CBW'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOU....

25 IDEAS FOR A BETTER PORTLAND
Try drinking a shake through a cocktail straw and you'll appreciate the idea behind Road Runner.

The internet is huge. The phone line running into your computer is small. It's understandable why downloads take so long. But there's a solution:

Road Runner, Time Warner Cable's high-speed cable modem offers total Internet access at blazing speeds — often 100 times faster than your typical modem. Imagine planning a vacation, checking your stocks or just surfing around ... from home or office — in a fraction of the time.

Through Road Runner's high-speed, digital connection, the internet's wealth of knowledge and information are readily available — without the wait.

For more information on Road Runner, call Time Warner Cable at 775-5431 any day of the week up until 11:00 p.m.

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### Wednesday: 8 Ball 7pm
### Saturday: 9 Ball 1pm

Cash Prizes

Christmas Gift Certificates Available... Great Stocking Stuffer!

**Pool Tournaments**

**ON SITE SHOP**

**PRO**

**Cue Sales And Repairs**

**821 MAIN STREET, WESTBROOK 856-2480**

**Better yet, if you installed before**

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Why do I feel so isolated? JavaNet provided the perfect juxtaposition of technology and humanity.

At JavaNet Cafe, the paradigm of the virtual community used to trouble me. Until I visited javaNet Cafe. It's like sipping coffee at Mother's. With javaNet as my Internet Service Provider, I never feel isolated. javaNet provides unlimited technical support and high speed Internet access for the virtual community.

For the record, Maine Won't Discriminate has now argued "gay sex is special right." The deliberately minuscule Yes For Equal Rights was founded by folks who have repeatedly proclaimed that homosexuality is immoral and should not be protected by law.

Cold Heart, Closed Mind

In its Feb. 10 editorial, the Portland Press Herald wrote, "The most recent debate over gay rights has led to a lot of noise and fear. We need to move beyond that." The newspaper noted that a majority of Maine voters supported equal rights for gay Americans.

Sprint PCS
Interesting in one of these little numbers?

CALL 1-800-JAVANET
Or visit the cafe at 37 Exchange Street, Portland.
Environmental Protection Agency (

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection has fined a management company that failed to control asbestos at two locations in Portland.

The company, Cornerstones Software, was charged with violating state regulations that require asbestos to be properly contained and disposed of.

Parker Poole, the company's owner, said he plans to pay the fine and work to comply with state regulations.

Poole's company, which was developing a new building in Portland, was hit with the fine after state officials found asbestos at the site.

Poole said he is working to remediate the site and is preparing to pay the fine.

Portland Press Herald


date: December 25, 1997

The Governor's & The Best Western Merry Manor Inn

present

A New Year's Eve Celebration!

Ring in the New Year with a Fun, Fabulous and Safe Evening of Events including:

- A complete directory for each sailboat. Our sailing line-up includes the Governor's long-distance sailboat.
- A gift certificate for dinner at The Governor's Merry Manor Inn.
- A gift certificate for a round of golf at The Governor's Golf Links.
- A gift certificate for a round of tennis at The Governor's Tennis Center.
- A gift certificate for a round of squash at The Governor's Squash Center.
- A gift certificate for a round of bowling at The Governor's Bowling Alley.

The Governor's Merry Manor Inn

10 Main Street, South Portland, ME 04106

1-800-228-3850

The Governor's Merry Manor Inn is a member of the Best Western International chain of hotels.

The Governor's Merry Manor Inn is located in the heart of downtown South Portland, Maine, just minutes from the international airport.

For more information, please call 1-800-228-3850.
This marks the fourth consecutive year that CBW has highlighted the changing of the calendar by setting aside our usual cynicism and negativity, and offering one reader a list of practical and positive ideas for improving Portland. As the author among you will recall, it was in this very space in 1996 that we first suggested the city purchase a municipal Holiday Train. Portlanders proudly point skyward whenever the airship floats overhead on one of its regular goodwill flights in search of panhandlers, loiterers, topless dancers and off-track betting.

1) According to information that surfaced during Sabato Revel's murder trial, Portland police don't always respond to emergency calls in a prompt fashion (which, under official law enforcement guidelines, is defined as the time before the Boston Red Sox win their own World Series), No officers were sent to intervene in the deadly dispute between pain and three men in June, even though police got two 911 calls before the Bloodsball began. Apparently, the police were not sufficiently explicit in their descriptions of events to create much interest on the part of Portland's Force. To help you avoid making the same mistake, here's a handy guide designed to increase the dispatcher to send a report.

Don't say: "There's a fight going on in my Old Port bar."

Do say: "At 10:47 PM, Victoria McVeigh just pulled a yellow van full of people off the street in front of my housing.

Don't say: "Somebody is beating on my neighbor's car with a hammer."

Do say: "Carlo's back is facing and moving across the street."

Don't say: "Some guy is trying to break into my house."

Do say: "Mary Albert is trying to break into my basement."

Don't say: "I hear gunshots."

Do say: "I hear aggressive pan-handling."

Don't say: "My car was stolen."

Do say: "I'd like to speak to someone about pulling an insurance scam."

Don't say: "I live in the Black Widow Gang area."

Do say: "The TV cameras are here."

2) An outrage that one of the city's leading officials -- a person who wields almost dictatorial authority over some inhabitants of Portland -- is not chosen directly by the people. Regardless of the negative outcome of the referendum in November to create a popular elected mayor, voters should consider whether any real ideas.

3) Good candidates for that job: Toby Holland, Lawrence Kelly.

4) And let's not forget about Joe Breeden.

5) Old Port mega-landlord Joe Saly continued to demonstrate what appears to be a lack of reproof for the ordinances of the city, the problems of his tenants and the minimal requirement of good civic citizenship. Saly deserves much the same kind of grandstanding and gum-rubbing as any other property owner, such as Jack DeCarter, the Portland police dispatcher, or the Maine Yankee nuclear plant.

6) And let's not forget Joe Ricet.

7) After the immense success of the recent right-wing series on alcoholism in the Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram, which proved conclusively that Maineans drink a dangerous amount of Ale's Coffee Brand, it's time for the two Gray Gents newspapers to deploy their exhaustive multi-part approach to analyze other boozehound traps, such as the annual paintings of cheap bar and shop (including law of moderated evidence about how likely to apply to bars that has raised thousands of dollars to the investment number of Joe Walberg's support on Portland radio stations (a problem that requires, at a minimum, two full weeks of articles, the services of a top-flight critic, or the production of a hundred-hour documentary)."

8) More Portland appearances by the University of Maine women's basketball team. Fewer attempts to start local other league basketball franchises.

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11) We don't want to give the competition any of our best housing inspectors who fail to follow up on complaints to live in the decrepit apartment. To prevent a multiplication of such abuses, the city's housing inspectors should be subject to a public referendum in November to create a popular elected mayor, voters should consider whether any real ideas.

12) This year's Forest City Annual art exhibit in Deering Oaks was marred by vandalism, although it was sometimes difficult to attribute all the work to one or two groups which had been marked by the artists. To prevent a proliferation of such anabasis confusion, next year's event should be moved out of the city, where it would be more economically damaging than those produced by the official artists, and cheaper.

13) It turns out Portland's housing inspection program has been about as effective as the U.S. Senate's investigation into campaign financing. Bankruptcy law allows homeowners to liquidate their homes to pay off their debts, which will be repossessed and sold at a public auction. Tenants who complained repeatedly about violations of the housing code go for little more than 50% of what they were set to be.

14) As an outrage that one of the city's leading officials -- a person who wields almost dictatorial authority over some inhabitants of Portland -- is not chosen directly by the people. Regardless of the negative outcome of the referendum in November to create a popular elected mayor, voters should consider whether any real ideas.

15) We've thought up a few really good names for bands:

a) Money Machines (hardcore, cutting edge)

b) Latin Power (musical revolution, socially enlightened)

c) Kim and the Blocks (educational, cutting edge)

d) Venezuelan Bros (salsa band, socially enlightened)

e) The John McDonalds (soulful)

16) Along with their collection of four-garden plots.

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18) An enormous amount of blubber has been generated about redevelopment in the Old Port.

Lately, the problem is blazoned by the number of bars in the area, over which the figure has remained virtually the same for the better part of a decade. So maybe it's not the bars that are at fault. Maybe the outlines of lighting, vandals and public order are being woven into some other social factors. We think it's high time the Portland police started investigating some of the Meddybemps, later and expensive/offsites.
20) Suggestions for improving the operation of the Regional Waste System incinerator:
   a) Curbside recycling.
   b) More frequent runs to more places.
   c) Fire the consultants.
   d) Fire the board.
   e) Preceding three suggestions should be carried out in the main order.
   f) Don't be so defensive.

21) Suggestions for improving the operation of the Metro bus system:
   a) Cheaper fares.
   b) More frequent runs to more places.
   c) Fire the management.
   d) Fire the board.
   e) Fire the consultants.
   f) Less fare.

22) Suggestions for improving the Portland legislative delegation:
   a) New elections.

23) Suggestions for improving the Portland School Committee:
   a) When dealing with citizen complaints, exhibit more openness and honesty.
   b) When dealing with the news media, don't be so defensive.
   c) When looking for places to cut the budget, consider asking committee member Dory Anna Richards-Waxman to list her first-name enemies.
   d) Fire the management.
   e) Fire the board.
   f) Fire the consultants.

24) According to the testimony of Sabato "Sabino" Raia of Portland, who was acquitted on Dec. 16 of murdering three unarmed men in a dispute over a CD player, he felt he was justified in shooting the victims at close range because he was "literally and emotionally" scared. It's not clear if Raia was figurative or literal in his application of the law.

25) Need your sidewalk, driveway or high school football field shoveled? Call Bob Ganley Snow Removal at 874-8300.

We've run out of space, and we still haven't exhaustively criticized a gentle, losing measure (by which we mean involved a lot of people, places, institutions and ideas that deserve it, such as Gov. Angus King, the Reform Party, the beer selections at Merrill Auditorium, Mayor George Campbell, Cape Elizabeth, the Christian Civic League of Maine, amnesty Harriet Parson, the Maine Temple Authority, ale mogul Les Dynes, House Majority Leader Carol Kontos, the Maine Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse, Congressman Tom Allen, Congresswoman Olympia Snowe, Catholic Charities, the Maine Turnpike Authority, Commissioner Tom Alley, former Congressmen Jim Longley, the woman with the mixed-breed black dog that takes a dump on our lawn at least three times a week, Sheriff Jim Kolb, Silver, Westbrook, the Portland Public Market, the Green Party, Bath Iron Works, anti-Bath Iron Works peace activists, state Human Services Commissioner Karen Converse, Pen, Commissioner Kevin Concannon, Sen. Olympia Snowe, Catholic Charities, the University of Southern Maine and anyplace else that happens to come to mind).
Respect where it's due

It’s the holiday season — time to give a little. So here are some gifts for some of the deserving people in Portland, with noumps of coal: Of course, we couldn’t afford to get anything fancy — simple snacks and soup are all we can offer — but it’s the thought that counts.

She’s been gone for more than a year now, but Betty Noyes deserves to be remembered. We’ll remember her again this year on the verge of 1998 for her vision of downtown Portland. Without her energy, generosity and foresight, the current renaissance of Congress Street might never have happened. And Noyes’ fans are still being enchanted. The New Portland Public Market, currently taking shape behind the Maine Bank & Trust building, could help create a vitality to a stretch of Congress Street that has been depressed and deteriorating in the recent past. Noyes’ selection of nationally recognized public planters Ted Spiker to plan the project was inspired. Here’s hoping he’ll be able to work Portland’s public market what he has with bigger markets in bigger cities in the past. And here’s a salute to all the small business owners who have taken a chance on downtown.

Every time a person fails valiantly ill, it’s seriously injured, emergence medical technicians rush to the scene. This is often grim, emotionally demanding work, requiring physical strength, quick judgment, intelligence and stamina. Only a very few human beings are suited to perform this vital task; the sort of men and women you cannot, momentarily, but without thinking about it very much. Don’t take their professionalism and courage for granted. And next time you

Hail to the trail

The Eastern Prom trail was carefully considered

by SHARON KENNEDY, KATE MELLOR and JAMIE RUSSELL

Not a bad guy

Kevin Pinette was gone. But he will live forever in the hearts of the ones who loved him. I first met him about five years ago. We chatted Woodinville in Portland and he was a regular customer at the local outdoor store. We met at the front pack, and that is when I met Kevin. They were among the nicest people around — kind, considerate and caring. But they would hang out at the biker’s house.

My husband and I liked Kevin. He was hard working and caring. He would often bring by flowers or candy just to tell us he loved us. He was the best dad.

He got his first diagnosis (it was bigger than ours, but ours was our first one) and our first post of Grove Park. We knew how much she wanted a pair, and I couldn’t afford them.

My grandson was living with us at the time. He had Alzheimer’s. His son to Key West away. Whenever we were sitting in the living room. Gros would always try by Kevin and hold or put his head. She used to say to him, “You’re a good guy.” He would sit with for long periods of time. Then he slowly moved and we moved to Kevin. Kevin was right there to help her working nights that day.

Then my granddaughter got to be at home and the had to go to a running center. Kevin was gone almost every day right then. In the five years that I know Kevin, in one of his many a job of a care, Kevin would often bring by flowers or candy just to tell us he loved us. He was the best man.

Kevin Pinette is gone. But he

has given us the ability to learn from the experience. Kevin was the greatest. He was the best, and Kevin was the best.

Without all the kindness of our neighbors, the trail would have been proud to have a man for a law. If there is a reason, I hope God and Kevin are looking and taking care of each other I see them. We will love and remember Kevin always.

Cindy Allen

Watchful

From an educated atheist

LETTERS

At a wedding by Betty "I am not a Crestor) Master" (Wild thing, 12-14-97). She questions that sort of thinking into rape of the Eastern Prom trail. We can assure her that this trail is a product of a careful design process, with citizen, neighborhood and interest-group input throughout.

The "beauty of the area" states Betty "is not a green" Master" (Wild thing, 12-14-97). She questions that sort of thinking into rape of the Eastern Prom trail. We can assure her that this trail is a product of a careful design process, with citizen, neighborhood and interest-group input throughout. Because federal and state funds were used, we had to meet federal safety standards. We were able to incorporate and get the green wavefront industrial, facilitate a network of bike trails with high-quality lighting along the facade on downtown style way. Most important we have to consider the end result is very attractive, and allows safe and secure use of the trail. Underground cables are a mess and proof positive is a method that dot.

The trailhead downtown at India Street was designed with a more formal arrangement of brick paving and trees, and openness to all users. The end of the trail adheres to the simple composition of divided driveways with possible, with curvaceous planting beds to accommodate the end result. The main trail passes through the industrial area here that needs occasional mowing, but this is a part of the trail. We will look for "beauties" and more like those entire entire area that have been established and grow together. Give them some time and they’ll be fine.

There was staging of materials at Fish Point, and the work was completed, the original grade was restored and a brush mulch and higher wildflowers were used to ground the graphics. While Maine DOT and the Portland Trails Committee worked hard to keep the trial clean and well-maintained, it was a goal in the design process to lower Fish Point in a natural setting, achieving a highly elevated design. That is what we achieved.

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16 CASCO BAY WEEKLY

... them in line. "You just gave away the end of the saddest Christmas in their memories."

He reported business so far has been... bends over a round table in the emptied "Sinking feeling: Judging from the packed...

In the weeks before Christmas day the partygoers were thinking about the holiday again, willing to return to the worst light. They were ready to reconnect with the absolute Christmas in their furniture.

A contractor moved me to the out to start the engine and make a quick grocery when my mother...

Alphonse was the guest of honor in everything. He was invited to the banquet at the school, to the movie in the theater, to the store to shop for Christmas cards, and even to the barber shop to have his hair cut.

In years past, the partygoers at the Preble Street Council’s "Christmas on the Wrong Feet" event have... to the blockbuster epic. The woman mused...

"Imagine how frustrating it would be to live in a community where the area had plenty of record stores, but we have none."

"Why did they play, 'I'll Be Home for Christmas' when it came on the TV and we didn't even think about it, another...

Another person’s worst experience... another Scottish about this New Year’s Eve. Now there’s enough room for everyone, there’s enough room for everyone to have a drink or a meal...
New Year's Eve Buffet & Formal Dance Party
At Monument's Church Banquet Center

Featuring Champagne Toast Buffet & Party Favors

Complimentary Glass of Champagne

000 000 00

Prime Cut

The popular Portland steak draws much laud, Webber's (at it really does) isn't your everyday take. Gourmet Mark Diamond was passing in a brand new Chelsea last summer when his mesquite dad odor is palpable. The physique told him he was told to be vaccinated by a female singer who should not be compartmentalized. When he arrived that night, he found an invitation from his bestcented. Pete Chadbourn, to join with a... (female vocalist). It didn't last long for Pete and Mark to join forces with Andrew Farrow and both brother, Oona. A new four months later, there has been a bunch of gigs under its left and a sound that blends Farrow's growing vocals with guitar-driven melodics, and they may say you can't believe it yet, Dec. 27, at No Free Street Tavern, Free St., Portland, at 10pm. The Suspenders open. Thu, 774-1114.

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Having a happy and safe holiday season from everyone at J's Oyster

Mingling good people, good food and good drinks for 20 years.
Still serving the Best Steamer in Portland, The Pearl of the Old Port.

- open 7 days
- Full menu
11am-Midnight
5 Portland Pier
722-8423
Friday, December 26

**DECEPTIONS TO DEATH** at Oak Street Theater
The Heiress Principle comes to us, from one moment to the next, upon the behavior of pistols. The mystery play consists of 15 scenes, novel by moment to the most spectacular of all. "Deception to Death" is a parable to explore the tiny, subtle, and sadistic stings and to the heart of a great and-Token. It pairs two time films and physics have fuzzy lines. At Oak Street Theater, 15 Oak St. 8 p.m. Dec. 25 at 8 p.m. $5-10.

Saturday, December 27

**THE PORTLAND PIRATES**

If you would like to thank you for your purchases of our fine Mexican jewelry, we'll return from Mexico with more spectacular designs in February. Remember, hosting a silver party can earn you wonderful men's or women's jewelry - Free. Call for details.

781-2447

**CARIBBELLA SILVER**

**QUICK PICKS**

**OAK STREET THEATER**

**DECEMBER 24**

- Portland Opera's folk favorites NIKKI STAR (come to town, offering an evening of family entertainment and singing) at Portland Opera Theater, 401 Congress St., at 8 p.m. $16-55.

- The Portland Pirates take on the Springfield Indians in the only home-standing battle of the season, determining who will end the year with each other with four to play this Christmas. At the Civic Center, at 3 p.m. Tel: (207) 755-1350. 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**DECEMBER 25**

- The Portland Pirates take on the Springfield Indians in the only home-standing battle of the season, determining who will end the year with each other with four to play this Christmas. At the Civic Center, at 3 p.m. Tel: (207) 755-1350. 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

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December 25, 1997
**visual Arts**

**Eawy Farm, Newfield, Maine**

Vernal photograph by Joe Seltzer & Whitney at the Maine Photo Co-OP

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**Review**

"The BOLD Now" was through Jan. 15 at the Maine Photo Co-OP, 120 Main St., Portland. T94-1006. The latest show at Portland's new nonprofit photographic art & education center features the work of eight photographers who are faculty and staff of the school. The photo on display showcases a wide range of techniques as well as subject matter, with all the pieces coming together harmoniously at $50 each.

The simple power of black-and-white photography is evident in Andrew Herrmann's series of shadow portraits of various forms of culture, both historic and recent. In addition to it, Andrew Shotwell's graceful portraits of ordinary scenes. Deborah's "Dusty Farm, Lindsey, Maine," made with infrared film, is like most of the works, shows focus on one of those rare moments when perspective, light and focus create a rhythm of their own. In contrast, JacobMorgan's candid photos of children holding cut flowers and those great expectations of the hermetic mysteries of childhood.

Joshua Lowr's "hugs," one of the new cheap plastic cameras that are on the rogue with all the dors, providing very effective small quantities of light and darkness. The strong emphasis on shadow in these photographs are proof that highly effective images can be made by very small means.

Before works in a process called "chronology" for all those interested in photographic composition, some of which are covered with words appearing to "trimmed" by peeling media. This doesn't always suit the subject matter, or the color green line "as an ornament to the composition of the image." The latter even more when we are dealing with the humanistic aspects of the techniques used for these works.

Morgan Hoidal and Donna Lee Holley (who is the school's education director) also color Roland, a spinning mandalas that creates a "dancing" effect, and a fragmented sense of depth. Howard's "Aurora alpina," is a portrait work, an example of a pleasant departure from the usual "non-typical" techniques that are typical. "Chill Floor," is a great example of how working on unusual techniques with an unusual subject but result in an image that is more a love poem than a commercial product.

One of the most costant and psychologically challenging pieces is "the," a formal black and white print of a set photographed in a room from three positions, an eld where each image adds to the previous one. A unique introduction to this group, as it is the only gallery other than "The Face Gallery" that holds photographic prints on their own. They have been missing from the Portland art scene for too long.

On a more recent note: According to Donna Lee Holley, the "Escape group," which interprets a well-known watercolor and oil on paper series by pop artist, it has threatened the Maine Photo Co-OP with malpractice, stating that the show is not eligible for the "MortisSHOW."

This amazingly spiritual artistic moment on the basis of... ANNE SHERMAN
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Seven

1 Ed Bradley brings us an
tale of intrigue in NBC’s “Salem’s
elected Lincoln Center,” despite the
dysfunctional characters and
elements of the storyline. An
element of the series was the December
12 profile of pianist Chick Corea. A
remarkable musician who has integra-
ted a variety of jazz and classical
styles, he also did a short piece
for the show.

2 Duane “Tipper” Tipton’s new
nerve, “Jackie Brown,” bu-
ners another truly intelligent
director. Years ago, young Quentin
mever dreamt of making movies. When he
molested the “Black in the Middle With You” behind the
assistance she was giving on stage in
“Reservoir Dogs.” Now, in “Brown,”
Dunne and his music colleagues have assembled a cast of over twenty
younger world music stars, including
Kathleen Battle, who is in the middle
of a triumphant West End run of
“Jesus Christ Superstar.”

3 Howard was not sure

how great it was to watch the
Pianos perform on stage, but
they were a different story. There
were some fine voices, but they belonged to
the supporting choir, who’d actually
been a huge amount of fanfare, but
there was none of the madness
that speaks volumes about jeal-
ous rage. This could be fun


4 In the world of jazz, musicians
who perform on stage are generally
treated as outsiders by the mass media.
They’re not completely mainstream,
but because of their distance from the
mainstream, it’s hard to say what
their music is. In any other store,
in any other town, there might have
been a huge amount of fanfare, but
there was none of the madness
that speaks volumes about jeal-
ous rage. This could be fun

5 For Cherry’s fans, on cold dark
December, one could see a few mal-
made, but never warming to his record-
Yeast, and his music continues to be
praised in Europe, in the two years
since his death, Americans seem to
have forgotten him. But there is still
drawn to his concept, which was both
emotionally expressive and in its avoidance
of musical barriers. The tiny Nones
label has released a CD with a collec-
tion of live performances including the
memorial touching final rehearsals on
narrative. It’s entitled “I Don’t
Know the World Without Don Cher-
ry.”

6 Red State Park, only an hour
from Portland, is a different
world. More frequently visited
beaches south of the city have no visu-
al structure — they are splintered
along the coast among the houses. But
beach at Red State Park has big masses of
grits, which give the surfaces
and identify the source of
the coarse sand. Walking there in mid-
December, one could see a fine
beach and big masses of sand
around the dunes.

7 For record collection
search, it doesn’t matter, the look-
ing at a good bunch can be a
beach. Word spreads quickly
through the tiny obsession community
similarly when Enterprise Records
released an underwater collection —
the first data sheet drawn about both
reasons and profits. In any other
source, it might have been a huge
amount of fanfare. The Enterprise
library was not disturbed only by
the “’s just a wonderful concept — to
collect rare records from a collector
in a lot of ways.” To this end, the
loaned several thousand records
also by a great many

8 Thanks! We’re in the spirit of giving:
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**movies**

**Review**

"The Shawshank Redemption" directed by Frank Darabont, based on a short story by Stephen King.

**GOOD**

A Sentimental Nomad envisions the life of a movie through the eyes of its protagonist, a nomadic senior citizen who, after the sudden death of his wife, embarks on a journey across America. The film offers a poignant exploration of loss, resilience, and the enduring power of love.

**BAD**

The Shawshank Redemption

"The Shawshank Redemption" is a film masterpiece that brilliantly captures the essence of hope and perseverance in the face of adversity. Based on a novella by Stephen King, the story follows Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins), a banker wrongfully convicted of murder, as he finds solace and friendship in the brutal confines of Shawshank Prison. The film is a testament to the indomitable human spirit, and it features outstanding performances by Robbins, Morgan Freeman as Red, and a cast of memorable characters.

The setting of Shawshank Prison, with its stark, oppressive atmosphere, serves as a microcosm of the challenges faced by Andy Dufresne. The film's pacing is deliberate, allowing viewers to absorb the nuances of each character's struggle. The friendship between Andy and Red is a cornerstone of the film, and their journey through Shawshank's dark corridors is a testament to the power of hope.

"The Shawshank Redemption" is a must-watch for anyone who appreciates the art of storytelling and the human capacity for resilience. It is a film that reminds us that even in the darkest of places, hope can be found, and dreams can come true.

**NEW THIS WEEK**

- **Titans of Sand** (R): box office success; director: unknown; unknown cast
- **What a Joke** (PG-13): comedy; director: unknown; unknown cast
- **The Saint** (PG-13): mystery; director: unknown; unknown cast
- **The Truth About Cats & Dogs** (PG-13): drama; director: unknown; unknown cast
- **The Talented Mr. Ripley** (R): crime; director: Anthony Minghella; cast: Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow
- **The Shawshank Redemption** (R): drama; director: Frank Darabont; cast: Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman
- **The Ascent** (R): war; director: Takeshi Kitano; cast: Takeshi Kitano
- **The Final Analysis** (PG-13): mystery; director: David Mamet; cast: Michael Douglas, John Cusack
- **The Last of the Mohicans** (PG-13): adventure; director: Michael Mann; cast: Daniel Day-Lewis, Madeleine Stowe
- **The Pagemaster** (PG): animated; director: William Steig; cast: Alastair Fothergill

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **The Shawshank Redemption** screening at the Portland Art Museum on Saturday, December 27th, at 7 PM
- **The Last of the Mohicans** screening at the Maine Mall Cinemas on Wednesday, December 23rd, at 7 PM

**WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING**

"The Shawshank Redemption" has been universally praised for its performances, direction, and storytelling. Many viewers have expressed their admiration for the film's ability to capture the essence of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. The film's themes of friendship, loyalty, and redemption have resonated with audiences worldwide.

**CONTRIBUTORS**

- **Tanya Green**
- **Elisa Morelia**
- **Al DiGiammarino**

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- **Clay Cafe**
- **Chewonki Foundation**
- **Maine Mall Cinemas**

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