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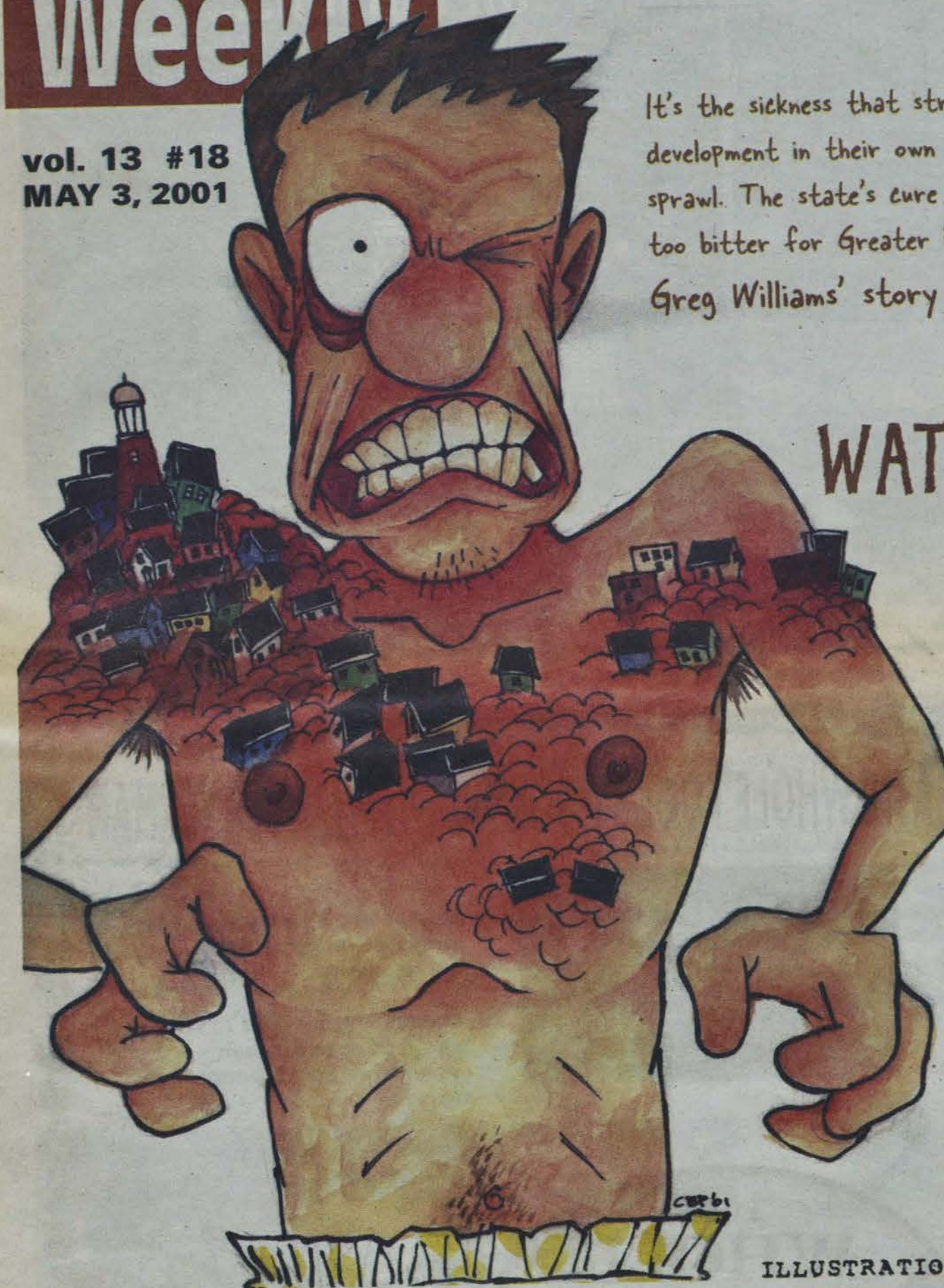
Casco Bay Weekly

greater portland's weekly journal of news, arts & opinion
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FREE

vol. 13 #18
MAY 3, 2001

It's the sickness that strikes when neighbors oppose development in their own backyard and end up encouraging sprawl. The state's cure for this condition appears to be too bitter for Greater Portland residents to swallow. Greg Williams' story starts on page 12



WATCH OUT, it's ...

Munjoy Hill DISEASE!

ILLUSTRATION/COREY PANDOLPH

Portland cop has ties to towing company	page 8
Portland cops crack down on performance art	page 10
Exposing circus elephants' so-called lives	page 20

National Nurses Week Special Recruitment Section SEE PAGE 38

3 MAY 2001

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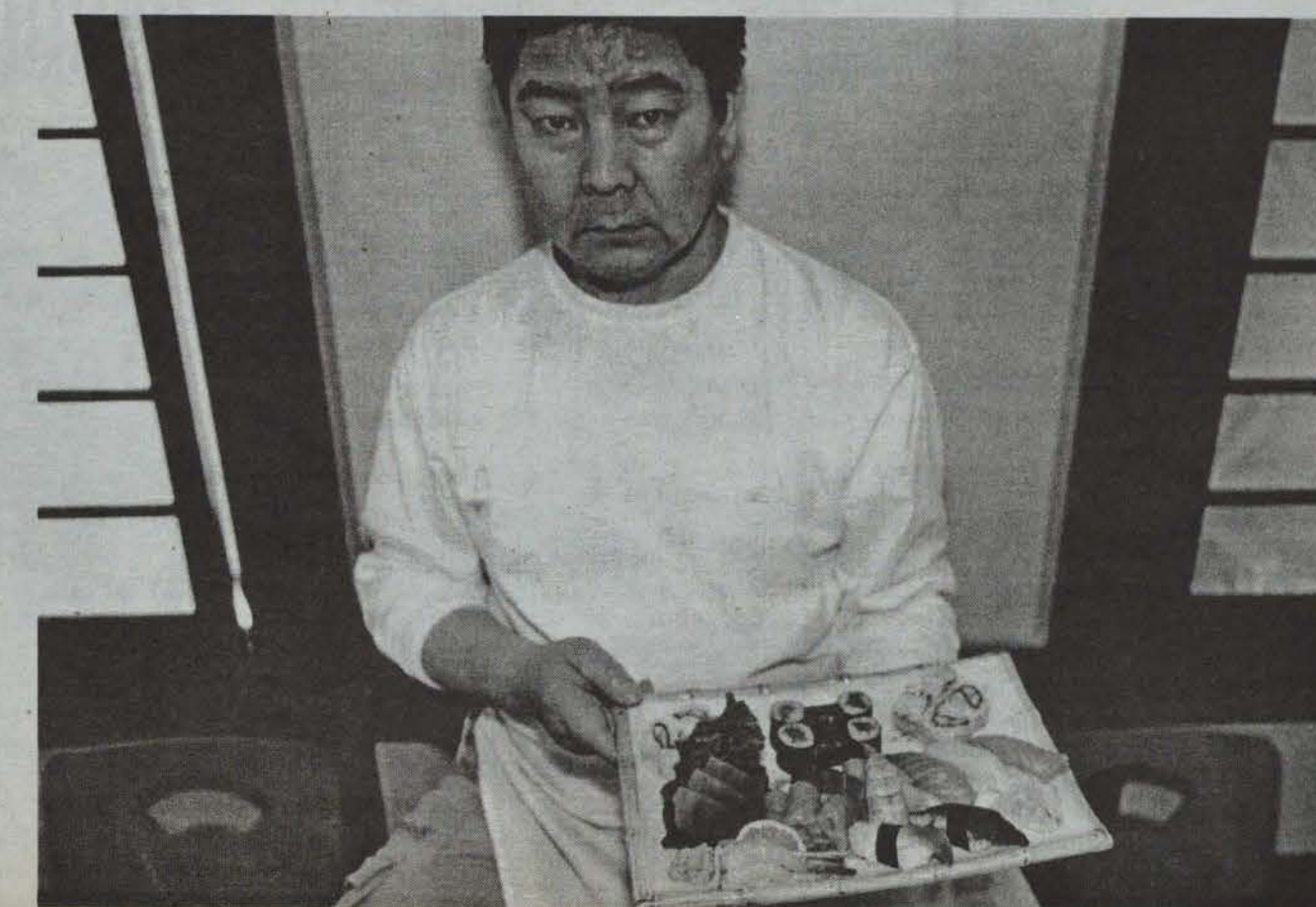
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TALK

A CONVERSATION WITH

MIKE YAMAMOTO



"Hibachi just a show, show
business, right? I don't do
show business."

The owner of Fuji Restaurant on Exchange Street in Portland, Mike Yamamoto, came to the United States 25 years ago from Osaka, Japan. He is a certified master chef in Japan. [Editor's note: It was originally understood this interview was to be with a hibachi chef.]

You're a hibachi chef?

Sushi chef. Anyway, you know Benihana? That's what we do downstairs. We have six tables. Japanese steak house is very popular in American big town. In Portland, [it's popular] only [with] my friends.

Do you like doing hibachi?

If I'm drunk.

Is there more respect in doing sushi than hibachi?

Yes, sushi is more traditional I can make very traditional, Japanese sushi. I know hibachi is Japanese steak house, but is not Japanese traditional food, it's American.

Hibachi steak, 40 years ago started. Because traditionally in Japan, you could not eat animals with four legs, like cow. If you do, you go to jail. Long time ago, shogun decide it was the law.

So what do you do most of the time?

Make sushi. Always I stuck here, all day, every day, never a day off, every day in here.

Do you ever get tired of making sushi?

No, no, it's stupid, only one thing, do every day. So many kinds, right? Thirty-one flavors, like ice cream. Tuna, white fish, salmon, yellow tail, smoked eel, shrimp, clam, mackerel, octopus, squid, crab meat, salmon eggs. Also many different kinds of vegetable.

Are you able to give your customers an authentic Japanese experience?

Not much. In Japan, in the sushi bar, when you order

sushi, we just [give] sushi and then ginger. We never give you extra horseradish, it's not very good manners. For example, you go into nice restaurant — Four Seasons, Ritz Carleton Hotel — and you order something. The food come out, you say 'Give me mustard! Give me ketchup!' Cannot say that.

Where else have you lived in America?

I owned restaurant in Hollywood, in Los Angeles. Five years ago, I come up here. I like it very much. People nice, four seasons. California, all season just the same, and many strange people.

Do you think people in Portland are strange?

I don't think so. That's why I came.

Interview by Victoria Gannon; photo by Michael Piveronas.

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May 4

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- News & Views**
Politics & other mistakes
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- Outta my way**
by Elizabeth Peavey
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A Portland police sergeant, who until recently had control over who could tow cars in the city, has a wife who owns a towing service that does business with the cops
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A writer-chick seeks evidence of circus elephant abuse
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A bad debt follows you

If you're a taxpayer (and if you're not, tell me how you managed to pull that off), you ought to be concerned about the state's policy for borrowing large sums of money. That's because this policy — to use a technical term employed by financial experts — bites the big one.

Gov. Angus King and legislators have come up with a scam to mooch all the cash they want for their pet projects merely by getting approval from, um, Gov. Angus King and legislators.

If that sounds like a scheme dreamed up by a loan shark, there's a good reason: It has a big fin on top and sharp teeth on the business end, designed to chew up your tax dollars on projects of dubious merit.

As with most sleazy deals, this one has an impressive name: the Maine Government Facilities Authority. The authority was created by the governor and Legislature in 1997 and given the power to issue revenue bonds. Until then, such bonds had been restricted by a little provision in the state Constitution requiring that, in most cases, before the government could borrow money, it had to win the support of two-thirds of the state House and Senate, as well as a majority of the voters.

Trouble is, those stupid voters had a tendency to reject bonds they felt were unnecessary. While the electorate had been generally supportive of borrowing money for roads, public lands, economic development and cleaning up hazardous waste sites, it had been unresponsive to some other proposals put forward by our leaders in Augusta. Among the bond issues rejected by the ignorant proles were repeated requests for money for new prisons (perhaps because voters suspected the state Department of Corrections was an incompetent bureaucracy that was unlikely to improve simply because it was authorized to operate larger and more complicated lockups).

It eventually dawned on our leaders that, so long as they were subjected to the unseemly demands of democracy, they were never going to win approval for their massive building projects. Clearly, some new method of raising cash was needed, one that didn't include any messy involvement with the masses.

It was then someone remembered how a similar problem had been solved back in 1984. In that all-but-forgotten era, Maine voters had fallen into the habit of repeatedly rejecting requests for millions of dollars in borrowing to build elaborate new courthouses (perhaps because the public realized all that's needed for a trial is an ordinary room furnished with tables, chairs, a gavel and a black robe borrowed from a member of a local church choir).

Employing a bit of legal legerdemain, the Legislature created the Maine Court Facilities Authority. This organization was allowed to borrow money to build courthouses, but unlike most public bond issues, those loans were not backed by the state's credit. Instead, they were repaid with cash from a process that has to be the envy of every entrepreneur starved for venture capital.

The state paid itself rent. The authority leased the new buildings to the courts, using those payments to cover the loans. Legal experts decided this transaction did not need voter approval because leases were not a form of long-term borrowing. In effect, they said the Constitution could be circumvented by allowing one government entity to serve as a sham landlord for another.

That sort of foolishness would never have withstood a court challenge, except for one tiny detail: The merits of the case would be decided by the people most inclined to favor new courthouses, namely judges.

In '97, King and legislative Democrats decided to expand and rename the authority to allow it to finance any kind of public building. Since then, Republican efforts to subject the phony bonds to public votes have been brushed aside. A lawsuit trying to stop the swindle went — surprise — nowhere. A bill currently being considered in Augusta would require a two-thirds vote in the Legislature before the authority could perpetrate further hoaxes, but it stands only the slimmest chance of becoming law.

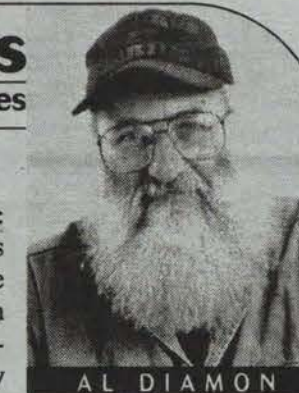
This expanded borrowing power enabled the state to sidestep the voter-approval requirement for constructing a new state prison in Warren (\$78 million in bonds). It also provided a simple way to renovate the State House and the adjacent State Office Building (nearly \$53 million in borrowing, much of it the result of cost overruns). In all, the authority has accumulated a debt of more than \$200 million plus interest, all of it without public approval — even though the public bears the cost.

"It's a more efficient way of using dollars," King's finance commissioner, Janet Waldron, told the *Lewiston Sun Journal*.

When a bureaucrat says "efficient," it's usually a euphemism for some kind of hustle.

Want credit? Send ideas for this column to ishmaelia@ewi.net, and I'll give you credit. Or write CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, and I'll be in your debt.

politics & other mistakes



AL DIAMOND

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Potty humors

You'd think after 20 months, I would finally be acclimated to having my office out of my home. I hate to complain (no I don't, I just think saying it makes me seem like a better person), but there's still one aspect to public workspaces I'll never get used to. But more on that in a minute.

First, I would like to congratulate myself on some of my achievements. Even though I still pine for the days when I could roll out of bed and spend the morning at my desk in my underthings, not giving so much as a thought to hygiene or grooming until it was time to go out for a coffee treat, I must say I've done a pretty good job adapting to working fully clothed and with brushed teeth. Now, I'm not claiming I always remember to comb my hair or that my outfits don't look like something a clown would wear to clean out his basement, but you would understand how much I've improved if you saw what I looked like before I left the house.

I also have to say that I've pretty much mastered the art of hallway/stairwell/elevator banter. Listening to me might give you the impression I have a degree in meteorology or that there is a salt mine or grindstone behind my office door by the way I bluster about the weather and all I have to do, but I've come to realize it matters not one whit what one says, so long as the conversational ball is kept up in the air.

Despite these achievements, there remains one aspect to communal working to which I cannot adjust. And that is shared bathrooms.

That I was spoiled as a child and still do not like to share is incidental. And that I have cootie issues is also only part of the picture. (A quick cootie-issue test: If, while at a restaurant, a potato chip falls off your plate and onto your table, do you: a. Eat it anyway. b. Put it back on your plate, but not eat it. c. Run screaming from the room? The answer is none of the above, because if you had true cootie issues, you'd know those chips were touched by someone's bare hands, and you would've already brushed them onto your dining companion's plate.)

The problem is, I feel restrooms bring out the worst in some of us. Therefore, I would like to offer up some handy W. C. guidelines:

First, let's get the obvious out of the way. Seat-sprinkling, non- (or inadequate) flushing and dropping the toilet paper roll in a puddle on the floor shall not be abided. You are setting yourself up for some powerful negative karma that will arrive in the form of a befitting punishment, say, stepping in dog doo. Understand, I am not wishing this upon you. You bring it on yourself.

Next, for those of you not clear on this, most ancient porcelain hand sinks are not equipped with garbage disposals. This means you should not dump the remainder of your smelly lunch into the basin and leave it there. Washing one's hands above a sinkful of corn chowder (as least I hope that was corn chowder) can result in some very sick stomach-making, which can lead to God-knows-what and compound the problem.

Ditto on the wastebasket. I know you don't want that leftover haggis stinking up your office, but that doesn't mean trotting it up to the wash-room's garbage is an acceptable solution. If you can't properly dispose of your oris, I suggest you save your malodorous foodstuffs for home consumption.

Some people get hysterical about others who don't wash their hands after using the loo. Personally, I couldn't care less, since I touch nothing in public bathrooms unless my hands are swaddled in paper towels. But non-hand-washing is always noticed by others, so best to splash a little water around, even if it's just for show.

Another thing. Bathrooms are not social nooks. Once you've done your business, quit the premises. Some of us have shy bladders and require cryptic silence. And, under no circumstances, should one try to conduct conversation with a stall neighbor, unless it is to request the passing of paper. (Seasoned users, however, know to always check the stock before entering a stall.)

The final problem is one that has plagued humanity since the advent of indoor plumbing. Who hasn't entered a public bathroom only to find a disgustingly clogged (is there any other kind?) john or the room filled with a stench that could peel the enamel off your teeth? You have no alternative but to turn on your heel and hie thee to another facility. Why? Because, should someone else enter the room or see you depart, you will be immediately pegged as the offending party. While sprinklers and roll-droppers and non-flushers are thoughtless, and non-hand-washers are gummy, a bomb-dropper will be labeled as such for life and no amount of "It wasn't me" protesting will ever clear your name.

I could go on, but my left elbow has just informed me there's going to be a nasty turn in the weather, and I need to take to the halls and start carping.

Complaining's not an easy job, but someone has to do it.

Elizabeth Peavey would prefer to wash her hands of this entire matter.

outta my way



ELIZABETH PEAVEY

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The term "domestic partners" sounds like the name of a cleaning service ("We do sex, but not windows"), but it's actually the latest flash point in Portland's fight for civil rights for gays and lesbians. On April 30, the City Council debated a domestic-partnership ordinance. It sets up a registry for unmarried couples of any gender combination, giving them the same municipal rights as their wedded counterparts. Which doesn't amount to all that much: They'll be treated as a family when applying for city services, will be able to visit each other in public health facilities and will have access to the school records of each other's kids. They'll also be able to put their partners on their health-care plan if they're city employees or work for city-funded, private day-care operations. All that may be expanded to school employees if the School Committee agrees. The only objection to the ordinance came from Councilor Jack Dawson, who's concerned because domestic partnerships could be terminated by either party. Dawson wants both partners to sign off before ending their relationship, a requirement even married people aren't subjected to. A final council vote on the ordinance is scheduled for May 21.

Friends of **Shayne Worcester**, the Portland filmmaker and bartender who was shot to death in San Francisco in 1999, finally got some good news. On April 24 and 25, three men were arrested and charged with Worcester's murder during a robbery. Tremaine Collier, Santese Edwards and Daniel Moring are being held without bail. Police said they suspected the three for some time, but were unable, until recently, to collect enough evidence to charge them.

If you've got a **complaint against a Portland police officer**, you can now fill out a form — available at libraries, City Hall, community policing centers and other locations — rather than having to go to the cop shop in person to make your case before an officer who might be pals with the one you're griping about. Of course, the new form still might end up in the hands of the offending cop's best bud. But it's a small step in the right direction. A bigger step, a citizen board to review complaints, is bogged down in a bureaucratic snafu over whether the police union can veto the idea.

The state is planning to open a nonprofit **methadone clinic** in Portland in 2002. Currently, the only such facility in the area is a for-profit clinic, Discovery House, in South Portland. That operation may soon have competition not only from the public sector, but also from a Chicago-based methadone dispenser, which is also considering a new operation here. Blame all that activity on the popularity of OxyContin, the prescription painkiller that's made opiate addiction easy for those too squeamish for needles.

— compiled by Al Diamon from news, reports, interviews and illegible handwriting on my prescriptions

news-o-rama

CITY

Towing the line?

A Portland police sergeant, who until recently had control over who could tow cars in the city, has a wife who owns a towing service that does business with the cops



Nappi's Towing in Portland is owned by Sandra Rizzo, wife of Portland Police Sgt. Sullivan Rizzo. PHOTO: JOHN MONROE

ALLEN DAMMANN

The appearance of conflict of interest is obscuring the view at the Portland Police Department.

Proprietors of local towing companies are complaining because Nappi Towing Inc., of Portland, is owned by Sandra Rizzo, wife of Sgt. Sullivan Rizzo, the police officer who, until recently, was in charge of approving towing companies for city use during parking bans and street cleaning. In addition, Rizzo worked as a driver for his wife until his superiors ordered him to stop.

"We have a hell of an issue with that," said Geno Bruzzie, owner of another towing company, Ocean Street Auto Repair, in South Portland. "I believe Nappi's should be off the towing list. It's a conflict of interest."

Police officials admitted they're uncomfortable with the situation, but insisted there's no violation of department rules or ethics.

"The officer calls the dispatcher," Deputy Chief William Ridge said of the standard procedure when a car must be towed. "The dispatcher opens a notebook he keeps and sends out whosoever's turn it is."

That notebook includes Nappi's. The

police department's attorney, Beth Poliquin, said there's no conflict between Sandra Rizzo's operation and her husband's policing duties. Questions arise, Poliquin said, only if it's discovered the sergeant is channeling business toward Nappi's or if he's employed by the towing company.

Sandra Rizzo bought Nappi's in June 2000. Until November of last year, Rizzo was a tow-truck driver for his wife's business. During that time, he was also the cop responsible for approving wreckers that wished to be used by the city.

"What happened at that point is, we checked on this, and we believed holding that position and working for a wrecking company was a conflict of interest," said Ridge. "We instructed Rizzo he could not work for a wrecker company that was on the city towing list."

The sergeant was also transferred to the position of day supervisor to remove any apparent influence he might have had over towing procedures.

As long as that remains the case, said Melvin Tucker, a project manager for the Maine Community Policing Institute in Augusta and the former chief of police of Tallahassee, Fla., there isn't anything unsavory about the situation.

"Nothing's wrong with [Sandra Rizzo] owning a business that works with a government agency," Tucker said. "Because a person takes on public employment, his spouse or her spouse should not be prohibited from owning a lawful business."

Tucker and Poliquin also dismissed the idea the relationship between Nappi's and the Portland police has the appearance, if not the reality, of being unethical. Sandra Rizzo refused to discuss the issue. Sgt. Rizzo agreed to talk, but balked at the suggestion it's improper for his wife to own a service that regularly receives business from the city.

"What would happen if I owned a restaurant, and the police wanted to eat there? I couldn't serve them?" said Sgt. Rizzo. "What everybody tries to do is, they try to start trouble with everybody else. There are rules and regulations."

"You can put this in bold letters: It's really nobody's business."

Many Portland drivers might disagree. There's a widespread belief in the city that relations between the wreckers and the cops are too cozy. But there are strict rules designed to keep things fair, particularly the regulation that requires towing companies to be called on a rotating basis in order to keep city business spread evenly among the operators.

That doesn't cut it with Bruzzie, even though Sgt. Rizzo isn't listed as an owner or officer of Nappi's in records filed with the city or state.

"Sgt. Rizzo is involved with the police department," he said, "and I don't care if his wife or son owns the business, he still owns it. He shouldn't be allowed to tow."

Dick Stewart, owner of Stewart's Towing in Portland, holds a similar opinion.

"It's not right," Stewart said. "It's not fair."

Going strictly by the numbers, however, it appears to be fair. Between July 2000 and April 2001, according to statistics from the police department, towing companies licensed by the city each received about the same number of calls for service. That would appear to eliminate any concerns over favoritism — except those figures don't paint the whole picture.

If, for example, you get into an automobile accident, police will ask if you have a preference for which towing company hauls away your vehicle. If you express no preference, the officer will contact the dispatcher to have the next available wrecker sent over. The name of that wrecker gets jotted down by the dispatcher in the event you get home and realize you've forgotten which company has your car.

But if you ask to have a specific towing company do the job, that information does not get recorded. The police assume you'll remember the name of the company you requested.

This leaves a gap just wide enough for abuse. In cases where the driver has no preference for a wrecker, the attending officer can radio the dispatcher and ask for a particular company. No written record would be kept of the transaction, although all such communications are recorded.

"If there's a problem," said Ridge, "that's where it exists."

Though, technically, no rules or ethical standards are being violated by Sgt. Rizzo and Nappi's, the situation doesn't make Ridge comfortable.

"Legally, I'm being told this is not a conflict," he said. "But it requires me to constantly monitor and look into what happens because of the appearance of it. And I don't mind saying it," he added.

SHERIFFS' INVESTIGATION

Case closed

Hancock County officer suspected of improper conduct in Portland resigns

Both the Cumberland County and Hancock County sheriff's offices have closed their investigation into an incident of alleged sexual harassment by a Hancock officer after the suspect resigned from the force.

As CBW reported ("Serving, protecting and offending," 4.26.01), a 23-year-old Portland woman claimed, in a complaint filed with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department, a uniformed officer in a police van made a crude sexual advance to her while she walked by the intersection of Forest and Park avenues in Portland on the night of April 5.

The woman (whose identity CBW is withholding for her own safety) was able to provide investigators with the van's license plate number and a physical description of the suspect. Based on that information, internal investigators in both departments were preparing to interview Michael Crowley, a part-time corrections officer.

According to Hancock County Sheriff Bill Clark, Crowley, who Clark said had only been employed there a few weeks, elected to resign rather than be interviewed in connection with the incident.

"Because [the woman's allegations] don't rise to the level of a criminal matter, only conduct unbecoming of an employee, we're unable to continue the investigation," Clark said. He also noted that should Crowley seek employment with another law-enforcement agency, "there's nothing in place to let another department know" he'd been a suspect.

"I'm glad it worked out this way," said the woman who filed the complaint, "but I don't feel any safer. That guy's still out there running around, and without a uniform, he doesn't feel half as scared or worried, because now his job isn't on the line."

"I see scuzbags drive around all the time in Portland," she continued. "It's not just the police. There are a lot of weird people out there in the city of Portland, and people need to be more cautious and aware of that."

CHRIS BUSBY

loose change

Statistically speaking, CBW's staff got tongue-tied collecting these numbers.

Number of eating establishments in Maine: about 6,600
Number of state Department of Human Services restaurant inspectors: 10 (down from 19 in 1991)
Number of restaurants the Department of Human Services has failed to inspect in the last two years: 902
Number not inspected for nine years or more: 61
Percentage of restaurants inspected in 2000 that failed: 7 (374)
Percentage that had critical violations likely to cause illness: 3 (163)
Number of uninspected restaurants that probably have critical violations: 2
Percentage likelihood we'll be thinking about that number next time we eat out: 100
(Thanks to the *Bangor Daily News* for most of the above numbers)

Maine's most densely populated municipalities (population/people per square mile):
Portland (64,249/3,029)
South Portland (23,324/1,944)
Pleasant Point Reservation (640/1,376)
Old Orchard Beach (8,856/1,188)
Waterville (15,605/1,148)
Lewiston (35,690/1,046)
Bath (9,266/1,016)
Westbrook (16,142/956)
Bangor (31,473/913)
Randolph (1,911/897)

"Mathematicians are like lovers," wrote Fontenelle. "Grant a mathematician the least principle, and he will draw from it a consequence which you must also grant him, and from this consequence another." Grant us a few numbers for this column by e-mailing editor1@maine.com or writing CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

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CITY

Dance without pants

Portland cops force performance artists on Congress Street to cover up



Obscenity is in the dusty window of the beholder: Artists in Harold Philbrook's performance piece dance in a Congress Street storefront. PHOTO / MICHAEL PVERONAS

ELIZABETH REILLY

An incident on the evening of April 16 between a group of performance artists and Portland police has the artists wondering where free expression ends and obscenity begins.

Local dancer Harold Philbrook and two fellow performers (Gabriel Klienwald and a dancer whose full name Philbrook did not know) were performing a piece Philbrook had created in the storefront window of the former Kinicky's pizzeria on Congress Street when they were interrupted by Portland Police Lt. Vernon Malloch and another officer.

According to Philbrook, Malloch was responding to citizen complaints the dancers were performing lewd acts in public, including bondage.

The scene in question involved one of the dancers, fully clothed, sauntering back and forth in the window space — apparently oblivious to passers-by — occasionally taking yellow adhesive notes from an arm reaching through a

hole in a wall and sticking them to the window.

The part of the performance that went over the line was only visible through a small television screen set in the former restaurant's doorway. Its fuzzy image, cast in red light, displayed the action occurring behind the wall, where two men, dressed in flesh-colored body suits, repeatedly wrapped each other in gauze and then stripped it off.

"When you watch the TV," Philbrook said, "it looks like we have no clothes on, but of course, that's not the case at all."

According to Philbrook, a police officer approached him during the performance and said he had received complaints. Philbrook agreed to put his pants on for the remainder of the performance after the officer informed him if he failed to do so, he would be charged with a violation of the city's obscenity ordinance.

Malloch refused to comment on the incident, but according to Deputy Chief William Ridge, Malloch never insisted the dancers put clothes on.

One of the dancers quit in the wake of the incident, and when Philbrook and his troupe performed the piece again on the night of April 28, they were all fully clothed.

"I don't think that keeping our pants on or taking them off compromises the integrity of the piece," Philbrook said, but added, "I'm really disappointed this happened. You can see more exposed just going to Deering Oaks or the beach. We're not breaking any laws."

According to Ridge, it's up to the responding police officer to decide whether the ordinance is being violated.

The obscenity ordinance applies to any material or performance that appeals to the prurient interest of the average person, applying contemporary community standards. "Taken as a whole," the ordinance reads, such a work must also lack "serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value."

A violation of the ordinance carries a fine of \$1,000 for the first offense, \$1,500 for the second offense and \$2,000 for the third offense.

Though Philbrook was willing to compromise for the first two performances, he said he has not yet decided whether he and his fellow performers will keep their pants on for the two future performances they have tentatively scheduled for early May. He said any such decision will depend on how the other dancers feel about the risk involved.

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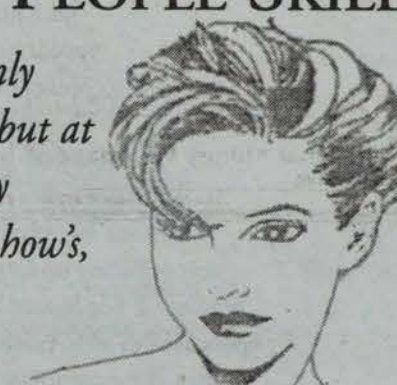
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Watch out, it's ...

It's the sickness that strikes when neighbors oppose development in their own backyard and end up encouraging sprawl. The state's cure for this condition appears to be too bitter for Greater Portland residents to swallow.



ILLUSTRATIONS/
COREY PANDOLPH

■ GREG WILLIAMS

A plague has infected Portland, and it's spreading like a nasty rash from its point of origin in the city's East End into neighborhoods in surrounding towns and beyond.

It's called Munjoy Hill disease. It may be incurable.

The symptoms of this illness include a stubborn refusal to allow residential development to take place within the neighborhood's borders and the appearance of activists willing to go to extreme lengths to prevent such new construction.

The state of Maine is trying to stop the spread of Munjoy Hill disease because it exacerbates the unhealthy effects of another serious affliction: sprawl. Like a slow-moving, insidious bacteria, sprawl infects suburban and rural communities, gobbling up large tracts of farmland and scenic open space and leaving a haphazard pattern of single-family homes (often interspersed with strip malls and big-box stores) in its wake.

Sprawl's symptoms include increased traffic and higher taxes, as local governments try to cover the costs of extending sewer lines and building bigger schools in response to growth.

Meanwhile, sprawl literally sucks the life out of urban communities like Portland as it lures people away from the city. Among other problems, the corresponding drop in students attending public schools triggers a reaction in Augusta, where, following the school funding formula, lawmakers cut state education aid, forcing the city to raise taxes to make up the difference. In addition, the traffic that spreads like capillaries into the surrounding suburbs coalesces around Portland, particularly on weekday mornings, to create a frustrating condition: clogged arterials.

One of the ways to cure sprawl is to encourage denser development in urban and suburban centers, but with Munjoy Hill disease ravaging Portland and its symptoms showing up in nearby suburbs, this medicine is proving ineffective.

Nevertheless, State Planning Office director Evan Richert has been touting this idea, traveling around Maine trying to sell the public on his "smart growth" initiatives, which encourage municipalities to create self-contained neighborhoods with a high-density mix of residential and commercial development. But to Munjoy Hill residents like Nancy Guimond, it sounds like Richert is selling snake oil.

Munjoy

"I think we're crammed enough up here," said Guimond, who lives on Waterville Street.

Guimond's apartment sits next door to a vacant lot slated to become a five-story condominium complex with parking for 13 vehicles.

She opposes the project on grounds it is out of character with the rest of the neighborhood, will create a parking dilemma and will result in the loss of her harbor view and ocean breezes. "We'll be sucking fumes," she said.

Guimond recognizes the conflict between the state's vision of denser urban living and her neighborhood's resistance to it, but in her opinion, if the city is going to have more housing, it should be someplace not quite so crowded.

"It's a funny clash. I think [state planners] should use a little more common sense," she said. "They want to have us living like rats in a maze. It's crazy."

Such attitudes make it tough for state planners to combat the spread of sprawl. Jaimey Caron, chair of the Portland Planning Board, said it's difficult to convince people to give up something personal for the betterment of the whole. In Caron's opinion, Munjoy Hill disease is "about getting your own way, not what's best for the overall community."

An outbreak of the illness recently flared up in Freeport, where residents forced the Town Council to reject a \$50,000 grant from the state intended to create a kind of "smart growth" village — a compact neighborhood in which housing, schools and services would all be within walking distance. When the disease strikes the suburbs, it makes rural communities more susceptible to sprawl.

Though sprawl hasn't hit his community as hard as it has towns closer to Portland, Raymond Town Manager Don Willard said it's coming. According to Willard, taxes in Raymond are already going up, and the town's rural character is in jeopardy. Willard knows the consequences of unheeded sprawl. The dairy farm in Scarborough he grew up on has since been subdivided into house lots.

The latest census data bear witness to a dramatic population shift. From 1990 to 2000, Raymond grew nearly 30 percent. Scarborough and Falmouth saw population increases of over 35 percent. But Portland, with its housing shortage and outbreaks of Munjoy Hill disease, had no growth at all, actually losing a fraction of a percent.

In Windham, where the population grew by over 14 percent in the last decade, town planner George Dycio said the town is struggling to meet the increased demand for services such as police, fire, roads and schools, and is raising taxes as a result.

Dycio said Portland can help reduce the burden on towns like his by attracting more people, but he realizes that isn't happening due to the city's lack of affordable housing.

Anthony Dater, a consultant for the Greater Portland Council of Governments, said many neighborhood activists, who consider themselves progressive on development issues, are against sprawl — that is, until the solution falls in their backyard. "It's ironic," he said, "but it conforms to human nature."

Dater believes long-term education on the benefits of denser housing is the only way to fight Munjoy Hill disease.

It won't be an easy treatment to administer.

"People have it ingrained in them that spreading out is good," Richert said. "It's not all bad, but it has its costs."

Why should we care?

Strains of Munjoy Hill disease have appeared all over Portland. Residents of neighborhoods like Rosemont, Oakdale and Riverton have feuded with developers and city officials over building projects and mixed-use zoning in recent years.

Deb Keenan lives in Riverton, Portland's fastest growing neighborhood. Keenan doesn't think increasing the density of an already crowded city is a good idea. Furthermore, she won-

Hill DISEASE!

dered why Portlanders should even be concerned about growth in other towns. "What do we care about sprawl?" she asked.

Keenan said sprawl is an issue for the lesser-developed and faster-growing rural and suburban areas. Though she likes the idea of stacking apartments on top of businesses in areas like the Old Port, Keenan does not support the smart-growth cure in the more residential parts of the city.

"Is smart growth smart?" she said. "My belief is that it's not."

Keenan questioned the feasibility of the Unity Village project now under construction in Portland's Bayside neighborhood, which will create 33 units of affordable apartments on one small block. "It's a postage stamp piece of land," she said. "I wondered how they would fit so much housing there."

To Keenan, denser living translates into fire hazards, overcrowding and loss of open space. She wondered why city dwellers like herself, who value green space and

People are against sprawl, but equally against density. What are you gonna do?"

— Tom Kane, Portland city councilor

wildlife as much as those living in the country, should have to give that up to make life better in the suburbs.

Portland Mayor Cheryl Leeman has disagreed with Keenan on many issues, but they share some common ground in their suspicions about smart growth. Leeman called the state's efforts to stem sprawl "idealistic," and said greater density is not so great for the city. As she sees it, Portland already has traffic and parking problems, and for denser housing to be acceptable, major changes in societal behavior would have to be made. "People like their space," she said. "I am not sure the public is ready" for denser development.

City Councilor Tom Kane supports attracting more people to Portland by creating more housing within city limits, but realizes that in neighborhoods like Munjoy Hill, residents already feel crowded. Kane thinks once people move to a neighborhood, they like to keep it the way it is. "People are against sprawl, but equally against density," he said. "What are you gonna do?"

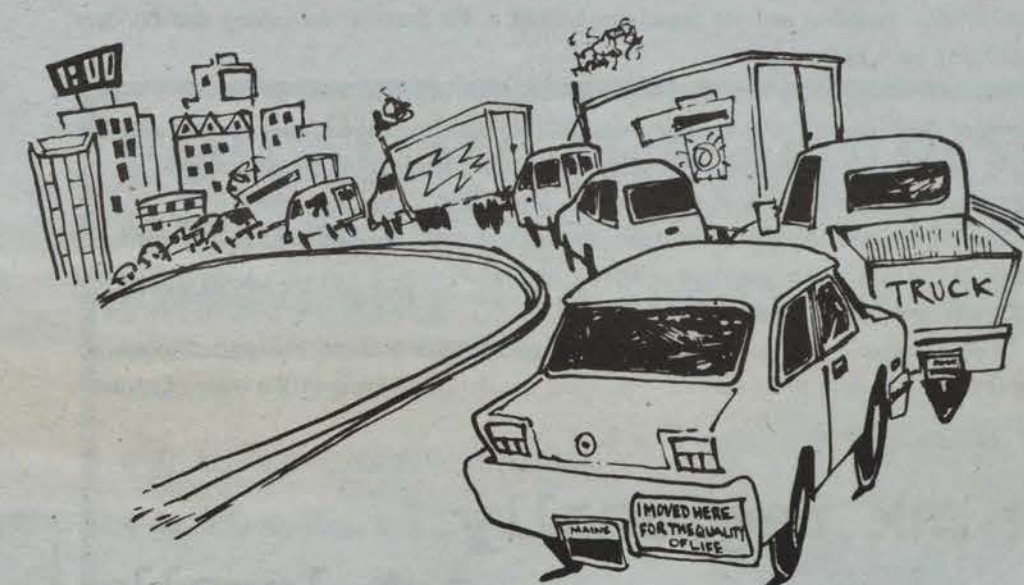
Big city life in Freeport

Munjoy Hill disease seems to be spread by people, who act as carriers of the disease when they move.

Sandy Campbell recently moved from Pownal — which, despite experiencing an 18 percent increase in population last decade, remains relatively rural — to West Freeport, a suburb of Portland she nevertheless refers to as "the city."

Her new apartment is near the rapidly developing area Freeport town planners had eyed for a smart-growth village — the dense, mixed-use project the state had offered Freeport grant money to develop, but which neighbors like Campbell opposed, ultimately forcing the town to turn down the cash. Campbell was against the project because of concerns about increased density and traffic, which predicted would cause a decline in her quality of life.

Though she understands the state's interest in creating affordable housing close to existing schools, stores and other services, Campbell couldn't help but feel "leery" about the development proposal. "People have a hard time dealing with change," she said. "People get angry because they're fearing the unknown These units are basically going to be in our backyards."



Regardless of the fears of residents, development will continue to take place. "We're not going to stop growing," said Freeport Town Councilor David Soley. "Doing nothing leads to uncontrolled growth."

In Soley's opinion, residents shouldn't oppose an idea without coming up with a better one. "We all need to chip in," he said, because sprawl "is a community-wide problem."

As Portland officials realized in the wake of the May 1 development referendum, residents need to be a part of the development process in order to accept changes in their neighborhoods.

Richard Berman, the developer of Unity Village, learned this the hard way when he tried to create a transportation/retail hub in Falmouth, near exit 10 of the Maine Turnpike, during the 1990s.

If developers don't design projects with the community's participation and support, they end up with "arrows in the ass," he said.

Town officials and residents subjected his plan to intense scrutiny, a process which ultimately resulted in a project that was less progressive than Berman envisioned. Gone from the final version was the housing (including units for elderly residents) and bus service to Portland.

"That is why developers don't do this shit," Berman said, referring to the arduous process he went through to get residents to accept his proposal. "I could have just done a Lowe's [big box store], but that makes me a sleazebag developer. I have to walk the talk."

Scarborough developers John and Elliott Chamberlain are trying to do just that, in hopes neighbors will approve of their plans for a smart-growth neighborhood in the town's Dunstan Corner area. They've held several public meetings on the project, including a day-long design workshop during which three teams of residents worked together to create visions of how the 150-acre lot should be developed.

The Chamberlains have built cookie-cutter subdivisions in the past, but want to try something different this time by including a variety of housing types, shops, a community center, biking trails

— David Soley, Freeport town councilor

and even a school in the development.

State planners like Richert are hoping their development will become Maine's first modern-day example of the cherished traditional neighborhood, similar to self-contained communities in Camden, Boothbay, Deering Center in Portland and Meetinghouse Hill in South Portland.

Ed Suslovic, a Portland real estate broker hired by the Chamberlains to head their neighborhood design project, said the state has been pushing the concept for the past four years, but, so far, has found no one to actually build such a neighborhood, let alone a community willing to accept it.

Mark Maroon, chair of the Scarborough Town Council, said he is intrigued by the Chamberlains' proposal and the principles behind it. He finds it "refreshing that builders are bringing back old ways."

But "refreshing" may not be enough. While town officials have, in Maroon's words, "embraced the concepts" of the Chamberlains' proposal, they haven't yet decided whether to take a crucial step to make the project feasible: suspending Scarborough's zoning requirement that sets a two-acre minimum for house lots in that area of town.

And there's still Munjoy Hill disease to contend with. Maroon said nearby residents have given the proposal a "cautious analysis," and noted there are always going to be those against any and all development.

"This example is a great test of what the state is talking about," he said. "No matter what the result is, [the proposal] is, in essence, the first litmus test of the issue of sprawl" in Maine.

Think regionally,
act locally

Attacking Munjoy Hill disease on a project-by-project basis can help make progressive, smart-growth development more palatable to wary neighbors, but many believe a more aggressive approach is necessary to deal effectively with sprawl. For state officials, that means working not just locally, but regionally to solve the problem. Historically, that's been a difficult, if not impossible, task.

"We don't take a regional view," Berman, the developer, said. "People need to see themselves as part of the whole, not as individuals. We're all in this together."

Mark Adelson, Portland's director of housing and neighborhood services, said regional planning among municipalities will be necessary to shape growth in Greater Portland and beyond. "Because there is no regional cooperation," he said, "it's kind of a free-for-all."

Most communities in the area are pushing for or have implemented growth limits, but such controls have the effect of forcing development into other, less-developed areas, thereby increasing sprawl. There is little indication that situation will be replaced by comprehensive planning anytime soon.

Windham's Dycio said regional zoning is a wonderful idea, but is unlikely, given many residents' wariness of any form of land control. And it may be too late. "It should've started in the 1940s or '50s," Dycio said. "It's hard to go back. I think there would be a revolt."

Dater of the Council of Governments agreed, saying planning for all of Greater Portland would be cheaper and more equitable, but it is not practical in Maine, where localism and individuality reign. Dater said the state has called on municipalities to implement regional planning, but has not pushed the issue because it's so "politically difficult." The Council of Governments does some regional planning, but focuses mainly on transportation issues.

Richard Farnsworth, a member of a 1998 state task force that studied centers of commercial activity and employment in Maine, is one of the few people who's optimistic about regional planning. As Farnsworth sees it, an effective regional governing body with representatives from each municipality makes sense.



"We don't take a regional view. People need to see themselves as part of the whole, not as individuals. We're all in this together."

— Richard Berman, developer

Given that Portland supports hospitals (which pay no property taxes) and serves as a cultural hub used by residents of surrounding towns, Farnsworth is in favor of a taxation system that would allow Portland to share the financial burden it shoulders by hosting such services. Leveling the tax burden across the region, Farnsworth said, would make moving to rural towns less financially enticing to city dwellers.

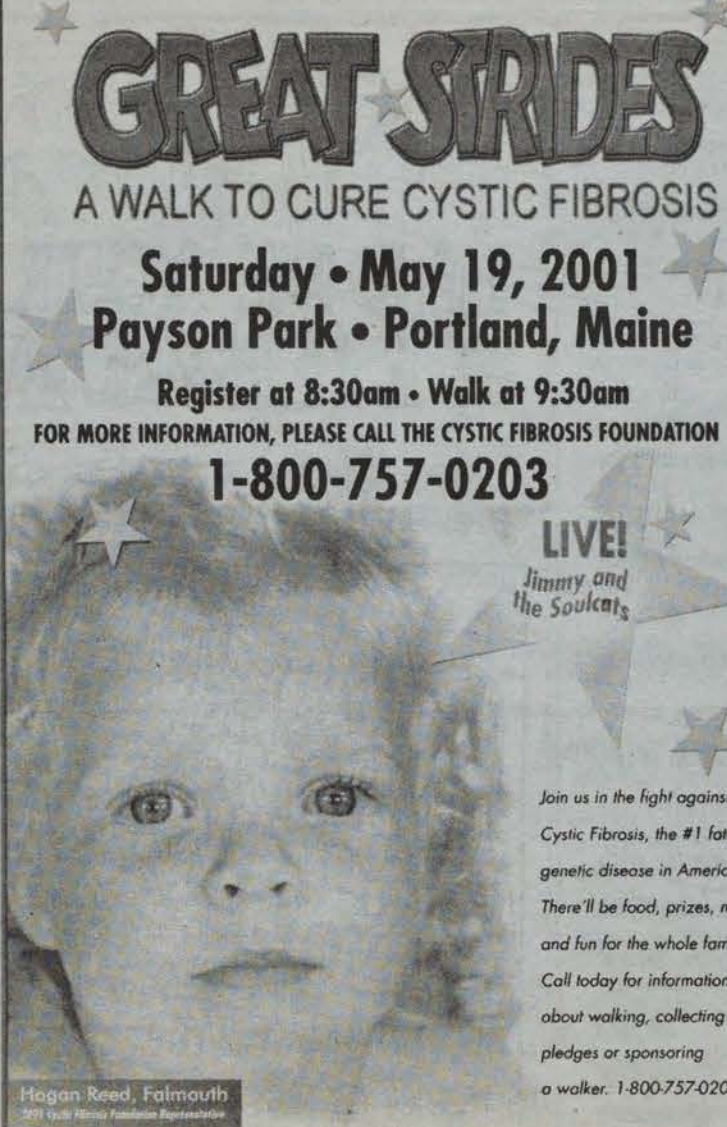
Not surprisingly, that idea isn't popular in less developed towns.

"That sounds like a bad idea," Willard, Raymond's town manager, said. "It would be a difficult idea to sell."

More difficult, apparently, than convincing urban residents to accept more development in their neighborhoods so those in the country can keep their fields and trees and brooks.

For those who fear sprawl, opposition to that idea isn't just wrong — it's sick. And the diagnosis is Munjoy Hill disease.

Greg Williams can be e-mailed at gwmaine@maine.rr.com.



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David Benoka Stein, Ryan, 1998, oil on canvas, 100 x 100 in.
Ingval Johnson, C&W View, 2000, oil on board, 50 x 70 in.
David Benoka Stein, Ryan, 1998, oil on canvas, 100 x 100 in.

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COMMENT

SO noted Public business

There may be nothing wrong with the fact a Portland Police Department sergeant's wife owns a towing company that does business with the cops (see City, "Towing the line?" page 8), but it would make us — and many other Portlanders suspicious of the cop-wrecker connection — considerably more comfortable with the arrangement if either the sergeant or his wife were forthcoming about it. Or, at the very least, less defensive.

Sandra Rizzo bought Nappi's Towing Inc. in June 2000. Her husband, Sgt. Sullivan Rizzo, drove one of the trucks until last

dispatcher's list is called for the job. Nappi's is on that list.

The dispatcher records the name of the company called for the job in this scenario. It's possible, however, for a driver to express no preference, but for an officer to nevertheless request a specific company. In that scenario, the dispatcher does not record which company got the job, though the cop-dispatcher conversation is recorded.

"If there's a problem," said Deputy Chief William Ridge, "that's where it exists."

Ridge handled all our inquiries into this matter with earnestness and candor, an attitude in marked contrast to the Rizzos' responses to us.

"You can put this in bold letters: It's really nobody's business," Sgt. Rizzo told us. Sandra Rizzo refused to discuss the situation at all.

It's entirely possible Sandra Rizzo has a genuine interest in running a wrecker business. Thus far, we have found no evidence Nappi's Towing has received any extra business from the police.

Still, given much of the public's mistrust of the cop-wrecker

arrangement, it's troubling the Rizzos feel it's "nobody's business."

In spite of Sgt. Rizzo's attempt to liken this arrangement to cops eating in a restaurant owned by another cop, this situation is not at all comparable. Where officers have lunch is their own business. Where they steer people in need of a tow is something else entirely, and that something is very much a public matter.

Sgt. Rizzo does not officially own and no longer works for Nappi's Towing, but it's not unreasonable for people to be suspicious of the fact his wife profits from business her company gets when her husband's co-workers call in a job.

The Rizzos' refusal to acknowledge or even discuss this potential problem can only lead to a loss of public confidence in the city's police. So long as we're paying Sgt. Rizzo's salary, he needs to understand this matter is everyone's business.

CHRIS BUSBY

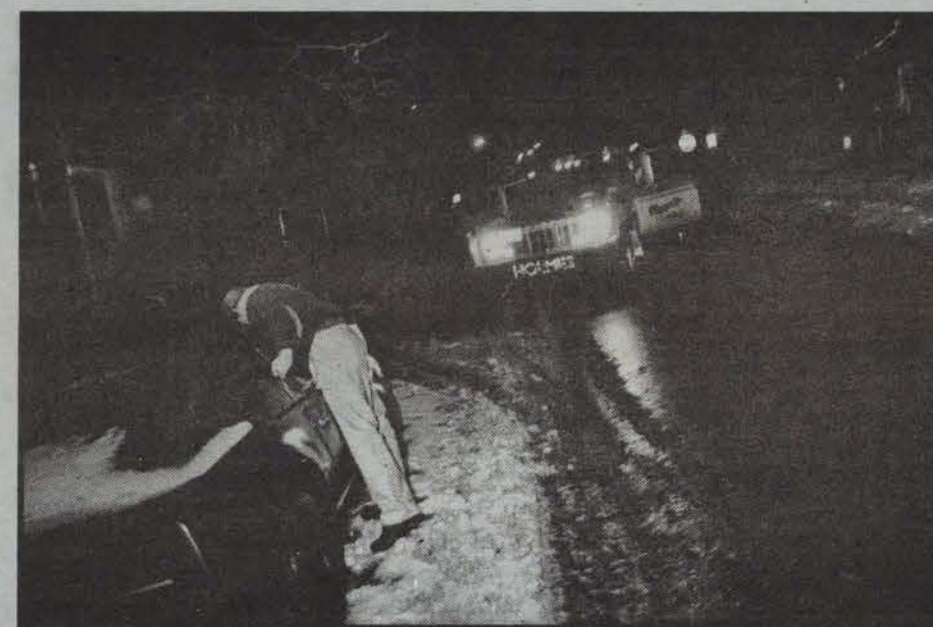


PHOTO / TONEE HARBERT

November. At the time, he was also the cop responsible for giving approval to tow companies that wanted to be on the list of wreckers the city calls during parking bans, street cleanings and other situations.

Rizzo stopped working for Nappi's after the department looked into the arrangement and decided it represented a conflict of interest. The department also transferred Rizzo out of his previous position in an effort to further avoid the appearance of conflict.

Nevertheless, the opportunity for abuse still exists.

When an officer responds to the scene of a car accident or assists someone whose vehicle needs a tow, the cop routinely asks whether the driver has a preference as to which wrecker company gets the job. If, as we suspect is most often the case, the citizen has no preference, the city's dispatcher is called and the next towing company due to be contacted on the

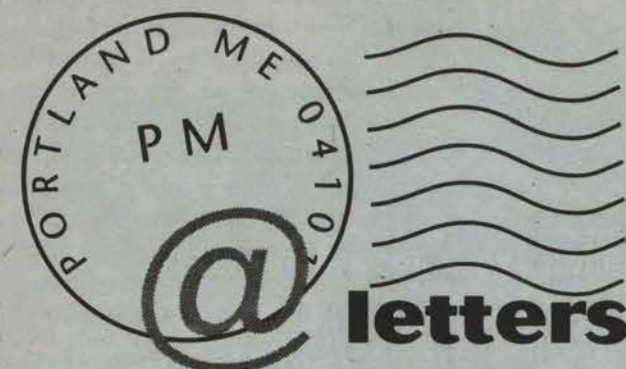
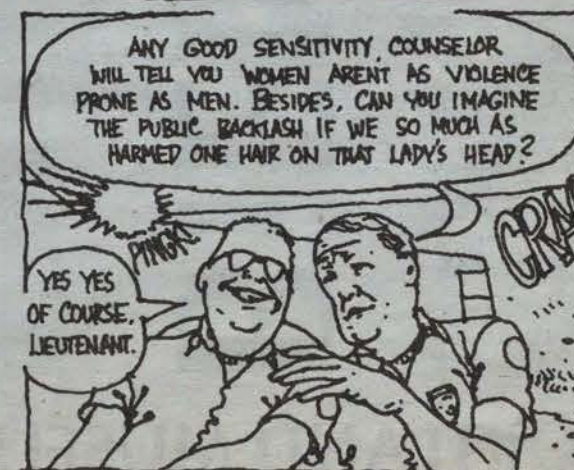
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Shame on you

Let me get this right: The *CBW* sends a reporter to Pinnacle Body Piercing Studio in Portland to entrap the owner/piercer into agreeing to do a genital piercing. Then the reporter informs the state that Richard Cutcliffe is willing to break the 1998 prohibition against such piercings (City, "Illegal holes," 4.26.01). Will your next big "expose" involve sending reporters to entrap women willing to have sex for money and then alerting the police and publishing their names?

Well, bravo, *CBW* — you have sunk to a new depth. I know Richard Cutcliffe well. He is an outstanding piercer. Last fall, he spoke to University of Southern Maine students on the ritual and spiritual significance of body piercings. As someone with several piercings, I well know how important it is to be in skilled, sober and spiritually aware hands. If I were to get another piercing, it would certainly be with Richard, if this doesn't cost him his livelihood. Shame, *CBW*. Shame.

Wendy Chapkis
Portland

Porn for the people

Let's face it. If Jenny Ruth Yasi wants to complain that women are being degraded because of the sexually provocative personal ads and "adult" sex advertisements being run both in print and on the Internet (Ear to the Pavement, 4.19.01), then she should stop looking at the ads and stop trying to send out her negative energy concerning corporate power structures like the *Portland Phoenix*, the *Portland Press Herald*, and *CBW*. They are healthy for an ailing economy. She should also stop running her tired mouth and stop using her power to silence voices which need to be heard.

She's not the only one trying to cut her teeth in a tight and limited market such as Portland, Maine, when it concerns getting people to read her little gossip paper [*Harbor Voices*] designed for Peaks Island residents primarily.

Boy, has this woman got a lot to learn. Expressing your sexuality is a healthy thing to do. There are lots of us who have not found our soul mates yet. We need this kind of entertainment.

You know, it's not just women who are being exploited these days. It's men, too, and the list goes on, but people who do this kind of work choose to put themselves in "that" kind of environment for a reason, and not all people who work in the "porn industry" do it because they were coerced into it. They do it because it provides a service to the world.

Also, Jenny needs to stop blaming people for wanting to express themselves these days, and if she wants her paper to start being read by people such as myself, I'd suggest putting some sexually suggestive artwork in the paper. Get a clue.

Let's face it, sex sells! It does not offend unless you choose to be offended. Get it?

Ashley Lenartson
Portland

Ignoring classical music

How can Chris Busby write a lead, investigative article on classical music in Portland (Cover story, "Taking the class out of classical," 4.19.01) without mentioning either the DaPonte String Quartet and its current cycle of the 16 Beethoven

quartets in six concerts over nine months or PCA Great Performances (except as co-founder of PortTix)?

The attendance at the DaPonte concerts has more than tripled since the cycle's beginning, last fall. PCA has been bringing the world's leading performers of classical music to Portland for 70 years. With his slapdash reporting, Busby manages to give the impression that classical music is limited to orchestras, operas and the occasional string quartet.

Not so. A large portion of the repertoire comprises works for solo instruments, often with piano accompaniment, as well as small groups of instruments, voices and choruses. Without PCA, hearing all such music live at the highest level of excellence would require regular travel to Boston or New York.

By sharply curtailing his investigation — for whatever reasons — Busby fails to offer any coherent explanation for the shrinking of classical music audiences. Two examples of important omissions:

The sad fact is that people still flock to performances by those very few musicians who have managed somehow to achieve a level of fame, usually by appearing on television talk shows or engaging in extramusical activities of some sort. One thinks of Isaac Stern, Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma and, of course, the so-called Three Tenors.

This fact is sad, because there are dozens of young performers today with enormous talent and dogged commitment whom the public does not go to hear because their names are never mentioned anywhere outside the annals of musicologists and the ranks of impresarios. Six young violinists could offer recitals of the highest quality in

Portland for the sum that must be paid for two hours of Stern or Perlman. But without the kiss of fame, all young violinists are likely to be ignored — unless they smuggle drugs, like one fiddler years ago, or act a little strange, like the violinist now known as Kennedy, formerly Nigel Kennedy. But anything for a speck of cachet.

Second, by failing even to discuss the impact the death of standard music education in the public schools has had on the pool of adults willing to test the sound waves at a classical concert, Busby also omits entirely the educational efforts of PCA through programs for public school teachers, master classes by some of the best musicians who come to Portland to play, and incentives to draw younger listeners inside the concert hall.

Indeed, such efforts may not be enough to counteract the enormous power exerted upon young people by the entertainment moguls, who laugh all the way to the bank at those of us who speak of music as art, as life-enhancing, cultural enrichment. As one of the heads of the Disney organization said to a mutual friend, "You've got to sew up the kids; everything else will follow."

He is, no doubt, a prophet for our times. But Busby's inadequate reporting is indicative of the problem. If the press fails even to mention, let alone interview, important local musical organizations, then the press contributes to and perpetuates the very phenomenon of ignorance and indifference that it claims to expose.

I am a member of the PCA committee that selects the artists who appear in concert each year, but I write as a disgruntled private citizen.

John David Ober
Cape Elizabeth

Praise for the Invasion

Thanks, Allen Dammann, for your recent "Invasion of the Media" column ("Losing another one," 4.26.01). I welcome your attacks on the disgraceful situation at the *Portland Press Herald*, especially regarding editor Jeannine Guttman.

Many of us in the Portland area care very deeply about what happens at the newspaper. Like it or not, the *Press Herald* holds a virtual monopoly on news reporting for the mainstream, especially among people who care enough to read — and vote. Every good editor driven out by a bad one means another big story that may not be told, another important issue deflected by mundane drivel.

Many of us who read the paper feel angry about what's happening there. Tyrants, in whatever guise, don't belong in the news-gathering business. On that note, here's a letter I submitted to the *PPH* a couple weeks ago. I never heard a word back from them, nor, to my knowledge, did it ever run. You don't have to guess why.

"Each week, I look forward with a combination of dread and cynical glee to what utterly trivial topic Jeannine Guttman will dream up for her Editor's Note. Last Sunday, she crossed the threshold from the banal into the surreal. As the public persona of the newspaper that fumbled the George W. Bush DUI conviction, one might expect her to get her own house in order and tackle issues of substance. Perhaps she could explain why several talented staff members have been fired or have resigned recently, or why current employees, who haven't had a raise in three years, spend their lunch hour picketing the building.

"No. What's on her mind? The front page. Isn't it wonderful that our newspaper has a front page? 'Front page is our best foot forward,' the headline reads.

"Suggestion: The best foot the paper could put forward ought to be aimed at her backside."

Matt Power
Cumberland

Bad judgment

At the April 17 University of Southern Maine forum on violence against women and the media, I found it frustrating to see [*CBW* publisher] Lael Morgan pontificating on journalism and the First Amendment while ignoring the topic of misogyny and saying nothing about the editorial choices of *CBW*. As convenient as it is for her and others to try and shift the discussion regarding the recent "Chef Al's Fowl" cartoons to the red-herring issue of censorship, this controversy is not about your right to publish anything, but about your judgment in doing so.

It is completely disingenuous for Morgan and others to imply that there's not a "line" in use when media outlets like yours choose what images to print, particularly when these images are not news items, but entertainment, opinion or art. Does anyone believe for a second that comparably horrific and gratuitous images of violence targeting a particular racial group, using hateful stereotypes and/or slurs against that group, would have made it past your editors and into a *CBW* "cartoon"? Would anyone (other than avowed bigots) be rushing to Shields' defense if his work had portrayed similarly blatant dehumanization and torture based on, say, religion, rather than on gender?

I see *CBW*'s choice to publish Shields' images as a particularly appalling example of a media double standard when it comes to images of violence against women as a class relative to other groups of people who also, by virtue of their very identity, have been (and continue to be) the subject of hatred, violence and systematic discrimination. Never mind what this double standard says about our "community" weekly; what does the tolerance of it say about our culture? Why does open season on women and their bodies never seem to end?

And as for those voices I've now heard crediting *CBW* and Shields for provoking a community dialogue on sexism, this strikes me as somewhat analogous to praising the Klan for "inspiring" discussions of racism.

Mary Murphy
Portland

What a bargain!

Let's see. The film "Snatch" premiered this past January; "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," "The House of Mirth,"

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letters

"Pollock," "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" and "The Emperor's New Groove" (be sure to catch it on video next week!) all opened December of last year. Plus don't forget "You Can Count on Me," which arrived before Thanksgiving. Boy, I sure am glad Nickelodeon tripled their admission price to show first-run films!

Lorenzo Raffa
Portland

[Editor's note: The following letters are edited versions of correspondence between R. Scott Réhart and Caitlin Hunter, also sent to CBW, responding to "Creamery Sours" (City, 4.19.01).]

A tough market

As the owner of a business in the Portland Public Market [El Mirador], I am always troubled when stories are published that affect the market. I am especially distressed when those stories come from people who attempt to paint themselves as a victim. Truth, however, and the vendors at the Portland Public Market are the real victims.

Caitlin Hunter had a day table at the market. For 90 percent of the days that the market was open during the year, she was not there. She was there one day a week for only nine months of the year. That kind of attendance does not support a market.

It appears that PPM management bent over backwards to cater to Mrs. Hunter, even though she had such a small presence at the market. She was given many perks not afforded other day-table vendors: She was allowed to keep her signage up; she was allowed to keep a refrigerator in the space; management gave her free rent when she complained; and [management] promoted her business on TV and in PPM newsletters, etc.

Mrs. Hunter should own her own failure at the market and stop blaming everyone else. Serious vendors would not allow a few minor hindrances to cause them to throw in the towel. A more productive path would have been to discuss her concerns with the management, not the media.

El Mirador began at the market as a day table. We worked very hard to create a business. We developed a customer following and earned positive responses to our products. We then moved across the market to the space which is now Oishii. Our customers followed us, and we expanded our product line. We were seriously disappointed when the market management advised us that

they had decided to rent that space to another vendor (Oishii). Public acceptance of our product, however, led us to the decision to become full-time vendors. We were able to discuss our plans at length with management, and they identified several other possible spaces. All had their issues in terms of meeting our specific needs. Nonetheless, PPM management remained supportive, and we were able to select a space and construct our stall. It took us almost seven months to reopen.

My point is, it was not an easy road. However, we were given the opportunity to test a product and develop a business. We accepted the responsibility and decision-making necessary to get it off the ground. We didn't always agree with management, but we were able to negotiate resolutions to our problems. We are now a full-time, independent vendor at the market. We were able to achieve that because of the support of the PPM management. They didn't give us everything we wanted, but they gave us what we needed to open our business.

R. Scott Réhart
Portland

Hunter responds

My intention was not to offend Mr. Réhart or any other vendor at the market. That Mr. Réhart's business is doing well serves to illustrate my point exactly: Customers are no longer coming to the market for food fresh from the Maine producer, they are coming for the wonderful array of prepared international food.

It makes no difference WHY we choose to no longer attend — there are still very few or no day tables left at the market. We were the ones who lasted the longest and with the most commitment. If it is such a successful program, where are the rest of them? I also mourn the loss of the day table as an integral part of the market.


My point was simply that the market shouldn't promote itself as a place to buy things directly from the producer, in so many locations, the producer is no longer there.

We may have been a small business, attending but one day a week for over two years (we only took a break this past winter, not the previous two), but I felt that gave me a unique kind of perspective in observing the many gradual changes that took place at the market and the gradual shift in focus. I was pleasantly surprised that we did so much business when we came back after our break. And being a small business, it no longer made sense to try to maintain a regular presence.

We certainly did discuss our problems with the management when we were moved so abruptly last summer. Apparently, their memory was short.

Good luck in the market.


Caitlin Hunter
Appleton

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Mixed message. Never mind the "for lease" signs in the window of the **Keystone Theatre Cafe** on Congress Street in Portland. The business is for sale. The asking price is \$155,000, not including real estate, according to co-owner Jim Flanagan.

Flanagan said he and partner Bill Allen decided to sell the theater on April 30. Flanagan said the decision was not the result of financial problems.

"We're just tired," he said. "We built it up. Now it's time to move on."

Flanagan wouldn't comment on potential buyers, other than to say he has had a couple of nibbles.

As for the for-lease signs, Flanagan said they refer to vacant spaces above and below the theater. He said the theater has been trying, unsuccessfully, to lease the spaces, which he admits need a lot of work, for the past five years.

"I'm really open to what anyone wants to do," he said. "It's dead space."

► Aunt Sally's place. On May 4, the Salvation Army celebrates the grand opening of **the Well**, a chem-free nightclub at 369 Forest Ave. in Portland (a location headbangers might remember as the home of the short-lived bar, the Rock).

"This came about a year and a half ago," said Major James Guest of the Salvation Army. "A bunch of young adults in the Salvation Army were saying there wasn't a whole lot to do in Portland for people in the 20 to 35 range who want to listen to music in an environment where there's no alcohol or tobacco. They came up with an idea: 'Why can't we, under the sponsorship of the Salvation Army, open up a coffee house/music club for the Portland community?'"

Recent ads have billed the nightclub as a "relaxing, social atmosphere for the 20-30 crowd." But with no alcohol and doors staying open until 3 a.m. on Saturday nights, the place stands a better chance of attracting 14- to 18-year-olds.

Regardless, Guest isn't worried the Well will suffer the same police scrutiny as other after-hour hangouts like the now-defunct Thirsty Dog Tavern and Better End, both of which had their early-morning dances shut down by the cops earlier this year.

"We met with Chief Mikel Chitwood about three weeks ago to let him know what we're attempting to do," said Guest, "and he put us in contact with one of his captains who came by. The director walked him through the location and told him what we're about."

► World cafe. Casco Bay Books is taking over the anemic little cafe at the **Center for Cultural Exchange** in Portland's Longfellow Square.

According to Casco Bay owner Mark High, the new operation will mimic his bookstore-cafe on Middle Street by featuring not only coffee and baked goods, but also a range of books and periodicals, many of them reflecting the culture of the center's current show, so the audience will be able to check out a selection of reading material from the artists' homelands.

High expects the new cafe to open by mid-May.

—items by Greg Williams, Allen Dammann and Elizabeth Reilly

Arts, Entertainment, Weirdness

EDGE

The revenge of Babar

A writer/activist seeks evidence of circus elephant abuse.

► CHRIS BARRY

We were hunting for elephants — that is, on their behalf.

The Kora Shrine Circus was back in Portland during school vacation week in April for its annual series of performances at the Cumberland County Civic Center.

My hunting partner, Sandy (not her real name), is a 30-something animal-rights activist who works in the animal-health field (given her somewhat controversial double life, she requested anonymity). Earlier this year, she helped lobby for the passage of a bill to ban elephant displays and rides in Maine.

The proposal passed in the House, but was defeated in the Senate thanks in large part to intense lobbying by the circus industry (although a weakened version merely requiring vet checks and better record-keeping was still alive as *CBW* went to press). The activists plan to reintroduce the ban in future sessions, and Sandy wanted hard evidence the beautiful animals were being mistreated, so she came to me for help and we went to the circus together.

It was obvious the circus people were going on the offensive, trying to put a positive spin on the captive lives of the formerly wild animals. The plight of the tigers — incarcerated in small cages and forced to perform stupid tricks — was especially disheartening. The tiger trainer repeatedly told the crowd the glorious cats were part of her family. She insisted they enjoyed leaping through rings of fire.

I didn't recall this sort of pandering at the circuses of my youth, and wondered if it had anything to do with the two-dozen protesters, Sandy's comrades, on the sidewalk outside the Civic Center.

Perhaps the most manipulative display of spin was saved for the end of the night. The ringmaster explained the proposed ban on elephants and the bill's defeat in the Legislature. He assured the audience the elephants were well cared for, then paused for effect before their big intro.

"For the foreseeable future at least," he intoned, "the children of Maine will still have the opportunity to see the majestic elephant!" On cue, the band broke into song and three of the most pathetic-looking pachyderms limped into the arena. The sad trio, scared and probably scared, performed for 10 minutes. Two of the elephants went through the tradi-



Babar's messages to the elephant masters inside the circus trailer.
PHOTO: CHRIS BARRY

tional tricks of the trade, including rising on hind legs and arching their trunk. But the third elephant — the smallest one, the one who limped most visibly — just stood by watching.

I looked at Sandy. Her hands were clasped over her mouth. The response of the other 3,000 or so humans in the arena was embarrassing. Their cheers were excruciatingly loud.

After the show, we went to the elephant trailer in the parking lot across the street. We watched the trio climb inside their home-on-wheels to await the next performance, 15 hours later.

The next day, Sandy informed me she'd had a death in the family and wouldn't be able to attend that night's show, but I was coming back and was determined to get inside that trailer.

I started casing the scene in the early afternoon, and spent a half hour talking to the elephant handlers, a husband-and-wife team in their 50s. They obviously answer the same questions over and over.

They told me that Cora, an Asian elephant and the largest of the three, is over 40. The two smaller elephants, Africans named Linda and Shannon, are in their late teens. Linda was the lame one. The wife explained her ailment as some sort of degenerative joint disease she developed under their care for which she allegedly undergoes treatment. (The U.S. Department of Agriculture cited the husband, William Morris, last November for failing to properly treat Linda's ailments, which also include angular limb deformities.)

The elephants spend half the year on the road. One month is spent in Maine with the Kora Shrine Circus and the other five in tour-

ing fairs in the Midwest. The rest of the year, they live in Florida on an eight-acre farm.

I asked the wife if they had a pond or lake there in which to frolic and bathe.

"No," she answered. "Where we live, if you have standing water, you get lots of mosquitoes."

The husband, who'd been applying poster paint to Cora's feet so she'd appear to have toenails, joined the conversation. He claimed their elephants would have died in the wild had humans not rescued them after their mothers had perished.

The elephants apparently enjoy the lemon-cream cookies the wife gives them as treats, and seem to have gotten used to the smoke coming from the couple's ever-present cigarettes.

It was time for the matinee performance. A small crowd gathered as the animals left the trailer. Cora is so big she had to squeeze through the trailer door. (I later measured this doorway — it's 52 inches wide.)

I touched her as she walked by — her skin was coarse and wrinkled — and felt enormous pity for her and the others as they walked toward the Civic Center clad in sequined collars and harnesses.

From research I'd done through sources such as the Web site elephants.com, I knew savage beatings are required to reduce the mighty elephant into a willing performer. Even then, some elephants rise up in anger against their masters. There have been dozens of documented rampages by captive elephants in the last 10 years, resulting in almost 50 human deaths worldwide.

I returned that night, knowing at 9:15 the trainers would bring the elephants into the circus. They would be gone for less than 15 minutes. I hid in the shadows, hoping the security guards wouldn't be keeping an eye on the empty trailer.

Once the elephants were inside the Civic Center, I made my move. There were people milling around the parking lot, but I acted like I had a reason to be there (which, of course, I did) and climbed into the trailer through its open door.

Inside, it was chilly and pitch black. Some hay was strewn on the floor. There were seven tiny windows, approximately 1-foot tall and 6-inches wide. One window was open a crack,

the rest were shut tight.

The husband had told me the trailer was 50 feet long. That may be true, but according to my measuring tape, the elephants' actual living space is only about 29 feet. The rest of the trailer is wheel wells and storage compartments.

There are small holes in the floor at each corner of the trailer, apparently drains for elephant urine. The space is uninsulated and unheated. The temperature dropped below freezing at one point during the four days the circus was in town.

I took photographs and tried to get a mental picture of how crowded the trailer must be with all three elephants inside. Then I thought of them traveling thousands of miles of bumpy roads, year after year.

It was time to leave. Earlier that day, I'd printed six copies of a message I had for the elephant couple. It read: "Babar, king of the elephants, says to release his friends or be

haunted forever." I scattered the papers on the floor and climbed back out.

The next night, I met Sandy and a few other supporters of the ban for drinks. I showed them my pictures and told them the story. They thought Babar's message was funny.

That afternoon, the husband had called one of the protesters on the phone. He was angry. He claimed someone had broken into his trailer and left behind a bunch of death threats. He also said he'd seen the getaway vehicle: a black SUV with vanity plates.

The protester told him the truth: His people had nothing to do with it.

The actual getaway vehicle was a most unimpressive pair of size 11½ blue Chuck Taylor sneakers. I find it ironic he should interpret a message from a children's-book elephant as a death threat, but I'm glad he's scared.

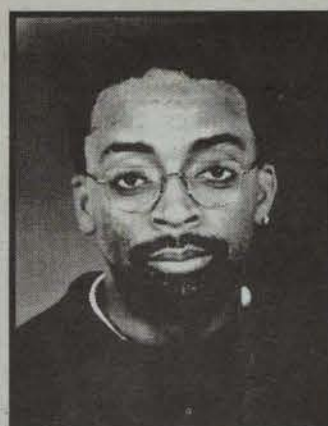
He deserves to experience fear.

BLACK LIKE LEE

On blackface and race

Soak three pieces of cork in alcohol. Ignite. Crush the burned remains into a powder and slowly add water, stirring until a thick paste develops. Apply to face and neck.

If you have any more questions about blackface, the racist technique of wearing dark makeup in order to "resemble" African-Americans, you'll have to pose them to filmmaker Spike Lee yourself. The controversial director shows up at Bowdoin College in Brunswick on May 7 to discuss his 2000 movie, "Bamboozled," an outrageous send-up of commercial entertainment and marketable bigotry.



No, fool, this skin tone doesn't wash off: filmmaker Spike Lee.

"I saw 'Bamboozled' and was really interested in looking at African-Americans who use stereotypical imagery in their artwork," said 21-year-old NeEddra James, a senior at Bowdoin. As part of her independent study in the school's art history department, James is researching caricatures of blacks from both this century and the previous one. Think Aunt Jemima or "Amos 'n Andy," the '40s-era radio comedy, or Bill "Bo Jangles" Robinson, the incorrigibly merry butler who danced alongside his curly-headed co-star in Shirley Temple's early films.

In "Bamboozled," Lee presents black talent as just another commodity exploited for white America's amusement. The movie follows the success of "Mantan — The New Millennium Minstrel Show," a flagrantly racist TV variety hour meant to get its black creator fired from his soulless job, but which instead makes superstars of its two characters, the tap dancing Mantan and his silly-dilly sidekick, Sleep 'N Eat.

"We said, 'Gee, there is this new movie, and it is Spike Lee, so why not try to bring Spike Lee?' said Tricia Welsh, chair of Bowdoin's film studies department. Thanks to a pair of diversity grants, she and James were able to do just that. Lee's appearance includes a 45-minute lecture, followed by 45 minutes of questions from the audience.

James, for one, is prepared to take the outspoken director to task for — ironically — perpetuating a black stereotype.

"There's a new Spike commercial for Nickel," she said. "A young boy is hanging out, and his mother comes in. She's the typical mammy."

"Those images," James added, "are definitely still circulating."

ALLEN DAMMANN

"Beyond Blackface: The Makings and Meanings of 'Bamboozled,'" a conversation with Spike Lee, happens Monday, May 7 at Morrell Gymnasium, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, at 7 p.m. Tic: \$5. For reservations, call 725-3375. Also, from Saturday, May 5 to Monday, May 7, the Evening Star Cinema, 149 Maine St., Brunswick, shows "Bamboozled" at 3:30 p.m. Tic: \$5.50, 729-6796. Other Lee films can be seen on Saturday, May 5 at Bowdoin's Smith Auditorium: "Jungle Fever" at 2:30 p.m., "Four Little Girls" at 5 p.m., "Do the Right Thing" at 7 p.m. and "Mo' Better Blues" at 9 p.m. Free. 725-3375.

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calendar

friday, may 4

"MAGNUM OPUS II"

A quick refresher course on etiquette: Second anniversaries are no longer celebrated with a gift of cotton, as was once the case, but rather with a pack of adults milling around, nibbling on carrot sticks. At least, that's what the Radiant Light Gallery in Portland is giving itself for its two-year anniversary. "Magnum Opus II," a photojournalism exhibition, features the works of renowned shutterbugs like Joseph Schwartz, Constantine Manos and Steve McCurry (whose photo of a Pakistani girl showed up on the cover of *National Geographic*), as well as local talents Judy Beedle, Tim Byrne and (CBW photographer) Michael Piveronas. Join the artists for a carrot stick — that is, for an opening reception — at Radiant Light Gallery, 142 High St., Suite 315, Portland, from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Continues through Monday, June 25. 252-7258.

saturday, may 5

"SPRING FOR LIFE" ART AUCTION

A quick refresher course on proper behavior at silent auctions: Do not, no matter how strong the urge, try to distract competitors by pretending to be trapped inside an "invisible" box. Other than that, it's no-holds-barred. You can go pocketbook-to-pocketbook with other bidders at "Spring for Life," an art auction benefiting The AIDS Project. In addition to a silent and live auction, the event features performances by the Maine Gay Men's Chorus and the Tony Boffa Band, as well as a raw bar. Wear your mime gear to Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Silent antique and art auction at 6:30 p.m., live auction at 9 p.m. Tix: \$25. 774-6877.

saturday and sunday, may 5 and 6

"COPPELIA"

A quick refresher course on how to enjoy ballet: Whenever a dancer appears on stage, nudge the person beside you and whisper, "If that doesn't put a pirouette in my tutu, I don't know what does!" Still, you should try to keep the church giggles to a minimum at "Coppelia." Presented by the Maine State Ballet, the performance centers on a small European village that's home to the cryptic Dr. Coppélius, a toy and doll maker believed to possess supernatural powers. Be on your — hee, hee! — best behavior at — hee, hee! — Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 1 p.m. Tix: \$10-\$30. 842-0800.

monday, may 7

RICHARD FORD

A quick refresher course on accepting the Pulitzer Prize: The losers ARE NOT the weakest link. That's a lesson author Richard Ford learned when his novel "Independence Day" — a sequel to his earlier work, "The Sportswriter" — scored not only the Pulitzer, but also the prestigious PEN/Falkner Award (the only book in history to win both awards without having the word "Potter" in its title). Write your own acceptance speech, then head over to hear Ford read from "Independence Day" at the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Square, at noon. Free. 871-1700.

tuesday, may 8

"A MONUMENTAL FINALE"

A quick refresher course on attending the Portland Symphony Orchestra's season finale: Weeping and gnashing your teeth only embarrasses the people around you, and besides, the orchestra members haven't really "passed to the other side." Then again, believe what you want at "A Monumental Finale," a performance commemorating the end of the PSO's 76th season. The concert showcases work by Strauss, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn. Bring your hanky to Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$23-\$51. 842-0800.

Submissions to the calendar must be received in writing by the Thursday two weeks prior to publication. Send your calendar listings to Bill Siever, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or e-mail listings@maine.r.com.

quick picks

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Victoria Mansion holds an opening reception for "Domestic Revival: Victoria Mansion Through the Eyes of Contemporary Artists," an exhibit of work by 18 Maine college students and the first-ever contemporary art exhibit at the historic mansion, at 109 Danforth St., Portland, from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Free. Continues through Sunday, June 17 (admission: \$7.50, \$3 students, \$6.50 seniors). 772-4841.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Irene, a young woman who faces her biggest fear — fire — by joining the local fire department (much to the chagrin of her male co-workers), is the subject of Hank Beebe's new musical, "Fire Belle," performed by the Embassy Players at ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave., Portland, at 8 p.m. Continues through Sunday, May 20. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students and seniors; free for firefighters and EMTs). 761-2465.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Run for a good cause at the YWCA's 5K "Race Against Racism" (kids can do the shorter "Kid's Fun Run"), a benefit for the nonprofit Sudanese Community Association that also includes music by the Bernard Tshimangoley Band and face painting by the Center for Grieving Children. Starts at the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, at 9 a.m. (kids' race at 8:15 a.m.). Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Cost: \$12. 874-1130.

sound bites

Hear some choice fiddlin' by performers young and old, along with music by host Alan "Mac" McHale and the Old Time Radio Gang, at Ogunquit Performing Arts' first All-Maine Fiddling Contest, on Saturday, May 5 at the Dunaway Center, School Street, Ogunquit (7:30 p.m./\$12). 646-6170.

The Midcoast Symphony Orchestra and the Bowdoin Chorus team up for the first time to perform Antonin Dvorak's rarely heard "Requiem" on Saturday, May 5 at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St., Portland (2 p.m./\$8-\$10, \$9 seniors); and on Sunday, May 6 at the United Methodist Church, 320 Church Rd., Brunswick (3 p.m./same as above). 846-6658.

Austin singer-songwriter Slaid Cleaves swings back through his old stomping grounds with his band in tow and fellow folkie Mary Gauthier opening the show on Tuesday, May 8 at the Skinny, 625 Congress St., Portland (8 p.m./\$10/21+/non-smoking show). 871-8983.



Pillowed path: "Victorian Catwalk" by artist Amanda Jordan is part of "Domestic Revival: Victoria Mansion Through the Eyes of Contemporary Artists," showing at the Victoria Mansion in Portland starting Fri., May 4.



Hands-on performance: Janet Davis and Glenn Davis in the Maine State Ballet's "Coppelia," on stage at Merrill Auditorium in Portland.



The eyes have it: Steve McCurry's haunting 1985 photograph of a Pakistani girl appears in "Magnum Opus II" at the Radiant Light Gallery in Portland.

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Visual Arts

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openings and events

Thursday, May 3

Chocolate Church Arts Center 804 Washington St. Bath. Artist reception for "Aesthetic Diversity," works by Mark Little, Jerry Day Mason, Susan Newbold, Steve Perkins and Barbara Sullivan, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Fri, June 1. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-4 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 442-8455.

The Crown 123 Middle St., Portland. Opening reception for "Waterworks," watercolors by Cynthia McMullen, from 6-8 pm; wine tasting from 5-8 pm. Continues through Thurs, May 31. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs-Sat 10 am-7 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 756-7399.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery at Maine College of Art 522 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for new paintings by Jen Blackstone, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Sat, May 26. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm. 879-5742 x283.

Greenhut Galleries 146 Middle St., Portland. Opening reception for "It Might As Well Be Spring," paintings by Margaret Lawrence, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Mon, May 28. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2693.

Lewis Gallery at Portland Public Library 5 Monument Square. Opening reception for "Interplay," works by Michael Connor, Abigail Malmude and Donna Rodeau, from 5:30-7:30 pm. Continues through Wed, May 30. Hours: Mon, Wed and Fri, 9 am-6 pm; Tues and Thurs noon-9 pm; Sat 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

Friday, May 4

Art Guild of the Kennebecs 14 Ethel Dunn's Barn, Storer Street, Kennebunk. Opening reception for the guild's juried exhibit, "Celebrating Spring," from 5-7 pm. Shows Sat and Sun, May 5 and 6. Sat from 10 am-6 pm, Sun from 10 am-5 pm. 967-8543.

Auscosco 615 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for "New Works" by Alice Spencer, from 5-8 pm. Continues through Sun, May 27. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm and by appointment. 874-2060.

First Friday Artwalk A multitude of Portland galleries stay open late on the first Friday of the month. Stop by any participating gallery for a map, or call Jill at 775-0418, Renata at 775-6148 x224 or Mellow at 871-8983.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St., Portland. Opening reception for "Vessels of Paper - Books of Clay," new works by Pam Slaughter and Abby Hutton, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Sat, May 26. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm. 772-1961.

Fore Street Gallery 366 Fore St., Portland. Artists' reception for "Still in Love," photography by Nancy and Matthew Sleeth, from 6-8 pm. Shows now through Thurs, May 31. Hours: 11 am-5 pm daily. 874-8084.

ICON Contemporary Art 19 Mason St., Brunswick. Opening reception for abstract paintings by Frederick Lynch, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Sat, June 2. Paintings, drawings and sculpture by several artists are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm and by appointment. 725-8157.

The New O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St., Brunswick. Opening reception for paintings by Tom Hall, multimedia works by James Elliott and sculpture by Dexter Lazenby, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Tues, May 29. Paintings by Father Paul Plante are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 729-8228.

Scott Potter Gallery 142A High St., Portland. Opening reception for "Dreaming in Color," hand-dyed quilts by Martha Marquez, from 5-9:30 pm. Continues through Thurs, May 31. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 775-3630.

Radiant Light Gallery 142 High St., Portland. Opening reception for "Magnum Opus II: Photojournalism as Fine Art," works by Steve McCurry, CBW's Michael Pivronas, Joseph Schwartz, Constantine Manos, Leonard Freed, Yvonne Miller, Judy Beedle and Tim Byrne, from 5-8 pm. Continues through Mon, June 25. Hours: Sat 11 am-6 pm and by appointment. 252-7258.

Salt Institute for Documentary Studies 110 Exchange St., Portland. Opening reception for "The Bounds of Reason: Lives Within the Borders of Maine," a group show of photographs, documentary radio and nonfiction writing on various subjects, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Fri, Aug 3. Hours: Wed and Fri 2-6 pm, Sat 10 am-1 pm. 761-0660.

Sawyer Street Studios 131 Sawyer St., South Portland. Opening reception for the studio's spring sale, featuring pottery and sculpture by Rommy Brown, Julie Cunningham, Susan Dewnap, Jill Litrocas, Nancy Nevegerle, Nancy Read, Meryl Ruth and Sharon Townsend, from 5-8 pm. Shows Sat, May 5 from 10 am-4 pm and by appointment. 767-4384.

Victoria Mansion 109 Danforth St., Portland. Opening reception for "Domestic Revival: Victoria Mansion Through the Eyes of Contemporary Artists," the first contemporary art exhibit to show at the mansion, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Sun, June 17. The exhibit features works by 18 Maine college students that reflect various aspects of the mansion. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-4 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. The exhibit, and self-guided tours during the opening reception, are free; admission otherwise is \$7.50 (\$6.50 seniors, \$3 students). 772-4841.

C.W. White Gallery 656 Congress St., Portland. Reception for the official opening of the inaugural exhibit at the gallery's new space, "GALA v1.0," works by Jessica Candolf, Sheila Geffron, Lynn Travis, Randy Bloom, Roy Lerner, Marjorie Minkin, Lauren Olitski and Pamela Wilson, from 5-8 pm. Continues through Sat, June 9. Hours: Wed-Sat 11 am-6 pm. 771-7282.

Saturday, May 5

Designing Women At Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St., Portland. Designing Women holds a show and sale of blown glass, pottery, sculpture, calligraphy, lamps and more, to benefit the Sagamore Village Tenants Council's neighborhood programs, from 9 am-4 pm. Ticket \$2 donation. 282-0153.

Eastland Gallery 157 High St., Portland. Opening reception for "Maine Rocks," paintings by Marguerite Ogden, and "Threatened and Endangered," books and prints by Rebecca Goodale, from 5-8 pm. Show now through Sun, May 27. Contemporary art jewelry by Robert Danick, Peggy Johnson, Martha Avrett, Jocelyn Pollard and Jennifer Nielsen are ongoing. Paintings by Bonnie Spiegel show on an ongoing basis in the hotel lobby. Hours: noon-5 pm daily and by appointment (noon-8 pm on First Friday Artwalks). 775-2227.

Spring for Life Art Auction The AIDS Project holds its 15th annual fund-raising art auction, featuring music by the Maine Gay Men's Chorus and the Tony Boffa Band. At the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Silent antique and art auctions at 6:30 pm; live auction at 9 pm. Ticket \$25. The preview exhibit shows at all three Coffee by Designs through Thurs, May 3 (see listing below). 774-6877.

University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College's Atrium Gallery 51 Westminster St., Lewiston. Art auction and closing reception for "L.A. Arts 12th Annual Art Exhibition," featuring works by over 60 Maine artists, at 6 pm. Ticket \$25-\$30 (includes food and music). The exhibit shows through Sat, May 5. Hours: Mon-Thurs 8 am-8 pm, Fri 8 am-4:30 pm, Sat 9 am-3 pm. 800-639-2919.

Zero Station 380 Cottage Rd., South Portland. Opening reception for "Adversary," a traveling exhibit by several graphic artists exploring the perceived adversity between commercial and non-commercial art, from 5-7 pm. Continues through Sun, June 10. Hours: Tues-Thurs 10 am-6 pm, Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat and Sun 10 am-5 pm. 767-2788.

Tuesday, May 8

University of New England Art Gallery Westbrook College Campus, 716 Stevens Ave., Portland. Opening reception for "Frederick Cantor/Nanci Kahn: Photographs," from 5:30-7 pm. Continues through Mon, June 4. Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun 1-4 pm; Thurs 1-7 pm. 797-7261 x4375.

new exhibits

Coffee By Design 620 Congress St., 67 India St. and Monument Square, Portland. "Fish," multimedia representations of fish by Brad P. Kuchta, shows Mon, May 7, Fri, May 16. The AIDS Project's 15th annual Spring for Life auction preview exhibit shows through Thurs, May 3. Congress Street hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 am-9 pm, Sat 7

am-8 pm, Sun 7 am-7 pm. 772-5533. India Street hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 am-6:00 pm, Sat 6:30 am-8 pm, Sun 8 am-2 pm. 879-2233. Monument Square hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-5:30 pm. 761-2424.

Fort Andross 14 Maine St., Brunswick. "Art Life," an exhibit of new paintings and installations by Bowdoin College students Shaun Leonardo and Peter Sheridan, shows by appointment now through Thurs, May 31. Hours: 798-4078.

Hay Gallery 594 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for "Time and Passages," new photographs by Sean Alonzo Harris; sculpture by Scott Stoll; and abstract paintings by Wolcott Dodge, Woody Dana and Diane Wiencke, Fri, May 11 from 5-8 pm. Shows Tues, May 8-Sat, June 9. Multimedia works by Judith Allen, photographs by Amy Ray and acrylics by Heidi Stubbs show through Sat, May 5. Hours: Tues-Thurs, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Fri 10 am-9 pm. 773-2513.

Hole in the Wall Studioworks 1544 Route 302, Raymond. Pastels by Cynthia Morse, sculpture by Lou Mastro and allegorical dreamscape paintings by Brenda Pirardi show now through Sun, May 20. Hours: Thurs-Sat 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Sun 10 am-5 pm. 655-4952.

Java Joe's 13 Exchange St., Portland. Oil paintings by Valerie Smith, and photographs by Kim Roseberry, show Fri, May 5-Mon, June 4. Hours: Mon-Sat 7:30 am-10 pm, Sun 9 am-10 pm. 761-4728.

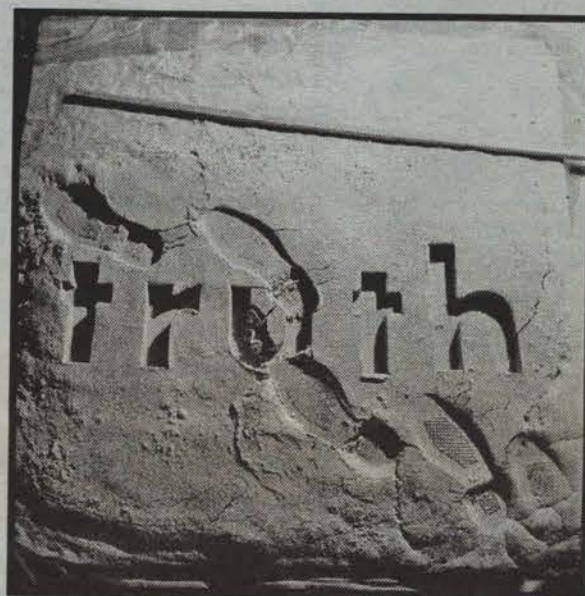
Maine Bank and Trust 112 Maine St., Brunswick. Works by 10 artists from the New O'Farrell Gallery, including Portland artists Marguerite Lawler, Robert Solitaire and David Little, show in the lobby now through Wed, May 30. Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am-4 pm, Sat 9 am-noon. 729-8228.

Maine College of Art Exhibits At the Institute of Contemporary Art, 522 Congress St., Portland. At the ICA, opening reception for the BFA Senior Exhibition, Sat, May 12 from 5-7 pm. Shows Sun, May 6-Fri, May 25. Opening reception for the MFA Senior Exhibition, Sat, May 12 from 6-8 pm; at the Goodbody Auditorium, ICA hours: Wed, Fri-Sun, 11 am-5 pm; Thurs 11 am-7 pm. Auditorium hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am-4:30 pm. 775-5098.

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers 149 Main St., Freeport. Pastels by Marguerite Lawler and watercolors by Anne Tarbox show now through Sun, July 22. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-5 pm. 865-4519.

The Stein Gallery 195 Middle St., Portland. "A Marriage of Glass and Copper," works by David Lewin, shows Thurs, May 3-Sun, June 24. "Large Decorative Pieces by Gallery Artists" shows through Sat, May 26. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-6 pm. 772-9072.

UNSEEN SCENE



"TRUTH," a photograph by Rick Valicenti, is part of "Adversary," showing at Zero Station.

Graphic design as "Adversary"

"Graphic design is seen but not seen," said Keith Fitzgerald, co-owner of Zero Station, a contemporary art gallery in South Portland.

What Fitzgerald means is graphic design is often such a subtle art form that few notice, much less appreciate its finer points. That may change when an exhibit of atypical graphic design opens at Zero Station. Entitled "Adversary," the touring exhibition features the work of 31 artists (none from Maine) determined to call attention to their often-overlooked art, while making cultural and political points in the process.

"Adversary" seeks to gather ... the current graphic design counter-force ... to challenge the ideal of graphic design as neutral intermediary, apolitical profession, and commercial service," reads the statement by curator Kenneth Fitzgerald, Keith's brother.

Though all the artists take an unconventional approach to graphic design, thematically, "the work is all over," said Keith Fitzgerald.

One of the most provocative pieces is "Beautiful," by Steve Bardolph. Bardolph typed the word "beautiful" into an Internet search engine, then printed the first 1,000 pictorial results. By juxtaposing the thumbnail-size images he printed — everything from pornography to Mickey Rourke to furniture — he attempts to question the meaning of the word and the way commerce employs it.

Rick Valicenti's photograph, "TRUTH," stomps on the perceived authority of the printed word. It depicts the word carved into a concrete-like medium with footprints treading over it.

The sketchbook of Dan Fella is one of the show's less political works, combining spontaneous artistic expression with the premeditated forms of graphic design by scribbling colorful abstractions over typeface. (You can try this yourself by taking a crayon to this page, although that probably won't get your work into this show.)

It all cries out to be noticed, and, for once, it just may be.

VICTORIA GANNON

"Adversary," opens Saturday, May 5, at Zero Station, 380 Cottage Rd., South Portland, from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Continues through Sunday, June 10. Hours: Tues-Thurs 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat and Sun 10 am-5 pm. 767-2788.

Visual Arts

galleries

Central Square Studios 463 Stevens Ave., Portland. Chenille scarves, paintings, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, hats and more are ongoing. Hours: Wed-Fri noon-5 pm and by appointment. 780-1345.

Deiliah Pottery 34 Spring St., Portland. "Mermaids and Devils," new jewelry and paintings by Michelle Estell, shows through Sat, May 12. Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-5 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

Elements Gallery 190 Danforth St., Portland. "Lois Anne: Paintings and Prints," works by Anne created with layers of paint, ink and other materials, shows through Sat, May 5, when the gallery relocates to Rockland for the summer. Hours: Thurs 6-8 pm, Fri and Sat 10 am-6 pm. 761-2190.

Filament Gallery 181 Congress St., Portland. "Naked and Smiling," paintings by Michael Branca, shows through Fri, May 18. Hours: Thurs-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 775-0418.

The Firehouse Gallery Main Street and Route 130, Damariscotta. Artists' reception for "Landscapes: Myth and Memory," mixed media works by Sherill Hummel and watercolors and oils by Clary Maher, Thurs, May 10 from 5-7 pm. Shows now through Fri, May 25. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 11 am-3 pm. 563-7299.

Jameson Gallery 305 Commercial St., Portland. "Portland, Object and Subject," paintings by Nathaniel Larrabee, shows through Wed, May 9. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 772-5522.

Kresge Gallery at the Visual Arts Center Bowdoin College, Brunswick. "Tracts," works by Bowdoin seniors P. Antonio Guerrero and Kyle Durie, shows through Thurs, May 10. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 725-3697.

Local 188 188 State St., Portland. An exhibit of works by Spindeworks, a cooperative of artists with developmental disabilities, shows through Sat, May 5. Hours: Tues and Wed 4-10 pm, Thurs-Sat 11 am-10 pm, Sun 9 am-2 pm. 761-7909.

Maine Art Gallery Route 9, Kennebunkport. Paintings and prints by New England artists are ongoing. Hours: Sun, Thurs 10 am-5 pm; Fri and Sat 10 am-6 pm. 967-2803.

Maine Potters Market 376 Fore St., Portland. Forged iron lamps and chandeliers by sculptor Gary P. Thorpe show through Thurs, May 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-6 pm, Thurs-Sat 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-6 pm. 774-1633.

Mainely Frames & Gallery 534 Congress St., Portland. Pen-and-ink, ciphers by William C. Harrison and other work by gallery artists are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs and Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 828-0031.

Mast Cove Galleries Mast Cove Lane and Main Street, Kennebunkport. Works by several members of the Art Guild of the Kennebecs are ongoing. Call for hours. 967-3453.

189 Main 189 Main St., Yarmouth. Coastal watercolors by John Bowdoin and botanical Polaroid transfer prints by Nance Truesworthy show through Sat, May 26. Furniture by Duane Patricia, oil pastels by Frank Valliere and art quilts by Audrey Nichols are ongoing. Hours: Wed-Sat 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. 846-0678.

Pastry Gallery 97 Exchange St., Portland. Impressionistic "lightgraphs" by Ramona du Houx are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat 9 am-2 pm. 874-0412.

Toby Rosenberg Gallery 293 Read St., Portland. "Into the Garden," oil paintings by Janice Appel and watercolors by Jan Raslavsky, shows through Sun, May 6. Pottery, contemporary American crafts, sculpture and Judaica by various artists are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm, Sat and Sun by chance or by appointment.

878-4590.

Richard G. Sandifer Gallery and Photo Studio 151 Newbury St., Portland. Color landscapes from around the world and black-and-white portraits are ongoing. Hours: by appointment. 761-3916.

Silver Image Resource Gallery 500 Congress St., Portland. Photographs and prints by Donna Lee Rollins, Joe Della Valle, Jennifer McDermott and others are ongoing. Hours: by appointment. 767-0711.

Studio 656 656 Congress St., Portland. Works by John Driscoll are ongoing. Hours: Thurs and Fri noon-6 pm, and during First Friday Artwalks. 871-3922.

University of Southern Maine Art Gallery Gorham campus. "Virtual Shooter," a multimedia exhibit by Kathleen Ruiz satirizing "first person shooter" games, shows through Sat, May 5. Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-4 pm, Sat 11 am-4 pm. 780-5009.

Hugh Verrier Studio 13-15 Boynton St., Portland. Sculpture and paintings by Hugh Verrier are ongoing. Call for hours. 773-9814.



"All with Bullet Wound," by Nanci Kahn, shows at the University of New England's Art Gallery from Tues, May 8-Mon, June 4.

museums

Bates College Museum of Art Olin Arts Center, 75 Russell St., Lewiston. The annual Senior Art Exhibition, featuring works by 14 students, and a brief history of printmaking curated by Bates senior Jaime DeSimone show through Sun, June 3. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Free. 786-6158.

Bowdoin College Museum of Art Brunswick. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. Free. 725-3275.

American paintings by Gilbert Stuart, John Singer Sargent, Thomas Eakins and others are ongoing.

"Art and Life in the Ancient Mediterranean," and European art from the permanent collection are ongoing.

"Reflections in Black: Smithsonian African-American Photography, the First One Hundred Years, 1842-1942," shows through Sun, June 3.

Center for Maine History 489 Congress St., Portland. "The Mirror of Maine: Four Centuries of Great Books," a collection of first edition books that feature prominently in Maine's history, shows through Sat, June 30. Hours: noon-5 pm daily. Admission: \$6 (\$5 students and seniors, \$2 ages 6-17). 774-1822.

Maine Maritime Museum 243 Washington St., Bath. "Working the Coast," paintings depicting Maine's working coast by Helen St. Clair, R. Valentine Gray, Stephen Elmer, Edith A. Sternfeld and Paul Rickert, is ongoing. Hours: 9:30 am-5 pm daily. Admission: \$8.75 (\$5 under 17; kids under 6 free). 443-1316.

The Museum of African Tribal Art 122 Spring St., Portland. Female-oriented headdresses, crest masks and other pieces by the Ekiti of Cameroon and Nigeria show through Sat, Sept. 29. "The Spirit of the Igbo Masks," Igbo masks, and other objects representing over 1,000 years of sub-Saharan history, is ongoing. Hours: Tues-Fri 10:30 am-5 pm, Sat 12:30-5 pm. Free. 871-7188.

Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum Showing at Hubbard Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. "Northern Cinema: Early Film of the Far North," an exhibit of photographs, posters and programs documenting early 20th century explorers, shows through Fri, July 15. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. 725-3416.

Portland Harbor Museum at Spring Point Fort Road, South Portland. "They Came by Sea: Portland Harbor, a Tourist Destination," an exhibit exploring the history

of Portland's tourist trade, shows through Mon, Dec 31. April and May hours: Sat and Sun, 10 am-4:30 pm. Admission: \$3 (\$1 kids 6-16, under 6 free). 799-6337.

Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress Square, Portland. Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm, Thurs and Fri 10 am-9 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$5 students and seniors, \$1 kids 6-12). Free every Fri from 5-9 pm. 775-6148 or 800-639-4067.

"America Entertained: Jazz to Jitterbug, Harlem to Hollywood," paintings, drawings, sculpture and prints celebrating jazz, shows through Sun, June 24.

"Local Color: Six Contemporary Photographers," works by Paul D'Amato, Tanja Alexia Hollander, Jocelyn Lee, Rose Marasco, Melville McLean and Scott Peterman, shows through Tues, May 13.

"Open House," a series of works by several photographers inspired by the McLean-Sweet House and L.D.M. Sweat Memorial Galleries, shows through Sun, June 3.

"2001 Portland Museum of Art Biennial," works by 58 contemporary artists, shows through Sun, June 3.

Saco Museum 371 Main St., Saco. "Variations in Media," over 350 works by the students of Biddford High School, shows through Fri, May 4. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-4 pm, as well as Thurs 5-8 pm. Admission: \$4 (\$3 seniors, \$1 students; free Thurs from 5-8 pm). 283-3861.

Umbrella Cover Museum 62-8 Island Ave., Peaks Island. An exhibit of artist-designed umbrella covers, as well as over 150 umbrella sleeves from 12 countries, including "The Umbrella and the Cover" and "New Umbrella Cover Fashions," show by appointment. Guided tours by director/curator Nancy 3 Hoffman available. Admission: \$2 and/or foreign currency. 766-4496.

other venues

Americana Workshop Route 1, Kennebunk. Oil paintings by Jean Colquhoun are ongoing. Hours: Thurs-Sun 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. 985-8356.

Bangor Theological Seminary 159 State St., Portland. Paintings by John G. Burke are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-noon and 1-4 pm. 874-2214.

Barbara's Kitchen and Café 388 Cottage Rd., South Portland. Photographs by Rick Hoffman are ongoing. Hours: Tues-Wed 7 am-2 pm, Thurs and Fri 7 am-2 pm and 5-9 pm, Sat 8 am-2 pm and 5-9 pm, Sun 8 am-2 pm. 767-6131.

The Barron Center 1145 Brighton Ave., Portland. "A Year in the Studio," works by artists from the long-term care center, shows through Sat, May 19 by appointment only. Call Tonya Heskett at 774-2623.

Books, Etc. 38 Exchange St., Portland. Paintings by Katherine Winn are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-9 pm, Sun 10 am-6 pm. 774-0626.

Café Uffizi 190 State St., Portland. Computer-altered photography by Grace Hopkins-Lisle shows through Mon, June 4. Hours: Wed-Sat 5:30-10 pm, Sat 8 am-noon, Sun 9 am-2 pm. 775-3380.

Casco Bay Frames 295 Forest Ave., Shop "N Save Plaza, Portland. The "Second Annual Employee Art Show," works by Johnny Alexander, Elizabeth Fraser, Arlene Kelley and Gustav Moore, shows through Thurs, May 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-7 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 774-1260.

First Impressions 23 Pleasant St., Brunswick. "First Impressions," color photographs of nature and exotic locales by 14-year-old photographer Martin Connolly, shows through Wed, May 23. Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30 am-5 pm, Fri 9:30 am-6 pm, Sat 9:30 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 725-5242.

Glickman Family Library Bedford Street and Forest Avenue, Portland. "Road Maps: The American Way," a cartographic exhibit, shows through Thurs, Dec. 20. Hours: Tues 12:30-4:30 pm, Wed and Thurs 12:30-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Sat 9 am-1 pm. 780-4850.

Katahdin Restaurant 106 High St., Portland. Paintings by Gina Adams, and photographs and paintings by Rachel Bingham, are ongoing. Hours: Tues-Thurs 5-10 pm, Fri and Sat 5-11 pm. 774-1740.

Merrill Memorial Library 215 Main St., Yarmouth. "Impressions," acrylics and pastels by Nancy Tyler Allyn, and "A Sense of Place," watercolors by Lee Tyler Robbins (Allyn's sister), show through Mon, May 28. Hours: Mon, Fri, Sat 10 am-5 pm; Tues, Wed, Thurs 10 am-8 pm. 846-4763.

Patricio's 579 Congress St., Portland. Selections from the Hay Gallery by Marcia Carner, Sara Gray, Jeremy Greene, Connie Hayes, Jack Montgomery and Frank Valliere are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-2 pm. 775-7827.

Pejepscot Historical Society 159 Park Row, Brunswick. "Sew What? Making Sense of Making Things," an exhibit of textile creations both historical and modern by artisans from Brunswick, Harpswell and Topsham, shows through January, 2002. Hours: Tues, Wed and Fri 9 am-5 pm; Thurs 9 am-8 pm; Sat 9 am-4 pm. 729-6606.

Portland Coffee Roasting Company 111 Commercial St., Portland. Paintings by Virginia Chase are ongoing. Hours: 6:30 am-5:30 pm daily. 761-9525.

Robinson Free Meetinghouse 210 Robinson Rd., Georgetown. Photographs by Abbie Sewall and oil paintings by Ted Davis show through Sat, May 12. Hours: Thurs-Sat 5:30-9 pm. 371-2188.

The Skinny 625 Congress St., Portland. Paintings by Lisa Pixley show through Thurs, May 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 5 pm-1 am, Sat and Sun 7 pm-1 am. (21+) 871-8983.

Starbucks 594 Congress St., Portland. Paintings by Adam Earley, mirrors by John Freeman, mixed media by Patrick J. McGuigan and glass by Laura Fuller are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Thurs 6 am-8 pm, Fri 6 am-10 pm, Sat 7 am-10 pm, Sun 7 am-6 pm. 761-0334.

CLUB

SUNDAY
Reggae Hip-hop w/ Dale Da Dred
1.25 domestics 2.25 imports

TUESDAY
Thunder Night Hip Hop w/ DJ Thunder
2.00 Heineken 2.00 shots

WEDNESDAY
Retro hump-day w/ DJ Double D
1.00 Rocks 1.50 Corona
2.50 Grateful Deads

THURSDAY
College Night w/ the Matrix and friends
2.50 Captain & Coke
1.00 light .50 Bud light drafts

FRIDAY
Dance w/ DJ Matrix
2.00 Bullet shots .50 LaBatt's
.50 Coors light 3.25 Long Islands

SATURDAY
Dance w/ DJ Matrix
2.00 Bullet shots .50 LaBatt's
.50 Coors light 3.25 Red Bull Vodka

775-3510

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PERFORMANCE

Submissions for the performance section should be received two weeks prior to publication.

Send to: Bill Siever, Casco Bay Weekly,
561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101
or e-mail: listings@maine.rr.com.

DANCE

"Coppella" Sat and Sun, May 5 and 6, Maine State Ballet presents its premiere performance of the ballet, about the marriage of Swanilda and Franz, and the magic of the mysterious dollmaker Dr. Coppellius, set in a European village in the 1800s. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 1 pm. Tix: \$10-\$30. 842-0800.

"To See the Summer Sky" Fri and Sat, May 11 and 12, Buffalo Mountain Dance Projects presents a performance that examines the life of poet Emily Dickinson through dance, theater, spoken text and mime, with alternating young and adult character representations. At the Portland Performing Arts Center, 25 Forest Ave., Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 students and seniors). 774-0465.

"She's Going" Sat, May 5, New Dance Studio presents an evening of original dance by Boston choreographer Jody Weber, performed by Weber and four other dancers. Dances include the premiere of "Gossamer Descent," about the infinitesimal nature of the universe; "She's Going," a probe into the life of the modern woman; "Certain Moments;" and "Cloak." At Ram Island Dance, 151 St. John St., Portland, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$10. 780-5554.

THEATER-COMEDY

"The Apple Tree" Sat and Sun, May 5 and 6, MainePlay Productions presents a traveling version of the musical comedy about what really went on at the Garden of Eden. At the Gorham Youth Center, Route 114 and School Street, Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 5 pm. Tix: \$12, benefits the GYC. 771-5611.

Comedy Connection Fri and Sat, May 4 and 5: Kevin Flynn, Fri at 8:30 pm, Sat at 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm. Tix: \$9, Sat.

Center stage



May 5: The Children's Theatre of Maine's Maine-i-Acts, at 11 am (see listing below). Tix: \$5. Sun, April 29: Comedy Showcase, hosted by Kelley MacFarland, with special guest George Hamm, at 8:30 pm. Tix: \$6. At the Comedy Connection, 16 Custom House Wharf, Portland, 774-5554.

"Crimes of the Heart" Sat and Sun, May 5 and 6, Freeport Community Players presents Beth Henley's Pulitzer-winning comedy/drama about a dysfunctional family of three sisters and their cousin, set in the South of the '70s. At Freeport High School, 30 Holbrook St., at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$7 students and seniors). 865-3379.

"Fire Belle" Fri, May 4-Sun, May 20, The Embassy Players presents Hank Beebe's original musical about a young woman who tries to combat her nemesis (fire) by joining the local fire department, much to the dismay of her male co-workers. At ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave., Portland, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students and seniors, free for firefighters and EMTs). 761-2465.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" Thurs-Sat, May 3-5, The Bowdoin College Department of Theater and Dance presents the classic comedy about misbehaving Romans. At Bowdoin's Pickard Theater, Brunswick, Thurs and Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 7 pm. Tix: \$6. 725-3375.

"How's Your Laugh Life?" Fri, May 4, Vaudeville comedian Randy Jenkins presents his one-man act combining sally, down East humor, juggling and odd-ball character studies. At Brunswick High School, Maquoit Road, at 7 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$3 students). 729-5083.

Instant Comedy! Sat, May 5, The Portland-based troupe performs improv comedy. At The Station, Union Station Plaza, St. John St., Portland, at 8:30 pm. Tix: \$5. (21+). 773-3466.

"Island of the Blue Dolphins" Fri and Sat, May 5 and 6, The Children's Theatre of Maine presents Michelle Livermore Wigton's stage adaptation of Scott O'Neil's book, about a girl named Karana who has to fend off wild wolves, among other dangers, after her fellow islanders are killed off in a confrontation with Russian hunters. At the CTM, 317 Marginal Way, Portland, at 7 pm. Tix: \$7 (\$5 kids). 828-0617.

Maine-i-Acts Sat, May 5, The Children's Theatre of Maine's improv comedy troupe performs. At the Comedy Connection, 16 Custom House Wharf, Portland, at 11 am. Tix: \$5. 878-2774.

"Matilda" Sat and Sun, May 5 and 6, A Company of Girls presents the world's only production of Roald Dahl's humorous tale of a young girl born into the wrong family, who does battle with an evil headmistress and the dreaded "Chokey." At 10 Mayo St., Portland, Sat at 2 pm and 4:30 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$5. 874-2107.

"Much Ado About Nothing" Thurs, May 3-Sun, May 27, Acorn Productions presents the first play to be performed at the new St. Lawrence Arts and

Community Center. Michael Levine directs Shakespeare's romantic comedy about the consequences of eavesdropping, updated to a mansion in Newport, R.I. At the St. Lawrence Arts and Community Center, 76 Congress St., Portland. Previews Thurs-Sun, May 3-6, Thurs at 7:30 pm, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$5. Half-price preview on Thurs, May 10. Tix: \$8 (\$7 seniors, \$4 students). Opens Fri, May 11 at 8 pm, and continues Thurs at 7:30 pm, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm through Sun, May 27. Tix: Thurs and Sun \$16 (\$14 seniors, \$8 students; Sun performances \$5 for Munjoy Hill residents). Fri and Sat \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$10 students). 772-5580.

"Rumors" Fri, May 4-Sun, May 13, The Public Theatre presents Neil Simon's farce involving four couples who arrive at an anniversary party only to find that the hosts are mysteriously missing. Chaos ensues as each arriving couple comes up with a different, and equally ridiculous, alibi. At the Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$12.50 (\$10 students and seniors). Sat tix: \$15 (\$12.50 students and seniors) (professional Equity company). 782-3200.

"Swingin' Down the Lane" Through Sun, May 6, The newly relocated Studio Theatre of Bath presents Jim Cobby's new musical comedy, laden with hits from the '40s, about the staff of a live radio broadcast studio who take matters into their own hands when the scheduled musical guests fail to show up. At the Winter Street Church, Washington Street, Bath, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 students and seniors) (community company). 442-7493.

"Victor/Victoria" Through Sun, May 13, Paris in the '30s is the setting for this musical comedy, presented by the Portland Lyric Theater, about opera singer Victoria Grant's decision to make ends meet by becoming female impersonator Victor. At the Portland Lyric Theater, 176 Sawyer St., Portland, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2:30 pm. Tix: \$15, (\$13 students and seniors) (community company). 799-1421 or 799-6509.

"Voices in the Mirror" Fri, May 4-Sun, May 13, The Theater Project's Young Company presents an original show conceived, produced and performed by the 20 teen-agers of the company. This is the first performance in the theater's three-month festival, "Celebrating the Creative Spirit of Youth." At the Theater Project, 14 School St., Brunswick, Fri and Sat at 7:30 pm, Sun at 2 pm. All tix are pay-what-you-can. 729-8584.

"We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!" Wed-Sat, May 2-5, The University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre presents Dario Fo's comic tale of a gaggle of Milanese women who protest the outrageous prices at the local grocery store, with hilarious consequences. Directed by Michael Ratkin, At Russell Hall, USM's Gorham campus, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$7 seniors, \$5 students). 780-5151.

"W4" Through Sun, May 6, Portland Stage Company presents a tragicomedy about a grim subject: poetry professor Vivian Bearing's terminal ovarian cancer and her subsequent stay at a learning hospital for medical students. At the Portland Performing Arts Center, 25 Forest Ave., Portland, Wed at 2 pm and 7:30 pm, Thurs and Fri at 7:30 pm, Sat at 4 pm and 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$27 (Wed and Thurs, \$32 Fri-Sun. (professional Equity company) 774-0465.

What better way to debut theater in a renovated space in an old building than with an updated version of an old play? Acorn Productions will do just that when it presents Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing," the Bard's tale of eavesdropping among quarrelsome and generally obnoxious lovers, which Acorn sets in a Newport, R.I. mansion. The production will be the first to take place in the St. Lawrence Arts and Community Center, formerly the 104-year-old St. Lawrence Church. See what all the ado is about when it previews Thurs-Sun, May 3-6, Thurs at 7:30 pm, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$5. Half-price preview on Thurs, May 10. Tix: \$8 (\$7 seniors, \$4 students). Opens Fri, May 11 at 8 pm. Continues through Sun, May 27. Tix: Thurs and Sun \$16 (\$14 seniors, \$8 students; Sun performances \$5 for Munjoy Hill residents). Fri and Sat \$20 (\$18 seniors, \$10 students). 772-5580.

Acorn Productions actors (left to right) Kurt Ela, Jessica Porter, Elizabeth Enck and Paul Drinan flirtatiously bicker in "Much Ado About Nothing."

congress street MINUTES

ANNIE SEIKONIA

Bicycles are built to last

Percy Wheeler has an appropriate last name. Besides being a part-time courier for Rapid Inc., Portland's sole surviving bike-courier business, he is a connoisseur of vintage bicycles.

I first met Percy about a year ago when he stopped to compliment me on my black, vintage Raleigh three-speed, which I bought for \$5 at a yard sale one summer in the West End. Often when I run into Percy, I learn something new about this bike, such as the fact that it has the original Raleigh insignia on its front sprocket, a detail I had never noticed. Eventually, I caught wind of Percy's vintage bicycle collection, a fleet that includes



Percy Wheeler with his two-wheelers: one of his J.C. Higgins models (left) and the FleetWing. PHOTO/LAEL MORGAN

about 12 bicycles, though the collection fluctuates over time. Percy gave me the lowdown on some of his prime specimens one recent spring afternoon at the Hub, Rapid Inc.'s headquarters. The Hub, located at 55 Oak St., also doubles as a self-serve bike shop and summertime pedicab taxi service.

Percy referred to his vintage bikes as "old English clunkers," though it is also his opinion that in the old days, "they made bikes heavier and better; hence they're around today."

There is the J.C. Higgins, circa early 1940s, which is a two-tone, dark- and light-blue model. One of its most striking features is a "skirt guard," which in bike-tech terms is known as rear-fender flaring. Designed for female riders, the flaring closes

in the entire rear wheel so a dress won't get caught in the spokes.

One of the most spectacular of Percy's bikes is the FleetWing, circa 1950, made entirely of bright, silver chrome — including the fenders, chain guard and dual front and rear generators that power a large headlight. The FleetWing also features "hub bands" that dangle in the wheel to keep the hub clean. Percy hand-built the wheels, which he often does for these bikes. "Usually the spokes are rusted or busted," he said, "so I hand-build wheels with stainless steel spokes and brass nipples in a funky lace pattern."

Percy recently parted with a Triumph (made by the same company as the classic motorcycle) from Nottingham, England, which was made in the '40s. It is black with gold-leaf lug work and Sturmey Archer hubs. One of the coolest features on this bike is the oil wells in the bottom brackets (where the cranks come together on the back wheel). These days, such brackets are pop-out, replaceable cartridges not made to be easily serviced. "New bikes are made to be thrown away," Percy said, whereas "old bikes are made to be user-serviceable."

He still has the Robinhood, also from Nottingham and also circa the 1940s, which features an insignia badge of Robin Hood with his bow. Originally red, this one is in rough shape and currently features a banana seat and chopper bars. It can't be restored because it's been run over and the frame is bent, so Percy has morphed it into a "pimpin' rod."

Percy, 31, has been working on bikes since the age of 8, when his brothers taught him how to strip them down and fix them up. He's always had an interest in vintage models. His current collection was started by accident when someone dropped a vintage bike off at the Hub and he enjoyed refurbishing it. Since then, word has spread and people have begun donating old, beat-up bikes to him.

The total money invested in the four aforementioned bikes amounts to roughly \$300, but the total time invested involved hundreds of hours of work. Percy said few mechanics are interested in doing specialized repairs, such as Sturmey Archer rebuilds, because there are too many pieces involved. "With vintage bikes," he said, "I'll pretty much go over anything."

Lately, Percy has been working with other volunteers to renovate the basement of a building at 51 Mayo St., in Kennedy Park, owned by the Portland Housing Authority, which has donated the space for a neighborhood bike repair shop and school. The shop will be a place where kids can learn how to repair bikes while earning credit toward a rehabbed bike of their own, donated by the Portland Police Department in return for their work. To help finance the neighborhood shop, which may be open by May or June, Percy hopes to start offering a "Bike Doctor" repair service through the Hub, from which he'll make house calls. For more information, call the Hub at 772-6610. CBW

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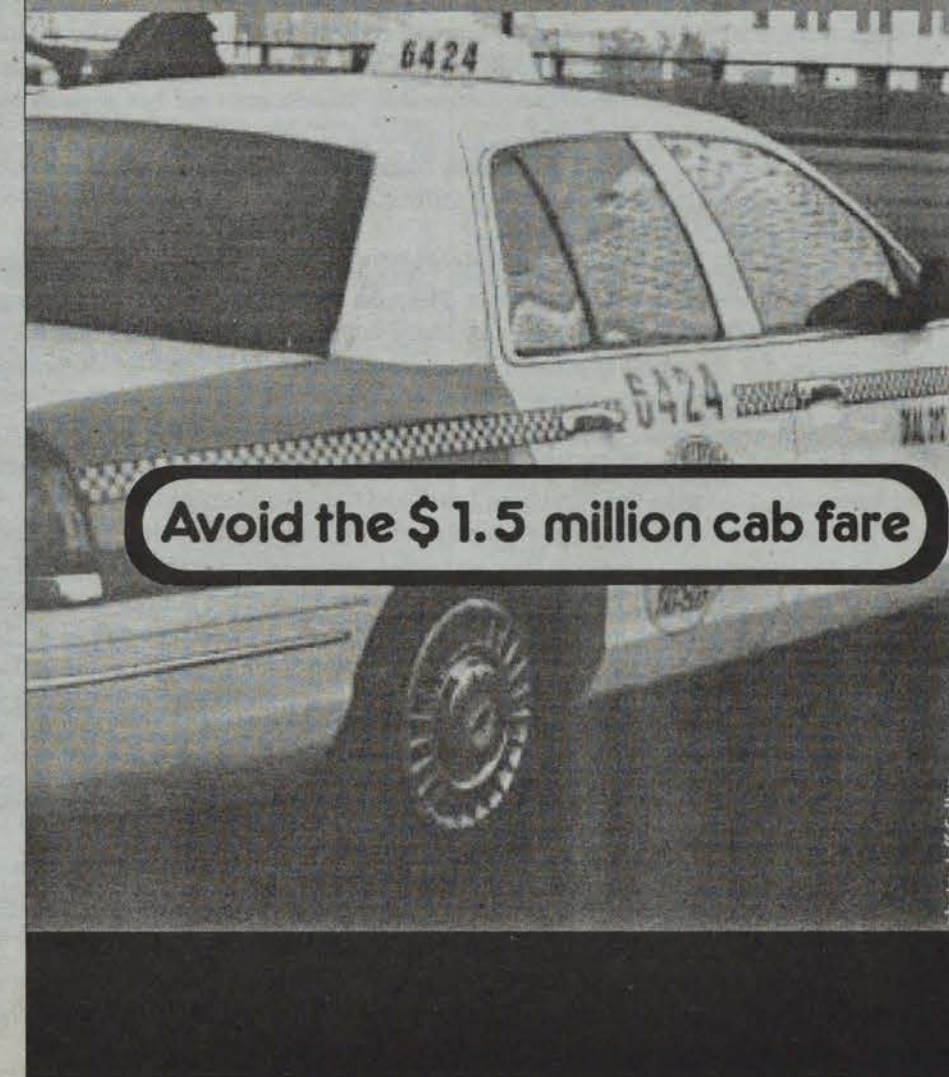


Photo: Jeff Callen

HELL yeah!

JOE S. HARRINGTON

Off the beat path

Portland hasn't always been treated to a wide range of live jazz, but there have been some positive developments of late, such as the Dimensions in Jazz series produced by Paul Lichter, which is bringing a plethora of interesting shows to the city. A duet by alto saxophonist Tim Berne and bassist Michael Formanek at the Starbird Recital Hall on May 4 promises to be one of the jazz highlights of the season.

These two musos have played all over the globe, as well as the musical map. Formanek, who plays upright bass, began as a sideman in New York, working with such tribute-genies as Gerry Mulligan, Freddie Hubbard, Mingus Dynasty, Cedar Walton, George Coleman, Joe "Jazzbo" Henderson and others. As he said when I reached him by phone at his home in Pennsylvania: "I loved living in New York and being a freelancer. I was really fortunate timing-wise that these people were still around. A lot of them are dead or retired now. They gave me steady work to develop my chops."

"By the late '80s," he said, "I was beginning to push it out of that zone. That led to me hooking up with people who were a little more open to you taking your own chances. I was pretty good at doing what was expected of me. At a certain point, a musician says to himself, 'Is that all there is?' Working with people like Tim gave me more of a chance to really explore my instrument, and dig pretty deep."

When they met in the late 1980s, Berne was coming off a short-lived stint on a major label. For those who've heard the Ornette Colemanesque squawking Berne does on albums like 1998's "Ornery People," a duet with Formanek, it seems hard to believe, particularly in the '80s, any blockbuster house would welcome his talents. True to form, the label bosses gave him the boot, but by then he'd met Formanek, and the two have gone on to form a loose partnership that allows each of them to evolve within the other's musical parameters.

They made a series of recordings in a group context, including "Extended Animation" and "Loose Cannon," and forged an unusual musical bond. Formanek also became a member of Berne's out/free/whatever ensemble, bloodcount, and has appeared on several of their recordings as well.

Formanek recently received a grant from Chamber Music America to compose his own suite. This has taken the form of "The Offbeat Manifesto," which he and Berne will perform in Portland.

"I think it's great that they would fund a duo piece," Formanek said, "because I haven't really written much for the duo The suite is about a half-hour or 45-minute piece, which uses a lot of things we do naturally, such as improvise — not the specific things we do, but the whole approach. The way we play tends to use a lot of syncopation. This is more of an offbeat thing."

In addition to the suite, Formanek said the duo will perform a few numbers from "Ornery People." On that album, Berne and Formanek achieve a oneness both powerful and trance-like. On tracks like "Stubborn Love" and "Are We There Yet," Formanek utilizes a bowed technique to induce genuinely brain-jiggling rumble. Meanwhile, Berne whoops and swoops with a melodic flare and expressive capacity that brings to mind the great ones: Coleman, Julius Hemphill, Sonny Simmons and Odean Pope, among others. Berne is no longer standing in the shadows of this legacy — he's become part of it.

Berne also recently released "The Shell Game," a collaboration with drummer Tom Rainey and keyboard/electro-whiz Craig Taborn. I found hearing Berne squawking up against this electronic context to be less compelling than his work with Formanek, an opinion Formanek himself doesn't share.

Formanek sees some jazz fans' aversion to keyboards as a hang up. He believes musicians need to experiment with more eclectic textures to stay creative.

"You have to look at the way things are put together," he said. "I do a lot of horn/bass/drum stuff. Sometimes, outside of that, I need to push myself, to go outside of that comfort zone, and by changing contexts, I can do that. Almost all musicians get inspiration out of that."

Michael Formanek and Tim Berne perform Friday, May 4 at the Starbird Recital Hall, 525 Forest Ave., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$10-\$15. 721-0958.



Ornery people: Michael Formanek (left) and Tim Berne.

portland PROWLER

CHRIS BUSBY

Long-talkin', bad-condition Uncle Billy's blues

Hey y'all! Lookin' for a lip-smackin', fat-backin', rib-rackin', finger-lickin', thumb-pickin', Pabst-drinkin', collard-stinkin', non-smokin' good time? Well, if that's the case, then I personally suggest you git yer winter-white, skin-tight-jean-clad, ab-rollin', bow-flexin' butt down to Newbury Street for some pork-provoked expansion courtesy of Uncle Billy's Bar-b-que Restaurant, located on the south side of Portland's Munjoy Hill.

After all, this is spring-snowin', nose-blowin' car-towin', woe-knowin', no-train-to-Boston-goin' southern Maine, so we gotta have fun where and when we can, right? Yes, sir.

And when it comes to pig-grillin', mouth-fillin', swill-swiggin', pickin'-n-grinnin', pork-fried, countrified, shits-so-bad-you-almost-died, down-home, bone-smoked hog muscle and no-hustle, old-time, raunchy-rhymed, past-its-prime, unrefined, talkin'-bout-heart-break-sex-and-crime country music with a bit of bad-ass, super-fast (with-an-acupunctured-arm-like-Al-Hawkes'-how-long-can-it-last?) bluegrass thrown in like a naughty bit of chicken tit for flavor, Uncle Billy's can't be beat.

No, sir.

That's right, you read that right. Al Hawkes, the chicken-huntin', no-frontin', bad-joke-tellin', what-the-heckin', no-swearin', cowboy-hat-wearin', acoustic-guitar-and-mandolin-playin', old-lady-slayin' Maine music veteran himself was down there on a recent Sunday night sittin' in with West Coast Slim (aka Gary Shackelford), a country-croonin', Blue-Moon-of-Kentucky-bad-lucky string-plucker from the San Francisco Bay area. And did I mention that Al "The Jazz-Honed, Old-Boned, Down-Home" Doane played a tight upright country bass that night? I did now.

Uncle Billy's has always been famous for its old-soul, rock-'n'-roll, classic-country and horrible-honky Barry-Manilow-infested jukebox, but these days, more often than not, the music is more live-soundin', floor-poundin', ain't-gonna-hear-this-shit-at-no-Ground-Roundin' real, made by honest-to-goodness, flesh-and-blood-and-beer-and-steer musicians like Kevin Midgley, who sits in with West Coast Slim on Tuesday nights.

And the human jukebox himself, the one-man-band-with-beer-in-hand-spreadin'-the-old-time-country-gospel-across-the-land, ladies-choice-with-the-yodelin'-voice-and-more-annual-interest-than-Betty-Noyce Hollerin' Man has been hauntin' his old stompin' grounds lately, after a winter foray down in the manatee-manglin', chad-danglin', condo-buyn', porno-supplyin', Disneyfied, hair-dyed, mahjong-playin', thong-displayin' state of Florida. West Coast Slim has been playin' with him, too.

On Wednesday nights, guitar superstar Sean Mencher has been playin' his repertoire of sad and silly rockabilly songs at Billy's, backed by his Western-swingin', back-up-singin', fiddle-sawing, heein'-n'-hawin' band.

Did I mention that all this music is absolutely, positively, legally, ethically, morally, without-a-doubt, no-bones-about-it-free?

Of course, it ain't gonna kill ya to toss a buck in the hat, Jim.

And a few more things. Uncle Billy's is smaller than a pig sty stuffed with steroid-suckin' sows. It can get more crowded than a hot tub full of horny-Hugh-Hefner-harem harlots, and almost as intimate. Plus, everybody in the place is gettin' fatter by the bite.

Y'all also oughta keep in mind that everybody's family at Uncle Billy's. Yes, sir. That means if you show up a little late for supper, you might get seated next to a bean-belchin', fume-fartin', no-napkin-usin', fork-refusin', sauce-abusin', cheap-beer-boozin', corn-bread moochin', saucy-finger-smoochin' bozo like me.

If ya do, please pass the pepper, whipper-snapper. CBW



No coastin': West Coast Slim (left) pluckin' with Al Hawkes at Uncle Billy's. PHOTO/LIZ BERNSTEIN

LISTINGS

Casco Bay Weekly listings are a fun and free service to our readers. To have a listing considered for publication, send complete information including dates, times, costs, complete address, a contact telephone number by noon on Thursday prior to publication. E-mail: listings@maine.rr.com.

HAPPENINGS

Thursday, May 3

Cooking Class The Portland Public Market holds cooking sessions with area chefs. This week: "Lobster Bake at Home," with Mo Terry. At the PPM, 25 Preble St., Portland, from 5:30-7 p.m. Tix: \$15. 228-2000.

Free Breast Health Screening Maine Medical Center's MaineHealth Learning Resource Center offers free screenings for breast cancer, at 5 Bucknam Rd., Suite 1A, Falmouth, from 9-10 a.m. Free. Pre-register at 885-8570. **Pudding Preservation Night** Dyer Library hosts a celebration for National Bread Pudding Week. (Yes, there is a National Bread Pudding Week.) All local cooks are invited to bring their favorite bread pudding recipes to the Dyer Library, 371 Main St., Saco, from 6-8 p.m. Free. 283-3861 x101.

Sailing Crew Match Party Points East Magazine holds its annual party matching skippers with potential crew members for work on both racing and cruising boats. Experience is helpful but not necessary. At Handy Boat, 215 Foreside Rd., Falmouth, from 5-8 p.m. Free. 888-778-5790.

Statewide Conference on Alzheimer's Disease The Maine Alzheimer's Association holds a conference featuring Dr. William Thies, who will present information on recent breakthroughs, and Jolene Brackley, who will share tools and strategies for helping Alzheimer's patients. At the Harraesekett Inn, 162 Main St., Freeport, from 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Tix: \$30 (\$80 for professionals). 800-660-2871.

Travelers Club Meeting Club member Marshall Smith shows slides of his recent trip to the Galapagos Islands. At Maine Audubon's Gislend Farm, 118 Route 1, Falmouth, from 7-8:30 p.m. Free. 774-6256.

Wreck Diver Bruce Bateman The Maine Maritime Museum presents a talk by Bateman on the more than 500 ships that have sunk off Sable Island since 1800, as part of the museum's "Islands of the Gulf of Maine" lecture series. At the MAMM, 243 Washington St., Bath, at 7 p.m. Tix: \$7.50. 443-316 x0.

Martin Yan The star of "Yan Can Cook," the cooking show that is syndicated in 75 countries, cooks a community dinner with members of the Bates College dining services staff. At Bates' Chase Hall, Lewiston, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Tix: \$8 (\$4 kids under 4). 786-6330.

Friday, May 4

Bates College Earth Day Events The college hosts a variety of late Earth Day events. From 9 am-8:30 p.m.: a conference with Bates, Colby and Bowdoin faculty and students exploring the connection between power and knowledge in institutions in the Caribbean and the Americas. At 11:30 am: seed and plant swap, at the Library Terrace. At noon: Charlene Garland leads a discussion titled "Kyoto Protocol, Climate Change and Bates." At 4:30 p.m.: dinner and environmental fair with Maine environmental organizations, at the Clifton Daggett Gray Athletic Building. At 8:30 p.m.: contradiction with the band Wake the Neighbors. Events take place at Chase Hall, Bates College, Lewiston, unless otherwise specified. Free. 786-6330.

Poetry and Prose Reading Longfellow Books holds a monthly reading series called "New Voices: Writers Becoming Authors." This month, several poets gather for readings to commemorate the just-ended National Poetry Month. At Longfellow Books, 1 Monument Way, Portland, at 7 p.m. Free. 772-4045.

Southworth Planetarium The University of Southern Maine's planetarium offers a variety of trippy, yet educational, programs. "In Search of New Worlds" at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Tix: \$4.50-\$5 (\$3.50-\$4 kids, students and seniors). 780-4249.

"Virtual New England: Region, Film and Culture" The University of Southern Maine's American and New England Studies Program sponsors a free film series. This month: 1942's "Now, Voyager," which exposes the sexual repression of upper-crust Bostonians. At USM's Luther Bonney Hall, Falmouth Street, Portland, at 7 p.m. Free (popcorn included). 780-4920.

Saturday, May 5

Bean Supper Beans and more are to be had in abundance at this supper, held at the Gray Unit #86 of the

American Legion Auxiliary, 15 Lewiston Rd., Gray, from 5-6 p.m. Tix: \$5 (\$2 kids). 428-3737.

Family Fun Canoe Race Gorham Trails Inc. sponsors a three-mile, flat-water race on the Presumpscot River. Register at Dundee Park, Windham, at 10 am. Race starts at 11 am. Tix: \$10 (\$20 maximum per family). For more info, call Bob at 839-4644 or Mike at 839-4513.

Fore River Sanctuary Birdwalk Kevin Haskins of Portland Trails leads an introductory birdwatching session. Meet at the Maine Orthopedics parking lot, Frost Street, Portland, at 8 am. Free. Bring binoculars and a guidebook. 775-2411.

Genealogical Society Meeting The society's Cape Elizabeth/Portland chapter holds a meeting open to all, with featured speaker Dr. Joseph Conforti, professor of American and New England Studies at the University of Southern Maine. At the Thomas Memorial Library, 6 Scott Dyer Rd., Cape Elizabeth, at 1 p.m. Free. 767-3684.

"A Joint Walk" for Arthritis The Arthritis Foundation sponsors its annual fund-raising walk, of varying lengths depending on people's abilities. At Southern Maine Technical College, Fort Road, South Portland, Register at 9 am; walk at 10 am; awards presentation for the most money raised at 11 am. Free. Pre-registration is encouraged. 800-639-2113.

Maine Audubon Bird Census and Tidal Presentation Maine Audubon invites bird watchers of all abilities to participate in its quarterly bird census, which tracks the different species of birds that visit the sanctuary throughout the year, at 6:30 am. Free. From 10-11 am, naturalist Martha Agan leads a slide show/hands-on presentation on intertidal creatures. Tix: \$6. At Gislend Farm, 118 Route 1, Falmouth, 761-2330.

"Publishing Your Book Today" The Bath-Brunswick chapter of Maine Media Women sponsors a talk by Karen Womner of Down East Books. Jennifer Elliott of Tibury House and agent/author Allan Swenson. At the Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant St., Brunswick, from 10 am-noon. Free; donations for the group's scholarships accepted. All are welcome. 721-0955.

Southworth Planetarium See Fri, May 4 for full listing. "Worlds in Motion" at 3 pm. "In Search of New Worlds" at 7 pm. Beatles laser light show at 8:30 pm.

"Spring Fling" The University of Southern Maine holds a spring celebration, featuring music by Strange Pleasure, Jeremiah Freed and others, as well as a Velcro walk, bouncy boxing, an obstacle course and more. At USM's Field House, Gorham, from 1-5 pm. Free; all are welcome. 874-3100.

Standardized Testing Discussion The local chapter of the Assessment Reform Network, an online discussion group, sponsors a discussion on the growth and misuse of standardized testing for kids. At the University of Southern Maine's Luther Bonney Hall, Room 241, Falmouth Street, Portland, at 3 pm. Free. 774-0419.

Sunday, May 6

Benefit Performance of "W.I.T." Portland Stage Company gives a performance of "W.I.T." to benefit the Maine Humanities Council's project, "Literature and Medicine: Humanities at the Heart of Health Care." The star of the New York and London productions of the play, Kathleen Chalfant, will be present at the reception. At the Portland Performing Arts Center, 25 Forest Ave., Portland, at 1 p.m. Tix: \$50. 773-5051.

Bath Rotary Bicycle Race Team Liquid Motion, a Portland-based cycling club, and the Bath Rotary Club sponsor several races to benefit the Rotary Club's community programs. Advanced race 30 one-mile laps at 8:30 am; intermediate/beginner races (20 laps) at 10:15 am; beginners (1/2 hour) at 11:30 am. United States Cycling Federation license required to race; one-day licenses are available (\$5-\$7). Tix: \$7-\$20 (free to watch). No mountain bikes. At Bath City Hall, 55 Front St. 865-3820.

Maine Jewish History Forum The Maine Historical Society sponsors a day-long forum, starting with a talk about the American Jewish experience; a discussion on the history of Portland's Jewish community from 1850-1950; a panel discussion on "Being Jewish in Maine"; a kosher lunch; a discussion by Judith Goldstein on her book, "Crossing Lines: Histories of Jews and Gentiles in Three Communities"; and ending with a panel discussion on how to research Jewish history. At the Center for Maine History, 485 Congress St., Portland, from 9 am-4 pm. Tix: \$15 (includes lunch). 774-1822.

"Making a Difference" Walk for Cancer Research 15-year-old Ashley Pooler sponsors a three-mile walk to benefit the Michael Cuccione Foundation's efforts to find a cure for cancer. So far, Pooler has single-handedly raised about a third of her \$10,000 goal. At the Back Bay parking lot, Portland, from 9-11 am. By donation. To register, call 878-5028.

Race Against Racism The Greater Portland YWCA sponsors a 5K run/walk to benefit the nonprofit Sudanese Community Association of Portland, featuring music by the Bernard Tshimangole Band. Registration starts at 7:30 am; the shorter "Kid's Fun Run" starts at 8:15 am; the adult race begins at 9 am. At the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland. Tix: \$12. 874-1830.

"Splash for Cash" The Center for Therapeutic Recreation sponsors its annual fund-raiser to benefit its various aquatic programs. At the South Portland Pool and Community Center, 21 Nelson Rd., from 8:30 am-1:30 pm. By donation. 772-0504.

Monday, May 7

Spike Lee The controversial filmmaker gives a talk entitled, "Beyond Blackface: The Makings and Meanings of 'Bamboozled,'" about his most recent film. At Bowdoin College's Morrill Gymnasium, Brunswick, at 7 pm. Tix: \$5. Call ahead as space is limited. 725-3375. "Bamboozled" will be screened Sat-Mon, May 5-6.



Choppin' broccoli and other good stuff: TV chef Martin Yan cooks up dinner Thursday, May 3 at Bates College, Lewiston.

7 at the Evening Star Cinema, 149 Maine St., Brunswick, at 3:30 pm. Tix: \$5.50. 729-6796.

Living Lecture Series Mercy Hospital sponsors a free lecture series by medical experts. This week: "Allergy: Nothing to Sneeze At," by Dr. Paris Mansmann. At the Southern Maine Technical College's Jewett Auditorium, Fort Road, South Portland, at 7 pm. Free. 879-3486.

Tuesday, May 8

Introduction to Backpacking The Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club sponsors a presentation by experienced backpackers including one hiker who hiked the whole Appalachian Trail last year) on equipment to bring, water purification and more. At the South Portland Public Library, 482 Broadway, at 6:30 pm. Free. Pre-register at 892-2685.

Poetry Reading Portland poet Jay Davis hosts an open mic poetry session open to all. At the Free Street Taverna, 28 Free St., Portland, at 8:30 pm. Free. 121-1174-1114.

Wednesday, May 9

Brown Bag Lecture Richard Ford, author of "Independence Day," a novel about an ex-spotswriter who tries to show his sulky-teen-age son a good time, gives a talk. At the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Square, from noon-1 pm. Free. 871-1700.

Cooking Class See Thurs, May 3 for full listing. This session: "Cooking and the News" with Patsy Higgins, formerly of Channel 13, and Mo Terry, from 11 am-12:30 pm. **Portland Trails Conference** The group meets to discuss its current and upcoming projects, including plans to connect the Stroudwater and Riverside areas of Portland with walking trails. All are welcome to attend. At the Casco Bay Ferry Terminal Conference Room, Commercial Street, Portland, from 6:30-8 pm. Free. 775-2411.

ongoing

The Casco Bay Men meet every Monday at 7 pm. The first Monday of the month is potluck dinner night, the third is game night. At Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. 772-5087.

Food Not Bombs The group distributes free food to the masses on Monument Square, Portland, every Sun from 2-4:30 pm. 774-2801.

Underground Railroad Tours Peace Action Maine member Wells Staley-Mays gives tours of Portland's Underground Railway and other sites important to African-American history. Complete tour is two hours or less. Tix: \$6 per person (minimum group of 6). 772-7249.

For Kids

The Children's Museum of Maine offers "Toddler Time" every Thurs from 9-11 am and "Big Messy Art" every Wed from 2-3:30 pm. At CMA, 142 Free St., Portland, from 1-2 pm. Tix: \$5 (infants free). 828-1234. **The Creative Resource Center** has several workshops for kids. Thurs, May 3: "Tissue Paper Flowers," from 4:30-5 pm, all ages. Fri, May 4: "Flower Painting," from 2:30-3 pm, ages 3-6. Sat, May 5: Musical instrument-making workshop, from 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 7+. Tix: \$5. Tues, May 8: "Sponge Painting," from 4:30-5 pm, all ages. All are a \$1 donation unless otherwise specified. At the CRC, 1103 Forest Ave., Portland. 797-9543. **The Warren Memorial Library** holds "Books and Babies" for 6-24 month-olds, every Tues at 9:30 am; "Tales for Tots," ages 2-3, Tues at 10:30 am; and "Read Aloud Time," ages 3-5, Wed at 10:15. At WML, 479 Main St., Westbrook. Free. 854-5891.

PERFORMING ARTS

auditions/submissions

Actors Last House Productions, a Portland-based film group, seeks adults to fill 35 roles for its upcoming summer film, "The Ballad of Faith Divine." Open auditions take place at 142 High St., Portland, Fri, May 18 from 6-9 pm and Sat, May 19 from 1-4 pm and 6-9 pm. Bring headshot/resume; script scenes will be provided. 775-9801.

Actors and Filmmakers Portland Media Artists seeks actors/actresses to star in current productions. The group meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Java Net, 37 Exchange St., Portland, at 7 pm. In addition, original films may be sent to: PMA, c/o Frank McMahon, 452 Cumberland Ave #2, Portland, ME 04101. Visit www.mediaartists.com, or call Frank at 772-5724.

Actors and TV Crew The producers of the local TV show "Strange America" seek actors, actresses and "behind the scenes" crew for future tapings near the Bangor area and other locations in Maine. Send a headshot, photo and/or resume to: EDGE Productions, PO Box 101, Wiscasset, ME 04495 or e-mail lucask@edgepictures.com. 827-1164.

Actors Sunrise Studios, 24 Pearl St., Biddeford, hosts "A Drama Experience" every Monday at 7 pm, featuring cold readings, improv and script sharing. Call Raiah at 934-5271.

Dancers Casco Bay Movers Dance studio offers a variety of classes for dancers of all abilities for upcoming productions. Cost: \$11-\$13 per class. For more info, call 871-1013. **Dancers The Dance Company** seeks dancers ages 7 and up for upcoming performances. There are no auditions; the company meets every Wed at the Saco Recreation Center, Common Street, Saco. For more info, call 284-4449.

Dancers Eduardo Mariscal is looking for dancers, actors and athletes who are in good shape. No experience necessary. Call 871-9056.

Filmmakers The Eighth Annual Austin Film Festival and Heart of Film Screenwriters Conference, held Oct. 11-18, seek entries for three competitions: Screenplay, Prime Time Television and Film. Screenplay deadline: Tues, May 15. \$40 fee. Prime Time Television deadline: Sun, June 15. \$25 fee. Film deadline: Sun, July 15. \$40 fee. For more details, call 800-310-3378.

Filmmakers and Musicians A Maine-based Web site seeks original works and productions. Visit www.mainstream.nu to learn how to post works on the Internet, or call 228-4867.

Filmmakers and Poets The Martin Digner Memorial Fellowship for Maine Writers Fund and the Jane Morrison Memorial Film Fund seek work from poets and filmmakers in the early stages of their careers. Deadline: Tues, May 15. For more info, call Pam at the Maine Community Foundation, 761-2440.

Filmmakers Ages 19 and Under The 24th Maine Student Film and Video Festival seeks film entries for its July screenings. Deadline: Fri, June 1. For an application, write to: MSPVF, Box 4320, Portland, ME 04101, visit www.agate.net/~le/mama or call 773-1130.

Freshman or Sophomore Music Majors are invited to audition for the 2001 Anne Gannett Scholarship Competition. Open to Maine residents, wherever they may be enrolled in school. Auditions are at the University of Southern Maine's Corbitt Concert Hall, Gorham, on Sat, June 9 at 1:30 pm. Apply by Mon, May 14 to: Joyce Chaplin, Anne Gannett Competition Chair, 92 Raymond Rd., Brunswick, ME 04011. 725-1125.

Musicians Jim Beam Bourbon sponsors a grant program called BEAM (Benefiting Emerging Musicians in Music) with grants totaling over \$100,000. Applications are available at: The BEAM Advisory Board, PO Box 5349, New York, NY 10150, or by visiting www.jimbeam.com. Deadline is Sat, June 30. 952-346-6343.

Dining GUIDE

Vieni Qui Adesso!

(vee-yeh-nee koo-ee ah-deh-soh)

Get Over Here Now!

Our New Dining Room Is A Vineyard from Italy!

The only place you can find the world famous Portland Wine & Cheese Cookies!

ANTHONY'S

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151 Middle St., Portland, ME
(207)774-8668 Lower Level
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Beer & Wine • Ample Free Parking

AMERICAN

SEBAGO BREWING CO. - Restaurant • Brewhouse - "Where the Food is as Great as the Beer" We offer the freshest daily seafood, perfectly grilled steaks and the best deli sandwiches and salads! Come relax in our friendly lounge or have a private dinner in our dining room. Open late every day of the week. 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Visit us at both of our locations: 164 Middle St. in the Old Port or at the Maine Mall in South Portland. Portland 207-775-BEER • South Portland 207-879-ALES • www.sebagobrewing.com.

ROSIES. Voted #1 Old Port Tavern & Best spot in the Old Port with reviews from Boston, North to prove it - Great homemade soups & chowders & specials. Smokers welcome. Open 7 days per week 11am-1am. 330 Fore Street, Portland. 772-5656.

RUSKIS. Listed by Downeast Magazine as the Place to Go in Portland - Has won #1 Tavern in Portland, #1 Breakfast Spot & others for years - Happy Hour both AM & PM. Full menu all day & night. Smokers welcome. Open Monday-Sat 7am-1am, Sundays 9am-1am. 212 Danforth Street, Portland. 774-7604.

CAFE

BINTLIFF'S AMERICAN CAFE. (Serving Brunch Daily 7am-2pm.) Featuring... custom omelets, tortillas, specialty benedicts, homemade granola and other American Fusion Cuisine. Select dinner menu served Tues-Sat 5:30pm-9pm. Homemade desserts, extensive wine list and full bar, all complimented by warm, comfortable Greek Revival surroundings. 98 Portland St (across from the Post Office) 774-0005.

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VICTORY CAFE & BAKERY offers a fusion of traditional dishes with an eclectic menu of specials made fresh daily from the finest ingredients. Enjoy breakfast, lunch, traditional afternoon tea, and tapas in a friendly, relaxing, white linen setting and refined atmosphere

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CHINESE

ORIENTAL TABLE. Szechuan, Hunan & Cantonese. We will prepare any of our dishes to your liking. We are happy to accommodate your special request, please let us know your preferences. We serve many vegetarian and heart-smart choices. Hrs: Mon-Thu 11:30am-8pm, Fri & Sat 11:30am-9pm, Sunday closed. 106 Exchange St (top of the Old Port) Portland Tel: 775-3388, Fax: 772-3388. FOOD: ★★1/2, SERVICE: ★★, VALUE FOR THE \$: ★★ from Portland Press Herald-Go Cheap Eats, Nov., 2000.

ECLECTIC

BLACK TIE continues to serve a casual yet intimate lunch Monday through Friday in the Old Port. The take out cafe on Middle St. offers lunch and dinner, wines, desserts, hostess gifts and more. They now proudly offer dinner, lunch and brunch, as well as a take home bistro at one of the newest locations on Route One in Yarmouth, ME. Try one or all of their locations soon, serving fine fare prepared by Maine's largest catering establishment. Black Tie Cafe - Portland 761-6665; Black Tie To Go - Portland 756-6230; Black Tie Cafe - Yarmouth 846-8022.

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ITALIAN

BELLA CUCINA. Albert's, The Good Egg Café, Bella Bella, Zephyr Grill and now Bella Cucina. This one serves "country-Italian" whatever that means. Here it means salmon polpettone on shellfish risotto, roasted gnocchi with shrimp salad, wood roasted veal chops stuffed with rabbit sausage. Longfellow Square - open every night @ 5pm - free parking behind Joe's Smoke Shop. 100 selection wine list that changes daily, reservations accepted. 653 Congress St., Portland. 828-4033.

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MESA VERDE. Authentic Mexican Restaurant and Juice Bar. Homemade, healthy & prepared naturally. Happy Hour Tues-Fri 2p-6p. Enjoy Chiles Rellenos, Homemade Tamales, enchiladas, fresh juices, smoothies, fresh fruit margaritas. Casual atmosphere. Serving lunch & dinner. \$2 Draft Beer selection. New wines. Take-out available. 618 Congress Street (across from the State Theatre) 774-6089.

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THAI

SIAM CITY CAFE is a new fine dining restaurant located in the old port. Most of the menu items are original family recipes and not found at the other Thai restaurants in Portland. Chef Yordprom's vision is to introduce a new style of cooking and redefine Thai cuisine in the Portland market. 339 Fore St., 773-8389.

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LISTINGS

VOLUNTEER

Caring Unlimited, York County's domestic violence program, seeks to train advocates to support victims in shelters, district courts, support groups, etc. Training dates are Sat. May 19 from 9 am-4 pm; then Tues and Thurs from 6-9 pm from Tues, May 22-Thurs, June 21. For more info, call Bonnie at 409-3227 x106.

Case Management for Youth Inc. 343 Forest Ave., Portland. The group seeks volunteers for its Mentor Program, which matches kids and youths ages 5-19 one-on-one with adults who will be their role models/friends. Male volunteers are especially needed. Call 842-3609.

The Fresh Air Fund 633 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017. The Fresh Air Fund seeks host families in Southern Maine to open their homes to a New York City child for two weeks this summer, the most dangerous time of the year in the city. Call Susan at 477-2952, or the FAF at 800-367-0003.

The Million Mom March, a group that promotes safe gun laws, seeks volunteers to help with the Mother's Day Rally at Deering Oaks Park, Portland, on Sun. May 13. Call 781-2848 or e-mail moms@maine.mrm.com.

Parkfest 2001 seeks volunteers, exhibitors, sponsors and project leaders for its upcoming block party on Sun. July 22. The group meets at the Skippy, 627 Congress St., Portland, every Wed at 6 pm. Call Sara at 871-594.

Southern Maine Pride seeks volunteers for its many activities. E-mail audrey@southmainepride.com or call 774-7800.

World Heritage Local contact: Mary Jane Peaco, 248 Davis Rd., Durham. World Heritage needs local host families for high school boys and girls from Spain, Mexico, France, Germany, Thailand, Brazil, Japan and the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union. Call 253-7913 or 800-785-9040.

Ongoing

ABBA, A Women's Resource Center 470 Forest Ave., Suite 211, Portland. ABBA, an organization which works with women with unplanned pregnancies, needs volunteers for abstinence education for teens. Requires 26 hours of training to become a one-on-one counselor. Volunteers are also needed for computer work, etc. Call Judy Cushing at 253-5555.

American Red Cross 524 Forest Ave., Portland. Volunteers are needed for several positions, including educators, emergency workers, CPR and First Aid givers, baby-sitters and more. Training provided. Call Diann Carroll at 874-1192 ext. 108. Volunteers also needed in the regional blood center as registrars, escorts, canteen supervisors, community blood drive organizers and schedulers; at-home tele-recruiters also needed. Contact Blood Center coordinator Renee Tardiff at 775-2367.

Animal Refuge League 449 Stroudwater, Westbrook. Volunteers are needed for general cleaning and animal caregiving. Call 854-9771, ext. 103.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Portland Suite 216B, 175 Lancaster St., Portland. Big Brothers/Big Sisters seeks volunteers age 18 and up to spend time as an adult friend to an at-risk child. Commitment is either weekly or every other week for at least one year. 773-5437.

Birthingline, Catholic Charities Maine 562 Congress St., Portland. Volunteers for Birthingline needed to staff clothing closets, do publicity and staff the crisis pregnancy support Helpline. Birthingline supports Project Rachel, in which volunteers provide post-abortion counseling. All services are free and confidential, and no church affiliation is required for volunteers or families. Birthingline provides alternatives to abortion. Call Annette Rioux at 871-7464 or 1-800-CARE-002.

Caleb Adult Center 18 Forest Ave., Portland. The Caleb Adult Center provides computer access and instruction for senior citizens and adults with disabilities. Volunteers are needed for one-on-one tutoring sessions, teaching basic computer skills and helping participants with Internet access and software programs. Call or stop by the center, which is open Mon-

Fri. 10 am-4 pm, 771-0295.
Cancer Community Center 778 Main St., South Portland. The center seeks volunteers to perform support group facilitation, one-on-one support work, reception and clerical work. Training is provided. Call Dawn at 774-2200.

Cedars Nursing Care Center 630 Ocean Ave., Portland. Volunteers are needed to visit, assist and escort the center's aging residents throughout the week. Ongoing support and training is provided. Call 772-5456.

Center for Community Dental Health 813 Washington Ave., Portland. The center needs volunteers to assist elderly patients while they wait for care in their nursing home. Volunteers also needed to assist with the dental exam and give fluoride rinses, and for clerical work in the free dental clinic in Saco two evenings a month. Call 874-1028.

Community Health Services 901 Washington Ave., Suite 104, Portland. The agency needs volunteers to visit home-bound people, install and maintain Life Line (a helpline for homebound elderly), help with supplies, assist with the switchboard and help with office duties. Call 775-7231.

Fairbrook Woods 418 Ray St., Portland. This assisted-living facility for the elderly needs volunteers for activities assistants, bingo assistants, transportation, one-on-one visitors, community outings, entertainers and pet therapy. 878-0788.

Foster Grandparent Program Harbor Terrace 284 Danforth St., Portland. The People's Regional Opportunity Program needs foster grandparents in Cumberland County. Typical assignments include helping children with their homework, reading with toddlers in a child development center or supporting families by visiting them in their homes. Foster grandparents who are income-eligible can earn tax-free income while working 20 hours a week. 773-0202.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland Box 10505, Portland. This part of a nonprofit international organization that builds homes in partnership with lower-income families who apply for no-interest mortgages. Volunteers are needed to select families, plan events, write the newsletter, raise funds and help with office work and construction. 772-2151.

HAVEN Volunteer Opportunities Portland. Volunteers are needed for several positions in the HAVEN Collaborative which includes the AIDS Lodging House, Peabody House, and The AIDS Project. Agencies united in their effort to provide services and support to people living with HIV/AIDS. 774-6877.

Ingraham 237 Oxford St., Portland. Ingraham needs volunteers for its 24-hour crisis intervention hotline. All volunteers get training and assistance. Training sessions are 40 hours over six weeks. Volunteers for administrative positions are also available. Call Cheryl Camire at 874-1055.

La Leche League of Greater Portland 71 Pleasant Ave., Portland. La Leche League brings mothers together with other mothers who wish to breast-feed their babies. Volunteers needed to provide information and support for breast-feeding mothers via monthly meetings, telephone and/or the Internet www.la-leche-league.org. Call Amy at 883-1963 or Ashley at 773-6985. E-mail: ferriam@lme.net.

Maine Children's Cancer Program 233 Vaughn St., Portland. Volunteers are needed to serve on an organizing committee for the 10th Annual 10K Walk that will take place in late September. Opportunities include service on the following committees: teams, breakfast, publicity, logistics, food and entertainment, volunteers, marketing and development. Volunteers also needed for mailing and for other special events. For more information, call Christi at 871-6274.

The Maine Coalition for Food Security 1 Pleasant St., 4th floor, Box 4503, Portland. The coalition needs volunteers to participate in the food cooperative and to assist with clerical tasks. The coalition is also heading the Campaign to End Childhood Hunger. This group holds a series of meetings for people interested in motivating the community to help those who live with hunger in Greater Portland. Call 871-8266.

Maine Island Trail Association 41A Union Wharf, Portland. The nonprofit conservation organization has a variety of volunteer opportunities available all year. Possibilities range from data entry and fund-raising to island clean-ups and their Adopt-A-Island program. Call Tanya at 761-8225.

Mainly Parents Fort Williams Park, Box 231, Cape Elizabeth. The program, which provides support and encouragement for parents, runs a talk line for parents under stress, weekdays from 9 am-4 pm. The program needs group facilitators and child-care volunteers for its parent and children's support groups and parent education classes. Call Maureen Bickford at 767-5506 or 1-800-249-5506.

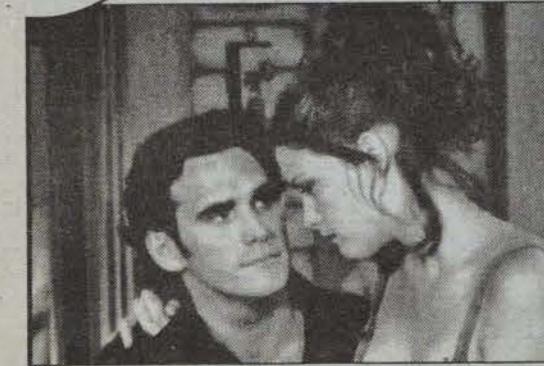
Maine Puppy Raisers of Guiding Eyes for the Blind RFD 1, Box 1620, Belfast, 04915. Guiding Eyes seeks volunteer puppy-raising homes to raise potential guide dogs. No special skills are needed; puppy raisers will have support when needed. Call Pat, area coordinator, at 338-5520.

MOVIES

"One Night at McCool's"

Directed by Harald Zwart.
Rated R. At Hoyts Clark's Pond, 333 Clark's Pond Rd., South Portland, 879-1511; and Hoyts Falmouth 10, 206 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth, 881-5616.

review



He's stupid. She's sexy. It can't turn out well. Matt Dillon and Liv Tyler in "One Night at McCool's."

"Body Heat" meets "There's Something About Mary" in "One Night at McCool's." A good-natured sleazy script, a confident directorial debut by Harald Zwart and uniformly strong performances anchor this deliciously sexy, darkly comic romp, which plays film-noir conventions strictly for laughs.

The basic elements of the story are classic noir. There's Jewel (Liv Tyler) in a flawless, sultry performance), a young but not-so-innocent bombshell who knows what she wants and has the determination to get it, and the three loser guys whose lives she turns upside down in the process.

Matt Dillon is Randy, the bartender at a neighborhood bar called McCool's. Randy is the poor man's Tom Cruise from "Cocktail" — his house specialty is a concoction served in a plunger. Leaving the bar one night, Randy hears a couple arguing heatedly. Racing to the rescue, he pulls the girl, Jewel, from the car.

Jewel insists on accompanying Randy home and ultimately, to bed. Naturally, there's a hitch: Jewel and her boyfriend are a larcenous team. They stage their fights. Then, while Jewel distracts their victims, her boyfriend cleans them out. This time, though, Jewel is taken with Randy and wants out of the deal.

Psycho boyfriend Utah (Andrew Dice Clay, now calling himself Andrew Silverstein) has other ideas.

Upon discovering Randy has nothing worth stealing, Utah takes him back to the bar to open the safe. Convinced Utah will kill Randy, Jewel takes matters into her own hands, shoots Utah and promptly moves in with Randy.

Randy has one thing Jewel has always wanted: the dilapidated home his mother left him. Unfortunately, he loses his job in the aftermath of the killing, and since he's singularly unmotivated to find another position, Jewel sees only one way to keep a roof over her head and furnish their home — returning to her old m.o. of dating and robbing, this time with weak-willed and none-too-swift Randy as her accomplice.

Complicating matters are two other men with a fixation on Jewel, Detective Dehling (John Goodman) and Randy's sleazeball lawyer cousin, Carl (Paul Reiser). Dehling sees his late wife in Jewel and casts himself as her protector, but his self-righteous posturing can't disguise his self-serving nature. Carl has no such lofty pretensions. He's convinced he's God's gift to women and is obsessed with fantasies of Jewel, regardless of what his wife or cousin Randy might have to say about it.

Jewel has a field day manipulating the flawed men in her life, playing one against the other while pulling the strings. When one job goes wrong and she has to kill the guy, she's so determined to get his DVD player that she demands Randy extricate it from where it is imbedded — in the victim's skull. When Randy grows unmanageable, she has Dehling issue a restraining order, effectively barring Randy from his own home, which she plans to keep for herself.

There are great supporting bits along the way, with Michael Douglas as a seedy, bingo-playing hit man; and Reba McEntire as Carl's shrink, a woman to whom Carl's view of himself as irresistible is incredible.

But the real story here is Tyler, who makes this movie work. Obviously, her beauty is key to the role, but her acting is flawless, running the gamut from shy innocent to slutty dominatrix and from shy manipulator to pragmatic murderess, all with impeccable comic delivery.

The story is told from the points of view of Randy, Dehling and Carl, each of whose version is colored by their respective character flaws. The movie is essentially a long build to a big climax. Suffice to say, the finale does not disappoint. "One Night at McCool's" is a darkly hilarious winner.

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NEW RELEASES

THE DISH Starring a whole crew of actors you've never heard of, "The Dish" recreates the comical 1969 efforts of technicians to install a satellite dish in the sheep-raising Australian town of Parkes. Without the high-tech piece of equipment, NASA scientists would've been unable to communicate with their moon-landing astronauts. Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6

A KNIGHT'S TALE Advance ye cravenly potroom and bend thy wicked eyes onto a tale of chivalry and blood. With Heath Ledger, **Maine Mall Cinema**

THE MUMMY RETURNS And so does Brendan Fraser as the swashbuckling hero who must destroy the un-dead Egyptian sorcerer, Imhotep. Look for WWF superstar the Rock in a touching portrayal of a Red Cross nurse. **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

THE TAILOR OF PANAMA On the eve of the handover of the Panama Canal, a spy (Pierce Brosnan) hires a tailor (Geoffrey Rush) to spy on his wealthy bosses. But the timid tailor may have an agenda of his own. **Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6**

ALSO SHOWING

ALONG CAME A SPIDER A prequel to "Kiss the Girls," "Spider" finds Morgan Freeman reprising his role of D.C. cop Alex Cross. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

BLOW A petty marijuana dealer successfully establishes his own cocaine empire, much to the dismay of his prudish father. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY A 32-year-old woman decides to start keeping a diary, which quickly becomes a sardonic critique of the world around her. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

CAT **CAST AWAY** Tom Hanks cast away a few pounds and his shaving kit to play a Federal Express employee who gets stranded on a tropical island after a mid-ocean plane crash. Alone with little help of surviving, Hank's character begins an inward journey through the spiritual pathways of the soul — or some such nonsense. **Keystone Theatre Cafe**

CHOCOLAT You've enjoyed the tasty treat for years. Now see the movie! **Suede** Lasse Hallstrom, known for warm but idiosyncratic comedies like "My Life as a Dog," directed this story of a woman (Juliette Binoche) and her daughter who open a chocolate shop in a small town where folks are suspicious of any enterprise that has Sunday hours. **The Movies**

CHUNHYANG A young nobleman in 18th-century Korea secretly weds the daughter of a courtesan. However, the love affair is threatened when the husband is sent to Seoul, leaving his wife vulnerable to the libidinous aspirations of a new governor. **The Movies**

CROCODILE DUNDEE IN LOS ANGELES Crocodile Dundee goes to Los Angeles. **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON In dynastic China, a 400-year-old sword called "Green Destiny" is entrusted to a female warrior, Yu Shu Lien (Michelle Yeoh), by her long-time fighting partner and legendary martial-arts juggernaut, Li Mu Bai (the fantastic Chow Yun Fat). Directed by Ang Lee ("The Wedding Banquet"), **Keystone Theatre Cafe, Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6**

DRIVEN We all knew Bud Reynolds wouldn't be able to stay away from a racing picture for long. But at least "Cannonball Run" had Dean Martin. "Driven," a tale of speedway ambition written by and also starring, alongside Reynolds' Sylvester Stallone, has nothing but characters with embarrassing names like Jimmy Bly, Beau Brandenburg, Mema Moreno and Dom Deluise. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

THE FORSAKEN A high-schooler traveling to his sister's wedding stops to pick up a hitchhiker. Only this isn't your average roadside wanderer. He's a VAMPIRE KILLER! **Hoyts Clark's Pond**

now playing

FREDDY GOT FINGERED Gord Brody (Tom Green) is forced to move back in with his parents, a situation he decides to hold onto for a while. **Hoyts Clark's Pond**

HANNIBAL In this much anticipated sequel to "Silence of the Lambs," Anthony Hopkins reprises his role as the cannibal with an acute olfactory sense. **Keystone Theatre Cafe**

HEARTBREAKERS A mother and daughter make money the American way: They con people out of it. The mom marries a rich bachelor, the daughter seduces him and the two women share the spoils from the divorce settlement. **Keystone Theatre Cafe**

THE HOUSE OF MIRTH Lily Bart's not having the best of luck. A turn-of-the-20th-century socialite with waning clout, she plays a po' old white boy looking for his siblings. That is, parents. **Maine Mall Cinema**

JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS If you liked the schlocky '70s cartoon about the adventurous girl band, you'll love this updated version that features REAL-life actors speaking REAL-LIFE dialogue! **Hoyts Clark's Pond**

O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU? In this adaptation of "The Odyssey," set in Depression-era Mississippi, George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson star as escaped convicts trying to retrieve a hidden treasure. Directed by Joel Coen. **Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6**

ONE NIGHT AT MCCOOL'S A seductive young woman lures three men — her boyfriend, her cop and a lawyer — into her devious plans. **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

POLLOCK Ed Harris portrays the last 15 years in the life of America's most famous (alcoholic) abstract artist. **Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6**

SOMEONE LIKE YOU A woman (Ashley Judd) is given a column at a men's magazine in which she interprets male/female behavior by observing wild animals. **Wown**, women really are from Venus. **Maine Mall Cinema**

SNATCH A twist of circumstances brings a group of unlikely characters together in this film directed by Guy Ritchie ("Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels"). An Irish boxer (Brad Pitt) bent on defying his mob boss' order to throw his rights, and a jewel thief (Benicio Del Toro). **Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6**

SPY KIDS Robert Rodriguez ("The Faculty") directed this story of two kids who must rescue their spy-team parents from the evil Fegan Floop. **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

TOWN AND COUNTRY A prominent New York architect must make some important decisions about his life, the consequences of which bring new lessons in love, life, friendship and other yucky matters. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

TRAFFIC Director Steven Soderbergh's latest is a cold tale of drugs and the people who — one way or another — dabble in them. There's the border cop (Benicio Del Toro) who attempts to oust his crooked boss. There's the beautiful and pregnant wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) with a narcotics kinsman for a husband. And there's the head of the National Drug Task Force (Michael Douglas) caught between carrying out his duties and trying to save his strung-out daughter. **Maine Mall Cinema**

WHAT'S COOKING? A group of ethnically varied families each suffer their own fiasco on Thanksgiving Day. The daughter of the Jewish couple brings home her lesbian lover, the Latino son shows up with his womanizing and estranged father and the African American youth takes issue with his father's job working for a politically conservative governor. **The Movies**

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME Now adults, two siblings are reunited when the brother — a drifter and troublemaker, but a charmer all the same — shows up at the home of his more stable sister. **Nickelodeon Cinemas 1-6**

times starting friday

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRI. MAY 4 THROUGH THURS. MAY 10. EXCEPT WHERE INDICATED.
Owing to scheduling changes after CSW goes to press, moviegoers are advised to confirm times with theaters.

HOYTS CLARK'S POND

333 Clark's Pond Rd., So. Portland, 879-1511
THE MUMMY RETURNS PG-13
12:12:40, 3:30, 6:40, 7:10, 9:30, 9:50
ONE NIGHT AT MCCOOL'S R
1:34:0, 7:9:20

THE FORSAKEN R
1:4, 7:30, 9:40
CROCODILE DUNDEE IN LOS ANGELES PG
12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:15
FREDDY GOT FINGERED R
3:50, 10

JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS PG-13
12:30, 7:20
SPY KIDS PG
12:30, 3:10, 6:30, 9:10
ENEMY AT THE GATES R
12:10, 3:10, 6:30, 9:30

HOYTS FALMOUTH 10

206 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth, 881-5616
THE MUMMY RETURNS PG-13
12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 6:40, 7:10, 9:30, 10
DRIVEN PG-13
1:20, 4:10, 7:25

ONE NIGHT AT MCCOOL'S R
1:40, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55
TOWN AND COUNTRY R
12:50, 3:55, 6:50, 10:05
CROCODILE DUNDEE IN LOS ANGELES PG
1:15, 3:35, 6:35, 9:15

BLOW R
12:40, 3:30, 6:45, 9:40
ALONG CAME A SPIDER R
1:10, 3:40, 6:55, 9:10
BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY R
1:30, 4, 7:30, 9:50

SPY KIDS PG
1:25, 4:05, 6:30, 9

KEYSTONE THEATRE CAFE

504 Congress St., Portland, 871-5500
HEARTBREAKERS PG-13
6:30, 9:15-SAT-SUN, MAT. 3:30
HANNIBAL R
9:30

CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON PG-13
7:45-SUN, MAT. 3:45
CAST AWAY PG-13
7:30-SAT-SUN, MAT. 4

MAINE MALL CINEMA

Maine Mall Road, So. Portland, 774-1022
A KNIGHT'S TALE PG-13
SHOWS WED., MAY 2-THURS., MAY 3
7:15, 9:30

WHAT'S COOKING? PG-13
SHOWS WED., MAY 2-THURS., MAY 3
5, 9:15
CHOCOLAT PG-13
SHOWS FRI. MAY 4-THURS., MAY 10
FRI-THURS. 5, 7:15, 9:30
SAT-SUN, MAT. 12:30, 2:45

ALONG CAME A SPIDER R
1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 9:45
BLOW R
1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 9:50

SOMEONE LIKE YOU PG-13
1:30, 9:50
TRAFFIC R
3:45, 6:45

THE MOVIES

10 Exchange St., Portland, 772-9600
CHUNHYANG R
SHOWS WED., MAY 2-THURS., MAY 3
5, 7:15, 9:30

WHAT'S COOKING? PG-13
SHOWS WED., MAY 2-THURS., MAY 3
5, 9:15
CHOCOLAT PG-13
SHOWS FRI. MAY 4-THURS., MAY 10
FRI-THURS. 5, 7:15, 9:30
SAT-SUN, MAT. 12:30, 2:45

NICKELODEON CINEMAS 1-6

Female and Middle Streets, Portland, 772-9751
THE TAILOR OF PANAMA R
4:10, 7:10, 9:40-SAT-SUN, MAT. 1
THE DISH PG-13
4:30, 7:30, 9:45-SAT-SUN, MAT. 1:15

THE HOUSE OF MIRTH PG
6:30-SAT-SUN, MAT. 12:45
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME R
4:45

CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON PG-13
4:30, 7:30, 9:30-SAT-SUN, MAT. 1:45
POLLOCK R
3:45, 9:15

O BROTHER WHERE ART THOU? PG-13
4:45, 7:30, 9:30-SAT-SUN, MAT. 2
SNATCH R
1:30, 9:20

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BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I can't believe how many people suffer from the delusion that being creative is mostly a whole lot of fresh, spontaneous, exuberant fun. Now and then it is like that, certainly. But more often it's about hard work, trial and error, and long hours spent musing and agonizing. Can you guess what part of your creative cycle you're in now, Aries? Yup: smack in the middle of the slave-away-in-a-good-cause phase: the do-it-with-all-your-might-even-though-you-can't-imagine-what-good-will-come-of-it phase. Devote yourself to this labor with earnest faith and you'll be well rewarded in a few weeks.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): The astrological omens say it's high time to recommit to your relationship with the most important person in your life. That's why I urge you to write a love letter to yourself. Make it a minimum of five pages, please, and don't you dare inhibit your tender praise for yourself like a selfish, egotistical narcissist. (Rest secure in the indisputable fact that everyone alive is a selfish, egotistical narcissist.) Once you've poured your heart out into this ultimate mash note, you'll be in the right mood for the next step: Get yourself a beautiful, thoughtful gift that symbolizes a secret promise you will make to yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your feelings are stronger than sin these days, so who cares if they're right or wrong, right? Wrong! I mean right! I mean I don't know! Yours is not to wonder why, yours is just to laugh and cry—maybe even at the same time! Rarely in the history of your tribe has a flood of primal emotion so completely drowned out the perky chatter of your mind! What a fantastic opportunity this is to violate all unnecessary taboos and blow away every last shred of false dignity! Think you can handle it? Nah, of course you can't. That's what's going to be so fun about it all. So hunk in if you love being blinded by the light! Wink with manic glee every time you're visited by another cosmic joke! Oink whenever you're rendered speechless!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I'm taking the liberty of quoting from my unpublished book, *The Mocha Feminist Bible*. The passage in question happens to be perfect advice for you to keep in mind during the coming week. "It's not the meek who shall inherit the earth, but rather the well-disciplined pleasure-seekers who have balanced the masculine and feminine sides of their own natures and mastered the fine arts of working at their play and playing at their work."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't launch a flirtatious correspondence with a prison inmate this week, Leo. For that matter, don't eat any fungi, or blowfish, the Japanese delicacy that sometimes contains deadly poison. And please avoid conducting seances in which you summon the spirits of evil stepfathers, the devil's cronies, or psychotic tyrants you think might be interesting to talk to. No, my dear, pick safer risks. Make smarter gambles. I'm all for you trying out unpredictable adventures you've never dared before, but make sure they're certifiably constructive and worthy of your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In a famous experiment, a therapist hypnotized 20 art students and suggested to each of them that they had been Rembrandt in their past lives. Following this "artificial memory" transplant, 17 of the students showed dramatic improvement in their artistry. This week we'll conduct a similar undertaking. Now please begin to relax. Let all tension flow out of you. Breathe deeply. Feel every cell in your body purr with luminous calm. Imagine that you're living in your previous incarnation as the explorer Marco Polo. Visualize in vivid detail what it feels like to be a pioneer who's willing to go to the ends of the Earth to quench his lust for fresh perceptions and novel encounters.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Looks like your spirit guides have conspired with all the people in your life to cook up a mind-boggling, libido-unleashing, legend-making adventure. If he were still alive, myth-master Joseph Campbell would no doubt have given you a seal of approval for the quest you're tackling. In light of that, I'll

give old Joe the last word: "The unconscious sends all sorts of vapors, odd beings, terrors, and deluding images up into the mind—whether in dream, broad daylight, or insanity; for the human kingdom, beneath the floor of the comparatively neat little dwelling that we call our consciousness, goes down into unsuspected Aladdin caves. There not only jewels but also dangerous jinn abide: the inconvenient or resisted psychological powers that we have not thought or dared to integrate into our lives."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It's time for your interview, Scorpio. Let's get right to it. Me: "What subject do you talk about when you want to captivate the imagination of a very important person?" You: "I talk about the person whose imagination I want to captivate." Me: "How do you prove how smart you are in the way you love?" You: "Before I ask anyone to change their attitude or behavior, I first change myself in that exact way." Me: "What's the skill that you're destined to be a master of, even though it's difficult for you to learn?" You: "Knowing the difference between fanatical obsession and supple passion."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I don't care what you feel this week, as long as you don't feel nothing. Get inflamed with greed or sadness or impossible longing or a fixation with justice, but don't you dare submit to apathy or numbness. You can't afford to be cut off from the sources of your secret self, even if it means having to navigate through the chaos that keeps those sources fresh. The strangely beautiful fact of the matter, Sagittarius, is that if you're willing to go through hell, you won't have to go through hell. So promise me you won't get tricked into believing there's something noble about assuming a poker face. Be a wild thing, not a mild thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): My statistical studies show that Capricorns are the least likely of all the signs to consult my horoscopes. It's no coincidence that your sign also ranks last among the percentage of people who choose to become circus clowns. What's the connection? Well, appreciating my take on astrology requires a deep commitment to not taking yourself too seriously. My oracles propose that the only truth and power worth having are built on a willingness to laugh at everything you passionately believe in. Now it so happens that this is a perfect moment for you to try out this approach—and to convert other Capricorns to the cause.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): New York magazine recently presented evidence that VIPs receive perks unavailable to regular folks. It seems instructors at a certain yoga school in New York give inordinate attention to their students Gwyneth Paltrow and Madonna, neglecting less-famous classmates. Bucking this trend, I'm proud to say I show no such favoritism. This week's horoscope, as always, is unaffected by my fawning admiration for Aquarian celebrities like black emancipationist Frederick Douglass, radical defender of democracy Thomas Paine, music revolutionary Bob Marley, trailblazing feminist anthropologist Marija Gimbutas, and pioneer sociologist Havelsok Ellis. My oracle for stars like them is the same as it is for you: Work on liberating the world later, right now, release your heart and soul from bondage.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "Speak in briefer sentences about simpler things," scolded a reader in a recent e-mail. "I'm exhausted by your exotic ideas and vivid language. Normal people want practical advice spelled out literally." I wrote back to thank her for her feedback and tell her she's dead wrong. Normal people, I said, desperately need subtle truths that aren't filtered through the clumbing-down machinery of the huge media conglomerates. Besides, if it's even possible to achieve simplicity in our overwrought age, it certainly can't be won by studying regurgitated clichés that ooze conventional wisdom. No, I will not speak in generic monotonies. Especially for you this week, Pisces, you'll have to be ingenious and complex if you hope to keep your life from being denatured by the mass delusions that have infected folks in your vicinity.

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33-YEAR-OLD M. Married, good-looking, seeking S or Married-F for discreet erotic fun, age unimportant. #90491

42-YEAR-OLD, HOT, cute, sexy, attractive, very tall transgender (Male to Female), new to Maine, seeking Male with great personality, for friendship first. #90535

55-YEAR-OLD DWM on the Maine Coast, looking for the Woman with a wild side. Almost anything goes. #90605

ATTENTION: MAN in uniform. GWM, 31, black hair, brown eyes, looking for LFS to deliver. Hobbies include: music, rollerblading and unwrapping packages. Looking for Mr. Right or Mr. Wrong. Let's unwrap together. #90022

GOOD-LOOKING MARRIED Man looking for attractive, intelligent Woman for the cumminiguns not offered at home. #90572

GWPM, 37, seeks fit, healthy and attractive Man under 40, for erotic full body massage and hot oral encounters. I will do it all, you just need to enjoy. Satisfaction and discretion are guaranteed. You will not be disappointed. #90065

HANDSOME MARRIED M, late 30s, looking for a F who enjoys the oral side of life on occasion. Please be healthy and discreet. #90487

HANDSOME, VERY Married WPM, 5'10", 165 lbs, nice body trim, athletic build, healthy, with proof, whose spouse has lost interest. Seeks one very Married Female counterpart for erotic affair the old-fashioned way, long-term, monogamous, totally discreet. #90049

BI-CURIOUS WM, 28, 5'11", 200 lbs, seeking White Couple, Bi or bi-curious M for discreet fun times. #90043

BI-CURIOUS WM, 44, seeks first time encounter with another Male and also a Cross-dresser. #90553

BIF ISO another Bi for fun with me and my Male friend, for fun times. We live on a lake, have plenty of privacy. Seeking friendship first and let's see what happens. Summer is coming, let's have fun. #90618

BIG GIRLS turn me on. I love to kiss, cuddle and stay up all night. DWM, 34, 5'7", 200 lbs, clean-cut, healthy and discreet. Seeks Woman, 18-35, for adult play. Let's talk. #90589

BIWM, 45, who likes cross-dressing, seeks the same for fun times. #90466

BIWM, 43, healthy, mature, intelligent, nice-looking, blue/brown, 5'8", 165 lbs, ISO mutual physical enjoyment. Discretion, privacy a must. Mid-coast area. #90438

BOSTON MAN, attractive, 36, seeks kinky Female companionship while in Portland. All fantasies and fetishes welcomed. Healthy and discreet. #90480

BOTTOM FOR top sex buddy. I must massage your feet. Oral intercourse. 69. Call me naughty Man. Spank me. No femmes, recheads. Mens clothes only. No baggage. 33, healthy. Me: 5'11", 33 years old, glasses, beard, brown/brown. I'm very assertive. #90615

I'M A laid-back Gentleman who's seeking a Lady between the ages of 25 and 42, who would like to have some fun. I like outdoor sports, snowmobiling, ice fishing. I also like to shoot pool, throw darts. I'll be waiting to hear from you. #90558

I'M A submissive Male seeking to sever a mistress, sadistic qualities are welcomed. I am 44, 5'9", 190 lbs. Open, honest and lots of fun to be with. Can train to be what my mistress desires. #90578

COEDS LOOKING for an older Gentleman to show you the ropes? Tired of immature Boys? Let this distinguished, 40-yr. Gentleman treat you like a Lady, teach you what you want to learn and then go away. No strings, only fun. #90617

DOMESTICALLY ATTACHED Male looking for domestically attached Female with an active imagination for adult fun and games. WPM, please. Discretion expected and assured. Safe sex only. #90595

DOMINANT WIDOWED Male, 54, returning to Maine. Seek Lady who is open, articulate, witty, good company, for shared mutually fulfilling exploration of my dominance and her submission. Want to know you as a person first! #90614

FROM PASSABLE Cross-dresser to a pre-op with curves. Am back in town to let my hair down, with long legs and shorter skirts. #90819

KICK BACK and enjoy. In search of well-endowed receiver for oral fantasy. #90765

KIND, CARING, intelligent, passionate, dominant, straight. Single Male, 44, I'm also sincere, discriminating and communicative. Looking to meet an honest, sincere, intelligent and submissive Woman for mutual exploration, to add some joy, excitement, delight and passion to both our lives. #90408

LADIES! ARE you nervous about responding? Let this Married Male, early 40s, put your anxieties to rest and give you the best two hours you've had in a long time. Healthy and discreet. Let's talk first. I'm ready. #90601

LOOKING FOR a special Female with unfulfilled desires and fantasies. Please be over 35, weight unimportant and very healthy. This mid-40s SWM is 6'2", 200 lbs, clean-cut, healthy, discreet, multi-talented and a lot of fun to be with. #90433

MARRIED WM, Portland area, seeks Female to help me improve my oral skills. Wish to be a master of cunning linguistics. English degree not required. All replies answered. Thanks. #90539

MARRIED WM, 42, in vanilla marriage, sincerely wants to serve sensual long-nailed, dominant Female or pamper any long-nailed beauty of reasonable proportion. I'm healthy, smart, discreet, decent shape. Please know what you want and how to get it. Available immediately. #90567

MASCULINE MALE seeks same for discreet, daytime physical pleasure. I'm 32, 6'2", 190 lbs, brown/blue, healthy, expect the same. #90532

NICE-LOOKING, MASCULINE Guy, 40, 180 lbs, 6', seeks cute, younger, feminine-acting bottom for uninhibited, healthy, discreet role-playing fun. Domination and foot worship figure to play heavily in the equation. #90619

OLDER WOMAN. SBM in great shape, very attractive, nonsmoker, discreet, seeks older Woman for discreet relationship. Let's explore our fantasies together. #90616

INEXPERIENCED BIWM, TS, 40, 5'11", 170 lbs, seeks Man or Woman to help fulfill my fantasy. Would like to start slow. Help me be the Woman I know I can be. #90573

ISO SLIM, healthy, sexy TV TS to fulfill my fantasy. Me: healthy GWM, ready and waiting for you. Call. #90686

ISO VERSATILE GWM for healthy, oral good times. GWM, 36, 5'9", 157 lbs, clean-cut, well-endowed. You are about same. No old, overweight, hairy femmes. Real Men only. Into dirty movies. Smokers welcome. No strings attached. Lewiston/Auburn area. #90521

SENSUOUS, CARING Male seeks pre-op TS for a meaningful LTR. #90596

SINGLE AFFECTIONATE handsome Man ISO insatiable, passionate Lady soulmate. 20s-30s, children ok. I am romantic, healthy, self-employed, like gardening, outdoors, cooking and have a good sense of humor. Homeowner. Possible LTR. #90570

SINGLE, SEXY, Guy, 27, seeks wild, sexy encounters with lusty, hot Ladies. I love Ladies who dress very provocatively and love giving Men a good time! So, bring it on, baby! #90608

SWM SEEKING M/F Couple for oral pleasures. Would like to share a Man with a Woman. I'm healthy and expect the same. I'm a discreet, straight-acting BMM who would enjoy being with a Couple. #90425

SWM, 37, 5'11", 150 lbs, dark brown/brown, likes quiet nights at home. NASCAR, country and rock music, family-oriented, smoker, light drinker. ISO petite, honest, caring, nonjudgmental Lady, 30-40. #90485

SWM, 47, brown/blue, looking for a single or Married Female, 25-50, who would like her fantasies fulfilled. I can be a slave if you would like. I like to cross-dress. I am healthy and discreet. #90607

TALL, SLENDER, college-educated, attractive Married Man, 40, seeks feminine Female with kindred spirit, WPM to discreetly live out his fantasies. If you are looking for baggage-free companionship and fun, let's talk and see where it takes us! #90582

UNSCRUPULOUS TYRANT of just seeks fit, attractive femme for unbridled carnal pleasure as well as the occasional stroll on the beach. #90594

VERY WELL-GROOMED, healthy, n/s, nondrinking BM wants to be orally serviced by G/BM, experienced only, no reciprocation. You must be healthy and well-groomed. Come take care of me. #90525

WANTED: LARGE 200 lbs+, well-endowed, regular Guy, 40-60, for hot fun with exciting mid-coast Gay Couple. Try something different. #90540

WARM SWM, 42, brown/blue, medium build, honest, open, gentle, likes quiet times, spontaneous activities. Seeks warm, sensitive F, attractive to average looks, kind, gentle, not controlling, for fun, back rubs and quiet times. Portland area preferred. #90413

WELL-PROPORTIONED SWM, 43, 5'9", 165 lbs, seeks two BWs for fancy-filled erotic pleasure. Must be healthy, groomed and physically fit. Confidential. #90613

women seeking

30-YEAR-OLD MARRIED BIF seeking same for meeting, discussion, possibly more. #90599

ATTRACTIVE, EASYGOING, sensual Female seeks fun-loving, financially secure Gentleman of any age, to live it up with. Single/Married ok. #90587

HOT, 35-YEAR-OLD blonde seeks attractive Female to share my tall, dark, husby with. If you are into Caribbean vacations, Boston brunches, fine dining, flying, hiking, biking and tennis, respond now! #90592

I AM looking for healthy and discreet Men looking for a transsexual to fulfill their wildest dreams. #90593

LOVELY and looking for SBM, 40-49, who likes dining out, dancing or just sitting home having a good time watching tv or just relaxing. #90600

UNBELIEVABLE EXTRAORDINARILY attractive, pre-op Hispanic Female, very intelligent, 41, n/s, n/d, likes movies, dinners, garage sales, bowling, etc. Seeks serious inquiries only for LTR. Must be open-minded. #90463

PASSIONATE COUPLE wanted. Are you a harmonious Couple seeking an erotic experience? Stable professional Married White Couple looking for pleasurable times, laughter and loving. Physical perfection not required. Sensitive and secure souls, please. #90785

SECURE MARRIED Couple looking for some fun. Help make our fantasies come true. Seeking Singles or Couples for pleasure and exotic games. Not looking for physical perfection. Must be discreet. #90611

SINGLE WHITE Couple seeks Couples/Females, Bi or straight, for sensual pleasure. We are ready to meet new friends and try new things. He is 6'1", 195 lbs, brown/hazel, beard. She is 5'6", blonde/green. Let's make some hot times. #90071

ATTRACTION MARRIED White Couple seeks professional Couple or select Male, 20-40, for lasting, erotic friendship. Must be fit, healthy, discreet. He's 6'1", 195 lbs, submissive, bi-curious. She's 5'6", 130 lbs. Help me please this beautiful Woman! #90588

BIWM, 39, 5'11", 165 lbs, seeking other BIWM, BIF or Bi Couple for erotic discreet times. #90386

BLACK and White Couple seeking BIF/Couple for erotic times. I'm White Female, 5'8", 120 lbs, blue eyes, very outgoing. He's Black Male, 5'7", 165 lbs. Both of us love to go camping, have fun. Love quiet times with the right person. #90598

BUSY PROFESSIONAL Couple seeking some laughs, friendship and hopefully some erotic adventures. If you're a Female/Couple, down-to-earth, with positive and discreet attitude, we would like to meet you. #90371

DOCTOR, LAWYER! Attractive Married Couple. Wife: heart surgeon, 40, 5'10", 119 lbs, blonde/blue, enjoy cooking gourmet, good wine. My husband is out of country three weeks a month. Seeking attractive, fit Couple or SF: 21-55, to keep me company. #90609

couples seeking

HOT 22-YEAR-OLD, Bi, looking for couples or Single Woman for hot sensual times. Healthy and discreet a must. Adventurous a plus. I'm very healthy, in great shape, blonde/blue, 6', 170 lbs. #90612

LOOKING FOR playmate. Attractive Couple, 30 and 28, seeking F, 18-30, to make trio. Light smoker/drinker ok. Must be healthy and discreet. What are you waiting for? #90597

MARRIED WHITE Couple, 40s, fit, attractive, straight, seeking younger WM for threesome. She's 5'7", great body, likes to be admired in lingerie and heels. Live your fantasy. #90574

MARRIED WHITE Couple, 36 and 40. She: 5'2", 135 lbs, blonde/blue. He: straight, 6'2", 235 lbs, blonde/blue. Seeking select Couples for a lasting erotic friendship. Likes include dining, light drinking/partying, X movies, massages, oils/gels and all that follows. Secure and for real You be too! Let's connect soon! #90528

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BULKY WASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION

Dear Portland Resident,

This advertisement explains the curbside portion of our new bulky waste program that will be taking place in your neighborhood within the next few weeks.

Several changes have been made that will be important for you to follow. These include the restriction of certain types of material and a limit to the number of items that will be collected from each household. This revised program, in conjunction with the Riverside Punch Pass Program, should meet your bulky waste disposal needs.

Our yard and brush drop off program begins on Saturday, April 14th!
The popular Riverside punch pass program continues as well.

ACCEPTABLE QUANTITIES

- >Single Family Homes: up to 6 items from the list below
- >Eligible Condominiums: up to 4 items from the list below
- >Eligible Multi-Unit Buildings: up to 2 items per unit with a maximum of twenty items per building.



IMPORTANT REMINDER ...

YOUR ITEMS MUST
BE OUT ON THE FIRST DAY OF YOUR
COLLECTION WEEK!

BULKY WASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

April 17-20	> District 5
April 23-27	> District 4
April 30-May 4	> District 3
May 7-11	> District 2 ✓
May 14-18	> District 1 ✓

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

recycling hotline: 756-8189
tty: 874-8494
www.portlandpublicworks.com

Tune in to channel 2 beginning in April each weekday at 12, 3, & 7 pm for additional details on the revised program > airing through May 18.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS ...

YES!

mattress
boxspring
refrigerator/freezer
furniture/cabinets
TV/music equipment
air conditioner
stove/large metal items
washer/dryer
large toys
rolled carpet
bathroom fixtures
hot water heater

NO!

construction & demo debris
cardboard
window/glass items
paper products
household trash
brush
yard/tree waste
liquid waste
hazardous waste
plastic bags
clothing/textiles
tires

Please Note:

If an item can fit into a blue bag or can be recycled, it is not a bulky item. Inappropriate items will be tagged and let behind. Like items must be separated!