

POSITIVE REACTION

JUNE 2006

NAMES PROJECT COMES TO NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

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**BY: CHARLIE
GRINDLE**

HIV/AIDS FACTS

- This year marks the twenty fifth anniversary of the pandemic. On June 5, 1981, the CDC published a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) account of a new disease that was hitting gay men. This report ushered in what we now know as the AIDS pandemic.
- An estimated 300,000 people in the U. S. are HIV/AIDS positive and don't even know it. June 27, marks National HIV testing day when everyone is encouraged to get tested and know their status.

Memorial Day Weekend marked the twelfth year that portions of the AIDS Memorial Quilt have been shown in Ogunquit. However, this year's display was the first year that blocks, which are 12x12 and represent eight individual panels, were shown by the newly formed Names Project Northern New England chapter (NPNNE).

In year's past, the quilt was shown by the Maine Chapter of the Names Project, which disbanded years ago, and for the past decade by the Ogunquit Host Committee.

The Ogunquit Host Committee was spurred into becoming a chapter of the Names Project for a couple of reasons. First, the Cape and Islands Chapter in Provincetown closed in December 2004; this group had historically been the one to supply the quilt panels for the Memorial Day event. In addition, the Host Committee was receiving a number of requests to display the quilt throughout

the year, which were being unmet because the group was not housing blocks of the quilt year round. A benefit of being a chapter is being able to keep blocks of the quilt year round. Hopefully, this new access to the quilt will increase visibility in the region and fulfill a larger number of requests.

Since the forming of this new chapter in early May, blocks of the quilt have already been shown at three different events. This chapter encompasses the states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Those interested in requesting blocks for display in the region should contact NPNNE.

It is also possible to request individual panels of the quilt for the chapter to have in the area. All seventeen chapters nationwide send in blocks of the quilt to the Names Project headquarters in Atlanta every six months in order to rotate blocks around the country. If you are unsure whether a person you know

who has died of AIDS has a panel or not, it is relatively easy to look them up by name on the Names Project website, www.aidsquilt.org, or if you are having trouble NPNNE will be glad to assist you. They can be contacted by email at info@ogunquitaidsquilt.org.

For those who are interested in creating a panel for a loved one to be added to the 46,000 that already make up the quilt, contact the local chapter or visit their website for instruction at www.ogunquitaidsquilt.org.

At this website, you can also find listing of displays in the area as well as a link to the national listing of quilt displays.

The NPNNE wishes to thank Ogunquit area businesses and residents for their support over the years and is happy to now serve the larger area of Northern New England. FPC wants to welcome the quilt to the area and wishes the chapter best of luck in the future.

Waiver Letter Writing Campaign

The Limited Benefit for People Living with HIV is up for renewal. FPC is asking any clients being served by the Limited Benefit for People Living with HIV, commonly know as the Waiver to write a letter or personal account of how your quality of life has been improved because of this service.

For more information or to submit a letter contact Mary Martha Gantt @ 774-6877 x116 or mmgantt@peabodycenter.org Letter may be send via email or by mail to Attn: Mary Martha Gantt,

Frannie Peabody Center, 335 Valley Street, Portland, Maine 04102

Deadline for Letters is JUNE 10, 2006



Pride Week

June 11-18

Schedule of Events

Sunday, June 11

3-5PM

“Walk with the Ones You Love” Back Cove, Portland

Monday, June 12

Comedy Night & King and Queen of SMP Pageant at Rivalries, 10 Cotton St., Portland. \$10 Admission

Wednesday, June 14

4:30-6:30 PM

Open House for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Collection on the 6th floor of the Glickman Family Library at USM’s Portland Campus.

7-11PM

Karaoke Aboard the Casablanca- the boat leaves at 7:30 from the Custom House Wharf. Tickets are required and space is limited.

Thursday, June 15

Scavenger Hunt- you will have until the festival on Saturday to turn in your answers. For your starting point and instructions look to the Southern Maine Pride Guide in InNewsWeekly

Friday, June 16

8PM

“If I Can Make It There...Great Moments On Broadway” Gay Men’s Chorus Performance at 25A Forest Ave. Tickets \$15 in advance and \$18 at the Door.

Saturday, June 17

Lots going on. Parade at noon from Monument Sq. to Deering Oaks. Festival from 1-5pm in Deering Oaks and the Pier Dance from 8pm-1am at the State Pier. Tickets are available.

Sunday, June 18

10AM

Interfaith service hosted by First Parish, 425 Congress St., Portland

2-5PM

“Pride on the Bay Mist” be at Casco Bay Ferry Terminal by 1:30

**For more information about any of the events listed above visit southernmainepride.org or

PRIDE PARADE



Twenty-five years and twenty-five million and counting have been lost to HIV/AIDS. This virus does not discriminate it knows no color, class, nationality or orientation. Communities all over the world have been affected by this devastating disease. As a way to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the AIDS pandemic and to honor those who have lost their life, the Frannie Peabody Center is planning something special for this year’s Pride Parade. FPC plans to march in the 20th Annual Southern Maine Pride Parade as a united front all

wearing white t-shirts with large red ribbons. We hope this will be a sign of solitary, while at the same time letting everyone know that the fight against AIDS is not over.

We will be making these t-shirts at the Valley Street office on Thursday, June 8, starting at 1pm. Volunteers are welcome and would be greatly appreciated!

We want to extend an invitation to any and all clients, board members, staff, and community members to join us in the parade. The parade will begin sharply at noon from Monument Square in Portland on Saturday, June 17. We are asking that everyone arrive no

later than 11:30 am so that we have time to pass out shirts before the parade begins. The parade route is approximately 1 mile. If the parade is something you would like to be a part of but are physically unable to walk, we are making arrangements to have trucks transport people in the parade. We are also looking for more trucks, so if you wish to be involved as a driver, we could use your help. If you are interested in signing up to be in the parade or need more information please call Mary Martha@774-68777 x116.



STAFF SPOT LIGHT ALICE CASWELL CASE MANAGER

Alice Caswell is a Case Manager out of the York Co. office in Kittery. When asked to share a little bit about her background Alice revealed that after college she went to Ireland and then England where she stayed for 17 years working in various jobs. After her return to this country and completing a Masters in Social Work, Alice worked in a residence for boys with severe behavioral issues and with addicts in the state prison system in New Hampshire. When asked what originally attracted her to FPC, Alice replied, “I was told by quite a few people it was a great or-

ganization, and had a sane working culture. It was also an area that I had no experience in (which those of you who have me as a case manager already know!) ...so I had to learn, which is a humbling and necessary experience.”

In talking about the challenges that case managers face, Alice mentioned the cumbersome task of understanding medical insurance and the ins and outs of Mainecare. She also shared hopes of doing outreach in the prisons and schools.

Some fun facts about Alice include her favorite movie,

Once Upon a Time in the West; favorite season in New England, Autumn, and favorite politician, Ken Livingstone the Mayor of London.

Alice gave this suggestion when asked how individuals can fight the AIDS pandemic, “By being informed and by trying to dispel ignorance where we find it. Also by encouraging openness about sexual issues in our society, which is so polarized on that subject.”

Alice is an insightful woman who we have the great pleasure of having on staff here at FPC.

INFO BITS

Calling all Volunteers: FPC is looking for volunteers to help create t-shirts for the Pride Parade. We will be making t-shirts at the Valley Street office on Thursday, June 8 at 1pm and welcome anyone who can find the time to volunteer.

Time to RSVP: On Tuesday, June 6, at 6pm the York County Healthy Discussion Series will begin with the topic, "Sex and Dating in the 21st Century." This event will be held at the Coastal House, 2128 Post Road, Wells, ME. Dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Scott Dano at 807.4586 or sdano@peabodycenter.org

Southern Maine Pride: For more information about Pride Week 2006 see article and schedule of events on opposite page.

Testing Events: For more information on all testing events please call 749-6818.

Attention: If you have been enrolled in a part D prescription plan and do not have Medicare please call your Case Manger.

Interested in seeing a show at SPACE Gallery? FPC has a limited number of tickets to shows at this venue. If you are interested in tickets, call Mary Martha @774-6877 x116. To learn more about Space Gal-

lery visit their website @ www.space538.org

Prevention Staff is looking for volunteers. We are looking for people who are willing to work at the Pier Dance passing out safer sex supplies from 10pm-1am, Saturday, June 17th. A stipend will be provided. If interested call Jennifer at 749-6818.

HIV Heart Circle: Is a group that FPC is considering starting in the fall and is looking for clients that would be interested in participating. If you are interested in being apart of this group or would like more information please call Manny Andrade @ 774-6877 x121.

bring light to life

what
Cocktail Evening & Silent Auction to support HIV/AIDS in Maine

when
Wednesday, June 21st, 2006
6:00 pm to 9:00pm

where
Mariner's Church Banquet Center
368 Fore Street, Portland, Maine

featuring
Singer/songwriter Cindy Bullens

info and tickets
info@peabodycenter.org
(207) 774-6877



FRANNIE PEABODY CENTER
an inclusive HIV/AIDS resource

JUNE 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Peer Support	2	3
4	5	6 Healthy Discussion Series- Wells, ME	7 Food pantry	8 T-shirt Volunteers Afternoon at the Movie	9	10
11 Kick off to Pride week	12	13	14 Flag Day Testing 11-6pm Food pantry	15 Testing 11-6pm Peer Support	16 Testing 11-6pm	17 Testing 11-4pm
18 Southern Maine Pride Service Father's Day	19	20	21 Summer Solstice Event Food pantry	22 Afternoon at the Movie Peer Support	23	24
25	26	27 National HIV Testing Day	28 Food pantry	29 Peer Support	30	

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Every Wednesday the Food Pantry, located in the bottom of St. Luke's on Park St., is open from 9-1.
- Peer Support Group meets every Thursday evening from 5:30-7:00 at the Frannie Peabody Center, Portland.
- **June 6** -York Co. Healthy Discussion Series at 6pm
- **June 8** - FPC is looking for volunteers to come in and help make red ribbon T-shirts for the Pride Parade. For more info see article on page 2.
- **June 8** - Afternoon at the Movies 2-4pm at FPC. Film: TBA (call in requests or suggestions)
- **June 11** - Kick off of Pride Week (see complete schedule on opposite page)
- **June 14-17** - Free Rapid Oral HIV Testing at 510 Congress St. Portland.
- **June 21** - Bring Light to Life at the 2nd Annual Summer Solstice Event to benefit FPC (for more info see ad on page 4).
- **June 22** - Afternoon at the Movies 2-4pm at FPC. Film: TBA (call in requests or suggestions)
- **June 27** - National HIV Testing Day (see front page for details).



FRANNIE PEABODY CENTER

comprehensive HIV & AIDS services

Check us out on the web

www.peabodycenter.org

Frannie Peabody Center

335 Valley Street

Portland, Maine 04102

Phone: 207/774-6877

Fax: 207/879-0761

Email: info@peabodycenter.org

York County Healthy Discussion Series

*"Sex and Dating in the
21st Century"*

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

6pm

Costal House

2128 Post Road,

Wells, Maine

*Dinner will be served

RSVP to Scott Dano at 807.4586

sdano@peabodycenter.org

The Frannie Peabody Center is committed to compassionate care for the community infected with and affected by HIV and AIDS in Maine. The Peabody Center helps the community face and fight the realities of the disease by providing prevention education and direct services, including housing, information, education, advocacy, and counseling services. The Peabody Center treats the whole person with dignity, care and compassion.

POSITIVE THOUGHTS

BY: CHARLIE GRINDLE

Greetings all! I hope this finds everyone in the reading audience drying out, and feeling that there is hope for a warm, sunny summer. My thoughts go out to our sisters and brothers to the south. I hope no one was hurt, or suffered losses. Here in Portland, I'm scraping off the mildew and getting ready to put my little snark in the water; it's similar to a Sunfish, a large tub with a sail. The water is still a bit chilly, but I want to be ready when the temperature gets close to 70 consistently. As the weather gets better, and we're outside more, don't forget your sunscreen. Many of the drugs that keep us healthy make us more prone to burning; a

little color is good, but we're not Butterballs!

I was reading an interview with one of the first AIDS doctors, and he talked about what it's like for people who are living with the disease- taking pills, feeling different, worried every few months after a blood draw, and I realized that I don't do that anymore. Not that I haven't had occasional peaks and dips in the numbers, but I've been able to stay pretty consistent for years (thank you to the folks at the Virology Center). I wonder if I'm getting too smug and planning on being around for a century or so, forgetting that at any moment things could change

drastically. With the new drugs that keep more people alive longer, we sometimes forget that they aren't a cure, and may not work in the long term for everyone. So I keep taking my regimen, on time, with food as needed, and keep my eyes and ears open for anything that makes it easier to stay well.

Try not to concentrate on what's 'wrong' with you, but what's 'right'! Keep your whole self alive, with exercise (mental and physical), good food, laughter, and lots of love!

Blessings, Charlie

Last Minute Lasagna

26oz jar of pasta sauce

30oz bag frozen cheese ravioli, unthawed

10oz frozen chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry

8oz bag shredded mozzarella

1/2 cup grated parmesan

Heat oven 350 degrees

Coat a 13x9 inch baking dish with cooking spray. Spoon in a third of the pasta sauce to cover bottom. Arrange a layer of ravioli on top (about 12) and scatter the spinach over them. Top with half of each cheese. Cover with another layer of ravioli and the remaining sauce and cheese. Cover with foil and bake 25min. Uncover and bake 5-10minutes more or until bubbly.