

## Eight Murders in Montreal

Terje Anderson

Law enforcement officials in Montreal are stymied in their investigation of at least eight murders of gay men in the last year. They believe the murders are the work of a serial killer.

Responding to complaints from gay community groups that they have not paid sufficient attention to the murders, Montreal homicide investigators in early November called in a Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) specialist in serial crime profiles, attempting to develop new leads in their search for the killer.

Concern has been growing in the gay community recently as news of the murders has spread. Many gay men are adopting new habits in response to the threat, reporting that they are exercising more caution about going out at night by themselves, avoiding isolated cruising areas, and not going home with unknown sexual partners. "People are scared," related one long-time Montrealer, "and the sense of fear out in the bars is growing every week. Sometimes it's all people are talking about. Folks are still going out, but you don't see them walking on side streets in the Village by themselves at night."

In addition to the eight murders, which they feel are connected, police are planning to re-open the files on older unsolved murders of gay men to see if they may be related.

Montrealers stress that these killings are not random acts of street violence, but instead cases where it appears the murderer was able to get the victim alone, usually at home. Police are advising gay men to be cautious about situations which may make them vulnerable to this kind of attack.

Combined with last year's violent confrontations between the police and the gay/lesbian community and the increasing numbers of racist and homophobic attacks by skinheads in the city, many normally complacent gay and lesbian Montrealers are expressing concern about the threat of violence. Street patrols, whistle distribution, public education, and counselling services for victims of violence are being organized by activist groups. ▼

## The Passion of Pearls...

**December 6 Women's Buffet Dance**  
Buffet by Dinner to Go  
\$5.00 5-9 p.m.

**December 12 Juice Bar - 18 & Older**  
\$3.00 cover 9 p.m.

**December 19 Pearl's Christmas Extravaganza**  
Tree Trimming 5-8 upstairs  
Hors d'oeuvres & Christmas Cheer  
Vt. CARES Cabaret downstairs  
\$5.00 8:00 p.m.

**December 21 Ladies Lounge Dance**  
\$1.00 7-10 p.m.

**December 31 New Years Eve at Pearl's**  
\$10.00  
Womens' Cocktail Party 6-8:30  
Downstairs at 8:30

**Pearls**  
135 Pearl St.  
Burlington, Vermont

## Where to Find OITM

Bennington Free Library	Bennington	Northshire Bookstore	Manchester Center
Brattleboro Food Coop	Brattleboro	Middlebury Natural Food Coop	Middlebury
Cahoos	Brattleboro	Bear Pond Books	Montpelier
Colors	Brattleboro	Horn of the Moon Cafe	Montpelier
Common Ground	Brattleboro	Woman Centered	Montpelier
Everyone's Books	Brattleboro	Morristown Centennial Library	Morrisville
Burlington College	Burlington	Moore Free Library	Newfane
Chassman & Bem	Burlington	Northeast Kingdom AIDS Coalition	Newport
Partners in Recovery & Growth	Burlington	Brown Public Library	Northfield
Pearls	Burlington	Social Alternatives for Gay Men	Norwich
Planned Parenthood	Burlington	Woman's Study Program	Plainfield
STEP Learning Center	Burlington	Putney Library	Putney
Craftsbury Public Library	Castleton	Kimball Public Library	Randolph
Rutland Area Gay/Lesbian Connection	Craftsbury	PFLAG	Rutland
Innwood Manor	E. Middlebury	Rutland Free Library	Rutland
Greenhope Farm	East Barnet	LUNA/NEVGALR c/o Umbrella	St. Johnsbury
Fair Haven Free Library	East Hardwick	Natural Provisions	St. Johnsbury
Buffalo Mountain Coop	Fair Haven	Regional Library	St. Johnsbury
Galaxy Books	Hardwick	St. Johnsbury Athenaeum	St. Johnsbury
Jon's Automotive	Hardwick	Food for Thought	Stowe
Project EXCEL, Lyndon State College	Lyndonville	WRJ Books	White River Junction
	Lyndonville		