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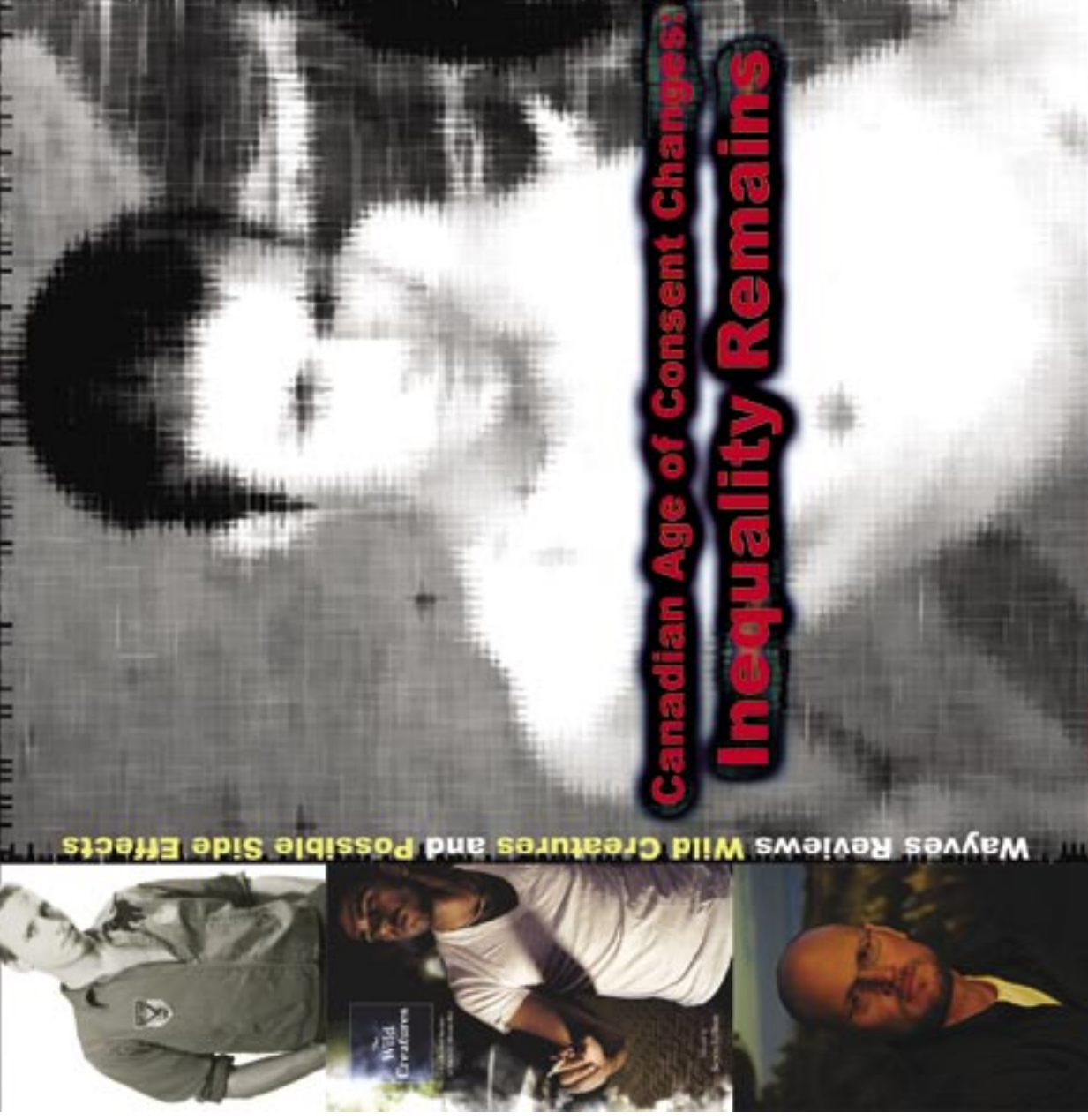
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Wayves

for atlantic canadians
August 2006



Wayves Reviews Wild Creatures and Possible Side Effects

**Canadian Age of Consent Changes:
Inequality Remains**



Dinner with Hedy Fry
Liberal Leadership Hopeful

Mr. and Mz. Leather
Moncton 2006

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Atlantic News

Nova Scotia MLAs Recognize Halifax Pride Week

On Thursday, July 13, NDP MLA and Leader of the Opposition, Darrel Dexter, moved the following resolution:

“WHEREAS Pride Week is Atlantic Canada’s largest festival of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender culture; and

WHEREAS the Halifax Pride committee is committed to creating a Pride Week that is accessible by all people in all communities; and

WHEREAS Pride week celebrates the best of the LGBT community and culture in Halifax and throughout Nova Scotia as an

important way to promote equality of all in our society;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly thank Hugo Dann and Patrick Daigle, co-chairs of the 2006 Halifax Pride Committee and Pride Week volunteers for their hard work and wish the 19th annual Pride Week much success.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice and passage without debate.”

The resolution was immediately adopted by a unanimous all-party vote.



Moncton Leather News



Mr. Leather Moncton - Rob Myers, Mz. Leather Moncton - Tina Hillier

On Sunday, June 18th, The Moncton Leather Chapter once again kicked off the Moncton Pride Week with the 6th Annual Mr Leather Moncton 2006 and the 2nd Annual Mz Leather Moncton 2006 contest at Triangles.

This year they had four men—Grant Lively, Rene Arsenaault, Jeff Smith and Rob Myers—and one woman, Tina Hillier, aka “Momma D,” who stepped up to the plate to vie for titles to represent the Moncton leather community. With only one woman in the contest this

year, Tina was expected to make a minimum percentage to take the title. The crowd of over 60 people were entertained by some great local talent (thank you Amber Baby) who performed an awesome new number by Evanescence, Gilbert and Rejean LeClerc during the contestants’ clothing changes from casual to minimal and full leather.

Once the judges Wayne Toole, (MLM 2004 & MACL 2005) and Perry Paddock (MLM 2003) were excused to tally up the contestant scores, the MLC gave thanks to and heard the step-aside speeches from Mz. Leather Moncton 2005, Cecile Ouellette, Ms ACL 2005 and Mr Leather Moncton 2005, Art Vatour.

It was then time to announce the newest titleholders for Moncton Leather Community. All announcements of the new titleholders were met with tremendous cheers and applause. Tina Hillier had no problem making the percentage necessary according to the judges and was sashed Mz Leather Moncton 2006, while Jeff Smith became Mr Leather Moncton Fellowship 2006. The decision of the judges for the title of Mr Leather Moncton 2006 went to Rob Myers.

Congratulations go out to all

Halifax Bar Comings & Goings

As of July 7th, Evolutions has closed its doors.

Construction is almost finished on the Mollyz Annex.

Blue Moon Bistro is planning to move to 2099B Gottingen St, the original NRG space, across from MenzBar and Mollyz.

Last month, Reflections patrons enjoyed the last Five Minutes Of Fame with Lulu LaRude.

Sex Now 2006

Dear Wayves:

Do you have a group of gay guys you normally hang out with? Are you interested in chatting about the Sex Now Survey Report? If so, then I want to hear from you! Throughout the summer and fall, I will be available to meet with groups of guys in the HRM, in an informal and relaxed way to talk about the Sex Now Report. These meetings can be held in your own home, or at a place you normally hang out with your friends. It’s a chance for your group to talk about the results of the Sex Now Survey and what it means to us as gay men. If you’re interested in organizing a “chat with Cliff” about the Sex Now Report, give me a call at 425-4882 ext 222, or shoot me an email at gmhc@acns.ns.ca. Copies of the report are available by request.

Somebody Beat Me Up and Robbed Me – Please Send Money!

Edited by Bill McKinnon (from reports in the Gay Halifax data base)

A telephone scammer has recently tried to swindle GLBT’s and GLBT-friendly Maritimers. Luckily, most individuals targeted have not fallen for the scheme. Unfortunately, some sent money when they heard their friends were in trouble.

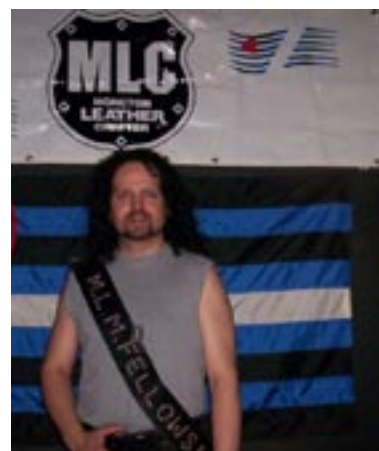
What Happens: Someone you know, usually a friend in a society you’re a member of, calls you and says they were on vacation (often in Toronto) and were mugged and beaten up and their wallet, car keys, plane ticket etc. have been stolen, and can you send them some money. When you say they don’t sound much like your friend, they reply that they have been severely beaten, throat bruised, tongue and lips are cut and swollen, and can you send them the money ASAP, please. Some time later you find out that your friend is not away and is in no distress whatsoever.

How It Works: The perpetrator puts together information about a person (call him “Joe”) from a variety of sources, largely web pages for the society, possibly from other GLBT publications, the telephone book, etc. Then they convince the victim that they are “Joe” and get him to send money via Western Union, who will give out money either based on (in this case, forged) ID, or an agreed-upon “Test Question” such as, What is your birthday?

There have been many incidents. This scam has been hitting organizations and individuals in Halifax annually since 2003.

If you are a target, check the facts. Ask the person something that only (s)he would know. If it’s a fraud, report it to PhoneBusters at 1-888-495-8501 or www.phonebusters.com and report it to your local police. PhoneBusters is a national anti-fraud call centre jointly operated by the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Watch for the September Issue: Atlantic Pride Roundup!



Mr. Leather Moncton Fellowship - Jeff Smith

BBQ, which succeeded in raising \$414. Look forward to several other great MLC events occurring in Moncton to assist this worthwhile cause.



The new winners at the MLC Pride Day BBQ



NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: First Friday of the Month



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Letters

Pap Tests: Also do...

Dear Wayves:
 I appreciated the article in the July issue, "I'm a lesbian - do I need a Pap test too?" While you're lying on the table with your legs up having your Pap smear taken to detect cervical cancer, you should also ask your doctor to perform a bimanual pelvic exam to check for signs of ovarian cancer.

Lesbians are at higher risk for ovarian cancer because we're less likely to take oral contraceptives or become pregnant. The result? Our ovaries don't get any breaks from the monthly run-around, so their cells are more likely to get stressed out. Think of cancer as "going postal" on a cellular level.

Lesbians of Ashkenazi Jewish descent, like myself, get hit with a double-whammy. Mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes that have been handed down in the Ashkenazi population make us even more susceptible to ovarian cancer.

Don't take it for granted that your doctor is going to know all this. Tell her (or him) you need a bimanual pelvic exam and tell her why. It's your body and your health.

SarahRose Werner Saint John, New Brunswick

Herald vs. The Mayor

Dear Wayves:
 A recent poll done by the Chronicle Herald was deliberately worded to provoke responses. The fact that it inflames homophobic and transphobic emotions at a time when the Pride parade and the annual AIDS Fund Raiser Walk is getting ready to take place, I feel, leaves a large hole in their credibility as an unbiased and fair reporter of issues. The LGBT community has now been activated by a public call to arms regarding a perceived insult from a mayor who most have never met and paid little attention to. The so-called straight population of whom a lot would happily attend the Pride parade along with their kids, are now potentially incensed at the perception that the gay community is attempting to blackmail the local mayor who, from the wording of the question, sounds homophobic and uncooperative. Of course there is also the actual homophobic and transphobic portion of the population who are now incensed, perceiving this as an organized threat from the "gay menace" lurking in Halifax.

I am a transsexual female who has never met Mayor Kelly. While I have made little headway with anyone at City Hall regarding trans-

gender issues, other than receiving polite put offs, delays and being simply ignored, I am troubled at the manner in which the Chronicle Herald paper has handled this sensitive issue, making this a "them or us issue" to a lot of people.

No individual should have to walk in any parade. However, when one is in an official capacity, it is expected and often prudent to attempt to be involved in some way. While the Prime Minister may meet with hundreds of different people and take part in as many different functions, his personal beliefs are often at odds with the situation. Such is life in public office.

The issue of the mandatory

attendance of any mayor at any function is questionable. The desirability of the Mayor's presence is of course high, something every group would hope to have happen. In addition, since the LGBT population is only a small percentage of the general population, they would face a large handicap.

While I personally am not a fan of the Mayor, I find the question to be inflammatory and the purpose behind it to be dubious. Whether he walks or does not walk in the Pride parade, I wish him the best in serving all HRM residents without prejudice.

Regards
 Denise Holliday

Is All Fair In Love and War?

By Albert McNutt

This article is about same-sex relationships and what we think we have or what we used to have. Do you ever think that as gays and lesbians, we were better off before we advocated for the law to be changed and have same-sex marriage recognized? I personally feel that we have made great advances in the past few years, however, are we being treated equal and with respect?

Recently in the Truro area, we have witnessed what we think to be, the first same-sex separation that has been heard in the courts. Be very careful what you wish for or what you think you are entitled to when your relationship goes sour.

This case involved two gay men who had been in a relationship for about 25 years...a long time. They shared a home, pets, expenses and more. The relationship was never registered, both men claimed as single for income tax purposes, and there were no children involved.

One individual in the relationship was extremely controlling and possessive. He did not trust his partner and often made accusations of infidelity. As there was no trust in the relationship, life became very difficult with escalated arguments and finally one partner was thrown out of the shared home in the middle of the night without any of his belongings. The locks were then changed, therefore making it impossible for him to get back in to retrieve what was rightfully his.

In due time lawyers were consulted, hired and court proceedings were commenced. One individual sued for spousal benefits or maintenance fees. They both had to supply the lawyers and the judge with documentation of their income and expenses and one person was not completely honest about the amount he made for a living.

After three times in court before a judge and no settlement in sight, the judge decided that the person

who had been thrown out had to pay his partner maintenance. You tell me...where is the justice? The person who has been kicked out of the home has no place to live, does not have any of his belongings, and who has been subjected to humiliation and psychological abuse for years ends up having to pay his abuser maintenance. If this is not enough, the abuser has income of his own and as well, has the means of making additional income to subsidize his living. You tell me...where is the justice? The abuser walks away with the whole property and maintenance, while the person who had been thrown out for no reason, is turned away with nothing and has to pay as well. This case certainly appeared unfair from the beginning as both partners were not permitted to call witnesses in and the case seemed to be judged solely on what one person provided...and this was the person on the winning end of this case. You tell me...where is the justice...someone is controlling, overbearing, abusive and humiliates another person and the court rules in their favour.

Same-sex couples who might be experiencing difficulties in their relationships, try to work it out through communication, therapy or counselling. You might be able to resolve your differences and simply walk away with what you brought into the partnership and splitting what you acquired together. Be very careful when searching for legal advice or looking for legal counsel. Once you take the case to court and pay the legal and court fees, you might be terribly disappointed and in for a huge let down. You might also search legal firms for lawyers who may have more experience in family law or have additional knowledge on same-sex relationships and rights. You could also check in Wayves to see if there are any gay or lesbian lawyers available.

Truro Pride / Gay & Lesbian Services

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.

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The Moncton Scene Changes

By Sister Mary Francis (order of the sisters of the sacred hard on) Hello ladies and gents from the beautiful city of Moncton. I am writing to tell you some exciting news!

Moncton has a new club "APPLAUSE APPLAUSE APPLAUSE!" The name is Club Chameleon. It's located at 939 Mountain Road in Moncton. Telephone (506) 858 5861.

Okay girls and boys, here's where you come in. In order for new business to prosper it has to be patronized by the community. I have heard from many of you (over the six years I have been back in town) that you don't like the present club scene and no longer go out for the evening. Well get off your sweet ever lovin' behinds and support this establishment as an alternative to boring nights sitting at home.

The Club is all on one floor so there are no steps, girls. What a treat! The dance floor is not huge but it is enjoyable and they have a pole in the middle of the floor. if you get kinky and want to impress your friends with a pole dance ... oh naughty naughty. Oh well, I never said I was an exemplary nun. The dance floor is surrounded by bar stools and counters to sit, sip your drink and drool at the cute buns on the floor. There is a large bar with stools and a bartender you just want to take home and cuddle. Oh God is really gonna get me for that one!

There is also a lounge area separate from the bar. There you can play the loto machines or sit and talk with your friends and actually hear what they are saying. Now isn't that a novel idea? The lounge has quite a few tables and chairs and is appointed with some very nice leather couches.

The music is up-beat, up-tempo and great for dancing. I am amazed it is not as basey as other bars. You can actually distinguish what is being played and it is at a level that you can still hear yourself think. For some of us older ladies that's a necessity ... ha ha.

And are you ready for this girls and boys? They have a covered outside deck where you can take your drink and your cigarettes and smoke, drink and talk till your heart's content, and with no steps to climb ... Fa la la la la la la ... 'tis the season, girls. It may get a bit drafty in the winter but come on, ladies, we're Moncton girls; let's don the flannel undies and wool socks ... Ha ha ... ya gotta love it.

The owners, Gary and Jill are super friendly and approachable with ideas on how to make the club viable and booming. I think they would like to cater to a crowd around 29 (and holding) and up in order to maintain a level of civility and relaxation and sheer joy that is in this place. I have seen couples who have given up on clubbing, at Club Chameleon and they are going to be steady patrons. That is heart warming; so let's get behind

Gary and Jill. Let them know we're glad they're here for us.

GO TO CLUB CHAMELEON! CHECK IT OUT! MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND! THEN COME BACK ON A REGULAR BASIS ... You'll be glad you did.

So sorry there is a cover charge of \$5.00 per person but it's no more than at other clubs. Both Gary and Jill are very accepting and grateful for the business and friendship of the homosexual community. A word to the wise: if you can't stand the heat of new competition, get out of the kitchen ... a lesson for today.

Sincerely

Sister Mary Francis / Jim Barton and sidekick James LeBlanc a.k.a Good Fairy James

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines:

August 4, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 (the first Friday of each month)

Send your ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings (Halifax)

August 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 9, Nov 6, Dec 4 Help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

Layout Parties (Halifax)

August 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 15, Nov 12 Help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and helping even once or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

On The Stands and In The Mail:

August 26, Sept. 23, Oct. 28, Nov 25



This Month's Question

Here at Wayves, when we've put the paper to bed, we heave a sigh of relief and reach for the nearest martini. Last month, our grasp must have exceeded our reach, because we neglected to put our new question into the Web version. The question was, "What would you like to see in this year's Pride Celebration?" As we have no new answers, we will have to let this year's Pride come as a surprise.

This Month's Question

Is domestic violence in gay relationships a concern for you? Tell us at <http://wayves.ca> !!

Where You Can Find wayves

New Brunswick...

Bathurst: Gais.es Nor Gays

Durham Bridge: Rivers Edge Campground

Fredericton: AIDS New Brunswick; Boldon's Bookmart; Campus "Smoke" Shoppe, UNB; Molly's Coffee House / Cargo Bay; Student Resource Centre, St. Thomas University; UNB/STU Spectrum; Westminster Books, King Street; X-Citement Video, Queen Street

Moncton: Club Chameleon; Curwin News; Joe Moka Café; Reid's Newstand; SIDA/AIDS Moncton; Timothy's World Coffee; Triangles; United Book Exchange, Mountain Road; X-Citement Video

Riverview: Reid's - Riverview

Sackville: Mount Allison; Tidewater Books

Saint John: AIDS Saint John; Club Montreal; Feel Good Store; Hair Station; Mahogany Manor; UNBSJ Bookstore

Newfoundland...

Corner Brook: Corner Brook Status of Women

Gander: Gander Public Library

St. John's: AIDS - Newfoundland and Labrador; Bennington Gate; LBGT M.U.N.; Our Pleasures; Shopper's Drug Mart, Le Marchant Road; St. John's Public Library; Zone 216

Nova Scotia...

Amherst: Carvel Upholstery and Draperies; Cumberland County Family Planning; The Hojo Café

Annapolis Royal: The King George Inn

Antigonish: Antigonish Women's Centre; Student Union Resource Centre; Webb's Superstore

Bedford: Bedford Library

Bridgewater: Sexual Health Centre - Lunenburg County

Canning: Canning Library

Dartmouth: Adult Cash & Carry; Café Tryst; CD Heaven; Healing Our Nations; Jake's Video & Variety; Libraries - Alderney Gate, Cole Harbour, Dartmouth, Woodlawn; Nova Scotia Government Employees Union; Novel Tease; X-Citement Video, Main Street

Halifax: AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; Accent Gallery; Alteregos Café; Atlantic News Stand; Blowers Street Paperchase; Blue Moon Bistro; Bookmark; Buy the Book and More; CD Plus; CKDU Radio; Counseling and Community Support Services; DALOUT; Dal-Tech; Daily Grind; Diamond; FRED; Fresh Start B&B; Grad House (Dal); HMV; Hairdressers' Market; Halifax Backpackers Hostel; Junk & Foibles; Khyber Club; Libraries: Captain William Spry, Halifax North, Keshen Goodman, Killiam, Spring Garden Road, Weldon Law; Menz Bar; Mount St. Vincent University - Rosaria & Sexton; Night Magic Fashions; Nooks and Crannies; NSCAD - supply store; N.S. Advisory Council - Status of Women; One World Café; Outside The Lines; Planned Parenthood Clinic; Reflections; Room2Move Fitness; Seadogs Spa; Second Cup - Spring Garden; Shoe Shop; SUB, Dal and St. Mary's; Sweet Jane's; Teletech; The Donut Machine; Venus Envy; Video Difference; X-Citement Video, Quinpool Road; Youth Project

Kentville: Annapolis Valley Regional Library - Kentville Division; The Red Door

Lower Sackville: Halifax Public Library; Sackville Library; X-Citement Video

Lunenburg: Elizabeth's Books; Second Story Women's Centre

Middleton: Mark Rutherford; 92 Balcom Crescent, Nictaux

Musquodoboit Harbour: wayves Advertising, 1030 Ostrea Lake Road

New Glasgow: Pictou County Women's Centre

Pictou: Pictou Library

Port Williams: Port Williams Public Library

Sydney: AIDS Coalition; Cape Breton Pride Committee; Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia; Harrison Society; Sexual Diversity Centre, CBU

Tantallon: Tantallon Library

Truro: Central Nova Women's Resource Centre; Colchester Sexual Assault Centre; MacQuarries Pharmasave - The Esplanade; NSCC Truro Campus; Northern Aids Connection

Windsor: Readers Haven

Wolfville: Acadia Pride; The Atheneum, Acadia; The Coffee Merchant; The Odd Book; Wolfville Public Library

Yarmouth: TOOTS; Tri-County Women's Centre; Western Counties Regional Library

Prince Edward Island...

Charlottetown: AIDS PEI; Afternoon Delight; Reading Well Bookstore; That's Entertainment!

Alberta...

Edmonton: Buddy's / Woody's / Steamworks

British Columbia...

Prince George: GALA-North Society

Vancouver: Little Sisters

Manitoba...

Winnipeg: Rainbow Resource Centre

Ontario...

Guelph: Out on the Shelf

Ottawa: After Stonewall; One-in-Ten

Toronto: Glad Day Bookshop; Out on the Street

Saskatchewan...

Regina: LGBT2A Centre, University of Regina

Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Hi Tom

Did you realize that according to some scientists, you and I shouldn't be gay? Seriously! A recent study links male homosexuality with birth order, i.e. the more older brothers you have the greater the likelihood of your being gay. You, Tom, have one younger brother. I am the second oldest of five boys. I know a family that has only two children, both male, both gay, and many other gay men who are the oldest in the family or only children. So what does that mean? The scientists studied 944 gay men to arrive at their conclusion. While I can't claim to have...uh, interviewed ... that number of men over the course of my sexual life (although I am well into the triple digits!) I don't remember meeting any gay men with lots of older brothers.

More importantly: What is the purpose of this study? Why are we studying the causes of homosexuality in the first place? It's only been thirty years since it was taken off the AMA mental illness list. (The Pentagon has only this month removed it from some of their procedures and policies.) Then there was the period when it wasn't seen as an illness exactly - just a sad, social problem. Remember the domineering mother/absent father hypothesis? In recent years we've had the X chromosome factor, then the abnormal hypothalamus theory, and even - my favourite - the PPI test that compared the rate of eye blinking among straights and gays. The implication of all of these studies is that if we can find a cause, we can find a cure. Homosexuality viewed as aberrant behaviour, a disease to be eradicated or controlled.

And if expectant parents can know not only the sex of their child but also the sexual orientation, what options will this provide them? Several so-called Christian groups have condemned the study (Let's stop blaming the mothers!) or applauded it (Mothers can now have the possibility of aborting a gay baby.)

What I want to know is: Are they also studying the birth order of racists, serial killers or Anne Coulter? Are there research labs examining the genetic predisposition to ignorance and hatred, lab coats and clip boards out there compiling stats on the biological and family background on left-handedness or blue eyes or becoming a cab driver or owning Labrador retrievers? I mean, I could hypothesize that political adherence to the Conservative party increases your chance of being a horse's ass - and I think I could find a thousand examples to prove it - but it wouldn't necessarily be science, would it?

There also appears to be a gender bias to the

study - no data on female birth order and the incidence of dykes in the family. Most of these studies on the "cause" of homosexuality are focused on male queerness. Apparently the idea of having a lesbian mechanic in the family is not nearly as disturbing as producing a nelly choreographer or a swishy-hipped waiter.

One scientist said that women's sexuality tends to be more fluid (ahem). By this he meant that women are not so specifically gay or straight as men are. (Guess he may have missed the Kinsey report) This simplified categorization is as unrealistic as those magazine articles on *What women want*. All women don't want the same thing and neither do gay men. It's not as if the penis is some kind of erotic applause meter automatically reacting at the sight of bachelor number one in the queer dating game. Human beings are a bit more complex than that.

Am I supposed to feel comforted or flattered by these studies just because they support the idea that we are born gay? Quite frankly it's not a question I ponder and I wonder why anyone else does.

Unless... Hey, wait a minute. Have I got it all wrong? What if they are studying the prenatal conditions that lead to queerness not so they can stop homosexuality but rather to produce more? After all the study showed that the mother's womb apparently becomes increasingly resistant hormonally to straight male foetuses. That's not biology, that's evolution! No arguing with the wisdom of the womb. Imagine the day when pregnant women will be playing the music of Barbra or Madonna to their bellies. New fathers will brag about having sired enough sons for a baseball team - for the Gay Games! More homos would be a decided boon to the population control problem - let's face it the planet is overcrowded and needs major redecorating. Extreme makeover, homo edition

Maybe I've misjudged all those researchers and scientists. It could all be a part of a movement to improve the human race, like trying to find the right conditions to produce another Mozart or Leonardo da Vinci or Stephen Hawking or Vin Diesel (well, his thighs alone are worth serious study!) Perhaps this is part of the gay agenda that even I don't know about ñ little rainbow scientists striving to create a better homo world. What do you think?

Nah, me either but it's a nice dream.

Love ya!

Crawford

Age of Consent: Inequality Remains

By Gilles Marchildon
Federal Justice Minister MP Vic Toews doesn't think a lot about anal sex, but he should.

Toews, in his rush to introduce legislation to raise the age of consent, completely ignored an opportunity to address one of the most glaring examples of inequality in Canada's Criminal Code.

Bill C-22 was introduced in the House of Commons on June 22, the day before Parliament adjourned for the Summer. The Bill proposes to raise the age of consent for sexual activity from 14 to 16.

The main purpose of the law is supposedly to protect young people from sexual predators. It's a laudable goal but laws already exist to protect 14 and 15 year olds from sexual exploitation. Raising the age of consent won't provide more protection - but empowering youth with information and providing better enforcement could do this.

Raising the age of consent would criminalize youth sexuality and might place a "chill" on sexual education provided to teens. After all, some agencies or schools might be reluctant to give out information to youth if they aren't legally allowed to have sex.

By the same token, youth who aren't old enough to have sexual relations, according to the new legislation, would likely refrain from seeking out information and advice. This will just drive sex into a "closet" and lead to teens being less informed.

The more glaring oversight of Bill C-22, however, is that it leaves on the books an unequal age of consent for anal sex. It is the ONE and ONLY sexual activity for which the age of consent is still 18 years of age. For those keeners among read-

ers, you can look it up - it's section 159 of the Criminal Code.

Instead of allowing anal sex to be regulated in the same way as other sexual behaviours, there's a specific section that criminalizes both the younger and the older person participating. Furthermore, it makes anal sex criminal when more than two people are present and imposes a harsher penalty than with other forms of sexual activity.

As Justice Department lawyers have pointed out to their boss, the unequal treatment of anal sex has been found unconstitutional by the Ontario Court of Appeal, the Quebec Court of Appeal, the B.C. Court of Appeal, the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench and the Federal Court of Canada.

Yet Vic Toews is leaving it in the Criminal Code. Why?

The most likely answer is that the Harper government does not care about equality. It had a chance to fix something in the Criminal Code and it chose to ignore the problem.

Anal sex laws have historically been used to criminalize gay and bisexual men. There's no reason in the world to single out anal sex for differential treatment. Doing so only reinforces the stigma surrounding gay male sex.

Hopefully, opposition MPs will bring this forward when Bill C-22 is reviewed by parliamentary committee in the Fall. The Bill should be amended to equalize the age of consent for all sexual activity.

Gilles Marchildon is Executive Director of Egale Canada, a non-profit organization that advances equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-identified people, and their families, across Canada. www.egale.ca



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Walk for Life Planned for Halifax

By Gary Brooks

The AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia's major fundraiser, Walk for Life, will be held on Saturday, September 30 in Metro. The GBLT community, through its participation in the annual Walk, has supported the fight against AIDS since the early 1980s, making this the longest continuous source of local funding targeted for the support of those with HIV/AIDS. Over the years, the event has grown steadily, and the goal this year is to raise \$50,000.

The proceeds from the Walk are used in particular to help support services for those living with HIV/AIDS, including the Health Fund. As one individual who regularly accesses this ACNS fund has said, "Knowing that the Health Fund is there for me is important, and it helps me get those other things that are small but important." Among the types of assistance provided are vitamins, additional food, and a variety of therapies.

Jessica Wall, coordinator for the Walk, says "the Walk for Life is growing tremendously, and we are excited about this year's event. We continue to see incredible support from our walkers and teams, as well as from corporate sponsors and local businesses, and we are grateful to them for their efforts."



Last year's top individual collector was Bruce Hayre—Ms. Vicki—who, while receiving trips and other prizes over the years, says that his real motivation comes from wanting to support Manna for Health which was one of the 2005 partners for the Walk. Paul Laybolt and Al Stewart were other top collectors. The GAP won the Top Team award; they raised over \$8,500, a sum matched by their company. The success of the teams from St. John's United Church and MAC Cosmetics was also recognized. Alpha Gamma Delta at Dalhousie won the Top Walk Team and Safe Harbour Community Church received the Top Walk partner award.

Individuals wishing to register as an individual or as a team for the 2006 Walk for Life may do so by calling 425-4882 (extension 228) or by contacting www.acns.ns.ca. Those who register before September 6th are eligible for a prize package valued at \$500.00!

Now is the Time to Act

by Remzi Cej, St. John's Member, National Youth Team on HIV/AIDS, UN Association in Canada

"If it hasn't affected you personally, it's kind of like it's in one ear and out the other. It's a forgettable disease because people WANT to forget about it," says a 22-year old woman. She says she learned little about HIV/AIDS before coming to a gathering for youth, held in St. John's on May 12 and 13. The event was a hub of information sharing, and a chance to hear youth talk about the role HIV/AIDS plays in their everyday lives.

Organized by the UN Association in Canada, the Forum on youth and HIV/AIDS in St. John's

is one of the 12 regional gatherings of youth held across Canada to inform youth of the effects of HIV/AIDS locally, nationally and internationally.

During the weekend, 35 youth from St. John's viewed "A Closer Walk", a documentary on the global HIV/AIDS crisis, led discussions on their perception of HIV/AIDS, and heard from an inspiring guest speaker about living with HIV/AIDS. They also took part in workshops on HIV and STI prevention and on cultural sensitivity and diversity and contributed their thoughts to the draft of the Canadian Declaration on HIV/AIDS. Participants pointed to education system reform, cultural

Cont'd to AIDS p 14

First Sackville, NB PFLAG Picnic

By Janet Hammock & Marilyn Lerch Co-facilitators, PFLAG Canada, Sackville NB/Amherst NS Chapter

We just arrived home from the very first picnic of our Chapter of PFLAG Canada. Held on Sunday afternoon, June 11th, twenty-three persons associated with the Sackville/Amherst Chapter were there.

The lovely home and garden of one of our members and his partner was the perfect location. Although it was an on-and-off-again rainy day, Marilyn and I, together with the picnic hosts, decorated gaily inside and out with rainbow flags, streamers, windsocks and even rainbow-striped napkins!

Ages ranged from a two-mom family with their three school-aged kids, all the way up, covering every ten years, til we arrived at one of the co-hosts who is eighty! A remarkably diverse assemblage. A true family.

The food was great. Eldon was one of the first to arrive, stunningly attired in alluring rainbow socks and bearing a bunch of bananas! Chicken parmesan drumettes, melt-in-your-mouth baked ham, bean salad, spinach salad, veggies and dips, potato salad, muffins, and about ten different desserts graced the groaning board and soon had us swooning with pleasure!! We indulged in every imaginable kind of picnic yummy, washed down with a punch that was piquant and cooling!

Some people came with partners, some were single people, many lesbian, gay and bi. People strolled in small groups through the extensive gardens, gazed at the lily-pond frogs, and dreamily looked out at the roiling skies and rolling fields, their reverie punctuated occasionally by the loud and lusty calls of a horny steer! In front of the patio a rip-roaring game of bocce ball went on for about an hour and a half on the green lush grass.

A wonderful new couple from the Memramcook area who are to be wedded (or "welded" as one of the happy twosome put it!) this August arrived late bearing scrumptious desserts!

Our oldest member (in number of years coming to PFLAG meetings) was there, along with many more recent meeting-attendees who all appeared to feel happy and comfortable to be with us old-timer-PFLAGers.

Serendipitously, the rain held off for the entire picnic, beginning again when the last person left.

This was, indeed, a PFLAG-family picnic to remember!

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My Dinner with Hedy

By Bill McKinnon

Some Halifax folks met with Dr. Hedy Fry, MP (Vancouver Centre) for dinner at Mollyz Diner on May 19. "Call me Hedy" who selected mussels from Mollyz menu of delicious foods was accompanied by her equally yummy assistant Bryn.

Halifax people included: Doug Melanson and David Landry (owners of Mollyz/Menz Bar/Sea Dogs), Kevin Kindred and Bob Fougere of NSRAP, Bruce Goddard (Safe Harbour), Raymond Taavel (InterPride), and Hugo Daan and Lee-Ann Poole from Halifax Pride.

Hedy, a medical doctor, MP and former cabinet minister was in Hali to drum up support for her Liberal leadership bid. Some other info on Hedy: she's straight and but gay-friendly, born in 1941 in Trinidad & Tobago, educated in Ireland and lives in Vancouver, and has a son.

Hedy has long been involved with the GLBT community. She has attended 14 Vancouver Pride's and danced in costume. In our meeting Hedy said she would participate in Halifax Pride. Some liberals don't like her for her gay associations, but she tells them: "Gay Pride is a community celebration and I'm a member of the community."

Gays in Hedy's constituency say "she is one of us." In the last election GLBT's mostly supported Hedy - not Sven Robinson, the Gay/NDP candidate she defeated. "Sven and I are good friends" says Hedy, "but he doesn't come to our bars or shows; I do... if I were sick, drag queens would be there with a bowl of soup; they are my friends."

Hedy says being gay or straight is not so important today but Pride

embracing diversity today makes us a stronger and better country. We should be proud of our differences.

is important. "Gay Pride is about being who you are in a group that was always shamed... we need Gay Pride, lest we forget... embracing diversity today makes us a stronger and better country. We should be proud of our differences."

Gay health is a concern and that's not about being gay although "the Tories would look for a gay cure." The thing about the present system is that "gays don't get health care; they get gigged around... currently people are sometimes getting the health care they want, but not the health care they need."

Hedy wanted to be a nun when she was young but later decided

to become a doctor and did. Jean Chretien asked Hedy to run for Parliament against Kim Campbell. She ran, unseated a prime minister and has been in Parliament since 1993. Hedy says "Chretien is a man of integrity and a man of his word... gays owe Chretien; it was he who wrote the Charter of Rights for Trudeau."

Hedy says that "The law must reflect the society in which we live." As to gay rights and same-sex marriage, the public eventually comes around. "When people realize there is no disruption of their

lives, they become comfortable with change."

In considering those who oppose gay rights, Hedy points to Nelson Mandela, a non-gay she knows. After Mandela got out of prison and apartheid ended, "Mandela stood up for his oppressors, the people who had mistreated them. He insisted there be no retribution."

Hedy says that as a medical doctor "I have learned a lot about transgendered members of our community." She believes there is a lot to be done on transgender issues. "We don't get the reality of people's lives." She has seen the

results of discrimination. "As a physician I was lucky to have transgender patients." She notes that some want to complete the sexual reassignment process but lots of transgenders don't want the operation.

"Society's attitude needs to change... we have to educate people and provide skills to address the issues... people feel uncomfortable when they encounter 'trannies' in washrooms." Hedy had started to fund sensitivity training when she was in the Cabinet but it's not there now. "There has to be political will to make changes so we need politicians and leaders who are not afraid... most of us are still hardwired to old notions about gender," says Hedy.

Why is Hedy running for the Liberal leadership? "Because I am a Liberal and Liberal leaders of the past were bold." She says "a leader needs to travel the country and talk to the people... visit everywhere including rural areas - not just big cities." She would

have government and the people work together. She would say to the people "here is the problem; how are we going to solve it?"

Why do we need gun control? "We had a problem. There were murders and suicides with guns... we had to get guns out of the hands of violent people and criminals... but we should have said "Here is the problem; what are we going to do about it?" She says, "we failed to do that and got a big division between rural and urban people... too often we have made decisions in a bubble without going back to the people... what we need to do is not divide each other - we should focus on community."

It was an interesting dinner.

For more about Hedy Fry or to contact her, check out <http://hedy-fry.com/campaignhq/>



New NSRAP Board Elected

By Bill McKinnon

The Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project (NSRAP) held its Annual General Meeting on June 17, reported on last year's achievements, for the LGBTTIQ Community and outlined objectives for 2006-2007.



Sean Foreman passing the NSRAP torch to Kevin Kindred

The AGM elected a new Board of Directors. Duties of individual Board members will be determined by the Board. Already selected as new Chairman, Kevin Kindred replaces Sean Foreman who is giving up the NSRAP helm after four years of exceptional service.

Bob Fougere is also retiring as Treasurer/Coordinator; Bob noted that NSRAP has achieved a "miracle" in surviving 10 years. All agree that Bob has been a major part of that miracle. NSRAP also has a new secretary on the Board, Gaston Saulnier and has hired Tom Scott as full-time staffer to take over some of the duties previously

carried out by Bob Fougere and to seek out new funding sources.

This year's plans include another fund-raiser, Gala 2006, more community meetings, a membership drive, a feasibility study for a Rainbow community centre, improvement in LGBTTIQ health services, establishing a charitable foundation, and betterment of the lot of LGBT students and teachers.

Gala 2006 will take place at the Lord Nelson Hotel on September 30. Mark Tewksbury, Olympic swimming gold-medalist and author of "Straight Talk from a Gay Jock" will speak. The ticket price is \$90. This covers the dinner and dance (a new feature).

Although last year's gala attracted a near-sellout, NSRAP wants the Gala to be more inclusive; so tickets for the dance will be available for \$10.

Community outreach meetings will be revived this year. NSRAP looks for increased community involvement; so it can be more responsive to LGBTTIQ needs.

NSRAP hopes to recruit more members and will hold outreach meetings. Three meetings are planned; two of these will be outside HRM. Other initiatives planned include participation in Halifax Pride and financial contributions to Pride's in Halifax and other Nova Scotian communities.

Many believe HRM should have a Rainbow Community Centre, similar to the "519" in Toronto. A centre would be particularly useful for small LGBT groups and Community functions. NSRAP wants to do a feasibility study and search out possible sources of funding.

Health services for our community are a concern. NSRAP is already working with Capital Health to improve matters. Of particular interest are the needs of transsexuals, e.g. the cost of Sexual Reassignment Surgery and related therapies.

Since NSRAP is an activist organization, it is not allowed to issue tax receipts for most of the donations it receives although some related to

NSRAP does not operate in isolation.

the Education Fund are accommodated through MCC's Safe Harbour. NSRAP would like to set up a charitable foundation similar to one established by Egale Canada.

Safe, equitable treatment of LGBT students and teachers in Nova Scotia is a concern which NSRAP plans to address since

both often face discrimination and homophobia in Nova Scotian schools.

This report looked first at the future but the past year's record is both impressive and important as evidence of what NSRAP can achieve. In the year ended March 31, 2006 much was accomplished. Here is some of it. Net revenue was \$16,353 and that left NSRAP with



New NSRAP Staffer Tom Scott

a cumulative surplus of \$18,772.

It was a busy year as NSRAP pursued its mandate of "Equality for All." Major achievements and involvements included the Same-Sex Marriage campaign, transsexual issues particularly Sexual Reassignment Surgery, the 2006 Federal Election, the 2005 Gala, the Rainbow Health Conference in November, Capital Health's LGBTI initiative, the Spiritual

Care and AIDS Project, the Rosie O'Donnell visit to Halifax/Rosie's weddings, HRM Cultural Advisory Committee, and Provincial Election 2006. There were other important activities as well, having to do with strategic planning, organizational development, the Police Chief's diversity advisory committee, articles in Wayves, research, outreach to the education community, community development and promoting LGBTTIQ events. In some of these undertakings NSRAP was the leader; in others it partnered, participated, promoted or lobbied.

NSRAP does not operate in isolation. In achieving objects it works closely with other organizations inside and outside the LGBTTIQ world. Rainbow partners are Egale Canada; Canadians for Equal Marriage; Safe Harbour; Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth Project; AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition; Wayves; Nova Scotia Pride organizations; and Rainbow businesses. Mainstream collaboration occurs with Capital Health, the HRM Police, the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission and the media. Working together a great deal has been and will be achieved.

For more information on NSRAP, details of last year's achievements and this year's plans, check out www.nsrp.ca, email nsrap@ns.sympatico.ca, or phone (902) 444-7887.

Club Chameleon, a New Moncton Night Spot

A review by Bill McKinnon
"Chameleons are unique creatures, known for their ability to change colour." This is true too of Club Chameleon, now gay but formerly a 50's style rock and roll bar. It's owned by Gary and Jill, long-experienced in providing evening entertainment and they are nice people.

The new club is located at 939 Mountain Road, behind KFC and across from the Ponderosa, between Cedar and Catherine Streets and close to at least seven restaurants. Club Chameleon is

open Wednesday to Saturday from 9 pm to 2 am.

Interesting features of the club include good music and sound by Australian DJ Roo, a porch for smoking and special-occasion BBQ's, black light (so wear white) exotic décor, a stripper pole, a fine dance floor, lots of room - in fact there are two large areas, and plenty of parking. Two special features - you don't have to wear a shirt, and if you want to have a shower, you can.

Two current special occasions were a BBQ on Pride night, a ben-

efit for street youth, sponsored by Moncton Leather Chapter, and "bad Boyz" Exotic Male Dancers to appear on July 7.

Not everyone in Moncton is pleased that there is a second gay bar in Moncton: there is a bit of split in the community. Loyal pa-

trons of the first bar don't want to lose what they have and enjoy, so it's natural they may feel concerned - even threatened. Competition can be harmful but it can also benefit everyone.

If there is room for two bars in booming Hub City, differences and fears will likely melt away

eventually and everyone will co-exist in harmony once again. Let's hope, in any case, that the Rainbow community puts aside differences and sticks together, for the good of all.



The Rights and Wrongs of Matrimonial Law in Nova Scotia

By Janet M. Stevenson and Janine Kerr

When a long-term relationship breaks down, it is not just hurt feelings that must be sorted out. We think there is widespread misunderstanding of property rights and obligations and other fundamental principles of family law. This article flows from a breakfast seminar specifically addressed to the gay and lesbian community hosted by the Halifax law firm of Wickwire Holm. It is intended to debunk some of the myths and set the record straight.

Legal Marriage, Common-Law Marriage, Registered Domestic Partnership

Until same-sex marriage was finally recognized in Nova Scotia in September 2004, same-sex couples had two formal choices for organizing their relationships: common-law union or registration as domestic partners under the Vital Statistics Act. Registered domestic partnership allows couples to "opt in" to most of the rights and obligations that come automatically with legal marriage, in particular the Nova Scotia Matrimonial Property Act. A common-law relationship is defined as cohabitation in a conjugal relationship for between 1 and 3 years, depending on the purpose and the law that is being applied. Common law couples have more limited property rights and obligations under the law, regardless of sexual orientation.

Property Division After Legal Marriage or Registered Domestic Partnership

When married people divorce, the law presumes that their assets and debts should be divided equally unless there is a compelling reason to order an unequal division, such as a very short marriage where one party brought the majority of the assets into the relationship. The vast majority of divorcing couples agree, or are ordered by the Court, to divide their matrimonial property equally. The presumption of equal division forms part of Nova Scotia's Matrimonial Property Act. Registered domestic partners are treated as though they are legally married, and the Matrimonial Property Act applies.

Property Division After a Common-Law Relationship

For common-law partners, regardless of sexual orientation, there is no presumption of equal division or of any division of common property because the Matrimonial Property Act does not apply. Common-law couples that seek Court intervention to settle property disputes face a more difficult (and usually more expensive) battle. The presumption for common-law couples is that each person owns the debts and assets held in his or her name. The person who is not "named" must prove entitlement to each particular asset. It can be quite difficult to prove entitlement to some assets.

For example, if Melissa and Joan purchased a home together but registered it in Joan's name alone (perhaps because Melissa could not qualify for a mortgage), upon the breakdown of the relationship, the Court would assume that Joan

alone owns the home and Melissa would have to prove that she is entitled to half (or a portion) of its value. Melissa would likely need to show that she contributed to the down payment, mortgage, and maintenance and that she and Joan intended that the home was to be owned by them both. Even if she establishes these things, Melissa may not be successful in her claim. The Court could find that Melissa was only contributing to her own living expenses (and that she would have incurred these expenses in any case) and/or that she is entitled only to the return of her portion of the down payment. Most couples arrange their financial life in a practical way never thinking that who technically pays for certain items/expenses could have significant legal consequences. Imagine, for example, that Melissa and Joan had agreed that Melissa would pay for the couple's vacation from her savings and that Joan would pay for the down payment from hers.

Spousal Support

Spousal support is a possibility for married couples or registered domestic partners under the Divorce Act. Registered domestic partners are entitled to apply for spousal support at any time after the registration of their partnership. Common-law partners are only able to apply for spousal support after 2 years of cohabitation. While the principles of entitlement remain basically the same, common-law spousal support flows from the Maintenance and Custody Act and not the Divorce Act. Entitlement to spousal support is notoriously difficult to predict. The longer the relationship, the older the parties, the presence of children that cause(d) the claimant to sacrifice employment opportunities, and the poor health of the claimant are all factors that make an order for spousal support more likely.

Child Support & Custody

Custody and child support principles are generally the same whether parents are legally married, in a common-law relationship, or in a domestic partnership. Custody questions are determined solely based on the child's best interests and child support is determined by a precise set of guidelines based on a payor's income.

However, the following two interesting issues are often overlooked. A person who cohabitates with a parent and his or her child, can be required to pay child maintenance upon relationship breakdown if the Court finds that the non-parent stood "in place of a parent" for that child. So, where a non-parent participates fully in their partner's child's life, as often happens in committed relationships, the non-parent's behaviour can lead to an obligation to pay support and the (often corresponding) right to parenting time with

the child.

It may come as a surprise to women in a same-sex marriage that if one partner bears a child, her wife (the non-biological parent) must formally adopt the baby, which can be an expensive and complicated matter. In contrast, when a heterosexual married couple has a baby, the husband automatically becomes the child's father under the law.

Other issues of interest may include cohabitation and marriage contracts, inheritance, wills, and estate matters. This article is intended to provide general information on family law in Nova Scotia and the laws of other jurisdictions may vary. Anyone requiring legal advice should speak to a lawyer about their particular circumstances.

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Janet M. Stevenson and Janine Kerr

Chef's Corner



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

Everyone loves a good Caesar salad, and when you pair it with Cajun-grilled tiger shrimp and sea scallops, it makes for a quick and easy summer meal which takes next to no time to prepare. It's a great way to treat your visiting Upper Canadian friends with a fresh Maritimes seafood treat. They will think you are a culinary demi-God.

I am going to offer you two variations of this dish, one with a classic creamy dressing and one with a lighter vinaigrette. Both of them use Extra Virgin olive oil, so choose one that you know and like the taste of. Olive oils are as varied in flavour, colour and viscosity as good wines.

Whichever dressing you choose, serve this salad with a fresh-off-the-grill skewer of Cajun seafood, fresh cracked black pepper and a chilled glass of your favorite white wine.

Atlantic "Sea-Zar" Salad

Ingredients (for 4 people)

2-3 washed & dried romaine lettuce hearts
1/2 cup garlic butter croutons
1/4 cup crisp bacon bits (optional)
12 large Tiger Shrimp (shelled & deveined)
8 medium Sea Scallops
juice of 1/2 lemon
1 Tbsp olive oil
1 Tbsp Cajun seasoning (store bought is fine)

Rinse the seafood in cold water, pat dry, then toss in a bowl with the lemon, oil and seasoning. Place shrimp and scallops on 4 metal skewers alternating shrimp, scallop, shrimp, scallop... The skewers should be grilled on high heat approximately 4-5 minutes per side.

Dressing #1: Classic Caesar

Juice and zest of 1 lemon
1 Tbsp rinsed capers
1 tsp rinsed and chopped anchovy fillets
6 cloves fresh garlic
1 tsp Dijon mustard
1/4 tsp Worcestershire sauce
1 egg yolk
1/4 cup fresh grated parmesan cheese
3/4 to 1 cup Extra Virgin olive oil

Combine all ingredients (except for the oil) in a food processor. On high, open the hatch in your processor top and begin to pour in the oil in a steady slow stream. The dressing will begin to emulsify. Add oil until you have a smooth creamy dressing. Season with salt and pepper and it's ready to be tossed on greens.

Dressing #2: Poached Garlic Vinaigrette

Cloves of 2 heads of fresh garlic
1 cup Extra Virgin olive oil
1/4 cup white balsamic vinegar
zest of 1 lemon
2 Tbsp small dice pimento peppers
2 Tbsp chopped chives
1/2 cup fresh grated parmesan cheese (for tossing garnish)

In a sauce pan over medium-low heat, bring 1 cup olive oil to 180F, add the garlic and let poach until fork tender (approx 10 min). Place all ingredients (except cheese) in processor and pulse until all ingredients are well combined yet are still detectable as separate elements. Season with salt and pepper and you it's ready to toss with greens.

Mollyz Diner

2104 Gottingen Street, Halifax, NS. Restaurant review by Randall Perry

The former Apple Barrel space on the first floor of the Menz Bar building has gone through a major transformation over the past few months. Owners David Landry and Doug Melanson took over the space with the intention of adding a comfortable, casual dining experience to the bar complex for their neighbourhood clientele, and Mollyz Diner was born in April. If you enjoy going out for breakfast and brunch as much as I, then this little gem is well worth checking out.

When you step through the door the first thing you notice is that the diner is laid out very much like a pub, with a bench and tables along the long and far walls, tables in the front space and tall chairs at the stainless steel bar. This design facilitates the diner's transformation into a first-floor dance bar on weekends and makes for an uncluttered yet cosy atmosphere. Many of the Menz Bar staff also work the bar at Mollyz so chances are your favourite barkeep will be slinging your coffee the morning after the night before.

Yes, the coffee. The coffee is on the experience this list at Mollyz. This is not your chain coffee, where the roast is usually either "Burnt Offering" or "Brown Crayon Dipped into Hot Water." No, this is the good stuff, served up hot and bottomless in cheerful latte-house cups. Start and end with some of this, the best you're going to get without running to a barista for your caffeine fix.

Mollyz's breakfast/brunch menu is varied enough so you can have something different every morning of the week while it remains comfortably limited in scope. I have yet to try the Acadian Starter's fish cakes and baked beans, but I can say with confidence that the crazy inexpensive Little Mollyz Breakie is tasty and portioned enough to get my day going. Freshly chopped parsley sprinkled throughout the dish serves as more than mere garnish, punching up the flavour, mingling with the eggs and crispy home fries. Add one of those bottomless coffees and you can jump-start your morning for around five bucks.

If eggs are not your thing, then I suggest the Belgian Style Waffles

for the sheer decadence. Try it with the blueberry topping first, then the strawberry. Then go jog off the guilt. It's all good for you.

Taste, presentation and portion

size are all top-notch. The last time I saw so much on my breakfast place was at a truck stop, and many times these places are known for quantity over quality. Mollyz suc-

ceeds in balancing both.

Highly recommended, both for the food and the social experience. Mollyz does not disappoint.

Grade: A



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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. lgby_p_amherst@hotmail.com, all emails confidential.

Annapolis Valley

Every Thursday

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House Meets every Thursday evening from 7-9pm and also on the first Saturday of every month hosts a Gay/Lesbian dance for ages 19 and up from 9pm-1am. If you need more information concerning themes or other events that may take place call 902-765-2821 or email menembracingmen@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 and Fourth Mondays

South Shore Pride Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Club holds meetings in Bridgewater every Monday from 7-9pm. Call 685-3297 or email thoron_ca@yahoo.ca for details. www.geocities.com/Westhollywood/village/2384

Third Saturday of each month

(except June 24)
Wileville Dance 9PM to 1AM. Smoke free. For more details call 685-3297 or email info@southshorepride.ca or www.southshorepride.ca

Cape Breton

What's up in Sydney. Email submissions@wayves.ca with your events!

Fredericton

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 non profit 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.

Last Saturday of each month

Inject some colour into the long grey winter! Every month through Pride Week on the last weekend in June, celebrate the colours of the Pride flag. Join us in feting this month's colour: PURPLE. Wear it on your clothes, on your shoes, on your face, in your hair or on top of your head. Have fun with it and watch for prizes on upcoming Saturdays. boom! Nightclub, 474 Queen Street

Fredericton Bar & Business Calendar

BOOM! NIGHTCLUB

www.boomnightclub.ca, 463-Boom! (2666) 474 Queen Street

Thursdays - Retro night - 70s, 80s, 90s... All

dance mixes from a different decade each week. Open 4-1.

Fridays and Saturdays - Happy hour 4-9, All-extended-mix mainstream club music 9-2.

Sundays - New Brunswick's one and only T-dance! All-anthem dance music, 4-7.

Halifax

Every Sunday

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 & Traditional). June 25-Sept. 10, 10 am service. For more info, call 835-8497.

Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Services are Sunday 7:00pm, except the last Sunday of the month at 11:00am, Bloomfield Centre, 2786 Agricola Street, Suite 108.

Every Sunday

Club 200 Womyn's Discussion Group, 6-7:30pm, 66 Shore Drive in Bedford. A weekly gathering of Lesbian/Bi Womyn, who will meet to socialize and facilitate open discussions concerning our rights and positions, to empower ourselves and our community. Please, bring your own non-alcoholic beverage. *This is a SCENT FREE building! Confidentiality respected. For more info call Sue Andrews at 499-0335.

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

Every Wednesday

An all gay men's bowling league is starting up in the new year and I am looking for any men who are interested in joining. 7pm to 9pm at The Bowlarama at Bayers Road Shopping Centre. If you are interested in joining contact Richard at 440-6729 after 4pm.

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

First Wednesday of each month

GAY FATHERS OF HALIFAX is a peer support group for gay and bisexual men. We meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month. We also get together for a monthly Pot Luck social. For more info contact Bruce @ 469 5490 or Gilles @ 448-3565 or email GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com or visit our website at http://groups.msn.com/GayFathersOfHalifax If you are interested in facilitating meetings, organizing activities or simply meeting a great group of men, then send us an email.

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.

Aug. 3, 17, 31, Sept. 14, 28, Oct. 12, 26

Anonymous HIV Testing, AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1657 Barrington St, Suite 321, 5-8pm. 425-4882 for an appointment.

Aug. 6, 20, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 15, 29

Koinonia Ecumenical Church - Meaning 'community'. Services bi-weekly at 12:30pm at Halifax Feast downtown. Pastor Elaine, 876-8771 or ktiononia@ns.sympatico.ca

July 28-30

CAMPING AT GRAVES ISLAND, Chester, Nova Scotia, Time: when you arrive :) Cost \$5.00 per person, per night. Children and pets are allowed. Any questions please call Sue or Karen at 499-0335

August 11-13

18th Annual Courage Round Up, sponsored by gay men and lesbians in AA. Open to all alcoholics and those affected by the alcoholism of others. The entire weekend includes fellowship, speaker meetings and workshop discussions of recovery topics in a relaxed and peaceful setting at 5500 Inglis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Beacon of Hope is this year's theme. It is the only gay and lesbian AA round up in Atlantic Canada, the only one of its kind east of Montreal. Registration opens at 5.00 p.m. on Friday, August 11. The cost is \$30.00 Cdn (\$ 20.00 if paid by July 1) Includes lunch on Saturday. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Supper (on Saturday) is extra - \$ 12.00 (Estimate) - Pay at the Restaurant. To pre-register, send your cheque or money order to: Courage Round Up, c/o 6 Campeau Court, Eastern Passage, NS, B3G 1J5. For more information, phone (902) 463 - 7895, email Courage449@yahoo.com or at our website at www.rationalunlucy.com/courageroundup/

August 18-20

3rd CAMPING TRIP THE BIG PARTY! ALL womyn! ~ 1 YR. ANNIVERSARY OF CLUB 200 ~ CAMPING AT GRAVES ISLAND. Chester, Nova Scotia, Time: when you arrive :) Cost \$5.00 per person, per night. Children and pets are allowed. Any questions please call Sue or Karen at 499-0335

Halifax Youth Project Calendar

Youth Project events operate in a 4-week schedule. To find out what week we're operating in, please see our website or contact us! www.youthproject.ns.ca, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, 429-5429

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! 6-8 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 - LBG 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 - LBG Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Halifax Bar & Business Calendar

BLUE MOON BISTRO/BACK BAR

2215 Gottingen St, Halifax. (902) 446-3644 Weekly Events.

Sundays - Show's from Drag to creative dance music or themes.

Mondays - 5-9pm Tarot reading's with Shadow. 9-close - Oh My Gay Nerves -

Tuesdays - Karaoke with Trevor ... cash prize draws.

Wednesdays -10pm till close - Act it Out with Boom Boom (front bar) 7 - 10pm Swing Dancing (back bar)

Thursdays - Karaoke and Wings with Justin ... cash prize draws. So you think you can groove !!!

Fridays - Stage Show's in the Bistro. DJ and dancing (back bar)

Saturdays -Stage Show's in the Bistro. Dance all night long with DJ Electro (back bar)

Special Events

MENZ BAR

2104 Gottingen St, Halifax's Gay Village 902-446-6969, www.MENZBAR.ca
MOOSE DECK Now Open on Level III!
FREE INTERNET & WiFi with purchase of a drink

4PM to 7PM ALL WEEK - ALL APPETIZERS Buy 1 Get 2nd for 1/2 Price

Mondays - KARAOKE with DJ Electro - Mystery Song, Win up to \$300

Tuesdays - MOOSE DECK DRAFT NIGHT & \$2 Off Coupons @ SeaDog's

Wednesdays - KARAOKE with BEAR777 - Mystery Song, win up to \$300

Fridays - After 5 - MARTINIZ & MARGARITAZ then Party with our Guest DJ's!

Saturdays - TOP 40 with DJ NEEDLES!

Sat & Sun - Brain Freezers & Brunch Starting @ Noon

The PARTZ Dept & Pool Table on Level III

Mollyz DINER & Bar

LEVEL I

2104 Gottingen St, Halifax's Gay Village 902-405-3376

Great Food...Great Coffee...Free WiFi Sun - Thur 7am to 9pm

Fri - Sat 7am - Midnight

MONDAYZ - Margaritas & Nachos \$13.02

TUESDAYZ - Pasta & Wing Night Starting @ \$13.12

WEDNESDAYZ - 20 Wings & 20oz Draft \$11.97

THURSDAYZ - Musselz & Beer \$8.93

Now Booking LOCAL ENTERTAINERS for Week Ends!

Now serving food on the Moose Deck, Level III

Private Room Available

REFLECTIONS

5184 Sackville Street, (902) 422-2957, toll free (877)422-2957, Fax (902)422-2970 mail@reflectionscairet.com, www.reflectionscairet.com. open 7 days a week, Mon-Sat 1pm to 4am, Sun 4pm to 4am, Manager: Stephen Filek

Monday \$Rockin for Dollar\$-open mic contest. We supply the gear, you supply the band. Compete for a chance to win lot's of cash, possibly up to \$1000!!

This runs from 10-2 with a \$2 cover followed by great dance music till 3:45 with DJ HedFones

Tuesday Karaoke with Troy Ward. \$100 Cash



Triangles
ATLANTIC CANADA'S OLDEST GAY BAR

234 ST. GEORGE STREET, MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

Open TUESDAY to SUNDAY from 8PM to 2AM

<p>TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY</p> <p>FREE POOL</p> <p>Beer - Bar Shots - Shooters</p> <p>\$3.00</p> <p>ALL NIGHT</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>KARAOKE NIGHT</p> <p>Beer - Bar Shots</p> <p>\$3.00 until 12AM</p> <p>Shooter Special</p> <p>\$2.75 all Night</p>
<p>FRIDAY & SATURDAY</p> <p>DANCE MUSIC</p> <p>WITH DJ DABOSS</p> <p>SUMMER SPECIAL</p> <p>11PM - 12AM Beer with Shooter</p> <p>\$4.00</p>	<p>SUNDAY</p> <p>REQUEST</p> <p>ALL YOUR FAVORITE SONGS</p> <p>WITH DJ DABOSS</p> <p>Beer - Bar Shots - Shooters</p> <p>\$3.00</p> <p>ALL NIGHT</p>

Check out our monthly "EVENTS" page at www.trianglesbar.com

We welcome your comments and suggestions and please feel free to e-mail us at thegirls@nb.sympatico.ca

Calendar

Prize every Tuesday. DJ HedFones follows with great dance music till 3:45 am no cover

Wednesday - Great live bands on stage till 1am followed by Retro night with DJ Electro and DJ Sapho till 3:45am

Thursday - Lulu LaRude hosts 5 Minutes of Fame - The anything goes Talent Show where we give away \$200 cash every Thursday. 10pm \$3. DJ HedFones till 3:45am.

Friday - BUMP Fridays with Halifax's Premiere House DJ Sonny D. We continue to define the underground with the best house, techno, and breaks around! \$5 10pm to 3:45am

Saturday - Squirr Saturdaze with DJ HedFones. The Ultimate dance night in the City of Halifax with Dance, Top 40, Pop, Retro, R & B, and more! 10pm to 3:45am \$5

Sunday - We feature either great dance music or drag shows, special events, etc.. 10pm start. Cover varies.

SEADOG'S SAUNA & SPA

NOW LICENSED! Come for Men, Stay for the Beer! 2199 Gottingen Street

Hours: Mon-Thu 4pm-1am & 24 Hour Week Ends

We accept VISA, M/C & Interac 902-444-3647 - www.SeaDogs.ca

In the HEART of Halifax's Gay Village

Mon - Student Night, FREE Locker with valid I.D.

Tue - LOCKERAMA, all Lockers \$13 till Close

Wed - HUMP Night, 1/2 price pass with purchase of a Room or Locker

Thu - NAKED Night, Towels optional!

Sat & Sun - Early Bird Special 6am till Noon, Rooms are \$15 & Lockers are \$7.50

Moncton

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.

Second and Fourth Mondays

SAFE SPACES MEETING, 7pm. Support group for GLB youth, 14-25. For more info, 869-6224 or

safespaces@nb.aibn.com

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

CLUB CHAMELEON

<http://personal.nbn.net.nb.ca/garysm/chamel.htm>
939 Mountain Road, Moncton.

Hours: 9pm until 2am

Phone: 506-858-5861

Email: gasmith@nb.sympatico.ca

Wacky Wednesday - \$2.00 Beer & Barshots 10 til close

Thursday - Girls Night Out! - no cover for girlz with 2.4.1. drinks til midnight

Friday - After Work BBQ - 4pm on with DJ Roo

Saturday - Moncton Leather Chapter Charity BBQ - 4pm on

Sunday - T-Dance and BBQ 4-7 pm

TRIANGLES

Tuesday & Wednesday: Free Pool. Beer, Bar Shots & Shooters \$3.00 all night

Thursday: Karaoke Night! Beer & Bar Shots \$3.00 until midnight. Shooter Special \$2.75 all night

Friday & Saturday: Dance Music with DJ DaBoss. Summer Special 11pm - midnight: Beer with shooter \$4.00

Sunday: Request all your favourite songs with DJ DaBoss. Beer, Bar Shots & Shooters \$3.00 all night

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

Saint John Pride Week, August 6th to 13th: see back page for schedule.

Third Saturday

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

Saint John Bar & Business Calendar

BABYLON EAST

www.babyloneast.ca

The newest sociable gay bar in New Brunswick, on South Market Street.

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 Third Wednesday

Arriba's Night! Arriba's is a bar in the same building as Quintana's De La Plaza, in Churchill Square. We get together and attend this venue on a regular basis, due to its closeness to MUN and the fact that these are "Student Saver Nights" (drinks are cheaper and there are free nachos with every drink!). Before going to the venue, people are asked to meet at LBGT-MUN at 4:30pm to head over (and to grab seats before everyone else - teehee). Make sure to wear some Pride stuff so we can tell that you're there to meet us! (Note: this venue is 19 years and older)

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

Tatamagouche Centre

RR#3, Tatamagouche, 902 657-2231 or 1-800-218-2220, Fax: 902 657-3445, online at www.tatacentre.ca, or email tatacent@tatacentre.ca

Oct 25-27

Educating allies: Breaking the Cycle of Oppression

Oct 27-29

A Maritime "Rainbow Weekend"

WAYVES DATES!

Check out page two for Wayves deadlines.

Wileville

...see Bridgewater

Wolfville

Every Second Tuesday

Kings County Prostate Cancer Support Group, 7-9 pm in the East Kings Memorial Public Health Centre on Earncliffe Ave in Wolfville. You can ask questions you forgot to ask the doctor or nurse and you can think aloud to help you make your decisions. There is growing evidence that your participation in a group of people who have gone through the processes you are now facing is mentally beneficial and may well contribute to your recovery from prostate cancer interventions. We are an easy-going informal group of 12 men, some of whom bring their spouses/partners to our monthly meetings. Know that you are truly welcome to join us and if you need more information please get in touch with me by e mail dickgroot2003@yahoo.ca or by phone 542 6125. Our correspondence address is the same as my home address: 210 Main Street, Wolfville NS B4P 1C4.

Send events to submissions@wayves.ca now -- Event listings are free!
Make sure you include contact info!

The Halifax HOMO Ho-Down!

sponsored by
Menz, Mollyz, & Moose Draft

Sat. August 26th*

• Country Music - Noon till 10^{pm}

• Patio Specials - All Day Long!

• Mollyz Special Country Buffet from 5^{pm} till 9^{pm}

featuring: BBQ Chicken, Beef Stroganoff, Potatoes, Veggies, Salads, Baked Beans,
Soup, Tea Biscuits & Deserts **ONLY \$14.⁹⁹**

• Learn to Line Dance - 7^{pm} till 9^{pm}

• Followed by dancing with DJ Needles

* \$1 from every large Moose Draft sold will be donated to the DalOUT Student Fund!

Sun., August 27th

Finish off Your Weekend with Our

All the Viddles You Can Eat Sunday Brunch Buffet

for **ONLY \$9.96** from 11^{am} till 3^{pm}

Mollyz DINER

MENZ BAR

MOOSEHEAD
BREWERY LIMITED

Review

Possible Side Effects

by Augusten Burroughs St. Martin's Press, 2006

Review by Randall Perry

I had a dream the other night. I was lying in bed, tied up, with a block of wood between my legs, just above my ankles. Augusten Burroughs was at the foot of the bed, wearing a shirt made out of Nicorette boxes, hefting a sledgehammer.

"How dare you put my book down and pick up something by Stephen King?" he asked, with a maniacal grin on his face. "And where did you hide my gum?"

"But I'm your biggest fan," I protested, and that's when I woke up, just as the sledgehammer came whizzing down toward my crotch. Too strange. Less strange, however, than the new gems you'll



find in Possible Side Effects, the new offering from everybody's favourite funny fucked-up ex-adman, Augusten Burroughs.

It seems that everybody's writ-

ing a memoir these days (even yours truly). The flap over James Frey's *A Million Little Pieces* got about a million words too much press, and even though Frey's lost his agent and publishing deal he's still laughing all the way to the bank. In this brave new world of belles-lettres, Possible Side Effects is the first of Augusten's volumes to include a disclaimer, indicating that some of the event details have been expanded or changed, and many people have had their names and identifying traits changed as well. However these things have been changed, the humour remains intact.

The book's structure is similar to that of 2004's *Magical Thinking*. Augusten takes us on another time-traveling adventure through his strange life, from his disbelief at learning about the Tooth Fairy -- and his efforts to keep her out of

his room -- through episodes which reveal, among other things, how to become addicted to nicotine gum, how not to acquire a new pet, how to be Uma Thurman's peeping tom, how to flirt with kleptomania without getting completely sucked in, and how to survive a really, really bad date. My favourite piece in this collection is an instruction on how to deal with bad drivers, techniques which relegate the tried-and-tested flipping the bird to the level of weak, unwashed amateur.

The writing is sharp and intelligent, and the book flows rather well as the time frame jumps back and forth between Augusten's childhood to the present day. The major difference I found with this current volume is that the spirit of the pieces, as satirical and brilliant as they are, doesn't smack of as much of the gleeful wickedness imbued throughout *Magical Think-*

ing. It could be that domesticity has blunted the beast's horns, or it could be that he's lulling us into a comfortable place before hitting us with some fresh nastiness -- his next work, a collection of holiday stories, *You Better Not Cry*, may give us a whole new set of insights about Santa Claus.

You can rest assured that Oprah won't be picking Possible Side Effects for her book club. Pity. The big O might look good on the dust jacket, right around the middle finger of the hand. Oh, wait... there are two middle fingers. My bad. You get the picture. It doesn't matter if you're a fan or not. Just buy the book and laugh your ass off.

Cont'd from AIDS p 7

sensitivity awareness as some of the recommendations for the Canadian government in dealing with the HIV/AIDS issue.

In Canada, 27% of all positive HIV tests occur in youth ages 15 to 29. The late teens and twenties are therefore revealing themselves as a time when HIV education and prevention become crucial. The alarming statistics of infection rates among young people inspired the project, "It's Time to Act: Mobilizing Young Canadians Around HIV/AIDS." The two-year project seeks to inform young people across Canada through interactive regional discussions, contributing to the draft Declaration on HIV/AIDS and a national HIV/AIDS resource book.

Young people took part in workshops held by Michelle Boutcher from the AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador (ACNL). One session was "HIV/AIDS: Everything You've Wanted to Know, But Were Afraid to Ask." Participants had discussions on topics they said they rarely disclose to friends, due to the stigma and prejudice surrounding HIV/AIDS.

A panel on the local and global face of HIV was well-received by youth who wanted to learn more on the issue. Dawn Armstrong, a medical student at Memorial University and the president of the International Health Action Group shared her story of helping the Malaika project in Tanzania, a relief organization acting on behalf of the communities affected by

HIV/AIDS. Chris Shortall, the coordinator of the GUYZ [Gay Urban Youth Zone] Project, described the program, run through ACNL. Shortall invited people to get involved in the project and raise awareness of the gay community in Newfoundland and Labrador through the GUYZ Project. Richard Neron, Outreach Coordinator at ACNL, currently on leave until September, was a panelist at the Forum. He shared his story of living with HIV for 18 years and working in the AIDS activist movement for 16 years. Neron's emotional account of stigmatization and ostracizing from the community touched the participants with this unforgettable story of hardship, perseverance and passion for community activism. Participants were moved by Neron's wish to make HIV a tangible disease that affects humans, rather than being kept a taboo topic not spoken of and containing no human side to it. Aside from taking part in informative and interactive workshops held by ACNL and the Sexual Health Centre, which concentrated on the basics of HIV and other STI prevention, youth had a chance to contribute their thoughts in draft of the Canadian Declaration on HIV/AIDS. Education reform beginning at an early age was a recommendation that young people pointed out as important in the prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.

In the words of one of the participants: "I went to a small public library in a rural community with

a physically disabled teen I work with. She was there to do research on some medical issues. While we were looking for books, I came across the only book in the library about HIV/AIDS. It was written in 1984 and is completely inaccurate today -- it stated that it was 'unknown' as to whether or not lesbians could contract HIV. If a youth comes in there to look up HIV/AIDS, this is the information he or she is getting and sharing with classmates. It's scary."

Throughout the Forum, young people showed great interest in continuing the legacy of awareness of HIV/AIDS in the community. At the event closing, participants discussed the creation of an action group to coordinate community presentations and workshops throughout the province.

It's Time to Act: Mobilizing Young Canadians project is headed by the UN Association in Canada and funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. To learn more, e-mail st.johns.forum@gmail.com or visit www.aidsactionsida.org

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wolfgangleather@yahoo.ca

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Transgender Diaries VII

By Denise Holliday

This has been three months of firsts that may be hard for some people to actually understand. I finally had a job interview lined up and waited out the week before with trepidation. The day arrived and I attended the meeting and training sessions. The whole time I was preparing for the ultimate payoff or put down or signs of negative reaction. While I did not pass as well as I might like, the people were very professional and never made one error in speaking to or referring to me in the correct gender. They finished training and then said they needed people for a weekend trip. Would we be interested? Well, since I was asked directly, I of course said yes. But inside I was hoping my nervousness was not showing. There were several issues to be considered. First was the aspect of my being transgendered, next, the job requires dexterity in the hand and I have some limitations due to an old accident. Then the bomb shell. This will be an overnight stay and the company pays for a room for each employee and it will be two employees to a room. So, to recap, it's a new job, requiring new skills and I am expected to share a hotel room with

another woman. This would technically be my first overnight stay with another woman sharing the same room as two women, where the two of us are complete strangers. We traveled to our destination and completed our days work. All the time I was thinking, who will be sharing the room, what will be her reaction and am I going to have problems. My oldest daughter told me she was praying for me. Well I guess the prayers were answered. Things went well and I survived. Actually the whole thing was a lot better than I anticipated. I even got a great five hours sleep.

I was to work several more days on and off before finally being invited to work on a long term job requiring out-of-province trips. It was days before the trip training started when I was approached and in a very nice way asked about my room preferences; perhaps I had one person in mind or would I prefer a single room?

Transgendered was never mentioned and the whole thing was done with extreme care and taste. I assured them that a room on my own or with another woman was perfectly agreeable as they see fit. This satisfied the company and I found some people unafraid to

share with me while others for their own reasons avoided such a situation.

While trying to understand their reticence to sharing a room

Every instance where I have stepped away from an issue and "made allowances," I ended nailed to the wall both emotionally and financially.

with me, I also felt somewhat personally rejected by their actions. Their reasons were never explained and it has been a while since I had a roommate. I suppose I should be grateful that the company is willing to keep me under these circumstances since they pay as much for me on my own as two women in one room. I love the

work and the people are everyday people with everyday problems. Unfortunately, I am now, for some, one of those problems. That is why my "Maritimes Transgender Workplace Solutions Workshops" are so important. A comment was made to me by a well-meaning work person that some people are not as accepting as others and I should make allowances. I am puzzled at what these allowances might be.

Every instance where I have stepped away from an issue and "made allowances," I ended up nailed to the wall both emotionally and financially. With most people issues are cut and dry. You drive or you don't drive, smoke or don't

smoke, but with a transgender issue, how do I stop being myself? What do I do when a well-meaning workmate insists on calling me "He" and "Him," expressing that they are aware of my past as justification for their using that terminology? How can you justify experience if you cannot admit to having worked in a male capacity in the past? I have been with this company about three months and while the company is very supportive, the day-to-day issues are laid with emotional time bombs that can catch you unawares. You never know when an innocent question or answer can stir up a firestorm and you never know if the next person you meet is going to challenge your very right to exist in and where you are as who you are.

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groups

MARITIME GAY WOMEN starting group in Moncton to make friends. Hope to meet people who ski, play cards, like nature, Maritime travel, golf, whatever you're interested in. If you're alone, or would like to meet new people, email makefriends@mail.com

Men's Reading Group meets regularly in Halifax. Come meet interesting people and discuss gay literature. Check our webpage at www.menread.50megs.com. Email menread@gay.com or contact 454-9111 for more information.

personals

WM leather kink motorcyclist seeks same. Have quality intriguing Langlitz jeans, breeches, motorcycle jackets, Wesco officer's and thigh length boots, officer's cap, masks etc. I am just under six feet in height, 165lbs with daz skinhead look. Seeking WM intellectual type, age 40 and above into motorcycles, leather and kink. lleather_2@hotmail.com

spiritual

CALLING ALL ANGLICANS An Integrity chapter has been formed in Nova Scotia. Call George 902-757-1706. For Propitiation (traditionalist

Anglicans) call Peter 416-487-7406 (evenings).

LESBIANS, GAY MEN, BISEXUALS will find themselves welcome by Quakers, who recognize that there is "that of God in every person." Call (902) 429-2904 for more info.

support

GAY FATHERS OF HALIFAX Is a peer support group for gay and bisexual men. We meet the 1st Wednesday of each month. We also get together for a monthly Pot Luck social. For more info contact Gordon @ 446-7793 or Gilles at 448-3565 or Email GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com or visit our website at http://groups.msn.com/GayFathersOfHalifax

HALIFAX RAINBOW SPEAKERS: Project Proud Lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgendered, two-spirited and queer volunteers wanted to participate in public education workshops. No special knowledge or experience necessary-training, practice and support provided. Let your rainbow shine! Ramona 902-494-6662, nspirg@is2.dal.ca

HALIFAX TRANSGUYS is a support group for transmen at any point in transition, locally and in Atlantic Canada. Please write: halifaxtransguys@yahoo.groups.ca for further info on our upcoming meetings and social events.

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Review

Wild Creatures,

collected stories of Sam D'Allesandro
 Edited by Kevin Killian
 Published by Suspect Thoughts Press (www.suspectthoughtspress.com)

Review by Ralph Higgins
 When Sam D'Allesandro died in 1988 at the age of 31 he was already a revered writer among a select group of artists. His death from AIDS cut short any hope of his attaining a larger audience. Now Suspect Thoughts Press has collected his stories, and, with the editing help of D'Allesandro's friend, poet Kevin Killian, is presenting them together for the first time.

It is hard to categorize the stories of Sam D'Allesandro; they are mesmerizing, puzzling, raw and powerful. The atmosphere is not dark so much as a kind of steady twilight. Most of the characters are lost - at least, in traditional terms - but view with suspicion those who would lead them to safety. D'Allesandro creates an immediate intimacy; swiftly drawing us into

these lives. The men of his stories are adrift in a boat - no destination but alive to every moment of the journey. Once begun these tales are impossible to stop reading. While giving the ragged appearance of hastily constructed tales told on the spur of the moment - the writing is spare, the vocabulary simple - each narrative is created with Mozartean

His handsomeness turned heads wherever he went

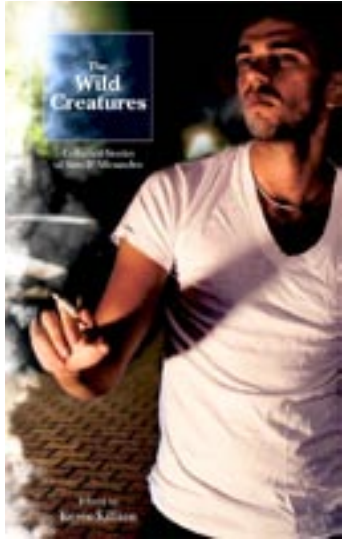
precision and the words glitter like diamonds in roadside gravel.

D'Allesandro brings to life characters whose mistrust and wary curiosity about sex, success and beauty reveal our own growing preoccupations. In 14 Days a hedonistic tourist pursues sexual sensation in Brazil. Giovanni's Apartment shows us a lonely recluse escaping into obsession and counting the days of his rebirth with his new lover. In All I Want Is To Die Famous a self-absorbed young man wiles away his time in the tanning salon pondering the last days of starlet Carol Wayne.

The stories, which range in length from a few paragraphs to a short novella, are written in the first person and read as monologues. Even when other voices are heard, they speak to us through the filter of the main character.

The recurring themes are home and love. The home we run from or long for when away, the home we've lost and most of all, the home we hope to find in another's company. Love is not quite attained, is fleetingly held, or is sometimes grasped but not recognized.

In his lifetime Sam D'Allesandro had the kind of physical beauty that was both a blessing and a curse. His handsomeness turned heads wherever he went but when the famous good looks became ravaged by AIDS he withdrew into his darkened apartment, unable to face the public. Now, nearly thirty years after his death, with the publication of *The Wild Creatures*, we are treated once again to the pleasure of his company.



Saint John Pride Week Schedule

Aug. 6th

Church Service, Centenary Queen Square United Church, 10:30 am, 215 Wentworth Street, Saint John, NB.; Family Bowling, West Side Bowlarama. 1-3pm, \$6.

Aug. 7th

Softball Game, Allison Grounds, Saint John, 7:30pm. \$2 per player; Hot or Not Gong Show, Club Montreal 10pm.

Aug. 8th

Flag Raising, Saint John, City Hall, 12pm noon; Wet 'n Wild Night, Club Montreal 10pm.

Aug. 9th

Music Night, Mahogany Manor 7pm, Live Entertainment by Joyce Boone, Sue & Wendy, Adrienne and the Shaggy Dogs, Food bank donations welcome; Amateur Night, Club Montreal 10pm

Aug. 10th

Movie Night, UNBSJ Oland Hall 104 at 7pm., monetary donations welcome; Colour Night, Club Montreal 10pm.

Aug. 11th

River Boat Cruise, Saint John Marina 6:30pm \$52; Karaoke, Club Montreal 10pm.

Aug. 12th

Breakfast 9am, Auction 11am, Mahogany Manor \$5; Pride Parade leaves Queen Square at 1pm; Family BBQ in Queen Square to follow the parade with Live Entertainment provided by Digby Wolf; PCR Dance, Hilton Trade & Convention Centre 9pm.

Tickets \$10 advanced, \$12 at the door.

Aug. 13th

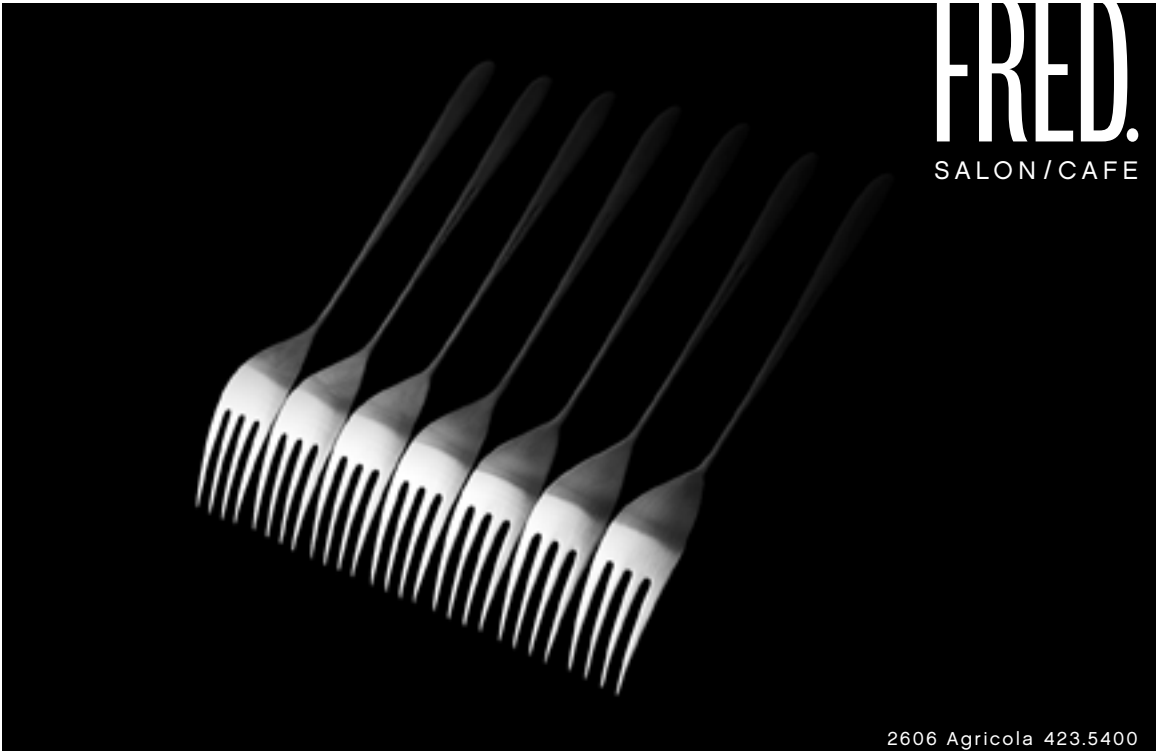
Drag Show, Club Montreal 10pm.

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