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Service Agencies of the Island

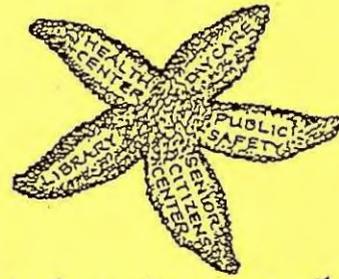
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Peaks Island STAR



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

April 2018

Volume 38

Issue 4

The Kennedy-Carter Family Community Center & Branch Library

As you may have seen, work on the renovation of the Peaks Island Branch Library and community building is really coming along. The windows are in, millwork has begun on the new lending desk, and every day brings visible progress. We are delighted to report that the project is on budget and on schedule.

Barring any complications, we expect to take possession from the contractors in mid-May and are hoping to reopen the building and resume library services in mid to late June. Thank you to all who continue to support this project with gifts. It is thrilling to be so close to the end of this project that will benefit the island community.

Since summer on Peaks is busy, please mark your calendars now for July 3 when we will have a festive official re-opening of the building. Details will be forthcoming, and we look forward to celebrating with you.

PEAKS ISLAND TAX AND ENERGY ASSISTANCE

March came in like a lion and we soon realized that the proverbial lamb did not seem to appear. Even the crocuses in our garden did not announce the arrival of spring. Now that April has arrived we can hope for warmer weather! The robins and other harbingers of spring plus the flowering shrubs and trees and the beautiful bulbs are appearing and we can look forward to the end of heating season. PITEA is well aware that heating season took its toll on our energy budgets. We had more applications for energy assistance and we were able to meet every request. We could not have done so without the support of islanders both year-round and seasonal. We know there will be more applicants in April and May or until the warmer weather takes hold. The high cost of electricity will impact energy assistance as most of us did not anticipate this increase and certainly did not budget for the increase because of the very cold weather.

The Appetizer and Art fundraiser co-funded by PITEA and Brackett Memorial Church was so successful. The artists who participated received 60% of the profits and PITEA and Brackett each received 20% or \$844. We hope to have a similar fundraiser next March. The artwork was very much appreciated and we thank you for your support. Tookie Harris, Linda Capone Newton, Megan Selby, and Doug Smith and their team did a wonderful job of planning the event and showcasing the art in the church social hall. Our auctioneers, Jeannie Ashmore and Todd Remage-Healey were terrific and kept us all entertained,

We were able to assist two families with property tax assistance in March. We anticipate an increase in our property taxes for September. The City Council has mentioned re-evaluating Portland properties and we will try to keep everyone informed so we can anticipate any changes.

Our next Loaf and Ladle, Breakfast for Dinner, will be held on Sunday, May 20th. More details will follow in the May Star or online.

The Members of Peaks Island Tax and Energy Assistance

Peaks Island Health Center

87 Central Ave. P.O. Box 52

www.peaksislandhealthcenter.org

**Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday
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.

REMINDER: Scholarships are being offered to islanders beginning or furthering their education in healthcare. Details are found on the PIHC website.

Application deadline is MAY 15.

As the state with the oldest population, Maine has an opportunity to create a vibrant home and healthcare workforce. Certificates and degree programs are offered at local hospitals and a number of universities.

SENIOR NEWS

We had a great turnout for our March luncheon. Hopefully that old saying is true "April showers, bring May Flowers". We are all getting tired of these nor'easters and snow. Time for Spring!

Our next **Potluck Luncheon** will be on Monday, April 9th. Please bring a dish to share and join us at noon. All Seniors are welcome!

Also, **Chair Yoga** is at the Fay Garman House every Tuesday starting at 4 pm for about an hour. Chair yoga is a great way to relax from head to toe without the stress of getting out of your chair. There is no charge for these yoga sessions and are open to anyone who wants a quick way to stretch their body and relieve tensions.

FRIENDS OF TEIA CAMPERSHIPS 2018

Spring is nearly here and that means it is not too early to begin making plans for your child/children's summer activities. Please keep in mind as you make your family summer plans that the FRIENDS OF TEIA offer each year round resident Peaks Island child a fully funded "campership" to attend one of TEIA's summer programs. The opportunities include the ability to learn new skills, advance previously learned skills and make new friends in the tennis, sailing, kid's camp or preteen programs. In 2017 "46" island children participated in this "campership" program. The 2018 applications will be handed out in early May at the school. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Stephanie at sealights99@aol.com

News from Peaks Island Elementary School

By Renee Serio, Teacher Leader

April is a busy month in schools. In addition to MEA testing and April break, we have three community celebrations.

- **Annual Community and Grade 5 Book Group, Tuesday, April 3rd, 6:30, PIES library.** Please join us for what will certainly be a lively conversation of MG Hennessey's *The Other Boy*. We have moved the location of the grade 5 book group this year due to the library renovations.
- **Digging Through History culmination, Thursday, April 5th, 6:00-7:15.** K-5 students have been researching the history of farming in Maine within the context of how history is told and who tells it. On Thursday, April 5th, our students will guide patrons through our Digging Through History museum. Please come see how our students have transformed the second floor of our building.
- **Annual School Play, will be on Wednesday, April 4, at 6:15 in the school gym.** With thanks to Celeste Bridgford, Kathryn Moxhay, Jonathan Downs, and Kathy Simmonds for their leadership and countless hours of rehearsals, Peaks Island Elementary School will present a night of short plays, including *The Three Little Pigs*, *Not-So-Grimm Fairy tales*, and the original play (written by the PIES 5th grade) *The Void*. All from the Peaks Island community are invited to this special evening of theatrical performances. The Peaks Island Elementary PTO will host a bake sale at the door. All proceeds will go to the grade 5 overnight class trip to Chewonki in May.

April at the Peaks Island Branch Library

766-5540 email: peaks@portlandpubliclibrary.org

Hours Open: Tues 2-8 Wed 10-4 Fri 10-2 Sat 8-12

First Tuesdays Book Discussion will meet on April 3 at 6:30 pm at Peaks Island Elementary School. The Fifth Graders will join the adults in a discussion of *The Other Boy* by M.G. Hennessy. The April meeting is the one time the Book Discussion group is open to ALL ages. The book for May 1 is *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin. On June 5 the book is *The Other Wes Moore: One name, Two Fates by Wes Moore*. Please contact the library if you need a copy of either book.

Middle School Book Club: Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 17 at 5:45 pm. We will meet at the Brackett Memorial Church Hall. We welcome anyone attending middle school. If you would like to share a favorite book, an illustration or writing you are working, bring it with you to the meeting. Our discussions are about books and we try to have fun too while enjoying snacks.

Weekly Children's Programs:

Preschool Story Time, Wednesday at 10:15

Infants and Toddler Time, Friday at 10:15

DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S STAR: Wednesday, April 25. Bring articles copy ready to the library. When the library is closed, you may put them in the book return out by the gate. Each organization should have a designated person who will turn in copy for the STAR. Please let us know at the library who that person is so we know who to call if there are questions.

Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church

We are a Welcoming, Inclusive, and Reconciling Congregation

9 Church Ave; 207-766-5013; brackettmumc@gmail.com; www.brackettmumc.org

Rev. Angela Rotherham, Pastor



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.

Adult Scripture Study Tuesdays, 10:30-noon and Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm in our Church Family Room

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fridays, 10:30-noon in our Church Family Room.

Peaks Island Food Pantry at Brackett Church, Mondays, 3:30-5pm.

Weights with Rebecca Tuesdays and Fridays, 7-8:30am. To register contact Rebecca: 776-5547.

Yoga with Rebecca Tuesdays and Fridays, 9-10:30am. To register contact Rebecca: 776-5547.

Tai Chi with David Wednesdays, 10:30am-noon. To register contact David: dshandwerker@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS IN APRIL (all events are in our church fellowship hall unless otherwise stated):

Happy Easter! The Easter season begins on April 1, 6 am at Whaleback for the **Easter Son-Rise Service** followed by **Pancake Breakfast** at the **Brackett Church**. **Easter Worship** begins at 10am followed by the **Easter Egg hunt** around 11:15.

Cribbage Fun – Join us on **Thursday, April 19** from 10:30-noon in the Brackett Church fellowship hall for some cribbage fun. Beginners and experts are all welcome for a morning of friendly games.

Rev. Angela's Travelogue of her **Holy Land Pilgrimage** – **Friday, April 20, 7-8pm**. Join us for some light refreshments as Rev. Angela shares her recent experience of the Holy Land through picture and story.

St. Christopher's Catholic Church

Rector: Father Greg Dube at 773-7746

Sunday Mass is at 10 AM each week throughout the month. Details for other Masses in Portland are at <http://www.portlandcatholic.org/> For info concerning **Baptism, Reconciliation & Marriage**, please contact Father Greg.

Rosary: The Scripture Studies Group invites all to pray the Rosary for special intentions and world peace at 9:30 AM before Mass each Sunday.

AA meets Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:15 PM in the Parish House.

Share Scripture with Islanders from 9:30 to 11 AM each Wednesday in the Parish House on Central Avenue.

Peaks Island Land Preserve

An Early Spring Walk – Sunday, April 8, 10:30 am – meet at the elementary school.

We will decide on the land and trails to visit depending on wind and mud conditions, and walk a loop that will take us out for about an hour and a half. Everyone is welcome to join us!

www.peaksislandlandpreserve.org

preservepeaks@gmail.com



PEAKS ISLAND LIONS CLUB



Lions Club Grants This Past Fall & Early 2018

The Peaks Island Lions Club recently allocated funds to numerous community organizations including energy assistance and/or maintenance for the two Peaks Island churches, various Lion Portland and Maine programs for the blind and other worthy Lion causes, the Peaks Island Little League, The American Legion, Energy Assistance, the Taxi, the Eighth Maine, the Fifth Maine, the Fay Garman House Garden Project, the P.I. School Edible Garden Project, the P.I. Music Association, the annual Christmas and Halloween parties, Thanksgiving baskets, the Travis Mills Foundation, Camp Sunshine, Camp Discover, the Iris Network, the Food Pantry, Hurricane Disaster Relief and the Star. Grant funds will be distributed shortly if not already done.

The above grants total \$30,000. An additional \$28,000 in scholarships to 15 island students, including \$5,500 split among five of them for participating in community service, was granted.

Scholarship and grant funds were obtained from Lion's volunteer and fundraising activities including: lobster bakes, the variety show, the road race, club rentals and private donations.

LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

To be eligible for a Lions Scholarship for the 2018-19 school year, Peaks Island residents and children of Peaks Island Lions members who are currently attending or expect to matriculate in a post graduate career school or college for the fall semester should submit a written scholarship request to:

**Chairman of the Scholarship Committee
Peaks Island Lions Club, P.O. Box 102
Peaks Island, ME 04108**

Your letter must be received by September 15th and should state your expected field of study and the school that you will be attending.

If you are reapplying for this scholarship, the reapplying applicant or family is expected to help the community with a minimum of eight (8) hours of service in the Lions or another Lions approved Peaks Island organization. The Peaks Island Club service activities include our good weather fundraising events (bakes, rentals from May - August), our community activities - Halloween Party (Oct 31st), Variety Show (Aug 6th & 7th), Christmas Party (Dec at the school), our sponsored Peaks Island Road Race (July 28th) and for grounds maintenance (May - Oct). We will send you our events calendar for you to sign up by emailing lionsclubrentals@gmail.com.

Please note that there is a five-year maximum for any individual to receive a Lions Club Scholarship.

Eyeglasses:

Used Eyewear Collection Update – PILC would once again like to thank Peaks Islanders for their support of this ongoing program in conjunction with the International Lions. So far 110+ donations have been sent on to help those less fortunate improve their sight. Collection boxes can still be found at the Café, Hannigans, Backett Memorial and St. Christopher's churches, and the health clinic.

Seeking New Lions Club Members

Lend a helping hand to preserve Peaks Island as a helping caring community. Join the Peaks Island Lions Club. Contact Lions Club President, Edward Ezzard by telephone, mail or e-mail: **Telephone: 756-4713; Address: P.O. Box 102, Peaks Island, ME 04108; e-mail: TheMaineJack@gmail.com**

Note: Many of our members are seasonal Peaks Island residents.

We thank Peaks Islanders and your visiting guests and family members for your continuing sponsorship of the Lions Club's Activities and Events. It is greatly appreciated.

APRIL ACTIVITIES on PEAKS ISLAND
Sponsored by Portland Parks, Recreation and Facilities

All programs for adults sponsored by Portland Parks, Recreation and Facilities are now being held in the community room at St. Christopher's Church. Denise can be reached at DLM@portlandmaine.gov or you may leave a message at (207) 766-2970. Messages are checked on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Denise is not available on holidays.

LAUGHTER YOGA – ADULTS of all AGES: FREE

Monday, April 2 AND May 7 10:45 -11:30 am (com. rm.)

Laugh for no reason at all and feel great! Exercises are done sitting or standing. Yoga involves stretching and deep breaths

CELEBRATE APRIL FOOLS DAY (a day late)

Monday, April 2 11:45 am – 1:00 pm

BYO lunch & favorite April Fools Day snacks and pranks. We will play Scattergories and word games

WEEKLY KNIT and CHAT GROUP

Thursdays, April 5, 12, 19 and 26 10:45 - 11:45am

Join us as we knit for charity and socialize every Thursday. Hand-knit items can be viewed/bought every Thursday: dishcloths are \$2 each, hats and scarves are \$7 each. Proceeds buy socks, gloves and other needed items to donate

SUPERSTITIONS, SNACKS & SILLINESS

Friday, April 13 10:30am – 12:00pm

Bring a morning snack and/or your lunch. Socialize while learning about some unique superstitions and share your own

ANNUAL EARTH WEEK CLEAN-UP

Thursday, April 19 1:00 pm – meet at kiosk, top of Welch St

This annual event is open to all ages – a great intergenerational activity. Young children must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring plastic bags and work gloves, if you have them. This event will go rain or shine. Please dress for the weather.

NATIONAL CARD/LETTER WRITING MONTH

Monday, April 23 10:45 – 11:45 am

Keep in touch with friends & family the “old-fashion” way and spread happiness to others. Denise has notecards/stationary

SHOPPING at MILL CREEK PLAZA, So. Portland

Monday April 30 12:45pm boat/no later than 5:30 pm

Stores include a hardware store, Nonesuch Books, Goodwill, and Dollar Tree. Shaw's and CVS are across the street. Fee is \$5, based on 6 people. Register by April 26.

On-going exercise program for Adults

Low-Impact Aerobics with Weights:

Mondays & Thursdays – 9:30-10:30am (St. Christopher's)

NEWS FROM THE TAXI

Tel: 518-0000 for a ride



Many Thanks for the MARCH 6th Turnout

The Taxi Board would like to thank all the islanders who supported us at our FLATBREAD celebration on March 6th AND announce that the winner of our 50-50 raffle was island resident Joanne Sterling. Joanne generously donated her share of the raffle back to the Taxi, so the Flatbread raffle contributed a total of \$289 to our general operating fund. In addition, Flatbread sent us a check for \$479.50 --- that's a lot of pizzas!

Members of the Board are working on some of the final details for delivery of the new vehicle. An early April delivery is still expected. Breaking a bottle of Champagne over the front bumper for the inaugural trip may be a week or two later. Stay tuned!

CERT Prepares For Disasters

Have other disasters made you think about what could happen here? Our Peaks Island Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) practices to assist in Island disasters.

Please spread the word and join us. For more info, call Al Bleau at 766-0007 or 781-962-2662.

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