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Peaks Island Star, 2024

Peaks Island Star

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Service Agencies of the Island

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Peaks Island STAR



Newsletter of the Island's Service Agencies & other Community News

February 2024

Volume 44

Issue 2

Peaks Island Tax and Energy Assistance (PITEA)

Do you or someone you know need help to pay for energy or property taxes?

Peaks Island Tax and Energy Assistance (PITEA) may be able to give you help if you are a year-round island resident.

- Applications are easy, confidential, and do not ask for financial information.
- Turn around time is quick and payments are made as soon as possible.
- To ensure privacy and impartiality, applications are submitted to island clergy.
- PITEA pays energy companies and the City of Portland directly. We do NOT reimburse applicants for bills they have already paid.

Applications for assistance are available at the community center bulletin board and the food pantry.

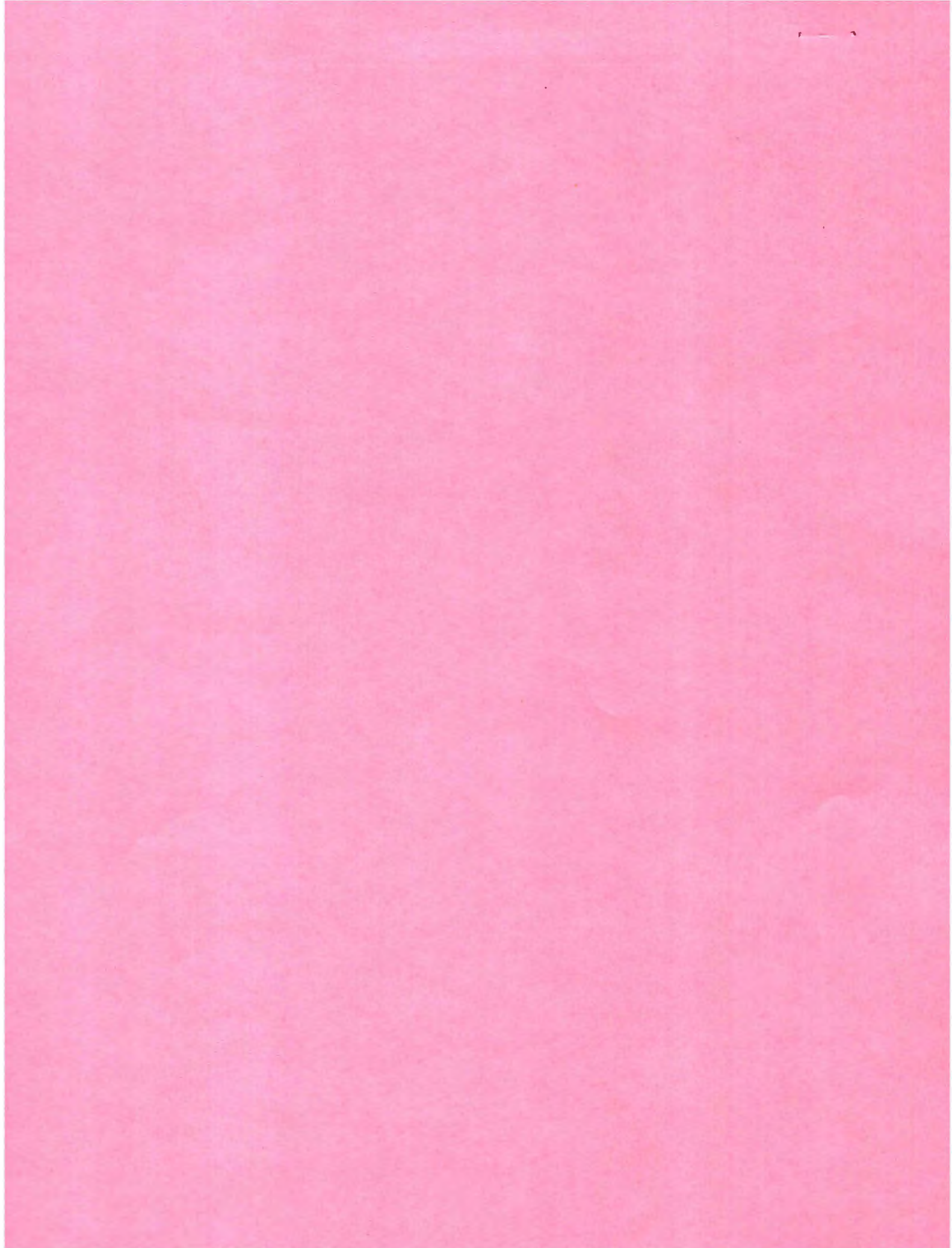
PITEA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, funded by donations and operated by volunteer island residents. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email: pkstaxasst@gmail.com

American Legion Randall-MacVane Post #142

Members and guests welcomed. Bar and lounge open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 5 to 10 pm, and Sunday, 3:30 to 9 pm.



- **Thursdays, at 6:30 to 8:30 pm**
Pub Trivia with Charles and Hadley. 1-to-6-player teams compete to test their knowledge of useless information. Pot luck dinner starting at 6 pm.
- **Sundays, at 3:45 to 5:45 pm**
Acoustic Music Circle, with OB O'Brien. Bring a guitar, a voice, or your curiosity, and join in! Island musicians play songs you know and love, as well as originals.
- **Saturday, February 3, at 5 pm**
Polish Dinner! The Legion Auxiliary offers themed dinners monthly to eat-in or take-out, available to the public.



The 8th Maine Regiment Memorial Association Scholarship

The 8th Maine Regiment Memorial Association offers a \$500.00 Scholarship to graduating High School students, and those who have recently graduated who are furthering their education.

Applicants must be residents of Peaks Island.

Applications are available after January 1, 2024 and must be submitted before April 1, 2024.

Applications are available by contacting David Knapp, at Mainecamp@icloud.com or telephone 772-663-1477.

February at the Peaks Island Branch Library

129 Island Avenue * 207.766.5540 * peaks@portlib.org

Tuesday: 12 - 6 pm Wednesday: 9 - 12 Friday: 10 - 4 pm Saturday: 9 - 12

Defocusing

Photographs by Craig Davis on exhibit January 23 - February 24

Local photographs of Peaks and beyond, mounted on recycled wooden boards, coated in encaustic wax (a mixture of bee's wax and damar resin literally melted and worked as an archival surface) which serves to defocus the original capture, and, when successful, evokes an emotional connection to a given capture

Craig has been an avid photographer for nearly 40 years - always drawn to unusual and transitional light, he loves when scenes and surfaces show their history.

Craig will be available at the library **Saturday, February 10, 11 - 12 pm** to discuss his photos and answer questions. Light refreshments will be served.

Middle and High School DRAWING CLASSES with LAURA GLENDENING

Wednesday Afternoons Feb. 7 - March 27 2:45 - 4 pm

Join us for a friendly meeting of students interested in working on their drawing skills, no prior drawing experience needed. Participants will work on drawing from observation, memory, and imagination. The class is limited to 8 students and **registration is required**. All art supplies will be provided. Register by visiting, calling or emailing Peaks Island Branch: (207) 766-5540 or peaks@portlib.org

Make your own Valentines, Saturday, February 10, 9 - 11 am and Tuesday, February 13, 3 - 5 pm. We will supply all the material for you to create Valentines.

This is for all ages. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

Paper Bag Puppets Have you ever made a puppet from a paper bag? Come in and have fun creating your own original puppet. All materials will be supplied. Stop in the library on Tuesday, February 20th between 2 & 4 pm. All ages welcome.

Tuesday Adult Book Discussion Group meets **Tuesday, February 13, at 7 pm** in the Community Room to discuss *Straight Man* by *Richard Russo*. The March book is *The Diamond Eye* by *Kate Quinn*. Contact the library to reserve a copy of the book. All are welcome.

Preschool Story Time, Fridays at 10:30 am Children ages 3-5 and their caregivers.

Rhythm & Rhymes, Fridays at 11 am Infants to 3 years old and their caregivers.

Creative Writing for kids, Gr. 3, 4, 5 Fridays at 3:15 pm Drop ins are welcome.

Middle School Book Group - Tuesday, February 27 at 4 pm. Join us!

The Knitting Group meets on the **first Tuesday of each month at 4 pm - 5 pm.**

Adult Writing Group Saturdays at 9 am at the library. All skill levels are welcome.

Games, puzzles, legos, coloring pages are available to use in the library. **Stop by.**

The library has IRS Federal tax forms & instruction booklets.



The Fifth Maine Museum

www.fifthmainemuseum.org, 207-766-3330

Check out our puzzles!

We have a few of our 1,000 piece puzzles left, featuring early 20th century views of Peaks Island. Puzzles are \$38 each. Contact Susan Hanley to order one. 207-332-2443



Our Annual Appeal is underway!

Each year we launch an annual appeal during the off season to help fund annual expenses that are renewed each January, as well as fixed costs that continue all year long. We are grateful for our community's support that helps fund our utilities, insurances, security costs, building maintenance, and licenses/permits. If you would like to contribute, please go to the SUPPORT page of our website (www.fifthmainemuseum.org/support).



Thank you for being part of the History, Legacy, and Community of Peaks Island!



Peaks Island Community Food Pantry

The Peaks Island Community Food Pantry is located in the New Brackett Church and is open on Mondays at 3:30–5pm. Our mission is to provide food assistance to our island neighbors in need, supported by many different individuals and organizations from Peaks Island.

Thank you to the many generous donations from the members of the Peaks Island community (and beyond) and thanks to the generosity of New Brackett Church for housing the food pantry!!

If you would like to donate items to the food pantry, our needs this month are: *soup, pasta sauce, spaghetti, beef stew, Saltine and Ritz crackers, canned fruit (pineapple, peaches), apple sauce, coffee, mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise, boxed cereal, creamy peanut butter, boxes of rice and quinoa mixes.*

A reminder that you can make cash donations via check. Please make checks out to "Peaks Island Food Pantry" – send to Susan Hanley, 108 Brackett Avenue, Peaks Island, ME 04108.

If you have any questions about the food pantry, or you would like to arrange a food drop off or a donation pick up, please contact Susan Hanley, 207-332-2443.



PEAKS ISLAND CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

71 Herman Avenue director@picwmaine.org 766-2854 www.picwmaine.org

Did you see the article about our beloved "Miss Nettie" in the Peaks Island News? We are so proud of her and all our teachers here at the workshop.

Interested in learning more about the workshop? We are always open to volunteers, to increasing our substitute teacher list, and welcome community support in creative and exciting ways. Have an idea about how to get involved? Let us know!

The Board of the PICW is always open to suggestions and communication from the community. Please contact us through Board President, Heather Thompson, at heather@juniperdesignbuild.com.

Peaks Island Elementary School

February is the month for LOVE and there will be no shortage of it coming from PIES! Our PreK through grade 5 students and staff will be holding our annual "Love Parade" on - when else? - Wednesday, February 14th. We will leave the school at 9:00 a.m. and march down Church Avenue then along Island Avenue and straight up Central to the Faye Garman House to deliver lots of handmade hearts and cards to our very special senior friends. Our little Love Parade has grown over the years. We invite any islanders to join us and/or cheer us along the way wearing hearts, rainbows and lots of red! Last year there even was a vintage boom box at the top of Centennial Street blasting the Beatles' "All You Need is Love" as we marched by - so you get the idea!

Speaking of love, who doesn't love pizza and who doesn't love Flatbread Pizza? On Tuesday, February 20th Flatbread Pizza will hold a special fundraiser for PIES! Flatbread will donate part of their proceeds from the purchase of all pizzas - takeout or dine-in - between 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. In addition, the PIES PTO will be holding a 50:50 raffle that night so come bring your appetites, your best luck and your love for PIES to Flatbread Pizza on February 20th!

Finally, we want to give a huge shout out of gratitude to PIES music teacher Faith York and the many islanders whose generous donations made it possible for performers from the Portland Ballet to come to our school and perform parts of The Victorian Nutcracker on January 25th! It was truly magical to have our students dancing along with our visiting ballet dancers. Students learned about ballet movements, as well as secrets and special features of the intricate costumes. Students were able to ask questions, meet the dancers and pass around props from The Victorian Nutcracker. Following their visit at PIES, the Portland Ballet then performed up the hill at the Brackett Church for community members. What a truly special day on Peaks!

Stay safe and warm, dear islanders, and thank you for your support of our wonderful school~
Kelly and the PIES Team

Deadline for the MARCH STAR is Sunday, February 25th. Submissions may be emailed, dropped off at the library or put into our outside book drop.

Scan here
to listen! →



FEBRUARY Weekly Programs

Sundays	8 am & 8 pm	Weekend Breakfast	<i>Interviews and topical discussion with Peaks Islanders and other people of interest.</i>
	6 pm	Music with Friends	<i>Margo Mallar and Will Green interview local islanders</i>
	7 pm	Music without Borders	<i>Rick Ashton picks a musical theme each week and explores a variety of genres from around the world.</i>
Mondays	12 pm	Music without Borders	<i>Rick Ashton picks a musical theme each week and explores a variety of genres from around the world. (Repeat)</i>
	7 pm	Next to Silence	<i>Next To Silence is a one hour radio program by Dave Stankowicz that will explore the ECM catalogue, featuring artists from Keith Jarrett to Chick Corea and a whole lot more, ECM - Edition of Contemporary Music - is an independent record label founded by Manfred Eicher in Munich in 1969. ECM's motto is "the most beautiful sound next to silence."</i>
Tuesdays	12 pm	Next to Silence	<i>Next To Silence is a one hour radio program by Dave Stankowicz that will explore the ECM catalogue, featuring artists from Keith Jarrett to Chick Corea and a whole lot more, ECM - Edition of Contemporary Music - is an independent record label founded by Manfred Eicher in Munich in 1969. ECM's motto is "the most beautiful sound next to silence."</i>
	7 pm	Swingin' the Blues	<i>Rick Ashton's "Swinging the Blues" - a jazz, R&B, and blues show that explores roots music deep and wide.</i>
Wednesdays	12 pm	Swingin' the Blues	<i>Rick Ashton's "Swinging the Blues" - a jazz, R&B, and blues show that explores roots music deep and wide.</i>
	7 pm	Weekend Breakfast	<i>Interviews and topical discussion with Peaks Islanders and other people of interest. (Repeat)</i>
Thursdays	7 pm	Chris & Bridget	<i>Chris and Bridget in the Evening is on a brief hiatus - stay tuned for more information on its return.</i>
Fridays	7 pm	Next to Silence	<i>Next To Silence is a one hour radio program by Dave Stankowicz that will explore the ECM catalogue, featuring artists from Keith Jarrett to Chick Corea and a whole lot more, ECM - Edition of Contemporary Music - is an independent record label founded by Manfred Eicher in Munich in 1969. ECM's motto is "the most beautiful sound next to silence."</i>
Saturdays	6 pm	Music with Friends	<i>Margo Mallar and Will Green interview local islanders</i>
	7 pm	Swingin' the Blues	<i>Rick Ashton's "Swinging the Blues" - a jazz, R&B, and blues show that explores roots music deep and wide. (Repeat)</i>
	8 pm	Solid Gold Saturday Night	<i>Chris Marot plays solid gold music from the late 1950s through the early 1980s.</i>
Every day, throughout the day			<i>Eclectic music, news, weather, community updates, "Shooting the Breeze" with Jo Israelson and Steve Devoney, "Bookmarks" (bi-monthly library updates and events)</i>

THANK YOU to our 2023 donors! We raised enough to keep us streaming for all of 2024. If you want to help us grow, please email me at chris@peaksislandradio.com to share your ideas.

February, News Update (teiaclub.org)

TEIA has been working hard to get things ready for the 2024 season! We have a number of new offerings and events that we can't wait to share with you.

We have recently installed a regulation-sized pickleball court, and can't wait for those who love pickleball to get a chance to play on the island. Like tennis and other programs at TEIA, the facilities will be open to those who register for a membership and sign up for the pickleball program. We are excited to start offering this fun activity that people of all ages love!

We also have some exciting new changes to our youth programming schedule. The programs are each still separate, but they have coordinated their schedules to offer an option for a full day of TEIA programming. If you want to learn more about this new schedule, we will host a virtual open house on February 4th at 7 pm EST. Please email us at infoteiaclub@gmail.com to RSVP, and we will send you the Zoom meeting information.

We are getting close to launching our membership registration and events calendar for 2024! To be among the first to know when registration is open, follow us on social media [@teiaclubpeaksisland](https://www.instagram.com/teiaclubpeaksisland) and check for updates on our website teiaclub.org.



It's that time of year again! The Casco Bay Islands Alliance is again offering small grants to island non-profits in support of projects that benefit our island communities.

Organizations deemed 501(c)3 by the IRS are eligible to apply. Other organizations that are not 501(c)3 may apply if they have a fiscal agent that is a 501(c)3. No grants are awarded to individuals or for religious or political purposes.

Given the bay-wide devastation wreaked by recent storms, CBLA expects to receive many environmental related requests this year. But, it will continue to consider requests for other types of projects as well. Application materials may be found on the CBLA website, www.cbialliance.net or by contacting grants manager, Kim MacIsaac at thegooseleroy@gmail.com. Paper copies will also be available on the bulletin board at the library.

PEAKS ISLAND TAXI NEWS & SCHEDULE UPDATES



(207) 518-0000

Electric Taxi Update!

The Taxi's Board of Directors wish to express their gratitude for all the generous contributions from the community toward the new "electric taxi" fund! We are still accepting donations and all donations are tax deductible.

Schedule

The Taxi is operating 7 days a week, 7:45am – 6:00p; please call ahead to request earlier or later service. And please call by 6:00pm to schedule a pick-up from the 7:15pm and 8:15pm ferries from CBL **(207) 518-0000**.



New Brackett Memorial Church, a UUA/UCC congregation
mailing address - 9 Church Ave / office phone - 207-766-5013
Rev. Will Green, Pastor

Weekly Sunday Service - 10:00am
Silent meditation - 9:00am & 5:15pm on Wednesdays
Eucharist - 5:00pm on Saturdays

Are you looking for support, information and connection around autism or other forms of neurodiversity? Please join us for a Neurodiversity Conversation Space on Saturday, February 10th at 10:00am. This event is co-hosted by Rachel Kessler-Bingham and Will Green, and is open to everyone regardless of whether they are neurodivergent or neurotypical.

Ash Wednesday is February 14th. We will host a service in our sanctuary at 5:00pm that includes the ritual of the imposition of ashes.

Please check our website for information about gun safety events, short term enrichment classes, and other events on our calendar.

To join our email list, write to newbrackettchurch@gmail.com

newbrackettchurch.org

St. Christopher's Catholic Church

Rector: Father Seamus Griesbach at 773-7746

Sunday Mass is at 8:30 AM and we often have refreshments afterwards in the Parish House. All are welcome. For information about other mainland services, check www.portlandcatholic.org. For information on Baptism, Reconciliation, Marriage & Funerals, please contact Father Seamus. Catholics who are home bound and would like to see a priest and receive Holy Communion should call Barbara Hoppin at 232-6641.

Bible Study takes place at 10 AM on Thursdays in the Parish House. All are welcome.

Free Medical Equipment

St. Christopher's and the Peaks Island Health Center offer free medical equipment. Wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and other supplies are provided on a first come, first served basis. Borrowers are only asked when they think they will return it and also relieve the program of any liability. For more information, call or text Lisa Penalver at 272-5962 or Chris Hoppin at 232-2908 or choppin@aol.com.

CERT Helps in Emergencies

Our Peaks Island Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trains and works with the Portland Fire Department to help in emergencies and disasters. Help is always available on Peaks Island by calling 911. However, CERT always needs more volunteers. For more information, please call Jay Desmond at 766-2088.