Maine’s next generation of right-wingers doesn’t fit many of the stereotypes established by Paul Viole and his pals. But is this new breed really bringing anything different to the political mix?

by Connie Pacillo
See page 10
Lighting of the Copper Beech Tree
Friday, December 3, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Free Admission!
• Music, food, art-making activities, visits with Santa!
• Belfamy Jazz Band, Falmouth Middle and High School Chorus, The Portland Ballet Company
• Candlelight sing-along prior to the official lighting of the tree located on High Street (at 7 p.m.)

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TALK
A CONVERSATION WITH J. FREEMAN PORTER
"I went for probably at least the first 20 years without a decent weekend."

J. Freeman Porter, 88, recently celebrated his 100th birthday in a hospital (his daughter's house). There was an old story about how Zoroastrianism had been made up by the ancient Greeks. It was supposed to come back and contribute to the war effort or lose their citizenship. So he was supposed to come back and work building houses for the war effort. Ten years later, he got our year and came to the city. You have a reputation for being so well liked by your tenants that even the ones you've evicted come up and hug you on the street. Is that true? It's true.

Why is that? On the eviction thing, they know that I've never done it to anybody that didn't deserve it. They knew it's my fault. That doesn't happen so much anymore. It's been unavoidable at times.

Why would you evict them? Mostly, they just owed me two or three months' rent. There's been lots of other weird cases. We could go on all day with the landlord stories.

Is there someone who stands out as the worst tenant ever? I actually had one one time that I was sure that they were going to come and murder me that I stood inside my door nights with a gun to defend myself. But they had to go. They were living in a six-family house and making life a living hell for the other five apartments.

Why did you come to Maine? I went for probably at least the first 20 years without a decent weekend.

It's true.

What's the key to being a good landlord? You've got to understand that you're their home. You've got to be on call 24 hours a day. If you're not and something goes wrong, you're going to feel guilty about it. Somebody's got to be there. It's like a hospital. They're all kind of like patients or clients. And if you're not around, they can call you a lot of things. I don't want to go through a situation where I have a landlord that... I don't want to discuss that here anymore.

What's the key to being a good landlord? You've got to understand that you're their home.

One day a week. And people respect that so they try not to screw something up for me on Sunday.

One day a week.

Why is it that you've been in the landlord business so long? There's a lot of reasons why you get in. If you don't get in, you don't get out. I got in real easy when I was 19. I got out of high school, and there was no escape. Then it's like doing after you're in, you just fight your way out of it, against a wall for long enough. You get so you can eat and sleep without a worry. It's been. It's been worth it.
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CUSTOM BOOT FITTING BY BOOTHBAY'S ONLY C-FED
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You're a lucky guy
It's time to thank Rich for all he's done for Maine.
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Prepare the tar.

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WE'LL BE CLOSED WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY THIS WEEK...

Dali mustard 12¢

Celtic Treasures
Unique gifts from the Old World!

THE CLAY CAFE
Pottery Painting
A Ceramic Studio
Come explore your creative side!
We have lots of tools for the "amusingly challenged" - it's fun to create!
For more info or to set up a studio for your group, call:
207-484-1862

At Plastic & Hand, aesthetic intervention is medically-ordered. Our licensed medical aesthetician, Annie, works closely with other physicians to bring you the best of both worlds. At Plastic & Hand, we offer the following services in medically-ordered care for our clients:

- Skin Evaluation and Product Consultation
- CoolSculpting
- Botox (40 units or less for 200.00)
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Casco Bay Weekly

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The Clitoratti — those mainstream sisters who dictate to gay girls everywhere what's acceptable as far as dressing goes — are not just as stifling to their trans­gender and homosexual counterparts who are trying to hold on to their sense of identity as they are to the rest of us. My attraction to butch women in my second and current relationship has little to do with their physical appeal, though it is true that butch lesbians and I see a lot of similarities in our approach to the world and our bodies. Our attraction is to each other, not to their butchness, our bodies and breasts. Butch women, whether they are butches or femmes, are so often depicted in movies and on television as being asexual. They are often more or less neutral, butchness being defined as the opposite of femininity. OK, if you're one of those goody-two-shoes dykes who has no idea what a butch or femme is, or think it's okay to make fun of them, then you should check your assumptions.

From the heat of butch fever, some gay girls have identified as butch and some as femmes, at risk of passing with too broad a heterosexual brush. Butch women tend to look and sound very feminine. For butches and femmes, the self-confidence that is so often sought and described as part of the good girl fight for assimilation into polite het society because they unabashedly break all the politically prescribed sexual rules. When someone says they are butch or femme, it's not a phase or a game. They are not just girls out for a bit of freaky fun before they find the right mate.

Middle-of-the-road lesbians have had a hard time either with the word: butterflywoman being used since the '80s. As the women's rights movement in the '70s grew, lesbians started to look and sound too mainstream. Feminists were disparaged because they made themselves a little too attractive to the heterosexual enemy. An enemy, it was assumed, they were certain to sleep with. Many butch women and femmes were thought to be so different that they should be out of the mix. It was too much to ask for the acceptance of this group of people, so they were left on the sidelines.

That hatred grew deeper whenever the polar opposites of the women's movement were made to face each other. Butches were stereotyped and womenfolk became rebels. They gave birth to the perfect lesbian woman. Politically correct, they were her perfect women. They were not attracted to the reject women of the women's movement. They had no interest in being butch or femme. The ideal woman was a neat, well-dressed, and fairly conventionally feminine. They were the kind of women who were never seen in the women's movement days, only in the women's movement.

OK, if you're one of those goody-two-shoes dykes who has no idea what a butch or femme is, or think it's okay to make fun of them, then you should check your assumptions. But when someone says they are butch or femme, it's not a phase or a game. They are not just girls out for a bit of freaky fun before they find the right mate. Middle-of-the-road lesbians have had a hard time either with the word: butterflywoman being used since the '80s. As the women's rights movement in the '70s grew, lesbians started to look and sound too mainstream. Feminists were disparaged because they made themselves a little too attractive to the heterosexual enemy. An enemy, it was assumed, they were certain to sleep with. Many butch women and femmes were thought to be so different that they should be out of the mix. It was too much to ask for the acceptance of this group of people, so they were left on the sidelines.

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More lanes or fewer tolls

If the Maine Turnpike Authority can't change the way it collects tolls, state transportation officials may deal with traffic congestion in Portland by proposing a wider Interstate 295.

Portland City Councilor George Campbell said he will present a bill to the Portland Transportation Committee on Tuesday that would authorize the city to build a new, wider lane on Interstate 295 in Portland, effectively doubling the number of north-south lanes and reducing congestion on the interstate in the city.

Campbell's proposal, which he said would cost about $300 million, would require the city to come up with an additional $60 million to be placed in a special fund for the purpose of widening Interstate 295.

Campbell said he hopes the proposal will be considered by the Maine Department of Transportation, which has said it is committed to improving traffic flow on the interstate.

The proposal is in response to a recent study commissioned by the Maine Department of Transportation that found congestion on Interstate 295 in Portland is among the worst in the state.

"The state says they can't afford to build any new lanes," Campbell said. "But they can't afford to do nothing either."
Cool to be conservative?

Maine's next generation of right-wingers doesn't fit many of the stereotypes established by Paul Volle and his pals. But is this new breed really bringing anything different to the political mix?
I think he misses the point. He didn’t want to raise cigarette taxes. Instead, the measure was shot down because even if you fund the side of smokers to those under 18.

Even moderate Republicans have found Jack difficult to work with because he often refuses to compromise. Some legislators, such as Sen. John Martin of Portland, offered in 1996, sometimes succeed in legislative bodies — even those in his own Republican Party. He finds the climate at the State House to be too much pressure, he said. "I think you have to be able to fully articulate or say your mind... they know..." But you have to be able to answer the right questions..." "We'll see what happens. If we can talk to him and he's willing to work with us..."
Don’t wimp out

There’s traffic congestion on interstate 295. So what’s the solution? According to a state transportation official, the answer is: Do nothing.

That’s one option the state Department of Transportation is considering as it studies traffic on I-295 and I-95 between South Portland and Brunswick. To be fair, MDOT says it’s also looking at new interchanges and passenger rail service to solve the snarl.

But why even consider widening I-295? It’s a dumb idea that shouldn’t even be on the table. When the interstate was built, it split the city. It still serves as a barrier between the peninsula and the Deering section of town. Adding a lane here and there on I-295 would make matters worse, destroying homes and businesses, harming Deering Oaks and removing a section of the Back Cove trail. It would increase noise and pollution in Portland. And it’s not clear that this will permanently solve congestion problems.

What’s even more aggravating about the widening idea is that the Maine Turnpike Authority planned to put a barrier toll in Scarborough. Under this plan, drivers getting pollution in Portland. And it’s not clear that this will permanently solve congestion problems.

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High art in a low place

The Morrills Corner Pub is an art gallery masquerading as a dive

Allen Dammann

A native of Portland, Pierobello began painting in high school art classes. "I was good at it," says Swan. "It's just uninhibited and raw," he adds. Pierobello's art is a reflection of his experiences, influenced by his background in music, poetry, and the counterculture of the 1960s. "I see it as the unspoken stories of people's lives, mostly in an impressionistic style," he says. "It's just how I perceive the world around me."
MUSIC
Prime Cut

**MUSIC**

Petting Zoo
Flood Plain

**CAROLS**

**TODD CLANCY**

**FAVLERS**

**WILLSON**

**EASY, SADLY, WILDLY**

**MUSICIAN**

Soberly, Willson has the ability to sing as if every song were her own experience. Her voice is confident, soaring above and complimenting the rest of her musicians. Willson's style ranges from blues and Latin to new Orleans. Left: live video is shot with gelatin and passion that will please you on the weekends at the Big Lez, 61 Market Street, Portland, at 7:30, 871-8817.

**THURSDAY 25**

Pheasants
BeauSoleil

**FRIDAY 26**

Steamboat Spring
Captain Morgan

**SATURDAY 27**

Lilac
Ken

**SUNDAY 28**

**MONDAY 29**

**TUESDAY 30**

**WEDNESDAY 30**

**THURSDAY 1 NOVEMBER 25, 1999**
Wednesday, December 1

A Day Without Art

Have you been wondering what the Portland Museum of Art will look like in 2020? The public will get a sneak peek at the forthcoming exhibit "Snowball Earth: The Birth of the Modern Mammals" on December 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. 775-6148. And at the Institute of Contemporary Art, 522 Congress St., Portland, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. 704-5574.

Quick Picks

MCM, Nov. 29

Get schooled in the history of the civil rights movement at the Portland Historical Society's "Get Schooled in the History of the Civil Rights Movement" on Monday, November 29 at the Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress St., Portland, at 7:30 p.m. Free. 774-5554.

TUES., NOV. 30

Contemporary American plays at the Acorn Studio, 496 Congress St., Portland, at 7:30 p.m. Free. 761-0617.

Weslien gives a talk in conjunction with the exhibition "Two Views of the Hindu" at Burnham Lounge, Robie Hall, the University of Southern Maine's Gorham campus, at 4 p.m. Free. 780-5009.

The kids may even spot Father Christmas around town.

MON., NOV. 29

Get in on a musical education on Wed., Dec. 1 when four student jazz combos from the University of Southern Maine get hip in Corthell Concert Hall, USM's Gorham campus, 37 College Ave. (7:30 p.m., $5, students and seniors). 775-6148. And at the Institute of Contemporary Art, 522 Congress St., Portland, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. 704-5574.

SUNDAY, NOV. 28

Demon Dash and the Snowman will join forces with Diesel Dog and the Long Hot Rods at the Winter Blues Bash at the Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress St., Portland, at 7:30 p.m. Free. 774-1114.

FREE

Portland Museum of Art Annual Student Holiday Show

Sat., Dec. 11 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 12 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, November 27

James Cotton

James Cotton has been in big bands to his own thing, and he's put it all together in his own sound. He's been playing blues for over 30 years, and he's brought his own style to the stage. Don't miss this great blues performance.

Friday, November 26

Monument Square Tree Lighting

Have you been wondering why the city hauled a big dead fir tree downtown and propped it up in Monument Square?" Monument Square Tree Lighting. This year's celebration includes music by the Blue Hill Brass Quintet a cappella Christmas. Lumber over to Monument Sq., Portland, from 5:30 p.m.-6 p.m. Free. 772-3952.

Saturday, November 27

Ski Sale

You've been waiting for the perfect day to ski. Now's your chance! Portland's best ski shops are all open on Saturday, November 27, with discounts on new and used equipment. And don't forget to check out the ski equipment sales that are happening all over town.

Sunday, November 28

Vicorian Holiday 1999

Join us for a festive celebration of the Victorian era at the Portland Museum of Art. The museum will be transformed into a winter wonderland, complete with trees, lights, and decorations. Enjoy live music, holiday crafts, and holiday-themed food. Don't miss out on this special event.

Monday, November 29

GIVE ART: an original gift

Radiant Light Gallery's Pre-Holiday Sale

All images priced from 10-25% off the regular price starting Friday, Nov. 29. 774-1114. Also at The Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress St., Portland, on Thurs. and Fri. Nov. 29 or anytime. 774-1114.

Tuesday, November 30

Tea Time:

Portland pottery

9th Annual Student Holiday Show & Sale

Sat., Dec. 11 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 12 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Wednesday, December 1

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Sound Bites

118 Washington Avenue • Portland • 772-4334

The Gallery @ Portland Pottery is open M-Sat 9-6
**Stage**

**Successful Operation**

**The Children’s Theatre of Maine**

**Q**

Quinlong is a henchman with a bad habit; his right knee has been amputated after he was shot. His new knee is a powered knee with a hydraulic suspension system. He is a part of a group of henchmen working for a wealthy businessman named George. George has a plan to steal a valuable diamond from a museum, and Quinlong is one of the henchmen selected for the job.

**Performance**

The henchmen are given very detailed instructions on how to carry out the theft. Quinlong is instructed to create a diversion by convincing the guards that he is a harmless civilian trying to buy a diamond from them. He successfully pulls off the diversion, allowing the other henchmen to steal the diamond.

**Mr. Burns’ Decision**

Mr. Burns, the owner of the museum, is furious when he discovers the theft. He decides to hire a private investigator to track down the henchmen. Quinlong is caught by Mr. Burns’ investigators and is forced to confess to his role in the theft.

**The End**

Quinlong is arrested and taken to the police station. He is later released when the real mastermind behind the theft is revealed to be Mr. Burns himself. Quinlong realizes that he has been taken for a ride and vows to never work for a wealthy businessman again.
—The birdhouses of Cooper Dragonette are equal parts art and fantasy. "They seem more like toys than birds," he said. They are "inspired by a sense of wonder," Dragonette said. "I make them for people who want to have something unique in their lives." The birdhouses are made from wood and painted with bright colors, and each one is unique. "I try to make them as real as possible," Dragonette said. "I want people to feel like they are part of the birdhouse." The birdhouses are available for purchase at the Hay Gallery, where Dragonette's work is on display. The Hay Gallery is located at 131 Sawyer Street in Portland. For more information, call 761-7909.

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seven

In Portland on Nov. 13, Richard Thompson introduced the incomparable Peter Forster to a variation on the classical guitar. Peter Forster is known as "see-nel," a term used for his "see-ner" guitar, which is a stringed instrument with a distinctive sound. Peter Forster's performance was met with enthusiastic applause, and the audience was treated to a unique musical experience. The evening was a celebration of the fusion of traditional and contemporary music, with Forster's guitar playing taking center stage.

MOVIES

A+ Review


From the Affordable to the Extravagant

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Friday, Sat. & Sun. 9am - 6pm, Nov 26 & 27

The Munching
The Iron Giant
The Terminator
Wild Wild West
Deep Blue Sea

"One man's trash is another man's treasure."

The first time I saw the movie "Bigger, Longer and Uncut," I was blown away by the talent of the leads. The performance of Bigger was simply outstanding, and he carried the movie like a pro. Longer was also impressive, bringing a lot of energy to his role. Uncut was a little too much for me, but overall, the movie was a great success. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who loves action and adventure.

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