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Service Agencies of the Island

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American Legion Peaks Island Post #142

Before it was possible to do any form of essay it was necessary to clear the upstairs attic space of all forms of written matter, i.e., correspondence and Department communications; segregate, catalogue and file important and pertinent correspondence and matter related to the Maine American Legion Department.

The job was tedious, dusty but very interesting and revealed much information lost to the passage of time, and the dimming shades of the mind.

Before we look at the history of our local Island American Legion Post #142 it would be interesting to take a brief view of the National Organization and what brought about its reasons for being in the first place.

After having given considerable thought and inner debate I concluded that the readers would be best informed, quite thoroughly and professionally, and the American Legion best served if a somewhat lengthy, but interesting, excerpt were presented here. It is taken from the book titled "American Legion", which was authored by Richard Seely Jones.

Chapter I: CITIZEN - VETERANS

On March 18 of the year 1936 the morning newspapers of the United States reported the formation by several students at Princeton University of the Veterans of Future Wars, a group announcing its demand upon the Congress for prepayment of the soldiers' bonus to the prospective servicemen of the next war. The announcement by the students was a skillful parody on declarations then recently numerous in the public prints, reflecting several years of discussion surrounding proposals to convert into cash the adjusted service certificates held by American veterans of World War I. They wanted their soldiers' bonus right away so as to be certain to enjoy it before some of them should fall in battle and pass beyond reach of their reward.

At several women's colleges the girls formed the auxiliaries, the Future Gold Star Mothers of future veterans. A few people took the college humor seriously. The American Legion, principal organization of former fighting men, declined to do more than laugh along with the college men.
The whole episode furnished some entertainment for the public over a short period, and then gradually faded into oblivion. One newspaper, however, in 1945 and near the conclusion of the second great World War, enquired about the students who were listed as officers of the Veterans of Future Wars. It developed that eight of the young men were officers of the Army or Navy during the second great conflict, while the ninth had been rejected for physical disabilities.

All wars produce veterans, and many have produced associations of veterans. The position of ex-soldiers in the civic order of post-war years first comes to general recognition in the annals of the legions of the Caesars, but there is little doubt that Alexander's victorious hosts made their imprint on the life of Greece, that military service in the phalanx of a Pharaoh found recognition in civilian life along the Nile. Officers of George Washington formed the Society of Cincinnati, the first of American veterans' organizations. The time had not come for a great society of all veterans. The lines of demarcation remained important, handed down through centuries of military tradition. Not until after the War between the States would the Grand Army of the Republic, in the North, and the United Confederate Veterans in the South, break down among veterans the class distinction held over from Army organization and discipline. It was to find a more complete fulfillment after World War I, with internal dissensions dead and buried and a united nation defeating a potent foreign foe. Its fruition was in the largest, all-inclusive society of veterans formed ever in any country, the American Legion. " TO BE CONTINUED......

Douglas MacVane has spent a great deal of time and energy researching the material for the article on the Island Post #142. The STAR will run a continuing series on the history of the Post each month. Until next month...

Casco Bay Island Transit District

M. Irene Fitzgerald was sworn in as the new At-Large director and Johanna vonTiling was sworn in as the Director from Cliff Island on Saturday, May 10th.

The next full Board meeting was May 16th. One item of special interest to all Islanders was the change of the 9:00P.M. boat to 9:30P.M. since the 10:00 P.M. boat is dropped beginning June 12th.

Betty Van Wyck presented a petition with over 460 names in support of the change. Two of our captains were present and also spoke favorably of the change. The vote was 8 - 2 in favor of the change.

A discussion was held concerning the infringement on our franchise by other operators in the Bay. Any revenue taken from the District must be made up to meet expenses from other sources, mainly passenger fares and freight.

Thomas Valleau, the City representative, indicated that the new ferry terminal is being held up in Augusta and therefore the City has decided to bid out the parking garage first.

The General Manager is concerned about safety on the boats. Any person who has an idea or concern should voice their ideas to any Board member. Our insurance rates increased from $20,000 to $30,000 on an annual basis. Our safety record is good, but, we need to keep alert and be conscious of any danger or dangerous action by crew or passengers.

THERE IS NO SMOKING BELOW DECK. PLEASE FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR'S SAKE-GO ABOVE DECK TO SMOKE.
NEWS FROM THE PEAKS ISLAND CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Our DayCare children were very busy during those unpredictable rainy days in May. They got to try out their artistic abilities with string art, fancy paper bag masks and plenty of water colors. They also had some hands on experience gardening. While one group was out in a garden, they found and brought back an elephant slug for our terrarium. It was quite a sight!

Our summer camp still has openings for children aged 6 - 10. Please call the center for more information.

We have one Daycamp counselor position open for someone with experience with children 6 - 10 years of age. The job runs for 9 weeks, June 23 - Aug. 22. Please contact Janine Blatt or Jon Kelso at 766-2854, if you wish to apply.

We need substitutes on occasion. If you have experience please call us.

Getting ready for summer camp means gathering materials. One activity this summer will be creating sea sculpture from trash to treasures. We need people to save cereal boxes, egg cartons, meat trays, oatmeal boxes. If you have some collected please give us a call or bring them to our center at St. Christopher's Hall on Central Ave. Thank You.

NEWS FROM THE PEAKS ISLAND LIBRARY

HOURS:  
TUES 12 - 8   THURS 5-8   766-5540
WED 10 - 4   SAT 10 - 1

Preschool story hour is each Wed. 10:15 a.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult during the program. A noisy child can disrupt the story for others.

After school movies are at 3:15 on Tuesday and will change to 2:15 starting in July.

Our warmest congratulations to Sarah Reed, Amber Quaker, Schiff Sarapas, Aaron Wise, Peter Deane, Nate Kaynor and Joe O'Gane in their performance of Stone Soup. A play which was performed at the Library in May. They did a good job and Kristen Chalmers, their director, deserves a round of applause. We hope to perform another play at the Day Care Children's Festival in August.

The Summer Reading program will begin the first week of July. It is called Open Books - Open Doors. Any child is encouraged to participate. Children will be given stars for reading books themselves or having the books read to them depending on their age and ability. The Library will be visiting the School on June 13 to promote the Summer Reading program with a puppet show.

We are again borrowing books from Portland Public Library for summer reading. If anyone has any particular interest in subjects or authors please let us know to we can have the books available.

REMEMBER our hours change the first week of July. All is the same except we open Friday 10 - 1 and close Saturdays, until the first week in September.

Until next month.
STAR OF THE SEA THEATER

Sunday June 29 and Monday June 30 will be the dates for our summer show My Fair Lady at 7:30 p.m., in the Greenwood Gardens Playhouse. A musical play presented by our dancers & chorus. Donation for the show. Adults $2.00 child. $1.00.

Saturday June 7 and Sunday June 8 will be our Grand Opening of our new project "Star of the Sea boutique", an exciting new addition to our scholarship fund. Our goal is to give our community a chance to help our young people use their talents, and help further their education with a financial scholarship.

The Boutique will have many items for sale. Dancers needs, Hand-Knit Fashions, Musical theme gifts, Kids Corner, Something Old- Something-New. Refreshment stand. The boutique is located in the studio on Greenwood St near Sandy Beach.

Your support is greatly appreciated.
Musically yours, Doreen McCann

SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS

The Senior Center will hold its annual Fair and food sale on Saturday June 28 at the Community Building. Time is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All contributions of baked goods will be welcomed.

Chances on a hand-made quilt, afghans and other fine articles will be available.

The annual meeting of the members of the Senior Center will be held on June 18. After the business meeting, which will include election of officers, there will be the usual potluck luncheon. Dues are due.

On July 26 the Senior Center will sponsor a Used Clothing Sale at the community Center. Time is 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sale will be limited to outer clothing only and all pieces should be freshly washed or dry cleaned and in good condition.

Any donated articles may be left at the Senior Center anytime after July 13 to one day prior to the Sale. Yard goods and notions will also be available for those who like to sew.

BRACKETT MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Church service 10:15 a.m. Morning Worship.& Sunday school. Coffee Hour follows.

Plans are underway for Union Services and activities involving the Churches on the Island, St. Christopher, Society of Friends and Brackett Mem. Several services or activities are being looked at for the coming year. The earliest combined gathering will be in July with two evenings of worship and fellowship; Wed. July 23 and Thurs. July 24.

Other Union Services will follow. The Tuesday eve before Thanksgiving; Church Unity Week, Jan. 17 and a joint Easter Sunrise Service, April 19,1987

Guest Ministers will conduct Services during June:

June 1, Rev. Harry Lindley from the New York Conference.

June 9, rev. Jim Young and Rev. Phyllis Dodd, exchange pulpit

June 22, Rev. nancy Salisbury, Chaplain at Mercy Hospital.

St. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

MASSES Sat 7 p.m. Sun/. 9 a.m.

On Long Island 4 p.m. Sat and Great Diamond 11 a.m. Sunday.

Exploring the catholic Faith will continue Monday June 2 and Q at 7:30 p.
PEAKS ISLAND FRIENDS WORSHIP

The Religious Society of Friends is a world-wide Christian Fellowship. The reality of God as a living presence in the world and in people is the center of Quaker faith.

Our Worship group is unprogrammed. We have no designated leader of worship as we feel no need for a mediator between ourselves and God. The Worship begins at the appointed time in silence. It is our expectation that through quiet prayer searching and meditation God is present to each worshipper and to gather as a whole. Feeling of inspiration may move one to offer a prayer or share a message. Worship closes by joining hands.

Worship every Sunday at 10:45 a.m. Second house on Adams Street.

EPISCOPAL SERVICES

WILL BE held on the Island this year in St. Christopher's Church. All are welcome. Services start 10:15 am Sunday during July and August.

FIFTH ANNUAL MAINE STATE ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT COLBY COLLEGE IN WATerville ON JUNE 12 and 13, 1986.

The focus of the conference this year is Children of Alcoholics: Prevention Strategies. Cost of the conference is $90 for total conference, meals and overnight accommodations; $75 for conference and meals only.

See Library for more details. Brochure will be with the librarian.

The Peaks Island Investment Club will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, June 3rd at the Community Center at 7:30PM. The Club is limited to 20 members and the numbers are fast approaching the limit. If you are interested, please come and join us.

STAR GARDENS ARE available to anyone who would like to use them as garden space. We ask a $ donation to cover the use of water. Because of a lack of participation the Community Gardens were not planted but the raised beds next to the Greenhouses are available. Please see me. Louise Capizzo or call me 766-4466 if you might be interested. A shame to waste good garden space if you don't have space at your present location.

DONATIONS to the printing costs of the Star... Ruth McGonagle, Mary Hennessy, Sue Gallagher, Anne O'Brien, Matt Sarapas, and some miscellaneous donations. Thank you. Every little bit helps the Star each month.