The crowd erupts with joy at the news that the "NO" side has won the referendum. Over a thousand people, most of whom had volunteered for Maine Won't Discriminate, gathered at Portland's Holiday Inn By The Bay to await the outcome. The vote was 53% for the "NO" side and 47% for the "YES" side. The margin was 26,000 votes.

"It's not too close to call anymore... We won!"

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

"It's not too close to call anymore... We won!" With those words Pat Peard, elicited a thunderous roar of approval from the thousand plus crowd Tuesday night, November 7, at the Holiday Inn in Portland.

Peard, Chair of Maine Won't Discriminate's Executive Committee, shared her elation with the many hundreds of volunteers and others who have worked so hard for 2 years (and more) to defeat Cosby's campaign to codify discrimination in Maine.
Election eve watch becomes huge Victory Celebration
Holiday Inn By The Bay, Portland, hosts MWD's victory party!

The numbers tell it all! This was the closest it got. The final result was a 53%-47% split. "NO" won by over 26,000 votes.

The gathering, including Al Diamon (beard and hat) of the Casco Bay Weekly, awaited the numbers nervously. The atmosphere was cautious optimism punctuated by moments of pandemonium as numbers favorable to the "NO" side accumulated. The tension was heightened because the results were read to the crowd town by town.

The cheers of the crowd were thunderous! Many wept. The moment of triumph was sublime.
"I have a dream that one day children will grow up being who they are..."

Rev. Dr. Fred Lipp

Celebration Service held at Portland's First Parish UU Church on November 8

So today, I have a dream also, the way Martin Luther King had a dream: "I have a dream, that one day children will grow up being who they are, without a thought of discrimination over sexual orientation. I have a dream that parents will one day see choices regarding intimacy the way they measure the color of eyes and the color of hair. I have a dream that equal rights will be truly equal, where Gay Men, Lesbian, and Straight will work together, enjoying and drawing delight from their shared being without suspicion, without fear. I have a dream that religion will mature from ancient follies, and the true dignity intended by God for us all, whatever our persuasion, will ring clear like a church bell in February. I have a dream that no one will ever have to painfully "Come Out" but will just be, just be who they are...from the County to Cumberland County, from the Islands to the Maine pine forests."

Approximately 200 people attended the noontime meeting the day after the election to share their experiences working on the campaign. The sharing provided an emotional catharsis for those who spoke.

People shared their experiences working for MWD and then walked to the front of the church to light a candle symbolizing sacrifice and victory.

Aimsel Ponti, photo left, MWD volunteer fund-raiser lights a candle in honor of their hard-fought victory.

Tickets available at Drop Me A Line, Amadeus, Bookland-Mallsida or any Chorus Member

Friday, December 8, 8:00
Saturday, December 9, 8:00
State Street Church, Portland
Maine AIDS Alliance hosted a Halloween Masquerade Ball fund-raiser, Friday, October 27

Uma Thurman & John Travolta stepped off the screen of "Pulp Fiction" to provide a touch of class to the night.

Charlie Wynott & David Charity helped organize the event, held at Portland's Pavilion.

(All photos by Bruce Balboni)

Our Customers Fuss About the Food:

"Your food is super - always have a good meal here!"
"Your chocolate pudding cake is very imaginative and successful."
"Never run out of strawberry shortcake!"
"Enjoyed the variety - had a hard time choosing. I'll have to come back!"
"The best food we've had in ages. Savored everything. We even ate the beets!"
"I like the way you season your food. The herbs make the food tangy."
"Excellent! Huge portions!"
"The martinis were presented in grand fashion."
"Soup: Can you order by the vertical slices? Superb!"
"Roast pork dinner (blue plate) was unbelievable. Don't tell my Mom, but I even ate the beets!"
"I love your crabcakes! Any chance I could get the recipe?"
"Enjoyed biscuits: novel veggie mix (beets, squash, and parsnip - very good)."
"The chocolate mousse was very, very, very, very good."
"Fish chowder super - always a good meal here!"
"Oyster appetizer very imaginative and successful."
"The raspberry peach cobbler was wonderful!"

Mrs. Doubtfire coupled with a Park Ranger hoping to secure a fire permit. Mrs. Doubtfire won the $300 first prize.

The Boom Boom girls line up for your pleasure.

Is that Jeff? She & Ron share a cocktail party-type moment.

---

Marge Simpson wore her new mink.
Rogue's Gallery of losers and liars
Here are the people who brought you the infamous Question #1

Paul Madore, leader of Coalition to End Special Rights, tried to win by stressing the immorality of gay life.

Mike Heath, Executive Director of the Christian Civic League, was responsible for the TV ad in which a woman claimed that if Question 1 fails, the state will have to adopt a "gay" curriculum in the grade schools.

Cosby's expression of grief, May 2, at the Augusta Civic Center legislative hearing was prescient. Lockman, her trusted sidekick, left, was alleged to be the brains of Concerned Maine Families.

A heartfelt and homemade sentiment, photo left, that appeared May 2 in Augusta. It proved to be right . . . on both counts

Results:
The numbers don't lie . . .

Results by county and from 10 of Maine's largest cities. The "YES" vote wins in only five of Maine's 16 counties and carries only 2 of Maine's 10 largest cities, Lewiston and Auburn.

The vote by county:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>56.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMBERLAND</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>58.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAGADAHOC</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDROSCOGGIN</td>
<td>58.2%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OXFORD</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>44.5%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENNEBEC</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>52.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANKLIN</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOX</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>51.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALDO</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOMERSET</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HANCOCK</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PISCATAQUIS</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASHINGTON</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARGOOSTOOK</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
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</table>

The vote by demographics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>7,271</td>
<td>14,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewiston</td>
<td>7,025</td>
<td>5,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangor</td>
<td>3,641</td>
<td>6,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>4,208</td>
<td>3,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Portland</td>
<td>3,528</td>
<td>4,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td>2,829</td>
<td>3,290</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanford</td>
<td>2,369</td>
<td>2,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biddeford</td>
<td>2,717</td>
<td>3,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>1,995</td>
<td>3,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterville</td>
<td>1,861</td>
<td>3,540</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Happy Anniversary
One Year Serving the Lesbian Community & LOVING IT!

Books
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Reflections on a campaign - - -
Movement Building in the G/L/B/T Community: Building on our Victory of November 7!

by Karen Geraghty

What an important year this has been for the gay/lesbian/bisexual and transgendered communities in Maine. We came together in big and small ways to defeat a devious and vicious attempt by the radical right to make sure that we were never granted basic civil rights protections.

Well, the vote is in and guess what? The majority of Maine voters did not buy Families (CMF), the Coalition to End Transgendered Communities in Maine. We came together in big and small ways to defeat a devious and vicious attempt by the radical right to make sure that we are a threat to their families or way of life; did not believe that we would all have to give so much and work hard. But when reality hit (this referendum brought us (besides a sweet victory)! So I would like to set forth my agenda (yikes, that word again) in the hopes that all of us can set an agenda and make a personal commitment of time and/or money to make sure it happens.

Karen Geraghty, President of ML/GPA

all created to battle the devious and vicious referendum and put it towards continuing to build our movement in Maine? How do we move forward with a legislative agenda, educational agenda, and anti-violence agenda? How do we make sure that we are doing everything we can to elect candidates who support our rights? How do we make sure gay teens everywhere in Maine have access to Outright groups? That more F-FLAG chapters get started? How do we make sure that gay people are portrayed accurately and positively in the media? That AIDS service organizations have enough volunteers and resources? These questions and many more need to be asked and answered.

There has been so much good organizing that has gone on in Maine for the last 20 years around these and other issues. But because of the threat that this referendum imposed on us many more G/L/B/T people are OUT and active! This is one of the great things that this referendum brought us (besides a sweet victory!). So I would like to set forth my agenda (yikes, that word again) in the hopes that all of us can set an agenda and make a personal commitment of time and/or money to make sure it happens.

1. Achieve basic civil rights protections in our state by 1999. (Hopefully much sooner)
2. Reduce violence against G/L/B/T by at least 50% in the next year.
3. Speak out about discrimination everywhere we possibly can. Explain that it happens and give examples of it from your own life or from people you know. Debunk the "special rights" garbage.
4. Make sure we have an Outright group and a P-FLAG chapter in every county in the state by the end of 1998. (Hopefully much sooner)
5. Have a gay community center in at least two other places besides Caribou by the end of 1999. (Thanks and congrats to our friends in Aroostook County for giving us a model to follow!)
6. Recruit and elect openly gay candidates to the Maine House and Senate.
7. Encourage more private sector employers to include anti-discrimination clauses in their personnel policies.
8. Send Dale McCormick to the U.S. Congress!
9. Support local AIDS organizations by volunteering your time and giving money.
10. Increase the visibility of g/l/b/t in the media. This is a time for us all to pull together and keep fighting the fight. I know that many of us are tired and would like to take a break. But we are at such a critical point in the development of our movement in Maine - we must keep on going. We must make sure that all the G/L/B/T people that "come-out" after us find our state a more welcoming place to live in.

So how does this agenda (which is hopefully similar to yours) get moving forward? It takes you. Join ML/GPA and make a difference in your life and the lives of all the people who are not out yet. Get involved with the Maine Speakout Project for Equal Rights, and volunteer your time and give money to AIDS organizations, Outright, Matlovich, Pride, F-FLAG and many more organizations.

I know that all the G/L/B/T groups in Maine are struggling to secure both volunteers and money so that we can continue to work towards our mission statements and goals in the aftermath of the campaign. ML/GPA is beginning with a very strong fund-raising campaign so that we can hire the people that we need to build our movement and take us where we want to go. But we all need your energy and ideas. And speaking strictly for ML/GPA - we are really looking for people who want to be leaders. ML/GPA's goals are both short and long term and we are looking for people to assume leadership on a wide variety of issues.

Or if you don't want to be a leader, we are also searching for volunteers for so many of our projects. There is a place for you in our organization! ML/GPA's monthly membership meeting is the third Saturday of every month at the Unitarian Church in Augusta. That means that this Saturday, Nov. 18th is the day. We have changed our usual meeting time so as not to conflict with the MWD Meeting being held on the same day and in the same location.

The MWD meeting begins at 10:00 am and goes to 1:00 pm. ML/GPA is preparing lunch for everyone from 1:00 to 1:30. The ML/GPA meeting will be...
"A view of the campaign from the Crown of Maine"

by Dick Harrison

As I write this, it's the morning of Tuesday, November 7, 1995, election day in Maine. The campaign to defeat Question One is over. It seems we've been fighting on two fronts: our public battle has been against the "Yes on One" forces; our private battle has been with the "No on One" organization.

We began organizing here in Aroostook County in the fall of 1994. Seven of us attended the Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance/National Gay & Lesbian Task Force-sponsored training in Augusta. We met regularly, setting goals, opening a bank account, renting a post office box. When the statewide efforts began under the name Maine Won't Discriminate, Aroostook was represented at the table. We asked for help in building up a network of contacts throughout The County. Remember, we were a small handful of activists who were attempting to organize towns scattered along a line from Danforth to Madawaska; that's the same distance as from South Portland to Orono.

We knew that MWD had already received support from statewide organizations such as the Maine Council of Churches, medical groups, legal groups, and the like. They had contacts. We had none. We asked for leads; would the MWD staff find out from these supportive groups who their members were in Aroostook County, anyone with an 047xx Zip code? That seemed simple enough. From this we could begin contacting people and building up an organization. This was in February. The request was made again in March, and again and again and again. The request was repeated by telephone and again in person at the June 11th organizational meeting in Bangor, where MWD's paid staff made their presentations about the campaign, and where they agreed to provide the information we needed. But they didn't. It took until August to finally get a response, a list of County members of the Maine Council of Churches. It was a start, but a very late one.

From what I understand of the structure of MWD, there was an advisory board and paid staff. One person from each of these bodies was assigned a county and they were to contact and work with the local chapters. Aroostook never heard from the advisory board, and a staff member didn't contact us until just before Labor Day.

Promised help, advice with organizing, and planned visits never happened. Two student volunteers were assigned to help us with voter lists during the summer. They never showed up.

The staff member who had Aroostook as part of his territory called to schedule a meeting with me in Caribou; he cancelled and never rescheduled. It was as if they couldn't be bothered with this part of the state; maybe it was too far to drive. I don't know. But how many times did I receive a call to attend a meeting in Augusta, the caller unaware of or just ignoring the eight-hours driving time down and back for a two-hour meeting.

When the campaign office asked for leads as to where to send the out-of-state volunteers, we told them, "send one or two to Aroostook." We offered free housing: we'd feed them; just send some people up here to help with the work you expect us to do. It never happened.

What a refreshing change when Robert Bray from the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force insisted on including Caribou on his list of speaking engagements. We couldn't get people from Portland to come up here, but we got someone from San Francisco! The only campaign workers who finally did visit were originally from Caribou, plus one staff member who came here when Robert Bray spoke.

Then there was the media campaign. We have one local TV station serving northern Maine; it's a market unlike that in Portland or Bangor. At Robert Bray's presentation, a local volunteer who sells advertising for WAGM-TV in Presque Isle, and who is knowledgeable about the Aroostook audience, offered to help. But the campaign never took him up on it. And their decisions made that evident. The first ads featured Governor King; the next series of ads would be a roller in the woods or a lobster fisherman on the beach. With their apparent lack of knowledge about (1) geography and (2) the County attitude about southern Maine, the campaign chose the lobster fisherman ad. This decision was made despite the information they were given about County people attended "Yes" campaign meetings sponsored by CESR at the local Baptist churches. We sent written transcripts of the presentations to campaign headquarters. In Aroostook County, CESR was framing the "No" campaigners as "southern Maine crazies" and "Portland liberals." So why put a southern Maine, i.e. lobster fishing, TV commercial? See Crown, page 8

Dick Harrison, co-founder of Northern Lambda Nord, calling on the NLN Phoneline.

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MERRY XMAS PARTY SAT 12/23 NEW YEARS EVE SAT 1/6 SANTA WILL BE HERE GIFTS & FUN NAUGHTY + NICE DRINK SPECIALS TIS THE SEASON TO PARTY PARTY PARTY PARTY Gay/Lesbian Travel Call Us For All Your Travel Needs! We Can Book: • RSVP Cruises • Atlantis Events • Windjammer Cruises • Olivia Cruises • Dude Ranches • Rafting Trips • Airline Tickets • Hotel Reservations • Car Rentals • Cruises • Much More ADVENTURE TRAVEL, INC. Two Elise Way • P.O. Box 6610 Scarborough, ME 04070-6610 (207) 885-5060 Advertised in the November-December 1995 edition of CPR (Crown Point Review).
COMMERCIAL ON THE COUNTY?

After some County activists met and decided that a better ad should feature a recognizable County person using the words "Aroostook County" as part of the message, the campaign's initial response was concern about the quality of the production, not with the effectiveness of the message. After numerous telephone calls from different people up here to different people down there, they finally agreed with our judgement; Mike Carpenter, former Attorney General from Houlton, was featured in the commercial on in The County?

30-second spot.

Mike Carpenter, former Attorney General from Houlton, was featured in the commercial on in The County? The messenger asked, "Didn't anyone call you by day time-line" which started two days earlier, November 2nd. 

Though the Aroostook County chapter of Maine Won't Discriminate was small, we had a number of members who offered experience and inside information to the campaign. Whether it was media savvy or advising on working with important supporters and contributors to the campaign, we were ignored. Despite an insider's knowledge of the MEA, a large financial contributor, the campaign, who saw few if any "Yes" signs in their area, said we wouldn't get signs until after Halloween. They'd send up wooden stakes, too. Signs finally did arrive, but no stakes. A call to inquire about the stakes yielded this response: "The wooden stakes are on a Ryder truck, working their way north. But we're only delivering as far as Bangor, so you'll have to make your own arrangements to get them the rest of the way."

After calming down and calling the Bangor office, suggesting they put some of the stakes on the bus to Caribou that evening, the returned message was, "The bus won't take the stakes unless they're bundled," which seemed to beg the question, "then why not bundle them?!" After more aggravation and phone calls, the stakes were transferred from car to car to car, taking another 24 hours to make a three-hour trip.

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The holidays can be such a drain. Christmas cards project. It's a guilt conspiracy! Second, lose Martha Stewart! I mean, when was the last time you went to a dinner where everything was wrapped up to look like little presents... including your roast? (Did you know that dear Martha has recently been divorced?) Must be all the time she took away from her loved ones while she busied herself lining her swimming pool with cut up credit cards.)

Third, if turkey isn't among your top ten foods, don't buy one! Is there an eleventh Commandment about having to eat turkey every November? My idea of a great meal is lobster, and that's what I had one year for Thanksgiving... and nobody reported me to the authorities either. It was wonderful! Fourth, if the idea of spending holidays with your family of origin sends you to the Army Surplus Store for a bullet proof vest, don't go... and, if you feel you must make an appearance, go for brunch or after dinner dessert and spend the better part of the day with your family of choice.

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Fifth, if your checkbook doesn't match Donald Trump's why pretend your gifts can? Give the gift of service (the promise of a gourmet dinner for two or four in February, baby-sitting, an afternoon of chores, a massage... get the picture?) Sixth, instead of a big bash that puts your credit cards in cardiac arrest, how about renting one of those old, mushy holiday movies, making a bunch of munchies and inviting a few friends over. Isn't that a party? Seventh, holidays aren't about religion really, they're about Spirit... the Spirit of love, the Spirit of giving, the Spirit of goodwill. If religion doesn't nurture you, don't think that leaves you out in the cold. Let Spirit provide the warmth of the season within. And finally, we could try to be creative about how we do holidays and not feel "married" to all the traditions of our past. We could invent new ones, ones that make us feel good about ourselves and the holidays.

So, Happy Thanksgiving, and be well. ΔΔ
PORTLAND, MAINE - Maine now has its own full-time gay, lesbian and bisexual news, public relations and media watch service. "OUTNEWS" has been started by Dave Garrity and Edie Hoffman. OUTNEWS will bring our community's stories and views directly to the mainstream media: TV, radio and print.

"We have to be consistent with the media on our central theme of anti-gay discrimination from one campaign to the next," explained Dave Garrity. "And we have to have a permanent, professional, in-state clearinghouse to service print and electronic journalists, so that we can ensure accuracy in any and all media coverage we receive."

OUTNEWS will direct journalists to knowledgeable gay and lesbian experts appropriate to the issue they are investigating. Media will be offered a variety of spokespeople, which has become practically essential for TV coverage these days. We need people from different backgrounds and with different perspectives to present the issues. Often a story goes unreported just because the only people and setups available have already been overused.

Another capability OUTNEWS wants to develop is a statewide media watch/response network. With gay and lesbian volunteers throughout Maine, we can give them feedback on what we want: fair reporting and accurate presentations of gay issues; positive images of gay men and lesbians; and, finally, stories and programs by, for and about us. This kind of work has been pioneered nationwide by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (G.L.A.A.D.). OUTNEWS is already investigating the establishment of a GLAAD chapter here in Maine.

Garrity and Hoffman began working together for Out Loud Against Discrimination. Out Loud was a coalition of experienced gay, lesbian and bisexual activists formed in the final months of the MWD campaign to insure that gay and lesbian issues were represented. The group researched and held a press conference on hate crimes, developed and distributed literature to gays and lesbians in bars across the state and worked with MPBN to get a series of documentaries on the gay and lesbian civil rights movement televised.

Both Dave Garrity and Edie Hoffman bring a unique combination of known to stir things up a little from time to time in their own particular activist ways.

Edie Hoffman was a steering committee member early in the Equal Protection Portland campaign that successfully upheld, at the polls, the city's anti-discrimination ordinance in 1992. Active in ACTUP, Hoffman founded Maine's own chapter of Queer Nation early in the 1990's. A writer and columnist for Apex until its recent collapse, Edie has considerable radio experience as well. Hoffman ran the college radio station while studying at Bowdoin, moved on to become news director at WBLM and a radio personality at WOXM. And she was the producer for the Puries, Portland's original lesbian theater company.

David Garrity has been active in gay/lesbian and progressive politics since his teens: Vietnam demos in '65; a Yippie! before the bloody Chicago demonstrations of '68; marching in the first Stonewall parade (on his 21st birthday); and, member of the Media Committee for the original March on Washington in 1979. He was a writer for the New York Native (before crazy AIDS theories) and a contributor to Christopher Street magazine. Garrity became press coordinator for EPP, writing releases, developing press kits and staging press conferences - functions he again carried out for ML/GPA in '93 when our anti-discrimination bill was passed, then vetoed by McKernan. Garrity was an early founder of MWD, even helping to name it. And he has offered PR assistance to such gay groups as NYC's Greater Gotham Business Council, to AIDS service organizations and to progressive Democratic candidates here in Maine.

For more information, please write to: OUTNEWS c/o Garrity, 174 Danforth Street, Portland, ME 04102.

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4:00 pm Sunday, Communion every week
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Interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Every person is welcomed! Please join us!
EDITORIALS

November-December, 1995

Election day 1995 is history. And for now, so is CFM and CESSR, although I'm sure none of us are making the mistake of thinking they won't be back within the next few weeks. We focused our news coverage heavily on the events and people around the referendum. We had more photo ops of Carolyn Cosby and company than we care to count. Last month it began to hit home, however, "What is life at CPR going to be like without the militant (did you see Ms. Cosby at city hall?) radical right?" Good question.

As I paused to ponder this particular question of life, I have reflected on some responses we've received over the last few months concerning particular news stories we've covered. Now, let me say that I understand when you produce a newspaper you are subject to criticism and even personal attacks. It comes with the territory. And while we have had a recent spell of both criticism and personal attacks, this isn't what concerns me most. Indeed, sometimes the lack of response worries me.

What has disturbed me recently is the expectation of some that because we are a 'gay' newspaper we will print only what we are told is okay to cover, regardless of how directly the story concerns our community, to what depth we should cover the story, and how the story should be written. The prevailing attitude seems to be that going beyond the surface press release or official statement is somehow a violation of a nebulous, unspoken code of ethics between those making the news and those reporting it.

As I said to some recent complainants, the news is the news and we are obligated to print it as accurately and fairly as possible. I challenged them, as I challenge myself and as I challenge you, the readers: don't be afraid of the truth, it works for our highest good, both individually and collectively. It's only when we attempt to keep truth hidden that things truly giving up power will always be the 'anonymous source' who will answer questions from reporters or who will volunteer information.

All you need is love

We won! By over a 26,000 vote margin, Mainers said "No" to discrimination - or did they? If the referendum had been a vote on a state-wide equal rights law, would the same margin of victory prevail? No one can presume to know this, but those who say the vote was not a mandate for gay rights are engaging in wishful thinking.

Over the past two years I covered Carolyn Cosby. I attended many of her several dozen press conferences and did my best to report what I learned. We were aided by an individual who went to work for Carolyn because she thought Carolyn was right. After working there, she changed her mind. Carolyn's negativity, scheming and frequently voiced prejudices wore her up to who Carolyn really was and just what it was that motivated Carolyn.

The question of motive is fascinating. Why is Carolyn Cosby doing this? Is it power? She has managed to elicit a persona of such vigilance and attention that she is somehow a figment of our imagination. It is so passionate in her efforts. Did you see Carolyn on TV, on election day, screaming at Portland City Manager Bob Ganley - "You oughtta be ashamed of yourself!" (In characteristic exaggeration, Carolyn charged "the most colossal voter fraud this state has ever seen.") She claimed busloads of out of staters were voting illegally - it turns out that her charges are entirely false.

I first saw Carolyn in the flesh at a meeting she had arranged at the South Portland Church of the Nazarene, May 1994. Carolyn had invited Reverend McLhenny from San Francisco to fire up her troops with tales of McLhenny's crusade against gays in California. Sitting there, shocked to hear so much hatred being voiced from the pulpit of a church, I remembered Pat Peard's warning at the Spring 1994 Maine Lesbian Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA) banquet, "Carolyn isn't a wingnut." She is a clever and effective political operator. Carolyn is right. Carolyn got over 60,000 signatures on petitions to force a state-wide referendum on her confusedly written question. The question, with so many are now all too familiar, Maimers if they wanted to limit civil rights protections to the groups already named in state law. The most prominent unnamed group is, of course, lesbians and gay men. No other group has sought civil rights protections in the legislature every year since the early seventies. I guess she means us.

Back to motive. Anyone who has seen Carolyn at a press conference, debate or on TV can feel the ego, that sense of an obsessed and driven person who knows no other answer but her own. For the sake of comparison, consider other politically prominent Maine women - Francie Peabody, Margaret Chase Smith, Olympia Snowe, and consider the various motivating forces in their lives. Ranging from a vision in eroding the era of a plague to the pursuit and fulfillment of a particular political ideology, these women have multi-faceted interests that they believe will benefit people.

Now, Carolyn - cutting through all the rhetoric, we have to believe that Carolyn's vision includes a society in which separating out homosexuals would be legally allowed. It is sad to think that this feeling of prejudice is what motivates Carolyn.

I suppose one could say, "So what?" It's obvious that that's where Carolyn is coming from, but the rub is that Carolyn denies she is prejudiced. Her response to this charge is that she is not homophobic and that the claims of discrimination by gays & lesbians are false and those that are not false are justified because, you see, she wants hotel accommodations for the kinds of things that Frannie Peard was right. Carolyn got over 60,000 signatures on petitions to force a state-wide referendum on her confusedly written question. The question, with so many are now all too familiar, Maimers if they wanted to limit civil rights protections to the groups already named in state law. The most prominent unnamed group is, of course, lesbians and gay men. No other group has sought civil rights protections in the legislature every year since the early seventies. I guess she means us.

Control, as it pertains to people's actions, is a figment of our imagination. CPR is an independent newspaper, affiliated with no organization or group. We don't respond well to being stoned-walled when we pursue a story or, to being bullied. We will not be subject to censorship by individuals or groups in our community. We will strive to improve our skills and to report stories that are factual, accurate, complete, detailed and fair.

In our Mission Statement it says, "CPR pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people." We strive to do that. We won't compromise a story because of what group or organization or individuals may be involved. Our community is strong enough to survive scrutiny. November 7 proved that. We continue to welcome your letters and comments to the Editor regarding any story or column appearing in our pages. It's your right to send them to us and our responsibility to print them.

In solidarity.
R A N T: Throw the bums out!

by David O. Cook

Once again we’re in the throes of the national election race. As usual, large amounts of time and money will be spent to crank up the fear circus that keeps the media busy while diverting voter attention from the fact that the whole ritual is more about selling TV airtime than a way for American citizens to effect substantive change in their government. Yet we’re not all as dumb as party leaders would like to believe, as evidenced by steadily declining voter turnout, a likely barometer of the low esteem in which the whole enterprise is held.

Don’t get me wrong: I voted for Bill Clinton and still believe that he has been better than four more years of George Bush would have been. But I just don’t think that there is as much difference between the two national parties as there ought to be. And, over the last twenty years, both parties have been complicit in an array of right-wing dirty tricks, including the so-called Reagan Revolution, which was aided and abetted by a Democratic Congress.

As the election process gets underway, there is inevitable discussion about presidential “leadership qualities,” which, I suspect, is a code phrase for machismo. Since Bill Clinton never served in the military and hasn’t yet bombed the shit out of the Iraqis, presumably he does not possess said leadership qualities. Yet George Bush, one of the most oblique Presidents in recent memory, was thrown out after one term by disillusioned voters. Was it because he presided over Phase II of the Reagan Revolution — allowing economic rot to multiply and spread? Or was it because he spent billions on a war to protect the financial interests of one filthy-rich family in Kuwait? Or was it just that he had a speaking voice that sounded like a rusty gate hinge? (The so-called “wimp factor.”)

It’s hard to know why so many presidents fall short of public expectations. But I believe that part of the explanation lies in the corruption of the two political parties. Beholden to big interests and their big dollars, legislators on both sides of the congressional aisle have little time for the interests of the common American. But, while the Democrats are nothing to get excited about, the Republicans are clearly worse. Now truly running amok, they are waging war on the poor and on 50 years of social progress.

Short of blowing up the whole thing and starting over, it seems to me that what America needs now is a real third national party with a commitment to social justice. It needs to be composed of unrepentant liberals who will not spend their time apologizing for their progressive views but will devote their energy to swaying the American political cultural spectrum back away from fascism and toward the ideals that are what this country is supposed to be about. Here are some planks that might fit in such a party’s platform:

1. A universal human rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will once and for all put an end to questions about who is entitled to be treated like human beings and who isn’t (Carolyn Cosby — are you listening?)

2. A reproductive rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will permanently null the teeth of the grossly misnamed “Pro-life” movement and pave the way for America to join the ranks of civilized western countries with respect to family planning, contraception, and abortion.

3. An environmental rights amendment to provide an unshakable foundation for restricting the freedom to pollute.

4. Radical campaign reform, including the elimination of private funding, restrictions on PAC influence, re­duction of campaign length, and establishment of standards for campaign content.

5. Re-in­vigor­ation of federal media regulation, particularly with regard to standards for TV news quantity and content and the elimination of media “merger mania.”


7. Universal education.

8. A unified national welfare/un­employment system.

9. Reform of the secondary education system.

10. Re-regulation of banking, finance, and commerce.

Perhaps the Greens can fill this role. I’m not sure, but, whoever wants to take a shot will have to overcome nearly insurmountable obstacles in the form of an intellectually bankrupt media, a morally corrupt political process, and an apathetic population.

LOVE from page 10

Whether you agree with any of the ideas that motivated the Democratic women, you cannot look at them and then look at Carolyn and not walk away feeling a little ashamed of Carolyn and the voices of prejudice she wishes to give the stamp of approval. It is very likely the next Pope is a woman. And if that is the case, would people like Carolyn Cosby seek prominence in politics and religion? Would the American Catholic church — that is just another MWD — be as concerned Maine Families (CMF) and the Coalition to End Special Rights (CESR) received all of their money from Main­

cers. In fact, both organization’s biggest donations were from out of state, national, right-wing religious groups.

In Lesson 2 he speculates about the motives of the “No” voter. Indeed, there are people who voted “No” who do not support a state-wide bill, but he is mis­informed about the bill itself, and the issue was taken up as an “emergency” bill but merely went through the regular legis­lative channels, and his crack about supporters of local control misses a funda­mental difference in Cosby’s attack on local control and the passage of a state­wide bill. Cosby’s attack was a preemp­tive strike at local control, a state­wide bill is a decision made legislatively where representatives get to voice the local interest.

In Lesson 3 we learn that resistance to gay rights is “grassroots.” So is sup­port of it and that support happens to be a majority. The implication that CMF was grass roots and MWD was elitist betrays simple ignorance of the fact that MWD had an extensive system of grass roots organizations which held pot lucks, house parties, meetings and did phone work. CMF did not mount such an ef­fort — not because they lacked resources but because there wasn’t that ground­swell of volunteer support. Whose fault is that?

As for the schizophrenia in the Catholic Church — that is just another CPR — the Pope. It is very likely the next Pope will liberalize John Paul II’s destructive policies.

Harmon’s discussion of the nature of homosexuality in Lesson 4 is outra­geous. He refers to the Paulk ad in the Portland Press Herald - paid for by the Coalition to End Special Rights. It was CESR’s full-page, desperate attempt to inflame voters.

Paulk says he is a “former homosexual, male prostitute and female im­personator.” The fact is that many male prostitutes are not homosexual, but, one could surmise that engaging in these behaviors and occasionally enjoying them would lead one to question one’s sexual orientation. As for his career as a female impersonator — it was just that — money. Either Paulk never was a ho­mosexual or he is simply bending to the unrelenting societal pressure that tells us that homosexuality is somehow “wrong.” These two possibilities cover

See LOVE, page 20
DECEMBER - NOVEMBER '95 CALENDAR

Saturday, November 18:
5:10 AM-1:00 PM - Maine Won't Discriminate open meeting for anyone and everyone to talk about Question #1, the future of MWD and what happens next in Maine. UU Church, 69 Winthrop St. (corner of Summer), Augusta. FMI, 761-1788.

ΔA 1:30-4:30 PM - MLGPA meeting at UU Church, 69 Winthrop St. (corner of Summer), Augusta. FMI, 1-800-55-MLGPA

Sunday, November 19:
ΔA 6:00 PM - Re-organization meeting of DIGNITY, St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State Street, Portland. DIGNITY is coming back due to renewed interest. Mass will be celebrated followed by refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome. For more information call Laura at 878-0546, Glenn at 878-9682, Rosemary or Janet at 646-2820.

Monday, November 20:
ΔA 6:00-8:00 PM - Southern Maine Pride Committee meeting. Holiday Inn By The Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Board elections, committee & advisory board formation and review of incorporation. All Welcome. FMI, 871-9999.

ΔA 7:00-8:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center. FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

Tuesday, November 21:
ΔA 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, November 22:
ΔA 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔA 5:30-7:00 PM - CD pre-release party and fund-raiser featuring music from "Staying out of the Risky Zone," a highly personal and curriculum proponent group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

Thursday, November 23:
ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland, FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Friday, November 24:
ΔA 8:00 PM - Big 2 Do Productions presents a Songbook Series at Portland Museum of Art. "The Maine AIDS Quilt Songbook" will benefit The Maine Chapter of The NAMES Project featuring Maine composers John Alexander, Bruce Fithian and Rita Kownick. Tickets are $10. FMI, 207/777-0634.

ΔA 8:00 PM - FUCK & pan Theatre Company presents, "Dancing at Lughnasadh" by Irish playwright Brian Friel, at Reiche School, Portland. Tickets are $7.50 or pay-as-you-can. Tim Grover, Artistic Director, FMI, 766-5023.

Saturday, November 25:
ΔA 10:30-11:30 AM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.

Tuesday, November 28:
ΔA 1:00-2:00 PM & 7:00-9:00 PM - Alliance for Sexual Diversity meetings at Portland Campus Center in the Boiler Room (next to dinning room). Open to absolutely everyone.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - The AIDS Project 10th Anniversary Dinner with Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders speaking. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. RSVP-TAP-774-8771 by November 22. Black Tie optional. $50 per ticket.

Wednesday, November 29:
ΔA 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Thursday, November 30:
ΔA 4:00 PM - Acorn Productions first ever open audition call. Call Michael Levine at 775-5103 from 2-5 PM daily to set up an appointment. FMI, 207/246-7228.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord's Christmas Party in Caribou. Contact the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St., Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

Friday, December 1:
ΔA 7:45 AM - MCLU presents a debate on gay rights Colby College, Waterville in the Page Commons Room of the Student Union. Open to the public and free. The debate is part of the Bill of Rights program offered by the MCLU. Attorneys Michaela Murphy and Jed Davis, two local attorneys, will debate the topic with their positions not being determined until shortly before debate begins.

ΔA 5:30-7:00 PM - CD pre-release party and fund-raiser featuring music from "Staying out of the Risky Zone," a highly personal and curriculum proponent group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Saturday, December 2:
ΔA 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Sunday, December 3:
ΔA 1:30-3:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Business Meeting at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

Monday, December 4:
ΔA 6:30 PM - Rainbow Business & Professional Association's First Annual BIZARE BAZAAR at the Portland Performing Arts Center. "If the snow flies from heaven or the floor, we'll be there. Call Mike 603/644-7658. 8-10 PM - Portland Performing Arts presents "Sweet Honey In the Rock" at the State Theatre, Portland. 19 GA, $29.50 cabaret. FMI, 761-591. Tickets: 879-1112. Tuesday, December 5:
ΔA 7:30-9:00 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

Tuesday, December 6:
ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

Thursday, December 7:
ΔA 7:30-9:00 PM - The Matlovich Society presents, "Children of Parents Like Us," a panel discussion which will include children talking about what it's like in their families. Bring questions, thoughts and experiences. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. FMI, 207/246-7228.

Friday, December 8:
ΔA 3:30-6:30 PM - Open House Party at The AIDS Project. Come and visit TAP's new home at 142 High Street, 6th floor. Light refreshments.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Lesbian, gay and bisexual discussion group. 1st Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland. Topic: "Role Models: Personal, Local and Beyond." FMI, Larry Godfrey, 949-2977.

ΔA 8:00 PM - Maine Gay Men's Chorus presents "Peace on Earth" concert at State Street Church, Portland.

Saturday, December 9:
ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.

ΔA 8:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Business Meeting at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

Sunday, December 10:
ΔA 1:00-2:00 PM & 7:00-9:00 PM - Alliance for Sexual Diversity meetings at Portland Campus Center in the Boiler Room (next to dining room) Open to absolutely everyone.

ΔA 7:00 PM - Portland Chapter of PFLAG meets at Woodford Congregational Church, Woodford Corner. We are parents, friends and relatives of lesbians, bisexual, gay and transgendered persons offering support and education. FMI, Rita-Seda-5158 or Sue-774-3441.

ΔA 7:30-8:30 PM - PELAG: Seacoast, Interfacing "Connections," a support group for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Held at Exeter (NH) Congregational Church, Front St. Meetings held second Tuesday each month and are primarily for support, discussion and resource sharing. FMI, Ted-603/778-0102 or Ingrid-603/772-6221.

ΔA 7:30-8:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

Wednesday, December 12:
ΔA 3:00-4:00 PM - Lesbian and bisexual women's discussion/support group congregates in USM Portland Campus Women's Center, basement of Payson Smith Hall. Open to the public and free.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Northern Lambda Nord Drop-In and Open House at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 Main St, Caribou, FMI, 207/498-2088.

ΔA 7:00-9:00 PM - Women in Harmony choral group rehearsal, Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI, 207/286-8016 or 207/885-0995.
HUMAN RIGHTS from page7 

or inadequate policies and procedures. But we shouldn’t blame ourselves or each other (blaming the victim?) if we don’t agree. (I don’t even think we should be blaming or demonizing those who supported a “Yes” vote. As long as we focus on them as individuals instead of their specific behaviors and attitudes, we cannot hope to change them.)

I am sure I would have been very critical of the way MWD conducted the campaign had I been involved in it more actively. Instead, I chose to involve myself in ways I felt comfortable, did what I was willing to do, and made a small contribution. The more a campaign can combine different approaches and find a place for all those who want to contribute, the more effective it will be. That is something to strive for in the next chapter of this saga. My attitude about that next chapter: A clean slate. Let’s overlook the problems (but learn from them) of the past campaign and create a new strategy that is more inclusive and effective.

I will also try not to be too attached to the outcome of the election. The important thing for me is to fight the fight, whatever the result might be. Then it’s much easier to keep on being involved and active, which I have been on various justice and peace issues for over 25 years, because what I value is keeping up the struggle, not winning a victory. I haven’t suffered a lot from discouragement or burnout for this reason.

This ballot question has helped those of us who believe in B/L/G civil rights to create a community of support and struggle, of which I feel a part. I don’t want that community to disappear after November 7. I hope others will also work to keep that community thriving, not just until a civil rights bill is passed but until homophobia disappears. That means we’ll have to be in it for the long haul.

To the Editor,
Re: CPR article on Deborah Shields resignation (as Executive Director of The AIDS Project)
Bruce:
You failed to live up to your obligations as a professional journalist in the following ways: 1) You knew the facts, yet you constructed them in such a way as to encourage readers to misconstrue what really happened, and 2) Most important, you failed to give Deborah a chance to respond to a damaging quote from an anonymous board member, even though you knew on background the difficult situation she was in with respect to divulging pertinent facts. Taken together, these errors constitute either sloppy -- or at worse (sic) -- intentionally biased journalism. At the least, they are evidence of a lack of professionalism. You can consider this a letter to the editor.
Eve Rainon, Portland

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** Classified Ads **

**TRAVEL VACATION**
**DD** LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. You’re our perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 11809, Bethel, ME 04329, (603) 869-1878. **DD**


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**PERSONALS**

**DD** Small endowed? Short in stature? Like us? Tired of guys searching for a small man and our admirers. 100’s of word personal ad, voice mail, and mail forwarding! Local and nationwide! All AA. For reservations: 207/925-1080. **DD**

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**HOUSESITTERS**

**DD** A respectful, clean, professional couple desperately seeking house-sitting situation in Portland/South Portland area. We need private quarters for a time. We will take excellent care of house or apartment. Call for more information, 207-774-0387 and ask for Jay. **DD**

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**HOUSE FOR SALE**

**DD** A DELIGHTFUL SINGLE FAMILY HOME on Spruce Street, gay friendly neighborhood on West End in Portland. 2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Contemporary renovated interior. Sunny, skylight, wood floors, woodstove. Very yard, deck and parking. $129,000. Call owners, 207-828-7904. **DD**

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**HELP WANTED**

**DD** ASSISTANT INNKEEPER - Women’s inn seeks mature, responsible person to work in all aspects of inn operation. Position is full-time, year round, salary $20s, plus benefits. Resumes: Highlands Inn, Box 118, Bethel, ME 03744. **DD**

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**SUPPORT GROUP**


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**GAY MALE COUPLES GROUP**

A closed therapeutic group for gay male couples. Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Group co-facilitators are Bill Barter, LCPC and Randy May, LMSW. Payment arrangements and insurance coverage possible. For more information, call 773-0205.

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**MAINE FRONTRUNNERS**

Gay and Lesbian Running Club

Weekly run around Baxter Boulevard / Back Cove in Portland. Every Saturday at 9:00 AM - Meet at the Preble Street parking lot. All levels of runners, runners, joggers and walkers welcome. FMI Call Jim: 761-2059 or John: 828-4896

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GENERAL
MLGPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on LGBT issues in Maine. Members of MLGPA will advocate for greater condemnation in Maine's political process, promote civil rights, develop and review legislation, endorse candidates, build a coalition, and support anti-gay legislation and referenda. Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of every month in Augusta. FMI call 1-800-55-MLGPA.

Families and friends of LGBT (F-F) is an educational, informational, social, and service organization serving gay, lesbian, and bisexual people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are the 2nd Sunday of every month at 1 pm (ME), 2 pm (N-B), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 394 S. Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The PhoneLine. Call 207-498-2088.

The Matlocki Society is an educational and cultural institution serving lesbians, bisexuals, gays, and men friends and committed to sharing our history as well as providing person-affirming presentations and discussions in a supportive environment. Meetings are the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Free parking available and accessible by the mobility-impaired. Call 207761-4380.

National Association of Social Workers, ME Chapter, Sexual Minorities Community Issues Committee welcomes new social workers. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby legislators on issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5 pm at the Community CounselingCtr., 343 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call Perry Sutherland, 874-1030.

HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS: Have you or someone you know been a victim? Call 603/623-1820 or contact Section 4 of the Maine Department of the Attorney General 626-8844.

Citizens Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights (CAGLR): New Hampshire's oldest progressive gaylesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all those interested in being active at weekly meetings, programs, socials and various other events. Newsletter: Call Info-line (603) 224-1868 or write to PO Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0730.

The Rainbow Business and Professional Association: a statewide non-profit organization established to create gay, lesbian, bi and transgendered "chamber of commerce" for networking or dinner with speaker events, held in the Greater Portland area, second Monday of the month. FMI write PO Box 6627, Scarborough, ME 04070-6627, call 207.775.0015 or e-mail wildboys@mainelink.net.

MUSIC & ART
Women In Harmony is an ecclesiical choir ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in singing, or organizing voluntary action, send SASE (including your phone number) to P.O Box 5136 MA. Portland, ME 04101, or call 207774-4490.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus is a community chorus which brings men together to en­ hance social togetherness and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gaylesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. FMI call 883-8289. Room 202, Community Counseling Ctr., 343 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04104.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists community FMI call 773-3420.

PHONE SUPPORT
National Center on Lesbian Rights Youth Projects-1-800-528-NCLR
Boston Alliance of Lesbians and Gay Youth (BALGY) -1-800-347-TEEN
National Hotline for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender youth:
800342-7366. Sponsored by the Indianapolis Youth Group. 7-10 pm Sunday through Thursday, 7 pm to midnight Friday and Saturday. Staffed and trained, peer (youth control) volunteers needed. Anonymous, confidential, HIV testing by appointment only. Clinic open Tues. & Thurs., 3-6 pm at Portland City Hall Room 303. FMI call 874-8784.


FREE FAMILY THERAPY available for individuals & families (of a specific) who are affected by HIV disease. FMI, contact Chris Bevan, MSW at Center for Training and Special Programs. 773-6945.

Identity Support
New Hampshire P-F-P Meetings: Concord, Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at New Hampshire Congregational Church, Washington St. & North Main St. (use Washington St. entrance) to the left, 603427-4742. Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at St. James Episcopal Church, ExceiY Lane, Portsmouth. 603-775-0173. Manchester: Meets first Sunday, 7-9 pm, The Meets at St. Stephen, 120-130 Main St., Milford. FMI, 603-926-1890.

Trans Support Group: Meets 4th Monday from 7:30-8:30 pm at the Place to Go, 46 Concord St., Concord, NH 03301. FMI call 603-775-5196.

Peer Support Group: Meets 3rd Sunday at 5:15 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), Portland. All are welcome. Fellowship & potluck supper follow 5:15 pm. Service to the lesbian and gay community. FMI, write P.O. Box 8113, Portland, ME 04104-0101.

The Appollos Society: an outreach, networking and social organization for New Hampshire's gay and lesbian atheists, agnostics, freethinkers, ethical humanists and Hellenes. FMI, free speech/civil rights advocacy group, offering freedom-from-religion support, religious de-programming and fun! FMI, 773-5726 or P.O Box 55301, Portland ME 04101-

Community of Hope: A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all seekers. Worship on Saturdays at 6:00 PM at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 150 High St., Portland. FMI write Community of Hope. PO Box 1671, Portland, ME 04104.

Central Maine Gay Men's Support Groups:
Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm. Call FMI 622-1885 or 622-4234.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Discussion Groups:
1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 7-9 pm. First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland, ME. FMI, Larry Godfrey, (207) 194-2992.

O-Squad Support group for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, & transgendered. Serving Franklin County, based at UMMF. FMI call and leave message, (207) 778-7380.

Trans Support Group: For crossdressers, transsexuals, their friends, families, and others interested in transgenderism. Meets in secure locations to provide support, education & social activities. FMI write TransSupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, ME 04112.

Gender Talk North, P.O. Box 211, Kennebunk, ME 03901.

Trans Counseling: Cheshire Counseling Assoc., P.O. Box 1124, Kennebunk, ME 04041-0341.

Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse: A support group for survivors of childhood abuse and/or sexual assault meets Wednesdays from 1:30 pm. FMI, safe, confidential, FMI call and location call (207) 874-5659. Sponsored by USM's Women's Forum.

Men & Bisexual People's Network: Meets to affirm in all a positive nature of bisexuality and work toward greater acceptance in the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities. Support and referrals available. FMI write P.O. Box 18108, Portland, ME 04104.

Polyamorous Life Support (PALS): Do you love more than one person? You may be polyamorous. Polyamorous Life Support (PALS) is a discussion/support group for open, non-monogamous, kink-friendly, non-strings-attached, committed, loving, multipartner relationships.
NEW HAMPSHIRE from page 9

October 15 Gay History Day

New Hampshire Senator Burt Cohen, who is president pro-tempore of the Senate, and the Governor, N. H. House, Rick Trombley and Portsmouth City Councilor, Jim Splaine joined a crowd of more than 150 people. They sang and carried banners for the three-mile walk through downtown Portsmouth.

CIVIL RIGHTS: YES!

The Civil Rights Determination (CED) will again support an amendment to NH's civil rights legislation to include "sexual orientation." New Hampshire citizens can lose their jobs and their licenses for antigay discrimination. CED will work with New Hampshire Citizens' Alliance for Gay & Lesbian Rights (CAGLR) and with NPLAG-NH members and other groups who support equal (not "special" or "gay") rights.

Wherever, over the rainbow...

Warren Blumenfeld, while in Kan- sas for a state PFLAG conference, heard the following story, which NPLAG-NH member Cy Sherman recounted to the editors of PFLAG-NH's "This Issue." It's a true story.

A boy in a Kansas high school, knowing he was gay and fearing graduation, decided to come out to his par- ents and his school. This led to the discovery of a disaster. His family kicked him out and his schoolmates made life at school a living hell for him, jeering at him in the halls, etc. This is a family of a child that was neglected and miserable, he thought about his graduation ceremony and re- alized that there would be nobody to clap for him when he walked up to receive his diploma; it seemed more than he could bear.

On an impulse, the boy called a PFLAG number, explained the situation to a mother who answered the phone, and asked her if she might consider coming to his graduation to clap for him. Although it would mean a two-hour drive, she said she would try to be there.

Civil Rights: YES!

The full text of the amendment this summer, leaving Maine and New Hampshire the only New En- gland states lacking such legislation. CED will work with New Hamp- shire Citizens' Alliance for Gay & Lesbian Rights (CAGLR) and with NPLAG-NH members and other groups who support equal (not "special" or "gay") rights.

Maine AIDS Alliance

Member Organizations

AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Port- land, ME 04101-3820, call 877-1040.

AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn: P.O. Box 2038, Lewiston, Maine 04243-7797. Call 276-4697.


Community Task Force on AIDS Education: P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 583- 6408.

DaySpring: 32 Walthrhp St., Augusta, ME 04330. Call 279-4352.

Down East AIDS Network: 114 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04606. Call 668-6305.

Eastern Maine AIDS Network: P.O. Box 2038, Bangor, ME 04401. Call 990-3626.

Merry meeting AIDs Support Service: P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011. Call 725-4955.

NAMES Project/Maine: P.O. Box 10248, Portland, ME 04104. Call 774-2198.


Peabody House: 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. Call 774-6281.

People With AIDS Coalition of ME: 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.

People Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) 142 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 775-PAWS.

St. John Valley AIDS Task Force: c/o NMMC, 143 E. Main St., Fort Kent, ME 04743. Call 834-3355.


Waldos-Know AIDS Coalition: P.O. Box 956, Balsam, ME 04401. Call 338-1427.

Online Resources for Maine's LGBTQ Community

The Maine Gay Network

The Maine GayNet Mail List:

Share your ideas and opinions or just plain chat with other list members. To subscribe to this list, send e-mail to major@abo.com. In the message part, write: subscribe GayNet.

The Maine GayNet Home Page:

An ever-changing display of events and information. Meetings, contact people, resources, referrals. The complete text of the website is available from your WEB Browser at: http://www.gqrd.org/ QRD/www/usa/maine GayNet/mail paula stockholm: paula@maine.com}
"OUT LOUD" - for the human rights of lesbians and gays

by Ainsel Ponti

When the brilliant "Spirit of '73" compilation was released, well, here I am having another brilliant "Spirit of '95" compilation in 1995. The Billy Tipton Memorial Saxophone Quartet's "Tri-Monk." Other artists on "Out Loud" are Pushing Muses, fronted by Kristin Hersh, The Mekons, who have been a prominent part of England's punk scene since 1977, and Girls in the Nose, fronted by Kay Turner. Remember Two Nice Girls. As sad as I was when I heard they split up, founder Gretchen Phillips now fronts the Gretchen Phillips Experience and her quirky, electronic song "Fease Park." If nothing else, this is certainly an eclectic album where you'll enjoy acoustic, folk music to vibrant jazz and even a country number. Many of the artists have been chosen for music to be long-lasting and well established in the music world. Others are lesser known yet have found good homes for their music on this album. Voice Farm's catchy "Shave Your Head," Betty's bluesy "Kiss My Sticky," and U2's new mix of their cover of Cole Porter's "Night and Day," may get you out on the dance floor. Background music for Sunday brunch is provided by The Jazz Passengers' "Swim to Me," and The Billy Tipton Memorial Saxophone Quartet's "Tri-Monk." A few of the artists on this collection are long-time favorites of mine. First, Melissa Ferrick starts the album off with "Taking a Liking," with the unique, fiery catch in her voice and a perfect acoustic guitar. Indigo Girls follow with a live-acoustic "This Train Revised," a necessary addition to the collection of Amy and Emily fans. You might not be familiar with the British singer-songwriter Billy Bragg. His contribution, "Sexuality," a song he put out a few years ago, could be one of many theme songs to the gay rights cause. "Just because your gay, I won't turn you away. If you stick around, I'm sure that we could find some common ground," says Bragg. And then of course, a particular favorite of mine, disappear fear. Sonia offers another well-crafted song with "Michelangelo." She and her sister Cindy still blend their vocals in such a way as can be heard nowhere else. Always politically conscious, Sonia reminds us that "It's no sin to love out loud." Other artists on "Out Loud" are Putting Muses, fronted by Kristen Hersh, The Mekons, who have been a part of England's punk scene since 1977, and Girls in the Nose, fronted by Kay Turner. Remember Two Nice Girls. As sad as I was when I heard they split up, founder Gretchen Phillips now fronts the Gretchen Phillips Experience and her quirky, electronic song "Fease Park." If nothing else, this is certainly a product of the collaboration and dedication of Julie and Michael Dorf. Michael is owner of the Knitting Factory club and record label. He's toured extensively and yet the "spotlight" has never really shined too brightly on her. With classic songs like "Drop the Pilot" and "Love and Affection," as well as so many lesser known but certainly notable songs, her music stands the test of time and is breaking new ground. "The Weakness In Me," which is perhaps one of the better written ballads of our time, and "Willow," which made it onto the "Boys on the Side" soundtrack, are both timeless, emotional songs which "get you" every time. Armatrading's music, which fits many definitions, reggae, jazz, stripped down and quite orchestrated, is soulful, intimate, bluesy, dancey and if you're familiar with her, I'm sure you could think of many other ways to describe her unique styles and sounds. On "What's Inside" you'll hear the bluesy guitar work of Armatrading, you'll hear love songs, and even the London Metropolitan Orchestra. This album is very easy on the ears. It's perfect dinner music, soothing morning music, and my favorite, ideal music to laminate over stuff to. Yet, this album also has a certain rhythm to it that weaves in and out over the course of 13 tracks. My favorite is the second one, "Everyday Boy." With its use of the Manu Katche drums, this particular song has an energy all its own that is subtle and powerful at the middle of the show, she was joined by a violinist and a cellist and the three women performed a number of songs from "What's Inside." All were beautiful. She also performed all of her classics and one of my favorites from her "Square the Circle" album, "Sometimes I Don't Want to Go Home." She ended the evening with "Willow" during which the audience joined in and carried the song for several minutes while each band member bowed and left the stage. Although I think Joan Armatrading should be a household name, her music is no less worthy of the attention that many musicians who came along years after she have gotten. Yet, I also think she is one of the women who paved the way for others to follow, and she's not done...
THEATRE REVIEW  
"The Yellow Wallpaper" 
by Rose Mary Denman

I've always enjoyed going to the Old Grammophone, so when I was offered a ticket (by CPR) in exchange for a review on "The Yellow Wallpaper," I jumped at the opportunity and took a friend.

"The Yellow Wallpaper" is a novel written by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, which was adapted for this production by Suze Allen, who also directed. What a treat the evening was! I even ran into a couple of my students there, and that's always a wonderful surprise for a teacher.

Gilman's play was written as a commentary on the plight of women of her day. Jane, the main character, is a young married woman who, before her marriage, was a vivacious, curious, would-be writer. It is easy to see that, as her life as a married woman unfolds, it is only allowed the most passive of activities: walks in the garden, meals taken alone in her room and lots of napping. Writing is absolutely forbidden. In fact, he insists that it is the writing that is at the center of all of Jane's problems.

As the story progresses and Jane's activities are increasingly restricted, she is less and less in touch with reality. The patterns of the wallpaper in her room becomes an obsession for her, and slowly, she is driven to madness from as the pattern emerges a woman who must be freed. The projection is complete, and Jane is left, at the end of the play, a woman trapped within her own mind. Allen's adaptation of this story is impressive. Linda Stathoplos as Jane is very convincing, and the wallpaper is brought to life by eight cast members who personify what Jane sees as her madness progresses. My only disappointment was in the performance of Michael Bellino, who played Jane's husband, John. In my reading of the book, I envisioned John as a well-meaning, loving husband who was the product of his day; a man who saw his wife's unrest as a symptom of too much thinking and activity, and who sought to cure her by restricting her activities because he loved her. Bellino's acting felt flat and seemed to lack what I see as the misguided, but well-intentioned behavior of the character.

Despite this small flaw, I was completely taken with the play. Thumbs up for Suze Allen and her cast! And thumbs up for the Oak Street Pro and Jane and John Ivory Theatre for bringing affordable, quality theatre to Portland!  

Entertainment tidbits

Puck & Pan Theatre to perform "Dancing at Lughnasa"  

Puck & Pan Theatre will perform the dramatic play, "Dancing at Lughnasa" by playwright Brian Friel. This 1992 Tony Award winner presents this contemporary look at tribalism and Christianity and their relationship to the harvest and the morals of dance. This play is the perfect Thanksgiving harvest play for the entire family. Performances are November 26, 27, 28, and December 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. 

CONCERT REVIEW  
Ferron at the Somerville (MA) Theatre, October 27th  

by Mark Letizia

The opportunity to see Ferron perform with a five-piece band proved too irresistible to let the band's free-form style deter Boston detr. It was, of course, worth the trip. The Somerville Theater is a smaller, funky version of the excellent State Theater in Portland, and it was a good venue in which to see them play.

The show started out with Ferron playing, "It Won't Take Long" on her guitar, and one by one a band member would come on stage and start playing, along as the song got fuller and more raucous.

I was wondering if the addition of a band would dilute some of her intensity and intimacy. The last time I saw Ferron was at the Left Bank Cafe in Blue Hill, which seats only 90 people. That show, with just Ferron and Jamaica Plain (MA) guitarist Shelly Jennings, was akin to having them play in your living room. While this show was different in tone, it was no less intense.

Some of the songs that only a band could do justice to were played, such as the zydeko flavored "Love Loves Me," "Heart of Destruction," "Indian Dreams" and a version of "Sunken City" that, with it's accompanying synth, took me back 20 years to when I was going to "Yes" and "Genesis" concerts. An excellent version of "Misty Mountain" was also included.

This concert tour coincides with the release of a revamped, remixed version of Ferron's 1990 "Phantom Center," now on Earthbeat Records, a division of Warner Bros. The company hopes to expose more people to Ferron's music. This CD also features a newly recorded version of "Stand Up" which includes Amy Ray and Emily Saliers. The Indigo Girls, helping out on vocals and guitar.

One of the high points for me was the opening song, "It Won't Take Long," which seems so on the mark today, (the day after election day). By changing two words in the lyrics (parenthetically noted), I send this out to Carolyn Cosby and her friends:

"And beware you (fundamentalists), for you will not hear one gun.

And though our (hearts) be torn and ransacked, we will not be undone.

For as we let ourselves be bought, we're gonna let ourselves be free.

And if you think we stand alone, look again and you will see: We are children in the rafter, We are babies in the park, We are lovers at the movies, We are candles in the dark, We are changes in the weather, We are snowflakes in July, We are grown women together, We are men who easily cry, We are words not quickly spoken, We're the deeper side of try, We are dreamers in the making, We are not afraid of 'Why?'"

At the end of this song, Ferron added the exhortation: "I will not be complacent, I will not be complacent, I will not be complacent!!"

Nor will I.  

(Mark Letizia is owner of Osprey Healthy Homes and lives in Penobscot, Maine. We look forward to his continuing contributions.)

MUSICAL REVIEW:  
The secret's out...  
by Aimee Ponti

It's hard to believe that Melissa Etheridge's last album, "Yes I Am," has been around for three years, and it still gets played on radio stations everywhere. I reached a personal threshold with "I'm the Only One" sometime last year, and so I am very happy to be the proud owner of her latest full length album "Your Little Secret." Her last re­leases were "I Take You With Me," a passionate tune from the "Boys on the Side" soundtrack, and you could not cover the cover of Joan Armatrading's "The Weakness in Me" on a new compila­tion album, "Ain't Nothin' But a She Thing.

Etheridge is a relentless traveler, seemingly always on tour, which is something I give her much credit for. I haven't heard about tour plans yet for this album, but I'm sure that she'll find herself playing somewhere near Portland.

Commercially speaking, "Yes I Am" is a tough act to follow, yet I sus­pect its steady geographic success will precede you to your favorite station. It is a record that, at the end of the day, will make you think of a woman who has a message that needs to be heard.
ESCAPE
by Jenn York

the howl of the wind
against the dead building
made my skin crawl
with empathy
for the armies that have marched
before me
(for the pain of my own path)
down the hard blue halls
the screams of help
suffocated
by the walls

the ones who fought
through the bricks
got pulled back in
and gave their last breath
to that prison

the walls echoed with pain
the wind spoke of release

how I wished I had a pick-ax
to break through the walls
and be carried off
by the wind

just my luck
I would fall victim
to the storm of hate
and be smashed back into
the walls

Well as you all probably know, Question 1 was not passed. So now, our lives may continue as normal except that Carolyn Cosby is a sore loser and now is trying to drag Maine Won’t Discriminate into a legal battle. Carolyn, give it up!

Recently, I found a letter a certain administrator wrote about me last year trying to kick me out of school because, “He is causing trouble and disrupting learning in this school.” So, in other words, if the ordinance that Carolyn was trying to destroy wasn’t in place, the school could have easily kicked me out and sent me somewhere else. Well, I like my school this year. Things are a lot better and if any one tries to pull me out of there, they better think again. I won’t go without a fight. As you read this, a group called A.Y.P.L.E. (Association for Youth Protection, Liberation, and Empowerment) is beginning it’s campaign for youth. For more information on A.Y.P.L.E., write OUR VOICE, Community Pride Reporter, 142 High Street, Suite #623, Portland, Maine 04101. In a future edition of CPR we will be talking more about A.Y.P.L.E.

Until next time, SH-L

MOVIE REVIEW -
“Powder”

Reviewed by Sage Hilton-Lemons

Even though this movie has not been highly rated, “Powder” is one of the most exceptional movies in all creation. The only way it would get less than infinity stars is because whoever rated it obviously has no grip on reality or imagination.

Powder, a boy in his late teens, has been kept inside his grandparents’ house all his life, because he has no skin pigmentation. Although Powder is discovered to have an I.Q. that is off the charts because it is so high, Powder also has a strong electric ability you might say, and is able to do lots of little tricks involving electricity. If I say anymore, I’ll give away the movie. “Powder” is a movie the makes you think and brings up a lot of interesting ideas. Go see it!

RATING: Infinity *** stars AA
OUT OF TOWN!

Paul T. Bernard

I recently returned from the 2nd Annual Gay/Lesbian Travel Expo which was held in San Francisco. I thought that I would share with you some of the travel opportunities available to gays and lesbians.

OUR FAMILY ABROAD - This New York based company offers tours to Europe, Asia, and Africa specifically for gays/lesbians. These tours are actually offered through GLOBUS/GATEWAY - a major European tour promoter. What makes these tours different is that "Our Family Abroad" buys an entire bus tour from "Globus/Gateway" and resells it only to gays and lesbians. These tours run for 10 days.

Some of their tours are: European Panorama - 16 days, starts in London and ends in Paris - covers Amsterdam, Cologne, Heidelberg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Venice, Rome, Florence, Monte Carlo, Nice, Lyon and more. Price is $2222 including air from New York. England, Scotland, & Wales - 10 days, starts and ends in London. Price is $1375 including air from New York. Midnight Sun - 18 days, starts in Copenhagen and ends in Oslo - covers Drammen, Fiskå, Sweden, and Norway. Price is $3005 including air from New York. Egyptian Splendor - 10 days, starts and ends in Cairo. Covers the Pyramids, Aswan area, and Luxor. Price is $1500 including air from New York. These are just a few of the 25 tours that they offer.

OUT WEST ADVENTURES - this new company is offering outdoor travel experiences in the Rockies. These range from Ski Weeks to hiking to backpacking to white water rafting. Some of these packages are exclusively for women and some are mixed men and women.

MEN ON VACATION - This San Diego based company offers gay/lesbian tours to Australia and New Zealand. Their biggest tour is for the Gay Games in Sydney in February. In addition, they just recently opened up a gay resort on the island of Fiji called Man Friday Resort.

PLAYER EXPRESS - If you are interested in Las Vegas, this company offers packages for gays/lesbians. Basically, they offer standard "straight" packages but include a gay guide to Las Vegas.

ROYAL HAWAIIAN WEDDINGS - This Maui based company offers packages that include a commitment ceremony for gays and lesbians. Gay/Lesbian marriage still isn't legal in Hawaii, but there is a good chance that within three years it will be. The packages offered by ROYAL HAWAIIAN WEDDINGS can run from "budget" to "luxury.

MARIAN WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS - This lesbian owned company offers a variety of white water rafting trips, river expeditions (non-white water), and outdoor adventure tours to Costa Rica. While most of their trips are geared toward women, there are several tours offered for mixed groups.

These are just a few of the offerings for gay/lesbian travelers. If you want a better picture of what's offered - you should subscribe to "Out & About" magazine. This monthly magazine features objective reports on various destinations and tour operators. The magazine does not accept any advertising. The subscription rate is $49 per year, and you can subscribe by calling "Out & About" at 212-645-6922 or e-mail at outabout@aol.com.

If you want complete information about any of the tour products listed above, call your local IGTA travel agent or call me at 885-5060. T

BUSINESS PROFILE: Summit Spring water flows on

1870s pure spring water and traditional home delivery restored on hilltop farm in Harrison, Maine

by Carolyn A. Jalbert

Since reviving the 1881 Summit Spring Water tradition on their hilltop farm in Harrison, Maine, partners Kathy Harney and Pam Snow now share farm and spring water chores in addition to their full time jobs. This much sought after spring water was touted as an elixir by many physicians in the late 1800s and early 1900s when it was shipped country-wide in spruce carboys sold for $1. The spring water was preserved by Pam and Kathy, who began bottling the still viable and pure spring house and dug a deep trench piping the water up the hill to her farm. Over the last four years, the 1936 stone spring house has been renovated to standards and now contains a 20' X 20' pool of pure water that bubbles up from its original underground home, protecting the water from contamination.

To date, Kathy and Pam have resisted drilling wells to increase the flow of Summit Spring Water simply to compete with their Poland Spring neighbor (producing 38 gallons per minute or 54,720 gallons per day!). Summit spring water maintains a constant, natural temperature of 48 degrees regardless of outside temperatures. Using only what the earth naturally produces should protect the spring from drying up. Also, drilling wells may tap into a water source that is not as pure. Nothing is added or taken out of the water as it is bottled. The water has been tested confirming that there are no impurities. The spring pool completely replenishes itself every three hours!

In addition to Harney's full time teaching career at Oxford Hills High School and Snow's career as a traveling nurse in Norway and Bridgton, the pair fill, label and crate 200 to 300 jugs per week. Neither partner gets excited by the prospect of sitting in an office dealing with the problems of a large business. They describe their business as still small, but are quick to add that, "it is still fun." A number of specialty health stores and area factories carry a supply of the bottled water and their orders are rapidly increasing.

The Summit Spring Hotel closed in 1936 and the four story hotel with its wrap around porches was burned to the ground by vandals.

The Summit Spring, Free Flowing Spring Water, Harrison, ME 04040, (Pager) 1-800-498-0077, PIN #5946 or 582-2286.

(Carolyn Jalbert is President of Jalbert Insurance Services and Vice President of the Rainbow Business & Professional Organization.)
LOVE, from page 11
all, so-called "former homosexuals."
Furthermore, we know that we were born gay or lesbian, there is no choice involved. How many times has it been pointed out that we, homosexuals, emerge from a world that is entirely heterosexual - all the imagery of love-making and romance is heterosexual and yet we emerge. Why would anyone think that on a given day, one of us decides to be a homosexual? Have any of the people who say homosexuality is a choice stopped to consider why someone would "pursue" such a persecuted career?
Harmon concludes by reminding us that this is only Round 1 of this fight. The fact that it is now being called Round 1 by Harmon and Cosby shows their contempt for the voter's decision rendered November 7 and underscores Carolyn's maniacal devotion to her hateful and hurtful cause.
I interviewed Cosby several months ago and asked her if she would accept the will of the Maine voter if that went against her and she answered by saying she didn't think it would go against her. She refused to say she'd accept their decision. All this, despite her oft-repeated cry for letting the people speak on this issue. Well, they spoke, and Carolyn, you lost.
Ungracious in defeat, just as you were ungracious and contemptible during the campaign. Lying about anything that suited you, you gave true conservatives a black eye and no responsible political leader in the state, of any political stripe, will have anything to do with you. Your behavior on election day was a disgrace. You've become the pariah you tried so hard to make of the gay and lesbian community.
There is nothing moral or immoral about being born gay or lesbian. It's the sex that drives people crazy. Sometimes it appears that people like Cosby and Harmon fear acceptance of homosexuality because they're afraid it has appeal. Their moral posturing to the contrary notwithstanding - they fear this alternate vision of love. When all this bombast settles, that is, ultimately, what it is all about and that's all it's about - love.

TIDBITS from page 17
choices. "What is most astonishing and compelling about this story are the complex characters involved. Both sides of this debate tend to demonize their opponents and to forget that we are talking about very real people," says director Andrew Sokoloff.

TIDBITS from page 17
choices. "What is most astonishing and compelling about this story are the complex characters involved. Both sides of this debate tend to demonize their opponents and to forget that we are talking about very real people," says director Andrew Sokoloff.

Sweet Honey In The Rock coming to Portland
Portland Performing Arts will close its 1995 Big Sounds From All Over concert series with the sublime harmonies of "Sweet Honey In The Rock" in concert on Saturday, December 9 at 8:00 pm and Sunday at 7:00 pm. Tickets are $18 ($16 for students and seniors). For information and reservations call 797-3338.

Sweet Honey In The Rock consists of six African-American women, some of the greatest voices in American music, proclaiming songs of freedom and songs of hope. The ensemble was founded more than two decades ago by Bernice Johnson Reagon as a women's a cappella ensemble dedicated to delivering a message of progressive social change.

A Sweet Honey In The Rock concert is a transforming experience, drenching the audience with harmonies woven of changing rhythms, whis­ ting leads, leaping and dancing. These women sing fiercely of being fighters, tenderly of being in love, and knowingly of being women.

In addition to Reagon, Sweet Honey's brilliant vocalists include Ysaye Maria Barnwell, Aisha Khalil, Carol Maither and Nitanju Bola de Casel. Tickets are $19 for general admission, $29.50 for cabaret seating and can be purchased at the State Theatre box office.

Portland Museum of Art opens a Day Without Art
On Friday, December 1, the Portland Museum of Art will mark World AIDS Day by participating in "A Day Without Art," an international day of action and protest in response to the continuing AIDS crisis.

In observance of "A Day Without Art," the museum will drape black cloth over the sculpture in the sculpture atrium and around the Scults Tree. The draping of black cloth will symbolize mourning in response to the toll AIDS has taken throughout the cultural community. Staff members from The AIDS Project, AIDS Lodging House, Peabody House, PWAC (People With AIDS Coalition), PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), PWAC (People With AIDS Coalition), PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), and The Maine AIDS Alliance will be available to answer questions and provide written material on AIDS.

Sweet Honey In The Rock will perform in concert on Saturday, December 9 at the State Theatre in Portland. Continuing in the Big Sounds tradition of holiday concerts which "skip the hype and go down and is destined to become an Etheridge classic, yet the more I listen to "Lover I bum, let me in," in this song.

A lot of these songs sort seem like continuations of previous songs, which I find quite pleasing. "All The Way to Heaven" reminds me of "You Can Sleep While I Drive," I don't mean the songs sound alike, it's more like a feeling that you get; the essence of the song. Know what I mean? You will ...

One quick side note, the CD I have in my hand is the one that Melinda submitted by individuals and local florists. The silent auction will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the winners being chosen at 4 p.m. You don't have to be present to win. Proceeds from the auction will benefit The Maine AIDS Coalition.
SYMPOSIUM XXII
by Mark Letizia

Those of you who are familiar with the Annual Gay & Lesbian Symposium will be surprised to see a few breaks with tradition this year. First, it will be held from Saturday, August 17 through Monday, August 19, 1996 instead of its usual Memorial Day weekend time slot.

Secondly, it will be held in Bar Harbor at The College of the Atlantic, which is a very beautiful campus built on a former ocean front estate. It is within walking distance to downtown Bar Harbor.

Thirdly, while there will be plenty of workshops, the Gay & Lesbian Town Meeting, a dance performance and a Saturday night disco, we will also have less organized outdoor activities such as kayaking, a queer sail, hiking, biking the carriage roads, even a moonlit hike to "Great Head" (not a joke, sounds epic!)

The Symposium is an annual event, with the exception of 1995 when the community was involved with the referendum fight), that brings us together for education and relaxation (read F U N!) in various places in Maine. It has been held in Portland, Presque Isle and Unity. The host group puts in an enormous amount of work making plans, securing speakers, writing grants, arranging housing, publicizing the event and much more, so the gay, lesbian, bi and transgender communities can be together in a relatively safe environment.

A group of folks from "Out on M.D.I.," the local Bi/Lesbian/Gay social group, is working on the details at this time and we are soliciting your help. We would like your ideas and suggestions, your time in volunteering if you live near to or in the greater Portland area. You may also contact Lin Gould at 207-244-4602 or Mark Letizia at 207-469-3077 or write to Symposium XXII, P.O. Box 116, Mt. Desert, ME 04660. And don't forget to mark those dates on your 1996 calendar.

* The Earned Income Credit for Head of Household, $6,500, increased to $3,900 for Single, $5,750 for Married, Filing Jointly, and $3,275 for Married Filing Separately. I realize everyone's mind is probably on the approaching holiday and the defeat of Question #1 (YEA!) but, the closer we get to the year end, the more important tax matters become.

This month I will be doing a quick review of a few 1995 tax law changes in the hope that it will provide some of you with tax saving ideas.

1. The Federal personal exemption deduction has been increased to $2,500; you are allowed one for yourself and each of your dependents. Generally, if you live near to or in the greater Portland area, you must provide more than half of their general living expenses. An unrelated individual, living in your household for the entire tax year can be a dependent, but will not qualify you for head of household filing status. Maine has not changed their personal exemption amount from $2,100. I'm beginning to wonder if they ever will.

2. Standard deductions for individuals who do not itemize have increased to $3,900 for Single, $5,750 for Head of Household, $6,500 for Married, Filing Jointly, and $3,275 for Married Filing Separately. I realize I mentioned this last time, but it bears repeating because it effects so many people. The standard deductions are increased if you are age 65 or over or blind. Check your booklet if this applies to you.

3. The standard allowance for business mileage has been increased to 30¢ a mile. The IRS does not consider commuting to a regular place of work from your home to be business mileage. Traveling for purposes of continuing education can qualify however. Charitable mileage is still 12¢ and medical is 9¢.

4. The Tested Income Credit has been expanded to include individuals who do not have children. This was really new in 1994, but it's a good opportunity so I wanted to mention it. If you have low earned income levels, this may be a chance for you to reduce your tax liability or increase your refund. There are specific rules, but it is worth reviewing the instructions in the booklet to see if you qualify. The IRS will even calculate the credit for you if you ask.

Those are a few of the basic changes for 1995. If tax law and return preparation overwhelm you, it is a good investment to contact a qualified professional to be certain you have taken advantage of all tax saving opportunities. Next month I will start a series on how to file Form 1040. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving. Good luck! ∆
TO YOUR HEALTH - Personal Wellness in Stressful Times

by Tania Jo Hathaway

What can you do to counteract the ill effect on your health of too much "bad" stress? Three Golden Rules:

1. Eat well. Rest well. Exercise (at least) some.

This month's column will focus on eating better to improve wellness. Next month, this column will discuss the importance of rest and exercise.

Eating well means (1) cutting back intake of sugar, caffeine, and fats; (2) increasing intake of vegetables and grains.

Too stressed or too busy to think about dietary changes at this time?

Here are some basic guidelines, starting with cutting out less desirable foods. Start cutting caffeine by just one cup of coffee! Sound like too little for the bother? Consider this: in a week's time, if you normally have four cups of coffee a day, cutting out one of those cups means that by the end of the week you will have had SEVEN fewer cups than normal! In due time you may consider cutting the coffee again — or not. Either way, you'll have decreased your coffee consumption over the long haul.

Second, cut sugar consumption. Get this: the national average weight gain between Thanksgiving and January is 1 to 7.12 pounds, much of which comes from over-eating high fat, high caloric sweets. Since most of us like sweets, should we have to give them up altogether? No! But employ a few habits to help cut back: 1) always think before consuming! Do I really want this? How many treats have I already had today/this week? Is there something else I can have to satisfy this craving? 2) try eating sugared goodies only after a full meal and even then, help yourself to half a serving of dessert, split a dessert with someone else or simply leave half of the dessert on your plate.

Finally — you've heard it before — cut the fat! This is tough for many of us to do, since fat hides in seemingly mysterious places and it makes our food taste so good! Future columns will focus more on understanding the fat/saturated fat/cholesterol link, but for now, begin your changes slowly:

1) if you eat meat, select lean meats, skinless chicken, and fish in moderate amounts; 2) eat milk products with 0-1% fat; 3) when cooking, use oils and fats VERY sparingly — measure the amount of oil or butter you are using and cut in half what you normally use; and 4) processed or pre-prepared foods often have an over abundance of fat/saturated fat, so avoid these in favor of lower fat choices.

Since upcoming holiday celebrations will include lots of goodies loaded with extra fat/saturated fat/cholesterol, moderation and small dietary changes will help keep you from becoming a 7-12 lb. statistic! Now for foods to increase. Start increasing your intake of vegetables and fruits by getting vegetables and fruits into your consciousness: banana at breakfast; salad or cooked vegetable at lunch; dried fruit for snacks; raw carrots, broccoli, and cauliflower for appetizers; salad and cooked vegetable at dinner. Can you remember the last time you had FIVE servings of vegetables and fruit in one day? That's the minimum amount recommended!

Our daily diets should also be high in whole grains. Brown rice as well as breads and pasta made from this whole grain of brown, wheat, rye, etc. are common and quick ways to get more grains into our daily diet. In addition, the world is full of interesting and tasty grains which are also quick to prepare! For now, think whole grain pasta for dinner instead of meat; have a sandwich for lunch made from whole grain bread; choose brown rice whenever available in restaurants and serve it at home, too.

Remember, dietary changes start slowly and are always worthwhile since diet is a major player in long-term health as well as feeling good every day. ΔΔ

(Tania Jo Hathaway is Coordinator of the Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine. For more information: (207) 657 - 5864 or PO Box 11048 Portland, ME 04104.)

Health News

PORTLAND: The Community Relations and Development office of Mercy Hospital recently issued a press release concerning free medical services. The Portland Street Clinic, located at 15 Portland Street in Portland, provides free, comprehensive health care for adults with limited income, who have no insurance or doctor. The Clinic is located in the Community Resource Center and is open evenings from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays by appointment. The Clinic, staffed largely by volunteer doctors and support staff, is sponsored by Mercy Hospital and administered by the City of Portland Public Health Division. Staff work closely with Mercy Hospital and other health care providers to arrange whatever tests or medical procedures patients need. Again, all of the services are free. For more information or to make an appointment, call 874-8982.

PORTLAND: Mercy Hospital will offer CPR for Adults, Children and Infants on Tuesday, November 21, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Designed for individuals who are not medical professionals, the course is held at Mercy Hospital, State Street, and follows guidelines set by the American Heart Association. There is a fee of $20 per person. Call 879-3536 to pre-register, for more information or to obtain a schedule for future classes.

PORTLAND: Caring and Sharing, a support group sponsored by Mercy Hospital, State Street, Portland, provides mutual support for cancer patients and survivors. The emphasis is on caring, growth and hope through social participation. The group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Mercy's Board Room on the sixth floor. Group facilitators are Beth Connelly, R.N., and Dawn Trombley, R.N., from Mercy's Outpatient Oncology Center. For more information, call 879-3030.

BANGOR: Spruce Run will be providing training to persons wanting to provide support to people whose lives have been impacted by domestic violence. Hotline workers are given 43 hours of training and may work from their homes at night or in the office during the day. After completing 24 hours of training, children's workers may work with children in the shelter or in support groups. Hours are flexible. Experience is not necessary. Free training and lots of support for volunteers, including some fun and parties, too, will be provided. Next session of trainings will begin in mid January, 1996 in Bangor. The 43 hours course happens in three and half hour sessions, two evenings a week. The 24 hour training will be scheduled on a Saturday and two evenings a week. Call Spruce Run at 945-5102 by January 15, 1996.

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