

## **Elderberries Newsletter : September 2011**

### **September Photography Program and Potluck**

“Falling in Love with Photography,” a talk and slide show by Nick Honig, will take place Sunday September 18, 2:00 pm, at Spencer House Seniors Centre, 5596 Morris St, Halifax. Nick is a nature photographer especially noted for his pictures of birds : see some examples at <http://nickhonigphotography.ca/>

Please join us for the talk. For the following social and potluck, please bring along something you would enjoy eating - salad, sandwiches, sweets, chili - whatever. Coffee and tea will be provided. Elderberry socials are alcohol-free, scent-free, and pet-free. Assistance dogs are welcome.

### **First Anniversary Elderberry Picnic a Success**

Twenty-four people (and two dogs) showed up at about 2:00 pm, including several new people. We commandeered the Gazebo at the Dingle Park but got booted out an hour later by a previously booked Buddhist wedding. Luckily that fit with the progress of our potluck picnic and we re-encamped onto the grass for another couple of hours. Fresh cornbread was a special treat, baked by Dan on a portable oven and served hot. Most people packed up around 5:00 pm. We have since received several emails thanking us for hosting the event.

### **Mawita'jik Puoinaq : a Gathering of Two-Spirited People in Atlantic Canada**

September 1-4, at Liscombe Lodge, Liscombe Mills, Nova Scotia. Each of the four days of this conference of two-spirited people has a focus : physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual. Among the many sessions are : “The closet : where our emotions are hidden,” “Suicide intervention and prevention,” “Decolonizing ourselves,” “When the spirits leave : alcohol and drug use-abuse and recovery.” Not to mention the “No-talent show” ! Full schedule available at : [http://gay.hfxns.org/Mawita'jikPuoinaq\\_Schedule](http://gay.hfxns.org/Mawita'jikPuoinaq_Schedule)

### **Pam Pachal and the Dirty**

September 2, Company House, Gottingen Street. New Brunswick singer Pam Pachal and the Dirty. For an audio clip, see <http://www.myspace.com/pamelapachal>

### **Maison de Noir and Elle Noir’s Birthday Show**

Sunday, September 4, 2011, MenzBar. Cover \$6.00

## **St John's United Church- Spirit Place**

Thursday, Sept 15 - Second Public Information Meeting, re proposed construction of a mixed-use residential and institutional building (Spirit Place) at the former site of St John's United Church. Purpose of the meeting is to allow speakers who were still lined up at the first meeting to be heard, but the announcement doesn't actually say that new speakers will not be accepted : it may be wise to check ahead. Maritime Hall, Halifax Forum, 2901 Windsor St, 7:00 pm. For further information : <http://www.halifax.ca/planning/Case16417Details.html>

This URL leads you to a site at which many of the underlying documents are available for consultation.

## **Cloudburst**

Thom Fitzgerald's long-awaited film Cloudburst is poised to become the hit of the Atlantic Film Festival. Friday Sept 16, Oxford Theatre. Possssible extra showings - watch film festival news.

According to AFF's synopsis, "Thom Fitzgerald's hit play has become a sparkling and starkly relevant big-screen adventure that deftly updates "Thelma and Louise" to the same-sex marriage debate, making the runaway couple elderly, to boot." Stars Olympia Dukakis and Brenda Fricker play Stella and Dot, two women who have lived together in Maine for decades. When a granddaughter places Dot in a nursing home, Stella must break her partner out and make a dash for Nova Scotia, where gay and lesbian marriage is legal. For more info, try : <http://www.atlanticfilm.com>

## **LGBT Refugees**

*Medecins sans frontiers* (Doctors without Borders, or MSF) is bringing a unique exhibit to Halifax (September15 – 18). The "Refugee Camp in the Heart of the City" is an outdoor reconstruction of an actual refugee camp. Experienced MSF staff guide visitors through a 40 to 60-minute interactive tour explaining the crucial elements of refugee survival. Each visitor will learn of the challenges a refugee faces in trying to access food, shelter, water and medical care. Learn more about this free event at

[www.refugeecamp.ca](http://www.refugeecamp.ca)

The camp will be set up on Garrison Grounds. Elderberries has arranged a special tour focussing on challenges facing LGBT refugees, Saturday afternoon, September 17, 1:00 - 2:00 pm : *to register*, email [rainbowrefugee.ns@gmail.com](mailto:rainbowrefugee.ns@gmail.com)

If you'd like to learn more about LGBT Refugees and how to get involved, there will be a community meeting Sunday, October 2 at the Company House from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

## **Mystery panel :**

Lesbian writer Nadine Lapierre will join other Canadian mystery authors Anthony Hyde and Joy Fielding at a Word on the Street panel on mystery writing, Sunday September 25, 4:30 pm, on the Halifax Magazine main stage. Watch for Nadine to star at the October Elderberries potluck social!

## **Events Listings :**

The Company House <http://www.thecompanyhouse.ca/html/calendar.html>

Gay Halifax : <http://gayhfxns.org/LocalEvents>

Wayves : <http://www.wayves.ca>

**Elderberries members :**

If you have received this newsletter, you are a registered member of Elderberries. To resign from Elderberries, or just to stop receiving this newsletter, please email [nelderberries@gmail.com](mailto:nelderberries@gmail.com).

All typos are the fault of Hurricane Isabella. That's the evil twin of Hurricane Irene, which tipped over a flowerpot on Your Editor's balcony. This induced Post Flowerpot Stress Disorder, making YE incapable of doing anything but lying back in her electric chair with all windows wide open and a high wind blowing through the apartment. Of course it's too dangerous to turn on a computer during a hurricane : if the New York subway is closed, who am I to be writing Elderberry announcements?

At least the newsletter made it out on the first of the month this time....