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Kevin Attra

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Peaks Island Children's Workshop makes changes for the future

Cart surcharge suggested at annual CBITD meeting on the Bay Mist

Parking stickers slow to catch on

Town of Long Island celebrates 15th birthday

A huge pocket watch sculpted in sand was one of nine entries in the sand castle contest held Sunday, July 13 at Fowler's Beach on Long Island, as part of the annual picnic celebration to benefit the harbor. The sculpture, shown with enameled (left to right) Mike Whicker Jr., Patricia Heyman, Mike Whicker Sr. and Dan and Kathy Flagg, won second place, and featured driftwood hats (as it's 'o'clock of course) as chain links for a stone inscription that read "Happy 15 year Long Island!" Free full story and photos see back page.

SLAND TIMES
AUGUST 2008
A community newspaper covering the islands of Casco Bay
FREE

BY KEVIN ATTIA

After 2½ years as director of the Peaks Island Children's Workshop Debbie Johnson will resign this month in order to raise a 9-month-old toddler.

"I want a job I don't have to think about all the time," she says, which is how she thinks about this one, adding as she does that the workshop is a central part of the community. "If you don't have families with little kids," she explains, "when the weather doesn't cooperate, and without day care there won't be any families.

"The workshop is an integral part of the community," she says. Ms. Johnson will be replaced by Meg Springer Holdridge, a recent Peaks Island resident who takes over at the end of this month after a brief orientation period. She will have to learn quickly, as the school is losing thousands of dollars from large cuts in state and local funding next year. The City of Portland will reduce its contribution from $23,000 to $15,000 in 2009, while Cumberland County will completely eliminate the program from its budget.

In addition, funds from traditionally generous sources have suddenly started dwindling, particularly from the Department of Health and Human Services which is tightening its criteria and refusing to fund fewer families for financial assistance.

Team Leader Jon Kelso, an educator with the school since it was founded in 1972, says changes in funding are unprecedented, and based on the way the economy has been going lately, "it feels uncertain about the future of the workshop. "No one knows anymore," he says, "it's an unknown, a really big unknown."

Mr. Kelso has watched the island community evolve dramatically in the last few years, and says there used to be more people who needed day care in order to go to work. Household income levels have risen significantly, and many people work at home now, thanks to the internet, so they end up using informal networks of friends and neighbors to help with the kids as needed instead of enrolling them in a child care program.

Population changes have also had an impact on the school. Large, extended families don't live together anymore, and couples now have one or two children where in the past they would have had four or five. "Once there were 100 children in the programs," says Jon, "now there are 40-50."

In 2000 the workshop became free on CHILDREN, page 8.

A huge pocket watch sculpted in sand was one of nine entries in the sand castle contest held Sunday, July 13 at Fowler's Beach on Long Island, as part of the annual picnic celebration to benefit the harbor. The sculpture, shown with enameled (left to right) Mike Whicker Jr., Patricia Heyman, Mike Whicker Sr. and Dan and Kathy Flagg, won second place, and featured driftwood hats (as it's 'o'clock of course) as chain links for a stone inscription that read "Happy 15 year Long Island!" Free full story and photos see back page.

During the annual public meeting with the CBITD aboard the ferry, Bay Mist, on July 17, some island residents advocated for a surcharge on hand carts to help cover the rising costs of operating the ferry line. Arthur Pink (above with microphone) said that as a Peaks Island resident he does not have a problem with the current cart policy and saw no reason for change. Full story on page 3.

photo by Chris Higgins

Parking stickers slow to catch on

BY KEVIN ATTIA

The one-month-old island parking sticker program has received a total of 116 applications, according to Peaks Island Council Chair Mike Langella, who is chief of staff to Great Diamond and the rest from Peaks. The number is far less than members of the PIC had hoped for in order to prove to the City Council that the demand for parking on the mainland greatly exceeds the supply.

In response to a PIC proposal made in June for 120 parking spaces near the ferry terminal, the City created a 55-space island parking zone along High and Hancock streets (see map, right), but it is only made 29 of the spaces permanent to the zone. The rest were included as a compromise to the PIC's request for more, and are subject to renegotiation next year.

There is concern that if the demand for parking stickers does not increase significantly, not only will the temporary spaces be eliminated from the parking zone next year, but also the PIC's credibility in future negotiations over parking will be damaged. So far the PIC has based its requests for parking on the results of the parking survey conducted in February, which indicated that roughly 600 parking spaces were needed to replace those lost to construction on the waterfront, but the actual demand for parking stickers now will probably hold greater weight with the City.

According to both Mike Langella and Mike Murray of the City Manager's Office, the new island parking zone is designated with 2-hour parking signs along Thames and Hancock streets. If you have an island sticker, you can park there indefinitely, otherwise, you will receive a ticket after 2 hours.

At the PIC's July 25 meeting, which was attended by four of the seven members of the council, it was suggested that Parking Division personnel come to the island to register vehicles in the program. As Lynne Richard expressed, for some residents "it's $7 and several hours to make the trip to City Hall. Mike Murray is looking into the proposal. Initially it was thought members of the PIC could administer the program, but Murray said that was not possible.

In a letter to the City Manager's office, the PIC requested that payment for transportation of private school students to the mainland be reinstated, which had been eliminated in city-wide budget cuts this year. Elizabeth Stout said "We're not talking about transportation, we're talking about having access to education, referring to the fact that any island student wishing to attend secondary-school must travel to the mainland. The matter has been deferred to a meeting of the City's Finance Committee.

In other business, the PIC decided to take a position on the Bay Mist ferry service, which is to be reviewed by the city's Finance Committee in June. The decision was made after four of the seven PIC members were unable to attend a PIC meeting on July 17.

"I'm not sure who is the person to make the decision," said Murray, who is looking into the proposal. Initially it was thought members of the PIC could administer the program, but Murray said that was not possible.

In a letter to the City Manager's office, the PIC requested that payment for transportation of private school students to the mainland be reinstated, which had been eliminated in city-wide budget cuts this year. Elizabeth Stout said "We're not talking

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Jim Phipps of Chebeague welcomed over 1,000 summer islanders to the Casco Bay Lines questionnaire, which resulted in recommendations for improvements. These include increased ferry frequency on the Juit, Arcobasso II, and others, with progress of work done approved by the board in March. Copies and other household items were distributed at the meeting. They are also available in the office, or on the CBITD website at www.sacoyselines.com.

Personal carts are a traditional means that passengers use to transport belongings, including groceries, luggage, and other household items. While not an issue for Peaks Island residents who use the Machigonne II car ferry, some potential carts are a problem on other ferries like the Maquoit, Arcobasso II, and Island Romance, which go to the other five islands.

Some of those “down the bay” passengers have complained about overloaded carts. Leading to several discussions about how to resolve these problems. Suggestions ranged from charging for services, to banning certain types of carts, to having CBITD sell carts that meet its standards. These discussions will continue at other public committee meetings. CBITD Operations Manager Nick Mavodones reported that two full-time deck hands, Nick Ferrara and Pat Bowen, were recently promoted to captain. He described maintenance programs on all the ferries and also mentioned plans to refurbish restrooms in the terminal. That work is expected to begin after the Labor Day holiday.

Sue Moreau, board representative of the Maine Department of Transportation, described the DOT’s efforts to improve the docks on the mainland and on the islands where facilities are owned and maintained by the state. She also noted improved communications between her department in Augusta and CBITD.

Board Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair Bill Overlook of Long Island said first quarter financial results were on target as a result of cost cutting by all employees and the 0.50 cent-per-ticket fuel surcharge. However, he cited escalating fuel costs and declining revenues as continuing problems that are expected to continue.

Attendees talked about some examples of potential types of service changes. The Operations Committee will seek public comment at a public hearing before sending

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More than three dozen island residents met with the board of directors of the Casco Bay Island Transit District aboard the Bay Afternoon on July 19 to discuss the planning and operating budget of the Casco Bay ferry line. Members of the board reported on a range of topics during the one-and-a-half-hour meeting, which included discussions about visiting passengers and the use of personal cars. According to President Jim Phipps, the most important problem the ferry service faces right now is rising fuel prices. "We're trying to do what we can to minimize operating expenses," he says, but the cost of diesel fuel has doubled since last year, and continues to rise faster than revenues can keep up. In fact, fuel cost is already 33 percent higher than can be covered by the $0.25 surcharge added to ticket prices last spring. Most of the discussion at the meeting focused on finding additional ways to cut costs or increase revenues.

One option introduced by General Manager Catherine Deblo was to reduce the number of scheduled trips to the islands. According to Mr. Phipps, people at the meeting seemed willing to consider the measure in the abstract, but couldn't agree about which specific trips to eliminate. "People live on the islands; their lives depend on the service," he said. Despite that, he thought the board would be taking a hard look at making "twists to the schedule" in order to cut costs.

Peaks Island resident Arthur Fink thought the main problem about losing service was the "short distance" between Peaks Island and the mainland. He added, "If we have to cut several thousand dollars, we're talking about costs that will save a few milk routes." Ms. Deblo also mentioned that in response to customer complaints the board would consider implementing a new policy on personal cars for the 2009 peak season. At issue was the practice of allowing personal cars to create the passenger ferries because, when the boats are crowded, the cars clog up the aisles, run over passenger's feet, and generally interfere with the other passengers' comfort and use of the boat.

Several people remarked that personal cars are only an issue for "down the bay" passengers on Peaks, Chebeague, Cliff, Long and the Diamond Islands. Since the Machigonne II ferry, which is used exclusively for service to Peaks Island, has a large amount of deck space, passengers on that boat do not experience this problem. Among the solutions to the car problem offered at the meeting were suggestions that only cars of certain dimensions be allowed, and that more use of freight should be encouraged for smaller vehicles.

A comparison of the operating costs of each route and trip with the related rate structure were being explored by an independent financial consultant, who will report the findings to the Rate Structure Committee at a public meeting July 31 at 7:45 a.m. on the Bay Mist, dockside at the terminal. The committee will also hold a public meeting on Saturday, Aug. 16, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Peaks Island Community House.

In an interview afterwards, Mr. Fink said that he had been shocked to see only a few Peaks Island residents at the meeting, but then he decided that in a strange way it was also a vote of confidence for the board. "It just shows that he only know a couple of people from the other islands as well. "If used to be," he explained, "there was only one boat that went to the islands, first to Peaks, then the Diamonds, and so forth, on each route."

"We don't get to know each other any more because we travel on separate boats now."
Pioneer Family Assn.
holds ninth reunion at the Fifth Maine

BY FRAN HOUSTON

The ninth bi-annual reunion of the Pioneer Families Association took place at the Fifth Maine Regiment Museum on Saturday, July 19, where family members gathered to have lunch, conduct a little business, and converse on the breezy back porch. The pioneer families include the Hallidays, Brackens, Skellings, Trottts, Parsons, Greelys, Trefethens, Parks, Reed, and the Cleesens. Photo albums, genealogy books, and other collections of interest were available at a table for perusal, and Jessie Trefethen's watercolors looked upon itself to organize the remnants of the original Peaks Island families to form the PFA. She was a meticulous historian, but she could also be very charming and warm. "How she charmed those loquacious on Monhegan Island" to get their stories, says Ms. Sterling, who adds that some of their families migrated to Peaks from Monhegan in the 1890's. "She had them all eating out of her hand."

According to Ms. Sterling, Editha had a salty side and could talk great off-color jokes, but "I never heard an unpleasant or unkempt remark from her about anyone.

The next reunion will be on Saturday, July 17, 2010. All are invited. For more information, or to subscribe to their newsletter, go to www.pioneerfamilies.org.

Fiber Arts Camp shows kids how

What was the best part about Colonial Camp? "Cooking my own food," replies ten-year-old Willa Hart from Winnebago, Illinois. She and a dozen other campers learned traditional skills during their week at the Peaks Island Fiber Arts Camp. Now in its fifth year, the camp offers hands-on activities in a backyard setting. Colonial Camp was held in Laura Glendening's yard, ringed by a vegetable garden, rabbit hutch, and chicken coop.

It's like a mini-Sturbridge Village," says Willa's mother, Stephanie.

ABOVE LEFT: Mark Hall directs the crane used to lift pieces of the limb from the deck at Jones Landing's restaurant. Clean-up began the day after it crashed into the building. RIGHT: An early view of a piece of the limb being lifted off.

Churning butter, gathering clover for clover tea, making strawberry jam. The morning flies by with the task of preparing lunch for everyone.

I loved the food," says Nirmala Young, 11. Lunch is soup like potato and leek, or snap pea and carrot, served with fresh buttermilk biscuits or bread slathered with fresh butter.

"We poached in two cartons of milk. We just mashed it around until it was ready. And then we put it in a salt. It was good," reports Daisy Brun, 11, on the butter choice.

After lunch, dishes get washed in outdoor buckets. The campers settle again under the tent for projects while Susan reads a story set in the Colonial era, Goody O'Grumpity. "Goody was a common name for a good wife."

Campers make a three-legged stool with a leather seat, a pin-cushion, a Colonial shirt, and a woven basket, in between plucking nearby strawberries, playing with the camp mascot, Wallace, a collie, and the business, Caramel and Coons.

On the final day of camp, parents are invited to share the accomplishments of the productive week, sampling a sweet cake and clover tea. Everyone takes home a jar of jam, with the camp's logo on the jar.

"Would Willa like to live back in Colonial times?" I could do it for two weeks," she smiles. "Then I would want to have a farm. Or go to the mill."

Giant Limb Lands at Jones

Landscaper Newell says it may mean the end for the Fifth Maine

BY KEVIN ATTRA

On June 29 at around 1:00 a.m., Robin Clark, owner of Jones Landing, heard what sounded like ice cubes crashing onto the fixings of his building. He rushed to the scene to discover that his Corona beer coolers had been tipped over. Her daughter Alexandra said it was more like the sound of grocery carts banging into each other, and thought it came from Hannigans Market. They both agreed that it was really, really loud.

What it was that Sunday morning was a giant Limb from the oak tree next to the restaurant that had given way after years of internal decay and spread through the carven walls of the west side of the building. In less than 30 seconds it had done several thousand dollars worth of damage to the outdoor stage and dancing area. "I had a wedding that Saturday, that's what I was really worried about," said Robin.

Aftet the insurance company appraised the damage, she called in Stan Newell to remove the limb, who got help from demolition expert Mark Hill. "They made it their priority," she said, to put whatever else they had to do aside so they could get it cleaned up. Mark brought in the boom truck he uses on the island but it was too small, so he hurried over to Portland for a bigger one, which he had to rent from one of his customers. According to Stan, the limb was so huge that it was basically a tree in itself and had to be cut into five or six pieces to be removed. The last of the pieces was three feet in diameter and about 30 feet long. Stan said the tree is "pushing 350 years old," and may have to be removed altogether for safety reasons. "It's a real tragedy," he says. According to Mark, they started work at 9:15 a.m. and had it cut up and hauled off the property by 11:45 that morning.

The following day, which was Tuesday, the awning company sent a repairman who worked "non-stop for four days" said Robin. By Saturday, the dance floor was ready for action, the wedding was on, and she was back in business.
CLIFF ISLAND TO THE AZORES

BY CAROL YOUNG

By now most islanders have seen the red & yellow brochures announcing the Peaks Island Children's Workshop's major fundraising program, "Campaign for the Future." This campaign was initiated by the workshop's Board of Directors in order to ensure the future of this island resource in light of wide ranging cuts in funding. Many islanders and summer visitors have already made generous contributions to the campaign with the result that the mortgage on the building has been eliminated, which was one of our goals. It is with deep appreciation that the board acknowledges the island's generosity in helping the workshop meet this initial phase of the program.

The ultimate goal is to raise $150,000 looking ahead to the future with full knowledge that further cuts in funding await the workshop. Since 2003, funding from the largest source (the Department of Health and Human Services, the United Way, and the City's Housing and Community Development program) have diminished by $58,000. Budget projections for 2009 see this figure further reduced by $13,000. With such drastic cuts, it is imperative that the workshop reach its ultimate campaign goal. We, the architects of the fund-raising campaign, will be conducting tours of the workshop's beautiful facility this month, in the hope that these visits will inspire even further generosity from you.

If you have already given money, or have made a pledge, we want to thank you for your support and ask you to consider increasing your current contribution.

The campaign has these major objectives: to retire the mortgage (which is already done), to create a board-restricted fund for the purposes of providing much-needed scholarships, and to establish an emergency building repair fund.

We would love for you to join us on Saturday Aug. 2, or Tuesday Aug. 15, for a brief informational tour, starting at 9 a.m. We will show you the workshop and introduce you to the increasing programs and services provided by a very committed and caring staff. We will also explain in more detail the need and goals for our Campaign for the Future. Please RSVP at 766-2864.

Made in the Shade

RIGHT: Nancy J Hoffman entertained pedestrians with her accordion in front of the Umbrella Cover Museum on Island Avenue Tuesday, July 7. Neither sun nor heat could stop her and it's probably she wouldn't Rather either she is always with an umbrella of some sort.

FOOT: Three Island owners and curators of the museum, as well as a founding member of the Casco Bay Tumblers. You can hear them live, in a concert on Darling Oaks Park on Aug. 5 at 7 p.m.

The museum will be going for the gold Friday, Aug. 15, when it conducts a count of the umbrella covers in its collection for entry in the Guinness Book of World Records. To make it official the event must be witnessed and video taped. Anyone is welcome to come help count or just hang out and watch. Counting starts around noon.

Cliff Notes

CLIFF ISLAND TO THE AZORES ISLANDS

Just when you think you get to know a person, up and gone they go. After four somewhat wonderful seasons as the general store owner on Cliff Island, I have decided to sell the place. It's an opportunity I just cannot pass up.

I came to this island in 2005 from Commercial St. in Portland. My previous business as a restaurant/bar owner gave me the experience and knowledge I needed to successfully run a small general store and sandwich shop. Though I was not an islander (I commuted on my own boat), I was on the island more than most people and granted any request from town as part of the store's service. Just give Milli a grocery list and he'll pick up your grab and bring it down the bay. It's great for the folk who are old and the workers on the island who want a day going to town." Bill Green said of his favorite store. "I can't imagine it without Milli, but I don't blame him one bit," He said.

Everyday, as new summer people return, I get to tell the entire story of why I must leave Cliff Island, Maine. Most islanders look saddened to hear of my departure and show a quirky smile. But I think they are also a bit envious and jealous of my adventure.

You see, my wife, Stacey, and I lost a second early pregnancy back in the fall of '07. Since then, we have wished to runaway say, and get out of town for a while. An extended vacation. At one point Stacey applied to jobs in Oregon, Arizona, and even in her home town in upstate New York. We also went to Las Vegas over the winter for interviews and fun.

But, nothing was really hitting for the crazy reality switch till one day, when an on-line application for a civilian Air-Force job that Stacey had filled out got a response in less than an hour after the two-hour application process.

Stacey had barely told me about the job when a company representative called to say he loved her application and wanted to do a telephone interview with her. She agreed, and next day she spent two hours in a conference call with a few bosses in Montana. The company flew her home where the following week and, bam, they practically hired her on the spot.

The job has required some background checks, and other small preliminary requirements before she could sign on the dotted line. And will be doing Social Work at the school on the Air-Force base, in the Azores (a nine island chain off the coast of Portugal). The company will ship most of our belongings, give us a living allowance, pay well, and educate our five year old.

It's an opportunity we cannot pass up.

It involves a three-year commitment, a new culture, new language and a new life. Maybe the runaway, extended vacation life that we've needed.

So the store is up for sale. A mere $5,000.000 bucks and you get everything inside the building, all the inventory, all the machinery, and all the existing adventure of owning a small general store on an island off the coast of Maine. Maybe it's the runaway reality switch you've been needing for yourself.

BIG WEDDING ON CLIFF ISLAND

For people who don't know why the Island Romance left the dock on Saturday, June 21, filled with people at 11 a.m., it's because it had been chartered to carry all the in-town wedding guests for the Dale Dyer and Karen Possett wedding.

Only for a moment, just before the ceremony began, was the gallant affair at Griffin's Cove a bit on the foggy side. But, as people flocked in and took their respected places, the skies cleared and made the moment very special.

With the sun beaming down on the picturesque couple, Roger Berle, who coordinated the wedding, said he expected nothing less. From the food, to the tables and chairs, down to the cake, Roger and his helpers, the Mark town family, and Dale's brother and friends, put together a wonderful occasion for their two loved friends, Bruce and Anna Dyer, Dale's parents were very grateful for everyone's help, and now, finally, they can turn the old kids' room into a workout room. Please see CLIFF page 6.
**Island Views**

**Letters to the Editor**

As the Chair of the PIC’s division on Residential Transportation, I met with the City Council Transportation Committee July 15 to report that hundreds of small animals have been previously available to islanders at little or no cost have vanished, in part because of a lack of regulations. The contract the City has with the owner of the new Longfellows garage parking lot prevents the City from providing any available parking in the vicinity of the garage. Based on reports from the parking survey conducted in February, I said that this would cause a significant shortfall of over 600 mainland parking spaces for islanders in the general vicinity of the waterfront.

On behalf of the PIC, I proposed the following three solutions to the loss of parking: house parking spaces in the new Longfellows garage in Island residents for five years at $300 per month (rather than $135 rumored to be the case now), allow cars with island zone stickers to park free in the expanded areas of the Fish Pier parking lot; and increase the number of spaces in the island zone from 50 to 200. The request for the last of these was reduced to 20 to 49.

At present, the 55 spaces can be used by anyone for up to two hours, and many of the spaces also have a parking ban Sunday nights. I requested that none of the spaces be subject to a parking ban on any of the three weekend nights.

As Chair of the Kill the Longfellows City Council Dan Skolnik and committee advisors present at the meeting were quite negative about the use of the Fish Pier lot, asserting that it needs all the income it can obtain. We were also told at the meeting that the 55 spaces would be closed to all of the city’s taxpayers paying to help out islanders. It was somewhat surprising, considering that the City is pressuring the Longfellows garage for business at 300/month for empty spaces, while also forcing tens of thousands of dollars a month in surface lot rental fees, to also help out the garage owners.

With respect to the proposed changes to the Island Residence zone, the only positive response was to the elimination of parking bans on weekend nights; it was indicated that this could and would be taken care of.

Tom Bohan, Peaks Island Council

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**Memorial Fund**

*July 20, 2008*

The Peaks Island Fund is proud to offer island residents a way to recognize and honor deceased friends and family for whom Peaks Island held special meaning during their lifetime. It is also a unique way to perpetuate the memories that we receive gifts. Over 200 island residents and friends contributed to this fund in 2007-08 resulting in a continuing tribute to the memory of the good people listed below:

- Dot and John Flynn
- Dot Curran
- Donald C. Thompson
- Kathryn Zimmerman
- Evan Huber
- Liane Bebe
- Emily Palfray
- Mary Leslie
- Elizabeth Pancourt Reynolds
- Christina Winter
- Walter Krause
- Shin Soon Num
- Catherine Dinan
- Catherine Hannigan
- William D. Jones
- Walter Schneller

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**ISLAND TIMES**

**PUBLISHER: KEVIN ALTRA**
Member of the Society of Professional Journalists

The Island Times is a community newspaper covering the islands in Casco Bay. We welcome birds, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, births and other matters. P.O. Boxes: 364, 1423 Forest Ave, Portland, Maine, 04101. To reach Island Times, call 207-774-9999. For ad rates visit our website at www.islandtimes.org.

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YOGA FOR LIFE

A yogic perspective on health and simple living

BY REBECCA JOHANNA STEPHANS

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

Wind-Relieving Pose:
Lie down on your mat with your knees bent, feet flat on the floor. Lift up your right foot and draw your thigh closer to your belly. Interlace your fingers either at the back of your thigh or over your shin. Hug your leg in close to your torso, flex both feet gently (pull your toes towards your knee) and take long, deep breaths.

Bridge:
Lie down on your mat with your knees bent, hugging both legs in towards your torso. As you inhale, press the soles of your feet up towards the ceiling while simultaneously reaching your arms towards the floor overhead. On the exhale, return to the starting position. To be more vigorous, hold the posture for at least five slow breaths, perhaps bringing your arms to rest on the floor overhead for a deeper stretch. When you are complete, repeat wind-reliever pose for a complimentary stretch.

Pause:
To complete your practice, lie down with your lower legs supported on a chair, perhaps with a pillow under your low back and buttocks. Close your eyes, breathe slowly, and feel the effects of your movements. If it resonates with you, rest both hands on your lower belly, give thanks for your practice and that it enhance your well-being.

Rebecca Johanna Stephans, Kripalu Certified Yoga Teacher since 1994, has 21 years experience in the healing arts.

The annual Used Book Sale by the Friends of the Peaks Island Library attracted many readers of all ages.

Tentatively Cathy Shaw figured the Brackett Church fair earned about $500, thanks to the team of Emily Sherwood, Ruth Williamson, Sue Hafner, Ruth Whaley, Cathy Deitmar, Ann Hendler, Ida Foster, Doris Thorne, Virginia Horn, and everyone else who kept showing up to help.

Brackett Church’s Annual Fair featured arts and crafts, rummage and lobster rolls.

Monica Stevenson said the library earned over $1800 in the best year ever, and would like to thank everyone who contributed their books and their time to help with the sale, as well as all the shoppers, but especially Judith McAllister and the staff of the library.

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Rebecca Johanna Stephans, Kripalu Certified Yoga Teacher since 1994, has 21 years experience in the healing arts.
For the love of Peaks!

Well, they still have an annual parade, dress-up parade, from time to time. The ones they had back then were a big deal, because there wasn’t a whole lot else going on, so all the kids would dress up their bicycles. There had been an old carousel in Greenwood Garden, and at the end of its tenure they sold off the carousel horses. My grandfather, who lived down here at the time, had bought one of those horses. By the time it got to us, all that was left was the head, but it was perfect for mounting on the handlebars of the bicycle. We kind of outfitted it with a blanket, so it was our version of a rather emaciated horse. But it was very nice and you couldn’t get a much more authentic head to it. And I had a cowboy hat and some chaps and some cowboy boots, so I felt pretty pedal with my Roy Rogers, twin six-guns mounted on my legs, too.

It was always interesting to ride the boats when it was foggy, because there was no radar then. The captains were very experienced, or at least you knew what you had a very experienced captain on board because they would hit the island, that is, come out of the fog and they would be closer to the landing than the less experienced ones. Sometimes they wouldn’t come out of the fog until they were down onto Centennial Beach, and then they would have to come up the whole length of the island to get to the landing. Of course, there were three landings back then, Forest City Landing, which is the one that is still in use now, and most of the boats would go to all three landings. So there was less need for cars, but those were like the other countries on our little continent.

Then there was grocery shopping. My mother would ask me to go to the grocery store, but she would always specify which store, not like the other countries on our little continent. And I wasn’t especially fond of the fog until they were down onto Centennial Beach, and then they would have to come up the whole length of the island to get to the landing. Of course, there were three landings back then, Forest City Landing, which is the one that is still in use now, and most of the boats would go to all three landings. So there was less need for cars, but those were like the other countries on our little continent.

Then there was grocery shopping. My mother would ask me to go to the grocery store, but she would always specify which store, which is something we don’t have to think about today. There were, oh, at least four or five that were active where we might get items within walking distance from here. I think my brother mentioned a donut shop as well, which surprisingly, I don’t recall that much. It was in range too. The donuts I remember were the ones that my grandmother used to make, just about every week, across the street in what is now [the] McCann’s house. She used to make donuts, and I cared much less about the donuts than about the donut holes. They were the best, especially when they just came out of that good of cholesterol-laden grace.

So these are the kinds of things. It was like the backdrop of a small play. And I wasn’t especially attuned to bring curious about the details of the environment in which I lived. Like, it didn’t strike me as at all unusual that would sometimes lie in bed in the summertime with my window open when it was hot and I would hear music coming from next door at what is now the Lions Club. Back in those days it was Greenwood Gardens Playhouse, where they did summer stock, and here were all of those Broadway actors and actresses, and they were rehearsing performances or practicing performances. I remember, I guess it must have been one actor, who had trouble learning the song, but I remember hearing “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes”, that old song, over and over and over, being practiced during the daytime and sung in the evening. That was just, you know, what you did at night. You listened to either what you could hear from a performance next door or people rehearsing for it. Didn’t strike me at all as unusual. That was just the way life was defined for me as a little kid.

Have you lived on Peaks for a long time? Do you have a Peaks Island story or old of memories from childhood or that illustrates why you love living here? Please email or call Fran Houston. She has heard some great stories and she wants to hear yours. fran_houston@hotmail.com, or call 766-2286.

The councilors were quite impressed with the new freight shed. The diligent working together was good. The community worked together and the design had the mayor thanking such people as Bob Howard for doing a wonderful, city-financed, well-done job.

CLIFF, page 5

CIA MEETS WITH THE MAYOR ON CLIFF ISLAND

Mayor Ed Stoeckle and City Councilor Kevin Donoghue showed up on Cliff Island during the last Cliff Island Association (CIA) meeting held at the Community Hall in late June. The meeting, run by President Jim Coulie, was a way that the councilor could see how this small community, with its needs, exists nine miles out in the open ocean.

The new freight shed and large item pickup removal from the budget were some of the things discussed at the meeting. Removing large appliances and old large items are of some concern for the island. Spending the time and energy and money to bring an old appliance from Cliff Island all the way to Riverside when, for years, you could put it out in front of your house and the City would take it for free, has some islanders bummed out.

The councilors were quite impressed with the new freight shed. The diligent working together was good. The community worked together and the design had the mayor thanking such people as Bob Howard for doing a wonderful, city-financed, well-done job.
As we enter the dog days of summer, or shall we say the wet dog days of summer, the islanders can be found in their homes, dressed in their most comfortable attire. The dog population on Peaks Island seems to be expanding. I'm not overly worried that this might pose the same problems that the deer explosion of the recent past caused. There are breeds, I am told, that eat hosts, rodents, tulips, and other ornamentals. Catus herbivorous too. I think this is the right time.

I've also noticed that the new dogs are smaller and happier, happier, happier. One islander, on a recent ferry ride, said that dog owners are humanizing their pets. Does that explain why they allow them, talk to them, read "Finnegan's Wake" to them? I overheard someone say she would vote for the Presidential candidate whose image on TV would make her term's tail wag. That may be as good an indicator of political will as any and handling our dog biscuits could be as good a vote getter as kissing babies. And the dogs are the eyes reading Mustiffs for McCain and I Back for Barack.

The free ferry ride for our mini-mutt that fits into his little backpack is an obvious economic plus. Though I did see a Bassett hound fitted into a knapsack. I am embarrassed to say that I imagine a well-dressed poopy pup in a stroller for an infant until it nipped at me in mid-Kenosee-koo.

And now with several veterinarians on island, plus one who makes pier-side calls, the need for health care for Peaks dogs (and cats) exceeds what is available to us mere mortals. But the dog docs are there for us, we are down with distemper or heartworm, whatever those are.

And the Prophet said, "O man, beware the Omen." The bony man of Peaks spoke of the fate that awaits us as an island community if we do not heed the warnings. We met one befogged morning as I foraged through the brush. Dressed in his long flowing, camo robe stained with moss and paint-ball dye, he bemoaned the direction our island is taking as he stood on what I knew to be an inedible toadstool. He said it all began with the blurring of differences between island life and mainland life, the bold colors, the creased shorts and daily showers, the vivid, glowing sounds of chain saws and speed Schwinns. He warned of the signs of entitlement: leave manners at home; crowd the streets and strew the drive the local preppy into the curbstones.

I cautioned him not to overreact since it had been weeks since I'd been bumped into the picket fence down front. And if it weren't for our visitors, Peaks would return to the muddy days of black and white, and poverty. Who would buy our hedges, spinach-filled croissants, and umbrella drinks, or join our mug club and rent our bikes. And who would remind us by their actions how great a place is Peaks?

The prophet hummed a bit, then, rising to his full height and with right index finger pointing skyward pronounced, "Casco Saturn de Nantucketum," and faded into the woods without one bit of discomfort from his deathly nighttime shoes.

Long before Captains John Smith island-hopped in Casco Bay, a Viking relative of Erik the Red named Phineas the Puce is said to have come ashore on Peaks in the vicinity of Whitehack rock. Recent storms have moved and rearranged the face of Whitehack, uncovering runes and runic pictograph said to be evidence of Puce's landing and telling of his impressions of the island. He talks of many deer and of an inhospitable population. Described as a longboat that made regular trips to the west, carrying families and animals and small children.

Phineas was given provisions for his return home after promising he would not tell others about the island; however, one of Puce's crew told his uncle, Brackett the Beige, about the island. Brackett in turn told relatives in England and the rest is history.

A midsummer's horoscope for all born under the stars in the month of August. You will be treated with extraordinary kindness this month, but be wary of Greeks bearing gifts. Your best friend will have distressing news about an encounter in grade school. Stiffens your lip and all will be forgiven. If possible, do not go to your job this month. Conside the berries of the fields who either sell door to door or cover their neighbor's riding mower.

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The Peaks Island

Restaurants

PEAKS CAFÉ, Down front on Welch St.; serving breakfast and lunch; also provide amazing catering services. Open 5:30 am to 5 pm in summer; 766-2000; see ad page 5.

INN on PEAKS; Corner of Welch and Island Ave.; serving lunch and dinner; Open Sun thru Th: 11:30 am to 9 pm; Fri & Sat till 10 pm; 766-5100; www.innonpeaks.com; see ad page 13.

Cockeyed Gull; Island Ave. next to Hannigan’s; serving breakfast, lunch and dinner; steak and seafood; Open 8:30 am to 9 pm Sun thru Th; Fri & Sat till 9:30 pm; 766-2800.

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

Take a Peak
52 Island Avenue
Peaks Island, Maine 04108
766-5956 or 207-766-5554
www.takeapeakisland.com

Mauras Chappy owner
Deborah Kendall manage

Hamnigan’s; Island Ave.; Groceries and some household supplies; 766-2351

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 2 pm to 6 pm; AND Burning through Sept. 17: “Sprout”, group show with works by Victor Romanyshyn, Diane Wiencsek, Carol Carton, Tim Niloff, Jamie Hogan, Jane Banquer, Stephanie Elliot, Doug Smith, Kethie Schneider, Laura Glendening, Paul Brahms, Jessica George, Cole Caswell, Connor Flynn, Fran Houston, Peg Astaia, Deborah Huters, Suzanne Pett, 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, trashed and abandoned umbrella covers displayed on walls and ceilings throughout the museum; at 62 Island Ave.; Call 766-4936 for hours.

The EIGHTH MAINE REGIMENT BUILDING (map no. 10); Phone 766-5008; 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. 29, Concert & Dance, 7:30 pm to 10 pm, adm. $7 / $3 under 12; www.8thmaine.org, see ad under Lodging.

The FIFTH MAINE REGIMENT MUSEUM (map no. 9); Civil War and local history museum; June Events: June 8, “Renaisans Voices” choral group performance, 6:15 pm, don. $8; June 21 “Songsters by the Sea” original music with host Phil Daligan, 7:30 pm, don. $8; June 28, “Breakfast by the Sea” community meal, 8 am to 11 am, adm. $6 / $4 under 12; www.fiftmainemuseum.org.
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; in wed service org with facility for lobster bakes and outdoor festivals available for rental; 766-2100

TEIA (Twenfeth Evergreen Improvement Association); (map no. 11); Community and rental facility for large gatherings; Manager 766-2622; Sailing 766-5420.

Property

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Property Services

Vacation Assistance

Libras, Laundry Service, Grocery Shopping and Delivery Equipment Rentals and more business: 207 221 5398
info@peaekrentals.com
http://www.peaekrentals.com

The many island vacations should be

1. Ferry Landing & Seasonal Bathroom
2. Community Blog / Photos / Video Rooms
3. St. Christopher’s Catholic Church
4. Brackett Memorial Methodist Church
5. Elementary School
6. Health Center
7. Greenwood Gardens - Lion’s Club
8. Beach / Swimming Area
9. 5th Maine Regiment Museum
10. 5th Maine Regiment Bed/Breakfast
11. TEIA Club (TEIA)
12. Ballfield
13. Battery Steele
14. Waste Transfer Station
15. American Legion

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

HARBOR VIEW PROPERTIES; Welch St.; Home sales and rentals; Contact Rhonda Berg 766-3490, or Eileen Mahoney 766-0327; 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

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The Eighth Maine Ave., Peaks Island, ME 04108 off Portland.
(207)766-5086 • www.eigbthmaine.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 25 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 766-2658.

PEAKS ISLAND BAPTIST; Pastor Beau Boyle; Sun. Bible study 10 am, Service 11 am, Wed. Prayer meeting 7 pm; Phone 766-3637; http://pibc.info.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL - Rev. Robert Hooper, Chapel; Sun 8 am, Holy Communion July and August at Brackett Church; Phone 766-2599.

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

HATHA YOGA; Saturday classes with Rachel and/or Brian; 766-5625; www.santosacenter.com.

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

MASSAGE with Prescott: 615-3296; peaksmassage@comcast.net

Barbara Burkholder, Vet care by appt.; 766-2626; see ad in business directory.

ISLAND VET SERVICE; Island visits; 772-3385; www.portvet.net; see ad page 9.
Editor's Note: Those of you who did the puzzle last month got to experience the special challenge of trying to figure out what the numbers were in the squares. I'm sorry to say you will be similarly challenged again this month. We are working hard to fix the problem, but in case we can't get it done by next issue, we are also looking into the cost of attaching a magnifying lens to the paper.

solution to last month's puzzle

aisle 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 boat fee applies.
Star Gazing

BY MIKE RICHARDS

August 2008 Sky

August is named for Caesar Augustus, the first emperor of Rome, who ruled from 27 BC to 14 AD. Augustus had been adopted by Julius Caesar (for whom July was named), and after Julius's death, he did much for Rome, rebuilding roads, creating an army and navy, creating police and fire departments, and improving the mail and tax systems, in addition to defeating Rome's arch-rival, Alexander, across the Mediterranean Sea.

This year, August is the month of the Olympics, which began in 776 BC as games held in Olympia between various Greek cities. They were held regularly for more than 1000 years, until Roman emperor Theodosius outlawed them as being anti- Christian in 393 AD. The games were revived again just before the start of the U.S. Civil War.

August opens with a total solar eclipse in Asia, of which Mainers can see only as a partial eclipse at sunrise on Aug. 1, as the Moon moves almost directly between the Earth and Sun. Two weeks later, on the evening of Aug. 16, we'll see a partial lunar eclipse, as the Moon moves behind Earth's shadow just as the Moon rises out over the ocean.

August is also the month of the Perseid meteor shower, which peaks on Aug. 12. A fat gibbous Moon will wash the sky with light, but it sets just after midnight, and early morning is best for meteor-viewing anyway. Jupiter still rules the evening sky in the south, but Earth has the inside track around the Sun and is leaving Jupiter behind quickly as the month progresses. Although Jupiter is 400 million miles away from Earth, you can almost discern a brilliant white disc, not just a point of light. Over the last few years, Jupiter's Great Red Spot has spawned two smaller spots, one of which it recently gobbled back up. A telescope will reveal two dark bands of clouds around the middle of the planet, and up to four of its largest moons strung out around it.

August is also a good month to check out the planet Mars. Venus is even brighter than Jupiter but is low above the western horizon just after sunset, and it's joined by Mercury, Saturn and Mars. You'll need binoculars to see those planets, but it will be worth the trouble, because they won't be this tightly bunched for several more years.

The summer stars include beautiful blue-white Vega directly overhead in the constellation Lyra, and red-giant Arcturus to the west, at the base of Boötes. Arcturus is easy to find if you follow the arc begun by the handle of the Big Dipper. At the start and end of the month, you can find faint nebulae just above the constellation Sagittarius, low in the south, to the right of Jupiter. That's the center of our Milky Way galaxy, where a giant black hole resides and holds our galaxy together with its enormous gravitational field.

August 1 - New Moon eclipses the Sun entirely in Asia, but if you get to the backshore before 5:30 a.m., you might see a piece of it just as the Sun rises out over the ocean. The highest tide this month is tomorrow morning at 6:17 a.m., as 12.3 feet of oceanwater drains out of the harbor.

August 2 - If you're down front just after sunset around 8 p.m., you can aim your binoculars back toward Portland and see a thin crescent Moon with Venus to the right, thin crescent Moon with Saturn above, and Mars to the left.

August 8 - First-quarter Moon is highest at sunset. The next week is best for viewing our closest celestial neighbor, and even small telescopes work well for this application.

August 10 - The Moon's at apogee today and is over 20,000 miles further away than it will be in a fortnight, so tides have moderated to just five feet between high and low, less than half of what it was just nine days ago—that's how important distance is to gravitational effect.

August 12 - The Perseids will peak today, and the predawn hours are best to "catch a falling star," not only because the Moon will set, but also because thin or waning moonlight is necessary to see the faintest meteors. For this application, August 12 is best. Also, 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of the first Perseid meteor shower, which peaks on Aug. 12.

August 15 - Over the next week, Venus and Mercury dance ever more closely in the western sky just after sunset. They're setting, too, so you'll want to be down front by 8 p.m., as the show will be over by 8:30 or so.

August 16 - Full "Sturgeon" Moon rises at 7:38 p.m. and will already be partially obscured by the penumbral, the lighter, outer shadow cast by the Earth. It's a Saturday night—perfect for a moonlight walk on the backshore.

August 18 - For those of you on the 7:15 boat to town this Monday morning, a fat gibbous Moon is setting over Portland.

August 19 - Mercury usually shines, will never be easier to find than it is tonight, as it sits just below Venus, low on the western horizon just after sunset.

August 23 - Last-quarter Moon is highest in the south at sunrise.

August 26 - The Moon's at perigee, its closest approach to Earth, creating a fat full moon that will be shining brightly by late morning. The rising moon will be more than nine degrees above the horizon.

August 30 - Second New Moon this month.

August 31 - Sunset is now at 7:03 p.m. The Dog Days of summer ended two weeks ago, and the autumnal equinox is only three weeks ahead, so gather ye firewood while ye may!
Maryland State Boychoir Rocks Brackett Memorial Church

ABOVE: Frank Cimino conducts members of the Maryland State Boychoir during the concert at the Brackett Memorial Church on Monday, July 14.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KEVIN ATTRA

With founder and director Frank Cimino, musical director Stephen Holmes, and accompanist Vincent Craig on piano, the 35-member a cappella Maryland State Boychoir sang to a packed house at the Brackett Memorial Church on Monday, July 14. The program featured a variety of music from the Baroque to the Modern, including the much-covered pop tune "Hello, Mary Lou," and Bobby McFerrin's arrangement of the twenty-third Psalm. The boys, who range in age from 10 to 17, also sang Latin chants, gospel music, a Gaelic piece about seaweed, and a song that explained how studying actually interferes with learning (go figure). They also performed a Brazilian song based on music of the native Krao people, which involved sounds of a hand drum, tambourine, rain sticks, bird calls and crescendoing conversations. Even the music director was at a loss to accurately describe it, calling it "maybe a war chant, I don't know. I leave it up to you." Mr. Cimino founded the Boychoir in 1987 in order to recognize and nurture talented young boys, and to give them the opportunity to sing and build self-confidence. Stephen Holmes, who directed most of the concert, began his career with the choir when he was 9 years old.

Despite the heat, the boys performed for over ninety minutes in a program that included the composition "By an Inland Lake," written by Peaks Island's own Faith York. Although she didn't direct the performance that evening, she conducted the piece later during an eight-day tour with the choir through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick that started immediately after the concert. The group is considering her compositions for use in future performances. The Boychoir relies on audience donations to finance their tours, and Stephen Holmes made a very effective plea for contributions at the end of the concert, explaining that the $10,000 the State of Maryland gives them doesn't quite meet their $750,000 operating budget. The tour bus alone costs them $22,000.

So, as the choir performed the gospel number, "Praise His Holy Name," the church's offering plates were passed around. The boys ended the evening with the audience and choir singing together: "I am yours, you are mine. Remember me wherever you go." Holmes said later that "people were very generous." Donations nearly covered the cost of their trip to the island.

LEFT: Head Accompanist Dr. Vincent Craig has been with Boychoir for 14 years. He holds a PhD in Musical Arts from Johns Hopkins University, and is music director at the Main Line Unitarian Church in Devon, Pa.

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Corrections

The Island Times would like to apologize to its readers for the following errors in stories that ran in last month's issue:

In the story on the Peaks Island Council, Lynne Richard was mistakenly attributed with reporting that there is a discussion to eliminate blue bags on the island. What she actually said was that a discussion had occurred with a business owner looking for an alternative to blue bag disposal.

In the paragraph about the American Legion Essay Award winners, Dustin and Chiara were switched for second and third place. The correct order is Dustin third, Chiara second, Daisy first.
Peaks Island Music Association presents

Peaks Island musicians

BY R.D. WINGFIELD

Wednesday evening, July 23, over 80 people turned out in the gray rainy night to attend the annual Island Musicians Concert at the Fifth Maine. It was the third of five concerts in the summer series sponsored by the Peaks Island Music Association, now in its 38th year.

Performers included Jon Strand, Ramil Hanley, Eileen Hanley, Starr Demitre, Nancy 3 Hoffman, Parah Padamsee, Austin Lang, Max Lang and the Uncalled Four. George Rosol was the master of ceremonies.

Mr. Strand started the show with a procession up the aisle blowing a large white conch shell, and later played three songs on various trumpets throughout the evening, accompanied by Nancy 3 on piano. Camille Hanley also had accompaniment by Nancy 3 on her song about Baltimore.

In a piano duet, Starr Demitre and Nancy 3 played an etude written in 1913. Starr had no idea why a picture of Franz Liszt was on the cover of the sheet music, since he didn’t write it. After the song George asked piano accompanist Charles Bury, who was in the audience, if the Fifth Maine’s piano was as old as the etude. “Two years older,” he replied. Starr also played a piano piece her teacher wrote and dedicated to her.

Soprano Parah Padamsee sang two of her favorite musical theatre numbers, “Your Daddy’s Son” and “Weary,” accompanied by the Rev. Desi Larson of the Brackett Church on piano. George commented afterwards that Parah studies under the same teacher as Max. PIMA’s concert performer Larry Tolan. Parah is currently appearing in a Port Opera production of Romeo and Juliet at the Merrill Auditorium.

Austin Lang and his brother Max entertained the crowd with three blues numbers on trumpet and piano. Then Max demonstrated his skill on the piano in a solo performance of the theme blowing a large white conch shell, which once George commented, “Rachmaninoff was known to compose pieces for 3 hands.”

The piano duet also made Eileen Hanley decide to sing as well as play when her turn came. “After Max,” she explained to the audience, “I thought you wouldn’t be impressed if I just played piano.” She performed the song, “Lucky Star,” by Ben Folds. This fall she travels to France where she will spend her high school junior year studying through the AFS (foreign exchange) program.

Nancy 3 provided an international dimension to the evening with her accordion, demonstrative his skill on the piano in a solo performance of such accomplishment that once George commented, “Rachmaninoff was known to compose pieces for 3 hands.”

By the end of the night the rain was gone and the people on the verandas had the best seats in the house, with acoustics out there reported to be "wicked good." As usual, many concert attendees stayed afterwards to help put chairs away and straighten up.

The Uncalled Four, made up of Larry Ducharme, Cevia Rosol, George Rosol and Faith York, is a calla quartet that formed 6 years ago “to keep a certain group of people off the street,” according to George. They performed two pieces, of which one was attributed to Hanley the Eighth from the mid-19th century, recommending that people go out and have fun with their friends.

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From Isle to Isle

About twenty-eight years ago Kimberly Edwards left her day job on Peaks Island to see the world, but she didn’t have a lot of money. So, in order to pay for travel she’d sell cow-stuff from her trips, and that became a way of life. Now living in Bali with her husband, Buyung, she sells exotic, bling and her own line of summer clothing each year in a US tour that brings her back to Peaks Island every Fourth of July.

Ten percent of the money she makes goes towards her former employer, the Children’s Workshop, “after deducting the cost of the car ferry,” she says.

On Merrill’s Wharf, Just a short walk from Casco Bay Lines to 262 Commercial Street.

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COMMUNITY NOTES

PEAKS ISLAND POLICELOG

JULY 2008: 46 Calls & 0 Arrests

JULY 1, 2008: 1 Welch; Pedestrian Check
JULY 1, 2008: 13 Brickets; Motor Vehicle Stop
JULY 2, 2008: 215; 1 Welch; Loud Music
JULY 4, 2008: 215; 19 Brickets; Motor Vehicle Accident
JULY 5, 2008: 5; No address listed; General Disturbance
JULY 5, 2008: 324; NAL; Loud Party
JULY 6, 2008: 8; 1 Welch; Loud Music
JULY 6, 2008: 634; NAL; General Disturbance
JULY 6, 2008: 1725; NAL; Persons Bothering
JULY 6, 2008: 2472; Island; Bail, Warrant
JULY 7, 2008: 1023; 70 Central; Missing Person Report
JULY 7, 2008: 1125; 100 Welch; Criminal Mischief
JULY 7, 2008: 190; Residential Mischief
JULY 7, 2008: 292; Island; Theft Report
JULY 7, 2008: 819; 2 Island; Persons Bothering
JULY 9, 2008: 2251; NAL; Sp. Art, Check
JULY 9, 2008: 226; Peaks Island; Ped. Check
JULY 10, 2008: 8; 1 Welch; Loud Music
JULY 11, 2008: 134; NAL; Persons Bothering
JULY 11, 2008: 144; NAL; Harassment
JULY 12, 2008: 1232; 1148; NAL; Caucasian Car, Stop
JULY 12, 2008: 1232; NAL; Loud Party
JULY 15, 2008: 141;ds; Assist in Person Stop
JULY 16, 2008: 142; Island; Hold-Up Alarm
JULY 17, 2008: 154; 1 Welch; Parking Complaint
JULY 18, 2008: 365; 69 Central; Vehicle Complaint
JULY 18, 2008: 234; 3 Central; 911 Hang-Up Call
JULY 19, 2008: 807; 100 Welch; Vehicle Complaint
JULY 19, 2008: 2058; 88 Woods Rd; Missing Person
JULY 20, 2008: 215; 100 Welch; Mischief
JULY 21, 2008; 120; Central; Serving Papers
JULY 21, 2008; 120; Central; Servin Papers
JULY 21, 2008; 2213; 79 Island; Persons Bothering
JULY 21, 2008; 2251; NAL; Sp. Art, Check
JULY 22, 2008; 1113; 9 Church, Peaceful
JULY 24, 2008; 149; 1 Welch; Theft Report
JULY 25, 2008; 209; City View; Shot Reported
JULY 25, 2008; 15; 1 Welch; Pedestrian Check
JULY 25, 2008; 2108; 203 Pleasant; Vehicle Stop
JULY 25, 2008; 1025; 1 Welch; Motor Vehicle Stop
JULY 26, 2008; 13201; 3 Island; Hold-Up Alarm
JULY 26, 2008; 25; 1006; 50; Disturbance

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Sunday: Beach Brunch Buffet for $16.00

BAYSPECER TO ADDRESS GARDENERS OF PEAKS

Bayspecer, a local musician, will speak at the next meeting of the Peaks Island Gardeners at 7 p.m. in the Community Center. The public is invited.
Drinking Water Facts and Figures

BY ARTHUR ASTARITA

Sebago Lake is the drinking water source for about 90% of Peaks Island homes. In the early 1960s, the Tiefenth Evergreen Improvement Association (TEIA) was instrumental in facilitating bringing treated drinking water to Peaks Island. The Portland Water District (a legal entity separate from the City of Portland) operates and maintains piping from the mainland under the bay and crossing Little Diamond Island to Peaks. Federal regulations marshaled by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provide health and safety standards that allow homeowners to drink treated tap water with little worries. Unless there is an emergency, commercially bottled water need not be used.

According to the District the new system will provide benefits of improved customer service, safety, energy efficiency, and a reduction in estimated bills. The switch to Remote Read meters will reduce the District’s meter reading fleet from seven vehicles to one hybrid. The new meters will continue to be installed in some areas through August.

Portland Water District installs new meters

The Portland Water District has been replacing all (year-round) water meters on Peaks, Great Diamond, Little Diamond, and Cushon Islands with new Remote Read meters. VSI Meter Services is doing the work and began contacting customers in June to arrange for installation, which is free and takes less than 45 minutes. A fee may apply to customer-owned substations.

Remote Read uses a radio signal to send meter readings to a mobile collection unit. According to the District the new system will provide additional benefits of improved customer service, safety, energy efficiency, and a reduction in estimated bills. The switch to Remote Read meters will reduce the District’s meter reading fleet from seven vehicles to one hybrid. The new meters will continue to be installed in some areas through August.

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Water Testing Program Recommended for Any Homeowner

Recommended Standard Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANALYTE</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>FREQUENCY FOLLOW UP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>0.010 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliform &amp; E.Coli</td>
<td>0-10000 CFU</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloride</td>
<td>250 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper (metalloid)</td>
<td>1.0 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>4.0 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardness</td>
<td>75 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>10 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead (metalloid)</td>
<td>0.015 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manganese</td>
<td>0.05 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate-Nitrogen</td>
<td>10 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrite-Nitrogen</td>
<td>0.5 mg/l</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>Recommended 6.5-8.5</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radon</td>
<td>Not App</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranium</td>
<td>Not App</td>
<td>3-5 years annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Continue testing until the average concentration is determined for naturally occurring contaminants.
2. Suggested follow up testing if concentration of the contaminant is greater than 75 percent of the MCL.
3. MCL = Maximum Contamination Level as set by Environmental Protection Agency.
4. SMCL = Secondary Maximum Contamination Level - aesthetic, usually no health threat.
5. Water treatment companies express hardness in grains per gallon. 1 grain/gal = 17.1 mg/l
awarded the position of Secretary to Christina Foster and Kathy Schneider who will co-serve alternately in meetings. Ms. Foster, whose experience as Secretary for the Island Independence Committee made her a good candidate for the position, said she was happy that "this one party".

On July 22 at the Community Center, the Peaks Island Council sponsored a dialogue session between residents of Luther and Elizabeth streets and members of Homestead. Approximately 20 people attended the two-hour session, which dealt with two potential design alternatives for creating affordable housing on Luther Street. A follow-up brainstorming session has been scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center to focus on additional design alternatives.

The council adopted one of three modifications to the simplified Roberts Rules of Order proposed by Mike Langella, which addressed public discussion and the extent of community participation in meetings. Langella said he was concerned with the amount of time spent on issues, so did Councilors Stover and Herlihy, and felt the PIC should address it before the council found itself facing a highly charged issue in the community. The measures established controls for discussions and response to public comment.

Elyse Richardson cast the only dissenting vote, disagreeing with the wording of the proposal. "It feels to me like you're trying to limit public comment," she said. "I'm trying to encourage it."

At the end of the workshop July 9, Rob Tiffany announced his intention to run for re-election. His seat is one of two that will become available in November. Kathryn Manley is the other.

Meg Springer Holdridge at home with sons Be (center) and Dudley. When asked what she does at home, she turned to Be. "What did I do at home?" He said "House work."

As an experienced director of innovative educational programs in Rhode Island and other parts of the world, Ms. Springer Holdridge sees a need for change in the public perception of the school. The Campaign for the Future is a first step in this evolution, and the accomplishments of this workshop's board is something that has really impressed her.

As the workshop adapts to a community whose needs are changing, and public funding sources that have lost interest in supporting it, Ms. Springer Holdridge sees the struggle as a great opportunity. "I'm committed to looking at the future," she says. "Let's look at a new way."

CHILDREN, from page 1

a 501(c)3 corporation in its own right. As a non-profit organization, it has the ability to create innovative programs for the community that go beyond child care. For instance, the workshop currently provides job placement for the Foster Grandparents Program, and sponsors the Peaks Island Food Pantry.

LINES, from page 2

board meeting on discussions on proposed service changes would also be open to the public.

Sale and Marketing Committee Chair Scott Johnston of Little Diamond Island said the one-year-old committee has expanded profitable charter businesses and use of the website for merchandise.

Rate Structure Committee Chair Chris Hoppin of Peaks Island said the committee continues to work on generating revenues so CRITD can operate on a break even basis. The district has applied for a grant to fund electronic ticketing that could make it possible to offer additional discounts for frequent travelers. The committee awaits the "Cost Allocation and Rate Structure Study" to be presented by an independent consultant at a special Rate Structure Committee meeting that is scheduled for July 31 at 7:45 a.m. on the Bay Mist, dockside at the terminal. The public is invited and there will be an opportunity for questions and answers after the presentation.

In response to previous requests for a Saturday meeting on Peaks Island, CRITD's Rate Structure Committee will meet from noon to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 16, at the Peaks Island Community Center.

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Long Island’s 15th Annual Picnic

Winner of the sand castle competition, Caleb’s Castle featured realistic windows, a large moat with a working bridge and several guard dinosaurs who kept watch around the castle.

Sponsored by the Long Island Civic Association (LICA), the annual picnic is a celebration of the birth of the town in 1993, when Long Island seceded from the city of Portland. The picnic also celebrates the life of Linda Papke, who adopted the event each year until her death in 2006, and is funded with donations in her honor.

Organizing the picnic is “fun to do,” according to Steve McDuffie, LICA member and chairman of the picnic committee. “Everyone pitches in.” To illustrate the point, he explained how, the day before, a ton of seaweed washed up on shore. “It was a mess,” but people came out with rakes and got it off the beach, he said. Then that morning a dead seal was found on the beach, which had to be hauled away quickly. “We got it all done,” he says proudly.

The picnic is held at Fowler’s Beach on the southwest tip of the island where dead seals often wash up on shore. It is always held on a day when low tide is at noon so that the annual sand castle contest can take place. This year’s entries were actually sand sculptures, with some fairly sophisticated creations that included a depiction of Candyland, a life-size mermaid, a hammerhead shark, a giant pocket watch, and some things that only their creators could identify for sure.

Stephanie Sargent, who built the mermaid with Brittany Bills, said they didn’t make a sandcastle because “everyone makes castles.”

Of the nine entries in this year’s competition, most were built in about two hours. A few were built strictly by adults, a few by children. They were judged by Katie Johnson, Rose Lortie, and Melanie Floyd. “We also made fliers for the event, posted them around town, and then helped set up,” said Katie. “Now we have to judge,” she added.

Meanwhile Kay Werner offered to collect shells on the beach for a newcomer to the island, explaining, by way of introduction, that she’d been on Long Island since 1946 and no one hates her guts yet. At the food tables people stood in a line that got longer as the day wore on, and talked about everyday things.

Around 1:00 p.m. the judges had reached a decision: first place went to Carley’s Castle, second place to the “Time’s Forever” pocket watch, and first place to Caleb’s Castle. The judges also tried to make sure the other contestants got a consolation gift. “I don’t think we got everybody,” one said. “That’s what I’m trying to figure out,” said another. Eventually, they got it sorted out, and activity on the beach slowed down. Folks drifted here and there, eating, talking, goofing around, or lazing in the sand, and pretty soon it became just another day at the beach on Long Island.

Margo Semonite adds final touches to the sculpture she created with Lily Speelman and her brother Steve. When asked how she planned to spend the prize money if she won, she said, “I will just get a pony.” We found out later there is no prize money.