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7 DECEMBER 2000

Casco Bay Weekly

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GREATER PORTLAND'S WEEKLY JOURNAL OF NEWS, ARTS AND OPINION

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Class action



An innovative program at the University of Southern Maine is attempting to help immigrants become teachers. But it faces tough obstacles, including a lack of funding.

Mary Lou Wendell's story begins on page 10

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SUCKS
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TALK

A CONVERSATION WITH

KAREN STIMPSON



"This last year ... there apparently was a preponderance of nakedness on the islands."

Portland native Karen Stimpson has been the executive director of the Maine Island Trail Association for the past three years. Prior to that, she was a trailworker for the group. With the help of volunteers, the association manages recreational use on land scattered over 80 public and private islands.

While growing up, did you have much time to enjoy Maine's islands?

I actually grew up summers on Sebago Lake, so I spent most of my time on the lake and didn't really get to the ocean until high school age, when I went to work in Boothbay and discovered there was a much bigger lake out there to go exploring on.

Why did you go to work for the Maine Island Trail Association?

A good deal of the work I am doing now came from growing up on Sebago because we had a camp on a wilderness cove with no other houses around, and I spent all my time in that cove that was teeming with wildlife. It was very pristine and beautiful. And in the course of my 18 years on

the lake that cove went from a wild, pristine cove to wall-to-wall cottages. The two things that I took away from that, that I think probably fundamentally shaped my attitude about the environment forever, was that it was important to me to have access to wild places ... and also, it was important to protect the wild places.

Do you get out on the islands much?

I do get out to the islands a lot On my free time I get on a boat and go. And while I like being out on the open water, particularly on the open ocean and offshore, it's really getting off the boat and sitting on a beautiful island that makes me glad to be alive in the state of Maine.

What is the most unusual thing you have seen out on the islands?

Folks go to the islands for various reasons. Some people go to be completely alone, and they scowl at you when they see you coming because you are an intrusion to their privacy. Some people go deliberately to populated islands because it is a social thing. But the most interesting one to me is the party crowd who go to the islands because they

are lawless places. They are outside the reach of the local police or their neighbors. So they can go, kick up their heels and have a big, noisy party and do things you don't get away with on the mainland. And that's always interesting to witness ... to go and see generators, a rock band playing, fluorescent lights hung in the trees, endless supplies of liquor and people getting completely trashed out. There were a lot of sightings of skinny-dippers and people just hanging out at their camp sites without their clothes on. I always find that a bit jarring.

How healthy are Maine's islands?

I think compared to other places in the country, we have still the crown jewels, our islands are still beautiful. Pristine isn't the right word anymore, because they have received — even the islands that are hardly visited — some impact. I think what is more heartening and remarkable is with increasing numbers of people going ... they really are embracing low-impact and leave no trace and being very respectful of the environment.

Interview by Greg Williams; photo by Joseph Dupont.



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Get the money up

The Maine Clean Election Act is hardly the biggest failure in this state's recent political history. It doesn't compare to such massive flops as Tom Connolly's 1998 run for governor, this year's gay rights referendum, the Republican Party's vain attempts to elect somebody — anybody — to the state House of Representatives or all events involving Jim Longley.

But those losers can find comfort in the knowledge their blunders were mostly paid for with private money. The failure of the Clean Election Act is more painful, because the bill for it gets handed to you and me.

The act, for those who haven't been paying attention to how their money is being squandered, provides qualified candidates for the Legislature with taxpayers' dollars to buy such essentials as buttons, brochures and beer for victory celebrations. Proponents have insisted this year's races demonstrated the idea of publicly funded campaigns is viable, citing the large number of Clean Election candidates, some of whom actually won.

But even after several celebratory brewskis on the public's tab, supporters of the act will, at most, concede only that the legislation might need some minor adjustments to correct trivial flaws in the process.

Unfortunately, those imperfections seem to have resulted in the law delivering exactly none of the benefits its supporters once promised.

In 1996, when public funding was on the ballot, Maine Voters for Clean Elections put out a question-and-answer sheet explaining what the proposal would do. "The Maine Clean Elections [sic] Act takes big money out of Maine politics," the handout read, "by limiting what politicians spend on campaigns, reducing what special interests can give to politicians seeking election, and toughening up on the enforcement of our election laws."

For those keeping count, the score, in terms of promises kept, is 0 for 3. Let's start with reducing spending on elections. When the final total for legislative campaigns is tallied in December, it may, at first glance, appear to be smaller than in 1998. This is what's known in politics by the technical term "complete freakin' bull poop."

While it's true many Clean Election candidates shelled out less than the average cost of a campaign in '98, the real spending on legislative races was done by political action committees. Maine Unlimited, a PAC organized to elect Republicans to the state Senate, spent almost \$121,000 on targeted mailings in the final week of the campaign. Other groups spent at least \$100,000 on legislative races, but that only includes expenditures reported to the state ethics commission.

PACs producing so-called "issue advertising" don't have to report to the commission because such ads are not covered by the act. Courts have ruled that issue ads — defined as any political message that doesn't expressly call for the election or defeat of a candidate — are protected free speech. So it's permissible to send out a mailing claiming Rep. Wally Weaslestrail favors punishing puppies that pee on the floor by electrocuting them, while his opponent, Cassandra Cuddlypoo, thinks little baby dogs are so cutie-wootie-patootie that she just has to give them big huggies and kisses.

Exactly how much of this kind of character assassination (if we were Cassandra Cuddlypoo, we'd sue) went on during the last election is unclear, but PACs controlled by the Democratic and Republican parties had a combined total of nearly a million bucks to spend, with a significant chunk of that going to legislative races. Independent groups added tens of thousand more dollars, while PACs run by candidates for legislative leadership posts may have contributed as much as \$50,000. When that cash is added to what the candidates spent, it's likely total spending on House and Senate campaigns set a record in 2000.

That brings us to the Clean Election Act's second broken promise: reducing the influence of special interests.

Most of the money those PACs spent came from nasty special interests: bankers, hospitals, insurance companies, the tobacco industry and the makers of electrical devices for shocking puppies. Virtually every candidate for legislative leadership, from Senate GOP leader Rick Bennett to Democratic House Speaker Mike Saxl (both of them, incidentally, Clean Election candidates), had his or her own PAC expressly designed to extract money from special interests.

When those figures are totaled, it's probable the amount donated by lobbyists and other vermin will exceed 1998 levels.

Finally, there's the promise of Clean Election supporters to tighten up campaign laws. As demonstrated above, the only thing that got tight in this year's election was the crowd drinking all that beer paid for with public money.

Bottoms up.

Loosen up and let me know what you think by e-mailing ishmaelia@wi.net. Or write CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 and untie one on.



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ven big losers gotta eat. And in Loren Bailey's case, big losers gotta eat big. Bailey, a Democratic state Senate candidate for the district covering Falmouth and the Deering section of Portland, scarfed down plenty in the process of losing by a landslide to Republican incumbent Joel Abramson. And Bailey did it on our tab. According to his campaign finance report, Bailey, who was unemployed, spent over \$2,000 on meals "with volunteers" at, among others, Aubergine (\$330), DiMillo's (\$166), Katahdin (\$145) and the Village Cafe (\$111), all in Portland (although not in his district). Because Bailey was a Clean Election candidate, all those bills were paid with public money. At least, that's how Bailey figured it. Bill Hain, director of the state ethics commission figured differently, sending the candidate a letter informing him the fine dining seemed "inconsistent" with guidelines on proper use of taxpayer money. In addition to the restaurant spending, Hain also questioned \$218 Bailey spent on car repairs. Bailey told the *Falmouth Forecaster* newspaper the meals were legitimate, since he and his volunteers discussed campaign issues. He conceded the auto repairs may have been a little over the line and promised to refund any money spent in violation of the law.

If you haven't heard reporter **Mal Leary** covering the State House for Maine Public Radio lately, there's a good reason. Leary walked out on Dec. 4 in a dispute with the network over what he said was a promise to hire an additional editor. Leary has been covering state government since 1975, but now plans to look for other work. We understand Loren Bailey could use some public relations help.

Or maybe Leary could catch on with state Sen. **Anne Rand**. The Portland Democrat needs a new image after being twice rejected by her colleagues in late November in her bids for Senate president and floor leader. After serving as assistant majority leader, Rand now finds herself out of the loop. Insiders say her ouster was due in part to the Democrats' loss of key seats in the last election, but also to a leadership style one senator characterized as "sorta clumsy."

OpSail Maine 2000, the festival of tall ships that rendered the Portland waterfront unusable last summer, was a huge success, according to the final financial tally. It showed local taxpayers paid over \$210,000 to create gridlock on Commercial Street. That's about twice what the city budgeted for the event, and it certainly makes Loren Bailey's restaurant bills seem petty by comparison.

In spite of that red ink, the Portland City Council voted on Dec. 4 to buy **St. Dominic Church** on State Street from the Roman Catholic Diocese for \$50,000. The city plans to turn an adjacent building into housing and the main church, which needs a million bucks in repairs, into a restaurant catering to hungry Clean Election candidates.

— compiled by Al Diamond from news reports, interviews and stuff the wait staff told us

news-o-rama

CITY

City Hall can't fight Time Warner

Portland officials say there's little they can do about cable TV rates



ILLUSTRATION / PETER LEE FITZGERALD

ALLEN DAMMANN

With little public notification — and even less public input — Portland City Hall and Time Warner Cable of Maine have begun negotiating a renewal of the cable company's franchise, which expires in May 2003. Time Warner and municipal officials have been holding monthly meetings since September without attracting much attention from the subscribers who actually pay the monthly cable bill.

The new deal, which likely will grant Time Warner the exclusive right to offer cable services in Portland for the next decade, will be much the same whether the public gets its say or not. With Time Warner the only cable provider in town, and with virtually no hope of a competitor shelling out millions of dollars in start-up money to move into Portland, approval of the company's contract with the city may only be a matter of rubber-stamping.

But the lack of citizen participation worries at least one member of the Community Access Television (CATV) committee, a five-person body of city politicians and residents responsible for hashing out the agreement with Time Warner.

"[We need to] issue a statement to the general public," said Bruce McGorrell of Portland, a retired television executive. "We haven't had a public discussion."

The last time Time Warner's contract with the city came up for renewal was in 1986. When that agreement expired in 1995, the company utilized its option for an 8-year extension to string state-of-the-art fiber-optic cable lines in Portland, pushing back the next date for renegotiations to 2003.

Meanwhile, in 1996, the Federal Communications Commission enacted a law deregulating the cable industry, a move intended to generate competition and encourage fair pricing. However, as with many cities around the country, no new providers cropped up in Portland, and since the '96 law went into effect, all of Time Warner's cable packages have gotten more expensive. Though basic service has increased by only \$1.96 between 1996 and 2000, the "Bridge" service, a 60-channel package that is the most popular in Portland, has gone from \$23.93 to \$33.13 a month. A rate hike scheduled for January 2001 will bring it to \$34.78 a month. That's a 73 percent increase in cost since

1992, when the price was \$19.99. The price hikes occurred during a period of low inflation and high profits.

Kim Cannon, spokesperson for Time Warner, defends the company's pricing by pointing out the average annual increase for basic rates since 1996 has been only 3.4 percent. That's still well above the inflation rate. Cannon said the cost of the "Bridge" service is going up only 4.98 percent in 2001, which she said is far less than the expected 22 percent increase in Time Warner's expenses to maintain the package. The new price also includes the addition of FX and ESPN2 to the channel menu.

"Our costs have gone up considerably, but we've pledged to keep increases at 5 percent or below," Cannon said, "even though that means absorbing cost increase."

To McGorrell's mind, however, any increase merits attention.

"I hope [the CATV] committee can be very vocal about the rate increase," he said. "It should not be accepted without comment."

He argued the public should have been invited to discuss the price hike as soon as the committee learned of it in November, instead of waiting for subscribers to find out about it when a notice appears in year-end cable bills.

"The general public has the right to know the committee receives notice, and the public has the right to know the committee's reaction to it," he said.

It could be months, however, before such a reaction is available. Due to the complicated legal nature of hammering out a new contract with Time Warner, the CATV committee began meeting in September to allow its members plenty of time to educate themselves on the process. Except for the committee's chairwoman, Portland Mayor Cheryl Leeman, who has worked on previous agreements, all the representatives are new to the bargaining table.

Prior to the September get-together, the CATV committee had not convened for over a year.

"The committee will help frame out the city's position in regard to the franchising process," said Leeman. "The rest of the time, there isn't a lot for us to do."

The group has managed to take a few preparatory steps, among them initiating a search for a consultant wise to the laws, terminology and changing technology of the cable industry. Once a hired gun has been

located, the group will begin fashioning an agreement with Time Warner.

However, many terms of the contract — including a cap on rate hikes — are not up for discussion by the CATV committee.

"I think [the negotiations are really about] fine-tuning the details," said Cannon. "The FCC is so clear on what can and cannot happen. There isn't a whole lot of room for what's negotiable."

Leeman agreed. "It's amazing, but there isn't a lot of clout the committee has," she said. Still, she said, "There are certain things we can negotiate. For example, equipment. Who buys, who pays, who maintains. That will all be up for negotiation."

"The federal government removed the last vestiges of control of rates," said City Councilor Jay Hibbard, another member of the CATV committee. "We don't regulate the rates, we cannot comment on them, and in fact, there isn't anything we can do to stop it."

That includes refusing to renew Time Warner's franchise with the city as way of gaining leverage. The finances of the cable industry mean it would be too expensive for a competitor to either buy the existing lines or install its own — leaving Time Warner in the proverbial catbird seat.

"We don't really have a lot of choice on the renewal of the franchise," said Hibbard. "It's not a public system. We don't own the cable, we don't own the optic fiber. It's a private industry. If we were to say, 'No, they cannot have a renewal,' there would have to be a serious defect to cause that to happen."

With three CATV meetings behind him, McGorrell is concerned the committee's approach to the negotiations and the newest rate increase have been too lackadaisical.

"Maybe the committee is just calm about it," he said.

Whatever the outcome of the discussions, McGorrell wants the committee to start behaving more like a lion than a mouse.

"I hope the committee will voice its opinion one way or the other," he said.

VOTING RIGHTS

Registration roadblocks

College students in Maine find it hard to cast a ballot

When Jeffrey Vance, a senior at St. Joseph's College in Standish, tried to organize a campus voter registration drive in September, he soon realized it was, as he said, "an exercise in futility." He got information from the town clerk claiming a Maine driver's license was required to register to vote in Standish. And when Vance asked the clerk for registration cards for his drive, he was informed he needed to get them from the secretary of state's office in Augusta.

Vance eventually gave up trying to organize the voter registration drive and filed an absentee ballot in his hometown in Connecticut. He wasn't the only student who had trouble registering to vote in this election. Problems also arose in Brunswick, Gorham and Farmington over confusing standards for establishing residency.

State law allows municipal clerks wide latitude in determining whether a student is a resident. In some towns, students merely have to swear they live there. In others, evidence of a street address is sufficient. And some municipalities insist on a local driver's license. The result is unequal access for college students trying to register to vote where they attend school.

While no evidence has surfaced that any student was denied the right to cast a ballot, several said they were discouraged from doing so by local officials who told them to vote absentee or warned them that changing their legal residence could affect their student aid.

"The mood on St. Joe's campus is that this maneuver to keep students from voting is completely and utterly wrong," Vance said. "It is very important for young people to exercise their right to vote. I question the ethical integrity of anyone who is seeking to remove that right."

State law allows — but does not require — clerks to accept a wide range of evidence to determine legal residence, among them a simple oath; a local address; car registration; a piece of mail; a hunting, fishing or driver's license; and the receipt of a public benefit, such as welfare, that requires residency. Though any one of those factors could be sufficient, clerks can consider as many as they believe are necessary.

Vance thinks the law should not be left to local discretion. "I feel there should be a statewide standard," he said.

The state official in charge of elections, Deputy Secretary of State Julie Flynn, said

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

loose change

CBW's staff figures these figures figure to be important, either literally or figuratively.

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Portland Press Herald:

1999: 76,275

2000: 75,485

Bangor Daily News:

1999: 68,157

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Lewiston Sun Journal:

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Morning Sentinel:

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2000: 20,028

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1999: 15,281

2000: 14,809

Times Record:

1999: 11,569

2000: 11,233

Journal Tribune:

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2000: 9,270

"Mathematics," said James Joseph Sylvester, "is not a book confined within a cover and bound between brazen clasps, whose contents it needs only patience to ransack." In the event you've brazenly plundered any numbers, send them to this column at editor1@maine.cc.com or CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

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CITY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

VOTE TODAY

STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY

Me, no, we accepted a driver's license yesterday, you need to sing our national anthem... backwards

ILLUSTRATION / COREY PANDOLPH

that would be nearly impossible. "Unfortunately, it can't be black and white, because everyone's situations are different," Flynn said. "The only thing I can say is we try to apply the law in a non-discriminatory and even-handed manner."

Flynn said simply being a student should not work for or against a person. She said students, like anyone else, must show the "intent of establishing residency." That could be done by registering a car, getting a driver's license or paying rent. But not doing any of those things doesn't necessarily disqualify a student.

"A Maine driver's license is a great identifier, but [a municipal clerk] can't require that and only that," Flynn said.

In Standish, Town Clerk Mary Chapman required a Maine driver's license because "99 percent of the people have one," she said. Chapman made an exception for those registering on or just before election day, allowing them to vote if they brought in personal mail with a street address, such as a utility bill.

"What happens in September is a lot different than on election day," she said, "because people have the opportunity to establish residency."

She said she does not believe simply living on a college campus is sufficient to establish residency.

"It is not an easy thing to decide on. [But] it is a registrar's final decision," she said. "I don't think the law is particularly clear."

On that, at least, Chapman and Vance agree.

"The statute is so ambiguous, it can be interpreted in many ways," Vance said. "I don't know who wrote it, but it's rubbish."

David Lourie, a volunteer lawyer for the Maine Civil Liberties Union, agreed the law is vague, and said it should be simplified. He said the only factors that should matter in determining the right are "physical presence" and the "intention" of staying in town. Lourie said having an out-of-state driver's license "ought to be considered,"

but should not be used to "conclude the person is lying" about where he or she lives. He said students should have the same rights as the homeless, who are allowed to vote.

"Living under a bridge is not a fixed abode," Lourie said. "A fixed location is really the municipality, not an actual home."

Bowdoin College senior Laura Inkeles said students participating in a registration drive she organized felt "discouraged" and "harassed" by town officials in Brunswick.

After hearing from several students that a Maine license was required for registration, Inkeles approached Town Clerk Pauline Brillant. Inkeles told Brillant she had registered without such a license. The clerk said she'd need one if she planned to vote in Brunswick in the future. Inkeles also heard reports from fellow students who had been told by Brillant that their financial aid might be affected if they registered in Brunswick. Brillant confirmed she had warned students about that possibility. Inkeles said the warning scared some students, but Brillant said she "didn't mean it as a threat."

"Residency usually means transferring your driver's license, paying Maine state taxes," she said. "I wouldn't refuse them unless they said they were going to return [to the state from which they came]."

Janet Mills, a former Maine district attorney, said she had a "discussion" on election day with Farmington Town Clerk Leanne Pinkham, who was allegedly requiring at least two forms of identification for University of Maine at Farmington students. Pinkham declined to comment.

Pam Corrigan, town manager of Farmington, said the clerk first requested a photo ID. If that was not available, the town asked for a piece of mail bearing a local street address. University ID cards were not accepted because they lack an address, Corrigan said. Students who could not show proof of a current street address were told they needed a letter of confirmation from the university's registrar. About a dozen students requested such letters, according to Roger Spear, vice president for administration.

About 100 students who attempted to register on election day were told to find better evidence of residency. While both Spear and Corrigan said they were unaware of anybody being denied the right to vote, only about 30 of those students were registered after swearing they were residents.

In Mills' opinion, the law "allows bias to creep in... A clerk might not like the looks of a person. I can't say that has happened, but from person to person it can change. Clerks should have a uniform standard."

While Vance wants the Legislature to change the law to allow all students to vote in their college towns, Flynn said the state plans to continue doing what it has in year's past, which is to offer workshops for clerks and to send registration cards to colleges.

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Class action

An innovative program at the University of Southern Maine is attempting to help immigrants become teachers. But it faces tough obstacles, including a lack of funding.



Finally getting close: Ina Demers works in a Portland classroom as she prepares to become a teacher. PHOTO/LUC DEMERS

BY MARY LOU WENDELL

Ina Demers has been trying to get into the University of Southern Maine ever since she moved to the United States from Indonesia more than 20 years ago. Demers ought to have been a strong candidate. She spoke English and had a college education. She'd taught in her native country as a professor's assistant at a law school. But USM never knew what to make of her transcripts. With children to raise, Demers couldn't afford to wait for the bureaucracy to figure out her qualifications. She needed a job, even one well below her qualifications. So she worked in retail and cleaned hotel rooms for living.

But Demers never gave up the dream of becoming a teacher again. "I have patience," she said. "I have my mission to help the children — I just want to teach."

Now, thanks to her persistence, Demers, at age 51, has finally made it into USM's new graduate-level teaching program, Newcomers Entering Teaching (NET), a joint effort of the Portland school system and the university's College of Education and Human Development. Demers is one of the first six students to enter the program, which helps immigrants and refugees navigate their way through the mountains of paperwork required to apply for USM's year-long graduate education course. NET also provides students who are admitted with full scholarships and considerable academic guidance.

NET's purpose is to help students overcome the barriers that have prevented many educated immigrants and refugees from landing jobs teaching in Portland schools. The effort is also supposed to help Portland school administrators, who are under increasing pressure to hire more minority teachers. Right now, there

are more than a 1,000 students from countries like Ethiopia, Somalia, Vietnam and Serbia in the school system, yet the administration estimates that out of its 700 teachers, 698 are white.

Despite the best intentions of everyone involved in NET, it's still far from certain it will have much impact on those numbers. In spite of the special training and assistance available, people whose first language is not English still fail the national teachers exam at a higher rate than native speakers.

Indeed, of the first six NET students, two have already graduated from USM's program, but failed the national exam and cannot become certified to teach. In addition, university officials readily admit it is difficult for a person with a strong foreign accent to get a teaching job. Add to that the uncertain future of the NET program, which just failed to land a big grant from the U.S. Department of Education, and the chances of achieving a more diverse teaching staff in Portland in the near future seem slim.

USM officials insist they will keep the NET program running, even if they have to piece together funding from a variety of sources. They also say they will work harder to help students prepare and pass the teachers exam. Program administrators are also coaching the NET participants in job interview skills.

Making some noise

When Demers was a young girl growing up in Middle Java, she said school discipline was rigid, nothing like the Lincoln Middle School classroom in which she's currently student teaching. Students in Middle Java sat up straight at all times, staring straight ahead.

"I couldn't even speak in class," Demers said. "Everything had to be perfectly done. I don't think we were learning anything. It's like, to me, I was being brainwashed."

Living under a dictatorship in Indonesia meant "there was no group work," Demers said. "There was nothing that would require us to think because our thinking was supposed to be what they wanted us to think."

Demers said immigrating to the United States didn't automatically free her from the timidity she learned as a young girl. After she first moved to Maine, and during a time when she lived in Texas, her new husband wouldn't let her drive or even open a savings account.

"I didn't think of it as domineering at that time," Demers said, "because the culture I came from was



Ahmed Hassan used to be a university professor in Somalia. Now he hopes to teach high school students in Portland. PHOTO/LUC DEMERS

much more suffocating."

During those early years in the United States, Demers applied three times to USM to obtain undergraduate credits she needed to finish her bachelor's degree. And three times, she was turned away. But as time passed, Demers learned the system. Her first husband died and she married again. She earned her citizenship. She also volunteered in her daughter's elementary school in Wiscasset.

In 1997, Demers went to a class designed to help high school students get into college. "I was the oldest person there," she said. This time, Demers made it into USM to begin the courses she would need to prepare her for teacher certification. By this time, Demers' attitude also had changed: "After 26 years since the last time I applied, I said, 'If I cannot get in this time, I will definitely make a lot of noise here.'"

Part way through her course work, Demers heard about NET, applied and was accepted. Now she worries about the future of the program and whether others like herself will be able to benefit from it.

Dick Barnes, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, said he is committed to continuing NET. Barnes, along with Miriam Remar, the director of elementary and secondary education for Portland schools, helped get the program up and running in 1999 with a one-time, \$35,000 grant from the

Unum Charitable Trust.

The rest of the money for the scholarships came the Portland School Department and Barnes' budget. USM had hoped to expand the program and secure a more stable source of funding by applying for a huge grant — \$250,000 a year for five years — from the U.S. Department of Education. But the school's application was denied this year. USM is applying again.

In the meantime, Barnes said he is trying to pay for NET on an "ad hoc" basis. The university has also created a part-time program that runs for two years, thereby allowing some participants to work while attending school.

Picking up the pieces

If those running the program need inspiration to keep it going, they need only consider the stories of the NET students, many of whom have shown Herculean determination in both academic and life pursuits.

Ahmed Hassan, 50, a native of Somalia, was teaching science at the Somali National University and working with American professors on a USAID/World Bank project when civil war broke out in his country in 1990. Hassan fled from the capital city of Mogadishu with his pregnant wife and two children, leaving all their possessions behind except for his teaching certificate and academic credentials.

CLASS ACTION CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

We know that school hiring boards do not know how to deal with somebody who looks very different.

— Flynn Ross, assistant professor of teacher education at USM

I'm not going to give up after getting this far. I can't give up because I have a 15-year-old at home. If she sees me give up on this one, that's not going to be good.

— Ina Demers, student in the Newcomers Entering Teaching program

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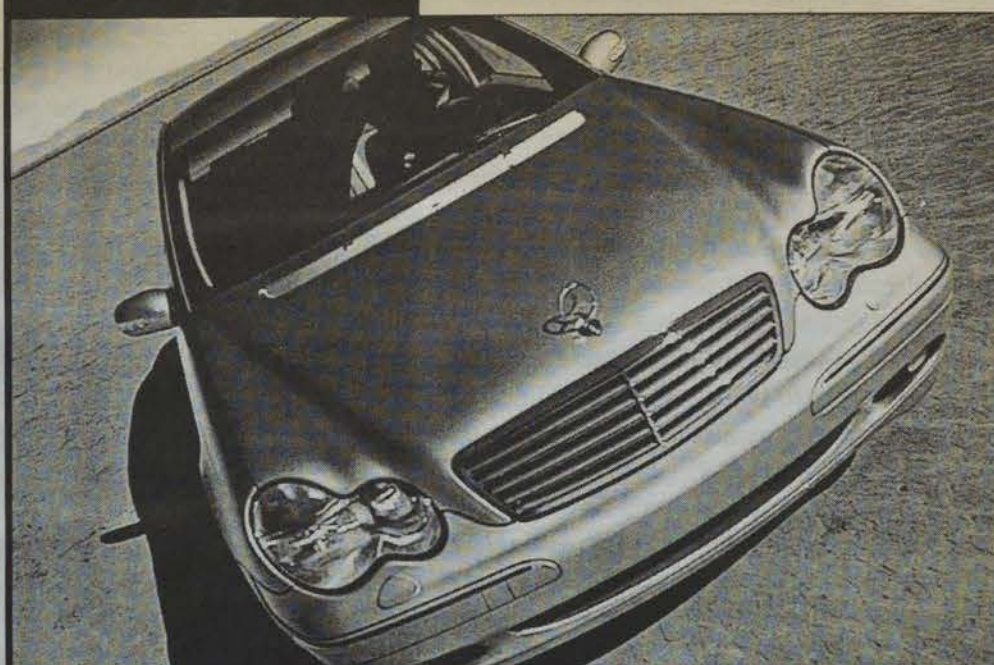
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CLASS ACTION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Hassan said he took these documents "because that is the most important things we have." He said some Somalis who didn't preserve their credentials will never be able to prove they graduated from the university because all those papers were destroyed.

Up until the war, Hassan said, "my life was going very well." He had earned a degree from the local university in veterinary science, graduating among the top in his class. In 1980, he received a USAID scholarship to pursue a master's degree in animal science at the University of Southern Illinois. When he returned home, he became head of the department of botany and range science at the Somali National University.

Then 10 years ago, it all fell apart. Hassan and his family spent several years in a refugee camp in Kenya. In 1994, they came to Portland. Hassan became a caseworker with the Refugee Resettlement Program and then worked as a community specialist for the Portland School Department's multilingual program.

Hassan now hopes to teach high school science after he graduates from USM's graduate teaching program in 2001.

Test pattern

In order to gain practical experience, NET participants must student teach in Portland schools. Demers was placed in veteran teacher Gail Hood's language arts classroom at Lincoln Middle School.

On one recent day, Demers was working with Hood's students on a reading exercise. Hood, who's been teaching for 25 years, sat in the back of the room and listened, helping out when she was needed. Hood whispered that she fully supports the NET program, noting that 15 out of her 40 students were from foreign lands. "The more we can learn about each other and from each other the better," she said.

While Demers appeared to have little trouble handling a class, she'll soon face what Flynn Ross, an assistant professor of teacher education at USM and an NET coordinator for Portland schools, called the "sticking point." National studies have shown that minorities pass the teacher certification exam at a significantly lower rate than whites. The reasons, according to Ross, are due to both cultural and language issues.

The exam is a nationally administered test covering basic skills in reading, writing and math. Individual states set the score that must be achieved to earn certification. According to Ross, many non-native speakers of English run into trouble in the sections on gram-

mar and punctuation.

Take a multiple-choice question that underlines four parts of a sentence and asks which one contains a mistake. "For somebody whose native language isn't English, that's a lot of grammatical analysis," Ross said. "Most Americans take it. You read it. You find it's wrong because it sounds wrong."

But for those who weren't brought up speaking English, she said, "it doesn't sound wrong."

While non-native speakers are given more time for the test — two minutes per question rather than one — Ross said that's still not enough to level the playing field. Additionally, she said, the problem with basing certification on the test is teachers often don't need that level of language skills to teach such subjects as science, math and social studies.

Ross said she is working with the NET program to help participants pass the practice exams. She said many of them are close to passing.

But that exam is hardly the last barrier to a teaching career. Foreign-born applicants still face prejudice when they apply for jobs. "We know that school hiring boards do not know how to deal with somebody who looks very different," Ross said, adding that the hiring team is often made up of five or six teachers and a principal, "and they're all white."

An accent can be a big issue because it means that a job candidate may not fit "the standard criteria of who we are going to hire," Ross said.

So Ross and USM staff have been coaching the students on interview techniques. Among their recommendations is for NET students to raise the issue of their accents with prospective employers. It's usually the adults who have a hard time understanding accents, Ross said. "Young people get used to it pretty quickly."

When asked about the issue of accents and whether she anticipated any problems getting hired, Demers said no. Once, she said, she met a woman whose accent was so thick she couldn't understand her. "I asked her what country she was from," Demers recalled. "She said, 'Texas.'"

Demers also said she was not going to let an exam stop her from becoming a teacher. "If I don't pass it, I'll do it again until I pass," she said. "I'm not going to give up after getting this far. I can't give up because I have a 15-year-old at home. If she sees me give up on this one, that's not going to be good."

Mary Lou Wendell can be contacted at mwendell@maine.rr.com.

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COMMENT

SO noted Frozen out

Maine students are getting the cold shoulder when they try to enter the voting booth.

In the November election, students in Standish, Gorham, Brunswick and Farmington faced confusing rules about voting as Maine residents (See "Registration roadblocks," page 7). Some students were told they needed a driver's license, others simply had to swear they lived in that town.

Since proof of residency varied from town to town, many students felt they were being discouraged from voting.

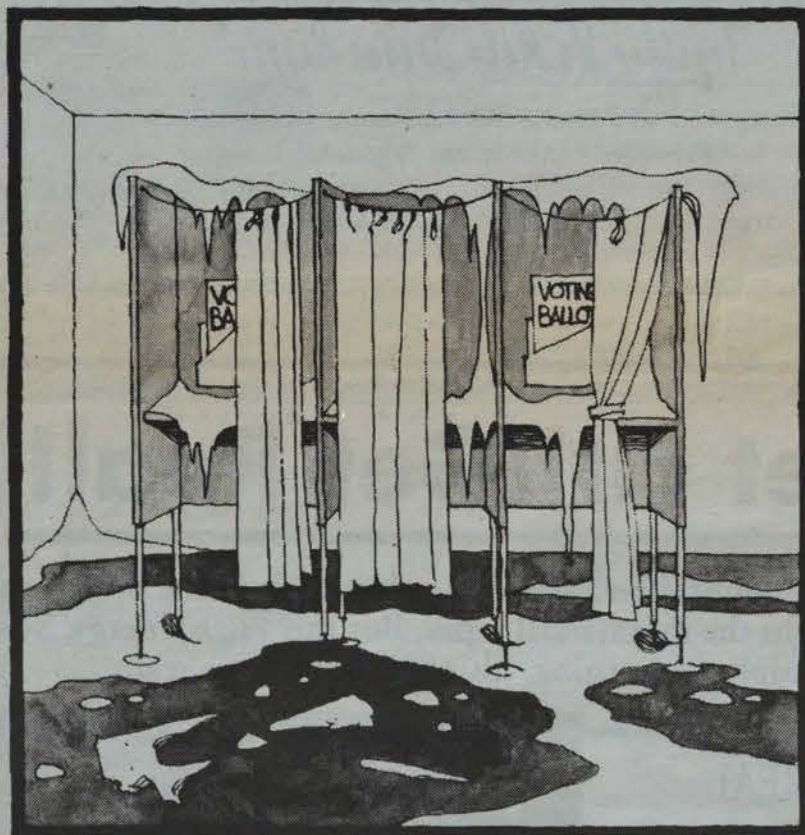


ILLUSTRATION / MARTIN SHIELDS

State law is vague when it comes to establishing residency in order to vote. Municipal clerks are allowed to accept a wide range of proof, including a simple oath, a hunting, fishing or driver's license, a piece of mail, a car registration or the receipt of a public benefit that requires living in the state.

Any of these factors can be enough to prove residency, but clerks can consider as many as they believe necessary.

So for St. Joseph's College students, the Standish town clerk, Mary Chapman, required driver's licenses up until election day. Brunswick Town Clerk Pauline Brillant also told some students she required driver's

licenses to vote. Leanne Pinkham, Farmington's town clerk, was asking students for a photo ID. One problem: The University of Maine in Farmington's ID doesn't have the student's address on it, and can't be used to establish residency. On election day in Farmington, about 100 students who attempted to register were told to find better evidence of residency.

Town clerks may be within the law — as written. But any law that allows for such broad interpretation will allow clerks to arbitrarily disqualify students from voting. Requiring proof like a driver's license is clearly unfair, since many out-of-state students are not going

to obtain a Maine driver's license or a Maine car registration (if they even own a car).

It also gives town clerks too much power to decide who gets to vote. "A clerk might not like the looks of a person," said Janet Mills, a former district attorney in Franklin County.

This vague law allows clerks to actively discourage student voters. Chapman said living on the St. Joseph's campus is not enough to establish residency. Brillant told some students their financial aid might be affected if they registered in Brunswick, but said she "didn't mean it as a threat." It would sure sound like a threat to a student trying to register to vote.

When it comes to voting, the only factors that should matter are "physical presence" and the "intention" of staying in town, according to David Lourie, a

volunteer lawyer for the Maine Civil Liberties Union.

Despite the obvious problems with student voting, Deputy Secretary of State Julie Flynn, who is in charge of elections, said she won't make be recommending any changes in the way municipal clerks are trained for the next election.

The state law on voting should be simplified and clarified. Since Flynn refuses to admit there's a problem, it's time for the state Legislature to revisit the residency law to make sure students in Maine are not deprived of their right to vote.

DAVID TYLER



MainePlay Productions a success

Having spent well over an hour talking with Rick Wormwood about the Portland theater scene, I was very upset and angry about the cover story, "Curtain going down," (11.30.00).

I never said that "the future of the Portland theater is in blue hair" I never said that my target audience is "little old ladies," and how dare he refer to my professional theater company as producing "creaky old plays for cruise-ship passengers." With such negative and non-supportive criticism, it's no wonder that the arts are struggling to survive! Did you even listen to what I said during the interview? I admit to having been very happy and positive in our discussion, but why not — we are a success. If you were looking for drama, you should have gone elsewhere instead of putting words in my mouth.

Yes, I will "haul out old chestnuts" and (since you obviously have no theater sense) perhaps you should read a play or two and realize there are several challenging and controversial works available. Did you not see that I am doing "Agnes of God" in January? That isn't "Oklahoma."

You have no right to make MainePlay Productions sound like a theater drive-in when you have never seen a performance in my theater. Yes, we do serve food and drink — that's why we are a dinner theater (get it, "dinner theater") and 99 percent of all patrons are thrilled to be able to park once, eat, drink and watch a professional show.

Not only have you insulted me, you also have insulted every professional actor and technician who has worked on my stage and every senior citizen who has walked through my door, and we all deserve an apology. And, by the way, my audiences have ranged from 12-year-olds to 112-year-olds, and I am happy to say that all age groups have supported our efforts.

Although we all miss the many professional productions of the Oak Street Theatre and its talented artists, the Portland theater scene is alive and well and on Nov. 2, MainePlay Productions opened its season. I am very happy to report that, because of the success of our first production, we go into the holiday season with the biggest gift of all: No debt! Curtain going down? No — the lights are shining very brightly throughout the Downtown Arts District with the Portland Stage Company, ACTS, the Skinny and now, MainePlay Productions. As Sherlock Holmes once said, "It's best not to theorize before you have all the facts." Obviously, they didn't teach that at CBW.

Michael J. Tobin
Producing Artistic Director
MainePlay Productions
Portland

No integrity

This is in response to the article written by Rick Wormwood, "Curtain going down." I cannot believe any article with any integrity could begin by insulting people with the term "blue hair." I almost threw the paper in the trash immediately.

I was in the audience on opening night of "I'll Be Back Before Midnight." I found it to be interesting, enjoyable and very well acted. Just because a project is not cutting edge does not mean it is not art. I resent the elitism projected by this article. I have been a member of the "theater community" for a few years now. I know Michael Tobin. I have worked on- and off-stage with him. Currently I am in the cast of MainePlay's production, "A Christmas Carol."

His main goal, in my experience, is to put up a quality piece of work to entertain the audience. I know the respect he has for the audience. I do not believe the quotes attributed to him are accurate or taken in appropriate context.

It would seem to me that a community-based newspaper would want to support the endeavors of someone trying to start a theater in Portland, instead of attempting to throw a bad light on it. I believe CBW owes Mr. Tobin, senior citizens, anyone who works on stage, behind the stage or any theater patron an apology.

Timothy M. McBrady
South Portland

Early input crucial

I want to thank Mary Lou Wendell for her attempt at presenting a factual account of the Munjoy Hill development dispute (Cover story, "City Hall Blew It," 11.23.00). I have grown tired of the biased "reporting" on this issue by the *Portland Press Herald*. All Portland residents should be concerned over the poor handling of this issue by our city councilors and be suspect of the city's general development process.

As noted in Ms. Wendell's article, good outcomes emerged from a successful process with the Bayside neighborhood. I would encourage our councilors and area developers to take the lessons learned from the Bayside project and apply them to the current Munjoy Hill issue as well as future city development proposals.

As evidenced by Bayside, a win-win-win (city government-developers-neighbors) outcome is possible when it comes to city development, but input early and often is a must to achieve that goal.

Margaret L. Hazlett
Portland

A friend of Broken Clown

I write this letter to you with a vague sense of trepidation. As a local musician, I neither crave nor can afford feelings of animosity from CBW. Your Nov. 23 Ear to the Pavement column made me feel that I should send you my reactions to your comments about CBW's perceived conflict of interest concerning Sherie Dyer's article about my band, Broken Clown.

In the issue of fairness, I feel it is slightly inaccurate to state Ms. Dyer "showed up on our album cover." That implies that she wandered in front of the camera as the photographer was taking the picture of the object that we actually wanted to grace the cover of our first CD. Ms. Dyer appeared on our cover for a much simpler reason: I asked her to.

When I came up with the title, "Buy Guns, Eat Meat, Wear Fur," an image appeared in my head: a woman in a fur coat with an AK-47. Of all the women I know, Sherie was the obvious choice. Not because she was a DJ on WMPG, but because she had the look I was going for — beauty combined with lethality, in the spirit of a '60's James Bond movie. I also knew that she'd have the chutzpah to do it. She graciously agreed, and my band's CD got the cover I thought it should have. Ms. Dyer received no compensation for this foray into the world of rock modeling, and has absolutely no fiscal interest in the success or failure of the record.

Entertainment journalism isn't quite the same as political journalism. Entertainment journalists tend to get their stories from getting to know their subjects, not digging up the dirt on them. When was the last time you saw Barbara Walters confronting an actor with photocopies of his tax returns, questioning the deductions he took?

Sherie has been a fixture on the music scene in Portland for a number of years, and is one of its most supportive members — not just of Broken Clown, but of the entire music community. Anyone who has paid the least amount of attention to the Portland music scene already knows this.

Her "Local Motives" program on WMPG serves to its listeners a wide variety of artists from myriad genres, performed live on the radio. Her "Swank" program plays music by local artists, as well as sponsoring live shows. I believe that you'd be hard-pressed to find a local band that hasn't been positively affected by her.

While I can see your point that she should have mentioned she was on our cover, I feel it is somewhat petty of you to make such an issue of it. Who better to write about local bands than someone who actually knows them? Perhaps someone at the *Phoenix* recognized this and gave her a job. If she were to meet your level of journalistic revelation, her column would be a rambling series of name-dropping and personal anecdotes, leaving very little space to actually talk about the bands. Are those the kind of articles that you'd want in your publication?

It is no secret that Sherie Dyer is a dear and welcome friend of Broken Clown. We've played on "Local Motives" three times, played several benefit shows when she's asked us, we played her 21st birthday party at the Better End (you must have missed this when she did an article on Twitchboy), and I've popped in during her "Swank" show on numerous occasions. All this and Shawn Jeffrey from WCYY still greets me with a smile and a handshake every time I see him.

Finally, as a personal note, I'm rather disappointed with the caption "No wonder they need a cover star" that you felt the need to run beneath our picture in the Music section (11.23.00). If I were on record making a similar comment about your favorite lesbian singer/songwriter, would you rake me over the coals for being a slave to the Barbie doll mentality? I realize, however, that we're not nearly as cute as the Backstreet Boys, so I can only hope that you decided to run it in the spirit of good fun.

Once again, please let me reinforce that this is not sent to you with any great sense of ire. The last thing I want is to burn bridges. I look forward to reading CBW in the future, and I encourage others to do so as well.

Mark Belanger
Portland

Join the front lines

As the former director of the Yes on 6 campaign, I was frustrated by a number of things during the campaign, among them apathy and lack of enthusiasm for action that followed suspect polls saying that we would win. Nothing, however, was more annoying than the incessant drivel from Connie Pacillo regarding the so-called Catholic compromise and the ostensible sell-out of the gay powers-that-be in crafting the legislation.

I was not surprised that Pacillo found it necessary to drive one last nail in the coffin in her column (From the Outside, "The real Gay Agenda," 11.23.00) by stating that "smart Mainers of the queer persuasion saw [Question 6] for the boot-licking gesture that it was and refused to help pass the referendum."

Is she kidding?! I seriously doubt that queer outrage, as perceived by Pacillo, led to the demise of this campaign. Indeed, I don't know of any gay Mainer who was swayed by her arrogant and reckless misuse of a bully pulpit. If she had actually involved herself in the campaign, she would know that gay youth and adults alike, most of whom live in stiflingly rural areas of the state, don't give a whit about whether or not the Catholic diocese bestowed its blessing on the bill.

To the contrary, all they desperately hoped for was a shred of affirmation that they would be treated like everyone else in the state, instead of being forced to live in isolation and in constant fear of discrimination and antigay violence. Unfortunately, their situation is now worse than before, because their neighbors sent a message that they don't count.

LETTERS CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



The Making of Project Row Houses in Houston, Texas

Thursday, December 7
6:30 p.m.
Auditorium.
Free with Museum
admission.

Rick Lowe is Founding Director of Project Row Houses, a public art project involving artists in issues of neighborhood revitalization, historic preservation, community service, and youth education. Lowe will discuss the creation of this ongoing project that has been documented on "CBS Sunday Morning," in *The New York Times*, and in an upcoming documentary film. This lecture is the final in a series of lectures celebrating a year of Public Art and Portland's new Public Art Ordinance. It is co-sponsored by the Museum in collaboration with ARCHITALX.

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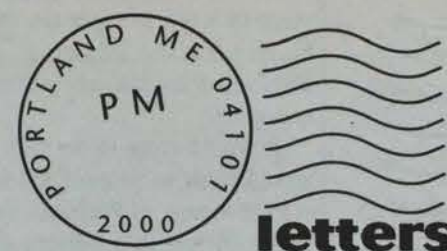


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LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Ms. Pacillo continues by saying that "questions" about the so-called Gay Agenda and perpetual conservative backlash need pondering. So, she "put my feet up, lounged back and closed my eyes." That seems to be a pattern with her and my guess is she still hasn't opened them, for she then says that what we really need in Maine is a Black Panther-esque civil rights movement and for "queer people to drop the Jim Crow act."

Wrong. What we need is for people like Pacillo to stop bitching about the action that some brave people have actually taken in the name of equal rights, to get their feet off their desks and to open their eyes to look beyond the crystal ship that is Portland. If this is a civil rights war, as she claims, and if she intends to win the "whole enchilada," as she claims, she should stop dodging the draft, join the front line and stop her passive-aggressive twaddle.

Tony Giampetruzzi
Portland

Too kind

Wow! I've been reading Al Diamon's insight and invective for years with appreciation. After two years watching the *Lewiston Sun Journal* act as public relations firm for state Rep. Stavros Mendros, I giggled with glee to see Diamon eviscerate him in his column (Politics and other mistakes, "The call of the wreckin' ball," 11.30.00). He was, in fact, kind.

Diamon was also poignant in gently spanking the citizens of Lewiston for their electoral discretion. It should be noted that in 1998, Lewiston had the wisdom to replace a high-ranking member of the majority party, a Democrat, like most of her district. Her name was state Rep. Pat Lemaire. Pat held one of eight coveted House seats on the appropriations committee, and she was a tireless, compassionate and smart person. Just what one would want in a legislator. As close to leadership as Lewiston had come in decades.

The people of Lewiston "cast their lot" instead with Big Stav. Last session "Lewiston's Finest Legislator" honored his constituents on the record during a floor debate when he declared, "I'm not a religious fanatic — I'm not even a Catholic."

Maybe something will come of all that conspiracy talk.

Chris O'Neil
State Representative
Saco

Keep animals wild

Who does Heidi Herriott-Koch of the Outdoor Amusement Business Association think she's kidding and why is *CBW*, a supposedly progressive weekly, printing her p.r.? (Letters, "PETA propaganda," 11.30.00).

Ms. Herriott-Koch can wax ecstatic all she wants about the great love and care given to captive animals in the circus, but she will never make the use of animals endangered in their own habitat acceptable as human entertainment. Those days are over. The wild animal "amusement" business should re-engineer, just as so many "old economy" businesses have had to do.

After trying to convince us that elephants in particular are happier and live longer in captivity, Ms. Herriott-Koch slams PETA for their support of HR 2929, the federal Captive Elephant Accident Prevention Act. Your readers should know that this bill is supported by other wildly radical organizations like the Humane Society of the United States. What makes her dismissive attitude toward this bill doubly sad is that it is not legislation for the protection of elephants. The bill is framed for human beings and is designed to remove elephants from animal "acts" in order to prevent injury to humans when an elephant, maddened by its circumstances, busts loose to wreak havoc.

Still, as a citizen (and non-member of PETA), I support HR 2929 and hope your readers will as well. I am equally unconvinced that people such as myself are "out of step with the average American." Should the average American (whoever that might be) put even a little bit of thought to the issue of captive-animal acts, I'm sure they would agree that it is unfitting for humans to entertain themselves at the expense of any animals.

We have put an end to bear-baiting, we continue to struggle with dogfighting, and we will eventually end the unbecoming spectacle of wild animals dancing in tutus for our entertainment pleasure. Captive animals rightfully belong in protected habitat where we might actually learn something from them about their and our embattled planet.

I do agree with Ms. Herriott-Koch on one thing, though. *CBW* readers should see for themselves. Their first stop on the Internet might be the circus section of the Humane Society of the United States titled "The Big Lie Under The Big Top."

Jacqueline G. Read
Portland

Casco Bay Weekly welcomes your letters. Please keep your thoughts to less than 300 words (longer letters may be edited for space reasons), and include your address and daytime phone number. Letters, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or via e-mail: editor@maine.cbw.com

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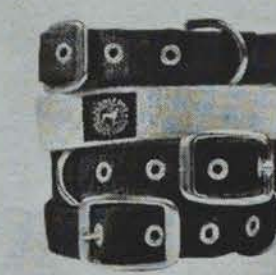
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Now do it again. Local muralist Tony Taylor and the management of the Eastland Park Hotel have been discussing plans for the artist to paint over his mural in Portland's Congress Square and then **create a new work** in the same space. Though details have yet to be worked out, Taylor said the hotel is interested in having him "paint the side of the building to mimic the architecture on the [High Street] side: a few windows, a little bit of a cornice and so on." The windows and cornice would be painted in a realistic style against a light gray background similar in color to the hotel's limestone facade.

In contrast to the colorful, busy mural he completed there a few years ago, Taylor said the new design would be "very minimal." Work could begin as early as next spring.

Eastland general manager Heather Strauss was unavailable for comment.

Taylor also said he intends to suggest the hotel consider a smaller mural on the opposite end, overlooking a pedestrian walkway between High Street and Forest Avenue that Taylor said is "lacking in any kind of aesthetics."

► Flatlander. The Dec. 3 *Boston Globe* carried one of those puffy travel pieces on Portland filled with the usual assortment of the sublime ("Dusk comes early...") and the ridiculous ("It's after dark that Portland sparkles..."). But *Globe* correspondent Christina Tree appears to have been so enchanted with "Boston's favorite place for weekend getaways" that she had **trouble reading her notes**. How else to explain references to the Victoria Mansion as "Victoria House," to Preble Street as "Prebble Street," some place called "Designer Coffee" (Coffee By Design?) and the owner of the Congress Street gallery Aucocisco as "Andy Aucocisco." Tree and other Beantown visitors might be interested to learn that Aucocisco was allegedly the Native American word for this area. It was corrupted (presumably by the first hearing-impaired European tourists) into either Casco or the gallery owner's real name, Verzosa.

► Anti-climax. Well-oiled cleavage, skin-tight leatherware, topless Playboy Bunnies, fountains of champagne, *Screw* magazine founder Al Goldstein, **skin-flicks-in-the-making** — and that's just a partial list of the stuff we didn't get to see at the Adult Film Convention, a randy extravaganza supposedly held at a secret location in Portland on Nov. 26 (Ear to the Pavement, 11.30.00). In fact, the limo that was supposed to transport us to the event never showed.

You don't suppose the whole thing was some kind of scam, do you?

► Pricked. Overheard in the men's room at the Pavilion on Dec. 1, during the **annual holiday party** held by Portland City Councilor Jim Cloutier's law firm, Cloutier, Barrett, Cloutier and Conley.

"Can you believe some of the people that were invited to this thing?" said the first guy. Replied the second guy, "Yeah, I even saw some of the pricks from CBW here."

— items contributed by Chris Busby, Al Diamon, Allen Dammann and David Tyler

Arts, Entertainment, Weirdness

EDGE

Beyond bingo

Chicky Stoltz returns to the nightclub circuit with a new skit-comedy show

► CHRIS BUSBY

What would happen if you brought hard-living writer Charles Bukowski, hardcore gangster rapper Ice-T, hard-body punk-rock poet Henry Rollins, hard-boiled science-fiction writer Philip K. Dick, soft-spoken author and "Prairie Home Companion" host Garrison Keillor, hard-headed author Spalding Gray and hardly understood poet Sylvia Plath together as participants in a talk show?

One thing's for sure: It wouldn't be pretty, especially since three of them are corpses. But what if they were alive? What would they talk about? How soon would they come to blows?

Portland audiences may have an opportunity to find out, as that scenario is one of several skits likely to be performed during "Straight Up! With Chicky Stoltz," a monthly skit-comedy and variety show scheduled to premiere at the Skinny, a nightclub on Congress Street in Portland on Jan. 7.

Nightlifers and amateur gamblers might remember Stoltz as the host of a popular bi-weekly bingo night at Free Street Taverna. Stoltz, whose daytime name is Matt Staples, was known for incorporating innovative elements such as music and humor into the staid game. His antics ranged from conducting facetious interviews with bingo winners to presenting a fashion show during which his friends modeled the second-hand clothes that night's bingo winners could win.

Though he enjoyed the bingo format, Stoltz said the game's gambling element eventually got ugly and ruined the fun. "People would come in, and the first thing they'd ask me was, 'What are you giving away tonight?'" he recalled. "It got kind of evil and materialistic. My



That's funny, he doesn't look anything like Garrison Keillor; Chicky Stoltz prepares for showtime. PHOTO / MATTHEW ROBBINS

favorite thing about bingo was always the funny stuff people would say or do."

Thus, after a year spent picking his balls for fun and profit, Stoltz quit the bingo gig last September and began work on the new show. His writing and acting collaborators include Paul Chamberlain and Darien Brahms (two of Stoltz' bandmates in the Latin lounge rock outfit, the Munjoy Hill Society). Skinny co-owner John Lomba, local author (and former *CBW* reporter) Chris Barry and Stewart Engesser.

"Straight Up!" will be an amalgamation of comedy bits that will change from month to month, regular features (such as a news-spoof segment by

Engesser and a society report by Brahms' alter-ego, Grace Malenthorpe), interviews (of both the legitimate and fictional variety) and music (of both the lip-synched and live variety).

Local and national bands will have the opportunity to lip-synch — American Bandstand-style, though with toy instruments — to one of their songs during the show, before playing a 45-minute live set to close it. There'll also be a house band on hand, led by Chamberlain and including Society bassist John Clark and "hopefully" the local jazz group, the Clown School Dropouts, according to Stoltz.

Stoltz characterized the show as "'Prairie Home Companion' for people of all ages, a racier version of that." He believes there's a shortage of compelling comedy in our popular culture — a shortage he hopes to address, at least in some small part, with "Straight Up!"

"I think there's a definite lack of edgy comedy or intelligent comedy in Hollywood and on TV," he said. "It's all bathroom shit — no pun intended — and when [edgy comedy] does come along, it's the best thing ever."

Future skits include pieces with such working titles as "L. Ron Hubbard, Funeral Director," "Breast Milk Addict" and "You Ain't No Crocker."

"At this point, the material is pretty much decided upon for the first and second shows, but as far as skits go, it's just endless," Lomba said. "Everybody has good ideas."

As for the acting, the troupe consists entirely of amateurs. "Everyone's pretty natural at it," Stoltz said. "It's all goofy

stuff. They're telling jokes. All of the people involved are good at telling jokes. It's stuff you would do every day anyway."

The free-flowing, brainstorming process by which some skits are written has led to some fairly dirty and offensive jokes, Stoltz said, but added, "we do try to check ourselves. Sometimes we do go a little too far Recently, we were discussing a skit about short people and we had to reign that in a little."

People may be offended at "Straight Up!" shows, but as Stoltz pointed out, "There are two exits at the Skinny, so that's nice. People can be made aware of those."

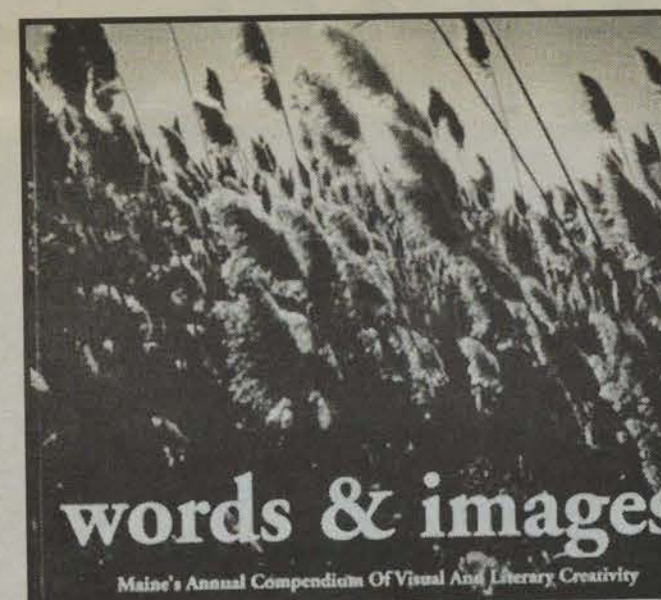
"Are we doing anything good for people?" Stoltz wondered aloud, before deciding in the affirmative. "It's great to laugh. We do it every day."

"Straight Up! With Chicky Stoltz" premieres Sun., Jan. 7 at the Skinny, 625 Congress St., Portland. Time and ticket price for the 21+ show are T.B.A. 871-8983.

WRITE 'N' ROLL

The reading method

Aspiring authors can use any number of tactics to groom their work for publication. There's the demanding Gogol Method, which requires obsessive rewriting until you finally collapse into insanity and feed most of your novel into the fireplace. For the anal-retentive writer, the Flaubert Method of having your novels read aloud to you over and over in order to comb out all alliteration is highly recommended. And if it's adventure you're after, the Solzhenitsyn Method, in which you must first spend years imprisoned in a gulag, is a sure-fire strategy.

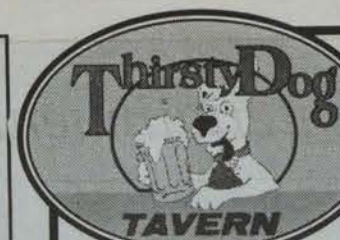


ings and music. "Literary Excitement" is a showcase of original works, ranging from non-fiction to short stories to screenplays, by more than 20 USM students. The event starts with a reading by USM English professor and poet Kenneth Rosen, followed by a chance for students to show off their creative capabilities. Afterward, the audience can network to the music of the Portland band, Chiasso.

"We want to give people the chance to come out and find out about the book and how to submit and to meet the staff," said *Words & Images* publishing director Allison Bourchard. "And we wanted to give USM students the chance to read their own writing in a different venue outside the university system."

ALLEN DAMMANN

"Words and Images Literary Excitement," a showcase of the University of Southern Maine's best writing, Thurs, Dec 7 at 6 p.m. at the Skinny, 625 Congress St., Portland. Free. 874-6547.



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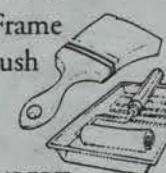


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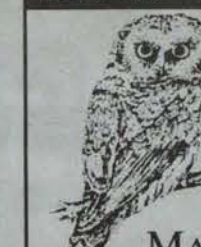
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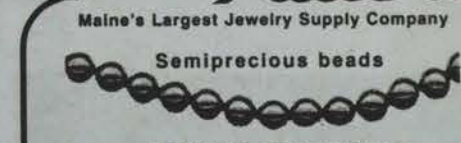
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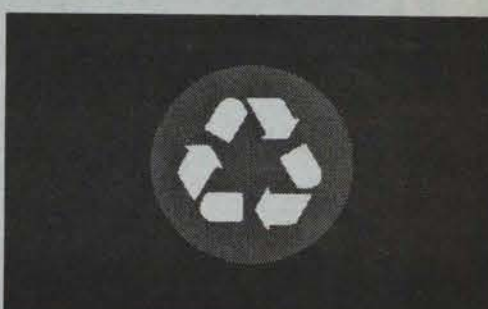
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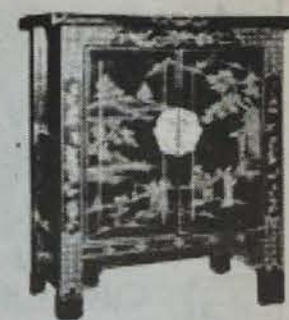
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Lists compiled from the Maine Christmas Tree Association's Website at www.mainechristmastree.com. The 160 member Maine Christmas Tree Association was formed in 1962 to promote real Maine Christmas trees. In 1982 the organization started two seed orchards and began grafting the tallest trees to develop superior seed.

Outsiders are invited to join members when they meet in July and September to tour Christmas Tree forests. For more information contact Al Gondeck, executive secretary, in Turner, Maine, 207-225-3031 or visit their website (see above).

the tree is fresh. Shake or bounce the tree on its stump. You should not see an excessive amount of green needles fall to the ground. Some loss of interior brown needles is normal and will occur over the lifetime of the tree.

Once you've chosen your tree, keep it in a sheltered, unheated area such as a porch or garage to protect it from the wind and sun until you are ready to decorate it.

Before you set up your tree, make a fresh, straight cut across the base of the trunk (about a quarter inch up from the original cut) and place the tree in a tree stand that holds a gallon of water or more.

Warning: Keep the tree stand filled with water. A seal of dried sap will form over the cut stump in four to six hours if the water drops below the base of the tree, preventing the tree from absorbing water later when the tree stand is refilled. If a seal does form, another fresh cut will need to be made.

A tree will absorb as much as a gallon of water or more in the first 24 hours and one or more quarts a day thereafter. Water is important because it prevents the needles from drying and dropping off and the boughs from drooping. Water also keeps the tree fragrant.

In addition, keep your tree away from heat and draft sources like fireplaces, radiators and television sets. Test your light cords and connections before hanging them on the tree to make sure they're in good working order. You don't want to use cords with cracked insulation or broken or empty sockets. Also be sure to unplug the lights before you go to bed or leave the house. Never overload electrical circuits.

Sensible precautions such as these will help preserve the unique beauty and tradition that only a real Christmas tree can provide.

Tree tips

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Do a freshness test. Gently grasp a branch between your thumb and forefinger and pull it toward you. Very few needles should come off in your hand if



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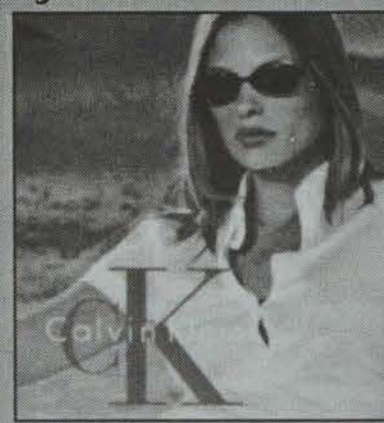
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MONUMENT SQUARE TREE LIGHTING
Friday, November 24 5:30 - 6:00 pm
An evening of holiday entertainment to please the entire family.

THE WINDOW WALK
Friday, November 24 6:00 - 8:00 pm
(Immediately following tree lighting)
Take a trip back in time as you view storefronts decorated with a Victorian theme.

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Victorian Holiday Portland is coordinated by Portland's Downtown District. Parking is free, through participating merchants and Downtown Park & Shop. For information about these events and more, call PDD at 207-772-3952 or visit our website at www.portlandmaine.com

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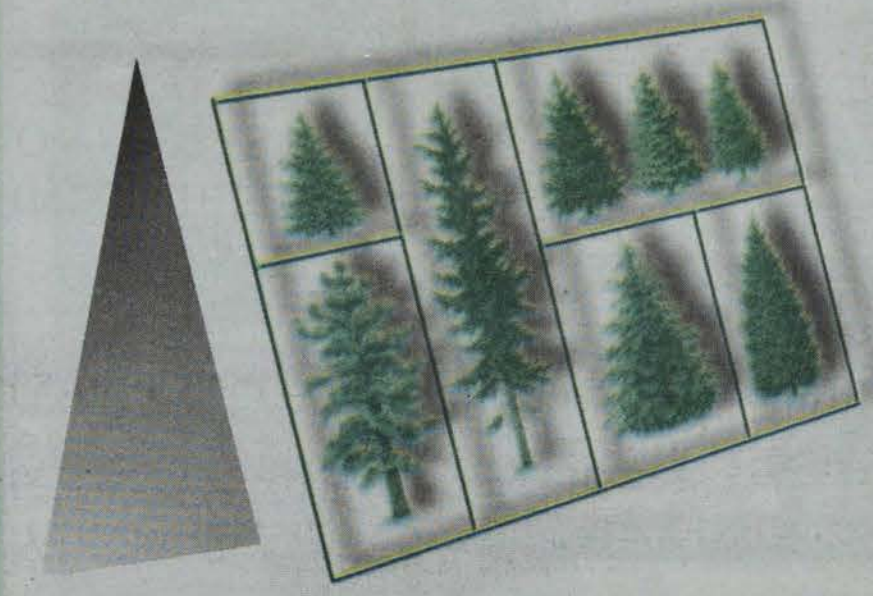
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thursday, december 7
SESAME STREET LIVE

Things get surreal in Portland every year around this time: Fat, white-bearded men run amok laughing and grabbing children; balls of light tumble from the Maine College of Art and get stuck on lamp posts and trees; and shows such as Sesame Street Live's "Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" come to town. The musical extravaganza features a giant talking bird, a monstrous, cookie-craving creature, a vampire/mathematician, a hairy, tusk-less mastodon, a mean-spirited Dumpster diver, and something called Elmo. Stranger still, the show's producers claim there's moral and educational content in their trippy phantasmagoria. See for yourself at the Civic Center, Portland, at 7 p.m. Tix: \$11-\$16. Continues through Sun., Dec. 10. 775-3458 or 775-3331.

friday, december 8
**HARLEM ROCKETS VS.
CUMBERLAND COUNTY
ALL-STARS**

Does it seem strange to you that the Cumberland County Sheriff would invite a team of seasoned basketball players from Harlem to come up to Maine and not only beat a team of local cops handily, but also mock the officers in the process? We thought so. However, when we found out the game between the Harlem Rockets comedy basketball team and the Cumberland County All-Stars (a team made up of officers from Falmouth, Cape Elizabeth, Yarmouth and elsewhere) is a fund-raiser for the sheriff's office TRIAD program — a community policing project focusing on issues affecting the elderly — it made slightly more sense. See Sheriff Mark Dion get dunked on at Warren Hill Gymnasium, the University of Southern Maine's Gorham campus, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$10. 871-7876.

friday-sunday, december 8-10
**MAINE GAY MEN'S
CHORUS**

There's nothing strange about a chorus of gay and gay-supportive singers performing holiday songs associated with a repressive religion — the adherents of which are prone to condemn the very lifestyle the singers celebrate. What's strange is that such God-fearing people as Christians would dare to express hate for their fellow human beings at all. The Gay Men's Chorus' ninth annual holiday concert, "Together for the Holidays," features classic Christmas music, audience sing-alongs and the debut of Blaine Broad's "Festival of Light," a work celebrating Hanukkah written specifically for the concert. Wear your stockings to the Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 3 p.m. Tix: \$12-\$15. 772-1384.



Gay glee club: The Maine Gay Men's Chorus performs its holiday concert, "Together for the Holidays," Fri.-Sun., Dec. 8-10 at the Williston West Church.

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

C A L E N D A R



I believe I can fly: Cumberland County Sheriff Mark "Slammer" Jammer. Dion leads the Cumberland County All-Stars in a benefit basketball game against the Harlem Rockets on Fri., Dec. 8 at USM's Warren Hill Gymnasium. PHOTO: LUC DEMERS

sound bites

• Get saucy this season when the homegrown duo of singer Marie Pressman and pianist Edward Reichert come home to perform "Raise the Roof!" their new holiday-flavored cabaret act, on Sat., Dec. 9 at the Portland Museum of Art's café, 7 Congress Square, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$20 (includes food and drink). 773-0634.

• Get some holiday shopping out of the way by giving your kids the gift of a performance by children's entertainer Rick Charette on Sun., Dec. 10 at Greeley High School, Main Street, Cumberland Center (2 p.m./\$6, \$5 kids 10 and under). 829-5455.

• Hey, bro'. Dig this. Remember when I told you how that cat Tony Malaby, the killer tenor sax player, was coming with his group, Sabino? Well, man, it's happenin'! Wed., Dec. 13 at the Eastland Park Hotel's Cumberland Room, 157 High St., Portland (8 p.m./\$10-\$15, \$10 seniors and students).



friday-sunday, december 8-10
"MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS"

How bizarre can things get at a holiday concert by the conservative Portland Symphony Orchestra? Well, you may not believe it, but PSO conductor Toshiyuki Shimada has been known to wear — get this — a fuzzy red hat with a white brim and ball! That's so out there! Other than that, this year's "Magic of Christmas" concert features the usual feel-good attractions: Broadway singer Christiane Noll, 13-year-old Yarmouth singing star Laura Darrell, the Parish Bell Ringers of Brunswick, the Boy Singers of Maine, the PSO Brass Ensemble and the 120-voice Magic of Christmas Chorus. Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for donation to Portland's Wayside Evening Soup Kitchen. See the supernatural show at Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland. Fri. at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sat. and Sun. at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$14-\$42. Continues through Mon., Dec. 18. 842-0800.

tuesday, december 12
THIRD EYE BLIND

Here's something odd: Stephan Jenkins, frontman for mainstream modern rockers Third Eye Blind, claims on the band's Web site that the band didn't get into the business "to fit into the music scene around us. We did this because we didn't fit in," he said. Oops. As the group's sing-song hit single "Semi-Charmed Life" gets played on the radio for the 4 billionth time, it's safe to say Third Eye Blind has fit into the slick corporate rock scene like a glove. Of course, the band always has its ignorant dismissal of a tenet of several eastern religions to set it apart. The group's name, Jenkins said, "takes the piss out of that phony spiritual thing. Third Eye Blind has always been about real things." Whatever. The posers play with Sister Hazel, Dido, the Corrs and Soul Decision at the Civic Center, Portland, at 6 p.m. Tix: \$25. 775-3458.

quick picks

THURS., DEC. 7
• Remember those affected by gun-related violence when the Southern Maine Chapter of the Million Mom March holds a candlelight vigil with poetry and songs performed by Shoshana Hoose in Monument Square, Portland, at 5:30 p.m. 879-4062.
FRI., DEC. 8
• Score some honey at "The House at Pooh Corner" when the Children's Theatre of Maine presents the classic tale of Christopher Robin, Piglet, Tigger, Eeyore and Winnie the Pooh himself at the Children's Theatre of Maine, 317 Marginal Way, Portland, at 11 a.m. Tix: \$7 (\$5 kids). Continues through Sat., Dec. 23. 828-0617.
MON., DEC. 11
• Relax and help local families have a relaxed holiday, as well, when the Casco Bay YMCA hosts Massage Mania, a fund-raiser for its Holiday Helpline, during which licensed massage therapists will touch you for a donation, at the Casco Bay YMCA, 14 Old South Freeport Rd., Freeport, from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. 865-9600 x26.

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PERFORMANCE

Submissions for the performance section should be received two weeks prior to publication. Send to Chris Sudo, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or e-mail: listings@casco.org

DANCE

Bowdoin Dance Group Studio Show Thurs and Fri, Dec 7 and 8. Bowdoin College's Dance Group presents two programs of dance as part of its December studio show. Thurs, Dec 7, program A at 7 pm, program B at 9:30 pm. Fri, Dec 8, program B at 7 pm, program A at 9:30 pm. Ticket: free, but reservations are required. At Wish Theater, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, 725-3375.

Casco Bay Movers Winter Studio Show Sat, Dec 16. The studio presents an evening of jazz, hip hop and tap dancing featuring students, faculty and guest artists. At Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio, 151 St. John St., Portland, at 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Ticket: \$7, \$11-10.13.

THEATER

"Arsenic and Old Lace" Fri-Sun, Dec 8-10 and 15-17. Portland Players presents the classic story about drama critic Mortimer Brewster and his sweet, lonely old men-killing aunts. At Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland. Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2:30 pm. Ticket: \$15 (\$13 students and seniors). (community company) 799-7337.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" Fri-Sun, Dec 8-10 and 15-17. The Young Company presents the story of a couple who try to put on a Christmas pageant, their problem is that the only available actors are mean, nasty kids. Also includes the holiday favorites "A Child's Christmas in Wales" and "A Cajun Night Before Christmas." At the Theater Project, 14 School St., Brunswick. Fri and Sat at 7:30 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Ticket: \$8, 729-8584.

Sesame Street Live's "Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out" Thurs-Sun, Dec 7-10. The big yellow bird and his friends perform live on stage. At the Civic Center, Portland. Thurs at 7 pm, Fri at 10:30 am and 7 pm, Sat at 1 pm and 4:30 pm, Sun at 11 am and 4:30 pm. Ticket: \$11-\$16, 775-3458 or 775-3331.

"A Child's Christmas in Maine" Sat, Dec 9. Vintage Repertory Company presents Glenn Anderson and Jane Bergeron's adaptation of the Dylan Thomas classic, featuring wassals and English carols in four-part harmony. At the Church on the Cape, Cape Porpoise, Kennebunkport, at 2 pm. Ticket: \$8 (\$5 students and seniors). Also playing Wed, Dec 20 and Sun, Dec 24 at the Keystone Theatre in Portland. 774-1376.

"A Christmas Carol" Through Sat, Dec 23. MainePlay Productions presents Michael Tobin's adaptation of the Charles Dickens original. At the Keystone Theatre, 504 Congress St., Portland. Thurs at 7:30, Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Ticket: \$12. (professional non-equity company) 771-5611.

"A Christmas Carol" Through Sun, Dec 24. Portland Stage Company presents the Dickens classic. At Portland Performing Arts, 25 Forest Ave., Portland. Thurs and Fri at 7:30 pm, Sat at 4 pm and 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm, Wed at 2 pm and 7:30 pm. Ticket: \$27 (Wed and Thurs), \$32 (Fri-Sun).

(professional equity company) 774-1043.

"A Christmas Carol" Fri-Sun, Dec 8-10. The Public Theatre company also performs the Dickens classic, with a fiddler thrown in to spice things up. At the Public Theatre, Lisbon and Maple streets, Lewiston. Fri at 8 pm, Sat and 2 pm and 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Ticket: \$12, \$10-\$15 (\$10-\$12.50 students and seniors, \$8 under 12). (professional equity company) 782-3200 or 800-639-9875.

"A Christmas Carol" Fri-Sun, Dec 8-10 and 15-17. Schoolhouse Arts Center at Sebago Lake also presents the Charles Dickens classic. At Schoolhouse Arts Center, Route 114, Standish. Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Ticket: \$12 (\$10 students and seniors). (community theater company) 642-8273.

Comedy Connection Thurs, Dec 7. Al Ducharme at 8:30 pm. Ticket: \$6. Fri, Dec 8. Al Ducharme at 8:30 pm. Ticket: \$9. Sat, Dec 9. Al Ducharme at 7:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Ticket: \$9. Sun, Dec 10. George Hamer's Comedy Showcase at 8:30 pm. Ticket: \$6. At the Comedy Connection, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

"The House at Pooh Corner" Fri, Dec 8-Sat, Dec 23. The Children's Theatre of Maine presents the story of Christopher Robin and his friends Piglet, Eeyore and Winnie the Pooh. At CTM, 317 Marginal Way. Fri at 11 am, Sat and Sun at 11 am and 2 pm. Fri, Dec 8 at 11 am and 2 pm; there is no performance on Fri, Dec 15. Ticket: \$5 (kids; Sat, Dec 9 is pay-what-you-can-day), 828-0617.

"It's a Wonderful Life" Fri-Sun, Dec 8-10. Sanford Maine Stage presents a live performance of the Frank Capra holiday classic. At Sanford Maine Stage, Beaver Hill Rd., Springvale. Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Ticket: \$12 (\$8 students and seniors). (community company) 324-9691.

"Sanders Family Christmas: More Smoke on the Mountain" Fri and Sat, Dec 8 and 9. Studio Theatre presents a bluegrass musical comedy about a gospel singing family in the '40s. Please note the change in venue from last week's listing: at the United Church of Christ, 130 Congress St., Bath. Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 3 pm and 8 pm. Ticket: \$12 (\$10 students and seniors, under 5 free), 389-1759.

"A Sid & Nancy Xmas" Through Sat, Dec 23. Tekkani Productions debut with Kevin Scott's comedy about a fictional network television Christmas special starring former Sex Pistols bassist Sid Vicious, actors Tony Danza and John Belushi, and Tina Turner. At the Skinny, 625 Congress St., Portland. Thurs-Sat at 7 pm and 8 pm. Ticket: \$8 (\$21+). All-ages shows every Sat at 7 pm, 871-8983.

"The 6 Plagues of Burning Foul Mouth" Fri, Dec 8. Vasilios Gletsos performs six short plays for toy theater. At the Filament Gallery, 195 Congress St., Portland at 7:30 and 9 pm. Ticket: \$3, 775-0418.

The Station Thurs, Dec 7. The improv troupe Instant Comedy performs. At the Station, 246 St. John St., Portland, at 8:30 pm. Ticket: \$5, 773-3466.

"Unwritten Song" Fri-Sun, Dec 8-10 and Tues-Sat, Dec 12-16. The University of Southern Maine theater department presents an original musical comedy as part of its Student Playwright Showcase. Fri and Sat, Dec 8 and 9; and Tues-Sat, Dec 12-16 at 7:30 pm, Sun, Dec 10 at 5 pm. Ticket: \$10 (\$7 seniors, \$5 students), 780-5256.

Best friends bitching: Lee (Tara Smith, left) and Lu (Season Ellery) in USM's "The Unwritten Song."

An actress named Lu falls into an exhausted dream state. She and fellow actress Lee are acting in a play, but something's not right: Lee plays a man, and gets all the juicy lines and the action, while Lu is stuck with empty, airy dialogue. Sick of it all, she revolts. So goes the action in "The Unwritten Song," a play-within-a-play that is this year's student production from the University of Southern Maine's theater department. Written by former CBW advertising representative Tammy Duffy, the musical improv comedy pokes fun at a chauvinistic system that keeps actresses in lame roles (anyone familiar with James Bond movies can feel Lu's pain). Watch two females and one domineering male tackle these juicy roles when "The Unwritten Song" hits the stage on Fri, Dec 8 at Russell Hall on USM's Gorham campus, at 7:30 pm. Continues through Sat, Dec 16. Ticket: \$10 (\$7 seniors, \$5 students), 780-5256.

short

DAN SHORT

CUTS

Through the jam-band culture is known for practically worshipping the '60s, one aspect of that decade's music is de-emphasized — the politics.

There may be an occasional anti-war song, but most jam bands never rise above the standard world view that partying and a positive vibe will make everything all better. Which is why the local band Ishai's Story stands out.

Ishai's Story doesn't break with the jam-band ideology in any significant way, but it is more tough-minded and does acknowledge political issues. On its self-titled debut CD, the band attacks overconsumption and materialism, promotes pacifism and — to no one's surprise — also backs the legalization of pot.

Obviously, these stands won't cause much division among the jam-band set. Still, there is more hard-edged realism to Ishai's Story's views than one would expect, and the group's determination to push them to the forefront is refreshing. However, the songs can be dogmatic — the pro-legalization "Shiva's Blues" sounds more like a newspaper editorial.

Musically, there isn't anything unexpected on the CD. The eclectic mix of influences — rock, jazz, reggae, folk and world beat — is strictly within the jam-band mold, albeit a little bit more groove-oriented, and it's all competently performed. Lead singer Joshua Eden borrows a bit too much from Dave Matthews in terms of his tonal quality and phrasing, although there are far worse singers to be imitating.

The politics do yield one benefit: It keeps the nine-minute songs, such as "Walk Like Gandhi" and the aforementioned "Shiva's Blues," focused, where other bands would have descended into aimless solos in half the time.

The most memorable elements of the album are the quiet, acoustic ones. On "Arnica," "Watching the World Go By" and the instrumental "Children's Chapel," Ishai's Story achieves a level of intimacy and beauty that is rare in any genre today. There may be thousands of jam-bands out there, but Ishai's Story already is far better than most.

Ishai's Story's self-titled CD is available at local record stores.

Roads scholar

Like Ishai's Story, David Bullard makes ambitious music with eclectic sources. In Bullard's case, these include folk, blues, rock and pop, with a touch of jazz and gospel.

Unlike Ishai's Story, he doesn't want to change the world. On his CD, "Coastal Route 1," he records a long-distance travelogue via song, featuring such locales as New Orleans, Newfoundland and Ireland, just to name a few.

His ambitions may be grand, both musical and lyrically, but Bullard is a good enough songwriter to pull it all together. There are moments when he tries too hard, and the songs ring false, but those are few. Most of the music is melodic and evocative, in particular "Angel with Bloodshot Eyes."


Unfortunately, the recording quality doesn't live up to the musical ambitions. The CD has the same muffled sound one would expect from a live album, minus the crowd sounds. Some raw vocals and sloppy guitar fills contribute to that live feel. In fairness, perhaps it was done deliberately, to suggest the album had been recorded in bars and honky-tonks in the locales he sings about.

If that were Bullard's intent, he should have emphasized the positive attributes of a live recording — spontaneity and intensity — rather than the negative. As it is used on the CD, the low-fi recording is just an unfortunate distraction. Still, if one can get past the sound, there is plenty to recommend "Coastal Route 1" and David Bullard for lovers of both earthy music and the road.

David Bullard's "Coastal Route 1" is available at local record stores.

Correction

In Dan Short's Nov. 23 column, incorrect information was given about Corduroy Planet's CD "Fragile." The CD is not available in local record stores.



STONE COAST BREWING CO.
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thursday, dec 7th 9PM NO COVER
DON CORMANS Karaoke

friday, dec 8th 9PM
Phoenix Holiday Party

monday, dec 11th 9PM
monday night eggbot

tuesday, dec 12th 9PM
DOLLAR BEER NIGHT
HIP HOP OPEN MIC WITH THE BORG

friday, dec 15th 9PM
VICTOR WOOTEN
(OF THE FLECKTONES)

saturday, dec 16th 9PM
Reelings, Hawthorne, Miss Fortune


friday, dec 22nd 9PM
The Borg
on christmas day

The Horror and Eggbot
Upcoming Freerider 12/29

EVERY DAY SCHEDULE
every sunday free pool
every monday night eggbot
every tuesday Hip Hop Open Mic
every thursday Corners Karaoke
every friday Happy Hour 5-7PM
Free Portland Pie Company Pizza

TICKETS
Get tickets to Stone Coast and State Theatre shows at the State Theatre Box Office, 609 Congress St, Mon-Sat Noon-6 or at any Ticketmaster outlet.

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MUSIC



Prime cut

Jerome Kyles leads All God's Children at the Center for Cultural Exchange on Saturday, Dec. 9.

One way to keep warm in these days of bitter cold temperatures is to sing your lungs out until you're blue in the face, collapse, wake up three hours later, and repeat until it's springtime again. An even better way is to see the gospel choir **All God's Children** perform, and let them do the singing for you. The choir, which hails from Morningstar Baptist Church in Dorchester, Mass., and is led by Jerome Kyles, will help you warm up in no time with its soul-stirring music. This year's "A Gospel Holiday" also features the sweet sounds of Praise and Worship, another Boston choir. It all happens at the Center for Cultural Exchange, 1 Longfellow Square, on Sat, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$16-\$19. 761-1545.

thursday 7

The Alehouse 12 (8:30 pm/no cover/21+)
DJ Joni (dance/9 pm/no cover/21+)
The Better End (DJ) (dance/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Bramhall Pub (Jazz of Blues/10 pm/52/21+)
Breakaway Blues Lounge (Lain Club Night 8:30 lessons, 9 pm music/54/21+)
Brian Boni (Stream Veggie/9:30 pm/no cover/21+)
Center for Cultural Exchange (Open Riddle night with Don Roy 7:30 pm/lessons accepted/ Clay by the Bay Acoustic night 7-10 pm/56 per hour, students \$3)
Commercial Street Pub (Jeff Aumiller folk rock/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Granny's Burritos (Open mic with Kari and Scottie 8:30 pm/no cover/21+)
First Parish Church (Choral Art Society Concert 11:25-12:45 pm/free)
Free Street Taverna (Rock acoustic rock/10 pm/no cover/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Jack Magee's Pub (Tim Heron Corporation folk rock/8:30 pm/free)
Ludick Auditorium (Candle Lighting Celebration with carols, gospel, Kwanza songs and more, featuring Mark Rust 6 pm/free)
Old Port Tavern (Author Unknown 110 pm/no cover/21+)
Breakaway Blues Lounge (Elmore Twist Band 9 pm/53/21+)
Valley's Hard Rock 11:30 pm/no cover/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Windham Primary School 3rd Grade Chorus Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Park Street The (11:30 pm/same as above)

friday 8

The Alehouse (The Boneheads rhythm and blues/9:30 pm/53/21+)
The Better End (Head CD release party with Seventeen and GDO alternative rock/10 pm/51/21+)
Biddleford City Theater 205 Main St, Biddleford (Alumni Band Christmas Concert with guest musicians big band and classical/7:30 pm/50/282-0254)
The Big Easy (Sandra Hall blues/9 pm/53/21+)
Bordens Cafe Espresso (Anti Dark 8 pm/free)
Breakaway Blues Lounge (Elmore Twist Band 9 pm/53/21+)
Brian Boni (Rakish Paddy traditional Irish/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Bridgeway Restaurant (Bobby Lane jazz/6 pm/no cover/21+)
Center for Cultural Exchange (Ballet in the Caribbean dance/8 pm/55)

saturday 9

The Alehouse (Reverend Groove original funk/9:30 pm/52/21+)
Biddleford City Theater 205 Main St, Biddleford (Alumni Band Christmas Concert with several guest musicians big band and classical/7:30 pm/50/282-0254)
The Big Easy (Jeff Mitchell and Texas Road 8:30 pm/52/21+)
Bordens Cafe Espresso (Five in Time la capella/2 pm/free)
Bordwell Chapel Bowdoin College, Brunswick (Rebecca Sears' violin recital classical/7:30 pm/free/775-3321)
Bramhall Pub (The Moody March Rambles blues/10 pm/no cover/21+)
Breakaway Blues Lounge (Latin Dance Night 9 pm/cover T.B.A./21+)
Bridgeway Restaurant (Bobby Lane jazz/6 pm/no cover/21+)
Center for Cultural Exchange ("A Gospel Holiday" with All God's Children and Praise & Worship 8 pm/56/21+)
Somewhere (Charlie Brown piano/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Stone Coast Brewing Company ("First Annual Holiday Fest" with the Readings, WOW, Twilochy and Jeremiah Freed 8 pm/free - please bring canned goods/21+)
The Underground (DJ Ken 9 pm-1:30 am/53/21+)
William West Church (Maine Gay Men's Chorus holiday concert 8 pm/512-515)

thursday 10

Ben Trott 16:30 pm/no cover/21+)
Merrill Auditorium ("The Magic of Christmas" concert with Portland Symphony Orchestra, Christiane Hall and others 12 pm and 7:30 pm/54-542, \$12-\$38 kids and seniors)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (First Congregational Church of South Portland Choir Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Oscar 112:30 pm/same as above/ First Parish Church of Yarmouth Choir 12 pm/same as above/ USM Chamber Singers 8 pm/same as above)
The Roost Function Hall Chicopee Rd, Buxton (Bluegrass Music Association of Maine's open jam session 11-6 pm/53/879-9452)
The Skinny (WMPG "True Mic" Hip Hop MC Battle, hosted by Sage Francis trap contest/6-9 pm/55)
Olin Arts Center (Karichstein - Laredo - Robinson Trio classical/8 pm/512, \$8 students and seniors/786-6252)
The Pavilion (DJ Thunder 10:40 dance/9 pm/53 after 10 pm/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Maine Suzuki Association Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors, \$1 kids 6-12)
"Raise the Roof" with vocalists Marie Presman and pianist Edward Reichert cabaret/8 pm/520
Silver House Tavern (Karaoke 9 pm/no cover/21+)
Sisters (DJ Kate 9 pm/53/21+)
The Skinny (The Ray Mason Band Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Somewhere (DJ Ron 9 pm/no cover/21+)
Stone Coast Brewing Company (Babylon 8 pm/52/21+)
The Underground (DJ Mikel 9 pm-1:30 am/53/21+)
Unitarian Church Pleasant St, Brunswick ("Hey Ho the Holy" Christmas show Celtic folk/57, \$5 students and seniors/529-4389)
William West Church (Maine Gay Men's Chorus holiday concert 8 pm/512-515)

thursday 11

Free Street Taverna (Open mic with Hawk 10 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
Stone Coast Brewing Company (Eggbot's Test Revival Crusade 110 pm/no cover/21+)
Timothy Episcopal Church 113 Cyle St, Portland ("Messiah Sing" with the Choral Art Society 7:30 pm/53/828-0049)
Zootz ("Hey Ho the Holy" Christmas show Celtic folk/57, \$5 students and seniors/529-4389)

thursday 12

The Better End (Dance night with DJ Jon 9 pm/no cover/21+)
The Big Easy Blues Club (St. Ch. Funk rock/9:30 pm/52/21+)
Bridgeway Restaurant (The Doane Brothers jazz/7 pm/53)
Civic Center (Third Eye Blind, Street Haze, Dido, The Corrs, Soul Decadence, No Authority and Evan & Jaron pop rock/9 pm/525)
Commercial Street Pub (Acoustic open mic with Keith Bine 8 pm/no cover/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Country karaoke 9 pm/no cover/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Catholic Chamber Singers 11:30 am/56, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Lincoln Middle School Chorus (Inno/same as above)
Kennedy School Chorus 11:30 pm/same as above)
Somewhere (Karaoke with Jeff Rockwell 9 pm-1 am/no cover/21+)
Stone Coast Brewing Company (Hip hop open mic night 110 pm/51/21+)
Three Dollar Dewey's (Chris Hight 5:30 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 13

The Better End (Edge Pink Floyd covers/10 pm/no cover/21+)
Breakaway Blues Lounge (Lain Club Night lessons at 8:30 pm, music at 9 pm/54/21+)
Bridgeway Restaurant (Doc Hudson jazz/6 pm/no cover/21+)
Center for Cultural Exchange (Klemer instrumental workshop with Alicia Smith 7:30 pm/55)
C.J. Thine's (Karaoke with Jeff Rockwell 9 pm/no cover/21+)
Commercial Street Pub (Jeff Aumiller folk rock/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Downeast Restaurant (Port City Jazz 17:9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 14

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 15

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 16

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 17

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 18

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 19

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 20

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 21

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 22

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 23

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 24

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 25

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 26

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 27

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 28

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 29

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 30

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 31

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 32

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 33

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 34

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 35

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
The Iguala (The best of the '70s, '80s and '90s dance music/9 pm/no cover/21+)
Old Port Tavern (Karaoke with Don Cornan 110 pm/no cover/21+)
The Pavilion (DJ Shane Staples 10:40 dance Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
Portland Museum of Art (Pine Tree State Chorus 11:30 am/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Coffin School Chorus Inno/same as above)
Wayline School Chorus 11:30 pm/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Sisters (Karaoke with Neil and Jackie 9 pm/no cover/21+)

thursday 36

Uncle Billy's Bar-B-Que Restaurant (West Coast Sim Inno/96, \$5 students and seniors/1 kids 6-12)
Eastland Park Hotel (Tony Molloy and Sabino jazz quartet/8 pm/510-515, \$10 seniors and students/21+)

thursday 37

Free Street Taverna (Jenny Jumpsstart and the Cap Guns Inno/9 pm/51/21+)
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Dining GUIDE

Dinner 5:30 pm Mon - Sat
Brunch 7:00 am - 2 pm Daily



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AMERICAN
Cafe**

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98 Portland St., Portland

molly's in the Steakhouse & Irish Pub OLD PORT Already Famous Sunday Brunch: ~ 10:30-3:30

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Hours: Mon-Sat, Lunch 11:30-4:00; Sun-Thurs, Dinner 4:00-9:00
Fri & Sat, Dinner 4:00-10:00; Sunday Brunch 10:30-3:30

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Every Monday & Tuesday Evening

All Entrees 1/2 Price
New Menu Every Week!

Featuring The Seacoasts Freshest Selection

Natasha's

Dinner Tues-Sat • New Winter Menu
Mon. Free Lunch 11:30-1:30 • Brunch/Lunch Tues-Fri 9-2:30
Brunch Sat-Sun 8-2:30 • Dinner Tues-Thurs 5-9 • Dinner Fri-Sat 5-9:30
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NOW!
Warm up to some
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Dinner @ 5 Seven Nights. Lunch Weekdays 11:30-2
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Dinner Specials Every Day
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freshest daily seafood, perfectly grilled steaks and the best
deli sandwiches and salads! Come relax in our friendly
lounge or have a private dinner in our dining room. Open
late every day of the week. 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Visit us at
both of our locations: 164 Middle St. in the Old Port or at
the Maine Mall in South Portland. Portland 207-775-BEER
• South Portland 207-879-ALES •
www.sebagobrewing.com
BENEFITS. Voted #1 Old Port Tavern & Best spot in the Old
Port with reviews from Boston, Toronto to prove it - Great
homemade soups & chowders & specials. Smokers wel-
come. Open 7 days per week 11am-1am. 330 Fore
Street, Portland, 772-5656.
RUSKIS. Listed by Downeast Magazine as the Place to Go
in Portland - Has won #1 Tavern in Portland, #1 Breakfast
Spot & others for years. Happy Hour both AM & PM. Full
menu all day & night. Smokers welcome. Open Monday-
Sat 7am-1am. Sundays 9am-1am. 212 Danforth Street,
Portland, 774-7604.
BARBEQUE
STICK TO YOUR RIBS BBQ & DRIVE-IN. A great place for
Ribs & Beef ME's best BBQ, featuring authentic smoked
BBQ ribs, bbq chicken, Texas brisket, pulled pork, pulled
chicken, Texas brisket chili, smoked turkey club and
smoked sausage. This original 1950's diner has both
indoor dining and car service. Offering a BBQ buffet on
Mon & Wed. Also serving their famous batter fried clams,
lobster rolls, lobster stew, hamburgers, fries and much
more. Breakfast 6-11 am. Open Sun-Th 11am-8:30pm,
Fri-Sat 11am-9pm. 18 Bath Rd, Brunswick 729-9439.
CAFE
BINTLIFF'S AMERICAN CAFE. Serving Brunch Daily 7am-
2pm. Featuring... custom omelets, tortillas, specialty
benedicts, homemade granola and other American Fusion
Cuisine. Select dinner menu served Mon-Sat 5:30pm-
9pm. Homemade soups, extensive wine list and full bar,
all complimented by warm, comfortable Greek Revival sur-
roundings. 98 Portland St (across from the Post Office)
774-0005.
FRIENDSHIP CAFE. Enjoy breakfast and lunch in a friendly,
casual atmosphere. For brunch, over-stuffed omelets,
fresh quiche, pancakes and more served all day. Lunch
includes a wide variety of soups and sandwiches. Daily
lunch and brunch specials also available. Specialty coffee
drinks. Rated ***** in Go magazine. Open Mon-Sat,
7am-2pm, Sun 7:30-2pm. 703 Congress St. in Portland,
871-5005.
VICTORY CAFE & BAKERY. offers a fusion of traditional
dishes with an eclectic menu of specials made fresh daily
from the finest ingredients. Enjoy breakfast, lunch, tradi-
tional afternoon tea, and tapas in a friendly, relaxing, white
linen setting and refined atmosphere overlooking Monument
Square. Eggs Benedict, fresh quiche, Belgian waffles,

and cafe made stews, panini, soups, desserts, and more
are served daily. Our coffee is the freshest cup in Portland
- it is roasted in the cafe for you. Our tea (Yorkshire Gold)
is imported from England and has been acclaimed by the
British Tea Council as "the best cup of tea in England." The
cafe has a unique wine list and a selection of international
beers. Hrs. 7-7 Mon-Fri, Sat & Sun 8-3. 772-7299.
CHINESE
ORIENTAL TABLE. Szechuan, Hunan & Cantonese. We will
prepare any of our dishes to your liking. We are happy to
accommodate your special request, please let us know
your preferences. We serve many vegetarian and heart-
healthy choices. Hrs: Mon-Th 11:30am-8pm, Fri & Sat
11:30am-9pm, Sunday closed. 108 Exchange St. top of
the Old Port Portland. Tel. 775-3388, Fax: 772-3388.
ECLECTIC
CAFE UFFA. Delicious food served in casual & friendly
cafe that features local artists' work. Almond Encrusted
Salmon on a Sugar Snap Pea, Vidalia Onion and Butternut
Squash Ragout, Beef Tenderloin with Mustard Sauce and
Scalloped Potatoes, Asparagus, Wild Mushroom & Corn
Risotto. Entrees \$10-\$18. Breakfasts feature creative
scrambles and omelets, Maine Blueberry pancakes with
real maple syrup, and thick sliced smoked bacon. \$4.50-
\$7. Dinners W-Sat. 5:30-10pm; Breakfasts Th-Fri. 7-11am,
Sat. 8am-noon, Sun. 9am-2pm. 190 State St., Portland,
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DAVID'S CREATIVE CUISINE. An established Portland
favorite, David's offers casual fine dining in a comfortable
atmosphere. Featuring nightly specials made with the
finest local ingredients, fresh baked bread and profession-
al waitstaff. Extensive wine list, full bar and the best single
malt selection in Portland. Located on Monument Square
across from the Portland Public Library, within walking
distance to Merrill Auditorium. Reservations recommended.
Lunch 11:30-4:00 PM. Dinner 7 nights at 5pm. Sunday night
jazz 6-9pm. 773-4340.
KATAHDIN. Spring & High Sts. 774-1740. Featuring Port-
land's most eclectic & best tasting menu. Great foods
made with only the freshest of ingredients. Come and
enjoy the fun atmosphere, nationally published recipes
and award-winning desserts. Open Tue-Th 5p-9:30p, F &
Sat 5p-10:30p.
GREAT LOST BEAR. Full bar - now featuring 50 beers on
tap. Extensive menu... sandwiches, soups, salads, platters.
Lunch or dinner in the mysterious Woodfords area. MC,
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Grill. Not always simple, but always sensibly designed
meals, buying local & organic meats, produce & breads.
Lucky Little Noodle Bowl w/ Vegetarian Potstickers,
Crackin' Rice Bowl w/ 5 spice Pork, Vegetarian Pot au feu
w/ Fresh Mozzarella, Pan Seared Sea Scallops w/ Tobiko
& scallops, Strep w/ Goat Cheese crispy ravioli salad.
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Sun 9-2
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restaurant, great for a quick lunch or a night on the town.
From fresh lobster & steak to a range of vegetarian items,
and fresh soups made everyday. Stone Coast has some-
thing for everyone. Open everyday 11:30am serving til
10:00pm Sun-Thur. 11:00 Fri & Sat. Plenty of free park-
ing. 14 York St., Gorham Corner, Portland. 773-BEER.
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Q'S ICE CREAM. Q's own homemade super premium ice
cream, made exclusively on the premises using only the
finest ingredients. Also serving Green Mountain Coffee,
cappuccino, espresso, baked goods & other inspired
desserts. Relax in a warm, friendly atmosphere. Open til
10:30 pm Friday and Saturday, 9 pm Sunday through
Thursday. 505 Fore St., Portland. 773-7017.
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MOLLY'S STEAKHOUSE & IRISH PUB. Molly's delicious
fare & fun atmosphere has taken Portland by storm. Have
you tried it yet? Affordable, knock your socks off drinks,
tasty pub fare & exquisite entrees! Countdown to St.
Patty's Day the 17th of every month. Drink specials &
give-aways! 46 Market St., Portland, ME. 761-4094.
ITALIAN
BELLA CUCINA. Alberta's, The Good Egg Cafe, Bella
Bella, Zephyr Grill and now Bella Cucina. This one serves
"country-Italian" whatever that means. Here it means
salmon polpettone on shellfish risotto, roasted gnocchi
with shrimp salad, wood roasted veal chops stuffed with
rabbit sausage. Longfellow Square - open every night @
5pm - free parking behind Joe's Smoke Shop. 100 selec-
tion wine list that changes daily, reservations accepted.
653 Congress St., Portland. 828-4033.
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SAPPORO. Best sushi in town. Chicken & Beef Teri-Yaki.
Shrimp tempura. Sukiyaki. Vegetarian entrees & sushi.
Popular weekly luncheon box. Dine-in or take-out. Free
parking available. Tel: 772-1233, Fax 871-9275. 230
Commercial St., Union Wharf Portland.
BENKAY. Sushi Bar & Japanese Restaurant. Known for
premium quality sushi, traditional and fancy maki rolls,
tempura, teriyaki, sukiyaki, shabu-shabu. Elegant dining
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and cooked selections. Serving lunch and dinner. Rock
N Roll Sushi Thurs-Sat 11am-2am. 2 India Street, Portland
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AMIGOS. Maine's first Mexican restaurant. Celebrat-
ing 25 years in the Old Port. Full Bar • Happy Hour 4-
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GRANNY'S BURRITOS. All of your Mexican favorites
featuring Portland's Best Burritos. Everything pre-
pared w/fresh ingredients & made daily on premises.
Start w/ nachos or quesadillas, then try one of our
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in Granny's Attic. M-Th 11-10pm, F 11-12, Sat 12-12,
Sun 12-9. 420 Fore St. 761-0751.
MESA VERDE. Mexican Restaurant and Juice Bar.
Authentic Mexican food. Homemade healthy & pre-
pared naturally. Happy Hour Tues-Fri 2p-6p. Enjoy
Chiles Rellenos, Homemade Tamales, fresh juices,
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smoothies. Casual atmosphere. Serving lunch & din-
ner. Take-out available. 618 Congress Street (across
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FALMOUTH SEA GRILL. Relax and enjoy fabulous
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Breath taking views, cozy fireplace. Extensive wine
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J'S OYSTER. Enjoy white linen quality dining in a
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OPEN NEW YEAR'S EVE — ALL DAY • ALL EVENING
BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED STARTING AT 12:30 AM ON NEW YEAR'S DAY
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SUNDAY NIGHT
DECEMBER 31ST
two seatings by reservation only

lobster martinis caesar salads crab cakes baked goat cheese
prince edward island steamed mussels london broil seafood w/oi
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VISUAL arts

Submissions for the visual arts section should be received two weeks prior to publication. Send to Bill Siever, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St, Portland, ME 04101 or e-mail listings@maine.rr.com.

openings

The Clown 123 Middle St, Portland. Opening reception for recent paintings by Paul Miyamoto, photographs by David Klopstein and work by French metalsmith Jérôme Douillet, Thurs, Dec 7 from 6-8 pm. Show through Tues, Jan 2. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs-Sat 10 am-7 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 756-7399.

Danforth Gallery and VIA 34 Danforth St, Portland. Open house and opening reception for works by University of Southern Maine seniors Kaylene Waindel and Jamison York, Sat, Dec 9. Open house from noon-8 pm, reception from 5-8 pm. Shows on an ongoing basis. Lipsairs, at VIA, opening reception for mixed media by Louise Philbrook, photographs by Bernard C. Meyers and paintings by Janice L. Moore. Shows on an ongoing basis. Hours: Thurs-Sat 1-8 pm. 775-6245.

June Fitzpatrick Alternative Space 652 Congress St, Portland. Opening reception for paintings on tin by Dana Moses, Fri, Dec 8 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Sat, Dec 23. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-5 pm. 772-1961.

Forty Five Degrees Artisan's Gallery 169 Fort Rd, Kennebunk. Opening reception for "The Christmas Show," works in various media by over 20 artists, Sat, Dec 9 from 5-8 pm. Shows through Sat, Jan 6. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-3 pm. 967-4505.

Green Design Furniture 267 Commercial St, Portland. Opening reception for photography by Scott Dorrance, Thurs, Dec 7 from 5:30-7 pm. Shows through Wed, Jan 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 775-4234.

Pearl-MacMillan Arctic Museum showing at Hubbard Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. "Them Days, Stories of Early Labrador," photographs by Donald B. MacMillan, shows through Sun, March 11. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. 725-3416.

University of Southern Maine Area Gallery Woodbury Campus Center, Portland. Opening reception for "Pastels in Light," paintings by Pamela J. Nunes, Tues, Dec 12 from 5:30-8:30 pm. Shows through Fri, Dec 22. Hours: Mon-Thurs 8 am-10 pm, Fri 9 am-5 pm. 780-5256.

galleries

The Artistry 547A Congress St #57, Portland. Contemporary sculpture, painting, video and other works by Sydney Michaels, Todd Bernard, Aaron Frederick, John Ivory and Mary Schmaeling are ongoing. Shows by appointment. For more info, call Aaron at 772-9012.

Aucocisco 615 Congress St, Portland. Paintings by Abby Shahn and mixed media by Jim Flahaven show through Sun, Dec 31. Paintings by Michael Waterman, George Lloyd, Alice Spencer, Abby Shahn, Carlo Pittore and Gail Savien and photographs by Rose Marasco and Todd Webb show on an ongoing basis in the upstairs gallery. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-7 pm and by appointment. www.aucocisco.com. 874-2060.

Chocolate Church Arts Center 798 Washington St, Bath. "Members' Holiday 2000 Exhibit," an exhibit of works by Chocolate Church Member Artists, shows through Fri, Dec 22. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-4 pm, Sat

noon-4 pm. 442-8455.

Creative Photographic Art Center Bates Mill Complex, Chestnut St, Lewiston. "Lewis Hine: The Child Labor Photographs in Maine 1909-1911," photographs by Hine, shows through Sat, Jan 20. Hours: Mon-Thurs 9 am-8 pm, Fri 9 am-4 pm, Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 782-1369.

Davidson and Daughters Contemporary Art 148 High St, Portland. "Learning Into Winter," frescoes by Barbara Sullivan, "Faces," drawings by Robert Nason; and art and artifacts of Burma, China and Vietnam, curated by Rich Blumm, show through Sat, Dec 30. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 780-0766.

Deiliah Pottery 134 Spring St, Portland. Oil paintings by Paul Brahms show through Wed, Feb 28. Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-6 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

J. Dube Art Studio & Gallery 22 Pine St, Lewiston. Polaroid transfer prints by Diane Langley shows through Fri, Dec 29. Hours: Tues-Fri 3:30-7 pm; Sat, 10-4 pm. 786-7581.

Eastland Gallery 157 High St, Portland. "Toy Show," an exhibit of fine arts and crafts by a variety of artists, shows through Sun, Dec 31. Contemporary art jewelry by Robert Dancic, Peggy Johnson, Martha Avrett, Jocelyn Pollard and Jennifer Nielsen is ongoing. Hours: noon-5 pm daily. Paintings by Ted Arnold show in the Eastland Park Hotel lobby on an ongoing basis. 775-2227.

Filament Gallery 195 Congress St, Portland. A holiday show featuring blown glass, dolls, paper lanterns, Medusa hats, chenille scarves and more by gallery artists shows through Sat, Dec 30. Hours: Wed-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 775-0418.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St, Portland. Wood-fired and glaze-ware ceramics by Sequoia Miller show through Sat, Dec 16. Hours: Tues-Sat, 12-5 pm. 772-1961.

547A Congress St #20 Portland. "Surf Maine," a photography project documenting surfers in Maine, shows by appointment on an ongoing basis. 871-1094.

Hay Gallery 594 Congress St, Portland. "The Hay Gallery Holiday Show," fine art, sculpture, glass, jewelry, ceramics and more, shows through Fri, Jan 12. Hours: Tues-Thurs, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Fri 10 am-9 pm. 773-2513.

Hole in the Wall Studioworks 1544 Route 302, Raymond. "Art for the Holidays," an exhibit of works selected for holiday gift-giving, shows through Tues, Jan 30. Hours: Wed-Mon 9:30 am-5:30 pm. 655-4952.

ICON Contemporary Art 19 Mason St, Brunswick. "Furniture III," furniture by 12 Maine craftsmen, shows through Sun, Dec 24. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

Institute of Contemporary Art 522 Congress St, Portland. "Negotiating Figurative Abstraction," paintings by Sean Foley, Jo Ann Jones and Amy Ross, shows through Thurs, Dec 21. Hours: Wed, Fri-Sun 11 am-5 pm; Thurs 11 am-7 pm. 775-5098.

Jewett Hall Gallery The University of Maine, Augusta. "The Paintings of Maggie Carlson" shows through Thurs, Dec 7. Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am-6 pm. 621-3286.

Maine Art Gallery Route 9, Kennebunkport. Paintings and prints by New England artists are ongoing. Hours: 10 am-5 pm daily. 967-2803.

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

Montgomery Memorial Gallery 522 Congress St, Portland. Work by Claude Montgomery is ongoing. Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri and Sat 11 am-4 pm; Thurs 11 am-8 pm. 775-5098.

The New O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St, Brunswick. "Marguerite Lawler Arises," new pastels by Lawler, shows through Sat, Feb 17. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 729-8228.

189 Main 189 Main St, Yarmouth. Furniture, art and contemporary crafts by Duane Patricio, Jack Montgomery, Jennifer Phillips Sirobe, Frank Valliere, Audrey Nichols, Roger Bisallion, Nancy Meader, Nancy Carroll, Marie Demicco, Hillary Hutton and others is ongoing. Hours: Mon, Wed and Thurs 9 am-4 pm; Tues, Fri and Sat 9 am-6 pm; Sun noon-6 pm. 846-0678.

Radiant Light Gallery 142 High St, Portland. "Moving Images: Figures in Dynamic Tension," photographs by

Stuart Nudelman, Michael Philip Manheim, Paul Mahder and others, shows on an ongoing basis. Hours: Sat 11 am-6 pm and by appointment. 252-7258.

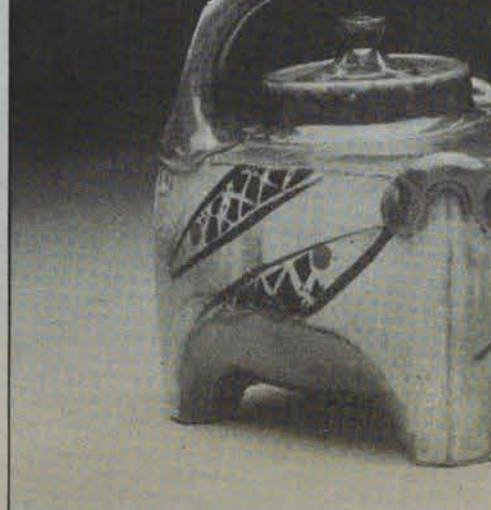
William Richey - Fine Jewelry Gallery 150 High St, Portland. Fine art jewelry by Richey is ongoing. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 879-2216.

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

The Stein Gallery 195 Middle St, Portland. The "Stein Gallery Holiday Jewelry Show" shows through Sun, Feb 25. The "5th Annual Perfume Bottle Show," ornamental perfume bottles by 15 American glass artists, shows through Tues, Dec 19. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-6 pm. 772-9072.

Studio 656 656 Congress St, Portland. "Recent Work by John Driscoll" shows on an ongoing basis by appointment and during First Friday Art Walks. 871-3922.

Three Fish Gallery 377 Cumberland Ave, Portland. "The Art of Wood: Objects to Support Mindful Living," iconographic paintings, cabinetry and collages by Will Zell, shows through Sat, Dec 30. Hours: Fri-Sun noon-6 pm. 773-4773.



"Faceted Teapot with Fish," by Sequoia Miller, part of an exhibit of Miller's wood-fired and glaze-ware ceramics showing at June Fitzpatrick Gallery through Sat, Dec 16.

University of Southern Maine Art Gallery USM's Gorham campus. Recent paintings by Alan Bray show through Sun, Dec 10. Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-4 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 780-5009.

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

C.W. White Gallery 7 Pleasant St, Portland. A rotating exhibition of mixed-media, primarily abstract paintings by Casa Bacot, Tom Fertig, Roy Lerner, Marjorie Minkin, Jerald Webster and Pamela Wilson is ongoing. Hours: Thurs-Sat 11 am-5 pm and by appointment. 871-7282.

Zero Station 380 Cottage Rd, South Portland. "Zero Hothouse Lounge," an exhibit of contemporary furniture, lighting, ceramics, and more, shows through Sun, Dec 31. Hours: Tues-Sun 10 am-6 pm. 767-2788.

museums

Bates College Museum of Art Olin Arts Center, 75 Russell St, Lewiston. "Andrew Wyeth: Her Room," works by Andrew Wyeth curated by his granddaughter, Victoria Wyeth, shows through Fri, March 30. Highlights from the permanent collection are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Free. 786-6158.

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

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

* **"Art and Life in the Ancient Mediterranean"** and **"American Murals"** are ongoing.

* **"Art, Religion and American Culture,"** drawings, prints and photographs of religious subjects by American artists, shows through Sun, Dec 10.

* **"Brutal Beauty: Paintings by Walton Ford,"** realistic paintings of birds, shows through Sun, Dec 10.

* **European art** from the permanent collection is ongoing.

Colby College Museum of Art Colby College, Waterville. "The Quest for Enlightenment in Tokugawa, Japan's Urban Center,"

an exhibit of Japanese religious and secular art by four East Asian Studies students, shows through Sun, Feb 4. The annual Fall Faculty Art Exhibit shows through Fri, Dec 22. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-4:30 pm, Sun 2-4:30 pm. Free. 872-3228.

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

The Museum of African Tribal Art 122 Spring St, Portland. "Housing the Spirits in Bronze," ceremonial bronze artifacts from the Yoruba and Benin kingdoms; "The Spirit of the Igbo Masks," Igbo masks; and other objects representing over 1,000 years of sub-Saharan history, are ongoing. Hours: Tues-Fri 10:30 am-5 pm, Sat 12:30-5 pm. Free. 871-7188.

Pejepscot Museum 159 Park Row, Brunswick. "Currents of Change: Understanding the Androscoquina," historical exhibit of photographs, maps, objects and installations, shows through Wed, Jan 31. Hours: Tues, Wed and Fri 9 am-5 pm; Thurs 9 am-8 pm; Sat 9 am-4 pm. Free. 729-6606.

VISUAL arts

Barbara's Kitchen 388 Cottage Rd, South Portland. Recent oil paintings by Dennis Fournier are ongoing. Hours: Tues-Thurs 7 am-2 pm, Fri 7 am-2 pm and 5-9 pm, Sat 8 am-2 pm and 5-9 pm, Sun 8 am-2 pm. 767-6313.

Center for Cultural Exchange 1 Longfellow Square, Portland. "Faces of Tomorrow," photographs by Cambodian artist Toro Vann, shows through Thurs, Feb 1. Hours: Tues-Fri 8:30 am-3 pm, Sat 10 am-3 pm and during all performances at the center. 761-0591.

Coffee By Design 620 Congress St, Portland. 780-4850.

Java Joe's 13 Exchange St, Portland. Recent paintings by David A. Marshall, show through Sun, Dec 24. Hours: Mon-Sat 7:30 am-10 pm, Sun 9 am-10 pm. 761-4728.

Maine Photo Co-op 100 Oak St, Portland. "Windows of Time," an exhibit of photographs by Christopher Baby, shows through Sun, Dec 10. Hours: Tues-Thurs 5-9 pm, Sat 10 am-2 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 774-1900.

Maine Potters Market 376 Fore St, Portland. New work by Nancy Button, Gail Kass, Susan Horowitz, Chris Peck, Michael and Petra Remisen and Barbara Walch is ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 774-1633.

Merrill Memorial Library 215 Main St, Yarmouth. Collages, paintings and mixed media by Susan Myer Fahlgren show through Fri, Jan 5. Hours: Mon, Fri, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Tues, Wed, Thurs 10 am-8 pm. 846-4763.

Miles Memorial Hospital Damariscotta. Paintings of birds and other wildlife by Julie Babb show through Fri, Dec 29, during hospital hours. 677-3459.

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers 149 Main St, Freeport. Hand-woven rugs by Camilla Stege show through Sun, Feb 4. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-5 pm. 865-4519.

Muskie School of Public Service University of Southern Maine's Portland campus, Falmouth St, Portland. "2600 Hours of Community Service," photographs by George Hamilton, is ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm. 780-4000.

Patricio's 579 Congress St, Portland. Selections from the Hay Gallery by Duane Patricio, Laura Fuller, Sara Gray, Michael Libby, Janice Lynch, Gary Robinson, Jane Page and Shoshanna White are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Thurs 6 am-8 pm, Fri 6 am-10 pm, Sat 7 am-10 pm, Sun 7 am-6 pm. 761-0334.

Primarily Thalia, acrylic paintings on paper and wood by David Cedrone, shows through Tues, Jan 16. Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 am-9 pm, Sat 7 am-8 pm, Sun 7 am-7 pm. 772-5533.

Coffee By Design 67 India St, Portland. "Primarily Thalia," acrylic paintings on paper and wood by David Cedrone, shows through Tues, Jan 16. Hours: Mon-Fri 6:30 am-6 pm, Sat 6:30 am-6 pm, Sun 8 am-2 pm. 879-2233.

Falmouth Memorial Library 5 Lunt Rd. "I Had a Dream About an Elephant," mixed-media drawings by Sarah Hutt, shows through Sat, Dec 9. Hours: Tues and Thurs 9:30 am-8 pm; Wed, Fri and Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 781-2351.

Gisland Farm Environmental Center Route 1, Falmouth. An exhibit of decorative birdbaths by Stephen Parnley shows through Sat, Dec 30. Hours: Mon-Sat 9 am-5 pm, Sun noon-4 pm. 781-2330.

Glickman Family Library Forest Ave, Portland. "Charting Neptune's Realm: From Classical Mythology to Satellite Imagery," a cartographic exhibit, shows through Sat, Jan 11. Hours: Tues 12:30-4:30 pm, Wed and Thurs 12:30-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Sat 9 am-1

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Starbucks 176 Middle St, Portland. Selections from the Hay Gallery by Duane Patricio, Laura Fuller, Sara Gray, Michael Libby, Janice Lynch, Gary Robinson, Jane Page and Shoshanna White are ongoing. Hours: Mon-Thurs 6 am-8 pm, Fri 6 am-11 pm, Sat 7 am-11 pm, Sun 7 am-8 pm. 761-2797.

Tuhs 305 Commercial St, Portland. "Portraits with Personality," photographs by Stewart Smith, is ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-6:30 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 874-0929.

LISTINGS

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

HAPPENINGS

Thursday, December 7

Million Man March Candlelit Vigil The Southern Maine Chapter of the Million Man March holds a candlelit vigil to recognize those impacted by gun violence. At Monument Square, Portland, at 5:30 pm. 879-4062.

Polarity Realization Institute Career Night The founders of the Institute for massage and more host a career night and give a talk. At the Polarity Realization Institute's Portland campus, 222 St. John St. from 7-9 pm. Free. 800-262-8530.

Santa's Mini Village The jolly fat man makes a special appearance. At Mission Possible Teen Center, Dana Ward Mall, 90 Bridge St., Westbrook, from 4-7 pm. Free. 854-2800.

"Speakout on Safe Schools and Safe Communities" A rally for supporters of equal rights for gays and lesbians to talk about what's next after the defeat of ballot Question 6. On the capitol steps at the State House in Augusta, at 3 pm. For more information, call Jonathan Lee or David Swander at the Maine Speak Out Project. 879-0480.

Travelers' Club Meeting Phil Villandry shows slides of Alaska taken from the air and from the ground. At Galsland Farm, 118 Route 1, Falmouth, from 7-8:30 pm. 774-6256.

USM Women and Images The Skinky hosts an evening of readings from the University of Southern Maine's upcoming book of original writings by students and others, with music by Chiasso. At the Skinky, 625 Congress St., Portland, at 7 pm. Tix: Free. 121-1-871-8983.

Friday, December 8

Basketball Game Fund-raiser The Cumberland County Sheriff's Office sponsors a basketball game pitting members of the Cumberland County All Stars against the Harlem Rockets Comedy Basketball Team, to benefit the TRIAD Program, a community policing effort. At the Warren Hill Gymnasium, the University of Southern Maine's Gorham campus, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$10. 871-7876.

"Bless Life: Peaceful Center: A Weekly Time of Rest for Body and Soul" Bates College hosts a candlelit evening of meditation and readings drawn from a variety of spiritual traditions, with performances by faculty and students. At Bates College Chapel, Bates College, Lewiston, at 9 pm. Free. 786-6272.

Charity Auction Rosie's Restaurant holds an auction to raise money for families in need. Donations for the auction are needed. At Rosie's Restaurant and Pub, 330 Fore St., Portland, at 1 pm. Free. 772-5656.

Santa's Mini Village See Thurs, Dec 7 for full listing.

Social Meditation Event David Kaufman leads an evening of "ALUM" social meditation (Awareness - Understanding - Meditation) featuring dancing, shouting and singing. At Portland Yoga Studio, 616 Congress St., Portland, at 7:15 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$7 students). 759-7085.

Southworth Planetarium The University of Southern Maine's planetarium offers a variety of educational/trip programs. "The Christmas Story" at 7 pm. Mannheim Steamroller's "Fresh Are Christmas" at 8:30 pm. Tix: \$4.50-\$5 (\$3.50-\$4 kids, students and seniors). 780-4249.

Saturday, December 9

Bean Supper Highland Lake Grange holds a bean supper, featuring lots of food. At Highland Lake Grange, Route 302 and Hardy Rd., Westbrook, at 5 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$2 kids). 854-2379.

Craft Fair Seaside Rehabilitation and Health Care Center holds a craft fair to benefit the residents of the center. At Seaside, 850 Beaver Blvd., Portland, from 10 am-3 pm. Free. 774-7878.

"Grand Illusions" - The Holiday Edition The Eastland Park Hotel hosts an evening of gender-bending events, with appearances by Amber Snow, Breathless, Bubbles, Cheeta, Deltia Demetra, Poly Urethane and more, plus an episode of "Who Wants to be a Drag Queen?" At the Eastland Park Hotel, 157 High St., Portland, at 7 pm. Tix: \$14-\$16. 842-0800.

Kids' Book Reading by Phil and Hannah Hoose The local father-daughter team reads from their kids' book, "Hey, Little Ark," sign copies and sing. At the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., Portland, at 11:30 am. Admission is \$5 under 1 free. 828-1234 x228.

Santa's Mini Village See Thurs, Dec 7 for full listing.

Southworth Planetarium See Fri, Dec 8 for full listing. Rick Charette laser show "Mr. Man on the Moon" at 3 pm. "The Christmas Story" at 7 pm. Mannheim Steamroller's "Fresh Are Christmas" at 8:30 pm.

"Tate House Christmas: A Warm Welcome" The historic Tate House opens for tours and demonstrations of holiday traditions during colonial times. At Tate House, 1270 Westbrook St., Portland, from 10 am-3 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$2 kids). 774-6177.

Sunday, December 10

Bath Antiques Show Fifty-five antique dealers peddle their

wares, including rugs, stoneware, glass, jewelry, paintings, furniture, and much more. Catered food is also served. At Bath Middle School, 6 Old Brunswick Rd., Bath, from 10 am-3 pm. Tix: \$3. 443-8983.

Bluegrass Jam Session The Bluegrass Music Association of Maine holds a jam session open to all. Please bring only unplugged, stringed instruments. At the Rost Function Hall, Chicopee Road, Buxton, from 1-6 pm. Tix: \$3. 879-9492.

Book Publishing Party Out of Maine Books hosts a party for Allison L. Hepler, author of the recently released "Women in Labor - Mothers, Medicine and Occupational Health in the United States 1890-1980." At Gulf of Maine Books, 134 Maine St., Brunswick, at 4 pm. Free. 729-5083.

Food Not Bombs The group distributes free food to the masses on Monument Square, Portland, from 2-4:20 pm. 774-2801.

Gingerbread Contest for Kids The Eastland Park Hotel hosts a gingerbread house contest for children of all ages. At the Eastland Park Hotel, 157 High St., Portland, from 1-4 pm. Free. 775-5416.

"Iron Mic Hip Hop MC Battle" WMPO presents its first duel of hip hop emcees, hosted by Sage Francis. Prizes will be presented. At the Skinky, 625 Congress St., Portland, from 6-9 pm. Tix: \$5. Emcees must pre-register by e-mail. MERT-WUZZO7@bellsouth.com. 780-4943.

St. Lucia Festival St. Ansgar Church hosts a Swedish solstice celebration featuring Scandinavian food, carols and soiree. At St. Ansgar Evangelical Lutheran Church, 515

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Wednesday, December 13

Southworth Planetarium See Fri, Dec 8 for full listing. "The Christmas Story" at 7 pm.

Thursday, December 14

"Surviving the Holidays" Leslie Connolly, Beth Martin and Marianne Russo give tips on coping with holiday stress. At the University of Southern Maine's Woodbury Campus Center, Portland, from noon-1:30 pm. Free. 780-5168.

Friday, December 15

Southworth Planetarium See Fri, Dec 8 for full listing. "The Christmas Story" at 7 pm. Mannheim Steamroller's "Fresh Are Christmas" at 8:30 pm.

Women's Literary Union's 11th Anniversary Luncheon Allison Reed presents "Journey to Jerusalem's Time." At Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland, at 11:45 am. Tix: \$7.50 (call before Dec 12 to make reservations). 797-6333.

Saturday, December 16

"A Feast for the Children" Members of Portland's Sudanese community host an evening of Sudanese food, singing and dance, open to all. At Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland, at 5:30 pm. Tix: \$10, benefits an effort to build a day care/kinder-garten at a Sudanese refugee camp in Uganda. 774-3314 or 874-4771.

Portland Pirates Portland's professional ice hockey takes on the opposition. Against Providence, at 7:35 pm. At the Civic Center, Portland. Tix: \$10-\$14 kids and seniors. 570-1735-3458.

"Tate House Christmas: A Warm Welcome" See Sat, Dec 9 for full listing.

Sunday, December 17

Food Not Bombs The group distributes free food to the masses on Monument Square, Portland, from 2-4:20 pm. 774-2801.

Portland Pirates Against Lowell, 4:05 pm. See Sat, Dec 16 for full listing.

"Tate House Christmas: A Warm Welcome" See Sat, Dec 9 for full listing.

Twilight in the Park Hospice of Maine holds an evening of candlelit events in Deering Oaks Park, featuring skating, music, sculpture, food and more, to benefit its programs. Call ahead to sponsor a commemorative candle. At Deering Oaks Park, Portland, starting at 4:15 pm. Free. 774-4417.

PERFORMING ARTS

auditions/submissions

Actors and Actresses The Children's Theatre of Maine holds auditions for upcoming productions of "The Jungle Book," "Queen Elizabeth" and "The Little Prince." All ages are welcome; those auditioning should prepare a short monologue or poem to read. Auditions are Thurs and Fri, Jan 4 and 5, from 7-8:30 pm at the theatre, 317 Marginal Way, Portland. For more info, call 878-2774.

Actors and Actresses Forbes Entertainment seeks two males actors, ages 25-40, for a dramatic short film called "Across the Field." Send headshot and resume to Louis Frederick, Out of Cake Productions, P.O. Box 40, Portland, ME 04102. For more info, call 842-2889.

Actors and Actresses Out of Cake Productions seeks three actors and three actresses of all ages to perform in a stage version of Ingmar Bergman's film "Winter Light," to run in February. Send headshot and resume to Louis Frederick, Out of Cake Productions, P.O. Box 40, Portland, ME 04102. Deadline: Mon, Jan 15, 2001. 780-4749 or usmaine@outofcake.com.

Actors and Actresses Omega Productions seeks creative writers to work on treatments/scripts on a spec basis. 857-5146.

Young Playwrights The Children's Theatre of Maine is accepting submissions for its 10th Annual Young Playwrights Contest, for people 18 and younger. Plays must be original, adaptations of other works will not be accepted. Collaborations will be considered. Winning selections will be performed by the Children's Theatre of Maine's Young Playwrights Ensemble in March. Send entries to: The Children's Theatre of Maine, P.O. Box 1011, Portland, ME 04104. Deadline: Wed, Jan 3, or Fri, Jan 5 if dropped off at the theatre. For more info, call 878-2774.

Actors and Actresses The Schoolhouse Arts Center at Sebago Lake seeks people of all ages for an upcoming production of "The Hobbit." Mon-Wed, Jan 29-31 at 7 pm. For more info, call 642-3743.

The Children's Theatre of Maine seeks African-American and Caucasian families to appear as extras in their upcoming production of "To Kill a Mockingbird." Rehearsals begin Mon, Dec 11. No experience necessary. For more info, call 878-2774.

Comedians, Emcees and Musicians The Station, 272 St. John St., Portland, seeks stand-up comics, musicians and emcees for regular shows. For more info, contact Kerry Hervet at the Station, 773-3466.

Dancers Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio offers a variety of classes for dancers of all abilities for upcoming productions. There's a breakdancing workshop with Bruce Tracy on Sun, Dec 10, from 2:30-4 pm. Tix: \$12. For more info, call 871-1013.

Dancers The Dance Company seeks dancers ages 7 and up for upcoming performances. There are no auditions; the company meets every Wed at the Saco Recreation Center, Common St., Saco. For more info, call 284-4149.

Dancers Escondido Musical is looking for dancers, actors and athletes who are in good shape. No experience required. Call 871-9056.

Dancers Ram Island Dance has classes for dancers of all abilities. For more info, call 773-2562.

Filmmakers Now accepting submissions for a film and video festival at the University of Southern Maine in the spring. The theme is tolerance and diversity, video format only. Deadline: Thurs, Dec 14.

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March 1. Mail submissions to: 19 Barnel Drive, Yarmouth, ME 04096 alt: E. Ralston. 780-6596.

Instrumentalists Midcoast Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Paul Ross, seeks musicians, including violas, violins, trumpets and cellos. To schedule an audition, call Vinny at 846-6658.

Instrumentalists The Casco Bay Concert Band, an adult community band, has openings in the trumpet, percussion, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and string bass sections. Call Dr. Peter Martin at 780-5267.

Instrumentalists are wanted for the Italian Heritage Center Concert Band. All instruments needed. Rehearsals are Wed at the Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Ave., Portland, from 7:30-9:30 pm. Call Susan at 774-2184.

Musicians The Portland Conservatory of Music has classes for all ages and abilities. For more info, call 775-3356.

Playwrights The Acom School for the Performing Arts is holding a contest for Maine playwrights, the winner of which will have a work read in a staged reading and receive a \$250 stipend. Deadline: Mon, Jan 15. Send to Acom School, P.O. Box 17631, Portland, ME 04112. For more info, call 761-0617.

Poets "The Fox in the Snow," an on-line Maine poetry magazine, seeks submissions for the \$300 Red Fox Award. Submit 3-5 poems via e-mail to: mainepoetry@yahoo.com. Poets must be Maine-based but not necessarily native Mainers. For guidelines to the contest, see <http://www.aoperty.com/mecontest.html>. Deadline is Thurs, March 1, 2001.

Screenwriters A Brunswick-based screenwriters group seeks potential members. For more info, call 442-8022 or 775-6423.

Screenwriters Portland-based partner of West Coast literary agency specializing in film and television scripts is now open to new clients. Call Michael H. Sommer at 773-4859.

Singers The Lower Octave of the Boy Singers of Maine is auditioning young men who have changed or changing voices for its upcoming season. For more info, call Delmar at 268-2465.

Singers The Maine Gay Men's Chorus announces open auditions for gay or gay-sensitive men. Please have a music selection prepared to demonstrate your vocal ability and range. Call Ralph at 791-1927 (day) or 797-5081 (evening), or e-mail gagon@att.com.

Singers The Oratoria Choral seeks low basses and sopranos. For more info, call Mike DeLang at 761-9695 or Tyler Wing at 253-5593.

Singers The Cathedral Chamber Singers of St. Luke's Cathedral is holding auditions for its community-based chamber choir, performing secular and sacred choral works of all periods. To schedule an audition, call Albert at 772-5434.

Singers Renaissance Voices, a small, Portland-based a cappella group, needs a few good basses. To audition, call 781-2965.

Singers The Swedensborg church choir needs sopranos and men to sing its varied repertoire. Must be able to sing, rehearse on Thurs from 6-7:30 pm and attend Portland church two Sundays a month. Music reading not required. Call Eli at 774-1203.

Storytelling Open Mic Adults sign up for 10 minute slots for an open mic Wednesday at Java Joe's, 13 Exchange St., Portland at 7:30 pm. 879-1886.

Writers, Actors and Radio Technicians interested in getting involved in a radio theater project can write Radio Theatre, P.O. Box 4052, Portland, ME 04101 or e-mail james.barnes@maine.edu.

Writers The Maine Scholar seeks provocative writing from many disciplines intended for the general reader. Theme: food. Two submissions will receive \$500. Submit four copies of your piece to: The Maine Scholar, University of Southern Maine, P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104. Deadline: Mon, Jan 15, 2001. 780-4749 or usmaine@scholar.com.

Writers Alpha Omega Productions seeks creative writers to work on treatments/scripts on a spec basis. 857-5146.

Young Playwrights The Children's Theatre of Maine is accepting submissions for its 10th Annual Young Playwrights Contest, for people 18 and younger. Plays must be original, adaptations of other works will not be accepted. Collaborations will be considered. Winning selections will be performed by the Children's Theatre of Maine's Young Playwrights Ensemble in March. Send entries to: The Children's Theatre of Maine, P.O. Box 1011, Portland, ME 04104. Deadline: Wed, Jan 3, or Fri, Jan 5 if dropped off at the theatre. For more info, call 878-2774.

VOLUNTEER

new

Caring Unlimited Inc. York County's domestic violence program has volunteer opportunities for adults interested in interacting with kids who have witnessed or been victims of domestic violence. Involves two hours per week providing child care while mothers attend support group meetings. Call for upcoming advocacy training classes which start in February. Also looking for church or school group to collect winter coats. Call Bonnie Gagnon, volunteer coordinator, at 490-3227, ext. 106.

Children's Museum of Maine is seeking volunteers to work with children and families. Volunteers must be 14 years or older and are needed to assist with hands-on activities and demonstrations. Call Jennifer Wright, 826-1234, ext. 241.

Maine Coalition for Food Security a statewide group dedicated to ending hunger and ensuring citizens of Maine have food security needs a range of volunteer opportunities. Help maintain/update our Web site, gather and organize data and statistics on hunger and poverty, prepare mailings, work in community gardens. 871-8266.

The Portland History Decents program is now accepting

LISTINGS

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

applications for volunteers to start a winter training course to become tour guides at the Tale House Museum, Wadsworth-Longfellow House, Portland Harbor Museum, Portland Observatory or Victoria Mansion. For more information call Christine Albert at 774-5561, ext. 43.

TVS the educational access station managed by the Portland Public Schools, needs volunteers to videotape class projects, concerts, school sports and other school activities. 874-8173.

Volunteer Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to advocate for those living in long-term residential care programs. Call Greg Cross, director, Volunteer Ombudsman Program, 1-800-499-0229.

ongoing

American Cancer Society has numerous volunteer opportunities: helping with community health fairs, driving cancer patients to and from their medical appointments and planning fund-raising events. 1-800-464-1033.

American Red Cross offers workshops in CPR and First Aid. They remind you to give blood at the American Red Cross, 524 Forest Ave., Portland. Donating hours: Tues-Thurs noon-7 pm, Fri 9 am-4 pm, and every third Saturday of the month from 8 am-2 pm. 775-2367.

Animal Refuge League of Westbrook seeks volunteers for general cleaning, animal caregiving and foster homes for kittens. 854-9771.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters seeks volunteers age 18 and up to spend time as an adult friend to an at-risk child. Commitment is either weekly or every other week for at least one year. 773-5437.

Building Materials Bank The non-profit organization providing building materials, household fixtures and appliances for low-income homeowners seeks donations of reusable materials. 657-2957.

Camp Sunshine a retreat in South Casco for children with life-threatening diseases and their families, has volunteer opportunities. 655-3800.

Cancer Community Center seeks volunteers to perform support group facilitation, one-on-one support work, reception and clerical work. Call Dawn at 774-2200.

Catholic Charities Maine has volunteer opportunities including mentoring, the Clothing Closet, Helpline, Project Rachel, clerical, publicity and fund-raising. Call Annette Roche, 871-7464. Catholic Charities Maine Refugee and Immigration Services volunteer opportunities include being an American friend (providing orientation to the American way of life), computer training or being a home tutor. Call Sr. Kate Walsh at 871-7437.

Cedar Nursing Care Center 630 Ocean Ave., Portland, seeks volunteers to help transport residents to dinner, go on outings, help with activities, share musical talents or be a friendly visitor. 772-5456 x438.

The Center for Grieving Children seeks volunteers to work with kids and their families who are grieving the loss of a family member or friend. A 27-hour intensive training is required. Volunteers are also needed to work with kids, do computer work, help with mailings and work on events. 775-5216.

The Center for Therapeutic Recreation needs lightweight wheelchairs to be used in an aquatic program for disabled children and adults. To donate, call 772-0504.

Community Health Services needs volunteers to visit home-bound people, help with supplies, assist with the switchboard, errand service, youth programs and help with office duties. 775-7231 x215 or 800-479-4331.

Community Partners, Inc. seeks volunteers to assist disabled individuals become an integral part of their respective communities. 780-9575.

Consumer Complaint Mediators The Public Protection Unit of the Maine Attorney General's Office needs people to volunteer 6 hours per week mediating complaints over the phone or by mail. 626-8800.

Community Counselor World Heritage, a non-profit student exchange program, seeks area volunteers to help support students from various countries. Community counselors organize student orientations, meet with local high schools, screen host families and assist exchange students. Call Barbara Hazelwood at 800-785-9040.

Consumer Advisory Board recruits volunteer correspondents to become involved in the lives of people with mental retardation in Maine, serving as one-on-one friends and advocates for individuals with no active family. 871-0149.

Creative Health Foundation The non-profit community mental health agency seeks volunteers in the Saco area to serve as positive role models for adults with psychiatric disabilities. Especially wanted: Computer skills, marketing consultants and people well-acquainted with community services. 799-6750.

Crossing Cultures Human Rights Project is a grassroots volunteer activist organization dedicated to informing people of

their rights across language and cultural divides. Call Kathy at 878-5196.

Cultural Academic Student Exchange seeks families to host a student from another country. All students are between 15 and 18, fully insured, and speak English. Call 1-800-458-8336 or e-mail: casen@home.com.

Dignity Maine is an organization of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Catholics committed to spiritual development, education outreach, social and religious reform and the advocacy of feminist and progress issues. To join, call 800-877-8797.

Education and Service Opportunities are available through The Maine Conservation Corps and The Americorps College of Maine. 287-4931.

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

Family Crisis Shelter The domestic abuse intervention project is looking for volunteers to offer support and information to victims of abuse/violence. Requires crisis advocacy training. Call volunteer coordinator at 774-2372.

Flying Chances Center for Therapeutic Riding seeks volunteers to work with special needs riders, care for horses and maintain the facility during its summer programs. Training provided. 729-0168.

Foster Grandparent Program offers a new training program for seniors dedicated to helping children with special needs in Cumberland and York counties. Benefits include liability insurance, a stipend, paid vacations, sick leave, an annual physical and more. 773-0202.

LISTINGS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

For foreign exchange students here in Maine: 716-684-7270.
Young Adults Against Dating Abuse Seeking high school students in York County to become teen dating violence educators. Call Beth or Elizabeth at 490-3227 ext 103 or email: yaad01@hotmail.com.

Youth Build Portland The community enrichment program designed to assist students obtain their GED and vocational training and provide low-income housing, seeks volunteers. No experience necessary. 775-0105.

HEALTH

Adult Health Clinic Visiting Nurse Service holds health clinics for adults on an ongoing basis. Screening includes blood pressure and cholesterol checks, vaccinations for Lyme disease and TB skin testing. Appointment required. At VMA Home Health Care, 50 Foden Rd, South Portland, from 1-4 pm. 780-8624.

Arthritis Programs The Arthritis Foundation's Maine Region sponsors various programs including support groups, land exercise programs and warm-water aquatic exercise programs, as well as workshops for people with fibromyalgia. 854-3100.
Blood Pressure Screenings Free screenings take place the first Mon of each month at Martin's Point Health Care, 331 Veranda St., Portland, from 10 am-noon. No registration required. 828-2497.

Breast Care Maine Medical Center invites individuals and groups of women to learn about breast health. At Maine Medical Center's Breast Care Center, 100 US Route 1, Scarborough. 885-7760.

The Breast Health Resource Center offers free breast self-exam classes the third Wed of each month and exercise classes for patients who are two weeks post surgery for breast cancer. At Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland. To register or for more info, call 879-3791 for exams and 879-3790 for exercise classes.

Breast Self-Exam Classes teach women how to perform breast exams—what to look for, what a lump might feel like, and what to do if you find something that doesn't seem right. Classes held bi-monthly at Mercy Hospital's Breast Health Resource Center, 144 State St., Portland. To register, call 879-3791.

Concerned About Lead? Maine Childhood Lead Poison Prevention Program has information. For more info, call MaryAnn at 287-4311.

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 first come, first served. Tues and Thurs at the India Street Public Health Center, 103 India St., Portland, from 3:15 pm-6 pm. Medicaid accepted. Anonymous and confidential HIV testing by appointment only. 874-8446.

The Dental Hygiene Clinic at the University of New England's Westbrook College campus offers teeth cleaning and other services. Fee covers only cost of materials. For an appointment, call 797-9999.

Exercise The body movement group for senior adults meets Wednesdays at the Cummings Center, 134 Congress St., Portland, at 10 am; Thursdays at the St. Pius X Community Center, 492 Ocean Ave., Portland, at 10:30 am; Fridays at Northfield Green, 147 Allen Ave., Portland; and Tuesdays at the St. Pius X Community Center, at 11 am. Free. Call to confirm dates. 874-8784.

Expecting a Baby? Maine Medical Center offers a variety of classes for people expecting a child at Maine Medical Center's Family Birth Center, 22 Bramhall St., Portland. For a full listing and schedule, call 871-6132.

Free ADD/ADHD Presentation available to community groups and/or individuals who are looking for alternatives to Ritalin. Presented by Parents Against Ritalin. 775-0514.

Free HIV/AIDS Presentations available for community groups through the American Red Cross. 874-1192.

Heartline Cardiac Rehabilitation Program is designed for individuals who have had a heart attack, angioplasty, bypass surgery, angina or are at risk for heart disease. Classes with nurse-supervised exercise programs, as well as nutrition, medication and risk factor information, are held Mon, Wed and Fri at Sullivan Gym, the University of Southern Maine's Portland campus, 96 Falmouth St., at 7:30 am and 6 pm. Registration is ongoing. Medical clearance required. 780-4170.

Hospice of Maine volunteers provide six hours a week of non-medical assistance and support to the terminally ill and their families. 774-4417.

Immunization Hotline Callers can receive information about 12 vaccine-preventable diseases through the Center

for Disease Control, from 8 am-11 pm. English: 800-232-2522. Spanish: 800-232-0233.

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation holds informal meetings at 53 Exchange St., Portland. 761-0133.

The Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program encourages women who cannot afford a mammogram and are over 50 years old to call and learn if they are eligible for financial assistance. 800-350-5180.

Maine HIV Prevention Community Planning Group A mixture of at-risk individuals and professionals makes recommendations to the Bureau of Health regarding requests for and spending of federal grant money. They are currently seeking people not usually found on recommending committees to come forward. For applications and information, write to: Maine HIV Prevention CPG, Medical Care Development Inc, 11 Parkwood Dr., Augusta, ME, 04330. 622-7566.

Maine Poison Center has information on poisons and drugs. 800-442-6305.

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services trains volunteers to work one-on-one with people with AIDS, their families, partners and caregivers. If you are affected by HIV/AIDS and would like a buddy, or if you are interested in training to become a buddy, call Michael Quinn at 725-4955. Or write to MASS at P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011.

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 at 970 Forest Ave., Portland. Handicapped accessible, confidential and affordable. Medicaid is welcomed. 874-1095.

Portland Public Health Adult Immunization Vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella, adult tetanus, hepatitis B, pneumococcal, rabies, Hepatitis A and chicken pox are available, as well as tuberculin testing. At City Hall, room 303, 389 Congress St., Portland. Hours: Tues and Fri 7:45-9:30 am, Fri 3-4 pm. Fee: Cost of vaccine plus \$5. Appointment is necessary. 874-8784.



Certified fitness instructor Jodi Fickett leads Exercise classes at several locations in Portland four days a week.

Portland Community Free Clinic Formerly Portland Street Clinic, this clinic also provides free comprehensive health care for adults with limited income, no insurance and no doctor. At 103 India St., Portland. For more info or an appointment, call 874-8982.

Prevention Education Groups for Men Who Have Sex With Men Groups meet at The AIDS Project, 615 Congress St., Portland, at 10 am; Thursdays at the St. Pius X Community Center, 492 Ocean Ave., Portland, at 10:30 am; Fridays at Northfield Green, 147 Allen Ave., Portland; and Tuesdays at the St. Pius X Community Center, at 11 am. Free. Call to confirm dates. 874-8784.

Recovery Inc. a group promoting mental health using professionally developed methods to overcome depression, anxiety, anger, fear and phobias meets Sat at the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, at 10 am. Free. 892-9529.

Senior Fitness A program for men and women age 65 and over held Mon, Wed and Fri at Sullivan Gym, the University of Southern Maine's Portland campus, 96 Falmouth St., from 10:30-11:15 am. 780-4170.

Smoking Cessation Support Group provides information and support for individuals who have quit, are trying to quit or are considering quitting. Meets Mon at Martin's Point Health Care, 331 Veranda St., Portland, from 5-6 pm. Free. No registration required. 828-2497.

Solution Focused Motivational Group a group designed for people who would like to explore whether they have a problem with alcohol or drugs. Sliding scale available. Sponsored by Catholic Charities of Maine. 775-5671.

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

The University of Southern Maine Lifeline Center offers therapeutic massage, cranio sacral and polarity therapy by licensed massage therapist Donna Gullman. Cost: \$45 per one-hour session. 780-4170.

Coping With Caregiving A support group for people providing care to chronically/terminally ill or disabled persons meets the second and fourth Fri of each month at Mercy

SUPPORT

Abuse in Intimate Relationships A support group for women who have previously or are now experiencing abuse in their intimate relationships. Free and confidential. Child care stipend provided. Contact Kim at 767-4952.

Adoption Search Consultants of Maine A support group for those touched by adoption and/or seeking help around a search or reunion meets at Luther Bonney Hall, Room 410, USM's Portland campus. \$5 donation. For dates and times, call 842-6622.

Adult Children of Alcoholics A 12-step group meeting. Sat at Seventy-Five State Street, 75 State St., Portland, at 5:30 pm. 767-6232. Also at the First Parish Church, 135 Main St., Yarmouth, at 7 pm. 846-5214.

Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Maine Friends and Family offers a support group for family members every Mon at the Dana Center, Room six, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St., from 7-8:30 pm. 879-5492.

Alpha One provides information, support, services and products for people with disabilities. At Alpha One, 127 Main St., Portland. 800-640-7200.

Alzheimer's Support Group meets the fourth Thurs of every month at the Portland Center for Assisted Living, 68 Devonshire St., Portland, at 10 am. For more info, call Lauren at 772-2893 x18.

Birthplace Tours of The Birthplace at Mercy Hospital are offered on a regular basis. At Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland. To register, call 879-3950.

Brain Injury Support Group Survivors, family members and significant others are encouraged to attend. Meets the third Thurs of each month at BaySide Neurorehabilitation Services, 26 Portland St., Portland. If interested in attending, call Susan at 761-8402 x252.

Breast Cancer Support Group meets the second Fri of each month at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland, at noon. Bring your lunch. 799-3179.

Hospital, 144 State St., Portland, at noon. 879-3486.

Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease CJD Voice is a group for those who've lost family members to CJD or currently have family members with the disease. Their website is <http://members.aol.com/larmstr853/cjdvoice/cjdvoice.htm>.

Debtors' Anonymous meets every Tues at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St., Portland, from 7-8:15 pm. 774-4357.

Diabetes Support Group meets the last Mon of each month at the Jewish Community Center, 57 Ashmont St., Portland, at 7:30 pm. 774-4357.

Divorce Perspectives A discussion group for people in the divorce process meets every Wed. At Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St., Portland, at 7:30 pm. 774-4357.

Dual Recovery groups are for people suffering from addiction and emotional problems. Regular leaders and support help achieve recovery and prevent relapse. Groups meet on Thurs, at the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St., at 6 pm. Also Fri at the Bridge, 54 Maple St., Portland, at 6 pm. 774-4357.

Epilepsy Support Group meets at the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St., Portland, from 7-8:30 pm. Call Debbi at 1-800-660-7832.

F.E.M.A.L.E. Formerly Employed Mothers at the Leading Edge is a support group for moms who have chosen to interrupt their careers to care for their children at home. F.E.M.A.L.E. provides a chance for these women to establish new friendships by meeting other at-home moms, forming play groups, attending informational meetings and receiving monthly newsletters. For meeting dates and locations, call Deborah at 885-9297.

Fibromyalgia Support Group Meets the first Tues of each month at 91 Christy Rd., Portland, from noon-2 pm. Call Sandra at 879-6528.

Focus on Singles sponsors ongoing lectures on "The Sacredness of the Single Life." For more info, call 878-6758.

Gay and Lesbian Couples Group For individuals interested in discussing the differing roles of gay vs. straight couples, the concessions necessary to make a relationship work, monogamy and other topics. For info, call Dave or Dan at 871-1259 or write to: P.O. Box 8806, Portland, ME 04104.

Grieving Through Griefing A support group for those struggling with the death of a loved one meets the first and third Thurs of each month at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland, from 4-5 pm. 879-3477.

Guidance in Grieving Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice & the American Cancer Society hold a support group the second Mon of every month at the Methodist Church, Elm St., So. Portland, at 7:15 pm. Call Michael at 780-8624, ext. 133.

Hair/Eyelash Pullers Do you want help with a bad habit? Do you pull your hair, eyebrows or eyelashes? Contact TLC for help. Local support group for women meets in Freeport. 408-457-1004.

H.O.P.E. fosters wellness through attitudinal healing for those facing the challenges of grief and loss, illness, divorce, career changes, codependency and abuse issues. Meets Tues at Maine Medical Center's Dana Center, 22 Bramhall St., Portland, from 3-5 pm. 743-9373.

The Isabelle Center is a learning center dedicated to the professional, creative and spiritual growth of women offering a variety of workshops and events. 773-7851.

IV League Support Group A discussion group for intravenous drug users past and present, who want recovery. Discussions include personal issues, self-esteem, relapse, family, HIV prevention, risk reduction, support service links, health services and community awareness projects. At the Community Resource Center, 15 Portland St., Portland. Every Wed from 6:30-8:30 pm. Contact Michelle or Steve at 756-8257.

The Kids First Center provides practical information and helpful suggestions to assist separating or divorcing parents to focus on the needs of their children. The center offers support groups for children and adolescents and step-parents. 761-2709.

La Leche League of Greater Portland offers a monthly mother-to-mother support group for pregnant, breastfeeding or interested women. Meetings are led by accredited volunteers with information and discussions based on the book "The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding." Meets the first Wed of every month at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St., Portland, at 9:30 am. Call Lori at 747-5120 or Ashley at 773-6985. The group also meets every third Wed at Thornton Heights United Methodist Church, 100 Westbrook St., So. Portland, at 7:30 pm. Call Ashley at 773-6985 or Amy at 797-7457.

"Look Good... Feel Better" a national public service program for women with cancer who wish to restore their appearance during treatment offers classes the last Wed of each month at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland. For info or to register, call 879-3030.

MAPS (Maine Adoption Placement Service) offers support groups for adopted children ages 5 and older adopted through any agency. For more info, call Betsy at 772-3678.

Menopause Support Group is held by AMF and the New England Women's Center the first Wed of every month at New England Women's Center, 66 Pearl St., Suite 202, Portland, from 5:30-7 pm. 761-4700.

Midcoast Outright is a safe place for youth 22-years-old and under who are gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender. Drop-in centers are Tues at the Unitarian Church, 15 Pleasant St., Brunswick, from 7-9 pm. Sessions are confidential with peer advising available. 798-4586.

The Mink Bicknell Adoption Resource Center is a volunteer support group for those touched by adoption and/or seeking help around a search or reunion. 854-9623 or 775-4817.

No Voice Club A support group for people who have had

LISTINGS

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

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PARENTS

The Breastfeeding Center of Maine offers the course "Breastfeeding and the Student/Working Mom," the first Tues of the month at 101 State St., Portland, from 6-8 pm. Cost: \$20. Pre-registration required. 775-6455.

Building Blocks Learning Center has expanded programs for its full and part-time child care at 100 Westbrook St., So. Portland. Call Sue or Kristin at 761-3936.

Casey Family Services seeks families or individuals to help provide long-term foster care, treatment level foster care and respite care. 800-559-1115.

Childbirth Education Class is a six-week session that covers all aspects of labor and birth, from changes induced by pregnancy to parenting. At Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Cost: \$70. Additional classes start on various dates and in various locations. Condensed and refresher classes also available. 879-3578.

The Family Planning Association of Maine offers parents a free magazine on childhood development and ways to talk with children about sexuality issues. To order F.A.C.T.S. (Families and Children Talking About Sexuality), call 800-525-FACT or 622-7524.

Greater Portland Mothers' Club meets Tues mornings from 9:30-11:30 am, at the First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Rd., So. Portland. Cost: \$2 (55 family max). Call Kelly at 799-1315.

Host Families Pacific Intercultural Exchange seeks Portland families to host students from abroad. Students are 15-18 years old. English speaking and eager to share their cultures. Call 800-631-1818. Youth Exchange Service seeks Portland families to host high school scholars from Europe, the Far East, South and Central America or Mexico. 800-848-2121. The Maine Irish Children's Program seeks Portland families to host an Irish child for five weeks this summer. 207-324-7267.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 43

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Public Meeting Announcement

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Ocean Gateway Marine Terminal Project

December 11, 2000
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Mariners Church
368 Fore Street

This meeting provides citizens with an opportunity to learn more about this important project, pose questions and offer input.

Questions regarding this meeting should be forwarded to Paul Pottle, at the Maine Department of Transportation's Office of Multimodal Project Management, 287-8340. Hearing impaired individuals may contact Mr. Pottle by utilizing the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf at 287-3392. Accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities upon reasonable advance notice.

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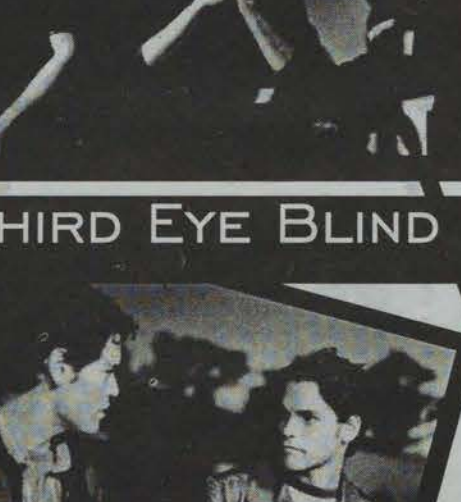
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LISTINGS

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41

La Leche League of Greater Portland and of Yarmouth provides info and aid to pregnant and breastfeeding women through telephone help, monthly meetings and a lending library. The day group meets the first Wed of the month at 9:30 am at the Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. The toddler group meets on the fourth Wed of the month at the Stroudwater Baptist Church, 1729 Congress St., Portland. Free. Call Ashley at 773-6985.

Maine Medical Center's Family Birth Center offers a number of classes for pregnant mothers, including childbirth education, siblings class and "Baby Yourself." For a full schedule, call 871-6132. Women are also invited to learn about breast health at the Breast Care Center in Scarborough. Call 885-7760.

MAPS International a division of Maine Adoption Placement Service holds a monthly open house with international program specialists available to answer questions. At MAPS, 277 Congress St., Portland, from 5-7 pm. 772-3678.

Mothers Group Join an informal group of mothers and preschool children meeting every Fri at the St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Shore Rd., Cape Elizabeth at 9:30 am. 799-9616.

My Choice Pregnancy Resource Center hosts an informational meeting by MAPS (Maine Adoption Placement Services) on Thurs, Dec 14 from 6-8 pm. At My Choice Pregnancy Resource Center, 306 Congress St., Portland. 772-3678.

Next Step USM Muskie Institute offers a 6-week series of support workshops for divorcing parents who want to discuss effective parenting before, during and after a divorce. Call for dates, locations and fees. 780-5833.

Parents Anonymous provides services to parents and children in an effort to strengthen families through facilitated support groups. A parent talk line operates Sun-Thurs from 6 pm-midnight. 767-5506. Help line: 800-298-2515.

Parents of Children With Disabilities can visit a free online Internet magazine, Special Child Magazine, featuring informative articles on the latest therapies, articles written by parents, a family advice column and a fully interactive bulletin board service. At <http://www.specialchild.com>.

Parents of Teens Support Group Mainely Families holds a support group meeting every Wed from 7-9 pm and Thurs from 10-11:30 am at 73 Deering St., Portland. 1-800-698-4959, x326.

"Preview for Parents" Maine Medical Center offers information about pregnancy and tours of the Family Birth Center for expectant parents the fourth Tues of every month. Meets at the Dana Center Lobby, 22 Bramhall St., Portland, at 6:15 pm. Free. 871-2205.

Southern Maine Chapter of American Mothers Meets the first Tues of each month at the United Methodist Church, 310 Broadway, Cape Elizabeth, from 7-9 pm. 799-1315.

Southern Maine Home-Dads a group for at-home dads and their kids, meets every Mon morning for playgroup and monthly for dad's night out. Call John Wise for more info at 797-0563.

"Talking About Sex: A Guide for Parents" A video kit produced by Planned Parenthood of Northern New England to help parents and kids discuss sexuality more effectively. Available at Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., Portland. 871-1700. Also available for sale by calling 1-800-669-0156.

KIDS

Burbank Branch Library "Toddler Time," songs, games and stories for 1 and 2-year-olds, Wed at 9:30 am. "Preschool Storytime" for ages 3-5, Wed at 10:30 am. At 377 Stevens Ave., Portland. 774-4229.

Child Care Connections holds public referral hours Mon-Fri from 9 am-4 pm, with information about day-care centers, family child care homes, nursery schools and camps. 871-7449.

Children's Museum of Maine offers a variety of workshops and special events, including calligraphy, gingerbread house making and storytelling. Most events are free with admission. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some programs. At the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., Portland. Admission: \$5 (\$3 camera obscura/\$6 both/kids under 1 free). The first Fri of each month is free from 5-8 pm. 828-1234.

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

Family Night Greater Portland YMCA holds a night of swim time, movies, games, food and contests every Fri from 6:30-8:45 pm. Cost: \$5 (members free). 874-1111.

Kennebec Girl Scouts Council offers girls ages 5 and up the opportunity to experience the wild outdoors and give back to their community. For information about the Girl Scouts' outdoor camps and community service programs, call 772-1177 or 800-660-1072.

Maine Audubon Society Gillsland Farm Environmental Center 118 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. Preschool Discovery Time: "Buzzing Bees," stories and activities for preschool-aged kids, followed by a snack. Weds 10-11:30 am. Cost: \$5 (\$4 members) \$3 each additional child (\$2 members). Nature Book Discussion Group second Mon of the month from 7-8:30 pm. 781-2330.

Portland Public Library offers programs for kids. On Sat, Dec 16 kids of all ages can make gift wrap, at 11 a.m. Mon: "Preschool Storytime" for kids ages 3-5, at 10:30 am. Tues: "Finger Fun for Babies" for children from birth to age 24 months, at 4 p.m. Wed: "Finger Fun for Babies," at 9:30 am. Fri: "Tales for Two" at 10:30 am. At the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., Portland. 871-1707.

Reiche Branch Portland Public Library offers programs for kids. Thurs: Story illustration from 2-4 pm, story time from 6:30-7:30 pm. Fri: "Baby and Toddler Time" at 9:30 am. At 166 Brackett St., Portland. Hours: Wed 9 am-6 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm, Fri 9 am-noon. 774-6871.

Reading Programs Scarborough Public Library offers reading programs with activities and free special events for kids ages 2 and up. Sun: "Kindertales" for ages 3-7, at 1:30 pm. Mon: "Toddler Time" for ages 2-3, at 10 am; for ages 3-5 1/2, at 11 am. Tues: "Read to Me" for ages 3 1/2-5, at 10:30 am. At Scarborough Public Library, 48 Gorham Rd., Scarborough. For more info, call the Children's Room at 883-4723.

Riverton Branch Library offers basic Internet training for kids Wed from 3:30-4:30 pm. Toddler Time, songs, games and stories for 1 and 2-year-olds, Fri at 9:30 am. Preschool Storytime for ages 3-5, Fri at 10:30 am. At 1600 Forest Ave., Portland. Hours: Wed 9 am-6 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm, Fri 9 am-noon. 797-2915.

Small Business Owners can explore how the Internet helps their businesses and learn how computers help with word-processing, spreadsheets, desktop publishing and research. The Small Business Development Center at USM offers free assistance in learning Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher, as well as the Internet. 780-4949.

The Spring Point Media Center at Southern Maine Technical College offers media arts workshops, including video production, digital video editing and Web site development. 767-8401.

The Training Resource Center has introductory classes in computers and file management. For a full schedule, call 775-5891.

Video Production The Portland Public Access offers classes in several aspects of video production. All classes are held at the Portland Public Access Center, 68 High St., Portland, from 6-9 pm. Cost: \$40 per class. Students must be residents of Portland. A \$10 deposit is necessary to reserve a space and the total balance must be paid at least one week before the class begins. Scholarships available. 775-2900.

Woodfords Toastmasters Club is open to individuals interested in improving their confidence for public speaking and building leadership skills. Meetings are held on Thurs at the Barron Center, 1145 Brighton Ave., Portland at 7 pm. 883-2718.

"Friends of the Maine Youth Center" is a non-profit group of concerned citizens working to improve life for residents at the Maine Youth Center. For info on the group, call 770-2219 or 646-5272.

H.O.M.E. a free club dedicated to the hobby of slot car racing, seeks members. For more info, call 892-4675.

Jaycees is an international organization that provides community service, leadership training, individual development, and the opportunity to work with other young adults ages 21-39. Call Carolyn at 800-665-8648.

Maine People's Alliance Greater Portland Chapter builds grassroots citizen power for progressive change. The group meets on the first Wed of every month at Casco Bay Ferry Terminal Conference Room, Commercial St., Portland, at 5:45 pm. 761-4400.

Marine Corps League Marines who are on active duty, reserve, retired or honorably discharged are eligible for membership. 782-3057.

The Mid Coast Orchid Society invites orchid enthusiasts to view an American Orchid Society video the first Tues of each month. Refreshments served. For more info, call Russ at 236-4621.

The Salvation Army offers lunches Mon-Fri for people over 60, with post-dining live entertainment on Wed and Beano on Thurs. At the Salvation Army, 297 Cumberland Ave., Portland, at noon. Suggested donation: \$2.50. Transportation available. 774-6974.

The Teen East End Employment Network matches Manjory Hill teenagers with neighborhood jobs. To hire a teen, call 761-0953.

SMARTS

College Tuition Assistance The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance - College Bound is an organization which supplies the public with info about over 700 different private scholarship sources. Send a SASE to the U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, Box 668, O'Fallon, IL 62269.

Computer Learning Centers for Small Business Small business owners can learn how computers help with word-processing, spreadsheets, accounting, desktop publishing and research. The Small Business Development Center at USM offers free assistance in learning Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher. Quickbook and using the Internet. 780-4949.

Computer Training Courses are available at the Technology Training Center, 39 Darling Ave., So. Portland. 780-6765.

Dignity Maine is an organization of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Catholics committed to spiritual development, education outreach, social and religious reform and the advocacy of feminist and progress issues. To join, call 800-677-8797.

Friends of the Western Buddhist Order is a meditation and study group which meets in Portland. 828-1097 after 5 pm.

Investment Club The NAIC-affiliated group meets the first Mon of the month. Interested members can call 878-2227.

Maine People's Alliance Greater Portland Chapter builds grassroots citizen power for progressive change. The group meets on the first Wed of every month at Casco Bay Ferry Terminal Conference Room, Commercial St., Portland, at 5:45 pm. 761-4400.

Monthly Tradeswomen's Gatherings are held the second Tues of each month at the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, from 5:30-7 pm. Free. Public welcome. 281-5259.

Osher Scholarships The University of Maine system is offering a tuition-free college course to 125 people. The \$500 scholarships can be used toward books, tuition and other fees. To request a form, call 800-868-7000.

Seaford HACCP Regulations The Northern New England Seafood Alliance offers three-day courses to train seafood workers in the principles of HACCP. Cost: \$150. 942-6295.

SCORE holds small business workshops on a regular basis. Nominal fee. SCORE also offers free individual counseling appointments daily. At 66 Pearl St., Portland. 772-1147.

Small Business Owners can explore how the Internet helps their businesses and learn how computers help with word-processing, spreadsheets, desktop publishing and research. The Small Business Development Center at USM offers free assistance in learning Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher, as well as the Internet. 780-4949.

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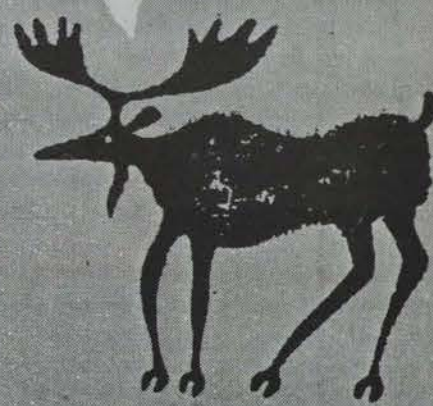
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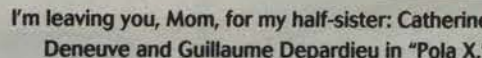


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SINCERE MAN seeks attractive Woman, 35-year-old SWM, never-married, no kids, nonsmoker, clean-cut, successful, highly intelligent. Seeking very attractive, very fit professional Female who is a nonsmoker, has a great personality and is fun to be around. #86148

SINGLE DAD, SWM, father of one 12-year-old, good-looking, athletic build, fun personality, enjoys the outdoors, travel, sports, ISO n/s, attractive, trim Female, 5'5" or under, 28-38, with outgoing personality, similar interests. #86144

SINGLE WHITE earth school Male. Fun-minded and fit, 51, n/d, n/s, who enjoys art, music, film, poetry, vegetarian cooking, light reader. Would like to meet SF for long-term friendship. #86133

SKY GUY, 30-year-old SWM looking for fun and frolic in the snow. I want to find a friend to play with this winter. #86104

SOUL SHAMAN, SWM, psychotherapist, acoustic guitarist, 55, 5'9", 150 lbs, brown/brown, good-looking, n/s, n/d, spiritually and intellectually inclined. Seeks compatible Female, 40-50, with whom to explore the wilderness with in and without. #85942

SWEET LIFE, I live for it, I'm attractive, black/brown, possess a killer body that produces energy to dance till dawn, live life to the max, a curious mind to appreciate the sweetness of life and a big heart to give back. I'm a little wild, intense, playful, the kind of Man you would want to be on an island with for the rest of your life. No one will know the Man you're with is 54, unless you tell them. Are you ready? #86150

TAKE THE next step, Looking for Woman, 42-54, healthy, n/s, positive attitude, likes to laugh and smile, prefers country living to city living, intelligent, employed, with good work ethics, seeks romantic, monogamous relationship. I'm 48, 6'2", 220 lbs. No head games. #86051

UNIQUE MAN, 29-year-old SWM, 5'7", 180 lbs, brown/hazel, good shape. I have a working Man's PhD and many interests, who rides Harley Davidsons. I do not like ball sports. If you are SWF, 24-30, looking for a Man like me, call. #86124

YOUTHFUL SM, 44, 6', 175 lbs, intelligent, healthy, virile, seeks slender-to-medium-built F, 5'6"+. Let's make New Year's plans. #85958

men & men

ATHLETIC, ATTRACTIVE GHM, mid-30s, 5'8", 160 lbs, professional, seeks handsome, masculine, fit professional, 25-45, for fun and possible LTR. #86145

ATTRACTIVE GHM, 34, enjoys dancing, watching sports, traveling, etc. Looking for similar Guy, 26-40, for dating, possible LTR. I don't smoke and you don't either. Please, serious replies only. #86107

CANDLELIGHT DINNER, Could it be true? Looking into your eyes, brown or blue. Needing someone special, is it you? Mysterious brown eyes, warm as the sun, smiles that show we're having fun. Wishing that this night has already begun! #86165

GHM, 28, tree hugging, grana-love earth muffin seeks attractive, masculine, compassionate Man, 25-35, who is socially/environmentally conscious, has passion for outdoors, playing in dirt and snow, community, creativity, animals, reggae music, laughter and fun. #86106

men & men

GHM, 32, 6', 180 lbs, brown/blue, good looks. Looking to meet a GHM under 6', who has blonde or brown hair, slim and has a body like a model or dancer or slim beach body. #86059

HANDSOME, SENSUOUS, smartly dressed, muscular, 40-year-old M seeks another self-respecting, courageous M for serious physical and emotional commitment. #85879

HARDWORKING GHM, 33-year-old, 5'7", brown/brown, 138 lbs, not into bar scene, weight lifter, currently working on body for life challenge, Rottweiler lover. ISO LTR with 33- to 42-year-old. In shape, masculine only, no drugs. In Southern Maine. #86151

HIV+, BORN in 1958, 6', 160 lbs, passionate, positive energy into exploring the outdoors, music, good humor, gym, dancing, cycling, conversation, laughing. Looking for some of the above. #86114

LOOKING FOR tall, slim GHM, 28-35, 5'4", 140-155 lbs, smoker only, no drugs. Looking for someone who likes artwork. Blonde or brown, very slim, blue jeans, denim jacket a plus. I like artwork. I enjoy going for coffee at McDonald's. #86054

SENSUOUS, SEXUAL, nice Guy living in Brunswick, 5'6", 160 lbs, brown/brown GHM. Seeking someone for a friendly and physical relationship. Interested? Please give me a call. #85891

SGWMA, 32, looking for smart, witty SGMA. LTR is goal. Like the outdoors and quiet activities: reading, movies, dinner. Just be interesting and funny, please. Have a job, care about the community, make me laugh. Is that too much to ask? #86105

women & women

Join SisterSpace
a lesbian social group which meets at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., in Portland every 3rd Friday for a potluck dinner from 6:30-9:30

Bring a \$5 wrapped gift for a Yankee swap! members \$2 - non-members \$3
www.geocities.com/sisterspace
email: sisterspace@yahoo.com
207-878-2152 x0

20-YEAR-OLD, BALD Woman who loves toys, mac and cheese, seeks rare species. Single lesbian under 30, not co-dependent. Natural progression of intimacy desired. You should follow your heart and want to change the world. Make the choice for love. Fear is an illusion. #86120

ANDROGYNOUS, WARMHEARTED, nature-loving, creative, sometimes nutty Lesbian seeks smart, non-smoking, communicative Woman, 40-55, on feminine side, with keen sense of humor and passion for life. Eventually hope to find soulmate but friends first. If ad strikes a chord, please respond. #86111

ATTRACTIVE, SPONTANEOUS, 39-year-old, n/s, n/d, seeking that special someone who likes to enjoy life. Friendship first. Seeking someone honest, able to communicate freely, without baggage. Let's chat and take a walk down the beach. I'm attractive to the more feminine type. #86134

I'M A 28-YEAR-OLD, dutch Lesbian in Southern Maine. I'm seeking a Woman for friendship, maybe more. I'm laid-back, sexy and fun-loving. Drop me a note if you're interested. #86186

IT'S ALL java. Soft butch, 26, smoker, dirty blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'7". Do you enjoy reading? Do you value intriguing conversation? Are you politically involved? Let's get together and discuss the times in which we live. #86189

women & women

OPEN-MINDED, NONJUDGMENTAL, grown-up, funny Girl Scout, 47, true Libra 6', who has blonde or brown hair, slim and has a body like a model or dancer or slim beach body. #86059

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prestigious
liberal arts
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Brunswick,
Maine,
seeks an
experienced
accounting
professional.
Founded in
1794, the
College has
1550
students,
an endow-
ment of
\$465 mil-
lion, and
an annual
operating
budget of
about \$85
million.

ASSISTANT CONTROLLER CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Bowdoin College seeks an experienced versatile accounting professional to oversee the financial reporting of the Controller's Office. Reporting to a newly appointed Controller, the Assistant Controller's major responsibilities include: prepare annual and periodic financial statements, tax returns, and analytical reports; coordinate the annual audit ensuring compliance with regulations and adherence to GAAP; recommend improvements to existing accounting policies and procedures; and improve internal management reports generated from the College's accounting systems (FRS). Requirements include: Bachelor's degree in accounting, CPA strongly preferred; 3-4 years public or non-profit accounting experience; demonstrated analytical ability; excellent oral and written communication skills; strong computer skills including proficiency with computerized accounting systems; the ability to prioritize multiple tasks to meet deadlines; and the capacity and willingness to work as a team leader and member of staff in the Controller's Office. Higher education experience is preferred.

This position is open until filled.
A competitive salary, as well as a comprehensive benefits package will be offered. Please submit a letter of interest, resume, and the names and telephone numbers of three references to: **Kimberly Boney, Manager of Employment, 3501 College Station, Brunswick, ME 04001.**

Bowdoin College is committed to Equal Employment through Affirmative Action. Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply.

**BOWDOIN
COLLEGE**

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Kennebunk booking appointments. 20
hours per week \$10-\$30/hr. Out bound
telemarketing experience preferred.
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EARLY HEAD START PARENT PARTNER.
This position provides direct service for
family visitation program for children
ages 0-5 years. Responsibilities include:
supporting & enhancing parent child
attachment, creating socialization
opportunities for families & linking fam-
ilies w/community resources. Must prac-
tice strengths based approach and be
able to adhere to and comply with Head
Start and agency regulations and stan-
dards. Minimum requirements: AA in
ECE, social work or related field or com-
mensurate experience in similar pro-
gram, valid driver's license and reliable
transportation. Resume by 5pm on
12/6/00 to: **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT,
PROP, 510 Cumberland Ave, Portland,
ME 04101.**
EXTRAS/ACTORS: up to \$500 a day! All
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1-800-260-3949 ext. 3025.

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FAMILY CRISIS SERVICES IS SEEKING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE

Qualifications include an understanding of dynamics of domestic abuse, excellent interpersonal skills, and a commitment to ending oppression. Applicants should be pro-feminist, responsible, articulate, self-motivated, and possess an appropriate sense of humor. Competitive salary and benefits. Send cover letter, resume, and essay expressing views on domestic violence by 12/31/00 to:
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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Given the untamed impulses that are now erupting within you, I should remind you to use a knife, fork, and spoon when you're eating in the company of other people though it's fine to shovel it in with your fingers when you're alone. Another suggestion: If you're overtaken by the urge to guffaw or yell triumphantly, try not to do it right in the face of the person sitting next to you. Finally, if you jump up on the dinner table to dance or belt out a song, please avoid stepping on your fellow diners' plates. Other than that, Aries, I'd like to give you pretty much free rein to express yourself without inhibition this week.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Every square mile of our planet has been thoroughly explored, right? Wrong. Vast expanses of the ocean floor, amounting to two and a half times the size of the earth's land masses, remain a secret. The situation reminds me of you, Taurus. As much as you think you know about yourself, the uncharted areas of your psyche are far larger than the places you've mapped. I mention this because it's an excellent time, from an astrological perspective, to plumb your mysterious depths. Somewhere in there, a New World awaits discovery.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Is it possible, as Marshall McLuhan theorized, that we become what we behold? I find some big grains of truth in that idea. That's why I believe you should be vigilant about what scenes you allow to pour in through both your physical eyes and your mind's eye—especially now, when you're more suggestible than usual. There's another step you can take to safeguard yourself, Gemini, and that's to sharpen your perceptions. Beneath all the ugliness out there is a lot of well-hidden beauty. So look deeper and clearer. Listen closer and softer. Touch slower and wilder.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You really should buy yourself a new Lexus. Owning a luxury car will make you feel great about yourself. To pump up your self-esteem even further, surround yourself with starry-eyed admirers and show off your superior intelligence with snide witicisms about wimpy scapegoats. Won't it be fun to strut and crow for a change? Hal! Did you fall for my disinformation, Cancer? I was testing you—seeing if you're susceptible to lies and hype that panders to the superficial parts of your ego. The planetary omens have alerted me to the possibility that you'll be led astray by sweet-talking manipulators. Your false pride may even be threatening to overthrow your soul's confidence. Solution: Make skepticism your ally; be cheerfully humble.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Was I really the Greek philosopher Socrates in my past life, as has been rumored on the Internet? Nah. I was merely his student. But my time with the great teacher did endow me with a highly developed capacity for asking questions. And that could come in handy for you. Ready to find the answers you need? Here goes. What is the creation that most defines who you are now? What creation will most define who you are two years from today? Have you worked your butts off in order to nurture the forms of self-expression you love? (Please note: That does not say "butts," but rather "butts," as in the plural of the excuse-ridden word "but.") In 2001, are you willing to strive harder than ever before to nurture the forms of self-expression you love? Why or why not?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Turns out there's even a bit of virgin forest in America's biggest, loudest city. It's at the upper tip of Manhattan, near the Cloisters, a branch of the Metropolitan Museum. If you're a New Yorker who lives within 20 miles of that oasis, I urge you to sleep yourself in its pristine vibe this week. All the rest of you Virgos, please find an equivalent sanctuary in your own neck of the woods. In my astrological opinion, you need to do more than merely flirt with the great outdoors in the weeks and months to come. To dig up the intuitions that will seed your success in 2001, you should regenerate your link with primeval nature.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I once interviewed a rodeo clown turned pro miniature golfer who could recite the Bhagavad Gita by heart while shooting holes-in-one with a blindfold on. I've played strip backgammon with the woman president of an anti-animal-nudity activist group "Society for Indecency to Naked Animals." I have bid at an auction where a 1975 Ford Escort formerly owned by the Pope sold for \$102,000. But none of these weird wonders prepared me for this week's incredible spectacle: millions of Libras telling everyone in their lives, "I don't care what you want me to do or what you think of me, because this time I'm going to do what I damn well please."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "From the moment we enter school or church," says Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano, "education chops us into pieces: It teaches us to divorce soul from body and mind from heart." I would add that most of us come to terms with this schizo state through numbness and denial. Though it always distorts our lives, right now it's causing special pain for you Scorpios. Alas, none of our familiar cultural traditions offer a remedy. If you hope to unify your fragments—and this is prime time to try—I suggest you look for help in these three ways: feisty conversations with your higher self, homemade prayers to the most playful version of God you can imagine, or consultations with teachers and literature that are so far outside the mainstream that they're virtually secret.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I know a Sagittarius woman with an abundance of raw courage. She skydives and hang-glides. She has risked arrest by abusive cops during WTO protests and trekked the jungles of Guatemala alone. On the other hand, she steadfastly avoids facing her inner demons. Instead, she projects them onto friends and acquaintances and then banishes those people from her life. This psychological cowardice has become more invisible to her as she has grown more daring in her physical exploits. The bad news, dear Centaur, is that many of your tribe suffer from a milder version of this imbalance. The good news is that the coming months will bring rich opportunities to correct the problem. The glorious transformation can start with the meditations you hatch this week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Many people are under the impression that discussing a problem is the same thing as doing something about it. Not you, though. You have a deserved reputation as a man or woman of action. Walking your talk is your specialty. I would like to note, however, that every now and then, discussing a problem is actually better than doing something about it. An uninhibited exchange of ideas and feelings, when done in a setting where mutual tolerance rules, can dissolve a logjam so thoroughly that no other adjustment is necessary. Now is such a time, Capricorn.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): How could you possibly be ahead of your time but behind in your schedule? You tell me. Maybe you're afraid to stop procrastinating, because that would put you even further ahead of your time. And you have already endured enough rejection from people who aren't ready for your innovations. Let's face it: The majority will always prefer future shock to future shock. But are you man enough or woman enough to decide here and now that you'll no longer let the lowest common denominator hold you back? There's never been a better time to gather allies who love you to dream your most visionary dreams.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dear Gorgeous Force of Nature: As one of the emissaries assigned the lucky task of ensuring that you get all the gifts you deserve, I'm happy to announce the imminent arrival of a big, hot batch. Please don't feel the least bit guilty about receiving so many blessings, and don't you dare indulge in the slightest shyness about raking them all in. You may sometimes fantasize that you're being unduly rewarded, but I assure you that you have thoroughly earned every boost of sweetness that will be coming your way. Love, The Ambassador of Delight.

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by TOM TOMORROW

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3. AND SPEAKING OF ZANY--HOW ABOUT THOSE DAMNED CHADS ANYWAY? WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT WE CAN'T JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF EM!

MY NAME IS CHAD--AND I HAVE A DIMPLE!

WELL--AT LEAST YOU ARE NOT PREGNANT!

ON STOP! MY GUYS ARE KILLING ME!

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THE GRINCH--LIKE SECRETARY OF STATE WHO STOLE THE ELECTION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

I THINK I'LL WAIT TILL IT COMES OUT ON VIDEO!

1. WOULDN'T IT BE WACKY IF BUSH AND GORE WERE BOTH PRESIDENTS? JUST IMAGINE THE COMEDIC POSSIBILITIES!

I WANT TO DO ONE THING--

--BUT I WANT TO DO ANOTHER!

OH, YEA! WHAT A COUPLE OF KNUCKLEHEADS!

2. OR WHAT IF THEY SETTLED THIS MESS AS CONTESTANTS ON A POPULAR GAME SHOW? WE'RE QUAKING WITH MIRTH JUST THINKING ABOUT IT!

ALL RIGHT, IT'S TIME TO PLAY--WHO WANTS TO BE A LAME DUCK PRESIDENT FROM DAY ONE?

ME! ME!

NO, ME!

I'D LIKE SOME DIFFERENT CONTESTANTS, PLEASE!

DID YOU "GET" THE JOKES?

1. The humor in this panel derives from the fact that two presidents sharing power would often have trouble agreeing on a course of action!

2. Any cartoon featuring Regis Philbin is, by definition, funny.

3. Phrases such as "pregnant chad" take on a whole new meaning when they refer to someone actually named Chad--making this panel a real knee-slapper!

4. Humorists often use popular culture as a starting point on the road to insightful commentary! NOTE: Republican variations on the "Grinch" theme are also possible, and every bit as amusing!

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men seeking

IT IS better to copulate than never! Do you concur? Intelligent, passionate, straight SM. 44. I'm friendly, sincere, discriminating and obviously direct. Looking to meet a Woman to add some excitement, delight and passion to both our lives. #90408

33-YEAR-OLD M, Married, good-looking, seeking S or Married F for discreet, erotic fun, age unimportant. #904931

35-YEAR-OLD MALE, 5'8", 140 lbs. Seeking sexy Female, must be fun, leveling and experienced. For LTR. #90489

42-YEAR-OLD, SHY inexperienced SWM ISO dominant, take-charge, older Female/shemale, train me to please you. Interested in receiving greek water sports, healthy, n/s, drug-free, you be too. Race and looks not important. Discretion a must. #90394

57-YEAR-OLD GUY would like to have sex with you and your wife. Get in touch so we can play. #90459

AUGUSTA FEMALE wanted for daytime encounters. Married WM, very healthy and good-looking, early 40s, seeks S/Married F for once in a lifetime experience. Satisfaction guaranteed. Please call. #90481

AMOROUS OLDER Woman desired by tall, handsome, slim, fit, smart SM, 30, seeking Single or Married Woman who is exceptionally put together body and soul. Please be 40-55, attractive, sexy, smart and stimulating. #90075

ATHLETIC, HARDBOILED, handsome Man seeks Ladies or Couple for uninhibited adult fun. I'm tall, with black hair and blue eyes, very adventurous. Into just about everything. Let's have some fun. #90064

ATTRACTIVE BIBM, very healthy, 57, enjoys receiving oral services from Gay Male, CD or TV. Just moved here. I love to lay back and receive. #90315

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

BIM, SUBMISSIVE, would like to meet a butch Female for interesting encounters. #90406

BIWM ISO another BIM for frolicking afternoon or early evenings looking for oral pleasures. Also seeking White Couple who would love to see WM pleased by another WM. #90425

BIWM, 35, 6'4", 385 lbs, looking for Male/Female for discreet encounter or relationship. Men: under 28, under 200 lbs. Women: under 40, and under 200 lbs. Drug-free and healthy. #90443

BIWM, 40S, 180 lbs, 5'10", looking for a Male, 21-50, for occasional daytime activity. Me: healthy and you be too. #90486

BIWM, 42, healthy, nice-looking, brown/blue, 5'8", 165 lbs. ISO BIM for physical enjoyment. Must be a mature, positive individual who is very discreet, straight-acting, healthy and H/W/P. Mid-coast area. #90438

BIWM, 43, into cross-dressing, looking for the same for fun times. #90466

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

BUSTY WOMAN wanted by this tall, good-looking SWM, 42, for sincere, sensual, erotic, healthy relationship. I'm living a good life but I'm missing that special Woman to fulfill and experience both of our fantasies with. #90464

CUTE, ATHLETIC SWM, 42, young-looking, medium build, brown/blue, independent, open-minded, honest, seeks a flexible, unattached, sincere Lady, average to attractive looks, for friendship, cuddling and backrubs. Portland area preferred. #90413

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

GWM, BOTTOM, 38, 5'7", 155 lbs, good-looking, well-groomed, healthy, fit and discreet. Seeking GBM, 25-50, top, must be well-groomed, healthy, fit, discreet and well-endowed, for adult fun with no strings attached. Try me. #90434

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

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

HANDSOME RASCAL! Married WM, 39, ISO nice Girl who knows how to keep a secret. #90397

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

HANDSOME, HEALTHY BIWM, young 40, 5'10", 160 lbs, light brown/hazel, versatile, likes indoors and out, books and beaches. Seeks G/BIM, 20-40, slim and smooth, for discreet and passionate fun, maybe more. #90421

HARDWORKING SBM seeks romantic, passionate, older Woman who really enjoys foreplay. I'm 28, 5'6", athletic, amorous, healthy, intelligent. Let's talk first, then decide. What's the worst thing that could happen? #90470

HERE TO serve. Married BiMale, 40, 5'11", 225 lbs, ISO Male, 20-40, well-equipped, ready for hot times with no strings. Discretion is guaranteed and expected. #90313

HI, GUYS. ISO slim, healthy B/Male, 18-45, for friendship and more. Me: slim, healthy GWM, 45, waiting, call. #90686

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL Female type A/B, arts, business, law, beyond, between, feminine, attractive, petite, slender, shapely, intimately uninhibited, sought by attractive, masculine, intelligent, outdoorsy PM, 51, sociopolitical, countercultural conservative, not a suit, very good one-on-one. Open to what's you. #90357

I'M A masculine, good-looking, fit, discreet Male who enjoys the company and friendship of attractive and fit straight Man. If you have any unmet oral needs, I'd enjoy taking care of that, too! #90461

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

LARGE LADIES wanted. Married WM, early 40s, good-looking, and very healthy, seeks Single Women for daytime get-togethers. Please call for more information. #90474

LOOKING FOR a special Female with unfulfilled desires and fantasies. Please be over 35, weight unimportant and very healthy. This mid-40s SWM is 5'2", 200 lbs, clean-cut, healthy, discreet, multi-talented and a lot of fun to be with. #90433

MARRIED MALE wanted. Giving, 31-year-old SWM seeking Married Male who wants to receive oral pleasure. I'm good-looking, healthy, you be, too. Discreet. #90532

MARRIED WM, Portland area, has fantasy to masturbate for Female. Seek Females who are interested. Curious, etc. Open to suggestions, comments. All replies answered. Thanks. #90476

OLDER VIOLINS play sweeter music. SWM, 34, healthy, discreet, seeks Woman, 35-50, for occasional all-nighters. Will answer all. #90471

ORAL SERVICE guaranteed! Outgoing GWM, 30, 6'2", black/brown, healthy, n/s, enjoys music, sports, biking, camping, ISO active, blue-collar type GWM, 20-40, for possible relationship. Let's enjoy ourselves together. #90002

ORAL SERVICING. Good-looking BIM, early 40s, seeks other SM, 30-40, for daytime get-togethers. #90467

RECENTLY DWPM, just turned a young 50, 5'9", 185 lbs, nice Guy, needs to make up for lost time. Seeking mentally stable, working Female, petite to medium build, for daytime fun. Preferably Southern Maine area. #90429

SEEKING CHINESE-AMERICAN Female. SWM, 35, 6'2", 185 lbs, enjoys tennis, outdoors, simple things in life. Looking for special Lady to spend time with. Possible LTR. #90419

SEEKING COUPLE. Select SWM, 34, attractive, straight, very fit, healthy and safe, business owner interested in meeting a professional type Couple, 20s-30s, for some excellent sexual adventure. Please be attractive, fit, safe, healthy and happy and stable in your relationship. #90490

WEST COAST, muscular, athletic, tall SM seeks discreet pleasure with young, slender, feminine cross-dresser, 21-30. I enjoy lingerie and high heels. No strings attached. #90355

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couples seeking

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

COUPLES SEEKING educated, well-traveled, adventurous friends for new to the area Couple. We are both Bi, looking for friends in the Portland area. Please be healthy, attractive and open-minded. #90453

MARRIED COUPLE seeking Bi or straight Female, 21-27, for fun and fantasy. She: 23, red/green, WPH. He: 6', black/brown, WPH. #90460

MARRIED WHITE Couple, she's 25, bi-curious, he's 38, willing to try it. Seeking Bi or bi-curious Female, 24-40, for first time encounters. Serious inquiries only. #90468

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

PASSIONATE LADY wanted! White Couple. She: brown/brown, 44, He: 6', 190 lbs, silver hair, silver beard. We enjoy the outdoors and are open-minded. Looking for bi-curious Female to be healthy, slim, light drinker, n/s. Help us to fulfill our fantasy. #90405

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

SWM SEEKING SWF to become a Couple for erotic adventures. Let's explore other Couple seeking ads together. I'm healthy, gray, 40s, handsome, fit, passionate. Let's explore fantasies, fetishes, pleasures together. Let's have some fun. #90404

SWM SEEKING SWF to become a Couple for erotic adventures. Let's explore other Couple seeking ads together. I'm healthy, gray, 40s, handsome, fit, passionate. Let's explore fantasies, fetishes, pleasures together. Let's have some fun. #90404

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

WHITE COUPLE looking for Bi/GM/F for LTR. #90390

YOUNG MAN wanted. Gay Couple seeks young Male for third party encounters. You must be slender build, with boyish good looks, 21-30. #90790

women seeking

45-YEAR-OLD BIF in a Male-Female relationship, looking for a Woman to share some fun with. Both in good shape, healthy, honest, willing to share a lot with the right Woman. #90488

BIF? TRAVEL someplace exotic with us and be spoiled to your heart's content. We love beautiful, strong, sophisticated Women who know what they want and aren't afraid to ask for it. Yes, I have a Man but half could be yours. #86140

BIFEMALE, 24, 6', brown hair, very sexy, pierced, tattooed, submissive and open to just about everything. Seeking healthy, drug-free person, Portland area, anyone. #90448

DISCREET, FEMININE, attractive Woman wanted. Would enjoy sharing you with my extremely sexy Man! Preferably someone for a threesome but will also perform one on one while he watches. If you'd like to make fantasies come true, please contact me. #90483

I'M AN attractive, bi-curious Female looking for occasional fantasy play, I am open-minded and not pushy. Just want to explore. Please tell me what your fantasies are as well. Discreet and healthy. Fun only. #86182

SGF, 36, mother of one, likes a good song and dance, seeking a Female replacement to my shower massage. Smokers ok, friends first, lovers later. Can you handle it? #90410

SINGLE TURKEY with big wattle, seeks nice vegetarian family to spend Thanksgiving with, enjoys long walks on the beach and heavy pecking. No smokers. #90477

THREE'S COMPANY. Happy, healthy, handsome, honest, fit Single professional, 39, seeks two Gal pals for dining, dancing and good times. If you and a friend are Single and fit, free and curious, you'll get safety in numbers, laughter in stereo. #90472

WELL-BUILT, TALL, athletic, straight SWM, late 20s, seeks Female or Couples for erotic adventures. Very open-minded. Loves to please. Let's have fun, you be the same. Let's talk. #90479

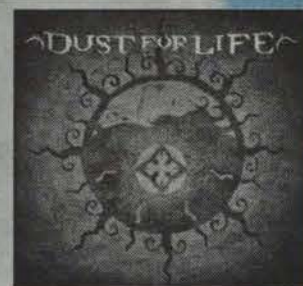
WEST COAST, muscular, athletic, tall SM seeks discreet pleasure with young, slender, feminine cross-dresser, 21-30. I enjoy lingerie and high heels. No strings attached. #90355

couples seeking

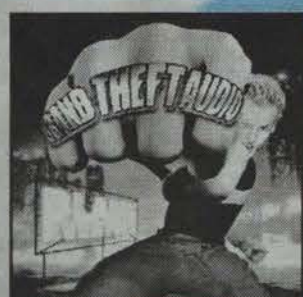
ATTRACTIVE, FIT, professional, curious Male, 38, 6'2", 200 lbs, physically impressive. Seeks Bi Couple, Married BIM or select Single for first time fun, exciting and discreet experience. Healthy, you be the same. Let's talk. #90479

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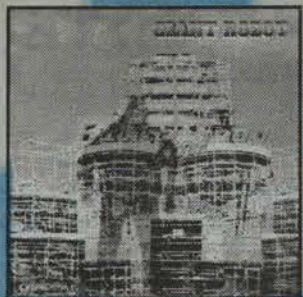
DUST FOR LIFE
step into the light (from the
Wind-up album DUST FOR LIFE)



GRAND THEFT AUDIO
stupid ass (from the London album
BLAME EVERYONE)



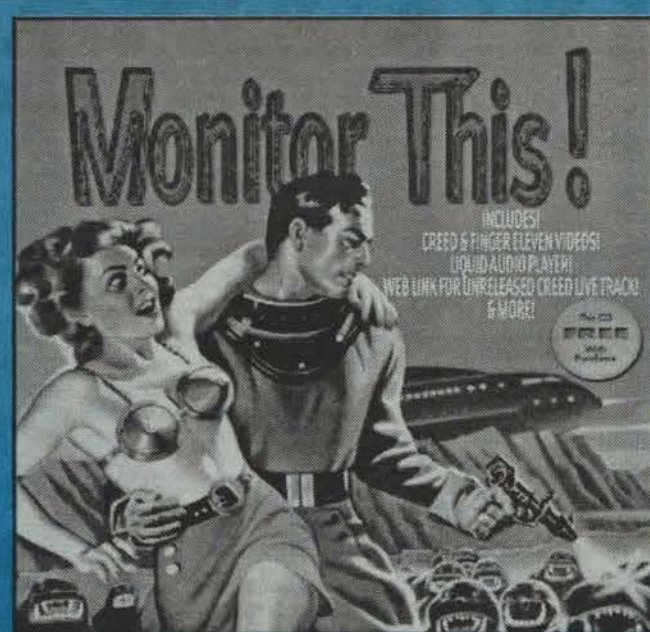
BRUCE HORNSBY
sunflower cat/it takes a lot to
laugh, it takes a train to cry (from the
RCA album HERE COMES THE NOISEMAKERS)



BUCKETHEAD
welcome to bucketheadland
(from the CyberOctave album GIANT ROBOT)



JOAN OSBORNE
righteous love (from the Interscope
album RIGHTEOUS LOVE)



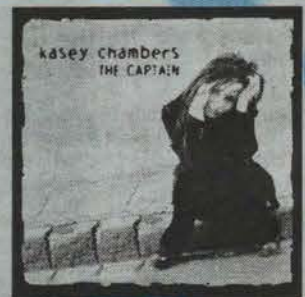
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Player from Liquid Audio,
Web link to FREE unre-
leased live Creed track!
Rare Barenaked Ladies
track! And an unreleased
Robbie Williams track!



MELESKI, MARTIN & WOOD
the dropper (from the Blue Note
album THE DROPPER)



NONPOINT
what a day (from the MCA album
STATEMENT)



KASEY CHAMBERS
cry like a baby (from the Asylum/Warner
Brothers album THE CAPTAIN)



AMEN
the price of reality (from the Virgin
album WE HAVE COME FOR YOUR PARENTS)



HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH
before the heartache rolls in (from
the Atlantic album SCATTERED, SMOTHERED
AND COVERED)



FATBOY SLIM
ya mama (from the Astralwerks album
HALFWAY BETWEEN THE GLITTER AND THE STARS)



POE
walk the walk (from the Atlantic album
HAUNTED)



TALIB KWELI & HI-TEK
move somethin' (from the Rawkus
album REFLECTION ETERNAL)



COLD
send in the clowns (from the Flip/Geffen
album 13 WAYS TO BLEED ON STAGE)



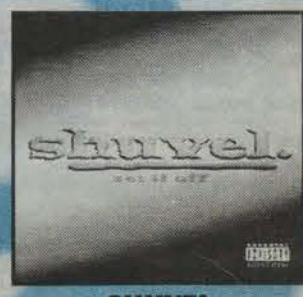
ROBBIE WILLIAMS
united (unreleased track not found on the
Capitol album SING WHEN YOU'RE WINNING)



COLDPLAY
yellow (from the Nettwerk America
album PARACHUTES)



DWIGHT YOAKAM
i want you to want me (from the
Reprise album TOMORROW'S SOUND TODAY)



SHUVEL
set it off (from the Interscope album
SET IT OFF)



TONY IOMMI
goodbye lament (from the
Divine/Priority album IOMMI)



BARENAKED LADIES
hidden sun (originally released on the Reprise
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