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Service Agencies of the Island

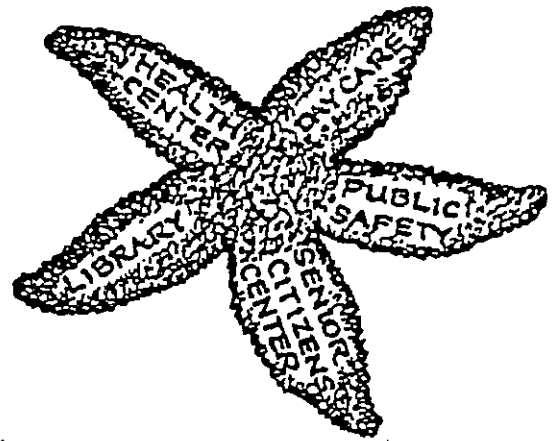
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Peaks Island STAR



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

March 2014

Volume 34

Issue 3

PEAKS ISLAND CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP: 71 Herman Avenue: 766-2854

www.picw.org



The PICW will be closed Friday, March 21st for a Staff in-service day.

Vino and VanGogh

When: Thursday, March 6th at 6:30 pm

Where: Hoppins' Studio (or house) 196 Seashore Avenue

Donation is \$20 per person to support the Peaks Island Children's Workshop.

Bring a spouse, partner, friend or just yourself. Come share your creativity and/or just have some fun and give to a good cause. Please sign up right now so we know how many folks are coming: Barbara Hoppin 766-2593 or email bahoppin@aol.com.

The PICW is accepting applications for our WAIT-LIST. Contact celeste@picw.org for applications.

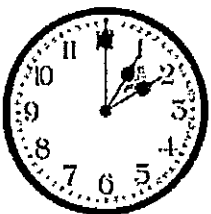
The Board of the PICW is always open to suggestions and communication from the community. Please contact us through Board Chair Gerry Ney at gerryney3@gmail.com

SENIOR LUNCHEON NEWS

All enjoyed the comfort foods that were offered at our monthly luncheon in February. Let's enjoy the promise of Spring at our March Luncheon on Monday, the 10th, at the Fay Garman House. Please bring a dish to share and join us at noon. All Seniors are welcome! If you don't consider yourself a Senior, come anyway!!

REMINDER:

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 9



Peaks Island Taxi

The numbers are in! The Island Transportation System would like to thank Peaks Islanders for their continued support of the Taxi. The Taxi has increased its ridership by almost 1000 passengers since 2012 and 65% of these riders have been Islanders. We are delivering 50% more pizzas, boxes of groceries, packages, etc. to your homes. The Taxi has been important in helping our Seniors to be more mobile on their Island. We have assisted those who use the Loretta Voyer Fund tickets for treatment of cancer and other medical life altering treatments in Portland by driving them to the Ferry free of charge and on time.

The new Taxi has used less gas and, hopefully, has had an impact on reducing the carbon emissions and congestion down front on the Island. Please contact us at 518-0000 if we can assist you in any of your transportation needs. The Taxi operates 7 days and evenings a week from 7:45 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. We are also available after hours by appointment. Remember, it helps the Taxi drivers if you call in plenty of time for a pickup to the boat. We try to meet every boat when it arrives from Portland during our operating hours.

Thank you for helping us to **“Keep the Wheels Rollin”!**

Peaks Island Elementary School

At this rate with snow days, we may still be going to school in July! It has been a cold and snowy winter, but the students have made the best of it. February vacation got an early start because of snowstorm activity.

Now that students are back from vacation, we are looking forward to a Celebration of Learning on Thursday, February 27th from 6: 15-7:15 PM. Students will display the work they have been doing on projects this winter. Parents, families, and the general public are invited.

On Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00 PM, the fourth and fifth graders have been invited to join the Peaks Island Library Book Discussion Group to talk about a book called *Wonder*. It is a touching novel about a boy with special challenges who attends school for the first time in 5th grade. We hope you will join us for a discussion of this book.

Spring will bring a resumption of the WeatherBlur project with Maggie Small and the Island Institute, as well as work on mapping invasive plant species on the Back Shore, near Battery Steele. We also have a field trip planned to Merrill Auditorium in early April for grades K-3 to see a show called “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt.”

Peaks Island Health Center
87 Central Ave.

Hours: Monday and Thursday: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Kitty Gilbert, Family Nurse Practitioner, provides care for all ages.
Please call either **766-2929** or **874-2466** for an appointment.

One of the most important goals of the Health Center Board is to ensure that quality health care is available to the Peaks Island community. In order to do that, once we have found a good provider, we make every effort to listen to Islanders and try to find ways to better serve the community.

Recently, for instance, we learned that some folks would like to have clinic hours later in the afternoon to better accommodate school children. We took this idea to Maine Medical Partners to see if such a change were possible. For now it is not feasible, as it would involve changing many schedules, but the idea will be kept in mind as possible someday.

If you have comments and suggestions regarding the Health Center, you might contact a Board member. We are all Island residents who volunteer our time: Marge Powers-President, Chuck Radis-Vice President, Connie Hurley and Kay Taylor-Co-Secretaries, Nelson Hill-Treasurer, and Sandy Langella, Jane Banquer, Janine Blatt, Stephanie Castle, Vonnie Fieldsend, Bud Higgins, Jon Kelso, Carol Kinney, Kathy McCarthy, Karen Petersen and Priscilla Webster. We would like to hear from you.

PEAKS ISLAND TAX AND ENERGY ASSISTANCE (PITEA)

March is here and we hope the month will bring warmer temperatures and less snow. Even though we are anticipating warmer weather we still know there are some cold days ahead. This is Maine!

Property taxes are due March 14th. Tax season is particularly difficult for some and high energy costs and extremely cold and snowy weather have overwhelmed others. This has been another tough year for some of our neighbors. Our goal has been to help all who apply for tax or energy assistance and to keep our friends and neighbors in their homes. Please contact one of our clergy if you need assistance: Pastor Beau Boyle, Pastor Angela Tarbox, Retired Minister Ruth Williams. Energy Assistance is available year round. There are applications for Tax or Energy Assistance on the Library bulletin board.

Islanders had an opportunity to step out on Saturday, February 22 when Bill Cooley and the Cool Breeze played their music at the Legion. What a wonderful evening! Along with the music the band donated the cover charges, \$443, to PITEA. They have our heartfelt thanks and those of all Islanders who support PITEA.

Our Loaf and Ladle Dinner will be Sunday, March 23 from 5-7 p.m. at the Peaks Island Baptist Church hall. Our menu will include some surprises including recipes for St. Patrick's Day (a little corned beef perhaps) as we celebrate the arrival of spring. We promise great food at a very reasonable price! You will definitely enjoy the meal, the lively conversation, and the chance to visit with friends. The desserts that Charles Burr brings are worth the price of admission.

PITEA is an ongoing fundraising project. The donations of Islanders throughout the year plus our fundraising events continue to keep us afloat. We will continue to exist as long as our assistance is necessary.

P O Box 126
Peaks Island, Maine 04108

The Peaks Island Community Food Pantry

The Peaks Island Community Food Pantry is truly a community effort, with donations and support provided by many different individuals and organizations from Peaks Island. As part of the Peaks Island Council initiative to provide boat tickets to year-round residents in need, the Food Pantry now has a few senior, child and adult boat tickets available for distribution.

We are located at the Brackett Memorial Church and our opening hours are:

Mondays — 3:30 — 5pm

Thursdays — 9:30 — 11am

The Peaks Island Food Pantry would like to thank Maggie Small, our Island Institute Fellow and a member of Americorps, for organizing a very successful fundraiser to benefit the food pantry. Maggie established what we hope will be an annual event, a community-wide food drive culminating with a pot luck supper at the Peaks Island Elementary School, as a Martin Luther King Day of Service event. The project raised over \$500 in cash donations and approximately 400 pounds of food donations. We would also like to thank the staff at the Peaks Island School for hosting the event, the school families for their delicious cooking and all of the Peaks Island community members who attended and made donations. Thank you all!

We are extremely grateful for any donations of non-perishable food and toiletry items (no out of date food items, please). We have a collection box located in the Douglas MacVane Community Center — aka the library—or bring donations directly to the food pantry during opening hours. **Our current needs are: Peanut butter, grape jelly, canned ham or chicken breast, canned fruit or vegetables, boxes of flavored rice mixes, pasta, pasta sauce, toilet paper.**

Cash donations are especially helpful as it allows us to provide clients with \$20 Hannigan's vouchers for fresh fruit, vegetables, bakery, dairy and meat items. **You can now make checks out directly to: Peaks Island Food Pantry.** People who wish to make tax-deductible donations should make checks out to Brackett Memorial Church and write "FOOD PANTRY" in the memo line. Please call Susan Hanley, 766-2735, for more information, to request food drop off, or to arrange donation pick up.

Peaks Island Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

**Our Portland Fire Department continues to work with the
Island CERT to help islanders during a disaster.**

But we still need more volunteers!

**Learn about how you can help. Join us at our monthly meeting
March 17th at 6:15 PM in the Community Center.**

For more information, call Al Bleau at 766-0007 or 781-962-2662.

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TEIA Scholarship

Each year TEIA provides a \$1000 academic scholarship to a Peaks Island resident graduating from a greater Portland high school. The scholarship is for a student planning post-secondary education. This may include two or four year college, an apprentice, degree, or certificate program. Application forms will be available through the Peaks Island Library by March 1. TEIA membership is not required and all Peaks Island high school seniors are encouraged to apply. Watch for TEIA info, our TEIA email Newsletter and the Island STAR for any further information. Please contact Barbara Hoppin with any questions at bahoppin@aol.com or at 766-2593.

Applications are due April 8th.

KidsCamp Counselor in Training Program

The TEIA Youth Program has created a Counselor-in-Training position for tweens and teens entering 7th-9th grades in the fall of 2014. Our CIT (Counselor-in-Training) position is a part-time leadership program for tweens and teens interested in working with some of our youngest campers in the youth program. The CIT will be paired with an older counselor and will work with our campers in KidsCamp. They will play with the children, help with snack time, assist the older counselors, lend a hand during transitions, and serve as general big buddies and role models for the children they work with.

Being a CIT is a great way for tweens and teens to practice leadership, learn about child development, and get experience working with young children. Time spent volunteering with this program will earn CITs (ages 12 and 13 years old) community service hours, and at the end of the summer they will be provided with a letter documenting their hours and responsibilities. All CITs are expected to treat this position as if it were a job, showing up diligently for shifts, communicating effectively with their supervisor, and working responsibly and maturely with our campers.

Each CIT must spend a minimum of two weeks at KidsCamp. We ask for this time frame to have consistency with our campers. You may apply to work more than two weeks though that is not guaranteed. KidsCamp is held on Tuesdays through Fridays, 9a.m. to noon, July 1st through the week of August 11th. The last day of KidsCamp is Friday, August 15th.

ALL CITs must attend a training session prior to working. The date and time will be arranged.

Spots are limited. To apply, please email Kelly.sheehan05@gmail.com to request an application. Once the application is completed, send it with a letter of reference to Kelly Sheehan 398 Pomfret Street, Pomfret, CT 06258. Once the application is complete, CITs will be contacted to set up a brief interview prior to being selected for the program. **Applications are due by April 1, 2014.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kelly Sheehan 860.315.4411

FRIENDS OF TEIA

CAMPERSHIPS 2014

The summer of 2014 is just around the corner and it is not too early to start thinking, "What will my children do this summer?" The FRIENDS OF TEIA fully funded "campership" program would give your child the ability to learn new skills and make new friends in the sailing, tennis, theater or kid's camp and preteen programs. The 2014 "campership" applications will be ready and available in early May. Further information is available by contacting Stephanie @ sealights99@aol.com or Melissa @ mconrad@backshore.net

Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church

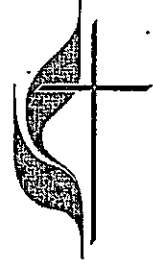
Open Hearts, Open Doors, Open Minds

We are a Welcoming, Inclusive, and Reconciling Congregation

9 Church Ave., Peaks Island, ME 04108

Rev. Angela Tarbox, Pastor

207-766-5013; www.brackettmumc.org; brackettmumc@yahoo.com



Anyone is welcome to join any of our worship, fellowship, or mission opportunities.

Sunday Morning Worship at 10am. Followed by an informal time of food and fellowship in the church hall.

After School Bible School – Wednesdays, 12:30-2:30 at Brackett church. A Vacation Bible School style curriculum for kids in grades K-5. We have snacks, games, videos and activities that help us to learn more about God and to experience God's love in our lives. March 5, 12, 19, 26.

Tween Nites – Every other Friday, 6:30-9pm (generously co-sponsored by the Peaks Island Fund). For youth in grades 6-8. March 7 & 21.

Adult Scripture Study Tuesdays, 9-10:30am at Beth Childs' home.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fridays 10:30am – 12:30pm at the parsonage.

Peaks Island Food Pantry at Brackett Church Mondays, 3:30-5p; Thursdays, 9:30-11a. If you would like to donate non-perishable food, there are drop-off locations at the Community Center and Brackett Church.

SPECIAL EVENTS IN MARCH:

Wednesday, March 5 at 7pm – Ash Wednesday service at Brackett Church. Open to everyone, join us as we begin the Lenten journey of transformation together.

Thursdays during Lent at 7pm – Lenten Bible Study from the Society of St. Andrew to be held at the parsonage (9 Church Ave., across from the school). We will travel through a booklet of daily devotions and meet together to reflect and discuss our experiences each Thursday evening at Brackett Church. March 6, 13, 27 and April 3, 10. This study is free and open to anyone who would like to stop in. Even if you cannot make every meeting, this promises to be a fruitful time together.

St. Christopher's Catholic Church

Rector: Father Louis Phillips 773-7746

Sunday Mass is at 10 AM followed by fellowship in the Parish House. All are invited and details are at www.cluster21portland.org.

For questions concerning Baptism, Reconciliation & Marriage, please contact Father Lou.

Ash Wednesday Services at 9 AM on Wednesday March 5th.

Share Scripture with Islanders each Thursday in the Parish House from 9:30 to 11 AM.

Cancer Support Group meets from 7 to 8 PM on Tuesday, March 18th in the Parish House.

AA meets Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Parish House.

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March at the Peaks Island Branch Library

**in the Community Building 766-5540 email peaks@portland.lib.me.us
Hours Open: Tues 2-8 Wed 10-4 Fri 10-2 Sat 8-12**

Middle School Book Club: Wow! Middle Schoolers like to read. The Middle School Book Club is still happening. We will continue the book club, which consists of picking up a punch card and having it punched each time you read a book, and when the whole card is punched you've finished. Though the students' busy schedules make planning tricky, still hoping to have a date this month to celebrate their success and entertain their ideas and feedback.

First Tuesdays Book Discussion: March 4, the book will be *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio, with Fourth and Fifth Graders from Peaks Island School attending. The book for April 1 is *Light Between Oceans*, a novel by M.L. Stedman. To reserve a library copy, come in, call or email the library. Meetings begin at 7 in the Community Room.

Nursery Rhyme Time: for infants and toddlers at 10:15 on Wednesdays.

PreSchool Story Time: Fridays at 10:15. All island children and visitors are welcome.

PEAKS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM

What else besides the ice pond might we have been taking for granted as a shared resource that will always ensure our quality of life on Peaks Island?

Did you know that the so-called Trott-Littlejohn Park has never, in fact, been designated by Portland as a park?

Are you aware that Casco Bay Lines advertises that taking a car over on the ferry is a bargain for tourists as compared to parking it in Portland?

Do you know what zoning regulations govern buildings and businesses down front?

Do you know what protection exists to keep Picnic Point wild and untouched?

**Bring your questions and ideas to a PEAT meeting
At the community room on March 13
At 7:00 p.m.**

Representatives from

Keep Portland Livable and Protect Portland Parks will each give a short presentation about their work. Our willingness to hear their ideas and benefit from their experiences is in no way an endorsement of either group. We think, however, that islanders can learn from discussing the similarities and differences between their experience on the mainland and ours on Peaks.

**The two presentations will be followed by a discussion of our goals in
maintaining the quality of life that distinguishes Peaks Island**

MARCH ACTIVITIES on PEAKS ISLAND
Sponsored by Portland Recreation and Facilities Management

To reserve space and/or equipment in the community building, you must contact Denise at least two days in advance. Please plan ahead as Denise works just part-time on the island – Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Best way to contact Denise is via email at DLM@portlandmaine.gov; you may also leave a message at 766-2970. The facility calendar can be checked on-line at <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/rec/peaksislandcc.asp> but you still need to contact Denise to reserve.

WEEKLY KNIT/CROCHET, CHAT and LUNCH

Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20 and 27 10:45am-12:30 pm
Join us in the com. rm. as we continue making hats, scarves and dish cloths for charity. Stop to buy these hand-made items. Dish cloths for \$2; Hats/Scarves for \$7. Proceeds to buy gloves & socks for charity. All are welcome. Donations of yarn, knitting needles and crochet hooks accepted.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON MOVIES – Com. Rm.

Come to the com. room at 1:00 pm for weekly movies. See full descriptions on bulletin board as you enter com. building.

- March 6: *An Affair to Remember* (119 minutes)
- March 13: *The Quiet Man* (129 minutes)
- March 20: *The Butler* (132 minutes)

FALMOUTH SHOPPING: Wal-Mart & Goodwill

Friday, March 14 10:00 am boat/3:15 pm return
Browse the many bargains at Wal-Mart and Goodwill. BYO lunch or buy at Shaw's or the Falmouth House of Pizza. Van fee is \$4; deadline to register is March 13. Minimum of 6

ST. PATRICK'S FUN at PEAKS CAFÉ

Monday, March 17 – Meet at 11 (breakfast) or 11:30 (lunch)
Wear your green as we celebrate in style with good food, good friends and good times! Pre-registration appreciated.

SACO MUSEUM: 200 Years of Fashion in Northern NE

Friday, March 21 12:45 pm boat/4:30 pm return
Step back in time! See the elegant to the everyday fashions of the 18th to 20th centuries – cloaks, gowns, men's suits, military uniforms and a wide variety of accessories. Van fee is \$4; admission fee to museum \$3. Deadline is 3/20. Min. of 6

BINGO – Prepare for April Fool's Day (& beware!)

Monday, March 24 10:45 am – 12:00 pm (com. room)
Play BINGO and share your favorite April Fool's Day pranks. Denise will have plenty of ideas for you including recipes.

On-going exercise program for Adults
FMI, please leave a message for Denise (766-2970)
Low-Impact Aerobics with Weights:
Mondays and Thursdays – 9:30 to 10:30 am (com. rm.)

March Movies – Saturday Nights - FREE			
6PM 1	<i>Rio</i> , 2011, PG, 96 min	8PM 1	<i>Cairo Time</i> , 2009, PG, 90 min
8	<i>The Wizard of Oz</i> , 1939, G, 101 min	8	<i>The Ides of March</i> , 2011, R, 101 min
15	<i>The Wind in the Willows</i> , 1983, NR, 78 min	15	<i>Mountain Patrol</i> , 2006, PG-13, 89 min
22	<i>Nanny McPhee Returns</i> , 2010, PG, 109 min	22	<i>Quartet</i> , 2012, PG-13, 99 min
29	<i>Turbo</i> , 2013, PG, 96 min	29	<i>Breakfast at Tiffany's</i> , 1961, NR, 114 min
Saturday Night Movies are a program of the Friends of the Peaks Island Library and are shown on a large screen in the Community Room by volunteers. Children must be accompanied by adults.			

DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S STAR: Tuesday, March 25. Bring articles copy ready to the library by 6 pm. When the library is closed, you may put articles in the Book Return or under the library door.