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Casco Bay Weekly

One step closer to the new millennium, CBW's editors look over our shoulders while trying not to stumble on the future

DEC. 26, 1996



Goodbye



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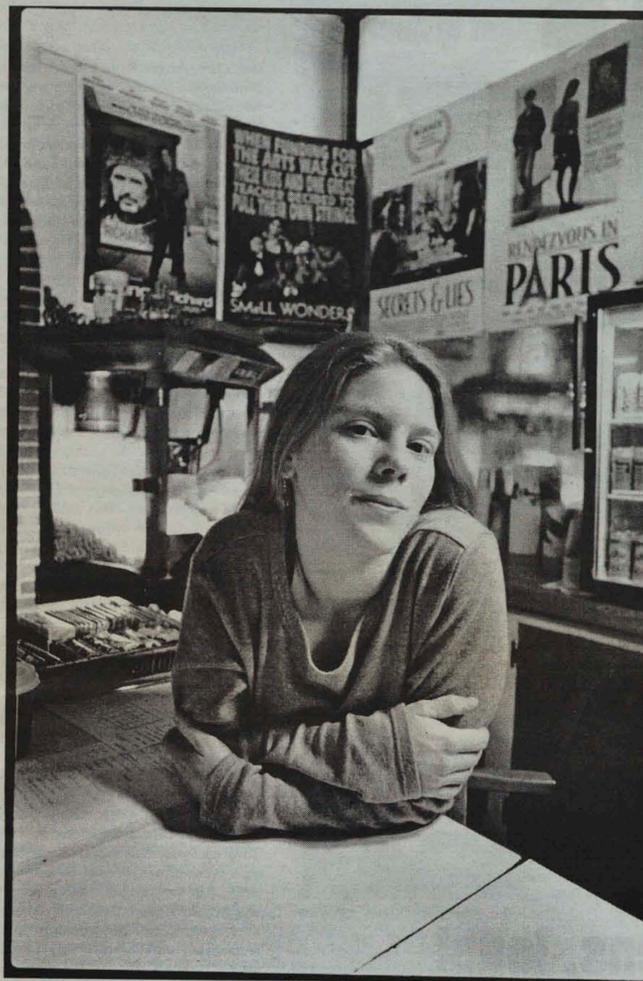
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Talk A CONVERSATION WITH CAROLYN CUNNINGHAM



"I like being a concessionist. It's a little intimidating being a projectionist. It's kinda sexy, with the big machines and the movie starting. There's a lot of excitement, and it's dark, and you're the one in charge. But the pressure. Not me. I'll stick to popcorn."

Not many people consider selling popcorn and candy at the movie theater a long-term job. But Carolyn Cunningham has been at it for five years, greeting patrons at The Movies on Exchange Street and selling them treats to enhance their cinematic experience. For Cunningham, a third-year women's studies major at USM, there's no need to worry about the corporate ladder when you're happy where you are.

So, do you see this concessionist gig as a career?

A projectionist has worked here for 13 years. That's a career. But not a concessionist. But I can get my homework done here. At other theaters you have to wear uniforms, and bow ties and stuff like that, and look busy. Maybe we're slackers here.

Do you get along with the projectionists?

It's interesting, because there's a split. The projectionists have a definite attitude. My co-workers laugh at me because I'm the only person who is not a projectionist. But I say I'm the only true concessionist.

Do you think specializing like this has helped you make better popcorn?

We all make it differently. There's certainly more than one way. Me, I like to heat the kettle, then put in the oil. Some people complain that it doesn't have but-

ter, and I've burnt it once or twice. But our popcorn is never stale.

What do you do with the burnt popcorn?

Well, just hope nobody sees it.

Do the snobby projectionist career types ever get to make the popcorn?

No. Only the concessionist on that night gets to make the popcorn. It's hard to tell how much to make. You know, that's my biggest fear, that I'll make too much, or not enough, so I get advice from my co-workers.

Do you get to recommend movies?

Yeah. This is a problem sometimes, because I don't see all the movies. But if people ask if the movie is good, I just say yes. The people don't want to hear that it's bad. I mean, they've already planned to go to the movies. It's an ethical dilemma, really.

What's the grossest thing you've had to clean up?

It was vomit. I don't know where this woman got off vomiting in the movie theater and not cleaning it up.

What was the movie?

I'm not sure, but probably "Stealing Beauty" or something like that.

Interview by Josh Williamson; photo by Colin Malakie

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■ In this season of good cheer, the Maine Yankee nuclear plant celebrated by firing its president. Charles Frizzle, who's held the post since 1989, got the heave-ho on Dec. 20, after the board of directors decided the only way to salvage the nuke's battered image was to appear to be doing something.

news-o-rama



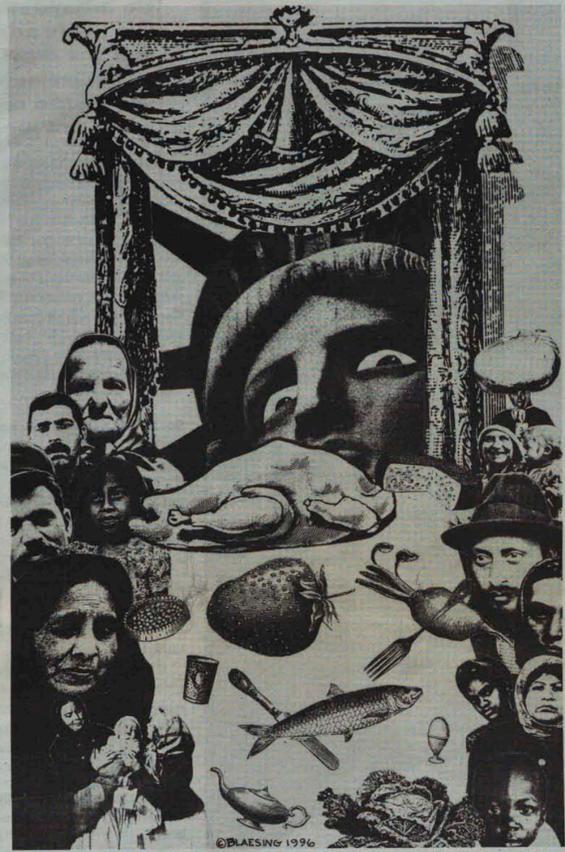
Maine Yankee has been shut down since Dec. 5 because of wiring problems, not to mention missing valves and radioactive particles turning up in chair cushions. Further shakeups of top management are planned in the near future. Frizzle and his \$207,000 salary will hang around until a replacement is found, adding a small measure of cheer to his holiday.

■ **The Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council** made Ethan Strimling's Christmas a little brighter. The housing and social service agency announced Dec. 19 it had chosen Strimling to replace embattled executive director Peter O'Donnell, who resigned after two stormy years. Strimling ran Dale McCormick's campaign for Congress in the June primary, worked for a Democratic political advocacy group in Washington, D.C. and did stints as a counselor, teacher and theater director. He assumes control of an agency with daunting financial problems and a constituency still deeply divided by the battles between O'Donnell and supporters of former director Jim Oliver.

■ What Carol Palesky needed for Christmas was 14,000 people willing to sign their names to her property tax cap petitions. Secretary of State Bill Diamond, in one of his last official acts before his term expires, ruled Palesky and her Maine Taxpayers Action Network had **nowhere near enough names** to force a referendum on the issue in 1997. Palesky had delivered what she claimed were more than 52,000 signatures to Diamond's office on Dec. 17, state officials found that number to be highly exaggerated. Palesky is currently under indictment for forging information on earlier petitions. After Diamond's announcement, Palesky said she'd come up with the additional names by the Jan. 23 deadline for getting the issue on the ballot. Uh-huh.

■ In a heartfelt display of seasonal cheer, Gov. Angus King announced on Dec. 18 he was lowering taxes for all Mainers who happen to own hospitals. **King's new budget** does away with an income tax cut for the state's citizens who don't happen to hold stock in health care institutions, but preserves the tax break for those who do. Although the exact number of people who own hospitals is not known, it must be very large because the governor told reporters his budget plan "establishes an unmistakable downward trend" in taxes. Other unmistakable downward trends in the budget included doing away with the science and math magnet school, state liquor stores and part of the state share of teacher retirement programs. Happy New Year. **CW**

CITY



ILLUSTRATION/REBECCA BLAESING

Legal aliens, legal welfare?

Governor moves to preserve welfare for legal immigrants

■ **LAURA CONAWAY**
Members of the Maine Legislature must have had their Scrooge hats on early. When lawmakers met in September's special session to consider the forest compact, they did more than add a referendum question to the November ballot. They also voted to stop welfare and Medicaid for legal immigrants after April 1, 1997, leaving much of the Portland delegation up in arms.

"It's ridiculous to me to cut off benefits to legal, tax-paying immigrants," said

Democratic state Rep. Mike Saxl. "I think that's immoral. I think that's unethical. I think it's wrong." Initially, the House voted overwhelmingly to keep benefits in place. But the Senate decided to end them by a three-vote margin — including the votes of Republican senators Joel Abromson of Portland, Joan Pendexter of Scarborough and Phil Harriman of Yarmouth. The House then backed down and went along with the cutoff.

But just in time for the Christmas sea-

son, Gov. Angus King has offered to continue the benefits — which welfare officials say are now given to fewer than 50 families statewide — by paying for them with his emergency supplemental budget. That budget runs out June 30, 1997, but state Department of Human Services spokesman David Winslow said King intends to include money for immigrant welfare in the future. "We're comfortable that there's not going to be any interruption of benefits," Winslow said.

If King hadn't acted, it's doubtful the Legislature would have restored the benefits before the April 1 cutoff. Reinstating the aid would have required emergency legislation, which must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the House and Senate. Democrats, who control both chambers, argue that margin would have been impossible to achieve. The Legislature could also reinstate the benefits with a simple majority vote, but their action wouldn't take effect until 90 days after lawmakers adjourned. Since adjournment sometimes is delayed until July, poor immigrant families dependent on welfare would have found themselves with no form of government assistance until the fall of 1997.

While King's supplemental budget will require a two-thirds vote from the Legislature, King spokesman Dennis Bailey said such budgets usually pass easily. "If there's no new taxes and no new money," Bailey said, "generally there's no controversy."

The governor's support has already cheered Democratic state Rep. Eliza Townsend of Portland. As a member of the appropriations committee, Townsend said, she voted to end the benefits even though she believed it was wrong. She explained that the committee accepted the April 1 cutoff as a compromise to avoid an effort to end benefits immediately, and she was obliged to vote for it. "Now it seems that the continuation of welfare has been proposed by the King administration, which is a much stronger position for us to be in," Townsend said.

Winslow said the state doesn't yet know how much it will cost to provide welfare and Medicaid to legal immigrants. "It's a question we've never asked before. We never asked anyone their immigrant status, so we don't know how many families there are," he said. "We think it will definitely be less than 50. An average AFDC grant would be between \$375-385 a month, so it's a small amount."

Under the old federal rules, legal immigrants were entitled to welfare, Medicaid, food stamps and Social Security benefits. Under the new rules, most will be ineligible for food stamps and Social Security. (Immigrants who

have worked in the United States for 10 years would retain eligibility.) Despite the cutoff of food stamps and Social Security — which are federal programs funded by federal money — the new rules gave each state the right to decide whether to offer immigrants welfare and Medicaid, paid for by a combination of state and federal dollars.

Pendexter, who was defeated for reelection in November, said Maine can't afford to offer better benefits than surrounding states. "Let's say we're the only state in New England that gives welfare to legal immigrants," Pendexter said. "Then they're all going to come to Maine." Rather than look to the state for help, she said, immigrants should turn to the sponsors who brought them into the country. But refugee advocates say some sponsors have only recently arrived themselves, and don't have the means to fully support family members trying to join them in America.

In addition to arguing that legal immigrants deserve benefits, pro-welfare legislators argue that cutting benefits at the state level will shift the burden to towns' and cities' General Assistance programs. Former representative Herb Adams of Portland said cutting benefits was not only immoral — it was patently stupid. "Where are they going to go for support?" Adams said. "They're going to go to your town welfare. That support is either going to be adequate or inadequate. If you're looking for a place where need is understood, you're going to end up in Portland."

Municipalities share the cost of providing General Assistance. In fiscal year 1996, the state reimbursed Portland's welfare program for 57 percent of the \$3.1 million paid out by the city. The rest was shouldered by property taxpayers. What should the state do about immigrants fleeing to General Assistance?

"There's an easy answer to that," said Pendexter. "You as a legislator amend the General Assistance law to say that they don't give aid either."

Beyond General Assistance, the poor have only shelters and soup kitchens for help. Mark Swann, director of the Preble Street Resource Center, said he's already noticed more immigrants seeking food assistance, even before all the cutoffs have taken effect. Immigrants still stand to lose Social Security benefits and food stamps unless the federal government changes the rules.

Advocates like Mary Henderson of the Maine Equal Justice Project say that raises the specter of elderly immigrants being turned out of nursing homes and immigrant children going hungry. The only way to provide Social Security and food stamps will be for the state to establish its own programs. Henderson said she thinks that would cost \$2.5 million or about 1 percent of the state Department of Human Services budget. "We can replace the federal money with state money," Henderson said, "and we can see what we can do at the federal level to get changes."

Longfellow Square

Don't look in the basement

City may take over vacant building

Longfellow Square could soon have one less eyesore. The city may seize 181-183 State Street, the building that once housed a dry cleaner, because the owner, Boston businessman Ralph Doering, hasn't paid taxes on it since 1990. Except for a tattoo parlor, the structure's 7,452 square feet of office and residential space have been vacant for several years.

According to Portland's housing coordinator, Bill Tracy, the building has been difficult to sell because of fears the property's ground floor and basement may be contaminated with chemicals. Tracy has ordered an environmental study, with results expected by March. In addition to possible chemicals, he said, the building contains asbestos and lead paint. A study of the property done by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which holds a lien on Doering's mortgage, turned up underground fuel tanks that may be leaching their contents into the soil, but showed no evidence of contamination from dry cleaning chemicals.

Donna Katsiaficas, a lawyer for the city, said she isn't sure yet who would have to pay for cleaning up the building — Doering, the city, or the buyer. If the city's study shows the problems can be fixed without excessive expense, she said, Portland can take possession and either pay for the cleanup or require the purchaser to clean the property. "We know that it would be a fire-sale type building, but we'd still have the building cleaned up," Katsiaficas said. "Plus it would be back on the tax rolls."

Doering's attorney, Lee Lowry, said his client bought the property during the real estate boom. "Eventually in the bad years he just lost tenants and had a hard time reletting, in part because of the neighborhood," Lowry said. With the city's vacancy rate now around 2 percent, Lowry said his client wants to pay the \$45,000 he owes in back taxes and keep his property, but the city won't hear of it. "They have told us that they won't accept a payment from us," he said. "They're going to proceed as if they own the property. [We'll] continue to make [our] case to the city council. [We] will continue to offer payment in full."

Tracy said the building is assessed at \$231,000, and could cost its owner another \$200,000 to become fully usable. He said the property is prime commercial real estate because it is situated on the high-traffic intersection of State and Congress streets. "When you think of tax-acquired properties, you don't usually think of something like this," Tracy said. "To me it's just unbelievable that something like this could sit empty for so long."

LAURA CONAWAY

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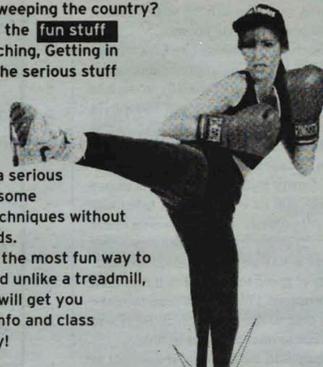
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Murder in my heart for the judge

Hal Pachios has roughly the same qualifications to be a federal appeals court judge that Pamela Anderson Lee has to be a great actress. But like Lee, Pachios has ancillary attributes that, while failing to completely disguise his deficiencies, are probably sufficiently alluring to win him serious consideration for the job.

There's a common misconception that judges, particularly federal judges who are appointed to their posts for life, ought to be selected from among the finest legal minds in the land strictly on merit. In fact, most judges got their jobs because they happened to be friends with powerful politicians. A quick peek under almost any black judicial robe in Maine will reveal a tattoo bearing the name of the patron pol who got him zoned or herzonner the job.

"This judge is forever beholden to Jock McKernan," it may read. Or, "Another political appointee who owes everything to Joe Brennan." Or "To get this job, I kissed Bill Cohen right where this tattoo is located."

Now that we have the nature of judicial appointments clearly in view, let's return to Pachios. The Portland lawyer has been a close pal of former senator George Mitchell for decades, and has reaped from that association such rewards as a job in Ed Muskie's U.S. Senate office, the deputy directorship of the Peace Corps under President John Kennedy, a post as deputy White House press secretary under President Lyndon Johnson, the chairmanship of the Maine Democratic Party, a congressional nomination and a host of government and business connections that a clever lad might employ to make a few bucks. Along the way, Pachios became a partner in the law firm of Preti, Flaherty, Beliveau & Pachios, but he rarely shows up on lists of the state's best litigators. Instead, Pachios is generally placed near the top of the chart when it comes to wielding political influence.

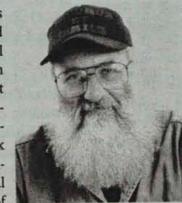
When evil eggmeister Jack DeCoster needed somebody to save his butt after being hit with millions in federal fines for labor violations, he hired Pachios. According to those in the know, Pachios worked behind the scenes to get DeCoster the best possible deal — the feds agreed to ease up on several ongoing investigations into operations at his egg and hog farms if he paid the fine and admitted wrongdoing. DeCoster balked. Pachios walked. And the egg empire is still being blasted by environmental and workplace safety officials.

There's no question Pachios is good at what he does, which is twisting arms and making deals. But what he does isn't exactly what judges are paid to do. So more than a few folks in legal and political circles raised more than a few of their well-groomed eyebrows when they discovered Pachios' name was being floated for a

vacant seat of the 1st Circuit Court of Appeals, a level of the federal judiciary just one notch below the United State Supreme Court.

The appeals court job will open up in 1997 when Judge Conrad Cyr (whose tattoo reads, "Bill Cohen is the most fabulous judge of character I've ever met") retires. Technically, the president chooses federal judges, but practically, the chief executive asks the senior member of his party's congressional delegation in whatever state has an opening to suggest the name of a person to whom the offer of a little political patronage might be welcome. In Maine, the senior Democrat in the delegation is 2nd District Congressman John Baldacci. Baldacci is tight with Mitchell. Mitchell is tight

politics and other mistakes



AL DIAMON

with Pachios. Is there something about this you're not following?

Of course, Pachios is not the only person who wants the job. Maine Supreme Court Justice Kermit Lipez, generally ranked as one of the state's top jurists, is also a contender. Lipez has some political muscle — he once worked for Muskie and was ex-governor Ken Curtis' chief lawyer — but he's banking on his impressive résumé as an actual judge to win him the job. That's not a completely worthless strategy. Republicans, who control the U.S. Senate, must confirm any federal judicial appointment. Lipez' credentials might make him more acceptable to the GOP than Pachios, who could be seen as little more than a party hack by those political insiders with impossibly twisted and cynical views of public policy (not me, other political insiders with impossibly twisted and cynical views of public policy).

The short list of possible nominees is also said to include Supreme Court Justice Robert Clifford, Bangor attorney George Singal, Portland lawyer James Kaplan, state district court Judge Joyce Wheeler and Margaret McGaughey, an assistant U.S. attorney who handles most of that office's cases before the federal appeals court. All appear to have significantly more of the kind of experience that might prove useful in a courtroom than does Pachios. But of course, the real question is, would George Mitchell know who they were if he fell over them?

Which is to say that if this were "Bay-watch," Pachios would get the role requiring the wearing of a skimpy bikini and lots of suntan lotion. The rest of the candidates would be relegated to the roles of victims of particularly nasty shark attacks.

Opinions, judicial and otherwise, may be filed care of CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101. Judgments may be rendered by fax at 775-1615. Or direct your verdicts via e-mail at ishmaelia@aol.com.

Thanks for embracing another year of fun & whimsy!

All the Best in '97

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25 brand new ideas for a better Portland

CBW's third annual futile attempt to improve the city

■ AL DIAMOND

We were stunned to learn recently that many Portlanders think *CBW* has a cynical, contemptuous and negative view of its hometown. Just because we've occasionally trashed Portland's government, business leaders, downtown, arts community, restaurants, bars, hospitals, schools, housing, police, stores, race relations, sporting events, religious beliefs, transportation system, parks, waterfront, clothing styles, neighborhoods, air quality, moral standards, sewage disposal, snow removal and toilets doesn't mean we don't love this place. Nor does it mean we don't want to be part of the team effort, the public-private partnership, the brainstorming sessions, the bipartisan policymaking and the intense negotiations necessary to improve it.

But we're pretty busy, and may not be able to make the meetings.

Instead, in what's become an annual tradition as enduring as revelations of unsafe working conditions at DeCoster Egg Farms, we proudly present our list of helpful suggestions, constructive criticisms and proposed New Year's resolutions designed to make Portland a better city in 1997.

We hope this will help those inclined to characterize this publication as a sinkhole of sardonic sneering, caustic carping and derisive demagoguery to better understand the charitable motivation behind our work. We urge our critics to clip this feature out and tack it up by their telephones. During the coming year, whenever they might be moved to anger by something we've written, we ask only that they pause a moment before calling us to vent their fury, take down that tattered sheet containing our humble proposals, and stuff it down their throats until they gag.

And now, here are our ideas for 1997:

1) The dispute over what to name the new bridge between Portland and South Portland has divided our community. Warring parties support a host of worthy candidates from the late Betty Noyce to the current Fore River. Clearly, we're wasting an opportunity to unite area residents under a single banner to which we all can pledge allegiance, namely copping buckets of money from some sap with a public relations problem. In return for a couple million bucks, we see no reason why a name such as the DeCoster Bridge ("Migrant workers



must swim") wouldn't work. The John Hathaway Bridge ("Safe for children") is a strong candidate. Or the Maine Yankee Bridge ("All lanes currently closed for inspection") has a certain glow to it.

2) Joe Brennan is a civic resource that should be utilized. The former governor, congressman and failed U.S. Senate candidate has a wealth of experience and a burning desire to serve. His vision and leadership abilities would be an asset to the city. Besides, he needs a job. Brennan should run for the Portland City Council.

3) OK, OK, the Portland Water District board of trustees. But we have our doubts about his ability to win the election.

4) All right, dammit. If he promises never to run for another thing, we'll name the friggin' bridge after him.

5) Before we wholeheartedly endorse the return of the Mountain Cats, maybe we should look elsewhere for a minor league basketball franchise. Are the Boston Celtics for sale?

6) Speaking of the Mountain Cats, it's time the team's former owner, Mark ("Joe Soley is a helluva nice guy.") McClure, found a new enterprise on which to squander significant sums of money. Three suggestions: full-body-contact Macarena contests, selling his surplus internal organs, Rwandaland.

7) "Reindeer Games 2," the only full-length, feature-film sequel ever produced in Maine, in which our dishwasher hero is found not guilty of kidnapping by

reason of insanity. Released from custody, he runs for the Legislature, defeating Annette Heglund by 20 percentage points. Heglund demands a recount.

8) Portland's art scene would thrive if it had more galleries located in places nobody can find, open at hours that aren't listed anywhere and selling art that appears to be the result of a tragic industrial accident at DeCoster Egg Farms, Maine Yankee or both.

9) Actually, we already have that. Forget we mentioned it.

10) More Shutdown 66. Less of any noise produced by former members of MRC.

11) Now that L.L. Bean has opened a store on Congress Street, the city should make every effort to drive up rents and drive out the funk and the noise by filling the downtown storefronts with



other well-known firms, such as Starbucks Coffee, The Gap and Tower Records. But just because all the unique, interesting little shops will be gone doesn't mean there's no room for local companies. It's only a matter of time before we can shop at the DeCoster Egg

Outlet Store, SoleyQuarters and Heglunds R Us.

12) Another idea to attract shoppers downtown: the Surplus Store's January Whites-Only Sale.

13) Every year we mention this little problem, and every year we're ignored. But are we discouraged? No. Downhearted? No. Frustrated and angry and close to being crazy enough to do something you'll really regret if you don't give us what we want? Possibly. We get to buy two beers at a time during Sea Dogs games at Hadlock Field, or Slugger sleeps with the fishes.

14) Speaking of dogs, isn't it time Portland started acting like a real city by providing dog owners with fenced areas in which to exercise their pets? There'd be less pooch poop on the sidewalks if canine cruising were encouraged in specific areas of Deering Oaks, the Eastern Prom, Payson Park and Mayor John McDonough's front lawn.

15) Speaking of McDonough, what is it that convinces advocates of an elected mayor that a municipality that would regularly choose him to fill an at-large seat on the city council is capable of practicing an expanded version of democracy in any way that doesn't involve U.N. peacekeeping forces and international election observers.

16) Bars, live music and dancing are a problem in Portland. Zootz annoyed its elderly neighbors on Forest Avenue. Councilors slapped a moratorium on new nightspots in the Old Port. Other clubs have struggled with too many complaints to the cops and not nearly

enough paying customers. The solution is obvious. Employ the same strategy that saved the city from a scourge of hardware stores, a plague of bookshops and an epidemic of movie theaters. Get a giant national chain to open a warehouse-sized nightclub near the Maine Mall in South Portland and drive all the little local bars out of business.

17) Phrases that have never made much sense to us: "Downtown Arts District," "Congressman Jim Longley," "Charlie Harlow for Mayor," "What this town needs is a minor league soccer team run by the guy who took off with our minor league hockey team." Let's see if we can get through 1997 without saying any of them.

18) Does it strike anyone but us as odd that a majority of the Portland City Council favors allowing nude dancing in the city, but opposes allowing group homes? How about if the group home patrons agreed to walk around naked?

19) Now that Bob Elliot has departed from Channel 6, we hope he'll take his "Bob's Basement" feature to Fox 51. Of course, that station's low-budget news operation couldn't possibly afford a basement, but "Bob's Crawl Space" has an authentic Maine flair.

20) Is there any way the Maine College of Art could make its windows on Congress Street uglier? We thought not.

21) Portland could raise a lot of money if it allowed people to bet on how many different names the businesses occupying the Cafe Bucci space on Congress Street will go through in the next year.

22) Susan Collins look-alike night at the Underground.

23) If State Theatre executive director Kelly Graves needs a new job anytime soon (although we can't imagine why she would), she'd be fully qualified to head up 1) DeCoster Egg Farms, 2) Maine Yankee or 3) whatever Joe Soley-owned bar is currently occupying the space where Three Dollars Dewey's lived before it escaped.

24) If there are any problems Portland might face in the coming year for which we've failed to suggest a specific solution, we'll be turning to the recommendation of no less an expert than Portland City Councilor Jack Dawson. In a Dec. 10 op-ed piece Dawson wrote for the *Portland Press Herald*, the councilor argued the importance of dressing up in heavy padding and trying to hurt other people as an essential component of what made this nation great. Apparently he was talking not about the FSU Posse, but about football. "[W]hen analysts try to explain how the United States could have survived world wars unscathed," Dawson wrote, "policed and fed much of the world, contributed the finest technological inventions and systems for the betterment of mankind, led the development of space exploration and held leadership positions in the great fight to rid the world of disease and ignorance, it might come up that those generations of Americans had a game that was uniquely their own."

25) Someone should adjust the drip on Councilor Dawson's medicine.

Al Diamond, *CBW's* political columnist, is just kidding. Kinda.

A pox on your house

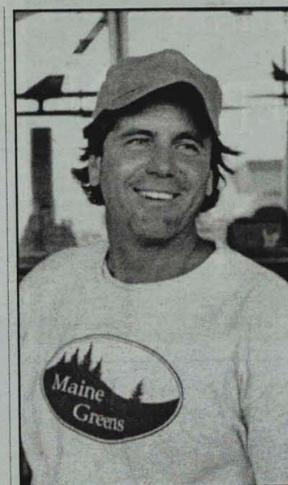
Fires, floods, gang violence — it's a wonder anyone's left to list the top 10 stories of 1996.

■ LAURA CONAWAY

■ **South Portland explosion:** Portland Welding Supply's warehouse caught fire Aug. 27, setting off an apocalyptic domino effect as hundreds of gas-filled tanks inside exploded. Residents of the nearby Breakwater Condominiums and part of the Ferry Village neighborhood had to leave their homes briefly while shards of asbestos and flaming shrapnel rained down. Miraculously, all the welding company employees escaped unharmed. One South Portland firefighter, Capt. Robert Wallingford, suffered a fatal heart attack shortly after

arriving at the scene. Cleaning up the asbestos debris took weeks; some residents were concerned about the possible health hazard, saying their white-flecked lawns appeared to be covered with snow.

■ **Julie N oil spill:** Capt. James Mooney called hard left when he meant to call hard right, sending the tanker *Julie N* crashing into the Million Dollar Bridge on Sept. 27. Over 170,000 gallons of fuel oil gushed out of the ship's punctured hull into Portland Harbor. Though the spill happened under ideal weather conditions and within sight of vessels



and equipment designed to deal with such a disaster, the oil quickly spread to area marshes and forced the closure of fishing and lobstering areas. About six weeks later, officials ended clean-up efforts. "We're down to Mother Nature doing her work," said David Sait, an oil spill expert with the Department of Environmental Protection. "We're looking to the winter storms and ice. Particularly with the marsh grass, ice freezes around the stems. When the ice is lifted by the tide, it plucks the oil off."

■ **State Theatre goes dark, again:** Poor Kelly Graves and Steve Bailey, the husband and wife team attempting to run the State Theatre. Graves and Bailey first announced they were shuttering the porn-house-turned-music-venue Jan. 19. State of the Arts (START), a nonprofit organization, stepped forward to rescue Graves' failed for-profit company, Perfect Pitch. But there was no change in management, no reduction in a hefty \$12,000 monthly rent, and ongoing warfare with landlords Nick and Lola Kampf, and the enterprise soon hit the skids again. On Aug. 29, city inspectors ruled the theater's decaying plaster ceiling was too dangerous for audiences to sit under. Claiming the building was unusable, START refused to pay rent. The Kamfs denied any responsibility for the hazardous ceiling and began eviction proceedings. START canceled all shows and, according to the Kamfs' attorney, moved out of the State.

■ **Betty Noyce buys Portland:** Multimillionaire investor Betty Noyce bought two Congress Street office towers, five downtown parking lots, the Nissen Bakery and the old 5 & 10 store, also on Congress Street. Noyce then lured an L.L. Bean outlet store to the 5 & 10, but made plans to move Nissen from its Munjoy Hill plant. She also started construction on a Cumberland

Avenue parking garage adjacent to a proposed public market. Noyce's sudden death from emphysema, in September, shook the city, but she left plans in her will for completing her projects.

■ **Ban Clearcutting felled:** Paper companies, lawmakers and Gov. Angus King joined forces to raze Jonathan Carter's ill-fated November referendum. Carter's question would have banned clearcutting in Maine's unorganized territories. Voters instead favored Question 2B, the more lenient "forest compact," though they failed to give it a clear majority. The compact, supported by the timber industry, faces a straight up-or-down vote in 1997. If it passes, the Legislature will have to carve clear regulations out of the agreement. If it fails, the paper companies can continue with business as usual.

■ **October flood:** Heavy rains caused flooding across southern Maine. The deluge washed away roads and covered a much-photographed Dunkin' Donuts in Westbrook to the eaves. It also caused several water-main breaks, rendering most of Greater Portland's water supply non-existent or contaminated. Without drinkable water in the midst of a flood, local businesses and schools closed for several days. President Bill Clinton declared York and Cumberland counties eligible for federal disaster relief funds.

■ **Ganging up:** Gang violence exploded in Portland, which is to say it went from almost nothing to a very small amount. In May, members of the Tiny Rascals gang used a meat cleaver to attack a man in the West End, for which Bunly J. Phok was eventually sentenced to two years in prison. In August, De De Cheim, a resident of Sagamore Village, allegedly fired a handgun toward three men he said had vandalized his car. Police tried to identify Cheim as a

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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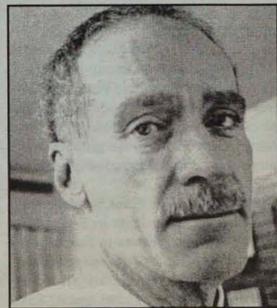
A pox on your house

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

"Bloods" member, and claimed the men he fired at were members of the "Black Widows." Gang graffiti was also on the rise; in addition to scrawls on walls in downtown Portland, tags appeared on buildings in neighboring Westbrook.

■ **Housing crunch:** Greater Portland's vacancy rate dropped to an estimated

a nearby elderly housing complex who said the club's patrons kept them up at night. To avoid losing their liquor license, Zootz's owners agreed to share the cost of a policeman for added security and to look for a new space by August 1997.

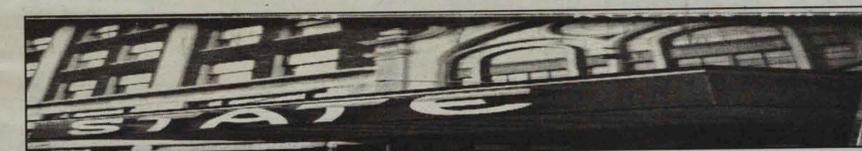


2 percent by September. While renters searched endlessly for places to live, landlords felt free to raise rents and choose only top candidates for their apartments. Refugees, the poor and single parents with large families were particularly hard hit; many had to settle for substandard living conditions.

■ **Clubs shut down:** Two of Portland's top music venues closed their doors due to financial difficulties. Blues venue Morganfield's shut in May, as did Granny Killam's in August. In December, owner Scott Kinsey announced he'd be reopening Granny's with two partners and more mainstream bands. A third club, Zootz, faced a stiff challenge in September from residents of

■ **Maine Med plays hardball:** After completing a merger with Brighton Medical Center, Maine Medical Center went after the last competition in Portland: Mercy Hospital. Maine Med, which is nonprofit, has formed a money-making insurance company with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The company would offer low-cost, comprehensive health-care, but with a catch — members could only use Maine Med and its doctors. Mercy officials say the venture could siphon off 15-40 percent of the Catholic hospital's patients. Now the state attorney general and Bureau of Insurance must decide whether to license Maine Med's company, or whether the plan violates antitrust laws.

Five stories to watch for in 1997



■ **LAURA CONAWAY**

■ **State Theatre stays tangled:** City inspectors ruled in November the State's ceiling is safe for the theater to reopen, but the nonprofit trying to run the venue shows no sign of scheduling future events. The legal battle between nonprofit State of the Arts (START) and landlords Nick and Lola Kampf could continue through spring. The Kampts have been trying to evict START, while START has been pressing for arbitration. Meanwhile, after a string of canceled shows, START has lost credibility with the public, and claims to be flat broke. Said Tim Keiter, attorney for the Kampts, "Why they don't just hand us the keys is beyond me."

■ **Push for elected mayor grows:** The group gathering signatures to force a referendum that could give Portland an elected mayor announced in November they're close to having enough names. Led by strange bedfellows Mike Roland (school committee chairman), Bud Gallie (Portland Taxpayers Association president) and City Councilor Tom Kane, the coalition has been petitioning for a vote in May 1997 to form a city

charter commission. That commission could then send the mayoral issue out to voters.

■ **Music clubs keep shuffling:** Granny Killam promises to reopen with a revamped lineup of centrist bands. Per orders of the Portland City Council, Zootz, which had considered running Granny's, will have to go hunting for club space to call its own. Stone Coast Brewing Company says it's failing to meet its sales projections. Morganfield's is up for sale — asking price \$650,000 — and so is the State Theatre — asking price \$2 million — but in a nightlife market like Portland's, who's buying?

■ **New bridge opens:** The behemoth drawbridge between Portland and South Portland is expected to open in July 1997. When it does, West End residents will get a taste of life as an on-ramps for trucks and cars to get on the bridge. Residents of South Portland's Knightville will find their environs far quieter, since most of the 30,000 cars now passing through there daily will be routed beyond the neighborhood. Bikers will enjoy safer riding provided by the

new bridge's generous shoulders, but will have to negotiate exit ramps that make no provision for pedalers.

■ **Gay rights, sort of, could become law:** Head counters in the Maine House and Senate say gay rights advocates have a lock on passing an equal rights bill. Gov. Angus King has said he'll sign the legislation if it reaches his desk. Carolyn Cosby, a leader of the anti-gay rights movement, says her group would work to overturn an equal rights law through referendum. Those rights, however else equal they may be, won't include the right for gay couples to marry. While the Legislature seems likely to pass a ban on same-sex marriage, gay rights activists say they'll let the courts settle the matter.

File photo credits:

Page 9: Jonathan Carter by Colin Malakie; Stroudwater Marsh oil spill by Toney Harbert; Dancer boy by Colin Malakie
 Page 10: Parkside buildings by Shoshannah White; Michael Chitwood by Shoshannah White; Dancers at Zootz by Toney Harbert
 Page 11: New bridge by Toney Harbert; State Theatre (distorted) by Toney Harbert

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 January 9, 1997

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Comment

1996 WINNERS
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 JIM LONGLEY
 MARK MCCLURE
 LOU URENECK

1996 JURY'S OUT
 PORTLAND HARBOR
 PORTLAND CLUBS
 PORTLAND CITY HALL
 AUDITORIUM
 ELECTED MAYOR
 SUSAN COLLINS

Person of the year

"If I were Betty Noyce"
 That phrase crept into a lot of Portland conversations in 1996. The city watched with amazement as Noyce self-effacingly pumped cash and confidence into our faltering economy, as she donated to worthy causes, as she funded important projects, as she steadily advanced her own quiet vision of what makes a city work.



Sometimes people ended their dreams of Noycedom selfishly, as in: "If I were Betty Noyce, I'd buy a villa in the south of France and blow this town." But more often, you'd hear someone saying things like, "I'd pay off all my friends' college loans," or "I'd open a five-story nightclub where everyone in town could go and have a good time," or "I'd buy a building where all the artists in the city could have studio space."



Betty Noyce in 1989
 FILE PHOTO/CHRISTOPHER AYRES

In her quiet way, Noyce got us dreaming. She reminded us that the best thing to do with a ton of money isn't to spend it all on yourself. Make yourself comfortable, by all means, but don't forget the people around you. It's a lesson we hear from the time we're children, but rarely do we see one individual put it into action with such grace and integrity.

SARAH GOODYEAR

Hello, hello Nice to meet you

You've probably seen me on the street a thousand times. I have my routine. I get up in the morning, get in the shower, brush my teeth, walk to work, leave again to score some java. I have my regular hangouts. I grab lunch from one of a certain number of sandwich slingers. I stock up on groceries in the same hole-in-the-wall markets. What's more, I tend to get to all of these places following the same paths.

As a result, I run into a lot of people I know on a regular basis. That is, without question, one of the coolest things about living in a city the size of Portland. You can almost guarantee if you've met someone at a party somewhere, at some point in time, you'll run into them again when you're having brunch or slackin' in the sun pit outside of Green Mountain or waiting to use a public restroom. Gradually, friendships are formed, romances bloom, business deals are discussed, life is propelled by a series of chance meetings.

Still, for every friend I might run into there are countless others, countless strangers. I walk by them each morning, recognize their faces, have a rough idea of where they're going. I even have names for them. In my head, I affectionately refer to one as Big-Haired Lady and another as Starving Artist Boy. I wonder if Young Banker really likes wearing suits and if Suburban Nurse is overworked. I play little mental games with myself, imagining what it would be like to swap bodies with one of them, Freaky Friday-style.

How long would it take me to realize I was going in the opposite direction? Would I even know where I was going? What would it be like for them to become me? How much information could I glean about my new self from the contents of the backpack I suddenly found myself carrying?

As sort of a sociological experiment, I've taken it upon myself to actually go to the trouble of greeting the people I recognize.

OK, I admit, it's a little weird but, what can I say? I'm curious. Not everyone seems to share my impolite curiosity, though. Maybe it's a New England thing, or maybe it's a childhood throwback — "Don't talk to strangers, dear" — but Portland is just not the kind of town where you start talking to folks you don't know without a good reason or a formal introduction. So I've created lives for my strangers, formed my own hypotheses about their roles in the community.

It isn't the same in other parts of the country. In Key West, everyone with eyes to see will freely comment on your attire, and on the West Coast, most anyone is willing to strike up a conversation. But, here you typically don't say anything unless you're selling something, panhandling or have allowed yourself to down a wee bit too much from the whiskey jug. Half the time even people who know your name don't bother to say hello.

I've always found this unspoken rule irritating, but I've done my part, played by the rules and kept my lips zipped. That is, until lately. As sort of a sociological experiment, I've taken it upon myself to actually go to the trouble of greeting the people I recognize. I say "good morning" or "hi" or sometimes I just smile but, I make a point of letting them know I am aware of our simultaneous existence on the planet. Call me crazy. Call me daring. Tell me I've got an obscure Pollyanna-Sunshine friendliness disorder. I just happen to think that some sort of acknowledgment is reasonable.

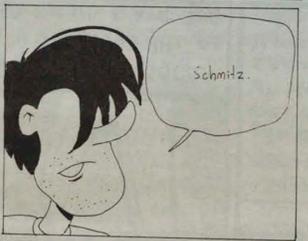
I've had mixed results. Some of my subjects smile back, and one has even taken to waving from the opposite side of the street. Others are obviously disturbed by my extroverted tendencies. Initially, they were all surprised. Most are puzzled. As for myself, I've learned that just because someone's features are familiar to me, it doesn't mean that I'm at all familiar to them.

That's OK, though. I'm gonna keep at it. What the hell? I really have nothing to lose. At worst, they'll think of me as Bizarre Woman Who Keeps Saying Hello. Well, actually, the worst-case scenario is that someone will think I'm stalking them and decide to have me arrested for harassment. But I bet I'll develop an understanding with a few. Perhaps we'll chat in line buying lettuce or shampoo or whatever and I'll get a few answers to my questions. Maybe I'll find out where they're really headed. Chances are, they'll ask me where we've met.

That woman who said hello on the street this morning?
 Ellen McAlister.

ESSAY

drunkBoy BY KURTH



CBW Q

Why are the lions in front of Nu's Restaurant on Washington Avenue wrapped in chicken wire?

"We wanted to do something very nice," said Nu Carpenter, part owner of Nu's. "But we want to make sure that they are there." Nu's had two beautiful trees in front of the establishment until one was stolen in 1992, which upset Carpenter greatly. Then Carpenter's sister-in-law called and suggested that the two very heavy lion statues — Carpenter estimated they weighed nearly 300-400 pounds each — could replace the tree. The chicken wire is extra insurance: "It's a very tough area, especially at night," said Michael Bocal, Carpenter's husband and co-owner of Nu's. "I can't be there all the time."

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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.

Clever language, not ideas

Your article "Lousy Grades" (12.5.96) was long on clever language, but very short on sound ideas and judgment. Your treatment of Charlie Harlow is a good example. He is criticized for trying to "create" a political career for himself and because he would like to be mayor. Is there something wrong about either desire? Is it uncommon for an elected official to go from one public office to a higher one? Do political careers just happen, or do people create political careers for themselves? Is there something wrong with

Your article was shallow simply because it was merely the peevish impressions of Al Diamon, who got up on the wrong side of the bed. It is juvenile. Who does Al Diamon talk to anyway, a handful of people who hang out in Old Port restaurants?

a Democrat wanting to have more Democrats on the city council? Your article states that there is!

You say that Councilor Harlow "panders to neighborhood politics and seems to be incapable of taking a larger citywide view." Do you mean that he tries to bring home the bacon to his district? Isn't that precisely why everyone cheered when Sen. Bill Cohen was on the Armed Services Committee and why they are cheering even louder now because he is going to be Secretary of Defense?

Your article was shallow simply because it was merely the peevish impressions of Al Diamon, who got up on the wrong side of the bed. It is juvenile. Who does Al Diamon talk to anyway, a handful of people who hang out in Old Port restaurants?

Donald F. Fontaine
 Portland

You can call me Al

I have not dusted off my political pen since I signed my last legislative expense check, but Al Diamon's column on governmental influences and influenzas causes me to wake. I usually find myself laughing in agreement with Al's lampoons — one of the many reasons why it was time for me to retire from politics. The fact that I was not only absent from either of Al's lists, but that he didn't even call me about who should be on them, establishes me as a legitimate political "has-been." Therefore, I am in the perfect position to criticize his characterization of City Councilor Tom Kane.

Sorry Al, Tom Kane is no Carolyn Cosby. Listing Kane with Cosby is comparable to pairing George Mitchell with David Duke.

LETTERS

Kane is a legitimate fighter for the people. He alone has had the patience to listen to the crybabies who complain about noise from Sea Dogs games. He is the only city councilor who has been on the cutting edge of addressing the concerns that residents have raised about the many Mario Andrettis racing through our neighborhoods. Finally, and most importantly, Kane is the leader who has championed the necessary replacement of our faceless city management form of government with a mayor elected by the people.

I have a sneaking suspicion that Al's source of negativism on Kane emanates from the status quo at City Hall — a group which I hope Kane continues to challenge. Although Al has never publicly eaten "humble pie" over any of his written opinions, I predict that sometime later in the privacy of his cubicle he will say very softly, "I was wrong about Tom Kane."

Gerard P. Conley Jr.
 former State Senator
 Portland

More Christmas spirit

I'm surprised at how many of your readers got sidetracked over an anecdotal reference to 17th-century Natives and missed the point of my Nov. 8 letter, so I'll reiterate: the government has no business taking money from people who've earned it and giving it away to people who haven't. There is no constitutional, moral, ethical or logical rationale for government-provided handouts to anyone, whether it is in the form of welfare, food stamps, subsidized housing, Social Security, Medicare, agricultural subsidies, foreign aid or heating oil assistance.

This is not a socialist country. I am under no obligation to part with my hard-earned dollars simply because someone else has a perceived "need," yet this is exactly the situation confronting me in the U.S. today, where the single largest component of all federal expenditures is handouts (i.e. government-enforced transfer of wealth from those to whom it belongs to those who don't deserve it). If the government didn't forcibly coerce me into contributing to charity, perhaps I would be more inclined to support private causes such as United Way, Salvation Army and the like.

What all you empty-headed bleeding-heart liberals fail to realize is that you've created the need for your social programs: By giving them an option to avoid earning their own keep, you've provided all the deadbeats out there with no incentive to get a job and make do for themselves. Why work when the government is there to feed, house, clothe and wipe you nose for you?

G. Loring Harmon Jr.
 Portland

Correction:

In last week's cover story, "Speaking her mind," we incorrectly referred to Community Counseling Center as Community Counseling Services.

Campaign finance: **The Maine College of Art** can wrap up its \$5.5 million capital campaign Dec. 31 — but only if it raises about \$250,000 in the next several days. The campaign, which has progressed at a snail's pace over recent months, finally topped the \$5 million mark last week with a \$100,000 donation from a Maine-based philanthropic foundation. If the campaign reaches \$5.25 million by Dec. 31, MECA will receive the remaining \$250,000 from the Kresge Foundation. If not — well, MECA officials are hoping that's a bridge they don't have to cross. "It's nip and tuck at the moment," said Roger Gilmore, MECA president, this week. "We should be hearing from a number of foundations and individuals this week. We're cautiously optimistic."

ear to the pavement



The current campaign will fund work that has already been completed on the fourth and fifth floors of the old Porteous building on Congress Street, as well as work in progress on the first floor. The first floor will include two galleries, one opening in February, the other next fall; a retail shop, slated to open in the fall, stocked with art by MECA students and alums, as well as work by Maine Crafts Association members; and a downtown branch of the Artist & Craftsman Supply store, which will include a small café that will be open to the public.

The campaign does not include money for the second and third floors, which Gilmore estimated would cost up to \$2 million apiece to complete. "We'll be cultivating individual donors for specific parts of those floors," Gilmore said. "We're on a pay-as-you-go basis from now on."

■ **Dead can dance:** Time again to pick the annual **Dead List**, the compendium of departed notables compiled yearly by a group of drinking buddies at Three Dollar Dewey's. The tradition began in 1988, when word of Red Sox outfielder Tony Conigliaro's death reached the pub and a toast was held in his memory. In subsequent years a Dead List evolved, drawn from local, regional, national and international figures who had died during the year just past. The list is usually heavy on entertainers, but honorees have included writers, politicians, sports figures, Mainers, scientists and at least one "beloved ex-president that we can't kick around anymore."

This year's list of more than 150 candidates, from which voters are asked to pick their favorite 10, ranges from poet Joseph Brodsky to Jimmy the Greek Snyder to Ella Fitzgerald to Spiro Agnew. The ballot itself is a fascinating document; there's something strangely affecting about seeing roles of the noble and ignoble listed cheek to jowl. "Some people think the list is offensive, but that's certainly not our intent," said Paul Guerin, one of the compilers. "It's our way honoring people who've died."

For a ballot, inquire at Dewey's. Deadline for the 1996 Dead List is Dec. 28. Finalists will be named New Year's Eve at Dewey's at around 6 p.m. **CBW**

edge

DAN SHORT WRAPS UP THE YEAR IN MUSIC ... PETER WOLF COMETH ... GENO'S GIVES ITS ALL FOR MECA ... MUSINGS FROM THE LAND OF NINE ... ACCENTUATING THE POSITIVE WITH ACOUSTIC JUNCTION ... HELLO, 1997!

read over to next page →



The milk of human blindness

MOST OF THE OTHER KIDS WHO LIVED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD HAD SCARS OF ONE SORT OR ANOTHER AS WELL ...



THAT NIGHT, I LAY IN MY BED LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW UP INTO THE WOODS. THROUGH THE DARK TREES, I THOUGHT I COULD SEE THE CAR GLEAMING LIKE A BONE.



THE SNOW TURNED TO RAIN, AND I FINALLY FELL ASLEEP.

IF I HAD KNOWN WHAT A SOCIOPATH WAS WHEN I WAS SEVEN, I THINK I MIGHT HAVE UNDERSTOOD DARREN BETTER.



WHEN DARREN WAS ELEVEN, HIS DAD GAVE HIM A BEAT UP OLD WHITE DODGE THAT DIDN'T RUN. THEY PUT IT IN A CLEARING IN THE WOODS UP BEHIND OUR HOUSES. "WHEN YOU TURN 16, WE'LL FIX IT UP — YOU AND ME" HE SAID. THAT WAS JUST BEFORE HE TOOK OFF AND LEFT THEM.



FOR TWO WEEKS I WAITED FOR DARREN TO FIND OUT ABOUT WHAT I HAD DONE.



WHEN I WAS FIVE, MY DAD LEFT AND WE HAD TO MOVE UP THE STREET. BEFORE THAT, I WAS AN INNOCENT LITTLE KID WHO DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT PLAYBOY MAGS, STOLEN BEER, OR HAVING A STEAK KNIFE PRESSED TO MY CHEEK. →

ONE DAY I WENT UP TO THE CLEARING IN THE WOODS BY THE CAR.



WHEN THE HAMMER FELL, I WAS WATCHING CREATURE DOUBLE FEATURE. MY MOM CAME IN AND TURNED OFF THE TV. SHE SAID DARREN'S MOM HAD CALLED — SHE HAD SEEN ME BREAK THE WINDOW. MY MOM YELLED AT ME AND DRAGGED ME OVER TO DARREN'S HOUSE. I STARTED CRYING, I THINK. I KNEW I WAS DEAD.

My Birthday Sale IV 1 Day Only

As many of you know by now December 27th is my birthday, and ever since I opened the store I've held a party for you on my birthday.

To celebrate we have a big sale — I'm still in my 40's, so just about everything in the store is **40% off**.

Now, you don't have to buy me a gift, but ... I have had my eye on those really soft flannel sheets and I've always wanted one of those backpacks made from innertubes decorated with license plates ...

Anyway — come to The Resourceful Home on **December 27th** and **save 40%** on everything you've always wanted, but that Santa didn't bring.



—THIS STORY FIRST APPEARED IN 3-SPEED. PATRICK©96

ONCE, DARREN THREW A CIRCULAR SAW BLADE AT MY HEAD AFTER HE FOUND OUT THAT I TOLD ON HIM FOR SETTING MRS. MULLIGAN'S BACK FIELD ON FIRE. THAT WAS IN 1976.



OVER THE YEARS, THE SCAR HAS CREPT UP FROM MY FOREHEAD TO SOMEWHERE ABOVE MY HAIRLINE. I'LL PROBABLY SEE IT AGAIN SOMEDAY.

I FOUND A ROCK AND THREW IT AT ONE OF THE DOOR WINDOWS. IT SMASHED. FOR A FEW SECONDS, I STARED AT THE JAGGED HOLE. I COULD SEE THE ROCK LYING LIKE A LUMP OF COAL AMONG A THOUSAND BLUE-GREEN DIAMONDS OF GLASS ON THE VINYL SEAT.



AS I WAS RUNNING HOME, IT STARTED TO SNOW.



MY MOM KEPT SHAKING ME AND TELLING ME TO APOLOGIZE. WE WERE IN THE KITCHEN WITH DARREN AND HIS MOM. HIS MOM LOOKED TIRED.



DARREN WAS AT THE TABLE. HE WAS HUNCHED OVER — CRYING UNCONTROLLABLY. I STARED AT HIS BACK AS IT HEAVED. "I'M SORRY" I SAID. HE DIDN'T LOOK UP — IT WAS LIKE I WASN'T EVEN THERE. I FOUND OUT LATER THAT THE SNOW AND RAIN HAD SWEEPED INTO THE CAR AND RUINED THE INSIDE. HIS MOM HAD IT TOWED AWAY TO THE JUNKYARD.

THE AUDUBON ROOM
FINE DINING • DISTINCTIVE CATERING

CELEBRATE the arrival of 1997

Enjoy spectacular ocean views

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER 6pm - 10:30pm
6 Course Culinary Masterpiece \$110 per couple

NEW YEAR'S DAY BRUNCH 10am - 2pm
17.95 per adult 10.95 children 12 and under

Reservations Required
767-0888

Call us to inquire about catering for holiday parties and social events at our place or yours!

Inn By The Sea
40 Bowery Beach Rd.
Cape Elizabeth, ME

Free Street Taverna
local beer, local art & local rock

STRING BUILDER
Thurs 26

VAMPIRE LEZBOS
Fri 27

CABBAGE
Sat 28

HAAKON & THE AMERICAN WAY
Sun 29

OPEN MIC w/ CHANCE THE GARDENER
Mon 30

RUMFORD & THE PONTIFFS
Tue 31

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

DIESEL DOUG'S RIG ROCK REVIEW
Wed 1

COME TRY GOURMET MIKE'S NEW MENU!

SATURDAY NIGHTS DINNER FOR TWO
2 Demi-Salads, A Grecian Delight Platter & A Bottle Of House Wine & Coffee And Dessert - \$25

125 Free St., Portland
774-1114

INTERESTING FACTS

by Frank Gaziano

Which 5 U.S. states have the least population? Answer: Alaska, Wyoming, Vermont, Delaware and North Dakota.

One of the least-sunny places in the world are the Falkland Islands where they average only about 18 days a year when it is NOT cloudy.

On the Falkland Islands, the population of about 2,000 people is outnumbered by more than half a million sheep and several million penguins.

Although lions are called "king of the beasts", tigers can beat lions in a fight almost every time.

The U.S. Treasury prints about \$4-billion in new money every year-and 60 per cent of that is made up of \$1 bills

And here's another interesting fact... Did you know Anheuser-Busch - The world's best brewer brews 5 light beers? Besides Bud Light, the best selling light beer in America, Bud Ice Light, Michelob Light, Busch Light and Natural Light are also available, taste them all-we're confident one of the 5 will become your favorite light beer.

FRESH BEER TASTES BETTER!

ISN'T IT NICE TO KNOW YOU'RE DRINKING ONE OF THE BEST LIGHT BEERS?

Distributed by National Distributors
MICHELOB LIGHT

BAD HABITS
SAT 12/28

ALL AGES!
5:30PM - 17

Madball, sat 12.28
Vision of Disorder
& Candy Striper
Death Orgy

New Year's Eve
tue 12.31

Black & White Ball

\$10/\$8 w/black & white attire or New Year's Portland button
Free champagne toast, party favors & appetizer buffet
9pm-4am 21+ til 2:15am
upcoming:

Polyglot, Reason Enough & Brother's Keeper

zootz dance schedule

FUNERAL A GOTHIC INDUSTRIAL
nara egea alternative dance night
21+ 9-11pm
\$1 drafts & \$2 wells 9-11pm
DJ Larre Love & Guest DJs from the east coast & beyond

BOUNCE
NO COVER BEFORE 11PM
ALL AGES • 11pm-3am • \$6

DECADES OF DANCE
BEST OF THE 70S 80S & 90S
NO COVER BEFORE 11PM • 9pm-1am • 21+ until 11:00am

ALL REQUEST NIGHT
NO COVER BEFORE 11PM • 9pm-1am
\$1 drafts & \$2 wells 9-11pm

31 Forest Ave, Portland • 773-8187

The Rec-Room,
29 1/2 Forest Ave.
is open 7 nights from 8pm-1am.
NEVER A COVER!

clubs



Prime cut

When two veterans of hardcore standard-setter Agnostic Front joined forces with vocalist Freddy Cricien and bassist Hoya in 1987, **MADBALL** was born. With its roots set firmly in New York City's underground music scene, the band has taken its aggressive mix of hardcore, punk and metal to an international audience. Madball's appeal is largely due to Cricien's cold, harsh and direct street lyrics that take listeners into his hardcore lifestyle, with its drugs, poverty and violence. Catch Madball playing cuts from its new release, "Demonstrating My Style," Dec 28 at Zootz, 31 Forest Ave, Portland at 7 pm (all-ages). Vision of Disorder & Candy Striper Death Orgy opens. Tix: \$7. 773-8187.

- thursday 26**
- The Basement**
Chronic Funk, 1 Exchange St, Portland. 828-1111.
 - The Big Easy**
Jimmy & the Soul Cats (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.
 - Comedy Connection**
Comedy Showcase, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.
 - Dark Horse Saloon**
Candi-oake, 145 Kennebec St, Portland. 773-7791.
 - Free Street Taverna**
String Builder, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.
 - Geno's**
Wide Open Mic Night with 37 Smokes, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.
 - Gritty McDuff's**
Muscle Funk, 396 Fore St, Portland. 772-2739.
 - The Moon**
T.G.I. Thursday (DJ Jayce spins top 40 dance), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.
 - Old Port Tavern**
Empty Heads (rock), 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.
 - The Pavilion**
DJ Jim Dawg Lynch (top 40), 188 Middle St, Portland. 773-6422.
 - The Underground**
Retro Dance with Bob Look, 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.
 - Zootz**
Funeral (Gothic Industrial Dance Music until 1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.
 - Comedy Connection**
Comedy Showcase, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.
 - Free Street Taverna**
Vampire Lesbos, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.
 - Geno's**
Geno's salutes MECA with a winter festival featuring Moon Dog Biscuit and Stonegate, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.
 - Grill 36**
T.B.A., 36 Market St, Portland. 772-6099.
 - The Industry**
College Night (DJ Mix), 50 Wharf St, Portland. 879-0865.
 - The Moon**
International Dance (DJ Jayce), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.
 - Old Port Tavern**
Empty Heads (rock), 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.
 - Raoul's**
Spring Loaded (cover rock), 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.
 - Stone Coast Brewing Company**
Rustic Overtones (ska rock), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.
 - Tipperary Pub**
Tony Boffa Trio, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.
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International Dance (DJ Jayce), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.
 - Old Port Tavern**
Empty Heads (rock), 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.
 - Raoul's**
Spring Loaded (cover rock), 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.
 - Stone Coast Brewing Company**
Rustic Overtones (ska rock), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.
 - Tipperary Pub**
Tony Boffa Trio, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.
 - Free Street Taverna**
Vampire Lesbos, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.
 - Geno's**
Geno's salutes MECA with a winter festival featuring Moon Dog Biscuit and Stonegate, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.
 - Grill 36**
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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.

stage

"A Christmas Carol" Portland Stage Company presents the Dickens classic. At PSC, 25A Forest Ave, Portland. Shows through Dec 29. Tues-Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 5 pm, Sun 2 pm. Holiday matinees: Dec 28 at 1 pm, Ti: \$19-\$29, 774-0465.

"Lady Lily's Dilemma" The Embassy Players present the story of a former music hall star whose attempt to make a comeback throws her entire life into a tailspin. At the Arts Conservatory Theater and Studio, 341 Cumberland Ave, Portland, Dec 27-Jan 12. Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 2 pm. Holiday shows: Dec 30 & Jan 1 at 8 pm. Ti: \$10 (\$8 seniors/students), 761-2465.

"Lonely Planet" Mad Horse Theatre Company presents the funny, touching story about an extraordinary friendship in the era of AIDS. At Mad Horse Theatre, Forest Ave, Portland. Shows through Dec 29. Thurs 7:30 pm, Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm. Ti: \$18 (\$16 students/seniors) \$20 (\$18 seniors/students) on Sat. Dec 12 is sold out. 797-3338.

"Tuscaloosa" Embassy Players presents a musical comedy about the pressures of urban life. Showing Thursdays at 8 pm. At the Arts Conservatory Theater and Studio, 341 Cumberland Ave, Portland. Ti: \$10 (\$8 seniors/students), 761-2465.

auditions/etc

Auditions The Gorham Arts Boosters seek local people to sing, dance, do stand-up comedy, magic or juggle in its first annual "Gab Capers" Variety Show at the Gorham Recreation Winter Carnival Feb 9, 1997. Auditions will be held the week of Jan 5, 1997. For more info, call Marie South at 892-6284.

Auditions for "Name" Jan 18 & 19. All-ages welcome to audition for this musical. At the Schoolhouse Arts Center at Sebago Lake, Route 114, Standish, from 1-4 pm. 780-5394.

Auditions for Singers The Royal River Chorus holds auditions for new members. Women singers interested in joining the 45-member group may attend Thurs night rehearsals in Yarmouth to prepare for the Feb 15 audition. For more info, call Leigh Kirchner at 846-4331.

Cathedral Chamber Singers A community choir based at St. Luke's Cathedral seeks new members. Auditions by appointment. 772-5434.

Oak Street Theatre School for the Performing Arts Winter semester offerings include "Acting For Ordinary People," classes for kids and teens, advanced level classes, professional workshops and facilitated professional actor "work-outs." Registration is under way. Prices range from \$5-\$150. For more info and/or a registration form, call the Oak Street Theatre at 775-5103 (between 25 pm, Tues-Fri).

One-Page Playwriting Contest Portland Stage Intern Company's 1996-97 grassroots project invites people of all ages, locally and nationally to submit one-page plays. The contest winners' works will be presented at the Grassroots Project's production in April. For official entry rules, call Carin Heidebach at 774-1043.

"Lettice and Lovage" Raffle Jan 31, 1997. Acorn Productions holds its second annual raffle for a walk-on role in an Oak Street Theatre Production. Twelve different winners will be drawn (one for each performance) for the role of an American tourist in "Lettice and Lovage" to be performed Feb 6-23, 1997. Ti: \$10 (3 for \$25). Tickets are on sale at Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland, 775-5103.

Reindeer Performing Arts For Kids Offers workshops on singing, acting, movement, songwriting, storytelling, character and scene development for kids ages 5-13 on weekdays and weekends. At the Reindeer Room, 650 Forest Ave, Portland, 2nd floor. 874-9002.

Volunteers Needed Oak Street Theatre Company has volunteer opportunities in a variety of areas, from set construction and painting to poster distribution and front of house. Volunteers receive complementary tickets. For more info, call Michael Levine between 2-5 pm. 775-5103.

concerts

friday 27

Schooner Fare Annual holiday concert. At Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd, So. Portland, at 8 pm. Ti: \$15 (\$10 students/seniors), 799-7337.

saturday 28

Coffeehouse The Westbrook Unitarian Universalist Church presents its Dec coffeehouse featuring folksinger/songwriter Frank Gotwals. At 719 Main St, Westbrook. Doors open 7:30 pm, open mic 8:30 pm. Cost: \$3 (\$2 seniors/kids), 854-2497.

tuesday 31

Scottish Hogmanay Gala Featuring George Worthley and Carol Clark with the Waterworks. At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 307 Congress St, Portland. Potluck dinner begins at 6:30 pm. Scottish dress is encouraged. Cost: \$10. To reserve a ticket, contact: Worthley-Montague, Ltd., P.O. Box 7664, Portland Me. 04112-7664.

upcoming

Rusted Root Jan 16. At the Portland Expo, at 7:30. Ti: \$19.50, 773-7940.

dance

events

Holiday Intensive Dec 26-28 & 30-31. Ram Island Dance's artistic director, Sara Whale, teaches intermediate modern dance classes. Cost: \$8 per class (5 classes for \$30), 773-2562.

Maine Swing Dance Society presents a night of dancing the 1st Fri of every month. At Presumpscot Grange, outer Forest Ave across from Tortilla Flats, from 9 pm-midnight. Swing dance lesson at 8 pm. Next dance: Jan 3 with live music by The Pinetones. Cost: \$6, 828-1795.

preview

Art rock



Rockin' for MECA with Stonegate, Dec. 27

Geno's embraces the spirit of this season of fellowship and glad tidings with a benefit show for the Maine College of Art, featuring the music of southern Maine bands Moon Dog Biscuit and Stonegate.

MECA, trying to wrap up a \$5.5 million capital campaign to pay for improvements on its new home on Congress Street, has less than a week to raise \$250,000, which will put the campaign's total at \$5.25 million. If it can do so by Dec. 31, the Kresge

Foundation will pitch in the remaining \$250,000 to complete the deal.

"We're doing this because we wanted to do something to welcome MECA to the neighborhood," says Barb Moran, booking agent for Geno's. "Plus, a lot of artsy people come to Geno's, and at some point we'd like to have one- or two-person art exhibits in the club. Maybe it could open other doors for them if they showed their work here."

Moon Dog Biscuit and Stonegate perform a benefit show for MECA Dec. 27 at Geno's, 13 Brown St., at 9:30 p.m. Ti: \$4, 774-8760.

■ SCOTT SUTHERLAND

New Years Eve Party Dec 31. The United States Amateur Ballroom Dancers Association hosts a party. At Father Hayes Center, 699 Stevens Ave, Portland, from 8 pm-1 am. Ti: \$25 (\$20 USABDA member), 934-7990.

Plus Dance Dec 28. Sponsored by the Round Squares Square Dance Club. At Wentworth Middle School, Scarborough, at 7:30 pm. 797-3757.

others

Agape 657 Congress St, Portland. Cost: \$5 (\$18 for 4 classes). "Creative Movement" on Mondays from 5:15-7:15 pm. Cost: \$5, 780-1500.

Ballroom Dance Social The Gorham Dance Club hosts a ballroom party and social, Saturdays from 8-11 pm at the Center of Movement, 19 State St, Gorham. Potluck supper at 7 pm. Cost: \$5, 839-3267.

Casco Bay Movers Classes in jazz, tap, street funk, ballet and dancemagic. Workshops in African dance, Capoeira, Swing, Jitterbug and Pilates. At 151 St. John St, Portland, 871-1013.

Center of Movement School of Performing Arts, 19 State St, Gorham. Offers dance classes and special events on a regular basis. 839-3267.

Contact Improvisation/Open Movement Dance Groups meet Mon and Wed from 7:30-11 pm. Cost: \$3-\$6. Contact classes meet on Tues from 8-10 pm. Cost \$5-\$10. At Portland Performing Arts, 25A Forest Ave, Portland. All ages and abilities welcome. 775-4981.

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

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

Contradance with Whirled Peas and John McIntyre the first Fri of every month at 8:30 pm at State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland. Cost: \$5. (All dances taught), 774-1873.

Dancing From the Inside Out is an ongoing class in expressive dance and creative movement. Come move in a safe supportive space. No experience necessary, open to all. Sat 9-11 am, Wed 4-6 pm. At Maine Ballroom, 614 A Congress St, Portland. Cost: \$10. For more info, call Jesse Loesberg at 773-2362.

Eduardo Mariscal seeks volunteers to help backstage, sell tickets and do publicity for upcoming performances. 879-0480.

Family Dance Chem-free and fun-filled dancing for the whole family and for singles the 5th Sat of the month. Bring your favorite music on tape or CD to guarantee a dance that will please you. At the Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave, Portland, from 6-10 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$3 kids/\$10 family), 772-8277.

Maine Ballroom Dance Studio 614A Congress St, Portland, offers classes in swing, foxtrot, waltz and Latin dance, as well as a dance party every Saturday night, from 8 pm-midnight. 773-0002.

Maplewood Dance Center 383 Warren Ave, Portland, is open every night for dancing. Country dancing Thurs-Mon, swing dancing the third Tuesday of every month and ballroom dancing Wed. 878-0584.

Meditative Belly Dance Want to learn to shimmy and shake? Then take belly dancing classes with Josie at 25A Forest Ave, Portland, Wed 6:45-8 pm (any level) or Tues 6:30-8 pm (intermediate level, by invitation only). Workshops also available. For more information, call 828-6571 and ask for Josie.

New Dance Studio 61 Pleasant St, Portland, offers modern dance classes for adults and children (ages 4-17). Faculty includes Lisa Hicks, Gwyneth Jones, Daniel McCusker and Paul Sarvis. For a free brochure, call 780-0554.

Star of Sea Dance Kids learn the basics of tap, jazz and ballet, Wednesdays from 3:30-4:15 pm (4-6 years) and 6:15-7 pm at Riverton Community Center, 1600 Forest Ave, Portland. Cost: \$15 per month. Sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation. 874-9455.

events

1997 Winter Tour of World Figure Skating Champions Jan 3. A live two-hour exhibition featuring Olympic gold medalists Brian Boitano, Dorothy Hamill and pair skaters Tai Babilonia and Randy Gardner. At the Civic Center, Portland, at 8 pm. Ti: \$38, 775-3458.

Portland Pirates Games Dec 26: Against Worcester, at 7 pm. Dec 28: Against Providence, at 7:30 pm. Dec 31: Against Providence, at 4 pm. At the Civic Center, Portland. Ti: \$8-\$13 (\$5-\$6.50 kids/seniors), 775-3458.

art

openings

Coffee By Design 620 Congress St, Portland. Opening reception for works by Portland artist and poet Woody Dana, Jan 15 from 5-8 pm. Shows Jan 5 through Feb 9. Holiday Show featuring artwork by Greg Day, Marilyn Blinkhorn, Brian Currier, Jill Monaghan and Chris Gerquest shows through Jan 4. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-8 pm, Sat 8 am-8 pm, Sun 8 am-7 pm. 772-5533.

now showing

Agape Center 657 Congress St, Portland. "Papers of the Spirit," works by Richard Lee. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-2 pm and by appt. 780-1500.

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

Arbica Coffee House 16 Free St, Portland. Paintings by teens from the Center for Teaching and Learning in Edgemoor shows through Jan 15. 879-0792.

Art & Artifacts Gallery Route 1, Freeport. Hours: Tues-Sun 10 am-6 pm. 865-1921.

Art Gallery at Six Deering Street 6 Deering St, Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 772-9605.

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

"Art & Life in the Ancient Mediterranean" An installation of Assyrian, Egyptian, Cypriot, Greek and Roman art, ongoing.

"Crosscurrents 1996" Art from Africa, Asia and the Americas, as well as contemporary objects from the permanent collection, ongoing.

Center for Maine History presents a three-part exhibition on the history of Maine Native American carving and basket making. "Growth Rings: 200 Years of Basketry, Carving and Wabanaki Enterprise," "Trees and Tradition: Brown Ash and Maine Native American Basketmaking" and "Spirits in the Wood: Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Root Clubs." 489 Congress St, Portland. 879-0427.

Chocolate Church Arts Center 804 Washington St, Bath. Members exhibition shows through Dec 20. 442-8455.

Connections 56 Main St, Brunswick. "Small Paintings & Art Gifts," a holiday show featuring 46 artists and craftspeople shows through Jan 25. Hours: Mon-Thurs 10 am-5 pm, Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 725-1399.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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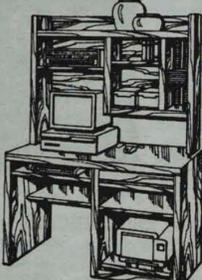
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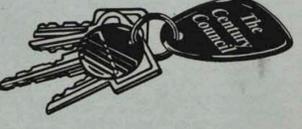
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SHORT cuts
The year in review
 The year 1996 was a curious time for music in southern Maine. On the one hand, there were more bands than ever making vital music. But at the same time, the club scene was in serious trouble; Granny's and Morganfield's went under, while others, leery of the bottom line, opted for safer, duller booking policies. The audience required for a club scene, meanwhile, pretty much stayed at home, partly because it didn't have the time or money for clubbing and partly because it was bored and alienated by what scene there was. Nothing new there, but the twist is that some bands also stayed away from the clubs. Bands such as Gouds Thumb and Cerberus Shoal (currently one of my favorite bands, not only because of their originality and intensity but also because they didn't get upset with me when I misspelled their name) used southern Maine more as a departure point for their far-flung touring than anything else. Whatever reasons local bands had for staying away from clubs — reasons I imagine were often justified — the trend is dispiriting. It's unlikely anything good can come from a separation of artist and audience. Still, plenty of local bands did connect with their audiences, most notably Car and Rustic Overtones. This year, Car produced its first full-length album, "Lincolntonville," a sublime triumph and perhaps the best album made by a Maine band. Rustic Overtones established themselves as Maine's biggest band without losing their edge or developing huge egos. There was also great music made by Rumford, King Memphis, Diesel Doug and the Long Haul Truckers and the aforementioned Cerberus Shoal. Neither Car nor Rustic Overtones represent any kind of local "sound" or movement, however — Rustic Overtones may have inspired a few funk-rock bands, but not one of them is worth a mention. In the absence of any Rustic Overtones-inspired funk scene, consequently, the metal scene still rules Portland. Despite my criticism of that scene, if I were a 17-year-old Portland kid, I'd probably be listening to the likes of Daddy Black Boots, Polyglot and Viscous Cycle, and I might even enjoy them. The aggressive roar these bands put up would probably seem like a perfect response to a city that often doesn't seem to give a damn about kids or their future. Perhaps I can no longer emotionally connect to that youthful angst. Most likely, I've just seen it done a hundred times before, and a hundred times better. No matter, though — the metal scene shows no sign of slowing down. There is one good sign for the coming year, which is a growing roots rock, and quasi-roots rock, community in the form of Car, King Memphis, Rumford, The Boneheads and other bands, that could threaten the dominance of metal. This burgeoning movement promises some needed excitement, and its diversity could keep the sounds fresh for some time to come. But after the past year, though, one thing is painfully clear: Portland will never be a powerful music scene. There aren't enough adventurous fans and there isn't enough money around to support such a scene. Perhaps what we do have — a sizable community of talented musicians — is more than we could ever hope for. Herewith, the top 10 local releases of 1996:
 1. Car, "Lincolntonville" (Empty Pool); 2. Rustic Overtones, "My Dirt" (Ripchord); 3. Rumford, "Clark/Blow the Man Down" (Dubious Honor); 4. Rex, "C" (Southern); 5. Liquid Daydream, "Disturbance in Grassland" (Liquid Daydream); 6. The Boneheads, "Words & Things & Numbers & Stuff" (River Records); 7. Gouds Thumb, "Gouds Thumb" (Critique/BMG); 8. King Memphis, "The Astonishing King Memphis" (Nervous); 9. The Zefrons, "The Zefrons" (Rockingham); 10. Rotors to Rust, "Bitter Fountain" (Weird Space).
 And while we're at it, the top 10 non-local releases of the year:
 1. Beck, "Odelay" (DGC); 2. Everything But the Girl, "Walking Wounded" (Atlantic); 3. Girls Against Boys, "House of GVS" (Touch and Go); 4. Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan & Michael Brook, "Night Song" (Real World); 5. Orbital, "In Sides" (FFRR/London); 6. Massive Attack vs. Mad Professor, "No Protection" (Gyroscope); 7. Tortoise, "Millions Now Living Will Never Die" (Thrill Jockey); 8. Tricky, "Pre-Millennium Tension" (Island); 9. The Grifters, "Ain't My Lookout" (Sub Pop); 10. Joe Henry, "Trampoline" (Mammoth).
 ■ DAN SHORT

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Danforth Gallery 34 Danforth St, Portland, Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat 11 am-5 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. 772-6245.

Davidson & Daughters 148 High St, Portland, Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-6 pm, Fri 11 am-8 pm (first Thurs of the month 11 am-8 pm). 780-0766.

Delliah Pottery 132 Spring St, Portland, Hours: Mon-Fri 11 am-6 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

Falmouth Memorial Library 5 Lunt Rd, Falmouth, Work by the students of Sarah Knock shows through Jan 6. Hours: Tues & Thurs 9:30 am-8 pm, Wed, Fri & Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 781-2351.

The Family Kitchen Restaurant 4 Pleasant St, Brunswick, "People to Think About," paintings by Marilyn Blinkhorn, shows through Jan 1. 729-5526.

Fibula Gallery 50 Exchange St, Portland, Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 761-4432.

Foghorn Gallery 4 Clinton St, Portland, International folk art, Oaxacan wood carvings, black pottery and crafts of indigenous peoples. By appointment. 781-2563.

Foreaside Cafe 201 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth, Paintings by Kate Merrick. Ongoing. Hours: Sun-Thurs 7 am-3 pm, Fri-Sat 7 am-7 pm. 781-4931.

Free Street Taverna 128 Free St, Portland, Paintings by David Bouchard and sculptures by Steven Pullan show through Dec 29. Mixed media Greek collages by Richard Lee. Ongoing. Hours: Mon 11 am-4 pm, Tues-Sat 11 am-10 pm. 774-1114.

Frost Gully Gallery 411 Congress St, Portland, Paintings by Laurence Sisson and Thomas Crotty show through Dec 28. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm. 773-2555.

Gallery Music 21 Forest Ave, Portland, "Trees, Rocks, Water," paintings and works on paper by Lavender. Hours: Mon-Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 775-1304.

Gallery 7 164 Middle St, Portland, Hours: Mon-Sat 11 am-6 pm, open Fri until 8 pm. 761-7007.

Greenhut Gallery 146 Middle St, Portland, "Artists Care, Greenhut Cares" shows through Dec 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2693.

Hole in the Wall Studios 1544 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond, "Art For the Holidays," a group show and sale of work by gallery artists, shows through Jan 30. Hours: 9:30 am-5:30 pm daily (closed Tues). 665-4952.

Icon 19 Mason St, Brunswick, Photographs by Paul D'Amato, Jocelyn Lee, Rose Marsico and Richard Renner show through Jan 15. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

Jameson Gallery 217 Commercial St, Portland, Fine woodworking by a collection of Maine craftsmen shows through Dec 31. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. 772-5522.

Java Joe's 13 Exchange St, Portland, Work by Lori Austill shows through mid-Jan. Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30 am-11 pm, Fri 7:30 am-midnight, Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 9 am-10 pm. 761-5637.

The Jones Museum of Glass and Ceramics Douglas Hill, Sebago, Cost: \$25. Reservations suggested. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$3 students). 787-3370.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St, Portland, Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm. 772-1961.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery, Downtown 20-30 Danforth St #304, Portland, Opening reception for "Full Circle: 20 Years of Prints," photographs by Bernard C. Meyers, shows through Dec 27. Hours: Tues-Sat 3-9 pm and by appointment. 772-3182.

Kaleidoscope Gallery Route 25, Gorham, Fine art, pottery, sculpture, jewelry and crafts by local artists. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 839-6926.

Lakes Gallery & Sculpture Garden Rt. 302, South Casco, Hours: 10 am-5 pm daily. 655-5066.

L. Murray Jamison Photography 22 Monument Sq, #604, Portland, "Martinique: A Journey to the French West Indies," photographs by L. Murray Jamison, shows through Dec 31. Hours: by appointment only. 871-8244.

Maine Cottage Furniture Lower Falls Landing, Yarmouth, "From Where We Came," gouache paintings by Laurie Parlee Hadlock, shows through Jan 10. 865-6675.

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

Maine Writers Center 12 Pleasant St, Brunswick, Illustrations and prints by Dahlov Ipcar show through Dec 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5. 729-6333.

Margarita's Restaurant 242 St. John St, Portland, Original watercolors by Bonnie Brown. Ongoing. Hours: 4-11 pm daily. 874-6444.

Meander Gallery 40 Pleasant St, Portland, Hours: Tues-Sat, 12-6 pm. 871-1078.

Nancy Margolis Gallery 367 Fore St, Portland, Jewelry by John Casner shows through Jan 1. The fifth annual Menorah exhibit, featuring hand-crafted Hanukkah Menorahs by over 20 glass, ceramic and metal artists, shows through Jan 1. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm, Fri-Sat 10 am-9 pm and Sun 11 am-6 pm. 775-3822.

O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St, Brunswick, Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 729-8228.

On Balance 4 Milk St, Portland, Ceramics by Genevieve Levin and paper sculptures by Patricia McCabe show through Dec 31. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-4:30 pm. 772-9812.

"The Paintings of Eric Hopkins" By appointment only, call 871-7916.

Peretto's Restaurant 28 Exchange St, Portland, "Almost Edible," paintings by Kate Merrick, ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sun 11 am-11 pm. 828-0001.

Pine Tree Shop and Bayview Gallery 75 Market St, Portland, Hours: Mon-Tues 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Wed-Sat 9:30 am-8 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 773-3007.

Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress Sq, Portland, Hours: Tues, Wed, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. Admission: \$6 adults, \$5 students/seniors, \$1 youth 6-12 years. Museum admission is free 5-9 pm every Friday evening. The last Thursday of every month seniors only pay \$3. 775-6148 or 1-800-639-4067.

The Scott M. Black Collection A sampling from Scott Black's 19th- and 20th-century paintings and sculptures.

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

"From Monet to Matisse: The Origins of Modernism" A complete overview of French art from early impressionism through Neo-impressionism to Fauvism. Ongoing.

"Phillipe Halsman: A Gallery of Stars" Documenting twenty years of Halsman's ability to capture "star quality" of some of America's favorite entertainers. Featuring Lucille Ball, Milton Berle and Dinah Shore. Ongoing.

"Elizabeth B. Noyce Collection," including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Albert Bierstadt, Childre Hassam, George Bellows, Rockwell Kent and Andrew Wyeth from the recently deceased philanthropist's bequest to the museum. Ongoing.

"Dale Chihuly: Seafarers" Glass works by one of the best-known contemporary glass artists in the U.S. Shows through Jan 12.

preview
Big night

Parades of giant puppets, dance shows, poetry readings, a bevy of bands, foods from the world over and midnight fireworks — and that's just the beginning of what's going down at New Year's Portland, the annual last-day-of-the-year gala presented by Maine Arts.

Music is the bread and butter of the event, and dozens of performers and ensembles will take to stages all over Portland. A very brief, by-no-means-complete sampler of some of the

sounds: La Groupe de Joie plays French Canadian tunes at 7 and 9:30 p.m. at State Street Church; the Alberto Delgado Quartet does Latin jazz at the First Parish Church at 8:15 and 10:45 p.m.; country/swing offerings include Deisel Doug and the Long Haul Truckers (7 and 9:30 p.m.) and Sean Mencher and his swing combo (8:15 and 10:45 p.m.), both at 121 Center St.; and drumming and dancing with Inanna at 7, 9 and 10 p.m. at Agape.

Other highlights include the Shoestring Theatre puppet parade down Congress Street, from Congress Square to Monument Square, at 6 p.m., the midnight fireworks at Monument Square and the writers' and poets' open mic, featuring an assortment of CBW contributors and other local wordsmiths, at 8 p.m. in the Portland High School cafeteria. So long, '96.

■ SCOTT SUTHERLAND

New Year's Portland admission buttons are \$10, \$6 under 12, \$28 for families. Available at Shop 'n Save, at all shows or by phone at 800/639-4212.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

Faculty Emeritus, Vincent Hartgen, show through Jan 17. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. 828-2327.

USM Osher Map Library 314 Forest Ave, Portland, "The Cartographic Creation of New England" shows through April 27. Hours: Wed 1-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Thurs & Sat from 9 am-12:30 pm. 780-4850.

Walter's Cafe 15 Exchange St, Portland, Oil paintings by Brian Currier. Ongoing. 871-9258.

The Whimsical World of David Cedrone 150 High St, Portland. 761-2808.

Will's Restaurant 78 Island Ave, Peak's Island. Paintings by Lenny Hutch. Ongoing. 766-3322.

other

"Activating Your Creativity" Share your creative process and products (of whatever form) in a safe and supportive environment. If you wish to share, plan on 5-10 minutes. Meets the first Wed of the month, at Agape, 657 Congress St, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. 780-1500.

Art Soiree Mainely Frames & Gallery holds gatherings of social and intellectual exchange for artistic and literary people every Friday at 534 Congress St, Portland, from 5-8 pm. 828-0031.

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

Artists Wanted to exhibit two-dimensional work at USM's Area Gallery. Please send slides, resume and proposal to Karen Kitchen, Director, USM Art Galleries, P. O. Box 9300, Portland, Me. 04104-9300. 780-5008.

"ATHENA: A Journal for Positive Women" seeks submissions of poetry, photography, short stories and drawings on the topic of spirituality, by women with HIV/AIDS. Sponsored by the Maine Women's Fund. Send submissions to: ATHENA, The AIDS Project, P. O. Box 5305, Portland ME 04101. 774-6877.

Call For Artwork Sherwood Heights Percent For Art announces a competition for artists to design, execute and install artwork at two selected sites. All professional artists may apply for consideration for this project. Write to: Dr. Mary Richards, Auburn School Department, 23 High St, Auburn ME 04212-0800. 784-6431.

Call For Work Local artists and photographers are invited to submit work for a juried show to be held Jan 18 through 31 at Skillins Greenhouse, Rte. 86, Falmouth. Submissions due Jan 9-10. For more info, call Skillins at 781-3860 or stop by.

Call For Work Art Star, a new gallery at 578 Congress St, top floor, Portland, seeks submissions of work for future shows. Contact Eugene Cole at 774-2097.

French/Photography Workshop in Martinique Feb 3-17, 1997 with L. Murray Jamison. Limited spaces available. Reservation are being taken now. 871-8244.

Healing Through Arts A group integrating art, healing and spiritual development meets the last Sun of the month from 7-9 pm at Studio 311, 20-36 Danforth St, Portland. 780-1681.

Internships The Danforth Gallery, 34 Danforth St, Portland, seeks interns to coordinate exhibitions and for general gallery management. General work description can be tailored to suit applicant's interests. 775-6245.

MECA Open House Tours Come visit Maine College of Art's new studio space at 522 Congress Street. RSVP 775-5098.

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

Portland Camera Club holds weekly meeting. Mon at 7:30 pm at the American Legion Hall, 413 Broadway, S. Portland. Monthly events include B&W, color print and color slide competition. 854-3763.

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

Pottery Classes for kids and adults offered at Sawyer Street Studios, S. Portland. Costs and times vary. 767-4394.

Randy Bean Fund Created in honor of long-time member of Maine Arts Sponsors Association (MASA) Randy Bean, to assist an artist in attending the annual MASA conference. Contributions may be sent to: The MASA Randy Bean Fund, P. O. Box 2352, Augusta, ME 04338, 626-3277.

Visual Artists and Computer Users interested in joining a group to "inter-and-intra" the New Millenium can link up at the non-profit Maine artists space, Danforth Gallery, 34 Danforth St, Portland. For more info, call Roland Salazar Rose at 775-6245.

Young at Art Judy Faust offers intriguing and unusual classes for kids ages 4-13 at South Portland Recreation, 21 Nelson Rd, So. Portland. New classes begin Jan 13: "Preschool Art Adventures," "People and Animals in Clay," "The Art of Illustration" and "Something Different Every Week." Cost: \$6. For a free flyer, call Judy Faust at 761-9438. To register, call 767-7650. CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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calendar

Submissions for the calendar must be received in writing on the Thursday prior to the publication. Send your calendar listings to Zoë Miller, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

saturday 28 He may be the only man in the world who makes spandex look baggy, but with a voice like his, **Peter Wolf** doesn't have to worry. The former J. Geils Band frontman has covered a lot of ground since the band split up in 1983; his projects include movie soundtracks, exhibitions of his own paintings and duets with Mick Jagger and Aretha Franklin. His new work is the product of both a long hiatus, which Wolf refers to as his "scrambled egg" period, and a rejuvenating tour. Let's hope he brings that energy to Portland when he performs at Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$15, \$10 advance. 773-2337.

thursday 26 If you were a fan of the unjustly-canceled TV drama "My So Called Life," then you'll want to be at the Madovich Society's Video Night for "**We Are Not Invisible**," featuring Wilson Cruz (who played Ricky on "My So Called ..."). In this video discussion, Cruz swaps stories with 75 gay, lesbian, bisexual and diversity-sensitive youths in a talk-show atmosphere. At Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., from 7:30-9 p.m. Donations accepted. 761-4380.
friday 27 The four guys who make up **Acoustic Junction** aren't afraid to let a little sunshine come through in their music. Their energetic blend of violin, keyboards, flute, harmonica and three-part harmonies gives listeners a good dose of the positive. At the Pavilion, 188 Middle St., Portland, at 8:30 p.m. The Boneheads open. Tix: \$8, \$7 advance. 773-6422.

sunday 29 Quit waiting for the pond to freeze over and hit the ice at **Portland Ice Arena** — after all, what better way to spend a lazy afternoon than ice skating? At Portland Ice Arena, 225 Park Ave., from 3-4:30 p.m. Cost: \$4 (\$2 kids/\$1 skate rentals). 774-8553.
monday 30 For once-upon-a-time music hall star Lilly, nothing is more nerve-racking than making a comeback. The question is, can she do it? The Embassy Players explore this and other questions in "**Lady Lilly's Dilemma**," the story of a former star whose comeback attempt throws her entire life into a tailspin. At the Arts Conservatory Theater and Studio, 341 Cumberland Ave., at 8 p.m. Tix: \$10, \$8 seniors/students. Shows through Jan. 12. 761-2465.

tuesday 3 If you aren't down with the official New Year's Portland thang, why not hit the local clubs, where there's plenty of good old New Year's cavorting going on? You can mix it up at the **Underground's White Party** at 3 Spring St., then crawl up the street to Zootz, 31 Forest Ave., for the **Black and White Ball**. If it's music you crave, there's **Motor Booty Affair** at the Bahama Beach Club, 1037 Forest Ave., **Elderberry jam** at the Basement, 1 Exchange St., and Lazy Lightning at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave.
wednesday 1 If you're feeling so charitable that you'd submerge yourself in the icy waters of Casco Bay for a good cause, then head to the East End Beach for the ninth annual **Lobster Dip**. But not before hitting up all your friends for pledges. All proceeds benefit Maine Special Olympics. The dip happens at noon. For a pledge sheet, call 1-800-639-2401.

thursday 2 If you're fed up with action flicks and dying to be entertained with dialogue rather than explosions, then "**Swingers**" is right up your alley. A tale of two buddies just looking to have a good time — preferably with women — "Swingers" has won more raves than you can count on your two hands. At The Movies, 10 Exchange St., at 5 and 7 p.m. Tix: \$4.25, 772-9600.
friday 3 Without any winter Olympics this year, how will we get our vicarious adrenaline boost? Why, with the **1997 Winter Tour of World Figure Skating Champions**, of course. The two-hour exhibition features, among others, Olympic gold medalists Brian Boitano, Dorothy Hamill and pair skaters Tai Babilonia and Randy Gardner. At the Civic Center, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$38, 775-3458.
saturday 4 We may be on the cusp of a new century, but it would be extremely unwise to banish everything old. Especially when you can pick up some great stuff at a **new year antiques show**. At Westbrook College Gymnasium, 716 Stevens Ave., from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission: \$2.50. 582-2849.



Let the sun shine with Acoustic Junction, Dec. 27

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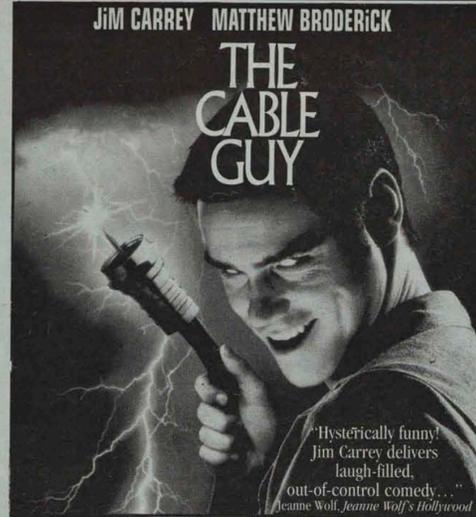
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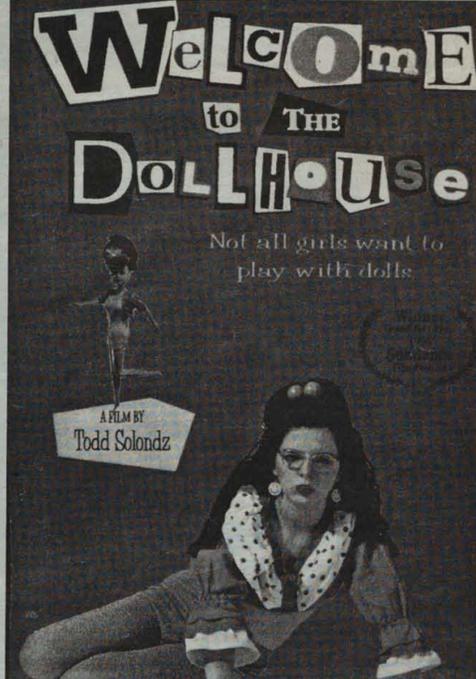
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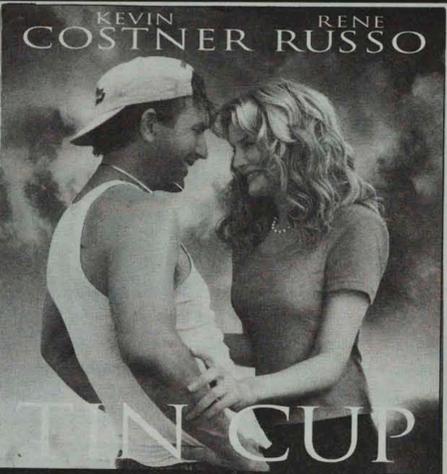
A FILM BY Todd Solondz

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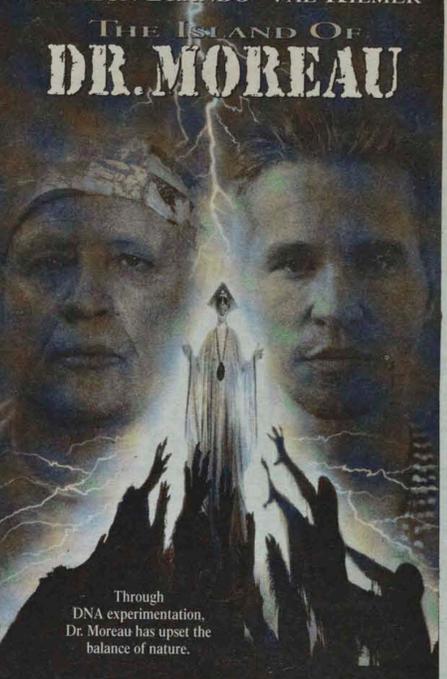


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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

volunteer events

Arts for All Volunteers Very Special Arts Maine invites you volunteer on New Year's Eve at "First Night's First Mail" a postcard-making event. If you volunteer for 4 or more hours, you receive a free New Year's Portland pass. 761-3861.

The Children's Museum of Maine is looking for people who love to teach and are interested in presenting the Camera Obscura show to the public. Come and show people how Portland can be seen live on a tabletop. If interested, call Sara Brobst at 828-1234, ext 227.

Coats For Kids Donate your outgrown and unused coats. Drop off boxes are at Shaw's Supermarkets. Pratt Abbott Cleaners will clean the coats. Sponsored by the Salvation Army. 774-6304.

New Year's Portland Volunteers Maine Arts seeks qualified people to volunteer at the New Year's Portland celebration. A minimum of 4 hours of time earns free admission to any and all shows. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old, unless accompanied by adult. Events begin at 8 am. 772-9012.

Toys For Tots Seaside Nursing and Retirement Home together with Seaside Home Care Services collect unwrapped toys. Donations may be dropped off in the lobby at 850 Baxter Blvd, Portland. If you have questions contact Jacquie Black at 774-7878.

UNICEF Contributions United Nations Children's Fund is launching a worldwide drive to raise \$14.5 million for humanitarian assistance for the Great Lakes region of Africa which includes Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. UNICEF estimates that 750,000 people will require aid during the next few weeks. Contributions may be sent to: UNICEF, New England, 1330 Beacon St, Suite 335, Brookline, MA 02146, or by telephone 617-277-3334.

smarts events

Matovich Society An educational organization of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and friends meets the second and fourth Thurs of the month. Dec 26: Video Night: In "We Are Not Invisible" TV and Movie actor Wilson Cruz shares his experiences with 75 gay, lesbian, bisexual and diversity-sensitive youths in a talk-show format video. At Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St, Portland, from 7:30-9 pm. 761-4380.

others

Agape Center for Soul, Community and the Arts, 657 Congress St, Portland, offers discussions and workshops on various topics. "Bioenergetics" offers simple, tension-releasing breathing and movement exercises each Weds from noon-1 pm. Cost \$5. "Circle of Men" meets alternating Fridays 12:15-1:45 pm. "Meditation in Community," with Joan Orr Wadman, meets Wednesdays from 5:30-7 pm. Cost: \$5. "Tibetan Meditation and Study Group" meets the first Sun of the month from 10 am-noon. Donation \$5. 781-1500.

Boatbuilding Cooperative, to provide space and tools for amateur builders. For more info, call 766-2583.

Computer Know-How The Small Business Development Center at USM has two Lotus/IBM Learning Centers available to help people in business learn how to use Lotus 123, One-Write Plus and WordPerfect 5.1. Appointments available Mon-Fri. Internet access courses available also. Free. 780-4949.

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

Dharma Study Group offers sitting meditation Sundays 9 am-noon at the office of Sarah Bulley, third floor, Thomas Moser Building, 60 Forest Ave. Meditation instruction is also available by appt. 763-0047.

Don't Just Watch TV — Make It Portland Access TV, Channel 2 offers classes in TV production. All classes meet at 68 High St, Portland. To register, call 780-5941.

Honorable Resources A free tutoring service through USM's Honors Program. One-on-one tutoring sessions are held in the USM Honors House, 102 Bedford St, Portland. To arrange for tutoring or

to volunteer, call Brian Clark at 780-4583.

Intercultural Discussion Open meets Mondays, 7 pm, at the Center for Intercultural Education, 565 Congress St, Portland. Volunteers are needed as well. 775-0547.

Internet Access at USM for small business owners. Explore how the internet can help your business. Appointments are available Mon-Fri. Free but limited. 780-4949.

Internet Training Classes Internet Maine offers introductory and intermediate classes on how to use the net and HTML made easy every three weeks, at 449 Forest Ave, Portland. Cost: \$25. 780-0416.

Japanese Lessons with Japan America Society of Maine, at 993 Forest Ave, Portland. Classes available for kids and adults. 878-9440.

Language Exchange 392 Fore St, Portland. Offers seminars and workshops on foreign languages. 772-0405.

Lesbian Fiction Writing Workshop To join, leave a message with Joanna at 795-7199.

Maharishi Vedic School 575 Forest Ave, Portland. "Awakening Full Mental Potential: the Transcendental Meditation Program," a lecture on the health benefits of TM, every Wed at 7 pm. 774-1108.

Maine Tradewomen Network provides education and mentoring for the promotion of women in all trades and hold monthly meetings rotating between Portland, Augusta and Topsham. 797-4801.

Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance at 12 Pleasant St, Brunswick, offers workshops on a regular basis. Preregistration required. Workshops take place at MWPA office unless otherwise noted. 729-6333.

Portland Laptop Users Group meets Mondays at 7:15 am at the Clark Associates Building, 2331 Congress St, Portland. Reservations and a laptop required. 775-1140 or 772-8666.

Portland Pottery Pottery, jewelry and basket-making classes. Wide selection for adults and children. 772-4334.

Rotary Exchange to Sweden & Poland Rotarians International District 7780 seeks four outstanding business and professional men and women to visit Sweden and Poland from May 10, 1997-June 8, 1997 under the Group Study Exchange program. All expenses (except spending money) are paid by rotary. Interested persons should contact Nancy Hawes at 799-9011.

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

Sign Language Classes introductory lessons on Tues, from 6:30-8:30 pm, at 251 High St, So. Portland. Cost: \$45 for 10 weeks. 767-6247.

Women's Business Development Corporation promotes and supports business ownership for Maine women with classes, workshops and regular meetings. For more info, call 442-7911 or e-mail mendoza@usm.com.

Woodford's Toastmasters Club of Greater Portland A non-profit organization devoted to improving public speaking and leadership skills in a friendly, supportive atmosphere meets at 7:15 pm every Thurs at the West Falmouth Baptist Church, 18 Mountain Rd, W. Falmouth. 799-2266.

family events

Children's Museum of Maine 142 Free St, Portland, offers exhibits, clubs and activities for kids of all ages. Special Holiday Week Activities: Dec 26, "Southeast Asia," kids create a Vietnamese Dragon; Dec 27, "Northwest Coast USA," kids build a Native American Animal Totem Pole; Dec 28, "Alaska USA," kids make an Eskimo Laughing Mask; Dec 29, "India," kids make Palm Puppets. "Down East Wicked Good African Cuban Drumming" from 2-3 pm; Dec 30, "Mexico," kids create Huichol Yarn Art. Dec 31: New Year's Portland family site. Weekly Fun: "Light and Camera Obscura," Wed and Fri at 11 am and 11:30 am, Sat at 2 pm and 2:30 pm. "Oh! Zones," fun-filled "make & take" projects, Wed-Sat 11 am-noon and 2-3 pm, Sun 2-3 pm. Preregistration and additional fees required for some programs. 828-1234.

health events

La Leche League of Yarmouth provides info and aid to pregnant and breastfeeding women through telephone help, monthly meetings and a lending library. Next meeting: Jan 8 at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St, Portland, at 9:30 am. Call Ashley at 773-6985 or Marcia at 797-5121.

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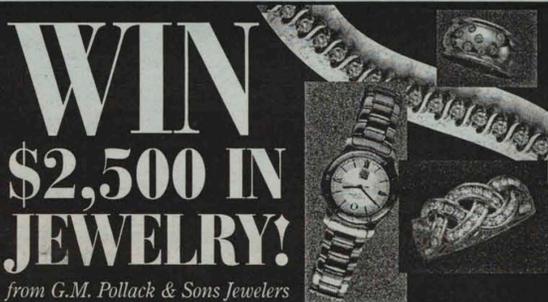
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Nine ■ JIM PINFOLD

1 During their recent Portland performance, Beau Jocque and band roared like a souped-up zydeco stereotype, allowing every instrument to be consumed by the enormous sound. The band had 90 percent of the audience up and dancing, which left seven people sitting. You do the math. Where were you? A.

his failure. The last three albums, especially this year's tribute to Mose Allison, are rancid affairs, and will skew any future assessment of his work. I find myself asking whether he was all that wonderful to begin with. For now, the answer is yes.

2 Several former Granny Killam's habitués said they weren't surprised the Market Street club is reopening, but weren't sure they'd return. "It's going to be all local bands," said one. (It isn't.) "They're going to clean it up," said another. (Funk won't just wash away.) "It'll never take off." (That may be true.) Only a limited number of clubs can survive, a limit that's remained unchanged for years. Every opening is a threat to other music venues, and Granny's is already sending a 3.5 tremor through the community.

6 Not everyone is in search of the same possessions. I have friends who fetishize their 4-wheel drives, and I know someone who'll pay more for an 1890 stamp than I would for a new camera. I have a thing for vinyl. For 20 years, I've searched for a record of Ornette Coleman's "Chappaqua Suite." When I finally located a copy last month, I paid more than what might logically be considered normal. Two days later in a train station, I lost it. I've tried to treat it as another sock-or-mitten-easy-come-easy-go event. In truth, I'm stricken.

3 Marshall Crenshaw was fine when he recently passed through town, but fine in a workmanlike way. Not capital F fine, and certainly not capital F fun like the pure pop of his recorded output. Fortunately, the opening act was an amiable fuck-up named Victor Delorenzo, who fused Ian Dury, Louis Prima and shitty '90s rock in a fey fashion. Delorenzo was less like his former band, the Violent Femmes, and more like a butch Brenda Lee. Crenshaw B-. Delorenzo A-.

7 Tracy Nelson's vocal chords have become increasingly leathery in recent years, though they've yet to turn into the PVC pipes of many of her contemporaries. She now sidesteps many of the subtleties in favor of the big crowd pleasers. When she holds a note for five, 10, 15 seconds, as she often did during her recent show at Raoul's, the color rises in her cheeks. She possesses one of the great voices in American music, and if you disagree, we can take it outside. A.

4 It's an AM radio thing, those morality vignettes of a man reminiscing about childhood lessons: helping out with the haying, licking the lint from the baby's navel, etc. Sounds like the Church of Latter Day Saints, but lately, AM radio has seen a rise in similar-sounding ads for mega-corporations like AT&T. I always suspected AT&T was taking cues from the Mormons when I couldn't get rid of them on the phone.

8 My dog was sniffing what appeared to be the remains of a small canoe, the ribs jutting out of the sand. A friend and I had gone to Popham in early December to take a look at what remained of the beach that had been chewed up by the Kennebec. They call them ribs for a reason. A large seal, not long dead, lay above the high-tide mark, its flesh rolled back off its chest, and its skull exposed from eye socket to nose. The cold air and sand drifting into the carcass eliminated any stench, and the dog lost interest. As we followed her up the beach, four more seals bobbed in the surf, keeping an eye on us.

5 In that noxious failure of a movie "Basquiat," there are several surprisingly good sequences. One of them involves the title character skidding into street-scuffling, accompanied by the sound of "It's All Over Now Baby Blue," by Them. It's one of Van Morrison's most luminous recordings, and reminded me how far the singer has declined. I've been an apologist for Morrison's recent output. Now it's time to admit

9 The top nine recordings of the year. You choose the order. Betty Carter, "I'm Yours, You're Mine," Gillian Welch, "Revival," James Cotton, "Deep in the Blues," Curtis Mayfield, "New World Order," Solas, "Solas," Various artists, "Divas of Mali," soundtrack, "Lonestar," soundtrack, "Big Night," Armando Garzón, "Bolerós." **CBW**

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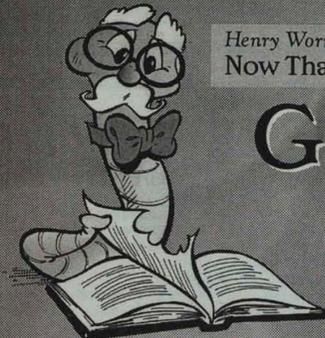
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top photo: Conrad Anker ice climbing in Cody, Wyoming. Photo: Beth Wald.
bottom photo: Bill Crouse climbing in Khumbu, Nepal. Photo: Chris Noble.

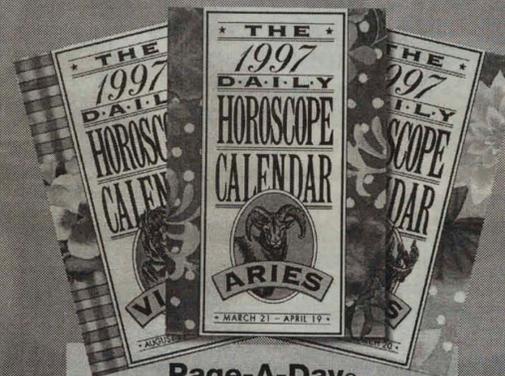
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29
Hypothyroid Support Group meets Mondays at 7 pm in Portland. 761-9562.

"I Can Cope" An information and support group for persons with cancer and their families and friends. At the Maine Center For Cancer Medicine, 180 Park Ave, Portland. 871-2261.

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation holds meetings the second Tuesday of every month at the Diabetes Center, 48 Gilman St, Portland, from 6:30-8:30 pm. 854-1810.

Look Good ... Feel Better A program for women who face changes in their appearance resulting from cancer, who wish to improve their appearance. Offered by the American Cancer Society. Classes meet the last Wed of each month at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland, from 1-3 pm. Next class: Jan 29 from 1-3 pm. 879-3030.

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

Maine Medical Center Support Groups "Survivors of Suicide" meets the second and fourth Monday of every month; "Bereaved Parents" meets the second Thurs of every month and "SIDS Support Group" meets the second Tuesday of every month. All groups meet at 7 pm, at Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St, Portland. 871-4226.

Meditations Weekly held Sundays from 6-7:30 pm, at the Yoga Center, 137 Preble Street, Portland. Sessions are based on the teachings of Dhyanyogi and Anandi Ma — no experience necessary, open to the public. Donations accepted. 799-4449.

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

Midcoast Sexual Assault Support Center provides a 24-hour hotline for survivors of sexual assault/abuse, crisis counseling and community education. 775-2181.

MMC Breast Cancer Support Group MMC's Breast Care Center begins a group for breast cancer patients and their significant others. 871-2262.

MMC Epilepsy Support Group meets at the Dana Center, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St, Portland, from 7-8:30 pm. For date of next meetings, call Debbi at 1-800-660-7832.

The Moody News a newsletter written by, for and about people living with mood disorders such as depression or bipolar disorder, seeks submissions of articles on depression and related subjects for its April 1996 issue. For guidelines or more information, write: The Mood Disorders Network, 63 Third St, Auburn, Me 04210. 783-2980.

Natural Healing Children's Clinic For children of all ages, infants to age 18, accompanied by parent(s) or guardian. At the United Methodist Church, 17 Chestnut St, Portland. The last Sat of each month, from 10 am-2 pm. By donation only. 774-5304.

Parenting Education Program Mercy Hospital offers a program for new parents designed to provide information and improve skills. At 144 State St, Portland. 879-3578.

Parenting Support Group at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland. Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30-8 pm. Free. 879-3578.

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

People With Disabilities Support Group meets the third Thurs of the month from 1-3 pm at the Alpha One Office, 127 Main St, So. Portland. 767-2189 or 1-800-640-7200 (voice tly).

Planned Parenthood offers HIV testing, annual exams, pregnancy testing, birth control information and supplies (free condoms), testing and treatment for STDs and infections, menopause services and more at its health center at 970 Forest Ave, Portland. Handicapped accessible, confidential and affordable. Medicaid is welcomed. 874-1095.

Portland Public Health Adult Immunization located at City Hall, 389 Congress St, Portland. Vaccines for measles, mumps, rubella, adult tetanus, hepatitis B, pneumococcal available, as well as rabies and tuberculin testing. 874-8764.

Portland Street Clinic This clinic provides free comprehensive health care for adults at the Community Resource Center, 15 Portland St, Portland. The clinic is sponsored by Mercy Hospital and administered by the city of Portland Public Health Division and is open Mon-Thurs 9-9 pm. All services are free and are by appointment only. 874-8962.

Portland Zen Meditation Center An independent Zen group with a regular schedule of morning and evening practice sessions. Instruction offered weekly. 774-1789.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

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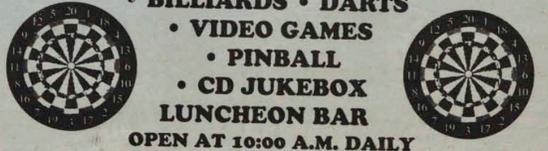


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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

Prostate Cancer Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm at Maine Medical Center, Portland, 775-1670.

Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program offered through USM Lifeline, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:15-noon. Program includes progressive, nurse-supervised exercise and education, including respiratory hygiene, relaxation techniques and nutrition. Registration is ongoing, medical clearance is required. 780-4170.

Recovery Group for Nervous People Help for people suffering from symptoms caused by nervousness. Meets every Saturday at 10 am at Brighton Medical Center, 335 Brighton Ave, Portland, 892-9529.

Recovery Inc., a group for mental health using professionally developed methods to overcome depression, anxiety, anger, fear and phobia. Meetings Saturdays at Maine Medical Center at 10 am. Free. 892-9529.

Safer Sex for Men An ongoing free discussion group for gay, bi and questioning men of all ages takes place Wednesdays from 7-9 pm. 774-6877.

Senior Exercise Program Westbrook Housing Authority invites seniors to try a free exercise and relaxation class. Beginning in January. 854-9779.

Senior Fitness A program for men and women age 65 and over takes place Mon, Wed and Fri from 10:30-11:15 am at the USM Sullivan Gym, 96 Falmouth St, Portland, 780-4170.

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

Sudden Infant Death Support Group meets the 2nd Tues of each month at 7 pm, in the Dana Center, classroom #5, at the Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St, Portland, 871-4226.

Portland Surf Order offers meditations and discussions at the Whole Heart Yoga Center, 150 St. John St, Portland. No experience necessary. Donations accepted. 878-2263.

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

Support Group for Diabetics meets the fourth Mon of each month (except July and August) at 7 pm, at the Jewish Community Center, 57 Ashmont St, Portland, 883-5716.

Survivors of Incest Anonymous meets every Sat at 10 am in the Women's Health Conference Room at Brighton Medical Center, 335 Brighton Ave, Portland, 741-2795.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group meets the 2nd and 4th Mon of each month at 7 pm, in the Dana Center, classroom #1, at the Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall St, Portland, 871-4226.

Teen AIDS Line provides a chance for teens to talk with other teens about AIDS, HIV and safe sex. The hot line runs Wed nights from 6-9 pm throughout the summer. Call 775-1267 or 1-800-851-2437.

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

Two By Two A couples therapy group meets Mon 7-8:30 pm. At New England Family Institute, 95 Exchange St, Suite 100, Portland. Cost: \$30 per couple. 871-1000.

Visiting Nurse Service 15 Industrial Park Rd, Saco, offers clinics for kids 0-18 years of age on an ongoing basis. Physicals, immunizations, lead testing, hematology, vision, hearing, nutrition and developmental guidance. Appointments requested, walk-ins welcome — Medicaid and fee scale available. 284-4566.

Well Child Health Clinic VNA & Hospice offers physical exams, immunization and lead tests for kids two months to 10 years the first Fri of every month from 8:30-noon. At the South Portland Church of the Nazarene, 525 Highland Ave, So. Portland. By appointment only. 780-8624.

Wellspring Workshop Offers a variety of workshops in massage, arts, herbs, health and happiness. For more info or to register, call Jennifer Frick at 893-1480.

The Yoga Center 137 Preble St, Portland, offers several programs and special workshops. 799-4449.

Yoga for Families at Larry Lando's Tai Chi Studio, 10 Exchange St, Portland, Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 pm. Also, lunch hour yoga, Tuesdays from 12-1 pm. Cost: \$10 drop-ins (family cost varies). 646-2945.

Zen Buddhist Meditation Group Public sitting meditation meets from 9:30-10:30 am every Sunday. There are extended sittings on the first Sunday of each month. The Casco Bay Zen Group welcomes all. Small donation. 839-4897.

etc

events

Holiday Special Open Swims The YWCA offers open swims through Jan 3, from 9:10 am, 11 am-noon and 4-5 pm. Cost: \$2 (\$1.50 members). 874-1130.

Husky Hoop Clinic Dec 30. The University of Southern Maine Women's Basketball Team conducts a clinic for girls and boys grades 3-6. At the Hill Gym, USM Campus, Gorham, from 9 am-3 pm. Cost: \$25. 780-5475.

Make a Holiday Wish Come True by opening your home to a foreign exchange student with the Academic Year in America (AYA) Program. AYA is sponsored by the American Institute For Foreign Study Foundation. For more info, call Christine Fife at 1-800-322-4678 X5409.

Nominations for Maine Women's Hall of Fame The Maine Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs seeks nominations for the eighth annual Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Each candidate must have achievements that have had a significant statewide impact, improved the lives of women in Maine and made contributions that have enduring value to women. To obtain a nomination form, contact Sally Ann Parks, Skowhegan Rd, P.O. Box 84, Hinkley, ME 04944. Deadline for nominations: Jan 25, 1997. 667-2134.

Southworth Planetarium presents two holiday shows through Dec 30. "Seasons of Light" traces the development of the world's holiday customs and the historical rituals associated with the winter solstice, Fri & Sat at 7 pm. Holiday matinees: Dec 28 at 3 pm, Dec 26 & 30 at 10:30 am, Dec 27 at 1 pm. "Manheim Steamroller," seasonal songs choreographed to brilliant laser light, Fri & Sat at 8:30 pm. Holiday matinees: Dec 29 at 3 pm, Dec 26 & 30 at 1 pm, Dec 27 & 31 at 10:30 am. At 96 Falmouth St, Portland. Cost: \$4 (\$3 kids). 780-4249.

Speakout Engagement Calendar The 1997 engagement calendar with local photographers documenting Maine lesbian/gay culture is on sale as a fundraiser for the Maine Speakout project. Send check or money order to Maine Speakout Project, 123 Congress St #1, Portland, ME 04101. Speakout is an educational project dealing with homophobia. For more info, call 879-0480.

Wordsmiths Wanted Casco Bay Weekly seeks fiction writers, poets and performers to deliver brief bursts of verbiage at CBW's New Year's Portland location. Interested people should contact Zoë Miller at 775-6601.

others

Abuse in Intimate Relationships A support group for women who have previously or are presently experiencing abuse in their intimate relationships. Free and confidential, childcare provided. 874-1973.

Accent Reduction Class for speakers of English as a second language, as well as classes for neutralizing Maine and regional accents, with Jean Armstrong, certified speech and language pathologist. 879-1886.

The Alliance for Transportation Choice a group dedicated to creating a transportation system that improves the quality of life, protects the environment and promotes economic vitality. For info on next meeting, write to: P.O. Box 10625, Portland ME 04104 or call 871-9228.

The American Singles Golf Association is forming a Portland chapter. If you would like to help organize or join, call 1-800-599-2815.

Archangel Exchange for High School Students The Archangel Committee announces its final high school exchange project sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency. The program takes high schoolers to Greater Portland's sister city, Archangel, Russia, for a month of living, learning and traveling March 21 through April 25, 1997. Cost: \$300. Interested students and their families should contact Jennifer Keller at 7725665 or Don Hutchins at 7720129.

Authentic Movement Group for Men A group for men who wish to "explore who we are beneath our roles and conditioning." meets the third Thurs of each month from 6:30-9 pm, at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St, Portland. Facilitated by Jim Davidson. 879-1341.

Bisexual Discussion and Support Group Meets the first and third Wed of each month at Payson Smith Hall, room 1, USM Campus, Portland, from 7:00-9 pm. Students and non-students welcome. For more info, call 780-5737 or email: shomes@maine.maine.edu.

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

Center For Maine History 489 Congress St, Portland. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-4 pm. Cost: \$2 (\$1 kids). 879-0427.

Circle of Hope Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, a Christian group that claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all, meets Sats at 4 pm at 156 High St, Portland. 775-6684, CBW

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movies



Shirley MacLaine takes a trip down memory lane in THE EVENING STAR.

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA Love 'em or hate 'em, you can't deny that Beavis and Butt-head have that low-brow, pre-pubescent brand of humor down to a science. In this movie version of MTV's popular cartoon, the two nerdy, up-to-no-good metalheads hit the road for Las Vegas, determined to "score." Along the way, they get into plenty of trouble.

COLD COMFORT FARM A cultured and intelligent young woman (Kate Beckinsale) takes to slumming with her backward and ill-mannered kin to get material for her version of Austen's "Persuasion." It doesn't take long for the makeover urge to strike. Based on Stella Gibbons' 1932 novel.

DAYLIGHT After a series of eruptions, caffeine-charged New York City commuters become trapped in a Hudson River tunnel. Lucky for them, Sy Sallone happens to be there, and apparently he temper the seriousness of last summer's "ID4" alien invasion. Jack Nicholson divides his talents as both the commander-in-chief and a Las Vegas real-estate hustler. Also starring Glenn Close, Michael J. Fox, Annette Bening, Sarah Jessica Parker and Martin Short.

MICHAEL John Travolta plays another "toucher" individual in this feel-good story about an everyday angel. William Hurt is the tabloid reporter who wants the real scoop. Also starring Andie MacDowell.

THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES Once upon a time, love wasn't a prerequisite for marriage. People married to have someone around who'd help keep house and share a meal. Jeff Bridges' passionate college professor tries to resurrect that bygone era in a marriage of companionship with his brainy-but-beautiful colleague, played by Barbra Streisand. Problem is, she's hot for him. And when her aging beauty of a mother (played by Shirley MacLaine) returns as sassy Southern belle Aurora Greenaway, who took on the task of raising her deceased daughter's appointing results, Jack Nicholson adds his panache to the mix. Also starring Juliette Lewis, Bill Paxton, Miranda Richardson, Mackenzie Astin and George Newbern.

FLY AWAY HOME A teenager (played by Academy Award Winner Anna Paquin) recovers from the grief of her mother's unexpected death in the company of her estranged father (Jeff Daniels). A diver-sion appears in the form of a bunch of orphaned Canadian geese, who think she's their mama. Also starring Jeff Daniels. Directed by Carroll Ballard ("The Sandlot").

JERRY MAGUIRE Writer-director Cameron Crowe, who brought us such comedy gems as "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" and "Say Anything," fires off another witty film, this time with Tom Cruise as his leading man. The story follows a 30-something sports agent who gets his butt fired for taking the moral highground, but finds his way to the top nonetheless. Also starring Cuba Gooding Jr., Renee Zellweger and Kely Preston.

JINGLE ALL THE WAY With a cast this stacked — Arnold Schwarzenegger, Phil Hartman, Sinbad, Rita Wilson and James Belushi — can the plot really matter? Anyway, Arnold plays a mattress salesman who wants to outdo his superduper next-door neighbor (Hartman) by giving his own son the ultimate Christmas gift. What might that gift be? A Turbo Man doll.

JUDE Michael Winterbottom's adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel chronicles the struggles of a self-taught scholar who is rejected by society for his common birth, lack of money and per-

ceived immorality, the result of cohabitating with his fetching cousin (Kate Winslet). The film challenges many of society's staunchest institutions — marriage, university, religion and sexual mores, even society itself — in a way that translates across centuries.

THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT Geena Davis plays a suburban schoolteacher struggling to remember a life she's soon wish she never knew about. Samuel L. Jackson is the private investigator who helps her put the pieces together. When he figures out that she's really an opera secret agencies — and number one on the CIA's hitlist — the job turns from a business deal to a matter of life-and-death.

MARS ATTACKS! Tim Burton ("A Nightmare Before Christmas") has concocted a spunky, twisted, sci-fi comedy to temper the seriousness of last summer's "ID4" alien invasion. Jack Nicholson divides his talents as both the commander-in-chief and a Las Vegas real-estate hustler. Also starring Glenn Close, Michael J. Fox, Annette Bening, Sarah Jessica Parker and Martin Short.

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FLY AWAY HOME A teenager (played by Academy Award Winner Anna Paquin) recovers from the grief of her mother's unexpected death in the company of her estranged father (Jeff Daniels). A diversion appears in the form of a bunch of orphaned Canadian geese, who think she's their mama. Also starring Jeff Daniels. Directed by Carroll Ballard ("The Sandlot").

JERRY MAGUIRE Writer-director Cameron Crowe, who brought us such comedy gems as "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" and "Say Anything," fires off another witty film, this time with Tom Cruise as his leading man. The story follows a 30-something sports agent who gets his butt fired for taking the moral highground, but finds his way to the top nonetheless. Also starring Cuba Gooding Jr., Renee Zellweger and Kely Preston.

JINGLE ALL THE WAY With a cast this stacked — Arnold Schwarzenegger, Phil Hartman, Sinbad, Rita Wilson and James Belushi — can the plot really matter? Anyway, Arnold plays a mattress salesman who wants to outdo his superduper next-door neighbor (Hartman) by giving his own son the ultimate Christmas gift. What might that gift be? A Turbo Man doll.

JUDE Michael Winterbottom's adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel chronicles the struggles of a self-taught scholar who is rejected by society for his common birth, lack of money and per-

abductee with a lotta luck.

ROMEO AND JULIET Baz Luhrmann and Craig Pearce's hardcore, gang-banging adaptation of the classic story of star-crossed lovers has all the marks of a Gen X sensation. Starring hip-kid stars Claire Danes and Leonardo DiCaprio as the tragic couple, Luhrmann set the tale in a Florida fantasyworld where haute-style, fancy handbags and gang rivalry are all the rage. It's Shakespearean tragedy à la Quentin Tarantino. Also starring John Leguizamo, Jessica Lange and Paul Rudd.

SCREAM Wes Craven pokes fun at his own genre in a postmodern thriller about a serial killer set in suburban California. Drew Barrymore heads up a cast of babes including Neve Campbell and Courtney Cox.

SECRETS & LIES The latest offering from Mike Leigh ("Naked") weaves together three stories of funny, damaged and all-too-real people. One examines the relationship that evolves when a young middle-class black woman meets her biological mother, who is white and working class. Another looks at a middle-class photographer with a turbulent marriage. The third explores an alcoholic factory worker's dealings with her daughter. Sounds like Mike Leigh.

SET IT OFF If "Waiting To Exhale" made you want to puke, check out F. Gary Gray's story of four friends from the projects who don't wait for anything — they make things happen. Queen Latifah heads up the cast of women who, fed up with bad luck and unrealized dreams, try their luck at bank robbery. Also starring Jada Pinkett, Vicca Fox, Kimberly Elise and Blair Underwood.

SLEEPERS Four men (Brad Pitt, Jason Patric, Billy Crudup and Ron Eldard) seek revenge for the physical and psychological abuse they suffered as boys from a guard while doing time in a juvenile reformatory. The presence of Kevin Bacon as the doomed guard with such luminaries as Robert De Niro and Dustin Hoffman ensures yet another round of the party game "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon" in college dorms everywhere.

SPACE JAM The most recognizable man in the world, Michael Jordan, teams up with a bunch of Looney Tunes characters, including Bugs Bunny, in this live action/animation comedy. Jordan must help save the Looney Tunes from destruction by aliens. Also starring Wayne Knight, Theresa Randle and Bill Murray.

STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT In this latest installment, director Jonathan Frakes (who also wrote the script) and Vince Vaughn, who want nothing more than to throw back a few cocktails and maybe score the phone numbers of a local heavy metal band, "Swingers" has all the cool chattiness of "Pulp Fiction," only without all the weird violence.

TWELFTH NIGHT A film adaptation of Shakespeare's comedy, starring Helena Bonham Carter.

movie times

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, DEC 27-JAN 2 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

OWING TO SCHEDULING CHANGES AFTER CBW GOES TO PRESS, MOVIEGOERS ARE ADVISED TO CONFIRM TIMES WITH THEATERS.

NICKELODEON, TEMPLE AND MIDDLE STREETS, PORTLAND, 772-9751.

THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES (PG-13) 12:40 (EXCEPT JAN 2), 3:40, 6:40, 9:40
SLEEPERS (R) 12:30 (EXCEPT JAN 2), 4:30, 6:30, 9:30
ROMEO AND JULIET (PG-13) 1:10 (EXCEPT JAN 2), 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
DS: THE MIGHTY DUCKS (PG) 1 (EXCEPT JAN 2), 4, 7, 9:10
FLY AWAY HOME (PG) 1:20 (EXCEPT JAN 2), 4:20
SET IT OFF (R) 7:20, 10
THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT (R) 12:50 (EXCEPT JAN 2), 3:50, 6:50, 9:20

GENERAL CINEMAS, MAINE MALL, MAINE MALL ROAD, SO. PORTLAND, 774-1022. TIMES GOOD FOR DEC 26-31 ONLY

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA (PG-13) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:20, 9:20
MY FELLOW AMERICANS (PG-13) 1:45, 4:05, 7:10, 9:30
ONE FINE DAY (PG) 1:40, 4:15, 7:20, 9:35
THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (G) 11:30
THE PREACHER'S WIFE (PG) 2:20, 3:50, 7, 9:40
DAYLIGHT (PG-13) 3:30, 4, 7, 9:30
STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT (PG-13) 12:30, 6:45
RANSOM (R) 11:30
SPACE JAM (PG) 3:50, 9:55

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

THE EVENING STAR (PG-13) 12:50, 3:40, 6:45, 9:30
MICHAEL (PG) 1, 1:30, 3:30, 4:10, 7:10, 7:30, 9:40, 9:50
SCREAM (R) 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9
JERRY MAGUIRE (R) 12:45, 4, 6:30, 7, 9:25, 10
MARS ATTACKS! (PG-13) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45
101 DALMATIANS (G) 1:40, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15
JINGLE ALL THE WAY (PG) 1:20, 4

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

JUDE (R) DEC 23-1 • THURS-MON 5, 9:15 • SAT-SUN MAT 12:45
COLD COMFORT FARM (PG) DEC 26-31 • THURS-TUES 7:15 • SAT-SUN MAT 3
SECRETS & LIES JAN 1-7 • WED-FRI 9 • SAT-SUN 12:30, 5, 9:30 • MON-TUES 7
SWINGERS (R) JAN 1-7 • WED-FRI 5, 7 • SAT-SUN 3, 7:30 • MON-TUES 5, 9:30

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616.

MY FELLOW AMERICANS (PG-13) 12:15, 2:25, 4:45, 7:20, 9:25
BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA (PG) 12:25, 2:20, 4:15, 7:10, 9
MICHAEL (PG) 12:10, 2:55, 4:55, 7:05, 9:20
THE EVENING STAR (PG-13) 1:20, 4:05, 6:35, 9:35
THE ENGLISH PATIENT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45
MARS ATTACKS! (PG-13) 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7
JERRY MAGUIRE (R) 12:45, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35
ONE FINE DAY (PG) 12:40, 2:50, 5:05, 7:30, 9:40
THE PREACHER'S WIFE (PG) 1:10, 4, 7:05, 9:35
101 DALMATIANS (G) 12:35, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:45
DAYLIGHT (PG-13) 9:15

KEYSTONE THEATRE CAFE, 504 CONGRESS ST, PORTLAND, 871-5500.

TIMES EFFECTIVE DEC 26 ONLY
FIRST WIVES' CLUB (PG) 7, 9
TWELFTH NIGHT (PG) 6:30, 9
REINDEER GAMES (NR) 6:35, 9:15

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this
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ITEMS FOR SALE PORSCHE 911, 1976- 1.8 liter, rebuilt engine & transaxle, new paint.

ITEMS FOR SALE TWO PEUGEOT WAGONS, '87 Auto, '85-5 speed, both clean and strong.

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GREEK WARRIOR SEKS VESTAL VIRGIN-Not Hercules but, another son of Zeus, seeking lovely Athena to share long chaste riles, philosophy, and light Greco-Roman wrestling. 9821 (2/8) Here need not apply. 9821 (2/5)

HOLIDAY SPECIAL...50's butts younger, loves sailing, travel, x-c skiing, and quiet evenings to outside to good music. ISO friend, understanding, caring, giving, and gives great messages. Call for Santa's gift to you. 9768 (1/29)

I WANT A PARTNER, NOT JUST A DATE-Easy going, funny SWM, 38, who has a good look and a charming personality. seeks a fun, fit, 25-35, N/S in the 30's, who really cares how she looks, who she can charm, romance, grow with, talk to, celebrate with, encourage, and be encouraged by. 9831 (2/5)

AAA RATING-DWM, 41, adventurous part-time partner of great 8yo boy. Witty, funny, and very playful. Seeks fit female for near-deer games, positive attitude. 9832 (2/5)

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS-I'm a warm, outgoing kind of guy but, am very lonely. Want to meet SF, 25-31, looks not important. 9809 (2/5)

SMILEY-FACED THINKER, 26, seeks LTR with demonstrative SWM, 28-35, having bright eyes and mind. We prefer being outdoors, love to learn, communicate daily, share work projects and play. I fit with "your people" and you enjoy my gay brothers (but agree that I am sexy). 9837 (2/5)

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MEN & WOMEN

ALPHABET PASTA SEEKING FRESH veggie-dish. Obedient, healthy, long, amassing potluck. I'm DWPM (w/2k's), 6'2", 200, INTJ, OGD, N/S, N/D, NESEA, MLM, 2, A.A. Arch, E/A, L/B, L/B's, WCLZ, C&H106, Enneagram 1, Pisces, 1951, 9770 (1/29)

ALTO RECORDED, kind, gentle, considerate, caring, SOH, physically and emotionally healthy and active, N/S, ND, seeking similar in 45-55yo soprano (strings or percussion acceptable), for partner in the symphony of life. Let us make music. 9771 (1/29)

ARTICULATE, CHARMING, CUTE SWM seeks SBF/SF with low center of gravity, companionship, good times, to stimulate my life, share experiences. Must have great SOH, intelligence, honesty and balanced mental state. I love to read, walk on the beach, movies, dining, photography, pets... 9714 (1/22)

BLACK MALE, 38, 5'11", 170lbs, muscular build, seeks slender 25-35, for serious 1 on 1 relationship. No drug users. 9766 (1/29)

PRINCE, FUTURE KING & dedicated custodial father, 45, DWPM with outrageous SOH seeks intellectual companion with positive attitude for conversation/dinner at my place. 9726 (1/22)

PROFESSIONAL SEEKING PLAYMATE-DWPM, 37, looking to meet attractive professional who likes to run, bike, hike, ski, racquetball, ice, football, smoke cigars, drink microbrews. Let's have fun. 9775 (1/29)

QUIT YA BITCHIN' and play the hand you're dealt: DWM, 48, 5'6", fit, gentle herpes, in remission for years, honest, gentle, ardent, outdoors oriented, home lover, educated, self-employed, longing for sweetie female counterpart for full-time romance and maybe a dog. Call for Santa's gift to you. 9768 (1/29)

RARE MID-COAST MAN- No spouses, no kids, no kids, no kids. Romantic navigator, musician, naturist, merciless realist seeks curious consort for absurd titling at forbidden mysteries. 9834 (2/5)

SHARING GOOD TIMES-I am a developmentally challenged young man, 22, and god looking. I am looking for a young woman to share sports, movies, roller skating, music, and dining out. Do you know someone who might be interested? If so, please call. 9810 (2/5)

SOUL SHAMAN-Sensitive, attractive, bright professional seeks like female with whom to explore the wildness of nature and soul. 9756 (1/29)

STUDENT OF LIFE SEKS friend and lover. SWM, 42, N/S, N/D, seeking intimate friend to share in new experiences. I love the outdoors and exploring Maine. Also enjoy cozy evenings at home. Holistic wannabe. SOH required. No overachievers please. 9812 (2/5)

SWM, 31, LOOKING FOR female companion to spend time together walking, jogging, bike riding, etc. have house, car, 29, 29, speech impediment. Please call. 9771 (1/29)

SWM, 39, TALL, good-looking, good build, desires a medium build, busty, sexy, erotic woman who enjoys sensual pleasures such as lingerie, erotics, mutual massages. 9819 (2/5)

SWM, FRESH, 43, well-groomed, self-employed, 5'9", fit, 180lbs. Love kids, pets, traveling, museums, dancing, flea markets. Yearning for well-dressed, classy woman for monogamous relationship. 9826 (2/5)

WM, 33, SMOKE, L/D- Looks? Average/handsome, 5'10", 215lbs, rugged, muscular? Bike, walk, cook, road trips, beach walks, dinner, movies. Self-employed, spontaneous, kind of shy, not into bars. Seeking female, 18-40, no kids yet. 9758 (1/29)

ARTIST/MUSICIAN looking for someone to share art projects, singing, creativity and intimacy. I do photography, play guitar and piano and more. Call and see what's possible. 9725 (1/22)

BEAUTIFUL, BIG-BREADED, sexy Sagittarius looking for lovin', cuddlin', and fun. Please be the one. 9787 (1/29)

BRUNSWICK/AREA-BMMW, 43, 6'4", 220lbs, submissive, easy going, ISO dominant top, couple with BM or BMM for safe, discreet fun. Discretion a must. 9790 (1/29)

CULTIVATED, MARRIED MAN, 44, professional, clean cut, seeks woman for discreet relationship, passion, and romance. Love of wines, dining, and sense of humor a must. 9780 (1/29)

DISEASE-FREE/WM, adult only, seeking a BMM for discreet encounters. 9727 (1/22)

MEN & WOMEN

KNIGHT ON A QUEST-Couragous WM ISO sensual vixen for erotic (no strings) rendezvous and later, in the summer, experiences on my iron steed. I am a tall, blond knight, worthy inside and out. Sexy, fire-spurred maidens: submit me. 9840 (2/5)

LOOKING FOR FUN AND FANTASY-DWM, 24, strawberry BL/BL, medium build, enjoys biking, beach, walks, pool and movies. Looking for SDWF with good SOH, 20-35, for fun and companionship. 9822 (2/5)

NEW TO BRUNSWICK AREA- Good looking, financially secure, 43yo, adventurous professional. 5'10", 165lbs, fit in good shape. Live on ocean. Enjoy hiking, boating, dancing, exploring, and sharing. Divorced, no children. Please be attractive, fit, 30's, shapely and fun. This could be the beginning of something great. 9772 (1/22)

PERSONAL AD VIRGIN-SWM, 31, athletic, attractive, fit, new to personals, seeks female counterpart, average/unimportant, who is fit, fun-loving. I enjoy movies, music, sports, dancing, politics, the outdoors. I am financially and emotionally secure. No smokers, no kids, light social drinker. 9782 (1/29)

PETITE BLONDE BUSY TOMBOY entrepreneur seeks friend and companion for outdoor activities, conversation, dining, dancing, theater. Exploring to learn, grow, spiritual, 5'2", eyes of blue, 50kg, 140L, SOH, N/S. 9818 (2/5)

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WOMEN & MEN

FUN/LOVING GWM WANTS to make friends. DTE, friendly, N/S, ND, clean, 50, looking for Asian/Caucasian/Black GM. DTE, honest, 50 or less, to make friends and more. Discretion assured. 9817 (2/5)

GWM COASTAL WASHINGTON CITY- It's lonely here! Seeking a friend, hoping for female. N/S, ND, LTR. Me: Regular masculine guy, romantic, loving, educated, fun. Lovemus, theatre, crafts. NYC. 9820 (2/9)

HARRY CRISTED GWM seeks other hairy chested GM. Of the right of a hairy chest turns you could be me. Let's talk. I am 35, 6'3", 190, dark hair, bearded, bald, very hairy. No smokers, drugs, beers or drinks. Tall and dark haired a plus. 9676 (1/8)

HANDSOME GUY, HW-ISO good-looking, mature counterpart, you should be last back, emotional, and financially secure. I am 46, 6'1", 195lbs. See my ad. 9664 (1/8)

I AM NOT YOUR THERAPIST- GWM, 30, 6'2", 220lbs, just coming out, looking for someone older (30-45) and stable to show me the ropes. Easy-going, fun, social guy who's willing to take things slow. I have many interests, love animals, and real people. No bar people. 9651 (1/8)

LAUGHING, LIVING, LEARNING, someday loving. I'm 5'8", 140lbs, shy BL/BL, 34yo who's tired of being a pecker. Looking for 28-40yo, intelligent, quiet, fun, social guy who's willing to take things slow. I have many interests, love animals, and real people. No bar people. 9651 (1/8)

LONELY IN THE OLD PORT-GWM, 20, musician, 5'10", 200lbs, seeks 20-30yo for friendship and fun. I'm hairy a plus. I'm a romantic, caring, loveable teddybear! Come snuggle with me. 9764 (1/29)

LOVE'S WHAT I GOT-Musical/artist, 37yo young, 6', 150lbs, laid back, spiritual, romantic. Enjoy outdoor activities, hiking, and good relationships. 9675 (1/8)

MALE WANTS MALE-Plausible TV wants to meet and date an understanding male, like a mild S&M and role playing bit, shy. Please call. 9666 (1/8)

MID-COAST CATCH-40's, 5'11", 170lbs, looking for someone who appreciates himself and wants to connect with another man that values mutual respect and understanding. Prefer ages 35-50. Let's begin the new year enjoying each other's company. Must be discreet. 9805 (2/5)

OPEN CASTING CALL- Director seeking leading man, actor, and romantic comedy. Previous experience not necessary- would love to discover new talent. No character actors or drama queens. Director is: 38, 6'0", 5'10", 180lb, anxious to start shooting. 9671 (1/29)

PASSIONATE CARING GWF, 28, seeking other GWF, 27-35, who is passionate about life. I enjoy romance, nature, dining out, quiet evenings with friends, thunder lightning, Sunday mornings, coffee, and movies. Friendship first, possible LTR. 9724 (1/22)

SASSY, SPUNKY SPRITE- 18yo, RD/BL, 100lb, looking for someone who appreciates himself and wants to connect with another man that values mutual respect and understanding. Prefer ages 35-50. Let's begin the new year enjoying each other's company. Must be discreet. 9805 (2/5)

UNKNOWN TRUTH ABOUT SATSODS? Cats are sleek but, their every dog has its day. 35yo, warm, sensitive woman seeks male enhancement to life, not substitution. I'm looking for an intellectually stimulating, affectionate, energetic partner to share life's challenges. Are you all that and a bag of chips? Let's meet. 9705 (1/22)

VOLUPTUOUS BRUNETTE- Attractive and desirable, 5'6", 40, searching for the ultimate in femininity, sensuality and magnetic theater. We'll be discreet. 9665 (1/8)

WANT A CHALLENGE? Internet me. Any you're intelligent, educated, well-read? Attractive, 40yo, fit, well-traveled, adventurous, and crazy? I love a lover of words and mountains? 9815 (2/5)

WILD WOMEN DON'T GET THE BLUES- 32yo, 5'9", discreet, musical, playful, creative, sensual, healthy, well-grounded Mom, ISO wild woman with interests include outdoor activities, country cooking, intelligent conversation, music and theater. Seeking healthy and outgoing 25yo-6', 160lb, fit shape, black/brown and blue eyes. 9781 (1/29)

STABLE & ATTRACTIVE BY ANY MEANS- 160lbs, 5'9", seeks N/S, intelligent, responsible, good looking man to share quality time. (Asking for too much?) Have many friends but, looking for that special person. We share what I have with the right person. Portland area. 9825 (2/5)

SUPER HARD BODY/BLDER- Rock hard 29yo bodybuilder seeks that Mr. Holmes for private workouts. 9672 (1/8)

YORK COUNTY GOOD-LOOKING GWM, 38, 5'9", 185, good build, bottom guy, seeks blue color type guy, masculine, 21-45, for discreet encounters. 9822 (2/5)

WOMEN & MEN

MISS YOU GIRL GWF, 30, seeks GWF, 31, in Belfast area. Lovella, call South Portland collect and don't give up. After 5pm weekdays. Home weekends. 9800 (1/5)

IF LOVE WAS A TRAIN, I think I'd like a slow one. 34yo shy, sincere, late bloomer, seeking similar or patient guide for journey to enlightenment. I enjoy movies, concerts, alternative music, long walks, long talks. 9711 (1/22)

LOOKIN' 4 LIPSTICK? Very attractive, playfully young woman seeking same. Love Zootz, hanging out, and honesty. I'm physically fit and beautiful. L&B. No butches, discretions OK. 9707 (1/22)

ME: BIG-BREADED? Looking for adult fun and entertainment. You: 60+, clean and discreet. All calls returned. 9816 (2/9)

MIDCOAST ISLAND WOMAN, BF, 48, seeking him and the distant island, desires soulmate to explore the mystery, beauty and energy of nature, creativity, affection. 9757 (1/29)

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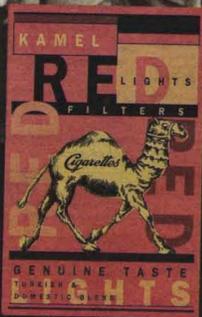
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SMOKED KAMELS.



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1913

BACK FOR NO GOOD REASON
EXCEPT THEY TASTE GOOD



SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking
Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.

RED KAMEL ORIGINALS: 17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.
RED KAMEL LIGHTS: 11 mg. "tar", .8 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.