

WAVES

Free!

June 2010



Portrait of Artist Archambault

WAWVES

from darkness to DAWN

By Gabe Saulnier

On a beautiful spring afternoon we drove to Lawrencetown, NS to interview upcoming and inspirational artist Dawn Archambault. We were met by Dawn and her partner, Jenn, and their family of pets.

I've known Dawn for many years and I admit I was a bit surprised to find out she had recently made a major career change. Dawn the social worker, therapist, and humanitarian is now Dawn the artist.

Dawn has led a very full life thus far, volunteering her time to many organizations and institutions. She is the founder and former executive director of the Rainbow Association of Alternative Families

"The creative process itself is healing. It has a way of energizing, nurturing, teaching and mirroring our true selves."

Together She created the Alternative Families Awareness (AFA) training and certification program for day cares across the greater Toronto area. She's been the executive director of Horizons for Youth, helping to implement Toronto's first trans-inclusive policy/staff-training program for youth shelters. As a Halifax Regional Health project coordinator, she created the model for the program funded by Capital Health as the Pride Health program.

On top of these accomplishments, Dawn is also a parent and partner.

To explore how and why she came to this new stage in her life, we went for a walk in Dawn's backyard bordering the Annapolis River where, incidentally, she gets the inspiration for most of her paintings. In this relaxing setting she spoke of her journey and the difficult choices she has made to reach this new and exciting place, sharing the incidents that have led her from darkness to Dawn.

Dawn's darkness began with the oppression that most queer parents, partners, friends and family members

Dawn cont'd page 11



Another member of Dawn and Jenn's family looks on while the author's dog, Roxie, is briefly the centre of attention. Photo: Dan MacKay

Atlantic Canada Pride Season Set to Begin

Amherst

Amherst is ready to rock with its annual Pride Week, taking place from July 11 through 17. As was evident last year, Amherst and Cumberland County will once again burst with pride. Here is what we have in store.

July 11: The Family Pride Picnic at Tidnish Park. Barbecue and games. July 12: Raising of the Pride Flag and reading of the Pride Week Proclamation, hosted by the Town of Amherst. July 13: Movie Night at Heartz Hall, Ratchford Street. Ticket fee or donation to the local food bank. July 14: Downtown barbecue at 34 La Planche Street from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. July 15: Fruit Bowl Family Bowling from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Enjoy cosmic bowling at the Bowling Pin on Gerard Avenue in Amherst. July 16: Camp Out at members' cottages. July 17: Pride Dinner and Dance and the Old Warehouse Café on Havelock Street, Amherst. Price is \$20.00 per person or \$10.00 for dance only. Tickets for dinner must be purchased in advance. Tickets may be picked up at the Amherst Farmers Market on Electric Street or at the door.

For more information please

e-mail cumberlandpride@hotmail.com or phone Lisa at (902) 660-5043, Gerard at (902) 660-5004 or Sue at (902) 661-1874. Visit our website at cumberland-pride.sytes.net.

Moncton

Moncton Pride 2010 week will be held from August 15 - 22, 2010. The parade will be held on Sunday, August 22. Details to follows early June. Fierté 2010 est du 15 au 22 aout, avec la parade dimanche le 22 aout. Details a venir debut juin.

Yarmouth

South West Nova Pride meets the second Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m., in the parlour of the Beacon United Church, 25 Beacon Street, Yarmouth, NS.

We are pleased to announce our new website, www.swnovapride.com. Drop in and take a look, or check us out on Facebook, under "South West Nova Pride."

Our group is looking forward to a great summer, with lots of events to keep us busy and in touch. Some of our plans include beach parties, hik-

ing trails, barbeques, bowling, potluck suppers and much more.

If you would like to join in for all the fun, come to one our monthly meetings. For more information, e-mail info@swnovapride.com or call (902) 645-2914.

South West Nova Pride

South West Nova Pride meets the second Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m., in the parlour of the Beacon United Church, 25 Beacon Street, Yarmouth, NS.

We are pleased to announce our new website, www.swnovapride.com. Drop in and take a look, or check us out on Facebook: South West Nova Pride.

Our group is looking forward to a great summer, with lots of events to keep us busy and in touch. Some of our plans include beach parties, hiking trails, barbeques, bowling, potluck suppers and much more.

If you would like to join in for all the fun, come to one our monthly meetings. For more info, e-mail info@swnovapride.com or call (902) 645-2914.

1st Corner Brook Pride 2010

Corner Brook Pride will celebrate Pride this year by holding events over the period of the weekend of September 10 - 12.

This is the second year for a parade and party, but this is the first year that Corner Brook Pride is operating as a registered non-profit organization with a full schedule of events... in essence, many people are regarding Corner Brook Pride 2010 as the first "formal" Pride event.

The theme for this first year is "Splash," representing the waves of water that surround us, clapping up against The Rock in celebration. A special limited edition screen print is

being made for this occasion!

The weekend will kick off with the Pride welcome party on September 10. The Pride flag raising ceremony, parade, park festival and "Splash" Pride party main events will be held on September 11. The weekend wraps up with the Pride thank-you soirée on September 12.

The Pride Park Festival will be held at the Majestic Lawn in the downtown core of Corner Brook and will feature live music, a pet contest, Pride logo unveiling, merchandise booths and other fun activities for the entire community. We are excited to partner with Western Environment Centre's local Farmer's Market.

Fringe events include two art

Corner cont'd page 3

Regular Columns

Chef's Corner 10 • Groups & Services 12 • I Am What I Amherst 4 • ISCANs News 3 • Kibitz and Bitch 6 • Lesbian Soapbox Diaries • The Last Word 14 • You Tell Us 14

June Deadline: Friday, June 4 (first Friday of every month!)



HALIFAX PRIDE

JULY 18-25, 2010



new website!

www.halifaxpride.com

SUNDAY JULY 18

Dykes vs Divas

MONDAY JULY 19

Flag Raising

MON-FRI JULY 19-23

Queer Acts Theatre Festival

WEDNESDAY JULY 21

Songwriter's Circle

THURSDAY JULY 22

Boat Cruise

SATURDAY JULY 24

Parade, TD Concert & Community Fair

SUNDAY JULY 25

Family Picnic



Events Around Atlantic Canada

Corner cont'd from page 1

exhibitions, one sponsored by the Canadian Portrait Academy entitled "Pride Without Prejudice," which will run the month of September and will be held at the Arts & Culture Centre in Corner Brook; the second is a group exhibition entitled "Diversity," sponsored by the Bay of Islands Bistro.

The level of cooperation and involvement from government has been excellent. Premier Danny's office is most enthusiastic and plans Williams's are in the works for the provincial Progressive Conservative party's involvement. The provincial NDP has also expressed interest in getting involved.

We will soon announce our official web site and please visit our Facebook

Moncton's Newest GLBT Nightclub Opens

Moncton's newest nightclub, CLUB SO.HO, is now open and ready for you. CLUB SO.HO is a great place to come for cocktails, socializing and dancing the night away.

The bar is located at 151 Mountain Road—at the corner of Mountain Rd. and Church St.—and has ample parking available. The club itself has a relaxed atmosphere, with a capacity for 110 people. It will be open Wednesday through Sunday, with happy hours and specialty nights happening on a regular basis. Now is the time to get into and check out Moncton's latest and hottest new dance club.

SO.HO...what are you waiting for? See you there!

Let's Get Physical: A Fundraiser

Join us for a celebration of physical performance on May 31 at the North Street Church and help raise funds for independent theatre!

A showcase of mime, dance, burlesque and magic, this event is in support of The Doppler Effect's inaugural production "Logan and I," and we guarantee one memorable night of all-star entertainment.

Hosted by the inimitable Bill Wood, the show features a lineup including Rhys Bevan-John, Steven Bourque and Steph McNair, Ryan Doucette, Michael McPhee, Ruby Ranch and Mz Cock-Tail, and Monique Ryan.

Stay for the cash bar, the silent auction, and the post-show dance party with DJ Candy pants and one-woman electro sensation Jenocide.

The Doppler Effect is a brand new Halifax production company headed by Annie Valentina and Michael McPhee. Their first project, "Logan and I," is a new play by McPhee which will premiere at the Bus Stop Theatre in July.

We look forward to seeing you all at the fundraiser. The event is for those 19 and older. The cost is \$20.00 (if you can) or \$10.00 (if you can't).

Doors open at 8:00 p.m. and the show begins at 9:00 p.m. Don't be late!

You can find the event page on Facebook at Lets Get Physical.

MAC Leather XII Coming to P.E.I.

OK, Leatherfolk. Get yourselves ready for the twelfth annual Mr. and Ms. Atlantic Canada Leather contest. This year, for the first time, the competition is heading to Prince Edward Island. The event will be held from Friday, July 16 to Sunday, July 18, 2010.

This year's host hotel is the Rainbow Lodge in Vernon Bridge, PE, where the Meet and Greet Social and barbecue will be held on the night of Friday, July 16. The Leather contests will then be held on Saturday, July 17, from 9:00 – 11:00 p.m., at MacMillan Hall on the University of Prince Edward Island campus. Tickets are available in advance and at the door for both the contest and the P.E.I. Pride Dance Party.

For more information, check out the Events section of the P.E.I. Pride site at www.pride-pei.com. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact the event co-coordinator, Wayne Richard, at Waydo7@hotmail.com.

Moncton Pride: Blue Party

River of Pride – Rivière de fierté Inc., in collaboration with Triangles, continues the increasingly popular fundraising Colour parties.

The next part is BLUE, to be held on Saturday, June 5. Pride raffle tickets are on sale again until August 22, another opportunity to support your local pride activities. First prize again this year has been graciously donated by Ben and Ed from Creations Plus (www.creationsplus.weebly.com). Check out their boutique at each Colour party or at the Moncton Farmers Market on Saturdays. Second and third prizes have been donated by Triangles and Vincor Canada, respectively.

Volunteer Opportunity with The Youth Project

By Tracy Tidgwell

The Youth Project is a provincial non-profit based in Halifax providing programming, support, education and services for LGBTQ youth aged 25 and under—and their allies—

Cont'd next page

ISCANS News Reign X Off To a Great Start

By Ryan Stevens

The Imperial Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society is celebrating its tenth Reign here in Nova Scotia, with another exciting year of fun and fundraising. Their Most Imperial Sovereign Majesties, Emperor and Empress X Nate N! Bent and C. Leah Cruise, along with this year's Members of Parliament and the membership, have been working hard to present the first events of the year, which have both been well-received and well-attended.

Events so far this year have included Tough Drag, where the girls aren't as pretty as usual; the King and Queen Of Diamonds Pageant, where the Court crowned its new King and Queen of Diamonds, Michel Bolduc and Cherry Bomb; Investiture at Reflections, where all Court members received their new titles for Reign X; Double Your Trouble, with your Emperor, Empress II Mz. Vicki and friends; the Annual Court Appreciation BBQ and Rummoli Tournament;



and, rounding out May, the Golden Oldies show.

In short, things have been as busy as ever—but we can still use your support and interest over the summer months. We have even more fun and interesting things in store! Follow ISCANS on Facebook. Just search for "The Imperial Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society Inc. (ISCANS)" to join our group and receive invites to each and every one of our events. For more information about ISCANS, our charities and our history, visit our website at www.imperialcourtns.com.

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines:

Fridays: Jun 4, Jul 2, Aug 6: that is, the first Friday of each month (skipping January.) You can send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings

(Halifax): Mondays: Jun 7, Jul 5, Aug 9: help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, Blowers St Paper Chase, Halifax. All welcome, every meeting.

Magazine Layout (Halifax):

Jun 13, Jul 11, Aug 15: help build the paper – no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and joining us even once, or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM. Email us for location.

We are on the stands, in the mail, and online on the fourth Friday of every month.

Wayves On Line!

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

Our Cover:

Dawn Archambault at her easel in the Annapolis Valley. On April 25, Daniel MacKay and Gabe Saulnier visited Dawn to talk about her recent personal journey and her upcoming art show. Story on Page 1 by Gabe Saulnier, photos by Daniel MacKay, graphic design by Cam MacLeod.

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

Wayves

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

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

Advertising: Jim Bain, Advertising Manager, email at ads@wayves.ca or call 902-889-2229. Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space.

Circulation: use the email address below. Subscriptions, per year, are in Canadian dollars: \$20 13% HST = \$22.60 in Canada, \$30 in the United States, and \$35 elsewhere. Send cheque or money order to the postal address below.

Wayves

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I Am What I Amherst



By Gerard Veldhoven

I did not get a chance to write my column for the May issue, as I was hospitalized with gallbladder problems. Some complications arose and I simply ran out of time. However, the news from Cumberland County is always on a roll. Let me begin by

reporting on the Cumberland Pride Society's annual general meeting, held on April 19.

A new executive is in place. Sue Reid continues as chair and Chrystal Schipper became vice-chair. The treasurer's position was filled by Mel Power, replacing Norman Carter, who passed away in January. Lisa Hill-Power remains as the Society's secretary. I will be past-chair for the coming year.

Eldon Hay was the evening's guest speaker and in usual Eldon fashion his presentation on local members of the queer community was informative and fun. He is a giant in our community and a great ally. Sue Reid promised a great year ahead, with efforts to work more closely with other community organizations and schools in Cumberland County. She stressed the need for cooperation with the Town of Amherst and other

jurisdictions within Cumberland. I reported on the first part of the previous year, when I was chair, and as a group, we concluded we have made great strides, as well as enjoying an increase in membership.

As the Pride Committee chair I reported on the progress made thus far. I am thrilled to inform Wayves readers that all our events are in place.

On Sunday July 11, the Family Pride Picnic will be held at Tidnish Park, beginning at 11:00 a.m. On Monday, July 12, Amherst will host its noontime Pride flag-raising ceremony at town hall. A number of guest speakers will address the crowd and refreshments will be served. Last year, 100 people gathered for this important event.

A movie night will be held on Tuesday, July 13, at Heartz Hall. You can either purchase a ticket or make a donation to the local food bank.

On Wednesday, July 14, a barbecue will be hosted in the downtown area beginning at 11:00 a.m. We have two members with food-licensing certificates. The cost will be \$2 per person—refreshments are extra. The barbecue will be held at 34 La Planche Street in Amherst.

This year's Fruit Bowl will be held on Thursday, July 15. Come enjoy cosmic bowling at the King Pin Lanes on Gerard Avenue from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. A trophy will be presented.

On Friday, July 16, there will be camping at members' cottages. You're guaranteed a great time by the shores of the Northumberland Strait.

Our annual Pride Dinner and Dance will be held on Saturday, July 17, at the Old Warehouse Cafe on Havelock Street in downtown Amherst. Come for a cold roast beef dinner and then dance the night away. The price is \$20.00 per person,

or \$10.00 to attend the dance only. Tickets must be pre-purchased by Saturday, July 10, and may be picked up at the door or at the Farmer's Market on Electric Street in Amherst.

For details and tickets, please contact The Cumberland Pride Society at cumberlandpride@hotmail.com. Please visit our website at cumberland-pride.sytes.net. You can also phone Lisa at (902) 660-5043, Gerard at (902) 660-5004 or Sue at (902) 661-1874.

Hope to see you in Amherst for what promises to be the best Pride celebration yet.

Atlantic News Continued

since 1993. We are currently seeking volunteers. Contact us by e-mail at youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, or by phone at (902) 429-5429.

Some of the tasks that we need help with include general tasks, such as library-based work (book sorting and data entry), data entry for the Ally Card program, food-bank coordination, general repair, maintenance and cleaning; painting and yard work, and organizing spaces.

We also need organizers, chaperones and related volunteers for events such as Pride and prom.

We are always looking for workshops and programming ideas and facilitators. We need facilitating groups for our movie night (the third Wednesday of every month) our drop-in night (the first Tuesday of every month) our book club and for LGB groups which gather at satellite meetings around the HRM.

Our board of directors is also currently seeking new members.

The Youth Project can be found at 2281 Brunswick St. in Halifax. Please visit our website at www.youthproject.ns.ca.

Saint John is PUMP-ing

Renovations at PUMP Nightclub are well underway and nearing completion. We expect a late May or early June opening. We're making sure everything is done up just right to provide the community the best environment for fun, dancing and socializing.

PUMP nightclub is located at 507 Main Street in Saint John, NB, right across from the Lord Beaverbrook Rink. For those coming from out-of-town, there are two hotels within a two-minute walk from PUMP: the Fort Howe Hotel and Convention Center, and the Holiday Inn Express and Suites.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/PUMP-nightclub) and our website (www.pumpnightclub.ca) for details on our opening night.

Social Justice Award Call

The Beacon Award for Social Justice Literature is a new prize for an unpublished novel by a resident of one of the three Maritime provinces. Its purpose is to stimulate the creation, publication and dissemination of new works of fiction designed to ignite readers' passion for and understanding of social justice.

The main prize will include \$1,000 and publication by Roseway Publishing. The jury can choose not to award the prize if no manuscript is submitted that meets the judging criteria. Two "encouragement" prizes of \$500 will be available for the jury to award to promising writers. We particularly want to encourage writers from marginalized groups; for example, aboriginal, black, young, elder, gay/lesbian, transgendered, new Canadian writers, writers with a disability or psychiatric diagnosis. The jury will consist of three distinguished writers, critics and teachers involved in social justice literature.

The submission deadline is February 1, 2011. The announcement of prizes will be made in October 2011. For more complete information please view our website at www.beconaward.ca, email beconaward.info@gmail.com or write: Beacon Award, 1177 Hwy 1, Falmouth, Nova Scotia.

Don't Miss Out on Halifax Pride OUTBid!

Tickets are on sale for the fifth annual OUTBid! auction in support of the Halifax Pride Festival. OUTBid! takes place at the Commons Room of the Atlantica Hotel on Thursday, June 3, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10.00 in advance or \$15.00 at the door and can be purchased through the Pride Committee (call 431-1194) or at Venus Envy, 1598 Barrington Street in Halifax. Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended as capacity is quite limited. Tables of ten may be purchased as well.

The evening starts with a viewing and cocktail reception, featuring a custom potini bar, appetizers and a cash bar for guests. A special guest appearance by Cathy Jones will follow, and the main event will feature the always entertaining Neville MacKay as auctioneer.

Thousands of dollars worth of prizes are on offer, including: • Trip to Toronto on Via Rail • Atlantic Film Festival passes • Jazz Festival tickets • Restaurant gift certificates • Theatre • concert tickets • Spa certificates • Hotel stays



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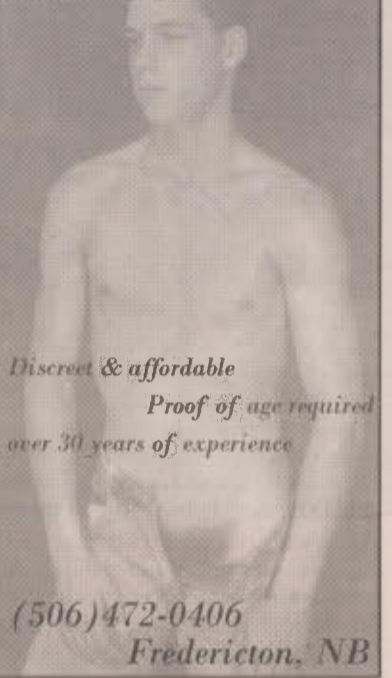


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THU: No Cover & DJ Legacy*

FRI: BOGO for \$2.75 (till midnight)*

FRI & SAT: Dance w DJs ...

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SUN: Happy Hour 3-9 PM, Drag Show 9-11 PM*

* Check the events calendar on our web site for details



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Lesbian Soap Box Diaries

By L. Connors

I hide behind big, strong, dyke-ish women. And I have been so fortunate with love. I have loved and been loved by some of the most amazing, strong, beautiful women. Except for one, who was neither strong nor dyke-ish... but I could not love her, so I hid with her as well. Hid from love itself.

I hid with or behind these women and I became the reflection of what I saw in their eyes because I was too afraid of my own reflection in the mirror. I let them shelter me from the world and shower me with their love. And I loved every minute of it.

I soaked up their love like a dry sponge. Until I was so saturated that I wept. AND I WEPT! I wept because I gave away little pieces of myself in the process, without ever being asked to, until there was nothing left of me to give. I wept because neither they nor I could possibly love the real me because none of us had ever met her. And then I ran. Ran from them and from myself. Afraid that I would no longer be able to keep up the charade, that my own wants, needs and desires were beginning to seep through the cracks in my façade.

I became the reflection of what I saw in their eyes because I was too afraid of my own reflection in the mirror.

And I waited breathlessly for a woman who did not come. And I missed her and ached for her like some distant memory from infancy. I waited for that woman, though she never came. So I loved those that resembled her. Strong. Confident. Willing to fight off the world for my

honour. The one who would love me unconditionally, who knew my heart was always in the right place even when my words or actions seemed to imply otherwise. My whole life I have felt as though I was drifting unanchored to this world. Searching endlessly for her, as if she were on a different plane entirely. Clinging to those that made me feel grounded, yet unable to fully commit to any of them. Unconsciously still waiting.

Today I caught a glimpse of her, out of the corner of my eye, in a restaurant window. She was sitting

with friends and laughing ridiculously loudly at life itself. She was anything but grounded or anchored. As if the world were her playground and she had not a care in the world. She had a beauty that radiated from the inside out. She was absolutely intoxicating, and, I fell madly in love with her instantly.

Today, I stopped waiting and searching for her. I stopped running and hiding from her. Today I simply smiled back at my own reflection in the glass window knowing that I had found her and I would never lose her again.

New Magazine: Gaze

Atlantic Canada's GLBT community will boast an additional voice this summer with the July launch of Gaze Magazine. The Halifax-based glossy is set to hit the streets just prior to Halifax Pride, says editor John Williams, and will be published ten times a year.

Lockeport-raised Williams, who studied history and political science at Mount Allison University, says the free, ad-based publication aims to be informative and fun without being whiny and/or frivolous.

"By combining elements from popular GLBT periodicals like OUT, The Advocate, Curve and Australia's DNA with those found in more mainstream publications like Details and People, we hope Gaze will appeal to a variety of audiences—young and old, gay and straight. Gaze aims to not only embrace diversity and celebrate all the fantastic things our queer culture encompasses, but to further promote tolerance and understanding among those who may still be struggling to comprehend it." Williams says profiles of visible and highly successful members of Atlantic Canada's GLBT community will be a Gaze mainstay and that readers can also look forward to a regular dose of "eye candy."

Though Williams has worked for several years in publishing—he outed himself in Frank Magazine last year amid concerns someone else was

preparing to do it for him—Gaze is his first foray into the gay print world.

"It's both exciting and scary," says Williams, who admits the announcement of this new publishing venture has raised a few eyebrows. "Electronic media is growing by leaps and bounds, so when you tell people you're planning to launch a new paper publication, they look at

you like you've lost your mind. But I think it's still a viable print medium. Of course, you have to be on-line if you want to succeed and we fully intend to have a user-friendly website."

As for Gaze Magazine's spon-

sorship of an East Coast Rainbow Softball Association team, Williams says putting the new mag's imprint on a team jersey was a no-brainer. "I sponsored the league last year, so when I was asked this year if I would

like to increase my level of support, I said sure. It makes perfect sense to support people and organizations from the very community you're writing about."

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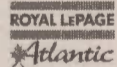
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MONCTON RIVERVIEW DIEPPE

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Image: Colin Campbell, *The Woman from Malibu*, 1976



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Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Hey Tom,

Spring continues to be inconsistent here. Summer one minute, cold and rainy the next. I've resorted to barbecuing in my parka. Ever try to turn over a chicken breast with tongs when you're wearing mittens? Okay, slight exaggeration. In between dismal gray skies there have been enough sunny breaks for apple trees to bloom and flowers to run riot in my garden. Even Thaddeus, my garden gargoyle, looks quite content surrounded by forget-me-nots and the bleeding heart.

I had occasion recently to spend some time in a hotel room. No, I mean, a hotel room booked for me, not me showing up at someone else's rented chamber. Not that that is necessarily a bad thing, either. Anyway, I was in my hotel room—very nice, you know with crisp sheets and fluffy towels—and I was struck by how odd an experience it is. It is home and yet not home. And there is something quite erotic about hotel life. One of my exes used to get quite randy whenever we stayed in a wayside inn. Nice memories. It always seems like an adventure somehow.

So, right after I've checked in, I'm going through the drawers of the night stand, stashing away the hotel stationary and pens in my overnight bag, when I notice that lying next to the Gideon Bible is a book called the Teachings of the Buddha, in English and Japanese. Now, I call that very progressive and multicultural, don't you? As I was standing under the shower a short time later, lathering up my hair with the green tea and cucumber shampoo provided for guests, I pondered what this meant. Had the books been brought in for a conference on mindfulness? This was PEI, for goodness sake, not Vancouver or some other urban centre. Charlottetown does not, as far as I know, have a Chinatown. Although to be fair, I should not assume that only Asians would be Buddhists. Still, it remains something of a mystery to me.

All in all, quite a pleasant experience, this hotel sojourn. The only thing which would have made it perfect would have been hot and cold running bellboys. Ah well, one can't have everything. One young man who worked behind the front desk had the handsome, dark, smouldering looks that just told me he would be a firecracker in the sack. Sadly, this remains my conjecture. A theory yet to be tested.

The only drawback was the preponderance of mirrors in the suite: big double ones on the closet doors, a large one opposite the bed, half a wall of mirrored tile in the bathroom. Altogether too many mirrors for a naked middle-aged man who hasn't exercised enough lately. Just getting up for a pee in the night became a

rather startling experience. Not at all the kind of self-reflection I like to indulge in.

So, I'm lying in bed one night idly flipping through the television channels while munching on the chocolates I purloined from the housekeeping cart which had been left momentarily unattended in the hallway when I discovered one of the available selections was porn. Straight porn of course, which was rather disappointing, but then I noticed that, since I had the mute on, the close captioning had kicked in. I was watching subtitles for a sex film! Hysterical, Tommo! Who knew that someone had to type in things like: [moaning] and "Oh yeah. Yeah, that's it. Oh, don't stop!" or [groaning with pleasure]. Normally when I'm watching porn I hardly notice the dialogue. Now I tried to imagine the person whose job it is to type up the words and sounds for porn films.

Picture coming home at the end of the day and having your partner inquire solicitously, "Hard day at work, honey?"

"Crazy busy. I think I wore out the 'c' and the 'k' on my keyboard today."

Do they also have descriptive video for the blind? It's one of those crazy jobs that you never think of. I know it never came up on Career Day at school. I would have remembered.

My career counsellor in high school was a short, stocky older woman best known for her walk which resembled the waddle of a duck with haemorrhoids. Our whole class did one of those inventory test things for aptitudes or interests which was supposed to tell us what our future would hold. Sort of a scholastic fortune teller. When my results came back I ripped open the envelope, full of anticipation only to discover that Mrs. Duck had somehow folded or tabulated the findings incorrectly so that my two highest scores were furrier and airline pilot. I did once have sex with a pilot on a fur rug, but I couldn't make a career of it even though he said he thought I was gifted. Men tend to say things like that when they're tied up.

Oh, the sun has come out again! Time to get a little sunshine on the winter white bod. At this rate I'll be lucky to get a freckle.

Love ya!

Crawford

Women's Health

by Valerie Windsor

Over the years, I have talked with many lesbians who do not get regular medical checkups, who have never had a pap smear or a breast exam. Why? I don't know but I do know this for sure; going to see a doctor for regular checkups can save your life! Getting past our fears will seem small in comparison to a serious health problem. It is also important to remember that often our medical concerns are not serious but minor and treatable and you might actually start to feel better.

A few years ago, a friend insisted that I feel a lump in her breast while we were playing pool at a woman's dance bar. It is not every day I get asked to feel a woman's breast in public so fearing the worst I hesitantly did what she asked. The lump was big, about the size of a strawberry but a little flattened and she had been ignoring it. I begged her to go see a doctor and she did. Unfortunately, she had breast cancer.

If you are worried about anything going on with your body, you should see a doctor. We need to get medical help when needed and we need to take preventive measures to ensure ongoing good health. We are coming out of the closet in droves and at all ages. We have access to good medical care and we deserve the best that society can offer us.

There is lots of information directed at men's health and for very good reasons but women we need to take care of ourselves as well. We often feel invisible and sometimes invincible. We know we are not stereotypical women but that doesn't mean

that we are immune to heart disease, cancer, arthritis or any other illness. We are a minority and often marginalized but ultimately we are responsible for our own health. I understand the fears of homophobia and a reluctance to disclose our true selves but there is information available to help guide us. The Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition has a fantastic website with lots of information: www.rainbow-health.ca.

In Nova Scotia, we have prideHealth which provides access to health services for the rainbow community. Their website is www.pride-health.com, telephone (902) 240-7065 or email info@pride-health.com. The IWK has Women's Health Community Clinics, telephone (902) 470-6755.

There are Sexual Health Clinics in Newfoundland and Labrador as well as Halifax: www.halifaxsexualhealth.ca www.nlsexualhealthcentre.org.

In Saint John, see saintjohn.cioc.ca/record/HDC1124 and look for information on St. Joseph's Women's Health Centre.

In PEI, please check with the Family Health Centre near you: www.gov.pe.ca/health/index.php3?number=1020492.

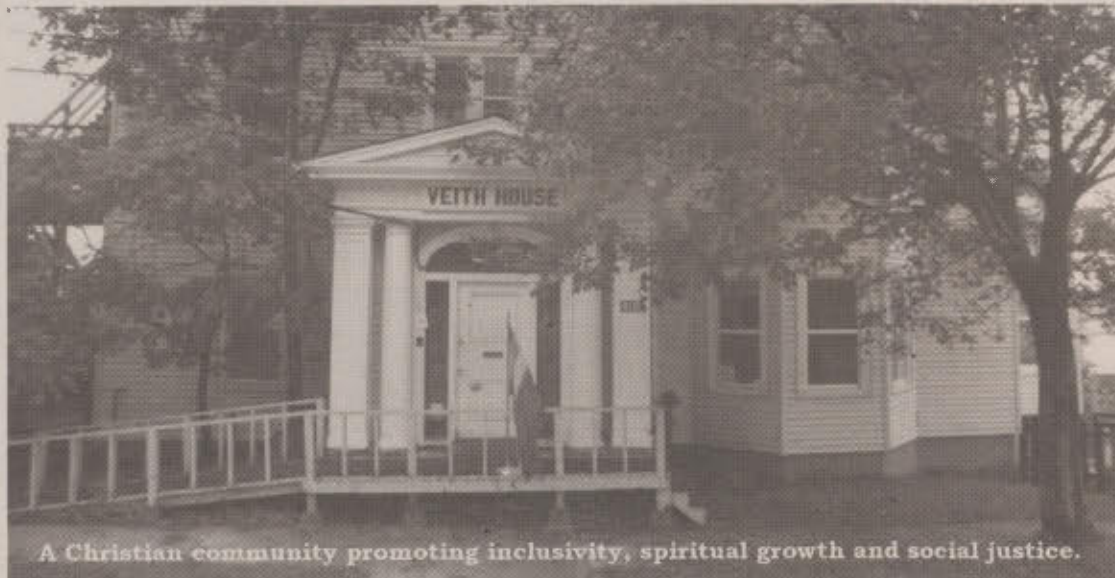
You have nothing to lose by getting informed and everything to gain. Your doctor may have answers to your worries and give you peace of mind. Please consider this the encouragement you need to take care of your physical and mental health. If you are worried about a medical problem, please call your doctor for an appointment today or look for a women's health centre in your area.

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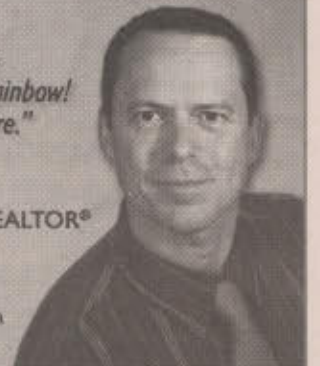


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Moncton's Gregarious Green Party; Blue Party Next



Greg LeBlanc, Secretary/Treasurer, greeting guests at green party selling our popular colored glow sticks.

Photos courtesy: River of Pride – Rivière de fierté

River of Pride – Rivière de fierté Inc., in collaboration with Triangles, continues the increasingly popular fundraising Colour parties.

The next part is BLUE, to be held on Saturday, June 5. Pride raffle tickets are on sale again until August 22, another opportunity to support your local pride activities. First prize again this year has been graciously donated by Ben and Ed from Creations Plus (www.creationsplus.weebly.com).

Pride," also contains regular updates.

We require several volunteers for the success of these events, so please step up to the plate and offer us a couple of hours. There are still Board of Directors vacancies. Contact us through our website or e-mail riverofpride@hotmail.com.

As Pride season approaches we would like to wish all brothers and sisters, busy organizing their respective celebrations, the best of luck. We



Guy Ouellette, Volunteer Membership Coordinator selling green hearts building our Pride Wall of Fame.

salute your dedication for our common cause. We are hoping to have representatives from River of Pride attend as many Pride celebrations as possible and hope you can come celebrate with us in August.

We would also like to thank all participants and sponsors for making our movie night, commemorating the International Day against Homophobia, a success. Your input into how we should commemorate Coming Out Day and International Transgender Day of Remembrance, coming up this fall, would be appreciated.

com). Check out their boutique at each Colour party or at the Moncton Farmers Market on Saturdays. Second and third prizes have been donated by Triangles and Vincor Canada, respectively.

Moncton Pride Week

This year's Moncton Pride Week will be held August 15 – 22. The Parade and celebration are planned for Sunday, August 22. Programming details are forthcoming on our website, www.fiertecanadapride.ca. Our Facebook page, "Moncton's River of



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Anita's Pic



I took the photo a number of years back while touring around Nova Scotia in Ingonish Beach, Cape Breton. The photo represents a typical thing that I would do and I'm sure many others would do by throwing your shoes off to run along the beach, feeling the wonderful feeling of the warm sand and salt water on your feet. Simply put, "Freedom!"
Photo by: Anita Martinez

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IDAHT Halifax: LGBT & Trans Community Friends & Allies Speak Out!

May 17: Over 400 strong attended the IDAHT rally at Halifax Grand Parade Square sponsored by NSRAP with special thanks to NSRAP E.D. Hugo Dann. Rally MC was Catherine Meade. Several guests spoke at the rally including NS Minister of Justice Ross Landry, Allies at Dalhousie representative Mike Gillis, District 14 HRM Councillor Jennifer Watts, Hon. Scott Brison-King-Hants, Rev. Linda Yates from St. John's United Church and Rev Jennifer Paty, MCC Safe Harbour Halifax. There were performances by DaPoPo Theatre Youth Ensemble and The Women Next Door. Youth Project staff and youth of the Gat Straight Alliance network led the crowd in some inspiring cheers.



IDAHT Photos by Anita Martinez & Randall Perry

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Left: Ryan McGrath and his Band perform at Menz Bar, Halifax. Ryan is raising funds toward the production of his upcoming new CD: Cooper Hatch Paris scheduled to launch in July 2010. Above: As part of the fundraiser 'RyanMcGrath custom-undies' were on sale in a Pride flag range of colours for \$30. At press time there were still a few pair available! Want to know more about how to support Ryan's efforts, his next gig or regional tour dates? Check out ryanmcgrath.blogspot.com or visit his Facebook page. Photos: Anita Martinez



Halifax Pride Fundraiser CoHoMo - was a musical homage to Gay Icons was held at the Company House, Halifax May 15-16. Top: Adam Lambert and George Michael. Left: Boy George. Photos: Anita Martinez

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Cape Breton LGBTs Mark IDAH with Strength

By Hugo Dann
No matter how it plays out in court, our community knows that the assault that happened last February to a young teacher as he left Sydney's monthly LGBT dance was a hate crime. It was important to us that the community in Cape Breton knew that they didn't stand alone; that a hate crime inflicted on one LGBT Nova Scotian affects us all no matter where we live. NSRAP Chair Mathew Numer and I drove from Halifax on Saturday morning. We wanted to make sure we got to Sydney in time to catch a flash mob that was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. that evening. We left Halifax under cloudy skies but as soon as we hit Auld's Cove the sun

started to make an appearance. By the time we reached the cabin where we were staying, the day was clear but cold. It had been many years since I'd been to the island and I was awestruck by its beauty. We had a few minutes to unpack and admire the bald eagles flying overhead before we hopped back into the car to head for the mall, arriving just in time. Walking among the Saturday shoppers, we suddenly heard the unmistakable sound of the Jackson 5's "Can You Feel It?" There were about 16 young people, some in rainbow colours, dancing in tight formation. There's something wonderful about the looks on people's faces when something so seemingly

spontaneous and joyful breaks into their daily routine. The youth from the Gay Straight alliance were great and while they danced, someone handed out flyers advertising the next day's Rally Against Homophobia and Transphobia. Sunday dawned clear but cold, with a fierce wind that seemed to be blowing straight into the band shell at Sydney's Wentworth Park. It didn't seem to affect the turnout though, as close to a hundred people (and Lola, the beagle) were present for some speeches and a march through the downtown. As former Halifax Pride

Chair, I had often been in email contact with Peter Steele, Chair of Pride Cape Breton, but we had never met in person. I was impressed by Peter's eloquence and how he presented Cape Breton as a truly inclusive society, but one where there still remained isolated pockets of intolerance. Not so different from Halifax I thought. The director of the Sydney YMCA also spoke, as did Christine Porter of the AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton. Matt Campbell, the teacher and choreographer of the Flash Mob, spoke about how being an activist wasn't anything to be ashamed of. The youth

repeated their dance and then we all trooped off to march through downtown Sydney. Passing cars honked and cheered their support. I had to agree with Peter Steele's assessment of his community as welcoming and supportive. We were impressed by the level of business and organizational support and we want to commend Sana Kavanagh for an excellent job in organizing the events. The LGBT community in Cape Breton is strong and welcoming and I can't wait to get back for Cape Breton Pride. I just hope it's warmer!

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Chef's Corner



Spring in Nova Scotia! What an incredibly difficult time of year for chefs. Not much is growing yet, and the root cellar is rootless. Despair not, for there are a few early treasures popping up. By the time this article is published fiddlehead season will be coming to an end and we will be smack dab in the middle of local asparagus season. Caribou Island is known for its fantastic crop of beautiful large steamed crisp asparagus. There are many ways to prepare these wonderful gifts of nature, but my favourite is to grill them. The bottom part of the stem is somewhat woody

and unpleasant and should be removed prior to cooking. Just toss them in a light coating of olive oil and lay them on the grill on high heat. They will only take 1 to 2 minutes per side. When they are done, lay them on a pre-heated plate season with salt and pepper. Depending on your taste, you may like to eat them straight up, or with your favorite vinaigrette. I like to serve them with a lemon scented hollandaise sauce. Anyway you like them just make sure not to miss out on this gem of the season.

Chef Darren is Chef/Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro 1537 Barrington St., Halifax, NS. Chives is a member of "La Chaine des Rotisseurs" world gastronomical association. Awarded 2 of 3 stars in "Where to Eat in Canada" since 2005 and recently chosen for having the "Best Cuisine" in N.S. by "Taste of Nova Scotia Awards 2009." Reservations call (902) 420-9626. www.chives.ca.

Lemon Hollandaise Sauce

Ingredients

4 egg yolks	zest and juice of 1/2 lemon	salt and pepper to taste
1 lb. unsalted butter (clarified)	2 dashes hot sauce	

Method

1. Bring a double boiler to the boil, remove from heat, remove the bowl part of your boiler, place the yolks in the bowl and whisk vigorously until they froth and thicken slightly.
2. At this point place the bowl back on its double boiler base to receive residual heat, and whisk in the warm clarified butter in a stream emulsifying the yolks.
3. When all of the butter is incorporated you should have what looks like a yellow mayonnaise. Add the lemon and seasonings and pour over the warm grilled asparagus.

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Hats Off to Handsome Butches, Boys and Trans Guys

(In response to Ivan E. Coyote's "Hats Off to Beautiful Femmes")

By Shannon Webb-Campbell

To all of the handsome, boyish, charming butches and trannies out there: I would like to extend my thanks to you.

It is to you that I bat my lashes and pout my lip-gloss-coated lips. It is for you that I sometimes don't wear underwear and push up my bra just so. It is to you that I smile, flirtatiously, with a twinkle in my eye. It is for you that I raise my chin and cock my eyebrow.

I know that sometimes you feel the world is just too much—that you are in need of a soft place to land. My body is soft and my heart is bold. These strong, femme arms long to hold you, to cradle you.

You make me feel visible in a world that sees me as just another girl—one to be measured and deemed unfit. I know that you see me—the real me, all of me. You never question why I am not dieting or quizzically wonder if I am, in fact, someone's trophy wife. You know the wiser.

I see you watching me on the bus, at the gym, in the bar and at the park. Your shy grin and eyes glued to the floor give it all away.

I won't stop looking at you. There is an understanding that transpires when your eyes meet mine; a language without words. You are my desire, pure and embodied.

All my life I have been told that I have a pretty face. I'd be beautiful if only I could lose some weight, grow a little taller, get a nose job and have larger breasts. I lived my life feeling not good enough until you came along.

You look at me with intention, longing and admiration. Please don't stop looking at me. No one else sees me the way you do.

Life is difficult for us both. Some days I can hide and you can't. I know this is hard. It's hard for me, too. When you feel invisible, it is as if you don't exist—as if you are nothing, no one. We chart the territory known as No Man's Land. You are always visible, always seen—most often for what you lack rather than for who you are.

You are my kind of man: boyish, s/he, butch, hir, trans, genderqueer. I love your boots, even if they are clunky and weigh you down. I want you to know that I appreciate that

you are wearing them. You look hot. I love you in them. They look great with your ripped jeans, dress pants and boxer shorts. If it makes you feel any better, my feet are killing me, too.

I know you are looking at my cleavage. I like it. I can see you tentatively staring into my eyes, though mostly gazing at the pendant wedged between my breasts. I placed it there to distract you. Tricky, I know. It's cute that you talk about the colour of my eyes when you want to kiss me. Please kiss me.

I want to thank you for being butch, boyish, androgynous and trans. I want to thank you for being visibly queer all day long, despite all the guff society gives you. I know it's hard. I know you had no choice. You are brave. You are safe. You are sexy. You are loved.

It is within you that I recognize myself. I feel beautiful and whole. We are our own fucked-up version of Romeo and Juliet, without all of the clichés and patriarchy. Sometimes you want to play Juliet and I get to be Romeo. I like how we can blur traditional plot lines and keep a romantic narrative, despite the odds.

Thank you for escorting me to my door to make sure I get home all right. I like that you linger every time, careful never to assume that I'll invite you in, even though I always do.

"We are our own fucked-up version of Romeo and Juliet, without all of the clichés and patriarchy."

Thank you for respecting me and my need for space. Thank you for putting your arm around the small of my back when we're in line at the movies. Thank you for holding me before I sink into sadness. You recognize my triggers before I see them myself.

Thank you for embracing me when I need an extra hour to get ready in the morning, steal the blankets and leave lipstick marks on your cheek. Thank you for loving me for me—for seeing all that I am and all that I desire. Thank you for letting

me in, allowing room for me to love you. Thank you for loving me, every inch of me.

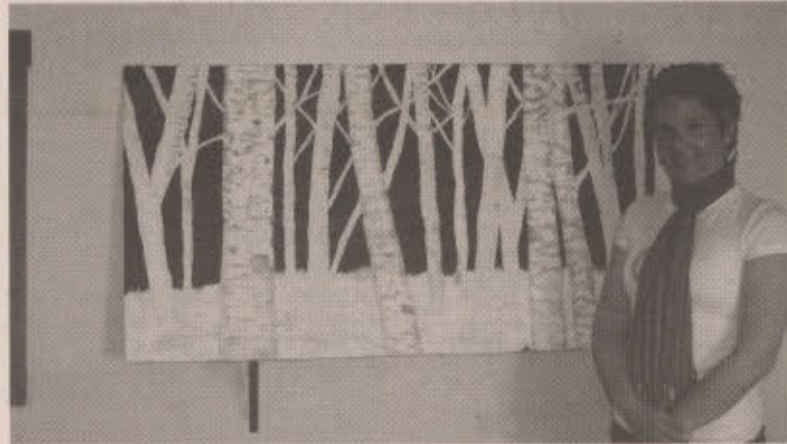
Thank you for smelling like smoke and earth.

I want you to know I love your laugh lines, your toughness, your shyness, your uncertainty, your too-tight jeans, your worn-and-tattered hoodie, your bound chest, your peach fuzz, your underarm hair and your sternum. I love it all.

I want you to know that I love you, even when you don't love yourself. I'm learning to love myself more in these moments. It's not easy. Sometimes history threatens to overwhelm and consumes the present. The ocean you once called forth from within me hasn't dried up forever; it's just a momentary gulch. My body is a vessel. I love to feel you move through me.

Thank you for asking what colour my dress is and for showing up in a matching shirt and tie. You look so handsome. Together, we are a life force. When seen through your eyes, I am a whole person, gorgeous and transformed. Turns out I am the belle of the ball after all.

Dawn cont'd from page 1



Visitors to the show will see depictions of trees in many different forms; they are a common theme in Archabault's work. Photo: Dan MacKay

find in everyday life—the discrimination, abuses and self-doubts perpetuated by mainstream society. This experience helped Dawn develop the inner strength, hope and determination to conquer her fears (or what society sees as fears). She did this by stepping back and working on the most important person in her life: herself. For many years Dawn has helped others to cope with everyday life.

Now she has found, within her own work, a place of thought, solace and gratitude, and a seemingly unconventional treatment plan, of which she is an advocate—Art Therapy.

I asked Dawn, "What is Art Therapy?" Her answer is robust and thorough:

"Art teaches us to express how we feel. It acknowledges that feelings are mutable and that we contain the power to mutate the depths of our emotional wounds into the core of our art. In this way, art always allows us to move out of the role of victim and to become empowered to release

feelings and emotions in safe, creative, non-intrusive ways.

What takes place at an Art Therapy session? People generally stop drawing/painting around the age of 10 often because they had been

told or believed their art-making [was] inferior. In Art Therapy, no artistic skills are required. The important thing is to stop thinking and let your body and intuition pick out art materials that

appeal to you, and to just start making art. Do not think! There are no rules about art-making and anything you do is fine. You'd be surprised how images bring elements of self-awareness and discovery, improving your relationship with yourself. The creative process itself is healing. It has a way of energizing, nurturing, teaching and mirroring our true selves. It is soothing and facilitates expression of thoughts and feelings not expressible in words. It goes beyond pain and anguish and taps into our inner spirit.

The session often begins with relaxation techniques and/or guided

imagery, and is accompanied by music or movement. As people become attuned to and listen to their inner self, they spontaneously paint from the unconscious.

The second part of the session involves the processing of art images. Each person is considered as unique, with a creative potential towards healing. The art image is considered a phenomenon with its own structure and voice. Through intention and focus on the image, [the image] takes on meaning and connects the art-maker to an inner experience. People are often surprised at what they come up with. Life transitions are explored, as well as issues such as grief and loss, relationships, body image, identity, creativity blocks, and past abuse and trauma. Body reactions occur as emotions are experienced and released. We begin to see the connection between mind, body, emotions and disease.

Art Therapy is effective for people of any age. In my practice I work with individuals, couples, children, families or groups in settings such as counselling agencies, schools, treatment centers, rehabilitation facilities, hospitals, correctional institutes and elder-care locations. I work one-on-one with clients or as part of an adjunct to a holistic team of therapists."

For more information or to book an appointment, contact Dawn at dawnarchabault@gmail.com. All fees are determined on a sliding scale, based on income and ability to pay for service.

Dawn will open her first art show and exhibition at LaVilla, 2594 Agricola Street in Halifax. The grand opening is June 11 from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. The show will run June 12 from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m., and June 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with part of the proceeds will go to support the Transition House Association of Nova Scotia (THANS).

AIDS NB Scotiabank Walk for Life

AIDS New Brunswick is committed to promoting and supporting the health and well being of persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS in New Brunswick. However, to ensure the effective development and delivery of our programs and services, we need a significant amount of resources. If you would like to participate or become a sponsor for our Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life, please contact Jennifer at Jennifer@aidsnb.com or - 459-7518.

Walking is an excellent way to stay in shape. It's also one of the best ways for communities to collectively support a favourite charity. This year we invite you to put on your best walking shoes/sneakers and take part in the Scotiabank AIDS Walk For Life 2010, September 11, 2010 in two separate locations.

• Bathurst, NB – The Wellness Way Route, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. For more information/details please contact Catherine Doucet at the AIDS NB Office - 549-1215.

• Fredericton, NB – Officer's Square (Garrison District), 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. We will also be holding a 5 km Red Ribbon Run, sponsored by The Running Room. For more information/ details please contact Jennifer Dion at the AIDS NB Office - 459-7518.

AIDS NB Bathurst Office opens a new location: 270 Douglas Ave., Suite 101 of The Keystone Building. Our office provides the latest information such as pamphlets, posters, videos, magazines and other resources on blood born pathogens and sexually transmitted infections (STI's). Our services also include providing pres-

AIDS NB cont'd on page 13

Beacon Award for Social Justice Literature: Call for Submissions

The Beacon Award for Social Justice Literature is a new prize for an unpublished novel by a resident of one of the three Maritime provinces. Its purpose is to stimulate the creation, publication and dissemination of new works of fiction designed to ignite readers' passion for and understanding of social justice.

The main prize will include \$1,000 and publication by Roseway Publishing. The jury can choose not to award the prize if no manuscript is submitted that meets the judging criteria. Two "encouragement" prizes of \$500 will be available for the jury to award to promising writers. We particularly want to encourage writers from

marginalized groups; for example, aboriginal, black, young, elder, gay/lesbian, transgendered, new Canadian writers, writers with a disability or psychiatric diagnosis. The jury will consist of three distinguished writers, critics and teachers involved in social justice literature.

The submission deadline is February 1, 2011. The announcement of prizes will be made in October 2011. For more complete information please view our website at www.beaconaward.ca, email beaconaward.info@gmail.com or write: Beacon Award, 1177 Hwy 1, Falmouth, Nova Scotia.

WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

Atlantic Canada

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

AtlanticCanadianLesbians: Online Group For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces.

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

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

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

Healing Our Nations: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. 1.800.565.4255 email: director@access-wave.ca web: www.hon93.ca (Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 15 Alderney Dr., Suite 3, Dartmouth, NS. B2Y2N2

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

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

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

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

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

Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine!. email: submissions@wayves.ca web: www.wayves.ca (Deadline: the first Friday of every month; Editorial meeting: the Monday following that; layout the Sunday following that. Email us to be put on our notification list!)

New Brunswick (506)

Fredericton

AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick: committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. Needle exchange located in office at 65 Brunswick Street Fred. E3B 1G5. 459-7518 email: jennifer@aidnsb.com web: www.aidnsb.com (Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays: Email list-serv of events/news in the Fredericton for gblt men and women. email: jamesw@stu.ca

Integrity: Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. email: integrityfredericton@live.ca web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46207976587, meets 3rd Sunday (4:00pm) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton at 874 York Street

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. (506) 455-7190 email: pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/Pflagfredericton/, meets 4th Tuesday (7-9 pm (except December: 2nd Tuesday)) at Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton 874 York St. Fredericton NB E3B 3R8

Spectrum: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unb.ca/clubs/spectrum (Meets Fridays during the school year. See webpage for location.)

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

Centre at the SUB

Moncton

AIDS Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 506-859-9616 email: sidaidsm@sida-aidsmoncton.com web: www.sida-aidsmoncton.com at (506-859-4726 fax) 80 Weldon St, Moncton, NB, E1C 5V8

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

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

River of Pride-riviere de fierte INC. of Greater Moncton: The organization meets regularly, to discuss upcoming events and activities, everyone is welcome to attend. check out time / location posted on the website. Media and general inquiries, including registration of volunteers and parade participation, can be made from the website or by email. email: riverofpride@hotmail.com web: www.fiertemonctonpride.ca (See webpage for schedule.)

Safe Spaces Moncton Region: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 506-854-3049

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

Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area)

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

Sackville NB/ Amherst NS

Catalyst: Catalyst, Mount Allison's Queer-Straight Alliance, provides support & information for all Mt. A students, staff, and faculty through meetings, seminars, and social events. Everyone is welcome. email: catalyst@mta.ca web: www.mta.ca/clubs/catalyst/ (Catalyst meets approximately every week from Sept-Dec and Jan-April. For meeting info contact the president at catalyst@mta.ca or the Students' Administrative Council at sac@mta.ca.)

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBT-T2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm No meeting in July and August.) at Meeting location alternates monthly between Sackville: United Church Parlours, 112 Main Street, and Amherst: Maggie's Place, 12 LaPlanche Street

Saint John

Affirming United Church - Centenary - Queen Square United Church: invites you to worship!. 506-634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com web: www.cqsunited.ca, meets every Sunday (10:30am) at 215 Wentworth St, Saint John, NB

AIDS Saint John: To improve the quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV/AIDS, and to reduce the spread of HIV through education and a needle exchange program. Call the office for details. 652-2437 email: aidssj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aids-saintjohn.com

Gay Men's Supper Club: web: www.port-cityrainbowpride.com, meets 3rd Saturday (See webpage for more information) at 220 Germain St. Saint John New Brunswick

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

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

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

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

The UNBSJ Q-Collective: A social and support organisation for UNBSJ students, staff and faculty. 506-648-5737 email: QCollect@UNBSJ.ca web: www.unbsj.ca/clubs/qcollective (The UNBSJ Q-Collective is interested in hearing from other university LGBTQ organisations and would like to possibly meet or collaborate.) at Various locations; event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the UNBSJ Q-Collective and/or who gets the UNBSJ weekly "E News". Past events include the annual Rainbow Peace March, guest speakers, movie nights, participation in Maritime Pride Parades, Supporters of PFLAG Canada's "Communities Encourage Campaign" and "Champions Against Homophobia".

Woodstock

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

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

St. John's

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

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

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

LBGTQ Youth Group: A monthly gathering for queer, allied, questioning, and any interested youth. We offer social events such as bowling, movie nights, and coffee houses. Contact group coordinator Rob Sinnott at the number listed, email, or visit the web page for more info. 699-0509 email: lbgtq@nlsexualhealthcentre.org web: nlsexualhealthcentre.org

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

St. John's Pride: St. John's Official Pride Organization. web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2497860774

Nova Scotia (902)

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

Hepatitis Outreach Society: Since 1999 the

Hepatitis Outreach Society has been providing support, education and prevention information for those infected and affected by hepatitis in the province of Nova Scotia. 420-1767 in HRM or 1-800-521-0572 email: info@HepatitisOutreach.com web: www.HepatitisOutreach.com at Our office is located at 2973 Oxford Street, between Liverpool and Cork streets. Please call to make an appointment or email Program@HepatitisOutreach.com.

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

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society: email: tpineo@hotmail.com

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

Amherst

Sexual Health Centre Cumberland County: Open and inclusive services: information, education, workshops, free condoms. 667-7500 email: shccc@ns.aliantzinc.ca web: cumberlandcounty.cfsh.info (9 - 5 drop-in or appt) at 11 Elmwood Drive. Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms.

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

Antigonish

Rainbow Warriors: Rainbow Warriors is a youth-run support group for LGBTQ youth and allies in Antigonish. We hold social events such as picnics and game nights, have educational discussions around topics such as stereotypes/assumptions and transsexuality, and raise awareness in the surrounding community by participating in functions such as the Highland Games Parade and the Farmers' Market. While our group is youth-focused everyone is regardless of age, and gender identity or sexual orientation! Find our group on Facebook "Rainbow Warriors - AAHA!". email: antigonishrainbowwarriors@gmail.com, meets every Monday (3:00-5:00pm) at The Antigonish Women's Resource Centre, located in the Kirk Building at 219 Main Street, Suite 204 (above Tim Hortons).

X-Pride: social & support group at X. 867-5007 web: www.stfx.ca/people/xpride

Bridgewater

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

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

Halifax

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

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

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

Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing: 455-9656

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Koinonia Ecumenical Church: Meaning 'community'. Call or email Pastor Elaine for more information. 876-8771 email: koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca (bi-weekly at 12:30pm) at Halifax Feast, Maritime Centre

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

Mount Pride: GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. email: mountpride@yahoogroups.com, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 12 noon) at The Diversity Center in Roseria on campus, and online (see email) 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.

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

Outlaw: GLBTQ & Allies Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: chad.skinner@dal.ca web: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2416842853 (Meetings vary. Please email for further information

or check out our Facebook group.) at Dalhousie Law School, 6061 University Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 431-8500 email: halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca, meets 1st Thursday (902-431-8500) at Halifax Youth Project, 2281 Brunswick St

Play Group for Queer Families: 422-8780 (3-5pm) at 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.

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

prideHealth: prideHealth is a program of Capital Health and the IWK Health Centre. If you are a member of the pride community and need support with any kind of health care call Anita our Clinical Nursing Specialist, number below. She is available free of charge, offers complete confidentiality, and can also give you support if you are experiencing homo or transphobia. prideHealth- improving safe access to health care. 220.0643

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

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

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

Spirituality For Lesbians: 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. 459-2649, meets 2nd Wednesday (7:30-9PM, phone for meeting locations)

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

The Youth Project: Support, education and social activities for youth 25 and under across Nova Scotia. Weekly events, plus a youth food bank and STI testing on site. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca, meets 1st Tuesday, and 3rd Tuesday (6-9pm) at 2281 Brunswick Street. 25 and under. Please refer to our website for details and schedule of upcoming events. 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,

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

Universalist Unitarian Church: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500 email: uuchurch@eastlink.ca web: UUCH.ca , meets every Sunday (10:30; see website for special events) at 5500 Inglis St

Kentville

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

Lunenburg

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

Middleton

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

New Glasgow

Pictou County Centre for Sexual Health: 695-3366 email: youth.access@ns.sympatico.ca
Pride of Pictou County: All GBLT in Pictou County. web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

New Minas / Annapolis Valley

Valley Youth Project: Sexual Orientation. Gender Identity. Allies. Youth. email: valleyyouthproject@gmail.com (6-8:30 most Wednesdays through May) at New Minas Civic Center, 9209 Commercial St. Ages 25 & under. Free bus tickets available. Free food. Fun activities. Join us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/pages/Valley-Youth-Project/22418494995

Sackville NB/ Amherst NS

PFLAG: Support and education for GLBT-T2IQQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: sacknb-amns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/en/prov-list-e.asp?RegionNo=6&ProvAbbr=NB, meets 2nd monday (Phone or e-mail for meeting location and details.) at Sackville:112 Main Street or Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

Sydney

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

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

Group Harrison Society: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. (902)371-8752 web: groupharrisonsociety-dancespi.piczo.com, meets every Saturday (of every month Admission \$6.50 -\$5.50 for members- Restricted 19 yrs and over) at 780 Upper Prince Street Horizon Achievement Centre (Kinsmen), Sydney

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Karen 564-8728 email: sydneyns@pflagcanada.ca

ca, meets last Sunday (of the month at 7:30pm. No meetings for July and August.) at Family Place Resource Centre 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS

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

Tatamagouche

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

Truro

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

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

PFLAG: Support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. 662.3774

Rainbow Proud: Rainbow Proud supports the LGBT** community of Truro and surrounding areas. Our small group of volunteers work hard to put events together for everyone's enjoyment. Any feedback will be considered and can be sent to our email address. We hope you continue to come celebrate our community together. email: rainbowproud@hotmail.com web: rainbowproudnovascotia.ca (See webpage for schedule.)

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

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

Wolfville

Acadia Pride: Acadia Student Union's LGB-T2IQ group. 585-2165 email: acadiapride@acadiu.ca web: euler.acadiu.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (9:00pm(during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB)

Acadia Women's Centre: 585-2140 email: womens.centre@acadiu.ca (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony)

Yarmouth

Southwest Nova Pride: Gays, lesbians and those interested of any age are invited. We meet as a social gathering and support group and we are not church affiliated. 645-2914 email: jackanddan@eastlink.ca, meets 2nd Friday at Beacon United Church on Beacon Street

Prince Edward Island (902)

ARC -- Abegweit Rainbow Collective: Serving GLBT Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: info@arcpei.ca web: www.arcpei.com, meets 1st Monday (6:00pm at 375 University Ave Suite # 2

"IT'S FILLED WITH PORNOGRAPHY" *

subscribe to wayves

*Find out if our hatemail is true!

Charlottetown, PE)

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

Gay PEI Mailing List: Electronic mailing list for all GLBT, questioning and friendly, focus is on PEI. email: gay-pei-owner@yahoo-groups.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pei at All first posts are moderated to stop spambots, otherwise, it's an open list.

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

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

AIDS NB cont'd from page 11

entations on the various components of HIV/ AIDS, STI's and safer sex practices, Hepatitis C, safe tattooing practices, nutrition workshops, supports for PLWHA's (persons living with HIV/ AIDS) and referrals to other essential service providers. Hours: Monday to Friday 08:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please feel free to drop by and meet with our service providers Catherine Doucet or Dominic Doucet or call us - 549-1215.

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The Last Word

A Rainbow Flag for Rideau Hall?



By Randall Perry

Recently there's a movement a-*F*ace to convince Prime Minister Harper to install actor William Shatner as the next Governor General of Canada, once Michaëlle Jean has completed her five-year term in September. To date, the page has almost 50,000 fans. A competing page has been put up in response, urging people to support comedian Mary Walsh for GG. Now, it's not up to us, and nobody really seeks out the auspicious position, and since it's up to the

Queen—on the advice of the Prime Minister—to make the decision, I doubt very much that either celebrity, despite their accomplishments, will make the final cut.

Personally, I don't think I'd be happy with either in the post, although I am a big fan of both. It'd be fun to watch Walsh give the Speech from the Throne to open parliament as warrior princess Marg Delahunty. It'd be a real scream to watch Shatner swear in a new Prime Minister as Captain Kirk, surrounded by a gaggle of go-go booted green Orion slave women: "You... ARE... the NEW... Prime Minister... goddammit! Now... Scotty... beam me up!"

I have a long list of people, both famous and not, who I think would make a great Governor General. Margaret Atwood, for one, has a brilliant mind and possesses a wicked tongue and no-bullshit attitude. I can clearly see her giving Stephen Harper a crack upside the head with her hockey stick, saying, "Prorogue this, mister," in her ironic, deadpan voice. I also think

contractor Mike Holmes would also shine in the position, especially if he were to show up in Parliament shirtless under his trademark overalls. If nothing else, Carhartt might see a rise in sales and those of us enamoured with the sweaty, hunky blue collar

"It's time for a gay in the GG rez. And I know exactly who should be there. It should be me."

might end up dividing our television time between HGTV and CPAC.

However, what I'd like to see hanging in Rideau Hall is a rainbow flag. It's time for a gay in the GG rez. And I know exactly who should be there.

It should be me.

Obviously yours truly doesn't have the resume of a Michaëlle Jean or the popular appeal of a Jeanne Sauv . However I am an affable sort, with

an outgoing personality (  la Rom o LeBlanc) and a prodigious pen of an Adrienne Clarkson wanna-be—if you've not read her memoir, "Heart Matters," run out and get it... after you've finished reading me, of course!

But the biggest, and perhaps, best thing I have going for me is that my friends call me a big old queen. All I need is an uppercase Q and I'd be all set. The Sovereign would never be the same. ("Elizabeth! Dahhhling! Tea on Tuesday. Call me, girleem!") Once the throne comes up for grabs, if Charles doesn't want it and William and Harry are too busy with their own lives, I wouldn't mind giving it a

whirl. The paparazzi haven't met an ego such as mine!

All kidding aside, I really would like to see a rainbow flag flying at Rideau Hall. Partnered up or single, gay or lesbian or trans, a pink triangle on the top rung of Parliament would send the message to young queers across the country that even the post of commander-in-chief is within their grasp. The responsibility of representing Canada on the world stage; strengthening the cultural mosaic at home by bringing all Canadians together through encouraging excellence in all facets of life.

Now there's a role model for you. Stephen Harper: are you listening?

Letters

Looking for a More Professional Wayves?

Dear Wayves,

With reference to "An open letter to ACNS." As a retired retail district manager and gay male PHA I wonder at the insanity of publishing such an article? It doesn't promote well-being or unity within the LGBT community and basically stirs up a pile of "whoop-ass" about how one can strong arm a non-profit group into putting an ad into Wayves.

The article reveals how absurd Wayves marketing policy is in getting advertisements. If someone doesn't place an ad let's throw out an inflammatory article to stir up the masses so that they'll place one in the future. Where's the logic in that?

Wayves has in the past and I hope will into the future promote and talk about issues and events that do highlight the long standing battle of public awareness around AIDS within LGBT community. The implication that is being expressed in exclusion is fear-mongering and unwarranted. As a collective Wayves needs to brush off its antiquated politics and step up to becoming a professional piece of work that includes treating its clients with some respect.

I can not speak for ACNS but as a PHA I'll repeat the quote Wayves stated about the Walk as "the best Walk for Life Ever," which goes to show you that they are doing a great job and are well-received in the community.

I am surprised that Wayves is attempting to create a combative atmosphere within our community by opening this up and expecting a "vigorous" debate about business between themselves and a client. If I was another one of Wayves clients I

would be doing a bit of hard thinking about my relationship with them.

Come on folks. I'm no publisher but I do know that how one conducts business such as marketing does not entail opening up the practice to political debate. The problem here is not our community or ACNS but how Wayves handles its marketing. Simply it's internal Business management policy... so fix it.

I believed Wayves to be a more professional collective than this portrays. Perhaps the best idea here is for Wayves to step back and re-examine its policy on marketing and how it treats its clients. In regards to ACNS I think an apology is due and allow groups to advertise where they want.

Simon Thwaites

May 17

Dear Editor,
Re: Raymond Taavel's article, Why I'll Mark May 17th.

Many years ago I lived on "the Triangle," in the little brick building that now houses the offices of the Halifax Tattoo. Its front door opens directly onto the sidewalk, and at that time there was a roof over the door giving some protection from the rain—a very convenient gathering place for us when we were caught cruising in the rain!

One wet night when I was talking with one of the guys under

"my" roof, we were roughed up by someone who I was sure lived in the building directly behind.

I went in and changed into something more business-like, and proceeded over the hill to the cop shop to complain. The advice they gave me was not to lodge a formal complaint, since the guy would likely kill me if they were to approach him about it.

It was good to know that 35 years later Raymond got a better response from the boys in blue than I did!

Mike

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YOU TELL US

Last month's question: "How have you responded when faced with homophobia (or internalized homophobia) in your life?"

This question didn't garner many responses, but people do appear to favour standing up for themselves or others when the situation is called for. The responses:

"I try to stick up for people in general. I hear it a lot at work to stop the conversation suggest to the person who's making the comments that they are just sorry the guy isn't sucking his dick. That usually ends it right there."

"Depends on the particular situation [especially] on my resources and security level. There are times to speak out; [there are] other times when the gains that might be made by speaking out are outweighed by a high probability of risk. But over the years, I have found myself speaking out more and more often."

"Yes, several times. I have been attacked twice in my life—both times in the US."

"I try to educate people. It is disturbing when people from our own community condemn us because we dare to speak out for our rights as Canadian citizens."

This month's question: What Atlantic Canada city is most LGBT-friendly (Halifax doesn't count!). You Tell Us at wayves.ca

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5500 Inglis Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1J8
uuchurch@eastlink.ca
902-429-5500

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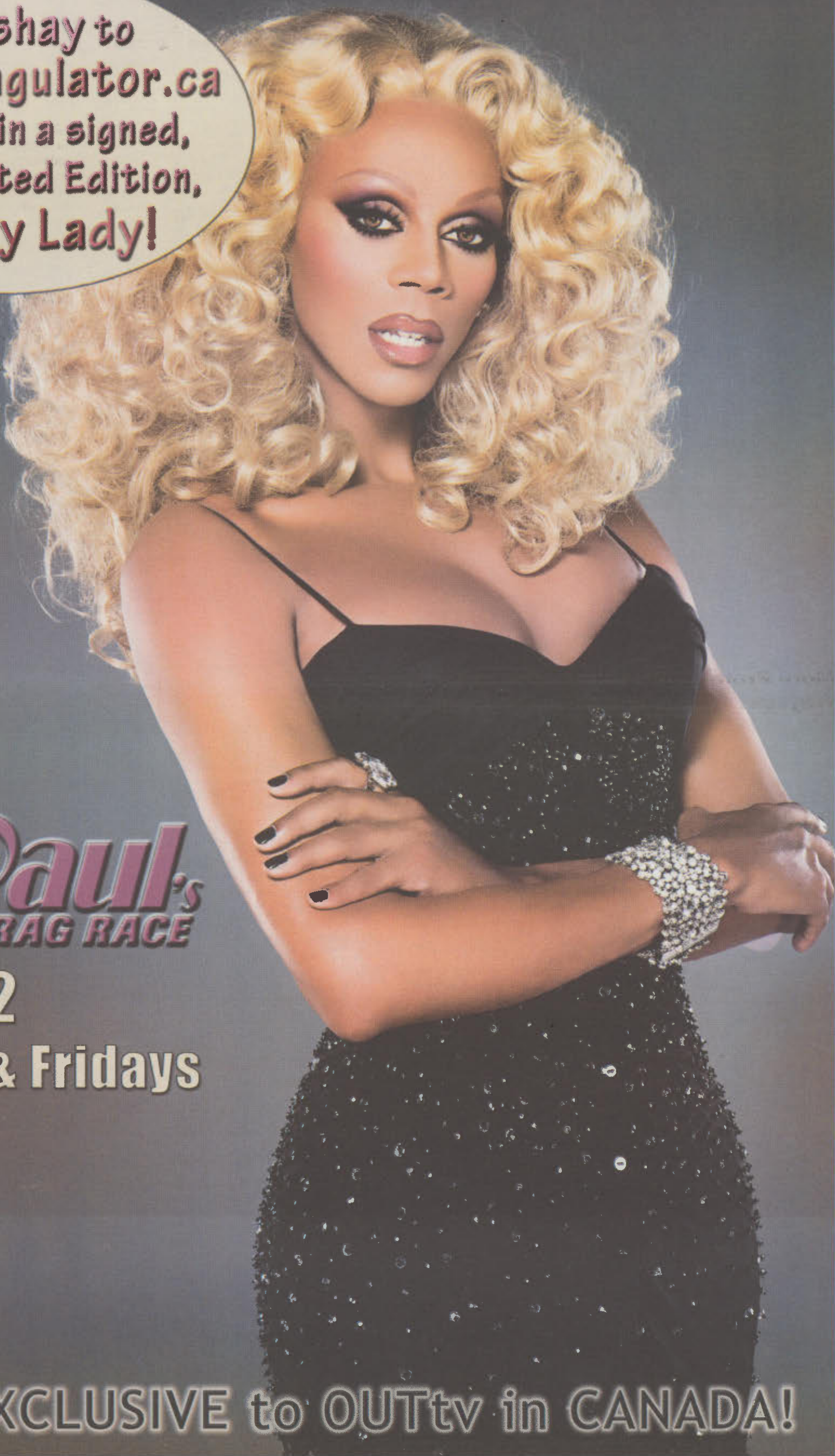

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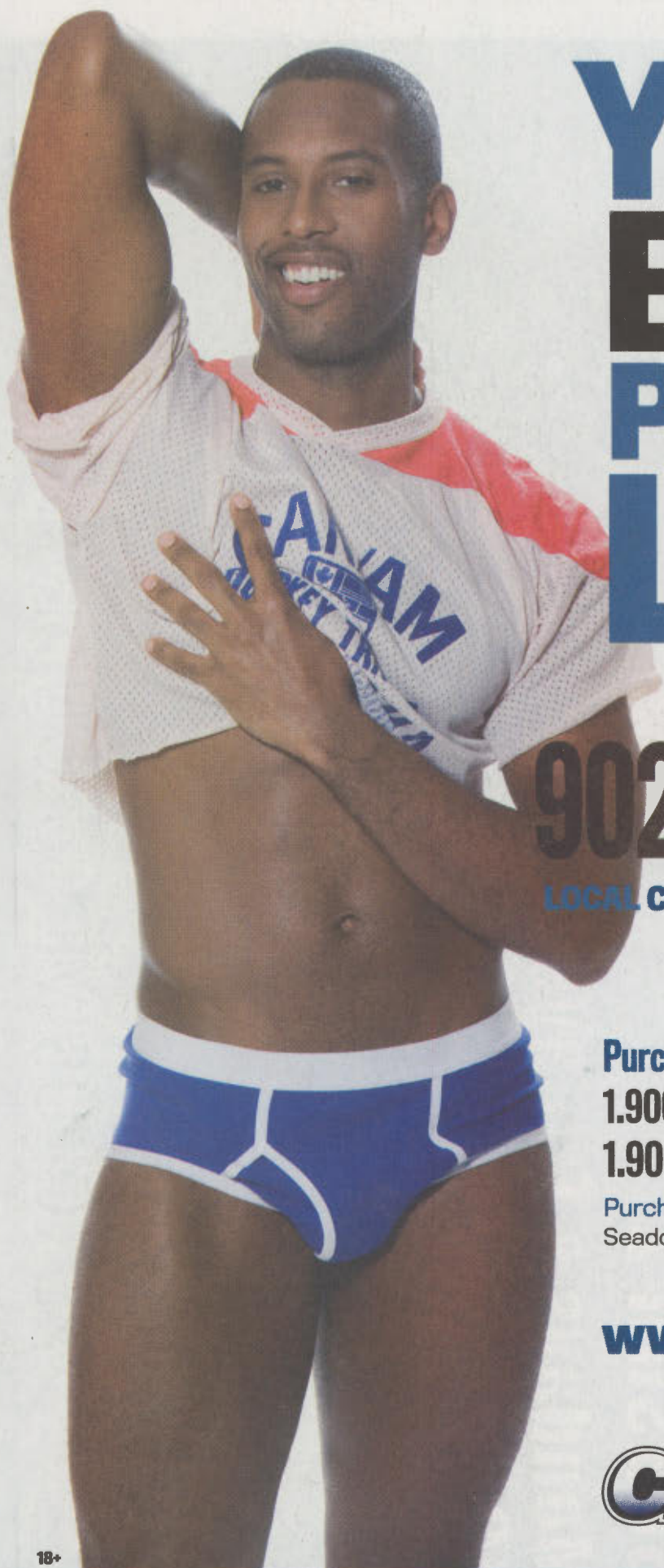


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