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Maine Statewide News Letter No. 63 (April 1985)

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Number 63

"All the News that Fits to Print"

April, 1985

~ Heed That Call! ~

Lights, camera, ACTION! A Call to Action, April 19-22 in Washington, DC. Are you ready for ACTION?

Maine people are organizing buses and carpools to go to Washington on April 19-22 for A Call to Action, four days of rallies, educational events, lobbying, and civil disobedience around the Call's four goals: (1) Reverse the Arms Race (start with a nuclear freeze); (2) Build a Just Society (create jobs, cut military spending); (3) No Intervention (especially but not limited to Central America) and (4) Oppose Apartheid/End Racism. "These are modest goals for a wealthy country such as ours," says the Call.

Building on local Tax Day (Ap. 15-16, see article on P. 10) activities, buses will leave Maine on Friday, Ap. 19 from Bangor, Augusta, and Portland. Some will return after the massive Ap. 20 march and rally, while others will stay thru Monday's lobbying and civil disobedience. Estimated round trip bus cost is \$40, with some financial assistance available for those who are low on cash. Carpooling assistance is also available. Bus contacts are:

Southern Maine: Carolyn Rummell, 774-4067

Central Maine: Jeanne Davis, 622-1139

Eastern/Northern Maine: Jodie Arey, 866-4208.

Or Write: Maine Freeze Campaign, PO Box 3842, Portland 04104 for details.

- Good-bye Fedco, Hello Starvation?

Not really. If you or your coop bought food from the cooperative FEDCO Warehouse, which is closing in April and currently liquidating all stock and equipment (call or visit the warehouse in Winslow, 873-0716 to make purchases in late March), have no fear. You can still get those cheap cheeses, great grains, swell sweeteners. Other natural food suppliers and coop warehouses are trying to fill the gap.

Coops may have to co-operate by pooling orders for depot-type dropoffs. So, if you or your coop are looking for a wholesale source of natural and organic foods that can be delivered to a place near you, try these alternatives:

Northeast Cooperatives, 5 Cameron Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139, 617-354-3544 (ask them to call you back).

Associated Buyers, Franconia, NH, 603-823-7722 (will also call you back).

Stow Mills, Brattleboro, Vt. 800-451-4520.

Cornucopia, Coventry, RI. 800-343-2249

Country Life, Harrisville, NH 603-827-3473 (will call you back)

New England Organic Produce Center, Boston, Mass. 800-225-7364.

The Cultivator, newspaper of Maine's cooperatives, will continue quarterly publication, including local/regional coops and contact people. For a subscription: Cultivator, Box 94W, Winslow 04901 (\$3.50/year).

..... Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Thanks again, readers, for your encouraging subscription response. We are up to 308 subscriptions and \$1,603.50 toward our goal for 1985 of 1,000 subs and \$4,200. We have a sub form on page 11, so if you haven't invested \$4 (more or less) yet, why not do it this month?

Deadline for May articles is April 20. Send all articles, calendar events, etc. to INVERT, PO Box 110, Stillwater, Me. 04489 or call them in to 827-3107.

You Won't Get Sick of Him 2

Malaria is something you never quite get rid of, and it came back to wipe out (temporarily) Jim Harney, former priest and resident several times of the occupied section of El Salvador. Harney, who was scheduled for a whirlwind 7 day-7 city tour of Maine during Central America Week in March, will try again in April to talk about the violence in that Central American country and show slides of his experiences. The war in El Salvador has really started, and he will demonstrate the effects of American military and economic aid to the Salvadoran government on its people. Evidence of the use of napalm against civilians has even been uncovered.

Harney's schedule is again a fast-paced one. Call contacts for time/place:

- Ap 8-Portland-Sandell Froelicher, 761-4716
- Ap 9-Rockland-Julia Schulz, 596-0731
- Ap 10-Bangor-Julie Grab, 827-7611
- Ap 11-Waterville-Gladys Morrell, 872-6701
- Ap 12-Augusta-Peter Dillard, 685-4787
- Ap 13-Farmington-Al Bersbach, 293-2390
- Ap 14-Brunswick-Selma Steinlieb, 725-7675
- Ap 15-Norway-Pam Montanaro, 743-2125.

♀ Learn the Ropes

Aspiring women will be interested in the 6th Annual Women in Management Conference to be held at the Sheraton Inn in Portland on Wed., April 3 and Thurs., April 4 from 8:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M. (snow dates, April 4 and April 8). Keynote speaker will be Natasha Josefowitz, a nationally-known management consultant who built her business career after age 40.

Workshops are designed to pave the path to power through better understanding of the ins and outs of management, maximizing employee growth, personal and corporate finance, stress reduction and a large variety of allied skills and awarenesses. Several of the workshops have been designed in cooperation with the Small Business Development Center with an eye to the needs of the smaller entrepreneur.

It came from out a th' ground

Last month there was a hearing on groundwater contamination. And on April 11 there will be a conference addressing groundwater contamination and public health in the Cushnoc Room of the Augusta Civic Center. Co-sponsors of the program are the Maine Department of Human Services, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Public Health Association. Between pesticide spraying and leaky petroleum tanks, a significant part of Maine's drinking water could be in danger unless preventative measures and purification programs are undertaken.

The forum is designed to allow interested individuals and environmental health professionals to discuss aspects of groundwater contamination. A few of the speakers are: Henry Warren, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection; William Nersesian, M.D., Director, Bureau of Health; State toxicologist Terry Shehata; Robert Denny, Pesticide Control Board. A question and answer session is planned to follow each speaker. A pre-registration fee of \$5 includes lunch (or, \$10 on the day of the conference).

For more information or to register, contact: Terry Shehata, Bureau of Health, State House Station #11, Augusta, Maine 04330 (289-3591).

Pile up Pesos for Peace

A workshop on fund-raising and development skills for peace and other social change organizations will be held on Monday, April 1 from 2 P.M. to 9 P.M. at the Augusta All Souls Unitarian Church, 11 King St., Augusta. Guest expert at the workshop, which is being sponsored by the Maine Freeze Campaign and AFSC (American Friends Service Committee), will be Andrea Ayvazian of the Peace Development Fund. Space is limited and those who wish to participate must pre-register by contacting the Maine Freeze Campaign, P.O. Box 3842, Portland 04104; phone: 772-0680. Call today!

Fee for each day is \$55. To register: Dept. of Community Programs, USM, 96 Falmouth St., Portland 04103, 780-4045.

Phantastic !!

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Women's music, both pastoral and peppy, comes to Penobscot County in mid-April. For those who haven't heard enough since Holly Near's performance last year, this pair of powerful performers promises perfection and particularly passionate pandemonium (phew!).

Pherron (oops, Ferron), a Canadian pheminist, sings both folk and womens music and will be in Orono as part of a 10-week tour in conjunction with Redwood Records (Holly's label). She will belt out her own songs at 8 PM, Thurs. April 18 at Lengyel Gym, U. of Maine, Orono (\$6). Details, 945-6281 or 866-4534.

Preceding her will be Kay Gardner, noted flutist (she also plays other instruments) who will give a workshop and concert to benefit the Bangor Area Gay-Lesbian-Straight (BAGLS) Coalition on Sat. April 13. The workshop, "Music & Healing", begins at 1 PM (\$10) and the concert (\$4) starts at 8 PM, both at the Unitarian Church, Main/Union Sts, Bangor. More info: BAGLS, PO Box 1805, Bangor 04401, 989-3306.

Moving Beyond Anger ...

Suffering from Spring Fever? Body and mind out of synch? No place for your aggressions? The Women's Wellness Project will present two events to promote wellness for women and men.

Lila Balch will present a workshop on "Anger: A Key to Movement" on March 30, 8:30-3 PM at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Farmington. How can we recognize and channel our anger so it doesn't eat us up inside? Anger can help us grow or make us stagnate. The workshop costs \$15, including potluck lunch (bring a dish). Call Pat Warner, 778-9808 for a reservation.

To Song and Joy

Susan Savell will give a concert on Wed., April 10, 8 PM at the South Dining Hall, UMF Student Center, Farmington. She has many musical parts--folk tradition, gospel, feminist, jazz, woman, spirituality, blues and peacemaker--all of which are reflected in her concerts. Admission, \$2, students free. For more on Women's Wellness Project: PO Box 844, Farmington, 04938, 778-9808.

"Lives in Transition"

Becoming divorced, widowed or separated from an intimate relationship often leaves people feeling afraid, depressed or confused. This is also true for a new job or location. "Lives in Transition" is a series of programs about the emotional process of change and loss, providing a setting for women and men to explore positive as well as negative aspects of transition.

"Lives" will offer eight topics to help people share feelings and concerns with others in similar situations. The schedule is:

Ap. 3 -- "Ending a Relationship"
Ap. 10 -- "Feelings about Change & Loss"
Ap. 17 -- "Letting Go"
Ap. 24 -- "New Beginnings"
Plus four more in May (1, 8, 15, 22)
Each session is separate (come to one or all) and will go from 7-9 PM at All Souls Cong. Church, Broadway/State St., Bangor. Cost, \$3/donation.

For a brochure or details: Marian Allan, Counselling Center, 43 Illinois, Bangor 04401, 947-0366.

It's Up to You

The Maine Women's Yellow Pages is not hot off the press yet. That's because you haven't sent in a listing yet (yes, each one of you). The directory will be of women-owned businesses and services, organizations, resources (books, magazines etc) for women. Surely you know of something for at least one of these categories (how about this newsletter if all else fails).

Nancy Caudle is putting this information together, but she needs help from you (yes, YOU). Send her a card at POB 210, Blue Hill 04614 or call 374-9913 for a brochure/flyer on which to submit listings, with publication of the Yellow Pages scheduled for this fall. Manuscripts, art and photography by Maine women on the theme "Maine Women Winning" will also be included if sent by June 30 (SASE if you want them returned). Make sure YOU are listed!!

Pe.C.S.W.B. meets L.U.R.C. and F.E.R.C.

Due to widespread public response to Great Northern Paper's plans to build the "Big A" dam, the Penobscot Coalition to Save the West Branch has opened an office at 271 State St., Augusta 04330, 622-3101. Public hearings (for LD652 - see related article) before the Land Use Regulatory Commission will be held for six weeks during April & May. Millinocket sessions will be at Stearns H.S. gym on State St. and Gardiner hearings will be at the Armory on Brunswick St. Millinocket sessions begin April Fool's, from 1-5 and 7-9 PM. After that, public comment times will be 1-4 PM on Apr. 5 and 1-5 PM on Apr. 10 as well as 7-9 PM April 2,3,4,8,9. Gardiner hearing days have not been announced. Contact the Coalition for updates. In addition, if you want your comments to be part of the official Federal testimony, write to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington DC by April 12.

Maine's Public Lands: We Got Some Back

"It took more than a decade of public outcry, legislative initiative, and legal action for Maine to finally regain undisputed ownership of 450,000 acres of Public Reserved Lands thought to have been lost to private interests more than a century ago." On Saturday, April 20, at the Augusta Civic Center the Natural Resource Council of Maine is sponsoring a conference to "initiate public dialogue on public lands management". Morning session will focus on the need for public lands, the PM on managing the lands. Registration is limited to a 'first come' basis. Details, NRCM, 271 State St., Augusta, 04330, 622-3101.

Sun Spots

The Maine Solar Energy Association (MESEA) is currently developing a speakers' bureau of people available to address various aspects of energy conservation and renewable energy. Speakers will be available to talk to local school, church or civic groups. If you would like to schedule a talk for your group (kids especially need to know about solar energy) contact Sandy Dickson, Port Clyde 04855 or call 372-8067.

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Homespun Wisdom

Residents of Khadigar, a nine-member community devoted to "vegetarian self-sufficiency" have several offerings at their demonstration farm in Farmington during the coming months. On Sunday April 21 at 2 PM they will give a demonstration of fruit-tree grafting by the cleft method. Scions of several varieties will be made available. On the same day at 4 PM they offer a class on Vegetable Drying and Cooking with an eye to maximum nutritional benefit.

On Sunday June 23 at 2 PM they will illustrate their method of composting and soil improvement without the use of animal manure or "off-farm amendments". And on Sunday August 4 at 2 PM they will give a guided tour of the farm. Call (778-2568) to confirm the last two dates as they may be changed in case of inclement weather.

The Khadigarites also publish Khadi World, an annual issue devoted to exchange of views and practical methods for restoring small-scale farming and self-sufficient village life. Those tired of shopping for something to do might try making (and using) a straw pen or a wooden cart wheel. If interested, send \$2 (no checks, please) to Khadi World, Box 1167, Farmington, 04938 and specify this year's issue. The group is eager to find free distribution sites for their magazine and welcomes guest articles.

Crafty Ads

Contrary to its name, the Maine Crafts Directory will really be more of an ad book with ads (you write 'em) costing \$10 (1"x3 1/4") or \$20 (2"x3 1/4") in the directory, planned for publication every six months. Deadline for ads for the summer '85 issue is May 1 for publication in early June.

If you are a craftsperson and are seeking additional advertising or exposure, this publication may help. The Directory will be sold for a minimal price (about 50¢) in various Maine stores. For an explanation: Debbie Robbins, POB 308, Greene 04236.

"Even if you are on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit
there "

Cultcha at Bowdoin

The parade of noted black cultural and literary artists at Bowdoin College continues in April with three offerings. Rescheduled from February, singer Toshi Reagon, daughter of Bernice Reagon of Sweet Honey in the Rock, presents a hybrid of rock, jazz, folk and reggae music on Thurs. April 4 at 8 PM at Kresge Auditorium, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. Admission is a mere \$2 (students, seniors are free) and free childcare is available if arranged in advance (725-8731, ex.620). Tickets available at New Leaf Books, Rockland, Wise Woman Books, Portland and Gulf of Maine in Brunswick.

Samella Lewis will give a lecture on African American art on Apr. 8 and poet Tchicaya U Tam'si will conclude the series on Apr. 12. Further details on all these events available from the Russworm Afro-American Center, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, 04011, 725-8731 x 272.

Coffeehouse Duet

First there was one coffeehouse, now there are two, both presenting entertainment for a good cause. There's the new kid, the Forum Coffeehouse, sponsored by the Sanford Peace Forum, with an OPENING NIGHT on Sat. April 13, 6-11 PM at Goodall Hall, next to the Unitarian Church, Lebanon St., Sanford.

They'll have coffee (of course) and goodies, plus several folk musicians including Bob Saunders, Diana Waterman, and Jack Burke. Admission will probably be by donation. Lots of peace literature will be on display. To help publicize or organize, or for other details contact Diana Waterman, Box 74, Emery Mills 04031, 636-3836 or John Morgan, 490-1198.

Then, on Friday, April 19 there's another of the old familiar Eleventh Hour Coffeehouses, 7-11 at the Unitarian Church in Norway, sponsored by Western Maine CALC. Singers Judy and Don Mayberry, poet Gary Lawless and a surprise performer will appear, along with homemade pizza, Nicaraguan coffee and other unique foods. Admission is \$2.50. For specifics, or to find out who the surprise guest is...?...Tricia Kehn, RFD 1 Norway 04268, 527-2363.

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Training the Grass

To help establish a theological basis for public policy advocacy and to strengthen peace and justice networks of each denomination, a training seminar, MAKING PEACE AND DOING JUSTICE will be held April 26-27 at St. Joseph's Christian Life Center, 93 Halifax St., Winslow. Plans for the training session include grassroots lobbying, working with your representative and networking by Congressional District. Details, /81-3947 or write Susie Schweppe, Thornhurst Rd., Falmouth 04105. Cost is \$22/person, including three meals. Registration by April 12 appreciated but not required.

The Nuclear Age

The theme of the Univ. of Southern Maine's 1985 Convocation is "Peace and War in the Nuclear Age", and several events in April will culminate the series.

The College of Education will sponsor a "Children and Peace" symposium on Apr. 9 at Hastings Lounge, USM Gorham, 8 AM-4 PM, which will include art and book exhibits, workshops and seminars for teachers, and more. Carol Davis at 780-5316 can offer a more complete description.

On April 8, Samantha Smith, a visitor to the Soviet Union last year, will share some of her experiences, also in Hastings at 7:30 PM.

Carstan Haaland will speak on "Nuclear Winter" on April 19 at 2:30 PM in the Science Bldg, followed on April 21 by a "Peace and War Concert" with the USM Chamber Singers at 3 PM, State St. Church.

The culmination will be April 23, "Peace Action Day." Over 20 local, state and national peace groups will have information booths. From noon to 7 PM there will be hourly workshops on the green (or Luther Bonney and Payson Smith in case of snow) on various aspects of peacemaking, plus speakers, including Sarah Fenander, who lived in the USSR for a year, and Lt. Col. Gary Hartal speaking on "Star Wars". For complete schedule: Joanne Spear or Eddita Felt-Ross, 780-4440 or 780-4045 or Special Programs, USM, 96 Falmouth, Portland 04103.

~ It's a Bomb! ~

First it was a movie. Then there were adaptations for radio and TV. And now it's the reality of.... "Star Wars," starring Ronald Reagan and a cast of millions, coming soon to your local facility, such as Loring AFB, Brunswick Naval Air Station. But wait. There are critics. And some have panned this new release. (Some haven't even given it one star!)

Mark Solomon has had a "sneak preview" of the Strategic Defense Initiative (also known as "Star Wars") and has called it "a dog." Solomon, a co-chair of the US Peace Council and expert in US-USSR relations, will present his judgments on "Star Wars" on Ap. 12-13 in Presque Isle (Fri., Ap. 12, 6 PM Bean Supper, then presentation at United Church of Christ, Church St., P.I. and Saturday afternoon workshops at UMPI). For more details on the Solomon visit: Richard Ayre, APAC, PO Box 1243, Presque Isle 04769, 764-0311 x355.

Another possible "Star Wars" critic is Dr. Robert Bowman, director of the Institute for Space and Security Studies. Bowman, a retired Lt. Col., has had wide experience with lasers, particle beams, and satellites through working with the Pentagon, General Dynamics, and Space Communications Co. He has not yet given the Reagan program a pro or con rating.

His presentation will be on Ap. 12, 7:30 PM at Fox Ridge Resort in N. Conway, NH. Carpooling of Maine people interested in hearing Bowman is being organized by Jean Fine, RR 5 Box 84, Cape Elizabeth 04107, 767-3429. The talk is sponsored by New Hampshire CALC and other local groups.

~~~~~ How Concerned Are You? ~~~~~

The Sacopee Valley has its share of concerned citizens, and they have finally come together as a group called, logically enough, Sacopee Valley Concerned Citizens. (For those not familiar with the Sacopee Valley, it is the Kezar Falls-Hiram-Baldwin area). United by worries over war, nuclear proliferation, and denial of justice, the group has hosted speakers on nuclear war and conscientious objection to military taxes.

On Ap. 3, 7 PM at Sacopee Valley H.S. (S. Hiram), Denise and Tom Ewell will speak and show slides about their experiences with the Witness for Peace in Nicaragua. Later in the month Martha Tracy and Peter Hagerty will present a "Beyond War" workshop series, and a representative of the Green Party will speak in May.

To become a concerned citizen: Alice Giovanella, RFD 1 Kezar Falls 04047, 625-3334.

6 ... Sew to Speak

The Ribbon is a project that started in 1982 when, while in prayer, Justine Merritt of Denver, Colo., received the image of tying a ribbon of peace around the Pentagon. Her "foolish notion" has grown from 100 names of her Christmas card list to the recent newsletter mailing to 8500 people around the country. The initial goal of 1 mile of yard-long segments has become an estimated 10 miles!

Sue Calhoun is the state coordinator for the Ribbon in Maine. She has scheduled an exhibit of Ribbon panels at the State House in Augusta throughout the month of April. On April 3rd, from 10 AM to 2 PM she will be there to speak with anyone interested in the idea.

If you would like to add to the nuclear "frieze" you have until May 1 to create an 18x36" panel, of double thickness muslin-weight cloth, depicting the theme of "What I cannot bear to lose in a nuclear war." Any medium may be used—from fabric crayons to needlepoint. Topstitch a few rows along the border, on all four sides for strength, and securely sew 9" of ribbon or bias tape onto each corner. You may add your name/address to the border, or explain the significance of your segment on interfacing sewn to the back.

On June 1 there will be a picnic and tying ceremony in Capitol Park, across from the State House in Augusta. And the encircling of the Pentagon will be Aug. 4, including a send-off of Maine people going on Aug. 3. Contact Sue Calhoun, Old County Rd., Waldoboro 04572, 563-5443 for details.

The 112th Legislative Parade ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The Maine legislature #112 is in full swing. Hearings on proposed bills are at their peak, but votes and decisions for most bills will probably take place in May and June. Again, here's a review of some major bills and groups supporting them.

But first, announcing "A Citizen's Guide to the Maine Legislature," the "bible" for anyone seriously interested in getting lobbying done in Augusta. Put together by the Maine People's Resource Center and Common Cause, the guide gives individual profiles of each of Maine's 151 representatives and 35 senators (backgrounds, interests, political attitudes, what committees they sit on, but not what they eat for lunch.

It also tells how the legislature is organized, gives the process of how a bill becomes a law, and 1984 campaign contributions (large ones) and results. Ratings on each legislator by the AFL-CIO, Maine Teacher's Assn., National Organization for Women, and Sportsman's (sic) Alliance of Maine are listed. The book also has a section on the "Third House," Maine's professional lobbyists. It lists citizen organizations, resources, and references for the serious citizen advocate. The guide is available for \$5.95 (incl. postage) from Common Cause, 335 Water St., Augusta 04330, 622-5798. (The 1985 "Senate and House Registers" are available for \$1 from Clerk of the House, 300 State House, Augusta 04333, but it gives many fewer pertinent facts than the above guide.)

A reminder again for those writing or calling a senator or representative:

State Sen. _____	State Rep. _____
Maine Senate	Maine House of Reps.
State House Sta. 2	State House Sta. 3
Augusta, Me. 04333	Augusta, Me. 04333

Or call 800-423-6900 for senators (leave message or ask them to call you back) or 800-423-2900 for representatives (message or call back). Current status of bills (esp. when hearing dates are scheduled) are available by calling 289-3021. Copies of bills can be requested from the above

number or are available in many public and all courthouse libraries.

Now for another quickie rundown of bills plus supporting (or opposing) groups, in reverse order from last month (well, why not?).

The "Gay Rights" bill, adding "sexual orientation" to the Maine Human Rights Act, still has no number, but the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance has announced a Lobbying Day, Ap. 17, to visit and lobby legislators on the bill. Supporters of either orientation are urged to come to the third floor of the State House at 8:30 AM (a registration table will be set up) for a State House tour and then lobbying. Contact MLGPA, Box 108, Yarmouth 04096 or call Marty, 947-0700.

The Women's Legislative Agenda Coalition (supported by the Maine Women's Lobby, Box 15, Hallowell 04347, 622-5798) is concentrating on economic issues (like AFDC benefits, LD 710-711), while many of its members are opposing anti-choice bills like LD 134 (two physicians present for third trimester abortions) and LD 387 (parental consent of minors' abortion). They are supporting LD 772 (prosecution of marital rape) and cautious about LD 804 (creating a Commission for Men). A priority of NOW (National Organization for Women) in Maine is a bill (no LD yet) to provide medicaid funding to poor women for abortions resulting from rape or incest.

The Maine Civil Liberties Union (97A Exchange St., Portland 04101, 774-5444) is supporting "An Act Making Mandatory Certain Discretionary Powers of the Commissioner of Corrections," LD 790, which it hopes will force the commissioner to give more attention to rehabilitative programs and less to new prisons. A hearing is scheduled for April 3.

Common Cause continues to check on bills limiting absentee voter registration, tax reform, and economic development. Most are late in being printed, but more details on these next month.

The divestment of state funds from South Africa bill, LD 488, had a hearing on Mar. 19 and (Continued on next page)

(Continued from Page 7)

will likely be voted on in April or May. Lobbying for this bill is being coordinated by MPOSA (Maine Project on Southern Africa), c/o Ivan Suzman, 105 Pine St., Portland 04102, 774-9833.

Workers, unions, and the Maine AFL-CIO (72 Center St., Brewer 04412, 989-3630) are bracing for an assault on the workers compensation system both by legislators and Gov. Joe Brennan. LD 212-213 are bills to reduce maximum benefits for workers' compensation and to limit yearly increases in benefits (hearings are March 25). The governor's bills are not expected to be as drastic, but a significant reduction in benefits nonetheless. The AFL-CIO is urging employers to reduce their workers comp. expenses by making their workplaces safer instead.

The Maine Assn. of Interdependent Neighborhoods (MAIN), in conjunction with Pine Tree Legal Assistance (39 Green St., Augusta 04330, 622-4731) is supporting LD 710-711, bills to provide a 10% increase in AFDC benefits (710), since they are still set at a below-poverty level, and to provide a one-time clothing allowance of \$60 per child and energy assistance payments. No hearings have been scheduled as of March 20. But a hearing on LD 846, assisting workers who are displaced from unemployment by imports (shoeworkers in particular) is scheduled for Mar. 25, making a vote in April or May likely. The bill would add supplemental state aid to federal assistance already available. MAIN/PTL has several other priority bills for assisting low-income folks.

One of the few bills passed so far was LD 26, supported by various consumer groups. It was somewhat rewritten, but it still allows family members or persons other than a funeral director to bury deceased persons.

The Maine People's Alliance (Box 2490, Augusta 04330, 622-4740) had been supporting bills to stop Local Measured Service from taking effect. Now, however, their major support is for LD 1012, a cost study of telephone rates. Do local rates need to go up? Does long distance service subsidize local

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service? MPA feels a large-scale study will determine what services, if any, really do need additional financing.

MPA will also be meeting with Sen. George Mitchell on Ap. 6 to generate support for a larger Superfund bill (to clean up hazardous wastes and dump sites), hoping to raise the appropriation from \$7 to \$13 billion. Contact MPA to help out.

Two bills supported by the Office of Energy Resources (Station 53, Augusta 04333, 289-3811) are LD 465, to "establish a State Energy Efficiency Goal" and LD 837, to "Establish Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for Major Appliances Sold in Maine." Contact OER for details on these bills.

MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Assn., Box 2176, Augusta 04330, 622-3118) is concentrating its effort on LD 978, to stop the use of chemical insecticides with the Spruce Budworm spraying program after 1985. If successful, the long fight of spray opponents would at least be partially won. MOFGA is also supporting LD 635, creating a Commission on Farmland loss.

The Natural Resources Council of Maine (271 State St., Augusta 04330, 622-3101) continues to press for acid rain legislation, but something stronger than LD 317, which puts a cap on levels but does not lower them. NRCM will be offering a better alternative in a bill later in the session. Bills on water quality reclassification and guidelines for oil storage tanks will also be mentioned next time when more details are available.

NRCM's major emphasis now is LD 652, asking for an extension of time for Maine's Land Use Regulation Commission to consider the application of Great Northern Paper to build the "Big A" Dam (see article on P. 4). NRCM fears that LURC, with a small staff, cannot adequately review the many-volumed application in only a few weeks. If "Big A" passes LURC scrutiny, it must still have an environmental impact statement done by the federal government itself.

What legislation do you consider important, something that MSN readers need to know about and respond to? Send your "favorites" to us by Ap. 20 for May's issue.

Sign Up For Wild Herbs 101 ~ 9

The catalog came just after our deadline, so many of the March courses couldn't be mentioned, but the University of Maine at Augusta is also offering some special interest courses and workshops in April at its centers in Augusta, Lewiston-Auburn, Bath, Waterville, & Rockland. For example:

March 31, Ap. 14,21,28--American Film, 1:30-5, Railroad Sq. Cinema, Wtvl., \$35.

Ap. 27--Herbal First Aid, 9-3, UMA Bath Center, \$20.

May 18--Cooking with Cultivated and Wild Herbs, 9-3, Bath Center, \$20.

Ap. 27--Massage workshop w/Sonja Christiansen, 9-4, UMA Auburn Ctr., \$25.

May 2,9,16,23,30--Confrontation and Negotiation Skills, 7-9:30 PM, Auburn Center, \$50-75.

Plus lots of delicious computer courses for all you Apple nuts.

For a catalog or nitty gritties: UMA Public Service, UMA, Augusta 04330 or call Carol Young at 622-7131 x330 or 596-6979 (Rockland), 784-7366 (Auburn), or 442-7040 (Bath).

.. A Breath of Fresh Air ..

Take a deep breath and prepare for another Breathing-Work Weekend, a workshop promoting healing and personal growth through regulated breathing, special music, body-work, and drawing. This unlikely combination, when presented by therapists Nonie Valentine of Camden and Helen Gitkind of Boston, helps participants to get in touch with their past life events and experience a "rebirth" of new potentials and personal transformation.

What happens inside people's heads and bodies is hard to describe, so Nonie Valentine will give an introductory lecture on the workshop on Wed., Ap. 3, 7:30 PM at 77 Elm St., Camden. The workshop itself goes from 10 AM to 6 PM on Ap. 13 and 14 at Blueberry Cove Camp in Tenants Harbor. Cost of the weekend is \$65.

Preregistration is necessary and can be arranged through Nonie Valentine, 77 Elm St., Camden 04843, 236-9711.

Shalom In The Middle East ~

Temple Shalom Center, 74 Bradman St., Auburn 04210, 786-4201, offers "an extensive array of community-wide programming," including adult and youth classes in topics like aerobics, magic, bridge, sign language, and stained glass, to name a few. An Israeli-Greek cultural night is upcoming in May.

One upcoming special event is a discussion with attorney Bob Laskoff and Bates Col. professor of philosophy/religion Joseph Levine on Sunday, Ap. 14 at 10 AM entitled "Should Israel Engage the PLO in Dialogue?" Both men are strong supporters of the state of Israel but differ on whether Israel should talk with the Palestine Liberation Organization as distinct from other Palestinian people or groups. The discussion promises to provide new food for thought on a very old but still vexing problem: The Middle East.

• Get Attached to "Stigma" ...

The Portland Coalition for the Psychiatrically Labeled will be glad to sell or rent and personally present "Stigma," a slide show with synchronized cassette tape presenting the feelings of ex-mental patients about their experiences in the mental health system and the community. The group also publishes a newsletter, the Advocate. Write Portland Coalition, PO Box 4138, Sta. A, Portland 04101 or call 772-2208.

- No Fooling this Month - - -

We'd hoped to have an April Fools page, but there was too much serious news to give up for the sake of silliness and bad humor (there's enough of that in here anyway). Besides, our co-conspirators finked out again. However, here is one such item:

PARANOID?

The Mid-Coast Sub-Church of Paranoia is offering alienation outreach programs for persons exasperated with authority, organizations and society in general. Subjects covered include sexuality, entropolitics, drugs, autogestation, rock 'n roll, phalse profits, and schism science. If you are tired of joining, sick of paying dues, frustrated with censorship or simply feel like a minority of one, the Mid-Coast Sub-Church of Paranoia is for you. Write RFD 279, Rockland 04841 for more information."

Thanks, but I'll pass on the tax, man.

Did you know that over 60% of one's income taxes goes for past, present and future wars or military weapons? For that reason, although Tax Day will be a pain in the wallet for most people, it will be a pain for conscientious objectors to war taxes even more. As in years past, these objectors and their supporters will gather at post offices on April 16 (Apr. 15 is a holiday) to give out flyers and make statements of refusal to pay and perform street theatre.

Actions will take place in at least several Maine cities and towns:
Farmington--leafletting, call 293-2390
Bangor--die-in, call 827-3107
Portland--theatre and public refusals--
call 797-5684

Augusta--leafletting, call 622-1139
Waterville--leafletting, call 873-2540

For those who want to refuse to pay a little or all of their 1984 taxes, there is now the Maine War Tax Funds for Life, which will hold refused taxes in escrow or redirect such money (your choice) to groups denied funds or funded minimally because of large military expenditures. To make a deposit or find out about the fund: Maine War Tax Funds for Life, 11 Old Mill Rd., Orono 04473, 827-3107.

Tax Day flyers ("Do you want to pay for a nuclear war?") are also available at no charge in any quantity from the above address/phone to give out in your own area.

Here Come the Gentry; There Goes the Neighborhood....

Rising concern about the changing scene of Maine Street, Brunswick: enter the chain store, non-retail pursuits, developers, absentee landlords. Rents climb; urban renaissance creeps ever northward. Small local businesses begin to suffocate. Gary Lawless and Beth Leonard of Gulf of Maine Books are determined not to be silent while the sprawl takes over. A series of events at 155 Park Row will draw more public attention to the situation. Visit the bookstore or call 729-5484 for details.

10

Keep the Ark Afloat...

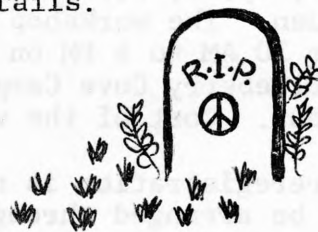
While supporting the Ark animal building fund expressing concern for animal abuses at the Animal Fair in Machias at the Memorial High School Gym on May 4th, rain or shine. Games for kids, films about animals, flea market, crafts, food (and pony rides?!) For further information contact Alanna Gertz, Box 244 in Harrington 04643, 483-4002.

And MOBILIZATION FOR ANIMALS is organizing a mass protest in NYC, April 20. Participants include actress Loretta Swit, Cleveland Amory, Bob Barker, Earl Holliman and Country Joe McDonald. Call 483-4002 for transportation information and write Mobilization for Animals RFD 1, Harrington 04643 for a list of companies which do not consume animals in the production or testing of thier products. Small donations for printing and postage are always welcome.

If'n You're Dun In

If you do not enjoy the prospect of receiving dunning notices (bills) from the undertaker while grieving the loss of a loved one and possible a funeral which did not accord with that person's wishes or tastes, you might want to use the services of the Memorial Society of Maine, a non-profit organization which believes that "the ceremonies surrounding death should be simple and dignified without excessive expense".

A \$20 one-time-only membership fee will bring you information about prevailing laws and practices pertaining to disposition of bodies, including specific options for Maine residents, help in pre-planning and recording your wishes for the type of funerary procedure you desire, as well as a semi-annual newsletter. Write the Memorial Society of Maine, Box 3122, Auburn 04210 or call 786-4323 (they will call back) for further details.



WHAT IS MAINE SERIES (Cont.)

Maine--glove it or leave it.

Maine--Where the elite meet the sleet.

~~~~~ And More and More Calendar Events! ~~~~~

Ap. 13--Pilobolus Dance Thea. performs,
Port. City Hall Aud., 8 PM, \$7-16.
Call 772-8630.

Ap. 13--Yoga Workshop w/Bob Johnson,
9-12 & lunch, \$1 + Shaklee purchase,
Yoga Ctr., Box 1243, Port., 773-6340.

Ap. 13-14--Breathing Workshop (9)

Ap. 13-16--"Falasha--Exile of the Black
Jews" (Ethiopian Jews vs. assimilation),
The Movies, 10 Exchange, Port., 772-9600.

Ap. 14--Israel-PLO dialogue (9)

Ap. 15--Portland Folk Club Swap, Boothby
Sq. Tavern, Portland, 8 PM, 773-9549.

Ap. 16--Tax Day actions (10 and 1)

Ap. 16--"What I've Learned about Nuclear
Arms," Kennebunk Unitarian Church, 7 PM,
free. Kennebunk Forum, 38 High St.,
Kennebunk 04043, 985-7002.

Ap. 17--"High Performances" w/ Holly
Near, Pete Seeger, Ronnie Gilbert, and
Arlo Guthrie, 7 PM, MPBN-Radio.

Ap. 17--Gay Rights Bill lobbying (7)

Ap. 18--Ferron Concert at UMO (3)

Ap. 18--Folk musician Harvey Reid at
Univ. of New England, Biddeford.

Ap. 19--Eleventh Hour Coffeehouse (5)

Ap. 19-22--A Call to Action (1)

Ap. 20--Celebration of Spring fair (music,
crafts, puppets, fair, etc.) spaces av-
ailable, Unity College, 9-5, free. Stu-
dent Life, Unity Col., 04988, 948-3131.

Ap. 20--Public Lands Conference (4)

Ap. 20--Mob. for Animals in NYC (10)

Ap. 21--Tree grafting at Khadighar (4)

Ap. 24--"Health Care Cost Containment for
Organized Labor in Me.", 9-2:30, Augusta
Civic Center, free. Don Raymond, Blue
Cross, 110 Free, Portland, 775-3536.

Ap. 26-27--"Making Peace/Doing Justice" (5)

Ap. 27--John Roberts/Tony Barrand (old
English songs), Moulton Thea., Westbrook
Col., Portland, 8PM, \$5-6, 773-9549.

Ap. 27--Soiree Culturelle Franco-Ameri-
caine in Old Town. FAROG Forum, 126
College, Orono 04473, 581-FROG.

Ap. 27--Womyn's Chemical-Free Dance,
Friends Meetinghouse, 1837 Forest Ave.,
Portland, 9-midnight (benefit Women's De-
fense Committee). Call Ginny, 780-4085.

May 4--Animal Fair in Machias (10)

MAINE STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION/FEEDBACK FORM

SUBSCRIPTION (səb-skrip-shən)--A method for getting a wonderful publication, the Maine Statewide Newsletter, simply by filling out the form below and sending in a paltry \$4 (more or less). Also recommended for those who want to know what's left in Maine.

NAME/MAILING ADDRESS _____

Here's (\$4/a donation/moral support now, maybe \$ later--choose one) _____

I (do/do not) want my name given out to other progressive groups for mailings.

Write a few pros and cons about this newsletter:

Someone (or someones) else who ought to get a sample copy of MSN is/are:

"Those who sling mud generally lose ground."

Please return this form to : INVERT (Institute for Nonviolence Education, Research,
and Training, PO Box 110, Stillwater, Maine 04489, 827-3107.

12 More and more

Apr. 1-4, 8-10, 15--Big A hearings in
Millinocket (4).

Apr. 3--Sacopee Valley Concerned
Citizens (6).

Apr. 3--The Ribbon in Augusta (6).

Apr. 3--Breathing Workshop Intro (9).

Apr. 3,10,17,24--Lives in Transition(3)

Apr. 3-4--Women in Management (3).

Apr. 4,8,12--Black artists at Bowdoin
(5).

Apr. 8,11,15,18,22,25--Puppet-building workshop, 6-8 P.M.,\$30, Nance Parker, Shoestring Theater, 155 Brackett St., Portland 04102, 775-0105.

Apr. 8-9, 19, 21, 23--USM Convocation (5)

Apr. 8-15--Jim Harney on El Salvador(2)

Apr. 9-13--Frontline: "Crisis in Central America," 9-10 P.M. on WCBB (9th-12th) and MPBN-TV (9-11, 13).

Apr. 10--Susan Savell Concert (3).

Apr. 10--AIDS Forum/Panel, Public
Safety Bldg., Aud., Middle St., Port-
land 7 P.M. Call Jim Novotny, 289-
3747 or Our Books, 773-5540.

Apr. 11--Groundwater Hearing (2).

Apr. 11--(Each 2nd Thurs.) Dances of
Universal Peace, 7:30 P.M., Universa-
list Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland.
Midcoast Sufis. 372-6606 or 354-6041.

Apr. 12-13--Star Wars Presentations(6)

Apr. 13--Sanford Forum Coffeehouse (5)

Apr. 13--Kay Gardner Concert (3)
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