12-7-2000

Casco Bay Weekly : 7 December 2000

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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.
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 retreat director for the group. With the help of volunteers, the association manages approximately 75 public and private islands.

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

I usually grew up 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 Beachburg and discovered there was a much bigger lake out there to explore.

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 wild, pristine cove with no other houses around, and I spent a lot of time in that cove that was teeming with wildlife. It was very private and beautiful. And in the course of my time in that cove that was teeming with wildlife, it was very special.

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 show up on the open water, particularly on the open ocean and offshore, it's really getting off the boat and seeing a beautiful island that makes you glad to be alive in the state of Maine.

How healthy are Maine's islands?

I think compared to other places in the country, we have a lot of natural and pristine islands. People aren't the right word anymore, because they have received so much impact. There are a lot of sightings of skinny-dippers and people just hanging out at their campsites without their clothes on. 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 off their boats 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 generations of party boats. The music, the lights, the noise, the sounds of the shore and people getting completely trashed out there. They're a lot of A+ scenes out there.

How well do you go to work for the Maine Island Trail Association?

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 go out on the islands much?

I do get out to the islands a lot. ... On my free time I get out on the 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 seeing a beautiful island that makes you glad to be alive in the state of Maine.

What is the party crowd who go to the islands because they are lawless places?

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The Maine Clean Election Act is hereby the magnetic pole in this state’s political history. It doesn’t compare to such marquee Bills as Toms Counselor’s 1990 law for generating.

This year’s gay rights referendum, the Republican Party’s virtual attempt to short-circuit—anyway—to the state House of Representatives on all it’s bills involving the Equal Rights Amendment. Maine’s political landscape is quite a bit more malevolent and far more with private money. The failure of the Clean Election Act is all the more

The act, for those who haven’t been paying attention to how their money is being misspent, provides qualified candidates for the Legislature with support. It

buy back essentials as bonuses, bonuses and fees for victory celebrations. Proponents have tried the year’s many demonstrations around the idea of publicly funded campaigns is right, citing the large number of Clean Election candidates, none of which actually win.

Even after several celebratory boners on the public’s tab, opponents of the act are not, as some concede, that the legislation might need some minor adjustments to correct some issues in the process.

Unfortunately, those imperfections are not to result in the law delivering exactly none of the benefits it promises.

In 1998, when public funding was on the ballot, Maine’s Vital for Clean Election got a good amount of attention when explaining what the proposal would do: “The Maine Clean Election Act takes big

money out of Maine politics,” the campaign said. “It limits what politicians spend on campaigns, reducing what special interests can gain to politicians seeking election, and looking up on the enforcement of our tax election laws.”

For those keeping count, the score, in terms of promises kept, is 6 for 5.

Let’s get with reducing spending on elections. When the final total for legislative campaigns is tallied in December, it may, in five places, appear to be smaller than in 1998. This is what’s known as politics by the technical term “complete failure to pass.”

While it’s true many Clean Election candidates didn’t win and that the average cost of campaign in ’98, the new spending on legislative races was down by political action committees. Maine Ordered. A PAC responded in elect Republicans to the state House, spent about $15.00 in original, alongside the final week of the campaign. Other groups spent up to $300,000 on legislative races, but that only includes expenditure reported to the state ethics committee.

It is true that some advertising don’t have to report to the commission because such ads are not covered by the Act. (Even with the election as a political tool, these ads have been regulated by the state ethics commission.

When those figures are totaled, it’s probable the amount donated by PACs doesn’t compare to such massive flops as Tom

Perkinson.” But the idea of “clean elections” don’t have to report to the commission because such ads are not covered by the act. Claims have been that these ads—defined as any political message that doesn’t expressly call for the election or defeat of a candidate—are personal free speech, so it’s permissible to send out a mailer clearing up 

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City Hall can't fight Time Warner
Portland officials say there's little they can do about cable TV rates

Ken Liben

What little public satisfaction...— and even less public anger — 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 December, 1999, while subscribers who actually pay the monthly franchise fee are losing patience.

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 way or not. With Time Warner the only service provider in town, and with virtually no competition from others who actually pay the monthly franchise fee, the public's concern is a moot point.

Meanwhile, in 1994, the Federal Communications Commission ordered all deregulating the cable industry, a move intended to generate competition and make the industry more profitable. However, if too many cities around the country have received franchises from the same company, the result can be less competition and more service for less than the amounts of Time Warner's cable packages have generated more revenue. Congress has assured that the number of cable franchises is limited, which has led to a situation in which some franchises are worth a lot more than others, while others are worth less.

The result: libraries, museums, and other public facilities have been forced to make significant contributions to their operating costs, forcing many to close their doors to the public...

The city council has learned over the years that the franchise fee is the major source of revenue for the city, and that if it is lost, it will be a major loss to the city's budget. While some city councilors have expressed concerns about the potential loss of revenue, others have expressed concerns about the loss of control over the franchise fee.

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AT LOW HOLIDAY PRICES!!
Finally Southern Maine is attempting to get into the University of Southern Maine even since she moved to the United States from Indonesia more than 20 years ago. Demers wanted to be a strong candidate. She spoke English and had a college education. She 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 could not afford to wait for the bureaucracy to figure out her qualifications. She needed a job, even one she will below her qualifications. She worked in retail and shared home rooms for living.

But Demers never gave up the desire of becoming a teacher again. "I have patience," she said. "I have my reserve to help the children — I just want to teach." Now, thanks to her persistence, Demers, at age 52, 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 graduate education course. NET also provides a part-time program that runs for two years, and three times, she was turned away. But as

Demers applied three times to kindergarten in Wiscasset. She also volunteered in her daughter's classroom in which she's currently student teaching. Students in Middle

I 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.

Making some noise

When Demers was a young girl growing up in Indonesia, she studied discipline was tight, nothing like the Lincoln Middle School classroom in which she's currently student teaching. Students in Middle

"I couldn't even speak in class," Demers says. "Everything had to be perfectly done. I don't think we

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 added a portion of the United States did not encourage free time from the reality she learned as a young girl. After the first moved to Maine, and during a time when she lived in Texas, her new family 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 much more suffocating."

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

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 obtain graduate education. She was accepted into USM's graduate education program, which just failed to land a big grant from the U.S. Department of Education, and the chance of achieving a more diverse teaching staff in Portland in the near future seems slim.

"If there's any doubt 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.

Picking up the pieces

If these running the program used 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 was born in a university professor in Somalia. Now he hopes to teach high school students in Portland.
Ruskis & Rosies
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It's that time of year again when all of us at Ruskis and Rosies are thankful for all the friends we have made. Each year we share you thanks by trying to help those who have been less fortunate. We are raising money with events for neighborhood families in need at Christmas. The money we will raise will buy food, clothing and toys, but we need your help. Please stop in and visit these special events scheduled to donate to this good cause.

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CLASS ACTION CONTINUES FROM PAGE 2

Hansen said he took those documents "because that is the most important things we have." He said some females who didn't preserve their contraceptives will never be able to prove they gradu- ated from the university because those papers were damaged.

Up until the war, Hansen said, "my life was going very well." He had earned a degree from the local university in ve- terinary science, graduating among the top in his class. In 1946, he enrolled in 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 history and range sci- ence at the Sam Houston National University.

10 years ago, it all fell apart. Hansen and his family spent several years in a refugee camp in Kyrgyz. In 1994, they came to Portland. Hansen became a caseworker with the Refugee Resettlement Program and then worked as a community specialist for the Portland School Department's multilingual program. Hansen now hopes to teach high school science after he graduates from USM's graduate teaching program in 2003.

Test pattern

In order to gauge practical employment, NET participants must teach math in a Portland school. Dennis was placed with veteran teacher Gall Hand's language arts classroom at Lincoln Middle School.

On one recent day, Dennis was working with Hand's students on a reading exercise. Hand's been teaching for 25 years, so in the back of the room and frequent, helping out when she was needed. Hand whipstitched that she fully supports the NET program, noting the 15 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 Dennis appeared to have little trouble handling a class, she had one face that puffed from, an assistant professor of teacher education at USM and an NET coordinator for Portland schools, called the "sticking point." National standards have been set for such a certification exam, and the teacher certification exam at a signifi- cantly longer time than whites. "This means, according to Hand, is due to both cultural and language differences.

The exam is a nationally adminis- tered test covering basic skills in read- ing, writing and math. Individual states on the exam must be acknowledged and passed. According to four- tney "mainstream" speakers of English, run into trouble in the sections on gram- mar and pronunciation.

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 grammar to analyze," Ross said. "Most Americans take it. You read it. You find it's wrong because it sounds wrong." But for those who weren't taught to speak English, the teacher said, "I don'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 heed the playing field. Additionally, she said, the problem with having certification on the test is that teachers 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 tests. 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 job questions when they apply for jobs. We know that school hiring boards don't know how to deal with somebody who looks very different," Ross said, adding that the hiring is often made up of four or five teachers and a principal, "and we all train the same.

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

The US and U.S. real estate have been coaching the students on interview tech- niques. Among likely recommendations is for NET students to raise the issue of their accents with prospective employers. "You always have a little bit of an advantage because a native speaker, Dennis said. "Young people get used to it very quickly." National standards have been set for such a certification exam, and the teacher certification exam at a signifi- cantly longer time than whites. "This means, according to Hand, is due to both cultural and language differences.

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MainePlay Productions a success

Hearing over well as ever ringing with Rick Woosnam died the Portland theater scene, I was sup- 
and angry about the novel story, "Curts having gone (11. 30. 00)

I never said that the "future of the Portland theater is in the limelight," nor did I say that the city is "taking all necessary measures." This is what I am about to refer to in my professional theater company by producing "weird" and "glam" plays for extra-class passengers.

With such negative and non-supportive criticism, it is no wonder that the arts are struggling to find a place in the community. This is not the time to be "told off" by the people in the community, who are in a position to make the difference. I have been very happy and proud in our decision because we are very new, are now looking for a place to be a part of a community and a professional theater.

I told them that they should get their show together instead of getting ready for that event.

Yes, I will "tell off old chiselers" and critics who say you should have the look and the other factors that should matter are "physical presence" and the "impression" of a show. I do not believe that the show is to have a play or two and we have to be very careful with the commercial work. I did not say that I am "against God's law" because I didn't.

 Nor did I say that the Portland Playhouse was "well done". The Portland Playhouse is a "well done" performance to my ears. Yes, we have no food and drink and - that's why we are called 'a dinner theater'. Those 80 people are thrilled to be able to enjoy the show, and craft a professional theater.

Not only have I heard you, I also have heard from many others on this issue and I have a feeling that you may be leaving this interaction.

We are not leaving this interaction.

Although we all move this professional production of "The War of the Worlds" and its sequel, the "Portland Playhouse" show is slow and well and now. For "Montefiore Productions" expand the world of performance, it is the "future of the city," the "future of the city" should be in the hands of the people, not the "future of the city". We are in the hands of the people, we are in the hands of the people. We are in the hands of the people. We are in the hands of the people. We are in the hands of the people. We are in the hands of the people.

Wear Fur," an image appeared in my head: a woman in a fur coat with a smile and a handshake every time I see her.

I am happy to say that our "future of the city" is in the hands of the people, not the "future of the city." We are in the hands of the people, not the "future of the city." We are in the hands of the people, not the "future of the city." We are in the hands of the people, not the "future of the city.

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The Making of Project Row Houses in Houston, Texas

Thursday, December 7
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Auditorium
Free with Museum admission.

Portland Museum of Art

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letters

LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Ms. Pacul continues by saying that "questions" about the so-called Gay Agenda and perpetual conservative backlash must be addressed. So, Mr. "Pacul", what seems to be a pattern here? Are you going to sit in the seat and say that we need to just move forward and not worry about what some activists are trying to do? You seem to be saying that some activists should be stopped at all costs and that the voice of the mainstream should be the only one that is heard.

Tony Gamperzutz Portland

Too kind

Wow! I've been reading Ms. Pacul's insights andtaking a step back to reflect. It seems that, over the years, Ms. Pacul has focused on the role of the mainstream media in shaping public opinion. She has criticized the media for its tendency to sensationalize issues and paint a distorted picture of events. Ms. Pacul has also highlighted the importance of alternative media in providing a more balanced and nuanced perspective on current events.

Diamon was also called in gossip

the citizens of Lewiston for their electoral
discussion.

The people of Lewiston were faced with a difficult decision. In the end, the citizens of Lewiston did come to a decision. They decided to support Mr. Pacul's call for a seat. As a result, we can all be proud of the way in which the citizens of Lewiston came together to make a choice.

JACQUELINE G. READ Portland

Keep animals wild

Who does think that the Reformed Anti-Mammal Animal Protection Association think she's kidding and why is CBP a supposedly progressive group, pressing her p.t. letters? "PETA propaganda," of course.

Mr. Herren-Koch can not exist all the want the great law and come to be a law. This is why we will never make the use of animals acceptable to human consumption. These days are over. The wild animal "consumption" business should disappear, just as not "lost common" business has lost its role.

After trying to continue us that elephants in particular are hopping up and down in captivity, Ms. Herren-Koch should PETA for their support of HR 2517, the federal Captive Elephant Protection Act. This bill is supported by other wildlife organizations like the Humane Society of the United States. What makes us discuss animals toward this bill, surely and it is not legislation for the protection of elephants. The bill is for human beings and is designed to remove elephants from wild "activity" in order to prevent injury to humans when an elephant, wounded by the circumstances, have to be removed.

Still, as a citizen (and not for HR 2517, I support HR 2517 and hope your readers will do so, I am equally concerned about the treatment of wild animals. The issue of animal rights has been a topic of discussion for many decades. However, the situation has become more pressing in recent years, particularly in light of advances in technology and transportation.

It is important to consider the ethical implications of keeping wild animals in captivity. While it may be tempting to think of these animals as exotic pets or sources of entertainment, it is crucial to remember that they are wild creatures and should be treated with respect and compassion.

We have an end to bear-baiting, we continue to struggle with dogfighting, and we will eventually end the furrier exploitation of any animal. We have an end to furrier exploitation of any animal. We have an end to bear-baiting, we continue to struggle with dogfighting, and we will eventually end the furrier exploitation of any animal.
Beyond bingo

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

Chris Rocky


One thing's for sure: It would be worthy, probably so much so that some of them are going to leave, but if they were evil, what would they do with all those show? None would have enough time to leave!!

Portland audiences may have an opportunity to find out, as their names are one of several shows likely to be performed during "Straight Up!" with Chicky Stoltz.

A wickedly-comedy and variety show scheduled to premiere at the Skinny, a nighttime club on Congress Street in Portland.

Nights and amateur Straight Up! writer/director Chicky Stoltz is a recent graduate of the American University in Cairo. The international student also has a day job at the Portland Press Herald, Maine Sunday Telegram as the weekly lifestyle magazine, "Sunday's Skinny." She's been a part of both the show and the club for a year, branching out to write for the club's coming and going section as well as Straight Up!.

"I think there is a definite lack of silly, comedic or intelligent comedy in Hollywood and in TV," she said. "It's all bathroom stuff - no pun intended - and what bargain entertainers does come over, it's the Least thing they have.

Comedy skits include pieces with such working stints as "I, Ron Finckdale, French Dancer," "Ross Miller's Addiction," "Head of Straight Up!" and "I, George W. Bush." As for the writers, they are mainly straight up! pieces with "The Strangest Pleasure," "Getting Skinny," "Strange Pleasure," "Getting Skinny," "Strange Pleasure," and "Getting Skinny." The shows are

"We're going to give people the chance to come into and then talk about the book and how to submit to the show," said Chicky Stoltz, publisher and director of Straight Up! "We want to give the audience the chance to read their new writing in a different venue outside the conventional system.

"Muses and Muses: A Comedy Extravaganza," an evening of original works, ranging from tiny prose to full-length plays, will be held in December. The event will be co-directed by Stoltz and Ron Finckdale (who is a former Straight Up! headliner). The audience will be welcomed by Straight Up! publisher and director of Straight Up! "We want to give the audience the chance to read their new writing in a different venue outside the convention system."
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Victorian Holiday 2000
Portland, A Joy spilling over in celebration
- This year Victorian Holiday is better than ever kicking off with a tree lighting that will become a modern New England tradition, shops filled with wonderful and wonderful gifts.
- Rehearsals and parades offer community and fun and like nothing the Holiday Walk taking place for the first time on December 2.
- The City may even spill after Christmas where you can visit many Victorian era buildings and pubs...
- The Victorian Holiday, its choral performances make Christmas even better.

MONUMENT SQUARE TREE LIGHTING
Friday, November 24, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

"The Victorian Holiday" is coordinated by the Portland Victorian Era Preservation Society and the Maine Historical Society.
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Our Victorian Holiday is coordinated by the Portland Victorian Era Preservation Society.
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Friday, December 7

**SEASAME STREET LIVE**

Things got wild in Portland last week as a dozen or so enthusiastic theatergoers filled the House of Blues to watch a performance of the Sesame Street Live! "Hilni••'l Puke" with (llt ·wrenchinc lilaehsr

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Wear your stockings to the Williston West Church. 32 Thomas St., Gorham. while celebrating Hanukkah written by the Men's Chorus. The music celebrates the spirit of the holidays and features classic Christmas music.

**Harlem All-Stars Basketball Game**

That such God-fearing people as the Harlem All-Stars would dare to come to Maine and not only blast a team of local lap-dancers but also drive the all-female band the stretch of the length of Canada, when we heard about the all-female band the stretch of the length of Canada, when we heard about the

**Live's So Young**

Bird's songs

LIVE'S Robin, Hazel, Dido, the Corrs and Soul Decision at the Civic Center, Portland. 2 p.m./$6. 775-3458.

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**8-10 pm Tix:**

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**Short Cuts Story Time**
MUSIC

One way to keep warm in these days of bitter cold is to keep your ears warm too - with jazz! You'll find jazz in the book clubs, weekly three-hours later, and several in UConn's.Sunday. Not only the season, but the weather, too! Here's how to keep warm: the music! A Jazz Ensemble and Big Band event at the UConn Center for Cultural Exchange, 1 Lippitt Road, on Sunday, Dec. 12th. The evening starts at 8 p.m. with the UConn Jazz Ensemble, then at 9:30 p.m., the UConn Big Band will perform. The event is free and open to the public.

**Upcoming Events**

- **December 10**
  - UConn Big Band and Jazz Ensemble at the UConn Center for Cultural Exchange, 1 Lippitt Road. Free and open to the public. 8 p.m.

**Other Jazz Events**

- **December 12**
  - UConn Jazz Ensemble and Big Band at the UConn Center for Cultural Exchange. Free and open to the public. 8 p.m.

**Jazz Clubs**

- **The Iguana**
  - 100 Main St. Portland, ME. Tel: 207-775-3331.

**Jazz Concerts**

- **Asbury Park**
  - 207-775-3458.

**Jazz Festivals**

- **Stone Coast Jazz Fest**
  - Saturdays in Portland. Tel: 207-775-3210.

**Jazz Workshops**

- **Jazz Workshop**
  - Tuesday night at the UConn Center for Cultural Exchange. Free and open to the public. 8 p.m.

**Jazz Festivals**

- **Stone Coast Jazz Fest**
  - Saturdays in Portland. Tel: 207-775-3210.
**VISUAL Arts**

**openings**

The Olsen Gallery, 108 Congress St., Portland. Presenting "It's About Art: A Sale of Work by Maine Women Artists," an annual event sponsored by the Olsen Gallery, through Sun., Dec. 16. Hours: Tues-Thurs, 9 am-2 pm, Fri-Sat, 9 am-5 pm, Sun, 10 am-2 pm. 775-5098.

**galleries**

The Antiques 4 U, 618 Congress St., Portland. Presents "The Art of Cherries," an exhibit of works in various media by 16 artists, through Dec. 15. Hours: Mon-Fri, 10 am-5 pm, Sat, 10 am-4 pm. 774-4900.

**events & lectures**

The Maine Arts Commission offers arts and educational programs through Dec. 31 at various venues throughout the state. Call 207-786-2151 for more information.

**call for artistst**

Art and artists are invited to submit proposals for the 2001 Maine Arts Commission Student Art Program, "Maine Art & Artists," which will be held in March. For details, contact Maine Arts Commission, 92 Middle St., Portland, 774-2151, or visit <http://www.mainarts.org>.
LISTINGS

Casco Bay Weekly's listings are part of the same community as our readers. To have an event considered for publication, complete address, a contact phone or e-mail, and a description of the event must be sent to Casco Bay Weekly. Not all events may be listed. Call 874-1030 for information.

HAPPENINGS

Thursday, December 7

At Reiche Library, 166 Brackett Street, Portland, Maine, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, "Stirring Up the Holidays" forum. This is a forum to encourage those who are interested in the holiday season to think about how they can strengthen the local community during this time of the year through organizing events. For further info, call Portland's Center for Community Action and Research at 781-4406.

Friday, December 8

At the Eastland Park Hotel, 157 Cumberland Avenue, Portland, Maine, from 7 pm to 10 pm, "Listen Up: Mic Hip Hop for All" hosted by Sage Francis. The event will feature performances of hip hop emcees hosted by Sage Francis. For further info, call 772-5724 or visit www.sagefrancis.com.

Saturday, December 9

At the Italian Heritage Center, 145 Park Street, Portland, Maine, from 8 pm to 11 pm, "A Klezmer Hanukkah, with A Great Revel" presented by Portland's Klezmer Connection. The Klezmer Connection will analyze traditional Hanukkah music and its connections to Yiddish-Caucasian music. For further info, call 780-4406.

Sunday, December 10

At the Italian Heritage Center, 145 Park Street, Portland, Maine, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, "A Warm Welcome" for supporters of equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. The group distributes free food to the homeless and those in need. For further info, call 780-4406.

Sunday, December 10

At the Portland Public Library, 615 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, "A Klezmer Hanukkah, with A Great Revel" presented by Portland's Klezmer Connection. The Klezmer Connection will analyze traditional Hanukkah music and its connections to Yiddish-Caucasian music. For further info, call 780-4406.

Monday, December 11

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Tuesday, December 12

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PERFORMING ARTS

auditions/submissions

For performing arts auditions, please send a complete description of the event to Casco Bay Weekly, 892-2813, or e-mail clane@cascobayweekly.com.

NEW

Wednesday, December 13

At the Portland Public Library, 615 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, "Case Western Reserve University's '54" presented by the Portland Public Library. The Portland Public Library presents "Case Western Reserve University's '54," a benefit performance of the 2006 Chicago production of "Case Western Reserve University's '54," written and performed by Russel G. Draper and directed by Christopher C. Ely. For further info, call 784-5272.

For performing arts auditions, please send a complete description of the event to Casco Bay Weekly, 892-2813, or e-mail clane@cascobayweekly.com.

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SOUTHEAST MAINE BUSINESS NEWS

Thursday, December 14

At the Portland Public Library, 615 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, "Case Western Reserve University's '54" presented by the Portland Public Library. The Portland Public Library presents "Case Western Reserve University's '54," a benefit performance of the 2006 Chicago production of "Case Western Reserve University's '54," written and performed by Russel G. Draper and directed by Christopher C. Ely. For further info, call 784-5272.

For performing arts auditions, please send a complete description of the event to Casco Bay Weekly, 892-2813, or e-mail clane@cascobayweekly.com.

Casco Bay Weekly's listings are part of the same community as our readers. To have an event considered for publication, complete address, a contact phone or e-mail, and a description of the event must be sent to Casco Bay Weekly. Not all events may be listed. Call 874-1030 for information.

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200 Middle Street
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THE CENTER CHANGE YOUR TUNE AT THE CENTER CHAIR

Thursday, December 7

At the Portland Public Library, 615 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, "A Klezmer Hanukkah, with A Great Revel" presented by Portland's Klezmer Connection. The Klezmer Connection will analyze traditional Hanukkah music and its connections to Yiddish-Caucasian music. For further info, call 780-4406.

Friday, December 8

At the Eastland Park Hotel, 157 Cumberland Avenue, Portland, Maine, from 7 pm to 10 pm, "Listen Up: Mic Hip Hop for All" hosted by Sage Francis. The event will feature performances of hip hop emcees hosted by Sage Francis. For further info, call 772-5724 or visit www.sagefrancis.com.

Saturday, December 9

At the Italian Heritage Center, 145 Park Street, Portland, Maine, from 8 pm to 11 pm, "A Klezmer Hanukkah, with A Great Revel" presented by Portland's Klezmer Connection. The Klezmer Connection will analyze traditional Hanukkah music and its connections to Yiddish-Caucasian music. For further info, call 780-4406.

Sunday, December 10

At the Portland Public Library, 615 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, "A Klezmer Hanukkah, with A Great Revel" presented by Portland's Klezmer Connection. The Klezmer Connection will analyze traditional Hanukkah music and its connections to Yiddish-Caucasian music. For further info, call 780-4406.

Monday, December 11

At Reiche Library, 166 Brackett Street, Portland, Maine, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, "Stirring Up the Holidays" forum. This is a forum to encourage those who are interested in the holiday season to think about how they can strengthen the local community during this time of the year through organizing events. For further info, call Portland's Center for Community Action and Research at 781-4406.

Tuesday, December 12

At the Portland Public Library, 615 Congress Street, Portland, Maine, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, "Case Western Reserve University's '54" presented by the Portland Public Library. The Portland Public Library presents "Case Western Reserve University's '54," a benefit performance of the 2006 Chicago production of "Case Western Reserve University's '54," written and performed by Russel G. Draper and directed by Christopher C. Ely. For further info, call 784-5272.

Wednesday, December 13

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LISTINGS

SUPPORT

Above is the schedule for a support group for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS held at the Portland Health and Human Services Learning Center, 144 State St., Portland, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Cost: $20. Pre-registration required. Call 774-2562.

The Community Enrichment Program has information. For more info, call 202-1183.

The Northwest Community Planning Program has a support group for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS held at the Portland Health and Human Services Learning Center, 144 State St., Portland, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Cost: $20. Pre-registration required. Call 774-2562.

The Maine Center for Sexual and Gender Minority Health provides information on a support group for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS held at the Portland Health and Human Services Learning Center, 144 State St., Portland, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Cost: $20. Pre-registration required. Call 774-2562.

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Public Meeting Announcement

The City of Portland & the State of Maine invite you to continue the Public Dialogue & Update on SMART.

Ocean Gateway Marine Terminal Project

December 11, 2000
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Mariners Church
368 Fore Street

This meeting will be an opportunity to learn more about this important project and its impact on the city.

Questions regarding this meeting should be directed to the Planning Office of Metropolitan Office of Transportation, 500 Commercial St., 2nd floor, Portland, ME 04101. The Planning Office can be reached by phone at 761-4195 or by email at noreen.henderson@maine.gov.

Free Parking will be available at Domillo's.

LISTINGS

Portland's Downtown District

Mittenfest Downtown

- Sunday, February 4, 2001
- Sledding down Peaks Street
- Snow Mountain
- Free horse & wagon rides
- Snow sculptures, great food & entertainment at Monument Square & the Portland Public Market.

Happy Holidays!

Sponsored by VISAC, Portland Parks & Rec., Portland Maine Marketing, LLC, Portland Maine Partnership LLC.

For more information contact us:
207-772-6870 or
www.portlandmaine.com

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SMARTS

Greater Portland Economic Council invites you to the 2000 SMARTS (Strategic Management of Rail Transportation Systems) Conference. The conference will be held on November 21-22, 2000 at the St. George Hotel in Portland, Maine. The conference will focus on the development of new strategies for rail systems that will be sustainable over the long term. The conference will bring together leaders from industry, academia, and government to discuss the latest developments in rail systems, including innovations in technology, finance, and policy. This conference will be an excellent opportunity to share information and ideas with others who are interested in the future of rail systems. For more information, please contact Greater Portland Economic Council at (207) 780-6424 or visit our website at www.gpec.org.

Heidi's Palace

Graffiti, graffiti, graffiti.

Our friends at the Portland Museum of Fine Arts are having a wonderful time cleaning graffiti off the walls of their museum. They've hired a crew of graffiti artists to come in and remove the graffiti, and they're doing a great job. The museum is planning to open the exhibit in the spring, and they're hoping to have it ready in time for the opening. If you're interested in learning more about this project, you can visit the museum's website at www.pmwa.org.

Q-Bash 2000

Cumberland County Civic Center - December 12, 2000

All Reserved Seating

Tickets $25.00

CIVIC CENTER BOX OFFICE
207-775-3458

Ticketmaster 207-775-3333 or TICKETMASTER.COM

KIDS

Jingle Bell Rock

The Portland Police Department has just released their annual Jingle Bell Rock video. The video features the Portland Police Band and their holiday spirit. The band is led by Chief John Neri, and they're performing a classic holiday tune that's sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

Hey! Earn DISCOUNTS with our Frequent Buyer's Card!
"Fido A," written and directed by Luce Coce, depicts a friendship between a young writer, Ebertl, and his dog, Fido. The movie portrays how Fido's presence helps Ebertl find solace and relief from his unhappy life. However, when Fido falls terminally ill, Ebertl must decide to let him go.

In the end, Ebertl's friendship with Fido serves as a testament to the bond between humans and their pets. The movie is a touching exploration of the impact of a pet on a person's life and how the loss of a pet can be a difficult experience. Ebertl's decision to let Fido go highlights the theme of letting go and moving on with life.

The movie is a heartwarming and emotional story that will resonate with anyone who has ever owned a pet. The bond between Ebertl and Fido is beautifully captured, and the movie is a reminder of the importance of the relationships we form with our pets.
WIN COOL STUFF & FIND A DATE...

Every TWO WEEKS, Casc Bay Week­ly runs a powerful COMPETITION called "WIN COOL STUFF & FIND A DATE..." which is open to all Casc Bay Weekly ADVERTISERS. For the first time in over ten years, the competition will feature a $100 prize for the winner of each round.

Here's how the competition works:

1. PRIZE PRIZE The $100 prize will be awarded to the ADVERTISER whose COUPLES make the most interesting and creative "WIN COOL STUFF & FIND A DATE..." entry. The prize will be awarded to the ADVERTISER whose COUPLES make the most interesting and creative "WIN COOL STUFF & FIND A DATE..." entry.

2. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS All entries must be received by Casc Bay Weekly by the end of the month of entry. Entries must be submitted in writing to Casc Bay Weekly, P.O. Box 4036, Portland, ME 04103-4036, or by fax to 207-775-1234. Entries must be submitted in writing to Casc Bay Weekly, P.O. Box 4036, Portland, ME 04103-4036, or by fax to 207-775-1234.

3. JUDGING The winning entries will be judged by a panel of judges, who will select the winning entry based on the creativity, originality, and appropriateness of the entry. The winning entry will be announced in the Casc Bay Weekly of the month following the judging.

4. WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT The winner of the competition will be announced in the Casc Bay Weekly of the month following the judging.

5. PRIZE AWARDS The winner of the competition will receive a $100 prize, which will be awarded to the ADVERTISER whose COUPLES make the most interesting and creative "WIN COOL STUFF & FIND A DATE..." entry. The prize will be awarded to the ADVERTISER whose COUPLES make the most interesting and creative "WIN COOL STUFF & FIND A DATE..." entry.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION For more information, visit Casc Bay Weekly Online at www.cascobayweekly.com or call 207-775-1234.

We look forward to receiving your entries and wish you good luck in the competition!
This position is looking for a Personal Franklin. We are looking for an individual who is patient and has a background in social work or a related field. Responsibilities include:

- Serving as a lead counselor
- Providing support and guidance to clients
- Conducting individual and group therapy sessions
- Developing and implementing treatment plans
- Collaborating with other professionals

If you are interested, please call 871-9210 for an appointment.

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**HELP WANTED**

**BOWDOIN COLLEGE**

Asst. Controller - Office of Financial Management, BOWDOIN COLLEGE seeks an experienced individual for the position of Assistant Controller. The Assistant Controller is responsible for the management of the financial and operational activities of the college's administrative offices. This includes the management of the college's budget, financial reporting, and compliance with institutional policies. The ideal candidate will possess a strong background in financial management, have experience in the management of large-scale operations, and be able to work effectively with a diverse range of stakeholders. The position requires a demonstrated ability to lead and manage a team and to work collaboratively with other departments. The ideal candidate will have a strong understanding of financial regulations and compliance issues. This is a full-time, permanent position.

**RATES**

- 50 words: $50.00 per week
- 75 words: $65.00 per week
- 100 words: $75.00 per week
- 150 words: $90.00 per week
- 200 words: $110.00 per week

**HHY GAMES**

**HOLIDAY GAMES**

**BLAKWIDOW**

**PUBLICATIONS**

**FITNESS**

**FAIRS & FESTIVALS**

**COMPUTERS**

**WANTED**

**THE PERSONALS BEGIN ON PAGE 45**

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**EARN EXTRA $$$**

**Letter From Parents**

As the holiday season approaches, it is important to remember the value of supporting our local businesses.

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**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

**110 CUMBERLAND AVE.**

**PORTLAND, ME 04101**

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

**Rutland College, a prestigious liberal arts college located in New London, NH is seeking an experienced executive assistant.**

- Responsibilities include scheduling appointments, managing correspondence, and providing administrative support to faculty and staff.
- Experience in a similar role is preferred.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail are essential.

**APPOINTMENT BOOKER**

**attachment, creating socialization opportunities for parents and children.**

- Experience in early childhood education is preferred.
- Strong communication and organizational skills are required.

**EARN EXTRA $$$**

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY - WEEK OF DECEMBER 7
C 2000 BY ROB BREZNY

ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19: You have the usual tendency to be ambitious, and you may perhaps overreach in the process. However, you will have some success, and you will help others to do the same. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

TAURUS April 20-May 20: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

GEMINI-May 21-June 20: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

CANCER June 21-July 22: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

LEO July 23-Aug. 22: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sep. 22: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 22: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20: You are more likely to be more patient, and you may be more likely to find success. You may be too easily swayed by others, but you will also find strength in others.

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WHEELS

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HOLIDAYS GETTING YOU DOWN?

If you're one of many who have had a hard time getting through the holidays, try some of these tips to help you get back on track:

- Get some exercise.
- Practice deep breathing.
- Try relaxation techniques.
- Talk to someone who can help you get through this tough time.

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If you are thinking about self-improvement, try any one of the various health practitioners found in the Casco Bay Weekly's Business Directory. It's designed to give you easy access to your needs, so login to your account or request a business directory today by calling 773-3333.
NULL
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