

10-8-1998

## Casco Bay Weekly : 8 October 1998

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# Casco Bay Weekly

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Give me that Old Port religion

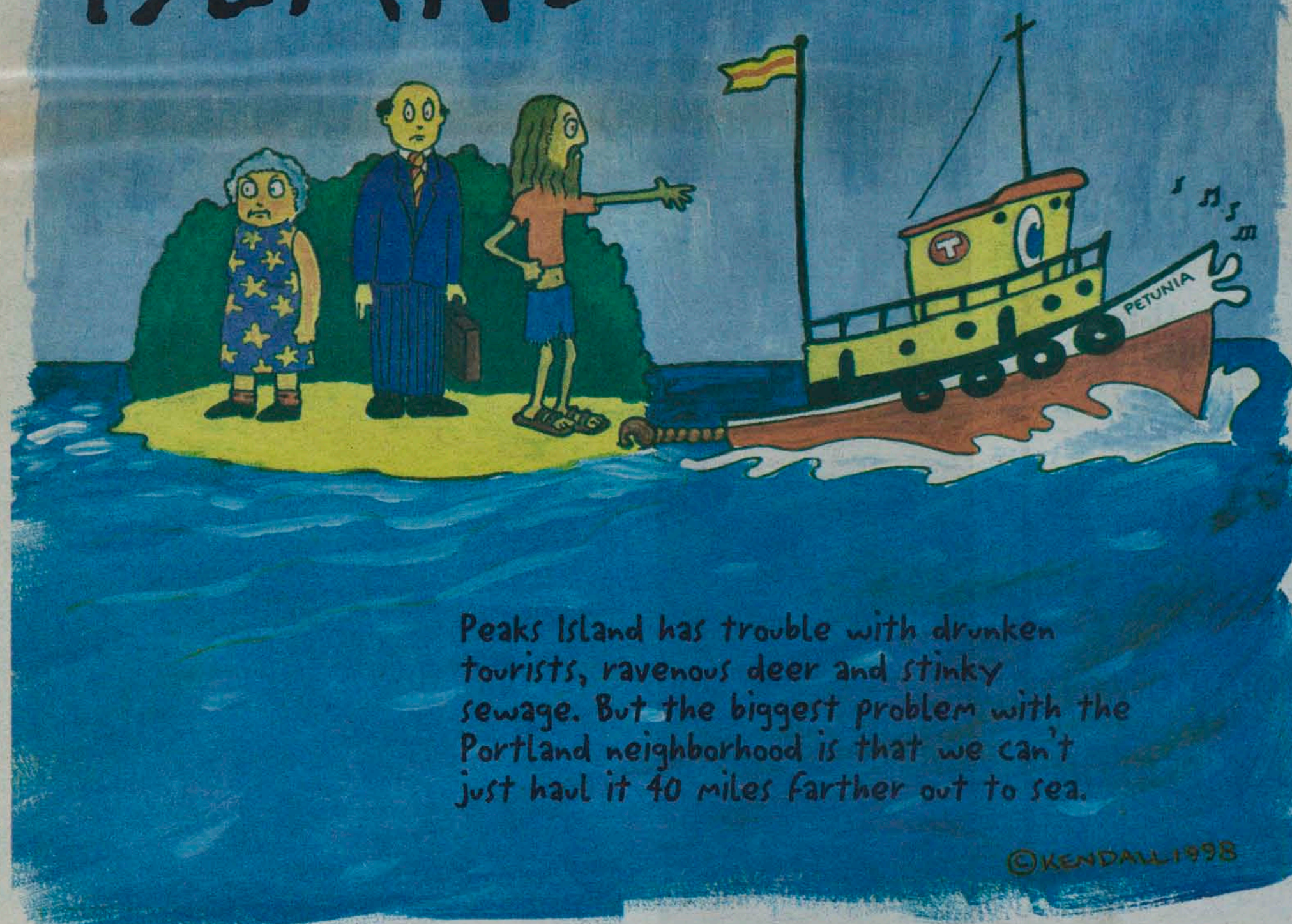
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OCT. 8, 1998

## EXPEL this ISLAND



Peaks Island has trouble with drunken tourists, ravenous deer and stinky sewage. But the biggest problem with the Portland neighborhood is that we can't just haul it 40 miles farther out to sea.

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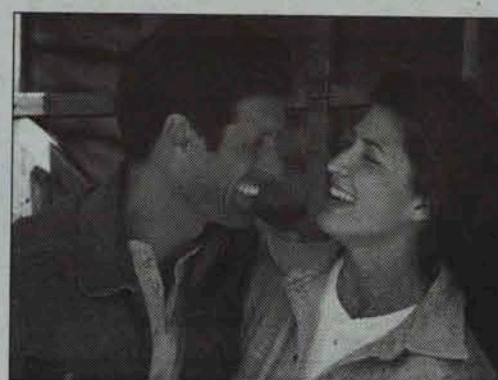
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## Talk A CONVERSATION WITH ARTUR KAPTELININ



"In a way, the radio show kind of helps me keep in touch with my home culture."

Artur Kapteletin, 26, is a student at the University of Southern Maine and a disc jockey for community radio station WMPG. Kapteletin, a Russian native, produces a program featuring the music of his homeland, which airs Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### Why did you become a disc jockey?

I came here in 1991. I was experiencing what they call culture shock, you know, when you change societies. I'm still a Russian citizen. So it was kind of hard for me to get used to the American way of living. I brought with me tapes of Russian music, so when I got sad or nostalgic I could listen to Russian songs.

Then one day I was listening to the radio and I heard

somebody playing Russian music on 'MPG. So I walked down there and I found the person. He was playing mostly, like, heavy metal and kind of weird Russian things that sound American, but didn't make any sense. So I talked to him and turned him on to more cool Russian music . . . folk, jazz, rock — anything — reggae. It pretty much covered it all. So he said, "Why don't you do a show?"

#### I heard you sometimes DJ back home. What's it like for you when you visit Russia?

Ironically, I bring rock music over there and home music here. And the other funny part is that even though technically I'm a Russian citizen — my last seven years I've spent here — I'm kind of getting Americanized in a

way. They introduce me as an American DJ. And here, I'm a Russian DJ. So where does it put me, like in between heaven and earth? I'm kind of floating in the middle there.

#### What is it about music that touches you?

When I first started to get into music, it was all in English. And I didn't know English. So, I listened to Chuck Berry and I would kind of mumble along. You know, there isn't much message in Chuck Berry except for women and cars. But I was still getting the idea — rock 'n' roll.

Interview by Kimberly Jean Smith; photo by Gary Green

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## Supposed former infatuation junkie

Be careful what you wish for. In mid-September, when the Starr report was first released, many conservatives were convinced public outrage would soon force Bill Clinton from the White House. Among them was Frank Heller, treasurer of Republican Jon Reisman's struggling congressional campaign in Maine's 2nd District. Since Reisman has received very few contributions, Heller has plenty of time on his hands. He used some of it to compose a letter to the Sept. 21 edition of "As Maine Goes," a conservative e-mail newsletter.

Heller pointed out that newspaper stories on Sept. 15 reported mail to Maine's two congressmen, Democrats Tom Allen and John Baldacci, "is running heavily towards censure/impeachment. One thing a sitting congressman can do is ignore the weight of their [sic] mail. I've urged Jon [Reisman] to demand the mail and phone call results be made public and that Allen & Baldacci heed it. A strong plea from you would reinstall some semblance of the democratic process in their respective offices. They need to be FORCED to make those statistics public and then heed them."

Unfortunately for Heller, the public is notoriously fickle. Barely a week later, after the release of Clinton's videotaped grand jury testimony, the state's congressional delegation was reporting letters and phone calls had reversed course, and were running strongly in Bubba's favor. "We're getting a good deal of calls sympathetic to the president," a spokeswoman for GOP U.S. Sen. Susan Collins told the *Portland Press Herald* on Sept. 22.

With that shift Baldacci and Allen were suddenly doing exactly what their constituents were asking them to do: They were backing Bill. But Heller, who should have been delighted that "some semblance of the democratic process" had been saved from extinction, instead lapsed into an uncharacteristic sulky silence.

Democracy, it seems, is only worth defending when you're on the winning side.

### Take another picture

Democrats have often been extraordinarily creative in finding unlikely items to tax: snacks, shacks, slacks, knickknacks — and now, journalistic hacks? Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Connolly appeared to have surpassed even the most profligate of politicians in a Sept. 16 media advisory, which carried the ominous headline, "No More Free Photo-Ops!"

Was Connolly really planning to charge the press for pictures? Who'd be stupid enough to pay?

As it turns out, the headline had nothing to do with imposing a government levy on photography. Instead, Connolly was com-

plaining about the amount of uncritical publicity the press allegedly bestows on independent Gov. Angus King. "Four Years of Freebies Is Quite Enough," the release giped.

Hey, maybe we could start charging King to take his picture.

### Baby, let the bad times be

Speaking of dumb ideas for news releases, consider the statement released by Republican gubernatorial candidate Jim Longley on Sept. 22, explaining why his crumbling campaign had raised less than \$45,000, or about one-tenth the amount King took in.

"Who in their right mind ever thought that any well-financed opposition to the incumbent was even in the cards?" Longley asked. "It clearly wasn't — as anyone with any common sense should appreciate. If I had concluded that this advantage would be decisive, I wouldn't have gotten into this race to begin with...."

"In simple terms, why should I play to Angus' strength? He has a \$10 million bank account ... if I were to even try to compete with him financially, it would be sheer foolishness. I already know that whatever money I raise, he can easily out-spend me ten- or twenty-to-one so I refuse to play the King's game based on the King's rules."

Roughly translated, it appears what Longley is saying is that he just won't bother to fundraise, because King is so much better at it than he is. By that standard, he should also consider halting his efforts to be elected governor, since King is his clear superior at that, too.

### I know you

Not all politicians subscribe to the Longley approach, which calls for making every effort to publicize one's weaknesses. Some prefer the old-fashioned method of attempting to obscure their flaws.

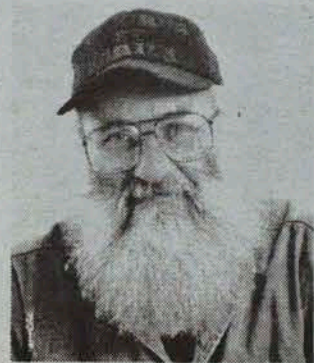
Take John Wade, a candidate for state representative from Kennebunk. Wade's campaign brochure describes him as "A strong, independent, democratic voice...."

"Look," said a friend of mine who received the pamphlet in the mail, "there's an independent running."

Not exactly. Kennebunk is heavily Republican. Although his brochure neglects to mention it, Wade is a Democrat.

*Libertarians don't write this column, care of CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, because they don't believe in a government postal system. Republicans refuse to fax us at 775-1615 because they're protesting taxes on telephone services. Democrats don't e-mail us at ishmael@giwi.net because they can't afford computers. And Greens don't talk to us because talking causes global warming.*

## politics and other mistakes



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## Homecoming queen

When I recently received word an e-mail had been sent to *CBW* for me from someone at my old high school in Bath, an instant multiple-choice test popped into my head: a) You have disgraced your alma mater, and we want your diploma back, b) We have decided to dedicate our new janitor's closet in your honor and would like you to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony, c)  $\pi$  and d) We finally got your old locker open and would like to know what we should do with this 22-year-old container of yogurt.

As it turned out, it was e) None of the above. The e-mail was from an English teacher at Morse High School who wanted to know if I would come talk to one of her classes about writing. She wrote, "This fall I'm charged, in part, with helping our seniors write better essays. Among those things hardest to nurture, I think, are the notion of voice ... and the confidence to use it. Your writing in *CBW* is an excellent example I've frequently used."

The message seemed suspect. It's not that I'm mistrustful of my higher-ups at *CBW* (despite the fact, they destroy my voice; by taking all the semicolons; out of my copy), it was just that I didn't recognize the teacher's name, and, as everyone knows, things don't change when you leave high school.

"Har, har, har," I wrote back to the editor who had forwarded the message. "Your writing in *CBW* is an excellent example I've also frequently used ... to wipe dog poop off my shoe."

When I was finally made to understand the message was real, I was filled with horror. "Go back to my old school?" I thought. "Like, inside — with all those ghosts of curly perms and platform shoes? What if it's a trap? What if I have an outstanding detention? What if someone decided I needed to take physics, after all? What if I get caught in some weird time warp and am forced to listen to Janet Ian's "At Seventeen" for the rest of eternity?"

You see, high school has long been at the top of my Fear and Loathing list. To any outside observer, I was the model student, an overachiever with a type A personality: I was yearbook editor, president of this and that, captain of the field hockey team, starred in my school's theater productions, was a member of the National Honor Society — to wit, I was a dork of the first order.

Ah, but behind that overeager facade lay an emotional maelstrom. I was entering adulthood with all the grace of Hurricane Georges. A May 2, 1977, journal entry confirms this assessment:

"I hate this place. I hate it, hate it, hate it. I have so much work to do, and I'll never get caught up. And I don't even give a damn. I just got another detention. The

first time it was cute, this time it's sickening. What a waste of my time. I hate it, hate, hate, hate it. Get me the hell out of this place. It used to be a fun game saying how much I hated school, but now I really do ... because I'm so tired. Tired of studying, tired of working, tired of going to play rehearsal, tired of running, tired of student government, tired of doing my TV show, tired of dance class, tired of playing games with people, tired of hoping someone will like me, tired of trying to catch up, tired of not eating well, tired of never seeing my friends or family. But mostly tired of being tired."

(A note to my teen readers: Do start that journal today, and never, ever part with it! Not only does a journal help you sort out those pent-up aggressions, but it will also provide you with endless hours of entertaining reading in later life and help you fill white space, should you someday become a columnist.)

No, the idea of going back to my old school was too much to handle — and that is precisely why I agreed. I thought it was about time I faced my demons. I responded to the teacher, saying I would speak to her class, but added, "I thought when I left Morse, I would not return unless it was in a stretch limo — do you think you could arrange that?"

The first thing that struck me when I entered the building was the smell — a scent akin to dusty books, soggy sneakers and 22-year-old yogurt. I paused, waiting for the walls to close in and crush me, like a scene from "Batman and Robin." I waited for former teachers to materialize and demand homework assignments. I waited for something to happen, but the halls were empty and decidedly benign.

Before reporting to my appointed class, I ducked into the girls' bathroom off the main lobby and tried to pull myself together. As I stood in front of the full-length mirror, I thought I felt the eyes of a 17-year-old me gazing on with a look that said, "That's my future? That's what I have to look forward to? Don't you think you could at least comb your hair?" But then my grand inquisitor changed her tune. "So, how is it out there?" I thought a moment. "Well, it's a lot better and a lot worse than you could ever imagine. But it's going to be OK. All you really need to know is life's not as bad as algebra." The eyes bore further into me. "So, you didn't sell out. You became a writer, after all. Well, that's cool. Now get lost, before someone sees us together."

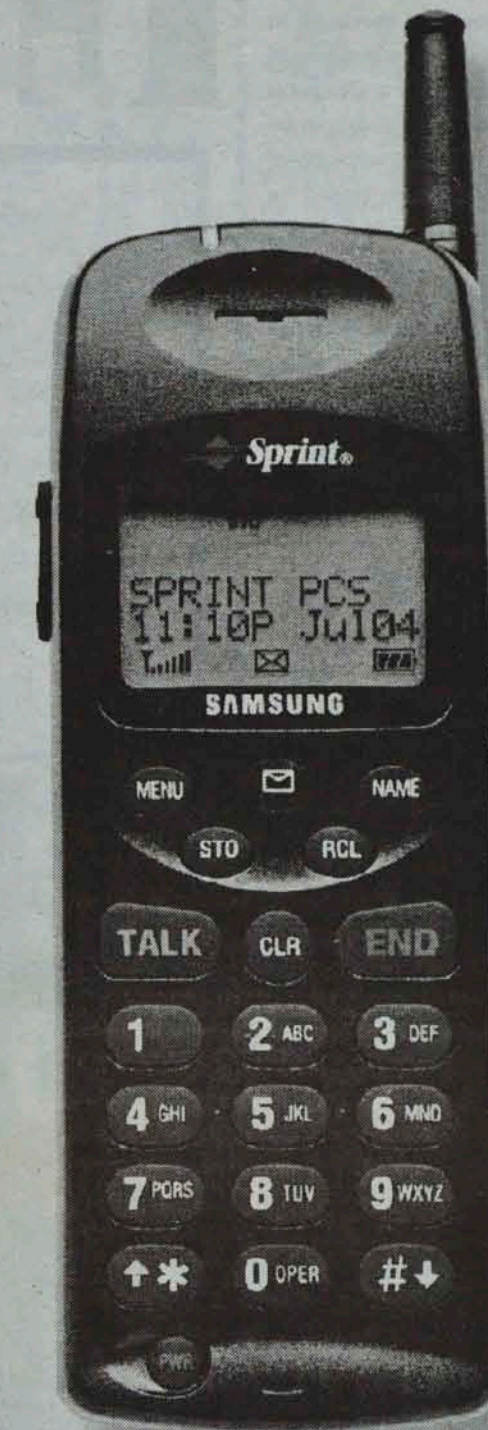
With that, I strode out into my high school corridors — without so much as a hall pass — and faced my destiny.

*Elizabeth Peavey's slovenly appearance has something to do with her aversion to mirrors. Now you know why.*

outta my way



ELIZABETH PEAVEY



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**W**itnesses? We don't need no stinkin' witnesses. The Portland Police Department appears to have been less than thorough in investigating an Oct. 2 incident involving an off-duty officer. It began as a Congress Square fender bender. A car driven by Nathaniel Stevens, 20, of Wells allegedly clipped the vehicle of Todd Coons, a Portland cop. The two men got into a fight that left Stevens in need of medical attention and a lawyer. He was treated at Maine Medical Center before being booked for assault. Portland City Councilor Karen Geraghty witnessed the altercation, and was curious as to why police didn't ask her and several other bystanders for statements. The few witnesses the cops did talk to gave conflicting statements about who started the slugfest, although all agreed Stevens was unlikely to earn a World Boxing Association ranking anytime soon. Police Chief Mike Chitwood told the *Portland Press Herald* that failing to talk to Geraghty was no big deal. "People come forward," Chitwood said, "and I welcome that." The top cop said his department's investigation would eventually be turned over to somebody for some kind of resolution. Coons, by the way, was suspended from the force for 45 days in 1995 for his part in a brawl at a police Christmas party in a Westbrook bar.

**news-orama**

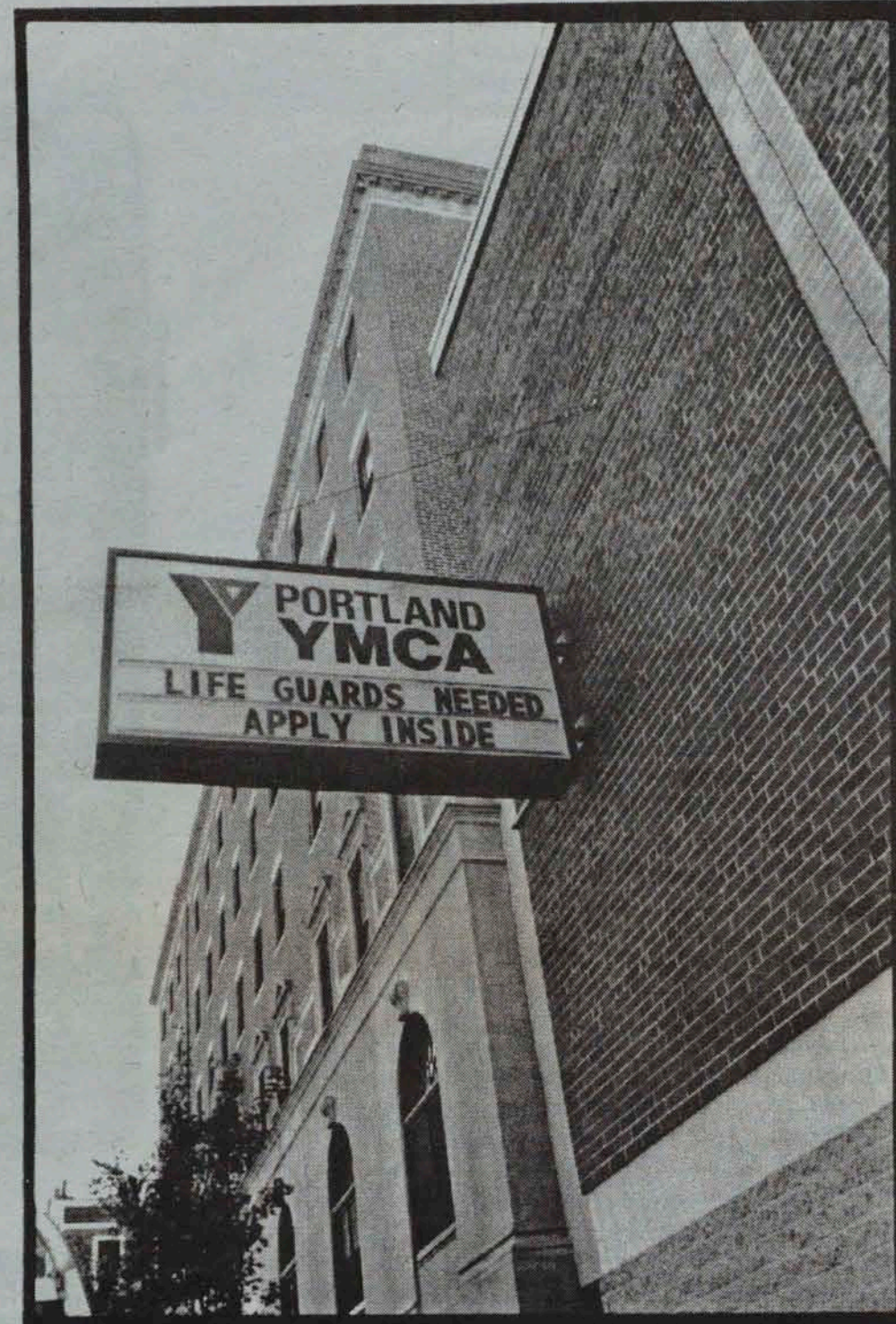


■ **Hoys!** We don't need no stinkin' Hoys. On Oct. 5, the Portland City Council approved a new operator for the Nickelodeon theater on Temple Street. Patriot Cinemas of Rockland, Mass., will take over on Oct. 30 from the Hoys corporation, ending an era of declining upkeep and skyrocketing popcorn prices. Patriot plans to offer second-run flicks for a buck. No word on whether you'll still need a platinum card to approach the concession stand.

■ **Deadlines?** We don't meet no stinkin' deadlines. Old Port mega-landlord Joe Soley failed to fix five dozen housing-code violations at two Exchange Street apartment buildings by Oct. 5, as required by Portland City Hall. As CBW went to press, city officials were moving to condemn the properties. If that happens, Soley's tenants will be evicted, the second time this year that's happened. Soley's property manager denied her boss was ignoring the problems, claiming most violations found in July had been corrected.

■ **Independent investigation?** Well, maybe we do need a stinkin' independent investigation. Gov. Angus King has agreed to allow the American Correctional Association to review disciplinary procedures at the **Maine Youth Center** in South Portland (motto: "More working toilets than some Soley apartments"). But King is still insisting there's no big problem at the facility, even though Amnesty International, state workers and legislators say kids were often strapped in restraint chairs for hours for no good reason. **CBW**

# CITY



No union at Portland's Y? Teamsters and workers have different explanations. PHOTO/TORO VAUN

## Not going union YMCA workers angered by union pullout.

■ **KIMBERLY JEAN SMITH**  
The Teamsters union claims it pulled out of an Oct. 2 union election at the Portland YMCA because it didn't think it could win. But pro-labor employees at the Forest Avenue facility say the Teamsters were headed for victory and blew their chances.

"There's a lot of anger there," said Darren Thomas, who has been working at the Y for three years and was a leader of the organizing effort. Employees "are mad at the Teamsters. They are mad. They were abandoned by management to begin with. Now they are abandoned by the Teamsters, who they wanted to hire to negotiate for them."

Employees — who said they wanted to

spoke about the union drive over coffee and in casual conversations after work.

Thurkewitz said he canceled the election because few of the more than 60 people who were eligible to vote on the union attended official Teamsters events. "Let's face it," he said, "when you have meetings when three people show up, that's not a sufficient number." By pulling out before the vote, employees are free to call for another election in six months, said Thurkewitz. Had Teamsters lost, employees would have had to wait a year before organizing another campaign.

But some employees charged that Thurkewitz was looking for support in the wrong places. They said phone banks were unnecessary because workers were calling people they had already chatted with earlier in the day. The meetings were held late in the evenings, making it hard for people who needed child care or who started work early to attend. In addition, employees complained that much of the information presented at those meetings repeated what the workers had already learned from their own research and discussions.

Pro-union employees expressed shock at the sudden decision to cancel the election. One worker wrote a letter to Thurkewitz, demanding an apology from the Teamsters and accusing the union of violating the spirit of the collective bargaining process. "We were holding up our end of the deal, but you dropped the ball," wrote Deborah Klotz, who works in the Y's preschool program. "There is something VERY WRONG with this picture."

Apparently the anger runs deep on both sides. Teamsters local president Robert Piccone chastised Thomas in a Sept. 29 letter for criticizing the way the campaign was run. "I do not need to be lectured in proper representation of working men and women," Piccone wrote. "I have done it all my life with some success."

Labor supporters at the Y continue to claim they had enough support to win. Thomas said 30 employees — half those eligible to vote — signed a petition earlier this summer seeking a union vote. Kane, of the labor relation board, could not confirm that number because such information is confidential.

Peter Kraft, a lawyer hired to represent the Y's board of directors, said the Teamsters' pullout was good for the nonprofit organization, because, although the union struggle drew attention to problems, it also created division. "You can't go up and threaten to punch somebody in the nose and say I want your respect and you have to honor my dignity," said Kraft. "A union system would have been difficult to put in place just because of the extra transactional expense."

A letter signed by the Y's board of directors before the Teamsters' cancellation echoed Kraft's fear about the added

costs a union could bring. "A bargaining table is a place where people vent and scapegoat," read the letter. "To deal with our problems, we need better understanding, cooler heads, and the kind of charitable spirit the YMCA stands for and was built on."

Some in the community mourned the end of the union effort at the Y. "I'm disappointed that the Teamsters felt they didn't have enough reason to continue with the election," said Michael Quint, a state representative whose district includes the nonprofit organization, "because it was exciting to think the Y would have a union."

At least one employee is relieved the Teamsters are gone. Corrine Rose, an assistant teacher in the toddler program, who supported the union drive, felt sure the Teamsters were going to win. But Rose had also grown to distrust the union. "I didn't feel the Teamsters were right for us," she said. "Actually, I think it's a blessing in disguise." Now that employees have the attention of the Y's board of directors, Rose added, employees may be able to organize for a better workplace on their own.

### New Neighbors

#### Buyers outnumber houses

Popularity of city program leads to run on housing

Portland's New Neighbors Program for first-time home buyers has worked so well, it's caused a bidding war. To counteract the frenzy, city officials have lowered the maximum amount the program will pay for a house.

In 1992, Portland started the New Neighbors program as a way to revitalize city neighborhoods and improve properties that had suffered under absentee land-

lords. The theory was simple — offer low interest loans to low- to moderate-income, first-time home-buyers who purchased property in urban areas. Participants also had to agree to live in the house they'd purchased.

The program has been successful, but in 1998, its popularity exploded, creating a situation of too many bidders and not enough houses. Bill Tracy, coordinator of the New Neighbors program, said officials began noticing a few months ago that a "real estate broker would advertise a property and have about 40 people show up to bid." According to Portland real estate agent Ed Suslovick, a normal number of bidders for a property not covered by the program, is only about five.

The mass of buyers competing for the same property began to inflate prices. Responding to the increases, Mark Adelson, director of Portland's housing and neighborhood services, said he decided about six months ago to cap the maximum price for a four-unit building eligible for a New Neighbors loan at \$196,000. "We noticed two or three sales were going extremely high, and we didn't want to be part of the inflation spiral," Adelson said. The prior maximum price under the program had been \$265,000.

Now that the price cap has been lowered, Tracy said he believes the program will continue to do what it was created to do — get low-income people into their first home and revitalize urban areas.

In spite of the new limit, New Neighbors remains popular. Melissa Baker, a local real estate agent, said most New Neighbor houses are under contract within 14 to 30 days after being advertised, compared to properties outside the program, which are taking an average of four months to sell.

CONNIE PACILLO

### loose change

Let's celebrate life's important moments by turning them into trivial numbers, gathered by CBW's staff.

Number of ceremonies at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Portland in 1997:  
baptisms: 101  
weddings: 41  
funerals: 46

Financial consequences of baptisms:  
\$12.88 for umbrella stroller at Wal-Mart in Falmouth  
\$19.96 for Fisher Price mobile at Wal-Mart in Falmouth

Financial consequences of weddings:  
\$265 for rental of eight-person limo for three hours from Lilley's Limousine of South Portland  
\$14.99 for a Toastmaster at Service Merchandise in South Portland

Financial consequences of funerals:  
\$150 for rental of hearse for three hours from Lilley's Limousine  
\$50 for funeral wreath at Sawyer's Flower Shop in Portland

Median income of Maine households, according to the U.S. Census Bureau:  
1995-96: \$35,575  
1996-97: \$34,132

Per capita personal income in Maine, according to the U.S. Commerce Department:  
1995: \$19,970  
1996: \$20,941  
1997: \$21,928

Number of reasons to doubt one or both of the above statistics: 1,000,000

"The secret to success," said George Bernard Shaw, "is to offend the greatest number of people." Which certainly explains Bill Clinton, but not why you should send items for this column to CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or e-mail them to editor@cbw.maine.com.

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# EXPEL *this* ISLAND

Peaks Island has trouble with drunken tourists, ravenous deer and stinky sewage. But the biggest problem with the Portland neighborhood is that we can't just haul it 40 miles farther out to sea.

■ ALLEN DAMMANN

On a warm August afternoon, Peaks Islanders filed into the seats at the community room in the public library for their annual meeting with Portland officials. Nodding at acquaintances, exchanging remarks on the weather, some of the islanders carried the terrible secret that, today, heads were going to roll. The inhabitants of "The Rock," as they call their little chunk of oceanfront real estate, were fed up with mainlanders who don't appreciate the hardship of island life and they intended to make their discontent known.

What the islanders failed to consider was the possibility that mainlanders were equally fed up with their ferry-tripping neighbors, who demand lavish city services even as they tout Peaks' glorious (and clearly superior) lifestyle of isolation. But this was no time to consider all that. This was the islanders' turn to make themselves heard.

Hardly had the buzz of small talk evaporated from the room when the battle whoop was given.

A gentleman glanced around at the municipal employees, and in a voice dripping with venomous arrogance demanded to know how many of them had ever lived or worked on an island. A few raised their hands. Apparently satisfied this meager display had touched off the indignation of his neighbors, the man proceeded to drive home his point with such an exquisite oratory flourish

PEAKS ISLAND'S NICKNAME — THE ROCK — SAYS TO MAINLANDERS, "YOU CAN NEVER KNOW WHAT LIFE IS LIKE FOR ME ON THIS ISLAND!"

that it was a marvel his neighbors didn't bolt from their chairs to tar and feather the outsiders. Glaring at the assembled dignitaries, he huffed, "Pretty skimpy."

In the uncomfortable silence that followed, one thing was crystal clear: The natives were restless. The tone had been set and there was no turning back.

"We're the bastard child of Portland," someone wailed.

One woman, reminded that bastard children

were the reason she'd come to the meeting, complained that island kids were riding their bikes too fast through the village. She asked whether Peaks police officers could ask the kids to slow down, or whether the Portland City Council could pass an ordinance forbidding reckless riding. This struck a sympathetic

chord with fellow islanders, as they pictured children — some of them nauseating summer children — barreling down the street at 10, maybe 11, miles per hour, abruptly slamming on their brakes and being hurled from the banana seats as the bicycles detonate in balls of fire. Indeed, an ordinance to prohibit such two-wheeled terrorism would not only save lives, but eliminate the old-fashioned need to simply crab the kids out.

So much for Peaks as Portland's last wild place, and so much for frontier justice. The city officials took notes and the meeting ground on.

A second woman complained that too many tourists are in the habit of walking in the middle of island streets.

Surprisingly, no one remarked that errant visitors might serve as speed bumps for kids racing their bikes, but it was tenuously agreed that perhaps a sign



warning visitors would be the best solution, eliminating the old-fashioned need to simply crab the tourists out.

Tenuously agreed, that is, for about 30 seconds. As with most political matters on Peaks, warring factions (ranging from aging hippies and crusty lobstermen to harrid yuppies and cranky retirees) prevent an issue from ever being settled for long. Audience members began to murmur that the island had too many signs already, perhaps imagining one sign, then two, then behold — a crush of metal posts rolling over the island like a carpet. "Just issue visas!" they cried. "No more signs!" they protested.

But it was too late. The largest sign of all had been erected right there in the room and its words were like neon: PEAKS ISLAND MUST GO.

**The constitution of the islanders**

The August meeting illustrated a truth mainlanders have always known, but which no one, until now, has been insensitive enough to put in precisely the right terms. Namely, that Peaks Islanders are a few coconuts shy of a palm tree.

History, literature and television concur that no one in his or her right mind moves to an island. People are stranded on islands. People are banished to islands. In certain extreme cases, specifically under the threat of communism, people flee to islands to work for Reebok. Indeed, the only individuals suited to island life are Cyclopes, notorious drunks who invariably get so crooked they devour their unhappy guests.

Yet for centuries there has existed a breed of people whose first three instincts upon seeing a tiny land mass surrounded by ocean water are to knock a few cottages together, park themselves on the deck and crack open a cold one.

That's begging for trouble. Small wonder that over the years, distressing reports from Peaks Island have steadily washed up on Portland's coastline like so many mussel shells. Mainlanders have had to listen to reports from the island neighborhood about such odious matters as the stink over building a new sewage plant on Peaks. Like so many other issues on the island, the plant and its location were subjects of intense debate. In 1994, some islanders apparently believed there was a deficit of waste on the mainland and generously offered to pipe their surplus crude material across Casco Bay, where it could be put to an infinite number of practical uses.

Three million dollars later, the facility is situated squarely on the island's front stoop. Peaks inhabitants are understandably self-conscious about having their dirty laundry, so to speak, aired in plain view of tourists disembarking from the ferry — it being known that some tourists, after

a trip across the bay, are disoriented and likely to perceive a sewage treatment plant as a personal insult. Thus, the structure is ingeniously camouflaged with cedar shingles.

The rustic facade preserves the dignity of the coastline, and causes the plant to look something like a bed and breakfast. "Yeah, pal, room number two is available," sewage workers could snicker to visitors, "but you'll have to leave a deposit."

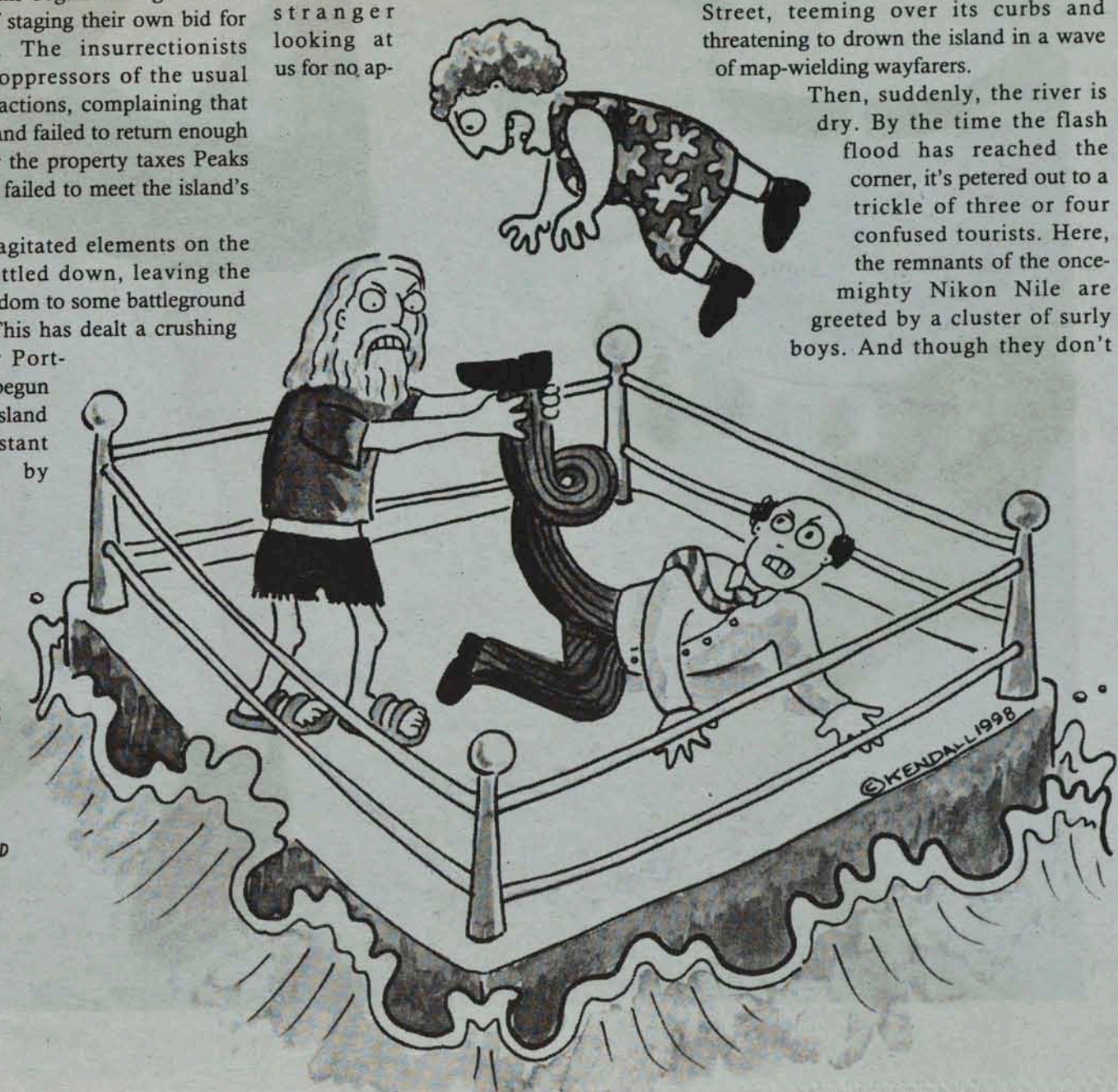
Disturbing reports from Peaks aren't limited to sewer problems. Far out in left field was the grumbling in 1996 over the postal service's demand that islanders include street names and numbers when addressing their mail. Previously, inhabitants jotted down only the person's name and ZIP code. Holy L.L. Bean tote bags, Robin — the burden of filling in the rest!

In a hundred years, when our names are ZIP codes, the islanders' beloved abbreviated addresses may come back into fashion. But in 1996, when the switch to the otherwise universally accepted method of sending letters was made on Peaks, some islanders reacted as if it were the dawn of the Orwellian era.

And in what constitutes if not the darkest, then at least the most dimly lit chapter in the island's history, the population of Peaks spent recent years clamoring for the right to secede from Portland. Inspired by Long Island's successful breakaway in 1993, some residents of Peaks began flirting in 1995 with the idea of staging their own bid for independence. The insurrectionists accused their oppressors of the usual crimes and infractions, complaining that in general Portland failed to return enough city services for the property taxes Peaks chipped in, and failed to meet the island's "needs."

Lately, the agitated elements on the island have settled down, leaving the struggle for freedom to some battleground of the future. This has dealt a crushing blow to many Portlanders who'd begun to hope Peaks Island would be a distant memory by

WHEN IT COMES TO POLITICAL MATTERS ON PEAKS, WARRING FACTIONS (RANGING FROM AGING HIPPIES AND CRUSTY LOBSTERMEN TO HARRID YUPPIES AND CRANKY RETIREES) PREVENT AN ISSUE FROM EVER BEING SETTLED FOR LONG.



the start of the new millennium.

Alas, Portland seems doomed to watch the sunrises of the 21st century in the shadow of Peaks Island — unless we take action and roll "The Rock" away.

**Destination of the voyagers**

It's the day before Labor Day and tourists have conquered the Maine State Pier. From the platform's giant compass (a real blessing for those of us who, at any given moment, are utterly ignorant of where we're headed), we can look in any direction and observe these distinctive individuals.

East: A couple in matching peach-colored shirts contemplates the Whaling Wall.

West: A couple in matching green visors ponders the water.

North: A father reprimands his 6-year-old daughter for attempting to pry open the circuit box on a light pole.

South: A grizzled fellow, who isn't a tourist but nonetheless has something to say about the industry surrounding him, cocks his head toward one shoulder and, with a grace and ease that is the envy of junior high boys everywhere, launches a projectile of phlegm that sails majestically through the air before landing on the rim of the compass.

The 100 or so tourists begin pooling up at gate number five to catch the 11:15 a.m. ferry to Peaks Island. There's excitement in the air, a feeling that despite being strangers who would be horrified if we caught another stranger looking at us for no ap-

parent reason, we're also friends — friends united by the journey ahead of us and a common impatience to rid ourselves of a lot of disposable income. We're together, we're happy and once on the island, we all agree, we'll take each other's pictures.

The excitement follows us on board the *Machigonne II*, where passengers stream into seats and up onto the decks. Conversation aboard the ferry is light.

"How's school goin'?" a college-aged boy asks a college-aged girl. "Is it allotta work 'n shit?"

"Naw!" answers the girl, breezily changing the subject from academics to a friend's drinking problem.

Meanwhile, we find it difficult to turn our minds from the ferry's destination. We're haunted by "The Rock." The allusion is intended to be comical, yet it's rife with foreboding images — people confined to small spaces for life, to name one. More disturbing is the attitude that's revealed by the nickname. At heart, "The Rock" communicates everything the town-meeting complainer meant when he blurted "pretty skimpy" at the gathered officials. The nickname says to mainlanders, "You can never know what life is like for me on this island!" It says, "I live in isolation!"

After the 20-minute ferry ride to Peaks — a trip even islanders admit is the best public transportation in Portland — the passengers are starved for the sight of loam. We cascade off the boat in a river of tank tops, backpacks and baby strollers. In minutes, the current has inundated Welch Street, teeming over its curbs and threatening to drown the island in a wave of map-wielding wayfarers.

Then, suddenly, the river is dry. By the time the flash flood has reached the corner, it's petered out to a trickle of three or four confused tourists. Here, the remnants of the oncemighty Nikon Nile are greeted by a cluster of surly boys. And though they don't



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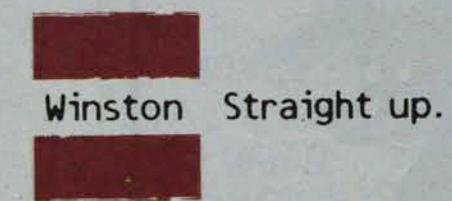
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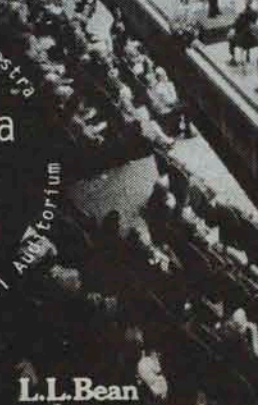
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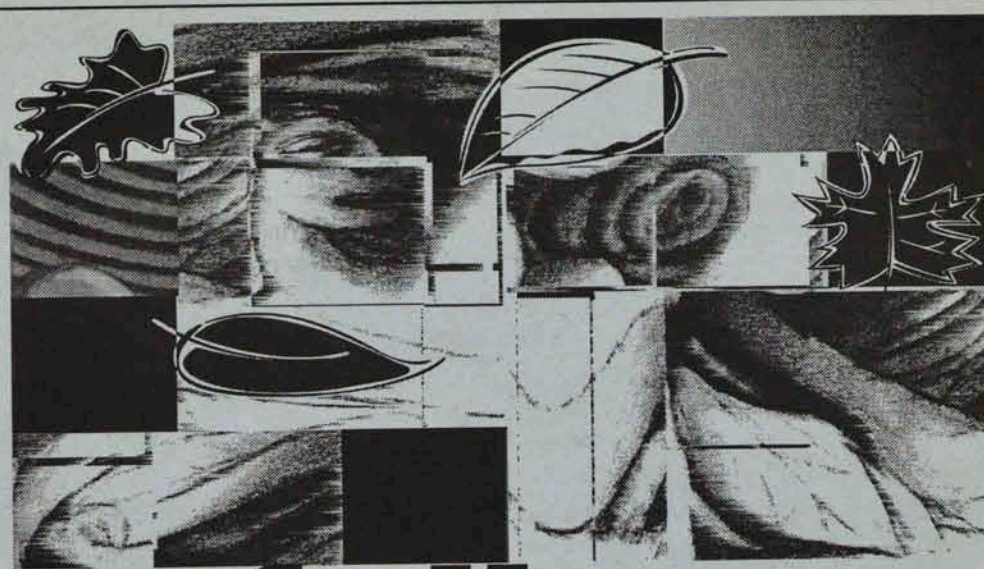
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146 Middle St., 772-2693

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305 Commercial St., 772-5522

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Portland Public Library 871-1700

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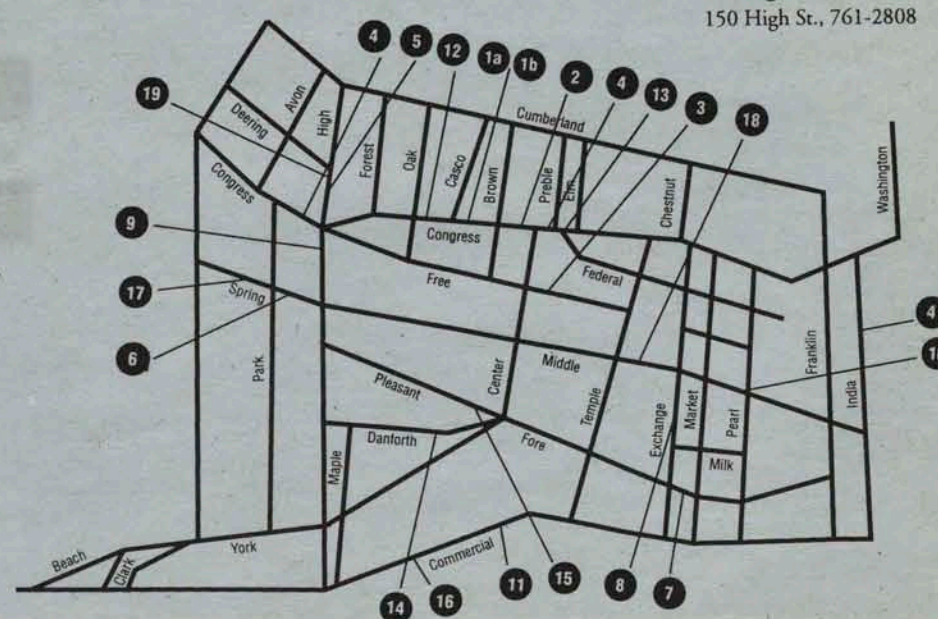
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17. Scott Potter Designs  
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18. Stein Gallery Contemporary Glass  
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19. The Whimsical World of David Cedrone/Fullerglass  
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EXPLORE THIS ISLAND CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

flip us off, their scowls achieve as much. They're just the kind of brats you can picture riding their bicycles too fast, the kind of pint-size punks who could frighten away even a steel-spined islander (if such a creature exists) intent on correcting Peaks' young.

Further back, the lost members of the party have formed a tributary to the door of Jones Landing, a popular restaurant and bar where tourists can swap stories of their arduous hike up Welch Street.

"So this is how far our camaraderie got us," we protest. "Half a block!"

The line outside the modest-sized watering hole snakes so far back that even if a bridge connected the island to the mainland, it wouldn't be long enough to hold everyone trying to get in. Amazingly, throughout the day, Jones Landing swallows ferryload after ferryload of tourists. Where they end up, God only knows.

On the other side of the street is the sewage treatment plant. Together, Jones Landing and the plant form an unlikely gateway to the island. Between them, at the intersection of Welch and Island Avenue, you encounter your first set of choices for further exploration. It's worth pausing amid the sour young faces gathered at

the corner before deciding which way to go. After all, it annoys them. But considering the island's history, any avenue can lead to the bizarre.

### Some ideas with regard to the civilization of the island

"You want books on Peaks Island?" asks the librarian at the Portland Public Library. "Whe-Hellllllll!" With the flourish of a game-show hostess revealing a brand-new car, she gestures proudly toward a table bearing a computerized index. You can tell she's mentally rubbing her palms together in anticipation of this unexpected and highly savory challenge.

After several rapid hen pecks on the keyboard, she succeeds in calling up 11 titles on the subject. The librarian frowns at discovering the first is a cookbook, a genre that's generally considered to be unremarkable for its historical content.

The others include books on the most prominent aspects of any island, from birds to cemeteries. One title leaps out as the most obvious choice for someone digging into Peaks Island's past, Nathan Gould's "A History of Peaks Island and its People." However, at 84 pages, even the virtues of its Micheneresque detail can't compare to the next selection on the list.

Pithy and concise, Ansel B. Sterling's "An Island Speaks," published in 1980, is a wafer among the neighboring tomes. No nonsense, no gimmicks, just the flour and water of history — a digestive cracker that melts on the reader's palate

without leaving the aftertaste of retained knowledge. This particular copy is signed by the author, who demands in loopy letters, "Peace!" You don't expect such a beatnik greeting from a historian named Ansel, especially an Ansel so bookish as this one, with round-rimmed glasses and

a pedantic mustache. But it must have something to do with the fact, disclosed in the jacket copy, that "his views on the enrichment of life through vital stimulus have been the bulwark of his artistic philosophy."

Turning to the prologue, we discover that Mr. Sterling is being quite humorless and literal with the title "An Island Speaks," since in his book Peaks Island narrates its own history. Mr. Sterling has humbly relegated himself to something of a ghostwriter, making sure that nature, which has plenty of voices in its babbling brooks and whistling winds, is able to overcome the lack of an opposable thumb with which to grip a pencil.

Peaks Island introduces itself by declaring, "... in all fairness to the many sturdily families that, thru out time, have loved and established themselves upon my ocean encircled body, my name should be referred to as Friendly Island." Friendly Island goes on to tell us that, to be perfectly accurate, it's name is really Utowna, meaning "Place of the Rocks." Later, Utowna rejects this moniker and insists instead that it be called Levett's Island. Page after page, the island grows more impudent and demanding, until it becomes clear that by the last chapter we'll be genuflecting on one knee and calling it "Napoleon."

If Peaks Island can't be expelled, it at least ought to be required to get therapy.

### Appearance of the interior of the island

At first, it looks like the islanders truly have gone mad. Standing on the porch of their house, an elderly couple and their middle-aged daughter are staring so intently at something as to appear frozen. But what's really unnerving is the object of their study.

A tree. As we mount the porch, we see that the true target of their intent gazing is a pair of bucks, obscured but visible in a small growth of trees. One of the bucks has eight points. If oohs and ahhs are any gauge in a matter like this, then seeing an eight-point buck in your backyard ranks right up there with finding a Fabergé egg in the hedge.

Luckily for the deer, that's where the comparison ends. Though an artifact of Czarist luxury might end up preserved in a display case, the buck isn't likely to find itself mounted over a hearth — especially not on this island, where the most serious threat to the creature is the embarrassment of hearing human adults go goo-goo-gah-gah. The family's admiration of the bucks is but one aspect of a conflict that's been dragging on for

years. Free of nature's usual predators like hunters and coyotes, deer on Peaks have been free to mate and make more deer willy-nilly. Lately, the herd has grown so large that deer are starving. Desperate for food, they've gnawed island saplings to stubs and started in on local gardens. Islanders complain about the loss of trees and produce, fret about Lyme disease and bicker about proposed solutions.

Everyone on Peaks knows the deer are a problem, but that's where the agreement ends. In 1996, island voters rejected a proposal that would have allowed enough hunting to thin the herd. Those who favored the proposal argued it would not only preserve their annual harvest of cabbage and tomatoes, but benefit the deer by reducing competition for grub. People against the proposal were either animal lovers or afraid hunting would endanger residents, homes and pets.

The woman on the porch exemplifies the islanders' conflicted affection for deer. Following the conclusion of the porchside "Wild Kingdom," she leads a tour around the perimeter of her house, indicating spots where once grew a thick bounty of nightshade. "They just came up and ate them," she says sadly.

Would that the deer, when finished stripping the island of flora, could nibble away Peaks itself.

### A gentle suggestion: TOW IT AWAY

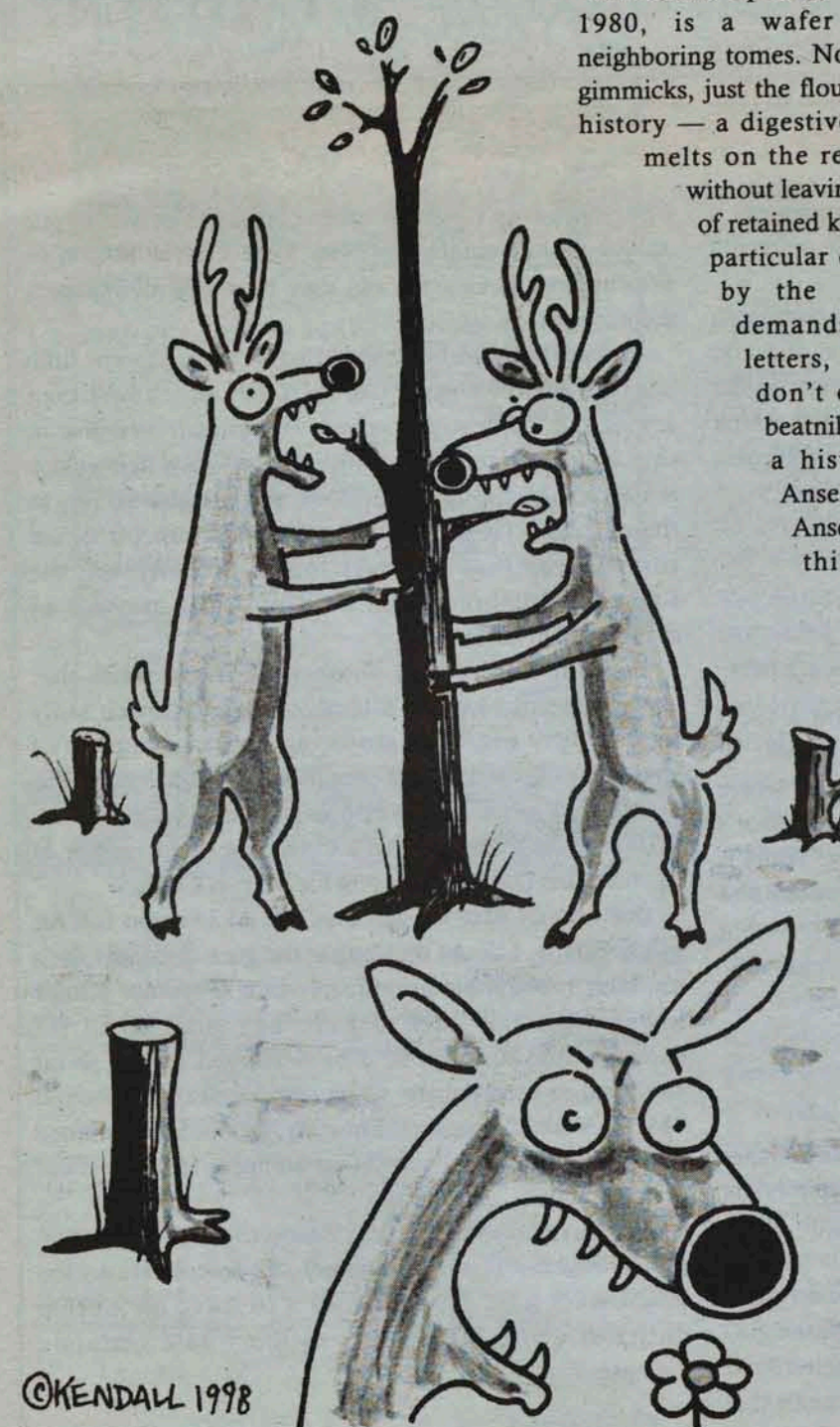
In the evening, Jones Landing has disgorged many of the tourists it spent the whole day gobbling. Sunburnt and exhausted — a few of them stricken with mushy consonants — they wait at the gates for the return ferry. Behind them, the reggae band Good Vibration winds up its act on the restaurant's outdoor deck. The group has played every Sunday during the summer. Today's performance is the last of the season.

"We love Jones Landing!" shouts the lead singer into the microphone. "We love Peaks Island!"

His enthusiasm is lost on the waiting passengers, whose only concern at the moment is being first on the ferry, first to escape. As the craft breaks away from the platform and the island gradually recedes from view, it creates a pleasing illusion — an ever-yawning gap between us and that irksome swatch of earth.

Only consider the gratification of witnessing that same scene the other way around. Us: stationary. Peaks Island: drifting off toward the horizon, tethered to a tugboat whose destination is waters far away. Us: parked on the mainland, cracking open a cold one, thinking maybe — maybe, if the mood is right — we'll go for a jaunt down the middle of the street.

Allen Dammann is a reporter for CBW. Additional reporting for this story was done by CBW's editor, Laura Conaway.



# comment

## A call to action

In January, Maine Medical Center will extend health insurance to unmarried domestic partners of its employees. Maine Med will join a handful of local employers who offer such benefits.

Smaller companies, like *Casco Bay Weekly*, find themselves shut out of the marketplace when it comes to domestic partner benefits. We have tried to buy policies that would cover our workers and their unmarried loved ones, but have been unable to purchase that type of coverage at any price. The insurance companies, from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to Tufts, tell us — as they tell every small company in Maine — that we are simply too tiny to warrant such policies.

It doesn't matter that the ordinances of this city explicitly provide protection from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Every day, people are subjected to bias in this very workplace. Like many of their queer counterparts throughout the city, *CBW's* gay and lesbian workers can't share the health benefits our legally married employees take for granted.

Imagine having to watch your life partner suffer through an illness without the guaranteed health care you enjoy. Think of watching the person you love weigh the cost of a much-needed trip to the dentist against the need to pay the oil bill. That's a nightmare.

Yet insurance company officials say they won't offer domestic partner benefits until the law requires them to do so.

We, as a city, may have the power to legislate change. The nine members of the

Portland City Council have declared themselves to be earnest defenders of equality. When the city's human rights ordinance suffered a defeat in court this year, they moved quickly to strengthen the statute. The councilors' stand for equality has been backed by voters, who have voiced support by ever-increasing margins for the principle that all citizens should be treated the same.

What if the Council took the cause of equality one step further? What if they enacted an ordinance requiring insurance companies to offer domestic partner benefits? And what if they required employers who offer health insurance to extend benefits to unmarried partners of workers? The councilors may be able to end an insidious form of discrimination.

By not acting, officials ignore the bias in their midst.

Councilors, if you oppose requiring domestic partner benefits in Portland, we invite you to state that opinion in these pages. But if you stand for equality — if you truly believe in the principle that all Portlanders are entitled to equal rights in employment, housing, public accommodation and credit, as the city ordinance mandates — then put your beliefs into action.

Show us you mean what you say. Pass measures requiring insurance companies that do business in our city to sell domestic partner benefits, and compel employers that provide health coverage to offer those benefits.

LAURA CONAWAY



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

## The straight poop

I have always considered Portland City Manager Bob Ganley a poor administrator. I feel that he is a willing pawn for the elitist element "from away" that has drifted here over the past 20 years and has managed to transform Portland from what was once a truly wonderful place to live into a mecca for greedy landlords and developers, crooked lawyers, criminals from every state in the Union, health freaks and sexual aberrants of every imaginable stripe.

This change for the worse carries the imprimatur of our grossly overpaid city manager. Witness, for example, the city's current policy regarding dogs. Gone is the era of the pooper-scooper, which mandated that if your dog pooped, you scooped and took the mess with you. The elitists have convinced Ganley and company that their dogs require exercise, and what better place for this than the green grass of Portland's cemeteries.

Consequently, it is quite common to visit Evergreen or Western Cemetery and see a dog defecating on the hallowed grave of a forgotten youngster who gave his life for the Union during the Civil War. This vile practice also has the blessing of Mr. Ganley, and one can only wonder what the public outrage would be were the

mayors of Gettysburg or Chattanooga to implement a like practice. Are the graves of Portland any less revered by its citizens?

Ganley is very adept at such things as encouraging draconian ordinances to encumber the saloon and taxi industries because such enterprises are contrary to the elitist lifestyle. But on issues that will impact Portland well into the next century, he remains the best argument we have for an elected mayor form of government.

Matt Hyland  
Portland

## Cracking Eggbot's shell

I'm writing in response to a write-up on a local musician named Eggbot ("Short Cuts," 9.17.98). It seems Dan Short made a mistake in giving credit where credit is due. The name of the drummer on Eggbot's "Sumo Erotica" CD is Louis Dugal, not Wally. Wally is Eggbot's present drummer for live performances and future recordings.

Louis Dugal  
Eggbot's Peep

## Al Diamon, resident genius

So, according to Al Diamon ("Politics and Other Mistakes," 9.24.98), stubbornness, spite and stupidity are traditional Maine values, hmmm? Sounds more like a description of Al Diamon's personality to me.

Thank you, Al, for blessing us Mainers once again with your own remarkable intelligence and with the gifts of your profound political perceptions. Imagine how empty our lives would be, were it not for the benefits that we receive from your weekly words of wisdom. I wonder

why you haven't blessed other communities with your unique writing abilities — New York City or Boston or Washington, D.C. After all, they have real newspapers there.

Instead, you choose to spend your career at some little birdcage-liner of a paper like the *CBW*, which isn't even among the top newspapers read by us clods who live in this lowly state. Amazing — not only are you a remarkable genius of a journalist, you are also selfless to the extreme. Gosh, I wish you would run for office someday so that Mainers might actually see the Lincolnian breadth of your political prowess as manifested in actual policy.

Instead, we can only witness the tragic waste that constitutes your weekly column — and we watch sadly as your petty negativity grows, no doubt a symptom of your own realization that a man as gifted as yourself is nonetheless mired at a minor league publication like the *CBW*. It's as if Henry Steele Commager had chosen to squander his talents by writing for Marvel Comics!

But I doubt that we will ever see Al Diamon run for office. Firstly, I doubt that he has the guts. Secondly, he's too busy rubbing his nose deeply into Governor King's lower digestive tract to have any time at all for campaigning. Thirdly, he'd be destroyed in just about any head-to-head debate, as he was for years on the old "Media Watch" program. Fourthly, he's just too damned ugly to run for office, despite his attempts to hide behind that ridiculous Castro beard.

No, sorry, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe* and *New York Times*. You can't have Al Diamon, as desperately as you might want him. If he ever were to leave his solemn duties at *CBW*, Maine civilization would certainly collapse.

Earl Garland  
Rockland

## LETTERS

## LETTERS

### Mr. Discrimination

I read with interest Al Diamon's column today ("Politics and Other Mistakes," 9.24.98) and was not surprised to find that the discriminatory attitude evidenced by your paper towards my candidacy remains unchanged. Mr. Diamon goes on at length about what leadership positions state Reps. Steve Rowe and Mike Saxl will hold in the Legislature next season. While this is appropriate with respect to Rowe, who's unopposed, Mr. Diamon should be reminded that Mike Saxl will be able to aspire to a position within the Legislature only if he is in the Legislature, an occurrence that I intend to prevent.

This city, and especially this district, is sensitive to issues of discrimination — and no one has voted for discriminatory practices more than my opponent. Thanks to my opponent, we, the residents of Cumberland County, are to be discriminated against because of where we live. Mike Saxl voted to adopt "Cumberland County only" auto emissions testing. Many people will be able to pay for the repairs to their vehicles that this will necessitate. However, those who can only afford to drive older vehicles might not be able to pay for the costly repairs to adhere to the new standard.

When confronted with this, my opponent replies that people in this district will understand because they are "environmentally conscious." If that is true, perhaps he would like to explain to these environmentally conscious people why he so solidly backs the virtual rape of the northern woods that is euphemistically called the "East-West Highway."

Mike also voted with the majority for the Homestead Exemption Act. This provides tax relief for people who own houses, while offering nothing to people who cannot afford to purchase a house. This is a clear example of a tax break for the rich — something that people like my opponent like to accuse Republicans of. Not really — it just fits the pattern of discrimination. Another stitch in that pattern: the infamous Bath Iron Works tax cut. Now I can understand welfare for the poor, but I have a difficult time digesting welfare for a multibillion-dollar corporation. And to make matters worse, when the shipyard decided to discriminate against Maine workers, did my opponent champion their cause? He sided with the company, saying that a business should not be interfered with in this way. However, Mr. Saxl did not have a problem signing on to a bill to increase Maine's minimum wage above the federal level. Isn't that interfering with business? It is obvious to me that this man sees power as an end unto itself.

When first elected, Mike promised to make education a priority. Whether he meant what he said but just did not know how to be effective, or if he said this just for the sound bite's sake, he has not brought equitable education funding to this city. I stress the word *equitable*. Portland has a higher percentage of disabled students and of non-English-speaking students than other municipalities. There is an increased cost of educating these students.

Several years ago, when I was the legislative liaison for the Maine Advisory Panel on the Education of Children with Disabilities, we crafted the "weighted per-pupil" model of educational funding. Until such a model is adopted, Portland will continue to send in the lion's share of money to the state while getting the smallest per-pupil return. Accomplishing this will be a difficult task, but for any legislator truly committed to education, it is a realistic goal.

My opponent has to answer for failing to bring equitable funding to our schools, and for his continuing support of discriminatory policies. The people of this district need a representative they can trust to work for all of them — a representative who wants to bring their concerns to Augusta, not one who pursues a personal agenda of self-aggrandizement. Don't count him in yet. People are sick to death of this type of politics, and Mike will have plenty of time to devote to establishing a law practice next year — with a little real-life experience, perhaps he will treat people in a less cavalier fashion in the future.

Robert Leblond  
Candidate for state House District 31  
Portland

### The convicted and the blameless

I don't want to make this an ongoing debate between myself and letter writer Brian Whitehouse ("Not guilty yet," 9.24.98), but I do want to clear up one point, lest I appear slightly more fascist than I am. In my letter ("To hell with the guilty," 9.17.98), I mentioned that the civil rights laws of our land were designed to protect the innocent, not the guilty, to which Mr. Whitehouse responded, "Here are the facts. A person is innocent until proven guilty."

So, here are the real facts. A person is guilty or innocent based on whether or not that person committed the crime of which s/he is accused. The court system does not define reality. It merely defines our response to what we perceive to be reality (justice, if you will). The two words Mr. Whitehouse should have used are "convicted" and "blameless," because a person truly is "blameless" until "convicted." I don't really want to argue semantics, either, but Mr. Whitehouse is a prime example of how this country has become obsessed with laws while losing sight of the reasons behind those laws.

When everybody is a lawyer (or thinks they are one), the law gets bleached out and as ineffective as the people who try to uphold it. The '70s were the disco era, the '80s were the Reagan era and the '90s, to our future chagrin, have become the age of the victim, where none of us is responsible for our actions if there is any possible way for us to legally dodge them. Time for us to stop blaming our problems, faults and vices on everybody else, quit looking for relief from outside agencies and to start owning up to them ourselves. To put it more simply, just because a loophole exists doesn't mean it's right to use it.

Tyler Smith  
Bath

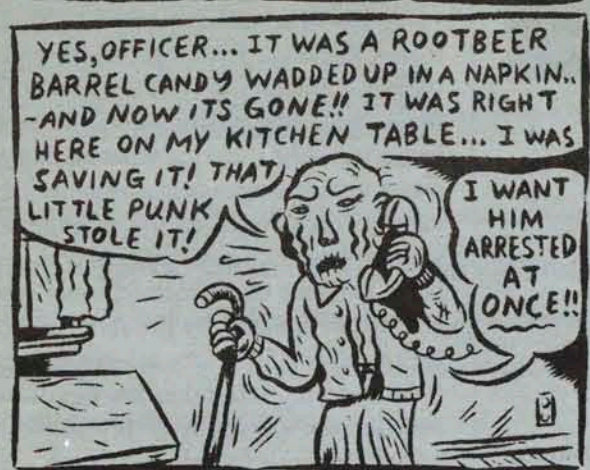
### Cotton picking

I thought about this the other day, while driving along. Uses for recycled cotton from the cigarette butts discarded by careless smokers who believe our world is their own personal ashtray (this would be a year's worth, I believe):

- Cotton socks: 17,237 pairs
- Cotton balls: 2.7 million
- Cotton swabs: 11.3 million
- Feminine "napkins": 137,489

Kenneth Plummer  
Gorham

### THE RETURN OF WRINKLY OLD MAN ©98 PATRICK



## CBW Q

Occasionally I see Portland police officers riding horses down Congress Street and through the Old Port. I know the officers can go home after work, but when the horses have finished their shift, where do they go to relax and unwind?

Well, hi-ho Silver! The Q-mistress, spurred on by your considerable interest in the personal lives of those magnificent mounts, is pleased to tell you those peace-keeping ponies spend a majority of their off-hours in a comfy stable behind Portland's Expo on Park Avenue.

Got a burning question about life in Greater Portland? Let *CBW's* crack investigative squad sort it out for you. Those whose questions are selected for publication will receive a complimentary SPAMM® refrigerator magnet. *CBW Q*, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or by fax: 735-1615.

**S**wing wide for art: The four partners behind Hinge, the city's newest gallery, intend to fill a niche in the local scene by offering not only exhibition space for up-and-coming artists, but room for a variety of community events. The strategy is noticeable as soon as you enter Hinge, for one end of the room at 576A Congress St. has been converted into a cozy nook with art books, chairs and a coffee table, perfect for lectures and performances about African-American history, women's studies and other themes.

The quartet of owners — all members of the Jabar family — decided to open the gallery because of their unhinging experiences as artists juggling creativity with straight jobs. Totemic prints by Elizabeth Jabar, a member of Peregrine Press, currently dominate the window and the walls. The prints are accompanied by samples of photography by her husband, Sean Alonzo Harris. Two of Jabar's sisters, Cynthia and Deborah, will soon hang works of their own. Cynthia, who has written several children's books, will display illustrations. Deborah, who has a day job as a paralegal, will exhibit paintings.

Elizabeth says the goal of the gallery, which has already booked several months worth of shows, is to provide young Portland artists with exhibit space. She applauds the efforts of the Pleasant Street Collective and The Gallery at 107 High Street, two places that often display pieces by less-than-established artists, but says the city still doesn't have enough opportunities for newcomers to hang their work. "Other galleries understandably tend not to take as many risks as they'd like because they can't afford to," she says.

As for the financing on which Hinge hinges, a notice that hung on the door for a couple of months announced the gallery would open "when mom gives us the money." In fact, the Jabar sisters' parents are investors in the project. Just call Hinge a joint venture.

**■ High up in the low class:** A press release from the National Parks and Recreation Association says the group "is proud to honor the recipients of the 1998 Marketing and Communications KUDOS Awards. Among this year's recipients was Portland Parks and Recreation for **Best Web Site Promoting Recreation, Class II.**" Recreation, Class II? Is that like basketball played on potholed, trash-strewn courts and football fields that look like they were recently liberated from Albanian separatists by the Serb army? Regardless of how the city's leisure-time activities won their second-class rating, our team will have to wait for its KUDOS trophy. The awards were scheduled to be handed out Sept. 26 in Miami Beach, but Hurricane Georges, itself something less than a top-class storm, blew that opportunity away. **CBW**

# edge



Sing it with me now: Pastor Richard Tracey rains great balls of fire and brimstone on Exchange Street. PHOTO/GARY GREEN

## Rockabilly religion

A Bible-thumping church opens in the belly of the beast — Portland's Old Port.

**■ CONNIE PACILLO**  
Since early childhood, I've had two sound reasons for avoiding church. The first was church was boring. The second was it was *really* boring.

A few weeks ago, in the process of walking off a good caffeine buzz on Exchange Street in Portland, I spotted a sign over The Movies that read, "The Open Door Pentecostal Church, welcome." Now the good angel on my right shoulder stood up and said with pride, "Wow, this is great — a little more diversity for an already hip place." But the tiny chick dressed in red leather and carrying a pitchfork whispered seductively into my left ear, "Those people must be nuts to put a church down here. Keep right on walking, sister."

I needed to find out what had driven Pastor Richard Tracey to locate his Bible-bearing, Jesus-loving, Pentecostal House of God right smack-dab in the middle of this city's version of Sodom and

Gomorrah — the Old Port.

The following Sunday, dressed in my best blue jeans, I walked to the entrance, climbed the two flights of stairs and entered a whole new world. The Open Door didn't look that different from the stuffy churches I'd attended before. The walls were painted bright white and unadorned. Thirty-six folding chairs with thickly padded seats faced the front of the room. There was no altar, just a plain pine podium. An electric organ sat in the far right corner and an overhead projector rested in another. Devotees, clothed conservatively — men in pressed slacks and women in dresses — chatted quietly in the first few seats. Bibles of different colors had been scattered throughout each row as they brought their own.

At a little past 10 a.m., Pastor Tracey walked slowly to the front of the room. All eyes were on him. Noise from the early morning traffic drifted through the open

windows behind him. After a split second of silent preparation, he raised his head, flipped on the projector to cast lyrics on the wall behind him, grabbed his guitar, threw his right hand toward the sky and began to belt out a tune like he was Charlie Daniels taking on old Beelzebub for that golden fiddle. His transformation was immediate — and infectious. Jumping from side to side, the worshippers clapped their hands to the beat, raised their arms to heaven and sang, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus."

When the music slowed, a striking-looking woman with long hair got up, went to the podium and addressed the audience. She updated everyone on missing members and asked the congregation to pray for those who were ill. Then she paused and gave us all a thought for the day. "Bible," she said, "means 'Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.'"

Boredom, according to Tracey, is something his followers will never have to worry about. If you didn't know him, you might think the reverend — dressed in a crisp white shirt, a tie and hip spectacles, with streaks of distinguished gray running through his hair — was just another middle-aged investment banker. But when he takes over the microphone, he moves with enough energy to power Atlantic City, and he's the closest human equivalent to Jerry Lee Lewis' great ball o' fire you'll see this side of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Originally a mild-mannered Methodist from Maryland, Tracey got his first taste of the fire-and-brimstone preaching favored by Pentecostals when he overheard someone speaking what he thought was a foreign language at a summer Bible camp. Tracey quizzed the young man, who explained it wasn't an earthly dialect, but a religious experience felt only when you'd been touched by the spirit of God. He agreed to help Tracey achieve that spirit-filled state. "He takes his hands and smacks 'em alongside of my head and begins to pray for me," Tracey said. "Well, the next thing I knew, I was speaking in another language."

Tracey already planned to become a Methodist minister, but he soon switched his allegiance to the Pentecostal faith. He and his wife, Debbie, spent two years at a church in Washington County before getting a call from on high, during a Memorial Day vacation, to move to Portland. "We're standing there overlooking the Casco Bay along the Eastern Promenade there," he says. "And I felt the Lord so strong calling me to this area. I didn't say anything to my wife, and she felt the same thing and she didn't say anything to me." Later, he said, "we discussed it and decided we would, y'know, pray about it and if it was God's will, he'd work everything out."

In 1993, the Traceys founded the Open Door Pentecostal Church in their tiny liv-

ing room in a rented house in Cape Elizabeth. Eventually, they needed to expand, so they rented a small space over The Movies at 10 Exchange Street. Tracey chuckles when he recounts experiences with his cinematic neighbor's sound system. "We'd be in the middle of service and there'd be a train crash and the speakers were right underneath us," he says. Whether it was luck or — as Tracey believes — part of God's divine plan, it wasn't long before the church was able to take over the entire second floor and worship in peace.

Running a church, especially a razor-edged conservative evangelical one, in the Old Port may sound a little nutty to those who live in the profane realm. But Tracey operates by a different set of rules. Though his lone church is surrounded by more than four dozen bars, he said no one

has given him or his flock any trouble — not rowdy frat boys who've pounded down a few too many on weekend nights, not the trendy hipsters who share cigarettes as they huddle on the granite steps out front, not moviegoers staring up at the messages scrolling by on the church's digital sign.

Attendance has fallen off at the Open Door lately, from a peak of 20 to about 10. But Tracey says congregations ebb and flow all the time and he's not discouraged. In his Sunday sermon, he said his goal is someday to have enough people to clean up this tawdry little town and save some souls for Christ. "I want this church to run in the thousands," he said. "We've been up, we've been down. We're about to go out and take the land for Jesus. The victory is ours ... as we attempt to take Portland for Christ." **CBW**

### PREVIEW



Ronnie Dawson

and Matt Robbins of King Memphis. Although Dawson had achieved some notice over the last decade for three cheesy-but-cool CDs he recorded on vintage equipment in England, he's been eager to return to a studio in his native land, where he first attracted attention back in the late '50s for classic songs like "Rockin' Bones" and "Action Packed." He's spent the week before his show laying down the tracks for a new album, using Maine musicians to back him up.

Dawson churns out a brand of rockabilly that sounds like he just invented the genre. (He often claims he did!) He mixes potent doses of blues, R&B, country and alt rock into a sound that's as true to its rockabilly roots as it is influenced by nearly a half-century's worth of trends in pop music. There's nothing subtle about Dawson's approach, which calls for extolling the standard rockabilly virtues of hard living ("No Dice"), hard partying ("Monkey Beat City"), hard women ("She's a Bad Un") and hard music ("Sucker for a Cheap Guitar").

He can be nostalgic — he once told a reporter the biggest mistake he'd ever made was "selling my first Fender guitar" — but he's no sentimental oldies act. His music has the same fresh, rootsy drive that's been pushing Steve Earle and Joe Ely to the attention of ever-larger audiences.

The new Maine-made album is due out in April or May 1999 on a yet-to-be-determined label (there have been inquiries from several independents and at least one major). But why wait?

■ AL DIAMON

Ronnie Dawson (with King Memphis) plays Oct. 9 at Asylum, 121 Center St., Portland at 7 p.m. **Tix: \$6. 772-8274.**

### A sucker for cheap guitars and Maine talent

When rockabilly legend Ronnie Dawson arrived in Maine on Oct. 2, he was here for more than a show at Asylum and some jamming with his pals in King Memphis (with whom he toured in 1997) and Sean Mencher's band. Dawson, who's been struttin' and stylin' around the edges of the independent music scene for more than four decades, had come to Portland to do his first recording in an American studio in 30 years.

During an earlier visit to Portland, Dawson was impressed with the sound at Track Farm Studio, a new facility owned by Pip Walters of the Piners

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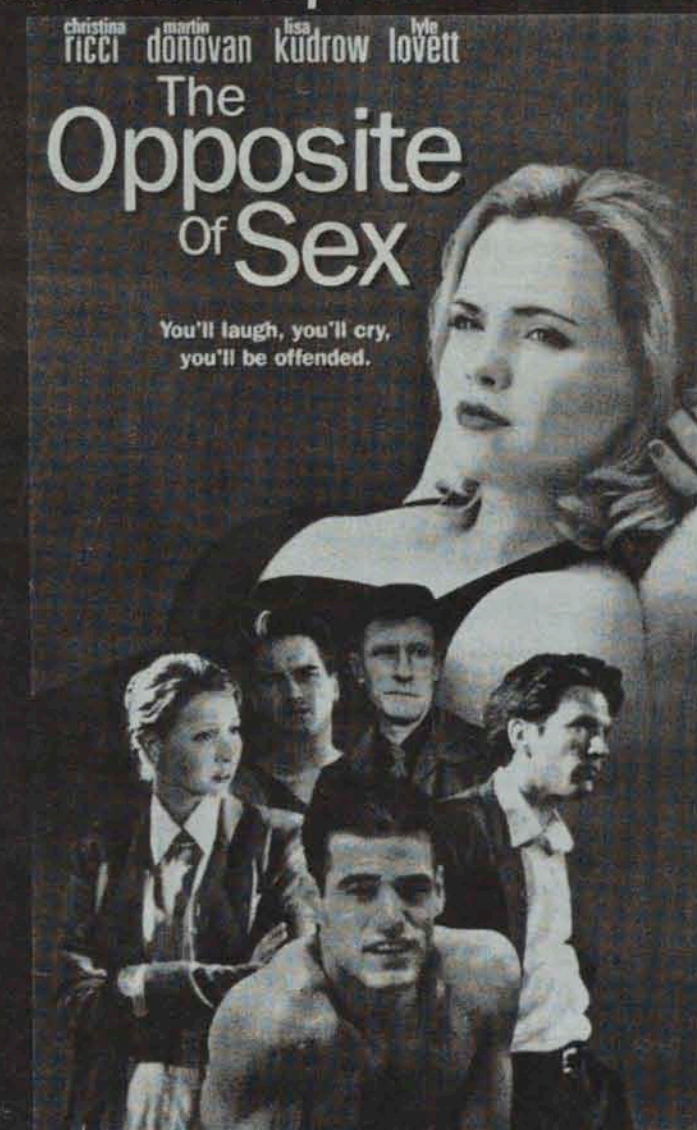
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Thursday: ACOUSTIC NIGHT
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Dexter Groves MUCIS CONSTRUCTION JOE NON-PROFIT ESCORT SERVICE FOXTROT ZULU

clubs Prime cut
When Dylan plugged his guitar in and started showing up with bands, he was met with boos, walk-outs, and calls of "Judas" (and Judas Priest hadn't even been formed yet!)



Thursday 8
Asylum
The Basement
The Big Easy
Club 100
The Comedy Connection
Gilligan's Tiki Bar
The Industry
Metropolis
Old Port Tavern
Pete and Lary's
Silver House Tavern
The Underground
Zooz
The Basement
Mucis
Friday 9
Asylum
The Basement
Zooz
The Underground
Saturday 10
The Basement
Zooz
The Underground

The listings above are for live entertainment and dancing. Bars and clubs may be open on additional nights.

the next BIG things
Leon Russell
Lenny Kravitz
Busta Rhymes
Greg Allman Band
The Neville Brothers
Rob Zombie with Fear Factory and Monster Magnet
Lorrie Morgan
Lyle Lovett
Cherry Poppin' Daddies
Family Values Tour with Korn, Ramstein, Limp Bizkit, Orgy and Furuside
Harry Belafonte
Ladysmith Black Mambazo
Penn and Teller

The Bitter End
Commercial Street Pub
Free Street Tavern
Gitty McDuff's
Old Port Tavern
Somewhere
Stone Coast Brewing Company
Wednesday 14
Asylum
The Basement
Noprofit Escort Service
The Comedy Connection
Old Port Tavern
Silver House Tavern
Stone Coast Brewing Company
The Underground
Zooz

club directory
Angle's 121 Commercial St, Portland, 773-8593
Asylum 121 Center St, Portland, 772-8274
The Basement 1 Exchange St, Portland, 828-1111
The Big Easy 55 Market St, Portland, 871-8817
The Bitter End 445 Fore St, Portland, 780-1506
Brian Bore 57 Center St, Portland, 780-1506
Club 100 1000 Gray, 758-2374
The Comedy Connection 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland, 774-5554
Commercial Street Pub Commercial St, Portland, 761-9670
The Fremata Club 365 Forest Ave, Portland, 772-6693
Free Street Tavern 128 Free St, Portland, 774-1114
Gene's 13 Brown St, Portland, 772-7891
Gilligan's Tiki Bar 38 Wharf St, Portland, 761-9363
Gitty McDuff's 396 Fore St, Portland, 772-2739
The Industry 50 Wharf St, Portland, 879-0865
Jones Landing Peaks Island, Portland, 766-5542
Metropolis 1037 Forest Ave, Portland, 797-3781
Old Port Tavern 11 Moulton St, Portland, 767-3611
O'Rourke's Landing 175 Pickett St, So. Portland, 767-3611
Pete and Lary's Doubletree Hotel, 1230 Congress St, Portland, 774-5611
The Pavilion 188 Middle St, Portland, 773-6422
The Seaman's Club 375 Fore St, Portland, 774-7777
Silver House Tavern 340 Fore St, Portland, 772-9885
Sisters 45 Danforth St, Portland, 774-1505
Somewhere 117 Spring St, Portland, 871-9169
Stone Coast Brewing Company 14 York St, Portland, 773-2337
Squire Morgans 46 Market St, Portland, 774-5246
The Underground 3 Spring St, Portland, 773-3315
Venilo's 155 Riverside St, Portland, 775-6536
Zooz 31 Forest Ave, Portland, 773-8187

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FRI. OCT. 9TH. 9PM. 21PLUS.

PATTY GRIFFIN
SAT. OCT. 10TH. 8PM. 21PLUS.

AMAZING ROYAL CROWNS
SUN. OCT. 11TH. 9PM. ALL AGES.

MIKE WATT W/SCRAWL
TUES. OCT. 13TH. 9PM. 21PLUS.

FIGHTING GRAVITY
WED. OCT. 14TH. 9PM. 21PLUS.

LEON RUSSELL
THU. OCT. 15TH. 8PM. 21PLUS.

DEEP BANANA BLACKOUT
FRI. OCT. 16TH. 9PM. 21PLUS.

EARLY SHOW - 7PM
NEILDS LATE SHOW - 10PM
STRING CHEESE INCIDENT
SAT. OCT. 17TH. ALL AGES.

UPCOMING
10/21 VINCE WELLNICK AND THE MISSING MAN FORMATION
10/28 DAVID LINDLEY
10/29 PERCY HILL (ALL AGES)
11/4 DUNCAN SHEIK
11/7 NRBQ
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# nocturnal EMISSIONS

■ ZOE S. MILLER

## Partying: an introduction

Arriving at an acquaintance's keg party recently, I was happy to see the requisite mammoth metal barrel on ice in a large plastic garbage pail, and the regulation piss-colored puddle covering the floor. As my fellow partyers and I set about to drink, I harbored hopes of reconnecting with the spirit of parties past. But the hordes of drunken college students in my mind's eye never materialized. The night's high point had to be one girl's rant on how much she'd drunk that night: almost a fifth of tequila, several rum and Cokes and now a few beers ("because I've got to pace myself").

As keg parties go, this one was not a huge success. But it wasn't totally lamentable either. It made clear to me that I have reached the end of the days when alcohol equaled a party.

A good party is a work of art. It's not something you can just throw together without legwork or vision. It starts with opening your home to the possible destruction caused by smoking, drinking, hard drugs and sex. You can erect rules — no smoking in the house, no barricading yourself in the bathroom — but for your party to be a true success, it's got to be open to the whims of its attendees. So maybe every knickknack marginally resembling an ashtray turns into one. That's just the price you pay for a really good time.

The real work of a great party occurs weeks before you roll up the carpets and set out cheese curls. There's no need to hire a DJ or buy a party dress — you've just got to promote. The best parties I've been to were preceded by wacky handmade invites the hosts distributed indiscriminately to strangers and friends. You could say this is inviting trouble, but in my mind, an empty party is far worse than a surplus of rowdy guests. Besides, it's pretty unlikely 100 people will show up at your house all at once. Going big guarantees you'll have early, mid- and late-night revelers, extending the life of your party.

Then there's the way you invite people. Every good party involves a certain degree of wooing. You're not handing people a press release — you're selling a product. Tell folks how great the last one was, how bummed they'll be if they miss another one. Play Cupid and invite your best friend's crush. Above all, encourage people to bring their friends. Most everybody likes a party, but few like to show up alone.

From the minute that first guest arrives, you need to be making every soul who steps through the door feel at home. Good hosts work the party, introducing strangers, striking up conversations. If I don't sow the seeds for at least one new relationship by the end of the night, I'm not satisfied.

Almost as important is setting the tone. About two parties ago, I learned that if I don't take steps to create a mood, the event can and will take on a life of its own. If you don't want to end up crying to the police at 2 a.m., then you'd best take control. I regulated music, making sure I didn't leave any potentially objectionable stuff where it might find its way into the CD player. The kitchen got mellow discs like soul and jazz; the living room, more upbeat selections like swing, funk and hip-hop. I scattered candles throughout the apartment, flicked off the lights and miraculously, the volume stayed mid-range the whole night through.

Snacking at parties is greatly debated. Some say offering beverages is key. Others insist providing a place to hang is enough. I like to leave alcohol purchasing to my guests, but I get a big kick out of engineering the food. My last party had a lowbrow lay-out of Hostess cupcakes, nutty bars and animal crackers. When the soiree kicked into high gear, I broke out Geno's pizza rolls and mozzarella sticks. A party I attended last weekend offered Asian snack foods — including doctored fortune cookies with messages like "You like things that screech" and "The Easter Bunny will come early this year." As Martha Stewart might say, "Snacking. It's a good thing."

At the end of the night, when your home is trashed and there's some drunk stranger passed out on your couch, your reward will be knowing that you threw a kick-ass party.

Zoe S. Miller is in the early planning stages of her next house party. She hasn't selected the snack foods yet.



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**thursday 8**  
 "ANGELS IN AMERICA, PART TWO: PERESTROIKA"

Even now, theologians can't agree if Charlie's Angels were truly beatific - or just downright foxy. The Mad Horse Theatre presents some of their own winged creatures in "Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika." Declared a prophet by the Angel of America, Prior Walter travels to heaven to determine his destiny, a journey that reveals the complexities of love, sexuality, death, religion, race and politics. At the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$10. Continues through Nov. 8. Thurs.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m., Sun. at 5 p.m. Tix: \$18/\$20 Sat. nights (\$16 students and seniors/\$18 Sat. nights). Oct. 11 and 18 are pay-what-you-can. Oct. 15 and 22 are 2-for-1. (professional non-Equity theater company) 775-5103.



Hi-wattage punk: Mike Watt and the Black Gang perform at the Stone Coast Brewing Company, Oct. 13.

**friday 9**  
 ONDEKOZA, DEMON DRUMMERS OF JAPAN

Demons, theologians claim, take particular delight in keeping up the neighbors by banging incessantly on drums. Now PCA Great Performances hosts Ondekoza, Demon Drummers of Japan, in a concert of traditional Japanese folk music and drum routines. The performers, whose daily routine includes both mental and physical activities (they ran the entire 9,500-mile perimeter of the United States over three years in the early '90s), show off their musical skills with bamboo flutes, stringed instruments and drums ranging in size from 20 to 700 pounds. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$12-\$28. 842-0800.

**"A MIGHTY FORTRESS"**

Theologians are almost unanimously of the opinion that church is really damn dull. Hank BeeBe's latest creative effort, "A Mighty Fortress," exposes the foibles of modern-day churchgoers. Performed by the Arts Conservatory Theater and Studio, the musical comedy centers on Martin and Frieda, a young couple who seek spiritual renewal - only to discover that even church pews contain their share of hypocrites. At ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave., Portland, at 8 p.m. Continues through Oct. 18. Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students and seniors). (non-profit repertory theater group) 761-2465.

**sunday 11**  
 "FIDDLER ON THE ROOF"

The arguments of most moralists can be boiled down to the exclamation, "Tradition!" PCA Great Performances presents the touring Broadway production of "Fiddler on the Roof," a story of morals, tradition and almost everything else turned upside down. The musical stars actor John Preece as Tevye, a poor Russian struggling to raise three defiant daughters in a rapidly changing world. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tix: \$29-\$47. 842-0800.

**tuesday 13**  
 MIKE WATT & THE BLACK GANG

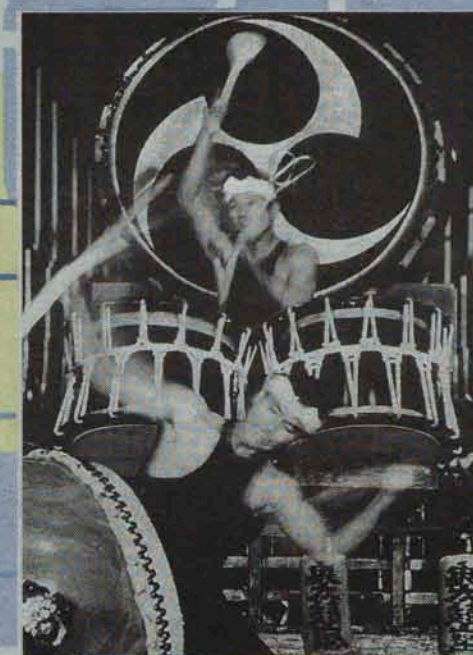
If you're stuck without a religion of your own, you can join other disciples in worshipping punk god Mike Watt. On his latest CD, "Contemplating the Engine Room," Watt - who refers to the album as his "punk-rock opera" - meditates on the meaning of work, friendship and the quest for adventure. At the Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St., Portland, at 9 p.m. Tix: \$15. 21+.



On a wing and a prayer: Mad Horse Theatre presents "Angels in America, Part II: Perestroika," beginning Oct. 8.

**"CABEROUT FLAIR!"**

A survey among religious experts and other grave people reveals that most of them would prefer to be dancing. It just so happens that fancy footwork is one element of "Caberout Flair!," presented by Southern Maine Pride '98. A number of area performers come together for an evening of entertainment, including "Flash" Allen, Tina Allen, Brad Morse, Mary MacLeod and special guest, Suede. At the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$17-\$20. 774-7800.



Bang-up job: Ondekoza, Demon Drummers of Japan, perform at Merrill Auditorium, Oct. 9.

**calendar**

**soundbites**

- **The Screaming Cheetah Wheelies** spin out on rock Oct. 8 at the Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St., Portland, at 9 p.m. Tix: \$7. 21+. 773-2337.
- Pop open a bottle of swing punk from the **Amazing Royal Crowns** Oct. 11 at the Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St., Portland, at 9 p.m. Tix: \$8 (\$10 under 21). 773-2337.
- The Oak Street Theatre kicks off its "World of Music" concert series with a performance by **Al Gardner's Middle East Ensemble**. At the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$6. For reservations, call 775-5103.

**quick picks**

- OCT 9** Oil and mixed-media works on paper by Peggy Hinaekian are on view at the opening reception for **"Lyrical Abstractions."** At the Fore Street Gallery, 366 Fore St., Portland, from 5-7 p.m. 874-8084.
- OCT 10** The Portland Arts and Cultural Alliance presents **"Fall for Art,"** a self-guided tour through Portland's art galleries, artists' studios and other venues in downtown Portland and the Old Port, from noon-6 p.m. Free. 772-0150.
- OCT 13** Join as many as 3,000 others at the **Maine Civil Rights March and Rally** at the Maine Center for the Arts on the campus of the University of Maine in Orono, at 9 a.m. 941-8454.

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**Performance**



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Between 1990 and 1992, David Grisman and members of **The David Grisman Quintet** swung through a number of jazz numbers with the late great Jerry Garcia. "So what?" you say. Exactly. The recently released recordings on "So What" include three takes of that Miles Davis composition, two of his "Milestones," two takes of Milt Jackson's "Bag's Groove," and a Grisman composition, "16/16," for good measure. Get jazzed, bluegrassed, klezmered and who knows what else Oct 11, at the State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland, at 7 pm. Tix: \$25. 729-6514.

**dance**

**Italian Music and Dance**  
Portland Performing Arts presents a celebration of Italian folk music and dance. Oct 9: Dancer and folklorist Luisa Marino and classical guitarist John LaBarbera perform "Festa Italiana" at St. Peter's Church, 72 Federal St, Portland, at 6 pm. Tix: \$12 including dinner (\$6 kids 12 and under). Oct 10: A performance by John LaBarbera and his traditional music and the alter company I'Giuliani Di Piazza. At the State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$15. 761-0591.

**music**

**David Berkman and Brad Terry**  
Oct 10: The pianist and clarinetist pool their powers for a concert of modern jazz. At Starbird Music Mall, 525 Forest Ave, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$7 students). 828-1310.  
**DaPonte String Quartet**  
Oct 10: The quartet kicks off their 1998-99 season with works by Mozart, Schubert, Dvorak, and Spanish composer Joaquin Turina. At Ludcke Auditorium, 715 Stevens Ave, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$15 (\$7 for seniors and students). 529-4555.  
**At Gardner's Middle East Ensemble**  
Oct 14: Music in the Armenian/Turkish tradition performed by a trio consisting of Gardner on the oud, Bau Graves on guitar, and David Hill on percussion. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$6. 775-5103.  
**Die de La Raza**  
Oct 10: The Latin Council of Maine celebrates Latino/Caribbean cultures with food and music. At the Reichle School, 166 Brackett St, Portland, from 2:30-9 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$5 door/\$8 teens/free for kids under 6). 797-3956.  
**Great ADR Peace Concert**  
Oct 10: Peace Action Maine cele-

brates the final day of Alternative Dispute Resolution Week with performances by Abbe Anderson, Rev. Margaret R.E. Lawson and several gospel choirs. At the Chestnut Street Church, 17 Chestnut St, Portland, at 8 pm. Suggested donation: \$6. 772-0680.  
**Harp and Organ Concert**  
Oct 9: USM's Department of Music presents a concert featuring Jara Goodrich on harp and Roy Cornis on an 18-rank concert pipe. At Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham campus, at 8 pm. Tix: \$9 (\$7 seniors/\$5 students). 769-4555.  
**Onokazu, Demon Drummers of Japan**  
Oct 9: A performance of Japanese folk music and traditional drum routines played on bamboo flutes, stringed instruments and drums — ranging in size from 70 to 200 lbs. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$12-\$28. 842-0900.  
**Open Arms**  
Oct 10: The contemporary Christian group performs traditional and original works. At the new Holy Spirit Church, 1047 Congress St, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Donations accepted. 775-1981.  
**Noonday Concerts**  
The Portland Conservatory of Music presents lunchtime entertainment. Oct 6: The brass trio of John Boden, John Schrell and Mark Manduca. Oct 15: The DaPonte String Quartet. Oct 22: Organist Halvid Stover. Oct 29: Jazz pianist Mark Thomas. At the First Parish Church, 425 Congress St, Portland, at 12:15 pm. Free. 775-3356.  
**Portland Symphony Orchestra's "Kinderkonzert"**  
Oct 9: A string quartet from the PSO performs "All Together Now" for kids ages 3-7. At Catherine McAuley High School, 631 Stevens Ave, Portland, at 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 12:45 pm. Tix: \$2.50. For reservations, call 829-5751.

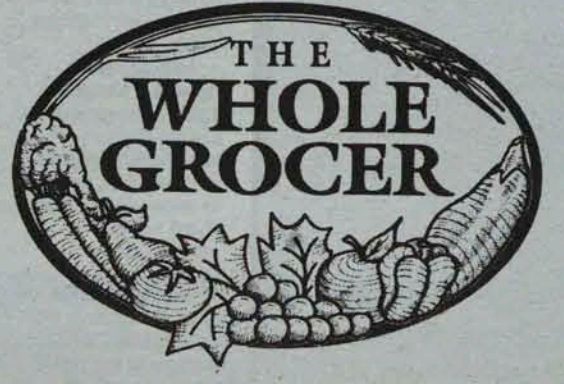
**theater**

**"Angels in America Part Two: Perestroika"**  
Oct 8/Nov 8. Presented by Mad Horse Theatre Company. Tony Kushner's play centers on a man named Prior Walter. Declared a prophet, Walter travels to heaven to determine his destiny. At the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland. Thurs-Sat at 7:30 pm, Sun at 5 pm. Tix: \$18/\$20 Sat nights (\$16 students and seniors, \$18 Sat nights). Oct 8: \$10, Oct 11 and 18 are pay-what-you-can. Oct 15 and 22 are 2-for-1. (professional non-Equity theater company) 775-5103.  
**"Biloxi Blues"**  
Oct 9-18. The Public Theatre stages funny man Neil Simon's comedy about basic training in Biloxi, Mississippi. At the Public Theatre, 31 Maple St, Lewiston. Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$12.50/\$15 Sat nights (\$10 seniors and students/\$12.50 Sat nights). (professional Equity theater company) 782-3200.  
**Blink**  
Oct 10: Traveling artists Fritz Grobe and Morton Hanson mix elaborate juggling, choreography and humorous interaction. At the Theater at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, at 2 pm and 8 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$7 kids 12 and under/\$10, \$5 advance). 933-9999.  
**"Cabaret FLAIRT"**  
Oct 9: Southern Maine Pride '98 presents a cabaret with special guest Suede and a stellar lineup of theatrical performers for an evening of stylish music in a casual cabaret setting. Sneak peek at Flaming Productions' "Jeffery." At Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$17-\$20. 878-9277.  
**"Fiddler on the Roof"**  
Oct 11: You don't need to be a rich man to enjoy this musical tale of Teyye, a poor Russian struggling to raise his three defiant daughters in a rapidly changing world. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St, Portland, at 3 pm and 8 pm. Tix: \$29-\$47. 842-0800.

**"The Importance of Being Earnest"**  
Through Oct 18. The Portland Stage Company takes on Oscar Wilde's Victorian about sisters Gwendolyn and Cecily — two girls determined to marry only men named Earnest. At Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave. Wed-Fri at 7:30 pm, Sat at 4 pm and 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$18-\$28. (professional Equity theater company) 774-0405.  
**"A Mighty Fortress"**  
Oct 9-18. Arts Conservatory Theater and Studio stages Hank Beebe's musical about the foibles of present-day churchgoers. At ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave, Portland. Fri and Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students and seniors). (non-profit repertory theater group) 761-2465.  
**"A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue"**  
Through Oct 11. The USM Theatre Department stages a tale of frustration and powerlessness. At a seaside dock just outside a disco, three guys and a girl learn a hard lesson about loyalties, infidelities and love. At Russell Hall, USM Gorham campus. Oct 9/10 at 7:30 pm, Oct 11 at 5 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). 780-5151.  
**"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown"**  
Oct 10-25. The Windham Center Stage Theater brings Charles Schulz's comic strip to life. At the Windham Community Center, 8 School Rd. Sat at 7 pm, Sun at 3 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$6 students and seniors/\$1 preschoolers). Community theater company) 893-1912.  
**Zero Doodad Productions**  
Oct 17: An evening of theater, film, music and freakish fun featuring ZDP's "Robot Freakshow," tours of the ZDP prop museum and art gallery, four big screen films including "TV Nation," "Shadow of Her Soul," "... and on the 7th Day God Created Man," and the world premiere of HP Lovett's "The Evil Clergman," and a performance by Strange Walls. At The Fine Arts Theater, 627 1/2 Congress St, Portland. Tix: \$6. 772-1662.

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# Visual Arts

## Openings

**Bayview Gallery** 75 Market St. Portland. Opening reception for "Perspectives: John Holub Returns to Portland," oil and watercolors, Oct 8 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Oct 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 9:30 am-5:30 pm, 773-3007.

**Bowdoin College Museum of Art** 9400 College Station, Brunswick. "Instant of Revelation," exploring the relationship between the works of writer Octavio Paz and photographer Manuel Alvarez Bravo, shows Oct 13-Dec 6. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. Free. 725-3275.

**The Chocolate Church Arts Center** 804 Washington St. Bath. Opening reception for "Subtleties and Intensities," a group show featuring the sculpture of Kim Bernard, and landscape paintings by Jan ter Wee and James Wolford, Oct 16 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Nov 21. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-4 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 442-8455.

**Exchange Street Gallery** 7 Exchange St. Portland. Opening reception for Portland artist R.N. Cohen's paintings of Italy, Oct 16 at 5:30 pm. Shows through Nov 16. Hours: Mon-Thurs 10 am-6 pm, Fri and Sat 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 772-9532.

**Jane Fitzpatrick Gallery Alternative Space** 654 Congress St. Portland. Opening reception for drawings by Diane Salinas, Oct 16 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Nov 13. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-5 pm. 772-1961.

**Jane Fitzpatrick Gallery** 112 High St. Portland. Opening reception for "Puzzles and Curious Problems," silk screen prints by Peter Suchecki and Laurie Twitchell, and found material collages by Robert McKibben, Oct 23 from 5-7 pm. Shows Oct 20-Nov 13. Hours: Tues-Sat 12-5 pm. 772-1961.

**The Fine Street Gallery** 366 Fore St. Portland. Opening reception for "Lyrical Abstractions," oil and mixed-media works on paper by Swiss-American artist Peggy Hinekanian, Oct 9 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Oct 30. Group show of photographs by Nancy and Matthew Sleeth and paintings by Tom Maciej, Nancy Swasey, Alfonso Gobeas, K. Dana Nelson, Marcia Baker, Richard Rollow, Tom Ellington, John Backford and Marilyn Dweilley is ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 874-8084.

**Greenhut Galleries** 146 Middle St. Portland. Opening reception for "Healing Intersections," a creative healing project by six local women who have survived breast cancer, Oct 8 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Oct 31. Recent paintings by Alec Richardson, show through Oct 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2663.

**Hole in the Wall Studios** 1544 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond. Opening reception for "Non-Traditional Photography," work by David Draper, Joe Della Valle, and Donna Lee Rollins, Oct 16 from 5-9 pm. Shows through Nov 24. Oil paintings by Martha Truscott show through Oct 13. Hours: Daily (except Tues) 9:30 am-5:30 pm. 655-4952.

**Kir Pike Studio** 62 Grand St. South Portland. Open house featuring prints, paintings, drawings and cards, Oct 9 from 6:30-8:30 pm and Oct 10 from 10 am-2 pm. 799-0648.

**Pleasant Street Collective** 52 Pleasant St. Portland. Opening reception for "All Saints' Day Show," 3D collage and paintings by Holly Priest and Rebecca Kendall, Oct 9 from 5-8 pm. Shows now through Oct 31. Hours: Wed-Fri 4-7 pm, Sat noon-5 pm. 761-7909.

**Portland Museum of Art** 7 Congress Sq. Portland. "After the Photo-Secession: American Pictorial Photography, 1910-1955," featuring more than 50 artists, shows Oct 10-Dec 6. The prints of Will Barnet, from 1930-present, show Oct 17-Jan 24. Hours: Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm, Thurs and Fri 10 am-9 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$5 students and seniors/\$1 youth). Admission is free Fri from 5-9 pm. 775-6148 or 800-639-4067.

**Portland Public Library** 5 Monument Sq. Portland. Opening reception for drawings and a manuscript of art and poetry by Gina Starr, Oct 10 from 1-3 pm. Shows through Oct 31. Hours: Mon, Wed and Fri, 9 am-6 pm. Tues and Thurs, 12-9 pm. Sat, 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

## galleries

**Aplana Library UNE's Westbrook College Campus**, Portland. "Shaker Life: Contemporary and Historical Photographs from Jere DeWaters" and the "Sabbathday Lake Collection" show through Oct 16. "Simple Gifts and Inner Light: The Shakers," "To the Rhythm of a Different Drum" and "Inner Reflections" show through Jan 15. Hours: Mon-Thurs 8 am-10 pm, Fri 8 am-5 pm, Sat 11 am-7 pm, Sun 1-10 pm. 787-7261.

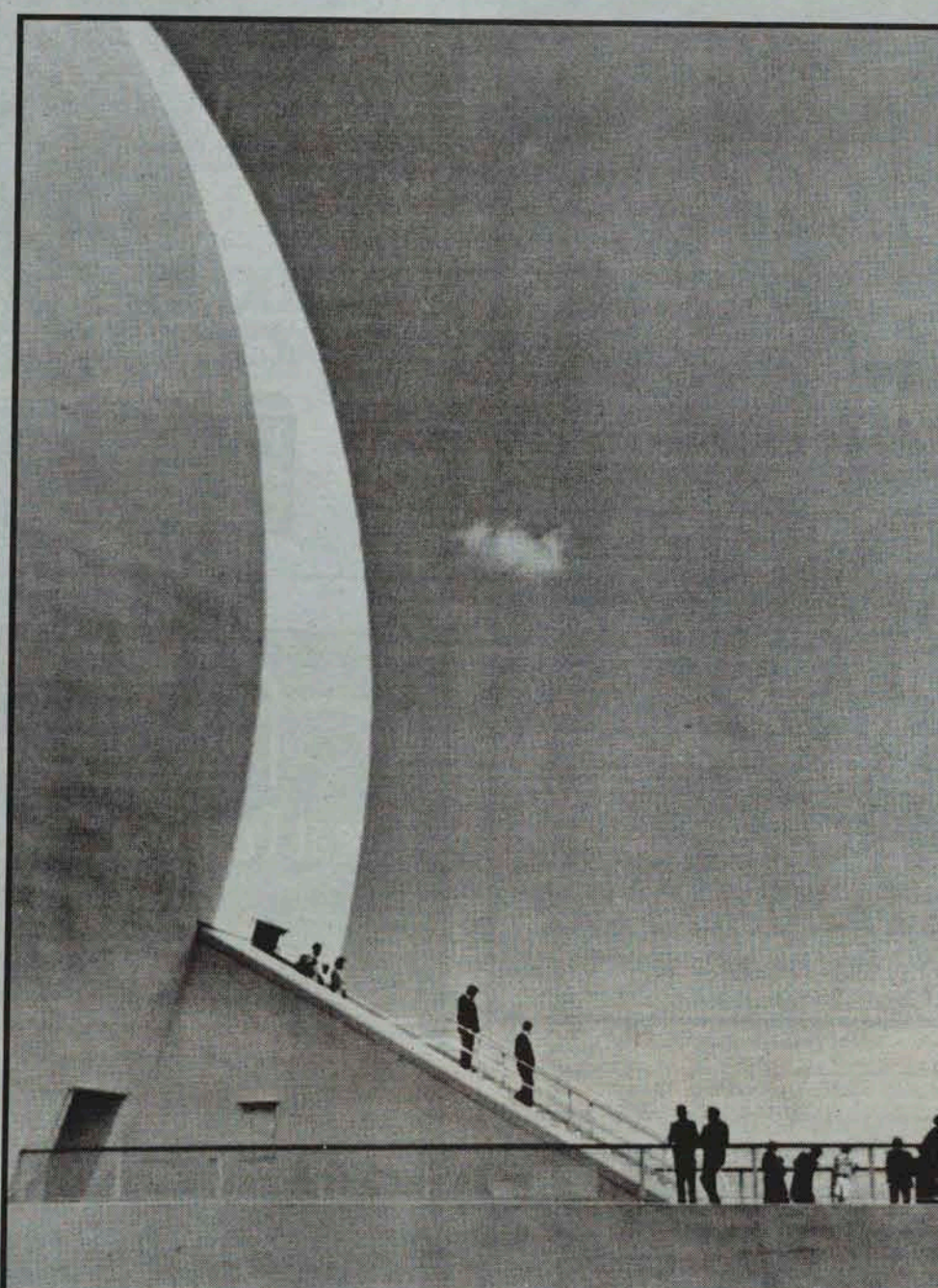
**ArtWorks MECA Building**, 97 Spring St. Portland. Maine College of Art's sales gallery featuring jewelry, photography, sculpture, handmade books and pottery created by MECA alumni and students, as well as members of the Maine Crafts Association. Ongoing. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5:30 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm. 775-5098.

**The Chocolate Church Arts Center** 804 Washington St. Bath. "A Breath of Fresh Air," featuring sculpture, photography and monotypes, shows through Oct 10. The 1998 Junied Summer Exhibition is ongoing. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-4 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 442-8455.

**Christine's Gallery** 438 Route 1, Yarmouth. Recent works by Chris Nelson, oil on canvas, show through October 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 846-6128.

**Danforth Gallery** 34 Danforth St. Portland. "The Four Seasons of the Master Myth," a multimedia installation by Roland Salazar Rose, shows through Oct 28. Hours: Wed-Sun noon-4 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm and by appointment. 775-6245.

**Davidson & Daughters Contemporary Art** 148 High St. Portland. Monotypes by Susan Amos and Karen Becker, photographs by Jerry Robinson and sculpture by Scott Stoll, show through Oct 17. Hours: Tues-Sat, 11 am-5 pm. 780-0766.



Arthur Hammond's "Semi-Lunar" is featured in "After the Photo-Secession: American Pictorial Photography, 1910-1955," opening Oct. 10 at the Portland Museum of Art.

**Jason Gallery & Frame** 305 Commercial St. Portland. Platinum palladium prints by Joseph Kievit, show through Oct 29. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 772-5522.

**Foghorn Gallery** 4 Clinton St. Portland. International folk art, Oaxacay wood carvings, black pottery and crafts of indigenous peoples. Ongoing. Hours: by appointment. 781-2563.

**The Frost Gully Gallery** 411 Congress St. Portland. Paintings by Alfred Chadbourne, Laurence Sisson, William Thorn, Dahlov Icar and Thomas Crotty. Ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm and by appointment. 773-2555.

**Gallery 7** 49 Exchange St. Portland. "New Faces," works including baskets, clay, furniture, glass, mixed media, fiber and sculptured metal and jewelry by 10 Maine artists. Ongoing. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs-Sat 10 am-8 pm and Sun noon-6 pm. 761-7007.

**Institute of Contemporary Art** MECA Building, 522 Congress St. Portland. "Altered Flats: Bill Thompson," 10 monochromatic paintings; "Fuzzy: Michelle Grabner," decorative patterns; and "Cultural Escape: Charles Garabedian," seven panels focusing on the

human condition, show through Nov 6. Hours: Tues-Sun 11 am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-9 pm. 879-5742.

**Maine History Gallery** 489 Congress St. Portland. "Rum, Riot and Reform," a provocative look at drinking in Maine and America from the colonial era to the present day. Shows through Oct 31. Hours: Sun-Sat 10 am-4 pm. 879-9427.

**Maine Photo Co-Op Gallery** 100 Oak St. Portland. "In Solitude: Photographs of Southeast Asia," black-and-white documentary photographs by Joel Rubin, shows through Oct 16. Hours: Tues-Fri noon-9 pm, Sat 10 am-6 pm. 774-1900.

**Montgomery Memorial Gallery** at MECA 522 Congress St. Portland. Works by Claude Montgomery. Ongoing. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm. Free. 775-5098.

**O'Farrell Gallery** 58 Maine St. Brunswick. Oil paintings by Sheila Geoffron, show through Oct 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 729-8228.

**The Stain Gallery** 195 Middle St. Portland. "crystal constructions/form, color, sparkle," the crystal and dichroic glass constructions of six glass artists, shows through Oct 20. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-6 pm. 772-9072.

**Hugh Verrier Studio** 13-15 Boynton St. Portland. Sculpture and paintings by Hugh Verrier. Ongoing. Hours: Call ahead. 773-9814.

**UNE Art Gallery** University of New England's Westbrook College campus. "Images of Nature," color photography by Bill Curtisinger, Charles Fell and Wilfred Richard, shows through Oct 24. Hours: Tues 10 am-1 pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 797-7261.

**USM Art Gallery** Gorham campus. "Yvonne Jacqueline: Maine Aerials," pastel sketches that juxtapose multiple views from an airplane, shows through Nov 14. Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-4 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 780-5009.

**USM Theatre Department** Russell Hall lobby, Gorham campus. Photographs by BFA students J. Yankura and Michelle Dauphinais, an exhibition complementing the theater department's production of "A Taste of Killing on the Tip of the Tongue," shows through Oct 11. Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm and during performances. 780-5009.

**museums**  
**Bates College Museum of Art** Bates College campus, Lewiston. "Notations of Color: Oil Sketching in Maine," oil sketches by more than 40

American landscape artists of the 19th and 20th centuries, shows through Oct 30. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 786-6158.

**Bowdoin College Museum of Art** 9400 College Station, Brunswick. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. Free. 725-3275.

**"Actors, Landscapes and Courtesans: Japanese Woodblock Prints"** shows through Oct 11.

**"Art and Life in the Ancient Mediterranean"** Work spanning the 4th century A.D. Ongoing.

**"Asian Art"** A selection of decorative art objects from the permanent collection. Ongoing.

**"Memorable Histories and Historic Memories,"** works by various artists, shows through Dec 6.

**"Monsters, Gods and Mortals: Artists Interpret the Odyssey Across 25 Centuries"** shows through Oct 18.

**"Portraits"** American portraiture, dating from the 18th century to turn of the century. Ongoing.

**Children's Museum of Maine** 142 Free St. Portland. "Dinosaurs," an exhibition on the fall of the age of the dinosaur, shows through Jan 2. Hours: Wed-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs 11 am-5 pm, Fri 6-8

pm, Sun noon-5 pm. Admission: \$5. First Fri of the month is free. 828-1234.

**The Museum of African Tribal Art** 122 Spring St. Portland. A collection of African tribal masks and artifacts representing over 1,000 years of Central African history. Ongoing. Hours: Sun noon-6 pm, Mon by appointment only, Tues-Sat 11 am-7 pm. 871-7188.

**Portland Museum of Art** 7 Congress Sq. Portland. Hours: Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm, Thurs and Fri 10 am-9 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$5 students and seniors/\$1 youth). Admission is free Fri from 5-9 pm. 775-6148 or 1-800-639-4067.

**"Art in Ogunquit: Openings in Art: 1988-1998,"** paintings, sculpture and graphics by members of the Woodbury and Field circles, as well as paintings by artists who visited, worked in or explored Ogunquit. Ongoing.

**"Impressions of the Rivers,"** a collection of 60 works by Monet, Renoir, Matisse and their contemporaries, shows through Oct 18.

**"A Matter of Perception: Second Annual Juried Exhibition by Artists With Disabilities,"** a joint presentation by Very Special Arts Maine and Port Resources, shows through Oct 12.

**Shaker Museum** Route 26, New Gloucester. "The Whole Sacredly Kept: A Decade of the Shaker Library in Its New Home," shows through Oct 12. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-4:30 pm. 926-4597.

**The Spring Point Museum** at Southern Maine Technical College, Fort Road, So. Portland. "Portland Harbor Changed Forever: The Legacy of World War II," documenting the impact of the war on local communities, shows through Dec. 31. "Spring Point Lodge Light House," a permanent exhibition of photographs and artifacts documenting 100 years in the light's history. "Portland Harbor, 1865-1900: Making a Living in Stormy Times," a permanent exhibition on the clipper ship show. Hours: Fri-Sun 1-4 pm. October: Sat and Sun from 1-4 pm. Cost: \$2 (kids and members free). 799-6337.

**Umbrella Cover Museum** 105 Brackett Ave. Peaks Island. A humorous display of umbrella sheaths is ongoing. Hours: by appointment. 766-4496.

**Christine's Dream** 419 Congress St. Portland. Selected works by Zoe Cain show through Oct 31. Hours: Wed Mon 7 am-2 pm. 874-2499.

**Coffee by Design** 67 India St. Portland. "Rituals II," wood and metal work. Louise Plubrick, shows through Nov 1. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-6 pm, Sat 8 am-6 pm. 879-2233.

**Green Design Furniture** 267 Commercial St. Portland. The landscape and floral paintings of Lois Strickland. Ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 775-4234.

**Natalia's 40** Portland St. Portland. Work by Jody Dube. Shows through Oct. Hours: Tues-Thurs 7 am-9 pm, Fri 7 am-10 pm, Sat 8 am-10 pm, Sun 8 am-2:30 pm.

**Online Art Exhibition Company** Works by local emerging artists can be viewed at //home.maine.rr.com/oaec.

**Portland Coffee Roasting Company** 111 Commercial St. Portland. Works by B.J. Danforth. Ongoing. Hours: 6:30 am-5:30 pm daily. 772-9044.

**Portland Parks and Recreation** 17 Arbor St. Portland. "Unique Visions," the work of 10 artists of various media, shows through Oct 30. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-4 pm. 874-8793.

**USM Osher Map Library** 314 Forest Ave. Portland. Maps of Spain from the Engass collection show through Feb 13. Hours: Tues 12:30-4:30 pm, Wed and Thurs 12:30-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Sat 9 am-1 pm. 780-4850.

**calls for artists**  
**Front Room Gallery** seeks slides/photos of work for upcoming exhibitions. Send to Front Room Gallery, 378 Cottage Rd. So. Portland, ME 04106. 761-9070.

**The Frost Gully Gallery** seeks to represent two or three sculptors with strong ties to Maine. Send slides and/or photographs, along with a personal biography and resume, to: Adelle Gabrielson, Associate Director, 411 Congress St. Portland, ME 04101. 773-2555.

**Life Drawing Group** seeks members interested in working in Santa Fe style. Call Ginny or Daisy in Freeport at 865-6415.

**Online Art Exhibition Company** invites artists to exhibit their work over the internet at //home.maine.rr.com/oaec. For an application or additional info, call 761-0017 or e-mail to brabb01@maine.rr.com.

**Portland Parks and Recreation** seeks artists to submit work for exhibitions rotating every two months. A portfolio must be submitted for consideration. Call Brenda at 874-8793.

**Portland Public Library** 5 Monument Sq. Portland, invites artists to submit work for a one-month exhibition in the Lewis Gallery, 871-1758.

**Scarborough Band Boosters** seeks craft makers for a craft fair on Nov 14. Call Polly at 883-9022.

**Southern Maine Wellness Center** invites artists to exhibit framed works in their therapy center. Call Merrill at 767-1385.

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

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## Wilde ambitions

### Portland Stage Company discovers "The Importance of Being Earnest"

■ JASON WILKINS

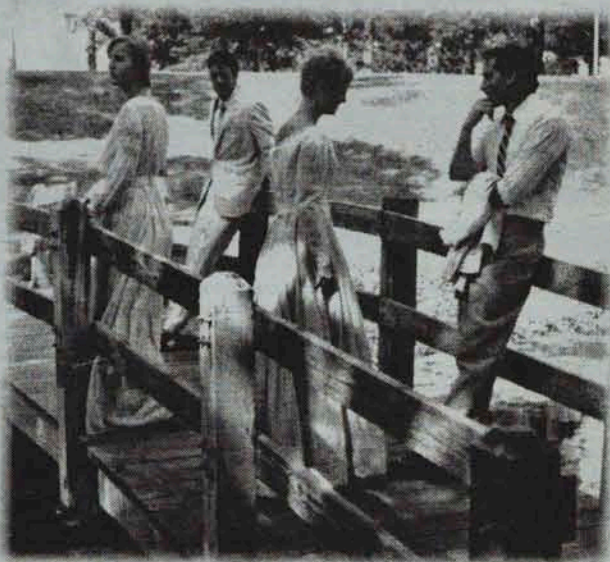
Long before Oscar Wilde became the patron saint of unashamedly flamboyant gay men everywhere, he was known as a poet and playwright who championed art for art's sake. His best argument for that cause remains "The Importance of Being Earnest" — a play as light and intricate as a French pastry, with Wilde's wit as the leavening — now being served up as the 25th-season opener at Portland Stage Company.

Our story begins with two London bachelors, Algernon (Stephen Kunken) and Jack (Darrell James). Algernon is the kind of lazy aesthete who loves to pass the time eating cucumber sandwiches on the sofa and making witty remarks, but Jack is a more upstanding and upright sort. Still, the two friends have something in common: nonexistent intimates.

Whenever Algernon wishes to escape a dull social occasion with his blustery Aunt Augusta (Lola Pashalinski), he claims that a fictional invalid named Bunbury requires his presence in the country. Meanwhile, Jack has invented a ne'er-do-well younger brother named Earnest, whose misadventures give him an excuse to leave his country home and visit London. "My name is Earnest in town, and Jack in the country," he explains.

In his urban guise as Earnest, Jack falls in love with Algernon's cousin Gwendolyn (Christina Rouner) and decides to propose to her. Gwendolyn eagerly accepts the offer, and then rhapsodizes that she could never love a man who was not named Earnest. Jack nervously asks, "But supposing [my name] was something else?" Gwendolyn replies, "Ah! That is clearly a metaphysical speculation, and like most metaphysical speculations has very little reference at all to the actual facts of real life as we know them."

While Jack makes rapid plans to be rechristened, Algernon is up to no good. Curious about Jack's pretty young ward, Cecily (Lauren Bone), he appears at his friend's country house in the guise of Earnest, the ne'er-do-well. Within minutes, Algernon and the girl discover a shared sense of aesthetics and pledge eternal love — then Cecily declares that



Bridge of bon mots: Oscar Wilde's heroes are pretty on the outside

SHE could never love a man not blessed with the name of Earnest. At which point Jack appears, and things become even more muddled.

Clever as the plot may be, it functions mostly as a glittery serving tray for conversational bon mots. The aphorisms fly fast and furious, many from the mouth of Algernon, who clearly represents the playwright. He tells Jack, "All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. No man does. That's his."

## stage

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST" PLAYS THROUGH OCT 18 AT PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY, 25A FOREST AVE., PORTLAND, TIX: \$18-\$28. 774-0465

The danger in staging such a familiar classic is that it can degenerate into a flat exchange of well-known lines. That's exactly what happens in the first few minutes of this performance, when Kunken and James camp it up a little too much. Luckily, the ladies soon arrive to enliven everything. Rouner doesn't even need dialogue to be funny. When she tells Jack that the name Earnest produces "vibrations," she shakes with a delightful little shiver that would no doubt have scandalized the Victorians.

Bone is almost equally diverting. It's a delight to watch Cecily explain to Algernon that they fell in love long before they met, through letters. When he protests that he never sent her any letters, she chides, "You need hardly remind me of that, Earnest. I remember only too well that I was forced to write your letters for you."

Of course this is all just nonsense, but it is nonsense prettily presented, with yet another gorgeous set design from artistic director Anita Stewart who somehow found time to design the equally impressive costumes. Who cares if this little world of Oscar Wilde's is as fake as it is pretty? You leave the theater quoting his lines: "The good ended happily, and the bad unhappily. That is what Fiction means." Three cheers for fiction. **CBW**

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## Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika

by Tony Kushner

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Friday, Oct. 9 - GALA OPENING  
Sunday, Oct. 11 & Oct. 18 - Pay-what-you-can  
Thursday Oct. 15 & 22 - Buy-one-get-one-free  
Saturdays - \$20/\$18 (students & seniors)  
All other performances - \$18/\$16 (students & seniors)

ANGELS IN AMERICA, PART TWO will run from October 8 through November 8, 1998 at the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak Street, Portland, Maine. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 5:00 PM. Call 775-5103.

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**DOES YOUR JOB SUCK?**  
 TAKE A LOOK AT THE JOBS OFFERED EACH WEEK IN THE CLASSIFIED SECTION OF THIS PAPER. THE PERFECT JOB IS ONLY A FEW PAGES AWAY!!!

Casco Bay Weekly

# Listings

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

## performing arts

### Auditions/submissions

**Old Men and Women Out of Cake Productions** seeks men and women in their 70's and 80's to perform in a low-budget feature film. Acting experience not required. For information call 874-0285.

**Actors and Actresses** The improv and ski comedy group the Farm seeks performers. For auditions, call 774-0263.

**Actors and Actresses** The Young Americans Theatre seeks men and women of all ages for non-Equity production tours running Feb-May '99. Must be able to drive. Salary: \$350 per week, with room and travel paid by the producer. The theater also seeks one girl 10-15 years old and one man age 50 or older for a video movie, with production beginning late '98. Send a picture and resume to YAT, 1501 Broadway, Suite #2907, NYC, NY 10036 or phone 800-450-7493.

**Actors and Actresses** wanted for independent video production (and possible series to follow) for broadcast on local public access television. Call 767-0795.

**Actresses** are wanted to help form an improv group for a public access television show. For auditions, call James at 774-0263.

**Actresses, Models, Designers and Musicians** Portland Media Artists has several projects currently underway. Models and designers are wanted for features on a new cable TV series, "Model Citizen." Athletic actresses are needed for an adventure series, "Nightingale." Writers are wanted for an episodic series to air on the WWW. Musicians are needed to score a short film to be produced this fall. Send samples and letter to Portland Media Artists, c/o Frank McMahon, 9 Beechwood Lane, Falmouth, ME 04105, or call 797-2416.

**Film and Video Crew Positions** for DP, Assistant Producer, grips and gaffers are wanted by Apposite Productions for no budget productions of short scripts. Call Jim at 865-3559 or email to [jmsweaver@hotmail.com](mailto:jmsweaver@hotmail.com).

**Instrumentalists** The Portland Conservatory of Music seeks wind, string and mixed instruments for a chamber music ensemble and a jazz band. Auditions are Oct 5-16 at the PCM, 44 Oak St. To schedule and appointment, call 775-3356.

**Instrumentalists** Mid-Coast Orchestra now seeks string players, including violas, violins and double basses. To schedule an audition, call Paul at 829-2752 or Kristen at 854-2629.

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

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

**Miss Maine USA/Teen USA** Applications are now being accepted for the pageants. For info, send a recent snapshot, brief biography, date of birth and phone number, to: State Pageant Headquarters, PO Box 7262, Scarborough, ME 04070. Or call 207-874-2872.

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

**Singers** The Oratorio Choral of Brunswick announces auditions for all parts. To schedule an audition, call Peter at 782-1403.

**Singers** Renaissance Voices a small Portland-based a cappella group, holds auditions for all voice parts. To audition, call Marion at 781-2965.

**Singers** The Casco Bay Chapter of the Sweet Adelines, a women's barbershop quartet, seeks individuals who can read music and stay on tune. Call for an audition, 799-1924.

**Theater Volunteers** The Portland Players and Port Resources seek volunteers to help build sets, work backstage, make costumes, usher, and perform office and stage work. Call Cat at 828-0048.

**Writers** are wanted to create a writing group. Scribes of all types welcome. 780-1126.

### workshops/lectures

**Acting and Theater Classes** Acting, piano, African drumming, dance for actors, effective presentations, lighting and voice are offered at ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave, Portland. By appointment only. 761-2465.

**Acting Workshops** The Children's Theatre of Maine offers a number of acting workshops for young thespians. Classes include "Developing a Character" for ages 11-13, "Introduction to Acting" for ages 8-10, "Creative Arts II" for ages 6-7 and "Creative Arts I" for ages 4-5. For a full schedule, call 878-2774.

**Capoeira Classes** Mestre Beck teaches two multi-level classes in the Afro-Brazilian self-defense art form. Tues from 7:15-9:15 pm (\$7 per class), Fri from 7-9 pm (\$12 per class). At Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio, 151 St. John St, Portland. Call Master Beck at 780-1675 or Devra Zabot at 828-3995.

**Capoeira Angola Classes** Ganga Zumba teaches the African-Brazilian art form. Classes are Mon, Wed and Fri at the Rieche School, 166 Brackett St, Portland, from 5:30-8 pm. Cost: \$50 per month. Call Kimery at 879-2371.

**Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio** offers a number of classes ranging from jazz to streetlark to African. Adults and kids welcome. At Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio, 151 St. John St, Portland. 871-1013.

**Children's Theater Workshop** Sept 22-Nov 10. Kids can learn the thespian arts at the Centre of Movement, Route 25, Gorham. 839-3267.

**Dance Classes** in beginner ballet, African dance, modern dance, tap dance, dance for preschoolers and kids ages 6-12 and yoga are offered at ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave, Portland. By appointment only. 761-2465.

**Maine Ballroom Dance** has a number of hooping activities. Ballroom dance parties are Sat from 8 pm-midnight. Advanced ballroom technique classes are Fri at 7 pm. Beginner and "Just Swing" classes start every month. 773-0002.

**"Matrix"** The dance improv group teaches contact improv, guided structure and more on Mon at Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio, 151 St. John St, Portland, from 8-11 pm. Cost: \$4. 775-4981.

**New Dance Studio** offers classes. At New Dance Studio, 61 Pleasant St, Portland. 780-0554.

**Oriental Dance and Belly Dance** Baraka's Josie Conte and Jeanne Handy explore costume, choreography and technique for all levels using elements from various dance forms for children and adults. 828-6571 or 773-2966.

**The Portland Conservatory of Music** offers private and group lessons in a variety of subjects. At the PCM, 44 Oak St, Portland. 775-3356.

**Portland Media Artists** Producers, directors, writers, crew members, actors/actresses and others involved in video or film meet the second and fourth Tues of each month at JavaNet, 37 Exchange St, Portland, at 7 pm. Call Frank McMahon at 797-2416.

**Rhythm and Movement Workshop** Rhythmic exercises and improvisations with Shamou. At New Dance Studio, 61 Pleasant St, Portland, Oct 8 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Cost: \$12. To register, call 780-0554.

**Se-Dance Workshops** Learn this complex, fast-paced style of ensemble dancing from Western Ireland with Tony Ryan of Galway. Oct 13, 15, 19 and 20 at 7 pm at State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland. Cost: \$7 per class. 761-0591.

**Shoestring Theater** After-school puppet workshop for kids 8-14. Learn about handpuppets, masks, theater, stunts and parades Mon and Wed from 3-5 pm at 155 Brackett St, Portland. For information call Nancy at 774-1502.

**Tango Workshops** Argentine Tango lessons for all levels by Carlos Duarte de Chey and Robin Tara. Two workshops a day on Oct 10 and 11. Weekly classes begin Oct 13 at 7:30 pm. At Elm Street Methodist Church, 168 Elm St, South Portland. For information and registration call 883-8510.

**Voice and Accent Classes** Jean Armstrong offers classes in effective presentation, speaking and singing voice tips for singers, projection and resonance and foreign accent. Maine accent offered in small groups or individual. Call Jean at 879-1896.

**Voice Classes for Adults and Children** Stella Marie Bauman provides vocal technique, breath management and artistic interpretation. Private or class instruction available. 828-6337.

**World Percussion Workshop** Focus on the rhythmic traditions of Africa and the Middle East with Shamou. Bring your drums. Oct 8 at New Dance Studio, 61 Pleasant St, Portland, from 8-10 pm. Cost: \$12. To register, call 871-0509.

## happenings

**Portland Public Access** Oct 8. A chance to tour the new studio and cable cast facilities of the Community Television Network and the Portland Public Access Center. At 100 Oak St, Portland, from 4-6 pm. Free. RSVP: 775-2900 x1.

**Open Mic Night at USM** Oct 8. Celtic music with Kevin Reams. Oct 15: Free-form performance art and music with Kit Demos and Chico Sanfillippo. Oct 22: Original and traditional folk with Curtis and Loretta. Oct 29: Masquerade Swing Ball. At USM's Campus Center, Portland, at 8 pm. Free. 874-6598.

**Rabbi A. James Rudin** Oct 8. The American Jewish Committee's national director of inter-religious affairs speaks on "The Vatican's Response to the Holocaust." At Temple Beth El, 400 Deering Ave, Portland. Free. 773-7254.

**George Mitchell** Oct 9. The former Senator speaks on the progress of negotiations in Northern Ireland and the region's prospects for peace. A question and answer session follows. At the Portland High School Auditorium, 284 Cumberland Ave, Portland. Free. 780-5383.

**"NoXI Millennium Seminar"** Oct 9. Global satellite event featuring speaker and author Dwight K. Nelson. Free copy of Nelson's book, "Outrageous Grace: Finding a Forever Friendship With God." At the Seventh-day Adventist Church auditorium, 97 Allen Ave, Portland. To register call 797-4414.

**"Fall for Art"** Oct 10. Portland Arts and Cultural Alliance presents self-guided walking tours of Portland's art galleries, artists' studios, and exhibiting venues. Brochures available at participating locations. From noon-6 pm. Free. 772-0150.

**Fall Festival** Oct 10. Breakfast, harvest supper, and raffle. At St. Mary's Parish, 625 Main St, Westbrook. From 8 am-4 pm. Free. 854-2753.

**Maine Civil Rights March and Rally** Oct 10. 10 mile march in response to the Civil Rights law's Feb 10 repeal. At the University of Maine - Maine Center for the Arts, Orono. Registration is from 7-9 am. March at 9 am. Rally at Bass (Paul Buryan) Park at 1:30 pm. For info on march and additional events, call 941-8454.

**"Tangible Feathers"** Oct 11. A screening of Bob Poirier's documentary film about a Catholic priest struggling with his homosexuality and vows of celibacy. At Movies on Exchange Street, 10 Exchange St, Portland, at 7 pm. 772-8041.

**Heaven's Candles Open House** Oct 12. Tours of the factory and the chance to make your own chocolates. At Heaven's Candles, 87 County Rd, Westbrook, from 9 am-4 pm. Free. 772-1557.

**Narrated Cruises** Oct 13. Hour-long cruises of Casco Bay aboard the Queen Elizabeth II. At Casco Bay Lines Ferry Terminal at Maine State Pier, Portland. At 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm, 2:30 pm, 4 pm and 5:15 pm. Tic: \$5. 774-7871 x103.

**Leads to Business Trade Show** Oct 14. Features include over 200 exhibits, a job fair with over 50 recruiters, seminars and a health clinic. At Cumberland County Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Sq, Portland, from 9 am-5 pm. Admission: \$10. 781-5756.

**Portland Food Festival** Oct 15. Help end hunger at this event featuring food and drink from local restaurants and markets. Proceeds go toward Portland's hunger prevention efforts and the establishment of a Food Recovery Program. At Portland Public Market, 25 Preble St, from 6:30-9:30 pm. Tic: \$30 per person, \$50 per couple. 761-7754.

**Used Book Sale** Oct 15-17. Thousands of books, LP's, puzzles, and more. At the South Portland Public Library, 81 Providence Ave, South Portland. Hours: Thurs from 10 am-8 pm, Fri from 10 am-5 pm, and Sat from 9 am-noon. 799-7823.

**"I am a Magical Child"** Oct 16. Joseph Chilton Pearce, author of "Magical Child" presents a lecture on the heart-brain connection and its relevance to behavior from 7-9 pm. Oct 17: Pearce leads a seminar on bonding's impact on intelligence from 9 am-5 pm. At Gorham High School's McCormack Auditorium, 41 Merrill Ave, Gorham. Lecture: \$7. Seminar: \$20 (\$25 both). 839-6478.

**Portland Pirates** Oct 16: Against Lowell. Oct 17: Against Adirondack. Oct 24: Against Syracuse. At Civic Center, Portland, at 7:35 pm. Tic: \$9-13 (\$5 kids 12 and under/\$7 seniors). 775-3458.

**John Villani** Oct 16. Author of "The 100 Best Small Towns in America: Discover Creative Communities, Fresh Air, and Affordable Living" appears in the fourth best small town in America for a lecture and slide show. At Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq, from noon-1 pm. Free. 871-1758.

**Fall Home Show** Oct 17 and 18. Show features over 150 exhibits by area builders and remodelers, interior decorating seminars, and Maine boxing hero Joey Gansache signing autographs. At the Portland Expo, 239 Park Ave, Portland. Sat from 10 am-9 pm, Sun from 10 am-5 pm. Tic: \$4 (seniors \$2). 800-237-6024.

**Great Pumpkin Pet Walk** Oct 18. The Animal Refuge League-sponsored event includes entertainment, food, a cat photo contest and other fun activities. At Deering Oaks Park, Portland, from 11 am-2 pm. Free. 854-9771.

**James Dodson** Oct 21. Author of "Faithful Travelers: A Father, His Daughter and a Fly Fishing Trip Across America" travels to Portland as part of the Brown Bag Lecture Series. In the Rines Room at Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq, Portland, from noon-1 pm. Free. 871-1758.

**Fiu Clinic** Oct 21. Provided by the Portland Public Health department. At Cummings Center, 134 Congress St, Portland. From noon-2 pm. Cost: \$10. For information, call 874-8768.

**"Narrative Truth, Meaning Making and Community Building"** Through Oct 29. The Center for the Study of Lives at USM presents speakers on the theme of stories and their vital roles in our lives. Oct 15: Dr. William R. Ferris, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Oct 29: Dr. Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, professor of education at Harvard University. For additional times, locations and info, call 780-5078.

**President's Reading Series** March 16. St. Joseph's College presents a lecture by essayist and playwright David Sedaris, author of "SantaLand Diaries." At Feeney Auditorium, St. Joseph's College campus, Standish, at 7 pm. Free. 893-7934.

**Guided Tours of Portland's Prohibition History** Through Oct. In conjunction with its exhibition, "Rum, Riot and Reform: Maine and the History of American Drinking," the Center for Maine History brings Maine's experiment with prohibition alive with one-hour tours, starting at the site of the Rum Riot of 1855 and continuing on to various watering holes and historical locations. Tours begin at the Maine History Gallery, 489 Congress St, Portland, at 2 pm. Tic (including admission to the exhibition): \$5 (\$2 kids under 12). 879-0427. ☐

## Global Satellite Bible Event with Simultaneous Translation of More than 40 Languages-Opens in Portland and Brunswick October 9

Beginning October 9 at 7:15pm EDT, the Portland and Brunswick Seventh-day Adventist Churches will host a satellite Bible seminar broadcasting to thousands of locations spread across the six inhabited continents of the world. Thought to be the most extensive satellite Bible seminar in the history of the Christian church, the transcultural seminar will have simultaneous translation of more than 40 languages and is closed captioned.

To accomplish this, the translators will exchange their own pulpits for five weeks of special ministry in a Michigan basement. Transmitting side by side, in specially built cubicles, they'll offer the lectures in a rich and varied menu including Swahili, Spanish, Pidgin and Portuguese.

Dwight K. Nelson, internationally known speaker and author, is the speaker for the "Next Millennium Seminar: Finding a Forever Friendship with God." Nelson is senior pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan where the series will originate.

The Seventh-day Adventist initiative, with local hosts Pastors Robert Farley and Mark

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Community Pride Reporter

# movies

**R**onin were samurai warriors in feudal Japan, disgraced by their failure to protect their masters and sentenced to a life of wandering as hired swords and bandits. Centuries later they're still roaming, still hoping for the occasional odd job.

Director John Frankenheimer's excellent "Ronin" is about an international band of former secret agents — American, German, French and Scottish — hired to retrieve a box bearing mysterious but highly desirable contents. Complicating the heist is the unpleasant fact that the box is exceptionally gregarious, always appearing in public surrounded by a faithful army of trigger-happy thugs. The slim odds of success don't worry the ronins' employer, a humorless Irish lass whose deadliest weapons are her razor-sharp cheekbones, which pop out like switchblades every time she glowers at someone. But as Sam (Robert DeNiro) puts it, "What? You think I'm reluctant because I'm happy?"

Set in France, "Ronin" feels like the climactic chapter of an elaborate spy novel whose whole story we'll never be permitted to read. The characters make opaque references left and right to a universe — or a series of universes — from which they came and to which they're returning as soon as the film is over. We know that the names of the hired guns were provided by "the cripple," but never learn his identity or what his relationship is to his unusual temp workers. One of the team members thinks he knows Sam from somewhere, but he's not certain. Nor are the ronin ever informed of who their real contractors are or the contents of the box they're after — although it's suggested both might have something to do with the peace talks in Northern Ireland. Or maybe not. You could paste a second film together from all the cryptic bits and pieces in this one.



Point and click: Robert DeNiro is a hired gun with a mysterious past — and present, and future — in "Ronin."

"Ronin," rated R, directed by John Frankenheimer. At Hoyts Clark's Pond, 333 Clark's Pond Road., South Portland, 879-1511, and Hoyts Falmouth 10, 206 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth, 781-5616.

But what you don't know doesn't hurt you. The film (with a script punched up by David Mamet) holds your attention instead by impressively revealing the maneuvers and sleights-of-hand of these professional double-crossers. The tension remains strong right up to the end as to who's going to betray whom next — mirrors and reflections are a recurring image — but Mamet cautions you against sympathizing with the killers. They're clock-punchers sweating the next check, eating white bread sandwiches and sipping from tin cups of coffee between hits. Although a mutually protective friendship builds between Sam and one of the other hired guns, Vincent (Jean Reno), the two have little reservation when it comes to snuffing innocent bystanders caught in the crossfire.

"Ronin" is an action film. Frankenheimer gives you three extended car chases for your money (and it's comforting to see Hollywood hasn't forgotten about its greatest unsung hero: the moron who stands in the middle of the street squawking and flailing his arms while a Renault barrels toward him). Between the pyrotechnics, however, Frankenheimer demonstrates a sense of trickery as keen as anyone in the film. As an ice skater glides through a kaleidoscope of spot lights, saccharine pop music booming from the speakers, the camera suddenly shifts location, revealing a sniper with a high-powered rifle trained on the ice princess.

Frankenheimer also squeezes in a few visual one-liners. Imagine a hardened secret agent using a towel as an impromptu apron while he whips up eggs and coffee for his cohorts. But then, that's all part of an honest day's work.

ALLEN DAMMANN

## now playing

### NEW THIS WEEK

**CARLA'S SONG** The life of a Glasgow bus driver is changed forever when a destitute Nicaraguan girl climbs aboard. Falling in love with the mysterious foreigner, the bus driver discovers she is suffering from post-traumatic stress and is suicidal. In the hopes of curing her, he searches for her lover — a prisoner of the Contras. With Robert Carlyle and Danyka Coboza. *The Movies*

**HOLY MAN** Eddie Murphy — now 100 percent sanctified for family consumption — plays a guru hired by a TV exec to hawk products on a home-shopping channel. When America tunes in for low low prices on collector's plates, they discover inspiration, instead. With Jeff Goldblum. *Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**SEVENTH HEAVEN** A domineering husband becomes resentful and jealous when his wife's despondency is cured through hypnotherapy, dissolving the power he held over her. A surgeon who's accustomed to dealing with illness in a clinical fashion, the husband spirals into an identity crisis as he watches his wife transform. With Sandrine Kiberlain and Vincent Lindon. *The Movies*

### ALSO SHOWING

**ANTZ** Woody Allen provides the voice of the (neurotic, to be sure) lead insect, who's determined to win the heart of the beautiful ant princess. *Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**ARMAGEDDON** The TV ads have been playing this as an officer-and-a-gentleman romance flick, like "The Right Stuff" with appealing 20-somethings. But we know better. It's big rock vs. small planet, pure and simple. Besides, who wants to see Bruce Willis' cartoon heroics in the middle of a love story? Now that would be a disaster film. With Liv Ullmann and Ben Affleck. Reviewed 7/9/98. *Keystone Theatre Cafe, Nickelodeon*

**SIMON BIRCH** Young star Ian Michael Smith portrays a pint-size miracle, philosopher and thorn-in-the-side in this take based on John Irving's novel "A Prayer For Owen Meany." *Maine Mall Cinema*

**BLADE** Half mortal, half vampire, all ass-kicker, Wesley Snipes is a nocturnal hero out to eradicate a population of drinkin', druggin', killin' bloodsuckers. With Stephen Dorff. Reviewed 9/10/98. *Hoyts Clark's Pond*

**DEAD MAN ON CAMPUS** Two college students on the brink of failing are desperate to stay in school — and more importantly, retain their scholarships. When they discover a clause in the school's bylaws granting straight A's to any students whose roommate commits suicide, the two jerk-offs set out to find a victim they can push over the edge. *Nickelodeon*

**DR. DOLITTLE** Eddie Murphy replaces Rex Harrison in the title role of a man cursed with the ability to speak to animals. *Nickelodeon*

**HENRY FOOL** Mysterious author Henry Fool (Thomas Jay Ryan) befriends a humble trash man, Simon Grim (James Urbaniak), and prods him to discover his own voice and language. Using his experiences as the caretaker of his mother (Maria Porter) and sexually charged sister (Parker Posey), the novice writer achieves dizzying success. In turn, he must aid the drunken mentor who discovered him. *Keystone Theatre Cafe*

**THE GOVERNESS** A beautiful young woman (Minnie Driver) takes a position as a governess to the children of a pioneering photographer on a remote Scottish island in the 1840s. To get the job, the governess has had to hide her Jewish background. Her situation is further complicated with when she begins sharing more than just a passion for her employer's photographic experiments. *Keystone Theatre Cafe*

**LETHAL WEAPON IV** More gratuitous characters than the last one, with plenty of crazy action heroes performing impossible physical stunts. With Mel Gibson, Danny Glover and Chris Rock. *Nickelodeon*

**MADLINE** In "Fargo," Frances McDormand portrayed law-enforcement as slightly less blah than working for the Department of Motor Vehicles. Now, in this big screen adaptation of Ludwig Bemmelman's classic children's series about a troublemaking nine-year-old, McDormand takes on the role of a nun — an occupation whose winsome effronescence is slightly more exhilarating than working for the DMV. *Nickelodeon*

**THE MASK OF ZORRO** What — audiences weren't satisfied with George Hamilton's flamboyant portrayal of the Mexican vigilante? In this latest tale of the masked mercenary — whose heroics are one part Don Juan and two parts Lone Ranger with a dash of sassy impudence thrown in — a hot-blooded young landowner (Antonio Banderas) dons the cape for some over-the-top subversion in of California. *Hoyts Falmouth 10, Nickelodeon*

**MULAN** As history has demonstrated time and again, whenever there's any hell-raising being done, there's always one group of people behind it: those stinkin' Hun! Now it seems the barbarians are attacking little old China, inciting a patriotic young girl to disguise herself as a man and confront the enemy. *Nickelodeon*

**NEXT STOP WONDERLAND** A kabbalizing mother takes out a personal ad for her recently single daughter, producing a string of goofy suitors. Meanwhile, a marine-biology student with money troubles dodges the mob. Can destiny bring them together? With Hope Davis and Alan Gelfand. Reviewed 9/24/98. *Keystone Theatre Cafe*

**A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY** This skill has proved popular enough on "Saturday Night Live" to make the jump to the big screen. Two swingin' but clueless brothers try to pick up chicks in the club of their body-buildin' gauges. With Chris Hattan and Will Ferrell. *Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**ONE TRUE THING** When an ambitious magazine writer's mother falls ill, her father promises her to move home to Manhattan and care for the ailing matron. With Renée Zellweger, William Hurt and Meryl Streep. *Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**PARENT TRAP** Identical twin girls — separated at birth when their parents divorced — are accidentally reunited at summer camp. Now, can they reunite their parents? And if so, will Disney promise to never, ever remake this movie? *Nickelodeon*

**PECKER** In the latest film by bad boy John Waters, a blue-collar teenager is escalated to fame after taking photographs of his sister and grandmother — one of whom runs a gay go-go bar, while the other is in the habit of talking to Mother Mary. Soon tired of the high-life, Pecker yearns to find his way back to his working-class world. With Edward Furlong and Christina Ricci. Reviewed 10/1/98. *Hoyts Clark's Pond*

**RONIN** An international group of ex-spies are hired to retrieve a mysterious and highly-guarded case in this cat-and-mouse thriller penned by David Mamet (using a pseudonym) and directed by John Frankenheimer. With Robert De Niro and Jean Reno. Reviewed this issue. *Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**ROUNDERS** Open door, insert a Freudian dichotomy. Matt Damon plays a reformed bad boy who still harbors a penchant for the naughty lifestyle of card playin'. Just when everything is going swell with the chick of his dreams, his paroled best friend Ed Norton pops into town. Matt hears the call of the wild and goes off to help his buddy pay off some long overdue loan shark debts. *Hoyts Clark's Pond*

**RUSH HOUR** Chris Tucker is a cop whose efforts to retrieve a baron's kidnapped daughter fail — landing him in an oil-and-water partnership with kung fu maestro Jackie Chan. *Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**SAVING PRIVATE RYAN** Spielberg continues

his art-house cycle with this WWII drama about an attempt to save a missing soldier. While the feds milk the rescue for public approval ratings, the troops who must perform the mission remain unconvinced it's worthwhile. With Tom Hanks and Matt Damon. Reviewed 7/8/98. *Hoyts Clark's Pond*

**THE SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS** Director Tamara Jenkins revisits her adolescence in this fictional re-creation of a childhood spent in Beverly Hills' lower-middle class edges, a turf that until now has gone largely unexplored. Watch as Vivian (Natasha Lyonne) tries to make sense of the chaos her good-hearted loser of a father (Alan Arkin) caused. *Keystone Theatre Cafe*

**SMOKE SIGNALS** More antagonists than friends, two boys bring on a reservation travel to Phoenix to recover the ashes of one of the boys' deceased father. Directed by Chris Eyre. With Adam Beach and Evan Adams. *The Movies*

**A SOLDIER'S DAUGHTER NEVER CRIES** Based on the autobiographical novel by Kayle Jones, "A Soldier's Daughter" follows an American girl living in Paris during the '60s and '70s. With Leslee Sobieski, Barbara Hershey and Kris Kristofferson. *Hoyts Clark's Pond*

**TANGIBLE FATHERS** Portland filmmaker Bob Potier directed this documentary about Matthew, a Catholic priest reared in rural Maine who struggles to grasp a hold of his sexual identity and interpersonal relationships. Reviewed 5/11/98. *The Movies*

**THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY** Every guy's dream: the chance to go to prom with the most beautiful girl in school. Every guy's nightmare: losing out that chance by getting his (ahem) manhood caught in his zipper in front of the most beautiful girl in school. Whatta ya do? Wait for years, hire a P.I. to find the girl, and take another crack at a date. With Cameron Diaz, Ben Stiller and Matt Dillon. Reviewed 7/23/98. *Hoyts Falmouth 10, Maine Mall Cinema*

**URBAN LEGEND** Have you ever heard the story about the lunatic with the hooked arm? The people who made "I Know What You Did Last Summer" bring you this tale of urban horror stories come true. *Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10*

**WHAT DREAMS MAY COME** A man is killed in an automobile accident and transported to the afterlife. Once there, he learns his wife committed suicide not long after his death. Stuck in a different region of the afterworld, the loving husband goes in search of his spouse. With Robin Williams. *Hoyts Falmouth 10, Maine Mall Cinema*

**WRONGFULLY ACCUSED** Leslie Nielsen stars in this spoof of "The Fugitive." *Nickelodeon*

# times starting friday

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, OCT 9-15. Owing to scheduling changes after CBW goes to press, moviegoers are advised to confirm times with theaters.

**HOYTS CLARK'S POND**, 333 CLARK'S POND RD., SO. PORTLAND, 879-1511.

**ANTZ (PG)**  
12:40, 1:30, 2:40, 3:45, 4:45, 6:50, 7:40, 9:10, 9:50

**A SOLDIER'S DAUGHTER NEVER CRIES (R)**  
1:30, 4:00, 6:30

**ROUNDERS (R)**  
3:20, 9:30

**RONIN (R)**  
12:50, 3:30, 7, 9:40

**PECKER (R)**  
12:45, 6:30

**RUSH HOUR (PG-13)**  
1:20, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20

**BLADE (R)**  
3:50, 9:30

**EVER AFTER: A CINDELLA STORY (PG-13)**  
1:10, 6:40

**SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)**  
1:20, 4:30

**HOYTS FALMOUTH 10**, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616.

**HOLY MAN (PG)**  
1:10, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

**WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (PG-13)**  
1:25, 2, 3:55, 4:30, 6:40, 7:15, 9, 9:50

**ANTZ (PG)**  
1:20, 3:20, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40

**A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (PG-13)**  
12:55, 3, 5:10, 7:40, 10

**ONE TRUE THING (R)**  
1, 3:45, 6:35, 9:15

**RONIN (R)**  
1:05, 3:50, 6:30, 9:10

**URBAN LEGEND (R)**  
1:30, 4, 7:10, 9:55

**RUSH HOUR (PG-13)**  
2:10, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45

**THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)**  
1:40, 4:05, 6:45, 9:20

**KEystone Theatre Cafe**, 504 CONGRESS ST., PORTLAND, 871-5500.

**HENRY FOOL (R)**  
9-SAT-SUN MAT 3:30

**THE GOVERNESS (R)**  
9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 3:45

**NEXT STOP WONDERLAND (R)**  
6:30-SAT-SUN MAT 1:30

**THE SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS (R)**  
7, 9:15-SAT-SUN MAT 2, 4

**ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)**  
6:15-SAT-SUN MAT 1

**MAINE MALL CINEMA**, MAINE MALL ROAD, SO. PORTLAND, 774-1022.

**HOLY MAN (PG)**  
1:20, 4, 7:25, 9:55

**WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (PG-13)**  
1:30, 4:05, 7:10, 9:45

**A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (PG-13)**  
12:55, 3, 5, 7, 9

**URBAN LEGEND (R)**  
1:15, 3:35, 7:15, 9:35

**SIMON BIRCH (PG)**  
1:25, 4, 7:10, 9:45

**ONE TRUE THING (R)**  
1, 3:50, 7, 9:50

**THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)**  
1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 9:55

**THE MOVIES**, 10 EXCHANGE ST., PORTLAND, 772-9600.

**SMOKE SIGNALS (PG-13)**  
OCT 9-13-FRI-SAT 5:15, 7, 9-SAT-SUN MAT 1:15, 3

**SUN 5:15, 8:30-MON-TUES 5:15, 7, 9**

**TANGIBLE FATHERS (NR)**  
OCT 11-7

**CARLA'S SONG (NR)**  
OCT 14-20-WED-SAT 5, 9:15-SAT MAT 1-SUN MAT 2:45

**SUN-TUES 7**

**SEVENTH HEAVEN (R)**  
OCT 14-20-WED-SAT 7:30-SAT MAT 3:15-SUN MAT 1

**SUN-TUES 5:15, 9:15**

**NICKelodeon**, TEMPLE AND MIDDLE STREETS, PORTLAND, 772-9751.

**PARENT TRAP (PG)**  
3:50-SAT-MON MAT 12:50

**ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)**  
3:40, 6:50, 9:20-12:40

**WRONGFULLY ACCUSED (PG-13)**  
7:20, 9:50

**THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG-13)**  
6:30, 9

**DEAD MAN ON CAMPUS (R)**  
7:10, 9:40

**LETHAL WEAPON IV (R)**  
6:40, 9:10

**THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)**  
3:30, 7, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 12:30

**MULAN (G)**  
4-SAT-MON MAT 1

**MADLINE (PG)**  
4:10-SAT-MON MAT 1:10

**DR. DOLITTLE (PG-13)**  
4-SAT-MON MAT 1

**PRIDE'S CORNER DRIVE-IN**, 651 BRINGTON RD., WESTBROOK, 797-3154.

**TIMES WERE NOT AVAILABLE WHEN CBW WENT TO PRESS**

# You are invited to attend the second annual Portland Food Festival

Ending Hunger with Local Food  
Thursday Evening, October 15, 6:30-9:30 p.m.



Come to the new Portland Public Market to celebrate Maine foods and our community. Enjoy the preparations of Portland's fine chefs and other local businesses. Proceeds from this benefit will go to Portland's new Food Recovery Operation. Tickets are \$30 per person, \$50 per couple.

For reservations call 761-7754 or purchase tickets at Rosie's on Fore Street, Ruskie's on Danforth Street in the West End, or at Maine Beer and Beverage in the Portland Public Market.

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|                  | Leadership for Managers                 | Sales Advantage                  | Dale Carnegie Course®                              |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Date:</b>     | 10/13/98<br>Tuesday                     | 11/2/98<br>Monday                | 10/14/98<br>Wednesday                              |
| <b>Time:</b>     | 4:30-8pm                                | 6:15-9:45pm                      | 6:15-9:45pm  |
| <b>Location:</b> | Fairchild Semiconductor, South Portland | Embassy Suites, Portland Jetport | Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland |

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men & women

YES, I like staying in, casual walks, bread baking, Celtic music, woodsmoke, meaningful conversation, church, quilts, but I'm the most interesting bore you'll ever meet. Only gender-confident, philosophical, conservative, courteous, driving SPF, 25-33, need call. Others, start changing. Depth does matter. #85568

men & men

ATTRACTIVE AND honest GWM, 38, 5'10", about 140 lbs, sincere and loving, seeks the same. I like to cook, read, travel and be the best I can be for my mate. #85542

BEAR CLUB GWM, 29, 5'10", 230 lbs, n/s, light drinker, shaved head, goatee, blue eyes, brown fur, seeks other cub bear, 25-40, who enjoys the ocean, dining out or in and quiet times, for long-term relationship. #85244

BEEN ALONE too long, need to be loved too much. GWM, 5'8", 170 lbs, brown/blue. Seeks GM, 30-40, for LTR. Give me a chance #85342

CASUAL GM, 32, 5'7", 140 lbs. Enjoys music, movies, mother-nature, sports. Would like to meet similar, small companion, 20s to 30s. #8519

COLORS of the rainbow. Decorate my soul with nurturing truth, sincere affection, secure giving spirit, compatible mate. Dance the dance of the hummingbird, music, laughter, sweetness and joy. Take my breath away with fragrant beauty of happiness, enraptured with true love. #85552

FALL GUY, GWM, 30, 5'11", 215 lbs, black/brown. Hopeful romantic who loves the fall, seeking partner for foliage drives, apple picking, weekend trips, Pirates games, candlelight dinners, quiet Sundays in bed. Friendship or relationship. Take a chance, call. #85335

FRIEND AND lover GWM, 42, 5'10", 165 lbs, mustache, blonde/brown, hairy, enjoys romantic nights, dancing, camping, not into one night stands. Looking for 28-32, slender, good-looking Male for friendship first, then relationship. #85407

GWM, 30, who is recovering from obsessive compulsive disorder, seeks other GWM with similar mental or a physical problem. Looking to build a friendship and or relationship with mutual understanding and support. #85543

men & men

GWM, 40, use to be in good shape, now just average. Want to pump up this winter. Need a knowledgeable gym rat to workout with four times a week. I'm very motivated. Only gender-confident, philosophical, conservative, courteous, driving SPF, 25-33, need call. Others, start changing. Depth does matter. #85568

HANDSOME, MASCULINE GWM, 34, 6', 190 lbs, brown/blue, spiritually centered, good Guy with interests in biking, hiking, camping, beach, eating, movies, etc. Looking for similar Guy for friendship. #85309

HAVING TROUBLE meeting people? Doing the same old thing? Getting the same results? Here's a concept. Change what you're doing. GWM, young 40, 5'8", 155 lbs, blonde/hazel, nondrinker, drug-free, attractive, humorous, compassionate, healthy, honest, open, seeking same. #85221

HONEST GWM, 47, 5'9", 200 lbs, enjoys sports, wrestling, football. Want sincere person to be a friend, workout with and enjoy life in it's fullest. Call now and you won't be disappointed. Waiting for your call. #8552

JUST A nice Guy, 55, masculine Gay Male, 5'8", 160 lbs, honest, caring, sharing, listener, supportive, monogamous, ISO 30-45-year-old Gay Male with similar qualities for a lifetime relationship. Not into bar scene, phones, feminine, overweight, one-night stands or head games. #85231

LOOKING for Mr. + 6', 35+, HIV+, sense of humor, spiritual, living life. Life is great, but I would like to share it with someone special, someone who lives life, not watches it. Let's compare notes! #85594

MALE DHARMA seeks a Greg, GWM, 29, seeks GWM. I'm in Brunswick area. My interests are: yardsales, african chickens, vegetarian, plants, drawing, sci-fi, beach, nature. Seek honest Man who is relationship-minded. #85335

MASCULINE BIKER? Masculine GWM, 36, 5'8", 155 lbs, seeks GWM biker, 30-45, for summer fun, cruising, camping, friendship and possible relationship. #85082

NEED RUSSIAN or other European Gay Male over 20, for cultural sharing, friendship and possible relationship. Me, GWM, early 40s, professional, teacher, healthy, nice, caring, attractive and fun. Too many indoor and outdoor interests to list. Please call me. #85596

women & women

READY to share! Educated professional 38, n/s, enthusiastic, optimistic, practical, yet spontaneous, outgoing yet reflective, responsible yet impulsive, enjoys outdoors, fitness, food, films, theater, sleep overs, affection, sincerity, home, animals, passion, gardens, friends, spirit, laughter! So call, it's worth the chance. #85531

REAL MAN. SGM, tall, blonde, honest, earthy, looking for another real man, SGM, good heart, honest, loves outdoors, n/s, n/d, in-shape, likes to exercise each day. #85518

STRONG, SENSITIVE, told good-looking, body-builder, GWM, 6'2", 250 lbs, dark, physical, intellectual, loves Charlotte Bronte, exploration of the world we carry around with us. Seeking fit Man who can identify if not match. Augusta area. #85505

YOUNG MAN wanted to share life with GWM, 60, for companionship, work, sharing part-time business, fun times, travel, outdoors, arts. Must be honest, dependable, personable. No cons. in Wells area. #85507

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women & women

I'M NOT perfect, but I'm nice. GWF, 46, relocating to Brunswick area. Employed in home life, animals, travel, passion. Seeking LTR with commitment, yet freedom to still be unique individuals. #85536

I'M READY. GWF, 29, likes cafes, ocean, lakes, a fun night out and a good book, seeks an intelligent, sensitive, honest and adventurous GWF, 25-35, with a sense of humor. Waiting to hear from you. Possible LTR. Optimism is a must. #85464

LOVELY HEART seeks same for friendship, possible relationship. SF, 31, enjoys children, country music, the outdoors and romantic moments. Let's talk. #85360

LOOKING for love in all the wrong places? Likes strolling along ocean shores, rock music, candlelit dinners, cuddling, intimacy, a special person to share everyday life with? I'm looking for that special lady, 35-50, secure with her sexuality. No games. #85440

LOVE IS in the air, where you are, I will be there. Fly with me on the wings of a dove to the stars above. Kiss the rain and you will feel no pain. #85497

THIS COULD be your lucky day. Looking for someone, 35-45, with sense of humor, who loves life, for fun at football games to quiet candlelit dinners. Living in Portland area, looking for you. #85488

WINTER FUN. Love the outdoors, movies, being social, making a good book. Are you on the move? #85567

WINTER FUN. Love the outdoors, movies, being social, making a good book. Are you on the move? #85567

WINTER FUN. Love the outdoors, movies, being social, making a good book. Are you on the move? #85567

I saw you

9-19-98, JIFFY Lube, S Portland, approximately 11:30am. You: Cute in plain shirt, beige cords, red Civic. Me: Ponytail, but gundy v-neck. Not usually too shy to speak but I'm lots of fun as true blue buddy or romantic possibility. #85583

SEPTEMBER 5TH, Singles dance at Father Day's. You are about 5', grayish hair. I asked you to dance twice during the circular wait. I know your name and age. I was impressed with your philosophy about being single at a singles dance. I had cranberry blouse and black skirt on. #85573

WORKING AT the Bohemian Brunswick, our eyes met as you served me a double moccacino. You were wearing a shirt with FARMERS on the back. I was wearing jeans and a Dave Matthews t-shirt. Let's meet over coffee. #85593

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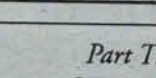
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## REAL ASTROLOGY By Rob Brezany

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19):** It should be a rewarding week for all you aspiring temple goddesses and tantric wizards. Have you been practicing your kegels? Are you ready to put more heart in your heart? Do you truly believe in the possibility of half-hour orgasms that'll give you the power to smel God? Say yes, and I will predict that you'll lick powdered sugar off the fingertips of a nudist moonbather who was your evil twin in a past life.

**TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20):** As you enter final exam time, what other astrologer besides yours truly can rouse your inner teacher out of a deep sleep, ensuring that you'll get the help you'll need to receive a passing grade? And that ain't all. What other soul doctor has the know-how to boost your immune system with specially-formulated subliminal suggestions? (Physical teacher, reasee beforewnt, reee bestrams aht erauoy.) Finally, Taurus, what other psychic janitor reverently polishes your halo, dycleans your aura, and vacuums away the astral gunk that's gumming up your luck-all for free?

**GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):** I predict that far more babies will be conceived in Green Bay, Wisconsin during the next few days than at any other time this year. That's because this is an off-week for the Packers, the city's pro football team, and thousands of fans will have to sublimate their Packermania into making love. I further predict that an amazingly high percentage of the pregnancies that'll soon germinate in Green Bay will involve a couple with at least one Gemini partner. That's because this is the most fertile time of the year for everyone born under the sign of the Twins, whether or not they love to watch beefy giants in green, white, and gold uniforms commit legal violence.

**CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):** Did you ever drive by something a hundred times and never notice it—only to have it jump out at you one day as if it had recently arrived on the landscape? I predict it'll be that kind of week for you. Cancer. On several occasions, you'll suddenly perceive objects, facts, and influences that have been downright invisible to you up until now. Sure it might give you a jolt to realize how blind you've been and how alert and insightful you're gonna love it—and probably profit from it, too.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):** Scientists have finally confirmed what we all knew: You do indeed have a little voice in your head that warns you when you're about to do something dumb. It's called the anterior cingulate cortex, according to white-coated authorities at Carnegie-Mellon University. If you're receptive to it, I'd like to add, it's as good as having a guardian angel. "Don't do it," it whispers when you're on the verge of locking your keys in your car or leaving the bar with the cute drunk you just met. "Go back," it murmurs as you start to walk away from a huge though initially inconvenient opportunity. Are you catching the drift of this horoscope, Leo? The next seven days will be Honor Your Anterior Cingulate Cortex Week.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22):** My website has a feature called "Arguments with God," which invites people to ask my team of prayer warriors to convey their complaints directly to the Almighty. We're besieged with heart-rending requests. "Why can't I cultivate a vision of my life as a path instead of a battlefield," mourned a Libra recently. "Why does God open these wonderful doors," wrote a Leo, "and then, just as I get close, slam them shut?" We Prayer Warriors treat most pleas reverently, and do our best to reach God's ear. But we did get peeved with a Virgo man recently. "Could you tell the Big Dude," he said, "PLEASE, make my cat poop in his box? No doubt he was trying to be funny, but I thought as I read it, 'Here's yet another Virgo who's not asking for what he truly needs the most.'"

Send the questions you want me to address in my year-end predictions to: Populist Prophecy, Box 150247, San Rafael, CA 94915 or www.realastrology.com.

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