

Wayves

We Dreamed of Another Way of Being Report of the Lesbian Memory Keepers Workshop

By Carol Millet

On February 11, 2009 a sign-over ceremony was celebrated by members of the Lesbian History Project who transferred its minutes, emails, workshop notes and transcripts to the Nova Scotia Provincial archives.

The Lesbian History Project began in 2003 when Diann Graham launched a project to record the history of the lesbian community in Nova Scotia during the 1970's and 1980's. This grew out of recognition that a formal history of the lesbian community in Nova Scotia didn't exist and could be lost forever. Shelley Finson, Janice Acton, Bethan Lloyd, Ann Manicom, Deb Mathers and Brenda Richard joined Diann and thus the Lesbian History Project was born.

After a year of planning, in November 2004, forty lesbians gathered for a day-long Lesbian Memory Keepers Workshop to share information, and to celebrate and affirm their lives and accomplishments. Information for the Project was also provided through interviews, written anecdotes, photographs, minutes and documents salvaged from personal files and storage boxes. In

total, more than 75 women from all over Nova Scotia contributed to the Lesbian History Project.

One Project member explained the purpose of the project:

"Young women who did not live through those times are baffled trying to understand what happened, or why so much of the early history has gone unrecorded. At the time, we were too 'activist' to document our work. Now we're trying to capture that history. If we do not bring it to light, then not only are lesbian's efforts and contributions going to be ignored and left unknown, but it will also reinforce the replication of women's historic invisibility."

The lesbian community offered a way for women (in the pre-computer age) to find out what was happening – whether that was a Holly Near concert, a Take Back the Night march, or a Wild Womyn retreat – and where, and how, to get involved. In the course of involvement, women developed important analytical and organizational skills. Lesbians worked alongside straight women in feminist and left organiza-



Lesbian History Project women celebrate. From left to right: Lois Lowen, Anita Martinez, Debbie Mathers, Joan MacIntosh, Diann Graham, Janice Acton, Brenda Richard. Photo credit: Anita Martinez.



Ryan McGrath rocked Halifax's Seaborne Tavern as he performed his encore song, "Why Can't Summer Last Forever," from his new album, *In My Own Company*. Ryan was accompanied by an eleven-member band, including back-up singers and a barbershop quartet at his CD release party on January 24. The CD will be available soon in stores. For inquiries, in the meantime email Ryan at ryanmagrath@gmail.com. Photo credit: Blake MacEwan

tions, despite the fact that many people in these organizations still harboured mistrust and fear of lesbians. Yet, it was often lesbians who assumed leadership roles.

The early lesbian community in Nova Scotia was part of a tremendous social force that influenced and helped to shape the changing local and national views of the lesbian and gay minority. By advocating a climate of understanding and inclusion, the lesbian community helped to lay the groundwork for subsequent struggles for greater political and social enlightenment regarding human rights, and legal and legislative inclusion. What shines through in the wonderful collection of memories in the Lesbian History Project are the shared insights into why certain organizations were founded, what worked and what didn't work:

"The lesbian community of the '70s and '80s was a place of much activism, and valuable things were learned in the midst of those struggles. Those lessons and skills from the past – how to network, collective decision-making, creating a welcoming environment and much more – are important and timely

to reflect on today, to assess if and how they might be of use today, for the present and future generations."

These rich memories and lessons have been documented in *We Dreamed of Another Way of Being, The Report of the Lesbian Memory Keepers Workshop*. All the lesbians who attended the workshop received a copy of the report. The report is readily available and in the public domain. The report is currently available at The Dalhousie University Women's Centre.

The Lesbian History Project documents are closed until 2019 except with the permission of the project members. This is to honour the request of the project participants for privacy while at the same time preserving and celebrating our lesbian history for future generations of lesbians.

Congratulations to the Lesbian History Project members and participants!

Sources: *We Dreamed of Another Way of Being, The Report of the Lesbian Memory-Keepers Workshop*, authored by Janice Acton; members of the Lesbian History Project.

Lesbians took things on. When they saw something that had to be done, they did it.

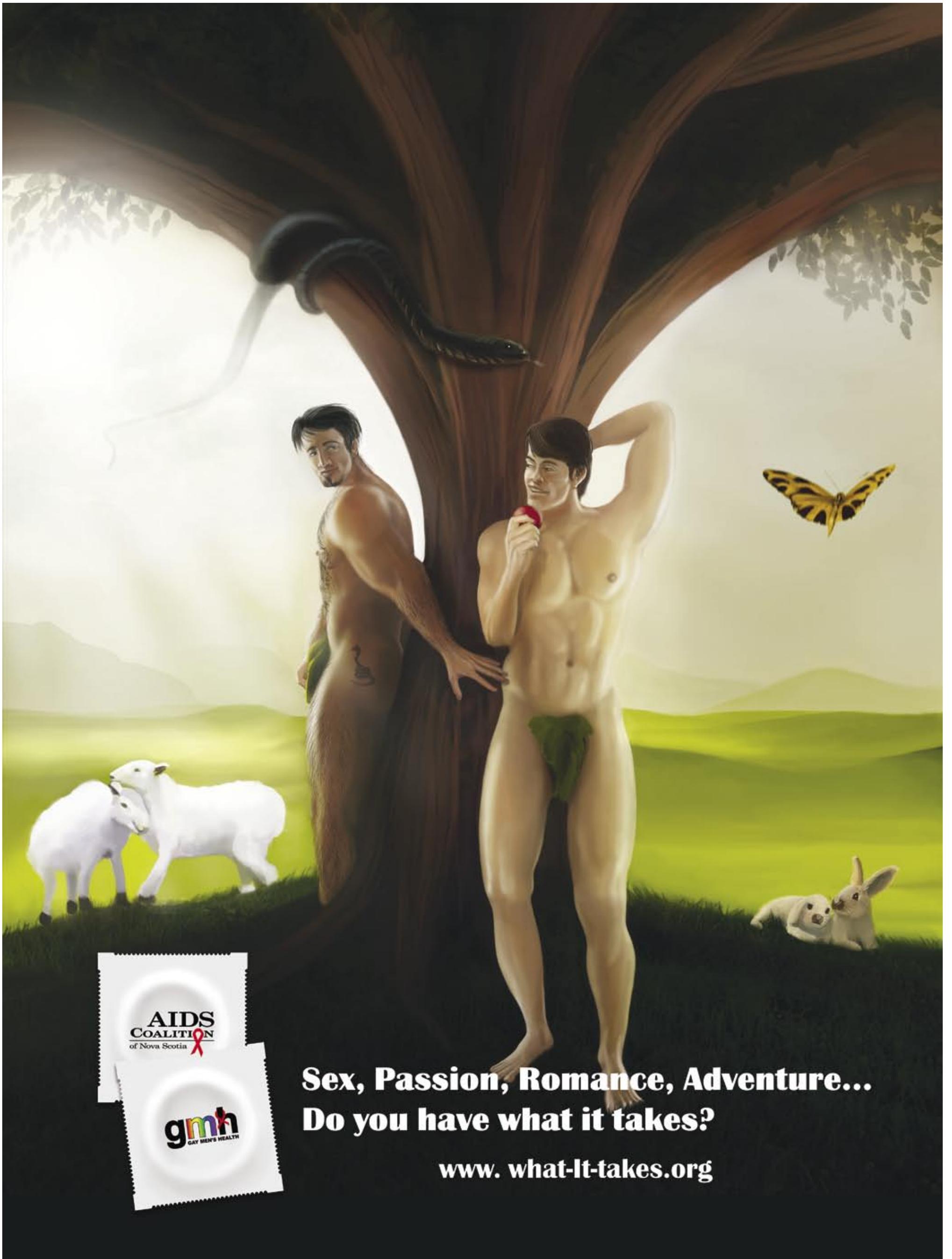
In This Issue

Features & News

ARC News 3 • Café DaPoPo 9 • Curling Night In Halifax 10 • Halifax Pride Wants You! 3 • Halifax Pride's First Annual Fancy Gay Dress Party 5 • Has NB School District 10 Learned? 6 • ISCANS Coronation 9 • Lesbian Themes In Mainstream Media 6 • Marriage In Maine 3 • New TCM Clinic In HRM 8 • We Dreamed Of Another Way Of Being 1

Regular Columns

Gay Men's Health 4 • Chef's Corner 10 • Events 12 • Groups & Services 11 • Kibitz And Bitch 6 • Letters 14 • Ramblings From The Sanctuary Gardens 8 • Reviews 5, • The Last word 14 • Wayves Professionals 13 • You Tell Us 14



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Halifax Pride Wants You!

Halifax Pride is starting its volunteer drive for 2009's Pride festivities and we need your help! If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer with Halifax Pride this year, two open community meetings are coming up—one on March 17 and the other

on April 21. Both will take place at Venus Envy, 1598 Barrington Street in downtown Halifax starting at 7:00 p.m. You can show up to either or both in order to meet Halifax Pride's Board of Directors and to offer your ideas for what you'd like to see during

this year's Pride.

On Sunday, March 15, Halifax Pride will hold a volunteer drop-in at Menz Bar/Mollyz, 2182 Gortingen Street from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. The drop-in is an all-ages event and you don't need to be 19 to attend. If

you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities with Halifax Pride, members of our Outreach Committee will be there to answer any questions you might have. If you're new to Halifax, volunteering with Pride is a great way to meet the

community and make new friends. Volunteering with Pride, or any of our community's wonderful service organizations, can be a tremendously rewarding experience. Halifax Pride wants to make sure that it's all fun, too. Happy Pride, everyone!

March News from ARC

by Shawn-Patrick McDonald
Spring in the air... finally!

The Abegweit Rainbow Collective had a great winter. We had a very successful New Years Eve White Ball, as well as a great New York City Club Night, a Diva Night, and

of course our Valentine's Day Gala at Mavor's Bistro. We also had our Annual General Meeting on January 27 at the Stratford town hall.

We have more dance parties coming up at Mavor's Bistro in the Confederation Centre of the Arts.

The dates are as follows: February 28, March 14 and 28, April 11 and 25, May 9 and 23, and June 6 and 20. Easter weekend will also be celebrated at Mavor's. The Queen of all Queens, Queen Victoria will celebrate her birthday with us on May 23.

This year's P.E.I. Pride Festival Week will take place from July 3 to 12, with the parade, festival in the park, and Pride Ball all taking place on Saturday, July 11. We are still finalizing the plans for 2009 but expect a softball game, coffeehouse, flag raising, youth dance, potluck, church service, boat cruise, beach party, and maybe even movie or trivia nights. Nothing is set in stone right now, so

if you have any ideas to add or wish to volunteer, please contact us via email or our office phone number.

For more information on any of our advocacy, Pride, youth, or social events or activities, please email us at info@arcfpei.com or call our office at (902) 894-5776 or 1 (877) 380-5776. You can also check out our website at <http://arcfpei.com>.

Marriage In Maine 2009

By SarahRose Werner

Atlantic Canadians with an interest in marriage rights in the United States may want to take note that in Maine, both supporters and opponents of equal marriage are gearing up for battle in 2009.

Equality Maine, with the support of the Maine Civil Liberties Union and the newly-formed Religious Coalition for the Freedom to Marry, will be mounting a campaign to get an equal marriage bill before (and hopefully, passed by) the Legislature.

This effort will be strongly opposed by the Maine Marriage Alliance, which is actively pushing for an amendment to the state constitution that would define marriage as being

between one man and one woman.

If an equal marriage bill passes the Legislature, the Alliance will certainly attempt to repeal it through a voters' referendum, as was done with a basic human rights law in 1998. (It was not until 2005 that Mainers gained freedom from discrimination based on sexual orientation as well

as gender identity and expression in employment, credit, housing, public accommodations and education.)

Past history suggests that support for equal marriage will be strongest in the southern part of the state, while support for an ant-equality constitutional amendment will be strongest in the northern part.

Our Cover:

Cafe DaPoPo performers Annie, Kim, Eric and GaRRy are pictured here in a scene from "Four Actors in Search of a Nation" at Menz Bar, Halifax February 11. See page 9 for more coverage. Photo by Raymond Taavel, design by Cam MacLeod.

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines: Mar 6, Apr 3, May 1, Jun 5, Jul 3; that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings (Halifax): Mondays Mar 9, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 8, Jul 6. Help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, Blowers St Paper Chase, Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

Magazine Layout (Halifax): Mar 15, Apr 13, May 10, Jun 14, Jul 12. Help build the paper – no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location. **On the stands, in the mail, and online the fourth Friday of every month.**

Wayves On Line!

Did you miss the last issue of *Wayves*? Or did your favourite distribution point run out of copies? Don't fret! Now you can visit www.wayves.ca, and download the current issue, and the archives too! We have 2007 back issues on line now and will be adding 2006 soon. If you'd like to be notified when the current issue is online- email us at submissions@wayves.ca!

Wayves

Wayves exists to inform Atlantic Canadian lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people of activities in their communities, to promote those activities and to support their aims and objectives.

Wayves is an independent publication, published every month except February by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to *Wayves* is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. *Wayves* reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in *Wayves* are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the *Important Wayves Dates* section of this page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and may be edited for length. Submissions should be emailed in plain text to the address below. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

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Atlantic and around the country. If there are none handy to your home, write to submissions@wayves.ca and tell us where we should be!

Getting the Bum's Rush

By Angus Campbell

Many gay men have a reputation for being "promiscuous," which is defined by dictionary.com as "characterized by or involving indiscriminate mingling or association, especially having sexual relations with a number of partners on a casual basis." Indiscriminate mingling? That is so judgemental that I hear a gavel slamming every time I read it.

I believe that everyone has the right to celebrate their sexuality, be it abstinence or at the other end of the scale, as long as it's legally consensual. Unfortunately in parts of this country we still have antiquated laws against youth who are just discovering their sexuality. In three of four Atlantic provinces, as well as other parts of Canada, anal sex is illegal until age 18.

Ah, those good old days of ex-

perimentation:

finding out what feels good, and more importantly, what feels right. But in some jurisdictions we're legally forbidden from expressing what feels natural, even with someone of the same age. That makes me and my former high-school wrestling buddy criminals. Talk about testosteronefest! Sixteen couldn't have been sweeter. Sigh.

So how does this relate to gay men's health in 2009? Laws define the acceptable boundaries of our society. Our gay male youth are being told that their natural desires are taboo and acting upon them could get them arrested. Whether these laws are enforced or not their mere existence may contribute to deep and lasting



effects on the gay male psyche. A woman can exercise control over her body (and rightly so) by having an abortion without parental consent at any age, yet a gay man has to wait until he is 18 to do what he wants with his anus?

If society tells us that not only who we are but how we express ourselves is wrong, then our behaviour may reflect that. Have we as gay men become "promiscuous" because of such laws and attitudes? Are we supposed to be ashamed of what we want and how we want it? Wouldn't everyone's tax dollars be better spent on full-spectrum sexual

health education, especially as more and more men and women are participating in anal sex?

Some research has suggested a connection between internalized homophobia and unprotected sex. And a recent study published in the journal AIDS Education and Prevention found internalized homophobia was associated with risky sexual behaviour in

In three of four Atlantic provinces ... anal sex is illegal until age 18

HIV-positive men who have sex with men. (I just heard that the Alberta government is considering banning HIV-positive people from anal sex altogether. What the...? Pierre Trudeau, we need you now more than ever!)

And what's wrong with abstinence anyway? Why are some so quick to judge those who celebrate their sexuality by being asexual? When it comes to hooking up, some gay men have chosen to unhook. And some couples have gone way beyond sex to a level of commitment and companionship that transcends any sexual expression. It's an individual choice and that's my point: no matter what our sexuality we should be able to express it how we choose, and we all need to be respectful and hopefully supportive of everyone's individual choice, because in this country we can choose (well, most of us, anyway).

And to law-makers who would actually consider such draconian ideas I say, "Go fuck yourselves... you're over 18."

Email: AngCam59@yahoo.ca

Ramblings From The Sanctuary Garden

By Bethana Sullivan

The seed of this column was planted the day I happened to see the movies "Milk" and "The Pentagon Papers." While I found one great and the other dubious, what struck me was how both Harvey Milk and Daniel Ellsberg went through a transformative process from ordinary people to extraordinary people. Just as Rosa Parks did, and Sandra Lovelace, Nellie McClung and Carrie Best and many others that each of you can name from the history of your life. All of them great people even if not picked up on by the media, and rewarded, decorated, fêted and recognized by the broader community as heroes and heroines.

It is that transformative process that I am interested in. What are the ingredients of transformation, I ask? From the limited accounts I have read, Milk was bored with his work and, I imagine, stifled by the limitations of the gay community. On the face of it, the lure of the hippie sensibilities

of San Francisco drew him west. Was it hope, the sense that anything was possible? Was it being just fed up with the way things were, oppressive and life denying? Somehow, an ordinary man began to dream big. Do I sound cliché? You bet!

As for Ellsberg... here was a conservative man, one who believed in the establishment, he spent two years in Vietnam only to return home to work with the Rand Corporation. It is ironic that the seed of the death of war was being nurtured within an organization that worked to grow the war. Isn't there some kind of message for us in that? Ellsberg discovered over time that he couldn't ignore what he was seeing when he was in Vietnam nor could he continual to avoid the ethical issues he encountered as he worked on the Pentagon Papers.

One day Rosa Parks, tired and fed up, wouldn't give up her bus seat to a white person and we all know what happened afterward.

Sandra Lovelace, a Maliseet woman from New Brunswick's Tobique Reserve, belonged to the second wave of feminism of Canada. Thanks to her successful appeal to the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations in 1985, native women in Canada no longer lose their status under the Indian Act through marriage to a non-native man.

Nellie McClung, as a social activist, fought for the right of Manitoba women to vote and then for the right to be called a person.

Carrie Best was the founder of Nova Scotia's first newspaper for Blacks. In 1946 she covered the story of Viola Desmond. In 1954 the Nova Scotia government repealed the law of segregation due to the successful lobbying of the Black community. Best and Desmond had been instrumental in organizing community action.

This brief look at a few of the ordinary people who did extraordinary

things tells me there is no one time that is right for transformative action. It is now. There is no one person who accomplishes the transformative act though it may start with a moment of individual choice. It is everyone. It doesn't belong to any one person, gender, class, religion or region.

And it does not end. Harvey Milk is relevant today not just because his is an inspiring story of our history but also because oppression and inequity continues. Ellsberg reminds us that secrecy keeps us from making informed choices. Desmond and Best tell us to gather together in united action. Public and private people alike



can be a catalyst for change but only if we all listen and are willing to take on the challenge of transformative action.

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Has NB School District 10 Learned?

By Angus Campbell

In November 2008 Robert Frenette reported in Wayves how students of Charlotte County would not be allowed to hear gay author Alex Sanchez speak. A few parents had complained to school officials and his invitation to use school facilities was retracted just days before he was to appear.

Mr. Sanchez, a well known and recognized author of the struggles of GLBT youth, was coming to New Brunswick to speak about tolerance, yet some parents couldn't tolerate the idea. A dichotomy, perhaps?

Dr. Leslie Ann Jeffrey, AIDS St. John Board President, wrote a letter of concern to the Hon. Kelly Lamrock, New Brunswick Minister of Education. In it she stated, "We feel that damage was done ... In not having Mr. Sanchez speak at the school itself, students are given to understand that sexual orientation and tolerance of difference is not an important discussion for all students and a welcome discussion within school walls. Such a message only reinforces the stigma and isolation that gay, transgender and questioning youth in particular already feel."

She continued, "Our understanding is that the Department of Education's primary responsibility is to promote and encourage the well-being of all students, including sexual minorities, as laid out in the Department's own Positive Learning Environment Policy. We therefore sincerely hope that the Department will consistently implement this policy for all students, regardless of sexual orientation, and that the Department will not succumb to the pressure from a few parents or other groups that oppose this government policy."

Six weeks later the Honourable

Minister responded, "... it is my understanding that after meeting with Mr. Sanchez and reviewing his material, Mr. (Superintendent) Pierce is looking forward to inviting the author to speak in District 10 schools. The Superintendent has expressed interest in Mr. Sanchez's programme, for it directly relates to the work he is doing in the district schools."

Hon. Minister Lamrock further stated, "However, I do understand your concerns in relation to the stigma around sexuality and the negative effect it has on gay and lesbian students. When Kids Come First,

our education plan, contains a clear mandate for schools to be safe spaces for gay and lesbian students, and it is this safe and welcoming school environment that we are working towards."

Did Superintendent Pierce jump the gun? Was the education plan's mandate not clear to him? He obviously made a decision without all the facts, and upon review, that decision was changed. By whom, we'll never know. It will be interesting to see how District 10 corrects its error. Ensuring a Gay-Straight Alliance in every school might be a good start.

Review: Milk It, Baby! Milk It!!

by Hugo Dann

Go and see Milk! If you've already seen it, then see it again! There, now you know how I feel, I can stop pretending I'm writing a review and can talk about how fabulous, important, celebratory, epically and supergay-califagilistically wonderful Milk is. For those of you who don't know, Milk is the story of 1970's gay activist, Harvey Milk, who, after repeated unsuccessful tries, was finally elected to San Francisco's Board of Supervisors (City Council); one of the first openly-gay politicians to get elected anywhere. From his rise to power: his victory against a viciously anti-gay piece of legislation (eerily reminiscent of California's recent Proposition 8) to his assassination by failed, right wing politico, Dan White; Harvey Milk's story embodies our community's struggles in the 1970s. It captures the divisions (some would argue they still exist) between those who wanted us to conform, and those who, like

Harvey Milk, proclaimed, "Never blend in!" Gay director Gus Van Sant follows history closely, as anyone familiar with Harvey's well documented life can attest. He captures that heady, sexy, post-Stonewall pre-AIDS era perfectly; as does his leading man. In the film, Harvey is played with joyous, flirty exuberance by Hollywood heavyweight Sean Penn in a performance that is rightfully drawing praise and award nominations — including a nod from Oscar. For those of you who think Mr. Penn is prone to chew the scenery, I urge you to see his work in Milk. He delights in the role! It is rare to see an actor having as much fun as Mr. Penn evidently does in playing Harvey. His capering dance up the grand marble staircase of San Francisco City Hall is worth the price of admission. Beautiful supporting performances are turned in by James Franco as Harvey's lover, Scott Smith, and by Emile Hirsh, as young, queer activist Cleve Jones. It's worth noting

that the real Cleve Jones (founder of the AIDS quilt Names Project) served as historical consultant on the set and was instrumental getting Mr. Van Sant to direct. Other fine work is contributed by Diego Luna as Harvey's last boyfriend, the doomed Hispanic youth, Jack Lira, and by Josh Brolin as Harvey's fellow Supervisor and ultimate assassin, Dan White.

In 1978, the year Harvey Milk was gunned down, I was 20 years old and deep in the closet. I spent the summer in Halifax working with some local gay actors and a bunch of my straight friends on a play called The Night They Raided Truax. It was a musical about a police raid on a Montreal gay bar. We staged it in Halifax's legendary community bar, The Turret (now the Khyber Arts Centre on Barrington Street). The first night the cast went to The Turret to meet the locals, I got picked up by the disc jockey and the long, tortuous process of coming out was begun. Gus Van Sant begins

Milk with archival footage of police raids on gay bars. We see men being shoved into paddy wagons, hiding their faces in shame. I remember those days. I could so easily have been one of those men. As I write this, Nova Scotia is celebrating African Heritage Month. Finally (but certainly still not enough) the amazing, heroic histories of the Black community are being celebrated and taught in classrooms. How do we start to tell ours?

See this movie! And after you've seen it (twice!), see the documentary Life and Times of Harvey Milk and read Randy Shilts' superb biography, The Mayor of Castro Street. And finally, "Never blend in!"

Hugo Dann is currently serving as Chair of Halifax Pride. In March he'll be returning to the stage in 2b theatre company's production of Homage by playwright Anthony Black.

Halifax Pride's First Annual Fancy Gay Dress Party

What better way to celebrate the first blush of spring than to put on your fanciest outfit and dance Old Man Winter away! Halifax Pride will host the First Annual Fancy Gay Dress Party, a luxurious dinner and dance, on Saturday, March 21, from 6:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. in the Halifax Ballroom of the Marriott Harbourfront

Hotel.

Cocktail reception with cash bar begins at 6:00 p.m., followed by a sumptuous dinner at 7:00 p.m.. Some fabulous entertainment will be provided by This Hour Has 22 Minutes star Gavin Crawford, and celebrated actor/recording artist Cliff Le Jeune will be accompanied by Gwen Daw-

son on the piano.

You can then dance the night away to the musical mastery of DJ Motlette. Tickets for this fund raising event are \$100 each (\$1,000 for a table of 10), available by calling our office at (902) 431-1194, or by emailing chair@halifaxpride.com. Get your tickets soon, as they're going fast.

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Hi Tom

I think I have a poltergeist or maybe gremlins in my computer. Sometimes, for no reason at all, and often when I'm not anywhere near the machine, the icons on the screen change position. Or I'm in the middle of something—like typing this letter to you—when I'll get a message saying, "We've encountered a problem and have to shut down." I suspect it is all connected to the endless number of updates that are sent to me. Each one is supposed to correct a problem created by the last one which was supposed to... well, you get the picture. My computer is like an elderly patient who has to keep getting new prescriptions to deal with the side effects of the previous medications.

A few weeks ago, I had a serious computer problem: No internet connection at all. For four days, my connection with the outside world was severed. It was like having my life support turned off. The only good news was when they told me that a repairman would have to come to my apartment. I thought: This is it! Every gay man's fantasy! A tall, well-built man in tight jeans and a loosely hanging tool belt will come knocking on my door. We'll smile at each other, he'll remark on how warm it is in my apartment and then make suggestive statements like, "getting to the root of the problem" or needing to "plug his hardware into my port."

The reality, however, was rather different: An older reddish-haired guy wearing something resembling a skidoo suit. Aside from briefly wondering whether "carpet and drapes" matched, I found him completely uninteresting. Disappointing. First the FedEx guy with the small package and now this. Why can't real life be more like porn?

Anyway, after four days of changing the inside connection box, examining the outside wires, changing settings and cables at the office, the damn thing still wouldn't work. Finally I repeated what I had said when I called into the service department the first day. "It couldn't be something as simple as replacing the modem, could it?" To humour me, he came by with a new modem and lo and behold! Problem solved. He seemed so sheepish and embarrassed that I accidentally brushed my hand across his crotch as he was leaving. Just to boost his self-esteem a little. Always works for me when someone does that.

I was mightily relieved. I'm not a technologically-gifted person, Tom, as you know. For me a computer is like a car, I know how to drive one but I don't need or want to know how it works. If my car breaks down on the side of the road I just want to put it out of its misery, preferably with a shot gun, and leave it there. I'm not demanding of my computer, I just want it to continue to perform today the same functions it performed yesterday—allow me to send and receive

e-mail, compose letters, search topics, view pics of naked men. Is that too much to ask?

However, apart from the occasional paranormal occurrence, my computer is functioning quite well again which allows me to focus on more important issues—getting ready for swimsuit season. This is much more complicated than it was when I was in my twenties. My friend, the Scribbler, sent me an article the other day on the virtues of fat. Yes, Tom, virtues. It seems the older one gets the more that extra fat helps to plump out the skin of the face, showing fewer wrinkles. Now, if only there was some way to put on weight only in the face. Because, on the down side, it is a well known fact (among those of us who care about such things) that for every 20 lbs of extra weight a man carries, he loses an inch of penis length. So, which to choose?

Of course we all pretend to prefer substance over outward appearance but who are we kidding? Even our favourite lesbian, Ellen, talks—albeit, tongue in cheek—about outer beauty being more important than the inner kind in her latest Covergirl commercial.

Men have it easier than women, I believe, when it comes to society's perceptions of age and beauty but we all know how hypercritical we gay men are about each other. I've never seen a personal ad that shows IQ scores or asks for your favourite philosopher. We brag about how many times we go to the gym a week but not if we know the way to the library. Easier to discuss favourite sexual positions than political opinions, or crosswords or if we like foreign films. Let's face it; we're sluts. We all say we're looking for a man with intelligence and personality but when was the last time you heard a gay man say, "Wow, that guy is smart. I'd love to take him home and talk his brains out, all night long."

Gotta run, Tommo. I'm off to my naked yoga class.

Love ya!



Lesbian Themes In Mainstream Media

By Emma Devost

Why is it that there are no mainstream movies with positive lesbian themes? Could it be that sex only sells if it's hetero sex? When we do see queer themes, they are usually watered down. Dare I say that the big studios are heterosexist by showing only straight sex?

How many of you women out there were hoping for a lesbian relationship to form when Julianne Moore kissed Toni Collette on the lips in "The Hours"? How hot was that? But it didn't go anywhere. It was like the "gun on the mantle" theory. If you put it there you have to address it or the audience is left wondering why it was there.

I keep hoping for gay revelations. Am I the only one who reads into on-screen relationships? I've always said, "I assume everyone is gay until they tell me any different." I cite other examples of relationship arcs that leave you hanging—the relationship between Idge and Ruth in "Fried Green Tomatoes," and when Shug shows Celie what a real kiss should feel like in "The Color Purple." In today's climate of acceptance of the out gay individual it seems that there are still many taboos left. I must admit the sexual tension between Violet and Corky is hot in the scandalous yet happily-ending "Bound," despite the incredibly stereotypical characters.

Are we so starved for characters that represent us in the media that we put up with negative images?

Not long ago I asked a friend, "Will the GBLT community be represented in mainstream commercials?" The response was a firm no, but I'm still hoping we will eventually be represented in a positive way with the help of organizations like Commercial Closet (www.commercialcloset.org). Smart advertisers know their target audience and we definitely make up a chunk of the consumer population. I applaud Covergirl for embracing Ellen Degeneres as their new face for their "Simply Ageless" campaign.

So, what messages are we getting from the mainstream media?

Take Katy Perry's song, "I Kissed

a Girl." You thought this was your new theme song, didn't you? Sorry to disappoint. A funny thing happened the other day in the grocery store. I heard the song coming out of someone's cell phone. I looked and realized said phone was owned by a woman with three small children, who looked tired and fed up, accompanied by what looked like her husband. Perhaps she wished she had kissed a girl and not cared what her man thought? Poof! Cinderella no longer pines away for Prince Charming.

Is this the message we want to send to our young girls, that maybe you have to use alcohol to be brave and then kissing a girl is just losing your discretion? You're just trying us on? You don't even know our name and you don't care? Ouch!

Back to the movies. Well, maybe not big screen movies... maybe the computer screen or on the home theatre. Ladies, let's talk about lesbian porn. Gag me with a silicone dildo! Why the need to suck on a strap-on? That's not what they were meant for. A strap-on can be your friend and there's no nut sack attached. And since we are on the topic of nut sacks, I ask, what is the appeal of gay male porn to lesbians? Is it that we secretly wish we had a dick? Oh, glory to the power of the dick! I'm not talking about being born without one when your gender identity is congruent with one. I'm talking about the urge to fuck from a perceived position of power. Is it that lesbian porn lacks the sensuality that gay male porn has? Is the grunting and moaning more animalistic? Maybe if we were more forthcoming with our secret urges we could develop more erotic porn. Hey, just remember there's nothing wrong with getting off to gay male porn. It's a chance to embrace the duality of the male and female in all of us.

You may ask what porn has to do with mainstream media. Porn has always been on the forefront in setting the standard for new technologies forcing Hollywood to follow suit. So, maybe if we penetrate (pun/no

Cont'd to Themes, p. 14

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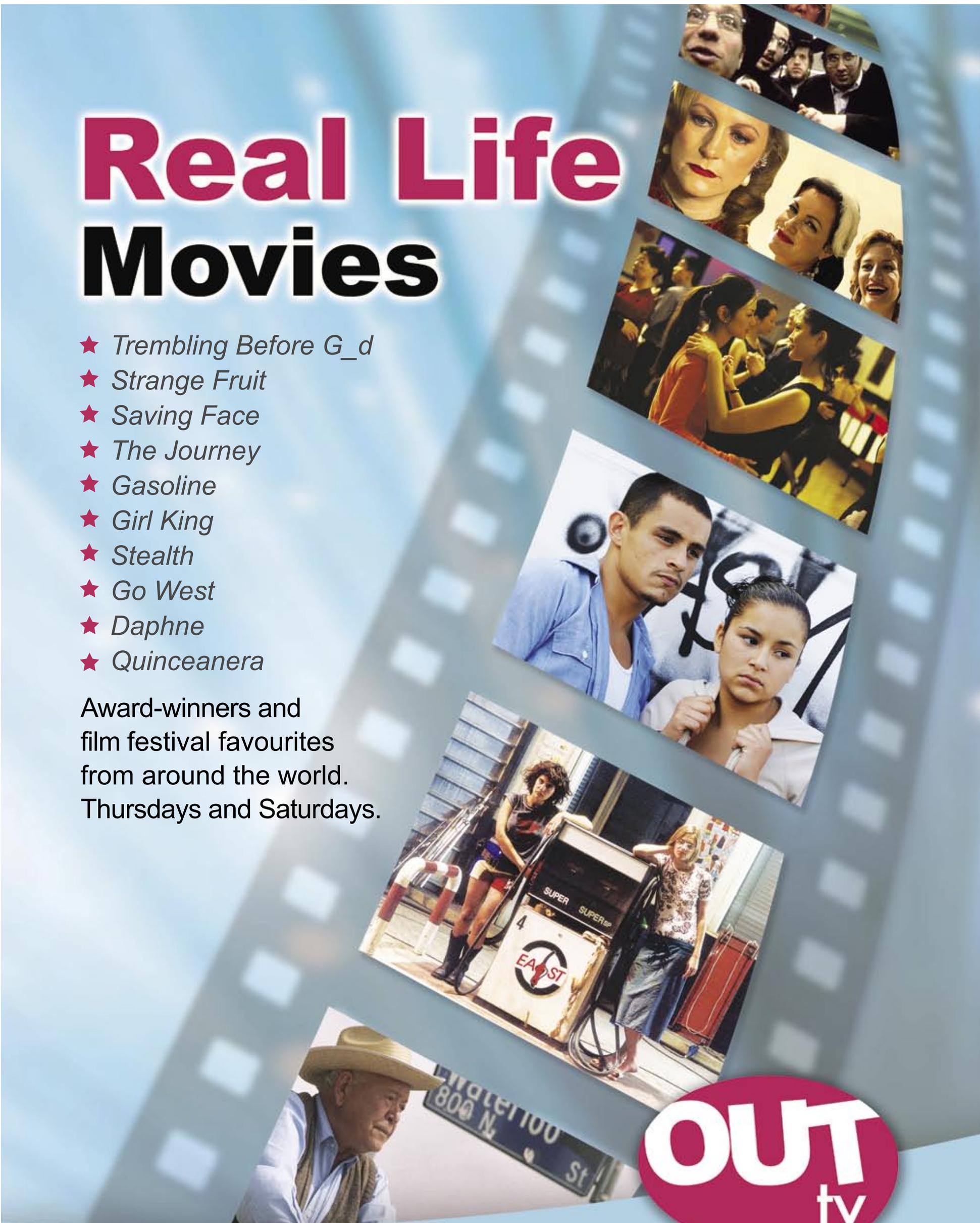
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New TCM Clinic in HRM

By Angus Campbell
Set back from the highway in its own seclusion is a very unsuspecting house. The moment you enter the door it becomes obvious that this is a house of healing, for you can feel the change of energy. Surrounded by a peaceful palette of organic sights and sounds, the healing process has already begun, and the always smiling Melissa gently says, "Hello."

Welcome to the world of Baidu Tra-



Melissa Berry and Dr. Fronie LeRoy.
Photo Credit: Rob Ibister

ditional Chinese Medicine. For those who have never experienced anything like acupuncture, acupressure and the like, there is a reason why these are known as complimentary therapies and no longer alternative. The latter implies the choice of one excluding the other, but that simply isn't so.

With a history of almost 3000 years, Traditional Chinese Medicine

(TCM) takes a different and holistic approach to the diagnosis and cure of illness, mainly based on the yin-yang and five elements theories. Acupuncture stimulates certain areas of the body, herbal remedies act on internal organs, and qigong exercises restore the orderly flow. The theory of the five elements, wood, fire, earth, metal and water, is an ancient philosophical concept used to explain the phenomena of the universe. Additionally each element is represented by a colour, hence the five treatment rooms of differing colours at Baidu—some vibrant, some muted.

Not convinced? Neither was I until a number of years ago when my shoulder locked up and I couldn't play my beloved vol-

leyball. I tried anti-inflammatory medication, massage, chiropractor, heck I even was rolfed (can't recommend that—it's like paying someone to beat you up). I was afraid of needles so I was extremely hesitant to try anything like acupuncture. But I'm sure glad I did, for a whole new world of pain-free living was opened up to me.

Meeting Dr. Fronie LeRoy, a proud member of our community, and having a tour of her new clinic in Bedford was enchanting. In addition to being a qualified Doctor of Acupuncture and Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine, she has a degree in Health Services and is working on a PhD under the mentorship of Dr. Cairo Rocha PhD, OMD.

Being sensitive to her patients'

needs, Dr. LeRoy provides many forms of healing techniques including traditional methods, such as manual manipulation of acupuncture needles and using Moxa from differing countries—each warranted by various patient conditions. According to Chinese beliefs, "Baidu" represents the persistent search for the ideal, which also describes Dr. LeRoy's philosophy of the continual learning of new techniques to ultimately help her patients.

There is no time limit to treatments, consultations are free, and acupuncture is covered by most insurance policies. So if you've ever been curious as to how you could benefit from TCM, this may be the answer.



Co-owner Mary-Ann Daye has something to crow about with the recent opening of The Company House (2202 Gottingen St.)



The Mollyz Women's Softball Team held a fundraiser brunch at The Company House Sunday February 16. MVP chef line-up: Jill, Julie and Heather cater to a packed house.



Fire in the kitchen! Pride volunteers Cathy Walsh and Don Goss ham it up in Menz Bar kitchen cooking pancakes and sausage at the Pride Pancake breakfast Sunday February 16 2009 while out front...

Photo Credits: Raymond Taavel



...Pride boardmember Tanya Bloomfield and volunteer Kim Fowlow were dishin' it out to seventy or so people. Pride Chair Hugo Dann reports that about \$600 was raised at the successful event

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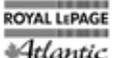


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ISCANS Coronates: XIII

The 8th Imperial House of Repeats, Double Takes and Devilish Duplicity HSI's Cousin Cletus and BoomBoom Lubalicious held Coronation at the Halifax Holiday Inn Select Saturday February 7. One of the smoothest Coronation events to date, ISCANS played host to the Imperial Courts of Vancouver/ Surrey, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Hamilton, and St. Catherine's. St. FX, ACNS and Halifax Pride also attended. Chosen charities (Manna for Health, ACNS, Bryony House) were presented with \$1000 cheques from year long fundraising efforts. In a special memorial tribute to the late Lulu LaRude, husband Billy McDuff Gillis spoke movingly and presented ISCANS' first Lulu LaRude Achievement Award. Lee Bent and BoomBoom will reign for year nine.



Photo Credits: R. Taavel

Cafe DaPoPo is 2 Years Old



Cafe DaPoPo celebrated Two Years of unique monthly shows Thursday January 29 at Menz Bar. Join Kim, GaRRy, Eric, Annie and the rest of the gang at Menz the last Thursday of every month. Photo credits: Raymond Taavel & Cafe DaPoPo (above photo)

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prideHealth logo contest

prideHealth was named by a community member, prideHealth was created for community members and now we want the logo to be designed by our community.

Submit your logo idea in **jpg format only** to rokoshj@cdha.nshealth.ca

CONTEST DEADLINE March 31, 2009

Wayves

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Employment Opportunity - Advertising Sales

Jim Bain, advertising sales agent for Wayves Magazine, is seeking a sales associate. The successful candidate would be expected to develop new advertising formats and new clients within the Atlantic LGBT market. Duties would include writing ratecards, preparing new sales approaches, and introducing the magazine and community to new clients. The candidate would also be involved in developing and producing events to showcase the magazine and its advertisers.

The position requires strong writing and communications skills, basic computer skills, and an aptitude towards graphic arts and design. A love of meeting people and talking with them, as well as a strong sense of community advocacy is also necessary. The ability to travel in the Atlantic Provinces is required. Persistence, self-confidence, the ability to work on your own initiative and a drive to succeed would be highly valuable. Helpful, but not required, is a background in sales and/or publishing and a base in or near Halifax.

This position is commission based.

E-mail resumes to ads@wayves.ca. Include full contact information.

Chef's Corner



The Acadian people were good farmers and fishermen as well as hunter-gatherers, a skill they honed early after coming to the new world with the help of the native peoples in the region.

I can remember on many occasions going hunting, brook fishing, clam digging or forging for goose tongue and sand fire greens on the mud flats of the Petitcodiac river.

This next recipe is a twist on an old Acadian favorite which Pèpère loved. It was traditionally

made with wild hare which they trapped themselves and with potatoes in the stew.

But I prefer the flavour of the less gamey and more accessible farmed rabbit and to serve the potatoes on the side.

Chef Darren is Chef and Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro, Halifax's newest two star restaurant, 1537 Barrington Street, Halifax, N.S. For reservation call (902) 420-9626, www.chives.ca.

Fricot au Lapin des Bois (Braised Wild Rabbit Hot Pot)

Ingredients

1 rabbit cut into 8 pieces	4 cloves garlic (minced)	6 cups chicken broth
1/2 cup salt cured pork belly	2 carrots (small dice)	1/2 cup flour (seasoned for dredging)
2 cups pearl onions	2 stalks celery (small dice)	2 Tbsp dried summer savory
1 shallot (minced)	1 cup white wine	

Method

1. Place a ceramic lined cast iron braising pot over med-high heat and render the salt pork until it is very crisp. Remove it from the pan and set aside. Dredge the rabbit pieces in the flour and brown them on all sides in the pork drippings. Remove the rabbit and set aside as well.
2. Add the onions, carrots and celery and sauté for a few minutes until they begin to soften and take some colour, and then add the shallots, garlic and dried summer savory and sauté for another few minutes making sure not to scorch the garlic.
3. Deglaze with the wine and reduce it by half, then return the rabbit pieces to the pot. Pour the chicken broth into the pot and bring to the boil.
4. Cover the braising pot and place in a 300°F oven for 1 1/2 hours. The meat should be fork tender.
5. Transfer the rabbit pieces to a hot serving platter to keep warm. Place the braising pan uncovered on a high heat and let the braising liquor reduce until it coats the back of a wooden spoon (we're talking about sauce consistency here).

Serving suggestions

Place two pieces of the rabbit on each plate. Ladle some of the sauce over the meat and garnish with the crispy pork belly. Serve this dish with buttered baby red potatoes and green beans.

Curling Night in Halifax

The Loose Ends Curling Group will host a social mix-n-match evening of curling in late March. For those who made a New Year's resolution to try

new things or meet new people, this is the event for you. Tickets are available at Venus Envy in Halifax, or arrange by e-mailing the Loose Ends crew

organizing the event at halifax.glbtcurling@gmail.com. Registration is limited to 48 people due to ice availability. Tickets must be purchased prior to the event.

The Pink Broom is a fundraiser for the Loose Ends Curlers representing Halifax in the Canadian Gay National Curling Championships (CGNCC). The annual CGNCC tournament will be hosted this year in Montreal over the Easter weekend, and has previously hosted teams from the other GLBT clubs across Canada: Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal. This will be the first year that a Halifax team will be in the tournament. The team is made up of Curtis Cartmill,

Jamie Turnbull, Chantelle Dooley, and Dawn Marie Gora.

The Loose Ends is a social club of gays and lesbians who curl in the regular recreation league hosted by the Mayflower Curling Club on Friday nights. While it is social etiquette to have drinks with your opponents after each game, the Loose Ends club has been known to occasionally

host "martini nights" outside of the Friday night curling schedule, pitting members against each other to determine who can make the best Martini recipe.

Check out the Loose Ends at www.looseends.ca. We hope to see you all at the fundraiser on March 21.

The Pink Broom

Social Mix-and-match format (Individual Sign up)
Fabulous Fundraising Raffle Draw to follow

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womanspoolnight@gmail.com - "Women's Pool Night" on Facebook

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Atlantic Canada

Al-Anon/Alateen: for families & friends of problem drinkers. Does someone you know have a drinking problem? 466-7077 web: www.freewebs.com/alanonmaritimes

AtlanticCanadianLesbians: Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces. email: AtlanticCanadianLesbians@groups.msn.com web: groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians

AtlanticPoz: A new discussion group is for individuals living with HIV in Atlantic Canada. web: health.groups.yahoo.com/group/atlanticpoz/

Egale Canada - Atlantic: (888) 204-7777 email: egale.canada@egale.ca web: www.egale.ca

GaySpaces, Fredericton: Free postings of GLBT-friendly places to live in Canada. email: info@gayspaces.org web: www.gayspaces.org

Gender Expressions Atlantic: Support for transgendered individuals ranging from Crossdressers to Transsexuals. email: gender_expressions@hotmail.com web: www.geocities.com/gender_expressions/ (No scheduled meeting. Occasional social events, by invitation only.)

Healing Our Nations, Dartmouth: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. (902) 492-4255 email: director@accesswave.ca web: www.hon93.ca (Healing Our Nations staff meet once on a weekly basis. Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 15 Alderney Dr., Suite 3, Dartmouth, NS. B2Y2N2

Maritime Transgender Workplace Solutions Project, Upper Musquodoboit: Transgender Issues Workshops and information resource. (902)568-2935 email: denisesined@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapernews (No meetings, Workshops by arrangements, information source when requested. Newsletter Odds & Sods bi-weekly)

Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society, assorted cities: Dedicated to developing gay leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: waydo7@hotmail.com

Names Project (AIDS Memorial Quilt): panels - helping create, and lending. 902-454-5158 email: larrybaxter@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.quilt.ca (Call if interested in volunteering or making a panel) at 3544 Acadia St. Halifax, NS B3K 3P2

Narcotics Anonymous: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 1-800-205-8402 web: centralnovaarea.ca at Call the phone number or visit the web page for meeting times and places.

Project E: Presentation for youth, on gender expression, myth busters, proper terminology and other facts. web: www.freewebs.com/xprojecte/ at available via web page

Propitiation, Toronto: A fellowship of gay and lesbian Anglicans and their friends. 416-977-4359 email: propitiation@hotmail.com (We meet on a Saturday or Sunday Evening once every other month for Evening Prayer Discussion, refreshments and fellowship. Contact for meeting location) at members homes. We prefer our heritage, worship, and Spirituality of the Book of Common Prayer. We are troubled by such right wing organizations as the prayer book society and Essentials.

Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine!. email: submissions@wayves.ca web: wayves.ca (Editorial meeting one Monday night a month; layout one Sunday a month; email us to be notified of meetings & deadlines!)

New Brunswick (506)

Affirming United Church - Centenary - Queen Square United Church, Saint John: invites you to worship!. 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com web: www.cqsunited.ca, meets every Sunday (10:30am) at 215 Wentworth St, Saint John, NB

AIDS Moncton, Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 859-9616 email: sidaidsm@sida-aidsmoncton.com web: www.sida-aidsmoncton.com at 80 Weldon St, Moncton, NB, E1C 5V8

AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick, Fredericton: committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. 459-7518 email: sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.aidsnb.com (Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)

AIDS Saint John, Saint John: improve quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV, reduce the spread through education 652-2437 email: aidssj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aidsaintjohn.com

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays, Fredericton: Email listserv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: jamesw@stu.ca web: www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG), Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: info@gngnb.ca web: www.gngnb.ca (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See www.gngnb.ca for a list of upcoming events.) at 702 rue Principale, Petit-Rocher NB. Look for rainbow flag and/or door with pink triangle at rear of parking lot.

Integrity, Fredericton and area: Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. email: davidstaples@rogers.com web: www.anglicanbeads.com/Integrity/Integrity.htm, meets 3rd Sunday (Group gayfers for a Service on the third Sunday of each month at 4 pm in ChristChurch Cathedral, Fredericton)

Moncton Line Dancing, Moncton: LINE DANCING for all levels from beginner to advanced. No partner required. No dress code. , meets every Wednesday (8:30pm sharp) at Triangles Bar, corner of St. George and Archibald.

PFLAG Canada, Moncton: Supporting all people with questions or concerns about sexual orientation and gender identity issues. (506) 869-8191 email: monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html, meets 3rd Monday (Occasionally on the 2nd Monday — please call) at 7:30-9:30pm, University of Moncton, Adrien-J.-Comier Bldg., Room 302

PFLAG Canada - Fredericton, Fredericton: all welcome. (506) 455-7190 email: pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/, meets 4th Tuesday (7-9 pm (except December: 2nd Tuesday)) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 874 York St. Fredericton NB E3B 3R8

PFLAG Canada - Sackville/Amherst: Support and education for GLBT2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: sacknb-amns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/en/prov-list-e.asp?RegionNo=6&ProvAbbr=NB, meets 2nd monday (Phone or e-mail for meeting location and details.) at Sackville:112 Main Street or Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

PFLAG Canada - Sackville/Amherst, Sackville NB/Amherst NS: Support and education for GLBT2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm No meeting in July and August.) at Meeting location alternates monthly between Sackville: United Church Parlours, 112 Main Street, and Amherst: Maggie's Place, 12 LaPlanche Street

PFLAG Canada - Saint John NB, Saint John: Provides support to anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. (506)648-9700 or 648-9227 email: saintjohnnb@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/saintjohn, meets 1st Friday (1st Friday of each month September - June from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. No meeting in July & August.) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Port City Rainbow Pride, Saint John: Pride Celebrations Committee. email: events@portcityrainbowpride.com web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com

River Of Pride, Moncton: Organizes, promotes and produces Moncton's Pride events!. email: monctonriverofpride2008@gmail.com web: www.fiertemonctonpride.ca, meets 1st Sunday, and 3rd Sunday (contact ilaisha@nbnet.nb.ca for further meeting and event dates) at Triangles bar 234 St. George St. Moncton NB

Safe Spaces Fundy Region, Saint John: Committed to ending discrimination around issues of sexual orientation in youth. email: safespaces@gmail.com web: www.safespacesfundy.com (See our webpage for schedule of meetings and socials etc @ www.safespacesfundy.com)

Safe Spaces Moncton Region, Moncton: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 506-854-3049 email: info@safespaces.ca web: www.safespaces.ca

Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library, Saint John: over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles. 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com (open Monday through Friday, 9 AM to noon.) at the office of Centenary Queen Square United Church at 215 Wentworth Street.

Spectrum, Fredericton: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unb.ca/clubs/spectrum, meets every Tuesday (See webpage for schedule.)

The UNBSJ Q-Collective, Saint John: A social and support organisation for UNBSJ students, staff and faculty. 506-648-5737 email: QCollect@UNBSJ.ca web: www.unbsj.ca/

clubs/qcollective (The UNBSJ Q-Collective is interested in hearing from other university LG-BTQ organisations and would like to possibly meet or collaborate.) at Various locations; event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the UNBSJ Q-Collective and/or who gets the UNBSJ weekly "E News". Past events include the annual Rainbow Peace March, guest speakers, movie nights, participation in Maritime Pride Parades, Supporters of PFLAG Canada's "Communities Encourage Campaign" and "Champions Against Homophobia".

UN sur DIX - l'Association des étudiant.e.s GLB de l'Université de Moncton, Moncton: Visé à éduquer, à sensibiliser et à offrir des ressources dans la langue française. email: unsurdix@umoncton.ca web: www.umoncton.ca/unsurdix/ (Visitez le site Web ou envoyez un courriel pour en apprendre davantage au sujet du travail que nous accomplissons.)

UNB/STU Women's Collective, Fredericton: Women of all ages and orientations. , meets every Monday at 5pm at the University Women's Centre at the SUB

Woodstock GLBT Youth Advocate and Family Outreach, Woodstock: Books, movies, advice, directions, contacts, and support etc. for the family. 328-4868 email: richardb@nbnet.nb.ca

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

AIDS Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador, St. John's: HIV/AIDS education and support for male/female/transgendered, all ages, Newfoundland and Labrador 579-8656 email: info@acnl.net web: www.acnl.net

Gay Urban Youth Zone Project, St John's: designed to increase HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STI knowledge and awareness 579-8656 (ext. 28) email: chris@acnl.net web: www.acnl.net at Tommy Sexton Centre 47 Janeway Place Pleasantville, across from the old Janeway Hospital AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador

LBGT-MUN Resource Centre, St John's: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers!. 737-7619 email: lbgt@munsu.ca (Open Monday-Friday 9-4. Biweekly meetings for members and volunteers.) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved!

PFLAG Canada - St. John's: Information or referral to one of our parents. web: www.pflag.ca (For support or information on chapter meetings regarding PFLAG Canada contact Gemma Schlamp-Hickey, Atlantic Director at gemmahickey@yahoo.ca or Diana Deacon, St. John's chapter contact at ddeacon@mun.ca)

St. John's Pride, St. John's: St. John's Official Pride Organization. 709-746-6564

Nova Scotia (902)

Acadia Pride, Wolfville: Acadia Student Union's LGBT2IQ group. 585-2165 email: acadiapride@acadiau.ca web: euler.acadiau.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (9:00pm(during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB)

Acadia Women's Centre, Wolfville: 585-2140 email: 057996c@acadiau.ca web: axe.acadiau.ca/womencentre (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony)

Affirm United, Halifax Metro: GLBT & Friends support, action and worshipping community within the United Church. 461-4528 email: alstew@eastlink.ca

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton, Sydney: Support, advocacy, prevention/education for those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Free condoms!. (902) 567-1766 email: joannerolls@acbc.ns.ca, christineporter@acbc.ns.ca web: www.acbc.ns.ca (Free Anonymous Testing 1-902-567-1123 Check our Website for events and updates.) at 150 Bentinck St, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6H1

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, Halifax: non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. (902)425-4882 email: acns@acns.ns.ca web: www.acns.ns.ca

Alcoholics Anonymous, Halifax: Live & Let Live AA Group for GLBT community. (902) 425-8383/422-4972 email: courage449@yahoo.com web: www.rationalunlucy.com/cout, meets every Monday (at 8pm) at St Matthews United Church, 1479 Barrington St, Halifax (Use side door near Maritime Centre at bottom of stairs)

Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing, Halifax: 455-9656

Bedford United Church, HRM/ Bedford: An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome. 835-8497 email: bedfordunited@eastlink.ca web: www.bedfordunited.com, meets every Sunday (9 am service - Casual and contemporary - with free

coffee and muffins before church to take into this service. 11 am service - Quieter and more reverent in tone, coffee after service. Call to confirm worship times as occasionally we have a 10 am combined service.) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

BLT-Womyn of Halifax, Halifax: Bi Sexu-als, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group. Sue's # 499-0335 email: sueandrews1964@hotmail.com web: ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynof-halifax/ (Every second Sunday evening 6pm - 7:30pm) at Dalhousie Women's Centre 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Bluenose Bears (BnB), Halifax: BnB is a private men's membership based social group for Bears and their admirers. Membership Fees are \$5 for a year. Event Fees are \$1 for Members and \$2 for Guests. Email for more info!. email: BluenoseBears2008@yahoo.ca (Social Gatherings are generally held once a month, on a Tuesday evening.) at Menz Bar (often) but venues vary. Sorry, no 'drop ins'. Members and their Guests only!!

Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre, Sydney: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdc@cbusu.com (M-F 9-4pm. Call or drop by for event listings, Ally Training, and Anti-Heterosexism/Homophobia Workshops!) at the Students' Union Building, Cape Breton University.

Colchester Sexual Assault Centre, Truro: Provides support and information to anyone (GLBTQ included) affected by sexual assault and abuse. 902-897-4366 email: trurosexualassault@hotmail.com (Mon-Fri 9:30-4:30) at 80 Glenwood Drive

DalOUT, Halifax: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: dalout@dal.ca web: societies.dsu.ca/dalout, meets every Thursday (During the academic year we meet at about 7pm each Thursday night.) at Dalhousie University, check OUT our website or contact us for details

Frontrunners Halifax, Halifax: Running/walking club. 422-7579 email: Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca web: www.frontrunners.org/clubs/index.php?club=Halifax, meets every Saturday, and every Tuesday, and every Thursday (Sat: 9:30am, Tue: 6:00 pm, Thu: 6:00pm) at Main gates of the Halifax Public Gardens, corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street.

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP AT Q.E.H.: Jeanie Buffet, Counsellor, at 421-6797

Get Out, Halifax!, Halifax: Recreation activities (team activities, cycling, running, rowing - you name it) for metro & beyond!. web: www.getouthalifax.ca at Visit and get on the email list for more info.

Girl-ish Productions, Halifax: Girl-ish puts on hot and heavy bi-monthly-ish dance parties for queer-ish folks and their friends. email: girlishproductions@yahoo.ca web: www.girlish.ca

GLB CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (SUNS): 494-6654 at c/o the Students' Union of NS

Group Harrison Society, Cape Breton: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. (902)270-6969 email: groupharrisononsociety@yahoo.ca web: groupharrisononsocietydancespi.piczo.com, meets last Saturday (of every month Admission \$6.50 -\$5.50 for members- Best light and sound show around! Restricted 19 yrs and over) at Steel Workers Hall, Sydney

Hal-Gal Mailing List, Halifax: Low-traffic Yahoo group providing events and information for queer women in the Halifax area. email: halgal@yahoogroups.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/hal-gal/ (Join the list to keep in touch or post your events.)

Halifax Sexual Health Centre, Halifax: Anonymous HIV testing, open and inclusive sexual health clinical services, education and workshops. 455-9656 web: www.HalifaxSexualHealth.ca

Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society, Halifax: Fundraising. 902-449-7612 web: www.imperialcourtsns.com, meets 1st Sunday, and 2nd Sunday (Executive Meetings Are Currently Held Every Second Sunday) at Meeting Locations Vary

Manna For Health, Halifax: A special needs referral food bank for those living with life threatening illness. 429-7670

Northern AIDS Connection Society, Truro: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland & East Hants. 895-0931 email: nacs@eastlink.ca web: northernaidconnectionsociety.ca (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. Annual General Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact numbers in your area of northern Nova Scotia.) at 33 Pleasant Street,

Truro, N.S.

Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project, Halifax: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 902-444-7887 email: nsrap@nsrap.ca web: www.nsrap.ca at TBA

Outlaw, Halifax: GLBTQ & Allies Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: chad.skinner@dal.ca web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2416842853 (Meetings vary. Please email for further information or check out our Facebook group.) at Dalhousie Law School. 6061 University Avenue. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

PFLAG Canada - Middleton, Middleton: Information and support for GLBT community and their friends and families. 902-825-0548 email: middletonns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html (Check online for meeting times and locations- or phone 825-0548)

PFLAG Canada - Sydney, Sydney: PFLAG Sydney provides support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Karen 564-8728 email: sydneyns@pflagcanada.ca, meets last Sunday (of the month at 7:30pm. No meetings for July and August.) at Family Place Resource Centre 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS

PFLAG Truro: 662.3774

Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health, New Glasgow: 695-3366 email: youth.access@ns.sympatico.ca

Positive Connections: Teleconferenced support groups for people living with AIDS. email: connections@acns.ns.ca, meets every Monday (evening 7:00pm - 8:00pm) at by phone. No long distance charges. For more info call 425-4882 ext 228 or 1-800-566-2437 ext 228 or e-mail.

Pride Cape Breton Society, Sydney: Dances and Social Events. Monthly dances are Adults Only! Check website community events. (902) 539-4627 email: info@pridecapebreton.com web: www.pridecapebreton.com (Dances on the last Saturday of every month. Check website for dance and special event dates!) at Southend Community Centre. Maps are at our website.

Pride Guide Publishing: publisher of community focused maps, directories, event programs and more. 902-423-6999 email: prideguide@eastlink.ca

Pride of Pictou County, New Glasgow: All GBLT in Pictou County. email: chair@prideofpictoucounty.ca web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

Pride Week, Halifax: Producers of Atlantic Canada's largest LGBTQ cultural festival. 431-1194 email: info@halifaxpride.ca web: www.halifaxpride.ca (July 19 - 26, 2009)

Quakers, Halifax: Quakerism emphasizes that we all manifest the Divine. 429-2904 web: halifax.quaker.ca, meets every Sunday at Library at Atlantic School of Theology, Franklyn St. All very welcome.

Queer Play, Halifax: A Queer performing arts group in Halifax NS. email: queerplay@gmail.com

Rainbow Playtime, Halifax: Food & social meetings for same sex families with tots or couples considering parenthood. 461-9414

Red Door, The, Kentville: Youth health adolescent center counselling, for up to age 30, all ages STD testing. 679-1411 web: thereddoor.ca (Monday through Friday, 1pm to 5pm, Wednesday open to 6:00) at 150 Park Street

RESPECT, Truro: Students Making Healthy Decisions. 893-6300 email: respect@nsac.ca at P.O. Box 550, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3

SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment), Truro: Social/support group at the NS Agricultural College. 893-6300 email: lyoung@nsac.ns.ca (Meetings as requested. Membership changes each academic year.)

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: A Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome!. 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbour-mcc.com, meets every Sunday (11 am) at Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax

Saint Mary's Campus Outreach Society:

Second Story Women's Centre, Lunenburg: We offer a meeting space for women, support counselling, programs, and referrals. (902)640-3044 email: secstory@eastlink.ca web: www.secstory.com at Second Story Women's Centre is located at 22 King Street, Post Office Centre, Lunenburg.

Sexual Health Centre Cumberland County, Amherst: Open and inclusive services: information, education, workshops, free condoms.

Events >>

Amherst

Second Monday

PFLAG Amherst/Sackville - in Amherst one month, Sackville the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street.

First and Third Wednesdays

Amherst and Area, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Group Meeting, 7-9pm. Anyone who is GLBT or questioning their sexuality in the Amherst, Oxford, Springhill, Pugwash and Parrsboro areas is welcome, this is a safe space where anyone can come and feel safe in talking about their sexuality and just being themselves without fear of ridicule or harassment. lgbyp_amherst@hotmail.com, all emails confidential.

Third Sunday of each month

The Cumberland Pride Society: Social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals in Amherst, Nova Scotia. Meets the third Sunday of each month from 2-4pm. Contact information: Gerard Veldhoven at 902-660-5004 or E-mail: gaylords.1975@hotmail.com

Annapolis Valley

Every Thursday and First Saturday of each month

The Annapolis Valley Gay Men's Coffee House meets every Thursday Evening from 7-9pm. Also on the first Saturday of each month we host an over 19 gay/lesbian dance from 9pm-1am. There are various themes for dances so call or e-mail for directions and info to the following: 902-765-2821 or menembracingmen@hotmail.com or yahoo.ca.

Every Sunday

Valley Girls is a social group for lesbians in the Annapolis Valley. Coffee Group on Sundays. For more information e-mail the group at Valley_Girls@yahoo.com.

Bridgewater

Third Saturday of each month (except July)

Wileville Dance. Smoke free. Door prizes. Cash bar. Must be 19. For more details call 530-5986 or email info@southshorepride.ca or go to www.southshorepride.ca

Cape Breton

Last Saturday of the Month

Pride Cape Breton Society hosts community dances at the Southend Community Centre in Sydney; admission just \$5, and open to those 19 yrs. of age and older.

Every Saturday

The Group Harrison Society dances 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. at the Elks Club (Upstairs), 101 Bentinck Street, Sydney. Admission for members with cards - \$5.00 Admission for non-members - \$6.50 19 & over. ID requested. Security Guards on site. Bar on Site. DJ plays a good mixture of current chart toppers & classic dance hits with the odd slow song. Please come out to enjoy yourself & show your support so these weekly dances can continue!

Charlottetown

...see Prince Edward Island

Fredericton

Every Tuesday

Spectrum, UNB and STU's social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, etc. students. As a group, our aim is to create a safe and supportive space for those who are questioning or discovering their sexuality, as well as providing a social outlet for members of the campus LGBTQ community. While our membership is primarily composed of UNB and STU students, everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. 7 pm, Top floor of SUB 203 (in the Sexuality Centre, across from the Ballroom) Everyone is welcome! For more information please contact us at spectrum@unb.ca

Every Wednesday

UNB/STU Women's Collective, at the University Women's Centre in the SUB, 5pm. Contact Lyndsey Gallant at gvnkr@stu.ca or call 450-3870.

Third Sunday of each month

GLB ANGLICANS AND FRIENDS Integrity is a nonprofit organization of Gay and Lesbian Anglicans and Friends. Membership in Integrity is not indicative of sexual orientation. Integrity Fredericton was formed in October 2004 and supports and encourages Gay Men and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. A Eucharist followed by a coffee hour discussion is held at 4:00 PM on the third Sunday of each month at St. John's, 58 Broad Road, Oromocto. For more details check out website: www.anglicanbeads.com/Integrity

Fourth Wednesday of each month

PFLAG Fredericton meets at 7 PM at the Unitarian Fellowship, 874 York Street. Everyone welcome. Discussion, guest speakers, support and special events. For more information email pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca. Confidentiality assured.

Fredericton Bar & Business Calendar

BOOM! NIGHTCLUB

boom! Nightclub, 474 Queen, Fredericton. 506-463-BOOM (2666). THU: dance karaoke. FRI: CIRCUS = house trax, go-go dancers. SAT: POWER = mainstream dance. SUN: live bands & DJs. Latest info: boomnightclub.ca.

Halifax

March 14

Bryony House's Annual International Women's Day Dinner and Silent Auction

The Annual International Women's Day Dinner and Silent Auction will be held on Saturday, March 14th, 2009 in support of Bryony House, HRM's only emergency shelter for women and children fleeing domestic violence. This year's theme is celebrating 'Women in Comedy'. Come join us and our Mistress of Ceremonies Nikki Balch (Morning Show Co-Host for Z103.5, The Beat of Halifax) for an evening of delicious food from Windows, one of Halifax's finest restaurants. Enjoy live local entertainment by Sheva Solomon; comedienne Evany Rosen and Cheryl Hann of Picnicface; Yuk Yuk's Comedy Club Halifax's Emma Cooper and Catherine Robertson; and the winner of The Coast's 2008 "Best of Halifax" Reader's Poll for "Best Drag Performer", Rouge Fatale as "Mrs. Stuart". Guests will also have the opportunity to bid on a rich selection of silent auction items. All in support of Bryony House. Tickets are \$80 per person or \$800 per table. Tables are \$750 on or before Feb.27th. To purchase tickets call: 429-9001 or to purchase tickets online at <http://www.bryonyhouse.ca/events.shtml>. Don't miss out! Get your tickets today!

March 21

Curling Fund Raiser: See article and ad on Page 7.

Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: a Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbourmcc.com, meets at 11 am at Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax Bedford United Church, 1200 Bedford Highway, Bedford. We are an Affirming Congregation and welcome everyone. Services at 9 am (Casual & Contemporary) and 11 am (Quieter & More Reverent in tone) Starting June 24-Sept. 9, one 10 am service. For more info, call 835-8497. East Coast Rainbow Softball Association Schedule: July 6, 13 @ 3pm & 4:20pm, St. Francis Field; July 20 @ 1pm - DYKES vs DIVAS! The Commons Field #9 (Canada Games Diamond) plus two other games TBA; July 27 @ 3pm & 4:20pm, St. Francis Field. (see most up-to-date Schedule

at www.ecrsa.ca)

Second Sunday of each month

Play Group for Queer Families! 3-5pm Board Room (Play Room) at Needham Community Recreation Centre, 3372 Devonshire St (north end Halifax, near intersection of Duffus & Novalea, bus routes 7 & 9) Bring a snack for your child(ren). We will be collecting money from each family to cover the cost of the room rental, likely \$2-4 per week. For info, call 422-8780 or email lynnmacdonald@hfx.eastlink.ca

First and Third Tuesdays

Formerly known as the Queer/Straight Alliance, Mount Pride in the GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. We are an active and online group that meets bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 12 noon in the diversity center in Roseria on campus, and online at mountpride@yahoo.com. Possible events that are being planned for the winter semester include sexuality awareness week, movies nights, potlucks, guest speakers, and many more. There are always spontaneous meals and events that are always fun. This group is open to anyone who would like to join.

First and Third Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project Social Drop-in Nights. This is an unstructured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever, 6-9pm, 25 and under, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project 18 and under Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

First and Third Sundays

BLT-WOMYN OF HALIFAX DISCUSSION GROUP! This is a Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered womyn's Only! -Free Group, NO Dues, NO Fees- MEETINGS are every second SUNDAY. @6pm - 7:30pm(Please remember when applying to this group, send full name and a contact number or call sue at 499-0335, everything is kept PRIVATE!) LOCATION: DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) HOW TO JOIN THIS GROUP: Come to a discussion night or send us your e-mail address or call a moderator (Sue @ 499-0335). If you have any questions. A discussion group for Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered women, who will meet to have open discussions, in a positive environment. To discuss topics concerning ourselves and our community. This is a bi-weekly meeting on Sundays. <http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/> or sueandrews1964@hotmail.com

First and Third Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project Movie Night, 25 and under, starting at 7pm. 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second and Fourth Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project ages 18-25 Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second Wednesday of each month

Spirituality for Lesbians, 7:30-9PM. We seek to deepen our relationship with God, knowing that God loves us and calls us into life just as he has created us. Persons of every or no denomination are welcome. For info about the place of the next meeting call 459-2649 and leave name and number. Personal mailbox: confidentiality assured.

July 31, Aug 14, 28, Sept 11, 25, Oct 9, 23
Anonymous HIV Testing, AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1657 Barrington St, Suite 321, 5-8pm. 425-4882 for an appointment.
Aug 3, 17, 31, Sept 14, 28, Oct 12, 26
Koinonia Ecumenical Church - Meaning 'community'. Services bi-weekly at 12:30pm at Halifax Feast downtown. Pastor Elaine, 876-8771 or koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca

Aug 9th

Night Magic Fashions Presents A Charity event in support of Bryony House Location: Bubbles Mansion. 5287 Prince Street, Halifax 8pm-10:30pm 5287 Prince Street in Halifax. Doors will open at 7pm with tickets available to be purchased for \$7 each at the door.

September 28

Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life 2008. Contact Robin Levy at 425-4882 @ Ext 228 or email walk@acns.ns.ca to register! Don't miss out on this chance to support people living with HIV/AIDS in Nova Scotia.

Halifax Youth Project Calendar

Support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a youth food bank and STI testing on site in Halifax. Please refer to our website for details and schedule of upcoming events. Website: www.youthproject.ns.ca Phone: 902-429-5429 Email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca

Week 1

Monday - Transgender Discussion Group: A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what trans youth have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. A place to talk about trans issues and make new friends! 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.

Tuesday - Discussion Group (ages 18 and under) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.

Wednesday - Discussion Group (ages 18-25) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 2

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick Street
Wednesday - LGB Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 3

Tuesday - Guest Speaker & Discussion night (ages 25 & under) A new speaker every week to educate & spark discussion. This is a structured environment. 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick Street
Wednesday - Activity night (ages 25 & under) A chance to have fun and perhaps learn something new. Activities will be on this night lasting two and a half months. First activity class IMPROV classes. 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 4

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Themed Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event with a fun & exciting theme. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick Street
Wednesday - LGB Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Halifax Guyz Group

A safe space for gay and bisexual men to come together to develop social networks and talk about their experiences. Meets in The Library at Menz Bar, 2182 Gottingen Street, Halifax. Meets: 6 - 8 p.m. For more information: 902-425-4882, ext. 222, or email gmhc@acns.ns.ca Meetings: Thursday, January 15, Thursday, February 19, 6 - 8 p.m. Thursday, March 19, 6 - 8 p.m.

Halifax Bar & Business Calendar

BLUE MOON BISTRO/BACK BAR
2099B Gottingen St., Halifax, (902) 446-3644
Monday: Movie Nights @ Blue Moon---\$2.50 well shots, \$3.00 shooters, \$3.75 Domestic Beer
Tuesday: Dance Night Featuring Various Metro DJ's...Happy Hour Prices all night long! \$4.00 domestic beer and well shots---\$3.00 shooter specials
Wednesday: Dalhousie Swing Dancers 8pm-11pm, Martini Indie Rock 11pm-2am---Live

Look For The 3 Anchors!
In The Heart
Of Halifax's Gay Village

SEADOG'S
SAUNA & SPA

Monday to Thursday: 4 PM - Midnight
Friday 4 PM - Sunday Midnight (24 hour weekend)

2199 Gottingen Street, Halifax / www.SeaDogs.ca
1-888-837-1388 / 902-444-DOGS

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← Events

Bands---Martini's \$5.75 10pm-1am Happy Hour Prices all night
Thursday: Karaoke with Troy---Cash Prizes---\$2.75 well shots and \$3.00 shooters all night long
Friday and Saturday nights---Dance with DJ Special Tee 10pm-2am Happy Hour prices \$4.00 well shots and domestic beer 10pm-1am \$3.00 shooter specials
Sunday: ISCANS and Blue Moon Presents---Reign 8 Drag Shows...\$3.00 cover, all proceeds to local charities. Drink specials and happy hour prices all night.
December 7, 2008---ISCANS Diva Balls Auction---Christmas ornaments decorated as your favourite Drag Queens! All Proceeds to Reign 8 charities.
December 15, 2008: Bar will be closed for private event.
December 24, 2008: Christmas at Home---Karaoke, drink specials and snacks. 10pm-close
December 25, 2008: Bar will be closed for Christmas
December 28, 2008---The 8th Annual Studio X. Lenoir Community Achievement Awards---9pm New Year's Eve @ Blue Moon 9pm-Close, \$6.00 cover, Special Guest DJ's Midnight Toast, Nibbles and Drink Specials all night long
Visit us for more details @ Friends of BlueMoon on Facebook or www.imperialcourtns.com

MENZ BAR

2182 Gortingen St, Level II
www.MenzBar.ca (902) 446-6969
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Saturday March 14th
GREEN is the THEME! "St. PADDY'Z DAY" Party with DJ NEEDLES till 2am
Sunday March 15 - St. PADDY'Z Irish Supper at Menz Bar in Support of Halifax Pride 2009 from 5pm till 9pm!

Saturday March 28
Award Winning DJ SONNY D! "SONNY D is the most prolific and sought after DJ on Canada's East Coast": Tony Hage of Massive Productions. 10pm till 2am FREE Cover before 10pm (\$7 after 10pm) Happy Hour from 3pm till 10pm! \$2.50 SHOOTERS all Night Long!

Thursday March 26th
DaPoPo CAFE Presented by DaPoPo Theatre 7:30pm Start Time BAR Specials - 60oz Pitcher of Draught ONLY \$12.50 & \$2.50 Shooters all night long!

REFLECTIONS

5184 Sackville Street, (902) 422-2957, toll free (877)422-2957, www.reflectionscabaret.com, Open 7 days a week, Mon-Sat 1pm to 4am, Sun 4pm to 4am, Manager: Stephen Filek

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Moncton

Every Thursday
LGBT AND FRIENDS VOLLEY BALL! École carrefour de l'acadie gym. No experience required. Info: Rodge at 204-4704 and Oscar at 955-9217

\$5.00 / player includes refreshments.

Tous les jeudis

VOLLEY BALL POUR LGBT et AMI-E-S. École carrefour de l'acadie. Aucune expérience requise. Infos: Roger 383-1410 ou Oscar 855-1328. \$5.00 / joueur (rafraichissements inclus)

Third Monday of each month

PFLAG Moncton has monthly support meeting from 7:30-9:30 in room 302 of the Adrien-J.-Cormier bldg at U de M campus. Everyone is welcome at our meetings.

Last Saturday

Moncton Leather Chapter Leather Nights at Triangles! With the interest and number of people that have started wearing Leather in Moncton, it only seems natural to have a monthly Leather Night so that any man or woman can wear their Leather and know that they will not be alone in doing so when they go to Triangles.

Moncton Bar & Business Calendar

TRIANGLES

234 St George Street, Moncton NB E1C 5B1, (506)857-8779

Wednesday - Free pool with happy hour all night. Learn to line dance FREE with Jean-Marc - starts at 8:30, followed by Karaoke at 11:00. The Wednesday card club still meets at 8:30 also.

Thursday - House Party with DJ's Sonny D and Just Jack at 11:00. \$4.00 cover. Student's get staff prices all night with student card.

Friday - it's request night. Dance to all your favourite tunes all night long. Cover \$5.00
Saturday - Best dance music in town with DJ daBoss. No cover till 10:00. Happy hour till 11:00. Admission \$6.00.

Sunday - Free pool and happy hour all night. Monday & Tuesday - Closed.

Check out our monthly event page at www.trianglesbar.com and keep up to the Pride events - www.fiertemonctonpride.ca

Sackville

Second Monday

PFLAG Sackville / Amherst - in Sackville one month, Amherst the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street.

Saint John

Third Saturday

Gay Men's Supper Club, 220 Germain St. <http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com/> for more information.

SATURDAY MAY 16

Meet & Greet MAC LEATHER XI B-B-Q 5 PM TO 9 PM Mahogany Manor
11 PM TO 1 AM Meet & Greet Contestants, Elements Bar

Sunday May 17

10 AM TO NOON: MAC LEATHER XI SUNDAY BRUNCH ; 1PM TO 4PM MAC LEATHER XI DAY AT THE PARK: B-B-Q (PRIDE SAINT JOHN), GAMES & PRIZES; 9 PM TO 11 30PM MAC LEATHER XI CONTEST; MIDNIGHT TO 2 AM: WINNER VICTORY PARTY

MONDAY MAY 18/09

9 AM TO NOON: WINNER BREAKFAST; NOON: GENERAL MEETING & ELECTION ON NEW OFFICER, FINICIAL REPORT, PRESENTATION TO PEI MACLEATHER XII PEI PRIDE WEEKEND 2010

Saint John Bar & Business Calendar

CLUB MONTREAL

Wednesdays: No cover, free pool
Thursdays: No cover, karaoke with prizes
Fridays: No cover, open turntables
Saturdays: \$5 cover after 10 PM
Sundays: No cover, free pool
Your birthday: no cover, one free drink, just show your ID!

St. John's - LGBT-MUN

Every Friday

Coffee House: Every Friday, 12-2 (LBGT Office, 6th Floor UC, 6002) Every Friday we invite anyone and everyone to come to LBGT and enjoy a cup of Coffee or Tea (regular or herbal) with us (members, non-members, etc). It's a great chance to vent, meet some new people, etc. Our office is located in UC-6022.

Every Second Friday

General Meeting every second week. They take place at UC-6022 at 11:00am.

St. John's Bar & Business Calendar

Zone 216

216 Water St, 754-2492
<http://www.hello.to/zone216>
Winter Hours
Open Fri&Sat Nights 10pm-late
No cover before 12 Friday
No Cover before 11 Saturday

Sydney

...see Cape Breton

Truro

First Sunday of each month

Rainbow Proud: We are the LGBT community of Truro and surrounding areas. We are an organizational group that meets to plan activities ie: parades, outings, dances and such. We meet the first Sunday of each month. (Taking a break during summer months) We could always use some more help, so if you are interested in joining our group or if you are looking for information about the LGBT community contact us by email:

rainbowproud@hotmail.com. Our website is in the works so send an email and to be kept up to date.

WAYVES DATES!

Check out the front of the magazine for Wayves deadlines and meeting dates -- all are welcome!

Wileville

...see Bridgewater

Groups Cont'd

667-7500 email: shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca web: cumberlandcounty.cfsb.info (9 - 5 drop-in or appt) at 11 Elmwood Drive. Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms.

Sexual Health Centre for Lunenburg County, Bridgewater: Confidential info, education&support for everyone. Safer sex supplies, library, pamphlets, workshops. 527-2868 email: LunCo@NSSexualHealth.ca web: www.LunCo.cfsb.info (Hours vary. Open by appointment or by chance. Please call ahead.) at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater. (On the corner of Dufferin and Hillcrest Streets). Closed during summers.

South Shore Pride Social Club, Bridgewater: for 19 & older. 530-5986 email: info@southshorepride.ca web: www.southshorepride.ca, meets 3rd Saturday (-- dances -- 9:00PM to 1:00AM) at Call or email for location.

Tatamagouche Centre, Tatamagouche: We are an affirming centre, welcoming all gay, lesbian, and transgendered people. 1.800.218.2220 email: tatacent@tatacentre.ca web: www.tatacentre.ca

Team Halifax, Halifax: All GLBT over 18, athletes and performance artists, as well as anyone willing to help out. 422-9510 web: www.teamhalifax.com (No fixed schedule at this time, look on website for further details.)

The Cumberland Pride Society, Amherst & Area: for: gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals. 660-5004 email: cumberlandpride@hotmail.com web: cumberland-pride.sytes.net, meets 3rd Sunday (2-4pm)

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society, (Cape Breton/Halifax/Annapolis Valley): email: tpineo@hotmail.com web: To be released

The Youth Project, Halifax: Support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a

youth food bank and STI testing on site. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (Please refer to our website for details and schedule of upcoming events.) at 2281 Brunswick Street.

Trans Family Nova Scotia, Halifax: We are the Parents, Partners, Family, Friends & Allies of Trans-Identified Individuals. supporting one another. 902-431-8500 email: transfamily@eastlink.ca, meets 3rd Monday (6:30 to 8:30 pm) at The Youth Project (2281 Brunswick St., Halifax)

Truro Pride, Truro: A group supporting GLBT individuals in the Colchester County. 895-0931 email: truropride@hotmail.com, meets every Wednesday (6:30 p.m.) at FairTrade Cafe on Prince Street, between Commercial and Dominion Streets.

Unitarian Church, Halifax: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500 email: uuchurch@eastlink.ca web: chebucto.ca/religion/UUCH, meets every Sunday (10:30) at 5500 Inglis St

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House, Kingston: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 765-2821 email: menembracingmen@yahoo.ca web: faceitwithpride.tripod.com (Coffee every Thursday 7-9pm, Dances on the first Saturday of the month, for the exception of in November. There is two dances held in October, On the First Saturday and the Last Saturday of that Month and NO Dance in November.) at email or call for locations or special events or themes

Venus Envy Bursary Society: An annual award open to all women studying in NS. web: www.venusenvy.ca/halifax

WomynZone, Halifax: Social activities for womyn who love womyn in the Halifax region. email: womynzone@eastlink.ca web: www.geocities.com/womynzone

X-Pride, Antigonish: social & support group at

X. 867- 5007 web: www.stfx.ca/people/xpride

Prince Edward Island (902)

Abegweit Rainbow Collective, Charlottetown: Serving GLBT Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: info@arcepi.ca web: www.arcepi.ca, meets 2nd Tuesday (7:30 PM) at 144 Prince Street

AIDS PEI, Charlottetown: AIDS PEI creates a supportive environment for PHA's to all residents of PEI. 902-566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 144 Prince Street Charlottetown, PE C1A 2R6

Gay PEI Mailing List, province-wide: Electronic mailing list for all GLBT, questioning and friendly, focus is on PEI. email: gay-pe-owner@yahoo.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/ (It's an electronic list, there aren't meetings. You can join and start posting at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe/> at any time. All first posts are moderated to stop spambots, otherwise, it's an open list.)

GLBT Youth group, Charlottetown: Safe Space Drop-Ins. 367-3408 or toll free 1 877 380 5776 (E-mail us for further details.) at 144 Prince St.

PEI Pride, Charlottetown: Organizing The Island Pride Festival. (902) 388-0969 email: pridepei@isn.net web: www.peipride.com (See webpage for meetings www.peipride.com) at 286 Fitzroy Street

PFLAG Canada - PEI, Island wide: Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: pflagpei@eastlink.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca, meets 3rd Tuesday at Ferry Road Centre, 24 Ferry Road, Cornwall, PE or Stratford City Hall check with Mary or Bill Kendrick on this months location by calling 902-887-3620.

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The Last Word

Let Sleeping Gods Lie

by Randall Perry

Sex. Death. Politics. Religion. These were once the four taboo discussion topics for the dinner table or out in public. In today's instant-on world of text-message conversation, though, such taboos have fallen by the wayside. When it comes to these four topics, there's a lot of opinion to go around—be it informed or not.

Recently Halifax's Metro Transit rejected a new ad campaign from Humanist Canada, which would have seen buses display the message, "You can be good without God." It was considered by Metro Transit a touch too controversial for a bus-riding public used to seeing ads for employment agencies and fast food.

I agree with Metro Transit's decision, even if they are refusing much-needed ad revenue in this time of economic recession.

I was raised in a moderately devout home in a small Roman Catholic village. I was a loner as a boy and with few friends and nothing much to do I ended up buying into everything

church-related. I was an altar boy. I was an organist. I spent years in Teen Encounter. I contemplated the priesthood and spent my university years preparing for the seminary. I desperately wanted to be good and through God was the only way I knew how.

I endured thunderous homilies about Hell-bound sexual sinners and I shivered fearfully in the pew. As I came to accept myself as gay and reconciled my own inner goodness with the church's disdain of all things sexual and pleasurable, I began questioning the role of religion and God in my life. At 21 I exploded out of the closet, and dealt face-to-face with the short shrift given gays by virtually all organized religion. I realized that I hid behind the embroidered cloak for years and the only reason I was heading into the priesthood was to hide from my own truths. The more I questioned, explored and ultimately found answers on my own, the further away I moved from God until he ended up on the back burner. I didn't

enter the seminary and instead started my informal career as an advocate of queer equality.

I realize that religiosity is a powerful, positive force in many peoples' lives. I respect that. I just don't take it on for myself. I can't fathom a God who punishes arbitrarily and for silly reasons as whether people use their genitals for pleasure or procreation. The Old Testament God appears to be an eye-for-an-eye asshole. The New Testament God can't seem to make up his mind about what he hates. I just know that I treat others the way I want to be treated. The "do unto others" bit, but without the Reformation-era purple language.

I don't think that a morning public transit commute to work is a valid forum for discussion of one of the great paradoxes of life. God? No God? Who knows? I certainly don't. I do know that metaphysics is not for morons and there are plenty of them out there who have all the answers and are not afraid to maim and kill to get their point across. A relationship

with the divine is a private matter for most people, something they don't want to debate while crammed into in a lurching box on wheels first thing in the morning.

I believe we are a naturally religious species. We're drawn to the idea of a superior being because we have no idea what happens to us after death. It's easier and more comforting to believe in a cut-and-dry version of an afterlife presented by fancy-robed old men in gold palaces than to actually work with the difficult idea that this life may be our one shot in the dark universe.

I'd rather create my own light than have someone else do it for me. I accept as a maxim that I can be good without God. I don't need a bus advert to confirm it for me.

Themes Cont'd from p. 6

pun, you decide) the porn market we can then infiltrate the main stream media. Keep watching, listening and do a little research into the companies that you are supporting with your purchases. We can vote with our feet and pocket books.

As an aspiring documentary film maker I always joke "If this documentary gig doesn't work, I can always do lesbian porn."

Ladies... delete Katy Perry from your iPod, get yourself dolled up with Covergirl, get your buttered popcorn and your lube, and pop in a movie. The rest is up to you.

Letters

To the Editor,

An early and long-time human rights activist, Gordon Fairweather, a NB Red Tory, died Christmas Day, 2008. He was undoubtedly an early pioneer in defending the rights of the discriminated.

When the Canadian Human Rights Act was introduced into the House of Commons in 1977, sexual orientation was not included as prohibited grounds of discrimination. When it went to committee, an amendment to include it was proposed by Progressive Conservative Gordon Fairweather, seconded by NDP Stuart Legatt. They were the only two MPs which supported the amendment, which was easily and overwhelmingly defeated.

Fairweather's amendment was audacious: then Minister of Justice, Ron Basford was adamant—sexual orientation would not be included. Basford had wide public support. Ed Broadbent, then head of federal NDP, quoted in an article in the November 29, 1976 issue of Maclean's magazine, said his party, "...has got to stop supporting every fad issue or minority concern that comes along, whether it's the homosexual minority or whatever."

The Canadian Human Rights Act was passed in 1977.

Later in 1977, Gordon Fair-

weather was appointed the first head of the Canadian Human Rights Commission. In a major speech after his appointment, Fairweather reiterated his support for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Act. It was a position he maintained for decades.

Gordon Fairweather was not only an early pioneer he was a persistent advocate throughout his life. An Anglican, and writing quite recently in the New Brunswick Anglican, he made clear his support for the blessing of same-sex marriages in that denomination: a measure both contentious and long debated. That church has not yet caught up with Fairweather's vision.

Eldon Hay, Sackville, NB

Dear Wayves,

What is going on with some in my community? The Halifax Pride pancake breakfast fundraiser at Menz/Mollyz was reasonably attended and lots of fun. Most of us have heard about how Pride needs money to cover their deficit, and considering that we all enjoyed the fantastic festivities last year I think it's our duty to support the cause. However I didn't see any support from the Mollyz Softball team. Not only did they not attend the Pride fundraiser but they held their own at another location! Two questions: why

wouldn't they support Pride and why wouldn't they support their sponsor? Rumour has it that some women did not want to enter Menz because of the name. Why wouldn't they sit at the tables on the Mollyz side then? If Doug and David were good enough to support them with money, why wouldn't they as a team return the favour? Actually Sunday's money wasn't going to Doug and David -- these guys again supported our community by donating all the food and staff. Community is a two way street. I've seen Menz/Mollyz support many of us time and time again. And every year SeaDogs becomes SheDogs for a night, which is the only bathhouse in Canada to do so to my knowledge. So I'm disappointed that the softball team weren't there to show support for Pride and their sponsor. Name withheld upon request



Last month You Tell Us asked, "On February 14th, will you celebrate Saint Valentine's Day or Pink Triangle Day? Why?"

We received 21 responses:

Two people said they would be celebrating both, with one citing "In the spirit of diversity";

Five stated neither, with one who made a point with "why commercialise love? You shouldn't need to be told 'This is the day to show your love'. If you love someone or even 'like' them, you shouldn't wait for a certain day to express it ... do it now!" and, "Except when I was in school, I've never celebrated St. Valentine's Day. Like all other holidays these days, it's all too commercial."

Four respondents chose Saint Valentine's Day with one having a touching comment of "Valentine's Day with my sweetie, my dad and his wife. My mom passed away 20 years ago. Mom and dad were married on Valentines Day. He's never celebrated it with his new wife since, so he's coming to N.S. to celebrate it with us all together."

Four chose Pink Triangle Day, including "it's our day, it's also my birthday -- I'll probably just wear a pink t-shirt."

And the most popular response was people didn't know what Pink Triangle Day is. Comments ranged from "For me, for years, I've called it, 'Lovers' Day' and it's a celebration of love. I don't need yet another day in my year to be militant." to "How nice! As my partner and I have a pink triangle on our wedding bands in pink gold, we should look at this." to "I never heard of Pink Triangle Day. Maybe Wayves could tell us." Stay tuned readers, Wayves plans on enlightening us all ... next year!

This Month's Question

Do you think same-sex marriage ceremonies should follow heterosexual traditions or should we create our own?

You tell us at: wayves.ca!

Lay Chaplaincy Services

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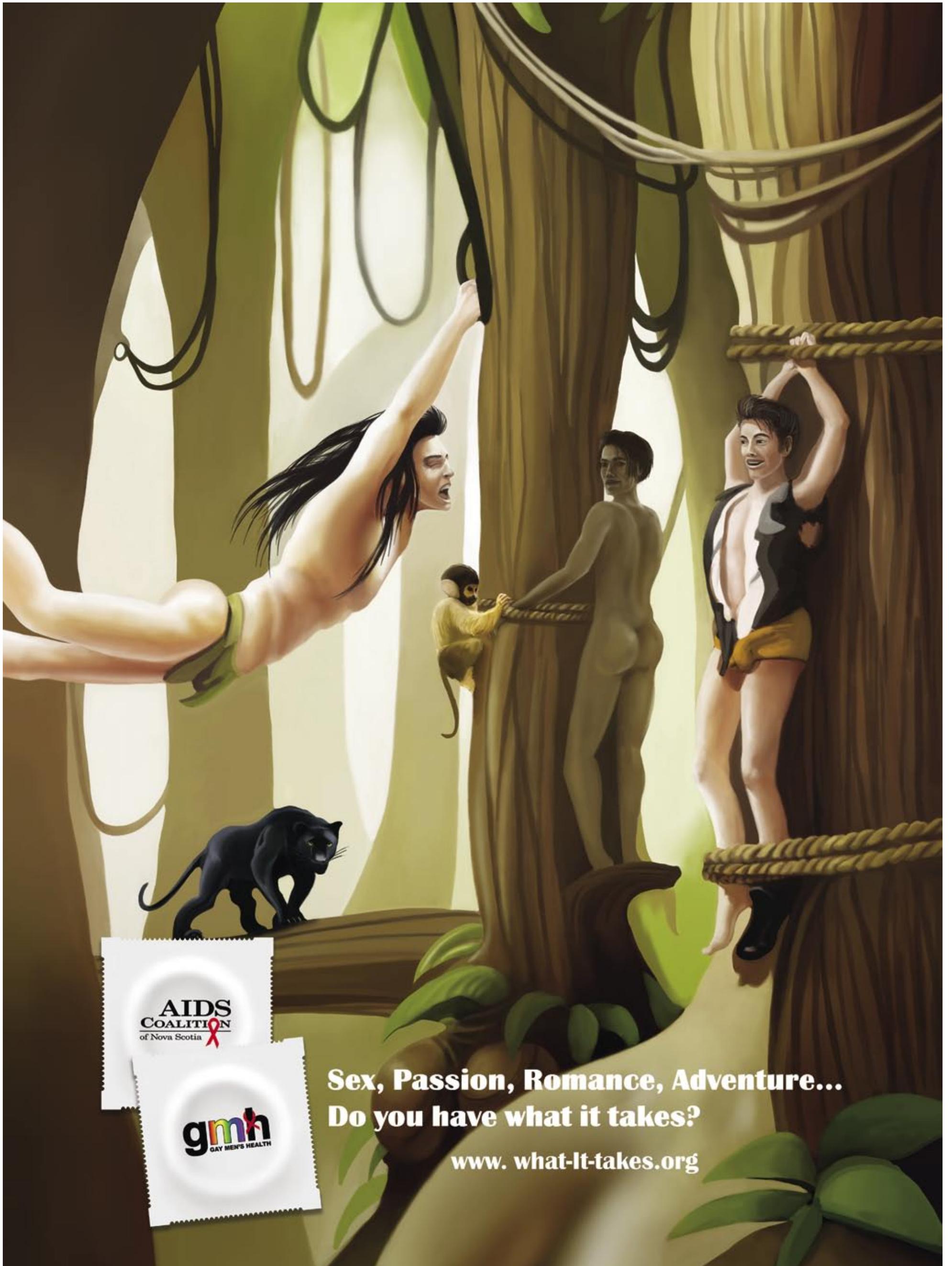
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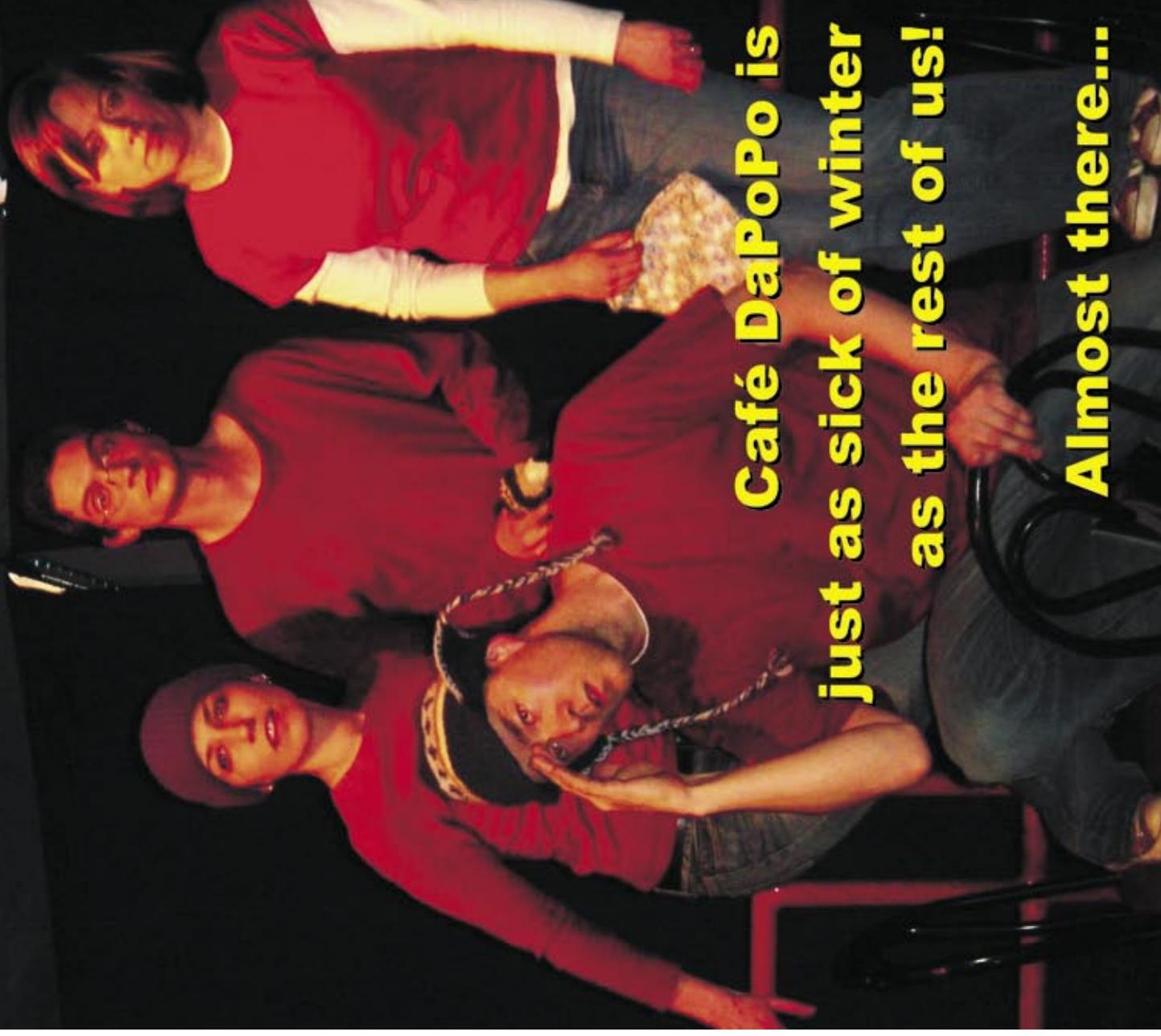
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