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Peaks Island Star : November 2015, Vol. 35, Issue 11

Service Agencies of the Island

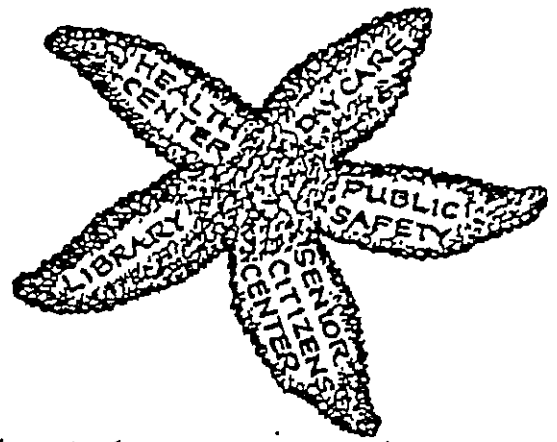
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Peaks Island STAR



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

November 2015

Volume 35

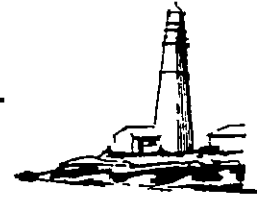
Issue 11

City Neighborhood Meeting on Peaks Island

On Monday, November 9, 2015, members of the City Council, City Manager Jon Jennings, and city staff will be holding a neighborhood meeting at the Community Center beginning at 6:15 PM. This is an opportunity to meet staff, exchange ideas, and offer comments and suggestions.

- Mike Murray, Island Neighborhood Administrator

Casco Bay Island Development Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 7662
Portland, Maine 04112-7662



All islanders are invited to attend the Casco Bay Island Development Association's Annual Meeting on November 12th; 4 – 6 pm in St. Christopher's Community Room. You'll discover the important role that CBIDA played on Peaks in the past as well as our grant program that benefits Casco Bay island non-profits. This is a good opportunity to share your concerns about island issues and suggestions for addressing them. Refreshments will be served. FMI: contact Kim MacIsaac, Secretary, at ramseyroost@maine.rr.com or 766-5514. Hope to see you there!

Order your Thanksgiving pies from the PTO

Enjoy yummy pies created by island bakers and support all of the Peaks Island Elementary School PTO- sponsored enrichment programs for island kids!!

Apple Pies * Pumpkin Pies * Sweet Potato Pies * Chocolate Pies

Pies are \$25.00 each and will be delivered to your home on Tuesday, November 24th. To Order please send an email to vanessasyvester@hotmail.com by Friday, November 20th. Indicate the number and types of pies you would like and where on island you would like them delivered.

Peaks Island Elementary School: Learning to lead at Peaks

By Renee Serio, Teacher Leader

Peaks Island Elementary School is happy to report a new student group that is forming here. Peaks Island Student Council is a group of grade 5 leaders-in-training who meet with Mrs. Serio and Ms. Catherine Haas, the social worker, each Friday.

Some of the work that grade 5 students will do includes selecting and organizing Fun Fridays. Their ideas include Pajama Day, Crazy Hair and Hat Day, and Island Adventure Day. In addition, these grade 5 students will be working with islander, Sam Saltonstall, in an effort to make the school "greener". In order to develop some background knowledge about what it means to be greener, islander Paul Fox will be teaching weekly lessons on electricity and energy usage in the months of December and January.

Peaks Island Elementary School is proud of these young people and eager to see all that they are able to do in and for our school.

RED CROSS BABYSITTING COURSE

The Friends of TEIA would like to determine if there is sufficient interest for us to sponsor the Red Cross Babysitting Certification course offered on a selected Saturday in Portland.

Do you have a child or children between the ages of 11 and 15 who will commit to attending this one full Saturday course this winter? (February or March)

Transportation would need to be provided by the parents but all class fees would be paid by Friends of TEIA as part of our commitment to the Peaks Island community.

If your daughter or son is interested, please call Stephanie at 2254 or email at sealights99@aol.com to be included on the list or for further information.

Peaks Island Skateboard Park

Our website: www.peaksislandskatepark.org includes plans for the Park in the far right corner of Trott-Littlejohn Park. We're raising funds with tax deductible donations to build it for all to enjoy!

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Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church

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.

Adult Scripture Study Tuesdays, 10-11:30am at Claire Dahl's home (13 Sunset Rd.).

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fridays, 10:00am-- 12:00pm at the church in our Church Family Room.

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

SPECIAL EVENTS IN NOVEMBER:

November 4 - 7: WindowDresser Window Insert Build. It's time for our annual window insert build in the fellowship hall. They are using VolunteerSpot to organize Sign-ups. Please encourage all your friends and neighbors to help. It's fun and makes a huge difference in how warm our homes will be this winter. Please go to <http://vols.pt/c6jKjb> or call Rhonda Berg to sign up!

Friday, November 20, 6:30pm: Free Family Movie Night. Join us in the Church Family Room for this month's movie: "The Bucket List" (Rated PG-13). "You only live once, so why not go out in style? That's what two cancer-ward roommates, an irascible billionaire (Jack Nicholson) and a scholarly mechanic (Morgan Freeman), decide when they get the bad news." CVLILICENSE# 503894391

St. Christopher's Catholic Church

Rector: Father Michael Seavey at 773-7746

Sunday Mass is at 10 AM each week followed by fellowship in the Parish House. All are welcome. Details for other Masses in Portland are at <http://www.portlandcatholic.org/>

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

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 6:30-7:30 PM in the Parish House.

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

Cancer Support Group meets from 7 to 8 PM on Tuesday, November 17th in the Parish House.

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

www.picw.org



**THE PEAKS ISLAND CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERAN'S DAY AND
NOVEMBER 26TH AND 27TH FOR THANKSGIVING**

A big thank you to Brunswick High School for coming over and helping us clean up the grounds as well as for giving us our very own pumpkin head scarecrow.

We have continued to enjoy the beautiful weather by walking around the island and looking at the different colors of the leaves. Inside we have been having fun making our own fall colored leaves and putting together scarecrows to match our new friend outside. Next we will be starting our family and fall food unit and making some delicious snacks together.

Our annual Stone Soup is on November 25th at noon, all are welcome. If you would like to come and join us, please RSVP to Katie by the 20th.

PICW is accepting applications for part/full time care on 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, Melissa Conrad mconrad@backshore.net



PEAKS ISLAND LIONS CLUB



Peaks Island Children's Christmas Party

The annual Peaks Island Lions Club and Peaks Island American Legion, McVane, Post 142 Children's Christmas Party will be held at the Peaks Island Elementary School on Tuesday, December 22nd beginning at 3:05 pm. All Peaks Island children from birth through grade five are invited to attend.

Signup sheets for children who do not attend the Peaks Island Elementary School can be found at the Hannigan's Market, the Peaks Island Café and the Peaks Island Library beginning about November 16th.

If your child does not attend the Peaks Elementary School, please sign up to assure that your child will receive an age appropriate gift.

Seeking New Lions Club Members

The Peaks Island Lions Club is actively seeking to augment our membership both male and female. Year-round and seasonal residents are welcome. Members are **not** expected to be available for all our events, many members help out just when they are able, so this does not have to be a big commitment in time. You would do what you can.

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**

November 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

CLOSED for Veterans Day, Nov. 11 -- OPEN Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving

The Library has many activities happening in November. All are FREE and in the Community Room unless otherwise noted. Following is a brief description of each, listed by date:

Monday, November 2, 5 pm at Brackett Church: Special Storytelling Program featuring your friends and neighbors who have been participating in a Memoir Writing workshop with Elizabeth Peavey. Short reading by each participant. Peaks Island Ukes will bookend the event. Refreshments.

Tuesday, November 3, 7 pm, Book Discussion, *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent. Next month's book is *Book of Unknown Americans* by Cristina Henriques. Call or come into the library to reserve a copy. As this is Election Day, the meeting will be on the library balcony.

Thursday, November 5, 6 - 7pm, Author Brenda Buchanan returns to discuss her latest book, *Cover Story*, second in the Joe Gale Mystery series. Sponsored by Friends of the Peaks Island Library.

Tuesday, November 10, 1-2 pm, Art Exhibition of drawings by Peaks Islanders and others. This is the culmination of an 8-week class with art instructor Clara Cohan.

Tuesday, November 17, 5:45 – 6:45 pm, Middle School Book Club meets to talk about books they are reading and which ones they would recommend to others – and there will be food!

Tuesday, November 17, 7 pm, Special Moderated Discussion of the book *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. The Rev. Larry Greer, moderator, is the Pastoral Coordinator for Hospice of Southern Maine. Copies of the book are available at the library. All are welcome to attend.

Every Week, Wednesday Mornings at the Library: 10:15am – Nursery Rhyme Time for infants and toddlers; 11:00am Preschool Story Time for kids 3-5 year-olds. Children from the Workshop come regularly along with other island children and visitors. All children are welcome.

Thank you to St. Christopher's and Brackett churches for hosting the Memoir Writing Workshop and the Story Telling Program. The library could not have offered the program without their generous offering of spaces to hold it.

“A Taste of Italy” Dinner on Veterans’ Day at the American Legion Post

All are invited to a special Veterans' Day Dinner featuring "A Taste of Italy" at the Peaks Island American Legion Post 142 from 6 to 8 PM on Wednesday, November 11th. Adults \$8, Children under 12 \$5 and no charge for Veterans.

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LORETTA VOYER FUND

Hands down, our ferry ride has got to be one of the sweetest commutes around -- until you're sick and vulnerable, when it becomes a difficult passage.

To ease the journey for islanders undergoing treatment for cancer and other life-limiting illnesses, the Loretta Voyer Fund (LVF) provides tickets for a vehicle and passenger.

The Loretta Voyer Fund was created in 2000 to honor the memory of longtime Peaks Island resident Loretta Voyer, who considered every islander a neighbor and took good care of every neighbor in need. When she was diagnosed with cancer and chemotherapy exhausted her, friends and neighbors began taking her to and from treatments in their cars. This allowed her to travel with comfort and companionship while limiting her exposure as an immunosuppressed person. In addition, the help with travel for treatments allowed her family to continue their daily work and school routines, which was important to her. Reflecting the concern for others that Loretta Voyer demonstrated and that the island community reciprocated, the Fund seeks to respond to all who need this particular kind of support.

Fifteen years since the Fund's founding, the number of requests for tickets continues to increase. The Board of Directors is grateful to all who have donated to the Loretta Voyer Fund in the past, and hopes that you will consider renewing your commitment to helping the Fund keep pace with our island's growing needs. Help keep Loretta Voyer's vision of a caring community alive.

Those interested in requesting tickets or making a tax-deductible donation may speak to any member of the LVF Board: Mary Arnold, Melissa Conrad, Kathy McCarthy, Cheryl Miner, Judy Piawlock, Jan Thomas, Suellen Roberts (207 766 2161; sbwatersedge@earthlink.net).

Visit and support the Loretta Voyer Craft Fair Saturday, December 5.

Peaks Island Health Center

87 Central Ave. P.O. Box 52

**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.

Flu season is upon us. If you missed the Flu Shot Clinic at the Community Center and would like a flu shot, please call the Health Center for an appointment to get one.

A reminder that the Health Center will continue to be open three days a week, throughout the year. As always, on days the Health Center is closed, Health Center patients may be seen at Maine Medical Partners Family Practice at the corner of Congress and India Streets by calling one of the numbers listed above.

The Health Center Board's Communication Committee is planning a presentation on **Alzheimer's Disease**, to provide the Peaks community with information about this important topic. We hope to schedule an event before the end of the year. Details will be forthcoming on Island email lists and posters as soon as they are available.

Homestart News – Accessory Dwelling Units

On October 19, the Portland City Council approved an ordinance to allow Peaks Island homeowners, regardless of the size of their lots, to add an additional unit on their house, known as an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), more commonly called an in-law apartment. Homestart proposed this ordinance, which includes the following provisions:

1. The unit must be a minimum of 400 sq. ft. and no more than 35 % as large as the original house;
2. It must be part of the original structure or attached to it;
3. When applying for the building permit, homeowners must sign an agreement to rent the unit year round and within affordable guidelines;
4. The unit must meet all zoning requirements including set backs.

We will be meeting soon with City housing planners to learn specifically what steps people interested in pursuing this option should take. Once we know all the details, we'll hold a community meeting to discuss it in detail. Given the cost of construction, we don't anticipate many ADUs, but hope that Peaks will gain a few more year round rentals which are needed to help maintain a strong, diverse year round community .

Questions? Feel free to contact us:

Betsey Ramage-Healey , remagehealey@gmail.com, 622-2084

Chris Roberts, croberts2222@yahoo.com, 650-9486

Peg Astarita, astarita@maine.rr.com

Caron Chess, caronchess2327@gmail.com, 908-705-5161



207.518.0000 (Call for reservations)

Island Transportation System (aka TAXI)

Hours of Operation: 8:15 AM – 8:15 PM

Rate: \$3.00 Zone 1

\$5.00 Zone 2

Where to Find Us: *Down Front at the Casco Bay Lines Ferry Dock*

The Island Transportation System is actively looking for drivers. For more information contact any ITS Driver or Norm Proulx at norm_proulx@myfairpoint.net

FREE Passes to Six Local and State Attractions With Your Library Card

If you go to the Portland Public Library's website, portlandlibrary.com, and type Free Passes in the catalog search box, a list of all the available passes will come up. At present there are six, including the Portland Museum of Art, the Southworth Planetarium, the Maine State Museum. Some are seasonal attractions. Some you can enjoy year-round. If you click on the name of the attraction, you will find a description of that museum, park, or historical site. Then click on "full record," and all the details of how many the pass admits, what the dates that place is open are, etc. It's a wonderful offering and very much underused by Peaks Islanders.

Borrowing Medical Equipment

Anyone who needs to borrow wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and other medical equipment temporarily should know they are available from the Health Center and St. Christopher's Parish.

The equipment, stored in the St. Christopher's Parish House, is provided on a first come, first served basis at no charge. Borrowers are asked to indicate when they plan to return it and also relieve the program of any liability.

For more information, contact Kay Taylor at 766-2811 or islapicos@maine.rr.com; Ashley DeAngelo at 540-290-1274 or ashleydeangelo79@gmail.com or David Vincent at 603-496-6989 or davidlv55@gmail.com.

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SENIOR LUNCHEON NEWS

Fall has arrived and the temperature outside has dropped! The Seniors will have their next potluck luncheon on Monday, November 9th. Invite your senior friends and neighbors to join us at noon at the Fay Garman House Community Room. Please bring your favorite comfort food to share.

All Seniors are welcome!

PEAKS ISLAND TAX AND ENERGY ASSISTANCE
NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The season for 2009 Tax Assistance has passed. Our latest bank statement reminds us that we need to slowly rebuild our Tax Assistance account. Our primary goal to help Islanders to remain in their homes is working very well. In September we paid over \$3980 to the City of Portland for property tax assistance for 5 families. Every day there are legal announcements, to announce the foreclosure of properties in the state. Every day we are reminded how fortunate we are to live on Peaks Island where friends and neighbors are willing to help a few permanent island home owners who need a little assistance to get through property tax season. The taxman "does not cometh to Peaks Island" even though our taxes continue to rise. We have been able to maintain anonymity and we receive their appreciation for the work Islanders are doing. Our task is truly rewarding.

At the moment we have about \$1543 in the Tax Assistance account. We will be fundraising to bring the bank balance forward. We do send cards or notes for celebrations, birthdays or anniversaries or for get well wishes or in memory of a loved one or friend when a donation is made to PITEA. It is a simple way to honor friends and neighbors

Energy Assistance applications are available on the Library bulletin board. The good news is that the cost of oil has come down. However, We will pay up to \$300 to the energy supplier. Please make sure we get a copy of your bill. We cannot pay for assistance without it. PITEA will send the payment to the energy source. We cannot reimburse applicants.

The economic outlook has improved and that is great news for all of us.. PITEA did raise over \$5700 this summer and we are ready to assist with energy needs for both homeowners and renters. We will continue to fundraise over the next seven or eight months. Our committee has met and we are trying to find new ways to raise funds. As much as we all love the Loaf and Ladle Dinners we know we do not have enough committee members to run the dinners. PITEA will need to rely on community donations. There is no doubt that the generosity of our friends and neighbors has been and continues to be amazing. We encourage anyone who has a friend or neighbor who is keeping the thermostat below 60 to contact a member of the clergy or police to do a wellness check. It is not easy to ask for assistance, but it is important that no one remains in a very cold home

If you like to cook, like to help your neighbors and friends, and wish to be more active on the Island please consider joining our committee. We do want to celebrate with our Loaf and Ladle Dinners or another fun activity for all of us to get together to meet new neighbors and enjoy the company of friends new and old.

For more information please call Cynthia at 766-0067 or speak to a member. Applications for assistance are on the bulletin board at the Library.

PEAKS ISLAND TAX AND ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Ralph Ashmore, Linda Capone-Newton, Heather Kannianen, Linda Murphy, John O'Brien, Cynthia Pedlikin, , Howard Pedlikin, and Val Simoneau

Peaks Island Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

The Peaks Island CERT is looking for more volunteers to learn how to work in times of a disaster or emergency.

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

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NOVEMBER 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. Denise will not be back on the island until Thursday, November 5. Please plan ahead as Denise works just part-time on the island – Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays (not on island on holidays). Best way to contact Denise is via email at djm@portlandmaine.gov or you may leave a message at 766-2970. If you don't get a return phone call, please call again as messages can get lost.

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

This annual community-wide event takes place at the living tree “down front” from 4:00 – 5:00 pm. Join in the fun as we decorate the tree, sing and then count down for the lighting of the tree. We will then gather at Peaks Café afterwards for refreshments. As is the island tradition, please bring food or monetary donations for the Food Pantry. Check island bulletin boards in case of snow.

THURSDAY KNITTING/CHATTING GROUP

Thursday, November 5, 12 and 19 10:45 - 11:45 am
Knitting for charity continues in the com. rm. If interested in buying items, please stop by on Thursdays. **THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL DISPLAY OF ALL ITEMS** on Thursday, Nov. 12. Scarves & hats are \$7 each; dishcloths are \$2 each. We also accept soaps, shampoo, hand cream, shaving cream

FRIDAY the 13TH – SUPERSTITIONS & FUN!

Friday, November 13 10:30 am - 12:00pm
Do you have Paraskevidekatriaphobia? That's Greek for the fear of Friday the 13th. Let's have fun learning about superstitions from various lands and on various topics. BYO superstitions (and lunch too if you'd like)

ATTENTION THOSE 62+ YEARS OLD

Portland Recreation may have a few “last minute” off-island trips. Please check island bulletin boards and Denise's door for updates. If interested in being on a “last minute” call list, please let Denise know (766-2970). If she doesn't get back to you, please call again as messages can get lost.

LAUGHTER YOGA CLUB (com. rm.)

Monday, November 16 10:45am – 11:30 am
Learn to laugh at nothing at all and gain the health benefits that laughter has to offer. All welcome!

MAKING DECORATIONS and ORNAMENTS

Monday, November 30 Drop in from 10:45 am to 2:00 pm
Open to all ages. Stop by the com. room to make ornaments for the island “living tree”. Recycle cards will be used. Bring your creative ideas! Make decorations for home too.

On-going exercise programs for Adults:

Mondays and Thursdays:
Low-Impact Aerobics with Weights
9:30 to 10:30 am (community room)

November Movies – Saturday Nights – FREE

6PM 7	<i>Cool Runnings</i> , 1993, PG, 98 min	8PM 7	<i>Mr. Turner</i> , 2015, PG-13, 140 min
14	<i>Inside Out</i> , 2015, PG, 94 min.	14	<i>Finding Neverland</i> , 2005, PG, 101 min
21	<i>Strange Magic</i> , 2015, PG, 99 min	21	<i>You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger</i> , 2010, R, 98 min
28	<i>Moon Man</i> , 2012, PG, 95 min.	28	<i>Good Night and Good Luck</i> , 2005, R, 93 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: Wednesday, November 25, by 6 pm. Note that is Thanksgiving week, so if you will be here and super busy or away, consider turning your articles in early. You may put them under the library door or in the book return if the library is closed.