!," it's buried so deep in the mix that only the most finely-tuned ears can hear it.

Also on the bill is One Inch of Skin, a local in a similar vein who have gotten a few and far between. However Geno's is showing some signs of life with a show featuring Foggy Notion. Their music is good buzz around town.

Smarts

In a fog

In some circles, Craw's hit a reputation for the most adversarial booking policies in town, but for the past year or so, the club has seemed to rest on its reputation, and shows that feature at least halfway decent bands are becoming few and far between. However Geno's is showing some signs of life with a show featuring Foggy Notion. Not that Foggy Notion is a bad band, far from it. On several tracks on their CD, "Message," they can be downright intense. Dark and brooding, Craw overwhelms the listener with waves of crashing guitar and screeching drums, coming from a non-harmonious sea of noise. But unlike many other noise bands, which after the listener nothing but noise, Craw occasionally offers a moment, either through a carefully controlled chill or with a quiet intro. Although they're not as consistently inventive as the aforementioned noise rock producers, they do make great pieces of rock chaos.

And there's more...
Taking pride

Portland's gay pride celebration has come a long way. What began in 1986 as a carbonate vigil for Charlie Howard, the Bangor man who died when he was thrown from a bridge by gay-hating teens, has become a week-long celebration of the gay community. Actually, not just the gay community—the celebration's all-inclusive name is the 1995 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Pride Festival. But most people call it Portland Pride.

Like most pride events around the country, Portland's celebration has shifted its focus over the years. "The incarnation has changed," says organizer Michael Rossetti. "It's gone from being a political demonstration to being a community festival. There really is a gay culture that has to do with arts, and so more and more people participate, gets better from the police." So, while there will be representatives from activist groups like Maine Won't Discriminate and the People With AIDS Coalition speaking at the privately owned on June 15, most of the weekend's events are entertainment-oriented. But in a Yankee city like Portland, where social diversity is still new and thus more recognizable than it is in bigger urban areas, the queer community's heightened visibility during pride week might have its own political value.

Sports

Wolfe's Neck Kids' Kayaking All ages and adults are encouraged to sign up for the week-long weekly trips starting June 25. Sign up at North Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washburn Ave., Portland, 767-1510.

Creative Resource Center 1103 Forest Ave., Portland, hosts free art fun for kids age 3-5, most Tuesday evenings at 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. 797-2915.

Families

Stand Up for Kids! A program for children ages 5 and older and adults are encouraged to volunteer to help with the 1995 Portland Grand Parade. Call 874-2640 for updates and membership information.

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**Event Information**

Several events are taking place in the local area. The Portland Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association will hold a workshop on June 22. The event is open to all gardeners and focuses on organic gardening techniques. For more information, contact the MOFGA office.

The Portland Suicide Prevention Program will also be holding an event on June 23. The event is open to all community members and focuses on suicide prevention strategies. For more information, contact the Portland Suicide Prevention Program.
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