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.

Larry Bliss & Pat Peard share the victory.

BJ Broder shares an intimate moment with Calien Lewis and Martha Mickles.

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.

Mary Dorazio, photo right, with fellow MWD volunteers celebrate and savor the outcome.

Jessica Mauer, prominent leader in MWD, relaxes as she witnessed the fruition of her efforts.

While Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" thundered through the hall, Theo rejoices.

The cheers of the crowd were thunderous! Many wept. The moment of triumph was sublime.

*Try these on for size - Damron’s gay & lesbian travel guides.
Free travel catalog: [800] 462-6654

*Damron, a bunch of mothers making colorful lesbian & gay travel guides for their children of all stripes and colors. "If the LGBT/averse can't see us, let's show them."
"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 of the day 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.

Tickets available at Drop Me A Line, Amadeus, Bookland-Mallside 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 superb - 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 taste..."
"Excellent! Huge portions!"
"The martinis were presented in grand fashion!"
"Soup: Can you order by the visit? Supersize!"
"Roast pork dinner (Blue Plate) was unbelievable. Don't tell my Mens, but it was even better than here!"
"I love your cranberry! 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 superb - always a good meal here!"
"Oyster appetizer very imaginative and successful."
"The raspberry peach cobbler was wonderful!"

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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.
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>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YORK</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>56.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMBERLAND</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAGADAHOC</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDROSCOGGIN</td>
<td>58.2%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OXFORD</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINCOLN</td>
<td>44.5%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENNEBEC</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>52.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANKLIN</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNOX</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>51.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALDO</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOMERSET</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HANCOCK</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENOBSGOT</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</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>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<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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Reflections on a campaign - - -
Movement Building in the GL/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 the awful rhetoric that Concerned Maine Families (CMF), the Coalition to End Special Rights (CESR) and the Christian Civic League (CCL) put out there. The majority did not believe that we want to infiltrate schools and indoctrinate children; did not believe that we are a threat to their families or way of life; did not believe that we seek to take over the political system in this state for our own gain; did not believe all the lies they were told about who we are and how we live. This indeed is a victory to be celebrated!

When the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, the Maine Civil Liberties Union and a few of our allies came together in April 1993 to talk about how to beat this thing if it ever came to the ballot - I never dreamed that we would all have to give so much and work so hard. But when reality hit (this thing did get on the ballot) we were all there! We were in our chapters, our organizations, our places of worship, our homes, our businesses and everywhere else! We called ourselves Maine Won't Discriminate!

And then when reality hit for CMF, CESR and the CCL (their reality came forth by the end of 1998) we were all there! 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 doing everything we can to elect candidates who support our rights? How do we make sure 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 GL/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 GL/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!
10. Increase the visibility of GL/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 GL/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, Maine Wins, Pride, P-FLAG and many more organizations.

I know that all the GL/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 staff 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 begin at 1:30 and end at 4:30. Please join us, give us your ideas, suggestions, criticisms, etc. But most of all - please go forward in this movement with us. Together, our voices can be heard and we can make a difference.

Karen Geraghty, President of ML/GPA

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"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 leaders; would the MWD staff find out from these supportive groups who their members were in Aroostook County, anyone with an O747x 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 canceled 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 easily a logger in the woods or a lobsterman on the beach. With their apparent lack of knowledge about (1) geography and (2) the County attitude toward southern Maine, the campaign chose the lobsterserman 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 in See County, page 8

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

An open letter to Maine Won’t Discriminate and all those working for human rights:

from Larry Dansinger

I am writing before the November 7 election and do not know how Ballot Question #1 will be decided. In some ways, it matters tremendously. In other ways, it doesn’t matter at all.

I can’t thank Concerned Maine Families and other groups promoting Question #1 for much, but I can thank them for bringing us together in a way that legislative campaigns did not. This is not a fault of the MLGPA or other groups working for human rights. Initiative and referendum campaigns require people to do more, both as voters and organizers. There is now a community of support for L/B/G human rights, of which I feel a part, that did not exist before. Part of the trick now is to keep that community in tact and working toward the short term goal of human rights protections and the long term goal of respect and equal treatment of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals by all of society in Maine and beyond.

Underneath the unity in MWD in defeating Question #1, I suspect there was plenty of disagreement on how to do that. I think some people wanted a unified message, while others sought a diversity of messages. Some requested that all be on their best behavior so as to not intensify negative stereotypes, while others felt they should be themselves and that people need to learn acceptance of differences. Some wanted straights out front in this struggle, others wanted them in the background. Some proposed a consensus process, others preferred majority vote. All of these problems were difficult ones to resolve, I believe, with perhaps the “best” answer somewhere outside of the either/or choices listed above.

It’s easy for me to remember these disagreements and to shudder at the thought of engaging in that kind of struggle again. But engage we all must, either/or choices listed above.

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From what I understand of the geography and the County attitude toward southern Maine, the campaign chose the lobsterserman 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 in See County, page 8

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lawn signs appeared throughout the County en masse in mid-October. If our mosaics were not already low by then, it certainly was after driving around. I received repeated requests from people who were coming out of the woodwork screaming for “NO on 1” lawn signs. But 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 visit 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.

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 was working the media against advice to the contrary. For much of the campaign we were ignored and then patronized. Aroostook County garnered more interest from the Maine Times, Washington Blade, and The New York Times then from headquarters in Portland. We found ourselves referring to MWD as “they.” This “grassroots campaign” ignored the advice and judgement of the people who were at the grassroots. We saw “one size fits all” decisions made in a state with at least two if not more distinct areas. How many times did I hear, “Aroostook is only 5% of the vote” and the implied tone that we weren’t numerous enough to spend much time with, though we knew that Aroostook was a stronghold of the “Yes” forces, and they would be out in numbers voting today.

I don’t expect the majority of Aroostook voters to say “No on One.” I certainly hope that the rest of the state can offset the “Yes” support from the north. The campaign chose to ignore the “Yes” side’s strongest message, the “special rights” argument. I hope the strategy worked, though when I see thelocale “Yes” TV commercial which repeatedly bashes homosexuals, Mike Carpenter’s whimsy response about misleading, confusing and expensive just doesn’t cut it.

When this campaign began, I was optimistic that MWD would counter the more prevalent attitude of many state-wide especially Portland-based organizations. Bangor is northern Maine, that’s as far from Portland as we’ll ever go, if even that far (God forbid), and there’s nothing there of note that we need to bother with when we make our plans and decisions. But actions speak louder than words, and my optimism was unfounded. This experience has only reinforced the truth of the expression “SOBs” in reference to those who are “South Of Bangor.”

(Dick Harrison is an activist and Northern Lambda Nord co-founder. He serves on the board of Caribou Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of the Aroostook County Tourism Board. He is a small business owner, and editor of Communique, the newsletter of NLN. Harrison lives in New Sweden, Maine.) ΔΔ

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### CHEW ON THIS: Time for a reality check

**Rose Mary Demnan**

By the time you get this issue of CPR in your hot little hands... Thanksgiving will be breathing down your neck. Are you ready? Question #1 has been voted down... YES!... Now all you have to do is get through the next ten weeks and it’s all downhill from there.

The holidays can be such a drain, especially on our sense of emotional well-being. With all the hoopla, one would think that giving thanks and wishing others well were our only concern for an isolated day or two. And what about the promises many of us make ourselves each year about not spending more than we can afford, not trying to burn the candle at both ends, picking out the least of our obligations and not letting the lack of the “Hallmark Moment” in our holiday reality get to us?

There’s one good thing about the holidays; if we didn’t get it right last year, we have the opportunity to give it our best shot again this year! Here are a few tips that may help get us through the holidays.

1. **Get a break!** How about renting one of those old, tried and true stories, ones that make you laugh? Or, how about renting one of the top ten foods, don’t buy one! Is there an idea of a great meal is lobster, and that’s your family of origin sends you to the Kitchen? Don’t go... and if you feel you must make an appearance, go for brunch.

2. **Lose Martha Stewart!** I mean, who actually has a holiday like the television commercials and $5 greeting cards project? It’s a guilt conspiracy!

3. **Get the promise of a gourmet dinner for two in the mail? Why pretend?** Fifty, 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 pays 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

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### Recovering Gay Men & Lesbians

Therapy group for those with two or more years of sobriety

- Communication Skills
- Nutrition
- Relationships
- Finances
- Spirituality

**Richard Waitzin, LCSW** 207-774-5025

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### 777777

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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 insure 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 spokespersons, 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 could not only let our community know about a TV program or an article that we think needs to be covered, but we could also make sure the issue is covered accurately in terms of its real import.

The Concerned Students Organization, for example, has been denied use of the Student Union because of its stance on gay issues. Students could bring a professional to investigate and report on these situations, insuring that we are not only represented, but accurately represented.

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 MBPN 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 direct political action and strong media experience to OUTNEWS, as well as a deep commitment to the gay and lesbian community. And both of them have been 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 coalition that successfully upheld, at the polls, the city's anti-discrimination ordinance in 1992. Active in ACT UP, 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. Garrity ran the college radio station while studying at Bowdoin, moved on to become news director at WBLM and a radio personality at WGMX. And she was the producer for the Furies, 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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New Hampshire Notes...

School board to reconsider books

NEW IPSWICH: According to an Associated Press article appearing in the Portsmouth (NH) Herald, the Mascanic Regional High School board's curriculum committee will review two books that led to a teacher being fired when she used them in the classroom.

Penny Culliton was fired for distributing "Maurice" by E.M. Forster and "The Education of Harriet Hatfield" by May Sarton to her junior and senior English classes. Critics said the books portray homosexuals in a positive light. The removal of the two books plus a third, "The Drowning of Stephen Jones" by Bette Greene, drew cries of censorship.

According to the school board, the books were removed last May because they had not been approved for use. Culliton was fired for insubordination and is appealing. The case will be decided by arbitration. ΔΔ

From PFLAG-NH Newsletter

Keene Kids Question

The Concerned Students Organization at Keene High School questioned school board candidates at a two-hour forum recently. More than two hundred students asked about Mascanic and Merrimack school district's new policies on homosexuality.

The new policies prohibit discussion of gay or lesbian issues at Merrimack and censor books at Mascanic, where English teacher, Penny Culliton was fired for using books with gay characters.

First they ban discussion, then books and now hugs

In Merrimack, things have gone from bad to ridiculous. At Mascanic Middle School, the students have had a new and particularly idiotic rule thrown at them: no hugging or touching.

Seventh grade girls giving goodbye hugs to a friend moving to another school were told to stop. An eighth grader scolded for comforting a friend with a hug said, "We're just friends. We're not promoting homosexuality. Friends hug friends." (Source: The Concord Monitor, 11/3)

The only other place having rules like this are in prisons!

Gay History Walkathon

The first ever gay history walkathon in Portsmouth, October 15, raised more than $5000 for the Bob Karnan Fund for an Inclusive Community.

Bette Greene was fired from Seacoast Outright and UNH students to ministers from several denominations and politicians. Mayor Eileen Foley read a proclamation declaring November 20 as the first ever gay history walkathon in New Hampshire.

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Gulf of Maine Books

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METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Northern Lights MCC of Augusta, ME 4:00 pm Sunday. Commission each week 2.5 miles from Cony circle on Rt. 201 FMI: Bill at 207.453.9750

Circle of Hope MCC of Portland, ME 4:00 pm Saturday. Immanuel Baptist, 156 High Street FMI: 207.773.0119

Interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Every person is welcome! Please join us!
We won! By over a 26,000 vote margin, Maimers 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 create a personally divisive issue - one that has the potential to be a political and social cause. Is shescapegoating society's most reviled group so as to gain political power and prominence or is it some kind of Biblical driven crusade? Surely, it can't be the much stated "protection of civil rights laws." That particular reason is uncharacteristically bloodless for someone like Carolyn who 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 busts 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 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 is not a wingnut." She is a clever and effective political operator. Her heart was right. Carolyn got over 60,000 signatures on petitions to force a state-wide referendum on her confusedly written question. The question, with all the words are now all too familiar to 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 - Frannie Peabody, Margaret Chase Smith, Olympia Snowe, and consider the various motivating forces in their lives. Ranging from a vision involving the eradication of a plague to the pursuit and fulfillment of a particular political ideology, those three 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'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 owners to be able to say to a lesbian couple who is checking into a hotel, "I'm sorry but you can't stay in this hotel because I think you are lesbians."

How does this result measure up to the kinds of things that Frannie Peabody want to do, or that Margaret Chase Smith did, or Olympia Snowe?
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 tea circuit 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 two decades, the Democrats 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 soared 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 belligerent 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, 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 lefties who will not spend their time apologizing for their progressive views but will devote their energy to swinging 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 pull 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, re-education 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 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.

Community Pride Reporter
142 High Street
Portland, ME 04101
Phone 207/879-1342

Our Mission
Community Pride Reporter serves as a vehicle for the fostering of local and international news, information, ideas and opinions by and for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people of Maine and seacoast New Hampshire.

CPR strives to increase awareness and acceptance of the rich diversity among us, with the intention of infusing the word community with renewed meaning and vitality. CPR pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people.

Our Editorial Policy
Views and opinions, political and personal, expressed in Community Pride Reporter are those of the individual authors only. Community Pride Reporter may endorse candidates we feel represent our community most completely. Community Pride Reporter disclaims legal responsibility for errors in printing, editorial, or advertising content; as such, all reasonable care is taken to prevent such errors. If an error has significantly detracted from the clarity of information presented, the Publisher may consider printing a clarification at its discretion.

Submissions Welcome
CPR encourages readers to write! Material submitted for publication must be legibly signed and include address and/or phone number for verification. Please keep letters to the CPR Mailbox to 300 words or less. Slightly longer and more composed submissions may be considered for a guest editorial at the Publisher’s discretion. If requested, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of an author for appropriate reasons.

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Skate through the holiday season with a helping hand from FRESH ‘N UP

CLEANING
Call 926-4365

See LOVE, page 20
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.
• 11:30-4:30 PM - MLGPA meeting at UU Church, 69 Winthrop St. (corner of Summer), Augusta. FMI, 1-800-55-MLGPA.

Sunday, November 19:
• 6:00 AM - Re-organization meeting of DIGNITY, St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St., 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 Laurie at 878-0546, Glenn at 878-9682, Rosemary or Janet at 646-2820.

Monday, November 20:
• 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, 871-9955.
• 5:7-9:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, USM Women's Center, FMI, Jana at 772-6599.

Tuesday, November 21:
• 10:30-3:30 PM - Gay and lesbian AA Meeting at The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 39 Main St., Caribou. FMI, 207/498-2088.
• 3:30-4:00 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.

Wednesday, November 22:
• 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.

Thursday, November 23:
• 6:30-9:00 PM - 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.

Friday, November 24:
• 7:30-9:30 PM - Portland Chapter of PFLAG meets at Woodfords Congregational Church, Woodfords Corner. We are parents, friends and absolutely everyone. Call Sue- 774-3441.

Saturday, November 25:
• 11:00 AM - MCLU presents a concert at Portland Campus Center in the Boiler Room (next to dining room). Open to absolutely everyone.
• 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.

Sunday, November 26:
• 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.

November - December '95 Calendar

DECEMBER

Friday, December 1:
• WORLDAIDS DAY

Saturday, December 2:
• 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 Fitzian and Rita Kinsman. Tickets are $10. FMI, 207/777-0634.
• 8:00 PM - PUCK & pan Theatre Company presents, "Dancing at Lughnas" 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.

Sunday, December 3:
• 10:30-11:30 AM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.

Tuesday, December 8:
• 11:00 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.

Tuesday, December 15:
• 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.

Wednesday, December 16:
• 7:00-9:00 PM - Holiday Light Sponsorship through the Peterborough Community Foundation. Apply before November 15. FMI, 207/498-2088.

Thursday, December 17:
• 7:00-9:00 PM - Women's Empowerment 16-Step Group, Crossroads for Women. FMI, 207/892-2192.
TRAVEL-VACATION

**AA** LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfast, peace and privacy. You're our perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 1180P, Bethel, ME 03534, (603) 867-2070, AA

**AA** YELLOW BIRCH FARM: Romantic, seasonal cottage or year round studio on working organic farm in Down east Maine, 20 minutes from Eastport. Absolute peace and quiet. Round studio on working organic farm 869-3978. M

**B** beautiful B & B and horse farm. We in Down east Maine, 20 minutes from Bethel, Maine. M


**D** Small endowed? 2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Fees: $129,000. Call owners, 207/828-7904. M


**PERSONALS**

**AA** Small endowed? Short in stature? Like us? Tired of guys searching for only tall or well hung? Finally stories, advice and personals devoted to the small man and our admirers. 100% nationwide. SASE PO Box 610294, Bayside, NY 11361-0294. AA

**AA** GWM who enjoys nude photography, hot videos, massage and safe sex looking to share these with you. 18-40. Drop me a line with phone number. Let's talk and plan to meet. Write Boxholder 337, 9 Grove Street, Auburn, ME 04210. AA

**AA** HIV+ SINGLES PUBLICATION: Safe and confidential. Free copy, 36 word personal ad, voice mail, and forwarding mail! Local and nationwide! All life-styles. Gay, HIV+ owned and operated. Write: Introproz Magazine, 564 Mission St., Box 415, San Francisco, CA 94105, or call 1-800-280-2948.

**HELP WANTED**

**AA** ASSISTANT INNKEEPER - Women's Inn seeks mature, responsible person to work in all aspects of inn operation. Position is full-time, year round, salary low $20s, plus benefits. Resumes: Highlands Inn, Box 118, Bethel, ME 03534. AA

**SUPPORT GROUP**


**HUMAN RIGHTS from page 7**

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. AA

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**CPR MAIL BAG**

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. You had a responsibility to use them. But you chose not to. 2) You made a story out of a personal relationship. I'm sure you had no quarrel with the way Deborah shielded her personal life, but you chose to make an issue of it.

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.

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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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**GAY MALE COUPLES GROUP**

A closed therapeutic group for gay male couples

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Contact: Group co-facilitators are Bill Barter, LGPC 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
ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on LGBT issues. A mission of this organization is to promote understanding and acceptance of LGBT community in Maine's political process, promote civil rights, develop and review legislation, endorse candidates, support self-defense, and oppose anti-gay legislation and referenda.
Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of every month in Augusta. FMI call 1-800-55-MLGPA.
Participation is limited to Sunday of every month at 1 pm (ME), 2 pm (N-B), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The Phone Line. Call 207-498-2088.
The Matlovich Society is an educational and cultural organization for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends committed to sharing our history as well as providing personal-affirming presentations and discussions in a supportive environment. Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Free parking accessible to the mobility-impaired. Call 207761-4380.
National Association of Social Workers, ME Chapter, Sexual Minority Issues Committee welcomes new social work members. 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 Counseling Ctr., 343 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call Perry Sutherland, 874-1030.
HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS: Have you or someone you know been a victim? Call the Hate Crime Section of the Maine Department of the Attorney General 626-8844.
Whether curious or already initiate
imagine, call 773-632 FMI.
Wilde-Stein Club: Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at Memorial Union, Sutton Lounge, FMI call 774-2424.

LGBTI/ Bisexual Support Group: Meets every Tuesday, 7-9 pm, at Women's Resource Center 101 Federal Hall at UM Orono. FMI call 947-5933.


Sea Coast Gay Men: Social group meets Mondays (except holidays), 7 pm Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portland. FMI call 773-1502, or write P.O. Box 1394, Portland 04020-1394.

Lewiston/Auburn: Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group. Meet every Thursday, 7-9 PM, Wadsworth Women's Health Center, 334 Market St., Lewiston. FMI: 207/774-PAWS.

York County Task Force: 1st Family Meeting, 2pm Thursday, Wadsworth Women's Health Center, Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: (207) 947-5337.

Easy Maine AIDS Alliance: Member Organizations. AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Portland, ME 04101-3820, Call 774-1000. AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn: P.O. Box 3826, Lewiston, Maine 04243-3826. Call 774-4697.

Community AIDS Awareness Programs: o/c Mexico Cong.Cong/UCHC, 43 Main St., Mexico, ME 04257, Call 544-8003. Community Task Force on AIDS Educ.: P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 583-6408.

Gay Day: 32 Walthrup St., Augusta, ME 04330. Call 626-3432.


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

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011-0057. Call 725-4925.

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 majordomo@abacus.oxy.edu. In the message part, write subscribe me-gaynet.
"OUT LOUD" - for the human rights of lesbians and gays

by Ainsel Ponti

Joan Armatrading put out her first album, "Whatever's For Us," back in 1974. Now, 21 years later, she's just released a gorgeous album, "What's Inside," and is breaking new ground to Sunday brunch is provided by the London Metropolitan Orchestra. The last track on this compilation album which benefits the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC). Their goal is to raise two things; funds and consciousness. The message of gay liberation is quite evident throughout the course of "Out Loud's" 17 songs. Included in the liner notes is more information and an address for the IGLHRC.

Armatrading's music, which fits the story of a notorius park in Austin, Texas where gay men apparently meet after dark. Not for the easily offended, it certainly gets its point across. The last track on this compilation is a humorous little country ditty by the duo "Y'ALL." It is called "My Man, Our Horses and Me," and it's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

The State Theater show was the first time I had the chance to see Armatrading live. Although she doesn't talk too much to the audience, she has a way about her that lets you know her appreciation in 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 respect that many musicians who came along years after she has 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 Dennan

I've always enjoyed going to the opr. Puck & Pan Theatre has already 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 also limits her freedom, and how it 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 pattern of the wallpaper in her room becomes an obsession for her, and slowly, she is driven to madness as this pattern emerges in a woman who must be freed. The projection is complete; Jane is left, at the end of the play, a woman trapped within her own mind. Allen's adaptation of this story is remarkable. Lisa Stathopoulos 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. Thumps up for Suze Allen and her cast! And thumbs up for the Oak Street Pro and Jane and John's 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" at 7:00 pm on weekdays and 3:00 pm on Sundays. Admission price is $7.50 or pay-as-you-can. The production is being directed by Andrew Sokoloff. The play is directed by Andrew Sokoloff. The pattern of the wallpaper in the harvest, dance, and faith - with a cast of ten and a production crew of 15 including original choreography by Shade Singh, original painting designs by Maine painter, Carlo Pittore, photographs by photographer-artist Robert Diamante, and costumes by fabric sculptor, Stephanie Rudloe. The production is being directed by Tim Grover.

Mad Horse Theatre opens "Keely and Du"

William Henry III of "Time Magazine" says "Keely and Du" is "perhaps the most important American play of the year ... " Written by Jane Martin, the play is directed by Andrew Sokoloff. This powerful play deals with the most important divisive issue of our time, abortion. A young pregnant woman, Keely, is kidnapped outside a Cincinnati abortion clinic by a militant group of Christian fundamentalists: Operation Retrieval. They hold her captive in a secret location, handcuff her to a bed and wait until the baby is due. They know that she has been taken: the best medical care, a trust fund, potential adoptive parents, an education fund, counseling. Attempts are made to convince her of the sanctity of human life even though the life she's carrying is the result of her rape by her ex-husband. As the weeks pass, Keely and her caretaker Du, an older woman, develop a friendship of great trust. Nor will I. We are words not quickly spoken, we are not afraid of 'Why?' We are dreamers in the making. We are not afraid of 'Why?'

CONCERT REVIEW

Ferron at the Somerville (MA) Theater, October 27th

by Mark Letizia

The opportunity to see Ferron perform with a five-piece band proved too irresistible to let the Victoria Girls, helping out on vocals and guitar, sit idle. 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 (fundamental idea), you will not hear one gun.

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

The 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 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 Ainsel Ponti

From CPR - November-December, 1995 Page 17

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" some time last year, and so I am very happy to be the proud owner of her latest full length album "Your Little Secret." Her last re-leaves were "I Take You With Me," a passionate tune from the "Boys on the Side" soundtrack, and you can check 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 sus-

See TIDBITS, page 20

State Theatre 609 Congress St. Portland, Maine

Wednesday, November 28 Christmas Carol

Friday, Saturday, Sunday December 1, 2, 3, & 8, 9, 10

Maine State Ballet presents The Nutcracker

Sunday, December 17 Scarletberough Dance presents 12 Christmas Gifts

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday December 20, 21, 22

Miracle on 34th Street White Christmas (in rotation)

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday December 27, 28, 29, 30

Willy Wonka Film Festival

For tickets call: (207) 879-1112
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 sure 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 its 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, he still is discriminated upon by the boys in the state home where he is placed after his grandparents die. He is looked at differently in school, and he has a hard time trusting anyone. 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 ♯
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 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.

Panorama runs from 7 to 18 days.

"Our Family Abroad" buys an entire bus only to gays and lesbians. These tours operate throughout the year.

Price is $2222 including air from New York. These are just a few of the 25 tours they offer.

OUT WEST ADVENTURES - this new company is offering outdoor travel experiences in the Rockies. These range from Ski Weeks to hiking to back packing 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/Lesbian Manhattan Gay Pride in Sydney in February. In addition, they just recently opened up a gay resort on the island of Fiji called Man Friday Resort.

PLAYERS 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 the next 10 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 more information about any of the tour products listed above, call your local IFTA travel agent or call me at 885-5060.

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 the 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 such sought after spring water has been sold to customers in the late 1800s and early 1900s when it was shipped country-wide in spruce barrels made from timber harvested by the prospect of sitting in an office and 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 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.

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.)

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OUT WEST ADVENTURES

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THE ANNIVERSARY SHOW:

A GAY/LESBIAN

STANDARD "STRAIGHT"
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.

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 in 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 conserva-

tives a black eye and no responsible po-

litical 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.

Secret, from page 17

secret that Melissa Etheridge doesn't concern herself all too much with this. I am a cable-less person, but I hear the first single, the title track of the album "Secret." It has a video check full of women "displaying affection" to the sound of a great new rock 'n' roll song. The following song, "Nowhere to Go," slows things down and is destined to become an Etheridge classic, yet the more I listen to this album, the more it grows on me, and the more I think we'll all be finding many favorites, as will radio stations. "I Want to Come Over" captures the trademark Melissa gatism and passion as she belts out "Lover I burn, let me in," in this song. A lot of these songs sort of 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 had a sticker on it that says "Limited edition packaging." There's a keyhole on the cover through which you see Melissa's light brown eye, and inside a number of pics of her. Meaning, if you're gonna get this disc, get it soon 'cause it's very cool.

"Shirrin's Park," a slow acoustic song, is the most intimate of this album, and "Sleep While I Drive," I don't mean the song is slow, it's more like a feeling that you get; the essence of the song. Know what I mean? You will...

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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 enticing?)

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 please plan to come.

The feat of Question #1 (YEA!) but, the don't use the table in your tax books. This means that more income is taxed at a lower rate. Maine has inflation, so check carefully if you don't use the table in your tax book.

The standard allowance for personal exemptions is increased if you are age 65 or over or blind. Check your book if this applies to you.

* The Earned 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 tax liability or increase your refund. There are specific rules, but it is worth reviewing the instructions in the booklet to see if you quality. The IRS will even calculate it for you if you ask.

Those are a few of the basic changes for 1995. If tax law and the rules change, please check the IRS web site to see if you quality. The IRS web site is www.irs.gov.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:

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; and (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 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 bran, 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. 

Parting Shots...

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. Monday 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 days. 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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#### Pamela Knowles Lawson

Attorney at Law

- Serving the legal needs of the gay and lesbian community
6 Oak Ridge Road, Cumberland Center, Maine 04021
Tel (207) 829-3379: Fax (207) 829-4424

#### Bill Barter

LCPC, (207) 773-0205
Licensed Psychotherapist

- Individuals
- Couples
- Groups
- Gay Practitioner
- Insurance Reimbursable
- Sliding Fee Scale
137 Park Street, Portland, ME 04101

#### Victoria Zavaarek

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#### Marti P. Lay

Consultant
Information Systems and Technology

#### First Choice Realty

7 Deering Street, Portland, ME 04102
Tel. (207) 874-0419