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T S. Fitzgerald

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THE IMPORTANCE OF
BEING EARNEST
by Oscar Wilde

December 18-January 14
Matinees: Jan. 7, 14

Free theatre tickets are available at the Portland Stage Company for Portland residents who are either elderly (60 or over), handicapped and/or low-income. These tickets are made available through a grant from the City of Portland's Community Development Program. In order to establish eligibility and obtain tickets, an individual must fill out a short form at the FSC's box office located at 15 Temple St. Please call 774-0465 with any questions concerning the program.

FAMILY CAROL SING

CHRISTMAS CAROLING ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13TH

AT 7:00 P.M. IN TOMMY'S PARK, CORNER OF MIDDLE AND EXCHANGE STREETS IN THE HEART OF PORTLAND'S OLD PORT EXCHANGE.

CAROLING WILL BE LED BY MEMBERS OF THE CO-OPERA ASSOCIATION AND THE CONTEMPORARY CHORALE.

HOT CHOCOLATE WILL BE FURNISHED FOR ALL BY CAFE DOMUS.

WE AT THE TIMES WOULD LIKE EVERYONE TO KNOW ABOUT OUR ADVERTISING RATES, THEY ARE VERY REASONABLE, AT $3.00 PER COLUMN INCH,

WILL DESIGN THEM OURSELVES OR YOU MAY SUBMIT THEM PRE-DESIGNED IF YOU DESIRE. PHOTOGRAPHS ARE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE AREA OF THE AD FOR AN ADDITIONAL TWO DOLLARS, OUR DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISING IS THE 20TH OF EVERY MONTH. IF YOU DESIRE MORE INFORMATION OR WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT YOUR OWN PLEASE WRITE TO PEAKS ISLAND TIMES, P.O. BOX #53, PEAKS ISLAND, ME, 04108.

THANK YOU, ED.

CORRECTION
We were in error, it was Rick CARON, not Curran, who helped with our dance. Sorry Rick!

P. I. T.
SALE AND REMOVAL OF HOUSE

Sealed bids for the Sale, as is, of the following building and for its REMOVAL from the premises by the purchaser will be received by the Purchasing Agent, Room 110, City Hall, 389 Congress St. Portland, Maine until 2:30 P.M. on Monday, December 11, 1978, when they will be publicly opened and read. (Bid # 24978.)

This is a 1 1/2 story, 7 room, wooden frame, single family dwelling (formerly the LeRose property) located at the corner of Island Ave. and Sterling St. (Assessor's Plan #87-E-23)

Each bid must be accompanied by a deposit of $50.00.

St. Christopher Women's Council held its annual Christmas Coffee on Sunday, December 3, with the Doreen McCann Dancers entertaining. The theme was 'Santa's Workshop' and from the smallest Baby Doll to the Star War toys and the concluding Silent Night, all did their part to carry out this theme.

At the conclusion of the performance the Women's Council presented Doreen McCann with a plaque for her many years of service to the children and adults on the island. Because she has given her time and talent to the Council in taking care of the programs, the Council wanted to express their appreciation.

Other citations were given to volunteers who gave their time in the summer to make the Trading Post a success. Those who sponsored other programs through the year were not forgotten. All was in gratitude for work well done.

January News

On Sunday, January 14, at 2 p.m. there will be a Hobby and Craft Show in the Parish Hall. If you have a hobby or a craft you would like to display, call St. Joseph by the Sea and make reservations. A donation of $1 will be expected and perhaps you will be able to get many ideas for the summer projects or suggestions for starting an interesting hobby.

Church News

This year St. Christopher Church will not have midnight Mass for Christmas. It will be the usual 7 P.M. Mass instead. The music program will follow at this celebration.
COME IN AND SHARE OUR CENTER WITH US!
DAY CARE

The Peaks Island Child Development Center is located in the lower level of St. Christopher's Parish Hall on Central Avenue. It has been located in the same place since its inception in the spring of 1972.

Many of the people who worked hard and very hard for two years to make the Center a reality are still here on the island, still working long and hard at one thing or another. Among these people are: Sister Ann St. Joseph SND, Estell Whitton, Freda Lewis, Clement Voyer, Jr., Mary and Winn Deane. Others such as Yvonne Norwood, Barbara Souza, Kema Patrie, Carol Raymond and Althea Latham are gone from Peaks but certainly not forgotten.

It all began in 1970 through a series of informal meetings and discussions of island residents who felt the need for development of a day care center. Letters were distributed to all parents with school age children, posters were put in store windows and announcements were made in both churches at Sunday services.

On Dec. 1, 1970 a proposal was made to the Parish Council in the name of the Steering Committee of the proposed Center. The proposal was for possible use of St. Christopher's upper hall, kitchen and the play plot next to the Trading Post for 5 days, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The purpose was to establish a much needed day care center for twenty children from ages 3-6. Fifteen children would be from low income families and five from middle income families.

Sources of funds and various funding mediums were researched. Anticipated sources were: Roman Catholic Bishop of Portland, Bureau of Social Welfare Funds, St. Elizabeth's Child Development Center in Portland and local donations.

In the spring of 1972 the dream became a reality. The staff was hired: Nick Mc Kenney-Director, James Freundlich-full time Room co-ordinator, Joan Hutchins-assistant full-time room co-ordinator, John Kelso-full time cook, Freda Lewis-part time room helper and Kathy Skerl-part time room helper.

The first year saw many setbacks but it also saw many bright spots. The center survived; the director and the staff have all changed; and those little children have grown up.

The current director is Tracey Butkus and the staff is as follows: Kathy Caron, Sally Green, Alice Boyle, Kathy Wilson, Bonnie O'Gane, and Val Hart. The center also relies on volunteers these days due to the decreased number of staff workers. Anyone who may have a few hours a week to donate for naps, walks, stories, please call the Center at 766-2854. No child care experience is necessary and Val Hart is in the process of developing a mini-training session for all the volunteers who feel the need for such help. Viki Roberts is presently donating her time as our Bookkeeper/Secretary.

There are two basic functions of the Child Care Center; (1) to provide daily care (2) to provide the kind of setting where physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth will be fostered to the maximum potential of each child. To accomplish this function the Center provides experiences in visual teaching, depth perception, mechanisms of vision, color, auditory attention, rhythm, pitch, balance, gross and fine motor coordination, peer and adult playing, communication, self care (dressing, washing, dental care), understanding social structures (police, fire, government), creativity, feelings control and expression.

The Center has a daily hot lunch and snack program, utilizes a dental clinic, has implemented a dental health education program, visits regularly the Peaks Island Branch of the Portland Public Library, and takes various day trips to town.

The goals of the Center under the new director, seen through the eyes of the Diocesan Human Relations Services, Inc. are (1) to provide an efficient and administrative system and a well trained staff, (2) to provide a comprehensive system of services to Peaks Island children ages 0-18 and their families. The Center is open to the public for inspection and visitsations. If you have never seen our Child Care Center, why not take the time to view the fruit of a successful community effort.

Next month the Times will offer a view of the family day care home opened in 1977 at the home of Angie Kelso which provides care for 5 children from infancy to 3 years of age.

Irene Murray
NEW FERRY TERMINAL

The Casco Bay Lines Review Committee met November 30 to review the completed Casco Bay Ferry Service and Terminal Feasibility Study. Called together by the mayor early in 1978, this committee was charged with choosing a site and planning a design for a new ferry terminal.

The committee is comprised of city and state planning officials, with limited representation of island residents by a few CBIDA members. Results of their work over the past year are contained in the study.

The study covers two broad areas: the ferry service in general and plans for the new terminal in particular. Possible management-ownership structures for CBL are discussed, as well as such issues as whether fares should be increased or certain routes curtailed in an effort to save money. Using smaller, faster boats for down the bay was considered and rejected.

For the new terminal, five possible sites were initially proposed and Long Wharf (or Pocahontas Wharf) was selected from among them. The study details three alternative construction plans for the facility.

The next step is finding the money to build it. Early in December, city officials will meet with representatives of the federal Urban Mass Transit Administration to apply for a construction grant. If UMTA agrees to fund the project, one of the three plans will be chosen and the building begun.

Sue Scandlen

To All The Staff:

Keep up the good work. But more importantly, "Keep the Faith." You're doing such a fine service to this God-given peaceful place where progress is coming about in a slow but positive approach to make a fine community. You are the life-line of communication to make it a reality.

Good luck -

God bless.

T. McEuaeus
Welch Street

THE CASE OF THE TOILET PAPER PALACE

Local legend has it that a Toilet Paper Palace appears once a year in place of the Trefethen-Evergreen Club. Witnesses say that this apparition takes place magically overnight to greet the morning of November first. Of course everyone realizes the importance of the previous All Saints Day when it is said that the spirits of our long dead ancestors rise from their graves at sundown to walk the streets and coves of Peaks Island.

Goodness knows the hob-goblins cleaned out our pantry this year with their perennial chant, "Trick or treat! Trick or treat!" The fallen cherubs were of a more modern sort than I had previously witnessed. R2D2 was there with Luke Skywalker and Darth Veda. The Saturday morning cartoons were well represented, though I can't for the life of me figure how they could ever have died and resurrected themselves from a real grave since the previous Saturday.

But back to the legend. It seems that the local constabulary was called in to find out what had happened to the Trefethen Club. After a few minutes of super sleuthing they arrived at the astute conclusion that the club had never really disappeared. It had been transformed. After further deductive reasoning and selected questions of selected individuals, this momentously, monumental, monstrosity of creative genius was explained.

Alas, poor reader, our trusty police have sworn to remain mum about the solution to this case. But wait! This intrepid reporter has learned recently that a certain lady may be shedding some light on this mystery, particularly at birthday parties! Space forces me to conclude here; but buy next month's edition for another peek into the mysteries on Peaks.

Retsim Nialk
On Tuesday, Nov. 14, about forty area and island citizens met in South Portland at a Department of Environmental Protection exploration of complaints of serious odor problems at the Pine State By-Products plant.

Pine State is a rendering plant located near the waterfront and tank farm in South Portland. They process the wastes of slaughter houses, chicken farms, and fish plants to produce usable oils and protein powder. The dehydration process produces odors which are, according to plant officials, controlled by a chlorination process. Pine State has for a long time been blamed for that unforgettable odor which frequently penetrated the senses on the ferry trip from Portland to Peaks. When the air currents are right, of course South Portland is blessed with this obnoxious odor too. Hence the citizen concern.

Company and DEP officials were told of the discomfort and anguish citizens felt at not being able to breathe clean air. One gentleman related how his wife would frequently be awakened in the middle of the night by the odor and vomit from the pervasive nature of the stench. In much heated testimony one many challenged the Massachusetts owner of Pine State Abraham Levovitz, to "move to South Portland and live near the plant if it smells so sweet."

For their part, company officials categorically denied that Pine State was completely responsible for the odor. They related that they had the most modern equipment available and "We have it (the odor) very well under control."

According to state law, Pine State is a non-polluter of the air! Even if it were responsible for the odor, obnoxious odors are not covered by state law regarding air pollution. The DEP felt that it could do little even though monitoring Pine State on a more frequent basis might help. Because the DEP is grossly understaffed this will not occur.

Two main suggestions resulted from this meeting. The first was that refrigerated trucks be used for transporting the wastes to the plant. The present trucks are not refrigerated and the wastes are frequently in varying stages of decomposition. The second suggestion made by Harold Hackett of Great Diamond Island was that citizens monitor the plant by noting the time and date of odor observation (1), the observer's location (2) and if possible, the general wind direction(3). Mr. Hackett was unavailable for comment on how this information should be used.

Pine State's present license must be renewed by Nov. 24, otherwise the plant may be forced to close.

Many citizens at the unofficial hearing felt that Pine State had again gotten off easy.

Said one person, "We've been fighting them for years and they still say it doesn't stink. If it doesn't stink, why don't they move the whole damned place somewhere else and avoid all this hassle?"

DICK KLAIN

SALTWATER CHESS

If you'd like to give the chess-player in your family a present he will enjoy all year long, give him a chess periodical instead of a book or a chess set. You never see chess magazines on the newsstands in this country, but there are plenty from which to choose.

The leading chess magazine in the United States is Chess Life and Review, the official organ of the U.S. Chess Federation. It's $15 a year ($8 under 20 years of age), and the magazine comes out monthly. Address: USCF, 186 Rt. 9W, New Windsor, New York, 12550.

If he's thinking about getting into postal chess, make him a member of the Correspondence Chess League of America. Membership includes a magazine, The Chess Correspondent (10 issues a year). $10 (under $21, $6). Address: Ken Hackney, Membership Director, 306 Northgate Drive, Macogodoches, Texas 75951.

If he's thinking about getting into chess openings a lot of players are getting into Modern Chess Theory. It may not cure him, but if he's interested while you are calling the boys with the white coats. $24 a year. Address: Modern Chess Theory, P.O. Box 50, Romford, Essex RM6 6DP, England.

If he's an Anglophile, you can subscribe to the British Chess Magazine, 9 Market St., St. Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN38 0DQ, Great Britain ($14 a year), or Chess, Sutton Coldfield B73 6AZ, England ($16 a year). BCM has more in it; Chess is written in an informal, breezy style. Both are very good.

If he reads a foreign language, and you'd like to get him a subscription to a chess magazine in that language, call me at 766-3353 and I'll let you know what is available. (Bud Lester)

Here's a chess problem which is made to order for the holiday season. White is to play and mate in six moves, and I guarantee you'll solve it even if you've polished off the entire eggnog supply all by yourself.

BUD LESTER
Battery Steele: The University is Invited Into the Act.

At the November meeting of the Casco Bay Islands Development Association, a proposal to sell the Battery Steele property to the University of Maine was tendered and granted approval after some vociferous debate.

The proposal, initiated by Mrs. Bea Chapman, is to sell the property to the University of Maine to use as it sees fit without restriction. If, at the end of ten years, the university has not used the property then it would revert back to the CBIDA or in the event of that organization's demise, another similar island group.

The proposal was forwarded to the University after some sharp debate from John Hubbard and Howard Heller, residents of Peaks Island. Their criticism centered on the free use of the land without restriction. Both men felt that some types of university development in and around the general backshore would be detrimental to the best interests of the island and jeopardize its present wilderness aspect.

Mrs. Chapman felt that to restrict the use of the land would discourage any prospective purchaser-including the university. She sees the university as being more responsible than other groups who have expressed interest in this area.

In last spring's Peaks Island Town Meeting, the CBIDA asked those residents present what they felt should become of the Battery Steele area. The overwhelming sentiment of that group was to leave the land in a "wild" state to be administered by the city or an environmentally based preservation organization.

Since then an area adjacent to Battery Steel has been offered to the city and they refused it, claiming insufficient funds to administer already existing wild lands being now held.

The issue of what will become of this space is still in doubt. The answers to land use and development are rarely simple when a private parcel is generally viewed to be in the public domain. The ownership of this area is confused by the diversified nature of its owner.

CBIDA has the unenviable task of trying to divest itself of this tax burden which is viewed alternately as a white elephant, an endangered species, and/or a prize catch. Undoubtedly it will remain, as it has, as an object of local controversy. But right now the University of Maine has the next move.

DICK KLAIN

AKERS AND ACRES

Akers Associates Realtors 774-8300
386 Fore St. Portland, Me.

Roland Dorais
Resident Manager
The Saltwater Aquarium Lives

After being rescued from storage by Mrs. Clemons and some helpful painters, a thirty gallon saltwater aquarium has become the highlight of the downstairs corridor at the school. With the help of Deb Hall of TRIGOM (the Research Institute of the Gulf of Maine) and Ellen Klain of the Portland Parks and Recreation Department, the children and staff of the school journeyed to Centennial Beach, the Point, and the docks at low tide to collect samples of marine life and enough salt water to fill the tank. Returning with their treasures and wet feet, Ms. Hall explained and demonstrated the role and costume of a green crab, what aquatic animals need for sustained life in the Peaks Island School Aquarium. Ms. Hall's demonstration was so interesting that everyone forgot to go home at the regular time.

A near crisis developed the next day when it was found that the pump had burned out. A makeshift arrangement has been donated and the refrigerated water bubbles like a clear witch's brew. The animals all seem quite happy as the crabs try to scramble out and the snails sort of slug along awaiting a new or repaired pump.

Everyone is very proud of the aquarium even though it has created a small problem. The students sometimes linger to watch it on their way to and from classes.

Educational Goals Go to Parents

At a time when there seems to be a renewed interest in education, the Portland School Committee has set four primary goals for the education of its young people. They approved these goals in July and these are now being implemented. The four goals are (1) Skill Development, (2) Cultural Enrichment, (3) Citizenship, (4) Sense of Self-worth. These goals were further defined by the committee and each building supervisor has been asked to write objectives to meet these goals.

Mrs. Ann Clemons, Assistant Principal of Island Schools, in her weekly "Peek at Peaks" has recently enclosed these goals to island parents. They were included as part of the discussions at the parent conference days held at the school in late November. She explained, "Each teacher is to develop specific objectives to work toward the attainment of these goals." Copies of the goals are available to any interested person at may be obtained at the school.

DICK KLAINE

Red Letter Days before Christmas

Dec. 11 Mon. Youth Concert, Portland Symphony, City Hall, 11 a.m. for grades 2 and 3.

TB Testing for school staff and volunteers. Please call school if you have questions.

Dec. 13 Wed. Kinderkonzert at Downtown Holiday Inn for grade 1 at 9:30

Dec. 14 Thurs. Mini-courses 1:15-2:15 for students in grades 1-6

Dec. 20 Wed. Visitation by Mr. McGarvey

Dec. 21 Thurs. Mini courses 1:15-2:15 for students in grades 1-6

School Christmas Program tentatively schedules for 7:30 p.m. in School Gym.

Dec. 22 Fri. Last day of school before Christmas vacation. Full day. School opens again January 2, 1979 Tuesday.

Season's Greetings To All!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children who come every Wednesday after school to watch the movies. Please continue to attend. It is every Wed. at 3:30 P.M. for Elementary aged children.

Now that the holiday season is here, don't forget that after the presents are wrapped and the meals planned you still have time to read. Get interested in a good book and let your mind wander. For the holidays the Library will be closed:

Dec. 23 Saturday
25 Monday
30 Saturday
Jan. 1 Monday

Make a New Year's Resolution to read, even if it is all your old, loved favorites.

Keep your eyes open for signs of free movies for High School ages and adults. We are planning a film program and the first movie will be free!!

I will tell you what I would like to offer at the first movie program. If having FREE MOVIES would interest you, please give the Library a call 766-5540 and leave your name and number.

Remember you can expect more from a Library than just books.

Enjoy your Holidays,

HOURS

Mon. 12 8
Tues. 10 6
Wed. 12 8
Thurs. 10 6
Fri. 10 6
Sat. 10 12

Louise Hutt

Peaks Island Library

Merry Christmas!
Surely we can all agree that a new terminal is necessary. Unfortunately, as so often happens on the islands, very few residents have been aware of this major year-long planning process. Consequently, the findings of the study are based on assumptions many islanders would question, and the plans for the terminal itself are less suitable than they would be if there had been adequate citizen review.

The study brings several questions to mind immediately. The cost of the chosen site appears to be vastly more expensive than the other alternatives. When the site was chosen by the review committee in February, 1978, the assessed valuation of the property was $371,610. In September, 1978, one quarter of the property was sold for $640,000. Leasing such an inflated parcel seems questionable when the City of Portland presently has the rights to two of the other alternatives, the Lion’s Ferry Terminal and Portland Pier. (The city is investing in the improvement of Portland Pier at present.) The State of Maine owns the Grand Trunk Railyard, another of the alternatives, and it seems reasonable to assume that a more advantageous lease might be negotiated with the state.

Mr. O’Brien of the Portland Planning Department said that the choice was not based on a cost analysis. However, that could be a major oversight, since the study states on page 103, “There is a fixed amount of funds designated for the Portland area, and any amount allocated to CBL will reduce the funds available for the Greater Portland Transit District or other recipients.”

The design of the terminal itself is another area of concern. All three plans show limited freight delivery space, enough for access by one trailer truck. Freight is rarely delivered to CBL in trailer trucks. More often, several cars and taxis cluster about the freight shed delivering small items, such as groceries. The planned delivery area will worsen the problem rather than alleviate it. Another obvious problem is created by the distance from the freight shed to the boats.

Two of the three plans include parking garages as part of the facility. While it is unquestionably true that lack of parking is a severe hardship to islanders with cars on the mainland, it may be that the issues of parking and the terminal should be considered separately. Questions that come to mind are: How much will it cost to park in the garage? And will excessive traffic congestion result from tourists attempting to drive to the proposed motel, restaurant and shops adjacent to the terminal?

The third area of concern is the analysis of future service by CBL. Islanders have a critical interest in fares, scheduling and the ownership structure of the company.

The one basic problem that underlies all these considerations is lack of citizen input. A new terminal is a good idea. But without diversity of opinion and adequate dialogue, we are likely to end up with an expensive boondoggle that suits nobody’s needs.

The UMTA program requires that “applicants for funds . . . must give evidence that opportunity was afforded the public for comment on the project and that the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the proposed action were considered.” We have urged the Planning Department to fully publicize the next meetings. In the meantime, readers should call Jerry O’Brien at City Hall (775-5451 ext. 269) and request a copy of the study. This study has cost the taxpayers $14,000 and contains several erroneous conclusions. Without citizen participation, we may end up with a $1,000,000 plus ferry terminal with the same problems.

Susan Scandalen
ONE STEP AT A TIME

On Wednesday, Nov. 29th, a meeting of the Community Center/Library/Public Safety Building Committee was held at St. Christopher’s Church Hall. As the meeting time was twelve noon, the City Council members brought boxed sandwiches and soda for all who attended.

Attending were 3 members of the City Council, 9 from the Town Meeting Comm., the architect, interest groups, concerned citizens and various media.

After breaking bread together the preliminary building plans and cost estimates were discussed. After a lengthy discussion, the architect's preliminary plans were agreed upon and approved as follows:

1. Remodel existing Fire barn to provide office space, day room, and storage space for Public Safety Personnel and to make the present structure energy efficient and able to meet existing fire regulations.
2. To construct a 2 bay apparatus room.
3. A 2 story library/Community Center structure.

Revision of the plans would have a kitchen with window looking onto the Community room from main office of the Community Center/Library building.

So far as the cost estimates are concerned there seems to be some question as to what would be wise to print publicly. I was unable to obtain an official approval by press time. Hopefully, we will have more details by the next issue.

The preliminary plans and cost estimates were agreed upon, as revised, and approved. So from here we get a final drawing together for bids and before too long we should have an artist's conception of the building site. Then we will all have a better idea of what's coming down the bay. (PIKE for all you mainland readers.)

OPENING THIS FRIDAY, DEC. 8

COMPANY "The Importance of Being Earnest" Oscar Wilde's near perfect creation which has been called the finest comedy in the English Language. A most enjoyable play for the holiday season. Playing Dec. 8 & 9 at 8pm; Dec. 10 at 7pm; Dec. 14-16 at 8pm; Dec. 17 at 7pm. Call 774-0465 for reservations.

Gift certificates for tickets to the PSC a great gift for the holiday season are now on sale at the box office, 15 Temple St. Portland, Me.
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