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## Maine Women's Insider (June 2006)

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# INSIDER

A publication of the Maine Women's Lobby and Maine Women's Policy Center

## First Annual Leadership Circle Gathering

### Time for Reflection, Celebration

Dear Friends,

Thanks to those of you who were able to attend our first annual donor appreciation event on June 7. It was an extraordinary



Joanne D'Arcangelo (right) receives award from Sarah Standiford, MWPC Executive Director

evening. At every one of our events, I am inspired and energized by the women and men who are part of the Maine Women's Lobby and Maine Women's Policy Center family, and this evening was no exception!

The evening served to honor two long-time advocates who each have contributed in large part to the achievements of the Maine Women's Lobby. **Joanne D'Arcangelo** served as a lobbyist for the Maine

Women's Lobby from 1988-1991, during which time she was responsible for such notable accomplishments as pushing to enact Maine's model sexual harassment law, insurance coverage for mammograms, and occupational health standards for video display terminal workers (this, before the term "ergonomics" was even coined). During that time and

throughout her career, Joanne has wowed her colleagues with the ability to combine deep passion for social justice with brilliant political strategy.

Joanne was honored with the first ever **Liz Crandall Leadership Award**, commemorating long-time Maine Women's Lobby member **Elizabeth Crandall** who died this past November at the age of 91.

"I am so happy to be here and have the incredible honor of being connected forever with Liz Crandall," said Joanne. "Honoring Liz is a great way of reminding ourselves not only what this work is about, but what life is about. Liz harnessed and balanced these two things so well, and so elegantly, and that is really the great gift she left us." Read on for more about Liz Crandall's special gifts.



Karen Geraghty, Barbara Beckelman, and MWPC Board member Jean Principe (left to right) enjoy the Leadership Circle gathering.

- Sarah Standiford  
Executive Director



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## From Colorado: Beware of TABOR

### Kristi Hargrove: Mother, Businesswoman, Advocate, Cautions Maine Voters

The Maine Women's Lobby and members of the Community Voices Against TABOR Coalition were delighted to host **Kristi Hargrove** in early June to talk with Maine audiences about the impact the so-called Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, or TABOR, has had in Colorado.

According to Kristi, TABOR simply doesn't work and won't solve anything. As a fiscally conservative Republican, Kristi understands that TABOR proponents offer attractive sound bites, but she says, *"Don't be fooled. When you look at the fine print, you see that TABOR causes so much damage to the services that people depend on, such as education and health care. In Colorado, I became involved in working to suspend TABOR because two of my children came home from school one day complaining of being freezing. They had even started wearing their down coats and gloves during class! Temperatures where I live, in Crested Butte, dip to 20 degrees below zero in the winter. At first I told the kids to just wear more clothes to school. But when I investigated, I learned that the school was dramatically lowering their thermostat to save money."*



Kristi Hargrove (2nd from left) addresses Portland businesswomen at the offices of Lapchick Creative.

TABOR has had a ripple effect on schools and communities, says Kristi, *"TABOR prevented our schools from keeping up with the costs of providing the basics: text books, music teachers, transportation to athletic events, ink for copy machines, and heat for the buildings. Instead, I and other parents had to step in."*

These problems have compounded over time, says Kristi, *"I've worked with the PTA on fundraising campaigns of \$50,000 and more simply to cover basic costs. That's bad, but how about those schools in poor communities that simply don't have the capacity to raise this extra money?"* Speaking of her role in this discussion, Kristi told the *Bangor Daily News*, *"I am a mom. I represent my children. I am passionately against TABOR because of how it hurts the public schools in Colorado."*

She should know. Colorado is currently the only state with TABOR. Kristi explained that, *"Colorado has been living with it since 1992, so our experience can be helpful to citizens in states such as Maine where TABOR is being debated."*

As a small businesswoman, Kristi also witnessed the impact that TABOR had on her community as a whole. She told a group of women business owners in Portland that TABOR is a hidden tax on the business community, *"because businesses are forced to step in to provide the funds for very basic services - like text books and school supplies - that the government used to offer."*

## Remembering Elizabeth Crandall

The Maine Women's Lobby lost a tremendously powerful leader and advocate on November 9, 2005.

### Elizabeth "Liz" Walbert

**Crandall** was born in Kansas in 1914 as one of five daughters of Stanley and Edna Walbert. She earned her B.S. and M.S. degrees in family economics and resource management from Kansas State College and later a doctor of education degree from Boston University. The following is an excerpt from her obituary published November 13, 2005 in the *Maine Sunday Telegram*.



Elizabeth Crandall (photo from the Maine Women's Hall of Fame)

*"Her distinguished academic career culminated in her services as dean of the College of Home Economics at the University of Rhode Island. On August 3, 1946 Liz married Robert Dalton Crandall who died in 1999 after a long and loving marriage. The Crandalls made their home in Rhode Island until retiring to Brunswick in 1979, where Liz and Bob were faithful members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.*

Liz quickly became a tireless advocate and activist for environmental and women's causes. She served as chair of the Brunswick Recycling Committee and held many leadership posts in the American Association of University Women (AAUW) on a state, regional, and national level, including chair of the Legal Advocacy Fund. An endowment fund in her honor was established by the AAUW Educational Foundation. Liz was also active for many years in the Maine Women's Lobby, the League of Women Voters, NOW, the Family Planning Association of Maine, and the Maine Home Economics Association. In recognition of her numerous achievements, Liz was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 1996."

Liz's legacy will live on at the Maine Women's Lobby, to which she has made a significant bequest. We are grateful for this and for Liz's many contributions - in time, talent, and treasure - to the work of the Maine Women's Lobby.

*"When Liz spoke, people not only listened, they sat up, took notice, and usually did the right thing. Liz was our guerilla warrior - when we needed someone to stand up and fight for the Family Medical Leave Act or against so-called informed consent for abortion, there was Liz - blasting some legislator out of his socks, and his assumptions, about what a feminist looks like."*

- Joanne D'Arcangelo