12-1984

Peaks Island Star : December 1984, Vol. 4, Issue 12

Service Agencies of the Island
HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OUR
ISLAND FRIENDS

Dec 21
Friday
Lions-Legion Christmas Party in the Gym - Peaks Island School
2 P.M.

Dec 23
Open House - St. Joseph's - by- the -Sea
2 - 4 P.M.

Dec 24
Christmas Eve Service Brackett Memorial Church
Dick Klain, Lay Leader
7:30 P.M.

Dec 24
Christmas Eve Mass St Christopher's Church
9:00 P.M.

Dec 25
Christmas Day Service St. Christopher's Church
10:00 A.M.

Friends Service (Quaker) Sunday morning
10:45 A.M.

Look for notices of Pot Luck Supper & Indoor Rummage Sale
in January

At the recent public hearing held by the City Planning Department, Dec 11, the Council Chambers was jammed to capacity with citizens from all the Casco Bay Islands. Voices were heard from each advocacy rejection or at least further study of the IR3 zoning and its proposed use for condominiums and ultimately the decision was delayed. Doug MacVane spoke his own sentiments and those of the results of the survey published in the Peaks Island Star in the summer. He was applauded by all (before the no applause rule was put into effect). We thought Islanders, who could not make the meeting, would enjoy Doug's speech in its entirety:

"I'm Doug MacVane, Peaks Island and a member of the Peaks Island Town Meeting Committee:

"At prior hearings we have listened to others rendering praise to the Council of Government group who have prepared the Island Study. I wish to be numbered among those extending congratulations for their production of an understanding and sympathetic study of the Islands.

"At an earlier hearing I believe one individual made comment that I_R 3 zone designation was the most confusing and least understood of the Zone designations. As many Peaks Islanders do, I agree. I understand the City wants to broaden its Tax Base, but I can't comprehend the City wanting to sacrifice a State, a City's natural Heritage in order to accomplish that end, especially so, knowing of the problems that exist as they do on the Islands. I don't understand large portions of Islands being made available to individuals, connected to large money resources, who would construct condominium complexes for the monied, and wealthy on these islands."
"I'm the product of old and very long time Casco Bay Islands families whose life styles have molded in and by these islands. My early childhood days were on Cliff Island and later Peaks Island. I remember Cliff Island, its lobsterring and fishing village, as home. I enjoyed the rare and unique experience of being able to ride around with Ed Pettingill, the old lamplighter, going about his rounds and I remember only too well his cow pasture.

"The early families took up residence on the Islands primarily because of their occupation, fishing, which provided the necessities of life and to live their frugal lives.

"Others, the Summer People, followed to the Islands to take up residence because of the life style the Islands offer. Peaceful, tranquil Islands, close to nature, places to meditate, to reflect; to dwell in a rural atmosphere free of urban clutter and distractions. Others have selected the Islands for their second home to vacation in or as status symbols.

"The earlier inhabitants came to the Islands, not with the idea of changing anything about the Islands, but more to blend in with and become a part of an Island, to let the character and nature of the Islands mold their way of living, their lifestyle. Some were capable and managed to cope. Others couldn't and departed the Islands. That stretch of water that separates the Islands from the Mainland, sooner or later, takes its adverse effect on most individuals finding it 'Not Easy' to adjust. They will want to leave in a hurry and never return -- such emergencies as: fires, doctor care, catching planes, business meetings, fuel, meetings friends, having babies!

"In recent years there has been a noticable influx of new year-round families to Peaks Island, most being professionals, and it is very apparent their intent is to blend into the Island's natural surroundings. It is the continuing generations of families, who have come to settle and blend into the Islands that add to and enhance the character or the individual islands.

"It is my personal opinion that the Peaks Island Summer Population of taxpayers has reached or is very close to the maximum saturation point that this piece of coastal real-estate can tolerate.

"The Summer Resident taxpayer comes to the Island for 3 or 4 months, their urban life-styles still dominant, to take advantage of that which the Island has to offer. The influx of the Summer Resident taxpayer brings individuals of urban life and habits, some families with maybe 2, maybe 3 cars; their children and animals; all exerting severe stress on the city's services capabilities.

"And now, the City Administrators with plans and hopes of broadening the City Tax Base look toward the Islands! I believe the City Planners will be placing themselves in the position of mastering an even greater dilemma than what presently exists in the areas of solid waste/sewerage, police protection, fire protection, etc. Don't underestimate the "Water Barrier" that separates the Islands from the Mainland, should the Planning Board designate and map an I R-3 zone.

"We realize that attention is focused primarily on Great Diamond Island, it being the first candidate for I R-3 zoning. If the I R-3 should become a fact, designated and mapped, then the door has been opened to encourage other developers and those connected to large money resources. Both Long and Peaks Island have built environments created during World War II. I, personally believe the installation on Peaks Island should have been made an Historic Site or City or State Park.

"The Planning Board and City Administration, in their quest to find ways to broaden the Tax Base, must study very carefully what the resulting impact would have on an Island should an I R-3 zone be designated.

"I don't take pleasure in the knowledge that development is being encouraged in the Islands; I, personally, do not desire to see Peaks Island summer population increase. I don't want to see more trashpiles. I don't want to see more stray dogs. I don't want to hear demands for a sewerage treatment plant. Nor do I want to pay Sewer User Fees. I don't want more telephone poles or more power lines.
"The Islands do not have the capability to absorb or handle the influx of a large development of condominiums without adding to the woes and problems that the City is presently having difficulties with.

"For as many years as I can recall, on radio, in newspaper and on T.V., the listening public has learned that economists are rarely correct; politicians are suspect; nationwide, developers in Florida, Arizona, California and elsewhere, have been the cause for many thousand of innocent citizens losing their life savings. The weatherman has a much better track record since the introduction of orbiting observation satellites.

"To designate and map an I R-3 Zone on Great Diamond would open the door for similar action on other Islands.

"As the survey taken at Peaks Island indicates quite positively, Island residents do not want the character of their Island altered or destroyed. A line must be drawn, a definite limit recognized, development and population must stop at some point. Islands are Maine's natural heritage and I believe must be protected from the construction of condominiums and the destruction of their natural character, and protected against the ravages of speculators.

"And now that I have had my say, I will wait and wonder, to see what, if any impact, the Islanders have had on your recommendation-making process."

DAY CARE CENTER NEWS

At the Daycare Center winter is an exciting time for the children. It was a lot of fun for us as staff to watch the children's delight with our first measurable snowfall this past month. Despite the cold temperatures, a wonderful time was had by all as the wonders of snow were rediscovered.

An important reminder for the winter season concerns the Center's policy for snow days. If weather is bad, parents should listen to WGAN-AM (56) for announcements. If Portland Public Schools are closed, we are open only for those parents who need to go to work. This is to accommodate our school-age program for a full day. We may close completely - any announcement will be made on WGAN.

We would like to thank the Senior Citizens for inviting our preschool children to a Christmas party on December 12. In preparation for the party, the children decorated cards and made beautiful glittered seashells to give as gifts. This annual sharing time is a fun event for children and adults alike. On December 21 we will be having a special holiday lunch to celebrate the season with the Daycare children and their parents.

On February 28 we will begin a 12 week workshop series available to all community residents at no charge. This is sponsored by the United Way and will be presented by Community Counseling Services of Portland. The workshops will cover different stages of child development, family roles and expectations, and communication techniques.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER (PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING)

Open for use of Island residents for various - private or public. It may be booked in advance by calling Ruth Woodbury at 766-2545. Currently it is used as a Drop-In Center for young people Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6 - 9, an exercise class, dance class, Junior Girl Scouts, lectures, fairs, sales and other occasional functions. Call and book yours.

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

Christmas dinners will be made & delivered by volunteers from the Senior Center on Christmas Day - complete dinner and gifts.

Monthly meeting & pot luck luncheon will be held on the 16 of January.

STAR donations for December - The Gustins, Maria Lombard, Irene Lathrop, Lions Club and Anonymous.
FACTS ABOUT TELEVISION

FROM JIM TRELEASE'S THE READ-ALOUD HANDBOOK (pages 93 - 97)

1. Television requires and fosters short attention spans. Reading, on the other hand, requires and encourages longer attention spans in children.

2. Children learn the most by questioning; television deprives the child of this most important learning tool.

3. Television interrupts the most important language lesson in a child's life: family conversation.

4. Language learned from television often does not reinforce language taught in the classroom; books, on the other hand, are written in standard English.

5. Television's messages are based almost entirely on pictures and emotional responses to those pictures, while the classroom relies heavily on reading, the spoken word, and critical, rational responses.

6. Television cannot portray thought. Because thinking cannot be shown on a television screen, a child almost never sees a TV performer thinking through a problem.

7. Television encourages deceptive thinking; it promotes "the easy way," as opposed to thinking through problems. (Between the ages 1 and 17, the average child is exposed to 350,000 commercials, and all of these commercials imply that there is no problem that cannot be solved by simple, artificial means.)

8. By competing for children's time and attention with a constant diet of unchallenging, simplistic entertainment, television stimulates anti-school and anti-reading feelings among children.

9. According to a study of 6,000 school children, television has a negative effect on children's vital knowledge after age 10.

10. Television stifles the imagination. When children read a story, they must use their imaginations to picture the characters and the action; as soon as a story is placed on film, there is no longer any room for imagination.

11. Television overpowers and desensitizes a child's sense of sympathy for the suffering of others. (Between the ages of 3 and 17, a child views an average of 18,000 acts of violence.)

12. Television is a passive activity, and it discourages creative play.

13. Television is psychologically addictive.

The Library would like to invite everyone for our Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 29 from 10 - 12.

Remember, when coming to the Library to check out books, records or magazines don't forget your LIBRARY CARD.

The Library would like to thank the Lions Club for their donation. It will go towards books. And thank you to anonymous for a gift magazine subscription.
In an effort to better accommodate Peaks Island residents, the Health Center will be open on the second and fourth Saturday of every month from 9 AM to 12 noon with a physician in attendance. It is our sincere desire to administer to the health needs of our community, and making our schedule a bit more flexible seems to be one way of helping. Also, as you can see from our schedule below, we are now open on Thursday evenings.

Dr. Kenney is moving his Portland office from 693 Congress Street to 97 India Street in the old Fire Station across from Levinsky's at the end of January. As you can imagine, this will be a convenience also.

Our winter schedule is as follows:

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<th>MONDAY</th>
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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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<td>Dr. Blythe</td>
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<td>9-12 Noon</td>
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The office is open every day from 9 AM to 5 PM, except Thursdays, when it will open at noon.

For appointments or emergencies, remember our number 766-2929.

We would like to thank all who attended our Christmas Open House — we certainly enjoyed having people come to the Health Center to meet our staff, and it was a companionable time for all of us. At this busy time it is hard not to become caught up in our own lives and to forget those among us for whom this may be an unhappy time for one reason or another. This is a wonderful time for us to exercise some of the qualities which have influenced us in choosing to live together in this lovely place — a caring for each other and a gentleness of the spirit. Merry Christmas from all of us at The Islands Health Center.

Alisa

Anne

Peaks Island Food Coop is a group ordering in bulk from FEDCO Warehouse in Winslow, Maine. Everyone is welcome to participate and order, as it is a volunteer, cooperative group providing all time and labor involved.

A variety of foodstuffs is available, from grains and flours, to nuts, cheeses and pet foods. Peaks Island Coop uses a partial list from which to order, but anyone may order whole cases of any item from the full list.

For more information or an order form, please call:
Marcia Hart-Quinby 766-2244
Louise Capizzo 766-4466

This order due in to Marcia or Louise by January 4th, Friday.
Consolidation Meeting Tues. Jan. 8th.
CITY OF PORTLAND, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Dear Island Residents:

The City of Portland has implemented a new refuse disposal program for Peaks Island. The purpose of this experimental program is:

- Evaluate the cost to remove all refuse from Peaks Island (except demolition debris and brush). Opposed to other methods of disposal.
- Determine if it is possible to remove all refuse from the island on a constant basis.
- Close the Peaks Island landfill except for demolition debris and brush.

The City has implemented the following measures to carry out this new program.

- Purchased new refuse collection vehicles.
- Purchased steel refuse containers to store refuse until it can be transported to the mainland for disposal.
- Hired personnel to manage the former landfill site as a transfer area.

The City has been contacted by several residents and organizations from Peaks Island who indicated that the Peaks Island Community would support a waste recycling program.

The Department of Parks/Public Works has planned to implement the following experimental refuse recycling program for Peaks Island:

- Wood; recycled for firewood and lumber is available at the landfill at this time.
- Newspapers; City will accept newspapers tied and bundled.
- Glass; City will accept green and clear glass for recycling. All glass must be clean.

The City plans to undertake an experimental curb side refuse recycling program. This program is scheduled to start the first Tuesday of May, 1985, and terminate in November, 1985. The curb side collection program will be scheduled for:

- Once a month.
- The first Tuesday of each month.

The City will collect: newspapers tied and bundled; clean, green and clear glass set out in plastic bags. The City will, at the end of this experimental program, evaluate the success or failure of the program and will decide whether or not the recycling program will be continued.

The City is seeking volunteers to assist us to carry out the Peaks Island recycling program. Any organizations or individuals willing to assist us to carry out this program please contact: Benjamin H. O'Reilly, Jr.
Superintendent/Parks and Islands
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine, 04101
Tel: 775-5451 Ext. 400

Your assistance and cooperation will be appreciated.
Sincerely yours,
George A. Flaherty

PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS
The Peaks Island Fire Department would like you to know:

When caring for your Christmas tree, please remember the following:
1. Keep your tree watered if it's real.
2. Check your cords before using for any signs of wear, and don't keep them if they are worn.
3. Keep breakable ornaments away from children and pets, put them high in the tree.
4. Keep bulbs away from flammable items like drapes etc.
5. When changing bulbs, be sure the cord is unplugged first.
6. It's not a good idea to leave your tree plugged in all night, when you go to bed unplug the tree.

Have a Safe and Merry Christmas

Mike Barter