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Mary Lou Wendell

David Tyler

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Secession group to make comprehensive proposal

By David Tyler

The Peaks Island Independence Committee will submit a comprehensive proposal for secession from the City of Portland in about a week.

It's the latest development in a difficult bargaining process. Since negotiations began in July, the parties involved disagreed on whether the negotiations should be public or private, who should sit at the table and what the topic of discussions should be.

As of Nov. 1, the BIJC was checking the figures for the proposal.

"We want to make sure the figures are all set before we release it," said Michael Richards, chair of the Island Independence Committee (IJC), and a member of the negotiating team. "We want to do it as accurately as we can—that's the reason for us taking our time.

"This proposal will allow us to do it in a way that makes sense for both Peaks and Portland," he said, in a phone interview.

In an advisory referendum on June 13, Peaks Island residents voted in favor of secession 393 to 127 (please see SECESSION, page 14).

Boater disappears during night-time trip

By David Tyler

At 12:30 in the morning of Oct. 11, Robert Gilshey made a call to the Coast Guard's First District Public Affairs Office.

It's thought that he then got into his 23-foot cabin cruiser, Rigged, shortly after making the call. He went in his boat from Great Diamond Island towards Portland, according to Ensign Ben Crowell, of the U.S. Coast Guard's First District Public Affairs Office.

The night was relatively calm, with three-foot seas and 15 knot winds.

The phone call was the last anyone heard from Gilshey, who was 55. He was not in distress at the time he made the phone call, Crowell said.

Gilshey's boat was found adrift by a lobsterman east of Cape Elizabeth at noon on Oct. 10. There was no one on board. The keys were in the ignition, the throttle was on and the boat's gas tanks empty. The cover to the boat's engine had been taken off.

Three weeks after his disappearance, what happened to Gilshey remains a mystery. As of Nov. 1, his body had not been found.

One of the CBIDA board of directors seats for Peaks and three other directors' seats are up for grabs.

Six candidates seek Casco Bay Lines seats

It's been a challenging year at Casco Bay Lines, which is governed by the Board of Directors of the Casco Bay Island Transit District (CBITD). In March, employees submitted a petition listing 11 complaints against management. In April, a petition signed by 284 Island residents also expressed unhappiness with management. At the end of March, the board hired an independent consultant who dismissed employee charges of harassment and fraud directed against management but noted that ferry management suffers from a lack of leadership, poor communications and very little accountability. In June, Pat Christian, general manager of Casco Bay Lines, announced his resignation, effective in the fall. Then in September, the board's finance committee announced a substantial projected budget deficit for 2006.

This year, six candidates are seeking four positions on the Board of Directors. The Island Times asked each candidate four questions about the issues facing CBITD. All posts have three-year terms.

Boaters disappear during night-time trip

Halloween at Scott and Nancy Nash's house is always a thrill

Creating an alternative Halloween tradition on Peaks

By David Tyler

It's one of the most entertaining traditions on Peaks Island.

Every year, for the past eight years, Peaks Island residents have come up with new variations on the haunted house tradition.

This year, about 12 people created a Hillbilly Halloween at the home of Scott Nash and Nancy Gibson Nash.

Those who dared to go near the Nash house were chased by hillbillies, frightened by a dog-boy, and murdered by zombies. They had to get their candy out of an outhouse and finished walking through a 20-foot-long Tunnel of Puke, accompanied by two people dressed as the children's book characters.

"We try to make the hillbillies hug the welcoming," said Scott Nash. "Now it's getting more and more sophisticated."

"It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun," said Ted Smykal. "We're basically adult kids. It's a nice, creative outlet. Most of us have more professional, creative jobs. To be able to get silly and do what you want to do is very relaxing.

Every year the group comes up with a new theme and the people come up with their own ideas for the haunting. We have a bunch of Halloween geniuses," said Scott. "They are all individual artists coming up with new ideas. Scott set a structure for it and everyone comes up either with different things or different ideas."

Scott is not sure of the order of past themes, but they have done cows, Frankenstein, monsters and more.

"If they elect me, I will be a dedicated public servant with a record of fighting for public schools."

Rebecca C. Minnick and Maureen Thompson are running against each other for the District 1 school committee seat. District 1 includes Cliff, Great and Little Diamond and Peaks Island and Munjoy Hill on the mainland. Otis Thompson of Peaks Island, who is not running for re-election, now holds the seat. The Island Times sent each candidate a questionnaire asking their priorities for the school system and why voters should choose them.

Why are you running for this office?

Minnick: I have a background in education. I worked a year toward a master's in education in integrated learning from Antioch New England University before switching to the environmental studies department. I obtained a master's in environmental education in 2000. I work as an educator and, previously, a teacher consultant has brought me to many different classrooms throughout Maine and New England. As part of my current job, I see every Portland public elementary school and meet many of the students, parents, teachers, and other school employees. I am motivated to run for school committee by my love of children, my passion for education and my belief that children are possibly the most important people in the community. As the ones that will lead us into the future.

Thompson: I have a background in education. I have a bachelor's degree in education and completed my degree in 2000 at the University of Maine at Farmington. I have also completed my master's degree in education in 2005 at the University of Maine at Farmington. I have taught at the elementary and middle school level for ten years. I believe that the education system needs to be reformed in order to prepare our students for the future. I also believe that the education system needs to be more accountable and that the teachers need to be more involved in the decision-making process. I believe that the education system needs to be more inclusive and that all students should be given the opportunity to succeed.

I believe that the education system needs to be more accountable and that the teachers need to be more involved in the decision-making process. I believe that the education system needs to be more inclusive and that all students should be given the opportunity to succeed. I want to make sure that every student has access to a quality education and that the teachers are given the support they need to succeed. I also believe that the education system needs to be more efficient and that the money that is spent on education should be used effectively. I want to make sure that every student has access to a quality education and that the teachers are given the support they need to succeed. I also believe that the education system needs to be more efficient and that the money that is spent on education should be used effectively.

I also want to make sure that the students are given the opportunity to learn from a variety of sources and that they are given the opportunity to learn from real-world experiences. I believe that the students should be given the opportunity to learn from a variety of sources and that they are given the opportunity to learn from real-world experiences. I also believe that the students should be given the opportunity to learn from a variety of sources and that they are given the opportunity to learn from real-world experiences.

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The Oct. 28 and 29 storm, with winds gusting up to 70 mph, damaged homes and knocked trees down on Chebeague, Long, Cliff and Peaks islands. But the lucky presence of a Central Maine Power truck on Chebeague Island before the storm limited the time the islands lost power on Saturday afternoon.

On Chebeague, a couple of big trees came down and knocked out lines which also serve Cliff and Long islands, according to Gail Rice, spokesperson for Central Maine Power. "Fortunately, our bucket truck happened to be on Chebeague when the storm hit, so our guys got out there and got power back within a few hours," Rice said. One CMP worker was already on Chebeague, but another came over Saturday morning in a 14-foot CMP boat, Rice said. As a result, most customers on Cliff, Chebeague and Long lost power for just a few hours when much of the coast was without power overnight.

There were scattered spots on Peaks, Great Diamond and Long that had power out for a longer period, Rice said. CMP workers praised the volunteer fire departments on Chebeague and Long.

"They were able to tell us where the biggest problems were so we didn't have to spend a lot of time driving around looking for them," Rice said.

On Long Island, a resident of Jerri's Point clocked winds at 60 mph, gusting over 70 mph, according to Mark Greene. Trees and power lines came down and "there was quite a lot of damage to homes—particularly to homes on the ocean side of the island," Greene said.

- David Tyler

Inter-island soccer started

Kids from Chebeague Island and Long Island played several inter-island soccer matches this summer, part of a joint project between the recreation centers on both islands.

The first match took place on Sept. 25 on Chebeague Island, according to Sarah McKinnon, director of the Chebeague Recreation Center. The players ranged in age from kindergarten through fifth grade.

Lana Rich and Melissa Brown coordinated the Long Island side of the games.

Long Island suggested these games last year, but Chebeague was not playing soccer at that time. "We both have been keeping lines of communication open, about how we can do more inter-island activity," said McKinnon, about efforts to get the two islands doing the same sport together.

This summer, Carly Knight, the Island Institute Fellow on Chebeague Island, volunteered to run an after-school soccer program at the Chebeague Recreation Center, according to McKinnon, so it made the inter-island matches possible. Chebeague started with just seven players, but the program expanded to include 13 participants. "It grew really quickly," said McKinnon. Long Island had about 10 players.

After the Sept. 25 match on Chebeague, the next game was on Oct. 16 on Long Island. There was another match on Oct. 23 on Chebeague. McKinnon hopes this is the start of regular trips back and forth for the kids from both islands. The matches could not have happened without the volunteer support of parents, she said.

- David Tyler

Cliff pay phone approved

The state's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved a public-interest pay phone for Cliff Island on Oct. 12, according to state Rep. Herb Adams (D-Portland).

That means Cliff Island will get the first public-interest pay phone in Casco Bay. "The PUC should be commended for their recognition of the island way of life," said Adams.

Three years ago the only pay phone of Cliff Island was removed. Cliff Islanders worked with Adams, who sponsored a law creating a program to provide pay phones in the state where they had been removed by private companies and where these phones would help public health, safety and welfare. The phone is needed on Cliff Island because cell phone coverage is spotty and the back up for landline service is a World War II-era underwater cable.

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Kids from Long and Chebeague islands play soccer on Long Island.

New fire truck for Long Island

A new, four-wheel-drive, off-road fire truck was delivered to Long Island in October, according to Fire Chief Dickie Clarke.

The vehicle is a combination fire truck/trash truck. It will be useful on all "those long driveways—places where we can't get a full-size truck in," said Clarke. "It will also help us protect the conservancy area," he said. Long Island has a 98-acre nature preserve on the island.

The truck consists of the chassis of a Ford F 550, purchased from Casco Bay Ford. Hughes Company in South Portland installed an aluminum flatbed onto it, and the truck was driven to New England Fire Equipment and Apparatus in New Haven, where the rest of the fire equipment was installed. Lionel Plante Associates is donating the cost of transporting the truck to Long Island, Clarke said.

The new fire truck replaces a 1977 pump truck, which needed over $150,000 in repairs. Last November, the town received a $250,000 Department of Homeland Security grant, so the town decided to use that grant to purchase the new truck instead of repairing the older vehicle. The new off-road truck joins a new pumper truck that Long Island purchased last fall.

The Nature Conservancy said the land came from an anonymous donor, but The Times Record of Brunswick reported on Oct. 3 the new equipment, Long Island was able to do a complete revaluation in the standards established by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO) to measure municipal fire protection efforts. Clarke said Long Island improved from a Class 9 to a Class 6 in the evaluation. This means fire insurance rates on Long Island are likely to go down, he said.

Another factor in the ISO revaluation was Peter Maher of the Seave & Maher Engineers Inc., coming out to Long Island last winter to certify the new water sources. That made a big difference in our ISO rating," Clarke said.

"This is an act of staggering generosity," said Mike Tetreault, the conservancy's executive director. "When you look at the four miles of shoreline and waterfront habitat or the hundreds of upland acres with intact forests, the wildlife and recreational values are outstanding."

The Nature Conservancy plans to maintain access for hunting and fishing and for local clam harvesters. In addition, the group plans to work with Phippsburg to explore allowing some land to be used for a school expansion. "Clearly, by accepting this preserve, the Nature Conservancy is accepting the substantial responsibility of managing it in a way that both conserves its wonderful natural resources and provides good public access," said Tetreault.

-David Tyler

Huge waterfront parcel preserved

An anonymous donor gave 1,310 acres of land in Casco Bay to the Nature Conservancy, creating one of the largest conservation parcels on the Maine coast.

The Nature Conservancy said the land came from an anonymous donor, but The Times Record of Brunswick reported on Oct. 3 that the land was owned by Richard J. Hasch, of Brunswick, and had an assessed value of $3.3 million. The market value of the land could be between $10 and $14 million, according to a press release from the Nature Conservancy.

The lands include much of a sheltered harbor on the eastern side of Casco Bay called the Basin in Phippsburg. The donated parcel includes four miles of shoreline. The parcel includes hemlock groves and pitch pine forests.

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Volunteer Fire Fighters

Boyd has been endorsed by...

The League of Conservation Voters
Maine Education Association
Equality Maine
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Maine Peoples Alliance
Sierra Club
Maine NOW
and the list continues to grow...

Boyd earned an 87 on the Katahdin Institute's Legislative Scorecard, which ranks legislators on their commitment to building a prosperous future for Maine.
Director, Chebeague Island
James E. Phipps


Incumbent James E. (Jim) Phipps is seeking reelection for this seat, which he has held since 1993. Martin Darms, a resident of Casco Bay, who owns the Chebeague Island Inn, withdrew from this race after questions were raised about his ability to run as a non-resident of the island. After checking into the issues, no one was willing to run, said Phipps, who oversees elections, ruled she could run. But Darms feared that if her eligibility was questioned, she would lose their vote. So she decided not to seek the post.

Why should residents vote for you? Phipps: Residents should vote for me because I have a great deal of experience with transportation issues in this area. I have served on the board of the Casco Bay Islands Community Club and the Casco Bay Island Community Sailing School. I have been active in the community and have worked with many different groups to help improve the quality of life on the islands.

Incumbent Linda Papkee is running unopposed for reelection. She said she could not be reached to fill out a questionnaire.

Director, Peaks Island
Daniel H. Doane

Age 68. Address: 364 Island Ave. Occupation: Former bus owner, now retired. Civic and volunteer activities: Field leadership positions in Lions Club.

Christopher J. Hoppin


Candidates for the Peaks CRITD board positions (from L to R): Jim Phipps, Daniel Doane, Chris Hoppin, Donna Rockett.

What recommendations would you make to reduce future deficits? Doane: First of all, no candidate has the knowledge to make those kinds of decisions before serving on the board. None of us has a thorough understanding of the safety regulations, federal and state requirements, long-range planning, legal issues and ongoing budget challenges we must meet. It's premature to say, "I'll cut this or that," without understanding the whole picture. However, I intend to seek a full explanation of each and every item: what, why, and how is that line item allocated? Are there other sources of funding? Are the expense reasonable and fair? Where can we sharpen our pencils without hurting service? It seems to me that before we can decide where to cut, we have to first define our priorities. A clear understanding of our mission and core services is essential. It's much easier to say no to a project than it is to say yes. We have to have a more aggressive approach to managing our limited resources and work toward improving the efficiency of our systems of operation.

Hoppin: Seek creative new pricing and services that will help residents and taxpayers avoid higher costs. For this important link between the mainland and the islands.

On March 31, in response to an employee petition highly critical of Casco Bay management, the CRITD's Board of Directors fired Patricia Peard of the Portland law firm Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer & Nelson to conduct an investigation. Which is the recommendation that Peard made in her 24-Page Report, Issued In Response to an Employee Petition Highly Critical of Casco Bay Management, are of paramount importance.

Hoppin: Improving communication should be one of the first goals for the new manager. We need to inform riders of the needle changes. We need to do a better job of keeping our customers informed of the state of the business and what we are doing in terms of budgeting and planning. It's important to put in place right away?

Director, Long Island
Linda Papkee

Incumbent Linda F. Papkee is running unopposed for reelection. She said she could not be reached to fill out a questionnaire.

Director, Peaks Island
Daniel H. Doane

Age 68. Address: 364 Island Ave. Occupation: Former bus owner, now retired. Civic and volunteer activities: Field leadership positions in Lions Club.
This island life

BY GEORGE ROSOL

Someone a lot smarter than most of us sorted out the right time for the most part.

Peaks Island time is relative to wherever you may be, whenever you call the owner's timepiece your own, and how close to the speed of light you travel. Take, as examples, the "you'll never be late for the boat" cafe clock, the community room clock, any wrist or pocket watch on Peaks, and you will find no agreement whatsoever.

Computers are notoriously wispy-waivy about up-to-the-minute accuracy. Laptop clocks are really time-lapse tops. My Volvo dashboard clock has been wrong by exactly four minutes since 1982. Theerryboat tops are really lime-lapse tops. My Volvo ers than any training program. One-minute (read 30-second) warning periods have run amok?

That stretchable piece of time that gets one-minute late and the half-hours two minutes early. And don't be fooled by the car dash sticker warning the operator to remove pacifier before driving. But, hey, to many this is island life.

Island folks are looking for omens that will predict the severity of the coming winter. Wooly worms, that old favorite, are least accessible. Mainly because I don't think there is a single wooly worm on Peaks Island. Acorns have been falling early; a true Acorn era. Twenty miles an hour is driveway speed for many of them. A harmless go-cart speed. A speed at which a child can sit in the lap of a driver and steer. This is a good time to cast a glance at our island 20 mph speed signs and give a thought to their importance. They play a large role in setting the pace and quality of island life. Cats, dogs, deer, and folks can cross our roads at any time and at any place without fear of becoming a thing of the past.

Our venerable vehicles are tuned and wired and taped to operate at the posted speed. Thirty miles an hour and higher scatter riders and stress car parts all over the landscape. Yet, speeding tickets are rare on Peaks. One is more likely to be ticketed for not moving a car for a long period of time.

Visitors consider our slow limit amusing and quaint. A throwback to the Mod- el A era. Twenty miles an hour is driveway speed for many of them. A harmless go-cart speed. A speed at which a child can sit in the lap of a user and steer. One golf cart does sticker warn the operator to remove pacifier before driving. But, hey, to many this is island life.

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Chebeague Chronicles

BY D.J. COLLETTI

Boat stories part 2: Lobstering in diapers

No island fleet would be complete without the fishing boats that have been working our waterfronts for decades or the sailboats that once relied only on the wind to travel down the coast. Nor would island life be the same without the little boats we take for granted—but rarely even name, the little boats we know as ‘punts.’

Summer Girl is really a story about a little blond baby boy who began hauling when he was still in diapers. His parents offer proof as they chronicle Mark Bowman’s fishing career from tot to teen to skipper of his own lobster boat.

Perhaps the dye was cast when at age 12, Mark and his friend, Hank, teamed up to go lobstering. “I had the traps, Hank had the boat, and we had a business,” Mark says. And so for the next couple of summers they hauled in a 12-foot skiff they called the Green Hornet. Mark went on to lobster summers through high school in his own skiff until he was already hauling 250 traps. It was then that he realized he was pushing the limits and so his search began for a good work boat, one that could handle a growing business and not cramp his style. An ad in Uncle Henry’s shopping guide lead Mark to the sloop where he first laid eyes on the boat that felt just right. “As I looked her over, I knew that with this boat, I could still haul singles and fish the places I had always fished. But if I wanted to, I could also fish deeper water, new places and be safe.”

And how did he know that lobstering would be his career? “Because I always loved lobstering,” he said. “It was never a question of what I wanted to do, I just did it. I enjoy fishing the shallow waters and being close to the islands. Why if you’re right up in the bushes,” he says smiling, “you can reach out and grab a handful of blueberries.”

Summer Girl was named and launched in 2005. And the name? “Well, it’s not a water boat,” he joked. “Summer is the peak of the season, and what’s it all about is summer girls and good times.”

Taking the plunge on a bigger boat

It is 1978. Jane Frizzell and her husband, Gene, are touring the Boston Boat Show. They have come in search of a simple, modest boat: a day sailor. But, instead, they found themselves stunned by a sleek, deep-blue hull 124. Jane is a sailor. But still she remembers growing up on Chebeague in the 1940s when nobody had much money, so she does not have great expectations. She does not see herself in the J24 with its three jibs, mainsail, genoa and brand new outboard kicker. Instead, she sees herself sailing with her Uncle Will’s 18-foot wooden sloop called Mokulele. She is eight years old and she is the crew. Later, the sloop belongs to her and she takes it for only short sails that have to be planned around the tides as the Mokulele is moored in front of her house in shallow water and seems to be out of the water more often than in it.

Gene is not a sailor. He has grown up in Fort Wayne, Indiana. But he has been in the Air Force and has seen the world. He does have expectations. He sees both Jane and himself in the J24 with its speed, depth finder and odometer. And so that very day, they buy a boat neither of them has ever dreamed of owning.

But first, they make a deal with each other. She will choose the name and he will choose the spinnaker colors. She chooses the name of her own brand new outboard kicker, Instead, she chooses light blue and yellow, the colors of the Swedish flag.

And then they sail the coast of Maine going everywhere the cruising guide tells them to. They sleep on board, cook on board and experience the coast of Maine in a way neither of them has before.

The J24 has some age on her now but she hasn’t lost her looks. She’s still the sleek, deep blue J24 that Jane Frizzell has sailed for nearly three decades. You might say she’s been a part of Jane’s family and that she’s going stay that way for at least another generation. Because this summer Jane passed her on to her cousin, Pat, who grew up sailing on the J24 when he was a child.

A boat of his own

Some boat stories write themselves with little or no forethought. Such is the case with the Mine. This story begins with a ‘desert man’ more at home on his olive ranch in Jordan than on any body of water anywhere. And then this “desert man” marries an “island girl” which thickens the plot, because shortly after Suhail Bisharat marries Lila Bates, they are invited by friends to sail the coast of Turkey. Lila, being of the water, is delighted with the prospect. Suhail, being of the sand, has a question that needs answering before he commits: “Will it be over my head?”

Lila reflects that going out on the water continued to be a challenge for Suhail as he attempted to familiarize himself with Chebeague. His first boat is a powerboat that he shares with two Chebeague summer friends. And as they prepare for one of their first outings, Suhail points to the open ocean. He has a question that needs answering before they cast off: Any Leviathan out there?

Finally, Suhail announces that he is “fully marinized” and is ready to have a boat of his own. He wants one that he can depend on, one that will see him through thick and thin. And so he commissions the building of his boat: an 8-foot Lob Dyer built punt. “And when it’s done,” he said, “I’m going to call it Mine.” And so he does.

They are a pair until one night the cast off her bowline and heads out to sea. Suhail is beside himself when he discovers she is missing. He alerts the harbormaster and scour the shores and marshes of Chebeague. His daughter, Nona, joins the hunt. He visits his other summer friends and so begins a little radio chatter that eventually helps locate the missing Mine.

Jim Mortman, a fisherman from Harpswell, has rescued her and tells Suhail that it’s a good thing he called because he was just about ready to change her name to Mine Now.

Suhail is a big man with a little boat and is very grateful to have her back home again.
Cliff Island News

BY LEO CARTER

October is the month on Cliff when we begin to admit that the summer season is indeed over. Small boats and floats are accumulating on the green grass. There are reports of snow in Maine's mountains, and the rain stays on the tennis court for days. Dust comes out of the heating equipment as it begins to perform its vital function again. Those piles of firewood are looking like a good reward for those who have been making the effort to get them ready for what is to come.

We start to stand inside the shed at the wharf on windy mornings, and notice that the pigeons have taken the rather dilapidated and unsanitary city-owned feedlot. Carolyn Rideout is nearly finished moving mowing lines until next year. I can see Madelyn Cushing's lobster boat in her yard, and I know that several other fishermen are starting the effort to remove equipment from the water.

Island population fluctuates as departures of late-staying summer regulars is countered by others returning to live on Cliff full-time. Bob and Diane O'Reilly are here for the winter instead of splitting time between Cliff and the mainland as in the past. Tom and Ann O'Reilly have returned to Cliff after Tom's retirement from running firewood power plants in Vermont and a career in the merchant marine.

Jeff March is staying longer than he has in the past, "Until the cold drives me out." His presence here results from his recent retirement from the State of New Jersey's tax department. The Griffin family's recent monthly discussion of the Civil War ended when Samantha was interviewed in his Cliff Island digs. Paul Potter is enjoying having his grandson in the school. He is staying on on Cliff Island.

Samantha would recommend this experience to others and "can't wait to climb to heights of about fifty feet while secured by other campers," this is the reason for attending the camp. He said, "It was great!"

Barge landing approved

Portland officials continue to work toward the realization of our much needed barge landing. A hearing with the planning board on October 10th resulted in a favorable ruling after the now repetitious presentations pro and con. Further hearings will involve environmental clearance and then, hopefully, this issue will not occupy everyone's valuable time much more. The stack of paper handed out at the meeting was about an inch thick, and is evidence of a fair process in which everyone has had a chance to give an opinion.

That's the paper and ink, and then there's all that pristine hot air!

Bountiful bees

Cliff Island's "domesticated" bees are nearing the end of their foraging season. This year was the most fantastic year of honey production and healthy looking bees that I have seen in my five years of beekeeping on Cliff Island.

I started with a breed known as Italians, and while they were gentle, I (could carefully reach inside the hive with bare hands) didn't live through the first winter. This was partly due to my inexperience in locating and winterizing the hive.

Nevertheless, I was able to obtain a heartier breed called Carniolans that have managed to thrive through several winters and the natural replacement of their original queen. Prior to this year the best harvest from a single hive was around 35 pounds of honey plus a couple of pounds of wax. I always leave a large amount of their production for their winter needs.

This year I have been able to harvest about 90 pounds! This causes me to wonder about the reasons for such a prodigious harvest. I have fed and pampered them as always, and have whispered the same sweet nothings in their ears. (All hive workers are females.) Was it the high levels of rain, the mild winter, or the absence of deer and the resulting plethora of flowers and other plants? Would global climate change be helping our little pollinators to a better life?

I just heard that the earth's magnetic field is changing in a way that affects how much of the sun's incident energy gets to us. I know that the sun is the Bee's signal to action, but may be it's some direct effect of the magnetic field. Perhaps some combination of these factors explains our good fortune. We realize that much of what takes place on Cliff Island is just the unfolding of events as they are destined to be.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Lausier Family Gardens
Welch Street - Peaks Island
207-766-5157

Evergreen wreaths (10"-24")
available November 25

Christmas trees (5'-8')
arrive December 1

All will be located at 40 Adams St. as well as at the Holiday Craft Fair being held on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at The Inn.
**Incumbent Strimling faces two opponents**

State Sen. Ethan Strimling (D-Portland) has held this seat since 2002. This year he has two challengers: Republican David J. Babin and Green Party member Kelsey Perchinski. Senate District 8 includes the city islands, Portland's downtown, and the Stroudwater, D'Iberville and Barron center neighborhoods. In addition to asking all candidates what they hope to accomplish, if elected, the Island Times specifically asked candidates about secession, since that has been a major topic in the Casco Bay Islands over the past two years. In 2006 the State Legislature approved Chebeague Island's secession bill. Peaks Island is in the process of negotiating with the City of Portland about secession, so the Peaks issue could come before the Legislature again.

**Why are you running for this office?**

**Babin:** To give the taxpayers of District 8 a voice; we have been ignored for thirty plus years by the Democrat-controlled legislature.

**Perchinski:** I wanted to give voters a choice outside of the two party system candidates.

**Strimling:** I am dedicated to helping Portland grow and improve as a city. We are the economic engine that powers much of the state's economy and we need fuel. My primary focus the past two terms, which I will continue if re-elected, will be reforming the particularly property tax relief for communities like Peaks Island. To this end, I was very disappointed that the Portland City Council did not pass the local circuit breaker program. It would have provided hundreds of dollars of relief for those Peaks Islanders who need it most. That said, I will continue to work until we can find a way to end our over-reliance on the property tax.

**What do you hope to accomplish in the Legislature?**

**Babin:** The day after I am elected I will begin to develop relationships with each state senator and representative. I will work for collaboration within the parties in adopt legislation that will ease our oppressive tax burden and bring good jobs into Maine. If our talented young people do not have to flee to other states for opportunity; they can stay in Maine to work, raise their families and increase the tax base thus providing security for our seniors and truly needy. I will work to reform our current welfare system that fosters dependency. The Department of Health and Human Services needs to be restructured; there needs to be a commitment to eliminate fraud and abuse of the system.

**Perchinski:** It is important to me that Maine takes care of its people. I hope to help the Portland-Lamarche healthcare plan succeed and create a push for more affordable housing throughout the state. I hope to fight pollution and overdependence on fossil fuels. Maine should continue to develop alternative fuel sources and in turn clean transportation. Where we are located is a perfect for solar, hydro, and wind power. The state supported purchases of hybrid vehicles and we need to move on to biofuel production and up the number of sales in both state and personal use.

**Strimling:** If I am fortunate enough to return to Augusta for a third term, I will continue to focus on tax reform for working Mainers. Having been on the Taxation Committee for four years, it is clear what needs to happen. A healthy economy is based on revenue diversity and balance. Currently our tax code is way out of balance in that we are over-reliant on the property tax (as you know) and under-reliant on the sales tax. We need to broaden the sales tax and put that money toward property tax relief in the form of an increased homestead and circuit breaker. This would provide the property tax relief all Peaks Island residents need and deserve, thereby taking away one of the greatest threats to sustaining your year-round community.

**Should Peaks Island be allowed to secede?**

**Babin:** Yes. Peaks Island is a big "cash cow" for Portland. Unfair property valuation, ridiculously high property taxes and limited public services are just a few concerns that fall on deaf ears of the Democrats in the State Legislature and City Council. Our islands should be valued and supported for the treasures that they are. However this is solved; the people of Peaks Island need to examine the details of the secession law. The biggest factor there was the future of the elementary school. The circumstances on Peaks appear quite different, as Portland has given no assurances about its commitment to maintain the Peaks Island School. And when you broaden the discussion beyond the school, it's clear the biggest issue of concern for Peaks Island is the property tax. Additionally, Peaks Island has to feel confident that secession wouldn't cause their taxes to rise, and that secession won't cause Peaks taxes to go up even more than they have.

After the advisory referendum on secession passed on Peaks Island by 383 to 296 votes, the parties involved over whether subsequent negotiations should be private or public, who would sit at the bargaining table and what the topic of negotiations would be. The parties involved often cited the state's secession law to back their competing claims. Do these disagreements and differing interpretations of the current secession law mean the law should be changed?

**Babin:** Of course—our laws should be direct, clear and understandable. This "interpretation game" is a stall tactic. I support local control, that's why I support TATOR. This decision directly affects your families and your lives. You all should have a voice in this momentous issue.

**Perchinski:** If the current secession law is unclear as written it should be carefully reviewed and changed. Seclusion is already a difficult subject and when the law is unclear it simply creates more difficulty and strain on those involved.

**Strimling:** I think it would be good idea to revisit the secession law. It appeared to work well for Chebeague, but it has not been as successful a force for Peaks and Portland. I think that when a community is in their right tax case to Chebeague, which was overwhelmingly in favor; there needs to be more room for reconciliation. I believe that the idea of a second non-binding citywide vote, before whatever package gets sent to the Legislature, is a good one.
House race, District 108

Meredith Burgess - R

Age: 56. Address: 13 Chandler Rd., Chebeague Island, Family: Married, two children. Occupation: Community organizer, Chebeague Education Association, also serves as an organizer for the League of Conservation Voters. She has served on the Maine State Board of Education and has been a member of the Maine State Legislature's Education Committee. She is a strong supporter of education reform and has worked to increase funding for public schools. She is also a member of the Maine State School Boards Association and has been involved in the development of the state's education standards.

Donna Damon - D

Age: 56. Address: 16 Fenderson Rd., Cape Elizabeth, Family: Married, two children. Occupation: Community organizer, Sierra Club, Maine NOW, and a member of the Portland Community Planning Board. She has served on the board of the Portland Community Planning Board and has been involved in the development of the state's education standards. She is also a member of the Maine State School Boards Association and has been involved in the development of the state's education standards.

Town council votes with business owner for state rep seat in Cumberland

By DAVID LYNCH

The race for House District 108 features a Chebeague Island resident who has served extensively in local government competing against a Cumberland businessman who built her own advertising agency.

The seat is now held by Rep. Terrence Peake, a native of Peaks Island, who has served four terms and cannot run again due to the state's term limit law. District 108 includes Chebeague and Long Islands.

Forbis, Marley square off for House seat 114

Boyd Marley - D

Age: 42. Address: 1 Maplewood St., Portland, Family: Married with two children. Occupation: Special education teacher. Political experience: Legislature, three terms; chair, Legislature's Transportation Committee.

I am running for re-election because there is much work to be done on so many issues: health care, tax reform, environment, education, etc. I have worked hard on these and other issues, that is why I am endorsed by The League of Conservation Voters, Maine Education Association, Equality Maine, AFSC-ME, Mainemate Alliance, Sierra Club and Maine NOW.

Why should residents vote for you?

Marley: I believe that everyone has the right to affordable health care and that the government should play a role in ensuring that everyone has access to quality healthcare. I am a strong supporter of expanding Medicaid and increasing funding for public schools. I also believe in the importance of protecting the environment and have been a strong advocate for combating climate change.

Shawn Forbis, a Republican from Portland, is opposing Rep. Boyd Marley (D-Cumberland) in House District 114, which represents part of Portland. Forbis did not return the Island Times questionnaire.

What are you running for this office?

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Continue to have an experienced, accessible leader who fights for our interests at City Hall. In three years, I have worked successfully to broaden the tax base by encouraging economic development, raise money through cooperation with other communities, improve our schools and libraries, build affordable housing, enhance pedestrian safety, and preserve open space. But our work is far from done, so I ask for your support for another term. Together, we can keep Portland an affordable, vibrant, and livable city.

Do you favor or oppose the secession of Peaks Island from the City of Portland? How would you vote if the questions come before the City Council again?

Donoghue: Democratic self-determination has more meaning for me than the reach of City Hall; I would not vote to oppose island secession. Rather than lobby against our citizens, municipal officials should direct their attention toward our governor and legislative delegation for their continued failures to deliver on meaningful property tax reform. Whether one supports or opposes secession, all demand responsive governance and I will work with island residents for real policy solutions regardless of independence.

Goodhue: I continue to think that no evidence presented so far is compelling enough to support secession. Recent adjusted estimated tax revenues of the Island Independence Committee (ICC) to two areas of the proposed budget for the Town of Peaks Island, including the prorated impact of the sewer/water function, result in an increase in the mill rate from the ICC's "blue" budget of the spring meeting ($0.69 per thousand to $1.14 per thousand). This reflects new data about public safety and town administration and new puts the ICC's projected mill rate at $4.91 per $1,000, less than we currently pay as part of Portland. Debt payments to the ICC are not included. Public works and education costs have not been finalized. In all likelihood, the mill rate will come closer to what we are currently paying. What we risk for a possible small drop in mill rate is, to me, significant. We lose input into our access to the mainland. The East End boat ramp, for example, was a controversial issue a few years ago. If Peaks Island is not part of Portland, it may be that the next time the discussion comes up, likely triggered by the Munjoy Hill residents, Peaks Island will end up losing access. The level and quality of emergency services Peaks Island receives is critically important to the community. For example, the committee's new revised budget for emergency services has an allocation for $20,000 for one captain for the emergency boat. I hope we don't need that boat when the one captain is sick, off island or otherwise unavailable. One captain, 24/7, 365 days a year? I want a licensed, trained and available professional captain on call every hour of every day. It will cost more than $20,000 to bring that level of comfort to the island. We need to be realistic. If I were on the council and had this information, I would vote against secession.

Gorham: I have consistently opposed Peaks Island's secession from Portland. I believe that the people of Peaks Island would be vulnerable without Portland's emergency services such as the fire, EMS and police departments. The City does a great job delivering these services and I don't believe that the level of service that islanders currently have can be duplicated by volunteer organizations.

What will you do as a councilor to make sure the City guarantees to maintain public services for island residents by having the Casco Bay Lines as Ocean Gateway and the surrounding neighborhood is developed, eliminating existing island parking.

Donoghue: I will work to maintain affordable and convenient parking for islanders and to maintain market-rate parking within walking distance of the terminal and union workers would be employed when possible. Use of Tax Increment Financing as a development tool would be used for the construction of a new parking garage at Fore and India Streets because that development would act as a catalyst for other investment in the area (and it has). The TIF for this particular development came with a guarantee of covered parking for islanders, if it had not. I would not have supported the use of Tax Increment Financing. The additional benefit that freight traffic from the developers of the parking garage was a commitment that a Maine general contractor would be used for the construction; the project and union workers would be employed when possible. Use of Tax Increment Financing as a development tool must be used judiciously. There must be a very clear benefit to the public in order for me to support the use of a TIF.

Goodhue: Unless a developer can demonstrate the project would meet a specific, high threshold of benefit to the city, I do not approve of TIFs. Portland is an attractive, desirable city, and we don't need to give money away to attract business.

Gorham: I am not a fan of Tax Increment Financing. I opposed a TIF to a private developer who wanted to build 156 high-end apartments on Marginal Way that have rental rates of $3,000 per month. I voted to eliminate 99 percent of the TIF which Shipyard Brewhouse was seeking. I supported a TIF for a nonprofit agency, Avenue, to develop 60 affordable housing units at Pearl and Oxford Streets. I also supported a TIF for a new parking garage at Free and India Streets because that development would act as a catalyst for other investment in the area (and it has). The TIF for this particular development came with a guarantee of covered parking for islanders, if it had not. I would not have supported the use of Tax Increment Financing. The additional benefit that freight traffic from the developers of the parking garage was a commitment that a Maine general contractor would be used for the construction; the project and union workers would be employed when possible. Use of Tax Increment Financing as a development tool must be used judiciously. There must be a very clear benefit to the public in order for me to support the use of a TIF.

Paying $20,000 for one captain for the emergency boat is sick, off island or otherwise unavailable. One captain, 24/7, 365 days a year? I want a licensed, trained and available professional captain on call every hour of every day. It will cost more than $20,000 to bring that level of comfort to the island. We need to be realistic. If I were on the council and had this information, I would vote against secession.

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November 2006

SCHOOLS, from page 1

Why should residents vote for you?

Minnick: I am the progressive candidate for Portland School Committee. Through my involvement in various community organizations and through knock­ ing on doors, I have gotten to know my constituents well. I know many students and teachers in Portland Public Schools, and have been in almost every school, so I have a keen insight into the needs of Portland Schools. Through my experience as an environmental educator, a community liaison, a board member of the Munjoy Hill Neighborhood Organization, and just as a person walking everywhere in Portland on a daily basis, I see firsthand what our schools need.

Thompson: 1. My experiences include teaching at Peaks Island Middle School; serving: South Portland School Committee, Maine School Funding Task Force, Maine Legislature (Joint Standing Committee on Education), Maine Ethics Commission, employment: public policy analyst at USM and co-owner, PolicyCone Research, Inc. 2. My decisions would surround and support the core relationship in education, that of the teacher and student. Policies should support giving students a focused and consistent learning environment. Interchanges are a strength of many students. I am especially concerned that qualified teachers have the freedom and flexibility to be creative and to nurture the strengths and weaknesses of the student.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of the school system in Portland?

Minnick: The Portland schools are doing a great job working to meet the diverse needs of many different students. I still think that more work needs to be done, however. I have been knocking on doors meeting people. I hear often of students who are being left behind. We have a duty to provide a safe, effective learning community for all students.

Thompson: 1. We have a good class size in the elementary schools; b. community schools: c. diverse student population; d. skilled teaching staff; e. rigorous curricu­ lum; f. strong community support. We need to: a. explore sharing services with other districts; b. maintain strong curric­ulum; c. ensure open public debate on School Committee; d. continue to build a school system that attracts good teachers; e. continue to provide schools that attract people to our city.

What do you hope to accomplish on the School Committee?

Minnick: I will work hard to keep our neighborhood schools open without rais­ ing costs to taxpayers. I know this can be done with the progressive, innovative in­ sight that I have gained from working as a community partnerships coordinator. I would also like to see more programs in the schools like the experiential learning and the Munjoy River program. Portland needs these forward-looking programs to keep schools open. I have been here for five years and I believe that we have a very strong educational potential. Strong schools mean strong, safe communities. Portland schools have a good reputation, with a strong management support system with a sense of worlding as a team; strong communication skills that bring all departments together with a sense of worlding as a team; strong, safe communities. Portland schools have a good reputation, with a strong management support system with a sense of worlding as a team; strong communication skills that bring all departments together; strong, safe communi­ ties. Portland schools have a good reputation, with a strong management support system with a sense of worlding as a team; strong communication skills that bring all departments together; strong, safe communi­ ties. Portland schools have a good reputation, with a strong management support system with a sense of worlding as a team; strong communication skills that bring all departments together; strong, safe communi­ ties.

What are your priorities and concerns?

Minnick: My first priority is to make sure that we are taking as many steps pos­ sible to engage the community in our de­ cision-making process. People have asked me to be a public vehicle in the school committee. I need to make sure we are making that happen in a way that en­ gages people from all communities in Port­ land. Secondly, I would like to scrutinize the budget to see where things are cut administratively and put more money in a place that benefits the students. Also, with the imminent thinking long-term when making budget decisions. Closings a school may save some money in the short term, but could have very negative effects in the long run.

Thompson: 1. We need to keep our schools strong so that this city remains a place where families want to live. 2. We need to challenge the state tax structure so that Portlanders receive their full share of state school subsidies; b. gain the authority to levy a local option sales tax to pay for the extra services we provide to the thousands of tourists, shoppers, and commuters who come in to Portland every day. 3. We need to support efforts to encourage community involvement in the schools. 4. We need to look for ways to share services with other communities, wherever possible. 5. We need to continue to fully rec­ ognize the uniqueness of island schools.

Director, Islands-at-Large

Donna K. Rockett

Age: 62. Address: 32 Greenwood Lane, Long Island, Occupation: Part-time legal secretary; Civil or volunteer activities: Member, General Manager Search Committee, CBITD Board of Directors.

Sidney Gerard

Address: 14 Brabrook Rd., Peaks Island

This position is held by veteran board member Lawrence Walden, of Peaks Island, who declined not to run again. The post is being contested by Peaks Island resident Sidney Gerard and Long Island resident Donna K. Rockett. Peaks Island resident Walter L. Schnellner had to withdraw from the race for health reasons and did not return the Island Times questionnaire.

Why should residents vote for you?

Rockett: Because I will work hard to help turn Casco Bay Lines (CBL), around. Believe I have gained insight into issues and con­ cerns of islanders and employees in last eight months as I've talked to people and ob­ served the operations of CBL. I have attended board and committee meetings trying to work toward improved conditions for riders and employees. I am on the search commit­ tee to find a new general manager for CBL. As an island-large board member I want to hear suggestions and concerns of all is­ landers. Through recent visits to Peaks Island I have already begun that process, and through riding the "down-the-bay" boats I am able to hear other islanders' concerns. Besides supporting the new general man­ ager in improving CBL, also want to focus on the following: Aiding a crew from Peaks, the Diamonds and other islands, I will work to achieve more interaction between the islands served by CBL. People sometimes report how desirable is to improve the sense of community among the islands. And folks would like to get to Peaks for shopping and gaming. I truly believe all islands will benefit from knowing and understanding folks from differ­ ent islands and one another's needs. B. Work to have a suggestion system set up that guarantees that every suggestion, even if the suggestion cannot be fulfilled. Have the system include written responses and a monthly report. In this case just my many suggestions are left to be addressed. Too many times someone has expressed a concern or suggestion and doesn't receive a response.

Pat Christian, general manager of Casco Bay Lines, leaves the post in mid-Novem­ ber. What are the most important qualities that the new general manager should pos­ sess?

Rockett: Management style and commu­ nication skills that bring all departments together. There is a need to have a strong leadership qualities; ability to manage financial aspects of the job; willingness to look for additional streams the island (perhaps barge and taxi service); pro­ ficiency at acquiring federal and state funds; commitment to understanding and meeting needs of ridership.

What recommendations would you make to balance the Casco Bay Lines budget?

Rockett: Rockett: Careful scrutiny of current operating budget, Board member and trea­ surer E. Miller Stock of Peaks Island has done a great deal of very good work on the budget, but I am sure the new gener­ al manager will be able to find a number of cost savings, I. currently spend $100,000 per year for changing oil in vessels, can't this be done in Kessel Vivanco pursuit of other streams of income, such as barge and taxi service.

On March 31, in response to an employee petition highly critical of Casco Bay man­ agement, the CBITD's Board of Directors hired Patricia Peard of the Portland law firm Hannon, Worsley & Kellogg to conduct an investigation. Which of the rec­ ommendations that Peard made in her 24­ page report, issued in June, do you believe are the most important to put in place right away?

Rockett: Greatly improved communica­ tion between management, employees and riders; strong management of employees so there is a spirit of teamwork, which should translate into improved service to islanders.

Rebecca Minnick

Age: 32. Address: 53 Sher­ ifan, St., No. 2, Portland. Family: Single. Occupation: Environmental edu­ cator. Political experience: I have worked on a number of electoral and legislative campaigns.

Mavourneen Thompson


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Giving Thanks
By Cevia Rosol

1. A preciously annoying person
2. Christmas in Tokyo
3. Thanks giving in Brussels
4. "She's got the kind of looks one
5. Rainbow, for example
6. "I am unwilling"
7. "Desen" in Arabic
8. "You are overcooked, green beans!"
9. "Let's get the kind of ... I like one on top and one on the bottom."
10. "I am unwilling"

Solution to last month's puzzle

Across
1. Stay
2. Lanthus, the bride of Franken
3. A sound investment?
4. One "110 helped procure the Gold
5. "3 4. "She's got the kind of looks one
6. "I am unwilling"
7. "Desen" in Arabic
8. "You are overcooked, green beans!"
9. "Let's get the kind of ... I like one on top and one on the bottom."
10. "I am unwilling"

Down
1. Ginger
2. Approximation
3. What to do to the tablecloth after the feast
4. This generally follows giving thanks
5. Their images are full of forms
6. "You are overcooked, green beans!"
7. "Let's get the kind of ... I like one on top and one on the bottom."
8. "I am unwilling"
9. "Desen" in Arabic
10. "You are overcooked, green beans!"

Writers wanted
Please call
766-0951
**Star Gazing**

BY MICHAEL RICHARDS

November, the month of the Leonid shower. The leaves are down, the evening darks, no bugs, no snow, and not too cold.

By November, as Earth passes through the dust left by Temple-Tuttle when it flew by in 1980, the Leonids are usual­ly slow, scientists predict a bright out­burst of 2 meters per second at 11:09 PM, Nov. 18 at 1145 p.m., as Earth hits a denser trail of debris about 30,000 miles thick, left by the 1932 passing of Temple-Tuttle. Moving at 18.5 miles per second, however, Earth will plow through the Leonids in less than an hour.

As the meteor radiant is low in the sky, this shower will provide the best viewing. No binoculars are needed for meteors, but you may want to bring along a cloth to warm your hands, a camp chair, a good book, and a cup of coffee, along with a headlamp, a flashlight, and a warm blanket and pillow.

Some of the meteors may be big enough to produce a sound or two. Some may be bright enough to be seen with the naked eye. Some may be bright enough to be seen by the eye alone, without the help of a telescope. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a telescope. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a digital camera. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a video camera. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a satellite. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a rocket. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a satellite. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a rocket. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a satellite. Some may be bright enough to be seen by a rocket.

This is not a good time for you to try to be productive in our discussions and zero in on what the terms are you proposing for them to call con­cretes. "Cohen said.

In an Oct. 27 letter to Richards, Cohen wrote, "As you know, our team has been waiting patiently for you to come forward with a specific offer related to reduction from the IC's proposal of the city of Portland.

In an interview on Nov. 1, Cohen said the city's position all along is that they have not agreed to a comprehensive proposal.

Richards has said that reduction in the IC's proposal requires the parties to attempt to resolve issues in an attempt to reach a comprehensive agreement.

"I'm glad to see that "(Mayor Cohen has) apparently accepted our assertion that the city is not interested in a comprehensive proposal," Cohen said on Nov. 1.

In an Oct. 5 letter to Cohen, Richards expressed frustration at being unable to obtain information on the education of Peaks Island students for two months after a July 27 request. He also expressed frustration at not being able to obtain information on the education of Peaks Island students for two months after a July 27 request.

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In an Oct. 5 letter to Cohen, Richards expressed frustration at being unable to obtain information on the education of Peaks Island students for two months after a July 27 request. He also expressed frustration at not being able to obtain information on the education of Peaks Island students for two months after a July 27 request.

The city of Portland's proposal, which includes all issues, will be only halfway across when it goes down in Maine.

Thursday's news will have photos, but if you're thinking of being there to watch the Leonids fly by, you may want to bring along a cloth to warm your hands, a camp chair, a good book, and a cup of coffee, along with a headlamp, a flashlight, and a warm blanket and pillow.

Some UC members are not sure how the city's offer relates to the IC's proposal.

The mayor said the IC has been asking questions such as how the city's offer relates to the IC's proposal.

Michael Richards
ISLAND SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Vigorous race for District 1 City Council seat

The race for District 1 City Councilor is a lively one with incumbent Will Gorham being challenged by Kevin Donohue and William Goodhue. The major issues in the race include island services, affordable housing, waterfront development, the Ocean Gateway project, public transportation, public safety, and education. The Island Times sent out a questionnaire asking candidates to respond to questions on Peaks Island secession, parking for islanders and Tax Increment Financing.

Why should residents vote for you?
Donohue: I hear the voices of island residents who have lost faith in the incumbent councilor. District 1 demands more innovative leaders and a more responsive government. I believe I am the candidate who will work for meaningful change.

Goodhue: District 1 residents deserve to have an informed, proactive representative at the council level—a councilor who is able to listen to the needs of the constituency and find ways to meet them. Listening is what I do best. I think that if there had been a city councilor truly in touch with the frustrations of Peaks islanders, the secession discussions would not be taking place. I am on the islands every day. I own property on the islands and my business is based on the islands. I own property and live at the base of Munjoy Hill. I know the concerns of residents in these neighborhoods because I have the same concerns. I'm learning the many concerns of those in Bayside. The issues can be raised and resolved, but the first requirement is a representative on the city council who is in touch with the community.

Kevin Donohue

William Gorham
Age: 57. Address: 34 North St., Portland. Occupation: Licensed real estate broker since the late 1870s, owner, Shamrock Realty, since 1986. Civic or volunteer experience: District 1 City Councilor. Volunteer and board member (for 20 years), Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Portland. President, Experts & Girls Club Alumni Association (six years). Board of Advisors, Compass Project. City of Portland Director, Casco Bay Lines Island Transit District. Served eight years on board of Munjoy Hill Neighborhood Organization, including terms as president, vice president and treasurer, Board member, St. Elizabeth's Childcare Development Center, Cathedral School Board and the Domestic Violence Task Force.

Kirk Goodhue
Age: 54. Address: 73 Federal St, Portland and 16 Welch St, Peaks Island (part-time). Occupation: Owner, Port Island Realty. Civic or volunteer experience: Member, Portland Parks Commission (six years), Commissioner, Portland Civil Service Commission (six years), Member, Eastern Promenade Master Planning Committee, Member, Portland Chamber of Commerce, Member, Munjoy Hill Neighborhood Association. Charter member of West End Neighborhood Association.

Community Notes

Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair
The Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair will be held on Sat., Dec. 2, at The Island House on Peaks Island. A portion of the sales will be donated to the Loretta Voge Food Fund, which provides individuals undergoing chemotherapy with door-to-door transportation and to and from the treatment facility. So whether you’re looking for works of art or a gift for the holidays, drop by the Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Island artisans will offer pottery, folk art, ornaments, jewelry, calendars, artist prints, and other gift items. Christmas trees and wreaths will also be available.

Phoenix Society fundraiser held
For several months a group of friends have been meeting in Portland to create the Phoenix Scholaristic Society.

Working with the University of Southern Maine and Southern Maine Community College, this fledging effort will strive to bring together community partners to support the higher educational aspirations of young people in Greater Portland who are, or have been, in foster care, Long Creek Youth Center, or are immigrants or refugees. Led by Bill Dickinson, it is modeled on the Page and Eloise Smith Society, a volunteer-driven effort he launched nine years ago as his alma mater, the University of California, Santa Cruz.

It's all about community. Of more than a hundred students served, all but a handful of Smith Society students have graduated or on track to graduate. The usual college graduation rate for students from this group is less than 10 percent. Several Smith graduates are now in the field or on the payrolls of those in Bayside. The issues can be raised and resolved, but the first requirement is a representative on the city council who is in touch with the community. I am that person. Gorham: I am seeking re-election to the Portland City Council so that District 1 will please see COUNCIL RACE, page 10.

What?
Southern duo Ronda Dale and Kevin Attra, a few talented friends
• Blue- and-Indian Kevin performs his electric originals accompanied by his own accomplished guitar work, bringing to mind Richard Thompson and Nick Drake
• Like a housebound Jane Carter Cash (with a dash of Tom Mitchell), Ronda sings from her heart to yours, combining humor and depth in her original compositions
• Kevin and Ronda together "Like Butter"
• Peter Donnelly: straight-up jazz standards
• Physical complexion Jack Godd's uplifting, brilliant vocals bring back memories of Audra Mae and Lily Tomlin
• Interpretive dance performance to Kevin's originals by Elizabeth Burt, musician and dancer in New England and NYC

Where?
First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 425 Congress Street, Portland

When?
7:00 to 9:15 PM, Friday, November 17th

Why?
Every penny of the suggested $20 donation goes into the University of Southern Maine's Phoenix Society scholarship fund. The Phoenix Society is a group of friends who support current- and former foster youths, immigrants, refugees, and youth center volunteers in their quest for higher education. For more information or to get involved, contact Bill Dickinson at 899-1402. Email: wcdpeaks@aol.com

Plano jazz * Physical Comedy Theatre * Interpretive Dance * Southern Soul To warm your heart and support a great cause!