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A Portland grassroots organization is restoring the historic St. Lawrence Church the way it was built over 100 years ago – STONE BY STONE
A CONVERSATION WITH CYNTHIA COTE

Janes Landing
on Peaks Island • 766-5542
present:
 LABOR DAY WEEK-END
BASH!

Sunday, Sept. 7
Reggae Fest Finale BIG BASH
starring
Rockin Vibrations
1-5pm

Bring in this ad for FREE admission for one!
Door prizes and much, much more.

Fri., Sept. 4 • Bohrnste • Trout Band 6:30-9:30pm
Sat., Sept. 5 • Don & Harvey Band 1-5pm

Jeff Almeida Band 6-9pm

MARTIAL ARTS

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

WMPG is having its 25th anniversary party on Saturday, August 29th. Everyone's invited to enjoy the live entertainment featuring the Pinners, the Sea Shags, Cerisean Shool and Rockin Vibrations, as well as wax-spinning by some of WMPG's finest DJs from the past, food, libation, and a WMPG Museum! (wax figures not included).
Admission is free.

Join us on Saturday, August 29th from 4 to 11 pm in USM's Portland Campus Center, and help us celebrate.

25 YEARS IN YOUR EARS!
Angels with dirty faces

Maine Center for Clean Elections has finally come clean, sort of.

The group that spearheaded the drive to pass the state's campaign finance reform law has apparently reversed course on issues it once fought against. A letter from the center's director to its board said that the center will do away with a system of prepayment of the cost of political campaign advertising.

The reversal was unexpected, to say the least. The campaign finance reform law passed by Maine's legislature last year created the Center for Clean Elections, which assists candidates running for state office with television and radio ads. The center had also been asked to track how much money was spent on local and state political campaigns.

The letter said the center will now discontinue its work on political fundraising.

"We are working to develop a system to fundraise in a way that is consistent with our values and will not undermine our mission of promoting a more transparent and accountable political system," the letter said.

The center had previously been criticized for its role in the election process, with some saying it was biased against some candidates.

The center's director, Paul LePage, said in an interview that the decision was made after careful consideration.

"The center was founded on the principle of promoting clean elections," LePage said. "We have worked hard to ensure that our process is transparent and fair. We believe that our decision to discontinue our work on political fundraising is in keeping with that principle."

The center's board of directors will now discuss the implications of the decision.

"We need to consider the impact of our decision on the ability of candidates to communicate with voters," LePage said. "We will also need to consider how to ensure that our process remains transparent and fair."
Why go slow? Visit lavaNet cafe at 37 Exchange Street, Portland. Or call 1-800-JAVANET.

Using our 28.8 modem was like the World Wide Wait. Then we connected with javaNet. Our new 56K connection to their screamin' T3 data line means we get our stuff totally fast. javaNet kicks butt. With US Robotics Dec Alpha servers, and mochaccinos, like what else is there? Oh yeah. We pay $19.95 for Internet access. Plus we get to chill with the tech support geeks.

IN TOUCH WITH TECHNOLOGY. www.javanet.com

Segment of text about Elizabeth Peary:

Elizabeth Peary
St. John's, Newfoundland
July 6, 1998

Dear Editor,

I am writing to complain about a recent article in your newspaper. I believe the writer, John Doe, misrepresents several facts about the Peary family.

Firstly, the article states that my great-grandfather, Roald Amundsen, discovered the South Pole in 1911. This is incorrect. Amundsen's expedition was during the same time period as my great-grandfather's, but he was exploring the Arctic, not the Antarctic. Roald Amundsen actually reached the South Pole in 1911, not my great-grandfather.

Secondly, the article claims that my great-grandfather worked as a bellhop and a hatcheck girl. This is also false. My great-grandfather worked as a designer at Parker Brothers, inventing the game of Monopoly.

I am disappointed with the accuracy of this article and would like to see the facts corrected. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Peary

P.S. My great-grandfather was not a thief. He was a hardworking businessman who contributed greatly to the field of game design.
Read his lips
Portland City Manager Bob Ganley promises to hold the line on taxes.

**COINNIE PARDELO**

No tax hike. No layoffs. Portland City Manager Bob Ganley says his budget plan for this year, the same numbers of the City Council are out of the picture. As Ganley gets ready to sit down and hammer out a municipal budget for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 1996, he says his contacts are telling him it's going to be tough to find the necessary cash. He's worried the mayor will reduce or forego the amount of money is able to Portland for education and revenue sharing, but he wonders if they're anticipating help less from the state. This year, he said, "we're doing better at this point in this budget than we were in the past." As Ganley gets ready to sit down and hammer out a municipal budget for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 1996, he says his contacts are telling him it's going to be tough to find the necessary cash. He's worried the mayor will reduce or forego the amount of money is able to Portland for education and revenue sharing, but he wonders if they're anticipating help less from the state. This year, he said, "we're doing better at this point in this budget than we were in the past."

Ganley's promise comes true. March 1996. The city council will meet to keep the line of communication open between the city and the school, since the student council can't control the way school administrators spend their annual budget. He said the city would not be able to cut school staff budgets, but the school system is "very heavy in administrative positions," and "it will look like we're doing down the middle of the city, and we're managing city and school services." Congress, Ganley, another member of the school committee, said that the idea of the Portland public school budget is to 3% of the city's budget, and he strongly urges the city and school officials to support the budget plan.

**Aistant Speaker**

Dr. John C. Claxton, who does not believe the city council should cut school staff budgets, said the school system is "very heavy in administrative positions," and "it will look like we're doing down the middle of the city, and we're managing city and school services." Congress, Ganley, another member of the school committee, said that the idea of the Portland public school budget is to 3% of the city's budget, and he strongly urges the city and school officials to support the budget plan.

**General Council**

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**Alternative**

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**President**

As for another tax freeze to save dollars. As for another tax freeze to save dollars. As for another tax freeze to save dollars. As for another tax freeze to save dollars. As for another tax freeze to save dollars.
A Portland grassroots organization is restoring the historic St. Lawrence Church the way it was built over 100 years ago —

**STONE BY STONE**

**ELIZABETH PEAVEY**

"There's the very real possibility that I could fail big with this church. Big. There's definitely an element of foolishness about it, and we're going to find out how serious it is. You could go crazy with this building, there's no doubt about it. But we're not going to know until we get there," —Deirdre Nice, speaking to Casco Bay Weekly in 1994 about purchasing the St. Lawrence Church.

Some people viewed her as a visionary, some thought she was nuts. But when Portland commissioner Deirdre Nice and a partner purchased the crumbling St. Lawrence Church on Munjoy Hill for $71,000 in December of 1993, there was one general consensus: It would take a miracle to save the church.

As she and I sat in the church's bell tower that March, she described her plans for the church, which was in need of costly repairs: The wood framing, concrete- and slate-faced exterior walls were failing; the roof was leaking; the stained-glass windows were bubbling up in 1991, but nothing ever came of it. Portland's economy was tanking, and Nice soon learned that dreams alone don't save a church.

Enter Nice's boyfriend, Portland attorney Bill Milliken. (What is it with Portland attorneys and church restoration projects?) 

"Nice's romance was fading," says Milliken, executive director of Friends of the St. Lawrence Church. "But Nice neither saw the ick nor smelled the rot. She saw with a dreamer's eye only potential. She was very passionate about the church."

The board, which also includes, among others, Linda Hogan from the Munjoy Hill Neighborhood Organization, which provides jobs to neighborhood youths; and the Stained Glass Restoration Project, which is restoring stained-glass windows. "Our group decided, the hell with it."

"We are not delusional," says Nice. "We don't own the church. We want this church to be inclusive for all the community. We have created credibility and goodwill in the neighborhood. If we pull it off, it will be the deal.

"Bill Milliken, executive director of Friends of the St. Lawrence Church, says."

**A few small repairs**

Nice was obsessed that dreams alone don't save a church. By December 1993, the viability of the venture was in serious doubt. Her boyfriend, Portland attorney Bill Milliken, says: "I met Deirdre Nice in 1986, the last service at the St. Lawrence Church was held in the sanctuary. But it was an almost empty room. There were 100 people in attendance."

For the next eight years, the church remained empty and idle. Rumors of a children's museum, a theater or a community center remained rumors. Plans for an "International Friendship Center" died in 1991, but nothing came of it. Portland's economy was in a downward spiral. There were no resources to save the church. The church was closed for good. "The reason was simple," says Nice. "There was no money."

"We are not delusional," says Nice. "We don't own the church. We want this church to be inclusive for all the community. We have created credibility and goodwill in the neighborhood. If we pull it off, it will be the deal."

"Bill Milliken, executive director of Friends of the St. Lawrence Church, says."
**Seconds Count!**

**Starting August 26th we will be open Wednesday through Saturday.**

Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes. Come in and check out Sebago's Men's, Women's and Childrens' factory seconds and close-out shoes.
Our Teflon schools

Investigations from the U.S. Department of Education say they're going to begin an inquiry this fall into how the Portland public school system treats immigrant kids and minority job applicants (see "Newsroom," page 5). Let's hope they have better luck gathering information than the community parents who've sought answers in vain.

The investigations are responses to complaints from Maine's minority leaders about the allegedly poor quality of education available to immigrant kids. You often, they say, children from other countries are crammed into English as a Second Language classes, where they have no chance of receiving adequate preparation for college. Students have also complained about the limitations placed on them (see "Language of Discontent," 1.1.98), only to have school officials like Superintendent Mary Jane McCloskey assure the public everything has been improved and is going along just fine.

McCluskey gave the same reply when asked why Portland's teaching staff is overwhelmingly white (see "Would you hire this woman?" 4.2.98). She claims the city can't possibly keep pace with the fast-growing diversity of its population, and says she's turned a diversity coordinator to receive qualified education of color. Apparently she thinks that's all we need— and all the answers we deserve.

What's needed from Washington can penetrate the Teflon-coated secrecy of Portland's school administration is an open question. They'll have to keep digging, have better luck getting information than the countless parents who've sought answers in vain.

Remembering Bill Rawlings

Bozo Morris

Nine months after the period for human life, have passed since Bill Rawlings died. It sometimes takes this much time to summarize the life of a person as well as to create a new one. Bill was the president of Modern Field Public Corporation, parents of Case by Case Weekly. Most importantly, he was a friend to all for whom he worked.

Bill's fight with cancer was inspirational. He would not be defeated by the disease, yet never buried it with anger. We were all aware that he had come to terms with death well before it arrived and in the process lived with his killer more as an inevitable companion than as an enemy.

His blazing love of life never became quiet to the end. He was an individual of much power, a master of history, a passionate political liberal; he and his wife, Arlene, could argue on topics that I had devoted the entirety of my life to consider.

Bill's death is a personal loss of not just a long lifetime career but also the lack of the mind that the world has lost. He was a prolific writer who left an extensive body of work, some of which is being published in this issue of "Switch (Alluring Fish Tales)", a show at the Robert Herman Gallery. "Who are the people fall to the above the level of illustration?"

At what level does illustration become art? At what degree does it become desire to figure expression? Can you answer these questions by comparatively understanding the quality of artwork? Are not such things, biographical classifications (weaving of names) of the level born over the circumstances under which the artwork was executed rather than its past aesthetic appeal?

Mr. Goodyear's reminder tells me of a joke. Serge, a good-lookin' artist-singer who was a solo record in Tribeca and did his Alpha Roman solo on weekend, acquired at the local Vaskaen an auction two beautiful drawings by the renowned Aubrey Beardsley, whose work appeared to be tremendous. Serge paid a handsome five-digit figure for the pieces and brag them by the David Hockey in the wetland.

At parties, Serge liked to show them off and he gave a computer example to the other people, what they said. One of his friends pointed out, "Aubrey Beardsley was an illustrator, so his work has nothing to do with artistic expression, "and Serge was shocked and broke into a cold sweat. "An illustrator?" "Aubrey?" "Well, I'll have to sell them to someone other than me."

"Why did you buy them in the first place?" his friend asked.

Serge felt his status dwindling rapidly as people glanced unimpressed. "You're an illustrator!" "Aubrey Beardsley!" "Why not have a good idea jump right out of your mind?"

I wonder, did you ask about if it's OK to place this? I thought "Smoking gun" (8.6.98) was an interesting piece of research, and I found it so informative and thoroughly enjoyable.

Martin Shields

Casey Be Worthy

Big Tobacco's big bucks

I thought "Smoking gun" (8.6.98) was an informative and even-handed piece, given Al Diaz's editorial position on the matter. I am an anti-smoker, and have become very interested in the anti-smoking section in newspapers and articles that are packed randy and concrete.

I think it's interesting that "Big Tobacco" stories have so many more graveyards with place to exact or even on smoking restrictions in bars and restaurants and throw their money in opposing these. No doubt many are more like the smoky little bar in California, this amounts to petty cash and it hardly makes friends with non-smokers. If Big Tobacco's best interest is to show a willingness to work with non-smokers? Obviously, I can see why the tobacco industry would oppose real tooth. However, I think maybe many, of the non-smokers just want an area with good ventilation where our contact with secondhand smoke is minimized. It seems that everywhere if, instead of throwing piles of money at fighting smoking restrictions, Big Tobacco's excuses rules that ask for improved ventilation or non-smokers (spare) smoking and smoke-free areas and provides small or matching grants/loans to restaurants and bar owners to help them make improvements to their facilities.

The notion that smoking bans and restrictions do not have a demonstrated effect on public health, so why do we need them, is rather misguided. The articles' earlier claims that studies to measure the effects of smoking bans/ restrictions have set to be done, and suggests that the amounts of cancerous in secondhand smoke may be low that the effects could not be measured accurately. Although the amount of carcinogens on our vegetables won't worth anything and the ordinance is quite high in the town's health regulations, it is persistent exposure to secondhand smoke makes the difference, it is persistent exposure to secondhand smoke makes the difference and the article says that the model with non-smokers. Isn't it in Big Tobacco's best interest to show a willingness to work with non-smokers?

More importantly, he was a friend in court for all who worked here. Great ...
Brother's keeper

Andy Verzosa's long journey to keep Manny Verzosa's music alive nears an end.

Elizabeth Peavey

On Nov. 3, 1990, Andy Yamasaki's life took a turn. That night, a new car carrying his brother Manny and the members of the band Sixes hit a bus at 2 a.m. in a Wyoming highway. The van flipped, Manny died at the scene.

The crash of Portland musician-
songwriter-guitarist-bassist
Shun Côrpus was a new audience in Portland. Bones... and Miami, and Manny's heart had included the lines of energy. And no one claimed to that fact more than Andy.

Almost immediately, Andy started to reflect, analyze and courage anything he could get his hands on that had to do with his brother. His love for Manny's music in Los Angeles to start through his style of paper, newspaper, magazine clipping, photos and audio tapes of Manny's songs. From the earliest days, he knew he had to do something to preserve the music and the memory of his brother.

Today, that mission is nearly complete.

The memory of Manny Verzosa remains a powerful force in many people's lives. Fishers says he feels his presence in the work, Manny's music will take its place alongside the cobblestones of Portland.

The All-American Microbrew Showcase

September 5

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BARTON'S

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117 Brown St. Westbrook ME

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The Great LOST

&

PREVIEW

A night for Manny

Many of Portland's top musicians will join Manny's friends and fans across the country to perform songs from the late CD, "Manny Verzosa Singing His Own Words." The list includes:

- Sara MacIntyre
- Daniel Shuster
- Beth Gross
- Mark Gossins
- Todd Daniels
- Mike Davis
- Paul French
- Lisa Goffart-Long
- Laurenne Foley
- Paul Austin Later
- Lincolnville, Chris Moor
- Candace Rye
- Pat Pena
- Portland's finest

From Austin, Stone, tomatoes, barton, Robert Fisher died his land, the Rusty Guitars Company and Susan Sargent, from New York: Walter Salsinger (hurricane and mammy Verzosa's daughter) in turn to the end. The songs live on.

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the connells

still life

the new album featuring "Crown" and "Soul Reactor"

The Best Bar You Haven't Been To... Yet!

SUNDAY, SEPT 6, 2PM
BIG SCREEN TV & HALftime TRICKS

UNDER

SUN

DANCE

SISTERS

BIRTHDAYS * ANNIVERSARIES * MUGS * SPECIAL OCCASIONS * GIFT CERTIFICATES

SUNDAY, SEPT 6
BIG SCREEN TV & HALftime TRICKS
calendar

thursday 27

OUTDOOR BLASTS
Visit the Union Square officially bringing most weekends, now's the time to get out and catch some free outdoor shows before summer is just a memory. On Thursday, The Milkshakes perform blues and roots music in Congress Square, from 7-10 p.m. Free; donations suggested. On Friday, Gibbon and the Book of Merwese perform at Maine Humanities Council's Roots music night at Congress Square, from 7-10 p.m. On Saturday, the Maine State Railroad hosts the annual Maine Blues Festival, in Congress Square, from noon to 5 p.m. Free; donations suggested.

sunday 30

FOUR-MILE WALK OR RUN
If your last memory of running outside looks back to 1994 and longer years are "Central Hospital," then it's high time to step back into some running. Register now at the Rotary clubs of Portland and South Portland. Call Elizabeth, president of a five-mile walk or run, to reserve your space: 894-3754. Proceeds from the race support Rotary charities and local community projects. It's also a great day to cheer on the runners. The race begins at 9 a.m. at the Portland Yacht Club, 200 Commercial St., along the waterfront. The free race, in the waterfront. Portmouth, near the Snow Squall restaurant, is at 9 a.m.
22 CASCO BAY WEEKLY

New York City's DJ Dirty Harry. On his first visit to Portland a month and a half ago, he brought in nearly 400 people. The second time, Aug. 22, the size of the crowd doubled.

They've come for the music, but also to see the hip-hop atmosphere. Some are familiar with Dirty Harry's reputation as a DJ who plays hip-hop and rap at a high-stakes party on Saturday nights at Zootz or at the House Nation on Thursday nights. He's been a mainstay in the scene for about 10 years.

There have been ups and downs. Although HPD turned away a number of people last week, they're looking forward to this weekend's event.

Tonight is of a slightly different atmosphere than past shows. Some faces are familiar, with regulars from Zootz or the Moon. But with a $10 cover and doors open at 10, the crowd tends to be younger.

Asylum doesn't have the "black club" reputation the Moon had, nor is it known for its hip-hop atmosphere. Some people feel it's not as "authentic" as other clubs.

The young revelers on the floor may be casting their vote for the city's next hip-hop scene.

Jackson, who takes turns with DJ Dale "Da Dred" Dorset spinning records on a weekly basis, says, "It just brought me trouble," he says. Still, he shrugs off the association people make with the Moon. "They're just people who don't know how to act." And though some of the Moon's regulars have followed Jackson and Dorset to Asylum, the fights, so far, have not. Getting over the stigma of hip-hop clubs has taken awhile.

The ladies are hardly the only ones out tonight. They are joined by black and white rappers in Fubu and Playaz T-shirts with their logos peeking out of their low-riding jeans.

The atmosphere stops short of feeling like a rock concert. People are enjoying the music, but not to the point of losing control. It's more of a laid-back party atmosphere.

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A unique preschool school for children 3-4 years of age. Now accepting applications for fall and year-round ages. Space is limited so don’t hesitate to call for more information.

Tony Award Winner 1996!

Master Class
by Terrence McNally

Marking Rosemary Prinz
of the World Famous and
Off-Broadway’s, “David Magdalen”

A Must See Event!
Aug 25 - Sept 20
at the Pan Am – Portland

Performance Center
Portland Stage Company

205 Portland Stage
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Productions wrote and performed by J. Paul Jones.

Now including John and Toki with

Darien Brahms, Said

and Friends

Music featuring works by

Klezmer and Classical

Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland.

AUGUST 25, 1996

Productions: The

Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland.

Productions: At Charlie

Monmouth, at 25A

TIX: $20

Terrance McNally, no

for consideration for a show

works for adults and kids. At Sawyer

Portland invites

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with its enrollments. At the PMA, 7

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The freshest of seafood, Stone Coast Brewing Company. Full service restaurant, smokey links, chicken bar. 11:30am-8:30pm, Fri & Sat.

Newbury St. 871-5631. Take out, catering. No credit cards.

DIET: Something different every day. Sunday 3pm to 11pm.

Newport, RI, on the harbor.

Marina Ave. 127. 756-6230.

Specials range from $8.95-$10.95. Wed-Sat 4-10. Sunday brunch.

Mon-Thur 11:30am-2pm. Fri-Unl. 11:30am-2pm. Free buffet Thurs.

Downtown Portland 606 Congress St. in the heart of Portland, Maine's only authentic, eclectic, and handicap accessible Chinese restaurant.

Japanese to Hawaiian, Mexican to Caribbean, Italian to Greek, we have it all.

Lobster Roll $6.25

Monday - Tuesday 11:30am - 2pm. Happy Hour 3pm - 7pm.

Come in and have a drink and some food. 2 for $12.48 deal.

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Listings

Cassidy Bay Weeklies are a fun and free service to our readers. To have a listing considered for publication, send complete information (including dates, times, costs, complete address, a contact telephone number) by noon on Thursday prior to publication.

performing arts audition/admissions

Cassidy Bay Wildcat Ensemble in VISIT Need advice? 799-4922

Taxidermy is not God, but God is not taxidermy either. Victor Saldana's deceptively poetic play is set in the Ramada Inn, where 12 customers begin their own 'inquisitions' of theligneous register. Written and directed by Saldana, a native of the Philippines, "Taxidermy" is a poetical look at the human heart. Presented by the Portland Playhouse.

The Portland Playhouse, 500 Congress St., Portland. Phone: 773-4444. Evenings 7:30. Also see below.

HAPPENINGS

TWO TO SEE

Golden Gatemouth: Legendary blues guitarist Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown has created the consummate loser. Neurotic, his old hangout, a bowling alley, and puts up with his high school family now meaning to the world "vampires." It's not physical abuse or drugs... well, it isn't really. "Gatemouth" is a character... a character so terrible that he could care less about his son's soul. There are no friends, and even his wife is more concerned with the world around her than with her family. Each scene is a perfect representation of life's hell, and yet it's beautiful...

Kwanzaa Celebration: The Portland Center for Performing Arts is proud to bring the Portland Community Kwanzaa Festival to the city. This event will feature music and dance, a Kwanzaa Sunrise Breakfast, and a Kwanzaa Marketplace. The Portland Center for Performing Arts, 701 S.W. Broadway, Portland. Phone: 223-8082. Performances at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. December 26.

WORKSHOPS/LECTURES

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