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Summer 7-1-1988

## Spruce Run News (Summer 1988)

Spruce Run Staff

*Spruce Run*

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# SPRUCE RUN

*Services for Victims and Survivors of Domestic Violence*

Hotline 207-947-0496

VOLUME XV, No. 1  
Summer, 1988

## SPRUCE RUN CELEBRATES ITS FIFTEENTH BIRTHDAY!

1988 is a special year for Spruce Run: it's our fifteenth birthday! The oldest battered women's project in the State of Maine, Spruce Run was founded by a small group of women who saw that nothing was being done to assist battered women, and who decided that they would make a difference. So they incorporated, and began sharing an office and a phone with several other struggling progressive organizations at 44 Central Street in downtown Bangor. In 1977, CETA funding made it possible to hire two staff to recruit some volunteers, so the 24-hour hotline for battered women was begun. In 1983, through the generosity of an anonymous donor, Spruce Run was able to open a shelter. And you, our friends, know the rest.

This newsletter, along with letting our friends know how much we've grown in fifteen years, will also feature articles and poetry by formerly battered women.

We appreciate all your support over the years and hope you will celebrate with us the changes we have seen occurring in community attitudes and actions toward battered women.

### THANK-YOUS TO YARD SALE WORKERS

Many dedicated workers helped make the June Yard Sale a big success:

LeeAnne	Val	
Sandy G.	Cindy & Ted	Bruce
Dorinda	Jean	Mary D.
Delores	Julia	Ann S.
Carol	Leigh	Karen
	Rosie	Nancy R.
Funded by	Rich	

the State of Maine, United Way and your generous donations (If we left anyone out, we are sorry!)

## SPRUCE RUNNERS TO ATTEND THIRD NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Twelve Spruce Runners will attend the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Third Conference: "Bringing the Vision Home." The gathering of battered women's advocates from all over the U.S. will be held July 27-31 in Seattle, on the University of Washington campus. Excited travelers will include staff members Peggy B., Deborah St.M., Lynn B., Francine S., Ronelda W., and volunteers Maureen F., Linda Z., Mary D., Ann S., Karen H., Sue E., and Katharine S.

The trip will cost over \$600 per person, and Spruce Run can pay only part of that, so donations toward sending volunteers to the conference would be very welcome!

Back in Bangor at the office, three staff members and several great volunteers will keep the office open, staff the hotline, and stay in touch with shelter folks.

### KIDS' WISH LIST

Listed below are a few items we need for our shelter kids' program this Summer. Please phone 945-5102 to arrange to drop off anything you can donate.

Thank you!

sand toys	dollhouse dolls (3")
water toys	dollhouse furniture
paint easel	play dishes
paints and brushes	play pots and pans
newsprint	puppets (a family of puppets?)
Wiffle ball and bat	
Frisbee	jumprope
playground ball	jacks
squirt toys (non-gun)	

P.O. Box 653, Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 945-5102

P.O. Box 524, Ellsworth, ME 04605 (207) 667-9489

ANN SCHONBERGER WINS  
JEFFERSON AWARD

We are proud to announce that Ann Schonberger, who has served faithfully on the Spruce Run Steering Committee for ten years, received the coveted 1988 Jefferson Award, which is given each year to a few people for outstanding public service benefiting local communities.

WLBZ-TV sponsors the Jefferson Awards in Eastern and Northern Maine. The awards, and the American Institute for Public Service, were founded in 1973, to honor the highest ideals and achievements in the field of public service in the United States. Through its annual Jefferson Awards, the Institute recognizes the dedication, sacrifice, and accomplishments of individuals serving the American people and strives to develop new leadership.

Several staff members, as well as Catherine Cutler, another long-term Steering Committee member, attended the March 10 luncheon at Pilots Grill, along with Ann's husband Howard and son Ben. All the Spruce Runners especially enjoyed seeing the videotape of Ann working at a Spruce Run bake sale which was run often on WLBZ as a public service announcement afterward.

Ann gave a graceful speech in which she recognized the significance of the award's being given to someone whose outstanding public service has been on behalf of a feminist organization.

STAFF ENTERTAIN  
LOCAL POLICE

On May 3, the Spruce Run staff played host to several police officers from the area. The reception was a part of our Community Response Program, and staff members Mary C. and Sue B. felt it was worthwhile, as we were able to exchange information on work with domestic abuse victims and to inform each other about the problems our different jobs entail. We thank the officers for taking the time to attend, and hope this sort of thing will happen more often in future.

NEW OFFICE SPACE  
IN BANGOR

Spruce Run has rented additional offices for three of our staff near our own building. With a total of eight staff and a few work-study students and volunteers who come in to cover the hotline, we needed more room: we had not only no quiet work space, but no private space to offer crisis counseling!

The staff love the new offices, but we are a bit short on furniture, so we thought we'd appeal to our Newsletter readers, who always seem to willing to help out! Here's a short list of things we really could use:

rocking chairs (ones that can be moved around easily, or other comfy chairs)  
bookcases  
a round conference table (maybe 5-6 feet in diameter, for meetings)  
coffeemaker  
electric typewriter  
copier in good condition.

Thank you for helping us furnish our offices!  
(Phone 945-5102 to donate these things.)

MARY C. RUNS FOR LEGISLATURE

Spruce Run's long-term Community Education Coordinator, Mary Cathcart, is the Democratic nominee for State Representative from House District 129 (Clifton, Eddington, half of Orono, Veazie). Besides her 11-year involvement with Spruce Run, Mary has served on the Orono Planning Board and the Maine Commission for Women. She says the issues of greatest concern to her are education/property tax relief, the environment, careful planning of growth and development, solid waste disposal, and jobs/child-care. Mary promises that funding at the State level for battered women's projects will always be a top priority for her.

Though Mary will be actively campaigning door-to-door in August through early November, she will still be connected to Spruce Run and has agreed to stop by the office frequently for hugs and words of support for her campaign.

## THE INVISIBLE MEN IN CHILD ABUSE CASES

By Evan Stark\*

The slaying of 6-year-old Elizabeth Steinberg has stunned us by its brutality. Despite the public attention focused on this case, most people are unaware of the two best-kept secrets about child abuse: The majority of child abusers are men, not women, and in most of these cases, the mother is battered as well as the child.

Men are virtually invisible to the child protection system. Children are typically placed for adoption or foster care without a thorough investigation of the male partner.

Meanwhile, women who fail to control their batterers are labeled "bad mothers" and held legally responsible for the child even when the male is the assailant. By this logic, Hedda Nussbaum has been charged with murder alongside the man who is charged with breaking her nose, fracturing her ribs and leaving her with a gangrenous leg.

Surveys show that, where men are present, they are responsible for two-thirds of the reported incidents of abuse and neglect. When only documented physical abuse is considered, men's role is even more significant.

In a recent study of hospital and medical examiner records reported in Pediatrics, men were found responsible for 64 percent of the severe cases of physical abuse. Eighty percent of the fatal cases were attributed to men, and 20 percent to "unknown" assailants. None was attributed to women.

The link between child abuse and battering is equally clear.

Our research at Yale-New Haven Hospital shows that in 45 percent of all child abuse cases the mother was also battered. In a majority of these cases, the man beating the woman was also the child's assailant. We also found that battered mothers of abused children are more likely to have their children taken away than nonbattered mothers, clearly a punitive response.

Despite this evidence, none of the thousands of articles on child abuse target men.

Even more remarkable, none of the

hundreds of programs dealing with child abuse nationwide is designed specifically for men. In many states, men are not even interviewed during the foster placements. In Connecticut, child abuse and foster care cases are classified under the mother's name even if she is deceased.

As a result, "abusing parent" is a euphemism for the mother. Broad moral conceptions of women's "responsibility" for violence are incorporated in state regulations that define the battering of the mother as an indication of her inability to protect the child.

In New York, for instance, an abusing parent includes one who "allows to be created a substantial risk of physical injury to the child." In this twisted logic, had Hedda Nussbaum fled the scene to avoid her own beatings, she could be held responsible for her daughter's death. Volunteer organizations are similarly biased. Even "Parents Anonymous" insists that the typical child abuser is "a destructive, disturbed mother." Added to this gender stereotype of women's responsibility is an unwillingness to question male authority and the benign desire to keep therapy--rather than the police--at the center of child protection.

This helps explain why battering and abusive males remain invisible until it is too late.

Whatever the reason, this approach to child abuse offers thousands of mothers a tragic choice. They may expose their assailant's behavior and risk losing their child, or they can put themselves and their children in jeopardy by concealing violence.

The obvious answer is the one the child abuse professionals oppose. Emphasis must be shifted from child saving to the protection and empowerment of women, from being the mother's adversary to being her advocate.

In the case of Hedda Nussbaum, case-workers investigating the home for child abuse made no note about the battering. Co-workers at Random House were aware of the battering but apparently did nothing. And when police found Nussbaum with facial injuries on October 6, they did nothing because "she refused to press charges," as if a hostage, still held captive, can frankly assess her treatment. In neighboring Connecticut and in dozens of cities, police are mandated to arrest in such circumstances. [In Maine several police departments have made arrest mandatory in assault cases; Ellsworth P.D. is one of those.]

Elizabeth Steinberg would almost certainly be alive today had the police, the courts or the city's Human Resources Administration recognized that protecting Hedda Nussbaum, and removing Joel Steinberg from the home, was the best way to protect the children.

It is more than a bit ironic that the system that refused to protect Hedda Nussbaum should put her on trial for what her assailant is alleged to have done.

\* Evan Stark, a professor at Rutgers University, is a co-director of the Domestic Violence Training Project in New Haven, Connecticut.

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#### NEW OFFICE AND STAFF MEMBER IN HANCOCK COUNTY

Spruce Run's Hancock County project has new digs--a four-room office at 75 Main Street in Ellsworth! We needed the larger space for volunteer training sessions and meetings and support groups, as well as to provide space for our new staff member. Deborah St.M. reports that she is very happy with the new office, and mentioned that there are a few items still needed. Please phone Deborah at 667-9489 or 945-5102 if you can donate:

a VCR with monitor (or TV set)  
kid-size table and chairs.

We are also very pleased to announce that Ronelda Whitmore of Ellsworth will join the staff in late July, in time to attend the NCADV Conference in Seattle. Ronelda's varied work experience and her pleasant and articulate presence convinced us that she'd be an excellent Advocacy Coordinator in Hancock County. She has even worked in law enforcement, and once served as acting chief of police for several months! After about six months in Bangor, where she'll be trained in crisis intervention, public speaking, and the Community Response Program, Ronelda will spend two days a week in Hancock County, providing direct services to battered women and working closely with the criminal justice system and other service providers.

Spruce Run held a Raffle at the Trade Show in Ellsworth, and here are the lucky winners:

Harry Haney - 1-month certificate at  
Maine Racquet and Fitness Club  
Vyvyenne Ritchie - 3-month certificate  
at Holiday Inn.

The Hancock County Committee has just announced its big Labor Day fundraiser, a Stay-at-Home Ball. Basically, the idea is that you send a check to Spruce Run, but you don't have to get all dressed up and go out and eat rubber chicken and dance. You'll hear more about this event later in the Summer.

Our Hancock County Committee is a fun bunch of people, and we're seeking new members. Please phone Deborah at the above numbers if you have some time to volunteer.

#### CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

Spruce Run held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Night party at Judith B.'s house, and about twenty people came for a delicious buffet catered by Jasmine's of Orono. Before feasting on stuffed mushrooms, scallops wrapped in bacon, three-cheese lasagna, and raspberry linzertorte, the volunteers and staff enjoyed taking a "Find Someone Who" Quiz. Several questions stumped most people: Who is often seen with an Oreo? Who plays in a no-fault orchestra? Who still owns all her gowns from high school? Who has seen Dirty Dancing the most times? (Answers will not be given here, as there are still a few volunteers who haven't taken the quiz.)

After dinner, certificates were presented, and the volunteer class of '84 was applauded for having the largest attendance at the party. Door prizes from Ampersand in Orono were won by Sandy G. and Mary C., and a grab bag of delightful little prizes was passed around so nobody had to go home empty-handed.

Peggy B. made these quotable remarks: "Our volunteers are truly wonderful, and we appreciate each and every one of you -- some days!"

## I'M YOUR PUNCHING BAG

I remember the day I left you  
 After a year of you making me a fool.  
 I remember that I felt so much pain,  
 And I was thinking what have I really  
 gained?  
 You left me sitting in the rain and you  
 didn't even care.  
 I really don't think any of this is fair.

Does it make you feel good to hit me?  
 Is it worth it to hit me so hard I can't  
 even see?  
 Don't you feel guilty about the things  
 you've done?  
 You try to get away: all you do is run.  
 Then you make me feel like I've done  
 wrong,  
 And I no longer feel that I am strong.

Because you think of me as your punching  
 bag.  
 You know how to get to me.  
 You think I can't see  
 What you're doing to me.  
 You think of me as your punching bag.

But no longer will you embarrass me.  
 No longer will you put me down.  
 No longer will you hit me.  
 No longer will you scare me.  
 And, best of all, I no longer have to  
 lie, sneak, or be scared  
 To say things or do things:  
 Because I'm free: I don't need you.

Because you think of me as your punching bag.  
 You know how to get to me.  
 You think I can't see  
 What you're doing to me.  
 You think of me as your punching bag.

- A Former Shelter Resident

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
 UP TO DATE ?  
 (See page 9)

## A CHRISTMAS THANK-YOU

We'd like to thank everyone who re-  
 sponded overwhelmingly to our Christmas  
 newsletter with donations of gifts for the  
 women and children who were, or had been,  
 in our shelter. We decided the best way  
 to let you know how much your gifts meant  
 would be to share with you this letter:

Dear Friends,

Once again, "thank you" seems so  
 inadequate, but thank you for giving  
 Buddy and me such a nice Christmas! I  
 was overwhelmed where my parents bought  
 our ticket to N.J., and they chipped in  
 together to buy Buddy a dresser. There  
 weren't many other presents for him there.  
 He really has enjoyed the toys from Spruce  
 Run, and neither of us has gotten over  
 the adorable huge bear!

As with everything you do, the amount  
 was amazing in itself, but the thought  
 that went with it was so special--necessary  
 items sprinkled with touches of extravagance.

Thank you for being there, for all  
 you do, and for making this an extra-  
 special year for Buddy and me, and an  
 extra-special Christmas.

Love,

A Former Resident  
 of Spruce Run Shelter

Now that we've let you know how much  
 we appreciate all you do for us, here is the

## SHELTER WISH LIST

Alarm clocks for bedrooms  
 Stamped envelopes  
 Disposable diapers (size med. and large)  
 Books: Getting Free by Ginny NiCarthy  
 (published by Seal Press. for a testi-  
 monial, see the article on page 6.)  
 Videotape: My Husband Is Going to Kill  
 Me, from June 28 FRONTLINE show on PBS.  
 This would be excellent to show to  
 residents, volunteers, and community  
 groups. We can buy one tape for \$150  
 or two for \$225 (one for Bangor, one  
 for Ellsworth).

THANK YOU!

## ONE WOMAN'S STORY

(This article was sent to us in February by a former resident of the Spruce Run shelter.)

Six months have passed since I left my abusive situation with my four-and-a-half-month-old son. Six months the day before Valentine's Day--how appropriate! But it is appropriate really because I'm finally learning to love myself. So much has happened in these six months, but there's so much yet to do. Leaving can't be the end: it's the beginning.

Being a new mother when you're close to 40 is a tremendous undertaking under the best of circumstances, let alone when you find yourself financially destitute, living in a new town with no friends or relatives for help and support and, because of all this, being forced to take a crash course entitled "Introduction to Surviving the System." **Luckily, this doesn't all hit you at midnight the day you leave.** It all becomes a matter of survival, doing the best you can day by day. Anyone who has lived through an abusive relationship is, after all, a survivor. Before I left, I had all the responsibility of caring for my son, as well as protecting him from his father. I was never allowed any money or any friends, and his "system" wasn't any picnic! So as horrifying as things may sometimes seem, I know I'm much better off now. Little by little I'm overcoming the obstacles. It's like making a bank deposit: at least in the end everything you accomplish benefits you and the family. It's scary because all the weight rests on your shoulders where before you could hide behind your restrictions. Now it's all up to you! The difference is, now you do have choices.

In the five minutes between naps and teething and feedings, I've managed to do some soul-searching. I've studied books like Women Who Love Too Much, in hopes of learning not only why I got into this situation but how to avoid it in the future. I came from an upper-middle-class family who were not abusive or violent, and I couldn't understand why I chose abusers. Getting Free by Ginny NiCarthy has become my Bible! Basically a handbook for women in abusive relationships, it is a true-to-life, practical source of comfort and guidance from making the decision to leave to helping you rebuild your life financially, physically and emotionally.

Another way of coping I've found is to start a set of files. The newspaper is my one luxury in life, and when I see ads or stories of places I'd like to go, I cut it out and file it in "Places to Go and Things to Do." When I see an interesting job, even if it's a dream, I file it. If I see a dream house, I cut it out. If I see an article about welfare, childcare, the legal system, etc., I file it under "The Cause." Then, when finances scare me, I get out my "job" file and dream and/or plan a way out. If I'm snowed in and depression sets in and the baby has cabin fever, I get out "Places to Go" and plan an excursion, even if it's to an antique store I always wanted to see. If "The System" tries to swallow me whole, I dig out "The Cause" for resources or articles to see if something can't be done, even if it's a letter to the editor or the congress member. It helps to vent anger, resentment, and frustration just to speak out or hope you can do something else. I try to make a list of things I have to do, no matter how mundane, and keep at them. When you feel stagnant, it's surprising to see what you actually have done. None of this costs anything or takes much time, but it sure helps me!

The WEET program has been an oasis. I'm now taking a course at University College and am able to partake in the Career Development Program. Finally, instead of my life being like Pin the Tail on the Donkey, I'm removing the blindfold and taking time and energy to find a way out

of all this. One thing poverty has done is give me the determination to find a good-paying job and get out from under all this oppression and thanks to WEET, I've made a good start.

My association with Spruce Run, Displaced Homemakers, and a church have been a pillar and a rudder and a new/old friend I can always call on. Like a good friend, they have each been kind, supportive, encouraging, caring, and genuinely interested in mending the wings of this wounded sparrow.

In six months I've gone into the attic of my heart and soul and discovered some real treasures. Some are worn, some need polish, but I have real treasures: some I didn't know I had, some I had forgotten about. Treasures that give joy and satisfaction, concepts that didn't exist six months ago. I managed to hold onto my belongings, my son, and my mind. What better things to build on! And I have a beautiful apartment, a happy, healthy son, and hopes for a good future. I've made some warm, caring friends and have access to many resources. When the baby's father comes to see him, I can now see him for what he is and feel only sadness and pity instead of need, fear, and anger. Is it hard now? Tiring? Scary? Yes, all this and more. But my son is being raised in a nonviolent, nonabusive atmosphere. We can come and go without fear, have friends...The positive side is endless, restricted only by our ability and desire and the amount of energy we choose to put into our life. But am I happy? I've discovered happiness isn't a state of attainment, it's a process; it isn't the finish, it's the race.

So, as the title of the book implies, Getting Free is what it's all about. Free from abuse, then free from the oppression of poverty and "the system." Nothing is really free; the trick is to make it reasonable.

#### ANOTHER VIEW OF "WELFARE FRAUD"

(by the same former resident)

I don't think I'll ever understand why so many agencies act as if the information you request can only be released to the CIA! In order to avoid taking the baby out in wind-chill of 60 below, I called and was told I had to come in. I went in and asked the

same question, and was told "No." I tried to find out what was available and was given the run-around. Then I happened to scan a bulletin board and found the answer two months of digging hadn't uncovered. Disciplining a child can be considered child abuse, but there are no provisions for protecting your child from a known abusive situation!

It took six months for Support Enforcement to get our file, but almost overnight our AFDC caseworker asked why the "income" from welfare wasn't reported because it reduces our food stamps. Yet for several months I only received \$50 out of \$200 of the child support. What happened to the rest? How did DHS know where to send the \$50 if they didn't have a file? So I called. And next month I called. They managed to find another \$100 and I watched the mailbox. The check came two days before our "regular" check. I woke my son and took him out on another below-zero day to find that we didn't **qualify** because we had \$200 income (even though it was supposed to be \$400) and for two separate months; then, our food stamps were also cut back. So where our income was supposed to be \$510 plus \$140 in food stamps, it became \$385 with \$80 in food stamps. The heat assistance didn't come in, so I called, as the baby was sleeping in a snowsuit; no end in sight, I asked for advice and was told I'm lucky to get anything. A friend called and said she just got \$200 in emergency fuel from the same agency!

I've called to apply for Section 8 Housing Assistance. It must be easier to get an audience with the Pope, just to apply! So month after month I called. "Any idea when you'll accept applications?" "No." I called on November 22 and not again till January 3. They opened applications November 23 (and didn't know that on the 22nd!) and closed them the day after I applied!

Meanwhile, I have made sure I have told every agency that the baby's father grosses over \$500,000 a year, especially Support Enforcement.

And the Governor is concerned about welfare fraud??!

Silence broken.  
I speak the darkness.  
I remember my powerlessness.  
If the hands of women like myself had not reached out to me,  
If there had not been a haven of safety,  
I would not have survived.  
I can only hold out my own hand in return.

I know now that no matter how bitter or barren life may become  
I cannot go back.  
For my sake and the sake of my two little children  
Who carry the scars of the violence of their beginnings,  
I can never again allow my soul to be taken from me.  
For me to know the dignity of my humanity  
Means their survival as well as my own.

I see him now,  
And to my amazement his power is broken.  
He cannot touch my heart.  
The pain is there, yes,  
But it is the grief of a death from which there is no return.

I must regain myself;  
What I lost all those years,  
And what I might be,  
And most of all who I am.  
To have that right--to be who I am--  
Is well worth having a broken past and an unknown future.  
Freedom tastes sweet,  
Even when it's all you have. (1985)

And Now:

Battering is isolation, and the batterer capitalizes on our cultural devaluation of bonds between women. As long as we think we are alone, we are his. One of the greatest joys of my freedom as a survivor has been to find and cherish those connections with my sisters. Together we are stronger than the violence.

from Sisters

You who have no worth - he's taken every shred  
He's ground your soul into the floor  
Your body in his bed  
You've felt his hand against your face  
His words against your heart  
Just know that you are not alone  
That we all have a past.

Women all across the land are struggling on alone  
Yet our fates are tied together  
And your pain is my own.  
Oh, it seems there is no justice  
But it's not hard to see  
If we all stand united  
From fear we will be free.

Take your sister's hand if its freedom you desire.  
Let truth give you dignity,  
Let anger's flame burn higher.  
Let justice shine down  
Like the light from the sun.  
Take your sister's hand,  
And find your strength is one. (1986) Diane Bowman

BECOME A MEMBER OF  
SPRUCE RUN!

Anyone can become a Spruce Run member! We do an annual membership drive, organized by Karen H. of the Steering Committee, but we always miss a few people, so we are including a membership form here.

Membership donations go to our general operating budget unless otherwise designated. We have had huge increases, notably a jump of \$6,000 in our insurance premium this year.

As a member of Spruce Run, you'll receive our Newsletters, an invitation to the Annual Meeting, and the satisfaction of supporting social change. Please send this form, along with your check, to Spruce Run, P.O. Box 653, Bangor 04401. Thanks!

YES, I'd like to help by becoming a Spruce Run member.  
Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (\$10 suggested)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SPRUCE RUN NEEDS  
YOUR SUPPORT!

"SHELTER AID" CHECK ARRIVES

Spruce Run has received a check for \$546 from the Shelter Aid project. Last Fall, many of our friends clipped coupons from newspaper supplements and redeemed them for such products as Band-Aid Adhesive Bandages, Johnson's Baby Shampoo, and other items. For each specially marked coupon redeemed, Johnson & Johnson (sponsor of Shelter Aid) donated five cents to shelters, up to \$500,000, through the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. We are pleased to announce that our coupon-clipping paid off!

SPRUCE RUN TEACHES STUDENTS  
ABOUT DATING VIOLENCE

Spruce Run has received numerous requests from schools in both Penobscot and Hancock counties for programs on dating violence and date rape. Our staff and volunteers present a program using the video, When the Good Times Go Bad: Teenage Dating Violence (which was donated by the Zonta Club), followed by a series of questions designed to elicit discussion among the students.

We have found working with junior high and high school students to be interesting and often alarming: one staff person actually observed a teen-aged boy physically abusing his girlfriend as she entered a school. We hope to do more planning on how we can train more workers to do these presentations.

IS THERE AN "X" BY YOUR NAME  
ON THE MAILING LABEL?

A RED X means you have paid your membership for 1988. Congratulations!

A BLUE X means we haven't heard anything from you in a long time (a couple of years or more). If we don't hear from you by our next newsletter (in the Fall), you will be dropped from the mailing list.

NO X means you have expressed interest in Spruce Run recently, but haven't yet paid a membership. (See Membership form in this newsletter.)

By all means, if you are receiving more than one newsletter or if there is any error in your name or address, please let us know!

TRAININGS FOR HOTLINE/OFFICE  
VOLUNTEERS AND KIDS' WORKERS  
WILL BE HELD THIS FALL! CALL  
945-5102 FOR AN APPLICATION!



Spruce Run  
P.O. Box 653  
Bangor, Maine 04401

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