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10%

Maine's monthly newspaper for lesbians & gay men

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 4
MAY 1994

In this issue...

Portland's Pride Weekend plans

CMF sightings

Domestic partnership victories and defeats

NH Senate scuttles gay rights bill

by Terri Jones
Editor

CONCORD—Hopes of a New Hampshire gay rights bill in 1994 were destroyed when the New Hampshire Senate voted 13-10 to kill HB 1432. HB 1432 would have added "sexual orientation" to the state's civil rights legislation.

HB 1432 passed the largely Republican House of Representatives but included a "disclaimer" attached to it which stated that the addition of civil rights protection for lesbians and gays is not necessarily acceptance of their "lifestyle".

After House passage, concern had been raised that New Hampshire Governor Steve Merrill would veto the bill. At that time, spokespeople for the Governor had expressed the possibility that he would work out a compromise with the Senate.

Gay presence planned for Lewiston's ME State Parade

by Rebecca Foster
Editor

LEWISTON—Parade viewers attending the Maine State Parade in Lewiston on May 14 will view a sea of rainbow, doves and puppets carried by a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender contingent. The "Color me a rainbow" parade idea is being organized by Maine Pride/Stonewall 25 in conjunction with Lewiston-Auburn's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender group "Becoming an Inclusive Community."

According to organizers of the contingent, the parade presence is intended to be a celebration not a protest. Marchers are planning large puppets in the style of "Bread and Puppet Theatre" featuring a moose and doves of peace. Marchers will be encouraged to carry rainbow banners and placards with the United Nations' symbol in preparation for the march on the United Nations

How to get involved ...

Join the Maine Pride/Stonewall 25 Float-making Party!

All day, outdoor puppet and banner-making for the Maine State Parade marchers and interested individuals.

Materials for rainbow banners, puppets and doves needed.

For directions to site in Auburn, call 795-6219 or 871-9940

timed to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

Interested individuals can contact

Maine Pride/Stonewall 25 at 871-9940 or "Becoming an Inclusive Community" at 795-6219.

Activist Attorney warns of challenge of right-wing



NOW Vice-President, activist and attorney Rosemary Dempsey spoke about the forces operating against the lesbian and gay community, at a April 14 Matlovich Society meeting.

Crowded gubernatorial primary awaits Maine voters

by Terri Jones
Editor

PORTLAND— Maine's June 14 Democratic and Republican primaries present voters with 13 gubernatorial candidates with a wide variety of previous experience. From former Governor Joseph Brennan to perennial Republican candidate Jasper Wyman, voters will be asked to narrow the field to just two, one from each party.

While the specifics of programs have been somewhat slim, this year's Democratic primary features a new and encouraging field for lesbian and gay voters. All five Democratic gubernatorial candidates made an appearance at March's MLGPA Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony to pledge their support for a gay rights bill for Maine, an unprecedented occurrence in Maine politics. The five candidates are Thomas Allen, former mayor of Portland, city councilor and lawyer,

Trying to sort out the candidates? MLGPA can help. Turn to page 4 for the answer...

Richard Barringer, on leave from his post as director of the Edmund S. Muskie Institute of Public Affairs, former Governor and Representative Joseph Brennan, State Representative Donnell Carroll and Robert Woodbury, ex-chancellor of the University of Maine system.

On the Republican side, eight candidates are vying for the opportunity to succeed current Governor John McKernan. Among the Republicans are legislators Judith Foss, Pamela Cahill, Paul Young, Charles Webster, and Sumner Lipman, former Cohen staffer Susan Collins, community activist Mary Adams and former Christian Civic League director Jasper Wyman. Of these

continued on page 4

Miss PJ's 1994

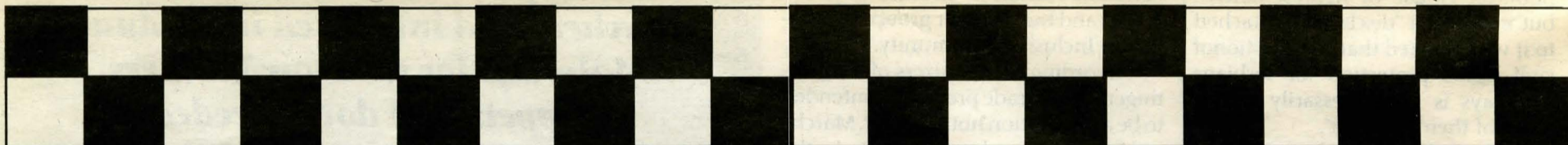


PHOTO: REBECCA FOSTER

Contestants in the Miss PJ's contest April 22 competed in talent, evening wear and an interview portions of the pageant for the opportunity to represent PJ's at the May 22 Miss Gay Maine Pageant, hosted by PJ's. Above, contestants display evening wear. At right, Miss PJ's 1994, Valene Royale



PHOTO: REBECCA FOSTER



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Grand Reopening Beach Party!
June 11

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Thursdays
Pool
Tournament
9pm
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New DJ

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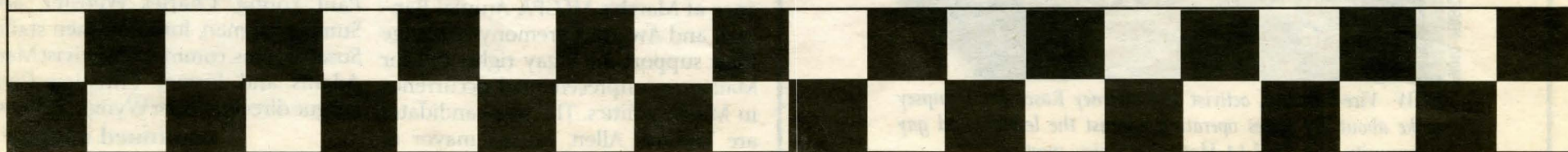
12-1am All Drinks \$1

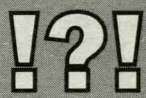
Dress for the Beach !!!

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Cover

Outdoor
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All Night
DJ 'till 1am





Editorial & Comment

Do the primary thing

Now that the dust has settled from Senator George Mitchell's surprise departure from political life, Maine voters face a daunting, endless list of primary candidates including 13 gubernatorial candidates, numerous 1st and 2nd Congressional District hopefuls and countless local races. Sheer numbers, coupled with the lack of media coverage and/or opportunities to hear each candidate make the primary season seem too complicated to tackle.

Readers of 10% editorials may have noticed a theme during the first issues - be vigilant, be educated and vote. That third thing, vote, is on for June. At this point you might be saying to yourself, why bother? It's just a primary... Remember, all five Democratic gubernatorial candidates, independent Angus King and Green Party candidate Jonathan Carter **have** pledged support for gay rights legislation, but, of the Republican field, **only** Sumner Lipman sent a representative to March's MLGPA Banquet. This should give pause to the registered Republicans in the lesbian and gay community.

Imagine the luxury of having a gubernatorial race with a Democratic candidate, Lipman, King and Carter. So, before you dismiss the primary season, consider what it would mean to the lesbian and gay community to be able to debate the more mundane, essential issues like health care and education, knowing that at least the governor's race would deliver for the lesbian and gay community.

If that pleasing thought isn't enough motivation, remind yourself how hard the lesbian and gay community worked last year to pass the gay rights bill. The testimony, the scrutiny and the personal risks people took to tell their stories in public. The endless, constant lobbying. Then remind yourself how all that momentum ran smack into Governor John McKernan. Wouldn't it be nice to know that we could count on a governor's support and signature?!

Still need more reasons? How about another huge encouragement? Jasper Wyman, remarkably quiet for the last few months, is among the Republican candidates. Think about what he could do to further the agenda of the Christian Civic League and Concerned Maine Families as a candidate for governor? Maine's lesbian and gay community cannot risk giving Jasper Wyman the opportunity to use the governor's race as a forum for spreading the message of a referendum on gay rights. While Wyman is seldom considered a likely candidate, the large number of candidates could produce a highly splintered field, allowing a candidate to win the nomination with a small percentage of the vote. Rest assured, prayer meetings and other forms of right-wing organizing are mobilizing behind him. They can and will show up at the polls. We should, too.

Still think it's just a primary??

Organizing to oppose the referendum

by Patricia A. Peard, Esq.

There will be a referendum fight in Maine in November, 1995. In order to defeat the challenge of the radical right to our basic civil rights we will have to raise at least 1.5 to 2 million dollars. Unfortunately, these are two facts of life that we must all begin to accept and to deal with as directly as possible.

The good news is that an organizational structure is already in place and we have begun to raise money. But to be successful, we must have support from everyone. There will be and there is room for everyone in this campaign regardless of your previous campaign experience or your level of time commitment.

Concerned Maine Families recently held a three and one-half hour prayer meeting at the Catholic Church in South Portland at which they discussed their two-handed approach to their campaign. First, they will use the hand of restraint to deny us our equal rights under the law. Secondly, they will extend the hand of compassion to show us that they truly care for us. They contend this will not be a campaign of open hatred. Yet as those who attended the meeting can attest, the room was full of hatred and fear. The radical right is earnest in its intent to achieve their goal through legislation because they know that over time they will be defeated in the courts just as has taken place in the battle over a woman's right to choose.

The legal opposition to Concerned Maine Families is in place and well-prepared but we cannot assume we will win in the courts. We must do all that we can to be ready to fight a long, hard referendum battle for our rights. This is a fight we can win if all of us join in. No one can afford to sit this one out. Please come to a meeting and volunteer in any way you can for as much or as little time as you have available.

For information on the dates and times of organizational meetings for Equal Protection Maine, turn to the calendar page.

Dykes To Watch Out For



10%

Maine's monthly newspaper for lesbians & gay men

PO Box 10536 • Portland, ME 04104

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Maine News

continued from page 1

Crowded primary field for Maine voters

candidates, only Sumner Lipman has pledged support for a gay rights bill and sent a representative to the MLGPA Banquet to announce his position.

To help sift through the candidates, the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance has invited the candidates to attend a gubernatorial forum, Saturday, May 21 from 7-9pm at Jewett Hall, University of Maine at Augusta. The forum is co-sponsored by Maine AIDS Alliance, Maine Chapter of the National Organization of Women, Maine Civil Liberties Union and the Women's Issues Working Group-University of Maine at Augusta.

Northern Lambda Nord holds first planning session for '95 Symposium

CARIBOU- The first monthly planning meeting for the 1995 Maine Lesbian and Gaymen's Symposium was held on April 2 in Presque Isle. Organizers have set May 26-29, 1995 as the next date for Maine's 20-year-old statewide gathering. The event has been scheduled for the University of Maine at Presque Isle campus.

Symposium '95 planners are seeking input and suggestions for a theme, keynote speakers, entertainment, workshop topics, workshop facilitators, leisuretime activities and new possibilities for Symposium events. Also being sought is information about the 1994 Symposium which would have been hosted in Portland. '95 organizers are attempting to find out if anyone is hosting a 1994 event.

Ideas and suggestions for Symposium '95 should be sent to P.O. Box 990, Caribou, Maine, 04736-0990 or call the Gay-Lesbian Phonenumber, Wednesday evenings between 7 and 9pm at (207) 498-2088.

Mothers' Voices; Waldo-Knox team up in Mother's Day call

BELFAST-The Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition is joining forces with Mothers' Voices, a nationwide AIDS awareness organization, to meet a goal of sending one million signatures to Congress asking for more AIDS research funding.

Interested persons can get cards on which to collect signatures from the Knox-Waldo AIDS Coalition, P.O. Box 956, Belfast, Maine or at their office at 68 High St. The cards are free and have a bold inscription reading "Mother's

1994 Gubernatorial Candidates' Forum
Saturday, May 21, 7-9pm, Jewett Hall
University of Maine, Augusta

Also on May 21
Gubernatorial Candidates' Reception
5:30 - 7:00pm UMA Library
\$25 donation per person
Meet the candidates face-to-face and ask your questions personally

Sponsored by the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, Maine AIDS Alliance, Maine NOW, MCLU, Women's Issues Working Group - UMA

Day can never be the same until there is a cure for AIDS. Congress must act now. We demand more money, more research, a cure." For more information, contact the Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition at 338-1427.

Concerned Maine Families sighted

PORTLAND-ACT-UP/Portland has reported that representatives of Concerned Maine Families (CMF) have been sighted in Bangor post offices collecting signatures for a November 1995 referendum question. The question would ask Maine voters to approve a cap on Maine's Human Rights Act that would prohibit any additions to its protected classes, effectively barring gay rights protection in Maine.

Under Maine's signature-gathering rules, Concerned Maine Families can collect signatures until approximately August 1994 without "losing" signatures that were originally collected for the November 1994 ballot.

Anyone seeing CMF collecting signatures should contact ACT-UP/Portland at 828-0566 or 10% at P.O. Box 10536, Portland, Maine, 04104.

Gay dance club opens in Portland

PORTLAND- Portland's second new lesbian and gay bar this year is slated to open Friday, May 6 at 137 Kennebec St, near Portland's Marginal Way. The bar, KäOS, will be emphasizing progressive and house dance music, non-stop dancing and live entertainment.

The bar will be open Thursday through Sunday at 9 with extra late hours (9pm-3am) on Friday and Saturday. KäOS is located at the site of a previous gay spot, Ravens, but features an expanded dance floor and renovated facilities.

Portland gay pride activities announced

PORTLAND- Portland's Pride Committee has set June 17-19 as a weekend-long celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender pride. Events will begin with a Friday evening rally at Portland's City Hall Plaza from 7 to 8pm. Following the rally, Stonewall 25/Maine will hold a letter-writing reception with information about Stonewall events and the International Appeal for Human Rights.

Saturday, June 18 has been designated Pride Day with a parade and festival. Parade formation will start at Pine St. near Longfellow Square. This year's parade will be led by Dykes on Bikes, a balloon arch and a Stonewall 25/Maine float. Registration for groups and floats is required by June 4 (\$25 registration fee).

Parade organizers are looking for volunteers to act as peace keepers during the parade. Volunteer peacekeepers must attend an orientation session on Sunday, June 5, from 4 to 6pm. The session will be led by the former security coordinator for Boston Gay Pride.

After the parade, entertainment and festivities will continue at Tommy's Park and Old Post Office Park. Music, comedy, vendors, information tables, and side shows will be featured and Wild Iris Productions is sponsoring a women's craft fair at the First Parish Unitarian-Universalist Church on Congress St. That evening, the Maine Gay Men's Chorus will present a concert at the State Theatre (Tickets available from the State Theatre).

The weekend will conclude with a Time Out bicycle brunch on Sunday, June 19 and Dignity/Integrity Services at St. Luke's, 143 State St. at 5pm.

For more information and registration, call 871-9940.



Inter/National News

Illinois municipality extends domestic partner benefits

OAK PARK— In a unanimous vote, April 19, Oak Park, Illinois became the first Illinois municipality to extend domestic partner benefits to city employees. The 7-0 vote extended benefits to same-sex partners but a motion to extend similar benefits to unmarried heterosexual partners was defeated by a vote of 4-3.

Also defeated was an amendment that would have created a domestic partnership registry. Village board members felt that community religious opposition to such a registry was too high but left open the possibility of a registry in the future.

Approximately 150 speakers spoke at the ordinance hearing. One resident remarked that he was "very angry and very depressed" at the tone of the debate. He said, "I'm angry about what I've heard in the village in the past few months - (people) using Christianity to promote hatred, bigotry and to promote lies. The Oak Park tradition is to welcome diversity." Objections raised to the ordinance included blasting homosexuality as an "abomination" and "immoral" and characterizations of gays as "counterfeits of genetic engineering".

With the extension of domestic partnership benefits, Oak Park joins at least 13 other cities who have approved such measures.

Atlanta judge throws out domestic registry

ATLANTA - A Fulton County Superior Court has ruled that Atlanta's domestic registry ordinance is unconstitutional. The law was the only remaining portion of a package of laws granting legal recognition to unmarried heterosexual and homosexual couples. Judge Isaac Jenrette found that the registry was "outside [the city's] authority under the municipal home rule act and the Georgia Constitution. Earlier this year, the domestic benefits portion of the law was nullified when city officials realized that state insurance laws did not allow Atlanta to define unmarried partners as dependents."

The ruling means that the city must stop registering couples. To date, about 60 couples have registered and received certificates similar marriage licenses.

Atlanta mayor Bill Campbell has supported the ordinance and has ordered the city's lawyers to appeal the ruling. Gay rights activists are optimistic that the Georgia Supreme Court will uphold the ordinance.

Blackmun, dissenter in Bowers, steps down from high court

WASHINGTON - Justice Harry Blackmun announced his retirement

from the United States Supreme Court last month. Blackmun will be remembered fondly by the gay and lesbian community for his 1973 *Roe v. Wade* majority opinion affirming a woman's right to choose and his dissent in the 1986 Georgia sodomy case, *Bowers v. Hardwick*.

In his *Bowers* dissent, Blackmun wrote, "I can only hope...that the court soon will reconsider its analysis and conclude that depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat to the values most deeply rooted in our nation's history than tolerance of non-conformity could ever do."

Rochester votes for domestic partner benefits and registry

ROCHESTER - The Rochester City Council has voted to extend domestic partner benefits to its city employees and to set up a registry for gay and unmarried heterosexual couples. The ordinance was co-sponsored by openly gay Council member, Tim Mains and fellow Council member, Brian Curran. After passage Mayor William Johnson addressed the Council and expressed his intention to sign the ordinance.

Credited with the work leading up to the vote was the Coalition for Domestic Partnership, which worked in conjunction with clergy from the Presbyterian, Episcopal and Unitarian Churches, the National Organization for Women, the American Civil Liberties Union and Parents and Friend of Lesbians and Gays to secure passage of the code.

Hawaii Legislature works on anti-gay bill

HONOLULU - A conference committee has been appointed to reconcile differences between House and Senate versions of HB 2312, a bill that seeks to overturn the recent Hawaii Supreme Court ruling that found the limitation of marriage rights to heterosexuals as unconstitutional under Hawaii's state law.

The House version of the bill defines marriage as between a man and woman with a preamble that finds procreation as the major purpose for state licensure of marriage. Under the Senate version, marriage is defined similarly, but the bill maintains that marriage law is a legislative issue and not one for the courts to decide. It also sets up a commission to study sexual orientation.

The committee must finish its work during the month of April.

IKEA ad wins praise from gay groups

PHILADELPHIA - Philadelphia-based furniture company IKEA U.S. East is

receiving hundreds of phone calls and letters praising its recent national television ad featuring a gay male couple shopping for a table at a IKEA location.

The commercial spot doesn't define the couple as gay but shows them shopping for the table, then discussing the purchase as they sit in their home.

IKEA is a Swedish company with 12 stores in the United States and 118 around the world.

(To comment on the IKEA ad, call (610) 834-0180)

Japanese court issues pro-gay ruling

TOKYO - Tokyo's District Court has ruled in favor of a lesbian and gay group that sought to stay overnight at a public lodge but were barred by the Tokyo metropolitan government.

The Association for the Lesbian and Gay Movement (OCCUR) used the Fuchu Youth House, run by the Tokyo government, in February 1990 but claimed that they were harassed by other guests. When they re-applied to use the facility again, their application was rejected by government officials. Officials cited a policy that forbids members of the opposite sex from sharing a room and asserted that other guests would be disturbed because they would assume that the group's members would be having sex.

District Court Judge Toshiaki Harada rejected the officials' justification noting that the authorities had no basis for assuming that the OCCUR members would be engaging in sexual activities. The court awarded OCCUR \$2,600 in damages.

GLAAD announces 1994 media awards

LOS ANGELES - The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has announced its 1994 awards for fair, accurate and inclusive representations of lesbians and gay men in the media.

Among those honored were "Angels in America" for theatre, a NBC News piece, *Gays in the 90s*, CBS television drama, *Other Mothers*, "Philadelphia", and independent film, "Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives". Openly lesbian columnist Deb Price of the *Detroit News* also received an award.

A special award was given to MTV for its focus on gay and lesbian musicians.

Lesbian issue a big hit

NEW YORK - *Newsweek* magazine has reported that its top-selling issue of 1993 was the June 21st issue featuring a cover story about lesbians.

USA Today has quoted editor Maynard Parker as saying that he selected an "intentionally wholesome" image of a real life lesbian couple.

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Underground
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Lewiston

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Portland

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Lewiston

Treasure Chest
Portland

UMaine-Orono
Orono

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Portland

Mike's Place
Lewiston

Videoport
Portland

Bad Habits
Portland

St. John Valley AIDS Task Force,
Ft. Kent

Downeast AIDS Network, Ellsworth

Sister Creations
Freeport

Gulf of Maine Books
Brunswick

Pro Libris Bookshop
Bangor

PJ's
Augusta

Northern Lambda Nord
Caribou

Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition
Belfast

Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health
Center, Bangor

The Bridge at Colby College
Waterville

May/June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
May Day Dance "Welcoming Congregation" Freedom Fest	2	3	4	5 EPM/Portland Principles
8 Pride Fundraiser Stonewall Planning Bird Watchers	9 EPM/Portland Mtg.	10	11 Time Out Bike Ride	12 David Webb
15 Camden Bike Tour	16 EPM/Portland Coalition-Building	17	18	19
22 Evans Notch Hike	23 Partners of Parents	24	25	26 Sexual Minorities
29 Acadia Weekend	30	31	JUNE 1	2
5	6	7	8	9 Substance Use and Abuse

The 1994 Miss Mike's Place Pageant



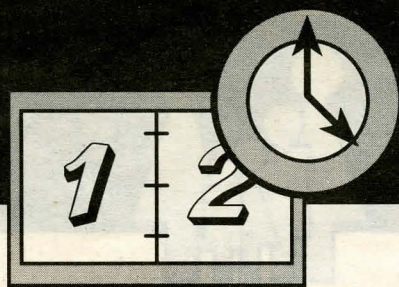
PHOTO: REBECCA FOSTER

The evening wear display from the 1994 Miss Mike's Place Pageant held April 16. Contestants were interviewed by judges and displayed evening wear and talents for an enthusiastic crowd.



PHOTO: REBECCA FOSTER

Miss Mike's Place 1994, Tiffany



Listing of Events

Saturday

NLN's 14th
"Religious
Community"
Float-making Party

14

MLGPA Mtg.
&
Forum

Acadia
Weekend

4

Boston
Gay
Pride

Gay and
Lives

Do you have
any events you
would like to list
on this page?

If you would like your non-profit event or activity listed, send us the time, date, place, phone number and a brief description of the event or activity by the 20th of the month.

10% ENTERPRISES
PO BOX 10536
PORTLAND, ME 04104

The Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9pm at 4 Lafayette St., Lewiston. Drop in any Tuesday or call 786-4697 for more information.

Coalition-Building Committee of EPM/Portland will meet Monday, May 16 at 7pm at 50 Morning St.

Equal Protection Maine will hold its next meeting on Monday, May 9 at 7pm at St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St., Portland.

Equal Protection Portland meeting to discuss the principles of the campaign for EPM/Portland, Thursday, May 5 at 7pm at Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer and Nelson, 100 Middle St., 5th floor, West Tower, Portland.

David Webb of KLANWATCH will discuss "Hate Groups and Hate Crimes in America: Gays and Lesbians under Attack.", on May 12 at the Holiday-Inn-by-the-Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. The event is sponsored by the Matlovich Society and marks the Society's third anniversary. Wheelchair accessible. Free parking available. For information, call 773-1209.

"Exploring the Welcoming Congregation: An Affirmation of our Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Community" a special service sponsored by the Task Force for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Concerns, Sunday, May 1, 10am. Held at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Brunswick, corner of Pleasant and Middle St., Brunswick, ME. For information, call 729-8515

Float-Making Party, all day May 7. outdoor event. Help make banners, puppets and floats for the Maine State Parade "Color me a rainbow" contingent. For directions, call 795-6219 or 871-9940.

Freedom Fest Maine-Bangor meets on May 1st to plan Bangor's 2nd Pride March scheduled for July 9th. Meetings take place on the first Sunday of at 2pm at the Peace and Justice Center, 359 Main St., Bangor. Meeting will also explore the creation of a statewide organization for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities at an earlier time of noon to 2pm. For more information, contact Malcolm Smith at 866-4320.

Maine State Parade, Saturday, May 14, Lewiston. Be a part of the "Color me a rainbow" contingent for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Parade needs participants, rainbow flags and more. For more information, call 795-6219 or 871-9940.

Matlovich Society May Day Dance Benefit, May 1, 5pm-9pm, Zootz, Forest Ave., Portland. Admission \$5.

Northern Lambda Nord's 14th Anniversary Party and Dance, Celebrate with NLN on May 7. For more information, call (207) 498-2088

"Our Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Lives: Where Have We Been, Where are We Going?" a talk by Howard Solomon, professor of lesbian and gay history, and co-chair, University Task Force on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Issues, Tufts University. Unitarian-Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn, ME.. 7:00pm, Friday, June 10.

Partners of Parents, meets every 3rd Monday, 7-9pm, at Woodfords' Congregational Church. Meetings provide support to lesbian and gay men whose partners have children. The groups is self-led and meets for discussion. For more information, call 774-5032.

Portland Pride Fundraiser, "Disco Dance Party", Sunday May 8, 9pm at the Underground, Spring St. Portland. To benefit Gay Pride Parade and Rallies, June 17 and 18.

"The Religious Community as a Partner in Social Action", a one-day conference sponsored by MaineShare. Topics to include funding from religious sources and the role of churches in social action. 9:30am-4:00pm, Sat. May 7 at Jewett Hall, University of Maine at Augusta. The site is wheelchair accessible. For more information, contact MaineShare at 622-0105.

"Sexual Minorities on Film", a discussion led by Wayne Bryant, a Boston film historian. Presented by the Matlovich Society on May 26, 7:30pm at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Wheelchair access and free parking available. For information, call 773-1209.

"Substance Use and Abuse in the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Community", a panel discussion at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, 7:30pm, June 9. Presented by the Matlovich Society. Free parking and wheelchair access. For information, call 773-1209.

Time Out Birdwatching Breakfast May 8 at Gilsland Farm, Falmouth. Call 871-9940 for information

Time Out Camden bike tour. Intermediate level ride, May 15, for time, meeting location and details, call 871-9940

Tri-State Stonewall planning meeting (NH/ME/VT/MA) May 8 at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, State St., Portsmouth, NH. Noon to 4pm with potluck supper. March update, bus and volunteer planning.

Time Out after work bike ride. Wednesday, May 11, Portland to Fort Williams loop, beginner level. Call 871-9940 for details.

Time Out Evans Notch day hike at Blueberry Ridge May 22. Beginner level hike, for details and meeting location call Michael at 871-9940.

Time Out Acadia Weekend, May 27 and 28. Saturday day hike of Mt. Champlain. Steep grades with ladders, but a beginner capable hike.. Sunday is day ride of selected Mt. Desert carriage trails starting from Bar Harbor. To participate, call 871-9940 before Thursday May 27.

Ongoing, Lesbian ACOA meeting, Tuesdays, 7-8:30 at 7 Middle St., Brunswick (behind the Unitarian-Universalist Church by the public library). For more information, contact Jo at 725-5103.

Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance meets on the third Saturday of the month in Augusta. ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the public, politicians and the media concerning lesbian and gay issues. Call 1-800-55-MLGPA for meeting time and place.

Upcoming... "The State of Queer Youth: Present and Future", lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth talk about their lives in Maine. June 23, 7:30pm at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. A Matlovich Society program.

Boston Gay Pride March, Saturday, June 11. For more information, call (617) 446-9036.

Portland's Pride Weekend, June 17-18. Parade, rally, festival with vendors, entertainment and information and evening performance by the Maine Gay Men's Chorus. For information, call Portland Pride at 871-9940.

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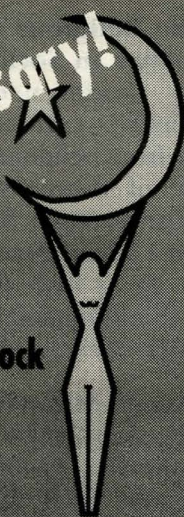
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Mothers & Child

Choosing pregnancy Part Two

by Maggie Fournier
Contributor

Now that you have made some decisions about a health care provider and scheduled an appointment, get out a small notebook and cuddle down with your partner and a cup of herbal tea.

You've got some important things to talk about. If you intend to raise your child together as co-mothers, it is vital from the beginning that each of you have a part in this unfolding drama.

Discuss ways that the mom who will not be carrying your child will feel included. Perhaps she can manage the temperature taking and recording routine, handle the ovulation predictor tests and schedule appointments. She can assure that the appointments are made at a time that is convenient to each of you.

By all means, she should go right into the examining room to ask questions and get to know the nurses, docs, and/or midwife. If you are there for an insemination, inquire if your partner might actually do the procedure. If an interuterine insemination (a procedure where a small catheter is inserted directly into the uterus....much less painful than it sounds...) is being done, your partner can be there to comfort and hold your hand. There are countless ways for both of you to feel that this is a joint effort.

Discuss ways that the mom who will not be carrying your child will feel included.

Don't forget romance! Lesbians make babies a little differently, for sure, and at times things can seem a bit too clinical. Flowers on the way to an appointment, a gift of a journal to record all the special moments, lovemaking after an insemination, a picnic on the beach and so on, have an effect of producing wonderful moments and lovely memories.

Even under the best of circumstances, (i.e., when you are ovulating normally and are having timely inseminations) on average, conception will take between four and six months. SO RELAX! Escape for an intimate weekend. Sleep late. Read a good book. Save some money. Finish a project. Try not to be totally consumed with baby making. It might be a long road ahead. And these

may be the last days, for a long time, that you get nice long periods of time to yourselves.

...[R]esearch demonstrates that children of lesbians do just fine....no better or worse than kids raised by heterosexual parents. It's love and caring that grows healthy children.

One last thought. Dealing with families of origin can be easy or a daunting challenge depending on a host of factors. If you are "out" to your families and have a good relationship, sharing your plans and pregnancy is likely to go fairly well. Sadly, in many situations, the news of the pregnancy of a lesbian daughter is met with a great deal of hostility. How much information to share and when to it share it is an individual decision which bears some early discussion between the moms-to-be. Expect mixed reactions. Remember that this is your life and your decision to make. Know that research demonstrates that children of lesbians do just fine....no better or worse than kids raised by heterosexual parents. It's love and caring that grows healthy children.

So, if your families go off the deep end for awhile, in all likelihood they will get over it. Give them a little time to adjust. After all, this is their grandchild....whether their daughter is the biological mom or not.

Maggie Fournier is an associate professor of nursing at the University of Southern Maine. She is currently conducting research on the topic of co-mothering and is writing a book on lesbian parenting with her partner, Cheryl Ciechowski. Maggie and Cheryl live in Portland, Maine, with their seven year-old daughter, Emily. They celebrated their 22nd anniversary in April.

Maine Lesbian & Gay Law Association

National legal trends

by Will Sandstead, Esq.
Contributor

Asylum granted to gay Mexican

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has granted asylum to a gay Mexican. The man, "Jose Garcia", whose real name was not released, presented evidence that he had been harassed, beaten and raped by Mexican police solely because he was gay. The INS concluded that asylum should be granted because Garcia presented a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

Unemployment compensation benefits

On March 1, the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that a gay male who quit his job due to an anti-gay working environment could not be disqualified from receiving unemployment compensation benefits. The Court found that Raymond Hanke had good cause to leave his job because he was frequently harassed due to his sexual orientation and because he had no reasonable expectation that his employer would prevent further harassment.

Hanke was a hair stylist for Safari Hair Adventure. A fellow employee repeatedly told him that she would "get [him] married to a girl if she had anything to do with it," and once told him that she did not want "a bunch of fags in [the] salon." Hanke did not immediately complain to his boss, Vernon Cole believing that Cole was homophobic. However, once Hanke did report the harassment to Cole, Cole insisted that the fellow employee was not capable of making such comments and that Hanke and his co-worker should work out their differences on their own, because Cole could not "control the opinions of what other people feel or think" (sic) Hanke decided to quit at the end of the conversation.

The Court likened the case to that involving sexual harassment, and concluded that while it was Hanke's burden to report the anti-gay harassment, it was Cole's responsibility to respond in a manner that would give Hanke a reasonable expectation that Cole would take steps to prevent future harassment. Hanke v. Safari Hair Adventure, 1994 WL 57956.

Lesbian co-parent adoption

In New York State, the lower courts are split as to whether N.Y. law would permit a non-biological lesbian co-parent to adopt the biological child of her lesbian partner. In Putnam County, the court took a restrictive reading of the N.Y. adoption statute and ruled that the non-biological lesbian co-parent has no right to bring an adoption petition. The court held that the non-biological mother did not fall within

any of the statutory classifications of who may adopt. The court appeared to ignore the fact that the N.Y. statute explicitly provides that unmarried adults can adopt, and instead focused on the provisions for married couples. Matter of Dana, NYLJ, 1/26/94, 20 Fam.L.Rep. 1189.

Conversely, a Monroe County, N.Y. court took a broad approach and granted two separate petitions for second-parent adoptions presented by lesbian non-biological mothers. The court concluded that nothing in N.Y. law requires adopting parents to be a particular gender and that sexual orientation discrimination is prohibited by the regulations governing adoptions in N.Y. The court refused to strictly interpret the law requiring the termination of the biological mother's parental rights. Matter of Caitlin and Emily, NYLJ, 1/25/94, 20 Fam.L.Rep. 1184.

Domestic partnerships

An Austin, Texas referendum regarding the city's current domestic partnership ordinance will be on the May 7 ballot. The ordinance currently extends spousal benefits to same-sex and opposite-sex unmarried partners of city employees. If passed, the referendum would amend the city charter to define "spouse" as including only husbands and wives, and it would limit city employee benefits to an employee's spouse, parents, children, siblings, grandparents, and the parents or grandparents of an employee's spouse.

AIDS related cases

On February 22nd, the Supreme Court announced that it would not hear the AIDS discrimination case of Bradley v. University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, 3 F.3d 922 (5th Cir. 1993) cert. denied, 114 S.Ct. 1071. In Bradley, the Fifth Circuit upheld a hospital's decision to transfer a surgical assistant to a clerical position after he revealed in a newspaper that he was HIV-positive. The hospital defended its decision to transfer Bradley on the grounds that there was a chance that an HIV-positive surgical assistant could transmit the HIV virus to a patient.

Finally....

Germany has repealed the final remnants of Paragraph 175 of the Criminal Code. Paragraph 175 was the provision under which gays were sent to Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

Source: Lesbian/Gay Law Notes, Apr. 1994

Will Sandstead is an interim board member of the Maine Lesbian and Gay Law Association (MeLeGal) and is an associate at Farnsworth & Associates in Hallowell.

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Books

The roots of a movement

by Terri Jones
Editor

The anniversary of the Stonewall Riots provides an excellent excuse to probe the history of lesbian and gay communities across the country. In previous years, it has been difficult, if not impossible to find and learn about lesbian and gay history. Jonathan Katz and Lillian Faderman

Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community by Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy and Madeline D. Davis
Published by Routledge Inc., New York, 1993.

have provided the lesbian and gay community with a look at the "gay experience" throughout different eras. In Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy's and Madeline D. Davis' book, *Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community*, oral history and the metamorphosis of the lesbian community form the centerpiece of an excellent book.

Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold: The History of a Lesbian Community traces events in Buffalo, New York from the 1930s to the early 1960s. Drawing on the tradition of oral history, Kennedy and Davis describe the beginnings of a Buffalo lesbian community in a polished, academic fashion. Their central thesis considers the influence of lesbians' growing sense of community on the consciousness that produced political acts like the Stonewall Riots.

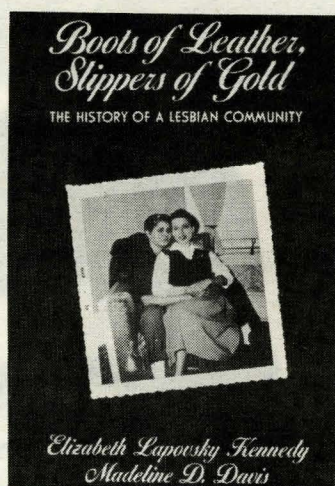
One of the strongest themes explored by Davis and Kennedy is the central role that "the bar" played in the development of a lesbian community. In their opinion, the creation of public space to discover and live out intimate relationships played a vital role in the beginnings of political consciousness. The swirling, sometimes seamy, slightly dangerous bar scene of the 1940s and 50s was in and of itself a validation of feelings that had previously remained isolated. Individuals could finally meet and share ideas and experiences and know they were not "the only person that felt that way". From this new base, women could examine and challenge societal messages about "gay life".

Several women interviewed for the book discussed the sense of excitement and discovery they felt at their first "bar experience". One woman, only fifteen, believed that the experience transformed her life. "I wasn't concentrating on my school work, 'cause I was so enthused and so happy...". Another could hardly get back to the bar after her first visit and met her partner for the next eight years during one of her first visits. The writers theorize that part of the excitement came from "the dramatic contrast between the acceptance and warmth found in these gathering places and the isolation and hostility lesbians experienced in their daily

lives."

Another facet of the developing women's community was the rise of the butch-fem dichotomy. Kennedy and Davis discuss the development of a butch as a personification of the difference that was the lesbian community. A butch's active effort to define herself as aggressive, autonomous and interested in women confronted and challenged heterosexist society in each day of her existence. The author sees the butch-fem struggles of this era as central to the ongoing lesbian search for solutions to "the contradictions of gender and sex."

This book does a great service by preserving the story of a women's community. It is easy to forget that there was a time when property laws impoverished women and it was unheard of and impossible for women to live without a man. The Stonewall Riots were an incredible act of courage, but to be gay in the 1930s, 40s and 50, meant few gay books, no gay papers and an absence of words to describe the relationships lesbians knew to be "right" for them. Hearing the voices of these women through Kennedy's and Davis' work reminds those of us living in the 1990s that there have been worse times. The women in Buffalo had far less organization and fewer resources yet they prevailed and survived.



The style of writing is both academic and exhaustive and may be trying for some readers. It uses extensive source material from other writers to place the Buffalo community in the context of both the national events of the time and the more general body of research on the development of a lesbian and gay rights movement. For all of this weight, however, the dedicated reader will be rewarded with the words of women whose very acts made today's lesbian and gay communities possible. Their words are inspiration and might sustain those readers who struggle against the homophobia of today's society.

The quest for these stories was a task of love for the authors and is reflected in their dedication, "[t]o the women who have gone before us, brave women, outlaws, who sought only to find a life of love and dignity, and some of them did."

Movie Review

Threesomes

by Lise Wagner
Contributor

It is rather interesting that each of two recent films have characters involved in love triangles with a gay or lesbian twist to them. Both films star Baldwin brothers (Stephen and William) and both films star women who appeared in the television series, "Twin Peaks" (Lara Flynn Boyle and Sherilynn Fenn). The comparisons, however, end there. "Threesome" is recommended, but "Three of Hearts" needs help.

"Threesome", currently in area theaters, is a surprisingly good movie. Although the premise seems rather farfetched - a young woman named Alex is assigned to a college dorm room with two men because she has a "male" first name - the film deals intelligently and humorously with friendship, love and sexuality.

The movie's cast is small; three stars are virtually center stage for the entire film. Lara Flynn Boyle plays Alex, the young woman initially disgusted by her two undesired roommates. Stephen Baldwin, as Stuart, is an oversexed, grungy business major. Josh Charles is Eddie, the film's narrator, an English major transfer student, moderately confused about his sexuality. Initially, Stuart lusts after Alex, Alex lusts after Eddie, and Eddie finds himself watching Stuart's behind one day in their room. Soon all the lustful cards are on the table and the three reluctantly make a pact not to have sex with each other.

Eddie, Alex and Stuart have a hard time keeping the pact, either becoming jealous when one of them brings home a date or forcing dates to leave because the three roommates have more fun together than they do with anyone else. One of the charming aspects of this film is that the actors do a marvelous job of portraying a real camaraderie. The three roommates are inseparable, in a best friendship which cuts even deeper than their lust for each other.

The film begins with Eddie defining the word "deviant", and they explore some of the meaning of the word by living together, and, to a certain extent, loving together. While there is not really any gay sex in the movie, there are definitely several intriguing scenes of the three engaging in fairly erotic sex together.

For more of their time together, however, the three talk. The focus of many of the conversations is sexuality, particularly Eddie's seeming lack thereof, prompting Alex and Stuart to set him up. It also encourages Alex to pursue him, declaring, "I will mold you into a heterosexual with my bare hands!" She doesn't, but Eddie still remarks in narration that his true love would be a combination of his two roommates.

"Threesomes" handling of the gay theme is commendable, with praise going to the film's writer and director, Andrew Fleming. Fleming adds nice gay-positive touches, such as Keith Haring art on the hallway walls outside the trio's dorm room. The discussion of gay sexuality is never belittling

or derogatory; even the macho Stuart tells Eddie he's not interested in his advances without cutting him down (or beating him up).

While "Threesome" is not necessarily the most enlightening film about college life (rarely did the three actually seem to be students), it certainly is more enlightened in dealing with relationships and sexuality than many teen flicks made. And Josh Charles is a breath of fresh air among a plethora of stupid young male actors today.

"Three of Hearts", on the other hand, is not a breath of fresh air. It is a completely implausible, sometimes scary, and poorly acted film. The lesbian relationship is not portrayed terribly positively; in fact phone sex comes across as healthier than the lesbian relationship in this movie.

The film stars William Baldwin as a "male escort" and Sherilynn Fenn and Kelly Lynch as lovers breaking up. When Ellen (Fenn) tells Connie (Lynch) she needs space and is moving out, Connie becomes distraught, which leads her to hire Joe (Baldwin) to escort her to a big family wedding. He ends up spending the night in her apartment because his place is trashed by some guy with a grudge. Still following this tortured plot? Next, Connie thinks it would be a great idea for Joe to seduce Ellen and break her heart, sending Ellen running back to Connie. She announces this to Joe with the same enthusiasm as "hey kids, let's put on a show!" from the Garland/Rooney days.

There's no need to see this film to realize that Connie's charming idea is half-baked. Not only is paying a man to seduce your lover not likely to inspire devotion, but Connie also follows Ellen around and calls her repeatedly. If a man did this to a woman, he'd be accused of being a stalker. It certainly isn't appealing in Connie, even if she is upset about Ellen leaving.

Since the relationship ends as the film begins, the only way the audience views their happy time together is on videotapes that Connie watches almost incessantly. Even on videotape, the physical relationship is minimal—at one point the women are lying in bed next to each other but that's about it.

The real focus of the film is on Joe, from his falling in love with Ellen to his realization that he will feel better about himself if he is no longer a whore. The love between Ellen and Joe is so wonderful that, lo and behold, the previously obsessed and heartbroken Connie actually encourages Joe in his pursuit of Ellen. She finally sees that Ellen doesn't love her anymore. How convenient...

It is clear that the lesbian relationship in this movie is purely for titillation. Just because Joe doesn't say, "ew gross!" when Connie tells him that Ellen was her lover, doesn't mean that there is an overall acceptance of their lifestyle. The blatant heterosexuality in the plot negates any possible positive aspect of having a lesbian relationship in the film.

Springtime at PJ's



PHOTO: REBECCA FOSTER

Mama Noize entertained the crowd at PJ's who turned out for the April 22 opening of the patio bar. Mama Noize features Debra Marois on rhythm guitar and vocals, Tricia Thompson, keyboard and vocals, Micky Andres, lead guitar and vocals, Linda Goldrup, drums and Kathy Tieman, bass.



PHOTO: REBECCA FOSTER

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Personals

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Young, affectionate, and very lonely seeking someone to hold at night, and someone who wants to care for me. I am 6', 175 lbs, dark brown hair, blue eyes, very goodlooking, yet lost in a world of pettiness and backstabbers. Be my knight. Student at UMO, 21. Seeking same age and build. BOX #04-05

GF, a very young 40, good looking, seeks woman 30-40 with strong sense of self, honesty, sense of humor, who loves an active lifestyle, biking, skiing, skating, anything outdoors. Must love cats, HBO and pizza. Write! What have you got to lose? BOX #03-01

HIV-negative Taurus, middle-age, fairly trim, Country Music fan, romantic. Like ocean waves, hiking, cooking, XXX movies, sightseeing, hairy chests, 40-50s. Don't like heavies, fems, drugs, booze, tobacco. I pay my own way; expect same from you. Can we meet and talk? Expect no more at first meeting, but...? Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick. BOX #04-04

Son wanted by GWM 49, who is loving, healthy, sincere, supportive, encouraging and caring. Let's enjoy long walks, the outdoors, the beach, travel, some arts, antiques, exploring new ideas, sex, etc. If you need a real friend contact me. BOX #04-05.

Old-fashioned country boy! Mature GWM, 50s, likes old-fashioned values and exploring modern ideas with younger man. I'm flexible and into travel, outdoors, leather, safe sex, antiques, craftsmanship, etc. Looking for a real friend? Contact me, I'm in the Wells area. BOX #05-01.

GWM, 27, would like to meet other average or normal GWMs for friendship and maybe possible relationship. I have varied interests such as short travels, shopping, movies, etc. I am honest, warm (to those I know), caring, and monogamous. Photo appreciated.

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