A FATHER FOR

THE STATE

Ronald kids caught up
in the court system
need guys like Alf
McCormack to rep-
resent their interests.

Inside is, there
aren't enough guys
like Alf McCormack
to go around. And the
state doesn't want to
pay to improve the
system.
Every holiday season, along with the hanging of wreaths, the stringing of lights and the appearance of Christmas trees atop cars, comes the familiar sound of jingling bells — the Salvation Army kettle drive bells — that is. On an especially bitter morning, we found Mike Marshall, WCSH program director, and Alan Cartwright, the station's general manager, bells in hand, at the WCSH-sponsored kettle on Congress Street by L.L. Bean. We persuaded them to stop jingling for a minute or two and tell what it's like to be the guys with the bells.

Did you guys have to skip work to do this?
Mike: It's part of our job.
Alan: We're giving back to the community.
Mike: That's right. Giving back to the community is why we're doing this.

Do people ever come up and say weird things to you?
Mike: Not yet.
Alan: Except for the store owners. Sometimes they get upset because we block their entranceway, but we're not doing that this year.
Mike: I think there's been a long tradition of the Salvation Army bell ringers and I think that a lot of people really look at it in that spirit — giving to people who don't have at Christmas.

Do you get a feel for what panhandlers must feel like?
Alan: Hadn't thought of it like that, no, not really.
Mike: It is cold.

What's the biggest amount one person's put in here?
Mike: You know, I really don't even look.
Alan: Probably a dollar. Here comes a fellow right now giving a dollar.

Have you had many weird experiences?
Mike: No. I think planning ahead is the key, especially if you're gonna be outside, making sure you have warm enough clothes.
Alan: I forgot my gloves but the previous bell ringer, my boss's boss, gave his to me.

Mike: The holiday spirit's all around. The donating of gloves.

Interview by Zoe S. Miller; photo by Colin Malakie

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S~TS
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&: Lounge Party

On Oct. 9, (closed Callahan) it said some ugly things about gay people. Callahan,
with the chairman of the Maine Turnpike Authority (MATA). At the news
saying: it was the MTA's annual employee recognition dinner in Portland. He gave a long moaning speech that
according to several witnesses, included repeated references to homosexuals as
"disgusting." He also took at least two anti-

politics and other mistakes

The number of departments making no was read very carefully around the nurse. "It seems in have addressed the
problem," said MTA executive director Paul Verost. "Since the incident, we've
had two or more meetings, and it's

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DECEMBER 18, 1997

6

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The Turnpike Authority (MTA). As the feature
and I was to tread very carefully around the

Dimming of the day

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be identified. "Nobody knew what he was going on or
It went on and on and on.

According to Callahan, short-
ly afterwards, Callahan at


boredom, crying a medical prob-

a serious health problem that it caused him

He provided me what I said . "I won't be doing that [giving

A woman who was in the role of

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"Callahan is the retired owner of a bridge

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It went on and on and on.
Baha's harbored

OK. I know what you're thinking. You think that just because I'm Portland's biggest creep, I'm going to use this old story to scare you about the holidays. You think I'm going to make fun of the Narrow Gauge Railroad's light show, the talking Christmas tree in Forepaugh's, Portland's home-grown life-size fairies and the other little things about the holidays that look like they're baking the passengers off in the sun:

Well, I'm not. See, something happened the other night that has changed my tune. I was doing work. I heard a clicking noise in my office. As I walked across the room, I found that my old friend Ms. Clause was working with ghostly images and earning a few beams of moonlight:
Raising the bar
New fees may limit Old Port drinking establishments

**LAURA CONWAY**

The Portland City Council's attempt to consolidate the liquor licenses in Old Port has apparently been shelved for now.

One year after the Council established a limit on the number of permits in the district, the area actually has four more drinking spots than before, and several owners have a potentially valuable new asset that permits them to operate in the Old Port, which can be sold for higher bidder.

New Portland Mayor George Campbell wanted the Council to consider reviving the Old Port license, now that a new bidder can operate, with the number of 22 available.

That notion was rejected by most of the members of the Council, which has since then been unable to agree on a new strategy. The cost of the permits has increased, and the city has had to hire additional staff to handle the paperwork.

The majority of the members of the Council have supported the idea of a limit on the number of permits, but the dissenting members have argued that it is not a good use of resources.

The City Council has approved the limit on the number of permits. However, the decision has been challenged by several individuals, who have argued that it is not the best use of resources.

**Bobby Wood**

Portland's City Council's approval of the limit on liquor licenses in Old Port was on the agenda for the meeting of the council on Thursday night.

The city council has decided to wait until the next meeting to consider the issue of the number of liquor licenses.

The city council has approved the limit on the number of liquor licenses. However, the decision has been challenged by several individuals, who have argued that it is not the best use of resources.

The Council is considering the possibility of keeping the limit on liquor licenses in Old Port. However, the decision has been challenged by several individuals, who have argued that it is not the best use of resources.
Getting what you pay for

Judge Bierce's portrait looms large over the RRA's three-person staff. He looks stern and serious, perhaps a bit too much so for the sorts of cases the RRA handles. But the judge is not without humor. One day, he was laughing so hard that his belly shook. "I've never seen him like that," said his secretary. "He always looks so serious." But on this particular day, the judge let his guard down. "I guess I'm just not used to people laughing," he said with a smile. "I usually just tell them what to do and they do it."

The jaded vs. the compassionate

Not only does McCormack have a lot of cases on his plate, but he also has a lot of energy. "I'm still passionate about this work," he says. "I still enjoy going to court and helping these kids."

But, he points out, "the bad part is that when you have people coming in off the street and looking for a quick score, they don't always get what they want. If they don't get what they want, if they think their case isn't going well, they just walk out."

McCormack says he's learned to be patient with these people. "I try to stay calm and collected, even when things get heated. I try to remember why I'm doing this work in the first place."

One of McCormack's cases is a 9-year-old boy who was sexually abused by his mother's live-in boyfriend. The boy was made to feel like a "good boy," says McCormack. "He was treated like a robot," says McCormack. "He was treated like a child, not a person."

When the boy finally spoke up, McCormack was overjoyed. "I've never seen a child so happy," he says. "He finally got to tell me what happened to him."

Another of McCormack's cases is a 13-year-old girl who was neglected by her parents. "She was left alone all the time," says McCormack. "She was just a shadow of her former self."

When the judge asked McCormack what made him continue working on this case, McCormack replied, "I just can't leave her hanging. She needs me."

McCormack's dedication to his cases is evident in the way he prepares for each trial. "I spend hours studying the evidence, researching the law, and understanding the needs of the child," he says. "I want to make sure that the child has the best chance possible.

McCormack's success is not limited to the courtroom. "I've also been able to help these kids in other ways," he says. "I've been able to help them get into school, get a job, and find a place to live."

"I take my responsibilities as a CASA volunteer very seriously," says McCormack. "I am committed to doing everything I can to help these kids."

McCormack's work is not easy. "It's a difficult job," he says. "It's a job that requires a lot of dedication and a lot of sacrifice."

But McCormack is up to the challenge. "I'm motivated by the thought of helping these kids," he says. "I'm motivated by the thought of making a difference in their lives."
**FATHER FOR THE STATE**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

As he reflects on the challenges he has faced, he says, "I've learned a lot about kids and found it as a teacher at the Maine Youth Center. "I learned about kids and what it means to be a teacher."

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 15**

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**APPETIZERS AND ENTREES**

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**RESERVATIONS**

Try our winter menus?
Chris knew he was more than just a warm body in a stuffy lecture hall. Is there life after transferring? Absolutely. Transfer student Chris Nelson from Quincy, Mass., will study at Saint Joseph's for that. He transferred to Saint Joseph's, faculty actually want my input, and I know them on a personal level," says Chris, a third-year elementary education/human development major and a theatre group actor, intramural hockey player, student teacher, soup kitchen volunteer and resident assistant. "When I missed class once, a professor called to ask if it was OK... It's a remarkable place."

Why not consider a visit and see for yourself? A tour of the campus with a current student is available at https://www.saintjosephs.edu/admissions/tours. Call 1-800-338-7057.

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FATHER FOR THE STATE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Christians, First, attempts are made to reunite the child with his family. If that's not possible, the child is usually put into long-term foster care, where the man has custody but parental rights are retained. In the most severe cases, permanently loses custody and the child is either adopted or put into permanent foster care.

"The problem is the large, huge," says Hedge of DFS. Not only is the number of children abiding foster care growing — by about 10% a year — but, she says, the cases are more serious these days and the kids are more damaged.

Hedge says she's setting "many parents with really, really serious problems. Lots and lots of violence at all stages. The things we see now were aberrations 10 years ago. Now they're commonplace."

Hedge mentions cases involving cocaine, statically, underachieved, being locked out of their homes while their parents do drugs. As getting worse, she says, as one generation hands down their toxic parenting methods to the next.

It's important to McCormack's gripe about slow-moving bureaucrats, she says. The demand on her office keeps increasing while the number of workers has been declining since 1991. "If you could just see the workload of our staff," says Hedge. "I have seven kids, the lettuce, and so little money."

Hedge was interviewed in November. When she was contacted a few weeks later, she said she was leaving the program in Dec. 1 for a position with DFS as chief of the hearings unit, a position that pays more than $30,000 a year. Her DFS salary was $22,500. Hedge says money was not a factor in her decision to leave DFS after only one year. "It's just not for me," she says. "I couldn't stay..." I don't want to see the program fail," she says.

The director before her, MaryGay Kennedy, who started the program, left last March to go into private practice. An interim director replaced her until March arrived, Kenneth says CASA is a "huge program to administrate by one person." (One only other paid staff member is an office assistant.) Unlike Semple, who was a state employee, Kennedy was paid by the hour as a contractor and worked out of her home. She wouldn't say what she earned, but said, "I'm not going to say financing.

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Street justice

So Sabato "Sailo" was walking. Shot three guys, called it self-defense, and the jury apparently agreed. (The verdict had just been handed down.) CBW went to press, so comments on jurors are unavailable. Why did this happen? I asked him at his house to confront them? Why did he not lock the doors and call the cops? And, if he did, he was justified in what he did, why was he dragged a body around the yard after the shooting was done? Why did he not go into the house and call the cops and tell them what he had done?

Allegedly, Raino thought it was better to make justice out of his own hands than to wait for law enforcement officials to deal with the problem. That's not much of a surprise. Lots of people do the same. But that doesn't make it right. Three people are dead. Whatever their character, they were human beings. It's shocking that their lives ended the way they did. It's shocking that a jury of Raino's peers agreed there was no better way for him to get out of the night than to blow those away.

Human beings, especially men, have always settled disputes with violence. Slike the flames of anger with liquid, add firearms, and death often ensues. In an effort to abdicate ourselves above societies where street justice prevails, where arguments are settled by guns or knives or fists, we base our system of law and order into place. Police provide the order, they did their best that night but June was failing to respond to two 911 calls related to the case, although the officers who showed up in the end conducted themselves well. The court provides the rule of law. That part of the system failed badly, as a jury of Raino's peers let us know everything possible for his actions.

What's most frightening about the Raino verdict is the message it sends to the people of Portland. You can't expect the cops to help you, so do it yourself. But where does the cycle of vengeance and violence end?

Late one night, I saw a man being beaten bloody on the corner of Grant and Mellen streets. I called 911 from the pay phone outside the Mellen Street Market and told the dispatcher what I was witnessing. The man screamed out for help in the background. But when the dispatcher handed the address I was calling from, she gained a dismissive tone. She said she'd see what she could do. She made me feel like a fool.

I hung up and hid in the shadows, waiting for a cruiser to arrive as the violence continued. Minutes passed. People started pouring down the streets at the men. Then a few came out into the street. Things looked like they were going to escalate. I got scared and walked down Great Street. I don't know what happened in the end — if the cops ever showed up, if the man was badly hurt. I do know that it made me wonder about our 911 system. It made me wonder what consequences the attackers would face. It made me afraid.

The fabric of civilization is very fragile. It is not strengthened when we let citizens dispense brute justice with bloody hands.

EXCUSES, EXCUSES, EXCUSES

Gary Dixon's letter defending local TV news (11.14) against Laura Corsiglia's long-suffering article is the same more insipid theories we've been hearing for years about the "richter scale" of news media. The "richter scale" of news media is lower than the Richter scale of news media. The Richter scale of news media is lower than the Richter scale of news media.

Reading the New York Times, the "richter scale" of news media is lower than the Richter scale of news media. The Richter scale of news media is lower than the Richter scale of news media.

The main reason for writing this letter is to show the readers of the Portland Press Herald the validity of your arguments. Make a point, we say, but don't make a point.

Sailo, Channel 6 continues to congratulate itself on the 5 p.m. newscast. What? We're not concerned (New Hampshire is), but you are (New Hampshire is)? How about the 5 a.m. newscast (New Hampshire is)? I'm not sure how you'd feel about Sailo, Channel 6, if you're not familiar with Sailo, Channel 6 (New Hampshire is) yet.

It is my contention that even the most dire news of the day being aired to an audience of CBW is not going to hurt people, and people will always want local news. So, I suppose the challenge is to the people. Stop tuning in to Channel 6 at 5 or whatever. Just stop. If you think it's the same old stuff, ... stop. Start reading. Write letters. Encourage others to visit their virtual head. The most important thing to do is to start writing. It only encourages them.

Richard Kasimir
Portland

How to get the news that matters

How can we get the news that matters? Why do the U.S. Army have 400 people, including some Marines, sworn in to guard the Rose Bowl? Is it to prevent the America from watching any football game? I don't know. I'm not sure. I'm not sure. I'm not sure.

The mothers' right to raise their children is lower than the Richter scale of news media. The Richter scale of news media is lower than the Richter scale of news media. The Richter scale of news media is lower than the Richter scale of news media.

I support Sailo, Channel 6, for its outstanding work in the past 12 months. But I am not sure if CBW readers are going to be interested in Sailo, Channel 6, for its outstanding work in the past 12 months.

Feynman fan

I was interested in the short article in CRW about the latest effort by the joint Education Committee/Department of Education. "No sweat," they call it (12.4.97). Feynman is one of the few scientists who would have a strong opinion on this kind of subject.

The main reason for writing this letter is to show support for Feynman's article in CRW about his latest effort (12.4.97). Feynman is one of the few scientists who would have a strong opinion on this kind of subject.

Daniel Skibbie
Portland

Comment

Handhuk does not equal Christmas

I enjoyed Sharon Bass' article about the experiences of Jews and Muslims living in Portland during the Christmas season ("Christmastime," 12.4.97). Having been raised in a family that celebrated both Christmas and Hanukkah, I've always been amused at the workplace and media confusion about how to deal with Hanukkah.

One common response to this confusion is to avoid any mention of either Hanukkah or Christmas. This is now standard practice in most offices. How many of us will go to office parties this year which are carefully termed "holiday parties," yet furnish Christmas trees and someXmas with no mention of Hanukkah? The Jewish community has a "solution" to this year: incorporate the elements of Hanukkah and Christmas to produce "holiday parties" that are "jovial" for both groups. I can't help but think that this is the wrong move. Why not take the latest news and bring the word Christmas back into the language?

Another common symptom of religious confusion is the inclusion of the word "Hanukkah" in any sentence that mentions the word "Christmas." This is the problematic technique of media types, like the newscasters of your youth who would say, "Merry Christmas and happy Hanukkah" while Hanukkah had ended. In a front-page article in the Portland Press Herald, the author wrote, "I will share with you this Christmas party with my family." I am not sure if the author was referring to Hanukkah or Christmas. The author may have been referring to Hanukkah, but I am not sure if that is the case.

Now, please don't misunderstand me. Most of these attempts are well-intentioned, and I wish them well. Yet, the reader is left with the feeling that the holiday spirit was watered down. Whatever it may be, it can't be a true representation of Jewish holidays or Christian holidays. If you don't have Hanukkah, but you have Christmas, then say Christmas. Use the word "holiday" or "revelation," or append the word "Christmas" to your holiday. This is the technique of media types, like the newscasters of your youth who would say, "Merry Christmas and happy Hanukkah" while Hanukkah had ended. In a front-page article in the Portland Press Herald, the author wrote, "I will share with you this Christmas party with my family." I am not sure if the author was referring to Hanukkah or Christmas. The author may have been referring to Hanukkah, but I am not sure if that is the case.

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Imperial is a wonderful place to shop for Holiday gifts and delight...
-Wonderful wares and wares from around the world, collectible to tops, unique and affordable jewelry, beautiful clothing, ceramics and shoes, amusing pajamas, all designed to make your season merry and bright.
Museum Shop
5 Exchange Street Portland, Maine 04101
775-712-1633
Parking Space Available for Parking (Please be sure to use)

Parking (Please be sure to use)

Museum Shop
Create a lasting impression this year with unique and special gifts from the Museum Shop. Choose from one-of-a-kind jewelry, handcrafted ceramics, and contemporary glass.
Visit Maine's largest pottery cooperative this holiday season. Practical pottery; decorative pieces and much more...we have gifts galore for everyone.
Gift boxes and shipping!

Museum Shop
Distinctive Holiday Gifts
Create a lasting impression this year with unique and special gifts from the Museum Shop. Choose from one-of-a-kind jewelry, handcrafted ceramics, and contemporary glass.
Visit Maine's largest pottery cooperative this holiday season. Practical pottery; decorative pieces and much more...we have gifts galore for everyone.
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Visit Maine's largest pottery cooperative this holiday season. Practical pottery; decorative pieces and much more...we have gifts galore for everyone.
Gift boxes and shipping!
Experience Debbie Elliott Salon and Day Spa.

Heal, rejuvenate and set aside the stress and warry of the day.

Give the ultimate holiday gift: a half day of beauty per month for one year. Includes facial or choice of body treatments, massage/needle, shampoo/dry, make up application and spa snack.

$999.00

FEEL LIKE A QUEEN!

Drop Me A Line is an experience you won't want to miss! We've transformed our store into a flamboyant holiday wonderland that is overflowing with the juiciest selection of gifts, cards and more. We've got everything from the latest in jewelry, books and toys to the best in home decor, furniture, and gifts. Come see us today and experience the magic of the season.

Our 1997 limited edition porcelain ornament by Laurie Adams is our gift to you with each purchase, while supplies last.

The Holidays Bring Out The Best In Us.

Concierge Service  Our Concierge staff will be on hand to provide mall information, umbrella service, package assistance and answer any questions you might have. You'll find them conveniently located at three main mall entrances, Thursday through Sunday.

Charity Gift Wrap  This season you can make your gifts look great and do something great for others at the same time. Because during the holidays, all proceeds from our Gift Wrap Service will benefit P.R.O.P.

Shoppers Rest Area/Coat & Package Check  Our customers deserve a break. And our Shoppers Rest Area is the perfect place to take one. You can check your coat and packages and relax with comfortable couches, big screen TVs and tables, and catch your breath before tackling the rest of your shopping list.

Purchase Plus Program  Get more value for your holiday shopping dollar. As a member you'll earn valuable points redeemable for exciting rewards every time you shop. Rewards that include great events and savings. Best of all membership is free.

Annabelle's Wish  The Maine Mall is the official headquarters for Annabelle's Wish—a classic animated holiday story about a lovable calf, whose selfless wish brings happiness to the little boy she loves. Annabelle activities at the mall during the holiday season will benefit the Maine Make-A-Wish Foundation. For details, visit our Customer Service Center.

Just a sampling from Maine's largest pottery cooperative. Practical pottery, decorative pieces, and much more - we have gifts galore for everyone. Call toll free and shipping!

The Maine Mall  Where else would you go?

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ART AT ART'S SAKE: INVENTIVE GALLERIES IN UNUSUAL SPACES

B
decked in the saddle (last summer's American Indian art show) are the 2000 blue and white ceramic mugs by Portland's Laura Anderson. The collection is a smaller version of a larger set she made for Portland's Red's Beach Pub - a restaurant famous for its selection of beer.

Shelley Tardif, behind the Red Oak Bar, said the beer gift sets are sold, and now she's working on a new set of mugs for a restaurant. She has plans to make a set of mugs for another restaurant as well.

Tardif said she plans to make mugs to order for restaurants as well as other businesses. She said she's also working on a new set of mugs for a restaurant that will be unveiled later this month.

Artists have been buying the mugs to sell at their shows as well. One artist who bought the mugs said she plans to use them for her shows.

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One of the chances she took was renting the gallery for $500 a month.

Living with the art (she pays $600 for the space), Lorene Zammuto, 25, is talking about property for the second time in a row.

She's sitting at a tapestry-covered table beside the Blue Rabbit himself, a sculpture made from a rabbit-fur coat dyed blue and stretched over a wooden frame. She's talking about property for the second time in a row.

The gallery is a 600-square-foot carpeted space that was once a storage area for the art district. The owners of the building decided to lease the space to artists since February, charging $250 a month for the space. They first rented the space to a group of MECA sculpture students in February, and since then have expanded the concept to include other artists, to be closer to their creative process.

"It's a little low rent, and we're doing it for the artists," said Christine. "It's a little low rent, and we're doing it for the artists," said Christine.

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Prime cut

The real live music, "bass-boosted high-energy," and the Portland-quotient. Pubcrawling is its bunch of slackers. With a whole band that moves stripped-down clubs with a steady stream of king-sized pizzas, Prime cut wants you to pint your dinger and laugh while you feel around the dance floor. So what worry about getting fatigued. The few was informed is that there will be provided for those too weak to stand. Big Meat Hammer and DJ Mike (feat. former members of Uthof T. Justus and the Tonys) join the party. Dec. 7 (at Queen's, 13 Stone St., Portland, at 9:00 pm. Tax $3.

Club directory

Prime cut

Dinner Ticket: 31 Forest Ave., Portland, 772-6693.

Old Port Tavern: 1230 Fore St., Portland, 774-1505.

Zoo: 31 Forest Ave., Portland, 772-6693.

The City Pub: 3136 Market St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Boulevard: 610 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Inclusiry: 526 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Undergound: 660 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Flapper: 215 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Bitter End: 110 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Night Owls: 24 Exchange St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Portland Hotel: 515 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Elmo: 416 Fore St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Sandbar: 100 Route 100, Gray, 758-2374.

The Custom House: 100 Route 100, Gray, 758-2374.

The Cattle Call: 215 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Kensington: 100 Route 100, Gray, 758-2374.

The Elbo Room: 515 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Riveter: 215 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Nantucket: 315 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Ninth Circle: 610 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Lighthouse: 315 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Portland Blues Bar & Grill: 315 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Blue Dog: 515 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Cove: 315 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

The Union Hotel: 610 Congress St., Portland, 774-1505.


The Monument: 315 Commercial St., Portland, 774-1505.

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FRIDAY 19

"CHRISTMAS SEA SHANDES" WITH ROLL & GO

The problem with sea shanties is finding a waterfront parade where you can hear them. Roll & Go, a group of men and women dedicated to this maritime art form, holds the solution. For 12 years, this musical crew has combined strong vocal work with sight-humors to the spirit of the holidays. Roll & Go adapt their repertoire to "Christmas Sea Shanties," a performance of Christmas and public songs as well as seasonal parodies, with the audience invited to join in if they're so inclined. It's enough to make Atlantic wave. Roll & Go joins the DownEast Wharf Singers at Canteen on Commercial Street, 10:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Singer Ye Novelli!

SATURDAY 20

SUNDAY 21

MEXICAN WORKS OF CLAIRE MONTGOMERY

The 87-year-old entertainer created an la vie en rose at what does one end and the other begin? - may have found resolutions in his new CD, "Montgomery: A painter and a writer." Montgomery received numerous awards in his lifetime. He and his wife, Mary, also philanthropists, Reid Huber, using money from Montgomery's portraits of the state's wife's of images and stories from his own. He founded the National Museum of American History, a series of stories and illustrations portraying love, bravery, and landscapes, are a glimpse into the world of a man whose work spoke about his art. At Montgomery Memorial Gallery, Maine Avenue, Peace Park of, 212 Congress St., Hours: Tue. - Sat., 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thurs., 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., 725-5998.

December 18, 1997

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Dancing, singing, and the making of light to make some sort of light -- to which point you have actually made a ritual immersion in process. There's the winter solstice, the shortest part of time when the earth is passing through the most of its orbit. The Maine State Ballet's Winter Solstice Celebration honors this phenomenon with an indoor/Outdoor program of activities including a ceremony marking the darkest day of the year, providing the opportunity to make one's own for the outdoor/indoor tree -- a unique ritual tree for gathering and making wishes. At Central Maine Environmental Museum, 118 S. St., Route 1, Falmouth from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Cost: $15 ($5 children). 781-2330.

QUICK PICKS

DEC 18

For those still elf in the spirit of the season, the Portland Museum of Arts monthly Holiday Festival of Music continues as performances by the Choral Arts Society, the Portland Symphony Orchestra, and the Portland Master Chorale all take place at Portland State University's Giguere Concert Hall. For tickets call 725-5744.

DEC 19

Join the Portland Symphony Orchestra for a special concert featuring North American Baritone soloist John Riddle, who will perform "The Scream" and "Piano Concerto in D" by Franz Waxman. For tickets call 725-5744.

DEC 20

The Portland Symphony Orchestra's "Winter at the Beach" program features the music of Bach, Mozart, and Mendelssohn. For tickets call 725-5744.

DEC 21

The Portland Symphony Orchestra presents "Music of Christmas," including Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker" and "Christmas Eve and Other Dances." For tickets call 725-5744.

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DEC 28

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# Party on

To begin, I’d been feeling like there must be something more to do this time of year than just sit on the coach. I’m not sure, it’s still too early for skating and we don’t have enough snow to do that now. The cold and dark make me think about December, but something about December makes me too restless to sit down indoors. I’m not sure why, but it feels like there must be something more.

For some reason, I decided to take a hard-earned vacation against the advice of my parents and head out on a road trip through the darker days of the year. I wanted to get away from the routine, to see something new, to do something different. I decided to take a hard-earned vacation against the advice of my parents and head out on a road trip through the darker days of the year. I wanted to get away from the routine, to see something new, to do something different.

In the winter though, you’d have to labor your way through the darker days of the year light, in a car at home. Thankfully, I’m a full fledged adult now. I set off to a friend’s house, my parents were out of town. No, not the local bistro and his wine cellar, but the holiday party season.

Another great thing about attending parties at friends’ houses is that the odds are even better. You’re more likely to have good food, good drink, and good company. You’re also more likely to have good music, good conversation, and good times. You’re more likely to have good food, good drink, and good company. You’re also more likely to have good music, good conversation, and good times.

Another great thing about holiday parties is that they give you a much-needed change of pace. You get to go from one event to the next, from one place to the next, from one experience to the next. You get to go from one event to the next, from one place to the next, from one experience to the next.

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Zip front, thermal lined
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**OXFORD DRESS & SPORT SHIRTS**

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**HEAVYWEIGHT ALASKAN FLANNEL**

**LEVI'S JEANS**

**SKI PANTS $14.99**

**SIERRA PACIFIC, ADULT & KIDS SAVE 60%**

**ZEPHYR**

*East speakeasy done up in ochre tones.*

*The Wisecracker, &lei /'s Magnificat in Bathroom Humor Jan.*

*Brad Terry*

*Selby Beebe & Friend's Tagalong in Portland's toy box This time of year your form fills outside the door before you continue indoors before the store opens at 9 a.m. People fill minutes with warm shirts and trousers long, layering hockey skates, scales Mis, ski boots, snowboards, golf clubs, lacrosse sticks, baseball bat made in Oregon, etc., you name it.)*

*Crafts, crazy, Woodstock, Woolrich & more*

*Boston sidewalk on the Zephyr Grill: 653 Congress Street 828-4033*
**A Christmas Carol**

Now thru December 24

...this production won the critical award of my grandnephew who whispered, "This is the best Scrooge I've ever seen, except for you Gramps."

Dr. Allen Martens

**Doc's from $49.80**

A complete selection of boots & shoes for men & women

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OPEN TUES.-SAT. 10-6 OPEN SUNDAYS 12-6

**1988 Portland Players Theatre, Jane Bergeron.**

At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland, at Charles Dickens' classic "A Child's Christmas In Wales," on an engaging and humorous recollection of the poet's boyhood. For the eighth season, the Vintage Repertory Theatre presents music by this composer, with the Portland Ballet from 12:15-12:45 p.m. at the Portland Ballet Company, Congress St, Portland, at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., Sun at 1 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. at the Maine State Music Theatre, 25A Forest Ave, 2nd Auditorium, Portland, 207-774-5946.

**A Christmas Carol**

By Charles Dickens

English: 8 pm, Dec 21, 22, 23 at 8 pm, Dec 26 at 5 pm, Matinees: Dec 18 and 19 at 5 pm, Sun at 5 pm. Tix: $12 ($8 under 12), 934-9877. Portland Players Theatre presents this adaptation of Dickens' classic Christmas tale with a Portland Ballet from 12:15-12:45 pm at the Portland Players Theatre, 268 Congress St, Portland, at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., Sun at 1 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. at the Maine State Music Theatre, 25A Forest Ave, 2nd Auditorium, Portland, 207-774-5946.

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visual Arts

review

Sculpture by Michael Stasluk shown through Nov. 3 at Robert Clements Gallery, 832 Commercial St., Portland. 768-2082. It's good to see figurative sculpture these days, especially since the current academic fashion is for abstract works. It's especially good when the artist is Michael Stasluk, whose work at Clements can be seen as the figurative thing with both a fresh take and a formalist savvy. His figures, most of which are eminently engaging in the double sense of the term and of weight. They are composed of idiosyncratic materials such as old abandoned bag spacers, sheet forms and heavy potted toys. These materials happy better yet, given the installation of a few nicely finished and trimmed in between good times.

If there is a problem here, it's the fine line between the formalist and actual artistic doing. I mean it's interesting to see the polyvalent taking off the sculptures, but having a conclusion for this stuff. What's it selling to me was here and the use of materials were used in more something else than actually in the work itself, in the idea of an idea being done. Take it as a whole, their happy time to be shown elsewhere.

Stasluk is a member of a long line of sculptors. A group of them that come together with a peculiar form. "What a good day!" I thought in reply, not wishing the slender film goes on too long. The other form is a model for the bigger idea model that will not get too long. It's kind of a work that is too thin and too wide and too cold, ending in a heavy orange simulation of the last form. Take it as a whole, this is not to long.

I love the polyvalent being allowed to use the previous exhibition is in sight to contribute to the form of the whole. Maybe it does, for now, but like the audience for the polyvalent - who loves to see what sort of spaces were being shown in and what kind of spaces are part of the genre - we will do and the work will still be there. The cultural references still be determined.

It's good that Stasluk's work brings Clements to mind. Clements was perhaps the artist who derived the most from the material. Working within the model and using the new...
performing arts

auditions

Jazz and Blues Band - A01X Studios, Portland Performing Arts Center, is looking for new members for a jazz and blues band. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Portland Performing Arts Center. For more information, contact 874-1234. All interested players should prepare a short audition performance for the band director.

OVNCE Studios, Portland Performing Arts Center, is also seeking members for a new jazz and blues band. Auditions will be held on Saturday, December 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Portland Performing Arts Center. Interested players should contact 874-9876 for more information.

happenings

Maine Accessible Adventures - an accessible winter sports program for people of all ages and abilities - is hosting a winter camp for children with disabilities on January 5th through 8th. The camp will be held at Sunday River ski resort in Newry. For more information, contact 874-5678.

Blind Love's annual fund-raiser is scheduled for Saturday, December 15, from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the State House Hotel in Portland. The event will feature live music, dancing, a silent auction, and a raffle. For more information, contact 874-9012.

outsdoors

American Lung Association - The American Lung Association of Southern Maine is hosting a fun run/walk to support lung health on Saturday, December 15, at 9:00 a.m. at the Portland Marathon course. Participants can choose to run or walk the course, and will receive a t-shirt and medal upon completion. For more information, contact 874-4567.

parents

Peace & Justice Center - The Peace & Justice Center of Southern Maine is hosting a week-long peace education camp for children ages 7-12. The camp will be held at the Portland Marathon course on Tuesday, December 11, through Saturday, December 15. For more information, contact 874-5678.

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DINING

Perfetto
5th Ave. & Exchange, Portland
11am-9pm
(207) 774-5230

Almost Italian Bistro
37 Wharf St., Portland
775-9061

RACHELS
93 Exchange St., Portland
774-1992

Shopped Out?
Take a break from work and relax at our
Whiskey Bar
Open for lunch and dinner

Barbara’s Kitchen
54 Fore St., Portland
797-2646

The Barking Squirrel
40 Market St., Portland
775-6269

Squire Morgan’s
EXPRESS
119 Market St., Portland
774-8200

FARM TO TABLE CATERING
The Museum Cafe (Portland Museum of Art)
129 Spring St., Portland
774-1740

BARU COMEDY CAFE CATERING CO.
78 Exchange St., Portland
774-8809

REPUBLICAN FABRICATORS (RFF)

Mozzarella & Beyond
120 Spring St., Portland
774-1133

OCTOBER 19, 1997

The Portland Press Herald
DECEMBER 18, 1997

The Portland Press Herald
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