Island Times, Jun 2008

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**Long Annual Town Meeting**

BY KEVIN ATTRA

In an appeal election, Brad Brown defeated Selectman Ruth Peterson for her position on the Board of Selectmen at Long Island's annual town meeting May 10. Following an initial vote that resulted in no clear winner among the four people running for office, two candidates dropped out and a second vote was conducted in which Brown won with seventy-nine votes to Peterson's fifty-nine. A majority of the vote went to Brown for her position on the Board of Selectmen.

Some casualties of the town meeting elections were Article 4, a controversial motion to change the appointed positions of Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Treasurer into elected offices, and Article 58, concerning the allowance of accessory buildings in the shoreline zone. According to Selectman Michael Floyd, the defeat of Article 58 means the town will have to spend next year repairing its relationship with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), who recommended passage of the measure. Some members of the community felt that the DEP's presence would infringe too much on the rights of landowners in the use of their property. Floyd said that the Planning Board will have to develop a new plan, which, no doubt, will involve generating another ordinance to bring before the town at next year's meeting.

Almost all of the other proposed articles were accepted unanimously. A majority of the residents voted to spend next year repairing unused equipment.

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**A Perfect Memorial Day**

The South Portland Memorial Middle School band stays cool in the shade while it gets ready for the parade. For more photos, go to page 15.

**Boats Banned at Jones Landing For Reggae Sundays**

BY KEVIN ATTRA

In an effort to resolve a conflict with Mainers concerning the Jones Landing restaurant and liquor license, owner Robin Clark met with members of Portland's Public Safety Committee, Portland Harbor's Board of Directors, and Mike Bury of the City Manager's office, on May 7. The meeting resulted in an agreement to post signs and run the docks at the Landing in order to prohibit boaters from tying up during Reggae Sunday. The music festival, which takes place every Sunday at the restaurant throughout the summer, is controversial on Peaks Island where residents must contend with the noise and the crowds of drinkers each week.

The conflict arose in April when Harbor Manager Jeff Clark complained that Reggae Sunday was causing drinking-related boating incidents in the harbor. Both police and Casco Bay ferry workers have said they've seen unusual problems caused by the event. Removal of the license has been deferred until sometime in June while the complaint is being investigated.

Despite Clark's complaint, from people who park on their boats while they're tied up at the landing during the festival, and at the May 7 meeting she said she doesn't believe anyone from the docks during the event. "There's only so much I can do," said Clark, "and it's not fair to people who can't put out an anchor and drink on their boat."

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**Peaks Island Council Addresses Parking & Housing Controversies**

BY KEVIN ATTRA

The results of the parking survey, designed and conducted by the Peaks Island Council (PIC) in February, were presented in a fifteen-page report by Tom Roban at the public forum workshop, May 18, and again at the regular meeting on May 19. At the close of the presentation, Council Member Lynne Richard summed up the results, saying, "If I may exaggerate, we need 600 parking spaces and we've got only the bare minimum." In the subsequent discussion on street and surface lot parking in the area of the Casco Bay Lines terminal, it was noted that the new high-speed commuter ferry complex (the CAF) facility has a large surface parking lot that remains largely vacant during the off-season period. As it turns out, the City of Portland cannot lease any of the spaces owing to an agreement it made with the developer of the new Longfellow parking garage. Riverview LLC.

This agreement, by which the city cannot lease any available parking in the vicinity of the new garage until the garage has reached capacity, was intended to assuage Riverside's concern that demand for the new facility might not be enough to make building it worthwhile; a condition that may have seemed unrealistic in the real estate market when it was made. But today, as the city flounders in debt and the garage, while nearing completion, still remains largely vacant, this agreement has effectively nullified representation by the City Council and created a parking lot wasteland on the waterfront.

After learning about this at the May 18 workshop, someone in the audience asked, "Do we have a free market, or does the government interfere here?" Audience and council members alike responded almost simultaneously with "No!"

Garage construction has also eliminated some of the private parking lots in the area. Those remaining at this point, according to Chair Mike Langella, include the lots at Miccans's Grocery Store, the former Indian Meats facility, the Great Trunk building at the corner of India and Commercial, and the most distant Fisherman's Wharf on Commercial Street. "The trend is for available parking to move farther and farther away from Casco Bay Lines," said Langella, "and we estimate that there are only 125 parking spaces left on the streets nearest to the ferry terminal."

At the PIC public forum held April 18, supporters and critics of HomeStreet battled it out over the alleged terms of an agreement between the organization and a concernant, Avesta Corporation, concerning the development of low-income housing in the neighborhood of Luther and Elizabeth Streets. A letter was sent to the Board of HomeStreet in February by residents of the neighborhood, which presented several arguments against the project. However, members of HomeStreet's Board of Directors have since argued that these criticisms are based on inaccurate information.

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**PIC Chair Mike Langella (center right) speaking at the public forum workshop on May 18, 2008 at the Community Center. Photo by Kevin Attra**

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**Boats belly up to the docks at Jones Landing Memorial Day weekend for Reggea Sunday. Despite the heat, there was little owner Robin Clark could do to stop them. Photo by Ronda Dale**
LINES FROM CASCO BAY LINES
BY CHRIS HOPPEN

Since being elected in November to the Board of the Casco Bay Island Transit District, which operates the Casco Bay Lines, I have heard from many islanders with a wide range of questions. These include the obvious problems of rising fuel costs leading to higher ticket charges, as well as issues about lower costs. After transportation expenses, the ferry service uses revenues from ticket sales, freight fees, vehicle transportation, and government grants to offset costs of staff, equipment, fuel and facilities.

When the Board formally adopted the round-trip fuel surcharge for May 1, it did so with the commitment to thoroughly review the costs and revenues associated with its services, in order to determine if there should be some modifications after years of changing ticket prices through public committee meetings and hearings. The Transit District has hired an experienced outside consultant to conduct this study. It should be completed in time for use by the Rate Structure Committee (RSC) and Board in determining changes for the 2009 winter service schedule.

I think it should also be pointed out that there are other issues of fairness that have been raised. Some people 'bend' or 'break' the rules that the rest of us follow, unfairly causing all of the rest of us to pay more as we use the ferry. Here are some examples of issues that are being discussed.

In our rate structure, vehicles with commercial license plates are charged a higher rate and most commercial businesses pay that higher rate. Unfortunately, several businesses are taking advantage of this situation by not registering vehicles used for commercial transportation with commercial plates. This is not fair to those businesses that follow the rules. It also costs the Ferry system and all other travelers real money every day.

Shopping carts are a regular part of island life, but we all know travelers who take un-necessarily and potentially dangerous freight in their carts rather than pay for freight shipments. That is not fair to other passengers and has led to many discussions about limiting shopping carts. The few cart users who abuse the system are causing difficulty for the rest of the cart users who follow safe practices.

Household pets are another category of freight that sometimes find themselves in a questionable or grey area. Some owners put their pets in shopping carts rather than pay for a pet ticket. This practice is unfair to other owners who do not; and it also adds to the ticket prices that all of us pay.

In a survey conducted last year it was found that most people who use a water taxi service to get to the islands do so for convenience when regular ferry service is not available. But because round trip tickets are only collected in Portland, this has led to complaints that water taxi passengers returning to Portland have not paid their fair share.

The RSC considered switching to one-way tickets to offset this imbalance, but after considerable debate and discussion, concluded that it was not clear that the number of free rides "would be worth the extra administration cost and customer inconvenience for one-way ticketing at this time. However, the ferry line plans to obtain an electronic fare-recording system that may make one-way ticketing possible in the not-too-distant future. That system may also offer opportunities for quantity discounts not available today.

In conclusion, the 'bottom line' of Casco Bay Lines relies on many sources of revenue to offset costs. Charges for tickets, freight vehicles, pets and mail all contribute to our revenues. So too do contributions from other sources like government grants. Our business operates very carefully with literally thousands of sample transactions throughout the year. Each and every one of them adds up to our combined revenue that we rely on to operate successfully and break even.

Whenever any one person doesn't pay his or her fair share of costs like the rest of us do, we all must pay more.

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For the love of Peaks!

The following is an account, in Gene Taylor's own words, of his early life on Peaks Island. It is part of a project called "For the Love of Peaks," a collection of stories by and about the people of Peaks Island that Fran Houston is compiling.

AS TOLD TO FRAN HOUSTON

Peaks Island once had a merry-go-round, roller rink, bandstand, bowling alley, shooting gallery, the Dayburn Casino for dancing and other places of amusement during its heyday as the "Coney Island of Maine." But did you also know about the Oceanside Country Club? It was a small recreation center catering exclusively to teenagers on Peaks. It lasted for several years, starting in the summer of 1959, and was located on what is now known as "Pine Point." This recreation site began when three restless teenage boys started searching for a place to hang out and be away from the supervision of parents and adult neighbors. They were Donald "Gerry" Kennedy, Danny Turtle, and myself, Gene "Nine" Taylor. We chose this quiet spot to build a "place" for ourselves near our homes, but still removed from them. Each of us had younger brothers who could carry or threaten to become laborers for the cause. Danny had a large family and his house had a lot of old building materials lying around the yard. Gerry was creative and energetic, he had access to my father's old Ford cart to transport building materials. We gathered lumber from Danny's yard, "liberated" an outhouse at the army fort for its boards, and stole paint from inside the twenty foot hallway that announced the entrance to Greenwood Garden which had recently been moved by the then new Lions Club to the vicinity of the Playhouse building. Our construction project began in the spring.

The structure was situated a little left of a straight line from the neck that connected to the mainland and far back toward the water. We made a frame of 2 by 4's and the floor of 2 by 6's. The shape was rectangular with a ridge pole running the length of the building so rain would run off either side of the sloping roof. We covered the exterior boards with black tar paper, milled up with hundreds, maybe thousands, of roiling nails. The single door was at the end facing the neck to the mainland. We painted its outer side bright red.

I cannot recall the building's dimensions; however, a description of the interior furnishings should give one a pretty good idea of the size. Getting through the door, a six-footer could easily stand upright. Straight ahead was a wood stove set against the back wall. There was a cot along each side of the room leaving about a four foot aisle between them from the door to the stove. There was about four feet between the ends of the cots and the end walls. This left enough room at each end of the building so we could play ping pong. To do this we moved two washing machines inside and laid a big piece of plywood across them. One player at the far end by the door had a pretty good room to maneuver. The other at the other end was often backed up to the stove. This was a handicap, but not dangerous since the stove was not used in the summer. In the fall and spring when the stove was in use, watch out, Basketball, golf, and our self-invented game "hockey-soccer-beach ball" were other sports one could play at the Oceanside country club.

Gene Taylor standing near the former site of the Oceanside Country Club

Have you lived on Peaks for a long time? Do you have a Peaks Island story to tell of memories from childhood or that illustrates why you love living here? Please email or call Fran Houston. She has already heard some great stories and she wants to hear yours. Fran: homes@hotmail.com or call 766-3286.

Race for First Ice Cream of the Season

Race for First Ice Cream of the Season

May 3 on Peaks Island was a special day for the young ones because the candy store opened its doors at last, and so began the new season. Ten kids stood patterned under grey over skies waiting anxiously for the doors to open at noon, in an age-old race to get the first ice cream of summer. The clear front runner was 12 year old Mike Proia, who had been there since 7:40 a.m. to take the lead for the third year in a row. Another three-year veteran of the race, ten year old Johnny Stang stood around from 7:00 a.m. in second place along with James Simon, 3 years old, who waited with his granite. Other place holders included Ray Morkeme, 9 years old (2nd year waiting), and Ob Morkeme, 12 (14th year waiting), James Mitchell, Dustin DuBuisson, 11, and siblings Carleigh, Grace, and Caroline MacLeod. And 5 were all three year veterans of the race as well. When asked why they wanted to wait out in the rain on that cold morning they simply said it's tradition to get the first ice cream of the year. And everyone wins.

With evident pride, Daisy Braun shows off her mammoth soft-swirl cone with rainbow sprinkles

LEFT: Demonstrating that pain is often mixed with pleasure, owner Ron Sinicki taunts the boys by savoring his own ice cream in the shop window moments before opening the store

BELOW: 3-year old James Simon, who placed third in the race for ice cream, apparently could care less about anything else at this point
**Well Done PINA**

By TERRY GABMAN

On Mar. 31, 2008 at 7:41 p.m. a small group of people met on Centennial Street for the last formal meeting of PINA (Pine Island Neighborhood Association). In attendance were six directors, including our first President Kay Taylor, past President Joe Kane and current President Don Webster. It was a somber meeting, with a single item on the agenda: to dissolve the organization. The motion, stating "the Peaks Island Neighborhood Association is hereby dissolved" was introduced, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. We joined in a wine toast to this special organization and to our late Treasurer Walter Schneider. Since 1988, PINA served as a forum for public discussion and enlightenment concerning island problems and opportunities, and as a place for the City of Portland to take our pulse, address our issues and disseminate information. To all who have served on the PINA Board of Directors, to those who have served on committees, and to those who have attended the meetings: thank you from a grateful island.

**And That's Another Thing!**

By THOMAS BOIAN

Although he did not say "Everyone talks about the weather, but no one does anything about it," Mark Buei said tackle weather in The American Climatist (1891). In it he asserted at the outset that there would be no weather in the text that followed while assuring benefit readers that weather could be found in the appendix, which he entitled "Weather for Use in This Book." Selected from the Best Authorities.

I'm reminded of this whenever read tirations on solving some world or local problem that begin with "there is no magic bullet," or "there is no perfect solution," or something equally patronizing to the reader. Let us agree (does anyone disagree?) that regardless of the problem, there is never a magic bullet, (whatever that is), or a perfect solution. Do the sages who use such qualifying statements (those-cleartings, really), believe that if they didn't, then their proposed solutions would be attacked for not being magically perfect? Following Twain's approach, let those meaningless platitudes get tucked into a separate packet, to be made available on request to those readers who hunger for them. Thank you for reading this in the next time you encounter this type of foldered. I suspect that it will be the next time you read the newspaper or listen to the talking heads.

Having long been limited to naming only to my companions about the pious nonsense that assuages us daily; I am grateful to the editor/publisher of the Island Times for permitting me to broadcast my whining to its many readers. As a daily purveyor of the Portland Press Herald (suspected moron: If it happened in Portland, it's news to us?) I should have no trouble in generating a daily, let alone a monthly column. Which is not to say that more exalted newspapers such as the New York Times are innocent of perpetrating nonsense. And, certainly, there are, as the Mexicans say, tantiones fisted at us from all kinds of sources. For example, does anyone know when "issue" replaced "problem," and why? My unverified theory is that Microsoft, loath to admit that its software had problems, began to promulgate sentences such as "That is a known issue with the software." How long can it be before we begin hearing about issues in response to saying "Thank you." I'll then, a problem is a problem is a problem, not an issue. Bah!

I hope this will introduce yoga to beginners and also to inspire current practitioners to deepen their practice. These exercises are designed for people at all levels of proficiency.

My intention for this column is to introduce yoga to beginners and also to inspire current practitioners to deepen their practice. These exercises are designed for people at all levels of proficiency.

**YOGA FOR LIFE**

A yogic perspective on health and simple living

BY REBECCA JOHANNA STEPHANS

It is the first in an on-going series of instructional exerscises Ms. Stephens has designed for anyone interested in practicing yoga. These excercises are designed for people at all levels of proficiency.

My intention for this column is to introduce yoga to beginners and also to inspire current practitioners to deepen their practice. These exercises are designed for people at all levels of proficiency. If they didn't, then their proposed solutions would be attacked for not being magically perfect!

**Intention:**

Begin your practice with a moment of stillness in which you affirm your intention to practice with compassion and mindfulness.

**Twist:**

Sit comfortably tall with both feet on the floor. Reach your right arm across to the outside of your left thigh, and hold onto the chair. Drape your left arm over the back of the chair. Tug gently with your right arm as you twist your torso to the left and take several deep breaths. If you feel any strain, unwind a bit. Repeat on the other side.

**Side Bend:**

Sit comfortably tall with both feet on the floor. Relax your right arm at your side, or tuck your hand under the seat of the chair. Raise your left arm. Looking straight ahead, bend gently to the right, keeping both sitting bones firmly on the seat. Hold for several deep breaths. Repeat on the other side.

**Arch:**

Sit comfortably tall with both feet on the floor. Either drape both arms over the back of the chair, or raise both arms up overhead. Lift your rib cage gently up as your shoulders draw back and down. This will stretch the front of your torso and create a safe space for your heart. Let your spine round forward, and rest your forearms on your thighs. If you are already more flexible, let your torso rest along your thighs. Hold for several breaths and then unfurl slowly.

**Pause:**

To complete your practice, sit comfortably, close your eyes, and feel the effects of your movements. If it resonates with you, give thanks for your practice and that it enhance your well-being.

Rebecca Johanna Stephens, Kripalu Certified Yoga Teacher since 1994, has 21 years experience in the healing arts.
At the landing, none of the boat owners were aware of the Harbor Master's complaints, and only one, who called himself Dan Foster, knew about the docking prohibition. Foster said that Clark had come down to the landing when he pulled up and asked him not to dock them, but “what could she do?” As a boat owner, he was opposed to the docking fees. Clark said that the Coast Guard's attempts to shift responsibility for law enforcement onto the community were unsuccessful. “How can you have someone tell you no, I don't want someone telling me I can't sail here on my own boat.”

Staff on board the Machigonne II car ferry said they hadn't seen any problems arising from the event, and were unaware of any complaints by the Harbor Master. Police Officer Haley, who provides crowd control for Casco Bay Lines during the festival, also said he has never had a problem arising from Reggae Sunday. In the two years he's been assigned to it. He was aware of complaints by the Harbor Master, but believed the City Council would renew Jones Landing's liquor license. "If there are problems, he said, "there is the Old Port, not here, and there's nothing (Jones Landing) can do about that.”

On Peaks Island, one resident complained that the police force has a poor working relationship with the islands CERT staff in responding to emergencies. The letters sent to police department restating the Peaks Island force last month with eight new officers, and Boban is meeting with them regularly to help resolve this and other concerns the community has with the department. Previously in response to complaints island police have said they are performing their duty on Peaks Island exactly as they would on the mainland, and Boban wishes to impress upon them that police tactics used in the city are not always applicable on the island.

For information and profiles about the new police force, please go to the Island Times website at [www.islandtimes.org](http://www.islandtimes.org) and click off New Peaks Island Police Force.

Quilt Raffle Set for Labor Day

Six members of the Peaks Island Knitting Club display the "Handmade for HOMESTART" quilt created by eighteen islanders as a fundraiser for affordable housing. "We received over a hundred items before Labor Day so that islanders and visitors will have more time to purchase raffle tickets," said Joyce Landry.
Peaks CERT

Gets Retrained

BY CHRIS HOPPEN

Portland firefighters Cpt. Dave Jackson, Lt. Gary Flamondon and Firefighter/Pamedic John Martell took fourteen volunteers of the Peaks Island Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) through a 4-hour re-training course on April 26, to bring them up to date with new information about disaster preparedness, emergency first aid, and fire extinguisher training at the Peaks Community Center and Fire Station.

The island's CERT members who participated in the re-training session are Al Bloise, Jay Desmond, Jerry Garman, Barbara and Chris Hoppin, Angie and Jon Kelso, Ken Milder, Margo Powers, Minna Sorell-Bean, and Kay and Gene Taylor, Sam Saltonstall and Monica Stevenson.

The Peaks Island CERT was established by the Portland Fire Department in 2003 as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) effort to help communities volunteer to respond to disasters. The program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

"This is especially important for an island community that may be affected by an air crash or other natural disaster with little or no advance notice," explained Captain Jackson, who organized the initial CERT team.

"The CERT members will help to prepare and continue to prepare the CERT team to respond and support the Fire and Police Department in their response to emergencies," he said.

Peaks Island CERT operates as a training program to develop a resource directory that will list emergency resources in the community, including emergency shelters, water supply status, and the locations of power generators and other special equipment such as chain saws for help in removing downed trees after a storm. The directory will also list residents with medical training, including those certified with Red Cross certification, and will be updated regularly.

"We have done quite a bit of work to prepare the emergency services," explained CERT coordinator Tim Fieldsend, "but we still need more volunteers, especially younger people."

The CERT team meets from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Peaks Senior Center to coordinate its programs.

Team members briefed the Peaks Island CERT team in April about their services and also enlisted their support in attracting more volunteers. They will be distributing information about the CERT program at PeaksFest. For more information about the Peaks Island CERT services contact: PeaksCERT@gmail.com.

Island Institute to Conduct

Economic Survey

BY LYNN RICHARD

The Island Institute is collaborating with Planon Solutions, Inc. to conduct "An Economic Inventory & Impact Analysis of the Casco Bay Islands."

The goals of the study are to examine and measure that network of connections in a way that has not been done before, to provide a stronger empirical base for the question of the importance of the islands of Casco Bay, to articulate the challenges and opportunities that those connections are facing, and to identify ways to strengthen those connections and to contribute to the overall economic development of the Great Portland Island Area and to identify ways to strengthen those connections and to contribute to the overall economic development of the Great Portland Island Area.

An advisory team of islanders, institute staff, and Planning Days staff (including former Peaks Fellow Sarah Carman) will meet over the next four months to advise and oversee the project. The following are the lands representatives: Chebeague: Leila Birchard, and Donna Damon; Cliff: Roger Berle; Great Diamond: Alden Finney; Long: Nancy Jordan and Judy Paoline; Peaks: Lynne Richard, Bob Tiffany and Bill Zimmerman. Our first homework assignment is to catalogue all on-island businesses, small, large, part-time, full-time. There will be other assignments throughout the summer. A report is expected in the fall, and will be presented to each community.

Peaks Island

Fund Spring '08 Report

Fund Surpasses $500,000

BY BILL ZIMMERMAN

For those of you who experience spring in Maine in the most traditional "Black Bear" fashion, emerging from winter hibernation it offers the added excitement of getting caught up on all the news that took place "while we slept." So as this beautiful spring creeps closer to the long anticipated summer here are a few tidbits of good news from the Peaks Island Fund (PIF).

First, the permanent endowment for Peaks Island has grown to $500,000! When we issued the Annual Report last April, the fund stood at around $200,000. But thanks to nearly two hundred large and small gifts from island friends over the past year the endowment has reached its first critical threshold of half a million dollars.

This is a huge step for PIF because it signifies that more people recognize PIF as the community fund to which they can direct memorial gifts to honor loved ones and estate bequests that will provide long range benefits for island residents and visitors. Our ten year target is still to reach $5 million in permanent endowment, but 10% of this point is a major breakthrough. It means that at least $25 thousand per year will always be there for charitable purposes and emerging needs on Peaks Island.

Second, Rita Morrill reports that due to a tremendous response to our annual appeal, the PIF grants for 2008 will, for the fourth consecutive year, double last year's total. In 2006 we were able to give awards of nearly $25 thousand. In the approaching summer of 2008, the PIF Committee will consider grant applications for approximately $40 thousand.

Jim Lanier reports the third piece of good news - the rapid growth makes it possible for us to continue to provide more administrative support for managing grant applications and allow our volunteers to concentrate on evaluating grants, stewardship, and spreading the word about what the Peaks Island Fund means to our future as a community fund.

Grant applications for 2008 will be found on line after June 10, 2008. Any 501(c)(3) charity interested in applying for funds will find the simple process at www.peaksisland.org/grants under the Peaks Island Fund Heading (Special Grants Programs).

Please take time this summer to join us for our awards celebration on Thursday, Aug. 21 at the Zimmerman home at 14 Central Street. Meanwhile, stop a PIF committee member and ask the burning questions that have been on your mind all winter. If you would like more information on how you can contribute to the long term growth, well being and autonomy of Peaks Island, please contact PIF committee members Rita Morrill, Nancy Flynn, Brenda Buchman, Terry Surberland, Jim Lanier, Kathy Hurlburt, Jason Oliver, Phyllis Weintraub, MARY Orme or Bill Zimmerman or contact Jim Soulard at the Maine Community Foundation, jonsoulard@mainecf.org (207)-771-2484.

To all who contributed to the PIF last year, thank you again for your confidence and commitment. The PIF connects people who care with causes that matter.
Cliff Island News
Historic Freight Shed Rebuilt

BY MARK MILLINGTON

The horseshoe shaped freight shed that’s been part of the Cliff Island landscape for more than a hundred years was torn down last month, in hopes of having a new one built by Memorial Day weekend, when the influx of summer residents and visitors begins.

Cliff’s old freight shed
photo by Mark Millington

The freight shed was originally built in the early 1900s, and had remained basically the same ever since. Based on the evidence of early postcards and pictures there was no shed in 1940, says Bruce Dyer, and “it’s been a barnhouse style (building) in all the other pictures.” Over the years the roof had been lifted and heightened to accommodate larger trucks and the trim boards and paint had been changed. Even the shed underneath it was changed in the 1970’s.

The shed consisted of two sides with an archway connecting the two, a design Bob Howard, the project foreman has maintained. The original rooms sheltered generations of people visiting the ferryboat’s arrival. One side even had a window (piano) and a bench, and another of the shed was a small room.

Howard consulted with bird professionals and historical groups and societies for months in preparation for construction of the new shed. “I was trying to get every rule in the book of what’s allowed and what’s not,” Howard said.

Working with the city of Portland, Cliff Island acquired the wood supplies needed for the new shed, which arrived in a big truck on a barge Thursday, May 2. Howard first boarded-up the two freight shed rooms to prevent birds from building nests inside, before tearing it down. “There been a horsehouse style (building) in all the other pictures.”

The shed was torn down earlier this month, in hopes of having a new one built by Memorial Day weekend, when the influx of summer residents and visitors begins.

The population on Cliff Island in the winter is close to seventy, though a few people have never counted more then thirty or so on a daily basis. I even count the people who I’m pretty sure are on the island even though I never see them, and still, I have never counted more than forty. Yet, the official population is seventy-one. There are a few couples who are considered year-rounders, but they tend to skip out every year in January or February while the rest of us shovel and shoveln. They remain abroad in California or Florida, and one couple spends a few weeks in New Hampshire instead of being here, which seems odd. It must be free there.

I wonder if this year the Lusina-Ellinor Global Warming stuff is in effect. How could we have known that this year spring was coming early? Record snow, inches of rain and wind; it’s always welcome. Does last winter’s extreme cold mean we’re in for hotter summer days? I hope so, since I sell ice cream. The deck hands love it. They each get a free small ice cream cone and the captain gets a large one whenever the temperature reaches 80 degrees or higher, all courtesy donated by Mills Cliff Cafe.

I barely touch the ocean water with my feet all summer. It’s so cold it might as well be winter. Oh sure, I jump in during the Big Jump, the day everyone on the island jumps in, but I find that getting wet in that day. And sometimes I wash sand or startPos junk or even lobster juice off my hands, but other than that I never touch the stuff. It’s just too cold.

I seem to be the first boater to launch this year. I know some people that don’t launch at all. They’re always in all year. But so far on Cliff Island I’m the only boat on a mooring down front. Soon, they’ll all be back. Who knows what the population will be then, but I’ll stop counting because there’ll be too many to keep track of, as once again the hustle and bustle of another Cliff Island summer begins.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

The population on Cliff Island in the winter is close to seventy, though a few people have never counted more then thirty or so on a daily basis. I even count the people who I’m pretty sure are on the island even though I never see them, and still, I have never counted more than forty. Yet, the official population is seventy-one. There are a few couples who are considered year-rounders, but they tend to skip out every year in January or February while the rest of us shovel and shoveln. They remain abroad in California or Florida, and one couple spends a few weeks in New Hampshire instead of being here, which seems odd. It must be free there.

I wonder if this year the Lusina-Ellinor Global Warming stuff is in effect. How could we have known that this year spring was coming early? Record snow, inches of rain and wind; it’s always welcome. Does last winter’s extreme cold mean we’re in for hotter summer days? I hope so, since I sell ice cream. The deck hands love it. They each get a free small ice cream cone and the captain gets a large one whenever the temperature reaches 80 degrees or higher, all courtesy donated by Mills Cliff Cafe.

I barely touch the ocean water with my feet all summer. It’s so cold it might as well be winter. Oh sure, I jump in during the Big Jump, the day everyone on the island jumps in, but I find that getting wet in that day. And sometimes I wash sand or startPos junk or even lobster juice off my hands, but other than that I never touch the stuff. It’s just too cold.

I seem to be the first boater to launch this year. I know some people that don’t launch at all. They’re always in all year. But so far on Cliff Island I’m the only boat on a mooring down front. Soon, they’ll all be back. Who knows what the population will be then, but I’ll stop counting because there’ll be too many to keep track of, as once again the hustle and bustle of another Cliff Island summer begins.
Whenever we go into our twice-a-year hike at tax time, I try to remember my Peck Island roots. I was advised by one islander that, if twice to consider the value of our Peaks Island life-style, I would not feel so sad. I love that.

The sound of the ocean at a nicked ear comes to a lot of money. A peanut butter jar of sea glass is a couple of bucks.

Certainly, Cross-picking at one of the 75-cent blue bags are kind of cute and worth something to see.

Spectating at the annual gathering of the multicolored summer clans has value. The humming lifestyle and manner of this group is priceless. And what would be the admission charge for dirt on stone and trash? Five cents.

There are no end of our Peaks Island life-style. I would not feel certain. Crows picking at our gaitliug of islander money.

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**The Peaks Island**

**Restaurants**

PEAKS CAFE, Down from on Welch St.; serving breakfast and lunch, also provide amazing catering service; Open 5:30 am to 5 pm in summer; 766-2500; see ad page 9.

INN on PEAKS, Corner of Welch and Island; serving lunch and dinner; Open Sun thru Th 11:30 am to 9 pm; Fri & Sat thru 10 pm; 766-3100, www.innonpeaks.com; see ad page 13.

Cockeyed Gull, Island Ave. next to Hannigan's; serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, specializing in Asian and Korean food; Open 8:30 am to 9 am Sun thru Th; Fri & Sat thru 9:30 pm; 766-2800

Peaks Island House; 20 Island Ave.; serving lunch and dinner; Open 11:30 am to 9 pm Daily. 766-4400, www.peaksislandhouse.com

Down Front; at the corner of Welch and Island; serving Ice Cream 7 days a week; Open 10 am to 10 pm; 766-5500, www.downfront.com

Jones Landing; Welch Street next to ferry landing; Events rental facility with restaurant and staffing; Open Sun Noon to 5 pm for Reggae Sunday

**Shops & Markets**

**Take a Peak**

52 Island Avenue
Peaks Island, Maine 04108

207 766-6995 (fax 766-5551)

www.takeapeak.com

**Museums & Galleries**

The GEM GALLERY; Local artist collective; Opening June 6. Fran Houston’s "For the Love of Peaks; Island Stories and Portraits", photo-documentary of island residents with rich histories, with reception 5 pm to 9 pm; AND Running through Sept. 17. "Spread", group show with works by Victor Romanyshyn, Diane Wiercke, Cami Cartier, Tim Nihoff, Jamie Hogan, Jane Banquer, Stephanie Ehlotz, Doug Smith, Karrie Schmeier, Laura Gliedt, Paul Behrens, Jessica George, Colee Carwell, Conner Flynn, Fran Houston, Peg Astanta, Deborah Butters, Suzanne Parrott, Pamela Williamson and Rick Boyd, at 62 Island Ave;

Open Fri 4 pm to 6:30 pm; Sat & Sun Noon to 5 pm

The UMBRELLA COVER MUSEUM, Lost, trash and abandoned umbrella covers displayed on walls and ceilings throughout the museum, at 62 Island Ave.;

Call 766-4496 for hours

The EIGHTH MAINE REGIMENT BUILDING (map no. 10); Phone 766-5068. Non-profit veteran’s organization to preserve historic artifacts and photographs of 8th Maine Regiment from Civil War to the present. Opens June 15; Summer Events: June 20 & 21, Member reunion and annual meeting. June 22, Open House & Dance 3 pm to 5 pm; July 5, Summer 2008 Opening Concert & Dance 7:30 pm to 10 pm, adm. $7 / $3 under 12; July 25, Art Show & Sale, 4 pm to 7 pm; Aug. 16, Civil War Day, tours 11 am to 5 pm, lecture 2 pm; Aug. 30, Concert & Dance, 7:30 pm to 10 pm, adm. $7 / $3 under 12;

www.8thmaine.com; see ad under Lodging

The FIFTH MAINE REGIMENT MUSEUM (map no. 9); Civil War and local history museum; June Events: June 8, "Renaissance Voices" choral group performance, 6:15 pm, don. $8. June 21, "Songwriters by the Sea" original music with host Phil Daigle, 7:30 pm, don. $8. June 29, "Breakfast by the Sea" community meal, 8 am to 11 am, adm. $6 / $4 under 12; www.fifthmainemuseum.org.

**Recreation**

BRAD’S BIKE SHOP; 115 Island Ave; bicycle rental and repair. Open 7 days from 10 am to 6 pm, 766-5631; see ad page 17.

Casco Bay Kayak Rentals; Hours vary; 766-2650

MAINE ISLAND KAYAK COMPANY; Kayak rentals, guided tours and excursions with over fifteen years in business; Hours vary; 766-2373, www.mainelaslandkayak.com

**Don’t Bother Me**

by Heather Enco

Garbage day’s Monday. Oh what a fun day
Trash goes in blue bags, *please, where can we buy these?*
Lobster dinner on the beach? Covey is the man to reach.
Need to clean your fish-smooshed gear? Plante has a laundromat I hear
They have gas and propane too, but should you need a public too,
The library’s the place for you
Bikes galore at Brad’s fine store, but wait, his lovely wife has more
An island vet, she’ll help with glee, unless it is your pet’s pet flea
If you’re the one who’s black and blue, our EMTs are there for you
We hope you have a nice vacation, the locals have more information
Take it easy have some fun, before you know it, it’s all done

**Gasoline**

Lionel PLANTE Associates

OPEN 8 AM TO 5 PM MON THRU FRI
SATURDAY 9 AM TO NOON; ON ISLAND AVENUE

**Public Works**

766-2423

SHOP HRS M-F 7:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.
TRANSFER STATION HRS T, W, F, S 7:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

**Laundry**

Lionel PLANTE Associates

OPEN 8 AM TO 8 PM EVERYDAY; ON ISLAND AVE.
Summer Guide

Clubs & Organizations

AMERICAN LEGION Post 142; (map no. 15) Upper Welch St., Veteran's organization and private club; 766-2102

LION'S CLUB; (map no. 7) at the corner of Island and New Island; Site of early first summer stock theater program, int vol service org with facility for lobster bakes and outdoor festivals available for rental; 766-2100

TEIA (Trefethen Evergreen Improvement Association); (map no. 11); Community and rental facility for large gatherings, 766-2022

Property

ASHMORE REALTY
I S L A N D R E A L E S T A T E

Ralph W. Ashmore
20 WELCH STREET, PEAKS ISLAND, ME 04108
www.ashmorerealty.com; email: Ralph@AshmoreRealty.com
207.766.2981

Port Island Realty; Homes sales & rentals. Hours 8:30 am to 5 pm; 766-5966; www.portisland.com.

HARBOR VIEW PROPERTY, Welch St., Home sales and rentals; Contact Rhonda Beng 756-3450, or Ellen Mahoney 756-6327, see ad page 13.

CASCO BAY RENTALS, Cottage rental service; Contact Paul Nichols at www.cascobayrentals.com; Phone 356-7920; see ad page 9.

Lodging

The INN on PEAKS; At the corner of Welch and Island; 766-5100; www.innonpeaks.com; see ad page 13.

The

Eighth

Maine

A living museum and lodge. Room and hall rentals & tours

Come for a awesome stay or tour
13 Eighth Maine Ave., Peaks Island, ME 04108 off Portland
(207)766-5086 • www.eighthmaine.com
eighthmaine@msn.com

Peaks Island House; 20 Island Ave.; 766-4406

Churches

BRACKETT MEMORIAL (map no. 4); Methodist; Rev. Desi Larson; Service Sun 10 am; Choir rehearsal Sun. 9 am (open to anyone). Bible Study Wed. 7 pm in the parsonage; Vacation Bible School, July 28 to Aug 1, 3:30 pm to 6 pm; Summer Fair, July 17, 10 am to 3 pm; Phone 766-5013.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S; (map no. 3) Catholic; Father Fred Morse; Mass: Sun 10 am, Wed. 6 pm; Phone 766-2585.

PEAKS ISLAND BAPTIST; Pastor Beau Doyle; Sun. Bible study 10 am, Service 11 am; Wed. Prayer meeting 7 pm; Phone 766-3037; http://pbhc.info.

Special Care

YOGA ON PEAKS; Rebecca J. Supple: Class instruction, private lessons and partner yoga, 766-3017

MASSAGE THERAPY; Robin Carr, Licensed Massage Therapist; 766-2062, cell 712-6307

Barbara Burkholder; Vet care by appt., 766-2626; see ad page 12.

ISLAND VET SERVICE; Island visas; 772-3385; www.portvet.net; see ad page 12.
Potpourri II By Cevia Rosol, copyright 2008

Across
1. Jesus in a Silicon Valley
4. Dallas line of boys
8. Cops
13. Identify asp rhythm
14. Pictorial representation
15. Discree
16. Most ancient instrument
17. Painted triune
18. Computer
19. "’O Neill’s Delirium Under the_"
20. Introductory
21. _Report Clinton’s comments
22. Cute peep, thick not smooth
24. Surplus
25. Continuous scenes
26. Belgian city and province
28. Small stable
31. Op-ed columnist Goodman
32. Someone said Hail?
37. Something to be taken?
38. Lock of hair
39. Shades
40. Olive coddy
45. Addams family’s cousin
46. _all we can see and out of patience
47. Board giving supernatural messages
50. Attention getting sound
52. Unit of perceived loudness
53. Pitched in sound
54. Not of the short period
55. Winning all the tricks to bridge
56. Political sphere
57. Killer whale
58. Deadly New England hurricane (September 21, 1938)
59. Death of a lightly burning (p.1)
60. Express grief verbally
61. ’T’ve had_or a whole, that thou settest a watch over me?” (Job)

Down
1. Sexton in Crime
2. Blue eyes
3. Internal agent 1945-1947
4. Medieval
5. Keepers of Mathews
6. “Killer’s score"
7. Common form of change
8. First 14-line stanza in family
9. Encourage in time
10. Slim cigar
11. Friend’s homeroom
12. At the ______ bow of a ship, where the danger is greatest
13. “That kicks up the rear’ll sleeve of care…” (Matthes)
14. Birdies, hours, acres, short, strong
15. Wing-shaped
16. The aging process
17. Trout
18. Under the weather
20. Flushing trouble
21. Playing insects
22. Play party or play a part
23. Gavinos, hidden in antiquity
24. Where the military eat
25. Brother’s love
26. Fears or pariah
27. Swelling of puffiness
28. kimono
29. “___, poor fortune”
30. In a murderous _frill"
31. A sharper
32. Bottle, boots, Siems, shop for them
33. A shape
34. A shape
35. Unmixing of gas
36. Something to be taken
37. Where the military eat
38. Where the military eat
39. Playing insects
40. Playing insects
41. Where the military eat
42. In a murderous _frill"
43. A sharper
44. Bottle, boots, Siems, shop for them
45. A shape
46. A shape
47. A shape
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59. A shape
60. A shape
61. A shape

Solution to last month’s puzzle

aise to isle

Tuesdays: shop for groceries before 11:30am and they will be delivered by Casco Bay Lines to Peaks Island that afternoon!

For more information inquire at Forest Ave Hannaford or call 764-5965; Normal beat fee applies.
The summer solstice this year is on June 20, when Earth's north pole is tipped directly toward the sun. Earth is tilted 23.45° in relation to the plane of its orbit around the sun, and as it spins clockwise its pole rotates clockwise once every 25,000 years, a phenomenon called precession. For now Earth's north pole is pointed toward the star Polaris, and it stays that way throughout the entire year. Because of this tilt, the Earth north pole is tipped toward the sun in summer and away from the sun in winter. In summer at our latitude (43°60'N) the sun rises well to the north of true east and sets well to the north of true west. Around the summer solstice, this tilt gives us almost 13.5 hours of sunlight and leaves only 6.5 hours of darkness. On the north pole, of course, the sun stays up all "night" and just moves 360° around the horizon.

Ancient cultures marked the cessation of the sun's migration north along the horizon both by constructing stone temples and by holding festivals. The most famous landmark to the summer solstice is Stonehenge near Amesbury in Wiltshire, England. Archaeologists now think the first stones were laid there 3000 years ago, in 3000 BC. Many Europeans still celebrate the pagan festival Midsummer on June 24, and some combine it with a celebration of John the Baptist's birthday.

Mars is declining in the western sky at sunset this month, but it will stay in the news for the next few months, as NASA's Phoenix probe landed successfully near Mars' north pole and has already sent photos of the surface.

Its 3-month mission is to test Mars' soil and ice, and to look for signs of life. Saturn is a bit higher than Mars in the western sky at sunset, but our line of sight the two planets are approaching each other and will form a nice conjunction next month.

Venus is at superior conjunction (on the far side of the sun) this month and thus invisible to us. Mercury is at inferior conjunction (between Earth and the sun) this month, but it moves so fast it will jump back into view in the pre-dawn sky by the end of the month.

Jupiter is the brightest planet this month as it approaches opposition early next month. In early June it's easiest to see in the southern sky at sunset, because of the moon's closeness to our planet's surface (or two on June 22nd, just after midnight). Neptune, Uranus and Pluto are also visible this month, but you'll need a telescope, a chart (skyandtelescope.com) and patience—Pluto is so distant and dim, that surrounding stars shine bright.

The brightest stars in the sky this month are Regulus, Arcturus and Vega. In the west over Portland is Regulus—we-foo-lu, the heart of Leo the Lion. It is only a few hundred million years old (our sun is 4 billion years old) but is 3.5 times the sun's size, and it rotates every 17 hours (our sun rotates every 28 days), so it's quite fast.

To the south over Cape Elizabeth is Arcturus (ark-toor-us), the firebrand point of Bottles (town-er-lee) the Herdman. It is among a group of stars that are moving through our galaxy at an angle different from that of the Milky Way, apparent remnants of another galaxy that collided with ours in the distant past (as the Andromeda galaxy did in the distant future). At 37 light years distant, Arcturus is a true red giant—if it were the sun, it would engulf Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars.

June 3–New Moon means no moonlight to wash out the sky. Now is the time to get outside and check out the Milky Way running from northeast to southwest across the night sky. The moon is also at perigee (closest to Earth) today, so tides are building.

June 5–The highest tide this month is at 6:54 a.m., and the lowest tide this month is at 2:56 p.m., with 13.3' between them, so currents in the harbor will run fast, and the ramp to the early car ferries will be steep.

June 6–The waxing crescent moon humps just below Mars in the western sky at dusk, with Saturn up to the left. For hour-bats flying, this weekend, high tide isn't until 2:56 p.m. today and 1:53 p.m. tomorrow, so you won't be able to get your bottoms wet much before noon, but no worries—sunrise isn't until 8:20 p.m.

June 10–First Quarter Moon is high at sunset today. The next few nights will be best for moon-gazing with a telescope focused on the terminator line between light and dark, where shadows are long, and craters, rills and mountains stand in stark relief.

June 16–The waxing gibbous moon tonight is just below Antares, the heart of Scorpius. The moon is now at apogee (farthest away from Earth), so this month's moonage is today and runs just 8.5' between high and low, moderating harbor currents.

June 18–"Full Strawberry" Moon rises tonight at 7:56 p.m. over the ocean.

June 20–Summer solstice arrives at 7:58 p.m., though the earth is tilted 23.45°, though the earth is tilted. Tonight the sun is directly overhead along the Tropic of Cancer, which runs through the middle of Mexico, just off the tip of Florida, through North Africa, the middle of India, and the south of China. Sunrise is at 5:59 a.m., and sunset is at 8:26 p.m., the longest day and shortest night of the year.

June 26–Last Quarter Moon is high in the western sky.

June 30–This morning, starting at 2:15 a.m., the waxing crescent moon slides in front of the Hyades star cluster. Tonight after sunset, Mars sits just above Regulus in the western sky.
ABOVE, chefs stir the pot out behind the church (left), then mingle with the crowd and enjoy the fruits of their labor (right).

**PILOT SPAGHETTI DINNER**
May 8 at the Brackett Church

Peaks Island Land Preserve's spaghetti dinner drew a crowd of about 150 people and netted the organization $600.

PITALOAF & LADLE DINNER-
May 13 at the Baptist Church

BELOW, Pastor Beau Boyle (far left) walks through the kitchen while chef Marcey Appel talks with guest Charles Burr in the kitchen. (Right) The food was served buffet style.

**DISCOVER UNBEATABLE SEAFOOD SELECTION AND QUALITY, COME IN AND COMPARE!**

Exquisite Dover Sole, Portuguese Loup de Mer, the original Peekytoe Maine Crabmeat.

Of course we also have Portland's most extensive wine selection, fresh produce and scrumptious cheeses.

**July Special—Scottish Salmon Fillets $9.99 per lb!**

We deliver to Casco Bay Lines

**Browne Trading Market**

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Open Monday through Saturday 10:00–6:30
207.775.7560
Against a clear blue sky the Peaks Island Memorial Day Parade followed the traditional route from the Lion's Club to the Pond Grove Cemetery to honor the island's military heroes from past and present wars. Organized by Bob Willwerth, the parade included the Color Guards of the American Legion and the South Portland Coast Guard Station, as well as the members of the Island's Fire and Emergency Response Team, the Ladies Auxiliary and the South Portland Memorial Middle School Marching Band. The parade paused at the Forest City landing where Janice Wolkoff, Joan Lincoln, and Carol Harris of the Ladies Auxiliary threw a commemorative wreath into the sea as Taps was blown, and then hauntingly echoed moments later by additional trumpeters stationed near the Legion. The parade concluded with a brief ceremony at the Pond Grove Cemetery, where small flags placed by Steve Pederson fluttered at all the veteran's graves.
PEAKS ISLAND SCHOOL SEEKS ARTISTS

The Peaks Island School Arts Committee is seeking artists, craftspersons, and creative adventurers to transform" old school chairs (child and adult size) to be auctioned at the Chair Auction at Peaks Fest in June. Proceeds from the auction are to be used to bring artists into our school to work with Peaks Island elementary school students. Chairs need to be returned to school by mid-June. You can pick one up at school or we can deliver. If you would like to transform a chair, please call Kathy Nowell at Peaks Island School 766-2520 or email her at: kikinord@portlandmaine.org

CRUISING GUIDE FOR MAINE COAST

Diamond Pass Publishing has just released its 20th-anniversary, fifth edition of A Cruising Guide to the Maine Coast, which details every harbor and anchorage from Portland, NH to the Canadian border. To order, call Curtis Randhau at 766-5665 or e-mail him at matr@mainescenicguides.com.

COMMUNITY NOTES

PEAKS ISLAND'S "FUNDS OF KNOWLEDGE"

Peaks Island's Funds of Knowledge" Come to the Fifth Maine on Sunday June 1 from 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. for the "Funds of Knowledge Launch Party." A group of islanders interested in providing cultural activities for the community have created this exciting new project designed to "map" the cultural assets of our community. Bring the family! Bring your friends! Discover how you can be a part of the project. Refreshments will be served along with some surprises.

MUSIC AT THE FIFTH MAINE

The Fifth Maine is pleased to host two evenings of great music in June. The Renaissance Voices annual summer concert, Songs of Nature, features the premiere of these new works by Peaks Island's own Faith York. The concert starts at 6:15 P.M. Admission is $8 per person.

On Saturday June 21 another fellow islander, Phil Dalgarno, hosts an evening of acoustic folk music with special guests Carolyn Currie, Vanessa Torres, and Stuart Timmons. Please join us in giving a warm Peaks Island welcome to them to the island for their first performance here. Show time is 7 P.M. Admission is $5 per person.

PEAKS ISLAND MUSIC ASSOCIATION 2008 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

BY FAITH YORK

In his treatise, "Ignotable Utopias," Joseph Knutch reflects on tradition, situating "the good life which most people desire in their life, warmed by passions and touched with that ceremonial grace which is impossible without some affectionate loyalty to tradition," Tradition, for certain, is a part of this good life. Year after year, the Peaks Island Music Association (PIMA) brings its Wednesday evening Summer Concert Series to the Fifth Maine.

PIMA will present the first concert of its series on July 8 with the Uncalled Four, a capella quartet that has become an island tradition in itself. Probably best known for their musical comedy, the members of Uncalled Four are also possessed of talents with a vast and varied repertoire. The evening's program will include classical pieces from the Renaissance to the Modern era, in French, German, Italian, Latin, and even English, as well as traditional spirituals, folk songs, pop numbers, and even an original song or two. Come and hear the whole spectrum of the Uncalled Four.

On July 29, a well-established Peaks Island tradition will be revived: the Musicians concert. Annually, one of the best-attended shows, it features a Mostly Line-up of Peaks Island's own young, old and in-between, anything with anything from fiddles to guitars, saxophones to trumpets, and anything else you can imagine. Don't miss this favorite.

The PIMA season finale will be held August 6, with the well established local artist, Douglas Smith, now under sponsorship of the Music Association, in a performing role. Last winter, along with the very talented Peaks Island winners, Eleven and Gamillie Elliot, Doug Smith, Keith Schneider, Laura Glesneiger, Paul Brigham, Jessica George, Gale Cawell, Connor Fyrne, Fran Houston, Peg Asatryan, Deborah Butters, Suzanne Parrot, Pamela Williamson and Rick Boyd.

Opening June 6 from Hrant Huyson for the "Love of Peaks Island Stories and Portraits," a collection of her photographs documenting residents with rich histories on Peaks Island. 116:00 P.M.

Other Hours: Thurs - Fri: 4 - 6:30 P.M. Sat - Sun: 12-5:00 P.M.

DANCE CELEBRATION AT THE EIGHTH MAINE

Sunday June 22, 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. as part of Peaks Fest, celebrating Dick Adams' eightieth birthday; music provided by the Wiggin family, Bonda Dale, Scott Gardner and Kevin Astra, with Larry Peterson on drums, joined by friends and neighbors, special guests and the Wheeliebikes, playing tin pan alley swing tunes, country and originals, with donations to benefit the Eighth Maine.

POLICE SERVICE CALLS ON PEAKS ISLAND

APRIL 2008 - 23 Calls

May 2008 - 31 Calls; 1 Arrest

Steve Hirshon
Democratic Candidate for Cumberland County Commissioner

VOTE JUNE 10!

Portland, Falmouth, Cumberland, Yarmouth, Chebeague Island, Long Island

Working Together; Building on Strength

Authorized by the candidate; Leona Good-Simpson, Treasurer, PO Box 1, Portland ME 04112

www.hirshonforcommissioner.info • stevehirshon2008@gmail.com
LARRY NISKANEN-WILDERNESS LANDSCAPING ON CASCO BAY

by Kevin Attra

When I walk through the woods on Peaks Island, I notice two things: there are dead trees and wind fences, especially now since the Patriot's Day Storm occurred, but would never occur to me that the forest is in trouble. "It is really messed up," says Larry Niskanen, who has quietly developed the island for over twenty years so working on the forests on the Casco Bay islands in order to make them healthy. Niskanen, who is a tree surveyor by trade, but what's really important is the loss of the timeless magic because you just can't have a healthy forest the way it was," Niskanen says that the damage caused by the Patriot's Day storm is evidence of the problem. "If it was a healthy ecosystem, then a lot of that damage wouldn't have been done by a large storm but by a larger root system because it wouldn't have had a deeper layer of organic matter and wouldn't have been damaged by a tree surveyor," Niskanen says that the trees are not able to hold up the weight of the snow and are falling over, whereas other trees that would otherwise have accumulated in the snow are standing strong. Another form of evidence of the decline, says Niskanen, is that the trees are not able to hold up the weight of the snow and are falling over, whereas other trees that would otherwise have accumulated in the snow are standing strong.

The final event of the season will bring the twenty-plus voices of the Peaks Island Chordale to the Fifth Maine stage on August 28, 2008, at the Peaks Island festival, all concerts $5.00, suggested donation $5.00. Buy your tickets online. For more information, call 706-5703.

Green Peaks

by members of PEAT

PEAKS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM

Summer is here, so here are some simple lawn care tips to help you protect your lawn from habitat destruction, and still save money and time.

MOW HIGH. This grass shade the weeds and weed seedlings and without sun, they will not flourish. Tall grass is healthier, thicker and greener. When cut too short the grass grows faster which uses up its sugar stores, in turn, weakening the plant. Then you get those dead, brown patches.

WATER INFREQUENTLY. It will force the grass roots to go deeper into the soil. And if you do water, water at least an inch and not all at once.

USE ORGANIC FERTILIZER. Chemical fertilizers are a kind of salt which eventually causes the soil to become poorer and poorer. It also kills the earthworms, etc. that help the grass and soil stay healthy.

For more information, go to: www.richael.com, or www.organiclawncares.com.

PEAKS ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM

SUMMER IS HERE, SO HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE LAWN CARE TIPS TO HELP YOU PROTECT YOUR LAWN FROM HABITAT DESTRUCTION, AND STILL SAVE MONEY AND TIME.

MOW HIGH. THIS GRASS SHADE THE WEEDS AND WEED SEEDLINGS AND WITHOUT SUN, THEY WILL NOT FLOURISH. TALL GRASS IS HEALTHIER, THICKER AND GREENER. WHEN CUT TOO SHORT THE GRASS GROWS FASTER WHICH USES UP ITS SUGAR STORES, IN TURN, WEAKENING THE PLANT. THEN YOU GET THOSE DEAD, BROWN PATCHES.

WATER INFREQUENTLY. IT WILL FORCE THE GRASS ROOTS TO GO DEEPER INTO THE SOIL. AND IF YOU DO WATER, WATER AT LEAST AN INCH AND NOT ALL AT ONCE.

USE ORGANIC FERTILIZER. CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS ARE A KIND OF SALT WHICH EVENTUALLY CAUSES THE SOIL TO BECOME POORER AND POORER. IT ALSO KILLS THE EARTHWORMS, ETC. THAT HELP THE GRASS AND SOIL STAY HEALTHY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO: WWW.RICHAEI.COM, OR WWW.ORGANICLAWNCARES.COM.

NOTES, FROM PAGE 10

Hendry, Doug Smith brought an entertaining evening of fiction and poetry to the Peaks Island Music Association's annual concert series at Buckett Church. I'll let you in on this topic of (what else) tradition. The concert will be held at Buckett Church on Friday, August 23, at 7:00 p.m. All proceeds will go to Peaks Island Tax Assistance.

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"It's not just the pollution that's causing global warming, it's also because the forests have become so depleted that they're not able to act as carbon filters anymore."
ISLANDERS EXPLORE NEWTRANSIT TERMINAL

Several Casco Bay Island Transit District (CBITD) directors have begun to explore how Casco Bay Lines might acquire the parking garage and create a new transit terminal to help address parking issues experienced by islanders and to help keep ferries less crowded.

Several other ferry systems operate a variety of transit systems that own "park and ride" facilities. Revenues from those parking facilities help to subsidize ferry transit services and help to keep fares at lower rates. "Day parking" fares at higher rates, for example, can be used to subsidize monthly parking and transit fares.

CBITD was established in 1981 as a transit district owned and operated, through an island-elected board of directors, by the residents of six Casco Bay islands. CBITD currently does not own any parking facilities. The Municipal Ferry Terminal Garage is owned jointly by the City of Portland and a private investor.

Islanders are also investigating creating expanded and conventional parking facilities and a new inter-modal Transit Terminal. It would provide islanders and other travelers with convenient access to Metro buses, connecting to Downeaster trains and the airport, and an improved transit terminal. Funding sources might include a variety of government grants as well as the sale of bonds.

Islanders Steve MacIsaac, and Board members Frank Pesetti and Chris Hoppin are working with CBITD general manager Catherine Debo to explore these ideas and plan to report progress regularly.

FATHER FRED MORSE, pastor of St. Christopher's Church, posed for the camera after Cathedral services with parishioners, left to right, Beatrice Grace, and Audrey Byrne, Danny Hanley and Annika Erickson. 

Five parishioners of St. Christopher's Roman Catholic Church on Peaks Island were confirmed and three of them received their First Holy Communion during a special Mass at Portland's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Mother's Day, May 11th. Bishop Richard J. Malone officiated at the Pentecost Sunday Mass, accompanied by five priests of the diocese, including St. Christopher's pastor Father Fred Morse. Beatrice Grace Byrne were confirmed, while their sister Audrey received her First Holy Communion as did Annika Erickson and Danny Hanley. Beatrice received faith formation preparation as a Checker's 1st Reader, while the other four attended special programs at St. Christopher's taught by Barbara Hoppin and Susan Hanley.

ISAIAH OLIVER working for Allen campaign

Although he doesn't think politics is his calling, Isaiah Oliver is certainly a politically active person. Upon graduating from the University of Richmond in 2006, he walked back home from Virginia to Peaks Island in order to raise awareness about the genocide occurring in Darfur, and in so doing, he raised $15 thousand for medical relief to refugees of the crisis. Now he's working for Congressman Tom Allen's campaign for US Senate because, among other things, "Oliver says "I feel that I owe one [in Congress] was saying anything." He also agrees with Allen's energy policies, and values his support of American military and resource policies. Carol Andrews, Communications Director for the Allen campaign, calls Oliver "a real young man." He's been studying public policy at the University of Southern Maine. "I don't see politics as a career, but I want to do something that makes a positive change in the world in some way, to help out in any way possible."
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Long Island's pink tulip bed at the Community Center garden helped raise money for cancer research. Photo by Penny Murley

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The Tulip Project
Long Island's pink tulip bed at the Community Center garden helped raise money for cancer research. Photo by Penny Murley

Tulips to Fight Breast Cancer
Back in November, some folks on Long Island and Peaks Island planted pink tulips in order to raise both public awareness of and money to combat breast cancer. At Long Island, the community planted 2 beds at the Community Center Garden. This spring as the tulips were emerging, a deer got under fence and started to destroy the bed. Luckily, someone was around who saw it and chased it away. The fence was later repaired and the tulips survived (see photo). At last count, the community had raised $390. The Peaks Island tulip project, organized by Lynne Richard with assistance from Jim Lauter, was planted at the traffic circle by the ferry terminal and, though it is a considerably smaller plot than Long Island's, still earned about $250 for the American Cancer Society.

Island Institute Studies Casco Bay Businesses
BY LYNN RICHARD
The Island Institute is collaborating with Planning Decision, Inc. to conduct "An Economic Inventory & Impact Analysis of the Casco Bay Islands." The goals of the study are to describe and measure that network of connections in a way that has not been done before, to provide a stronger empirical base for the contention that the islands of Casco Bay have a significant economic impact on the overall economy of the Greater Portland Metropolitan Area and to identify ways these connections are being threatened and thus the contribution of the islands diminished. An advisory team of islanders, institute staff, and Planning Decisions staff (including former Peaks Fellow Sarah Curtiss) will meet over the next four months to advise and oversee the project. The following are island representatives: Chebeague's Leilah Bintz, and Donna Damon; CHP's Roger Bede; Great Diamond: Aiden Finney; Long: Nancy Jordan and Judy Paulini; Peaks: Lynne Richard, Bob Tiffany and Bill Zimmerman. Our first homework assignment is to catalogue all on-island businesses, small, large, part-time, or full-time. There will be other assignments throughout the summer. A report is expected in the fall, and will be presented in each community.

If you have a big load to dump, please do not come right before break times, 9:00 to 9:30 a.m., noon to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 to 2:30 p.m. Should you come when the transfer station is closed? No problem, come any time with trash bags and recycling. Come during hours of operation for other items. And AI says, please do not put your blue-bag trash in public litter barrels. They fill up too fast and leave no room for the litter they are intended for.

And don't despair. AI believes the Big Trash Pick-Up will return eventually.
An Ode to Delta House

BY MITCH BROOKS

I can't speak as an expert about college, having never been, but I can, as a soon-to-graduate high school senior, explain my image of it. To me college was always expected, both by me as well as my parents. It never occurred to me that I wouldn't go. As a kid, college was just another stage of being. You go from kid to young adult to college student.

I see college as do many of my fellow peers, as a place of freedom. It is the first time for many of us that we are out on our own without parents. What pops into my head when college is discussed is Animal House, the image of a bunch of drunken frat boys in togas singing along to "Louie Louie." Although this is less than the truth of college, it does spark that air of rebellion that has been kept under wraps by our parents. It would be dishonest of me to claim that we will be saints while away at college, in bed by 6:00 p.m. with all our homework done, but what else could you expect? We're used to staying up all night, listening to music, eating unhealthy food and to clean our rooms. Once the authority figures that enforced those roles are no longer living in the same house, what else could you expect?

College isn't ONLY fast food and dirty clothes, though. There is the whole educational bit, too. The biggest difference between high school and college is that high school teaches us how to learn and college teaches us what we need to live. While at college, we will not only learn how to become teachers or be the best at our jobs but we will also learn how to wash our laundry and cook food (and NO. Ramen noodles do NOT count as food...)

In ancient barbaric societies children, once they reached an age of maturity, would be thrown into the wild, forced to learn for themselves how to survive. Now, thousands of years later, children are being sent by parents to far away places so that they can learn and concentrate we are eloped away at college, in bed by 6:00 p.m. with all our homework done, but what else could you expect? We're used to staying up all night, listening to music, eating unhealthy food and to clean our rooms. Once the authority figures that enforced those roles are no longer living in the same house, what else could you expect?

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