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Early Fall

From a secret tower on Peaks Island, Portland is seen sprawling under a cool, clear autumn afternoon. In color, this picture shows bright red and yellow leaves on the trees in the foreground. The panorama extends to Cliff Island, but this frame is too small to contain all of it. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2. Details on page 10.

Peaks Island Council on brink of extinction

As November approaches, time runs out for the Peaks Island Council. Meetings this month may be the last ones it ever holds.

Five members have resigned, effective at various dates after the election Tuesday, Nov. 2. The other two have reached their term limit and will not seek reelection, and there are no candidates on the ballot for the three seats available.

It may be that nobody wants them. The Peaks Island ballots are written using a quorum, which means a group of at least five members left. By Nov. 2 there will be six members left. By Nov. 10 there will be four and after Dec. 1 the council will cease to exist.

It is literally a race with time.

"The question that needs to be answered is, can a future vacancy be filled prior to its occurrence?" said neighborhood liaison Mike Murray. Technically, appointments could be made at the regular meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 27.

But without knowing the outcome of the election there could easily be a conflict with the voters’ decision. The appointments they make would have to be conditional. The other question is, does the council want to lose their quorum? If they choose not to have a special meeting then the council will die," said Murray.

The other question is, does the council want to save itself? The exodus of its members was due to a feeling of not being heard.

City Councillor Kevin Donoghue (top center) speaking at a public meeting in October 2008. With him are Assistant Fire Chief Larry Montagne (second from right in white shirt) and members of the police department in the front row facing the council. The room was packed.

The only other option then is to hold a special meeting after the election, but before they lose their quorum. "If they choose not to have a special meeting then the council will die," said Murray.

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Remembering Chris Tuttle 1948 - 2010

by R. Wingfield

Chris (right) watching the Memorial Day parade in 2009 as it made its way past his house to Pond Grove Cemetery.

CBITD board report

BY KEVIN ATTRA

Monthly passes are the best deal going at Casco Bay Lines for people who commute every day, but they’re still pricey. For Peaks Island residents, this price comes at a premium.

CBITD board member Frank Peretti, now chair of the Rate Structure Committee, found out about that last spring and after doing some research, began a campaign to fix it.

The price for the monthly pass is based on a number of trips calculated to be a reasonable month’s worth of travel. For down-the-bay riders it’s 21 trips, but for Peaks Islanders it’s 24.

“It’s just not right to have one island on 21 and another on 24,” said Peretti.

He started campaigning in June to have the basis for Peaks lowered to 21. Raising the basis for the down-the-bay pass to 24 was never seriously considered.

Through June and July, the issue was discussed at some length among the board members, who agreed that the disparity was unfair but couldn’t agree on the repair. They saw no way to make up for lost revenue if they lowered the number to 21 for Peaks Island passes other than raising the rates again.

Peretti said that he has a few ideas on making up the revenue, but he won’t say what they are yet. Based on what he’s said in the past they may involve cost-cutting measures that he has long advocated for.

Having spent last year in hearings with the Public Utility Commission over the previous rate hike, none on the board wanted to go through it again. The issue was tabled through the summer and brought up again at the board meeting Thursday, Sept. 23 where it was quickly tabled again.

City Councilor Kevin Donoghue, who also sits on the CBITD board, was put off at the meeting after some members left early and apparently gave the issue little consideration.

“Casco Bay Lines is run as if nobody has to work for a living,” he said.

Frank’s proposal would have moved Casco Bay Lines toward a service that values working families as an integral part of the community.

In June, Operations Manager Nick Mavodones looked into the reasons for the disparity and found that it had been done under a previous administration in order to keep a pricing change revenue-neutral.

During the annual board meeting on the Bay Mail in July, a board member (who wouldn’t go on record) suggested the difference had some logic to it since Peaks Island has more frequent service.

Potentially, riders could make more trips than down-the-bay passengers.

“My feeling is it doesn’t matter if it’s not revenue neutral. It’s not fair,” said Peretti. “If there’s lost revenue, there are ways to make it up.

Unfortunately, either way it would mean a change in the rate structure which means it would have to go before the Public Utilities Commission for approval and the PUC has allegedly stipulated that the Bay lines cannot ask for anything without bringing a plan for two-way ticketing along with it.

“We’re going to have to go to the PUC anyway,” said Peretti.

According to board member Dan Doane, attempts at planning two-way ticketing haven’t had much success because there’s a lot that’s still vague about implementing it. “You’ve got someone who wants off the island, but he got there another way and doesn’t have a ticket. Do people have to automatically buy two tickets?”

He said two-way ticketing will be at the top of the list of projects the board will try to implement this year and expects to start discussions at the Operations Committee meeting Thursday, Oct. 21.
powerlessness when the City replaced
half the police officers on Peaks Island
with firefighters.
At a public meeting on the island in
April, both Police Chief James Craig
and Fire Chief Fred LaMontagne
explained the reasons.
Chief Craig said the crime rate on
Peaks Island did not justify having two
police officers on duty at all times, and
that he wanted the officers to cover
other areas of the city having higher
crime rates. “I’ve got neighborhoods
that get in a month on the island,” he said.
The fire chief said his department had a
bigger staff and larger budget, and
could readily station a firefighter on duty.
Putting a firefighter on duty at
all times was also meant to address the
PIC’s request for emergency medical
coverage at all times, since all
firefighters have medical training.
But the council agreed that the
community was more at risk because
crime had increased. “I’ve got
neighborhoods that get in a month on the island,” he said.
The PIC also felt its suggestions
were disregarded by the City, and its
members were incensed. “The City
disregarded us and did what they
want,” said Councilor Marjorie Phyne.
At that point, the council as a body
decided it could never be an effective
voice for the community and on
Wednesday, July 14 the members began
resigning.
By August, all the councilors had
said they were resigning or announced
their decision not to run for reelection.
Judy Parlock did both.
“As far as keeping the PIC alive,” said
Chair Mike Richards, “it’s not likely.
Only if the City indicates, between now and
then, a willingness to change.
For Richards, the City is willing to
discuss putting two police back on the
island and subsidizing the Bay Lines,
then he will want to continue working
with the City.

Affordable housing in turn-key condition

She can’t speak yet,
but she can help improve
the lives of thousands
of children in Maine.

By taking part in the National Children’s Study, she and
other Maine children will change the course of health for future
generations. This study is the largest of its kind in the
United States and aims to expand what we know about
children’s health and development. Eligible residents in
Cumberland County have the opportunity to be part of
something that will affect not only their children but their
grandchildren as well.

If you’re interested in learning more, call (207) 662-1488.

At 600 p.m. on Sept. 6 Chris Hoppin sent out the following email: “Almost 11-
year-old Kaylin Beck of Harbor Street claimed her HOMESTART Raffle prize
two minutes ago with smiles miles wide. Kaylin, who graduated from Peaks
Island Elementary School in June and starts at King Middle School tomorrow,
celebrates her birthday Wednesday. Special thanks to all who contributed
in many ways to this big effort to raise $1,353 for affordable housing on our
island.”

photo by Jane Ranquer
Lines from Casco Bay Lines

BY CHRIS HOPPIN

The Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Portland was established in 1982 to promote Portland to visitors from around the world through a wide range of marketing programs. Its website, visitportland.com, lists many attractions, including an exclusive link to Casco Bay Lines under the menu subheading, “Water Travel”.

In its annual report, the bureau noted that the summer of 2010 was a banner season, with phone inquiries up 10 percent and requests for information about Casco Bay up more than 38 percent. Their Old Port offices also experienced a 39 percent increase in the number of walk-in visitors.

Visits to www.cascobaylines.com increased considerably over the year. Casco Bay Lines have mentioned that they have built a considerable summer season on a combination of wonder (great weather) and curiosity about the fall and winter (will it continue).

“Is there anything we need to do with the Casco Bay Lines,” you might ask, and the answer is simple: “Everything!”

Passenger ticket sales in July and August added up to $1,446,917, a 4.6 percent increase over the same period last year. Some of that can be attributed to wadetages and island attractions, but most of the increase came from day trippers who decided to take advantage of the weather.

The Casco Bay Island Transit District relies on the revenues from ticket sales to operate our ferries every day: ticket sales, freight charges, and government grants.

It costs around $2.5 million to run the District. Since less than $1 million comes from state and federal contributions, passengers, vehicles, and freight must provide the rest, more than 40 percent of our annual budget.

Year-round residents know all about these charges. We budget these costs into our daily lives. We know, for example, that the ticket prices will change this month to the winter rates, so we don’t buy extra tickets now, like we do when we visit the ticket windows in spring.

These two distinct ticket rates reflect an attempt by your elected CBID board of directors to help keep the ticket prices for lower rates. Federal law prohibits the Bay Lines from setting prices based on residency since anyone using a public utility must have equal access to it no matter where they come from.

Although five ticket commuter books and monthly and annual passes are another way residents get discounted prices, we all know they are still costly. Senior and handicapped ticket discounts of 50 percent are helpful, but they are also limited to only those travelers.

The Maine Public Utility Commission, which authorizes CBID’s rates, requires us to look for additional funds from the reserve fees, maintained to insure uninterrupted service. That’s why CBID markets special launches on the Bay, like this year’s fabulous weather made that happen even more in our larger part of the District’s successful summer.

The increase in ticket sales from day trippers contributed to an improved bottom line for the District, enabling us to further reduce ticket deficits and offset loans needed to finance the books during the winter months.

According to the Ports of Portland, 71 ships carrying a total of 73,563 passengers were expected to visit Portland this year. Casco Bay Line passengers saw firsthand the increased number of cruise ships.

When two of the giant floating hotels arrived on the same day in mid-September, it prompted a comment from Portland Firefighter Patrick Flynn, president of the CBID Board, as he came home from his shift on the 745 a.m. ferry: “Sometimes we take our ads for granted, but today,” he said. “The captain just noted an ad safely near Peaks Island that was being filled with traffic of two cruise ships in the middle of several freighters and fishing boats. That’s impressive!”

And, it’s another sign that this has been a great season.

Garden - the word - has been in print since the 16th century, derived from garden (Middle English and Old North Frisian gar), Old High German gar.

Can you imagine all those Middle and Old people talking, diggin', pulling up vegetables, ripping thick green leaves off their stalks and looking around for someone who wasn’t much of a gardener?

After about 200 years of gardening, maybe even setting up markets and holding pot-luck dinners, the “land surveyors” have found they started to friend each other, probably scavenged their seeds and gardened their veggies.

About 400 years later, garden became an adjective (as in garden variety) and the 20th century saw the appearance of “garden cities,” first noted in the United Kingdom. Gardens in the suburbs and the Peaks Island community gardeners have their own, a deer-feast. Inside a beautiful garden filled with color, texture, and fragrance, all kinds of squash, huge pumpkins, and splendour of flower blooms.

The garden is very visible; however, the garden community extends well beyond its boundaries to the people who dreamed it up, the idea that we put it all together and the abundance of others here on the island and across the bay who supported them.

To write about a garden, the writer needs to know a bushel of words for green. Kale leaves look blue against the deep color of parsnip, and the saucelike leaves of squash are pale under a white blank.

Other colors: the startling orange of nasturtiums, tawny brown and yellow sunflowers, the translucent blue of the morning glory, dark purple sage - all blend into an autumn harmony.

The community garden sits in a clearing in Trout-Littlejohn Park, encircled by woods. Off to the side is the wind tower collecting data. Beyond all of this is Casco Bay, Ocean, woods, a field of allergens and another way the sky of early autumn - this makes up another beauty, a harvest for the senses.

The seeds and seedlings, planted in the spring of 2010, grew much faster than the garden itself, which was planted sometime in 2008 and took almost two years to appear.

It is getting to be time to close up the beds. Winter rye? More mulch? Manure? Leaves? Breeds? Neglects? Gardeners can reflect on the beginning of this space, while looking ahead to a new season.

So much good work from so many people made this "garden" a part of life. Thank you to all of the people who have helped in so many ways.

Garden surveys, free evaluations, plus access to your insurance premium.
For the love of Peaks!

Leatrice Hasson 1930 - 2009

I think because we were poor, and we lived on farms between New York State and Maine, and my father was a carpenter, we moved here in '42. I can remember, we lived in Oak island, a small farm that was left as a gift to them by one of the grandparents. Mom said that we were going to Portland, Maine to live. So they piled us in the Model T arriving. These different departing clock and will represent a unique progression problem but the key captured this phenomenon so well in island poet Margaret Richards her poem: "The Old 6:15". Each time-slot is like a traveler's alarm departure time represented the first aboard and are the first aboard and are discarded reading materials and a choice of both decks and their favorite spots, are the first aboard and are rewarded with the selection of papers or books when the masses appear. As many as 30 Omegas will make the turn at the ice cream shop with less than five minutes to departure time. There is always at least one person turning at the last minute warning blast, hoping to be seen by the ferry captain and not left behind. This arrival pattern probably exists for most events in their lives. Omegas will need to find more distant parking and find no reading material and will have to search for boat seating.

There is also a "boat syndrome" associated with each scheduled departure time represented by the Alphas and the Omegas; those who arrive early and those who arrive late. The Alphas easily find a parking spot, are the first aboard and are rewarded with the selection of discarded reading materials and a choice of both decks and their favorite seats. Most are already reading their papers or books when the masses appear.

As many as 30 Omegas will make the turn at the ice cream shop with less than five minutes to departure time. There is always at least one person turning at the last minute warning blast, hoping to be seen by the ferry captain and not left behind. This arrival pattern probably exists for most events in their lives. Omegas will need to find more distant parking and find no reading material and will have to search for boat seating. Arriving service trucks and dozens of eavesdropping on land and sea, creating a sort of "community adhesive" which seems to bind us together. Mastering this commuting experience is essential to becoming a happy islander. Even if you have no real purpose in your trip to Portland, it will always create an enjoyable 20 minute "time out".

I graduated from the eighth-grade here on Peaks Island and went to Portland High School, and I married Doug's younger brother, one of his younger brothers. There were eight children in the family, and I married Bruce, and I have one son and one daughter by him... who are marvelous! My son, his name is Bruce Wayne MacVane, and he is alobsterman in the summer. He's been a lobsterman for about 20 years, and he lives in Port Clyde with his second wife.

And my daughter, Bonnie, and her husband, they've been married quite a few years. I wonder how many? They have three children, and they moved to Homosassa, Florida. They've been there four years, I think, but I don't think Sean, my son-in-law, will come back to Maine. He was raised on Peaks Island, too, but I think he shooked too much.

He was in the Portland Fire Department. We all got him, it seemed, in the Portland Fire Department at one time or another. My second husband, Larry Hasson, was also in there. He retired from the fire department. So our life was more or less around the fire department.

For a number of years while the fellows were all working in the Portland Fire Department, our friends would come down to the island to visit us and go on lobster bakes or something. So it was fun, you know.

My husband passed away in, quite a few years ago, '79. And the children - Wayne, I call my son - he still like the island pretty well, you know. They grew up and went to school here and everything. So we have quite a connection.

Now I think it's very lucky that Uncle Doug, who's a 30-year Navy man, can find a room for me as he's bustling around. Two or three times a day, I called and he always has a spare room I can use... you see we don't do too much when we're here. He's really been awfully good with the kids and everybody, and so that's the way our life has been. It's been an easy life, I think, compared to anything else, and I look at it as really a blessing that we ended up here.

I mean in our day it was a savior, because my father wasn't getting too much work. My brother became a welder in the shipyard in South Portland, and Dad found plenty of work around the islands building for the Navy or the Army or something. It's a fun place. I just think of it as home, you know.

But I finally had to go to Florida to visit my daughter and her family, and I love to see all those kids running around. But I got down there and I'm homesick for Peaks Island. I think, "Oh, I wonder what they're doing up there now?"

I don't know hardly anybody here anymore, anyway. But we had some wonderful years where we knew everybody, you know, and so it's really a blessing that Uncle Doug is here... Well, I enjoyed coming back so much I - I never would have flown.

I had two brothers, and they brought us down to Portland. And I looked over our things got on the boat and then, as we were going across, they said, "There's Peaks Island, right there." And it looked like New York City to me. It was huge, and there were houses and people everywhere. This was in '42, and I'd only lived on little farms and I was quite young and, well, '42, I was twelve. And so we came here.

And after all these years I never, I get homesick for Peaks Island now. I just miss it when I'm going, you know, when I'm going down to visit my daughter in Florida.

There is also a "boat syndrome" associated with each scheduled departure time represented by the Alphas and the Omegas; those who arrive early and those who arrive late. The Alphas easily find a parking spot, are the first aboard and are rewarded with the selection of discarded reading materials and a choice of both decks and their favorite seats. Most are already reading their papers or books when the masses appear.

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Even if you have no real purpose in your trip to Portland, it will always create an enjoyable 20 minute "time out".

BY JERRY GARMAN

Have you lived on Peaks for a long time? Do you have a Peaks Island story to tell of memories from childhood or that illustrates why you love living here? Please email or call Fran Houston. She has already heard some great stories and the wants to hear your memories from childhood or that illustrates why you love living here. Please email or call Fran Houston. She has already heard some great stories and the wants to hear your memories from childhood or that illustrates why you love living here.
Dear Tom,

Tom asked me to let you know that all of our taxi drivers are officially, certifiably licensed to operate a for-hire vehicle. It took some time as we had to jump through a number of any hurdles, but all now have licenses in hand.

There were silly moments, such as when Tom was told he was licensed because his appeared and lapsed license was sitting on the desk at the hard-to-find taxi office at the airport waiting for him to pick it up. Or when the white space in Judy’s pictures couldn’t be cut off and had to make a 2" x 2" version.

Sigh.

But we have now spent hundreds of $$$ just for licensing and another expense avoided by the golf cart kid, and which we will have to pay every year.

Best,
Lynee Richard

Dear Kevin,

Please thank the staff reporter and the photographer for the article and Golf Cart Raffle a big winner for PTA. It was a very big fundraiser for both Peaks Island Tax Assistance (PTA) and Energy Assistance (EA).

The excitement over the candy apple red golf cart was amazing. Islanders who have been on the island in family owned cottages for years and “newcomers” bought tickets, hoped to introduce themselves and discuss taxes and energy, or just to wish us luck. They mostly bought tickets. In the end it was Islanders, past-time and full-time, who made this raffle such a success. We thank them.

We do need to make a correction - PTA has been in existence since May of 2005. Our first check was from the City of Portland for tax assistance which was delivered in September 2005. We had raised $100.

Every committee member from 2005 to today is a volunteer. We can say we all believe in our programs to help our “helping neighbors”. Our success can not be measured by dollars only, but also by the amount of support given by so many very generous Islanders.

Cynthia Picklin

On Labor Day, two days before her 10th birthday, Kaylin Beck of Luther Street won the HomeStart dollhouse raffle, which raised more than $2,000. "That was great," she exclaimed. Kaylin is a sixth-grader in Grade Middle and the daughter of Robin Beck and Peter Beck.

The dollhouse was created by Ginny Ryszewski based on the historic 1820 Brackett homestead on the island, featuring special family samplers and artwork and decorations produced by several other Islanders, in connection with Alan Stearns, who all created who supported the fund-raiser.

Furthehing the three-house subdivision proposed at 38 Lobster Street, the Portland Planning Board held a workshop on Tuesday, Sept. 20 to review the site plan.

The last step in the public process is a hearing set for Tuesday Oct. 12 where public comment will be taken before the Planning Board makes its decision on the application.

The Maine Housing Authority is offering a grant up to 30% of the Community Housing Initiative for Maine Islands Program to rehab or replace the existing home and build a second one, but the participants, who may be a couple, two or more, or a single one, may use affordable rentals or rent-to-own homes, while helping to hold down the cost of the third home, which will be sold.

HomeStart board meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Faw Garman Senior Center. The public is invited to participate.

HomeStart board members

To the editor:

A quick footnote to your wonderful article on Tom Snyder. He was speaking at the Community Center at the invitation of the Friends of the Peaks Island Library, a 501-c3 organization which supports our local branch of the Portland Public Library and the community at large. We are pleased that so many people attended and enjoyed our dynamic neighbor and speaker.

Monica Stevenson

Dear Nick:

As it is now clear to us that the Peaks Island Council format, although well-intentioned and nobly attempted, does not empower Islanders sufficiently to meet the challenges of preserving our community and managing the inevitable changes imposed from both without and within, we have begun to examine a village corporation as a possible alternative to either continuing the PIC or asking the Legislature for Peaks Island’s independence.

We know that other communities in Maine and elsewhere have had village corporation status successfully, forging new and mutually satisfactory relationships with their associated towns, and we also know that they take a variety of forms, depending on the circumstances and the purposes of the parties involved.

As a village corporation would entail an agreement between Peaks Island and Portland, we would like to meet with city representatives to determine feasibility of such an arrangement. Accordingly, the PIC has asked that I propose a meeting at City Hall between the representatives of the Peaks Island Council and the Portland City Council and staff, especially including you, Joe Gray, Kevin Donohue and Mike Murray. We thought that small contingent from the city and island might be easier to manage than the full councils.

Could you please make the necessary inquiries and let me know at your earliest convenience whether the city is interested in discussing this issue with us, and when we could meet, preferably in the next month or so? We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Mike Richards, Chair Peaks Island Council

BY MIKE RICHARDS, PIC CHAIR

(Ed. Note: This is a letter sent to Mayor Nick Mazoniano on Sept. 3. Mike has given permission to print it here in lieu of his regular column. Mr. Mazoniano agreed to meet Mike on Wednesday, Oct. 20)

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Mike Richards, Chair Peaks Island Council

CONGRESSWOMAN CHERLIE PINGREE

Congresswoman Chellie Pingree represents Maine’s First District in Congress. You can contact her office in Portland at 207-774-5019 or online at www.pingree.house.gov.

Everyone knows to call their member of Congress to voice their opinion about a pending vote, but did you know you can also call them for help on a federal issue? While making decisions on policies that are good for Maine is an important duty for me, so is making sure those policies work as they should for the people I represent.

In the last two years, nearly 1,500 Mainers have contacted my office for assistance with a federal program or agency. The calls run the gamut, including issues with Medicare claims, Social Security disability benefits, passports and visas, the IRS, veterans’ benefits, and federal education loans. My office has been able to help secure over $600,000 in refunds and retroactive payments for those who had not received the federal benefits for which they qualify.

I’m very proud of the work of my staff, who know how agencies work, what questions to ask, and with whom to talk. But what I admire most is their passion for helping Mainers. All of these attributes have been essential in helping people navigate complicated systems in stressful situations while also giving federal agencies the information they need to make informed decisions.

For example, take the case of two elderly constituents, Jacqueline and Frederick of York Beach. During an ice storm in 2008, Jacqueline had a stroke and was taken to York Hospital. When the power there went out, they sent her to Boston. But because Jacqueline’s recovery was compromised by stress and worry over her husband’s long daily drives to see her, doctors sent her back to York Hospital once power was restored. Closer to home, she was able to make a quick recovery.

The couple’s family called my office after they received a $3,100 bill for the ambulance ride from Boston to Maine - Medicare had denied the claim. Working with the family and my staff, I wrote a letter to make sure the agency knew the circumstances of the situation, including the reasoning behind the doctor’s decision and the poor health of Jacqueline’s husband. Taking the information into account at a hearing, Medicare decided to pay the claim.

While some cases involve money, others are priceless - for example, awarding military medals that have
Seated Sun Breath
Find a comfortable seat and lengthen your spine. Turn your palms away and sweep your arms up overhead as you inhale slowly. Turn the backs of your hands towards each other and slowly lower your arms as you exhale. As you inhale, turn your listening inward; as you exhale, empty out completely. Continue until your breath feels long, even, and relaxed.

Twist
As you inhale, raise both arms overhead, as you exhale, bring one hand to the outside of the opposite thigh, the other arm wrapping around behind you. Continue side to side, exhaling between when you think you are empty. Imagine wringing tension out of your physical body, and twisting stress out of your energy bodies.

Bastrika Breath
If you have high blood pressure, please skip this one. Make loose fists and bend your elbows so your fists are about even with your shoulders. As you inhale, reach up and stretch your fingers out wide, as you exhale, pull your elbows down and make fists again. Breathe rapidly in and out through your nostrils as you pump your arms up and down for 20-40 breaths. Take a deep breath and let it go with a sigh. Take another breath in and hold your breath. As you hold your breath, buck your thumbs in, wrap your fingers around your thumbs, and stretch your arms out towards your knees. Hold with equanimity to a point of challenge, but not strain. Release the breath slowly when you feel complete. Repeat the whole sequence two more times.

Daranj Eyes
Rub your palms together briskly to warm and energize your hands. Bring the heels of your hands to rest over your closed eyes. Do not press, but just let the warmth and darkness relax your eyes. Hold until you feel complete.

Side Stretch
As you inhale, raise both arms overhead, as you exhale, bring one hand down as the other reaches up a bit higher. On the same side as the arm that is reaching, press your sitting bone firmly down towards the earth. Continue side to side until you feel complete.

Shoulder Stretch
Interlace your fingers at your belly. As you inhale, reach your arms forward, then up overhead; as you exhale, reach your arms forward and back in towards your belly. When you are complete, roll your shoulders up and back a few times for balance.

Sit and Listen
Bring the tip of your thumb and index finger together and stretch the other three fingers away. Rest your hands facing up or down (your preference) on your legs. The index finger represents your thoughts, the middle finger represents the root causes of suffering, fear, attachment, and ego; the thumb represents your wisdom. As you curl away from suffering and towards wisdom, wisdom curls in to meet you, making an unbroken circle of energy.

Rebecca Johanna Stephens, Kripalu Certified Yoga Teacher since 1994, has 23 years experience in the healing arts.
ACROSS
1 With 45 Across, an agenda    63 Maine college town
5 Trite    64 Law school prereq.
10 Lashed simileons to the    14 Ht. above sea level
11 Hair that first flew from    15 Airline that first flew from
Havana    Havana
16 Kelp    16 Kelp
17 Self-styled Second Coming of    17 Self-styled Second Coming of
Christ    Christ
20 Places for yachts    20 Places for yachts
21 “Dido and Aeneas,” for one    21 “Dido and Aeneas,” for one
22 Frat house?    22 Frat house?
23 Guru    23 Guru
25 Fliegerabwehrkanone (abbr.)    25 Fliegerabwehrkanone (abbr.)
28 Iron supplement; also removes    28 Iron supplement; also removes
rust    rust
32 Route 1 attraction    32 Route 1 attraction
35 Panama, for example    35 Panama, for example
36 Squared follower?    36 Squared follower?
37 Fisherman of sorts    37 Fisherman of sorts
38 Famous art museum    38 Famous art museum
39 Sacred mountain in Crete or    39 Sacred mountain in Crete or
Turkey    Turkey
40 Nobel laureate (literature)    40 Nobel laureate (literature)
42 U.S. hunters kill 1 million each    42 U.S. hunters kill 1 million each
year    year
44 Poultry disease    44 Poultry disease
45 See 1 Across    45 See 1 Across
46 Frat boy?    46 Frat boy?
48 Investigate    48 Investigate
51 Leech      51 Leech
56 Sidney Crosby’s first    56 Sidney Crosby’s first
professional hockey team    professional hockey team
59 “Don’t have!”    59 “Don’t have!”
60 Capital of Belarus    60 Capital of Belarus
61 Playboy bunny, for one    61 Playboy bunny, for one
62 Theme of this puzzle    62 Theme of this puzzle

DOWN
1 Spring, for example    1 Spring, for example
2 Ersatz butter    2 Ersatz butter
3 Rock band from Akron    3 Rock band from Akron
4 “It’s Over,” Roy Orbison song    4 “It’s Over,” Roy Orbison song
5 Welded plastic    5 Welded plastic
6 Picuant    6 Picuant
7 Companion of ifs    7 Companion of ifs
8 Spanish article    8 Spanish article
9 Found on Australian menu    9 Found on Australian menu
10 Gaucho’s home    10 Gaucho’s home
11 Flowering succulent    11 Flowering succulent
13 Unisex name    13 Unisex name
18 Dangerous    18 Dangerous
19 Red Sox favorite, once    19 Red Sox favorite, once
23 Recluse    23 Recluse
24 Warn    24 Warn
25 Melted, in Marseille    25 Melted, in Marseille
26 Dietetic    26 Dietetic
27 Gator follower    27 Gator follower
28 Bannister, for example    28 Bannister, for example
29 Famous killer whale    29 Famous killer whale
30 Consume    30 Consume
31 Jean d’Arc, et autres (abbr.)    31 Jean d’Arc, et autres (abbr.)
32 Creple    32 Creple
33 Former #1 tennis player    33 Former #1 tennis player
34 “He owes,” in Latin    34 “He owes,” in Latin
35 Major “ism”    35 Major “ism”
36 Farewell, in Figaro    36 Farewell, in Figaro
37 “Rock singer, died at 30”    37 “Rock singer, died at 30”
39 Pasta pieces    39 Pasta pieces
40 Ring name    40 Ring name
41 Shoplift    41 Shoplift
42 Vehicle on land or water    42 Vehicle on land or water
43 Famous killer whale    43 Famous killer whale
44 Poultry disease    44 Poultry disease
45 See 1 Across    45 See 1 Across
46 Fratboy?    46 Fratboy?
48 Investigate    48 Investigate
50 Commercial Street, Portland    50 Commercial Street, Portland
207.874.2639    207.874.2639

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH’S PUZZLE

Ferry Convenient
Island-baked pizza, great food to travel, and only steps away from the terminal.

ANDY'S
94 Commercial Street, Portland    207 874.2639

Serving extraordinary pub fare & pizza from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Udder Nonsense - by Anna Tierney

by Palmer
Star Gazing

October 2010 Sky

BY MIKE RICHARDS

October is not the eighth month, as its Ancient Roman name denotes. It's the tenth, and the first after the autumnal equinox. The Earth's top half is now tipping slowly away from the sun, a little more each day.

The sun is now up less than half of every day, rising about a minute later and setting about a minute earlier each day. It's apex falls a little every day.

With this short and glancing blow from Earth's heat pump, our hemisphere begins to cool toward the absolute zero (−460°F) of outer space.

Fortunately, Earth has a lot of mass for its size. It weighs more than twice what it would if it were solid granite. Earth has a molten iron core that is denser than rock, a big magnet that holds our precious atmosphere close like a down blanket on a cold porch, and keeps us warm enough to enjoy the mini-glacier of winter until Earth starts tipping back toward the sun again in just a couple months.

October is great for sky-gazing, no bugs, clearer skies and increasing darkness at a reasonable hour.

Mornings stay dark later and evenings may stay light until 6:30 p.m. now, but we'll lose a full 1.5 hours of light before October's done with us. In fact, because we postponed the end of Daylight Saving Time until the first Sunday in November (Nov. 7 this year), the last Sunday's Halloween sunset isn't until 5:34 p.m., the better to see the kids in their costumes.

PLANETS

Jupiter is the big story, literally. Its mass is 2½ times that of all the other planets in our Solar System combined. It's one-tenth as big across as the sun, and as it revolves around the sun 440 million miles away it pulls the sun in a tight little circle creating a red-shift in the spectrometers of civilizations studying us from solar systems far away (well, so far I believe in UFOs).

In the evening Jupiter will be unmistakably bright in the southeastern sky and in prime position for viewing. It's also unusually close to Earth this time around, so catch it if you can. If you can steady your binoculars against a post (not a tree - it waves), you can probably see the single dark equatorial band near the middle, and you can certainly see Jupiter's four Galilean moons, or some of them, as one or more may be passing in front or behind their huge host. Jupiter's second equatorial band has faded to nothing, and the Big and Little Red Spots are nearly merging.

I'm definitely getting the scope out for this.

Mercury's ducking behind the sun and tough to find anyway so forget it for now. Venus is ducking between the Earth and sun, so it's just as low on the horizon as Mercury. Venus is a thinning crescent easily visible in steadied binoculars on a clear evening in early October, and as especially shallow angle and highly reflective clouds will bounce the sunlight straight toward us. It's so bright someone will surely think it must be a jet landing at the airport. Online are cool photos and video of the giant funnel cloud on Venus' south Pole, similar to the one on Saturn.

Mars is just above Venus but way on the other side of the sun and not worth more mention, except for the incredible photos taken by NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter - high-def spy photos of Mars' fascinating surface features. Saturn's on the other side of the sun, too. Uranus, Neptune and Pluto are all in good viewing position, but for the billions of miles between us and them.

STARS

We know now that there are billions of galaxies in the universe, and our Milky Way is just one. We can see the edge of our galaxy overhead each clear night, anchored just above the northeast horizon by yellow star Capella in Auriga, running up past variable Algol and the crowned head of Perseus, and under the Big W in Cassiopeia, skimming the head of Cepheus the Whale, way up to the cross inside Cygnus the Swan flying straight overhead, just inside blue-white Vega in Lyra, then down to bright Altair in Aquila the Eagle, and ending in the Messier objects pouring out of the Tea Pot in Sagittarius on the southwest horizon. On the north-northwest horizon, red giant Arcturus is setting, and out over the islands to the northeast the Pleiades star cluster is just rising. These ghostly seven sisters' will be overhead at midnight, and they gave the ancients the feeling that the honored dead were up and walking among them, hence Halloween.

COMET!

Hartley 2 is coming near Earth this month. The first week it slides under the Big W, then past the double clusters and right through the peak of Perseus' crown. On Nov. 11 it reaches within 11 million miles of Earth (3 times closer than Venus gets!) and flies past us and on under Capella. Binoculars will help greatly as the blue core is not bright, but the wiggly tail is quite easy. Hartley left us the Orionid meteor shower on the 21st of the month, but a full Moon will wash it out.

ALMANAC

Oct. 4-6 - As the 6:15 boat leaves the dock, look eastward at the setting moon rises in the east over Mercury.

Oct. 6-8- Moon's at perigee, closest to Earth.

Oct. 7-9- New moon tonight is best for star-gazing.

Oct. 8- Tides are wicked high at noon and midnight and fall 13 feet to wicked low at dawn and dusk.

Oct. 9- After sunset, a thin crescent moon hovers over Venus, with Mars just above.

Oct. 14- First-quarter moon starts the best week in the month for moon-scoping.

Oct. 18- Moon's at apogee, furthest away.

Oct. 19- Jupiter hangs like a pearl around the neck of a pale little moon.

Oct. 22- Full "Hunter's" moon sets over town at 6:41 this morning and rises from the Bay at 5:13 this evening.

Oct. 30- Last-quarter moon is high at sunset.

Oct. 31- Sunrise not till 7:13 and sunset at 5:34 already! We'd best get ready for the big chill coming soon, so trick or treat tonight!

New Fall Dining Hours:
The pub stays open later based on the ferry schedule.

October 1 - October 16

Sunday - Thursday 11:30am - 8:00pm
Friday - Saturday 11:30am - 9:00pm

October 17 - Spring

Wednesday - Thursday 4:00pm - 8:00pm
Friday 4:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday 11:30am - 9:00pm
Sunday 11:30am - 8:00pm
In the island districts only three municipal races are contested. Chris Hoppin and Charles Burr, both of Peaks Island, are vying for one at large seat on the Casco Bay Island Transit District board of directors.

Three candidates are running for two at large positions on the City Council, incumbents Jill Duason of the West End, and John Amon of the West End, and taxi operator Charles Bragdon of Munjoy Hill who has been seeking a council seat since 2009.

Finally, two at large positions on the School Committee are sought by Jamie Caron of North Deering, Kathleen Snyder of Oakdale and Morton Soile of the East Deering neighborhood. On the other hand, there are three vacancies and no candidates on the ballot for the Peaks Island Council, but it's difficult to say what impact any outcome will have on the council itself as every member has resigned.

In the District 8 race for the state Senate, incumbent Democrat Justin Alfond, former state director with the League of Young Voters, is running against Republican Peter Doyle, who does not have a web presence.

In Congress, Pingree voted for the Healthcare Reform Bill and against funding the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. She has advocated for veterans, Maine businesses and consumers, and supports local use of alternate energy, saying “Maine is perfectly positioned to lead this new clean energy revolution”.

Let's keep an experienced business voice in Augusta!

Maine is a challenging place to run a business and create new good paying jobs. I've lived and worked in Maine my entire life and owned and operated my own company for 24 years. Unlike others who say they support business, I know what it is like to sign both sides of the paycheck. I understand your frustrations.

I have been honored to represent the residents of Chebeague and Long Island over the past four years as a common sense and independent voice. I have a proven track record of listening and acting on the unique needs of our year-round island communities.

With your help, I will work hard to support:

- Controlled state spending to lower our excessive tax burden
- Small business growth and job creation
- Helping more Maine students in the pursuit of higher education
- Improving the quality and standards of our K-12 education
- Affordable and accessible healthcare
- Creative energy alternatives and solutions
- Quality of life that we all enjoy here in Maine

A strong voice for common sense!

Chubeague Island, Cumberland, Long Island and part of North Yarmouth

Addiction is a disease and public health crisis in Maine. Let's work together to fight it. www.MeredithForMaine.com
The gubernatorial race

The following is a summary of the candidates’ positions on the main topics in the state gubernatorial race. The initial letter of their party affiliation—Democrat, Republican or Independent—is in parentheses next to their name.

As a cost control measure on government spending, two candidates are advocating for zero-based budgeting, a system where funds for the various programs and departments are budgeted each year from scratch without regard to the previous year’s budget. Under the new federal healthcare law, all legal residents of the U.S. must have health insurance by 2014. In Maine, insurance companies are regulated by the Bureau of Insurance (www.maine.gov/insurance). Only five providers currently operate in the state. A couple of candidates propose to make more companies available.

According to the Bureau’s website, the available providers are: Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the MEGA Life and Health Insurance Company and three HMOs (including DirigoChoice).

Here are the topics:

Economic Development

Libby Mitchell (D): proposes tax incentives, specialized bonds and regulatory reform to facilitate business growth and development.

Paul LePage (R): proposes a flat income tax (5 percent) for residents and businesses that earn at least $30,000 annually, and regulatory reform to facilitate business growth and development.

Eliot Cutler (I): wants to halt “bright-flight” to cultivate a more highly educated workforce, encourage expansion of gateway trade with Canada, and favors support for the cornerstone industries: fishing, farming, forestry and tourism.

Shawn Moody (I): proposes tax incentives and favors support for the cornerstone industries: fishing, farming and forestry.

Healthcare Reform

Libby Mitchell (D): wants to create insurance pools and supports preventative care programs.

Paul LePage (R): wants to eliminate Dirigo, expand insurance options and reform tort law to lower medical practice costs.

Eliot Cutler (I): proposes a state healthcare system.

Shawn Moody (I): wants to expand insurance options.

Kevin Scott (I): wants to create a state healthcare bond.

Education

Libby Mitchell (D): wants to expand early childhood education programs, implement teaching benchmarks, guarantee grants for Maine college students and provide them with career assistance.

Paul LePage (R): proposes teacher merit pay and classroom-based funding, and wants to give parents increased access to schools of choice.

Eliot Cutler (I): proposes teacher merit pay; wants to increase the number of charter schools and merge the state universities into one system.

Shawn Moody (I): proposes teacher merit pay and wants to provide career assistance for college students.

Kevin Scott (I): wants to give parents increased access to schools of choice, prioritize funding and encourage parents to volunteer at their children’s schools.

Energy

Libby Mitchell (D): supports biomass, wind, solar, tidal and hydro power, energy-efficiency incentives and renewable energy programs.

Paul LePage (R): supports biomass, wind, co-generation, nuclear, solar, tidal and hydro power, and energy-efficiency incentives.

Eliot Cutler (I): supports biomass, wind, solar, tidal and hydro power, and renewable energy programs.


Government

Libby Mitchell (D): proposes business regulation reform, reducing government expense and creating online transparency for all offices of government.

Paul LePage (R): proposes zero-based budgeting and welfare reform.

Eliot Cutler (I): proposes reduced spending in education and health and human services.

Shawn Moody (I): proposes welfare reform.

Kevin Scott (I): proposes zero-based budgeting, and a commission-driven 32-hour work week for government employees.

Photos and information are from the candidates’ websites at the following locations:

Libby Mitchell – libbymitchellformaine.com
Shawn Moody – www.moodygov.com
Kevin Scott – www先导erchoice.com.
Our recent brush with Hurricane Earle jogged memories of past storms that paid a visit to Casco Bay.

The first record of a fierce storm in Maine is found in the writings of John Jocelyn of Scarborough who wrote in his journal of 1638, "September 24 - Monday, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, a fearful storm of wind began to rage, called a hurricane ... the greatest mischief it did us was the wrecking of our shallows [small boats used in shallow waters], and the blowing down of many trees, in some places a mile together."

In October of 1770, Reverend Thomas Smith of Portland noted in his journal that "an exceedingly great storm had passed through the area uprooting trees, destroying barns, destroying orchards, and killing many cattle." Known as the "Western New England Hurricane" this storm caused damage far to the east. It created a 75 mile wide path of destruction in less than 30 minutes. Several people were killed by falling trees.

The Great New England Hurricane of September 1938 struck Casco Bay with a vengeance. Wind speed in Portland was clocked at 70 mph. There was little rain, so there was no flooding, but this storm left a path of destruction covering 40,000 square miles of New York and New England in less than 12 hours. Over 600 people were killed.

On Peaks the top of the tower at the Eighth Maine was blown off, never to be replaced. Instead, the remaining part of the tower was roofed over. The eye of this monster — a category 5 storm — was said to be 50 miles wide.

Sixteen years later, in late August and early September 1954, the Bay was pummeled by two hurricanes just 10 days apart. Hurricane Carol arrived first. Though a weaker category 2 storm, wind speed still reached 78 mph with rainfall just a couple of inches.

As residents were cleaning up the destruction wrought by Carol, Edna arrived dumping 7 1/2 inches of rain — most of it in just six hours. Wind speed reached 74 mph. The combined effect of these two storms resulted in a landslide down front behind the houses on the ocean side of Island Avenue. Boats tied up on the beach were crushed; stairways down to the beach destroyed.

No need to describe the recent Patriot's Day storm. The evidence still abounds in many parts of the island. The angry sea threw pebbles of all sizes against my house, literally scrapping the paint off the skirting.

Storms will come and go as Mother Nature sees fit. Luckily, ever-improving technology provides early warnings of approaching storms, allowing us time to prepare. Our forebears could only dream of being able to accurately forecast severe storms.
I am an innocent man
Charles Wakefield Jr. and the Looper murders
BY KEVIN ATTRA

Peaks Island artist Claudia Whitman, who founded the nonprofit National Death Row Assistance Network, investigates wrongful convictions in cases involving the death sentence. In 1972, she had a routine appointment and six releases. She only takes death cases involving the death sentence.

Prison inmates, publishing a quarterly magazine called The Cell Door, an out-of-work, itinerant textile mill worker in Greenville, South Carolina, was about to find out what Waterman was talking about.

On a Friday afternoon, Jan. 31, Rufus Looper and his son Frank, a deputy with the Greenville County Sheriff’s Department, were murdered in a greenhouse in their home.

Nine months later, Charles Wakefield was arrested for the murder, and he had no idea why.

The descriptions given by five witnesses interviewed at the scene did not describe him. The cast of a shoe print found outside the garage did not match his prints. No forensic evidence of the crime was ever found. His alibi also checked out.

Within two months of his arrest, though, Charles was convicted and sentenced to death.

Wakefield’s sentence was converted to life when the South Carolina death penalty statute was struck down as unconstitutional.

He became a model prisoner, which earned him a furlough call.

“Up to the moment the jury came in, I believed I would not be convicted,” he said. “It was a eulogy I had written in my heart. The truth would prevail, but I was sadly mistaken.”

At the time, the country had turned away from the death penalty. By 1976, a nationwide moratorium on capital punishment ended it altogether.

Wakefield said he had never seen a man put to death before.

When she saw him come back again that afternoon and enter the garage, she asked her son, Frank, himself a narcotics agent in the Greenville County Sheriff’s Department, to go be with his father. Frank tucked his .357 magnum under his shirttail and went out to the shop.

Mrs. Looper watched from the kitchen window as her son entered the garage, and then saw the man casually walk out a moment later as if he were leaving. Suddenly he turned and went back inside. Then she immediately heard two gun shots and saw the man flee.

Viola Owens and Edna Mashburn were sitting on Edna’s front porch nearby when they saw a man run from the building. “There is a sign there on the left of the driveway and the boy looked like he hit the sign with his right hand,” Ms. Owens later told police.

“I said to Edna there is something had happened and I told her to run and that I would be on . . . I looked in and saw the young boy laying on the ground close to the door and he had blood all over his face and was just a pouming.”

Ms. Looper had gone to the garage immediately after hearing the shots.

Storm Coming
Greenville, South Carolina

When the Civil War ended cotton mills sprang up throughout the South, but nowhere like they did in Greenville. In 1920, the town had over 14 mills and proclaimed itself the “Textile Center of the South.”

Developments known asTEXAS™, mill hills sprang up wherever there was a factory, rows and rows of densely packed cottages with a school, church and playground or two thrown in as well.

Charles Wakefield grew up in a mill hill, but by then the textile industry was in inexorable decline and poverty was devastating many of these communities.

At 15 Charles dropped out of high school. “I got tired of it. No one challenged me,” he said. His parents, who separated when he was 3, didn’t say a word.

After that he just hung around various places, most often at his aunts’ homes because he liked playing with his cousins and there was always good food.

He lied about his age to get work in Greenville. He worked at the library for a better life for himself.

He became a model prisoner, which earned him a furlough call.

“By the early 1970s racial tension was at high gear, drug use was rampant and trafficking an organized industry. Greenville’s drug culture had become as formidable as its textile industry once was.”

By 1974 Charles was married and had a 3-year-old daughter, but the couple had been separated for a year. “Even though we were separated, we still shared each other’s company,” he said.

Sometimes held spend the night.

But Charles was beginning to want a better life for himself. “It got to the point that it was meaningless to hang around the street,” he said.

He applied to the Job Corp program, which would have provided him with a high school education and career training, but he was turned down. Then he thought of joining the military.

“There’s military all in my family — my uncle was a master sergeant, my cousin was a Navy SEAL for 12 years. I fiercely wanted into the military to the point of telling my family I was going.”

The Murders

On that Friday afternoon in January 1975, Rufus Looper had just finished eating lunch with his wife and son at a drug store. As he was back at work talking to the repair shop next door when a man walked into the garage.

Looper’s wife later told police that she had seen the man earlier that morning. “She felt he was looking over the house and her husband’s garage next door, but he continued on,” so she dismissed him from her mind, the police report read.

Thank You Peaks Island
All of our performers appreciate you for attending our summer music series. We will feature Jazz again next summer as well as adding Country and Theater to our venue. Hope to see you there!

The Crew at Jones Landing

For more information, please call 766-5652.

October 2010
ISLAND TIMES

PAGE 13
LEFT - Outside Covey's Shack at the landing on Peaks Island, photographer Cole Caswell prepares a tintype, much like those from the mid 1800's found at the Fifth Maine Museum. Cole set up his traveling dark room on site at the bottom of Welch Street during an art show which took place inside Covey's Shack, featuring his work as well as paintings by Paul Brahms and Jessica George. Viewers were surprised to see fine art hung next to worn buoys, lobster traps and monster claws.

RIGHT - Peaks Island artist, Tim Nihoff, prepares to open a studio gallery on Island Avenue. The entire cottage is under renovation and due to open for a sneak peek in early winter.

BELOW - Ninth-grader Liam Fox's intricate work made with ink and marker at the Youth Art show at the Gem Gallery, in which eight children exhibited work in a variety of media. At right, Peaks Island artists Ilé Holdridge (on left) and Daisy Braun discuss technique during the show. Also showing were Dudley Holdridge, Nathaniel and Noah Chalfont, Isabella Levine, and Lucien Brahms.

UNCOVERED and EXPOSED!
A Guide to THE WORLD'S ONLY
Umbrella Cover Museum
By Nancy S. Hoffman

A MUST FOR EVERY ISLAND COTTAGE!
Special Islander's price only $15.75
Contact Nancy S. at 766-6496
Or email S3Nancy3@gmail.com
A toilet walks into the ice cream store down front. "Coo-ooohhhhhhhhh!" it says. It is really 9-year-old Wendy. Her eyes gleam as she surveys the mouth of Laffy Taffy, AirHeads, Nerds and Toobers' sour blast spray candy piled on the table. My husband, Ron, smiles at her. She points to a Triple Power push pop and flips open the lid that extends in front of her, exposing the wide white bowl. "Can you put it here, please?" she asks.

As the owner of the candy store, Ron considers it his civic duty to please the kids on Halloween. To him, it’s as important as exposing the wide white bowl. "Can you put it here, please?" he asks. Matt, the boy in front of him, is standing on a chair. "I see stress on his face. He is desperate to avoid the unthinkable, bearing with less than the maximum amount.

"Four each," Ron tells the boys. This number is a carefully made guestimate. Matt wants to give away all of the candy that is left from the past summer, but he doesn’t want to run out before all of the kids have come by. Having to re-supply himself at the last minute with ordinary candy would just be embarrassing.

The boys grab at the candy the way a hydrated athlete goes for Gatorade. I pretend not to notice as Matt takes five pieces and Dave takes seven or eight. Sugar-induced delusions have overridden their ability to count.

Our next visitors are a pair of little girls. Two marks stripe the bellies of their long white dresses. "We’re dead brides," they say. As the evening continues, we give candy to bloody zombies, mermaids and my cousin Zev, who wears a giant iPod constructed of corncob cardboards and aluminum foil. At the age of 14, Zev was already a self-proclaimed nerd and Apple computer enthusiast. This costume is his attempt to one-up his own previous appearance as an iconic Mac.

After Zev leaves, Matt, Scott and Dave return, this time wearing masks and hats. Scott’s paired Casper the Friendly Ghost with a cowboy hat. Dave wears a Scarecrow mask with a yellow hard hat. "Trick or Treat" says Matt in falsetto. He hopes we don’t recognize him. We pretend we don’t.

Alice, 12, does bananas in dressed as a blooseable bee. Just like a real bee, she is buried directly to the nectar, in this case a cherry-kevored, giant Pixy Stix. Chicketh in her tiny hand, the long sleeve of pink sugar granules looks like a King Kong-sized treat—almost as tall as she is.

"Put that in your closet tomorrow. It makes the milk turn pink," says Ron. Dana nods in agreement.

A stern shifts our attention back to the street. It’s the Maltese family dressed in white suits, carrying tanks with spray hoses and trotting alongside a converted ambulance. I can’t discern any gift music emanating from the vehicle, the question: Who ya gonna call? Ghost Busters.

"Don’t you just love Halloween on the island?" asks a 50-something friend of ours. Her outfit is made entirely out of bubble wrap.

Soon people head to the Lion’s Club for the haunted house, games and costume contest.

Matt, Scott and Dave make a third visit to our store, this time draped in bed sheets. Once again, we have the group of German shepherds and some other golden retrievers. A few of the puppies at the gathering were siblings which made for interesting study.

The actual guide dog training takes from four to six months. The raters receive updates on how their dogs are doing. Raters like to hold their breath while their kids are in college.

The dogs are primarily trained for guiding the blind and various other tasks. They have been trained to help the visually impaired, but depending on how their training goes, some go into law enforcement, some are more tailored to dog therapy, and some become autism service dogs.

"What really clicked for me is six months later, when you see the connection of the puppy with its new person," said Levene. "The puppy is confident, autonomous, self-assured, working as he was trained to do in harness, guiding someone visually impaired, and seeing that emotional connection.

"The other thing is being connected to a great group of people," she added. Besides its headquarters and training center in Yorktown Heights, the school also breeds its own pups at the Canine Development Center in Patterson, New York.

For more information see www.guidedogs.org.

207.518.0000 PEAKS ISLAND
As Halloween is a celebration of the dead, this month we would like to mention the people in the Casco Bay island community who have died since October 2009 in order to make a collective record of the year and to remember their lives.

This is the second annual record, created by our staff researcher Irene Schenau who diligently studied the area newspapers for relevant news items. Our records may not be complete; we apologize in advance for any omissions.

Names are listed in alphabetical order and grouped monthly based on the date of death. There were no recorded deaths for people in communities on islands in months that are not listed here.

Previously Unreported

Eric Scott Dunn, 43, Little Diamond Island, Thursday Aug. 20, 2009 of unspecified causes. Eric worked in carpentry in Maine and in Napa, CA, where he also volunteered to teach English as a second language. He is survived by his parents Happy and Harry Dunn, brother Russell, four aunts and several nieces and nephews.

John William W. Mason, 81, Chebeague Island, Thursday Sept. 29, 2009 of pulmonary illness. He was a veteran of World Wars II and I and retired from the Fords, MA, Fire Department in 1960. He acted and sung in the Island Theatre and with the Whalers. He is survived by his wife Joan Esau Maxon; sisters Margaret "Peggy" L. Harmon, 91, Peaks Island, Wednesday Jan. 13 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House following a brief illness.

Margaret "Peggy" L. Harmon, 91, Peaks Island, Sunday Feb. 6, 2009 of a brief illness. Peggy worked for many years as a cashier for Market Hall in Portland, and was involved in the revitalization of the Fifth Maine Regiment Museum where she was treasurer and one of five members of the local board. She was survived by her husband Francis, brother Thomas W. Ball Jr. and sisters Elizabeth Bull Hammet, Mary Bull Kilman, and Gritt Olive Ridgely. She is survived by her daughters Eleanor Tornstrom (husband Roger), Elizabeth Reaborgh (husband Thomas), Frances Catherine McDonald (husband Joseph Vojak) and Margaret "Peggy" L. Harmon (husband Stephen). 10 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Howard Herbert Milliken, MD, 87, Portland, Saturday Feb. 27, 2009 of unspecified causes. Howard was a community physician and a founding member of the local community groups, sports and music. Throughout his life in Hallidays, Peaks Island, Saco, Coburns Lake in Madison, Vero Beach, FL and Portland. He was predeceased by his first wife, Ruth Hogan; his second wife Madelyn Perkins; brothers Robert and Richard Williams. He is survived by his father Howard Milliken Sr. and mother Will Clancy. He is survived by his daughter Joan M. Griffin, son Thomas H., four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Ann L. Long Ormsby, 65, Freeport, Saturday Feb. 20 of cancer. Ann worked at the Portland campus of Maine Medical Center from 1980 as well as the LL Bean cafeteria, and was food service director and custodian at Chebeague Island School for the last several years of her life. She is survived by her husband William Ormsby, sons Christopher Long, Michael Long and Margaret Milliken Ormsby, and granddaughters Norah Ormsby, Jon Ormsby, Claire Levesque and Celeste Tamburello, brothers John Rogers (husband Mark Rogers), and sisters Peggy Flanagan (also survived by her husband Stephen), and several nieces and nephews.

Frederick B. Rolfe, 87, Peaks Island, Saturday Jan. 30 at the Maine Veteran's Home in Scarborough. A World War II veteran, he taught foreign language at Deering and Westbrook high schools and at Portland Junior College before joining the faculty of the Foreign Language Department at George Stevens Teacher College (now USM). He was survived by his wife Patricia A. ( Foley), sons John (wife Audrey) and Brian (wife Beth), daughters Betty Carter (husband Richard) and Dorothy (husband Steve), and seven grandchildren.

James "Jimbo" Edward Sullivan, Jr., 84, Chebeague Island, Monday Oct. 26 of cancer. James served in the U.S. Army and was employed on the island as a painter and handyman. He was a published accomplished musician and enjoyed whittling and making Native American jewelry. He was predeceased by his father James Edward and sons Michael, and Marie, and his mother Joan Marie (Cushing) Sullivan, Timothy D. (wife Joyce A.), sisters Susan C. McRae (husband Donald) and Ellen K. Burnham (husband Kevin); nephews (wife Corin) Sullivan, and son Corin and many nieces and nephews.

Eleanor Mae Heflin, 89, Cliff Island, Wednesday Jan. 13 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House following a brief illness.

Eleanor Evelyn Dolan, 77, Cousins Island, Sunday Oct. 25 of unspecified causes. She was a nurse with a private practice in Enfield, CT, union member and a student in the PCOM program. She is survived by her husband, Andrew; daughters Mary, Kate, Anne Dolan Goldberg (husband Paul), and Margaret Grace Dolan Dow; son Tom; and three grandchildren.

LeMaistre, Cliff Island, Sunday, Oct. 18 at home. Al was a frequent summer visitor to the island who enjoyed both the island and his many island friends. He is survived by his daughter Diane Lien (husband Steve).

November 2009

William Staples, 68, Peaks Island, Sunday, Nov. 15 of complications from Mycobacterial disease. Bill taught fourth, fifth, and sixth-grade students in the Wells Ogunquit school system for 37 years, and was inducted into the Wells High School Hall of Fame in 2005 as an exellent. He retired to the family cottage on Peaks Island with his wife Martha Dausg in 2000. He is survived by his wife Barbara Richard (wife Mike); wife Gabrielle (and Brian) and wife Susan; daughter Patricia; (husband Andy); several nieces and nephews. Albert Salvatore Traina, brother Donald; sisters Mary Patricia Cusick (husband John), and Priscilla F. Pettengill in 1976; and a sister, Elvira F. Pettengill Bodin. Survivors include his wife of 18 years, Susan Pettengill; a stepdaughter, and sister-in-law Carolyn J. Jenison (husband David) and Pamela E. Brannard (husband James); sons C. William Pettengill III, (partner Linda Conley); and Pettengill Jr. (wife Pricila five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and two nieces.

March 2010

Mary Elizabeth Hochter Wickers, 88, Washington, died on April 8, 2010, her 88th birthday. Born and Raised in Westbrook, she spent many summers on Peaks Island and worked as a temporary budget analyst for the State of Maine for 24 years. She is survived by her husband Walter B. Hochter, and many aunts and nephews.

March 2010

Mary H. Cady, 84, Peaks Island, Monday March 22 of unspecified causes. Mary worked in the Portland area as a World War II internment camp family after the war. She later worked at Fairchild Semiconductor in South Portland. She is survived by her daughters Katherine Linda and William Stephen; Jr., 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Edward Bird Davy, MD, 77, Portland, Sunday March 28 after a prolonged illness. After serving in the Navy as a maintenance officer and engineer, he moved to Portland where he served as the director of public health for several years before going into private practice. For more than 20 years he maintained a practice in Casco Bay Islands. He was predeceased by his brother Ralph Jr., and is survived by his sisters Margaret Virginia Davy and Elizabeth Jane Davy; brother Richard Davy; wife Carmel Myers Davy; and daughters Sarah Davy Murray (husband Paul), Miranda Davy (husband Robert) and Vanesa Davy, 5 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Joseph C. Higgins, 52, Portland, Friday March 5 at Maine Medical Center after a long illness. Jounie worked for several years in the development division of the Portland Press Herald. He moved to Casco Bay islands, working with children at day care centers and being outdoors. She is survived by her husband Daniel, brother Robert Niles III (wife Carol), sister Patricia Nicole, son Peter, daughters Laura and Hannah, and several nieces.

Edwin B. "Bounce" Nida, 76, Chebeague Island. Monday March 22 of unspecified causes. Born and raised on the island, Bounce traveled extensively and spent time in the Post Office until retirement, when he returned to fishing. He is survived by his wife Janna, his daughters Karen and Jessica, sister in law Cathy Jarrat, sister Priscilla Feltcre and brother Carl Nida.
Edward Partlow, 76, Peaks Island, Thursday, April 15 in the Congregational Memorial Home in Scarborough. A veteran of the Korean War, he was an engineering craftsman and field inspector and participated in many civil engineering projects locally and abroad. He was also a self-taught oil painter who made portraits and coastal landscapes. He was preceded in death by his wife Helen (French) Parker, three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mary Williams Brackett, 95, Cliff Island, Thursday, July 27 at the Holbrook Health Center in Scarborough. Mary was a teacher at various colleges in Connecticut, eventually becoming interim president of the Norwich Community College before retiring. She cherished her cottage on Cliff Island, which had been in the Brackett family for over 100 years, and was active in the community. She donated land in Griffins Cove to the island for permanent public use. She was predeceased by her parents, partners in a real estate business with her husband, brothers, and one daughter, Mary Margaret Brackett. She was survived by her stepdaughter Elizabeth Brackett (husband Douglass), stepson Robert Brackett; three great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Charles Christopher Tuttle, 62, Peaks Island, Saturday, July 31 at a heart attack. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II. He eventually became the caretaker of Clapboard Island. He started lobstering when he was 8 and pulled his last trap in 2002. He is survived by his daughter, Florence Roberts, sons, Charles E. Jr., wife Mary and John D., wife Diane, brother Kenney Norman, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Jacqueline Imogene Davis, 86, Long Island, Friday, May 4 in her sleep. Jacqueline served in the U.S. Navy during World War II participating in a code breaking intelligence office. She married her high school sweetheart, Richard Davis, and they lived throughout the country, but always spent every summer on Long Island where she was an original member of the Beachesiders Club. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard Edwin Jr. and is survived by her brothers, Thomas C., wife Dorothy, Stanley Davis, wife Uda Mei; and Norman Davis; sisters, Valerie Monroe and Joanna Davis; daughters, Anne Davis Kelly (husband Phil) and Elizabeth Davis; granddaughter, husband William; and brothers, and three great-grandchildren.

Edward M. Scheu, Jr., 85, Cliff Island, Monday, May 3 in her hospice N.H. A remarkable business leader, husband, father, sailor, pilot, and generous Optimist, Ted was a lover of the sea and Cliff, and a generous friend to many. Over his life, he witnessed thousands of miles of blue water slid under his keel, all over the globe. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Molly Porter Scheu; sister Mary S. Teach, brother Robert S. Scheu; daughter, Jenny Peter Scheu, sons Edward G. Scheu and R. Nicholas Scheu and their families, including 5 grandchildren.

Mary Bartlett Gardiner, 90, Bailey Island, Monday, Sept. 6 at her home in Kensington, Mass. A resident of Portland since 1966, she taught fourth and fourth grades in Windham and enjoyed spending summers with family on Bailey Island. She is survived by her brother Stephen Bartlett; sister Barbara Hammond; sons Gary Gardiner, daughters Joann Gardiner and Carol Gardiner and two grandchildren.

Margaret Ann Bukus, 86, Peaks Island, Thursday, Sept. 9 in hospital after a brief illness. Margaret worked at the Portland Shipyard during World War II and moved to Peaks Island after marrying, where the couple raised a family. She loved a good party and especially the island beaches and back shore coolouts. She was predeceased by her husband Stanley J. Jr. and brother Thomas Connolly, and is survived by her daughter Joann Giampetruzzi (husband Robert); stepson Stanley J. (wife Teresa) and Stephen R. (wife Amy); four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Lorettta (Hamilton) Parker, 76, Portland, Saturday, Sept. 11 at the Congregational Home in Scarborough. Loretta grew up on Chebeague Island and was an avid Red Sox and Portland fan, and enjoyed traveling, golfing and spending time with her family. She is survived by her husband Lloyd Allen Parker Jr. and brother Island M. Hamilton Jr. She is survived by her sisters Lois Carpenter (husband William) and Robert and Holly Jordan, brothers Sherman Hamilton (wife Terri) and Leon Hamilton, and three grandchildren.

Laurence Ralph, 62, Manchester, Thompson is survived by his wife Stephanie; sister Diana Ralph; brother Kenny Ralph; daughters Tanya Chuaian (husband Sanjay) and Heather Ralph; three grandchildren and seven AFS children.

PINEGROVE, from page 6

been lost or were never received. Providing this service to veterans and their families is a special privilege of mine.

When the family of Nunzi Casavola tried to track down his WWII medals a few years ago, they found out they were in the hands of a historian who would not return them. Casavola, who carried the Silver Star and the Bronze Star fighting bravely in Europe, passed away in 1981. After the family called my office for help, we were able to contact the National Archives for the documentation needed to replace the medals. When Nunzi's sister and extended family came to my office to receive the long-lost awards, I was honored to be able to thank them in person for their service, of which they were obviously very proud.

This is just one of the services my office offers to veterans. One of our country's most serious responsibilities is taking good care of the service members who sacrificed for our country, which is why I think it's so important to make sure they receive the benefits they have earned.

Not all cases are individual. Sometimes I'm able to intervene in a federal issue that impacts an entire community. When Portland's Post Office Station A was put on the list for possible closure, dozens of constituents called my office to say how vital it was to the area. A member of my staff canvassed the neighborhood to see who would be impacted; it turned out there were hundreds of seniors living in the area who didn't own a vehicle and couldn't make it to another post office across town. I sent a letter stressing this to the U.S. Postal Service; I think it was critical to their decision to keep the post office open.

Unfortunately, not all cases end as favorably as this one. But even in these situations, my staff can get answers for constituents, explain the agency's decision in plain English, and offer an understanding ear at a stressful time. It may not be the type of closure they were looking for, but the information we give can help them move forward nonetheless.

And sometimes, the stories of these conversations can help me identify and change policies that aren't serving the people of Maine. Recently, Diana of New Gloucester called to ask if Medicare could issue her an identification number that was different from her Social Security number. She was concerned - rightfully so - that she could become a victim of identity theft if she carried her Medicare card in her wallet. While we weren't able to get the agency to issue a new number, I did sign on as a cosponsor to a bill that would force government programs like Medicare to issue new ID numbers to prevent fraud.

If you need assistance with a federal issue, I hope you contact my office at (207) 774-5019 or toll-free at 1-888-862-6500. A list of the services my office provides is available at www.pinegrove.house.gov/services.
Community Food Pantry
At the Children's Workshop, open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the Workshop's hours. For more information, please contact Susan Hanley at susan@cguyen.com.

AmeriCorps
Peaks Island Children's Workshop is seeking applicants for an AmeriCorps Apprentice position in the Island Youth Leadership Initiative, to identify the needs of teens and tweens (children between the ages of 12 to 17 years old) and collaborate with other Peaks Island and Casco Bay island organizations that serve this age group in order to develop partnerships that respond to this age group's identified unmet needs. Applicants must be from one of the Casco Bay Islands, and requires that they live on Peaks Island, have completed at least four years of college or master degree, have their own transportation, experience working with teens and tweens and be available for at least one term of AmeriCorps service (7,000 hours). It provides a $15,000 stipend and health insurance and other benefits. For more information please contact Christian Wolff at the Island Institute, christian_wolff@islandmaine.org. 207-712-8551. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Anticipated start date will be mid to late October, 2010.

Call for Singers
The Longfellow Chorus, an independent non-profit community chorus and professional orchestra in Portland, announces a call for community chorus participants to participate in our fifth annual Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 200th Birthday Choral Festival, Feb. 25 to Feb. 27, 2011, in the First Parish in Portland, 425 Congress Street. Auditions will be held at the parish by appointment from 5 to 6 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Oct. 17.

For more information please visit http://www.longfellowchorus.com or contact Charles Kaufmann, Director at 207-273-8207, director@longfellowchorus.com.

Classices & Instruction
Dance Classes For class schedule and information contact Sharoon at 736-1066 (cell) or email Sharoon@gmail.com.

Yoga Classes Please contact Rebecca Stephens for the schedule at 766-1917 or yogacreation.willow@gmail.com.

Weight Lifting classes Mondays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 am or 5 pm to 6 pm $25 for 12 sessions. Contact John and Stacey 563-2518.

True Take Tours Categoriing walking tours of Portland history, led by actor/historian Harlan Baker. Grab your friends or a date and join us for this 3-hour walking tour of Portland, Oct 9th or 30th. Meet at 10:30 am on Maine St. for all tours. Please be on time. Contact Harlan Baker at 669-5828 or 657-2623.

Put Your Business Card Here For Year 2011 only $240 visit www.islandtimes.org to see how or call 650-3016
COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, Oct 4
FIRST MONDAY FUN for PRESCHOOLERS: Drop in anytime between 11:00 am and noon (in the community room) and have some Fall fun making candy "treasures" - we may also dance and sing! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970).

Tuesday, Oct 5
First Tuesdays Book Discussion will meet at 7 pm in the Community Rooms to discuss Half of My by Nicholas Kristof. Christina Foster will moderate. For November, the book is God in Translation by Jean Kwok. Moderator will be Kathy Hanley. The December book will be Caring for One by Abraham Verghese. Moderator will be Cheryl Higgins. Call 766-5540 or email the library (peaks@portland.lib.me.us) to reserve a book. Please include your library card number. Open to anyone interested.

Thursday, Oct 7
Barb Schlichtman, a senior law attorney, will be speaking about Advanced Health Care Decisions. Hosted by HIPPA and Power of Attorney at Fy Garman House at 4:00 pm. All are welcome. If you have questions please call June at 766-2490. We hope to see you there.

Saturday, Oct 9
Brooklet Fall Rummage Sale, 9 am to 2 pm, $1 a bag from 1 to 2. Drop off good usable donations between Tuesday, Oct 5 and Friday, Oct 8, 7 am to noon.

Sunday, Oct 10
TEA POT LUCK - Join your friends from TEA at the last official event of the 2010 season, at 6:00 pm in the clubhouse. Bring something to share, and join the end-of-the-season fun!

Thursday, Oct 14
GET-TOGETHER AT PEAKS CAFE (everyone welcome). Meet at the Cafe at 11 am. Pre-registration appreciated (766-2970). Sponsored by Portland Recreation
YA Authors Talk Books with Teens at the Portland Public Library at 3 pm. Susan Blackaby and Jamie Hogan, book creators from opposite sides of the country, will lead a workshop in both poetry writing and nature drawing, all wrapped around a little book and the call to pay attention to the odd world around us.

Saturday, Oct 16
Illustrator Jamie Hogan will exhibit original art from "Next, Nook & Granny," by Susan Blackaby at the Glen Gallery on October 16 from 10 - 3 PM. A percentage of sales of books, prints, and art from this lively collection of poems about animal habitats will benefit the Peaks Island Land Preserve. FPL president and naturalist, Gary Fox, will host a guided nature walk on island trails, and Jamie will provide art classes on nature for those interested for whom to draw from nature. Signed books will also be available for sale.

Tuesday, Oct 19
PITEA Leaf and Ladle Dinner at the Peaks Island Baptist Church Hall from 5 to 7 pm. We will be serving soup, salad, bread, and dessert. Come and see what delicious foods we prepare this month. Adults $6/Children $2.50.

Wednesday, Oct 20
Peaks Island Lecture Series, hosted by Eric Eaton and Scott Kelly, featured speaker is Maine artist Randy Regier at the Inn on Peaks Island at 6:30 pm.

Thursday, Oct 21
TRAVELOUGE or Your Own Backyard (everyone welcome) 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, room not set. See island gardens and community events. Sponsored by Portland Recreation.

Friday, Oct 22
"OPEN HOUSE" with a HARVEST/PASS THEME 11:00 am - 2:00 pm (drop in anytime) to share scary stories. Halloween songs, Fall decorations and food. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2070). VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to HELP MARK a "Volksmarch" TRAIL 245 pm - meet at community building. Trails that need to be marked are approximately 3 miles in length (see "volksmarch" event on October 23). Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970).

Saturday, Oct 23
18, SK or BK "VOLKS MARCH" (walk) on PEAKS ISLAND register between 8:30 - 11:30 am in community room. Walk on your own or join the group walk (SK) at 10:15 pm. This is a non-competitive walk, great for all ages and abilities so bring the whole family! Harvest songs and breads for the walkers. Hardy snacks for the early walkers. Sponsored by So. ME. Volksmarch Association and Portland Recreation (766-2970).

Monday, Oct 25
AFTERNOON MOVIE - APOLLO 13 1:00 pm in community room (40 minutes), starring Tom Hank, sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970).

Tuesday, Oct 26
LooP and Ladle dinner 5-7 p.m. at the Peaks Island Baptist Halloween Stories and Craft Program: The Very Scary Mrs. Crowley- Rockwell will be back for stories and crafts! The program is geared for children 5-8 years old, 6:30 pm sharp in the Community Room.

Thursday, Oct 28
ADULT BASKETBALL BEGINS BINGO FUN (with some "Trick or Treat" prizes) 10:45 - 11:45 am in community room. Add to the fun by dressing up! prizes for those in costume! Sponsored by Portland Recreation (766-2970).

Brackets MM October Supper, 5 pm to 7 pm. Free. Harvest Home stew, root vegetables, salads, fresh bread & deserts. All are welcome! For more info call the church office 766-5033.

Next Issue
Monster Celebrity

"The man crouched and cowered in front of the red brick house on Island Avenue. His hands were placed on either side of his face and his mouth stretched wide open—as though some invisible demon was descending upon him from the sky. Something weird was going on. And not regular Peaks Island weird. This was beyond someone pushing a dog stroller or painting their house chartreuse." Features writer Lisa Coed Stiskel describes her encounter with a cult-creature on Peaks Island, November in the Island Times.

PEAKS ISLAND TAX & ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Dear Friends,
We are very excited to announce that PITA has been offered the opportunity to join in a new program offered by Market America. Susan Marie Thomas, an independent Unfranchise Owner with Market America, met with us in August and explained how the program works and how it will benefit us. Market America was established in 1992 as an online retail discount store with access to over 40 name brand stores and products. As an Unfranchise Owner, it gives individuals the opportunity to create a second source of income. Now that offer has also been made available to all 501(c) non profit organizations (in the form of royalties) which are supported by a qualified independent Unfranchise Owner, such as Susan.
We have been working very hard over the last six years to raise funds, culminating with our very successful Golf Cart Raffle. Now Susan has offered us a way to raise funds with no additional cost to you, our supporters, while offering you cash back for your support.
Our website, ILovePeaks.com connects into the Market America world where you will see our PITA name in the upper right-hand corner. From there you can find products which Market America sells or you can click the Partner Store tab where you will find an alphabetized list of all of your favorite online shopping destinations. PITA will benefit from 100 percent of your shopping through ILovePeaks.com.
If you log onto ILovePeaks.com you are under no obligation to make purchase. We promise not to bombard you with small... We hope the funds we raise will give us the chance to help everyone who requests and qualifies for assistance. We are starting small and hoping for bigger opportunities to help islanders.

Peaks Island Tax and Energy Assistance


Next Issue

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