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Service Agencies of the Island

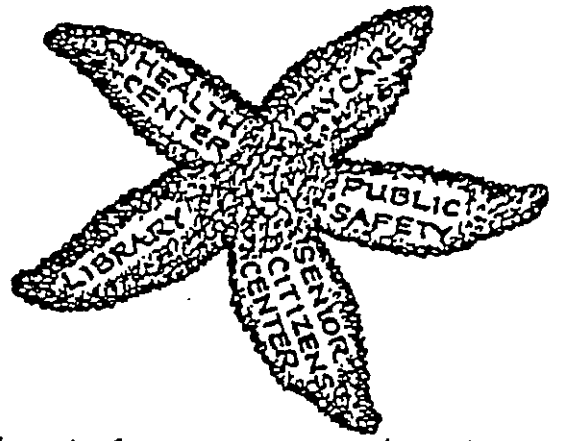
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Peaks Island STAR



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

April 2014

Volume 34

Issue 4

PEAKS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM

Celebrate Earth Day with PEAT

Saturday, April 26, in the Community Room

9 a.m to 1:00 p.m. - We will have city compost bins and rain barrels to look at and possibly order, soil sample kits to take home, a display about the back shore non invasive garden, and information about Portland's tree planting program.

6:00 p.m. - After learning about street trees in the morning, come back at 6 for a look at tree houses. This family show will feature the original version of Disney's *Swiss Family Robinson*, preceded by an assortment of video clips about tree houses. Refreshments will be served

SENIOR LUNCHEON NEWS

Breakfast for Lunch

We are trying something new for our April Potluck. Please bring breakfast foods & brunch items to share with your friends. The luncheon begins at noon at the Fay Garman House on **Monday, April 14th**. We will be providing the pancakes.

The **Peaks Island Ukes**, of "Good Day Maine" & "207" fame, will be entertaining us with "oldies" from the 20's, 30's, and 40's. Join us and sing along with Faith and her troop of talented musicians.

All Seniors are welcome!



FRIENDS OF TEIA

2014 SUMMER CAMPERSHIPS

This is the 14th summer the FRIENDS OF TEIA will have offered fully funded "camperships" to all island resident children. The "camperships" provide your child with the opportunity to learn new skills and make many new friends in the sailing, tennis, kid's camp, theater, and preteen programs. Your child must have completed kindergarten for the kid's camp and tennis programs and be at least eight years old and able pass a swim test for the sailing program. The one week (July 14-20th) theater camp is offered for children 9 to 15 years old. The preteen afternoon program is for children 10 to 12 years old. Last summer 63 children participated in the various educational camps.

Look for the applications to come home with your child from the island school around May 8th. For further information or if you have an older child an application may be obtained by emailing Stephanie at sealights99@aol.com or Melissa at mconrad@backshore.net

To receive a "campership" you **must** return the completed application to FRIENDS OF TEIA with your selected activities to PO Box 87 Peaks Island ME 04108 or to Melissa Conrad. Funds are available for every child to attend at least one program.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 30TH. Those received after this date will be processed only if funds are available.

PEAKS ISLAND COUNCIL (PIC)

Scheduled PIC meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Community Center. Next scheduled meeting is April 23rd at 6:30 PM. For more information please contact any of the council members: *Cheryl Miner Chair, Marjorie Phyfe Co Chair, Mary Anne Mitchel, Jean Martens, Lisa Penalver or Tim Wyant.*

Need Based Ferry Tickets

Tickets available through the Baptist Church 956-3072, Brackett Church 766-5013, Food Pantry, Peaks Island Health Center, Peaks Island Children's Workshop, St. Christopher's Church 332-2443 and the Peaks Island Senior Center.



Bike Tickets for Island Residents

Spring is here! Bike tickets became available at the Peaks Island Library for *island residents* at no cost. During regular library hours, island residents may request tickets for up to four (4) people. Only one set of tickets will be given out per day. We ask that individuals request them no more than **once** a month to allow for more people to use them.

This program is funded through the Peaks Island Council budget as part of the budget of the City of Portland. This program is intended to give island residents recreational access to the bike trails of greater Portland. **Enjoy!**

April 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

Night at the Opera on Peaks: Composer Daniel Sonenberg will talk about his experience completing the orchestration for his opera, *The Summer King*, while living on Peaks Island. He will demonstrate selections from the opera, both on piano and with live recordings, and also discuss some of the broader issues surrounding creating this work about the great Negro League baseball player Josh Gibson. Dan's program on Peaks will be on Tuesday, April 8, 7 pm in the Community Room. This free program is co-sponsored by the Library and the Peaks Island Music Association. The opera itself will be premiered in an unstaged concert performance on May 8, at Merrill Auditorium, in a co-production by Portland Ovations and the University of Southern Maine.

Poetry Lovers: The library will be making available work of the poets featured at Stone Boat, a monthly open reading of poems on the island, going strong since last May. Gibson Fay-LeBlanc is the poet for April 2; Betsy Scholl will be at the meeting May 7. Call, email or come into the library to reserve a book. For more information on Stone Boat, contact Jesse Mantsch [jmantsch@maine.rr.com].

Come Make a May Basket: On Tuesday, April 29, 3:45 pm to 5 pm, the Peaks Island Girl Scouts will be hosting and helping at this event. May Baskets usually hold flowers or candy or some other small treat. Sometimes people leave them at a neighbor's door, knock or ring the doorbell, and then run away so the neighbor does not know who left it. ALL AGES can participate in this fun program. Materials will be provided.

Middle School Book Club: Thirteen Middle Schoolers came to the library for pizza last Tuesday to celebrate their reading success and give their ideas and feedback on the club. The kids decided they would like to read 6 books a month and leave their punch cards on file at the library. The next meeting will be April 15 at 5:45. Those who would like to stay after for a book discussion with Mike Sylvester should read the first chapter of *Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke. There are plenty of copies available through the library. Since that is school vacation week, some may be away, but we'll catch you up on things later. We are so impressed at what voracious readers Peaks Island Middle Schoolers are. Questions? Call the library.

First Tuesdays Book Discussion: The book for the next meeting, May 6, is *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in Mumbai* by Katherine Boo. For the June 3 meeting the book is *Life Saving Lessons* by Linda Greenlaw. Books for the months ahead are listed on the Friends of the Peaks Island Library's Facebook page and on the wall by the library door. 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.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S STAR: Friday, April 25, by 6 pm. Bring articles copy-ready to the library. You may put them in the Book Return or under the door when the library is closed.

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

www.picw.org



PICW will be closed Monday, April 21st in honor of Patriot's Day.

Annie O'Brien came to PICW to share her knowledge on how children develop racial identities and what role picture books play. Annie gave us some key points for talking about race, such as: **Be welcoming, open & inquiring and be empowering.** To find some great multi-culture picture books for young children, please go to the Peaks Island branch library and talk to Pricilla or Roseanne and visit Annie's blog site at: <http://coloringbetween.blogspot.com/>

We would like to give a big thank you to Barbara and Chis Hoppin for opening up their home for the VINO and van Gogh event and to all who came and made it a wonderful fundraiser for PICW.

Our next fun family fundraiser is on May 1st. Tacos and Bingo at Jone's Landing. Come enjoy great food while playing for fun prizes, all are welcome 5 - 7:30 pm

One of our ongoing fundraising activities is the redeemable Jar at Hannigan's. The Workshop children have decorated a *new* jar next to the register, it is there all year long. Please help us spread the word!

Thanks to the Island Institute, the Peaks Island Fund and Maggie Small's involvement with PEAT last year, we have had our building weatherized by the "Heat Doctor." We are looking forward to a more energy efficient building.

The PICW is accepting applications for our WAIT-LIST.
Contact Celeste at 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

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services details are on the [www.Cluster 21 portland.org](http://www.Cluster21portland.org) website or also check www.Nextdoor.com.

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, April 15th in the Parish House.

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

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ICE POND UPDATE

The island community's support of the Ice Pond acquisition and preservation continues to be overwhelming. Thank you to all who attended our Icebreaker celebration at the Inn in late February and to all the volunteers who made it possible, particularly the Cool Breeze Band and Robert Van Dee Steenhoven for his stone frog sculpture. While not meant to be a fundraiser, the Icebreaker brought in over \$2800 toward the Ice Pond.

Your response has put the Ice Pond project in very good standing. Preserving the Pond consists of two parts: funding the purchase of the Pond, and repairing the dam and desilting the Pond. Thanks to your support, we now have enough money to ensure the Ice Pond acquisition. PILP is now in the process of raising money, both from individuals and grant organizations, to pay the cost of dam and pond repair. Thank you!

Updates, dates, and more information will continue to be posted at www.peaksislandlandpreserve.org.

Donations can be made online or at P.O. Box 99, Peaks Island, ME 04108

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.

There will be a change in the Health Center schedule during School Vacation Week, beginning April 21. Please Note:

Monday, 4/21: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM with Kitty Gilbert, NP

**** Wednesday, 4/23:** 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM with Amy Hinshaw, NP

CLOSED Thursday, 4/24

Do you have expired prescriptions on your shelves which could benefit from spring cleaning? The Portland Police Department at 109 Middle Street accepts outdated unused prescription medications in tablet form twenty-four hours a day. The meds must be in the original container.

No liquids or over-the-counter drugs are accepted. These can be disposed of in household trash if they are diluted or absorbed by coffee grounds, cat litter or dirt, and placed in a container.

It is important to keep such meds away from children, and you will help protect our environment by disposing of them safely.

Peaks Island Elementary School

We have two new school community members! Julia Dilger and her husband, Craig, welcomed their beautiful daughter Matilda Ruth on February 28th! She weighed in at 7lb. 8oz. and was 19.5 inches long. The family is doing well. We will take this space to also welcome Julia's long-term substitute, Nicola Donatelli. She is already familiar with our school, the island, and the commute because a few years ago she substituted for our then Art teacher, Mr. Auclair. Nicola brings a wealth of experience and energy to this position; our students will benefit and will continue their learning in Julia's absence.

Our evening Exhibition of Learning was well attended. It was a pleasure to see parents and friends share this event with our students. Everyone was proud!

Pi Day at our school was another special event. We talked about mathematics all day, celebrated our high scorers of the week from the First in Math website activities, used our special Pi Pencils, and (in Mrs. Nilsen's math class) enjoyed a dessert of (yes) pie! Thank you to Otis Thompson for baking his famous delicious blueberry pie for us to sample! His granddaughter Eleanor was so proud to share this.

Finally, thank you to our parent community for attending our spring Parent Conferences. This is an opportunity we offer to discuss the triumphs your children have experienced and set goals for the upcoming weeks as we head toward the end of this school year. We teachers enjoy these times to meet with parents, and our PTO folks provided us with some excellent food for our dinners for these evenings. Thank you all!

Fifth Maine Museum

Many thanks to the community members who attended and participated in the Fifth Maine's Dessert Potluck Discussion, "My Neighborhood Museum" on Saturday night, March 15th. Thanks to St. Christopher's for allowing us to meet in their cozy space. Delicious desserts were paired with creative ideas which made for a fun and interesting evening. We looked at the best things about the Fifth Maine, what would be lost *without* the Fifth Maine, and explored ways to make the museum and cultural center more relevant to year-round residents. We created a community wish list, and collected thoughts like a "Secrets of the Museum" behind the scenes presentation, live impersonators at events, membership benefits, community access to the building for private events, and lots more...and we have already begun to implement some of those ideas.

Stay tuned to hear more about the summer programming already in place, such as Abraham Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address – with Gettysburg artifacts from the Fifth Maine collection featured; Native American impersonator Ken Hamilton on "The Abenakis of Maine and the Casco Bay Islands," a Beans & Bingo night, Civil War era song night, incorporating a demo and lecture on pianos, such as our own Civil War era antique square grand acquisition by Steinway Technician Charles Burr. There will be our big opening day celebration on May 17, with the first "History Walk to the Future," a cookout, live music by the PI Ukes, costumed impersonators, a children's craft table, the wonderful new Coney Island Exhibit, the new library room, and a fresh new look in the hall. And LOTS more happening! We would love to have YOU involved – so please let us know if you have ideas and were unable to attend the 15th discussion, or if you're interested in membership.

We have a new website underway, which will be up and running soon, but in the meantime, you can contact us at www.fifthmainemuseum@gmail.com.



HOME START

Affordable Housing

- Committees – please join us!

Please consider joining a Home Start committee (board membership NOT necessary). If interested, contact the committee chair directly:

- New Projects – development. Chair: Dick Reed (dreed@reedarchitecture.com)
- Property Management – maintenance and upgrades. Chair: Chris Roberts (croberts2222@yahoo.com)
- Publicity and Fundraising – help tell our story and raise funds. Chair: Suzy Kane (suzykane@myfairpoint.net)
- Outreach and Affordability – linking Peaks Island community affordability resources. Chair: Elizabeth Capone-Henriquez (Elizabeth.capone.henriquez@gmail.com)

* Next Home Start Meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 7 pm at Fay Garman House meeting room. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Do you know about the Peaks Island Community Calendar?... How about the Peaks Information Exchange (PIE)?

PIE is the webmaster for the **Peaks Island Community Web** site (www.peaksisland.info). The site provides a calendar for all not-for-profit organizations to help prevent cross-scheduling. Also, the site contains business/services and organizational listings, maps of Peaks and Portland parking lots.

If you would like a calendar posting, please complete & submit the online form or send critical information to Art Astarita at restech@maine.rr.com. Please note that events listed on the calendar are limited to Peaks Island community events, including those sponsored by on-island groups, benefit events, and general non-commercial meeting notices.

The Peaks Information Exchange (PIE) is a volunteer service organization created with the help of the Island Institute in 2002 to provide technical assistance for all Island organizations. PIE assists any organization with collecting, analyzing, presenting, distributing, and storing information. PIE facilitates inter-organizational collaboration on projects. PIE offers to warehouse information digitally by scanning and creating computer folders on disk backup for any organization. This sort of storage can be compatible for websites.

PIE leadership consists of Art Astarita, Jay Desmond, and Steve Bushey. Meetings are held when necessary by consensus through email or phone. Interested in helping? Contact Art, Jay or Steve.

PIE funding has been provided primarily through the generous donations of the Peaks business community listed on www.peaksisland.info, the Peaks Island Lions Club, the Island Institute and volunteer efforts of its' members. Annual expenses include the web site domain and hosting costs (~\$60), ink and paper (minimal cost). Cost for the McAfee antivirus software is donated.

In 2002, PIE was formed with the assistance of the Island Institute and then Peaks Island Fellow-Nate Gray. A grant from MBNA facilitated computer hardware and software. This hardware includes an Epson scanner for text and positive and negative photos, an 11x17 format printer, a laptop and desktop. Software includes a full MS office professional suite, GIS software that includes and QGIS (freeware) and ESRI ArcMap.

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
April 21st at 6:15 PM in the Community Center.**

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



APRIL 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 (dln@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970) at least two days in advance. Please plan ahead as Denise works part-time on the island, on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you leave a phone message but I don't get back to you, please call again as I may not have received the original message. Thanks!
Facility schedule may be viewed on-line at <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/rec/peaksislandcc.asp> but reservations must be made by contacting Denise.

WEEKLY KNIT/CROCHET, CHAT and LUNCH

Thursdays, April 3, 10, 17 and 24 10:45am-12:00 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. dishcloths 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 to enjoy these “short” movies – all are less than 90 minutes.

April 3: *High Noon* (stars Gary Cooper & Grace Kelley)
A marshall, personally compelled to face a returning deadly enemy, finds that his own town refuses to help him. (85 min)

April 10: *Waking Ned Devlin*

When a lottery winner dies of shock, his fellow townsfolk attempt to claim the money (91 minutes)

April 17: *It*

This silent movie stars Clara Bow as a salesgirl with plenty of “it” - who pursues a handsome playboy (72 minutes)

MONDAY AFTER-SCHOOL PING PONG

Monday, April 14 and Monday, April 28 2:45 – 4:15 pm

Attention students from PI Elementary School: If there is enough interest (minimum of 4 players), we can play Ping Pong for fun in the community room.

ANNUAL EARTH WEEK WALK & CLEAN-UP

Thursday, April 24 Meet at community bldg at 1:00 pm

This annual event is open to people of all ages – children, parents, and grandparents are invited. We will enjoy a spring-time walk; along the way, we'll help clean up the island. Please bring gloves and plastic bags if you have them (a limited supply will be available). This event will be held rain or shine.

GAMES: SCATTERGORIES, BOGGLE & BINGO

Monday, April 28 10:45 am – 12:00 pm (com. room)

Games aren't just for kids – adults can have fun with them too! If you have a favorite game, bring it along..

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.)



April Movies – Saturday Nights - FREE			
6PM 5	<i>Benji</i> , 1974, G, 86 min	8P <u>M</u> 5	<i>Dances With Wolves</i> , 1990, PG-13, 181 min
12	<i>Minutemen</i> , 2008, G, 92 min	12	<i>Doubt</i> , 1955, PG-13, 103 min
19	<i>Monsters University</i> , 2013, G, 104 min	19	<i>The Quiet Man</i> , 1952, NR, 129 min
<p>Special Earth Day Extravaganza –April 26 - one showing at 6 pm Selected Shorts followed by feature film: <i>Swiss Family Robinson</i> (1960) 126 minutes Earth Friendly Refreshments Provided by Peaks Environmental Action Team (PEAT)</p>			
<p>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.</p>			