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Casco Bay Weekly

Learning to swim upstream in Portland's community theater talent pool, page 19

THE SCREAM'S THE THING FOR BARRENCE WHITFIELD 29

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PORTRAITS OF AIDS AWARENESS 41

DEC 8, 1994

OUTLAWING THE IN-LAWS

■ By Kenneth Z. Chutchian

She's a nurse for the Red Cross, a divorcée who works 60 hours per week to make ends meet. Her 17-year-old son is away at college.

She could use some extra income, but she's not in a position to take on another job or sell real estate on the side.

She's got a house with enough land for an additional dwelling. If only she could have an apartment attached to her house, things would go a little smoother until retirement. She could collect rent for a few years, and then start a home business, taking in elderly people and caring for them. That's the way Christine Pettinger would like to wrap up a lifelong commitment to the nursing profession — remaining in her home and offering a hand to people who need help.

Ah, but she's a dreamer. Pettinger lives in Cape Elizabeth, where a lot of

people already have their dream houses. They care about property values. They care about maintaining the character of their neighborhoods. They don't dream about having renters settle into their neighborhood. They're more likely to have nightmares about losing what they have.

And so not too many people in Cape Elizabeth care about the benefits of add-on apartments, which are also known as accessory units, granny flats or in-law apartments.

The benefits go far beyond Christine Pettinger's simple needs. Loosening up local zoning ordinances that discourage add-on apartments could help create more affordable housing in Greater



Christine Pettinger sits with her dog, Rusty, in the basement of her Cape Elizabeth home. She'd like to convert the room to an apartment to help with the mortgage, but she's running into resistance from worried neighbors. Photo/Colin Malakie

In-law apartments are under the gun from suburbs fearful of transients and falling property values.

Portland. It could help reduce health care costs; when elderly people opt to live in apartments linked to their children's homes, they are less dependent on social services and nursing homes.

Of course, it's not fair to pick on Cape Elizabeth. North Yarmouth, Yarmouth and Windham have their own special ways of keeping grannies, renters and bogeymen "transients" out there at bay. The same message goes out to homeowners who harbor the belief that they can do what they want with their own property.

"It's utter garbage," says Pettinger. "It's hogwash. This is fear of the unknown, that's all it is. There are a lot of snobby people in this town."

continued on page 9

PARTRIDGE? PEAR TREE? LET'S EAT! HEAD TO CBW'S DINING GUIDE, PAGE 36.

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THE FOOD

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THE SERVICE

Camille's a class act. Friendly and informative. • Thanks a lot Jim-you were attentive but not obtrusive. • Doodle was very courteous, fast, personable, helpful, and informative about Katahdin, the food, and Maine. • For such a little guy, Gary sure gets around! • It was good to see my old friend John working here. • Meredith was the warmest and friendliest waitress I've ever had. She treated me like a dear friend. • Gloria makes the best martinis in Portland. I love it when she's behind the bar. Michelle's no slouch either. • We love our Robin! • Sarah is the kind of waitress I like. Gracious, informative.

THE ATMOSPHERE

Great atmosphere! Great music! • Wonderful place! We'll tell all of our friends about it! • Nice casual atmosphere. Original and creative, just like the food. • This is a great place for people to chill out. • It's become a regular haunt for us-love the decor. • I'm a collector, and am familiar with many of your salt and pepper shakers. Love the hugging ducks! • Adorable place - love the ladies' restroom! • We stop in here twice a year on our way to Nova Scotia. • It's by far our favorite place in Portland! • Coolest stuff! I could live in this joint. • Nice to see that children are welcomed here. • Funky. Love the Fiesta ware and the artwork. • Good atmosphere. Not too prissy. • This place is terrific. I hope you're here for years to come. We'll be back!

Kathleen & Doug

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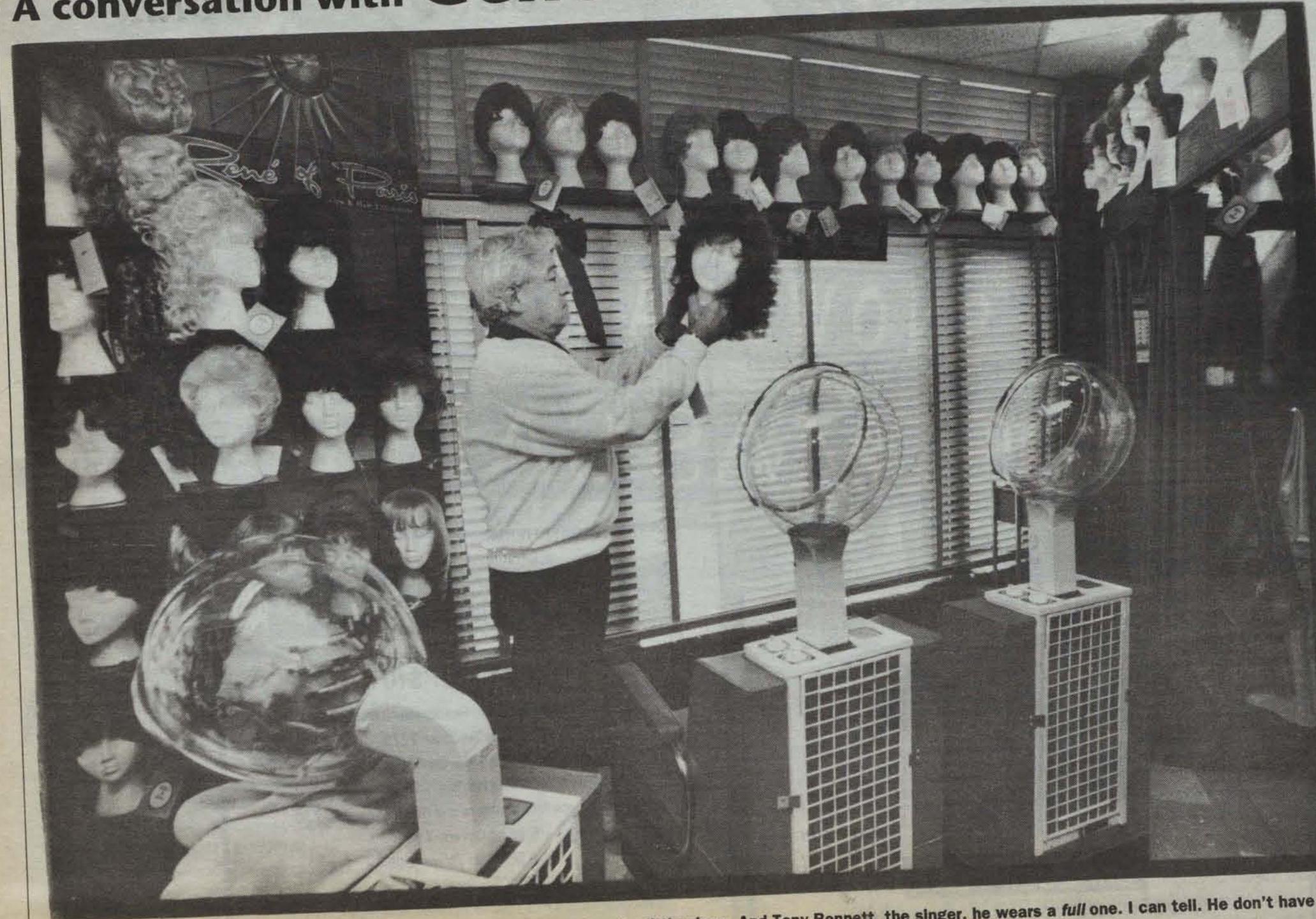
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A conversation with Gene Germain



Gene Germain: "I never wore a wig. Frank Sinatra does, though — he's got a little piece. And Tony Bennett, the singer, he wears a full one. I can tell. He don't have that much hair. Nobody got that much hair."

Wigmeister Gene Germain has been looking down on Congress Square from his second-floor shop at Congress and High streets since 1955.

talk

Germain knows wigs: 200 line the walls of his shop in every color and shape, from the classic styles manufactured by René of Paris and Josef of Rome, to heavy-metal hairdos from Suzy Q's. A sign on the wall proclaims: "No Refunds or Returns on Wigs and Wiglets. STATE LAW."

How did you get started?

My father came from the old country, from Italy, and started as a barber when he was 15 years old. In 1922, he opened up a beauty parlor in the Chapman Building where he cut women's hair and started to

do permanents. He was there 15 years. [Cutting hair] just comes natural to me — I cut hair in the army for seven years, through three battles. I would carry clippers with me when I was on maneuvers. I cut several generals' hair.

When I got out of the service, I moved into this place. Right here. I stood on the street corner and it was empty up here — there used to be a urologist here — and I took it. 'Cause I liked the windows. Everybody can see 'em. It's good advertising.

You know, we've had the same phone [number] for 70 years. My father got this number, 772-6093, in 1922.

Where do you get the wigs?

They send 'em to me from Kansas City and from Van Nuys, Calif. A guy in Boston used to make his own toupees, but he doesn't do it no more. They

used to be made of human hair. But the synthetic, you can just wash it and dry it off.

How? In the washing machine?

No, no, no. Well, one time I did have this guy come in — whadda they call 'em? Shriners? He brought me a bunch of hairpieces, beat-up ones, and I just put 'em into the machine with hair softener. They got clean all right.

Do you style wigs for individual customers?

Yeah. You gotta be careful though. 'Cause once you don't cut it right, it doesn't grow back. You don't want to show the scalp. What I do is, I put the wig on the head and use a chin strap to clip it on while I cut 'em.

By Paul Karr, photo by Toney Harbert

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news & views

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newsreal

A review of the top news stories
affecting Greater Portland
November 30 through December 6.

Portlanders love food, booze and cigarettes, but maybe not more than the average Mainer. A public health survey released Dec. 1 — just in time for holiday reverie — claimed that Portland area adults are more likely to smoke, drink in excess and overeat than most Mainers and Americans.

A survey of 900 Cumberland County residents, which was sponsored by three Portland hospitals and the city's public health division, concluded that Portland area adults take risks with their health. The survey also showed that many can't afford adequate health care, especially dental care. For instance, 10 percent do have not health insurance, 26 percent do not have a dentist and 11 percent have not had a dental checkup in the last five years.

As for other bad habits, 19 percent of Portland area adults have engaged in the last month in "binge" drinking, which is defined as consuming at least five drinks on one occasion. By comparison, the state average for binge drinking is only 9 percent, and the national average is 14 percent.

But when it came to smoking and overeating, Portlanders were closer to other Mainers and Americans. While 27 percent of Portland-area adults are overweight, the state average is 24 percent, and while 27 percent of local adults smoke, the national average is 23 percent. Given the survey's 4 percent margin of error, it's possible that Portlanders don't really smoke or overeat more than other Mainers.

Barbara Nash, who supervised the survey, admitted that "you never know exactly if everybody is telling you the truth," especially in a survey about smoking, eating and sensitive health topics like "digital rectal exams." But Nash stressed that most respondents understood the importance of the survey and were candid.

The county budget is growing, and so are tensions at the new jail. Cumberland County commissioners will vote Dec. 12 on a 1995 budget that's slated to increase by 12 percent over this year's \$13.8-million budget. But the county actually needs more — a 28-percent hike in revenue from taxpayers — because the county is falling short in revenue collections this year. That's mainly because the new jail netted about \$500,000 less for housing federal prisoners than expected. In all, that means the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 will pay about \$19 more to the county in 1995.

A public hearing on the budget will be held Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. at the county courthouse. Commissioner Esther Clennott said the budget hike is "enormous" because of costs associated with running the new jail. "But \$19 doesn't seem that atrocious," she added. Commissioner Gary Plummer said he's prepared to trim or eliminate some county services. "But there's no way to get to a zero-increase without disassembling the county budget."

Meanwhile, unionized jail workers announced a 94-21 vote of "no confidence" in the administration of Sheriff Wes Ridlon. The vote follows Ridlon's firing of two workers blamed for an inmate escape. Clennott and Plummer said they want to meet with workers, but aren't sure just what they are unhappy about. "I don't know specifically what their concerns are, and it's real hard to address very vague concerns," Plummer said. "I've seen nothing at this point to make me lose confidence in Wes."

Go west, young hiker. A new organization hopes to create an east-west alternative transportation corridor stretching from Portland to Fryeburg. Mountain Division Alliance (MDA), formed this fall in response to Guilford Transportation's abandonment of 45 miles of the Mountain Division rail line, is a broad-based coalition of municipal, state and private groups. The Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) started negotiations Dec. 1 to purchase the tracks.

Right now plans for the tracks are "nebulous," according to Alix Hopkins, executive director of Portland Trails and a member of MDA. Hopkins said that a master plan is being hammered out, but early details include trails for biking, hiking and snowmobiling. In addition, a commuter train equipped with bicycle and canoe racks is being considered.

MDOT deputy commissioner Russell Spinney sees a commuter line relieving traffic on Routes 302 and 25. Eventually, he thinks, a passenger rail link will stretch through New Hampshire to St. Johnsbury, Vt.

S.D. Warren will lose \$5 million if a Central Maine Power discount plan for large industrial users is adopted. While consumer advocates, big businesses and CMP are praising the proposed plan, it will cost S.D. Warren dearly. Under the plan, CMP would cut rates for the biggest industrial users by 15 percent in 1995. But it would also cut the rate for power it buys from Scott Paper, which is S.D. Warren's parent company. That's because, by contract, CMP buys power from Scott at the same rate as large industrial users are charged. In the end, S.D. Warren faces a net loss of \$5 million.

"S.D. Warren benefited by the run-up of rates," said CMP spokesman Mark Ishkanian. "Eleven cents of every dollar a customer pays for power goes to the three Scott paper contracts."

State regulators are expected to rule on the new plan by Dec. 22.

Hotel has a flashback. Like much of Congress Street, the Eastland Hotel barely survived the 1980s. The family-owned hotel, which opened in 1927, was bought by Sonesta International in 1982 during Portland's boom. Renamed the Sonesta, it rode high until 1989 when it floundered, went under and landed in the hands of a Connecticut bank. "The real story is it [had taken on too much debt], and then judgement day came," said Joseph VanWhy, who bought the hotel in 1992 for \$3.5 million.

In hopes of joining the rebirth of Congress Street, and forgetting the '80s, the hotel will change its name back to the Eastland Plaza Hotel on Jan. 1. "With the State [Theatre] opening and all that's going on on Congress, we wanted to add a little to the history and heritage," said VanWhy. "We wanted to keep the momentum alive."

A second methadone clinic opens

despite the state plan to ban such clinics. Habit Management Institute opened its doors in South Portland Dec. 5 to those suffering from heroin addiction. Bob Potter, an institute spokesman, said a few clients have entered the program and should begin to receive methadone next week.

The opening comes in the same month that the Maine Office of Substance Abuse (OSA) started drafting regulations to ban methadone clinics in Maine. Potter said he hopes to change the regulations during the public hearing process before they become law. "We'll be at all the meetings to offer our input," he said.

Habit is opening near the state's first methadone clinic, Discovery House, which opened in late August. That clinic, which expected 150 patients a week but serves less than 50, also faces the OSA cutting block. After a six-month study, OSA officials said there doesn't seem to be a need for clinics in Maine right now. But Potter insists there is a need for Habit, stating his clinic will offer more comprehensive services than Discovery House and that the state study was "off-base."

There's no detention at Deering High School. That's about the biggest news to report one week after Portland High students were forced out of their school and into that of their crosstown rivals. While police officers and TV cameras watchdogged the double-sessions caused by the move, no fights or major problems occurred. The only evidence of tension between the two students bodies was some bathroom graffiti.

Meanwhile, Deering students can't be kept after school for detention because the Portland High kids take over the building at 1 p.m. "I don't think there are any more problems," said Deering senior Tim Dumaine. "School seems to be more of a joke, though... It seems like we can get away with anything."

That's not to say all students are happy. "I thought we would get a chance to meet the [Portland High] girls," added Deering junior Ryan Graney, "but I guess not."

weird news

Responding to a report that he tried to mount an exhibit of paintings by Adolf Hitler in the mid-1980s, Dr. Jack Kevorkian explained that he actually was trying to organize an exhibition of art by three World War II leaders: Hitler, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Winston Churchill. "We were going to mix them up and have people try to guess who painted what, make it kind of a game," Kevorkian said, adding that the show fell through when the Eisenhower presidential library and the British National Trust declined to lend paintings by Eisenhower and Churchill.

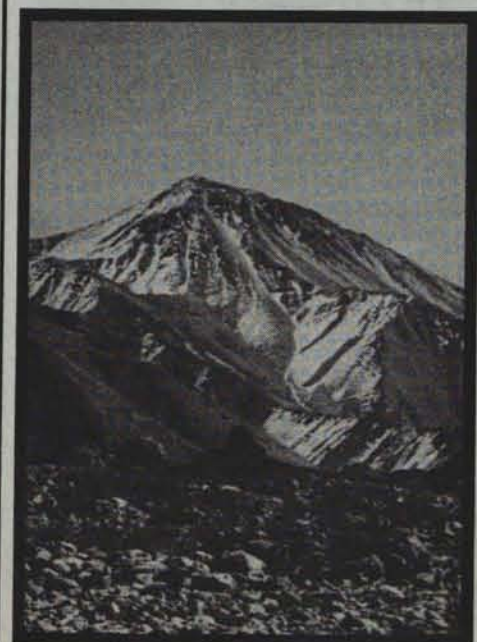
Reported by Sebastian Clegg, Andrew Hosch, Bob Young, and Roland Sweet; illustrated by John Bowdren.

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Hot sex talk

Over 100 people braved the pouring rain Dec. 5 to pour out their emotions over whether the Portland public schools should start a more comprehensive sex education program. The Curriculum Committee, a sub-committee of the Portland School Committee, listened for over three hours as people aired their views about sex education in schools.

Condoms, which had been the focus of previous public hearings, were all but ignored. Instead, the debate focused on whether sex education should be taught at all in Portland schools. It soon became a battle over the bodies and souls of school children.

Included in the proposed recommendations are health education classes in all grades, "abstinence skills" in middle school and proper condom use in high school. The committee also wants to move teen clinics from City Hall into high schools and make condoms available. The final recommendations are expected to go to the School Committee in January.

Opponents claimed abstinence was the only way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). They castigated the new health curriculum, using words like "perversity" and "madness." They also blasted the committee for allowing discussion of homosexuality to be included in the curriculum.

Linda Jones said instead of teaching abstinence, the proposed changes would open the door for teachers to talk about "mutual masturbation, full body massage and other forms of sexual expression without risk." She said the new curriculum had "proven to be a failure" in other states and that kids should be "just taught to say no."

Sissel Hoff, who has two children in the school system, agreed, stating comprehensive health education would "desensitize children" to having sex, taking away their "God-given embarrassment and sanctity."

Oliver's twist

Calling all candidates...

Jim Oliver is leaving the political jungle for the real thing. And Oliver's departure will likely produce seismic political change in Portland's West End, as new players, including the Green Party, eye Oliver's seat as state representative, and others—including former city councilor Peter O'Donnell—seek to replace Oliver as executive director of the Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council.

Oliver will leave Maine in late January to become director of Peace Corps operations in the South American countries of Suriname and Guyana. Oliver's decision to leave Portland after more than 25 years of often controversial community activism was not a sudden one. "I always planned to go back overseas," said Oliver, who served as a Peace Corps volunteer and staff member in the 1960s, "but I wanted to wait until [Portland West] was in good shape. Right now, it's in the best shape it's ever been in."

Oliver's assessment of the housing, training and social services program he founded in 1970 is not universally accepted. Portland West's reputation has suffered lately. The group was recently sued by its former fair housing officer. It was criticized this summer by NAACP officials. Last year, the City Council rejected a housing grant for Portland West, citing the group's lack of professionalism. And there's little doubt Portland West's political clout—and Oliver's ability to turn out the vote for Democrats—has waned in recent years.

In the most recent gubernatorial election, the Green Party captured over 20 percent of the vote in Portland West's bailiwick. In addition, Oliver's days in office were numbered due to term limits. His legislative career would have ended in 1996.

Now a special election will be called to find his replacement. The date for that vote will be set by the governor once Oliver officially resigns, which he expects to do around Jan. 20. The election would probably occur in late February or early March.

State law allows the city committees of established political parties to choose their nominees for the vacant position. Under Democratic Party rules, only members of the city committee who live in the district can vote for the nominee, which places the nomination in the hands of about 12 people, according to city Democratic chair Ann Goodridge. But any Democrat from the district who attends the next two committee meetings (this Sunday, Dec. 11, 7

Sandy Crabb attacked the recommendation that homosexuality would be included. "We're being forced to accept others' diversity," she said.

The committee's recommendation to teach condom use with an anatomically correct model also came under fire. "Do we want our children playing with erect penises?" asked Michael Schools. "You buy that kind of thing on Congress Street, and now we want to put it in the schools?"

As the night wore on, opponents preached abstinence, but didn't abstain from openly pushing a Newt Right agenda. One speaker said "information is irrelevant," while others talked about teaching religion in the public schools.

Such statements put the committee on the defensive, forcing them to explain why "reality-based" sex education is better than teaching nothing but abstinence.

"Reality-based means 70 percent of [high school] seniors already had sexual intercourse," said Christina Mason, a committee member and Deering senior. "And not all of them are heterosexual."

Miles Rightmare, a counselor with the city's public health department, said he's treated 12-year-olds with gonorrhea and chlamydia. "I don't like it, you don't like it," he told the audience. "But this is reality."

Many proponents became just as emotionally charged as opponents. Jody Hartley, who was diagnosed with AIDS as a high school freshman, said sex ed should be taught early on. And one Deering High junior, Marion Stephens, broke into tears as she talked about how teens are afraid of STDs and AIDS.

Statistics—rarely used during the debate—were cited by Chuck Morrison, who teaches sex education in Portland schools. "The pregnancy rate in Maine has dropped 30 percent in the 10 years since comprehensive sex education," he said. "And HIV still is spreading quickest among homosexual males. We need to talk about that population at risk."

Pat Patterson, the school doctor, said the new program, along with condoms, would be successful in reducing STD transmission. "It's not 100 percent," she said. "But if we only recommended things that were 100 percent, there would be no medical profession."

Andrew Hosch

p.m. at the city's Public Safety Building and a meeting tentatively scheduled for Jan. 20) can become a voting member and help choose the candidate.

Republican Party rules state that any Republican living in the district can take part in the nominating process.

So far, few candidates of any party have shown much interest in the job. Among Democrats, former Portland City Councilor Barbara Wood gave the campaign serious consideration but decided not to run. Democratic state chairwoman Victoria Murphy was urged to jump in the race, but Murphy is up for re-election to her current post, and says she can't do both jobs. Former state Sen. Gerard Conley Sr. rejected a return to the State House. "What little sanity I have left," he said, "I wish to retain." NYNEX spokesman Peter Kovach thought about running, but then thought better of it. Wood has urged Kate Neale, a mediator and educator who moved to Portland from San Francisco two years ago, to run. Neale said she's considering it.

But the most likely person to play kingmaker in this race is Oliver. "Whoever wins his blessing will have the edge," said AFL-CIO lobbyist Ned McCann. Oliver will only say there are "plenty of good candidates."

There's far less activity on the Republican side, probably because the district has a 3-1 Democratic edge in registrations, and the GOP has never held the seat. "We could put up Mother Theresa and still have a hard time winning," said Republican Party executive director Ben Coes.

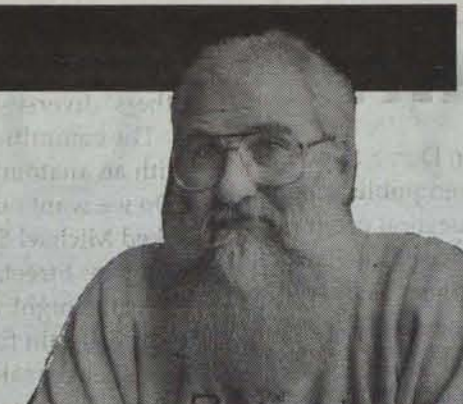
GOP inferiority doesn't necessarily guarantee Democrats a free ride, however. The Green Party won official ballot status in the last election, but even the secretary of state's office remains uncertain if that automatically gives the Greens a spot on the special election ballot. If the party does nominate a candidate, the most likely choice would be John Herrick, who served as campaign manager for Jonathan Carter's gubernatorial bid. Herrick says he hasn't decided whether he'll run.

As for Oliver's job as head of Portland West, the agency's board of directors has already advertised for a replacement. At least one well-known political figure is interested. O'Donnell, who consistently voted for Portland West when he was on the council, said he plans to apply for the job. He praised Oliver for having done "a remarkable job," and says the organization "works well."

Al Diamon

politics & other mistakes

By Al Diamon



Whip-smart

When term limits take effect for the Maine Legislature in 1996, don't expect any big changes. They've already happened. The veterans have fled Augusta before the new law could throw them out.

Of the 186 members of the current House and Senate, only 33 will be ineligible to run again in the next election because they'll have completed four or more consecutive terms in office. That's a dramatic change from 1990 when about a third of the Legislature had more than eight years service, and it's a significant decline from a decade ago when about 25 percent of the senators and representatives were long-tenured.

The shift from a veteran-dominated Legislature to one run by rookies is most apparent in the House, where 71 of the 151 seats are occupied by new faces and another 33 are serving just their second term. In the state Senate, the lack of experience is somewhat less dramatic. Although the 35-member chamber is made up of 16 freshmen and 13 sophomores, it's also composed of 15 senators who served in the House before winning their current seats, reducing the numbers flocking to the wet-behind-the-ears caucus.

Even so, the old guard could scarcely be called overpowering. Not a single Republican senator has any legislative experience as a member of the majority party and, among Democrats, only Beverly Bustin of Augusta, Georgette Berube of Lewiston, Spike Carey of Belgrade and Chuck Cianchette of Newport have first-hand knowledge of life in the minority. Berube and Carey served in the GOP-dominated House more than two decades ago. Cianchette spent two terms in the Republican-run Senate in the 1970s before taking a break from legislative life. Only Bustin has hung on continuously (she's now in her eighth term) through the entire cycle of power shifting.

In the House, Republican Don Strout of Corinth (12 terms) and Democrat John Martin of Eagle Lake (16 terms) are the sole members of the uninterrupted service-since-the-GOP-ran-the-show club.

Party on, dude

Independent Governor-elect Angus King took his staff by surprise last month when he told the *Maine Sunday Telegram* that starting a third party was "not something that should be dismissed entirely because it may be a way of institutionalizing what has been accomplished and insuring that it's not a flash in the pan."

"That may have been a change in position," conceded spokesman Dennis Bailey. "I don't think it's foremost in his mind right now, but I always felt that one of [former independent Governor James] Longley's biggest mistakes was that he didn't create his own party."

Starting a new party could produce both advantages and problems for King. Having an official party makes it easier to get on the ballot if he seeks a second term in four years, since party candidates have to collect only half the number of signatures that independents must gather. But an unaffiliated King can accept signatures from any registered voter, while a King leading his own third party can only take names from people registered in the new organization. Since the King Party would start out with approximately zero members, finding enough signatures could be a chore.

There are technical problems as well. King has to declare his intention to start a third party by December, 1995, and the new group would then have official ballot status for the 1996 election. Except there's no gubernatorial race in '96, it's a presidential year. Since the King Party has no candidate for the White House (King has already promised not to seek higher office), it would be unlikely to get 5 percent of the vote, and would lose official status before King had a chance to run again. To avoid this mess, the new governor would have to propose changing state law to eliminate the presidential requirement, an act some detractors might see as a self-serving ploy to prolong his political career.

In addition, official parties have to hold county caucuses and state conventions, events at which fringe elements are allowed to wear wacky hats and make wacky statements that result in their party's nominee being publicly embarrassed and politically discredited. Independent candidates run their own show, and have more options for keeping their weirder supporters out of the spotlight.

King is rich and, thanks to the voters, powerful. He probably doesn't need the hassle of trying to overcome the legal roadblocks, while controlling the fruitcakes that gravitate toward third parties. It's more likely his sudden interest in the topic is intended as a warning to Democrats and Republicans that failing to take his proposals seriously could have long-term consequences. If the Legislature proves receptive to the King agenda, whatever that might be, expect talk of a third party to fade away. If lawmakers balk at King's plans, proposals for a new political organization give the governor a measure of nuclear capability.

Of course, the established parties might not be all that upset at the competition if the King Party took a few pests off their hands. It'd almost be worth it to get rid of Mark Finks and Ivan Suzman.

Left out of the kitchen cabinet? Hopes in the basement? Bring details of this den of iniquity to our dining room by writing this column, care of Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101. Or call 775-6601 if a politician makes bedroom eyes at you.

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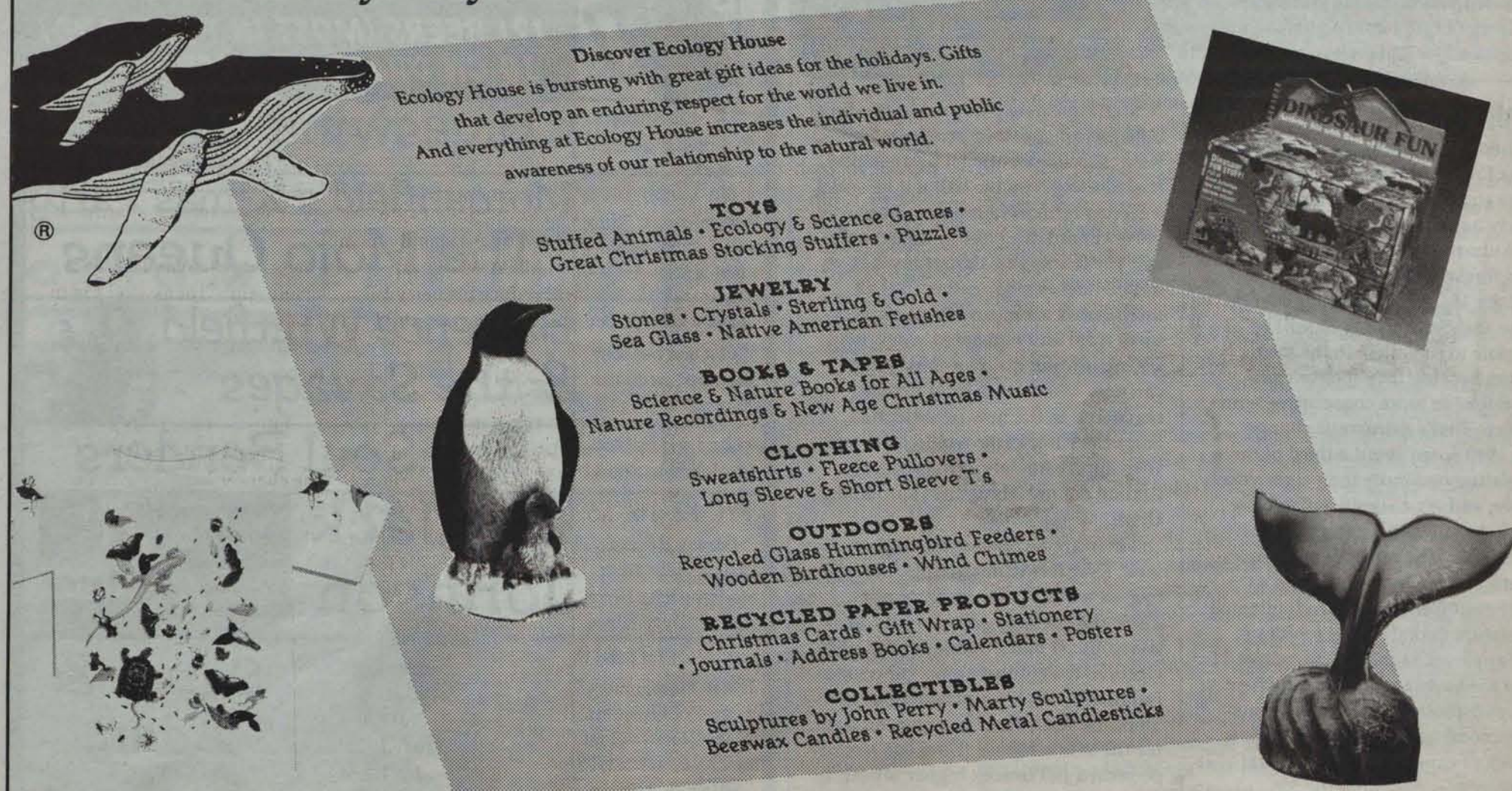
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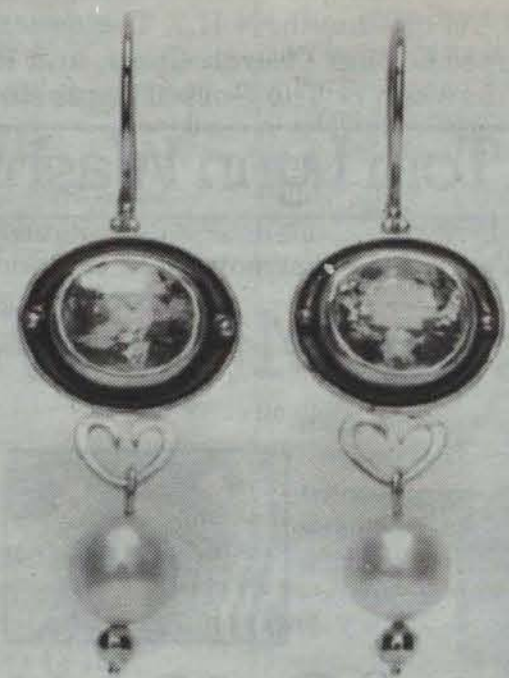
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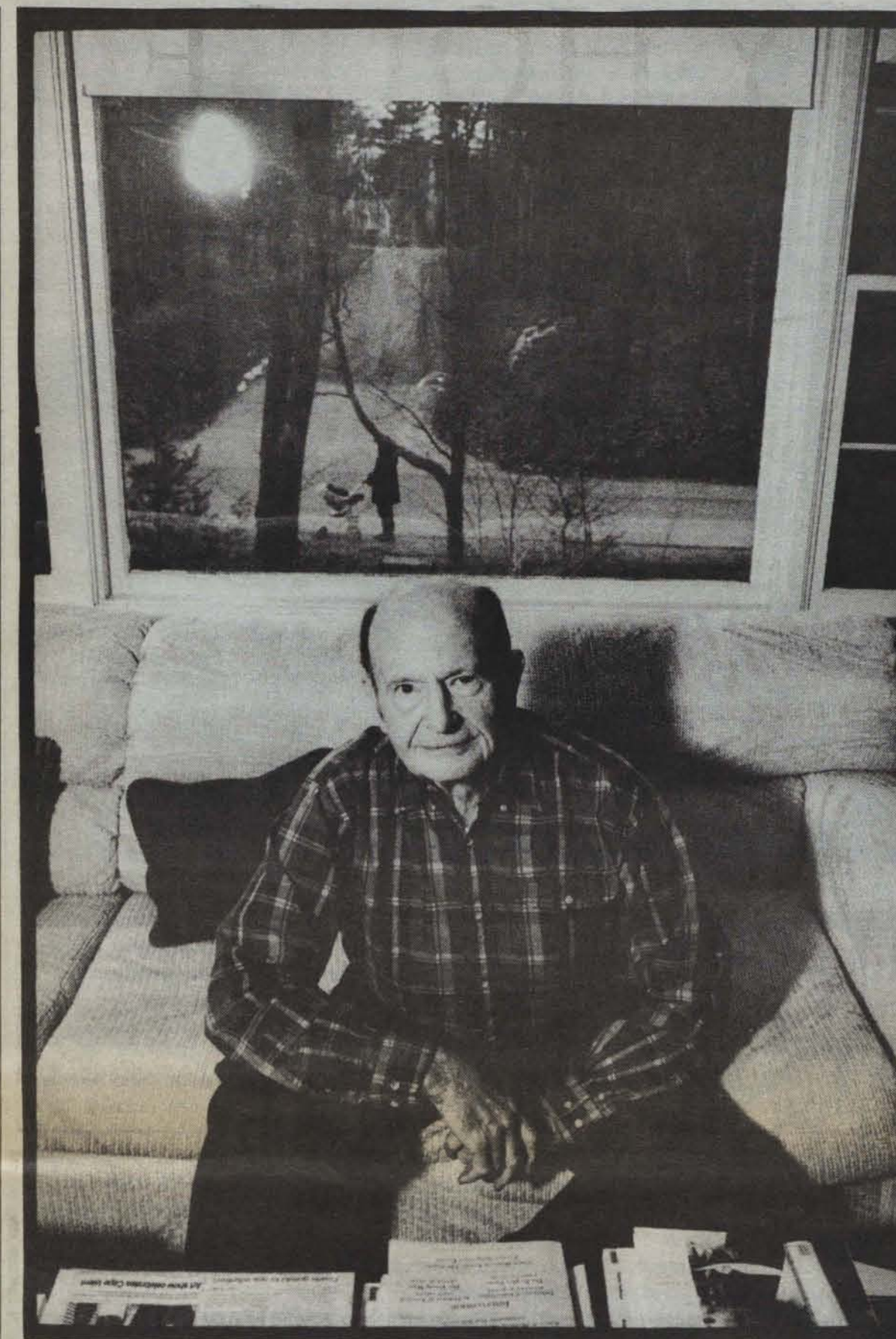
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Thurston Holt of Cape Elizabeth thinks the town is shortsighted to fight in-law apartments: "The suburbs have a responsibility — or at least a *noblesse oblige* — to allow for reasonable add-ons for relatives."

Holt, 75, grew up in a house on Shore Road in Cape Elizabeth and he now has his own apartment. He likes the idea of moving next to a relative's home into an apartment owned by that family member.

"All it takes to zap an add-on is for a neighbor to say it will reduce property values," Holt said. "Thank God I'm in great shape. I can still hit a golf drive 220 yards, when I connect. [But] it's time — especially since the health care bill didn't get passed — to have reasonable health care options."

"The suburbs have a responsibility — or at least a *noblesse oblige* — to allow for reasonable add-ons for relatives," Holt continued. "The chances are they will be needing Meals on Wheels less, and it will free up more financial possibilities for people who aren't prosperous."

Many health care professionals agree with folks like Pettinger and Holt, and believe that add-on apartments can offer real solutions to real-life problems of elderly people.

Asked about the link between granny apartments and health care, Christine Gianopoulos, the director of the Maine Bureau of Elder and Adult Services, said, "You're talking about an older person who needs checking up on, but who generally fends for himself. They need the security of someone close by. It provides a very needed alternative to nursing homes."

Michael Bowdler, 68, isn't as diplomatic as Holt when he assesses the objections to accessory apartments. "To disallow it is a form of abuse," Bowdler said.

Bowdler approached the issue from several angles. His son, a California resident who recently graduated from college, would like to live with Bowdler while he gets settled financially. An add-on apartment would be perfect for this father and son. "No way I want to share a kitchen with him," Bowdler said.

Another Bowdler perspective arises from his career as a design architect. He has designed homes and low-cost housing in Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. Locally, he designed the Landry Village apartment complex in Westbrook.

He's heard those same fears expressed by Cape Elizabethans crop up in other places and at other times. He says opponents are being irrational — particularly when they wonder aloud about the character of people who will move into a new add-on apartment after grandma or grandpa leave.

"It's an ultra-conservative view, a paranoia about property values going down," said Bowdler. "They're worried about tenements going up. Local regulations should be able to take care of that."

"Cape Elizabeth transients are people with good jobs, but people with lesser incomes" than established residents, Bowdler said. "I can see objecting to rowdy youths with parties all night. But again, it's up to the regulations to stop that."

"You can't jeopardize the liberty of everyone for the odd case of disruptive neighbors," he said.

Added Thurston Holt, "It's easy for people to get on the scare side."

Fear of the known

It's not hard to find reasons why some towns object to add-on apartments. First and foremost is the fear of diminished property values. A close second, which is related to the first, is concern about homeowners renting to people with no roots in the community. The word "transient" was tossed around freely at Cape Elizabeth public meetings that recently addressed add-on apartments.

Webster's defines transient as "staying only a short time; not permanently settled. ..." Cape Elizabeth defines transient as some unknown person who might move into the apartment you build for a relative — after that relative dies. How is anyone supposed to control what happens in that apartment after granny's gone?

continued on next page

OUTLAWING THE IN-LAWS

continued from front cover

"Cape Elizabeth transients are people with good jobs, but people with lesser incomes... I can see objecting to rowdy youths with parties all night. But again, it's up to the regulations to stop that. You can't jeopardize the liberty of everyone for the odd case of disruptive neighbors."

— Michael Bowdler

■ Photos by Colin Malakie

Restrictive zoning laws weren't handed down on the orders of an ancient ruling class. Laws that govern the way neighborhoods develop and expand generally reflect the desires of the local townspeople — or at least those desires as they were expressed at a particular town meeting or during the election of selectmen and planning boards.

But community needs change. And there's reason to believe Cape Elizabeth has more people in Christine Pettinger's situation now than it had in 1989, when Cumberland County Superior Court Justice G. Arthur Brennan ruled the town had a right to deny add-on apartments because of their potentially adverse impact on property values.

Code enforcement officer Ernest MacVane, who probably has more direct contact with homeowners than any other town official, recently realized there were more than a few people in Cape Elizabeth who could benefit from add-on apartments — people who could live in the units, and people who could rent them. MacVane is the one who suggested to a town councilor that the town revisit the accessory apartment laws.

And out of the woodwork — and out of respectable single-family homes, no less — came the supporters of revised laws, such as Thurston Holt and Michael Bowdler.



Falling property value is a central concern of those opposed to accessory apartments, but communities that allow the apartments haven't seen a decline in value.

OUTLAWING THE IN-LAWS

continued from previous page

"[The suburbs are] vehement about not allowing affordable housing. They get nervous. They assume we're talking about low-income people when we're talking about young couples and other middle-class people. There's a negative connotation associated with affordable housing."
— Portland City Councilor Cheryl Leeman

This past September and October, the Cape Elizabeth planning board wrestled with the idea of recommending zoning changes that would make it easier for some homeowners to build accessory apartments. Even though the new standards would be more restrictive than zoning laws in other Greater Portland suburbs, Cape Elizabethans showed emphatic resistance. That resistance should surface again when the town council holds its next public hearings on accessory apartments.

The issue has a long history in Cape Elizabeth. In the summer of 1989, Bowery Beach Road resident Coleman P. Gorham asked the town for permission to convert an existing single-family dwelling to a duplex. The town rejected his request, as did the zoning board of appeals, with all five members agreeing that the move would hurt property values.

In a letter to MacVane, the code enforcement officer, Steven and Sharyl Hitchcock of Ocean Avenue summed up the feeling of many Cape Elizabeth residents regarding the issue of accessory apartments:

"The subtle incremental additions of two-family housing units, first at 17 Bowery Beach Road, then one by one to adjoining and neighboring properties, would create a more transient community with increased absentee ownership," the Hitchcocks wrote. "This situation would be out of character with the existing use and would decrease property values."

Glenn Robinson of Robinhood Lane subscribes to the same "there goes the neighborhood" domino theory. Once an in-law apartment becomes an income-generating second-family unit, Robinson said, "then what you have is a duplex or an apartment complex, really, and the minute you let them in single-family neighborhoods, you change the character of the neighborhood."

Loosening the zoning laws, Robinson said, "opens up any house, anywhere for conversion, with no restrictions... Near the ocean, this would allow for summer rentals of any kind to anyone."

Away from the dispute in Cape Elizabeth, in a downtown Portland office, Karen Martin of the Greater Portland Council of Governments offered a planner's rationale for

restrictive zoning. Martin and the council help communities gather and interpret raw data for land use planning efforts.

"Zoning is for compatibility, restraint and conflicts in land use," Martin said. "It's not a clear-cut issue. You can't say, 'Wow, if only we can have add-on apartments, we'd have affordable housing.'"

The whole point of comprehensive planning and land use regulations, said Martin, is to ensure that demand for services, density of buildings and parking problems don't overwhelm a town. In theory, add-on apartments aggravate each of those problems, she said.

And it takes a lot more commitment than add-on apartments for suburbs to show they care about an issue often considered an urban problem, said Portland City Councilor Cheryl Leeman.

"They're vehement about not allowing affordable housing," Leeman said of the suburbs. "They get nervous. They assume we're talking about low-income people when we're talking about young couples and other middle-class people. There's a negative connotation associated with affordable housing."

Subtraction by addition?

It's easy to dismiss accessory apartments as an example of an arcane land use public policy issue. But the connection between add-on units and affordable housing can't be ignored. Public policy experts have said for years that one of the greatest threats to the quality of life in Greater Portland is the shortage of affordable housing. Residents of Portland and South Portland are intimately aware of this; suburbanites have been traditionally more removed from the problem.

In 1991 the Cumberland County Affordable Housing Venture, in cooperation with the Greater Portland Council of Governments, published a study entitled, "Housing in the Turbulent 90s." The first words in the 59-page report are as follows:

"The people of Cumberland County have just lived through the worst decade for housing affordability in the post-war era. From 1980 to 1990 house prices increased twice as fast as incomes. For the first time since 1950, the proportion of people who own their own homes has actually declined."

"To put the situation in stark perspective, Maine ranks 46th among the 50 states for its availability of affordable housing, and Cumberland County consistently ranks among the worst of Maine's 16 counties for its supply of affordable housing."

The Cumberland County Affordable Housing Venture is currently gathering data to update that report, according to Elaine Sederlund, executive director of the project. In some respects, she said, not much has changed since the 1980s: "There's still a lack of affordable rental housing."

In its recommendations to improve the region's housing situation, the report lists 10 goals — four of which relate directly to the issue of accessory apartments. The authors suggest that Greater Portland communities provide more rental housing; diversify housing stock throughout the region; stabilize neighborhoods; and remove regulatory barriers.

Although the reference to neighborhood stabilization applies more directly to deteriorating urban areas, the report doesn't distinguish between city and suburbs when it says, "... neighborhoods need a diverse mix of people and uses to thrive."

"Communities should evaluate their local ordinances to ensure that there are no unnecessary regulatory barriers which could inhibit housing construction or add to the cost of housing," the report states.

In looking at their regulations, Cape Elizabethans might allay their fears of diminished property value and an influx of transients by visiting their neighbors in Cumberland and Falmouth. These communities have found that there's no subtraction by addition — property values haven't diminished because of add-on apartments.

Both towns allow for the construction of in-law apartments, with some stipulations. Those seeking to add on

or convert their homes need special exception permits, which are much easier to obtain than variances. (Special exceptions focus on land uses, while a variance is a waiver from physical requirements the town has set for private properties.)

CBW found that there wasn't much concern about the impact of in-law apartments on property values, even though homeowners in Cumberland and Falmouth have almost as much at stake as homeowners in Cape Elizabeth. Median values of owner-occupied single-family homes in Cumberland went from \$57,900 in 1980 to \$158,500 in 1990; from \$53,600 to \$161,800 in Falmouth; and from \$62,200 to \$168,500 in Cape Elizabeth.

Falmouth initially loosened its zoning laws to allow in-law apartments. And then the town took it a step further. "We realized that once someone has committed to that kind of construction, they should be able to use it for rental," said Martha James of Falmouth's code enforcement office.

Community values

Cape Elizabeth is grappling with the issue now in large measure because the elderly population is growing in numbers and political clout, and is driving the issue.

continued on page 13

Granny in the suburbs?

DOORS OPEN, DOORS CLOSED

Several Portland suburbs are careful about protecting the single-family character of their nicer neighborhoods. They make life difficult for homeowners who think about building on to their own property, even if the purpose is to house a relative.

In Yarmouth, a homeowner who wants to build an accessory apartment must first have enough land to meet the standards of two single-dwelling units in limited density zones. In other words, they must have 4 acres before he or she even thinks about approaching the zoning board. "That kind of discourages the idea of in-law apartments," admitted Yarmouth town planner Steve Westra.

But Yarmouth's 1992 comprehensive plan implores the town "to take care of our own," Westra said. And the plan suggests that the time may be right to lower the obstacles for Yarmouth residents who want to build additions for relatives.

Westra, who formerly served as town planner in Windham, says the concerns about in-law apartments are the same in Windham as in Yarmouth.

"The question is, 'What if people abuse that right?'" he said, referring to the possibility of owners renting apartments to unsavory sorts after the relatives depart.

Established subdivisions in Windham prohibit accessory apartments in any way, shape or form. The town does have high-density zones that allow multifamily homes, but nobody is clamoring to build in those areas. In other areas of town, apartments are prohibited, but the additions of bedrooms, bathrooms

and kitchens inside the single-family dwelling — as long there's no additional land being used — are allowed.

Windham community development director Roger Timmons noted that in the farm and rural areas of town, large buildings may be divided into multiple units, as long as the owner has been there for five years. He said, "If you do your homework, if you go out and hire an engineer, you can zip right through the process pretty easily."

North Yarmouth has a strict definition of in-law apartments in its zoning laws. "They take it literally," said Scott Seaver, the town's administrative assistant. "It's restricted to relatives." And the town enforces that restriction carefully. "[Homeowners] could go to the appeals board for a variance, but that would be tough to grant," said Seaver. "Those appeals are hard to come by, unless you show undue hardship."

Also in North Yarmouth, the original dwelling must be at least 750 square feet in size before an owner can consider adding an apartment. The addition can also be up to 40 percent of the size of the original dwelling.

By comparison, Cape Elizabeth requires a house to be at least 2,500 square feet before alteration — and some residents are now up in arms that the town is weighing a proposed reduction to 1,500 square feet. The proposal also calls for apartments to be no more than 25 percent of the size of the original house.

— KZC

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Cross' Diamond Lab: One of the values of buying your diamond from Cross Jewelers is the assurance that your diamond has been weighed, and the quality grading checked and

verified by a registered jeweler. By acquiring our diamonds loose, we can guarantee the quality represented is exactly correct. Each Cross Ideal Cut diamond has been hand selected from hundreds, to provide the very best quality and value.

Cross' Diamond Setting Shop: Cross' Diamond Setting Shop is staffed by America's finest diamond setters, and is visible from our show room. The first rule of our diamond setting shop is, "take whatever amount of time is necessary to set the diamond most securely and most beautifully." Few people realize that, at the moment a properly weighted prong is pushed over the edge of a diamond, over 45 pounds of pressure is exerted on that diamond. Careful preparations are required to ensure that the precious metal on which the diamond rests is perfectly smooth and properly supports the diamond. Because of their value, diamonds are never set "while you wait" at Cross Jewelers. Any time pressure on a diamond setter increases the risk to the diamond. For the safety of your diamond, setting in our shop is always scheduled within a block of time, allowing maximum time for all preparation details. The safety and security of your diamond depends on the quality of the mounting, the philosophy of the diamond setting shop, and most importantly, the skills, and attention to detail by the diamond setter. If you would like to learn more about diamond setting, ask for a copy of our "Quality of Stone Setting" guide, written by Cross Jewelers.

Cross Diamond Prices are Real: For over three quarters of a century, Cross Jewelers has maintained a consistent, conservative pricing philosophy that allows you to shop with the "real price" on every piece of jewelry in our store. Items are priced according to their true value—we never have sales or offer discounts, because prices are not inflated to allow for these types of artificial sales techniques. We find that people enjoy shopping in a store where quality is accurately represented and the values are real—365 days of the year. When non-ideal cut discount and sale diamonds are accurately graded for cut, color and clarity and accurately weighed for their carat weight, their "savings" often not only vanish when compared to an Ideal Cut diamond, but may be priced at a premium over the Ideal Cut.

Cross is a Teaching Jewelry Store: We have always found that whenever consumers have the facts, they make informed decisions and have the highest level of satisfaction in their purchase. Our entire staff is committed to taking any amount of time necessary to answer your questions and give you the background information necessary to make a decision concerning gems and jewelry. Cross has just completed a 24-page booklet titled "Cross' Guide To The World's Most Beautiful Diamonds." If you have been thinking of the purchase of a diamond, we invite you to stop and receive your free copy.

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Christine Pettinger: "This is fear of the unknown, that's all it is. There are a lot of snobby people in this town."

OUTLAWING THE IN-LAWS

continued from page 11

But the battle over accessory apartments is destined to heat up anyway, because the debate goes beyond hammers and nails and lot size. It's a matter of community values. And that means more than property values. It means thinking about how much an affluent society is willing to put at risk in order to help its elders.

Advocates say that Greater Portland suburbs that allow in-law apartments will gain more than they lose. Less restrictive zoning will help a number of people, including their own residents: renters looking for affordable housing; homeowners who need additional income; elderly people who want to retain their independence by living next door to relatives.

And these communities can do it without diminishing their property values. A number of homeowners interviewed for this story have learned from appraisers that, when it's done right, construction of an accessory apartment will increase the original home's property value. And when that happens, the values of neighboring houses also stand to rise.

Communities can allow accessory apartments and still keep the riffraff out, if that's what they want. As Bowdler suggested, other land use laws can stop apartment complexes from sprouting up in areas where they're not wanted. Peer pressure among neighbors works to some

degree. And as Christine Pettinger pointed out, "If everyone in town were allowed to build apartments, you'd have people checking references to get renters of good moral character. You don't have to rent to people parking old, broken-down cars and working on them in the front yard."

And, noted Sederlund, accessory apartments can help preserve open space, which is an issue among many suburbanites concerned about preserving a way of life. Accessory apartments simply don't gobble up land the way apartment complexes do.

But, Sederlund admitted, "I don't see [the laws] changing. Even if towns were amenable to helping with affordable housing... in the absence of tax reform and school finance reform, there will always be that resistance."

And that's why a lot of people moved to the suburbs in the first place. It simply feels better to live with neighbors who don't have nasty problems.

"Look at our budget compared to the towns' budgets," said Portland city councilor Leeman. "It's clear we become the social service center for the region, and not all of our clients live here."

"We have to be careful to make sure the region serves the region, and not that the city serves the region."

Kenneth Chutchian is a freelance writer based in Harpswell.

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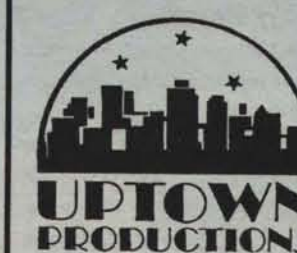
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Casco Bay Weekly's Holiday



Your holiday shopping list

Find the gift idea you're looking for in the shopping list on the right. Under each item you will find the store's name that carries those items and a whole lot more. Below are listing with short descriptions of each store's character and charm along with the page number their ad is located on. Happy shopping...

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THE WHIP & SPOON
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EAST COAST SPAS
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LIGHT OF THE MOON
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CALENDARS
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LIGHT OF THE MOON
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COLLECTIVE WORKS
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CLAY CITY

After Hours Page 11
762 Congress Street
Portland 775-SEXY
Your intimate apparel boutique. We offer fine lingerie, sensuous undergarments and a few surprises. Stop on by.

Asia West Page 6
219 Commercial Street
An intriguing blend of items from near and far. Rugs, jewelry, housewares and children's clothing are just a few of the rare and reasonably priced treasures you will find here.

Amaryllyis Page 23
41 Exchange Street
772-4439
Amaryllyis has gifts, stocking stuffers, and heart pleasers for everyone this holiday season... with all of it out of the ordinary... warm fuzzies for the heart, hands, and feet, angora socks, tin toys from around the world. Collectible ornaments, thrilling jewelry from \$4.00 and up, flannel sleepwear to make your smile, creative holiday clothing for extraordinary women of all ages, wonderful sweaters from basics to artwear, and all of it presented in great cheer for the merriest of holidays! Open 10 to 9:00 p.m. daily from December 8th through Christmas, and noon to 6:00 on Sundays.

Books Etc. Page 39
This holiday season, think books as gifts! Browse through our eclectic selection of fiction, poetry, gardening, food, architecture, travel and more. 1995 calendar assortment is a refreshing oasis. See our fun and fascinating children's section. We are Southern Maine's literary Mecca! Open Mon. - Sat. 10-9, Sun. 12-6.

Clay City Page 29
"Considering everything that has happened recently, I'd really rather be at Clay City." - O.J. Simpson
Clay City (more interesting than a white Bronco) at Longfellow Square, Portland, 761-2707.

Club 21 Page 44
Club 21 men's and women's clothes for the young and the young at heart. The Old Port's most exciting and up-to-date fashions, at affordable prices. Choose from Esprit, Guess, Urban Outfitters, Girbaud, Necessary Objects, International News and much more. 21 Exchange Street, Old Port. Telephone 871-8060.

Collective Works Page 12
61 India Street
Portland 871-0273
Come in Peace. Sit in our pyramid to recharge your holiday spirit. Be angelic with intuitive guidance for magical giving. Open Mon. - Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 1-5. Free parking.

East Coast Spas Page 33
Our holiday offerings include:
Completely portable Hot Tubs and supplies. Tents that assemble in 3 seconds! Night shirts, pack baskets and kits, floor mats, aquatic fitness paddles, back rubbers, books on camping, ice fishing, cooking and entertaining!

Ecology House Page 8
Ecology House is bursting with great gift ideas for the holidays. Gifts that develop an enduring respect for the world we live in. And everything at Ecology House increases individual and public awareness of our relationship to the natural world. Located in the Old Port, Maine Mall, Kennebunkport, Auburn Mall, The Mall at Rockingham Park, Salem N.H.

Fibula Page 8
50 Exchange Street
Pack a surprise in that stocking this year. We offer beautiful, distinctive jewelry created by Maine's best designers. Gemstones are on display for custom work. For a gift to be remembered, stop on by.

Fila Page 2
2 Depot Street
Fila Sport. It is a life of man and sport and the fiery passion that links them. Played out in locals like Wimbledon, Everest, Le Mans, Aspen and St. Andrews it reflects refined traditions redefined with time. This is the life Fila Sport pays tribute to. Born of our sporting heritage, it is a collection of simple elegant clothing as rich in texture, color and confidence as the inspiration behind it. Live the life. Stop on by.

Fresh Market Page 2
Treat yourself this holiday season to easy meal preparation with our fresh homemade pastas and sauces. Easy to freeze too! Order from our catering menu for your gatherings... and don't forget to stop by for a healthy, hearty lunch!

Goldsmit's Sporting Goods Page 45
Full line of team goods and athletic apparel, including starter jackets. Wide selection of hockey and fitness equipment and apparel. Figure skates, racket stringing and skate sharpening. Great Cross Country Ski Package and footwear.

Greenhut Galleries Page 15
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Heavenly Profiles Page 43
Gifts from the heavens give our loved ones their own personalized horoscope and 1995 forecast. See ad.

J.L. Coombs Page 8
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Light of the Moon Page 47
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Lovell Designs Page 29
26 Exchange Street
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Gift Guide

Material Objects Page 41
500 Congress Street, Portland
774-1241

Explore our diverse and affordable new line of clothing and accessories or choose something unique from our recycled and vintage selections for men and women. Open Mon.-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5.

Mulberry Street Page 35
As a nice break from the hustle and bustle of holiday shoppers, stop by Mulberry Street at 83 India Street, Portland. Always a place to park and loads to see. Home decorating, gifts, baby shower ideas, dollhouse miniatures, clothing, hats, accessories, antiques. The list goes on and on... Come see for yourself. 775-5011.

Natural Woman Page 15
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Piccadilly Square Page 42
Come to a place where you can get away from it all. Free parking, a hot cup of tea and great Christmas gift ideas. 938 Forest Avenue, Portland. 878-8252.

Picture Yourself Page 40
Peace on Earth for you at Picture Yourself Image & Relaxation Center will be a gift certificate for a full body massage, spa facial, a great cut or a complete makeover using only Aveda pure plant products. Welcome!

Portland Pottery Page 26
118 Washington Avenue
Portland 772-4334
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Portland Stage Co. Page 20
Portland Stage Company, 25A
Forest Avenue, 774-0465: Give the gift of laughter and magic. A gift certificate for a single show or a Voucher Pack to the most spectacular theater in Northern New England.

Portland Tinware Page 38
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Resourceful Home Page 35
111 Commercial Street
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selection of environmentally friendly gift ideas for friends, family, the boss, the kids and even Rover, Kitty and Tweety. We've got sinfully soft organic cotton clothing including sweaters, turtle-necks, leggings and cozy nightshirts. Come in and see this year's coolest holiday gifts - our HoneyPot Candle are naturally aromatic beeswax globes lit from within by a variety of carvings or pressed botanicals. You can fill those Christmas stockings with jewelry made from recycled bottle caps and transistor parts, or put together a gift basket with our map stationary, reindeer shaped pasta or maple syrup in a recycled wine bottle. If you're still stuck, try one of our "cootie catcher" gift certificates - a natural when you just can't make up your mind. Open 7 days a week.

Robert Clements Framing Page 29
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775-2202
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Salumeria Page 2
47A Exchange Street
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Siempre Mas Page 38
377 Fore Street, Old Port
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Walkabout Page 33
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The Whip and Spoon Page 28
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editorial

The folly of fortifying the suburbs

Civil war is brewing in the 'burbs.

As we report in this week's cover story, residents in Cape Elizabeth are at odds over add-on apartments — rental units that are either carved out of or added on to existing single-family homes. Advocates say these can help residents make the mortgage, and allow elderly people to remain in their own homes. Opponents charge that the new units will attract transients and drag down real estate values.

Cape Elizabeth, which is weighing an easing of restrictions, is tackling the issue now. But other suburbs will grapple with it in the future. They'll have to: People over 65 now account for 13 percent of the U.S. population; they're projected to grow to 20 percent within the next four decades. And 86 percent of elderly people surveyed by the American Association of Retired People said they don't want to move from their present homes. Add-on apartments make that feasible financially, and provide living quarters for helpers. Unused portions of single-family homes might prove to be one of the region's largest untapped resources.

Apartment opponents should consider this: there's no evidence that add-on apartments reduce neighborhood property values. In fact, the opposite may be true. As for preserving a sense of community, add-on apartments stand to do more good than harm. They diffuse affordable housing throughout a town, offering an alternative to pockets of low-income housing or condo sprawl. They help longtime residents remain in their homes, providing neighborhood continuity. They preserve open space by diverting development away from wild tracts. And they might prevent greater neighborhood disruption by offering an alternative to renting large homes to groups of students or recent graduates.

There are other benefits, as well. Greater density in the suburbs makes mass transit a more practical notion for the region. And add-ons make for more diverse neighborhoods. Other 'burbs that allow add-on apartments, including Falmouth and Cumberland, haven't experienced the problems that Cape Elizabeth fears.

There's also a bigger issue to consider. What happens when the suburbs erect fortress walls to keep the city out? The message is this: Affordable housing isn't our problem, it's yours. CBW has argued at length that the us vs. them attitude will only hasten the balkanization of Greater Portland. And that benefits no one.

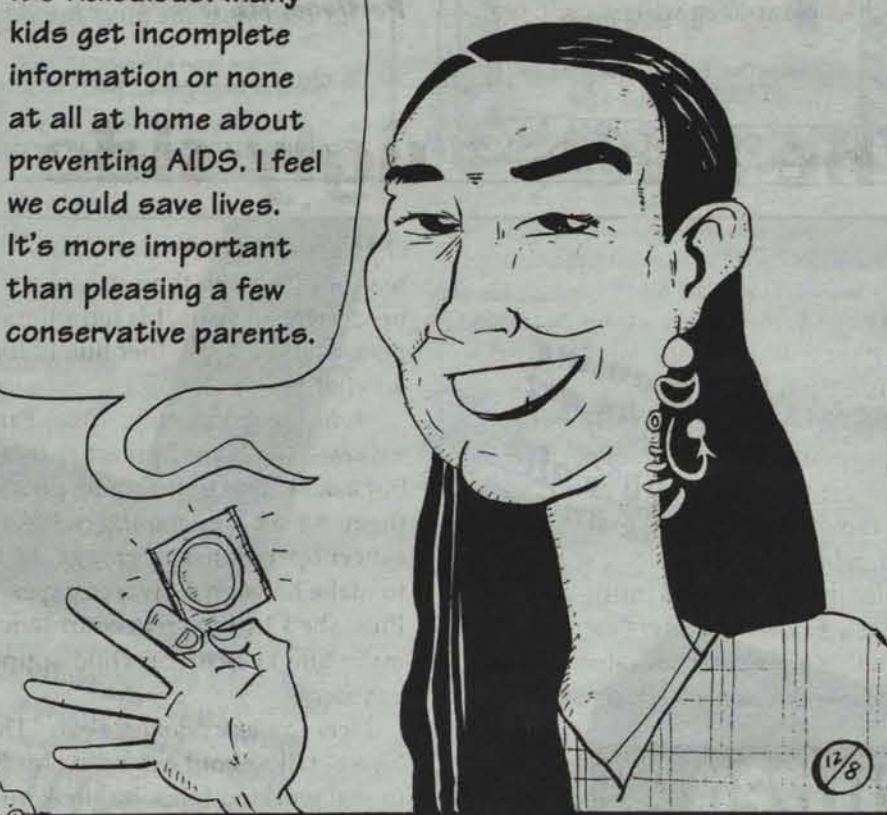
The outlying communities should strive to aid their own residents by reducing barriers to add-on apartments. And by contributing to the stock of affordable housing, the suburbs will help do their share to usher the region into a more prosperous and equitable future. (WC)

overheard

by Kurth

Michelle, a licensed social worker, on the conservative backlash against a proposal to teach AIDS awareness and condom use at Portland High:

It's ridiculous. Many kids get incomplete information or none at all at home about preventing AIDS. I feel we could save lives. It's more important than pleasing a few conservative parents.



Everybody: "If you're going to take a lover, wrap your Gingrich in a rubber!"

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Ode to a poodle boy

■ By Mark R. Nergaard

There's this guy I work with. The job doesn't matter. He's not a bad guy but he's got this annoying habit of crying "Generation X" to explain how he wound up in the sorry-ass occupation we both share. He's in deep with the Gen-X thing. He wears the uniform, reads the literature and suffers the appropriate amount of angst of that new lost generation.

Me, technically I'm a boomer, but really I'm just a loser. Losers spring eternal throughout the ages. I was born in 1960, but I'd still be a loser

whether I was born in the '60s, '70s, or in a stable next to baby Jesus. But back to this other guy.

I'll give him credit. He has one hell of a mind. To him diddling on a computer comes as naturally as jerking off does to me. He's well read. He can argue any point competently and intelligently.

He's a little confused as to what to do with all those brains, though. He likes to wax philosophic about the evils of corporate America and the like. He considers himself an anarchist. It's hard to disagree with most of what he says. It's hard for me to argue with anybody who is as miserable as he is.

The only problem is all these big ideas of his just float around in his head like expensive perfume. Traveling down, they short-circuit somewhere in his gut and by the time they reach his balls there's no connection left. For when my friend isn't playing radical child of the '90s, he spends nearly all of his employed time pressing his twentysomething lips to the various corporate asses that pollute our workplace. He claims to hate it, but he does it a little too well, and too often, to just write it off as part of the job.

In short, he is a poodle boy. Loud and vicious yapping, but when the master walks into the room poodle boy rolls over on his back and pisses on the rug.

So what? Why should I care? I don't, or at least I don't want to. The thing is, poodle boy has taken to chastising me for my "bad attitude" as it relates to work. Now, this is familiar territory for me. I've heard it many times before from all sorts of earnest fools seeking to change my ways. But I've never learned that roll-over trick.

Wait, that's not true. Just like everyone else, I've been taught, but somewhere along the way I've either forgotten or lost interest. These days I'm more likely to drop a turd and leave the room. Yet, I am no radical. As I said I am a loser. I am a dog man, a mutt, and like all dogs I must beg for food. That's where the job comes in.

And what is a job? I'll tell you what it is to me. A job is something I

do for money. That's it. I'm just a whore turning a trick. I don't have to love my job, or even like him. The job rests my ass for a few hours and I take my cash and go. Don't ask me how I feel about it, John. I'll only lie. Besides, it's none of your business how I feel. So don't ask me to stick around after hours to whisper sweet nothings in your ear. You got what you paid for. See ya.

Now, when I have a job I do it as well as anybody but that never seems to be enough for the master. That's where the poodle boy lectures come in. They want that little extra. They want that last bit of your self-respect so they know you've been completely housebroken. Sorry, there's not much extra left in me. Too many jobs. What I've got I'm saving. For what, I'm not sure, but I get the feeling I'm going to need it.

The trouble with people is that every time you turn around someone is either trying to break your legs out from underneath you, or toss you a crutch. Crutches come in all shapes and sizes: God, Country, Family, Work, Politics, blah, blah, blah... It's a lot like dog obedience school — the choker, or the milk bone.

When this rant began I meant to tell you about poodle boy but I've wound up talking about myself. I guess it was poodle boy who got me thinking about how even the brightest among us are so incredibly full of shit.

Including me. Not that I'm particularly bright. I just have a good nose.

My nose tells me I'd better stay downwind of upright apes with big ideas. If the poodle boys want to sleep at the foot of the master's bed, they're welcome to it. I'll sleep close to the door so I can get out quick when I have to.

For now, I'm still punching the clock. I don't imagine it will last long, especially if the master gets a whiff of this. Other than a lost paycheck, it won't mean much. Just about everything is meaningless. Like this thing you're reading right now. I sit at the typer whacking off words and black steam pours from my head but it doesn't change anything. I'm still the same and so are you. There's a check in it for me so I guess that makes it a job but it doesn't feel like a job so you're getting that little extra I've been cheating my employers out of. You see, even I'm in denial.

Anyway, if some night you hear a terrible noise outside, don't worry. It's just me howling at the moon. My master probably found out what I've been thinking about doing to that hand that feeds. I can see it now. The master has turned me out in the rain and tied me to a tree. Through the sheets of freezing sleet I'll see poodle boy at the window.

Hot damn. He's got himself a milk bone.

Mark R. Nergaard writes for the Shepherd Express in Milwaukee, where this story originally appeared.

Mercury and incinerators

MERCURY

RISING



In November CBW published a two-part series about mercury contamination in many of Maine's most remote lakes and ponds. Among the culprits fingered were trash incinerators, which burn the mercury found in products such as thermometers, camera batteries and varnish. Mercury vapor gets into the air, and pollutes lakes far from civilization.

Based on estimates by Clean Water Action, a N.H.-based environmental group, CBW reported that two Maine incinerators run by KTI Environmental Group released more than 1,000 pounds of mercury into the air each year. KTI responded with mercury release figures that were a fraction of the published estimates. Below are KTI's figures, followed by a response from Clean Water Action.

Mercury stack test facts

A recent article that appeared in your paper (11.3.94) depicts both of our facilities [Maine Energy in Biddeford and Penobscot Energy Recovery (PERC) in Orrington] as major sources of mercury in the state of Maine.

The information, which appears to have been estimated by the Clean Water Action group, is totally inaccurate. The information below is based on actual data from stack tests supervised by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and conducted at Maine Energy during March 1994. Previous stack tests, from as far back as 1987, have revealed similar results.

Total operating hours: 8,307.15

Test results: 0.000681 lbs./hour of mercury

Total mercury emissions: 5.657 lbs. of mercury in 1994

The above information is based on the actual number of hours the plant operated during 1994. If the plant had operated every minute of every day throughout 1994, the total amount of mercury would have been 5.965 lbs.

Similar results were achieved at PERC during tests conducted in the spring. Total mercury emissions were 5.7 lbs. during 1994.

I hope that you will find these actual test results quite interesting in light of Clean Water Action's estimates. It is very important to your readers that factual information be presented and that estimates be replaced with facts.

Please be advised that both Maine Energy and PERC have been outfitted with the latest pollution control technology available anywhere. Maine Energy has been recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as having the lowest mercury emissions of any operating waste-to-energy plant in all of North America.

Randall J. Parenteau
Randall J. Parenteau
Director of Sales & Marketing, KTI, Inc.
Portland



Figuring mercury emissions

We would like to clarify what we can of the apparent discrepancy between the estimates of mercury emissions we offered in your article (11.3.94) and what the owner of these incinerators is claiming.

Our figures were based on recent EPA projections for mercury emissions based on the types of pollution control and fuel used. We did these calculations as part of a regional effort to begin to quantify the sources of mercury affecting our lakes. As a citizen-funded nonprofit organization, we're often forced to rely on federal government expertise in these matters. Though we didn't have access to the stack test figures for these incinerators when we made our calculations, our experience with other similar incinerators in the region does leave us skeptical of their findings.

We do share the concerns raised in your article about the reliability of using these tests to accurately project real emissions for the entire year. Another concern of ours is that if they are doing such a good job filtering mercury out of their air emissions, then they must be collecting relatively more in their fly ash. While dumping mercury into an ash landfill is preferable to pumping it into the air, clearly neither approach is acceptable for the long-term health of our environment.

We welcome this opportunity for greater public scrutiny of the sources of environmental contamination and public health threats.

Randy Walsh
Randy Walsh
Program Director, Clean Water Action
Portsmouth, N.H.

Elvis Room responds

This letter concerns the article "How to hang" that appeared in the 11.24.94 issue of the CBW. I wish to clarify the erroneous and misleading statements contained in the article, that the Elvis Room "caters" to teens and "the young people."

The Elvis Room does not "cater" to any particular category or persons. If anything, the Elvis Room promotes and encourages a diversity of patrons. However, the Elvis Room does not admit persons under

letters

the age of 17. This has been our policy since the Elvis Room opened in Portland on October 17, 1994. There is a sign on the front door clearly stating this policy. Persons working behind the bar routinely ask for identification to verify that an individual is 17 years or older. Those who do not have identification or are under the age of 17 are told to leave the premises.

The Elvis Room in Portsmouth, N.H., also has a 17-years-or-older policy. We instituted this age requirement because we found that, as a general rule, young people under the age of 17 do not possess the social skills for the unstructured atmosphere of the Elvis Room. While we empathize with the dilemma of the young people of Portland as they try to find a positive way to spend time and "hang," the Elvis Room is not the answer. We are a business that welcomes all members of the Portland community, except those under the age of 17.

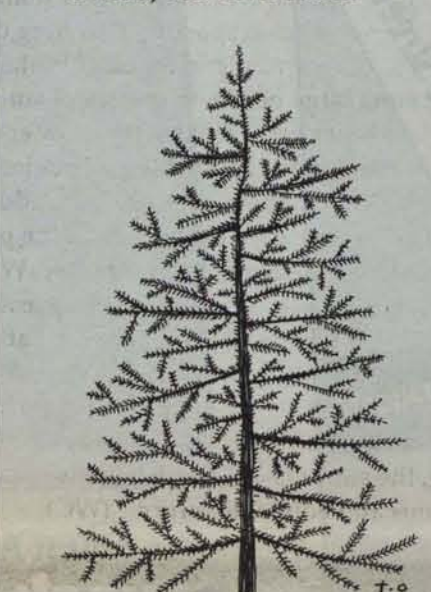
It is unfortunate that the reporter Claire Holman did not have the courtesy to speak with myself or my managers concerning our age requirement. Instead she relied on the statements of a few teenagers to ascertain and state, "the place is run by adults but caters to teens" and "if you're not obnoxious the managers often let it slide if you're younger." That is just not true. Ms. Holman should have spoken with myself, one

of my managers or the underage teenagers who are turned away from the Elvis Room to present a more accurate picture.

Unfortunately, Ms. Holman's reporting on the Elvis Room adversely impacts both the Elvis Room and the young people of Portland. Her article creates the false expectation for those under 17 that they will be admitted to the Elvis Room. They will not. It adversely impacts the Elvis Room by giving the impression that the Elvis Room caters to teens. It does not.

The goal in establishing the Elvis Room in Portland is to provide the community with a place in which to brainstorm with others, play chess or simply find solace from the rat race. We want to be a vehicle for expression and change. To that end we look forward to a long and positive relationship with the citizens of Portland.

Dawn M. Rine
Dawn Marie Pierre
Owner, The Elvis Room



Casco Bay Weekly welcomes your letters. Please limit your thoughts to 300 words, include a daytime phone number and address to: Letters, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101

The Newt's ugly side

■ By Jim Hightower

They say the higher up the ladder the monkey climbs, the more you see of its ugly side.

Check out Newt Gingrich, incoming speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. He's scrambled up to the top of the ladder in Congress — and, whoa, his ugly side is, well, uglier than a baboon's butt!

Ugly Example Number One: "The Newt" is a guy very moralistic about ethics — other people's ethics. GO-PAC,

his political action committee,

is a personal slush fund filled with more corrupt, special-interest money than any other speaker has ever amassed. Dozens of corporate executives have shoved more than \$100,000 each into GO-PAC — and each of them has special favors expected from Congress.

Ugly Example Number Two: "The Newt" says he wants to cut congressional staffs by a third. Good idea — but Gingrich wants to exempt his own

staff. He also favors term limits — but not for him. Even though he's already been there 16 years, his term-limits plan would grandfather him in for another 12.

Ugly Example Number Three: Family values. "The Newt" preaches them, but ask his first wife how he preaches them. As she was coming out of a cancer operation, still groggy, he tried to make her sign a divorce paper. Plus, she's had to go to court twice to make him keep up his child-support payments.

Ugly Example Number Four: "The Newt" talks about extending his hand to you working folks, but look out! He's putting his hand in your pockets! His chief economic proposal is to give a special \$56-billion tax break to the rich on the backs of — you guessed it — middle-class taxpayers.

Now that "The Newt" is at the top of the ladder, we'd better keep an eye on this monkey — in fact, don't even blink.

Jim Hightower is a nationally syndicated radio commentator.

Casco Bay Weekly



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art & soul

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SORRY CHARLIE

By Cathy Nelson Price

With the possible exception of watching for that puff of white smoke from the Vatican, there are few waiting periods as anxiety-producing as the one between a community theater audition and the final casting. The phone lines burn up. Personal, political and professional favors are collected on with alarming speed. And folks not generally known for their piety fall on their knees, bargaining for a small part in the chorus against their very souls.

All right, maybe that's stretching it a bit. But there's no mistaking the intense passions unleashed each time a community theater casts a show. Friendships wax and wane, horse-trading gets raised to an art form and arm-twisting doth make Gumbys of us all if we happen to have any influence.

And feelings get hurt — especially when unsuccessful candidates are never sure *why* they were not selected for a particular role and find out later that all that preparation and angst was for naught because the director's dentist's brother's girlfriend's cousin was already slated for the part. Because while most directors try to be open-minded and fair, they also have limited time to cast, produce and mount a show, and, because they're human like the rest of us (contrary to rumor), they often take the path of least resistance. And that can mean going with the familiar instead of

Daunted by the big fish in community theater's small pond? You don't have to be.

taking a risk on the untried, which can lead to a network of stroking and politics and a patronage system second only to Washington.

But before you throw away your Stanislavsky in disgust, take heart. Even though the Portland community theater population is inbred, entrenched and already glutted with talent, you *can* break into the charmed circle. By and large the dozen or so directors who work regularly in community theater are an honest bunch whose main concern is putting on a good show. And at per-production salaries ranging from \$800 to \$1500, and \$12 or \$13 ticket prices, they'd better.

continued on page 21


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See pages 14 & 15!



Art & Soul continued from page 19

Sorry Charlie

Sniffing out the how-tos of getting into a show can be done on two levels: First, there is the basic criteria that directors and other casting personnel have the right to expect from you, the auditioner. You should take the responsibility to call the individual theater, find out who the contact people are for the particular show you're interested in and find out what they want you to do—or more to the point, what they don't want you to do.

"If we say, for example, not to select a song from 'Les Miserables' or 'Phantom,' don't show up and sing one," says Linwood Dyer, longtime director at Portland Lyric Theater and currently its board president. "That shows a certain lack of respect for the director and the theatrical process; if you do that at an audition, what are you going to be like to work with?"

Respect unlocks the door, agrees Eve Cimmet, actress, director and board member at Portland Players.

"What many auditioners don't realize is that they are being watched from the

time they leave their cars in the parking lot until the time they return to their cars. How you walk, look and talk to other people all form a cumulative impression in the director's mind." Moreover, Cimmet stresses, the community theater world is a small one; once you've established a reputation for being difficult to work with, it's hard to shake. "What you do and don't do can be recalled as directors talk to each other," she warns.

Glenn Anderson, actor and director in several productions at Biddeford City Theater, looks for people who are adaptable onstage. "If you're asked to read a scene and the part isn't the one you're trying out for, read it anyway. Do something with it... give it your best shot. A director would rather see an actor take a risk.

Some of the things you shouldn't do involve common sense, but in the haze of nervousness they can be forgotten. For example—don't announce that you're only interested in one role. Don't expect to be paid. Don't fidget or mumble. Don't blame someone else if you screw up. Most musical directors will let you start again, and most book directors will encourage you to take deep breaths and read more slowly. If they aren't at least that accommodating, get out of there fast because you don't want to work with them.

But what about the under-layer of networking that's going on even while you're singing or emoting your little heart out at auditions? Here's where your detective work comes in.

Find out if the director, musical director, producer or choreographer have near and dear ones who will also be auditioning for the role you're interested in. Or if they traditionally work with the same nucleus of performers. A good source for this is to read reviews of local shows, or obtain copies of the programs and match up directors and cast over the course of several shows. You can also subscribe to *Cast & Crew*, (P.O. Box 1031, Portland, 04104), which is the closest thing Portland has to a trade rag. That way you can make an informed decision about whether to drive your

child 50 miles on a school night to audition if you know the director's two children may already have the roles locked up.

If musicals are your thing, consider accepting a role in the chorus (they will ask you about this on your audition sheet). Even then, competition is fierce, and directors can get a little lazy—casting whole families for convenience even when it means dead wood onstage. If you're a dancer, especially a competent one, your chances are much better. And if you're a guy who can sing, dance and play a convincing romantic lead, you can probably count on being welcomed with open arms.

Recognize, too, that while no director will admit to precasting a role, certain parts come with heavy favorites already "under consideration." These are the actors who come line-perfect to auditions with fully fleshed-out characterizations, or give offhand or below-standard auditions and are cast either way. It doesn't take much figuring to see what was going on. Even if you aren't sure who's who at that point, you'll figure it out later when the principals start making remarks that start out, "When so-and-so said he wanted me for this part six months ago...."

Even if you have done your homework and followed the rules, you will still need to acknowledge that in community theater nepotism and the patronage system are alive and well. Like all rules, this one has the occasional exception, but history usually reveals that if you, the musical director's voice student and the director's child are equally acceptable for the same part, your chances of being cast are about as good as Princess Margaret getting the throne. Also, you may see your place in the chorus go to a hooper who attends the choreographer's school.

And, to a certain degree, it makes sense. Why shouldn't someone who has poured time and money into voice or dance lessons expect to reap the reward? The possibility of an onstage role has been a longstanding acceptable carrot for teachers to dangle before their students' eyes.

What probably irks disgruntled auditioners most, and casts community theater in a bad light, is that theater companies feel compelled to maintain the fiction of a level playing field. It's not. No competitive society is, where supply far exceeds demand. But if you learn to play the game and seize your entrance opportunity, being a part of the community theater scene can be rewarding and compelling. That's why directors work for hourly wages that babysitters would turn down, why people sacrifice three or four evenings a week for eight weeks and why there are adults acting today who were carried on those same stages as tots.

It's unlikely that you'll beat the system, but you can try to join it: Hone your audition skills. Get cozy with the cognoscenti. Or better yet, become one of them by volunteering. It may not land you a lead, but it might be harder for the powers-that-be to pass you over once you've painted scenery together. And keep coming back for more—with enough persistence and patience, it's likely to be only a matter of time before you make your splash. **CBW**

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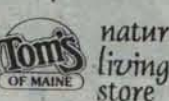


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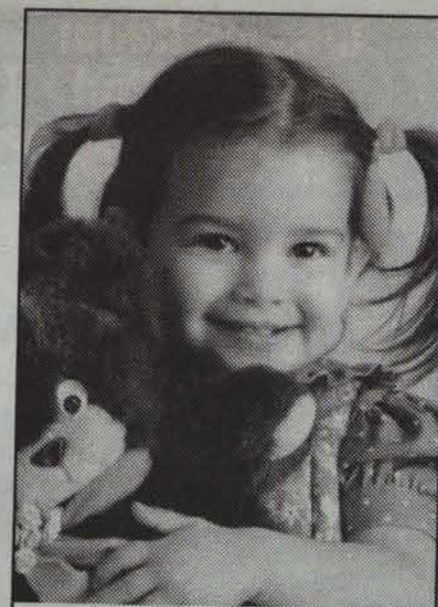


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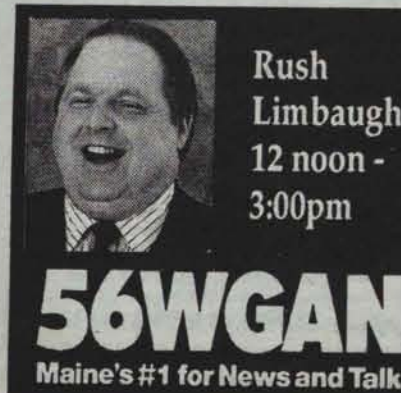


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Silver screen

Black Beauty Yet another version (no. 5) of Anna Sewall's 1877 classic about the adventures of a black horse — this one seen through the eyes of the horse. Directorial debut of Caroline Thompson, the writer of "Edward Scissorhands," "The Addams Family," and "Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas."

Clerks First-time filmmaker and denizen of the low culture Kevin Smith delivers an absurdist comedy about a day in the life of a convenience store clerk. Brian O'Halloran stars as the clerk. In question, witness to the bizarre parade of humanity that trails in and out of the establishment.

Disclosure Demi Moore and Michael Douglas sell out in this reversal of sexual harassment scenarios based on Michael Crichton's novel. Moore plays a duplicitous female exec who tries to run ex-lover Douglas out of the company for refusing her advances.

Drop Zone Wesley Snipes goes undercover as an exhibition skydiver to root out a notorious computer hacker, who is in cahoots with a terrorist band of renegade parachutists. Yancy Butler is featured as the lady captain of the jump team, as well as Gary Busey as Snipes' arch enemy — a good guy gone bad. Lots of stomach turning plane leaps.

Forrest Gump In this apparent mating of "Being There" and "Zelig," Tom Hanks plays a lucky simpleton who becomes an all-American football player, a Vietnam hero and a shrimp magnate — all the while stumbling into major figures in American history. Through the use of old newsreels and high tech, Gump gets to interact with such notables as Presidents Johnson, Kennedy and Nixon. He also gets to teach Elvis how to dance. Sally Field plays his mother; Robin Wright, his love interest. Directed by Robert Zemeckis ("Back to the Future").

Frankenstein Kenneth Branagh portrays Dr. Frankenstein, in this classic horror tale about what happens when a man attempts to create life. Robert De Niro plays old bolt neck. Branagh also directs. **Go Fish** Rose Troche's film depicting a group of lesbian friends going through the ins and outs of daily life. "Sexually rowdy and sharply observant," says Rolling Stone.

I Don't Want To Talk About It Marcello Mastroianni stars as the man who falls in love with a dwarf. Said dwarf's mother refuses to acknowledge her daughter's handicap and expresses her frustration by burning copies of "Snow White" and smashing plaster gnomes on a neighbor's fence. A dark comedy directed by Maria Luisa Bemberg. (In Spanish.)

Interview With a Vampire While living in modern-day New Orleans, the vampire Louis (Brad Pitt) tells a reporter (Christian Slater) of Lestat (Tom Cruise), the vampire who converted him, and their 200-year-old lives together. Based on the novel by Anne Rice. Also stars Antonio Banderas, Stephen Rea and Kirsten Dunst. Directed by Neil Jordan ("The Crying Game").



Junior In a bizarre "gender-bender" comedy with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito together again, Schwarzenegger gives birth (yikes) to "Junior," in an extreme attempt to prove the efficacy of the fertility drug they have created. Emma Thompson stars as the foil to the mayhem. Directed by Ivan Reitman.

The Lion King Kitty rules in the Disney animated feature.

Little Giants A football hero and a warm-hearted klutz (Rick Moranis and Ed O'Neill) find themselves coaching opposing pee-wee football teams. Another touchingly funny drama from Duwayne Dunham, director of "Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey."

The Mask A 90-pound Milwaukee (Jim Carrey of "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective") finds an ancient Viking mask that turns him into an invincible fluorescent wiseguy. Instead of using his newfound powers to better mankind, he uses them to win the girl and get revenge against anyone who's ever bugged him. Computer-generated special animation by Industrial Light and Magic, the group that brought you the dinosaurs of "Jurassic Park." Warning: Elaborate song and dance numbers.

Miracle on 34th Street This classic-made-contemporary stars Richard Attenborough as Kris Kringle and Mara Wilson in the role little Natalie Wood immortalized. Directed by Les Mayfield ("Encino Man").

Natural Born Killers Director Oliver Stone pulls out all the stops in this gruesome satire about violence in the media. Juliette Lewis and Woody Harrelson star as the modern day Bonnie & Clyde, who become media darlings for their three-week killing spree. Robert Downey Jr. co-stars as their own personal Geraldo.



The Pagemaster An animation/live-action fantasy starring Macaulay Culkin as a neurotic boy with an overactive imagination. While taking refuge from a storm in the local library, he meets up with three animated characters: Adventure, Fantasy and Horror — who bring him on a crazy trip to the voices of Whoopi Goldberg, Patrick Stewart, Leonard Nimoy and Frank Welker. Christopher Lloyd is his usual zany self. Joe Johnston directs.

The Professional Luc Besson initially wrote the script for Jean Reno ("La Femme Nikita") then decided to go ahead and direct it too. A hitman takes a career turnaround by sheltering a teenage girl (Natalie Portman) from the sleazy cop (Gary Oldman) who killed her family. Danny Aiello also stars.

Pulp Fiction Three intertwining stories about drugs and thugs set in the seedy, violent underground of L.A. The all-star cast includes Uma Thurman, John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Bruce Willis, and Harvey Keitel. Directed by Quentin Tarantino ("Reservoir Dogs"). The film was awarded the Palme d'or at Cannes.

The Puppet Masters Silly aliens turn people into malleable zombies. In an unimpaired horror flick starring Donald Sutherland as an ooze-fighting government agent.

The River Wild Meryl Streep stars as a muscle-ripping river guide trying to bond with her family on a rafting trip. She gets interrupted by a suave bad guy (Kevin Bacon) who kidnaps and forces them to help him escape down the river. All this action is directed by Curtis Hanson ("The Hand That Rocks the Cradle").

The Road to Wellville Anthony Hopkins plays Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, who owns and runs Dr. Kellogg's Sanatorium, a turn-of-the-century spa and weightloss center for the rich and famous. It is the scene for three interconnected stories relating to America's early fixation with health and bodily functions. Matthew Broderick, John Cusack and Bridget Fonda also star. Directed by Alan Parker ("Midnight Express").

The Santa Clause Tim Allen (TV's "Home Improvement") is Scott Calvin, a divorced father who is working on his strained relationship with his son, when on Christmas Eve, Santa falls from the roof, dies, and Scott puts on Santa's suit. Suddenly father and son are taken to the North Pole where they are informed of a clause that states whomever puts on the suit becomes the next Santa. White beards and bowls-of-jelly guts ensue. Directed by John Pasquin.

Shawshank Redemption The story of a 20-year prison friendship between two lifers, played by Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. The pair comes to realize that hope is the best means of survival. Directed by Frank Darabont, who also wrote the screenplay based on a short story by Stephen King.



Stargate A strange monumental circle is unearthed near the Pyramids of Giza. Identifying it as "Stargate," an Egyptologist (James Spader) and a colonel leading a top secret team (Kurt Russell) realize its secret power, jump through it into the unknown and are transported to an alien hybrid of an ancient Egyptian civilization led by a gender-jumping ruler, Ra (Laye Davidson). To return to their own time, the group must overturn Ra before the "Stargate" closes forever. Directed by Roland Emmerich ("Universal Soldier").

Star Trek: Generations The Enterprise guys are back in action, complete with awe inspiring, billion-dollar effects and featuring a union of Kirk and Picard, who join forces to cope with a time warp. Directed by David Carson (Leonard Nimoy wanted rewrites) and starring (you guessed it) William Shatner and Patrick Stewart.

The Swan Princess An animated musical based on the legend of Swan Lake, featuring the vocal talent of Stephen Wright, John Cleese and Sandy Duncan (whom, we hope, will not speak with her mouth full of Wheat Thins).

Trapped in Paradise Three brothers (Nicholas Cage, Dana Carvey and Jon Lovitz), fresh out of the slammer, revert quickly to bad habits by robbing the local bank in the charming town of Paradise. A series of mishaps keep them there, providing ample comic romping ground for tongue-in-cheek capers. **The War** A coming-of-age story about a boy (Elijah Wood) and his twin sister (Lexi Randall), as they welcome their father (Kevin Costner) back from Vietnam and defend their tree house from two crew cut Arian bullies in a time when childhood was innocent. Directed by Jon Annet ("Fried Green Tomatoes").

where

Owing to scheduling changes after CBW goes to press, moviegoers are advised to confirm times with theaters.

General Cinemas

Maine Mall
Maine Mall Road, S. Portland
774-1022

Dates effective Dec 9-14

Interview with a Vampire (R)
1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10

Star Trek Generations (PG)
1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:35

The Professional (R)
2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10

The Swan Princess (G)
12:45

Junior (PG-13)
1:15, 4, 5, 7, 7:20, 9:30, 9:50

Pagemaster (G)
1, 2:50, 4:45

Drop Zone (R)
12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Clerks (R)
1, 3:05, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30

Hoyts Clark's Pond

333 Clark's Rd., S. Portland
879-1511

Dates effective Dec 8-14

The River Wild (PG-13)
12 (Fri & Sat), 7:20, 9:45

Pulp Fiction (R)
3:40, 6:40, 9:40

Stargate (R)
11:40 (Fri & Sat), 12:40, 6:50, 9:20

The Santa Clause (PG)
11:45 (Fri & Sat), 12:40, 1:10, 3, 3:50, 5:15, 7:40, 9:50

Miracle on 34th Street (PG)
11:50 (Fri & Sat), 12:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35

The Lion King (G)
1:20, 3:20, 5:20

Trapped in Paradise (PG-13)
12 (Fri & Sat), 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 9:55

Disclosure (R)
11:55 (Fri & Sat), 12:30, 1, 3:30, 4, 6:30, 7, 9:30, 10

The Movies

10 Exchange St., Portland
772-9600

Matinees Sat & Sun

I Don't Want To Talk About It
Dec 7-13

Wed-Tues 5, 7, 9
Sat & Sun 1, 3

Go Fish
Dec 14-18

Wed-Tues 5, 7, 9
Sat & Sun 1, 5, 9

Nickelodeon

Temple and Middle streets, Portland
772-9751

Dates effective Dec 8-14

The Mask (PG-13)
1:50 (Sat & Sun only), 7:20

Natural Born Killers (R)
4:20, 10

The Shawshank Redemption (R)
12:30 (Sat & Sun only), 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

Forest Gump (PG-13)
12:40 (Sat & Sun only), 3:40, 6:40, 9:40

Little Giants (PG)
1:10 (Sat & Sun only), 4:10

Frankenstein (R)
7, 9:45

Road to Wellville (R)
12:50 (Sat & Sun only), 3:50, 6:50, 9:20

The Puppet Master (R)
1 (Sat & Sun only), 4, 7:10, 9:50

Black Beauty (G)
12 (Sat only)

Art & Soul continued on pag 24

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Art & Soul continued from page 22

stage

"Apocalyptic Butterflies" Mad Horse Theatre presents this screwball comedy about Hank & Muriel, miserable new parents living in Fryeburg, Maine. Shows through Dec 11 — Thurs, Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 7 pm — at the Mad Horse Theatre, 955 Forest Ave, Portland, Me. \$18 (\$16 students/seniors) Thurs, Fri & Sun, \$20 Sat, 797-3338.

"Avner the Eccentric" Portland Stage Company hosts native Avner Egar performing his one-man, Broadway-smash comedy show. Runs through Dec 23 — Tues-Thurs 7:30 pm, Fri 8 pm, Sat 5, 9 pm, Sun 2 pm, (Dec 18) 7:30 pm, (Dec 11) 6 pm — Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave. Tix: \$20-\$29 (Half-price rush seats are often available one hour before curtain). 774-0465.

"Butterfingers Angel, Herod the Nut, & The Slaughter of 12 Hit Carols in a Pear Tree" The Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick presents a comic retelling of the nativity story. Shows through Dec 11 — Fri and Sat 7:30 pm, Sat and Sun 3 pm. Tix: \$10, (\$8 kids/seniors), 729-8584.

"A Christmas Carol" Public Theatre, Lisbon & Maple Sts, Lewiston, presents Dickens' tale Dec 9-11 — Fri 8 pm, Sat 2 pm and 8 pm and Sun 1 and 4 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students/seniors), (\$6 kids under 12), 782-3200 or 1-800-639-9575.

"Gift of the Magi" Krackerjack Theater Company presents the story of a young couple who sacrifice their most prized possessions to buy each other Christmas gifts. Shows Dec 10, 17 and 24 at 11 am at the Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St, Portland. Tix: \$5, 775-5103.

"I Guess My Name Is Scrooge" The Furies, Portland's only feminist theatre ensemble, host a different kind of "Christmas Carol." Shows Dec 13-18, Tues-Sat 8 pm, Sun 2 pm at Sisters, 45 Danforth St, Portland. Tix: \$7, 773-4968.

"Love's Labors Lost" American Renaissance Theater presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy about four noblemen who take a vow of chastity — a vow that is quickly broken. Shows through Dec 11 — Thurs-Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm — at Oak Street Theater, 92 Oak St, Portland. Tix: \$10 (\$8, students/seniors), 775-5103.

"Mr. Scrooge" A musical based on "A Christmas Carol," shows through Dec 10 — Fri and Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 pm — at Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd, S. Portland. Special performance to benefit USM Uline Programs Dec 8 at 8 pm, Tix: \$13 (\$15 benefit), 799-7337.

"The Nutcracker" Portland Ballet Company hosts stars of the Russian Ballet in their version of the Christmas favorite. Shows through Dec 18 — Fri and Sat 7 pm, Sat and Sun 1 pm at Deering High School, 370 Stevens Ave. Tix: \$16, \$12 (students/seniors), 772-9671.

"Republic Incarnate... The Phoenix Will Rise Again" A play by USM student Sid Goldenberg about the impact of the Cold War years on the average American citizen. Shows Dec 9-11, Fri and Sat 7:30 pm, Sun 5 pm at Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus. Tix: \$4, 790-5483.

auditions

Community Orchestra of the Portland Symphony invites string players to its Wed evening rehearsals. Locations vary, 882-2460.

Studio Theatre of Bath holds auditions for "Breaking Legs," Dec 11 from 3-5 pm and Dec 12 from 7-9 pm. Chocolate Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St, Bath. 442-7493.

concerts

thursday 8

Maine Gay Men's Chorus 2 pm, St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St, Portland. Tix: \$10, \$8 advance (879-1112) and at 8 pm, Pickard Theater in Memorial Hall at Bowdoin, Brunswick, Tix: \$5, 725-3375.

friday 9

Carols for Congregational Singing 7 pm, Bowdoin Chapel, Brunswick. Free. 725-3375.

"Magic of Christmas" (Portland Symphony Orchestra's annual yule-fest) continues through Dec 19, City Hall Auditorium, 30 Myrtle St. Tix: \$10-\$30, 773-8191.

Music of the Seraphim (Portland Early Music Consort's festive medieval program) 7:30 pm, St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St, Portland. Tix: \$10, 773-0942.

Alison Krauss & Union Station with the Cox Family (progressive bluegrass) 8 pm, State Theatre, 609 Congress St. Tix: general admission \$14.50; cabaret seats \$18.50 (plus \$10.50 dinner ticket), 879-1112.

USM Chamber Singers (directed by Robert Russell) 8 pm, Immanuel Baptist Church, High St, Portland. Tix: \$3, (\$1 seniors/students), 780-5555.

saturday 10

Anonymous 4 (medieval chant and polyphony) 8 pm, Portland Concert Association presentation at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St, Portland. Tix: \$21, 772-9630.

Carols for Congregational Singing 7 pm, Bowdoin Chapel, Brunswick. Free. 725-3375.

Nowell Sing We Clear (Christmas tunes from pagan times to the present) 7:30 pm, Chocolate Church, 804 Washington St, Bath. Tix: \$10 (\$8 advance), 442-8455.

The Reindeer Christmas Revue (RTC's musical/variety show) Warren Memorial Library Auditorium, 479 Main St, Westbrook at 8 pm. Tix: \$8, \$4 kids 12 and under (\$10/\$5 day of show), 874-9002.

Tuba Christmas (100 tubas in four-part harmony) Bow and Main Streets in Freeport, at 2 pm. Free. 767-9620 or 865-1212.

sunday 11

Austin Pipe Organ Concert (Christmas selections) St. Joseph's Church, 673 Steven's Ave, Portland, at 3 pm. 774-0654.

Portland Rossini Club (Christmas music for organ, voice and instruments) 3 pm, free, at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 113 Coyle St, Portland. 846-4503.

Music of the Seraphim (Portland Early Music Consort's festive medieval program) 7:30 pm, St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St, Portland. Tix: \$10, 773-0942.

The Reindeer Christmas Revue (musical/variety show) Warren Memorial Library Auditorium, 479 Main St, Westbrook at 2 pm. Tix: \$8, \$4 kids 12 and under (\$10/\$5 day of show), 874-9002.

wednesday 14

The Judy Collins Christmas Show 8 pm, State Theatre, 609 Congress St. Tix: general admission \$22.50; cabaret seats \$27.50 (plus \$10.50 dinner ticket) 879-1112.

Lorrie Morgan Christmas Concert (country Christmas) 8 pm, Cumberland County Civic Center. Tix: \$22.50-\$27.50, 775-3458.

USM Concert Band and Wind Ensemble 3 pm, Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham. Tix: \$3 (\$1 students/seniors), 780-5555.

upcoming

Kate & Anna McGarrigle Dec 16 (Big Sounds from All Over holiday concert) State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland. Tix: \$17, 761-0591.

"Amahl & the Night Visitors" Dec 17 (Menotti's Christmas opera) Chocolate Church, 804 Washington St, Bath. 442-8455.

State Theatre Organ Concert Dec 18, State Theatre, 609 Congress St. Tix: \$12 (\$6 kids), 879-1112.

clubs

thursday 8

The Inferno's with the 3D Horns (blues/r&b/soul) The Big Easy, 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

Comedy Showcase The Comedy Connection, 434 Fore Street, Portland, 774-5554.

DI Landry (bootleg originals) Geno's, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.

Steve Gerlach (aggressive acoustic) Java Joe's, 13 Exchange St, Portland. 761-5637.

Ric Roy (progressive pop) Khalil's Creative Seafoods, 36 Market St, Portland. 871-1881.

Wacky Thursday (wild music) The Moon, 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.

Blueswing (swingin' blues) Morganfields, 121 Center St, Portland. 774-5853.

Liquid Sky (heavy cover tunes) Old Port Tavern, 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

Happy Hour with Rockin' Vibration (reggae) Raoul's Roadside Attraction, 865 Forest Avenue, Portland. 773-6886.

Cool Shade of Blue (blues) Seamen's Club, 1 Exchange St, Portland. 772-7311.

Rocket Rusty (karaoke) Spring Point Cafe, 175 Pickett St, S. Portland. 767-4627.

Greg Kihn (unplugged, bigtime rock) T-Birds, 126 N. Boyd St, Portland. 773-8040.

Laser Karaoke with Greg Powers Tipperary Pub, Sheraton Tara Hotel, S. Portland. 775-6161.

Deejay Bob Look (techno, tribal, trance/live karaoke in front room with Nick) The Underground, 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.

Originals Acoustic Open Mic The Wrong Brothers' Pub at Port Billiards, 39 Forest Ave, Portland. 775-1944.

Deejay Deb's Request night Zootz, 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

friday 9

Sam Lay Blues Revival (blues/R&B) The Big Easy, 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

Jeff Aumiller (sea-shanty acoustic) Bramhall Pub, 769 Congress St, Portland. 773-9873.

Marla Falcone, Jim Dunn & John Keating The Comedy Connection, 434 Fore Street, Portland. 774-5554.

Tantra with special guest (tentacle rock) Geno's, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.

Art & Soul continued on page 28

Labors of love

ART comes of age; clowning around at PSC

By Cathy Nelson Price

One of the signs of maturity is how well you listen to and learn from criticism. After a few years now of hearing about how they could do so much more with what they have, American Renaissance Theater has evidently decided to take the friendly advice, and the result is a delightful, full-bodied "Love's Labors Lost," now playing at Oak Street Theater.

This is one of Shakespeare's formulaic romantic comedies, with four sets of lovers, a host of eccentric supporting characters and his oft-used devices of mistaken identity and "devised entertainment" for the characters within the show. But it's also full of witty wordplay, and it has a modern feel about it, especially the way ART has staged it. With exquisite Victorian costumes and a marvelously backlit set by Kevin Tacka, the pacing (considerably less static than ART's previous efforts) suggests a drawing room comedy with a touch of Gilbert & Sullivan.

Drawing from the bounty of available talent offered up at the Oak Street auditions earlier this year, director James Hoban has populated this effort with new faces and — hallelujah — new voices who are passionate without being hysterical (with the exception of Jim Alberty as Don Adriano, whose uneven patois is funny but often unintelligible) and conversational without regional dialect limitations. There are terrific and well-matched principal performances by Dwight Burtis as King Ferdinand, Leah Murchin as Princess of France, Paul Drinan as Berowne and Sarah Newcomb as Rosaline.

And while there are casting hiccups from past shows, these actors also rise to the new level of sophistication. Amos Libby as Costard reins in his antics after some early overplaying. Seth Berner — looking like Ichabod Crane — is a dead-on schoolmaster Holofernes.

There is also a lovely, bittersweet choral finale by Alberty, which is much more in keeping with the paradise-postponed theme of this play than a mere curtain speech would be. To make these kinds of strides as a company and to present the Bard in this respectful, yet enhanced light, indicates that ART is indeed growing artistically.

"Avner the Eccentric"

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, children of all ages! Step right up and see the amazing tightrope walker balance a ladder on his face while consuming a package of napkins.



Avner dares to bare in the square.

photo/Howard Feller



"Me doth thinkest you have something on your chin."

Yes, the circus is back — sans smell — all personified in one extremely talented practitioner of the theater art of clowning as illustrative of the human condition. Peaks Island's own Avner Eisenberg (aka Avner the Eccentric) has settled in at Portland Stage for a limited run of what can only be described as theater with the fourth wall behind the audience.

Eisenberg has created a character — a schlemiel — whose very ineptitude wins the audience over and draws them into the world of sleight-of-hand, illusion and gravity-defying stunts. It's the kind of act we used to see on the "Ed Sullivan Show," but, as Eisenberg himself points out, Ed at his best never allowed more than five minutes for an act of this type. In fact, even street festivals and benefit performances do not usually allow for more than 20 minutes for an individual performer.

One reason for this, of course, is the sheer difficulty of sustaining audience attention for two hours. Eisenberg manages to do this through talent and a connection with the audience that allows him to work with them spontaneously, which of course is the greatest illusion of all. It requires that grownups, sophisticates by their own definition, suspend their disbelief in a big way and accept, as children do so easily, that what they think they see onstage is really happening, even though they know it can't be.

Some of the stunts are quite amazing. Eisenberg is a superbly gifted acrobat, athlete, mime and clown; and his considerable skills are what make the show work rather than any real sense of identifying with the character. He is a first-class representative of his highly specific theater tradition, and as such, Portland Stage is well within its artistic mission to present him.

But the question has to be raised: Do solo performances such as these, regardless of how wonderful they are, fulfill the expectations of PSC's underwriting sponsors and subscribers? Wouldn't it be more appropriate to offer this as a special event, rather than presenting it as an equivalent offering to a fully produced Shaw or Ayckbourn? Just a thought. Meanwhile, we'll keep enjoying Avner. CBW

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10-day calendar

Get Out & Stay Out

thursday 8

MECA joyful noise: The Baxter Gallery, 619 Congress St., at the Maine College of Art, presents **NEW MUSIC PORTLAND**, a visual and audio program highlighting the work of Maine composers at 7 p.m.

Featured works include John Cage's "Imaginary Landscape For 12 Radios"; "Music for Audience and Soloist" by Elliot Schwartz; the premiere performance of a piece based on the writing of Marianne Moore by Portland composer Tom Myron and works by Steve MacLean and David Bedford. The event is free and open to the public (775-5152). And perhaps all that listening will inspire everyone for MECA's Annual Holiday Sale, Dec. 9-11, at 50 Monument Square (773-1546).

friday 9

Magic spell: You hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring-ting tingling too? That either means you need to take that punch bowl off your head, or that you've found your way to the Portland Symphony Orchestra's 15th annual **MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS** concert at Portland City Hall Auditorium, 30 Myrtle St., at 7:30 p.m.

This wildly popular yulefest features over 280 performers, including the bouncing baton of PSO Music Director Toshi Shimada, actress/singer Laura Burton, organist Ray Cornils and the Magic of Christmas Chorus — just to name a few. (The program will be performed through Dec. 19.) Tix: \$10-\$30. 773-8191 or 800-639-2309.

saturday 10

Austen city limits: The Maine Chapter of the Jane Austen Society of North America presents Joseph Litvak, professor of English at Bowdoin



You'll have a blue-eyed Christmas, Dec. 14

College, for a **"MANSFIELD PARK" LUNCHEON AND LECTURE** at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Rte. 88, Falmouth Foreside, at 10 a.m.

Litvak, who is the author of a number of works concerning Jane Austen, will speak on "The Infection of Acting: Theatricals and Theatricality in 'Mansfield Park.'" The lecture will be followed by a potluck luncheon and an afternoon program of scenes from the book presented by volunteer readers. Pre-registration is required. 767-2038.

sunday 11

Seeing things: The Public Theatre, Maple and Lisbon Streets, Lewiston, dusts off the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future to present an inventive six-person adaptation of the holiday classic **"A CHRISTMAS CAROL,"** for a limited five-performance run, concluding today at 1 and 4 p.m.

Opting for the simplicity rather than the pomp and spectacle of Dickens' classic, The Public Theatre created their own version that simply and directly tells the story of the redemption of the human soul. Each performance will feature the seasonal music by a local choir — today, the Auburn Middle School Chorists and the Bates College Merimanders fa-la-la for you at 1 and 4 p.m., respectively. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students and seniors, \$6 kids). 782-3200 or 800-639-9575.

monday 12

Magic dragons: Just in time for holiday cheer, Mercury recording artists **THE SOUP DRAGONS** bring their grinding rock guitars and tribal funky rhythms to Granny Killam's, 55 Market St., at 8:30 p.m.

The group is out on the stomp for their latest release, "Hydrophonic."

It's headed by Glasgow musician Sean Dickson who masterminded the album, which is described as "a groove-infested sonic journey." And if that ain't esoteric enough for you, Dickson describes it as sounding "more like a band than anything I've ever done." The Dragons are big, they're hot and they cook — just don't let them breathe on you. Tix: \$14 (\$12 in advance). 761-2787.

tuesday 13

Bah-rometer: The Furies, Portland's only feminist theater ensemble, throws a new twist on an old classic with their presentation of **"I GUESS MY NAME IS SCROOGE,"** opening tonight at Sisters, 45 Danforth St., at 8 p.m.

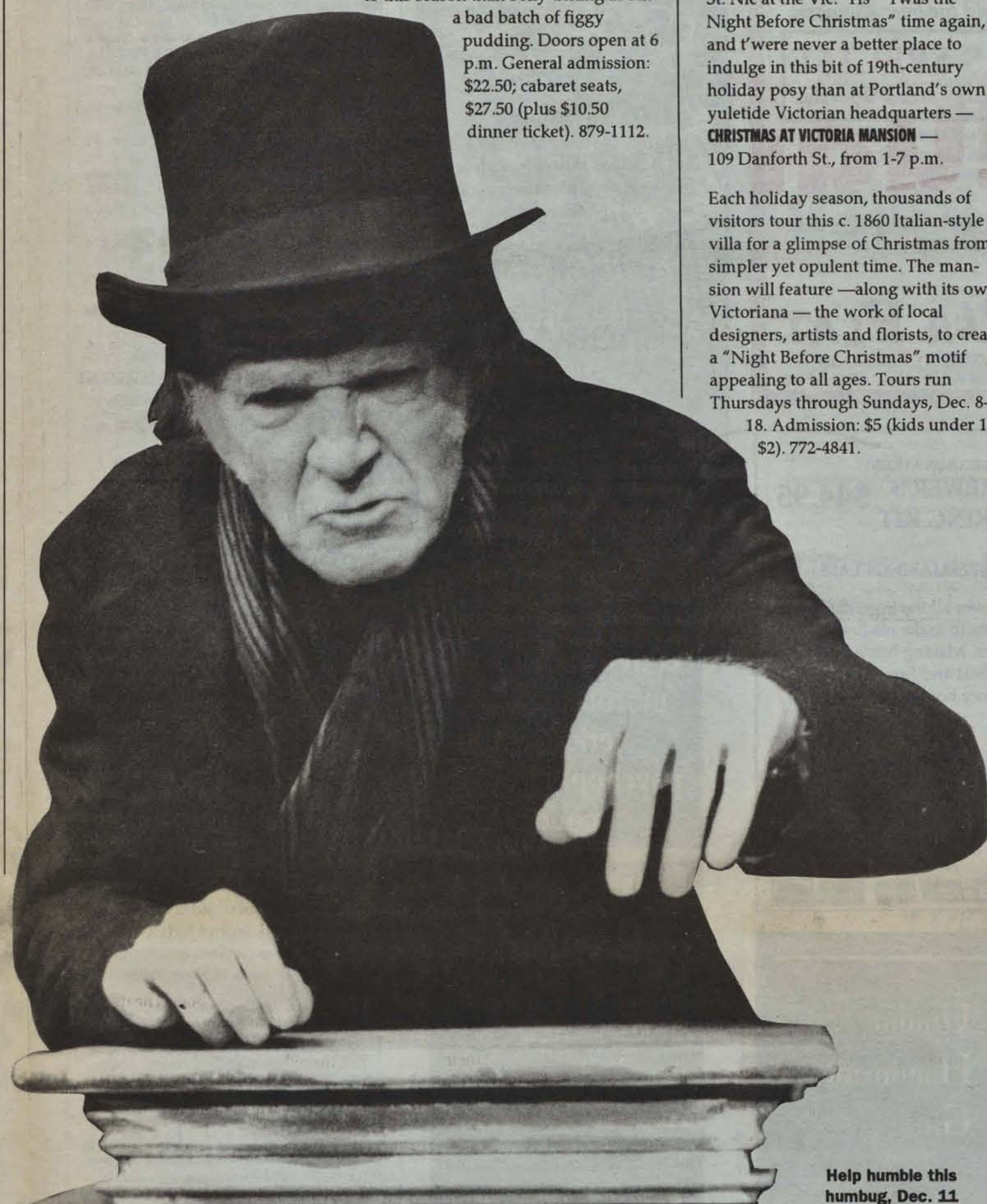
The play tells of Carol, an overly ambitious architect, who has mired herself in humbugdom since the death of her lover Sophie. As with the Dickens' classic, three ghosts appear to show that life's for the living and for spreading some good for humankind — or something like that. Marilee ("Intreat Me Not To Leave Thee") Ryan's script, which features an all-female cast, takes a comedic jab at lesbian stereotypes. The show continues through Dec. 18. Tix: \$7. 773-4698.

wednesday 14

Spirit of giving: She's looked at the holidays from both sides now, and blue-eyed folk legend Judy Collins seems to have chosen the spiritual side. She brings her **JUDY COLLINS CHRISTMAS SHOW** to the State Theatre, 609 Congress St., at 8 p.m.

Collins, who recently became active in UNICEF, just released her first holiday recording "Come Rejoice!". Amid the hymns and carols, it

includes a song she wrote to bring attention to the plight of children in Sarajevo. In other words, there's more to this season than belly-aching about a bad batch of figgy pudding. Doors open at 6 p.m. General admission: \$22.50; cabaret seats, \$27.50 (plus \$10.50 dinner ticket). 879-1112.



Help humble this humbug, Dec. 11

thursday 15

St. Nic at the Vic: 'Tis "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" time again, and it's never a better place to indulge in this bit of 19th-century holiday posy than at Portland's own yuletide Victorian headquarters — **CHRISTMAS AT VICTORIA MANSION** — 109 Danforth St., from 1-7 p.m.

Each holiday season, thousands of visitors tour this c. 1860 Italian-style villa for a glimpse of Christmas from a simpler yet opulent time. The mansion will feature — along with its own Victoriana — the work of local designers, artists and florists, to create a "Night Before Christmas" motif appealing to all ages. Tours run Thursdays through Sundays, Dec. 8-18. Admission: \$5 (kids under 12, \$2). 772-4841.

friday 16

Night light: The Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents **"LIGHT UP THE NIGHT: A Holiday Celebration"** at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St., at 8 p.m. (and also on Dec. 11 at 2 p.m.).

The 55-member chorus performs seasonal music, representing American, French-Canadian, Jamaican, English, Jewish and Russian composers. The program will range from Gregorian chants to traditional favorites to the world premiere of a song celebrating the lives of those who have died from and are living with AIDS, titled "Heros." Tix: \$12 (\$10 in advance). 774-0051.

saturday 17

Ska-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la: Strap on your dancing shoes — the Boston-based, six-piece band **BIM SKALA BIM** brings their horns o' plenty and relentless ska rhythms to Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., at 9 p.m.

The group, which has been together for nearly a decade, is anchored around Dan Vitale's gritty vocals and Vinnie Nobile's outrageous trombone blasts — but what will most move you is they're one of New England's dancingest bands. Just try to stand still. The *Boston Phoenix* called them "Boston's kings of ska." Tix: \$8. 773-6886.

Submissions for Art & Soul must be received in writing on the Thursday prior to publication. Send your Calendar and Listings information to Elizabeth Peavey, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

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SAT DEC 10 8:30 pm
MERCY
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POETRY SLAM
MON DEC 12 8:30 pm
THE SOUP DRAGONS
TIX: \$12 ADV / \$14 DOOR
THU DEC 15 8:30 pm
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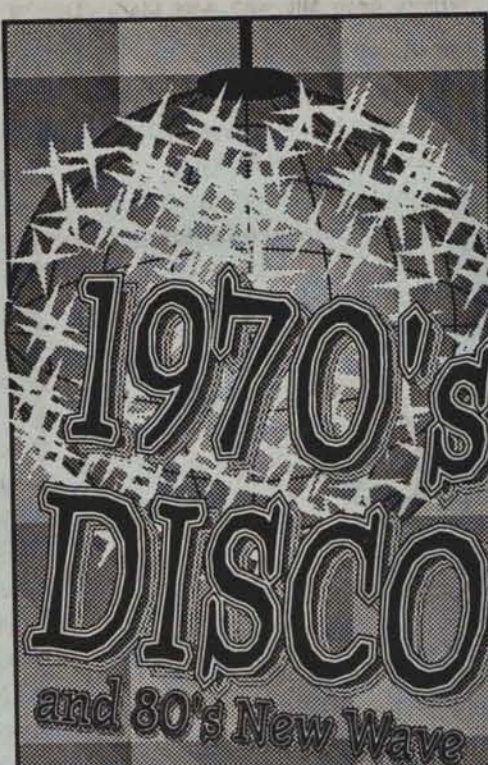
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HOT TALK

Art & Soul continued from page 24

Dude of Life (Phish-head music) Granny Killam's, 55 Market St., Portland, 761-2787.

Hey Mister (progressive jazz) Khalid's Creative Seafoods, 36 Market St., Portland, 871-1881.

Big Hot Sun (rock) Moose Alley, 46 Market St., Portland, 774-5246.

Mojo Queens (blues) Morganfields, 121 Center St., Portland, 774-5853.

Liquid Sky (heavy cover tunes) Old Port Tavern, 11 Moulton St., Portland, 774-0444.

Sol Y Canto (latin/caribbean) Raoul's Roadside Attraction, 865 Forest Avenue, Portland, 773-6886.

Rog & Ray (Jimmy Buffet tunes) Seamen's Club, 1 Exchange St., Portland, 772-7311.

Cradle II Grave (heavy metal) Spring Point Café, 175 Pickett St., S. Portland, 767-4627.

Jenny Woodman (classic covers) T-Birds, 126 N. Boyd St., Portland, 773-8040.

Bill Cameron (mellow pop) Tipperary Pub, Sheraton Tara Hotel, S. Portland, 775-6161.

Deejay Tim Stanley (dance, dance, dance) The Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland, 773-3315.

Ed Lester Band (top 40 rock) Verillo's, 155 Riverside St., Portland, 775-6536.

Brickwall Dawns (winner of Maine Lobster Roll II) The Wrong Brothers' Pub at Port Billiards, 39 Forest Ave., Portland, 775-1944.

saturday 10

Sam Lay Blues Revival (blues/R&B) The Big Easy, 416 Fore St., Portland, 780-1207.

Tom Kennedy (acoustic) Bramhall Pub, 769 Congress St., Portland, 773-9873.

Marla Falcone, Jim Dunn & John Keating The Comedy Connection, 434 Fore Street, Portland, 774-5554.

Saturday Night Dance Party (under 21, chem-free), Gecko's, 2 Industrial Way, Portland, 797-4588.

Go Dog Go with Sonic Joyride (mind-twisting grunge) Geno's, 13 Brown St., Portland, 772-7891.

Mercy with Product (futuristic industrial rock) Granny Killam's, 55 Market St., Portland, 761-2787.

Totem Soul (jazz/gospel) Khalid's Creative Seafoods, 36 Market St., Portland, 871-1881.

Big Hot Sun (rock) Moose Alley, 46 Market St., Portland, 774-5246.

Barrence Whitfield & The Savages (blues) Morganfield's, 121 Center St., Portland, 774-1245.

Liquid Sky (heavy cover tunes) Old Port Tavern, 11 Moulton St., Portland, 774-0444.

Ric Roy (covers) Seamen's Club, 1 Exchange St., Portland, 772-7311.

Cradle II Grave (heavy metal) Spring Point Café, 175 Pickett St., S. Portland, 767-4627.

Mark Miller Blues Band Steamers, 700 Main St., South Portland, 780-8434.

Jenny Woodman (classic covers) T-Birds, 126 N. Boyd St., Portland, 773-8040.

Tara's Minstrels (Irish tunes) Tipperary Pub, Sheraton Tara Hotel, S. Portland, 775-6161.

Deejay Tim Stanley (dance, dance, dance) The Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland, 773-3315.

Ed Lester Band (top 40 rock) Verillo's, 155 Riverside St., Portland, 775-6536.

Brickwall Dawns (winner of Maine Lobster Roll II) The Wrong Brothers' Pub at Port Billiards, 39 Forest Ave., Portland, 775-1944.

sunday 11

Open Mic (bring your instruments and play) Geno's, 13 Brown St., Portland, 772-7891.

Grand Poetry Slam (finger-snapping mayhem) Granny Killam's, 55 Market St., Portland, 761-2787.

Garth Comier (acoustic) Java Joe's, 13 Exchange St., Portland, 761-5637.

South Beach Sundays In AV8 Video Lounge (and top 40 dance) Kaos, 137 Kennebec St., Portland, 774-2242.

Days, Gospel Brunch with Gospel Explosion: Nights, free jazz Morganfield's, 121 Center St., Portland, 774-1245.

Karen & Tim (acoustic) Old Port Tavern, 11 Moulton St., Portland, 774-0444.

Blue Steel Express (recording party) 8 pm, Raoul's Roadside Attraction, 865 Forest Avenue, Portland, 773-6886.

National Headliner Comedy with Joe Carroll & Mike Bent T-Birds, 126 N. Boyd St., Portland, 773-8040.

Deejay Mike Giller (city sounds/live karaoke in front lounge) The Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland, 773-3315.

Grin and Grime (acoustic) Wharf End, 52 Wharf St., Portland, 773-0093.

Deejay Bob Look (request night/no cover) Zootz, 31 Forest Ave., Portland, 773-8187.

monday 12

Laser Karaoke with Ray Dog The Big Easy, 416 Fore St., Portland, 780-1207.

Open Mic with Randall Morabitos (blues) Morganfield's, 121 Center St., Portland, 774-1245.

Open Mic with Ken Grimsley (acoustic) Wharf End, 52 Wharf St., Portland, 773-0093.

tuesday 13

Open Blues Jam (b.y.o — drum set available) The Big Easy, 416 Fore St., Portland, 780-1207.

Open Poetry Reading Free Street Taverna, 128 Free St., Portland, 774-8767.

Karen & Tim (acoustic) Old Port Tavern, 11 Moulton St., Portland, 774-0444.

Writers Open Mic with Anni Clark (featuring Heartstrings) Raoul's Roadside Attraction, 865 Forest Ave., Portland, 773-6886.

Open Mic with Peter Gleason (b.y.o. jam) Spring Point Café, 175 Pickett St., S. Portland, 767-4627.

Open Mic with Ken Grimsley (acoustic) Wharf End, 52 Wharf St., Portland, 773-0093.

Deejay Bob Look and strippers (eclectic fun) The Underground, 3 Spring St., Portland, 773-3315.

Electric Open Mic with 'Til It's Bone (b.y.o. jam) The Wrong Brothers' Pub at Port Billiards, 39 Forest Ave., Portland, 775-1944.

Conradance with Crooked Stovepipe Band every third Fri at 8:30 pm at the Presumpscot Grange, 1844 Forest Ave., Portland (across from Tortilla Flat Restaurant). All dances taught. Singles always welcome. Cost: \$5. 774-3392.

Conradance with Ellen & the Sea Slugs the first Sat of each month at 7:30 pm at Saco River Grange Hall, Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills. Cost: \$4. \$2 kids, \$10 family max. 929-6472.

Conradance in Freeport Every second Saturday of the month from 8 pm-12 midnight at the Harraseeket Grange Hall, Elm St., Freeport. Come single or with someone to twirl. Beginners will be taught. Cost: \$5. 865-6441.

Dance Party For creative fringe dwellers Dec 10 from 9 pm-1 am at Gotta Dance, 657 Congress St., Portland. Cost: \$5. 772-6351.

Friday Night Dance Dance to ballroom, Latin, swing and contemporary music every Fri from 9:30 pm-12:30 am at 657 Congress St., Portland. Admission: \$5. 773-3558.

Gotta Dance Classes The Gotta Dance studio at 657 Congress St., Portland, offers several classes: Sling and Schmooze Dec 9 from 8-9 pm, Ballroom Thurs and Sun from 6:30-8:30 pm and Gotta Move, Wed at 6:30. All workshops are \$6 per hour and require preregistration. 773-3558.

Saturday Dance Dance the night away every Saturday at Maine Ballroom Dance, 614A Congress St., Portland. Dancing for beginners from 8-9 pm; all others dance from 9-12 pm. Cost: \$5. \$3 for beginners dance. 773-0002.

Street Funk The class for men and women happens at 10 am Sats at Gotta Dance, 657 Congress St., Portland. Admission: \$6. 772-6351.

Trinity Episcopal Church Forest Ave. and Coyle St., Portland \$2. Donation at the door will benefit the greater Portland Rape Crises Center

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wednesday 14

Red Light Revue (blues/r&b/soul) The Big Easy, 416 Fore St., Portland, 780-1207.

Tracey MacLean CD Release (jazz vocalists) Cricket's Restaurant, Main St., Freeport, 865-4005.

Carol & Patti (progressive rock) Khalid's Creative Seafoods, 36 Market St., Portland, 871-1881.

Sacred Onion (3-piece rock) Old Port Tavern, 11 Moulton St., Portland, 774-0444.

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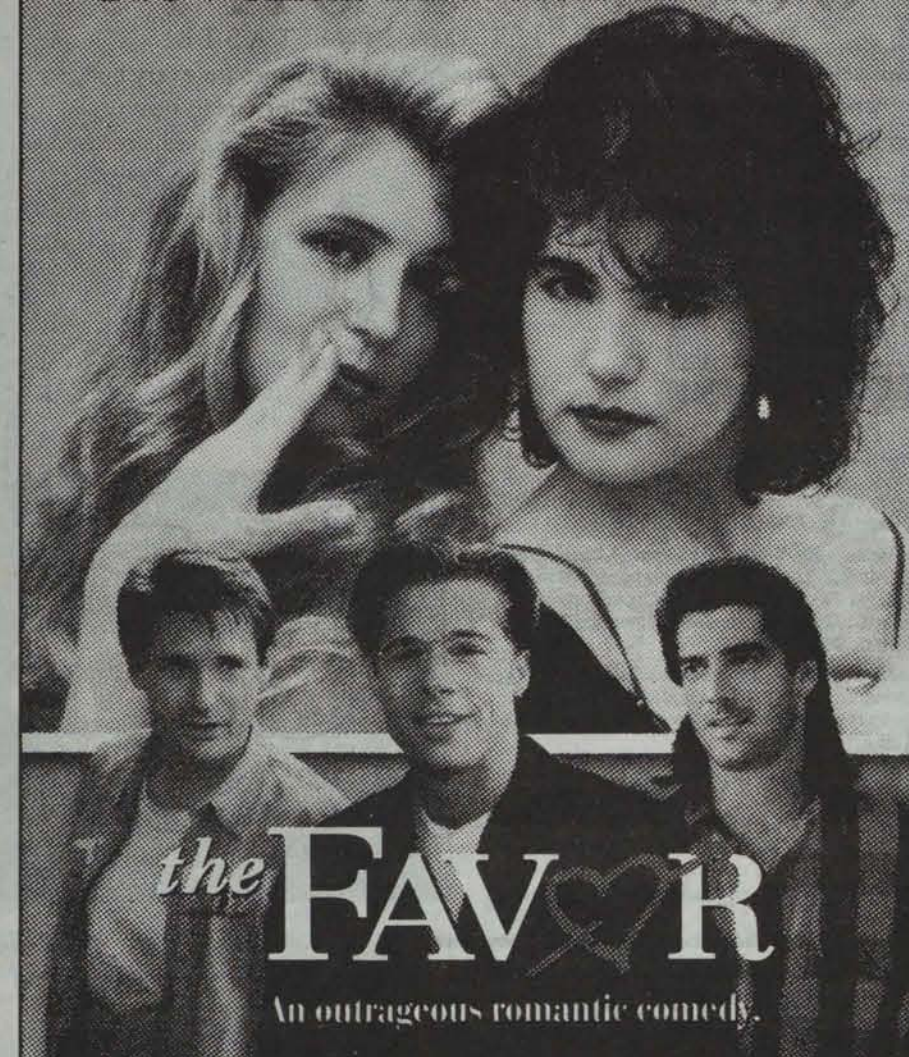
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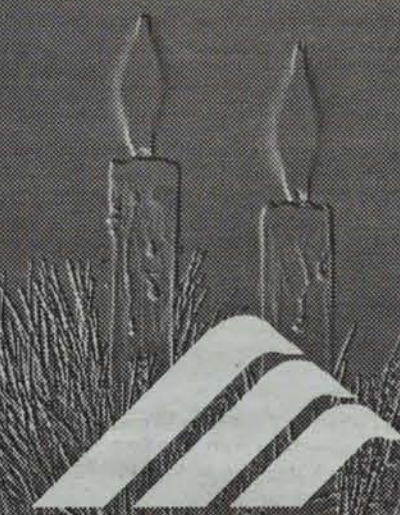
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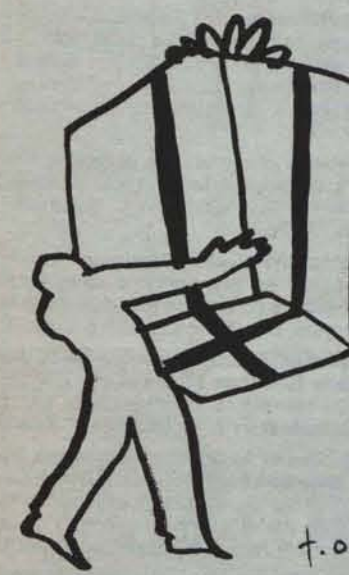


**SATURDAY
AT 9 pm**



Maine Public Television

Art & Soul continued from page 29



art openings

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St. Portland. Opening reception for "Two North Haven Artists" — Angela Adams, painted furniture and objects and Eric Hopkins, paintings — Dec 8 from 6-8 pm. Shows through Dec. Hours: Tues-Sat 12-5 pm, Sat 12-8 pm. 772-1961.

Frost Daily Gallery 411 Congress St. Portland. Opening reception for "Celebrating Maine's Heritage and Tradition: The Casco Northern Bank Collection," opening Dec. 13. Shows through Dec. 24. Hours: Mon-Sat, noon-8 pm. 773-2555.

Maine Writers Center 12 Pleasant St. Brunswick. Opening reception for "Angels of the North," photographs of Russian children, Dec 8 from 6-8 pm. Shows through Dec. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-1 pm. 773-1548.

On Balance 4 Milk St. Portland. Opening reception for "Remembering Doorways," pen & ink/watercolor mandalas by Susan Anjotich, Dec 10 from 4:30-7:30 pm. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 772-9812.

Salt Center For Documentary Field Studies 17 Pine St. Portland. Opening reception for student photo exhibit, Dec 9 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Jan 20. Hours: Wed and Fri, 2-5 pm. 761-0660.

Thomas Memorial Library 6 Scott Dyer Road, Cape Elizabeth. Opening reception for oil paintings and watercolors by Janet K. Hawkes, Dec 8 from 5-7 pm. Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 9 am-5 pm, Tues, Thurs 9 am-9 pm. 799-1720.

African Imports and New England Arts 28 Milk St. Portland. "Hidden Treasures," traditional African arts, rare carvings and works by modern artists from Nigeria to New England. Hours: 10:30-9 Mon-Sat, 12-6 Sun. 772-9505.

Art Gallery at Six Deering Street Paintings by Charles Burdick and J. Day Mason at the historic Harding House, show through Dec 22. Hours: 11 am-5 pm Tues-Sat.

Bagel Works 15 Temple St. Portland. Paintings by Brian Hoyer through Dec 10, paintings by Zoo Cain from Dec 10 through Jan. Hours: 7 am-5 pm, every-day. 879-2425.

Baxter Gallery 619 Congress St. Portland. "Intimate Observations," a group showing of contemporary painters, including Thomas Norkowski, Julia Fish and Marjorie Moore, exploring with scale and subject matter shows through Dec 11. Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun 11 am-4 pm; Thurs 11 am-9 pm. 775-5152.

Binkoff's Cafe 98 Portland St. Portland. "Eagle-Angel and Spirit Quilts," works with handmade paper by Richard Lee show through Dec 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 6 am-2 pm, Sun 7 am-2 pm. 773-2096.

Bowdoin College Museum of Art Walker Art Building, Brunswick. The museum is open to the public free of charge. Hours: Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 2-5. 725-3275.

"Art's Lament: Creativity in the Face of Death" shows through Dec 23.

"Angels" shows through Dec 23.

"Being Heard: The courage, strength and AIDS of Winnie McDonald," photo essay by Jim Daniels shows through Dec 30. Kresge Foyer, Visual Arts Center. Hours: 8 am-11 pm, Mon-Fri, 12-11 pm Sat-Sun.

"Reading Old Master Drawings" shows through Dec 23.

"Perry-Macmillan Arctic Museum Hubbard Hall. "Inuit Images," soapstone art on display through Dec 31. Hours: 10 am-5 pm Tues-Sat, Sun 2-5 pm. 725-3000.

Chamber of Commerce 145 Middle St. Portland. Paintings and drawings by Zoo Cain, Dan Gillette and Peter Herley. Shows through Jan 27. Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm. 772-1811.

Christine's Dream 41 Middle St. Portland. New works by painter Andy Curran and paintings by Jody Dube. Shows until further notice. Hours: Mon-Fri 7-2:30, Sat-Sun 9-2. 774-2972.

Coffee by Design 620 Congress St. Portland. Holiday show with works by Marilyn Binkhorn, David Cedrone, Annie Sullivan and Kevin Tacka. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-8 pm; Sat 8 am-8 pm and Sun 8 am-5 pm. 772-5533.

Corporation Art Gallery Eye Care and Surgery Center of Maine, 53 Sewall St. Thompson Point, Portland. Works by Liz Mesler, Charlene Lee, Shirley Lewis, Sylvia Dyer and others through Dec 10. Holiday show and open house from Dec 10-30. Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm. 883-5669.

Danforth Gallery 34 Danforth St. Portland. "Media Victims," print series dramatizing social stereotypes by Victor Velt, shows Dec 8-14. Hours: Thurs, 10 am-8 pm, Fri, Sat, Sun and Wed from 12-3 pm. 775-6245.

Dead Space Gallery 11 Avon St. Portland. "Web: Time & Antiquity," paintings and works on paper by W. Brett Chenoweth show through Dec 13. Hours: Sun, Mon and Tues 12-5 pm or by appointment. 828-4637.

Exchange Street Gallery 7 Exchange St. Portland. Miniature images of Old Orchard Beach by R. N. Cohen. Hours: 10-6 daily. 772-0633.

Free Street Taverna 128 Free St. Portland. Mixed media works by Stacey Verrier, ongoing. Hours: Mon 11 am-4 pm, Tues-Sat 11 am-10 pm. 774-1114.

Greenhut Gallery 146 Middle St. Portland. All gallery artists showing through Dec. Works by Peyton Higginson, Heidi Gerquest, Margaret Gering and Jane Daemons. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2693.

Icon Contemporary Art 19 Mason St. Brunswick. Photographs by Melanie Bennett and new work by Katherine Bradford, Toby Sovak, Ann Gresinger, Larry Hayden and Alice Spencer show through Dec. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-3 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

Ingenue 15 Pleasant St. Portland. "To share a vision," works by Francesco SanFilippo, shows through Dec. Hours: 879-7783.

Jewelers Work 30 Exchange St. Portland. Cooperative showroom of original, contemporary jewelry designs by nationally exhibited artists. Hours: 10-6 daily. 773-6824.

Katahdin Restaurant 106 High St. Portland. Early works by Tony Montanaro shows through Dec 15. 774-1740.

Magic Art Gallery 217-A Commercial St. Portland. Featuring art, design and metaphysics with "Prisms: Earth Healing Sculptures," by Jill Victor, sculptures by James Poliquin and silk paintings by Elise Isabel Andersen through Dec. Hours: Thurs-Sat 12-6 pm. 780-6544.

Maine College of Art Photo Gallery 619 Congress St. Portland. "Land Mines Project," photos of land mine victims in Cambodia and Mozambique by Bobby Neil Adams show through Dec 16. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 775-5154.

Maine Potters Market 376 Fore St. Portland. Hours: daily 10 am-6 pm. 774-1633.

Meander Gallery 40 Pleasant St. Portland. "Dreaming Tracks: New Vision from Aboriginal Australia" on exhibit through Dec 15. Hours: 12-6 pm Tues-Sat and by appointment. 871-1078.

Nancy Margolis Gallery 387 Fore St. Portland. The third annual exhibit of Memorials, featuring artists Zachary Oxman, Piper Strong and Thomas Mann. Shows through Jan 10. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm, Fri-Sat 10 am-9 pm and Sun 11 am-6 pm. 775-3822.

Naturally Maine 5 1/2 Moulton St. Portland. Watercolors by William Denico, earth visions by Andrew Ruel, photos by Christine Gallant and watercolor prints by John Dimillo currently showing. Hours: Sun-Thurs 10 am-6 pm, Fri-Sat 10-9. 774-0808.

O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St. Brunswick. Holiday exhibit with pastels by Paul Plante, icons by Debbie Abwell and sculptures by Tom Kennedy through Dec. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm. 729-8228.

On Balance 4 Milk St. Portland. Pencil portraits by Theodore Haykel on exhibit through Dec 10. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 772-9812.

Pilgrimage 441 Congress St. Coastal scenes by June Stevenson, art on paper by Sylvia Morton and "House of Patience" mandala and chinosene watercolors by Weston Sumner Evans, III, on display through Dec 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm. 772-1508.

The Pine Tree Shop and Bayview Gallery 75 Market St. Portland. Fine hand-carved ornaments, small sculpture and paintings by Robert Stebleton will be shown through Dec. Hours: 9:30-5:30 Mon-Sat, 773-3007.

Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress Square. Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 10-5, Thurs 10-9, Sun 12-5. Admission: \$4 adults/\$3 students and seniors/\$1 youth 6-12 years. Museum admission is free 10-noon the first Saturday of the month and 5-9 every Thursday evening. 773-ARTS or 1-800-639-4067.

"The Scott M. Black Collection A sampling from Scott Black's 19th- and 20th-century paintings and sculptures, including works by Chagall and Toulouse-Lautrec. Ongoing.

"19th- and 20th-Century European and American Art Paintings, sculptures and works on paper by Monet, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and other masters of the past two centuries. Ongoing.

"An Eye for Maine: Paintings From a Private Collection 62 works, with the art of Maine as their focus, by various artists, including Louis Nevelson, Marsden Hartley and Fitz Hugh Lane. On display through Jan 22.

"Fantasy in Fabric: Costumes by Seventeen Skowhegan Artists 17 costumes designed by artists including Robert Indiana, Red Grooms and Abby Shah. On display through Jan 22.

"Hamilton Easter Field: Pioneering American Modernism 53 works of artists who inspired and influenced Field's work as a teacher, painter, critic and art dealer. On display until Jan 8.

"Vincent's Journey A porcelain life mask sculpture by Paul Rodriguez commemorating the struggles of people living with AIDS. Ongoing.

Portland Pottery Ongoing show of unique and functional ceramics and jewelry by Lisa Bonarigo, teachers and students. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-6 pm. 772-4334.

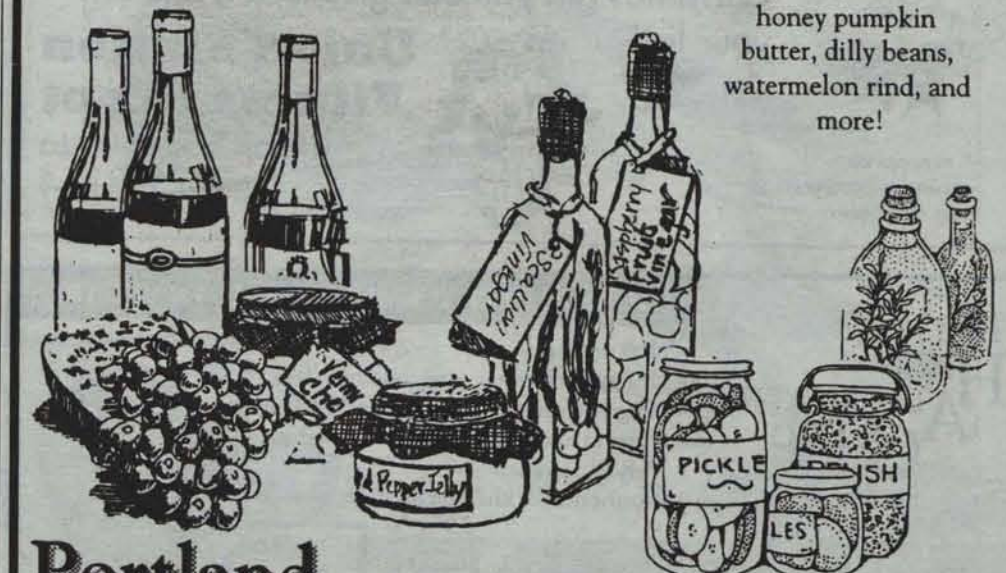
Portland Public Library's Monument Square. "The Studio Group, Mixed Media," work by Bonnie Spiegel and 11 of her students through Dec 14. Mon, Wed, Fri 9-6; Tues, Thurs 12-9; Sat 9-5. 871-1747.

Art & Soul continued on page 32

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PORTLAND

Art & Soul continued from page 31

Portland Room "Handmade Paper Sculpture," by Candace Karu, shows through Dec 31 during regular library hours.

Renaissance Antiques 221 Commercial St., Portland. Ongoing show of works by John Dehlinger, Wilder Oaks, Terry Wolf and other Maine artists. Hours: 10 am-7 pm daily. 879-0789.

Robert Clements Framing 100 Beach St., Portland. Ongoing exhibition of original drawings and paintings by various local artists. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5, 775-2202.

Silly's Café 147 Cumberland Ave., Portland. Paintings by Brian Steinberg on exhibit indefinitely. Hours: 10 am-10 pm Mon-Sat. 772-0360.

Stillwood Books 19 Pleasant St., Portland. "Angels of Lamentation," black and white photographs by Tom Marino currently on exhibit. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6, 871-0480.

University of Southern Maine

- USM Area Gallery** Portland Campus Center. Works by Richard Saltonstall through Dec 17. Hours: 7 am-10 pm Mon-Fri, 10 am-7 pm Sat & Sun. 780-4090.
- USM Art Gallery** Gorham. Faculty exhibit shows through Dec 15. Hours: Sun-Thurs, 12-4 pm. 780-5009.
- USM New Art Space** Upton Hall, Gorham. Senior exhibits now showing: Stephanie White and Kirsty Houtari through Dec 11. Hours: Mon 11-1 pm, and 3:30-5:30 pm; Fri 12-4 pm. 780-5460.
- Osher Map Library** Portland Campus Library. "Treasures of the Collection," exhibit on cartography shows through Dec. Hours: Tues, Thurs, Fri and Sun 1 pm-4 pm, Wed 6 pm-8 pm. 780-4200.
- USM Portland Campus Center** 92 Bedford St., Portland. Exhibit of art work by USM students currently on exhibit. Hours: Mon-Fri 7-10, Sat-Sun 10-7. 780-4090.

Walter's Restaurant 15 Exchange St., Portland. Black and white photography by Tom Marino now showing. Hours: Mon-Sat 11 am-10 pm, Sun 5-10 pm. 871-9258.

Wolfe's Neck Stone House Wolfe Neck Road, Freeport. Prints, paintings and drawings by Thomas Edwin Nunes show through Jan. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 865-3428.

other

Artists Apply The Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Square, invites artists to submit work for one-month exhibition in the Lewis gallery. 871-1758.

Art Educators Artists, art educators and craftspeople are needed for an after school art program in the Saco-Biddeford area to begin Jan. Call Colleen at Coastal Arts Collaborative: 934-2728.

Art Exhibition, Show & Sale 536 Congress St., Portland hosts a holiday show Dec 10 and 11 from 11 am-5 pm each day. 878-3497.

Art & Hors d'oeuvres Maine Gay Visual Artist's League and the Underground sponsor a holiday show and sale Dec 11 from 2-6 pm at 3 Spring St., Portland. 775-3420.

Art Intern The Danforth Gallery, 34 Danforth St., Portland, is looking for an intern/off-campus work study student to assist in general gallery work. 775-6245.

Danforth Gallery Now accepting exhibition proposals for 1995-96. Send SASE #10 for guidelines to 34 Danforth St., Portland, 04101.

Holiday Exhibit and Sale Sawyer Street Studios, 131 Sawyer St., S. Portland, holds a holiday art sale featuring ceramic work by 10 potters and sculptors. Dec 10 from 10 am-5 pm. 767-7113.

Maine College of Art Holiday Sale featuring art and goodies by MECA students, alumni and friends — Dec 9 from 2-7 pm, Dec 10 from 9 am-4 pm and Dec 11 from 10 am-2 pm — 50 Monument Square, Portland. 773-1546.

Open Slide Night The Union of Maine Visual Artists invites artists, craftspeople and anyone interested to attend an open slide night the second Friday of each month at 7:30 pm at Jay York Affordable Photo, 58 Wilnot St., Portland. Bring slides for discussion/feedback. 773-3434.

Portland Camera Club meets Mon at 7:30 pm at the American Legion Hall, 413 Broadway, S. Portland. Monthly events include B&W, color print and color slide competition.

Portland Chamber of Commerce is looking for Maine artists to share their work. 772-2811, ext. 223.

smarts

Alliance Francaise de Portland hosts a Christmas reception at the Harraseeket Inn, 152 Main St., Freeport. Dec 11 at 11:30 am. The last language round table of the season will be held at Hugo's, 88 Middle St., Portland, Dec 13 at 5:30 pm. 772-0405.

Back to School Workshop USM's Bath/Brunswick center holds free financial aid and degree program workshops, as well as placement testing for adults Dec 15 and 21 at 5 pm. Dec 2 and 16 at 10 am. 725-8620.

Bowdoin Film Series Screens "Europa, Europa," Dec 8 at 7 pm in Smith Auditorium, Sills Hall, Brunswick. Free. 725-3253.

Kate Barnes reads from her collection of poems, "Where the Deer Were," Dec 9 at 7 pm at Greater Bookland and Cafe, Cooks Corner, Brunswick. 735-2313.

"Clown: The Art of Dysfunctional Living" A special workshop with accomplished performers Aamer Egberg and Julie Goelle, helping students to create unique comic personae. Hosted by Portland Stage Company's Center for Performance Studies, 25A Forest Ave., Dec 10 at 11 am. Cost: \$35. 774-1043.

"For the Common Good, The Soul & Profits of a Business" Tom Chappell, president of Tom's of Maine, gives a brown bag presentation based on his new book, Dec 14 from 12-1 pm, at Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Square. 871-1700.

Computer Know-How The Small Business Development Center at USM has two Lotus/IBM Learning centers available to help people in business learn how to use Lotus 123, One-Write Plus, and WordPerfect 5.1. Appointments available Mon-Fri. Free. 780-442.

Tom Desjardin discusses his upcoming book on Maine's involvement in the Civil War, Dec 8 at 7 pm at Brunswick Jr. High School, Columbia Ave., Brunswick. 729-5954.

"Embodying the Sacred Feminine" Expressive Therapy Center holds a woman's workshop for exploring individual connection to nature's cycles and ancient myths, Dec 9 and 10, 7-10 pm. 871-8274.

"The Gathering" A group discussing sexual diversity meets every Tues from 7-9 pm at the USM Student Center, 96 Falmouth St., Portland. Dec 13, "Christianity, Cultural Wars & Social Justice." 774-4919.

"The Infection of Acting: Theatricals and Theatricality in Mansfield Park" Professor Joseph Livak of Bowdoin College gives a lecture at the Jane Austen Society, Dec 10 at 10 am, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Rte 88, Falmouth Foreside. 767-2038.

Intercultural Discussion Group meets Mondays, 7 pm, at the Center for Intercultural Education, 565 Congress St., Portland. Volunteers are needed as well. 775-0647.

Lending Library USM's Portland Women's Center seeks donations of women's literature, both fiction and nonfiction, to stock their lending library. Donations may be made Mon-Fri from 8 am-2 pm at the center in Room 40, Payson Smith Library, Falmouth Street, Portland. 780-4956.

MMOOS (Maine Macintosh Owners and Operators Society) holds a meeting, "The Latest for the Mac," Dec 13 at 7 pm in Hubbard Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. 725-3375.

The Matlovich Society is an educational and cultural organization of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and friends. "Discrimination on the Job: Could It Happen to You?" a film followed by discussion is featured Dec 8 at 7:30 pm. All meetings are held at Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Accessible to the mobility-impaired and free hotel parking. 773-1209.

"Problems of Governance and Accountability in Nonprofit Organizations" Faculty lecture by Dr. Paul Selbst, Dec 12 at 12 pm, in the President's conference room, St. Joseph's College, 695 Stevens Ave., Portland. 892-6766.

SCORE 66 Pearl St., Portland, holds a small business workshops Dec 13 from 1-4 pm: "The Business Plan & Cash Flow Projection." 772-1147.

"Secrets of Small Business Management" Lecture with Dana Cay, Dec 8 from 6-8 pm, 75 West Commercial St., Portland. 780-1225.

"The Silent Economy of Women's Unpaid Labor," Panel presentation hosted by USM Women's Studies department, Dec 14 at 7 pm, 224 Luther Bonney Hall, Portland. 780-4289.

Transcendental Meditation Free lectures at the Freeport library, Dec 12 at 6:30 pm and Dec 14 at 7 pm at the Maharishi Ayur-Veda School, 575 Forest Ave., Portland. 774-1108.



outdoors

Casco Bay Bicycle Club The Great Scarborough Marsh ride (15-25 miles) sets off Mon evenings at 6 pm from the Dunstan School Restaurant, Scarborough. 865-9558. Helmets required.

Cross Country Ski "Gold Card" pass to Maine cross-country ski areas offered through American Lung Association. For more information: 1-800-458-6472.

"Deep Sea Hydrothermal Vents: Exciting New Discoveries" Natural history seminar by Richard A. Lutz in USM's science building, room 165, Dec 9 at 12:30 pm.

Gorham Trails needs members to support its efforts to improve trails and historic ways in Greater Gorham. 839-4644.

Maine Outdoor Adventure Club offers hiking, kayaking, canoeing, climbing and other trips for people of all skill levels. Meetings are the first Wed of every month at 7 pm at the Unitarian Church, Allen Ave., Portland. 781-7454. TRIP HOTLINE: 828-0918.

Portland Parks and Recreation holds winter ski programs in Jan and Feb for youths at local ski areas. For registration information: 874-8793 or 874-8791.

So. Me. Sea Kayaking Network People of all skill levels are invited to join the network for some paddling. Call the news line at 874-2640 for updates and membership information.

Winter Sports Equipment Sale Dec 10 at S. Portland Recreation Center, 21 Nelson Rd., S. Portland, from 9 am-2 pm. Good used equipment from skates to poles. 767-7650.

Art & Soul continued on page 34



These boots are made for rocking

The evening began, regrettably enough, at a cocktail party. I was supposed to be en route to a big gnarly metal show in a warehouse off Holyoke Wharf — keg of cheap beer, raucous noise-fest-type scenario — and instead, I'm clutching a teaspoon-sized cup of white wine at a chichi gathering. For some bizarre reason I had agreed to play guitar and sing for a roomful of chardonnay-drinking schmoozers, wedged between the divan and a potted plant. Meanwhile, in a big run-down building next to the dogfish cutters, people were bobbing their heads and heaving their bodies into a tangle of heavy-metal delight. Bummer.

When I finally managed to slink out a side door of my last-ever cocktail gig, I ran home, changed out of my uncomfortable heels and made my way down to Commercial Street to see Daddy Black Boots, Wheelhouse Sanctuary and Cradle II Grave — three of Geno D's Rock Club favorites. A bevy of hairdos milled outside on the wharf, jamming excitedly in that revved-up metal show fashion — somehow clubs can never match the jubilant free-for-all of a bunch of bands sweating it out in an out-of-the-way redneck grotto. What a relief it was to hear the bone-crunching stomp of Daddy Black Boots after the gentle pitter-patter of polite conversation.

music

Vocalist and frontman Shawn Winslow's deep growl of a voice greeted me on the waterfront, and my mood began to improve dramatically. Black Boots has been together for a little over 18 months — a fact that is somewhat reflected in the band's uneven onstage unity — but made up for by sheer power created by a funky-up heavy bass sound and Winslow's stagey baritone. The band's pursuit of gigs in the bigger clubs around town and out of state has been plagued by the typical problem: Working to put food on the table leaves little time for... schmoozing. None of that here on Holyoke Wharf, however. Long-haired men and women with the mandatory earrings and black leather jackets just wanted to knock heads in a huge room with a make-shift stage and a lot of sinister-looking equipment.

The warehouse crowd was a mishmash of metal-heads and musicians, whose energy and enthusiasm escalated over the course of a beer-tossing evening. Winslow told me later that of all the gigs they've done, he prefers all-ages shows, because the kind of charged excitement that makes live shows powerful is almost always present. He gave me a copy of the band's 1993 release, "Seed," which at first listen lacks the umph Daddy Black Boots can deliver, but of course it was recorded only a month after the band got together. It still lays the groundwork for the Boots' sound with cuts like "Funky-Faster Alobaster" and "Brainplow," a thumping roar of distorted axe and booming vocals.

Unfortunately, while Wheelhouse played, I was in search of non-chardonnay liquid refreshment, but I returned in time to see Cradle II Grave close the night with a set of throbbing metal tunes that had the waterfront shaking. The band had none of the self-conscious stage presence that can wreck a good rock show — they appeared transported into near Dionysian metal frenzy with every dinosaur-sized riff they ground out to the strong-armed, precise smash of the drums. One dauntingly large fan with a set of spiked arm bands was doing a frightening tango in the front, but other than that, the enthusiasm of the crowd didn't spill over into the common battleground mentality often seen at shows like this one. With a belly full of Pabst Blue Ribbon and a head full of distortion, I felt somewhat recovered from my earlier episode as second place to a buffet. I wish I'd played this party. I can hardly wait for the next one.

— Tanya Whiton

Daddy Black Boots and the others will be at various venues around town.

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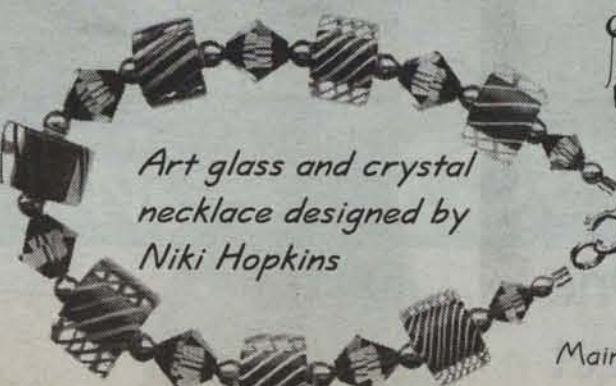
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Art & Soul continued from page 32



Assist Fire Victims The Salvation Army is accepting donations to benefit the fire victims of the apartment building on Washington Ave., Portland. Donations may be sent to The Salvation Army, Washington Ave., Fire, PO Box 3647, Portland, ME, 04104, 774-6304.

Basketweaving Gilsland Farm Environmental Center, 118 Rt 1, Falmouth, holds a class with June Lack, Dec 10 from 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Cost: \$40, 781-2330.

Bean Supper Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, 810 Main St, Westbrook, Dec 10 from 5-6 pm. Cost: \$4.50 (\$1.50 kids), 854-9157.

Caps for Kids Halcyon Yarn, 12 School St, Bath, is collecting hats, mittens and scarves until Dec 15 as part of this program for underprivileged kids. They will also accept yarn which they will distribute to knitters. 800-341-0252.

Christmas Tree Auction Lucas Tree & Garden Center, 636 Riverside, Portland, holds a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Dec 10 at 3 pm. 878-8240.

Coats for Kids Salvation Army drop boxes are located at Shaws Supermarkets. 774-6304.

Designing Women Show & Sale Innovative gifts by woman artisans are on sale Dec 10 from 10 am-5 pm. Cost: \$2, with proceeds benefiting the Greater Portland Rape Crisis Center, Trinity Episcopal Church, Forest Ave., Portland.

Emergency Food Pantry accepts donations of non-perishable food items at various congregations in S. Portland and Cape Elizabeth. For information: 799-3361.

English Country Dress Ball Bowdoinham Community Hall, Bowdoinham, hosts a holiday ball with live music and a remarkable repast Dec 11 from 7-11 pm. 666-3090 or 786-6110.

Family Opportunities Network Provides services, including parent support group, life-skills workshops and free childcare during meetings to homeless and at-risk families. 772-5394.

Hayrides from Monument Square Holiday rides Dec 9 from 4-8 pm and Dec 10 from 2-6 pm. Hayrides continue through December 23. 772-6828.

Holiday Open House Baxter Memorial Library, 71 South St, Gorham, holds a week of festivities from Dec 12-16. Activities range from a Christmas baking contest to a violin and chamber singers concert. 839-5031.

Holiday Sing-Along and Dance American Association of Retired Persons hosts a Christmas celebration at 11 am, Dec 13, at the North Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washington Ave., Portland. Cost: \$5. 774-0376.

Home-delivered Christmas Meals Southern Maine Area Agency on Aging provides traditional meals for seniors in Cumberland and York counties who will be alone or unable to get out on Christmas day. Deadline for referrals or reservations is Dec 13. 283-2472 or 1-800-400-6325.

Lawyers for the Poor The Hospitality House of Hinkley, Maine, is recruiting lawyers statewide to represent (without prior payment) low-income citizens who have been denied governmental assistance. 453-2986 or 1-800-438-3890.

March of Dimes Fund raising drive in conjunction with Passport to Greater Portland. \$25 per book, discounts at area stores. 871-0660.

Preble Street Resource Center Activities at 252 Oxford St, Portland, include community meetings Fri at 10 am; writers' group open to anyone Weds from 11-11 pm and art groups open to anyone feeling the urge for creative expression Tues at 11 am. 874-6560.

Rwandan Relief The Salvation Army is in the process of establishing a "village" for abandoned children in Rwanda. Money to purchase food, medicine and blankets may be sent to "Rwandan Relief," The Salvation Army, PO Box 3647, Portland, 04104, 774-6304.

Rotary Club Christmas Tree Sale Annual fundraiser to benefit South Portland and Cape Elizabeth communities at Mill Creek Park in South Portland. 893-7721.

SCORE Service Corps of Retired Executives, a volunteer organization supporting small business, offers free 1 1/2-hour appointments daily for people who want a business of their own or who have a business and have problems. SCORE also offers regular workshops. Each seminar costs \$20. 772-1147.

Sing Along Dec 9 at 7 pm, Woodfords Church, 202 Woodford St, Portland, with the Interfaith Singles Community. 773-2481.

St. Lucia Pageant & Festival St. Ansar Lutheran Church, 515 Woodford St, Portland, Swedish holiday celebration, Dec 11 at 7 pm. 773-8740.

Toys for Tots Christmas social at Most Holy Trinity Hall Church, Main St, Saco to benefit the local campaign for kids, Dec 10 from 5:30-8 pm. Sponsored by Visiting Nurse Service of Southern Maine, Tech-Med and Southern Maine Medical Center. 284-4566.

Variety Show at Schoolhouse Arts Center Jct Routes 35/114 North, Sebago Lake Village, on Dec 8 and 9 at 7:30 pm. Features singing, dancing and storytelling. Cost: \$4. 642-3743.

Wolfe's Neck Farm Open House 10 Burnett Rd, Freeport, on Dec 11 from 9 am-4 pm. 780-4200.

Art & Soul continued on page 38

Two for the ages

Call this a tale of two poets. Steve Luttrell has been slugging it out for some time here in Portland, running *The Cafe Review*, the city's literary magazine; holding a full-time job at Harding's Rare Books and shepherding along various poetry events — and oh, by the way, writing graceful, spare poems of nature and loss that draw as much on haiku or the Black Mountain school as they do on Beat poetry. Now Luttrell has produced his tiniest volume to date, "The Wasp in the Wind," a slim chapbook of three dozen poems you can hold quite easily in your palm and which scarcely has the weight of a leaf.

Colin Sargent, on the other hand, has kept a somewhat lower profile as a poet while extolling Greater Portland's wackiest virtues from his pulpit high atop *Portland Monthly* magazine. Sargent's second book of poems, "Undertow," was recently released by South Portland's Coyote Love Press. And the fact of the matter is that Sargent's poetry is surprisingly mature. Colin, we never knew ye.

Let's take Luttrell first. "The Wasp in the Wind" is a convention is that each of the poems is in haiku: five syllables, then seven, then five more. Some Western poets have argued that in Japanese one word often contains six or seven syllables, thus we must change the form to fit language. They invent freer forms for their haiku.

Not Luttrell, though; he sticks to the book all the way. Beat poet Michael McClure seems to appreciate this, as stated in his blurb on the back cover, which notes that Luttrell stands "at the frontier of rethinking the classic haiku to make an American language poem" by "using postholes of sensory perception to find his own seasons." But does he deliver? This piece does:

*A dark shaded pond
ripples on the surface
small turtles are feeding*

Some of these haiku feel less substantial, and there's no room for error in such a compact form as this. One slip and you're knee-deep in cliché. When Luttrell tries to copy a small scene from nature, he occasionally stumbles. (Just as a reader can stumble, too, by seeking an instant rush of feeling from a poem that develops more like a photograph.) But then the writer will snap back to something deeper, something more overarching:

*The red-tailed hawks perched
on fenceposts from Arkansas
to Arizona.*

Sargent's "Undertow" presents something else again, a beautifully designed full-size book packed with a goodly number of remarkable poems.



I like the way,
for instance, that he chooses a fish
from the market and carries it home:

*There was a cod in the fish store
following me the way eyes
of great paintings follow you
through museums.
They wrapped him up for me.*

And I like the way Sargent isn't afraid to draw daring metaphors that seem effortless — the mature poet's art — as when he writes that "we groped our way / toward Devil's

Backbone in a quiet giant as New York City, / showy over the guano..." At the same time, Sargent exhibits a welcome restraint on his verbal gifts. He avoids careening out of control, and this is the hardest thing to teach poets — to hold back almost everything but that which must be written. Listen to just a snippet, and notice how he keeps his hand gently on the bow to guide the arrow:

*from 10,000 feet. You see the triple
crescents over to Hartley Lord's house,
the skinny L of the bath houses,
last summer's cars in the driveway.*

I like this stuff. These are poems of great care and intimacy, poems that could hold their own in the heavy-weight league of poetry journals. With all the goddamn slams going on around here lately, you might forget that poets of talent are still writing this kind of hard-wrought verse.

— Paul Karr

If you're interested in hearing Luttrell read his poems, he'll be appearing at New Year's Portland. As for Sargent — probably best to walk into his office at Portland Monthly on Congress Street and say hello. If you're lucky, maybe you'll get an earful of poems for your trouble.

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OR IS IT *Akari*?

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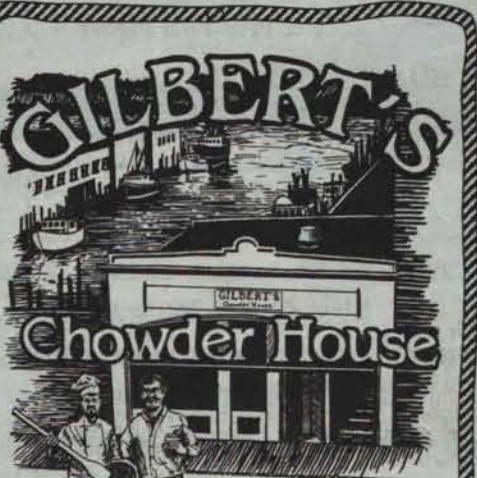
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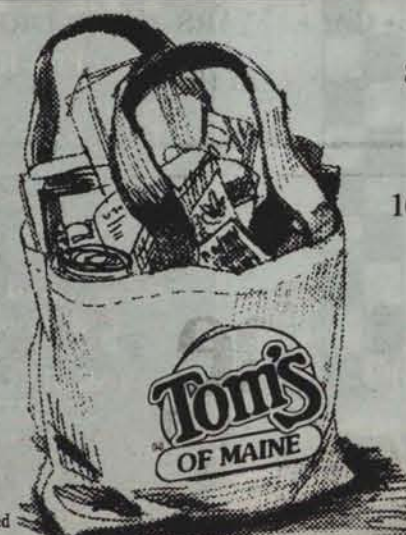
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Art & Soul continued from page 34

family

Buzzing Bees Program Maine Audubon Society offers stories and activities for preschool children on Wednesdays from 10:11-11:30 am at the Gilsland Farm Sanctuary, 118 Route 1 in Falmouth. Light snack provided; bring a cup for your child. Cost: \$5 with child; \$2 each additional child. Reservations required. 781-2330.

Camp Fire Club A program for kids grades kindergarten through high school. 883-8977.

Children's Museum of Maine offers exhibits and activities for children of all ages. Discover the culture of Ancient Egypt with "The Tomb of Queen Nefertiti" on display through Dec 31. Also through Dec: Thurs, Christmas and Chanukah card-making, from 10 am-12 pm. Fri, "Greens and Garlands," decorating in the Victorian tradition, from 11 am-1 pm and 5-6 pm. Sat, Santa Clause visits from 11 am-1 pm. "Simple Treasures," gift making from 12-2 pm and holiday storytelling at 1 pm. Sun, Santa from 1-3 pm, giftmaking 1-3 pm and storytelling at 1 and 2 pm. Hours: Wed-Thurs-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Fri 10 am-8 pm; Sun 12-5 pm. 142 Free Street, Portland. Admission \$4, free to the public Fridays from 5-8 pm. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some activities. Call for specific dates and times, 828-1234.

Children's Piggy Bank Shop Holiday shopping fair for children under 12. Dec 10, from 10 am-12 pm, at the YWCA, 87 Spring St, Portland. 874-1130.

Creative Resource Center The center at 1103 Forest Ave., Portland, hosts regular activities for kids. Cost: \$8. 797-9543.

Dial-a-Story The South Portland Public Library offers recorded stories, folk tales and poems, anytime day or night. Dial 767-8162.

Family Night The Greater Portland YMCA hosts a Family Night every Fri from 6:30-8:30 pm at 70 Forest Ave., Portland. Enjoy swimming, open gym, game room, weight room, wallyball, arts and crafts and refreshments. Cost: \$5 per family, free for YMCA members. Free child care last Fri of each month from 6:30-8:30 pm for kids ages three to five. Registration required. 874-1111.

Friday Night Special Portland Recreation offers organized gym programs for adults and kids at Riverton Community Center, 1600 Forest Ave., Portland. 874-8455.

Parent Hotline Parents: find care and support through the Parent Hotline. 767-5506 in Portland or 1-800-249-5506 outside of Portland.

Portland Public Library 5 Monument Square, holds special children's events; Preschool story time, Dec 12 at 10:30 am and "Finger Fun for Babies," Dec 14 at 9:30 am. 871-1700.

Preview for Parents Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St., Portland, offers tours of its Labor & Delivery Unit for expectant parents attending Preview for Parents the fourth Tuesday of each month. Tours leave the Dana Center lobby at 6:15 pm. To register, call 871-2205.

South Portland Public Library at 482 Broadway, S. Portland, hosts "Video Program for Preschoolers," Thurs & Fri from 10:30-11 am through Dec 16. 767-7660.

Story Times The Warren Memorial Library, 479 Main St., Westbrook, offers "Read Aloud Time" for preschoolers every Wed from 10:15-11 am and a story hour for kids 4 and up every Sat from 10:30-11:30 am. 854-5891.

Volunteer Science Teachers Needed The USM Southern Maine Partnership is looking for people with science backgrounds to teach programs in grades six through eight in the RESEED program. Call 780-5643.

Warren Memorial Library 479 Main St., Westbrook, sponsors "Books and Babies," a program for kids 6-24 months old, every Tues at 9:30 am in Dec. 854-5891.

Young at Art Gift making classes offered at the Twombly Skating Hut, Depot Rd., Falmouth, Tuesdays from 3:40-5 pm through Dec 20. 781-5255.

YWCA Child Care Preschool, kindergarten and before and after school programs are available at the YWCA at 87 Spring St., Portland. Call Kelly Hoskins at 772-2912.

YWCA Snow Camp When Portland schools are closed due to inclement weather, the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, is open from 7:30 am-5:30 pm for gym, swim, arts and crafts. 874-1130.

health

Adult Screening Clinic on the last Wed of every month. Check blood pressure, sugar, anemia and cholesterol, from 11:30 am-1:30 pm, at the Peoples United Methodist Church, 310 Broadway, S. Portland. Fee charged. 780-8624.

Aikido A martial art used to increase flexibility, stamina and promote a sense of well-being. Mon 6-7 pm and 7-8 pm; Tues 6:30-7:30 pm; Fri 6:30-7:30 pm; Sat 2:30-3:45 pm. Portland Aikido, 120 Woodford St., Portland. 772-1524.

Aquatics for Arthritis The Arthritis Foundation offers aquatic classes in the Greater Portland area to increase flexibility and mobility in aching joints. Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Road, South Portland: Tues, Thurs 3:30-4:15 pm, 874-9337. YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland: Wed, Fri 1:15-2 pm, 874-1130.

Ayur-Veda "Creating Health by Living in Accord with Natural Law," lecture by Dr. Jeffrey Fuson, Dec 10 at 10:30 am, at Maharishi Ayur-Veda School, 575 Forest Ave., Portland. 774-1108.

Children's Health Clinic The Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice holds a Well Child Health Clinic the first Friday of every month at the First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland, from 8:30 am-12 pm. Appointment only. 767-3326.

Concerned About Lead? To learn about lead and the risk it poses to your family, request a lead fact sheet prepared by the U Maine Cooperative Extension Service, 1-800-287-1471 or 780-4205. For information about childhood risk and screening, call 287-3259. Free to YMCA members, \$5 for others. Child care available on site for \$2.50. 874-1111.

Confidential STD Clinic The Portland Public Health Division sponsors a Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic, offering confidential, low-cost screening and treatment on a walk-in basis Tues and Thurs from 3:30-6 pm at Portland City Hall, Room 303, 389 Congress St., Portland. Medicaid accepted. Anonymous and confidential HIV testing by appointment only. 874-8784.

Farm Therapy This is a therapeutic program for physically and emotionally challenged children and adults. Includes sensory and hands-on work with horses. Takes place at the Flying Changes Therapeutic Riding Center on Route 9 in Durham. 443-5804.

Golden School of Tai Chi Ch'uan 616 Congress St., Portland, holds classes in this martial art emphasizing health, meditation and self-defense through the integration of mind, body and spirit. 772-9039.

Life Saving Courses The American Red Cross hosts several classes: Emergency response instructor training Tuesday evenings 6-9 pm through Dec 20, adult CPR Dec 10 from 1-4:30 pm and Dec 12 from 6-9:30 pm and first aid instructor training Tuesdays 4-5 pm through Dec 20. All classes happen at the chapter facility, 524 Forest Ave., Portland. 874-1192.

Massage Workshops Head, neck and shoulder massage techniques demonstrated, Dec 8 and 13, from 6:30-9 pm. Fee: \$21, \$38 (for both). USM Lifeline, 96 Falmouth St., Portland. 780-4649.

Planned Parenthood offers HIV testing, annual exams, pregnancy testing, birth control information and supplies (free condoms), testing and treatment for STDs and infections, menopause services and more at its health center, 15 Portland St., Portland. Handicapped accessible, confidential and affordable. Medicaid is welcomed. 874-1095.

Portland Public Pools Relche Pool, 166 Brackett St., Portland: Afternoon swim — Mon-Wed and Fri from 4:30-6 pm, Thurs from 4:30-6:30 pm (no school, no swim), open swim — Thurs from 6:30-8 pm. Riverton Pool, 1600 Forest Ave., Portland: Adult swim — Tues and Thurs, 6-7:30 am, Mon-Fri 12:15-1:15, Mon, Wed and Fri 6:15-7:30 pm, Sat 12:30-1:30 pm. Open swim — Mon and Wed 7:30-8:45 am, Tues 6:15-8 pm, Sat from 1:30-3:30 pm. 874-8456.

Portland Street Clinic This clinic provides free comprehensive health care for adults at the Community Resource Center, 15 Portland St., Portland. The clinic is sponsored by Mercy Hospital and administered by the city of Portland Public Health Division and is open Thurs 9-5 pm. All services are free and are by appointment only. 874-8982.

Teen/Young Adult Clinic is a place to go for health concerns, medical problems, sports/school physicals done, or birth control issues. Open to anyone 13-21, Mondays from 4-8 pm, at Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St., Portland. Walk-ins seen if they arrive by 7 pm. 871-2763.

Vision USA The Maine Project provides free eye examinations to low-income, uninsured Mainers and their families. Eligibility requirements. Contact the Maine Optometric Association for info. 268-2031.

Visiting Nurse Service holds an adult health clinic, Dec 12, 9 am-12 pm, 15 Industrial Park Rd., Saco. 1-800-660-4867.

Volksmarch Free, non-competitive walk held at Ocean View Retirement Facility, 52 Falmouth Rd., Falmouth, Dec 11 from 1-6 pm.

Yoga at the Portland Yoga Studio 616 Congress St., Portland. Hatha yoga for people with AIDS every Wed from 12:50-2 pm at 22 Monument Square, Portland. Cost: \$1, for those who can afford it. 797-5684.

help

help will resume appearing the first Thursday of every month in January

ACOA Support Group Sun from 6:30-8 pm at Jackson Brook Institute, 175 Running Hill Road, S. Portland. 883-5006.

ADD Support Group Adults interested in forming a local support group for Attention Deficit Disorder can write Ronald Cargill at 241 High St., Apt. #3, Portland 04101.

Advocacy & Referral Services The Neighborhood Improvements Program at Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council provides advocacy and referral services to Portland's low-income residents in such areas as food, housing, education, government assistant programs and more. 775-0105.

The AIDS Project (TAP) sponsors the following support groups: HIV-negative partners of HIV-positive persons, Mondays from 6-7:30 pm; HIV-positive persons and all who have been affected, Tuesdays from 10:30 noon; HIV-positive persons, Thursdays from 5:30-7:30 pm; women with HIV/AIDS, twice-a-month from 1:15-2:45 pm. Groups meet at 22 Monument Square on the fifth floor. Other support groups: mothers, sisters and loved ones of HIV-positive persons, every other Wed at 6:30 pm; women's support group, second & fourth Tues of each month. Call TAP for locations. The groups are facilitated by TAP case managers with the purpose of making a space for those affected by AIDS to share their feelings and concerns in a confidential setting. 774-6877.

Art & Soul continued on page 41

Byte ME: Dispatches from the electronic frontier

Electronic crusade
against AIDS

Set off untethered into cyberspace and you'll quickly make this discovery: There are a lot of geeks with pocket protectors out there. Computer techies have rapidly colonized the new frontier, establishing discussion groups about new operating software, compiling vast files about programming arcana, and trafficking in lame jokes and Star Trek trivia.

But your second discovery is this: There are also a lot of doctors, nurses and other health care workers in cyberspace. Like the techies, they've found that the electronic exchange of information is well-suited to their needs. It beats all hell out of print media for getting timely research circulated to a broad audience. And global networks like the Internet also create a massive forum for the speedy exchange of specialized knowledge. For instance, a Portland doctor might post a question about mysterious symptoms she's encountered, and another doctor halfway around the world may recognize them and respond with some suggestions. All within a few hours.

Within the medical field, no group has sized up the potential of electronic networking as swiftly as those on the frontlines in the fight against AIDS.

Electronic bulletin boards specializing in AIDS information have surfaced around the country, and commercial services such as America Online and CompuServe have established databases devoted to AIDS.

But the most organized effort to get out the information is just getting underway: The National Library of Medicine (NLM), which is part of the National Institutes of Health, has made it something of an all-out crusade to establish links not only among medical practitioners involved with AIDS, but between the medical establishment and the general public. And next month, that crusade comes to Portland.

The Portland Public Library is one of just 19 institutions nationwide to land a \$25,000 grant from the NLM. That will pay for computers and a link to the Internet, which in turn will allow Portlanders free access to the vast and growing treasury of AIDS information and other Internet resources.

The NLM has a number of goals in making AIDS information widely available. Among them: It seeks to provide frequently updated guidelines for health care workers who treat AIDS patients. It hopes to release immediately the results of clinical trials. And it aims to get accurate and timely information to AIDS patients to allow them to make informed decisions about their treatments.

Toward that end, the NLM this year eliminated hourly connect charges on three of its AIDS databases. These include AIDSLINE, with 90,000 citations of AIDS-related journal articles, books and other resources; and AIDSRIALS, which includes the up-to-the-minute results of 500 clinical tests of drugs and vaccines now under review by doctors nationwide.

NLM is now striving to broaden access by bringing hardware to the public. The Portland library project,

which is a collaborative effort with The AIDS Project (TAP), will feature one terminal in the library and one at TAP offices on Congress Street. The idea is to allow Portlanders a choice: You can peruse the 'net in the supportive environs of TAP, or choose the more anonymous environment of the library.

The terminals will be connected directly to the Internet through NearNet, and configured with "gopher" software, which first-time users find relatively easy to manipulate. This will provide easy access to NLM databases, as well as hundreds of other sources of AIDS information, including information on alternative treatments such as acupuncture. Users will also be able to post questions anonymously to the network, then check back in a day or two for responses.

Library executive director Sheldon Kaye said this is only the first small step in a major effort to usher the library into the brave new world of the Internet. Plans call for installing 50 new computer terminals with Internet connections next year, and offering home computer users full access through modem connections.

Barring hardware or software snafus, the library plans to have the AIDS information hardware up and running by the end of January.

Angus online

As far as we can tell, Governor-elect Angus King was the only gubernatorial candidate to campaign online. He responded at some length to questions about education posted on ME-Link, a statewide electronic bulletin board for educators. And since his Nov. 8 victory, King apparently hasn't been too busy to keep in touch with his online supporters, responding to a handful of queries and questions in recent weeks (although he didn't respond to a question from CBW). If you're not on the network, don't worry — you're not missing much. King said he was opposed to magnet schools, favored continued funding for substance abuse programs and said he'd be interested in speaking at a conference of Maine principals. King soon disappeared from the wires, but reported that he'd be back "as soon as we Mac the Blaine House."

Screen dumps

■ Web site of the week: An inventory of books banned by governments and schools can be found on Banned Books Online, which offers short descriptions and explanations of why and where books such as "Little Red Riding Hood" were banned. Hypertext links take you to the full text. Point your web browser to: <http://www.cs.cmu.edu:8001/Web/People/spok/banned-books.html>

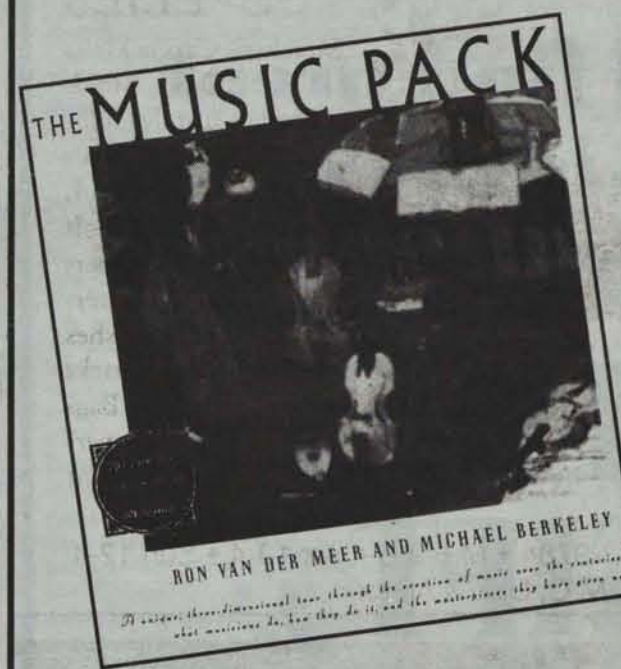
■ Correction: In our Oct. 27 survey of Internet connections, we printed the wrong phone number for PSI, a Virginia-based service provider. The correct number: (800) 774-3031.

■ CBW's thanks to Lionel L. Dumond, Westbrook's online city councilor, who suggested the name for this column.

Byte us with your local cyberculture news and gossip by e-mailing to: editor@cbw.sdi.maine.net

— Wayne Curtis

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See pages 14 & 15!

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Art & Soul continued from page 38

Alpha One Peer support meeting for individuals with disabilities and other interested parties. Two monthly meetings: third Tues of every month, 5-7 pm in the Community Room, Westbrook Housing Authority, 10 Liza Harmon Drive, Westbrook; third Thurs of every month, 1-3 pm at 1700 Broadway West, S. Portland. 767-2189.

Alliance for Mentally Ill of Greater Portland offers a support group for family members 7-8:30 pm the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 66 State St, Portland. 772-5057 or 800-464-5767.

Alliance for Mentally Ill of Maine a statewide organization representing families with mental illness, now offers family respite services for those caring for adults with mental illness. This free service allows families to have time away from their caregiving responsibilities. For more information call 622-5767.

Alzheimer's Disease Support Group meets the second Mon of each month at 7:30 pm in West Scarborough Methodist Church, Route 1, Scarborough. 883-2971.

Battered Women's Support Groups For information about these free and confidential groups call The Family Crisis Shelter at 874-1973.



Facing the face of AIDS

Like the stained glass windows in medieval churches that instructed the illiterate, modern art depicting people infected with HIV or AIDS instructs both those familiar and unfamiliar with the disease. Bowdoinham artist Carlo Pittore's exhibit at the Portland Public Library does just this. From the athletic male and pregnant female to the gaunt and shallow faces of men in the last stage of the virus, the oil paintings show that no one is immune or untouched.

The exhibit is shoved down in the basement of the library and, if you can block out the feeling that everyone in the reading section is watching you look at paintings of exposed genitals, the space is cozy. The benefit of the exhibit being in a public library is that the work becomes accessible to people who wouldn't ordinarily set foot in an art gallery; and judging by the variety of people appreciating Pittore's paintings, this form of AIDS education could prove very effective.

Pittore is an excellent realist. Using thick, bold strokes of paint he creates a human with every color in the spectrum. No Silly Putty pink flesh here — he uses greens and purples for shadow, with yellows and oranges for light, and unifies with an occasional black line. And when you get very close to the paintings, the brushwork becomes abstract forms of striking emotions. By looking at this brushwork, you can empathize with the people in the paintings through their expressions, but also with Pittore's feelings of helplessness and anger as a friend watching friends die.

In his painting "The Shakedown" — a scene of a prison yard search — Pittore explores the humility of having your body and private preferences openly exposed and discussed when diagnosed with HIV. The yard is spotted with naked prisoners whose clothes, like discarded skins, lie on the ground next to them. Guards in sunglasses and heavy uniforms coldly examine and inspect. The prisoners are, according to Pittore, "subject to the indignity of the physical, subject to the impersonal system which searches for..."

Pittore's message is two-fold. He asks you to see his subjects as human, as people he has loved and, in some cases, lost to AIDS. He wants you to see his own pain and loss. But the works are also a message to protect yourself. The eyes of his "Portrait of Johnny Apple" gaze out directly, asking you, telling you, to make choices. The lean, athletic form demonstrates that anyone is susceptible to this virus — young or old, straight or gay. And by holding up a half-eaten "Eve's apple," he lets you know that, for him, it's too late.

— Melissa Ames

The paintings of Carlo Pittore show at Portland Public Library, 7 Congress Square, through the month of December.

Bereaved Parents Support Group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm in Classroom #3 at the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St, Portland. 871-4226.

Bereavement Support Group The Visiting Nurse Association holds meetings for those adapting to loss of a loved one. The group is facilitated by the Reverend Tom Merrill of the United Methodist Church, 100 Westbrook St, South Portland. 767-3326 or 774-0487.

Birthingline Catholic Charities of Maine provides positive support to any woman and her family experiencing an untimely pregnancy. Services include: pregnancy testing, emotional support, post-abortion support and a limited amount of maternity and infant clothing. Free and confidential. 871-7464.

The Center for Grieving Children is a nonprofit organization that helps children ages 3-18 who are grieving the loss of a parent, sibling or other loved one. Support groups meet Wed & Thurs nights and are divided by ages. Free services to children and families. Tender Living Care is a program that provides support for children who have a loved one with a terminal illness and their adult caregivers. 799-1112.

Children Affected by HIV/AIDS meets the third Sat of the month from 1-3 pm. 761-1872.

Crohn's Disease and Colitis support group meets every Thurs from 7-8:30 pm in room 3, the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, Bramhall St, Portland. 878-8234.

Crossroads for Women helps women concerned with drug or alcohol use. Call 892-2192.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support group meets every Fri from 5:45-7:45 pm in the Board Room, Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland. 761-0418.

Chronic Pain Support Group for persons experiencing life disruptions from long-term and persistent pain related to illness or injury meets every other Thursday from 10-11:30 am at the United Methodist Church, Cape Elizabeth. 799-5881.

Celebrating Our Bodies, Our Selves is a movement therapy group at the Expressive Therapy Center, 150 St. John St, Portland. 871-8274.

Chemical Dependency Program The Department of Veterans Affairs offers outpatient substance abuse treatment for veterans providing community outreach, individual care, education, evaluation, referral and support. 780-3577 or 780-3578.

The Committee for Responsible Parenting (CRP) is a grass-roots group of concerned citizens advocating positive reforms to the state's presently adversarial family law court system. CRP is primarily concerned about the well-being of minor children of divorce. To obtain a free copy of CRP's legislative proposal or to join CRP call 767-4233.

Coping with Caregiving Support group for those caring for chronically disabled/terminally ill people offered at 12 pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of every month. Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland. 879-3486.

Counseling North Creek Ministries offers counseling to individuals, couples or families based on a sliding fee scale. Located at 137 Park St, Portland. 780-0204.

Depressed/Manic Depressed (DMD) meets every Mon from 7-9 pm at the Dana Auditorium, room 2, Maine Medical Center, Bramhall St, Portland. Confidential. 774-HELP.

Diabetes Support Groups Maine Medical Center's Diabetes Center encourages teens with diabetes and their parents to meet other teens with diabetes and their parents at The Teen Group and Parents of Teen Group meetings. Meetings are held the second Thurs of each month from 6:30-8 pm at the Diabetes Center, 48 Gilman Ave, Portland. 873-2747. A group sponsored by the Saco Visiting Nurse Service meets at the VNS offices, 15 Industrial Park Road, Saco. Free. 284-4566.

Divorce Perspectives is a support group for people in all phases of divorce that meets Weds at 7:30 pm at Woodford's Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St, Portland. 774-HELP.

Dual Recovery Anonymous Twelve-step program for those experiencing both chemical dependence and a psychiatric or emotional illness meets every Friday from 6:30-8 pm in room 2 of the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, Bramhall St, Portland. 799-6070 or 879-0631.

Elder Abuse A group of individuals concerned about issues affecting the elderly have started a group in Portland. 773-0202.

Environmental Health Center is assisting people with chemical, food and inhalant sensitivities; providing nutrition counseling, immunotherapy, sauna therapy, and helping those with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, asthma, PMS, skin and digestive problems, muscle and joint pain, poor memory and depression. 934-2216.

Epilepsy Support Group with pharmacist's informational lecture on anti-convulsants, Monday, Dec 9 from 7-9:30 pm. Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, 930 Congress St, Portland. 1-800-660-7832 or 871-4814.

Family Members with Mental Illness A support group, The Alliance for the Mentally Ill, meets the second and fourth Wed of every month from 7:08:30 pm at 12 Cedar St, Portland. 772-5057.

Feeling Better Self-management training program for people with long-term illness, injury, pain or disability from 9:30-11:30 am at the Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church, 280 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth. 799-8294.

Gamblers Anonymous meets every Thurs at 7 pm in the First Floor Conference Room, Brighton Medical Center, 335 Brighton Ave, Portland. 774-HELP.

Gay Men's Support Group dealing with a more positive gay identity. 773-0191.

Grandparents Support Group Monthly meetings are open to grandparents seeking custody or visitation, those raising grandchildren or with any other concerns. 772-1161 or 883-4553.

Grieving Support Group for bereaved people healing from the death of a loved one meets Mon afternoons or Wed evenings. Call 775-0366 for information.

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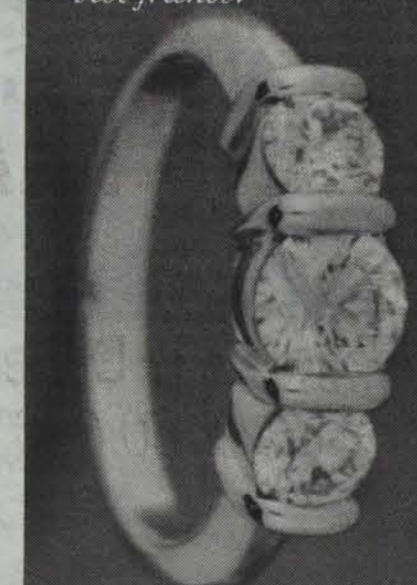
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Art & Soul continued from page 41

Head Injury Support Group The Maine Head Injury Foundation meets the third Wed from 6:45-8:15 pm, each month at Goodwill Industries, 353 Cumberland Ave., Portland. 761-8402.

Healing Support Group A safe environment for those experiencing personal traumas, addiction, grief, and loss of good health meets Tues from 5:30-7:30 pm at Brighton Medical Center, Brighton Ave., Portland. 767-3262.

Herpes Can we help? Central Maine HELP group meets monthly for information, sharing, mutual support. 729-0181 x. 358.

Homeless Hotline provides information on avoiding homelessness. 1-800-438-3890.

HOPE Support Group supports health through mutual sharing and interaction in facilitated groups. HOPE is a safe environment for those experiencing stress, personal traumas, addiction, grief loss, inner-child recovery and physical wellness. 743-9373.

Hopeful of Maine offers a comprehensive grief and bereavement program including grief and bereavement assessment, outreach, work and support groups and one-on-one crisis counseling. 774-4417.

Housing Help If you think your landlord or banker has discriminated against you because of your race, religion, national origin or a mental or physical disability, or if your landlord is taking too long making needed repairs or you have other housing-related problems, contact the Portland Fair Housing Education & Outreach Project. 775-0105.

Ingram Volunteers Help available by phone 24 hours a day. 774-HELP.

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation meets second Tues of each month from 3:30-8:30 pm at the Diabetes Center, 48 Gilman St., Portland. 854-1810.

Kidney Patient Support Group meets the second Tues of each month at the Kidney Foundation office, 169 Lancaster St., Portland, from 6-8 pm. 772-7270.

Literacy Services Project LINK links you to the people and programs that can help you do what you want to do with your life. The service offers free information, referrals and support to all Cumberland County residents in reading, math skills and higher education. 874-1140 or 1-800-698-4959 x. 341.

Maine Parents for Gifted/Talented nonprofit, statewide network available for parents of gifted and talented children. Newsletter available. 642-3302.

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services offers ongoing support and info on HIV and AIDS. It currently sponsors an HIV+ support group the first and third Wed of every month from 7-8:30 pm; as well as a family/friends support group which meets each Tues from 5-6:20 pm. 725-4955.

National Handicapped Sports Nationwide nonprofit membership organization helps improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities through sports and recreation. Maine Accessible Adventures, 52 Deane St., Gardiner. 875-2711.

Need to Talk? Dial Kids Hotline is for teens who have a problem or need to talk. The hotline is open from 2:30-5 pm Mon-Fri. Teens calling in talk to other teens who are trained to listen and help. Calls are kept confidential, except when the caller is in danger. 774-TALK.

Out Among Friends Lesbian discussion/support group meets each Thurs from 7-9 pm in the downstairs club room of the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland. Non-smoking and chem-free. Confidential. Call 799-0297 or write O.A.F., PO Box 727, Biddeford, ME. 04005 or fax 676-4433.

Outright Support, information and special events group for gay, lesbian, bi and questioning youth under 22 meets every Fri at 7:30 pm at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Outright, PO Box 5077, Portland, ME. 04101. 774-HELP.

Parents Support Group sponsored by Parents Anonymous meets Thurs at 6:15 pm in St. Elizabeth Center, 87 High St., Portland. 871-7445.

Parkinson's Support Group meets the fourth Sunday of each month at 2 pm at the Falmouth Congregational Church Parish Hall, 267 Falmouth Road, Falmouth. All those with Parkinson's and their caregivers are welcome. 829-4070.

People with AIDS Coalition of Maine offers a special meeting for those recovering AAs living with HIV or AIDS, Tuesdays at 8 pm at Falmouth Congregational Church Parish Hall, 267 Falmouth Road, Falmouth. 871-9211.

People with Disabilities Support Group meets the third Tuesday and third Thursday of each month from 6-8 pm. Tuesday meetings are held at Westbrook Housing Authority Community Room, 10 Liza Harmon Drive, Westbrook. Thursday meetings are at 1700 Broadway West, South Portland. 767-2189.

Personal Growth and Support Groups offered by the Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave., Portland include "Designing Your Life," which meets monthly; "The Passionate Life: Stages of Loving," which meets weekly. 772-8277.

P-FLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) a support and advocacy group meets the second Friday of each month at the Pride's Corner Church, Westbrook. 766-5158.

P.O.S.S.I.B.L.E. Partners of Survivors Stop Incest by Learning and Educating phone support, workshops and self-help support groups. Portland group meets bimonthly. 547-3532.

Prostate Cancer Support Group will be meets the 2nd Tues of each month at 6:30 at the Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland at 6:30 pm. 775-1670.

The Rape Crisis Center announces a free, facilitated support/discussion group for women survivors of sexual assault or child sexual abuse. Confidential meetings Weds from 1:30-3 pm. The center offers crisis intervention, advocacy and support groups for survivors of sexual assault and abuse. All services are free and confidential. Training is given to volunteers, who are welcomed. 24-hour hotline: 774-3613. For info on volunteering call 879-1821.

Recovery, Inc. Fear, anger, anxiety or depression can be brought under control. Self-help groups are free and open to anyone age 18 and older. Weekly meetings are held Saturdays at 10 am at Brighton Medical Center, 335 Brighton Ave., Portland; and Mondays at 7 pm at North Windham Union Church, Route 302, Windham. 829-9529.

Recovery Network Support Group Experienced facilitators present meditation followed by speaker/discussion time for people recovering from addictions, abuse or dependence every Wed from 7:15-8:15 pm at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. Patterned after 12-step groups. Donations accepted. 878-2263.

Resolve of Maine infertility support group meets the second Tues of each month at 7 pm in the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St., Portland. 774-HELP.

Resources for Divorced Families is offering programs to help divorced or divorcing parents. 846-1268.

Seeing Differently Support group for people facing health issues or emotional challenges meets Thurs 10 am-12 noon at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. 774-1183.

Self-esteem Need a Boost? A small group is forming. Call 772-6892.

Silicone Sisters Learn as much as you can about your breast implants, how they can affect your health and your legal positions in Maine. Support group meets the first Mon of each month from 9-11 am. 443-4942.

So, Maine Area on Aging offers a trained advocate in Portland at 307 Cumberland Ave., Portland, every Friday from 10 am-1 pm to assist older residents and their family members and friends with questions about Medicare, Medicaid, insurance, housing, social services, consumer issues and others. Funding is available through the home-based care program for care management and other services to help older people remain living independently. 775-6503 or 800-427-7411.

Sudden Infant Death Support group for those bereaved by SIDS or unexpected infant death meets the second Tues of each month at 7 pm in classroom #1 at the Dana Center, Maine Medical, Bramhall St., Portland. 871-4226.

Survivors of Suicide Support group for bereaved family members and close friends meets the second and fourth Mon of each month at 7 pm in classroom #1 at the Dana Center, Maine Medical, Bramhall St., Portland. 871-4226.

TransSupport group for crossdressers, transsexuals, their families and friends and other interested in gender dysphoria meets regularly in secure location to provide support, education and social activities. Write TransSupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, ME. 04101.

TRUTH Support group for families and friends with loved ones incarcerated in Maine's prison systems. For more info send your name, address and SASE to TRUTH, P.O. Box 2046, Windham, ME. 04062.

United Voice Low-income people unite for support and to act upon issues. Meeting are on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 10:12-30 pm at the Congregational Church, 150 Congress Ave., Bath. On-site childcare is available. Wheelchair accessible. 729-2843 or 1-800-941-0089.

Veterans' Support Services provide vets with the opportunity to socialize and gather in relaxed setting. Dinner served Thurs nights, open to the public. 151 Newbury St., Portland. 871-0911.

Widow/Widowers Support Group meets the 2nd and 4th Wed of each month from 7-9 pm at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. 883-3596.

Wishcraft/Teamworks support group An organization who, by providing goal clarity, support and ideas, won't let you quit. This is not a recovery oriented group. FMI call 883-3891.

Women in Nurturing Support Group is a nonprofit organization providing support and encouragement to low-income single parents. Nurture, Economic Support, Trust (NEST) helps eligible single parents to own a home in a community setting. Meetings are Thurs evenings from 7-9 pm. Free child care available. WINGS is located at 152 Brackett St., Westbrook. 854-1008.

Women's Center at USM facilitates connections among women by providing a place where women students, staff and faculty can meet, validate and support one another personally, academically and professionally. Women's Center, 40 Payson Smith Road, Portland (780-4996) & Brook's Student Center, Gorham (780-5523).

Women's Forum serves as a resource and support center for women on the USM campus (Power's House, 86 Winslow St., Portland) and offers educational services emphasizing a feminist perspective as well as producing and sponsoring events. 874-6593.

Women With Cancer is an empowerment circle for women working with traditional and non-traditional cancer therapies who view themselves as their primary healer and illness as a journey to awareness. Call Ginny at 865-1677 or Gina at 773-7152 for location and information.

Workaholic Anonymous is a fellowship of individuals who share their experience, strength and hope that they may stop working compulsively and carry the message of recovery to workaholics who still suffer. No fees or dues. Meets Tues nights from 7:45-8:45 pm in the first floor physicians dining room at Brighton Medical Center, 335 Brighton Ave., Portland. 729-8994 or 775-0205.

Young Fathers A YMCA support group for young fathers or stepfathers ages 12-26 meets Tues evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm at the YMCA, 70 Forest Ave., Portland.



etc

Animal Rights Group Portland-based animal rights organization forming. Call 773-1609.

Buddhist Meditation Group meets every Thursday at 7:15 pm in Yarmouth. For more information call 846-0764.

Casco Bay Culinary Association meets the second Mon of each month. 799-2234 or 774-4308.

Circle of Hope A prayer/worship group in the denomination of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, a primary ministry to gay and lesbian people, meets Sats at 4 pm at 156 High St., Portland. 761-2543.

Creating Opportunity Through Change Women's group meets Thursdays evenings from 6:30-8:30 at 854 Broadway, S. Portland. 767-1315.

Enriched Golden Age Center 297 Cumberland Ave., Portland, invites seniors to daily luncheon, beano and line dancing too. Dec 14 features a guitar recital with Bruce Holley and students. 774-6974.

F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS-Transform Education, a project by ACT UP/Portland whose purpose is to fight HIV, AIDS and homophobia in all Maine public schools; to form empowering groups for teens and queers and to create a context in which pro-teen, pro-queer groups are able to exist and proliferate in Maine. All welcome. Meets the first and third Fridays of each month at 5:30 pm at the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland. Wheelchair accessible. For more information write ACT UP/Portland, PO Box 1931, Portland, 04104 or call/fax 828-0566.

Fight Discrimination The Maine Civil Liberties Union is interested in hearing from any Portland resident who feels that she or he has been illegally discriminated against in housing, employment or credit on the basis of sexual orientation. 774-5444.

Free Meditations Sundays at 6 pm at The Yoga Center, 137 Preble St., Portland. 799-4449.

Friends of Feral Felines A group helping stray cats needs volunteers and homes for orphan kittens. 772-3484.

Gene Tracers The Greater Portland Chapter of the Maine Genealogical Society meets the first Sat of the month at the Cape Elizabeth Fire Station at 1 pm. Anyone interested in investigating their roots is welcome. 883-2546.

Home Hair-Care The Visiting Nurse Service of Southern Maine is offering shampoos, haircuts and permanents to men and women who are confined to their homes. Cost for a simple shampoo/cut is \$20. 284-4566 or 1-800-660-4867.

Improve Your Public Speaking Woodford's Toastmasters Club of Portland meets every Thurs at 7:30 pm at the West Falmouth Baptist Church, 18 Mountain Road, to work on public speaking and leadership skills. 797-4915.

Irish American Club Christmas Dance Featuring Noel Henry's Irish Show Band, Fri, Dec 9 at 8 pm. Cost: \$12. For information: 854-4737.

Leads Club The Leads Club offers professional businesswomen an opportunity to meet weekly and network. 1-800-447-9356.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus is a volunteer community chorus bringing men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative musical entertainment. 839-4506.

The Maine Mineralogical & Geological Society meets the last Fri of each month at 7 pm in Room 41, Payson Smith Hall, USM Portland campus. 283-4778.

Maine Tradeswomen Network Providing education and mentoring for the promotion of women in all trades meets Dec 11 from 5-8 pm at 110 Exchange St., Portland. 797-4801.

Men's Drumming Group "Thor's Night," an ongoing male forum structured around percussion, with instruments provided. Thursdays 7-8:30 pm, Collective Works, 61 India St., Portland. 871-0273.

Musicians and Entertainers Needed Community Entertainment Agency (CEA) seeks volunteer performers of all kinds to play regularly or occasionally for a range of appreciative audiences. Call 871-1214.

Music Swaps Portland Folk Club invites you to share a song or a story in a supportive atmosphere every first and third Tues at 7:30 pm at Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave. Cost: \$1 donation. 773-9549.

Names Project/AIDS Memorial Quilt holds a panel-making workshop the first and third Sun of each month. 871-1641.

Open Jam for singers, instrumentalists and drummers happens every third Sun of the month from 12-3 pm at the Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave., Portland. 772-8277.

Papermaking Workshop A variety of workshops in papermaking and printing with colored fibers available at varying costs with artist Richard Lee through Dec 10. 721-0678.

Pet Pictures with Santa Dec 10-11 from 10 am-3 pm at Pet Partners, Payne Rd., Scarborough. 934-1963.

Portland Symphony Orchestra Women's Committee hosts daily talks, demonstrations and activities associated with the home at the Woodlands, 39 Woods Road, Falmouth. 846-5096 or 846-3985.

Puppy Raisers Wanted The New England Assistance Dog Service seeks puppy raisers to open their homes to foster puppies in the assistance program. The organization trains and provides dogs to physically disabled people. 934-1963.

Senior Volunteer Program The Retired Senior Volunteer Program has opportunities for people over 55 to assist in the community, currently seeking holiday help. 775-6503.

"Seasons of Light" Southworth Planetarium features a holiday show with an astronomical tour of world traditions. Dec 9-11 — Fri and Sat 7 pm and 8:30 pm, Sat 3 pm, Sun 2 pm and 3:30 pm. 96 Falmouth St., Portland. 780-4249.

Social Justice group seeks people who have utilized General Assistance. Write: Hospitality House, Inc., PO Box 62, Hinkley, ME 04944. 1-800-438-3890.

Soul Salon A group in Portland for people interested in stimulating conversation about issues and ideas from a progressive or liberal viewpoint to address the soul's need for community, meaning and fun is now forming. Call 283-1936.

Suffi Meditation Join the Portland Suffi Order for meditation sessions. Mon at 7:30 pm. Sessions ongoing and open to all, no experience necessary. Donations accepted. Sessions at Expressive Therapy Center, 150 St. John St., Portland. 774-1203.

Yarmouth Radio Club meets the third Sunday of the month at 1 pm at the Yarmouth Community House, East Main Street, Yarmouth. 846-1723.

Zen Buddhist Meditation Group Public sitting meditation meets from 10 am-11 am every Sunday. There are extended sittings on the first and last Sundays of each month. The Casco Bay Zen Group welcomes all. Small donation. 839-4897. **CW**

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apts/rent

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SHOP FOR YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS! 1994 Common Ground Fair T-Shirts and other items. Write or call for order form: MOFGA, P.O. Box 2176, Augusta, Maine, 04338. (207) 622-3118.

SNOWBOARD: Never-used Jim Hendrix JOY-RIDE, 62, windings. \$350/B.O. 767-7112.

TUCKER'S USED FURNITURE: 235 Congress St. Buying/Selling used furniture in good condition. Bureaus, tables & chairs, dressers, couches and bedroom sets. Also some used appliances, antiques, housewares. Call 761-0193 or 878-3062.

CHEVY CAVALIER, 1986: Approximately 85K brand new battery, new filters, recently purchased tires. Sleeting handles nicely. \$1,200/B.O. Call 828-5415.

CHEVY CITATION, 1985: Automatic, 4-door, air conditioning, 90K, silver, AM/FM, \$1,199. 883-1555.

CHEVY NUNNA 1978: Needs fuel pump. Great looking running car. Red w/white. \$900/B.O. 874-7986.

CHRYSLER LEBARON, 1985: Looks good and has been very trouble-free, but it does need a motor. Hoping not to put it out to pasture. \$400/B.O. Call 828-5415.

CORVETTE 1982-63K: Tilt wheel, cruise, 1-top, 350 automatic. \$7,000/B.O. Call 854-1389. leave message.

ELECTRIC CAR: Nissan Sentra. Brand-new Trojan 145 battery pack. \$6,700. Serious inquiries only. 283-9778.

FORD TAURUS WAGON 1988: Fully loaded, good condition, very clean. \$4,200. Call Jim 883-5801.

FORD TEMPO, 1989: Excellent condition. 42K, loaded, all wheel drive, automatic. \$4,500/B.O. 883-5233 after 5:00pm.

HONDA XR-100 1992: Great dirtbike for 10-14 yr. old. Excellent condition, regularly serviced. Bargain \$1,395. 883-1643.

ISUZU TROOPER 1986-4WD: 5-speed, cassette, A/C, 4dr, new tires. Good condition. 103K. \$3,600/B.O. 774-2391.

JEEP CHEROKEE, 1986: 5-speed, passed emissions, new sticker, great engine, 122,000 miles. \$3,150. 883-3622.

LINCOLN CONTINENTAL, 1986: Fully loaded, 137K. Must see to appreciate. \$3,500/B.O. Call 797-0283. leave message.

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1942 VINTAGE MOUNTAIN WOMAN-Smoker, where's a little thing up hills, bit of a belly, legs-two, good! Driv, looking to meet secure outdoorsman who reads, finds life mostly joyful and likes to dance. #3970 (12/21)

52, EYES OF BLUE-Seeker a man who believes in God, himself, and the basic goodness of humankind. Liberal-minded Christian woman, 35, N.S., L.D., 5'0, 5'0. Nurturing, joyful spirit, need to share! #4009 (12/28)

A LONGER AD WORKS WONDER! ON FAX FREE THURSDAYS you can have 45 words absolutely FREE! FAX# 775-1615.

A REAL SOUTHERN LADY! Pretty and energetic, 55 years young, DWF planning to move to Portland. It would be great to have a similar age Christian WM (who is also in search of a right person) willing to show me the area. We could correspond first! #4045 (1/4/95)

AN ATTRACTIVE SWF, blonde, blue eyes, pe-41, 105#, professional, understanding, communicative, N.S., downhill skiing, camping, loves to play and enjoy life in all the seasons. Seeking an attractive SWM with similar interests, between 35-45, N.S. #4044 (1/4/95)

ARE YOU MAN OR MYTH? Intelligent, attractive woman, 42, N.S., with a passion for life and the courage to live it fully, seeks counterpart. #4078 (1/1/95)

ARTIST LIKES SWIMMING, outdoor sports and some intellectual pursuits. Looking for caring, well-rounded guy with family values and an adventurous side. #3975 (12/21)

ATTRACTIVE LADY OF FINE CHARACTER, 50, seeks male for lasting relationship. I am young, acting, warm-hearted and enjoy life. A lover of dancing, theatre, working, dining and travel. Need someone to share this with. #1100 (1/1/95)

BE A STOCKING STUFFER for our mid-coast island boss and friend. DWF, N.S., blonde, 37, successful business owner, mom of NBA hope and home cooking...by you. #4072 (1/1/95)

BEAUTY AND BRAINS-DWF, 40, 5'4", weight proportionate, B/B, enjoy tennis, biking, camping, fishing. Professional with skills and energy. Looking for man to move, dinner, etc. #3983 (12/21)

BLONDE, BLUE EYES, with a wicked good personality, DWF, 36, seeks companion, friend, N.S., N.D., for sharing all the good things in Maine. Personality a plus! #3976 (12/21)

CURIOUS, PHILOSOPHICAL, silly, 34 yr old woman, likes to read, write, dance, swim, travel. Seeking an accomplice for random, drive-by poetry readings and other creative fun. Personal Advertiser #529, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104. #4075 (1/1/95)

DATING IS LIKE A COURSE IN MIRACLES-Young, 44, SWF, Mom, M.E., loves dance, hiking, outdoors and family values. Must be healthy, educated, 38-48, 5'9", #3974 (12/21)

DINING, DANCING, MOVIES & ROMANCE-SWF, 34, 5'9", seeks SWM, 29-40, who enjoys quiet evenings, taking walks, and who will accept me for who I am. #3973 (12/21)

NO HEADACHES-Don't get 'em, don't give 'em! 50, holistic, spiritual, sexy, social, vegetarian, backpacker. I prefer Bethoven, LaTou, London. You are real, caring, honest. #4074 (1/1/95)

DOES MY EQUAL EXIST? HE'S intelligent, honest, attractive, romantic, spiritual, passionate and kind. He loves the ocean, sailing, travel, skiing, exploring, taking, laughing. I'm 5'5", Br/Hr, Close? #4077 (1/1/95)

DWF SOON TO BE 40-Active, intelligent, committed to goals, enjoys walking, movies, romantic dinners and travel. Looking for sincere, responsible man who enjoys life! #4041 (1/4/95)

DWF-PC-ENFP-HUH? Please be knowledgeable and passionate about one or more of the following: Music, art, politics, economics. Be 40-50, physically and socially active. I'm expanding my mind and want to explore new intellectual territory before I think about other things! #4068 (1/4/95)

FEISTY, OPINIONATED MAJORITY-Unique ability to speak first and think later, work hard on husband. Hoping to lure new friend. Me: 33yo, professional, fit, fun-loving, too cheap to call 900 numbers. You: Reasonably fit, interesting, can afford 900 number, good debater. Call to learn more. #4069 (1/2/95)

FIRE AND WATER TO SHARE-Bright, sensitive, passionate D.F., 50, seeks relationship with a man who is willing to openly and honestly negotiate the sharing of power and the exchange of nurturance and romance. #4030 (12/28)

FRIENDSHIP FIRST-DWF, 39, loving, honest, sincere, financially, emotionally secure professional woman. Seeking a similar, compassionate, romantic man to share life's experiences and winter travel. #4039 (1/4/95)

I DARE U- I want it all! Good, bad, indifferent. DW men seeks adventurous, passionate, sports-minded, humorous WM to live the day to day adventures we can make together. #4043 (1/4/95)

I LOVE TO LAUGH... DO YOU? 30-ish single Mom, N.S., secure, professional, attractive, inside and out, enjoys dining, movies, theater and good conversation. Similar interests. #35977 #3971 (12/21)

I WANT GRANDCHILDREN! My granddaughter needs a man, one who doesn't smoke, or drink too much, and isn't a bum. She's pretty, smart, tall, 20s, has a good job and she's always busy, but makes time for me. She needs a good man for the holidays and her life. #4076 (1/1/95)

LET'S PARTY ON WEEKENDS! College, work, and party-minded. Enjoy local bands? Like Tripe, Rotors to Rust, and Roots. Call if you're alternative and enjoy local action. I smoke! #3972 (12/21)

LIFEGUARD WANTED- Help, I'm drowning! Save this attractive, slim SWF from drowning in the bar scene and all the games that go with it. Flexible hours- Good benefits. Requirements: Age 25-35, romantic, witty, fit, enjoy music, dancing and movies. CPR a must! #4010 (12/28)

LOOKING FOR A NICE GU- Me: Tall, N.S. SWF, Likes: dinner, dancing, sports, beach, interesting conversation. Seeking tall SWM, 26-30 with similar interests. #3985 (12/21)

NO HEADACHES-Don't get 'em, don't give 'em! 50, holistic, spiritual, sexy, social, vegetarian, backpacker. I prefer Bethoven, LaTou, London. You are real, caring, honest. #4074 (1/1/95)

NOTHING HAPPENS IN LIFE unless we put out some effort. That's why I'm once again putting in an ad, looking for a good, decent guy. I know you're out there and I look forward to meeting you. I'm an attractive, young-looking, happy SWF, 31, with a warm heart and a kind, caring, understanding personality. Like running, walking, dancing, theatre, movies and the ocean. Looking for a good guy, 30-36, I seek friendship first, with future goals for a relationship. #4073 (1/1/95)

SMALL, WHITE FEMALE seeks gentleman, 50+, for companionship, dining, trips. Very flexible. Possibly strong relationship. Likes CAW music, outdoors, old movies, dancing, and very romantic. Personal Advertiser #514, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104. #4027 (12/28)

A ONE WOMAN MAN-I'm 37, 5'9", seeking understanding SWF to start family, 30-40, who likes talking, walking, playing pool, movies. 4 N.S., N.D. #4051 (1/4/95)

A PATH OF AN OPEN HEART a man to follow and you to share. How much do you want to feel? Mature, compassionate, professional, SWM (why else would he be here?), 43, looking for that special woman who cares about herself, inside and out. #4022 (12/28)

AT ALL, DARK 'N' HANDSOME SWM, youthful 44, fit, N.S., affectionate with a sense of humor, dependable, honest and thoughtful. My forte: Skiing, sailing, watersports, cooking, gardening. Seeking very attractive, fit SWF, 25-44, who can't wait to share her time and space. #4050 (1/4/95)

ACCOMPLISHED, DISCIPLINED CRAFTSMAN, 6'1", B/B, slim, slightly warped sense of humor, seeks creative, twisted, focused, attractive woman, 24-32, with class. #4023 (12/21)

ALONE IN MAINE-DWF, 26, tall, dark and handsome, U.S., L.D., secure and honest, looking for lifemate, friendship first. Age/race unimportant, honesty is. Children welcome. #4080 (1/1/95)

ALPHABET SOUP- Abode, browse, coffee, dawn, errands, fog, gusto, harbor, informal, jogging, hiking, movies, no easterns, office, promenade, quips, restaurant, snowflakes, tunes, urban, visits, X-Fits, yawn, zzz. SWM, 35, N.D., seeks some n'w ingredients for the soup. #3981 (12/21)

ALRIGHT, I'M BEGGING-Nice guy looking for nice girl. Good-looking WWJM, 52, looks and ac. #3979 (12/21)

SPARKLING EYES, DYNAMIC HEART OF SWF, 42, awaits tall, rugged SWM, 38-48, with strength of character, personality, heart of gold for possible long-term, monogamous relationship. We're honest, witty, optimistic, ambitious, communicative, compassionate, outgoing. Call soon before the snow flies... Birri Portland south. #3977 (12/21)

SPARKLING, CURIOUS EYES and long, bouncy hair along with an easy-going view on life makes this tall, slender athletic person adventurous and spontaneous. N.S., 40-48. #4028 (12/28)

SWF, 35, Br/Hr, medium-large build, Cancer, enjoy dancing, dining, movies. Seeking SWM, 28-38, Taurus, Virgo or Pisces, 28-40, for friendship, possible relationship. #4070 (1/1/95)

VERY ATHLETIC, VERY ATTRACTIVE, and very outgoing 34yo. SWF. Looking for a very attractive, rugged, fit man, 28-38, 5'10" or taller, who loves to stay active (biking, hiking, skiing, rollerblading, etc.) #4071 (1/1/95)

SEARCH REOPENED-Do you qualify? Divorced mother of two, 30s, U.S., L.D., skier, 5'5", camper, cook, funny, responsible, seeks dynamic, open-minded DWF with kids. Previous experience with family, passion and last paced environment a plus. #4042 (1/4/95)

SEEKING MR. WONDERFUL SWF, 22, who just wants to be appreciated. Let's love, learn, and laugh together. Friendship definitely, relationship optional. #4073 (1/1/95)

men • women

#1 PURSUENT, VIRILE MALE with trust fund and credit cards, 34, seeks fecund nymph for major AFDC fraud. #4020 (12/28)

A ONE WOMAN MAN-I'm 37, 5'9", seeking understanding SWF to start family, 30-40, who likes talking, walking, playing pool, movies. 4 N.S., N.D. #4051 (1/4/95)

A PATH OF AN OPEN HEART a man to follow and you to share. How much do you want to feel? Mature, compassionate, professional, SWM (why else would he be here?), 43, looking for that special woman who cares about herself, inside and out. #4022 (12/28)

AT ALL, DARK 'N' HANDSOME SWM, youthful 44, fit, N.S., affectionate with a sense of humor, dependable, honest and thoughtful. My forte: Skiing, sailing, watersports, cooking, gardening. Seeking very attractive, fit SWF, 25-44, who can't wait to share her time and space. #4050 (1/4/95)

ACCOMPLISHED, DISCIPLINED CRAFTSMAN, 6'1", B/B, slim, slightly warped sense of humor, seeks creative, twisted, focused, attractive woman, 24-32, with class. #4023 (12/21)

ALONE IN MAINE-DWF, 26, tall, dark and handsome, U.S., L.D., secure and honest, looking for lifemate, friendship first. Age/race unimportant, honesty is. Children welcome. #4080 (1/1/95)

ALPHABET SOUP- Abode, browse, coffee, dawn, errands, fog, gusto, harbor, informal, jogging, hiking, movies, no easterns, office, promenade, quips, restaurant, snowflakes, tunes, urban, visits, X-Fits, yawn, zzz. SWM, 35, N.D., seeks some n'w ingredients for the soup. #3981 (12/21)

ALRIGHT, I'M BEGGING-Nice guy looking for nice girl. Good-looking WWJM, 52, looks and ac. #3979 (12/21)

SPARKLING EYES, DYNAMIC HEART OF SWF, 42, awaits tall, rugged SWM, 38-48, with strength of character, personality, heart of gold for possible long-term, monogamous relationship. We're honest, witty, optimistic, ambitious, communicative, compassionate, outgoing. Call soon before the snow flies... Birri Portland south. #3977 (12/21)

SPARKLING, CURIOUS EYES and long, bouncy hair along with an easy-going view on life makes this tall, slender athletic person adventurous and spontaneous. N.S., 40-48. #4028 (12/28)

SWF, 35, Br/Hr, medium-large build, Cancer, enjoy dancing, dining, movies. Seeking SWM, 28-38, Taurus, Virgo or Pisces, 28-40, for friendship, possible relationship. #4070 (1/1/95)

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SEEKING MR. WONDERFUL SWF, 22, who just wants to be appreciated. Let's love, learn, and laugh together. Friendship definitely, relationship optional. #4073 (1/1/95)

Classifieds: 775-1234

FREE FOUR-WEEK PERSONAL AD WITH PERSONAL CALL®

How to place your FREE personal ad with Personal Call®:

• Fill out the coupon and mail it to: Personals, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104; or FAX to 207-775-1615. (If faxing please photocopy first) Please check appropriate category. Call 775-1234 to place ad over the phone.

• First 25 words are FREE with Personal Call®, (45 words if FAXED on Thursday), additional words are 50¢ each. All ads run 4 weeks. Others, Companions, & Lost Souls are \$25/first 25 words for a two week ad. Ads without Personal Call® are \$1 per word plus \$10 mail forwarding or P.O. Box charges.

• Put your personal message on line as soon as you receive your easy instructions. You may not retrieve responses without it!

• Retrieve responses to your ad any time, 24 hours a day, through your own FREE 800#. It's safe, confidential, and FUN!

How to respond to a personal ad:

• Read the ads. Circle your favorites.
• Call 1-900-370-2041 from a touch-tone phone.
• Following the voice prompts, punch in the 4-digit # of the ad you wish to respond to, or you may browse a specific category. The date following an ad is the last date you can reply to the ad.
• Calls cost \$1.99 per minute. You must be over 18 yrs. old.
• Ads with a three-digit Personal Advertiser # can be contacted through the mail by writing to: Personal Advertiser # _ _ _ P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104.

25-Character Headline: includes spaces, be creative!

Your Ad: first 25-words FREE with Personal Call®

phone: _____

name: _____

address: _____

city: _____

state: _____

zip: _____

First 25 words & headline with Personal Call®: FREE

add'l words @ 50¢ each:

Without Personal Call® all words @ \$1 each:

CBW Box or P.O. Box (add \$10):

Total:

YES, place my FREE Personal Ad in the Maine Times also!

Category/Rates:

Free Personal Ads are available for single people seeking relationships. Others, Companions and Lost Souls require payment. Ads seeking to buy or sell sexual services will be refused. No full names, street addresses or phone numbers will be published. Ads containing explicit sexual or anatomical language will not be published. We reserve the right to edit, refuse or re-categorize any ad. Advertisers must be over 18 years of age.

FREE 4-WEEK ADS

2 week ads

others

companions

lost souls

Confidential information: (We cannot print your ad without it.)

phone: _____

name: _____

address: _____

city: _____

state: _____

zip: _____

First 25 words & headline with Personal Call®: FREE

add'l words @ 50¢ each:

Without Personal Call® all words @ \$1 each:

CBW Box or P.O. Box (add \$10):

Total:

YES, place my FREE Personal Ad in the Maine Times also!

Category/Rates:

Free Personal Ads are available for single people seeking relationships. Others, Companions and Lost Souls require payment. Ads seeking to buy or sell sexual services will be refused. No full names, street addresses or phone numbers will be published. Ads containing explicit sexual or anatomical language will not be published. We reserve the right to edit, refuse or re-categorize any ad. Advertisers must be over 18 years of age.

FREE 4-WEEK ADS

2 week ads

others

companions

lost souls

TO RESPOND TO ANY PERSONAL AD, CALL 1-900-370-2041 (\$1.99 per minute, must be 18+, T-Tone Phone)

men • women

INTROSPECTIVE EXTROVERT SWM, 23, sensitive, handsome and a bit shy. Enjoy hiking, X-C skiing, swimming and good conversations over a cup of coffee. Seeks a beautiful person with a strong sense of herself. #3978 (12/21)

JEWEL IN THE LOTUS-Spirited M, 45, seeks slim, dynamic lady, 35-42, to dance to the rhythms of the wind, share outdoor adventures, spiritual growth and intimacy. Camden area. #4063 (1/4/95)

LAST OF THE NICE GUYS-SW, 55, tall, fit, Teddy Bear seeks an intelligent, 40-50, N.S. female of passion and humor. Not looking for the perfect woman, just the right one. #4016 (12/28)

LET IT SNOW! Carabasset Valley, Carriage Trails at Acadia, Bretton Woods, Jackson, N.H. Swk Salmon: Fischer, Excel, Classical, Freestyle. You: 27-35, healthy, attractive, familiar with some of the above. #087 (1/1/95)

LOOKING FOR COMPANIONSHIP which may lead to marriage with a lovely lady. Interests include TV, travel, football, jeopardy and animals. #3916 (12/21)

MID-LIFE CRISIS SURVIVOR lives friend to share conversation and fun. Smart, funny, athletic DWF loves music, wild places, movies, ocean, and adventure. Are you interesting and attractive, between 30-40yrs? #3981 (12/21)

DUDE LOOKING FOR A CHICK- SWM in mid-20s, looking for someone to hang out with. Loves music, especially cool music. Also appreciates finer things in life (whatever those are). Love to find someone who digs, heavy music (like 24-75yr). #4084 (1/1/95)

EX-TEACHER, EX-ACCOUNTANT, now writer! Looking for DWF, 50s, seeks honest, sweet, sexy woman with reasonably tidy life. Likes music, people, laughter, beauty, books and romance. #3992 (12/21)

HALF CRAZY COUNTRY BOY, easy-going, Griz Adams-type, 42, looks 30, 5'10", 170#, woman man seeks SWF, 25-40, honest, playful, who needs lots of tender-loving care. #4053 (1/4/95)

HANDSOME SWM, 29, 6'2", 190#, enjoy outdoor activities (hiking, biking, playing, etc.). Value open and honest communication, sense of humor, good looks and healthy appetites. #4017 (12/28)

NEED DATE FOR NEW YEAR'S PORTLAND-Straight SWM seeks fun, easygoing woman who can keep up the pace, over 28, who can bring in the New Year with a bang. No drugs or heavy booze. Kids, Camels, koalas and dogs (who behave) are welcome to Portland's biggest party with me. #40, Scorpio, fit, sensual humor. You: Just be yourself. Picture optional. Personal Advertiser #530, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104. #4082 (1/1/95)

NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK-Not just looking for a special person. Me: Professional, handsome and caring person. Lots to give. You: Attractive, professional who likes jeans to gowns, 30-35. #4048 (1/4/95)

NO STRINGS ATTACHED-SWM, 26, intelligent, afraid of commitment and singles bars. Enjoy eating out, movies, coffee, and indoor sports. You are attractive, not easily aggravated. #3982 (12/21)

NORTHERN EXPOSURE TYPE- Looking for a Maggie O'Connell type, although I'm not Joel Fleischman, 27, vegetarian, writer/poet, spiritual, self-reliant, educated. Enjoy outdoors, fitness, reading, self-improvement, imagination, relationships. #4013 (12/28)

ON WALTON'S MOUNTAIN LOST- Can you find me? I am skiing downhill and enjoy the holidays with family. SWM, 5'11", 175#, blond. Need good-looking, slim SWF, fireplace, wine. #4047 (1/1/95)

ROK HOPR SEKS STUMP JMRP- Being a 27yo, a SWM is a blast! However, I often wish I could share my adventures with someone special. Spontaneous, guy, genuine, financially, emotionally and physically fit. Seeking a partner who enjoys raw, water, cozy times, backcountry single tracks, skinny skis and knobby tires. There's more! Call me! Personal Advertiser #508, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104. #4053 (12/21)

SEEKING S/OAF or S/OHF by a slim SWM, 27, who is a N.S. light drinker and drug-free. I'm also a mild-mannered, non-macho and well-travelled individual. You: Slim, Asian or Latina, 27-32, who is active, interesting and without children. #3986 (12/21)

SINCERE, SUBMISSIVE MALE, 42, seeking true demanding domina for long-term relationship and commitment. I am willing, able, and eager to please and pamper you. #4012 (12/28)

SINGLE DAD RAISING TWO for several years and appreciate mothers doing the same! Enjoy walks, hikes, camping, gardens, exploring Maine, busy and quiet times at home and even times without kids! Open, honest, fit, N.S., seeking same in SWF. I'm still sane, but why are we doing this alone? Personal Advertiser #517, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104. #4031 (12/28)

THIRTY? RENAISSANCE MAN, not nouveau new age, DWF, tall, sensitive, seeks stylish, intellectually, physically, spiritually dynamic woman, 28-40, for mutual illumination. #3966 (1/1/95)

TRED OF ALL THE GAMES? Tall SWM, 24, financially and emotionally secure, searching for the real thing. If you want substance with plenty of fun please let me know. #4019 (12/28)

TO LIVE IS TO EXPLORE- To explore is to live. I'm 38, tall, B/B, med. build, looking for that someone that can be dominant yet submissive at times. Together we can explore our curiosity and uniqueness. Let us redefine terms. Let us bring out new or neglected aspects of our lives. Take the first step, you need only open the door. #4083 (1/1/95)

TRAVELED, EDUCATED, SUCCESSFUL business owner, SWM, N.S., 5'11", 175#, 48, told I'm good-looking and younger looking. 5'10", 155#, Br/Hr. I enjoy good dining, plays, walks and trying various new adventures. I'm a romantic, affectionate, open-minded, caring, responsible, young at heart gentleman. #4015 (12/28)

TRIM, WHITE MALE, 60s, seeking adventure with friendly female, 50+, possibly life's partner. Willing to relocate to warmer climate in Dec. #4018 (12/28)

UNCONVENTIONAL WM, 45, separated, Gemini, 5'10", thin, vegetarian, spiritual, smart, very independent thinker, sensitive, intense, irreverent, loving, informal, honest, dislikes rules. Into personal growth, music (and jazz to Mozart), movies, arts, cooking, nature, ice cream. Seeks artistic, passionate, kind, free spirit for companionship, adventure, possible romance. #4021 (12/28)

WANTED- BLUE JEAN GIRL- Are you a S/DWF, 25-35, slim size, healthy, stable, sensitive, sincere, and a sweetheart? Adventurous, blue jean girl-next-door-type? Enjoy coastal region, good music, and a good cause? Then this SWM, early 40s, 5'8", 175#, Br/Hr, is looking for "just you". #4089 (1/1/95)

WANTED- DOG TAMER for never-tamed wild, 33, energetic, free spirited, secure. Seeks petite, 25-45, upbeat, honest, lovable tamer. Let's play Frisbee! #4079 (1/1/95)

WE'RE ALL MAD HERE! Going mad in a world of madness. ADHD male, 19, seeks mad, lunatic, 19-24. Come, join the dance! #4081 (1/1/95)

MR. EXCITEMENT- Handsome (once the wrinkle cream works). I've bored women for three continents. Please hurry, you may be saving some other poor woman's life! #4014 (12/28)

MY FRIENDS TELL ME I NEED to get out before I start taking to myself... so here it is... U.S. WM, 35, taller, attractive, strong, quiet. I need to get out. Help! #4086 (1/1/95)

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THE FIRST GIFT

A symbolic gift of the first gift given to the Christ child. A beautiful glass vase filled with unique holiday flowers topped off with a custom blend of Frankincense and Myrrh.

49.95



CHRISTMAS IN MAINE

Celebrate the pleasures of nature with a beautiful birch basket filled with holiday flowers and native Maine greens.

39.99



Give A Natural Gift For Christmas

All Major
Credit Cards
Accepted on
Phone
Orders

DOUBLE CANDLE BOUQUET

A pedestal centerpiece with two red taper candles would surely brighten any holiday setting. Traditional holiday greens and flowers abound.

39.95



SINGLE CANDLE BOUQUET

Light up a holiday setting with this beautiful centerpiece. A single red taper shines over this celebration of the season.

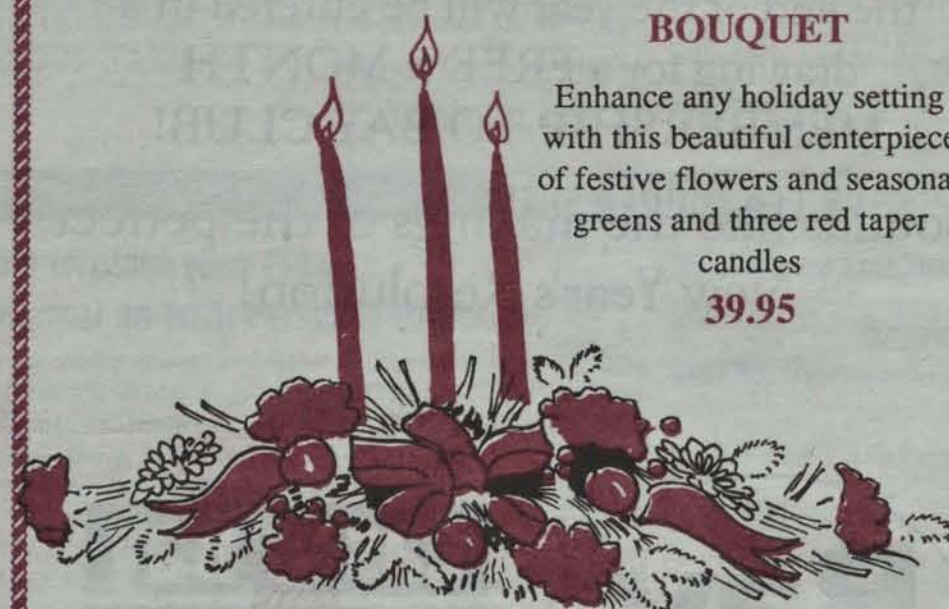
24.95



CANDLELIGHT BOUQUET

Enhance any holiday setting with this beautiful centerpiece of festive flowers and seasonal greens and three red taper candles

39.95



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE GLOBE

All the rich beauty and fragrances of the holiday season in this Christmas centerpiece. Fresh evergreens, pine cones and festive holiday flowers are beautifully designed around an elegant glass globe and red taper candle.

39.95



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