A Note About This Edition
Inside are featured artists and writers living and working on Peaks Island. The material for this edition has been accumulating for five years. This represents work from only those artists who responded to the call for submissions. There are obviously more artists on Peaks and the other islands of Casco Bay than are featured here.

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The First Randomly Annual ART Edition
A catalogue of visual and literary art by Casco Bay island artists

Hand painted dollar bills, 2006, by Tim Nihoff
TIM NIHOFF

A Peaks Island resident for 12 years, Tim Nihoff works in his home studio as a designer, illustrator and experimental artist. His series of hand-colored dollar bills, of which he created hundreds and often handed them out as gifts, challenged the intrinsic value of money and art.

"In my experimental art, I work with all types of materials to make anything I dream up: sculptures, furniture, paintings, toys and food," he said.

His madcap illustrations grace magazines, posters, television, web, packaging and apparel. And are regularly featured in educational children's books published by Charlesbridge, Candlewick, Little Brown, EPS and Leapfrog Publishing. His designs are seen in logos, print and packaging for Nickelodeon, PBS, Disney and Milton Bradley.

Tim is currently completing the fifth in a series of educational books on mathematics for young readers, and just put the final touches on a commissioned jellyfish lamp and night light for a Christmas gift.

If all goes well he expects to open his Studio Art Shop on Island Avenue to the public this summer.

www.timnihoff.com

This Page

JAMIE HOGAN

Jamie Hogan grew up in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and earned a BFA in Illustration at Rhode Island School of Design. She has been an illustrator since 1980 and moved to Peaks Island 20 years ago.

She works primarily in pastel with vivid color that captures a magical realism. She has taught at Maine College of Art for the past 10 years, while illustrating several award-winning books.

She's inspired by the island environment, using Peaks Island as the setting for two books, Seven Days of Daisy and Ice Harbor Mittens by Robin Hansen. A recent book, A Warmer World by Caroline Arnold, made the National Science Teachers Association's list of Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12 for 2013. She awaits the publication of her latest effort, Here Come the Humpbacks by April Sayre in February 2013.

Jamie lives with fellow illustrator/designer Marty Braun and their daughter, Daisy. She enjoys walking the beaches and trails of Peaks Island, finding views to draw on a daily basis.

She has written for the Island Times where she served as Arts Editor for three years. She has also exhibited at the Gem Gallery and is a member of the Maine Illustrators Collective and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

JANE BANQUER

Banquer is a fine art printmaker. She works at City Point Studios, 95 City Point Road on Peaks Island with her husband, Norm Proulx. Banquer begins with studies from life and then bends forms as they are reinterpreted in oil and acrylic and woodcut, traditional etching and solar plate etching.

www.islandtimes.org

RIGHT: Shape, 16" x 12" woodcut, 2012.

NORM PROULX

Proulx paints in oil, pastels and acrylic and prefers to paint from memory rather than use photographs or work en plein air, finding it more spontaneous and less restrictive.

www.addisonwoolley.com

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www.addisonwoolley.com

ABOVE: Gulf Rock, Monhegan
LEFT: Flint Mills, from Fall River, Massachusetts
Letters

Welcome back to Brackett Church Tween Night starting Friday, Jan. 11 at 6:30 till 8:30.

The program has been such a success so far we've had to ask for sponsorship as to not exceed our limited budget. Tom and June Bergh (did Tom tell you June), have offered to sponsor this first night. A BIG THANKYOU!

The next Tween night will be on the 25th of January and we'll need another sponsor; any volunteers? I already did the last one. It was fun! We had up to 20 kids attending so far.

Duties of the sponsors, other than keeping the peace, will be to provide food and drinks, fun, movies, music, games. All good.

McKinzie Parker will be the Friday Tween Program host. She is also involved in the Brackett Church Afta School Program.

The kids developed their own code of conduct for the program and we will continue to hold them to it.

Thanks to Mike and Pam Richards we now have a new football game and mini pool table to add to the fun. Thank you all for your donations!!

Please let my phone ring with excitement at volunteering for this successful and needed program for the island youth. You don't even need to have kids to volunteer. Nothing to do on a Friday night? Give back to the island, keep our kids safe, know where they are. Call soon. It's only two Fridays a month, still school is out for summer!

Jeanie Astorino 766-2992

Peaks Island Tax and Energy Assistance

As we enter 2013 PTTEA is continuing to fulfill our missions of Tax Assistance for permanent island residents and Energy Assistance for all island households. As a 501c3 charitable organization we have IRS guidelines to follow. Our expenditures are for assistance and some administrative bills. Our members have contributed many hours of their time and energy to raise money. Combine that with their donations of food, paper goods, and kitchen supplies and then add in some wonderful donations and we have a formula for success.

Energy Assistance funds cover the broadest range of the expenditures. We allot $300 or less for every approved applicant. Last year we raised about $11,000 and spent about $12,000 for 44 families. The best news is that all eligible applicants received help. Our clergy received and approved the applications. Once an application was approved by the Clergy, an applicant received immediate assistance and PTTEA paid the bills directly to the provider. Our participation in the Market America campaign to assist charitable organizations continues to be a wonderful resource. With Susan Thomas' help we were the lucky recipients of about $2,400. So many unfranchisees and representatives who sell the products so that we can receive these checks are just amazing. These folks do not live here or even know us yet they are helping to raise funds for Energy Assistance with every order.

Our Tax Assistance funds for 2012 made payments to the City of Portland of about $5,100 for nine families. We raised about $7,000 throughout the year from donations, Loud and Lasty Dinners and the raffle. Once again our clergy made the decisions based on applicant information including earnings and tax return info. The overall figures are astounding. Our committee membership is small but

our fund raising efforts (about $2,200) made our goals attainable. It is a record that gives PTTEA a sense of pride.


SENIOR NEWS - There will not be a Potluck Luncheon in January. The seniors and guests enjoyed a wonderful lunch on December and want to thank the Lions Club for their donation on the turkey for our meal. The many dishes that were offered to accompany our turkey were delicious. Before lunch we were entertained by the preschoolers from the Children's Workshop. We will announce our next luncheon on the second Monday in February.

Publisher: Kevin Attra
Member of the Society of Professional Journalists

Art Editor - B. Remadge-Healey
Comm. Notes - Rhonda Berg
Research - Irene Schensted

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Meghan Conley

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The Casco Bay Island Times is a community newspaper covering the islands in Casco Bay. We welcome birth, engagement and wedding announcements, obituaries, notices of community events; and letters to the editor. Please try to keep letters to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit all material. The newspaper is available by mail for $25 a year. Address checks to Island Times. Our mailing address is 131 Central Ave, Peaks Island, Maine 04108. To reach Kevin Attra, call (207) 766-6825 or e-mail at katt@islandtimes.org. For ad rates visit our website at www.islandtimes.org.
As I write this a giant snowstorm that started last night is holding steady into night number two, expected to drop a few more inches on us before it finally quits. By yesterday afternoon the phone calls to the Bay Lines about service interruptions were in full swing. It's a good bet that most people who've spent a winter in Casco Bay have made that call: the will you-run-all-the-boats-call, the is-the-car-ferry-running-call, the what-wind-speed-makes-you-cancel-call. Most of you have probably been disappointed by the noncommittal answers.

Rain and snow are a nuisance, but it's howling winds that make trouble for a ferry service. The good news is that those three days are memorable but extremely rare. In the past 10 years, I can think of only three or four days when service was suspended. The bad news is that statistics are cold comfort for those of you who might get stranded by one of those rare storms. I've fielded hundreds of calls during storms, and while most people understand that I can't predict what will happen in eight hours, they're really hoping I'll commit to an estimate. But I won't because I like you guys. I don't want to panic you, but I don't want to give you false hope either. I just want you to end up happy and safe in the place you need to be at the end of the day. So I won't make a wild guess (and that's really all I can do, weather being an unpredictable beast), but I will try to help you make the best decision based on current conditions and weather forecasts.

I will tell you what's been happening so far. I will tell you if we've been unable to dock anywhere, if we've had any close calls or if everything's been okay. I can give you a reasonably good idea of whether a boat scheduled to leave within the hour will run. I will remind you that wind direction can be as much a factor as wind speed, that one stop may be more accessible than another and that this can change even while the storm rages. Even if we can't dock at a particular island right this second, we may be able to do it in an hour if the wind takes a more favorable turn.

I will tell you that there is no magic number, no wind speed at which we stop running. Years ago when the aging, wooden docks on the islands were failing, the Maine Department of Transportation wouldn't allow us to dock in wind speeds over 30 knots in order to keep vessels from slamming into them.

When the docks were replaced MDOT dropped its restriction and the decision to land was no longer at the whim of the anemometer, but at the discretion of well-trained, highly-experienced captains who do an exceptional job of balancing reliable, timely service with the safety of their passengers, crew and vessels.

I will tell you that it's more likely the Coast Guard will close the port before we'll stop attempting service. This happened a few weeks ago. Despite extreme winds and swells we continued running until the Coast Guard told us the person getting off at Long Island on the 5:45 commuter run would be the last passenger before all boat traffic was canceled. And I will tell you that just because you can travel doesn't always mean you should travel.

Today a friend who manages an office in town was excited about being a nice boss and letting her employees go home early because of the snowstorm, but she didn't get the chance because only two of them came to work in the first place.

Roads were technically passable but definitely treacherous, and with no way to know for sure if conditions would get better they didn't risk travel. In that spirit, if the wind's taking out trees and power lines and the forecast calls for worse, travel only if it's absolutely necessary. Get to whichever side of the water you need to end up on sooner rather than later. Or have a plan in case conditions change quickly.

The bottom line is that weather is unpredictable but service interruptions are very rare. We can give you short-term updates, but if you're very worried your best bet is to plant ferry travel in high winds with the same caution and common sense you'd apply to driving long-distance in a blizzard.

Meghan Conley is a writer/musician/baker/Casco Bay Lines Operations Agent who lives in Portland. She hopes you'll tell her what CBL-related thing is on your mind at IslandTimesColumn@cascobaylines.com

**WMPG**

90.9 and 104.1 FM www.WMPG.org

Community Radio for Southern Maine

**Folk, Bluegrass and Americana Music on WMPG**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>South By Southwest with Lincoln - American country music recorded before 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Barn Dance Radio with Larry - fiddles, fiddles and more fiddles!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Exploding Jukebox with Katzie Louise - No tired music allowed!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>Sound Contrapositive with Eric - Americana and more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Blue Country - Bluegrass with Blizzard Bob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Crossfade - Around the world with musical tour guide Barb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Wheedoggies - CJ Dale digs American music And talks to Mama.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Kitchen Party with Ceci - The drive, twang &amp; heartbreak of American music, lots of mando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Us Folk with Chris - Live national, regional and local musicians, in studio and on phone. Latest releases, as well as the classics!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Get Hot or Go Home - Rockabilly with Matt: the wild and woolly host who defies description.</td>
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**POLICE LOG**  
*Nov/Dec 2012*

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:38</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Welch St</td>
<td>Pedestrian Check</td>
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<tr>
<td>22:08</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Island Ave</td>
<td>Assist Fire Dept</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Island Ave</td>
<td>Assist Fire Dept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:22</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Peaks Island</td>
<td>911 Hang Up Calls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:53</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Winding Way</td>
<td>Rpt Of Shots Heard</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Peaks Island</td>
<td>Audible Alarm</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Pleasant Ave</td>
<td>Open Door/Window</td>
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<td>16:56</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>911 Hang Up Calls</td>
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<tr>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>Rpt Of Shots Heard</td>
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<td>21:53</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Lower A St</td>
<td>Fireworks</td>
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<td>16:32</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Pleasant Ave</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Ocean Spray Rd</td>
<td>Assist Fire Dept</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>08:38</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Central Ave</td>
<td>Unk Problem Medical</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Upper Ave</td>
<td>General Offense</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>Church Ave</td>
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<td>08:36</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>16:18</td>
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<td>Check Well Being</td>
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<td>18:42</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Busy At A Meeting</td>
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<td>Sterling Ave</td>
<td>317 Domestic Dispute</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:02</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Island Ave</td>
<td>Domestic Dispute</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:55</td>
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<td>Island Ave</td>
<td>Civil Complaint</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:59</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Welch St</td>
<td>Prop Dmg Crash</td>
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<td>09:54</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Seashore Ave</td>
<td>Threat/Terrorizing</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:04</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Highland Ave</td>
<td>911 Hang Up Calls</td>
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**Count 12**

**Total Count 28**

**Received Dec 31**

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**2013 Island Resolutions**

**BY JERRY GARMAN**

Perhaps New Year's resolutions started with Socrates when he said, "The unexamined life is not worth living"; or with Robert Hughes' counter that, "The un-lived life is not worth examining". Many of us seek improvement through commitments to future lifestyle changes. All Peak's islanders should resolve to:

1. **REDUCE YOUR DEBT**
   - Use reusable shopping bags
   - Give generously
   - Clean your chimney

2. **COMPOST**
   - Say good morning to Bernie at the 6:15 ferry
   - Say something nice about somebody

3. **WIN THE LOTTERY**
   - Vote with your wallet
   - Learn CPR

4. **RECYCLE EVERYTHING**
   - Don't text & drive
   - REDISCOVER THE LIBRARY
   - SMILE

5. **CALL A FRIEND**
   - Carry an emergency home survival kit
   - BE A VOLUNTEER EACH MONTH

6. **LEARN SOMETHING NEW**
   - Don't relocate someone's bicycle or golf cart
   - BE HAPPY - ENJOY LIFE

7. **REACH OUT TO STRANGER**
   - Create a homeless survival kit
   - BE a better listener

8. **PAY IT FORWARD**
   - Eat a healthy breakfast
   - LEARN SOMETHING NEW
   - Display a house number to assist emergency responders

9. **TELL A JOKE**
   - Have flexible optimism
   - PLANT A TREE

10. **GET IN TOUCH WITH NATURE**
    - Write a thank you note
    - Create a stone sculpture on the backslope

11. **PAY IT FORWARD**
    - Shred extra pounds
    - Cut back on fast foods

12. **HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR**
    - Pay it forward with "27 acts of kindness"

---

**Peaks Island Experiences (PS)**

**2013 Island Resolutions**

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11. **HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR**
    - Pay it forward with "27 acts of kindness"
Star Gazing

As Janus was the ancient Roman god of the doorway, so January opens the door to the new year. Similarly, as February is Latin for "purification," so February was the month for that ancient Roman ritual. Both months were added to the calendar by Roman King Numa Pompilius in 713 BC to fill the "moonless winters" in the prior calendar.

Earth reaches perihelion, its closest point to the sun, on Jan. 2, yet these are the coldest months in the northern hemisphere. That's because at 43.7 north latitude, we're nearly halfway up the globe from the equator, and Earth is a little further from another 23.5° away from the sun. This combination drastically reduces the available sunshine we get, in terms of both time aloft and angle of inclination. The lazy old sun rises late, stays low, and retires early, leaving us to shovel the mist he made.

Although Earth's orbit around the sun is elliptical, with 5.2 million miles between perihelion and aphelion, Earth still averages 93 million miles from the sun, so the difference in relatively minor. Compared to other planets, Earth's orbit is remarkably round, and this has helped stabilize the changes wrought on our planet by weather, allowing life to flourish.

Even the ice ages have come more or less on schedule, apparently due in part to recurring cycles of astronomical forces, possibly Earth's position in its orbit around the Milky Way galaxy. We are currently in an interglacial period, which doesn't last as long as a glacial period, so do enjoy the lovely weather.

With the winter solstice now sundown, we can see at least 6° each day while the sun climbs up about 2° per week. The sunbeams a bit more directly, and although our noonday shadows are still longer than we are, we recognize the change in the sun's angle and know that spring will just around the corner.

The Quadrantid meteor shower, named after an abandoned constellation Quadrans Muralis, will peak early in the morning on Jan. 1. The radiant or apparent origin is NNE, just below the horizon's Big Dipper, just above the horizon, if you have a clear view to the north. Quadrantids are unusually weak except for the peak, which lasts just a few hours starting around 1:00 a.m. If you're up then use the north window, you might just see a Quadr streak by. This year, a waning gibbous moon will wash the sky with reflected sunlight, so viewing will not be ideal, but at the peak you still may see two or three meteors per minute.

PLANETS

Speedy Mercury stands January low on the eastern horizon before sunrise, but it darts behind the sun and by month's end it pops up again low in the western sky at dusk. Mercury continues to climb higher in the sky throughout early February. It has a close conjunction (alignment) with Mars on Feb. 7 and 8, and with a crescent moon on Feb. 11. It finally reaches its greatest elongation from the sun on Feb. 16, after which it bucks back down into the solar glare and out of sight.

Brilliant Venus still blazes low in the east before dawn, but it's heading down and away from us and, after conjuring with a crescent moon on Jan. 10, will get lost behind the glare of the sun by the end of February.

Ruddy Mars is low in the west at dusk and getting lower and fainter. It's below tiny Mercury, which actually outshines Mars now.

Mighty Jupiter is still bright next to Taurus in the southern sky after sunup, but it will fade as these winter months progress. It passes within 1° of a waning gibbous moon on Jan. 21, then ends its retrograde motion and starts back eastward again, lining up with Saturn's eyes before reaching eastern quadrature on Feb. 25.

Now is the time to turn to the telescope and try to find the Great Red Spot, or the shadow of a Galilean moon (or two) dotting the.net-tastic our planetary king. Jupiter contains 95 percent of the non-sun mass in our solar system, and it spins its massive bulk all the way around every 13 hours, so it's noticeably fit in the middle, where the two dark equatorial bands encircle it like straining bands.

Golden Saturn rises in the wee hours and can be seen before dawn. Its rings are now quite tilted toward Earth, and it reaches western quadrature on Jan. 30, so telescopes facing the planet's shadow on the wide, thin ring system that encircles it. Early on Feb. 3 the last quarter moon will sit below Saturn.

In January, greenish Uranus is low in the west just after sunset, and bluish Neptune is below that, but they duck out of sight after that, with Neptune reaching superior conjunction on Feb. 21.

STARS

After sunset white Venus spins in Lyra to the west, as Pegasus, the Flying horse with his Great Square body, rises high in the west. Turning north, a Big W marks Cassiopeia, the Queen, sitting on her throne, with her two star clusters, one just to the east. Overhead Perseus the King provides, with eclipsing variable star Algol, back in the field, borrowing nearby in Pegasus, the Seven Sisters, a young star cluster drifting through our galaxy.

Yellow star Capella leads us to Auriga the Charioteer. To the southeast is the Big V of the Hyades, with red giant Aldebaran serving as the Taurus's angry eye. Orion the Hunter rises boldly in the southeast, with red giant Betelgeuse on his left shoulder, and white Rigel at his right foot.

North of Orion lay the Gemini twins, their heads marked by stars Castor and Pollux. Unmistakable on the southeast horizon is Sirius, the brightest star in our heavens, only 8.6 light years away. In the morning before dawn, Leo is high in the south, the cycle-shaped asterism framing his mighty head and Regulus on the bottom, marking the ecliptic.

Editor's Note: There is no Almanac section this month. Instead, notable dates are discussed in the text, and these have been highlighted for easy reference.
JEANNE OTOOLE HAYMAN

I am both a painter and a printmaker. My approach to painting is through the medium itself, the process of thick luscious color laid on with a palette knife or brush with big gestural strokes. Light, color and movement are what I use to convey a sense of place and time. You can find some of my work at the beautifully renovated Richard Boyd Art Gallery on Peaks Island.

Prints and drawings are available from my Studio, 203 in the Bakery Building at 61 Pleasant Street in Portland.

I lived, worked and showed in the New York/New Jersey area for 17 years. My move to Peaks Island 12 years ago enabled me to concentrate more time and energy on my work. I find that the long Maine winters are conducive to long, productive hours in the studio. I also find the company of the many other artists who live and work here, both on the island and in Portland, stimulating and supportive.

www.jeannetooolehayman.com

KAT FARRIN

Kat Farrin grew up in South Bristol, Maine, which in part is Rutherford's Island with a drawbridge.

Her earliest memories include water color painting from a blue paint box on her mother's tablets.

She studied at the University of Maine at Orono and Vermont College, and received a MFA in art and writing from Goddard College when she was 50.

"I always have needed to be near the ocean," she wrote. "I lived for seven years on cliff island, and five in old orchard beach."

For more than 20 years she hauled lobster traps by hand from a wooden skiff with an 8 horsepower outboard in South Bristol, and later went on to work for lobstermen on Cliff Island.

"Then I shifted to my art," she said. "Nature and the ocean are my meditation and I often find driftwood and beaver-chewed stiles drifted in onto the beaches as gifts for painting."

She currently resides on Peaks Island.
ABOVE: Green Car, a trompe-l’oeil image using a small toy car placed against a pastel drawing. People have actually been fooled into thinking it is a real car in front of a giant mural. BELOW Right: Buildings on the water in Lubec. BELOW: One in a series titled Yellow Books

VICTOR ROMANYSHYN

Photographer and painter Victor Romanyshyn spends most of his time at his studio at the Bakery Studios, 61 Pleasant Street in Portland, when he's not taking care of things at home on Peaks Island.

"On the island, you know, I still use that space at home," he said in an interview last year. "That's where I take a lot of my photographs, in that studio on the island.

Victor studied art at the School of Visual Arts in New York City, and stayed in the city to earn his living as an artist for many years. As he evolved, his concentration shifted from painting to graphic design and finally to photography. Ultimately he incorporated all three into his work.

"When I came to Peaks Island I kind of combined everything," he said. "Even though the end product was a photograph, it really combined all the different kinds of media that I'd been working in, like painting.

His landscape photography is crystalline: stunningly clear and utterly still. His latest work plays with the viewer's eye by layering real objects into paintings through photography. The juxtaposition is often surprising, sometimes even whimsical.

"I think the mindset of the photographer - the person holding the camera - is almost more important than [the subject], because that comes through in the work," he said. "The camera is just this mechanical machine. If you're out of focus, if you're wandering and you just can't pull your thoughts together, then you're not going to achieve anything significant."
RICHARD BOYD & PAMELA WILLIAMSON

Potter Richard Boyd has been working in clay for over 30 years. With his partner, Pamela Williamson, who develops the glazes, they produced some of the finest stoneware on the island.

The Boyd Art Gallery is located on Peaks Island at the corner of Island Avenue and Epps Street, first building on the right. The gallery exhibits original 20th and 21st century works of art by established and emerging artists with ties to Maine, working primarily in the media of painting, sculpture, pottery and glass. An art studio producing hand made original works of art.

ABOVE: Richard Boyd (left) and Pamela Williamson at the annual Art on the Porch exhibit at the Fifth Maine.

LEFT & RIGHT: Pottery and artwork exhibited at the Boyd Gallery.

PHOTOS BY THE ARTISTS

SUSANNE PARROTT

For Suzanne Parrott, making art was the earliest and most powerful desire in life. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1978, with graduate work in fabric design and later work at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts.

While principally working in paint, she also incorporated fabric collage and clothing design into her studies. Today, she designs original felt rugs and wall hangings, as well as a line of remanufactured clothing.

In Suzanne’s show, Inside and Out, which opened on Oct. 9, 2008 at the Gem Gallery on Peaks Island, felt rugs, clothing and a new line of repurposed clothing were featured, including a large supply of felted fingerless gloves (inset).

She continues to develop new combinations of materials and colors, sometimes based on traditional felt clothing and rug design. All pieces are singular and produced on Peaks Island.

pegshop.net

PEG ASARITA

Peg’s Pots, etc., is the ceramics studio of Peg Asarita, located on Peaks Island. Down a rocky, humpy, dirt road, hidden amongst the trees. She renders simple, unique, beautiful and functional pottery. Peg works mostly in high-fire stoneware but loves to play with low-fire projects of all kinds: whistles, birds, animals, piggy banks, light houses, snowmen, whatever. She is open to alternative techniques like barrel firing.

She also hosts classes and workshops at her studio as well as group events, as explained on her website: “Parties, play with grandchildren, work on projects you have always wanted to do, learn enough to do what you want, experiment with different techniques, make a gift, try something new, whatever.”

www.pegspotsetc.com

Pottery by Peg Asarita: (right) ceramic fish vase, and (below) drum. Her drums are real working instruments, each with a unique design and sound.
In Praise Of Slow
ELEANOR MORSE

Winter has always been a great season for writing, the grinding cold days of January, February and March. What is it that makes these months especially conducive to getting down to business? Part of it, of course, is the quiet; the summer half-baloow is a distant memory, the warm heartth beats. The insanity of the holiday past is past, the phone goes silent. Winter slows down to a solid state, and everything moves more deliberately. Thinking about it, it's the slowness even more than the quiet that makes this season a blessing for those of us who create.

As a culture, we've come to associate fast with good: bright, smart, productive, snappy, exciting. Slow with not so good: more than the quiet that makes this fly by. When it finally settles into the water, it sinks deeper. In writing terms, slow brings us something that fast can't. Think of the way a slow story, a slow essay, a slow poem, a slow novel, a slow memoir. When you slow down, you see things you'd miss at a faster pace. You have time to make connections, to linger.

Beyond subtlety and range of power, slow creates a greater potential for strangeness. If you see the world as a potentially explorable place, and time as linear, then fast narration is likely to work better for you than slow. If you see the world as uncertain, fractured, fragile, at times senseless, time traveling unpredictably, sometimes in circles, slow can handle incongruity in a way that fast cannot.

We usually think of intensity as coming from fast narration, but a slow pace can achieve an amazing degree of intensity. For instance, Flannery O'Connor in her story, "A Good Man Is Hard to Find," strings out a murder scene between the "twins" and a grandmother until it's close to unbearable. If O'Connor had poured through the scene, most of the heart-stopping suspense would have been lost. Some of the things that slow down a story are:

- density of language and images,
- memories, dreams, flashbacks, stories within a story,
- repetition,
- rich memory detail and description,
- philosophical ruminations.

Many of the great, rambling 19th century blockbuster English and Russian novelists use long passages of slow narration. Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, the Bronze sisters, Thomas Hardy, Charles Dickens.

The incomparable Anton Chekov has written stories with scenes so slow and real they take your breath away. Contemporary writers like Marguerite Duras, James Salter, John Berger, Paul Harding, Muriel Barbery, Arundhati Roy are all masters of slow.

One of the most extreme examples of slow narration is James Joyce's Ulysses, which took 265,000 words to cover one day in Dublin.

What does this have to do with the rest of life?

Many of the world's great mystics have discovered that what appears to be the fast, gods, the floods, the storms, time, rain, rivers, heat, cold, breath, words, are forces we need to slow down to the pace of life. Breathe in, breathe out. Whether we're a like an artist or someone just doing our best to get through the day, we need slow times to be healthy and sane, so feel what there is to feel, to love who there is to love. So, perhaps winter (even March with its bad reputation) offers this gift. Slow down and smell the roses that aren't there yet. Slow down and read against the roses yet to come. Slow down and write something, or draw something, or sing something you wouldn't have time for in July.

(Adapted from a lecture given to graduate writing students at Stanford University's residency.MFA Program in Louisville, Kentucky.)

Reliving Apartheid

BY KEVIN ATTRA

Eleanor Morse is the author of several books, including On Uncertainty: Fossils, which won a 2008 Independent Publisher's Gold Medal and Best Published Fiction by the Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance.

Her latest novel, White Dog Fall from the Sky, describes the desperate struggle of a young medical student, Isaac Methethele, to flee apartheid South Africa in the 1970s, and his inescapable recaptures.

Isaac is essentially a naive young man without much conviction. Any good fortune that he trampled across seems lost on him; doom flutters around him like gazelles in an ill wind that blows from his homeland.

By chance, he finds shelter with an old school friend who turns out to be a militant member of the African National Congress engaged in guerrilla warfare against the apartheid regime.

On the advice of a stranger Isaac books a work permit pretending to be a gardener, and finds it with Alice Mendelssohn, a white woman so caught up in her own troubles that she seems invisible to Isaac.

The story is a beautifully woven tapestry of life in the fringes of society - the purloin of refugees, immigrants and ex-pats - in this case in Botswana where friendship and racial equality are as astonishing to Isaac as the horrors of apartheid are to us.

Morre lingerers over every moment with vivid detail. For instance, when Isaac starts walking home after spending an afternoon knocking on doors, looking for work, Morse makes a small journey.

"A truck passed on the road heading north, and a cloud of dust fell over their heads. Isaac left the road and walked up a footpath branching three ways. Fleas buzzed around a pile of gear droppings. A Toyota truck passed on the road, and then a Peugeot."

Morre was the rare writer who could lay down a taut, suspenseful drama without writing a word, yet craft each passage with the depth and power of a poet.

Morre shows a deep understanding of the struggle Africans had to be rid of the oppression and horror of the apartheid system. If you want to get a taste of what it was like, this is the book for you.

White Dog Fall from the Sky was released in January and is now available in book stores everywhere.

www.curtisbrown.co.uk/eleanor-morse/white-dog-fall-from-the-sky
So, How Did You Learn to Write Thrillers?

BY JAMES HAYMAN

Whenever I give a reading in a bookstore these days, I usually mention that when I began writing the first McCabe thriller, The Cutting, I had no prior experience writing fiction. I had never written so much as a single short story. Not even as an exercise in a college creative writing class.

When I say this, someone in the audience, often an aspiring mystery writer, inevitably asks, “So, how on earth did you manage, first time out, to write fiction without any prior experience writing fiction?”

“Well,” I respond truthfully, “I started by reading a bunch of how-to books on the craft of writing fiction. These included James Frey’s “How to Write a Damn Good Mystery,” “Writing and Selling Your Mystery Novel” by Hallie Ephron and “Write a Damn Mystery” by Tony and Ridley Scott, Eddie Macht and others.

Before going freelance, I worked as a copywriter and creative director at one of the top agencies in New York writing and producing those kinds of commercials for clients like the U.S. Army, Lincoln/Mercury and Merrill-Lynch.

At this point there’s usually a joke from the audience. “Advertising!” some wag will say, “I thought you said you’d never written fiction before.”

Having just lived through a political campaign where nearly everything the candidates claimed in their TV commercials was exaggerated to the point of being flat lies, I can do anything but smile, nod and agree.

“Well, I add, when the laughter finally dies down, “that’s not really my point. The truth is writing mini-movies like TV commercials is great training for writing, not just thrillers, but any kind of fiction.”

I believe that to be true, for three distinct reasons.

First, writing TV commercials teaches you to write dialogue. A lot of aspiring writers find it difficult to create believable dialogue. But, because so much of writing for film requires writing dialogue, eventually, if you have any kind of ear for how people speak (and I think I do), it starts to become easy.

All three of my books are dialogue-heavy; most of the stories are told through conversation, one character telling another what I want the reader to know. I imagine the same can probably be said about most of the books written by most of the other writers who have come out of ad agency backgrounds: James Patterson, Stuart Woods, Marcus Sakey, Ted Bell, Chris Grabenstein and many others.

The second important thing writing TV commercials teaches you is to think visually. You have to know where the important action is in your scene, and mentally write down exactly what it’s seeing.

For example, when I was writing commercials, I might have written a camera direction like: “Open on a long shot of a white sand beach on an overcast morning in September. We can see a calm ocean behind it. Camera moves in to reveal two people, a man and a woman, walking along the waterline. They’re both wearing white. Continue to show on their faces to medium close-up. Finally stop walking and look at each other. Continue move to tight close-up of their two faces.”

In my first book, The Cutting, this kind of camera direction was translated into the opening two paragraphs of an important chapter: “Had anyone been watching, the two figures would have appeared almost spectral. A man and a woman, both dressed in white, moving together across a transparent, early-morning emptiness, where sand blended into sea and sea into overcast sky without perceptible delineation.

“For a time, they seemed lost in thought, each looking down, each noting the prints their steps left behind in the sand. After a while they stopped and the woman turned toward her companion. She said, ‘I never knew he was a better in here as if you were watching it in person or on a screen, then writing what you saw helps the writing succeed.”

Finally, the third thing writing TV advertising teaches is to write tight. In a 60-second commercial you get roughly 120 words to tell your whole story. Beginning, middle and end. In a 30-second commercial you get even fewer words. In either case, every word counts. Not a single one can be wasted. It’s an important discipline I carry over well when writing fiction. Or, frankly, when writing anything else.

Those are the primary skills writing TV advertising gave me that helped me write all three of my books, The Cutting, The Chill of Night and my upcoming thriller, Darkness First. You don’t need to spend 20 years in an ad agency to get them. Just listen to how people talk, imagine what your scene looks like and don’t get wordy.

Having said all that, I have to add it doesn’t hurt to have an active imagination and a natural affinity for the English language.

Elizabeth George

All were helpful in teaching me the basics. How to structure a plot, how to build tension, how to shift points of view, and a number of other writerly techniques. “But,” I tell the audience, “I can’t honestly say they gave me the skills I needed to write and publish The Cutting.”

“Oh, okay, so what did?” my questioner asks.

“Well,” I say, “I’ve been a writer all my working life and managed to make a living at it, so guess writing comes naturally to me. It’s about the one thing I think I’m genuinely good at.”

The questioner still looks dubious.

“We had a health club membership when I worked in advertising for clients who, back in the 1980s and 1990s, wanted and could afford to pay to produce high-budget movie-like commercials shot on location by top-notch directors like Michael Bay, Joe Pika, Tony and Ridley Scott, Eddie"
It's tucked away amidst the archipelago of Casco Bay: Peaks, Little Diamond, Great Diamond - Cow - Little Chebeague, Great Chebeague. I went there as a girl in 1931 when I was 19. There was a house on Cow Island then, no running water or electricity, a well and two outbuildings: one an outhouse, one a summer kitchen.

I was an au pair working for Mrs. Dwight, Lenora Dwight, professor of classical studies at Beaver College. I went there as a girl in 1931 when I was 19.

You were lucky if you had enough money for apples or peanuts after you paid the rent. Men slept on straw beds in the sidewalks to keep warm. I had never seen anything like it, coming as I did from a small Pennsylvania town where poverty was discreet. So, this was plum, all summer long away from the city on an island in Maine, only two little children to tend.

Mrs. Dwight - although she said she could call her Lenora - only wanted clabber and raw caret for breakfast and lunch. The children had muffins with wild berries and oatmeal, and something filling for dinner.

The evening meal was always the same: A leg of lamb hung in the cool chamber of the stone well. - Mrs. Dwight felt lamb the most digestible meat - so every Sunday I roasted lamb, which we ate throughout the afternoon along with vegetables that came with groceries on the mail boat on Saturday.

Once a month, Mr. Dwight came for a long weekend. Stepping off the mail boat, his valise and briefcase he wore an amused and distracted air. In his suit pocket he had lemon balls for the children for Mrs. Dwight magazines and back issues of the New York Times Book Review.

He once had a question for me. He was an art historian and when he discovered I was the daughter of medical missionaries and born China he wanted to know what I knew about Chinese architecture during the Yuan Dynasty. When I confessed ignorance of the period all conversation ceased.

Actually, the children were as much my companions as I theirs. They were rugged little creatures, I was grateful for that. On such a small island it would have been insufferable if they'd been frail and dainty.

Theo and Zelda. Mrs. Dwight called Theo her "man-child". He was a sturdy 6-year-old with russet curls. She hugged and cuddled him in the morning, but otherwise let him be, and he and Zelda (all skinny and legs at 7, with long, honey blond hair that I braided) were let loose on the island to play.

Their feet grew rough hides and their cheeks brown and blushed. Mid-morn morning we all bathed in the icy bay and that was that. Mrs. Dwight felt salt toned the circulation.

They were adventuresome mites who loved to explore, so we spent our days jumping rocks, collecting shells and beach glass, picking berries. I sketched them and made up fanciful stories, illustrated with seashore motifs running in on the crested surf, with help tucked under their arms for water wings.

Mornings were mine. I'd set my alarm clock for 5:00 and put it under my pillow. When it rang I hurriedly dress, take my paints and run around the island to find a spot and paint until seven o'clock. Then I'd run to the summer kitchen and prepare clabber, raw caret, muffins and oatmeal. I felt boundless on that island, hemmed in by water and boundaries.

Once, a woman friend of Mrs. Dwight came to stay for three weeks, another Latin teacher from Philadelphia. Together they sat out on the rocks and read Catullus to one another. The sun shone on their fine arms and kindled the hair on their heads. Their eyes flashed. I often scrambled on the rocks with Theo and Zelda on the rocks.

At night after the little ones were in bed and I was in my own room, Mrs. Dwight and her friend lit the lamp in the living room. In a puddle of amber on the table lay the thin, green volume of Catullus. I had a sense of its leaves vibrating, thickening, growing lush, its voice and consonants lapping the shore. Mrs. Dwight's hand brushed back the hair from her face. For the first time I could call her Lenora - only wanted in my arms.

The island itself seemed set in amber: the children's bony limbs tangled in their sheets, the murmuring Latin, the alarm clock set for 5:00.

The house is gone now. In half a year I will be 80. But all is set in amber; my arms and breasts speckled, and everything smelling of salt and sea, surtine and life.

Thompson Johnson Woodworks

Serving the Island Communities of Casco Bay

15 Island Ave, Noble Island, ME 04108. 207-662-5919. www.thwood.com

Old Men Fishing From A Bridge

I saw old men fishing from a bridge.

Poles secured to the railing.

Five gallon buckets beside them.

Leaning on the railing.

Staring at the water.

I saw this at the end of the bridge.

Parked along the road were trucks.

real trucks - Chevys, Ford, Dodges, for this was Maine.

The old men watched, the inflowing tide.

The rattle of the wind on the water.

The eddies of flowing water, the tides slow rise.

They listened to the tern's cries, the eider's murmurs, the water's musical flow, the wind's voice.

Fishing is easy, catching a fish is hard.

Learning to fish is even harder.

The fisherman's hands tell of the lessons

calluses on thumb, scars from hook or spine

muscles on the wrist and arm

(from casting and reeling)

And his face, red and peeling now, squinting eyes.

weather darkened skin.

But none of these show the fisherman's Great lesson.

Patience!

Waiting for opening day

tide to change

weather to clear

wind to drop

temperature to rise or fall.

Then!

The squawking terns!

The swatting flashing water

moves closer!

Within casting distance!

Patience is repaid!

This day, beside the gray haired fisherman

a young boy, a grandson,

jers his pole and reels,

reels in with young, happy arms.

A mackerel

is to be admired

by seven old men.

The lesson has started

'Ve have started'

is easier to fish

catcher to catch a fish

harder to learn to fish

Water must be watched,

Birds and wind, and weather

a fisherman must learn time and tide

learn from squatting

into the sun and rain

But mostly a

lots of patience

The patience of old men

Fishing from a bridge.

- William R. Hindemer
From the FIFTH MAINE
What's in a Name?

BY KIM MACISAAC
FIFTH MAINE MUSEUM CURATOR

Among its many streets and places, Peaks Island boasts a number of names some familiar, some not. Where did the names come from? What do they mean? Here are some answers to a few of the most often asked questions.

The first Brackett emigrated from Scotland to Boston about 1629. His son, Thomas, married Anne Mitton (his other son, Anthony, married her sister, Elizabeth). Both women were granddaughters of George Cheve whose extensive landholdings included Peaks Island.

Thomas and Anne's granddaughter, Thankful, married Benjamin Trott and in 1762 became the island's first year-round residents, hence the names Brackett Avenue, Epps Street (named for Epps Brackett), Brackett Pond (owned by Wilder Brackett), and Sam Trott Road (recently renamed City View Road).

The Trefethen family (sometimes spelled Trefethan or Trefethern) arrived on Peaks about 1822, having come to Portsmouth and then to Monhegan from Cornwall, England. Under the auspices of Captain William S. Trefethen many roads bearing family names were built on his land. Trefethen Avenue, Prince Avenue (for his son Prince), Reed Avenue (for his grandson Reed) and Brimmer Road for Mary Trefethen Brimmer. Trefethen Landing marks the spot where the Trefethen wharf stood for over 100 years.

As originally laid out, the section of Seashore Avenue at Trefethen was called Skilling Avenue. It ran from Pleasant Avenue, between the Trefethen Homestead and the Biddle-A-Wee cottage, to the backshore just past the Ice Pond. Robert Skilling had acquired some of the Trefethen land when he married the Captain's daughter, Harriet Newell Trefethen, in 1842. A portion of this property is now ecessed as the Everett and Mildred Skilling Woods.

The Sterling family, also from Monhegan, purchased land downfront and at Evergreen in the early to mid-1800s. Elizabeth, Luther and Sterling Streets bear their names. Elizabeth and Luther were husband and wife, and lived in the Mansfield House on the corner of Elizabeth Street and Island Avenue. Evergreen cottages, built by the Sterlings, still sit on Sterling Row, now known as Cottage Road.

Tolman Heights was once the domain of Judge Tolman from Westbrook. His daughters, May and Laura, operated the Tolman Water Company during the summer, providing fresh water to 34 cottages in that part of the island.

Water was drawn from the artesian well that is now the comfortable home of Claudia Whitman. Older islanders may recall May as their history teacher at Portland High School. Tolman Road also bears the family name.

Over the years many street and place names have changed. Yet others have endured and serve as a link to those who were so important in the growth of our community.
It's a Living

Jailbirds on work and off the island

BY SUSAN HANLEY

Americans are an industrious lot, and Peaks Islanders are no exception. Some of us on work, some on the island. Some of us have one job, some have three. Some of us have part-time positions, some of us have full-time passions. But all of us are busy. Busy. Busy. Busy. Friday figuring out how inventive, resourceful ways to earn a living while enjoying island living.

Susan Hanley: You're both a pastor and a teaching principal. How do you maintain two full-time jobs?

Beau Boyle: It all dovetails. It's all intermingled. I look at the school as a ministry of the church, and there are many ministries that I oversee. I am not hands-on with every ministry. Our music ministry, I have no hands on because I'm not musically inclined. Our food ministry, there are two or three men that handle that. This just happens to be a ministry that I'm heavily involved with. I'm the leader and a teacher.

What did you do in New Jersey?

Beau Boyle: My father was a teacher and headed to the mainland.

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Recipes & Ramblings

BY SHEILA REISER

Did you know that you can eat your Christmas tree? Resisting the urge to write about cookies, and realizing that you probably already have many more recipes and cooking plans than you have time to execute around the holidays, I decided to devote my column this month to something simple you can make for yourself.

I found them all fairly easy to identify, once I learned a few key characteristics. If you’re interested in learning more about trees in our area I highly recommend Forest Trees (Maine). I am going to concentrate on pines, though, simply because they’re a personal favorite of mine.

Pines have slender needles about two to six inches long that grow in clusters. As I learned in Girl Scouts, white pine is the only species here to have needles in clusters of five. Five letters in the name “white” is how I have remembered it for all of these years.

Other native species of pines in Maine are balsam, pitch pine, and jack pine but white pine is the most common, (there are around three hundred distinct species worldwide). It is the state tree of Maine, and the reason we’re known as the “Pine Tree State.”

Pines have been important for use as ship’s masts, and for lumber and pulp. For thousands of years before that, however, pines were an essential food source for the native peoples of this continent.

According to Bradford Angier’s Field Guide to Edible Wild Plants, the name “Adirondack” literally means “tree eater.” The needles, green cones, piths (or pine rats), pollen and inner bark are all edible, inner bark being the most important as a food source.

My field guide recommends boiling the inner bark in strips, but I have enjoyed it more by toasting it lightly into a slightly sweet, aromatic tasting chips.

Here’s where I insert my disclaimer. Please do not eat anything from the wild unless you are sure you have properly identified it and are sure it is safe.

I will also say, though, that none of Maine’s 13 native species of needle leaves is highly toxic. (The yew is an introduced variety and aside.)

If you decide to gather tree needles or any other wild food, please remember to take only what you need, leave enough for others to enjoy, and harvest in a way that causes least harm to the plant and its ecosystem.

I have tried teas made from pine, spruce, fir, hemlock and cedar, but white pine tea remains my favorite. Along with the vitamin C, pine, spruce, fir, and eastern hemlock (all in the family “piinacea”) have other wonderfully nourishing properties which, according to my aforementioned teacher, include phytochemicals that are demineralizing, antifungal and toning to the digestive system.

Some people find hemlock especially to be a relaxant aid. (Don’t worry – poison hemlock is a completely different thing, not a tree but a leafy plant related to Parthenium.)

Whether or not you place stock in any of these properties, it’s hard to argue the benefit you can gain from a brief retreat outdoors and the ritual of preparing a warm beverage on a cold day. If you have a wood stove like me, you might take a moment as you sip your pine tree tea to reflect that trees were the first richer source of energy in the mainland, and you might get inside as well as out.

I wish you a wonderful and self-nourishing holiday season.

Many thanks to Mike Douglas from the Maine Primitive Skills School (praisewovenkifs.com) for sharing his knowledge of the medicinal properties of trees and for editing my article for accuracy.

Pine Tree of Maine is published by the Maine Forest Service (maineforests.org) and is a favorite of mine because of its easy-to-use keys for summer and winter as well as fantastic photos of tree specimens.

Shelia is an adventurer, an artist, a pretty good cook and a haphazard gardener. She has lived on Peaks Island for three years. Contact her with your ideas, comments and questions at 266-thee@me.com or call her cell phone (503) 440-0871. Or you can just knock on her door and introduce yourself.

Pine Tree Tea

Pour boiling water over a good handful of white pine needles and steep 15 to 20 minutes to allow maximum infusion of the beneficial properties from the needles. Have fun experimenting with different amounts, brewing times and types of tree needles to find your favorite combination. Try adding other herbs to space it up or round out the flavor if you like.

Nana’s Pfeffernuss Cookies

1 cup brown sugar
1 cup flour
1 egg
2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp ground cloves
Ground nutmeg
Ground allspice
Pinch of salt

Cook the raisins in alcohol until plump and soft. Mix the following ingredients. Add the flare, cinnamon, baking soda, salt and mix well. Add raisins, dates, and nuts until just combined. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto cookie sheets. Bake at 350° F approximately 12 minutes until lightly browned. I made these last winter and called Nana, disappointed that they didn’t taste nearly as good as hers. She advised me to put them in a container, leave them overnight, and try again the next day. Sure enough, that did the trick. As Nana said, “some things only get better with age.”
The Gem Gallery The Gem Gallery, located at 3707 Congress Street, is an art/artist cooperative of over 25 individuals in media of painting, drawing, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, photography, printmaking, assemblage, fiber arts and writing. Please call 766-6088 for more information.

Doddwell Gallery SOMETHING WEREDOWNED Other people's art, donated by art lovers throughout the bay. For more information, contact guest curator Carolyn Gaudet at 707-567-2410. The Doddwell Gallery is located on the corner of Congress Street and the Long Island Learning Center on Gorham Avenue, Long Island, hours follow the library schedule. Info: 766-2530, http://library.long-island.lib.mi.us.

Addison Wooley Gallery TRAVELS WITH EDDIE & OTHER SURPRISES a very personal and poignant glimpse into that relationship that he has spanned over decades. At the heart is a family video of Eddie (Firestone) eating. He had just been diagnosed with cancer - not a pretty sight, and VISUAL WHISPERS a collection of small random images by Dan Dow, who travels frequently and is never without his camera. Opens Jan 4, thru Jan 26. Dedicated to the art of photography, the Addison Wooley Gallery features work by local artists as well as internationally and nationally recognized photographers, located at 172 Washington Avenue (at the corner of Gorham St.), Portland. For more info call (207) 847-6727 or (207) 450-8899, or visit www.addisonwooleygallery.com. info@addisonwooleygallery.com. Thru Feb. 17.

Richard Boyd Gallery NEW YEAR: WORKS BY JEFF REID A selection of original paintings in oil, acrylic, watercolor, tinted ink created by artist Wyen Foland, Jay Libbey, Bob Santamaria, Jim Cahalan and Jeanne O'Toole Haymilton. Opens Jan 8, thru Feb. 17. Richard Boyd, Art Gallery is located on Peaks Island at the corner of Island Avenue and Eyepe Street, first building on the right. The gallery exhibits original 20th and 21st century works of art by established and emerging artists with ties to Maine, working primarily in the media of painting, sculpture, pottery and glass. An art establishment in a place that's in harmony with nature, with a focus on iconic art and pottery is located on the second floor. The gallery is open Friday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Extended hours are by appointment or chance.

Paris Park by Dan Dow, from Visual Whispers at the Addison Wooley Gallery thru Jan 26.

Maine Seascapes, acrylic painting in miniature By Wyen Foland, at the Boyd Gallery thru Feb 17.

For additional information please contact curator Pamela Willson at 207-712-1937 or via email at info@addisonwooleygallery.com, or visit www.addisonwooleygallery.com.

The Fifth Maine The Fifth Maine is a non-profit museum and cultural center housed in the 1888 Fifth Maine Regiment Memorial Hall, dedicating the Fifth Maine, a Civil War and local history. Membership is open to the public. The museum is currently closed for the season. For more information please contact Kimberly Macbace at kimacbace@fifthmaine.com or call 207-766-3550.

The Eighth Maine The Eighth Maine is dedicated to the history of Peaks Island as a summer retreat for the Civil War veterans. It features 12 rooms for overnight guests and history filled, guided tours daily from 11am until 4pm during summer season. Visit www.8maine.org for more info or to make reservations. Closed in winter.

Brackett Church Open Hearts, Open Doors, Open Minds: We are a Welcoming, Inclusive, Reconciling Congregation. 9 Church Street, Peaks Island. Pastor: Angels Turbon; 707-366-5011; Adams, Amin, Marvonne Thompson: www.portlandchurchofchrist.org. SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:30 a.m. with children, and followed by Informal Fellowship gathering in the church hall. SCRIPTURE STUDY Tuesdays, 8:10am. Call Beth Childs at 766-7431 for info. PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Tuesdays, 12:30-3:30p.m. at the parsonage. All are welcome! FOOD PANTRY at Brackett Church Monday, 3-6 p.m., Thursday, 9:15a.m.-11:45a.m.; YOUTH PROGRAMS After School for grades 4-7, Mondays and Thursdays, 2:30-4:30. TUEFENS Friday 11 a.m. 18 & 19. 6:15-9:15. Girl SCOUTS Tuesdays, 3:45-5:15p.m., Tuesday, Jan 17 & 24, 11-15. Call Diane Riccioni 766-5183 for info. CHILDREN’S CHURCH has room for children who love to sing. Contact Monarchorn Thompson for info. ALL—CHURCH MEETING Saturday, Jan 26 from 9:10-noon. We are taking a new approach to the way we do things and would love to have your input.

Cliff Island Readers here is the list of dates and books for the next few months. Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Little’s House at 7:30 p.m. Some people had a problem getting a copy of the books so we decided to have three copies of each book available at the library, hopefully that will help. Jan 17 • Home: A Short History of Purpose (by Bill Bryson) Feb 28 • Aboriginal Basketry: The Basketmaker's Education of a Relaxation Gift by Barbara Humblot, Mar 25 • Fiddler on the Roof by Norman Lear, April 25 (at Leo’s House) The Block Head by Honoré Balsac. As always, all are welcome.

Peaks Island Library Winter Weather Offer: As in years past, when winter weather or other unforeseen circumstances may housebound, the library can arrange delivery of books, magazines, CDs, and movies to your door. Call a call of 766-3443 to reserve a book. First Tuesdays Book Discussion 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Jan 8 • The Whole Skin: a Memoir of Tumors by Martha Peterson, March 5 • Huckebery by Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), April 2 • The High Mules Adventures of Blue Dog for President by Scott Nadel; May 7 • Once Upon a Time by Peter Diamandis and Steven Kolle. June 4 • Whoopi Goldberg’s To Tell the Truth. Books will be on loan from March 25 to May 2.

Portland Recreation on Peaks Island Denise Marcarian, Peacemaker Program Coordinator (207) 766-2910 or email desmarcarian@portlandme.gov to leave a message at 766-2970. Denise works just part time on Peaks Island - Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please note: To reserve space and equipment in the community building, you must contact Denise at least two days in advance. You may view the facility schedule at www.portlandme.gov/recreation/Dhaliwalspacebooking. All reservations must be made through Denise. If interested in receiving Portland Recreation’s 55+ monthly calendar, March 21 • Beach Blanket Bingo. 7:00 pm at the Peaks Island Community Center. Tables for ADULTS only. March 28 • Wiffe It Up. Miniature handball, 10:00 am at the Peaks Island Community Center. April 4 • Easter Egg Hunt. 10:00 am in the Peaks Island Community Center. April 25 • Mother’s Day Brunch. 10:00 am at the Peaks Island Community Center.

Ashland Yoga Class Sundays at 9am in Betsy Stout’s Studio. While it can be a vigorous practice, it is always continuously modified for each student. Approximately 75 minutes. First class FREE; $12 per class thereafter. Questions? Call Autonia 766-2482 or email auntia.stout@yahoo.com.

Childrens Workshop We are now accepting applications for children ranging from ages 0-5. Call 707-366-2554 or email annietenetediaholic@yahoo.com.

Community Food Pantry House: in the Bridgemark Memorial Church Mondays on 1:00 pm to 5:00pm, and Thursdays 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Cash donations are especially helpful as it allows us to provide clients with 10 Hannings’ vouchers for fresh fruits, vegetables and other sundries. Make checks out to Peaks Island Food Pantry. For more information, please call Susan Hanley at 766-2735.

Peaks Island Health Center Our winter center hours are April 1st - May 1st from 9:30AM to 1:30PM. Please call 766-2529 or 874-2466 to make an appointment.

Food Supplement Benefit Outreach Program Donna' Hoppe, Community Organizer for the Maine Hunger Initiative, will help people determine eligibility and apply in a confidential setting. Call 773-0026 (extension 1064) for appt., or Susan Hanley, 766-2735, for info.

The Dugout A supportive place and time where you can talk and listen to others listen over a cup of coffee and a glass of wine. Thrus, Frs & Sun from 7-9pm. Enjoy music and light refreshments. Dress casual. Meet our other members. All are welcome! Contact the Reverend Greg Anderson for more information: 207-766-4411ext 44.

Loretta Voyer Fund provides transportation needs for Peaks Islanders who are undergoing aggressive therapy for cancer or other life-altering illnesses. Please contact a fund board member for detailed information, Judy Fawlesock, Jerry Garman, Melissa Consal, Kelly McCarthy, Jim Thomas, Suellen Roberts, and Michelle Mahoney at 766-7161 or email info@lorrettavoyer.org.

Peaks Island CERT Winter brings with it wood burning and gas burning hazards which can lead to home fires. The Fire and Emergency Response Team wants to remind you that now is a good time to check those alarm detectors for fire and carbon monoxide as well as simple extension cords that should not be longer than 30 feet. Extension cords are a leading cause of home fires and you can check their extension cord rules for electric heaters and other appliances. They’re dangerous! Check safety rules at www.portlandme.gov/Recreationemergencyresponse. Find our Peaks Island CERT members’ tools for more information, call Albert Blais at 766-6007 or 781-962-2661.

TWEENS: Feb 5 THRU APRIL 28 (at Leo’s House) The block head by Honoré Balsac. As always, all are welcome.
Thursdays, Jan 10
KNIT, CHAT and BYO LUNCH
Stop by the PI community room between 10:45 am and 12:45 pm to knit (or crochet) hats and scarves for charity. This program will continue into next year. Materials available; yarn donations always welcome. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

BEAT CABIN FEVER: LEARN A NEW CRAFT 100-200 p.m., in community room. Today's activity will be learning a new craft (or crafting). Everyone welcome—previous experience not necessary. If you would like to teach a craft in the future, please let Denise know. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Monday, Jan 14
BINGO YUN 10:00-2:00 p.m., in the community room. Have fun and lots of laughs as we play BINGO for prizes (possibly “gifts”!): If you would like to bring “prizes,” please do so. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Tuesday, Jan 15
PAJAMA PARTY at the Peaks Island library for children 5-8 years old. Come at 6:30 pm in your PJs and listen to bedtime stories read by Mrs. Crowley-Rockwell. There will be milk and cookies, and children can be home by bedtime.

Thursday, Jan 17
KNIT, CHAT and BYO LUNCH Stop by the PI community room between 10:45 am and 12:45 pm to knit (or crochet) hats and scarves for charity. This program will continue into next year. Materials available; yarn donation always welcome. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

BEAT CABIN FEVER: “MYSTERY” TEA Meet in the community room at 1:00 pm. We are lucky enough to have a winter “mystery” tea! Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Sign-up sheet on Denise’s door (bring you as you enter the community building). Enjoy an hour of socializing somewhere on the island. If you would like to host a “mystery” tea, please let Denise know. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Monday, Jan 28
GATHERING at PEAKS CAFÉ 11:00 am for breakfast or 11:30 am for lunch. Everyone welcome! Pre-registration appreciated—sign-up sheet on Denise’s bulletin board (facing you as you enter the community room). Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Friday, Feb 1
SHOWING of DOCUMENTARY “HARDWATER” 2:15-3:30 p.m., in community room. Enjoy playing such games as Scrabble, Scattergories and word puzzles. Everyone welcome! Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dlr@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Monday, Feb 11
SENIOR POT LUCK LUNCHEON noon at the Fay Cameron House. All seniors welcome. If you’re not a senior, come anyway!

Tuesday, Feb 12
HEARTS A PLENTY a Valentine program of stories and a craft by Mrs. Crowley-Rockwell geared toward 5-8 year olds, the program begins at 10:30 am.

Monthly Caption Contest: Each month we offer a new Brio image having no caption so that you can make one up. Below is next month’s cartoon. Send your ideas to ico@islandtimes.org and we’ll publish the best. See page 6 for last month’s winner.

 Subaru to the many islanders who have given us cash donations during this holiday season. This allows us to provide Hannigan’s gift certificates for fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy, bread and meat. If you have any questions about the food pantry, please call Susan Hanley, 766-2735. Thanks for your continued support.

Loretta Voyer Fund

The participants of the annual Loretta Voyer craft fair would like to thank the island for helping them support the Loretta Voyer Fund and the Island Taxi. Table fees in the amount of $480 were donated to the Loretta Voyer Fund, and the raffle proceeds in the amount of $995 were donated to the Island Taxi. What an incredible turnout!

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