11-2012

Island Times, Nov 2012

Kevin Attra

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A CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS, OLD & NEW, IN CASCO BAY

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Thompson Johnson Woodworks
Serving the Island Communities of Casco Bay

All wrapped up for a cozy winter
by Maggie Small
Island Fellow

Over the third weekend in October the fellowship hall at the Brackett Methodist Church on Peaks Island sounded at times like a hair salon and at other moments like the shipping department of a factory.

When you took a step inside, however, you saw that a volunteer force of over 30 islanders was constructing 258 storm window inserts. Thanks to the work of project organizers Frank Mundo and Sam Saltonstall, Brackett Church, which sponsored the effort, and PEAT, the Peaks Environmental Action Team, 22 houses on Peaks Island will be warm and cozy this winter.

The process began last spring when Mundo and Saltonstall held an informational at the MacVane Community Center. Mundo explained that the storm window inserts would reduce a home’s overall heating cost by 15 to 30 percent, be built by volunteers and with good care last about 10 years. The total average cost for a natural finished storm window insert would be $12, and those who could not afford them could receive them for a nominal fee of $10 for their whole house. Twenty-two families and individuals signed up.

In June, Saltonstall and Mundo spent two days measuring windows at each home. The dimensions were entered into a computer program and then volunteers at the WindowDressers workshops in Rockport constructed the frames.

With help from the Island Institute’s Peaks Island Environmental Fellow, Maggie Small, an AmeriCorps volunteer, Saltonstall picked up the frames in Rockport with a rented truck and delivered them to Peaks Island. The kids in the AFIA school program at the Brackett Methodist Church helped unload. Friday, Saturday and Sunday were spent wrapping the frames.

Overseen by Mundo, Saltonstall and Small, over 30 volunteers ages 5 through 82 worked four-hour shifts throughout the long weekend to complete the inserts, averaging 75 windows a day.

Some stuck white adhesive strips around the outside of the frame, others covered both sides of the frame with shrinkable, clear plastic sheeting. The final step included wrapping foam around the perimeter of the frames to make sure that they fit snugly into the window.

From start to finish it took about a half hour for a window to go through the entire assembly line. Once the windows were completed they were sorted by house and delivered. Monday morning supplies and tools were packed up, and the fellowship hall was swept clean.

It was a weekend filled with the spirit of islanders helping fellow islanders. Surrounded by polyethylene plastic wrap, packing tape, foam, white wrap and window frames, workers could almost imagine themselves in a Santa’s Workshop scene. Many laughs and a lot of hard work were shared, and new acquaintances made. Thanks once again to WindowDressers founders Frank Mundo, Dick Cadwagen, and the many volunteers for all of your hard work.

For more information about the effort to spread this effort statewide, visit the

Under new management

The Peaks Island Health Center reopened on Monday Oct. 15 under the auspices of Maine Medical Center’s Family Services, with nurse practitioner Kitty Gilbert back at the helm. Manning the reception desk was medical assistant Amber Moulton, recently married, who alternate days with medical assistant Katen Britland. “We’ve seen quite a few today,” Moulton said. “Some people just came in to say they’re happy we’re open.” Although the services are the same, the transition is not a continuation of the previous service. Patients need to fill out new forms in order to be seen at the center. The winter schedule began in November, with hours on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. by appointment. Services include blood and lab work. Call 766-2929 for an appointment.
the city thousands on thousands of dollars in emergency services, including police calls for nuisance crimes like panhandling and public drunkenness, as well as Medics calls for ‘layovers’ or people sleeping in public spaces.

For those of you who prefer to measure on a human scale, homeless clients are seeing some far better outcomes when relocated to safe spaces instead of jail, while business clients regard order within a police call to their address.

Since the HOME Team started a couple of years ago, we have routed to calling police dispatch, except in cases where someone is exhibiting dangerous behavior, is habitually disruptive or destructive and will therefore be served trespass papers, appears to be in medical distress, or during hours when the HOME Team isn’t on duty.

As winter rushes toward us many people, customers and otherwise, will come out of the cold at CUB. With the help of the leadership and our community partners, we’ll continue working to maintain a safe, orderly environment without sacrificing empathy.

END NOTE: For more information about the HOME Team or the Milestone Foundation, go to www.milestonefound.org or call 207-775-4790.

Monday: 8:30 AM Get Hot or Go Home Rockabilly with Matt: the wild and woolly host who白天天早晨
3:00 PM Kitchen Party with Ceci-
Wednesday: 8:30PM Barba ra Sawtelle, Nicholas Aivodones Jr.;
Thursday: 8:30PM Long Island Peaks.

McGhan: a writer/musician/ baker/Casco Bay Lines Operations Agent who lives in Portland. She hopes you’ll tell her what CBL-related things is on your mind at IslandsTimesColumn@ casco-bay-lines.com

In light of the fact that the meeting was set to take place in two days, nothing was done because, "It was too late to solve the problem," said a spokesperson for the Portland Police Department.

In other business, Operations Committee Chair Dan Doane reported - in deliberately vague terms - that the committee was working through a pile of requests for schedule changes too complicated to explain in detail. Essentially there are 14 requests on the table asking for additional dayboat voyages in winter, and for schedule adjustments to better suit inbound and outbound domestic and international travel and to facilitate travel between the islands, he said.

Operations Manager Nicholas Mavodones Jr. reported that the Queen was chartered for another three days at the end of October by the same research group who used it in September.

The nature of the research is being kept secret and under the terms of the lease agreement Bay Lines personnel are not allowed to disclose any information about the group.

The operation came under fire last month from board member Roger Robinson, who as a spokesman for a local group of lobstermen complained that the researchers were operating in an area that was being heavily fished at the time.

Lobster fishermen were alarmed to see the Queen, which is notorious for marring gear, hovering among their traps. Robinson asked that the community be given better notice of the future.

This month Mavodones said public notice was definitely issued, but according to Robinson the fishermen apparently didn’t receive it and were once again surprised to see the boat hovering among the buoys.

The Queen was in an area farther to the south and west, where fishing was only so far on.

No damage was reported.

Mavodones also reported that the dock work at Great Diamond was two weeks behind schedule owing to weather and said it would wrap up by the end of the year.

Maine Department of Transportation representative Sue Moreau added that delays were caused by extra work added to the original specifications. Repairs at Long Island are expected to start in December.

CRITD board meeting Thursday, Oct. 25. Members attending: Al Aivodes, Roger Robinson, Bill Overlook, Dan Dune, Frank Perreiti, Charles Bour, Dave Credley, Ernie Smith, Larry Smith, Scott Johnson, Patrick Maguire, Kara Wing, Ron Smith, Mary Berg, Cathy Gilbert, Kristin Fyshman, Barbara Boudreau, Nicholas Mavodones Jr., 17 people in attendance.

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90.9 and 104.1 FM www.WMPG.org

Community Radio for Southern Maine

Folk, Bluegrass and Americana Music on WMPG

Monday: 8:30 AM South By Southwest with Lincoln - American country music recorded before 1975
10:30 AM Barn Dance Radio with Larry - fiddles, fiddles and more fiddles!
3:00 PM Americana: Jukebox with Katie Louise - No tired music allowed
8:30 PM Sound Counterbalance with Ernie - Americana and more

Wednesday: 8:30PM Blue Country - blues with Blitzen Rib
10:30 AM Crossfade - Around the world with musical guide Barb Wheeldoggies - DJ Dale digs Americana Music! And talk to Maine
3:00 PM Kitchen Party with Ceci-The drive, twang and ting with music by Barb Wheeldoggies

Friday: 8:30 AM Un Folk with Chris - Live national, regional and local musicians, in studio and on phone. Latest releases, as well as the classics!
3:00 PM Get Hot or Go Home Rockabilly with Matt: the wild and woolly host who defies description.
**POLICE LOG**  
October 2012

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Count: 22  
Rev'd Oct 31

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### 2012 ISLAND DIRECTORY

Covering 10 Casco Bay Islands

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### Carts

BY JERRY GARMAN

The easiest way to distinguish islanders from mainlanders is the length of their arms.  
After years of bearing the burden of carrying essentials to and from the island that arms have slowly elongated, so we seek to resemble orangutans.

Newer islanders who have not discovered the two-bag technique may have one arm longer than the other. This is known as the "Bean Bag Syndrome" and can only be prevented by using a wheeled cart or by carrying a knapsack.

Carts with two, three, four and eight wheels must conform to the CBITD size limitations. Height to the top of the handle - 43 inches, wheel base - 25 inches. The more common wire cart has a capacity of almost four cubic feet and an end weight capacity of 80 pounds.

A case of beer, some kitty litter or a bag of pet food with a 60 to 80-pound load can easily stress a cart. The same cart will later be stuffed with paper napkins, towels or toilet paper and weigh only 15 pounds.

A baguette proudly prepared from our amassed purchases accompanies a special island meal. There is no doubt that carts will always play an essential role in sustaining island living.

**Time-tested rules for island carting:**

Always carry two Bean bags to balance your load.

Never go or return from the mainland empty-handed.

Never return from the mainland with a partially filled cart.

A baby must be visible when a stroller is transporting merchandise.

The ultimate islander will carry a Bean bag, wear a knapsack and pull a cart.

Always remember you will always face an uphill climb upon returning to the island, regardless of the rule.

---

Andrea Davis  
10 Island Avenue  
Peaks Island, ME 04108  
941-0618984 cell  
peaksbeads@gmail.com  
www.peaksbeads.com
After conducting some research through the director of CLYNK, a Great Diamond Island resident whose bags had been tampered with learned that the stickered over sticker benefited the account of the Diamond Island Association. "Was this a prank? Had it been going on for a long time? What were witnesses saying?" A complaint was filed with the Portland Police Department alleging attempted theft. "It's a dead issue," said PPD Sgt. Dean Goodale. "We simply haven't had the time to follow up. The issue appeared that the stickered over sticker benefited the CLYNK bags had been tampered with learned through the director of CLYNK, a CLYNK representative."

Great Diamond Mussels

This amazing mussel recipe is submitted by Katherine Adamchick, arts consultant, photographer and chef who lives on Great Diamond Island and St. Louis, Missouri. Her specialty is making the most out of fresh local ingredients - both gastronomically and aesthetically. It's a banner year for pine needles, Adamchick told The Little Squealer. "If you know white pine sheaf! White pine is shedding last year's growth right now but most other pines retain needles for three to five years.

Aside from being delicious and beautiful, the following recipe is both simple and celebratory. I mean really, you get to set the food on fire. That's genius. Thank you Katherine.

Casco Bay Mussels Grilled on a Bed of Flaming Diamond Cove Pine Needles with Dipping Sauce (Serves 2)

Ingredients:
1. 2 pounds of Casco Bay mussels
2. 2 quarts of dried pine needles
3. 2 aluminum foil pans, 9 x 13 inches

Cooking Instructions:
1. Scrub the mussels under cold running water. Pull out and remove any stringy black "beards." Discard any with cracked shells or shells that fail to close when tapped.
2. Using a knife or small screwdriver, poke holes in the bottom of one of the foil pans.
3. Loosely fill the perforated pan with pine needles and arrange the mussels on top.
4. Set up the grill for direct grilling and drive the temperature to 500°F.
5. Place the pan with the mussels on the hot grate (see photo below). After a few minutes the pine needles will begin to smoke and catch fire.
6. Close the top of the grill (or place the second foil pan over the mussels and pine needles) and grill for 3 to 5 minutes, or until the shells have opened.

Dock Renovation

The project is going well," we were told by Nick Mavodones, Casco Bay Island Transit District Operations Manager. The Contractor, Maritime Construction, has completed the fender piles on the eastern side of the dock and is ready to begin installing piles on the west side. The late October storm required them to pull their equipment and store it on the mainland for a few days.

Some of the rainy weather earlier in the month and the necessity to work around the tide has caused the schedule to move out a couple of additional weeks.

Appraise to captains and crew during those storms. Several extraordinary landings were made under extreme turbulent and high wind conditions. A floating dock is not an ideal target to land upon in foul weather, but CBIDT staff demonstrated their dexterous skills and commitment to safety.

The Maine Department of Transportation has requested and authorized the Maritime Construction to complete some additional work at the dock. This work, which was not included in the original project, involves the replacement of bracing located beneath the trestle (the longer narrower portion of the dock). It will, most probably, extend the final completion date to early December.

Casco Bay Mussels considered over a bed of Diamond Cove pine needles create a rich, fall flavor.

photo by K. Adamchick

The Hog Log

News from Great Diamond Island

BY BOSS HOG & THE LITTLE SQUEALER

The CLYNK Caper

Staff Report

You may recall the CLYNK Caper incident reported in the September issue of The Island Times, when CLYNK bags left unattended on the GDI dock were being "stickered over." In other words, recycling revenues were being stolen because someone was putting their own stickers over the CLYNK stickers that were already on the bags.

Campan Ties the Knot

Diamond Cove's Resident Assistant gets hitched.

Staff Report

He may not be a full-time resident, but everyone on Great Diamond Island considers him family. Chris Campan has been making the island a better place to live for over three years. Chris is one of the Resident Assistants employed in Diamond Cove. Chris meets every ferry with the Diamond Cove van, they answer all security and emergency alarms, conduct water testing, deliver freight, oversee bargel deliveries and installation of building supplies, large appliances and vehicles. "When there's time they fix heavy machinery and anything else that's broken, they plow roads, walk dogs and watch over all the day to day issues that come up. Every morning, afternoon and night RNAs drive the school bus toting Diamond Cove homeowners to and from the ferry. Part handy-man, part efficiency experts and always the guidance counselors.

They're the neck that holds the island together," said Jackie Knaul of Diamond Cove.

The Cove employs two RNAs, Chris Campan and David Dennis. The two men rotate residency every few days spending half the week each on island and the other in their own home.

Early this fall Chris and his fiancé Lindsey Benson were married during a casual but elegant celebration at Broken Acres Retreat in Jefferson, Maine. Many, many years of joy!

Congratulations Chris and Lindsay.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Carman.

Casco Bay Mussel Salad

Serves 2

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2. 2 quarts of dried pine needles
3. 2 aluminum foil pans, 9 x 13 inches

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The Cliff Goes Postal

Staff Report

The Cliff Island post office, threatened with closure by the U.S. Postal Service in budget cuts last year was rescued from oblivion last month, thanks in part to efforts by Senator Susan Collins who said the closure plan was misguided.

She went to bat for Matinicus and Monhegan islands as well. "I registered strong objections to these cuts, and I am pleased that island customers will now be served six hours a day each of these post offices instead of the woefully inadequate two hours on Cliff Island and four hours on Matinicus and Monhegan originally proposed by the Postal Service."

The expanded post office hours will begin on Saturday, Nov. 17. The window will be open from 8:30 to 12:15. Weekday hours will be 9:45 to 4:45, closed for lunch from 1 to 2. According to Cliff Island resident Bob Howard, the lobby will be open 24 hours a day for access to the PO boxes. "There has been some grumbling about that," he wrote in an e-mail to the community last month.

Lightening strikes twice

Cheryl Miner has had some unfortunate luck with the giant maple in her front yard on Pleasant Street on Peaks Island. In August an unexpected windstorm blew down a large section of the tree, which fell on her mother's 1990 Cadillac and reared it.

She was distraught over the loss it was in pristine condition with only 12,000 miles on it, and cherished for its connection to her mother.

She made plans to have the rest of the tree taken down and was waiting on

see BRIEFS page 5

website of Maine Interfaith Power & Light (www.meipl.org). Mundo and Salmonstall both serve on the MeIPL board.

BRIEFS, from page 3

AHappy Valentine's Day to all! A special thank you to the members of the Staff who are helping to make this issue happen.

Casco Bay Power Co. lineman Lenny Bickford restores power on Central Avenue on Peaks Island hours after a large maple tree (top photo) took the lines down when it was blown down by winds from hurricane Sandy.

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ABOVE: Central Maine Power Co. lineman Lenny Bickford restores power on Central Avenue on Peaks Island hours after a large maple tree (top photo) took the lines down when it was blown down by winds from hurricane Sandy.
Good News From the Taxi

The Island Transportation System is now in its fourth year of operation. It has been quite challenging at times, and the support we have received from the island community and others has been crucial. We are happy to keep the taxi service running every year.

The ITS Board thanks all those who have helped keep the wheels rolling. The Peaks Island Council/City of Portland provided our startup funding and ongoing support. The Peaks Island Fund has awarded grants to ITS for setting up and administering the operation. The Lions Club and the Trefethen Evergreens Improvement Association have helped fund our reduced fare program. Lonsdale Pante Associates made a significant donation to cover some of our fuel costs. Don Foshay, a part-time islander and owner of Don Foshay Discount Tires of South Portland, has provided major discounts on the growing maintenance and repair services required by our aging fleet.

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We have received several grants acknowledging the reality that we will have to replace our vehicle in the near future. Funds from the Peaks Island Council and the Davies Foundation are set aside in a New Vehicle Fund. The Peaks Island Fund has also expressed interest in contributing to this fund.

Our local advertisers—People’s United Bank, Nate Pedersen’s Island Lawn Care, Camp Masonry, Macy Orme, Island Carpenter for Hire, Trefethen Tote Construction and Dan Foshay Discount Tires—provide steady support.

The Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair at the Inn offered us the chance to run the raffle there. The many supporters from here and away who bought over 2,000 raffle tickets made our Annual 50/50 Raffle on Memorial Day weekend the most successful ever.

And finally we acknowledge the backbone of organization: our many riders as well as the visitors who take out around the island tours, our drivers, our bookkeeper and our board members, past and present.

The ITS Board looks forward to keeping the “Taxi” rolling to serve the transportation needs of islanders for years to come. Thanks for being a part of this service needed by us.

The Pea ks Island Community Food Pantry

We are housed in the Brackett Memorial Church. Our hours of operation are Mondays, 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Pantry is truly a community effort, with donations and support provided by many different individuals and organizations from Peaks Island. Thank you to Brackett Memorial Church members for your donation. Our current needs are: canned soups (especially low sodium), peanut butter and jelly, canned chicken or ham, tuna fish, baked beans, pasta sauce, boxes of cereal, coffee, juice, pasta, potatoes, rice, Bugles, potluck boxes, boxes of cereal, coffee, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, toothbrushes, toothpaste, personal hygiene products, and other household items.

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from Congresswoman Chellie Pingree

Despite their humility, Mainer's deserve recognition. From the World War II veteran who never mentions his military honors to the firefighter who quietly volunteered in the local department for 40 years, Maine has so many people who serve others without thought of recognition. These folk keep our communities going, but you won't hear them talk about it. I'm sure you know more than one person who fits this category.

Humility is one thing I admire most about Mainer's. But I still think it's important to highlight their exemplary work, actions and accomplishments. As a member of Congress, it's an honor to formally offer these folk the recognition they don't ask for. Through letters, Congressional Record Statements, and recovered military medals, I hope to communicate how grateful we are for their contributions to our nation, state and communities.

I wanted to take a moment to talk about two people I recently honored who exemplify this selflessness.

On June 29, State Trooper Doug Cropper was conducting a traffic stop on Forest Avenue in Portland when he received a call that a driver was headed northbound in the southbound lane of Interstate 295. Weaving in and out of traffic, Trooper Cropper raced to intercept the driver. Seeing no other options, he nosed his cruiser into the travel lane of the highway so the wrong-way driver would hit him. The impact stopped the car just in time for oncoming traffic to avoid a head-on collision. The dashboard camera shows how quickly trooper Cropper was conducting a traffic stop on Forest Avenue in Portland when he received a call that a driver was headed northbound in the southbound lane of Interstate 295. Weaving in and out of traffic, Trooper Cropper raced to intercept the driver. Seeing no other options, he nosed his cruiser into the travel lane of the highway so the wrong-way driver would hit him. The impact stopped the car just in time for oncoming traffic to avoid a head-on collision. The dashboard camera shows how quickly.

What struck me in talking to these men and women is how little we notice them. Yes, we probably slow down when we see them pulling someone over. But it's easy to forget the inherent risk and danger in their jobs, or take for granted that they can come back protect us. At any moment, they could be called on to put their lives in danger like Trooper Cropper.

Another person I recognized recently made a different kind of sacrifice.

Over the last four years, Crystall Enterprises housing counselor Diane Sherman has helped a Boycott couple negotiate a mortgage refinancing with their lender. It would be an understatement to call their ordeal frustrating.

For years, the couple fought the lender over complicated paperwork, confusing bureaucratic, frustrating information and accounting. They had worked hard for the home they had worked hard for. Diane brought the advice, support
Cliff Island celebrated Halloween on Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Hall for a night of monsters and mayhem. Sponsored by the Cliff Island Association and organized by Kellye O'Reilly, the party featured spooky snacks and games for all ages. ABOVE: Steve Tracy, Dylan Griffin and Michael Drennan go on a questionable diet. RIGHT: Contestants in the mummy costume contest line up on stage. BELOW: Eliza Crowley takes a whack at the pumpkin piñata.

photo by Bob Howard

Halloween Island-style

BRIEFS (from page 5)

preparatory work by CMP, who were going to lay insulation over nearby power lines to arrest Stan Newell could take it down.

But on Monday, Oct. 29 the outskirts of hurricane Sandy curled into the area, kicking up gusts of up to 25 mph by 2:00 p.m. It only took a couple of hours like that. Twenty minutes later what remained of her tree came crashing down, the only casualty of the storm on the island.

It fell away from the house in a path nearly parallel to the road, sharing all the power, cable and phone lines off the pole.

"It wasn't to get votes this time," said Miner, who is running unopposed for one of three seats on the Peaks Island Council this year. When part of the tree fell in August the got so much attention from passersby that she put a campaign sign on the smashed Cadillac.

CMP workers Bill Briggs and Lenny Buck horn had it repaired in less than three hours.

New American Legion officers elected

News release from Post 142

A dozen members and guests attended the American Legion Post 142 meeting Sunday, Oct. 21, where members deberated on the following officers: Steve Pedersen first vice; Jimul Thundershield adjutant; Ryan Clapp sergeant-at-arms; and Saranne Welhowe chaplain.

In honor of Veterans' Day Sunday, Nov. 11 the American Legion District 2 Commander will visit the Legion off the 12:15 ferry. We have decided to host a light lunch in his honor. We will also have a short "GI Party" at noon on Saturday, Nov. 10 in anticipation of this visit. Members of the Post, Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion are invited to attend.

Our surveys of islanders who are veterans led to responses from 42 individuals, and there certainly are more. Only 13 survey respondents are currently members of American Legion Post 142. Although our roster actually includes a total of 48 members, we need more members to protect the viability of our Peaks Island American Legion Post.

We respectfully request all other veterans to join today. Dues are $30 per year and include a subscription to the monthly American Legion Magazine as well as support for countless programs that assist veterans and the community, both locally and nationally. Details are available at www.legion.org/join or from any local member.

Rita Kissen honored for civil rights leadership

by Susan Holmes

Rita Kissen receives Peaks Island resident Rita Kissen was honored at a dinner and awards ceremony on Thursday evening, Oct. 18, receiving the prestigious 2012 Sampson Center Catalyst for Change award for her work as an activist for equality, human rights and civil rights. Rita was recognized for her work to promote equal rights for all citizens, regardless of sexual orientation.

An active spokesperson for marriage equality, she was a professor of teacher education and women's studies at USM from 1995-2005 and is the author of two groundbreaking books on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues in the classroom. Rita is a Founding co-chair of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network -Southern Maine, and also founded and became the first president of the Portland chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

The Catalyst for Change Award, given annually by the Jean Bryers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine at the University of Southern Maine, celebrates an individual who has been in the forefront for change regarding diversity, equality, and human and civil rights in the state. Past recipients include Rabbi Harry Sky (2007), Dale McCormick (2008), Sallie Chandler (2009), Allen Stockfisch (2010), and Howard Solomon (2011).

Second whale washes up on Cliff

On Peaks, trick-or-treaters had lots of choices on Halloween, including the Lions Club where the haunted house was a popular attraction (above), as well as the traditional door-to-door approach (right).

Of course, no Halloween would be complete without a visit to the Nash's, which this year posed as a traditional lobster shack (right), until you found out what was on the menu. It gave new meaning to having someone for dinner.

photo by Bob Howard

M.C. HALL

TREES CARE

MARK C. HALL

1939 Riverside Ave., Suite 11

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(207) 781-7101

www.amERICANLEGION.org

staff photos

"I think we are becoming the marine animal graveyard of Casco Bay," said Cliff Islander Bob Howard after this 24-foot Minke washed up on the island. The whale was first seen on the South Point on Oct 5. The photo shows Cliff Islander Danny O'Reilly with two biologists he brought out from Marine Mammals of Maine (mmm.org). According to Howard the whale had been dead too long to determine the cause of death. A Leatherback Sea Turtle (eight feet from nose to tail) and a small Minke (unmeasured but probably under 15 feet) also washed ashore last summer, justifying Howard's sentiment. The turtle was buried on the island and the small Minke was dragged out to sea, he said.

I photo by Bob Howard
ACROSS
1 Malia's father
5 Gibbon
10 Former French colony
14 Last stand
15 Howard or Paul
16 Not made
17 Carlos Ghosn is its CEO
18 Temper
20 Spin master
22 Neighbor of 10 Across
23 One of two in Scrabble
24 Admittance
27 Accessory for Linus
31 Human gene
34 Lecher's expression
35 Ethnic slur
38 Temper
40 ©pin master
45 Accessory for Linus
46 Neighbor of 10 Across
47 Tabula rasa
48 Something babies do
49 Cold drink
50 Greek word for · movement
51 Grouping
52 Often made of silicone
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55 Senior struggle
56 Not nude
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59 Pertaining to the lips
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5 ‘NZ neighbor
6 Temper
7 Temper
8 Temper
9 At close range
10 Merit
11 Bobby
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WINNING CAPTION this month. Please see page 15 for next month's cartoon. Send caption ideas to kattra@islandtimes.org.

"Who says you can't walk a cat?" - Neli Metender, Brunswick
Star Gazing

By Mike Richards

November features morning apparitions of the two brightest planets, Venus and Jupiter, and two close Jovian conjunctions with the moon. Of course our moon is nowhere near Jupiter, it just looks that way occasionally from our line of sight. Although the solar system’s inner planets, Mercury and Venus, have no moons, the other planets do in various shapes and sizes.

Our moon is a comparatively large, nearly a third as wide as Earth, orbiting an average distance of 240,000 miles away. By contrast, Mars’ two moons are small asteroids captured into its orbit eons ago and circling fairly close to its surface. Photos is the largest, 15 miles across, and closer moon, orbiting just 3,700 miles above Mars’ surface.

Jupiter has 67 moons, the four largest discovered by Galileo in 1610. Io is the closest of the Galilean moons and is about the same size and distance from the planet as Earth’s moon. But Jupiter is 11.5 times wider than Earth and has 90 percent of the mass of all the other planets combined, so Io completes one orbit every 42.6 hours.

Galileo suggested that ship navigators use Jupiter’s eclipsing of Io to determine the exact time in order to calculate longitude, a perennial problem for mariners who were starting to explore Earth’s vast oceans. Many ships were lost to unknown hazards largely because they didn’t know where on Earth they were. Galileo was under house arrest at the time, and his idea was shelved until Cassini resurrected it in 1680. It worked fine on land, but on board a ship mariners simply could not steady their telescopes as the ship pitched and rolled.

In the early 1700s English clockmaker John Harrison invented the ‘grasshopper escapement’ for a large pocket watch, which was accurate enough time to calculate longitude, a feat Harrison’s competitors had termed “impossible.” Although Harrison’s watch passed two sea trials, the Royal Academy of Sciences said it was luck and denied him the prize for solving the longitude problem. Mariners needing that luck demanded more watches, and the Academy finally gave in and granted Harrison the prize a few years before his death.

Since then, the charts of Io’s eclipses behind Jupiter have become obsolete for navigation but are still included in telescope magazines. With binoculars, you can see the four Galilean moons play out to the sides of Jupiter. Closer inspection of Io shows it to be pockmarked with volcanic craters some 10 miles high, spewing material that winds up in the faint ring around Jupiter. That ring was discovered only in 1979, when the Voyager spacecraft passed Jupiter and turned around for a parting shot.

The Leonid Meteor Shower will peak around the 17th as Earth plows through the dust left by the Tempel-Tuttle comet. The surface ice on the comet evaporated as it approached the sun, releasing a trail of sand and rock that had been frozen to the surface, with pieces large enough to produce fireballs. Once the dust settles, the Earth will have gained 15 tons of stardust.

PLANETS

Tiny Mercury goes through inferior conjunction, positioned between Earth and sun, early this month, but it then jumps up quickly into the pre-dawn sky at month’s end. It will be west-southeast, below and to the left of Venus and should be visible from the back deck of the early boat to town after Thanksgiving.

Venus itself will lose half its height in the dawn sky this month, but it remains the third-brightest object in the sky. At the same time in the early morning, mighty Jupiter is high overhead, stuck on the horns of a dilemma: it is going retrograde in the middle of Taurus the Bull, and you can watch it move westward toward Adbelaharan, the bright orange star in Taurus. Jupiter is also enduring some wist storms now, which are disrupting the usual dark bands on either side of its equator. Saturn is rising in the morning as well and makes a very close conjunction with Venus on the 26th. Saturn’s rings are tipped up now for great viewing. Uranus, Neptune and Pluto are strung out on a line from Jupiter to the western horizon.

STARS

Vega, the blue-white star in Lyra to the west, is the brightest star in the night sky, and Sirius, the bright triple-star in Canis Major, is the brightest star in the pre-dawn sky, just below and left of Orion. In the evening the Northern Cross in Cygnus is nearly overhead, just east of Vega, and the Great Square of Pegasus follows closely behind, with the Andromeda galaxy appearing like a ghost right near our zenith. Low on the southern horizon is Fomalhaut in Piscis Austrinus. To the north, the Big Dipper is resting on the horizon, its front edge still pointing to Polaris, the North Star. To the east, yellow Cappella in Auriga is rising.

ALMANAC

Nov. 1- Jupiter hovers above a nearly full moon, which sets at 9:52 a.m. and rises at 7:22 p.m. The moon at apogee, though, so it appears small.

Nov. 5- Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Turn clocks back an hour. Sunset is at 4:28 p.m.

Nov. 6- Last quarter moon is high at sunrise, and tides are only 6.5 feet between high and low.

Nov. 12- A long, thin crescent moon rises before sunrise in the east, with Saturn to the left of it.

Nov. 13- New moon so close to perigee it brings ‘astronomical tides,’ very high around noon and midnight with 13.4 feet between high and low. Total solar eclipse in the South Pacific.

Nov. 17- Leonids peak between midnight and dawn.

Nov. 20- First quarter moon is high at sunset.

Nov. 28- Saturn is to the left of Venus in the pre-dawn sky, with Mercury below and left.

Nov. 28- Full “Beaver” moon, with Jupiter nearly touching its upper left side, sets at 6:47 a.m. and rises at 4:19 p.m. The moon’s at apogee again, so it will appear small. Our West, a penumbral eclipse as Earth passes through the moon’s pale outer shadow.
I lived in London in the 1970s, where I worked in the rag trade, in bars, and all the time traveling in my off periods. In my early 20s I started hiking, then climbing and then climbing led to winter mountaineering, winter mountaineering led to ski touring. But it was hard, it’s really hard to climb rock when it’s raining, so you go kayaking.

So, in tandem with climbing, because it is a combination of the skills you're a mountaineer and the skills that a white water kayaker has. You need the paddling skills but you also need the survival, navigation, general weather awareness of a mountaineer, so they fitted really quite comfortably. I spent 15 years as an expedition guide.

For the last 15 years I've been a bit of an oddball, moving from Thompson-Johnson, but now I've got my own business. I either work on my own or hire a small crew in my 'tik' and all the jobs that require... I never had the kind of dedicated lifetime career like a doctor. I've always been bounced from one thing to the other – optimistically bouncing. Most things that have ever happened to me have happened as a result of something in the moment: a meeting, a chance, a vision. I've never sat down and said ‘in three weeks, in four months, in five years’... Do you think there is a unifying thread to all the jobs?

I think so. I guess there are two threads. One is music and one is outdoors. All my life I've been outdoors. I think the outdoors gives you something. It's a large view of things. It's a mixture of your inner universe. There is nothing like being on top of a mountain watching the sunset, or in a wild river watching the birds. Sometimes it's not even about gaining the summit, it's about the process of taking part, which is more important than anything gained.

Where does the music fit?

I actually played the electric guitar for a bit, but I was really bad at it. Then I played bass guitar in a band. At the time there was a living folk tradition in England, so I was always going to folk clubs. In the mid-1960s and 1970s the folk clubs were everywhere – if it wasn't the Grateful Dead, it was Motown, there was just such a diversity. I was a hippy, you had to have a guitar. End of story. You weren't real if you didn't have a guitar.

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From the FIFTH MAINE
Maine Women Lead the Way

BY KIM MACISAAC
FIFTH MAINE MUSEUM CURATOR

Maine has always produced strong women who persevered despite cultural notions of what a “woman’s place” should be in society. To wit: Martha Ballard who worked tirelessly as a midwife and healer in the Augusta area in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, and Margaret Chase Smith who was the only Senator to publicly challenge Senator Joe McCarthy’s communist witch-hunt in the 1950s.

Two Maine women associated with the Fifth Maine, Charlotte Thomas and Amy Morris Bradley, made their mark as well.

Miss Charlotte, as she was known, was a member of Peaks Island’s Brackett family and an outspoken abolitionist. Her brother, Henry Goddard Thomas, served with the Fifth Maine before being chosen by Abraham Lincoln to recruit, train and command one of the first “colored” regiments during the Civil War.

In an interview later in life she stated that she was taught by her parents to uphold the family traditions that included “an uncompromising and fearless advocacy of great reforms”. Those reforms included ending slavery and woman suffrage.

In the years preceding and during the war she cared for escaping slaves at the Thomas family home on India Street in Portland. She often entertained leading abolitionists such as Frederick Douglas, William Lloyd Garrison, Ellen Crafts and Sojourner Truth at her summer residence, the Valley View Hotel at Trefethen Landing. After the war she continued to fight for the rights of Afro-Americans and women.

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Eventually Amy became the head of the USCC home on Capitol Street in Washington, D.C. This was a “way stop for homeless, destitute, or convalescing soldiers” and she became responsible for making sure that the soldiers received their pay, found adequate shelter and clothing, and obtained the medical care they desperately needed.

Her administrative skills proved so useful that she was subsequently assigned to Camp Convalescent, in Alexandria, Virginia, a military camp that was virtually nothing more than a few tents in the mud upon her arrival. Quickly setting up the camp, Bradley turned her attention to more literary pursuits, starting a weekly paper called The Soldiers’ Journal in February, 1864. The paper was a huge success. Amy Morris Bradley was a remarkable woman not only for hers but for any generation. Refusing to let illness stop her she tirelessly advocated for those less fortunate than her, even though that often meant that she herself was on the brink of poverty.

Both Amy and Charlotte are rare role models for contemporary and later generations of progressive women.
Island Kids & Art

BY BETSEY REMAGE-HEALY
ARTS EDITOR

Fiber Arts camper Sakura with a felted mouse.

Peaks is known as a magnet and haven for artists, but is it also nurturing the artistic spirit in its young children? To answer that question we began with a look at what’s offered at the Peaks Island School. In the past, parents may have felt that they got leftovers when it came to teachers for art, music and physical education. Curriculum in all these areas followed state and school board guidelines, but the staffing changed often. This practice may continue. Because Peaks School is so small, it qualifies for only a fraction of a position for each field, usually one day a week. In the past, this was determined by mainland school enrollment changes. From year to year, if the mainland elementary school could spare an art, music or phys. ed. teacher one day a week, that teacher would be sent to Peaks that day.

This year Peaks has a new art teacher, James York (photo above), who specifically applied for a position at Peaks Island School. That means he’s the one out here one day per week to teach art.

Two months into the job, York is delighted to ride the ferry every week to this big and beautiful island, as he describes it, though in his case lugging materials from the mainland gives new meaning to the phrase “art on a cart.” That’s usually applied to art teachers who migrate from classroom to classroom due to lack of their own space.

This week he brought over a supply of clipboards so that the third- and fourth-graders could go outside and draw the view of Portland from across the bay. “I want them to show me their island through their artwork... I’m also really excited to help them appreciate the beauty of what’s here. Art allows you to really see details.” At the same time, he’s exposing them to other artists. A brief study of Claes Oldenburg, known for large sculptures of everyday objects, led to the creation of huge paper sculptures of melting cream cones (above) and multilayered tacos displayed throughout the school hallways.

Are island kids different from kids he teaches on the mainland? “They’re more like Huck Finn,” York said. “More outside running around, less inside watching videos. Some don’t even have TVs.” Does this affect their artwork? “I’m still getting to know them, but like any group, some love art, some could care less. But they seem to be up for anything; suggest something and they just go for it.” His enthusiasm and creativity are no doubt contagious.

Also, with a young baby and wife from Utah, a move west may be on the horizon. But in the meantime York loves the opportunity he’s been given: “To be able to say I worked on a Maine island is super cool!”

The school has also taken advantage of the abundant island talent to enhance kids’ artistic experience. For instance, illustrators Jamie Hogan and Scott Nash have been regular guest instructors.

And last spring artist Laura Glendening conducted an eight-week course in interpretive drawing, painting and poetry. This culminated in a one night show in June at the Gym of the students’ work, which they each bound in a handmade book.

“I wanted it to be about them, expressive of the places and things they like, a loose exploration to put their interests into,” said Glendening. “Our educational system needs to be aware that learning to be expressive with materials is important.”

Next summer will also be the 10th year of the Peaks Island Fiber Arts Camp (www.peaksislandfiberartscamp.com), a unique summer experience for kids that Glendening created with fellow artist and friend Susan Hanley using grant money from the Libra Foundation. Since 1999 the Libra Foundation has offered subsidies for local third-, fourth- and fifth-graders to attend Maine camps. Glendening and Hanley decided they could offer a day camp that would focus on traditional arts and skills using natural materials.

The first year, campers learned how to tie-dye shirts using dyes made from plants found in the Peaks woods, and everyone learned to knit wool they had spun themselves. “We even made our own knitting needles!” Susan laughed.

Since 2003 several new camps have been added: Wizard Camp (very popular while Harry Potter reigned), Colonial Camp, Medieval Camp, French Camp and Fairy Camp. In each case, the goal has been to teach the rudiments of creating objects that are both useful and beautiful, and connected to our ancestors.

For instance, in Colonial Camp one learns from Hanley that colonial dresses didn’t have pockets. They were an accessory item similar to a handbag today, and often homemade with fancy embroidery. From the 17th century to the late 19th century most women had at least one pair of pockets, usually worn underneath their petticoats. So Colonial Campers make such a pocket.

Next summer will also be the 10th year of the Peaks Island Fiber Arts Camp. Call to Artists

The Randomly Annual Winter Art Edition

Each year the winter edition of the paper is a double issue covering January and February. For the 2013 edition, we would like to feature the work of Casco Bay island artists. Paintings, drawings, photography, sculpture and literary work will be accepted. Art submissions are coming in fast, so please hurry if you want your work to be included. Write to Island Times Art Edition, 120 Brackett Ave, Peaks Island, ME 04108, or contact Kevin Attra at kattrai@islandtimes.org. Submission deadline Friday Nov. 29, 2012.
Recipes & Ramblings

BY SHEILA REISER

On a recent trip, due to airport regulations and in an attempt to keep my carry-on case to a minimum, I decided to bring any toiletries. Being pretty much a minimalist in this respect, I figured I could easily use whatever was available at my destination.

As it is habit — in this case as in the shower — I read the ingredients on the various bottles of hair and body conditioners (you may guess where this is going).

I'm not out to tell you all the cancer-causing properties of these chemicals. To be truthful, I haven't looked up a single one, and any or all of them could be totally benign or even beneficial. I'm more interested in making the point that even if you wanted to be sure that the products in your home are completely safe, and even if you had a degree in chemistry, it would be nearly impossible.

Here's a bit of a matching game for you. See if you can figure out which ingredient goes with which product:

Polyquat 7
Disteary/stearyldimethylmmonium chloride
Chlorohexidine
PPG-5-ceteth-20 parfum
Cyclomethicone
Linear alkylbenzene sulfonate
Alyl dimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride

These are things that you spread on your skin, and on your children's skin, in some pretty sensitive places, and that end up in your clothes coming out of the washer and in the air coming out of your dishwasher that he hard drying cycle clicks on.

Perhaps cyclomethicone is OK, and polyquat 7 isn't half bad, but what do you do if you mix them together? Now what if you wanted all of them together down the drain and send them through a treatment plant and the water back into the ocean and then you go for a dip at East End Beach?

We'd like to think that someone else — perhaps some government agency like the FDA or EPA — is keeping tabs on all these things, but it turns out that's not the case. Here's just one example. The fragrance industry uses 3,100 stock chemical ingredients, and the blend does not have to be revealed to the consumer. The most popular fragrances each contain 14 chemicals on average according to the Environmental Working Group (EWG), a non-profit whose mission is consumer education and policy change.

Ask from being health conscious, I also believe in being a conscious consumer. If you get a solicitation in the mail from a nonprofit, warning your support for their programs, would you send them money? If you believed in their mission and believed that they effectively accomplish that mission, maybe. More likely, I'll guess you wouldn't. I know I usually don't, even if I think the organization is fantastic.

If you're interested in being more educated about products you use in your home, I highly recommend checking out the EWG's website (<www.ewg.org>). Their databases rank sunscreen, cosmetics, chemicals and household cleaners, allowing you to look up your products and find alternatives. The SunsetGuide (<thesunsetguide.com>) is a local publication with great ideas and resources for conscious consumers.

You see a small amount of olive oil or coconut oil. For moisturizer, mix with a few drops of warm water in the palm of your hand and pat gently on your body with your fingers.

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Shelia is an adventurer, an artist, a pretty good cook and a Birdslahed gardener. She has lived on Peaks Island for three years. Contact her with your ideas, comments and questions at cthewicks@hotmail.com or call her cell phone (207) 441-1728. Or you can just knock on her door and introduce yourself.

Peaks Island Fiber Arts Camp

Thank you for another wonderful season!!

www.PeaksIslandFiberArtsCamp.com

Contact Susan Hanley at 332-2443, or susan@PeaksIslandFiberArtsCamp.com

Letters from page 6

and persistence it took to reach a good outcome. More than that, she was one of the few who treated the couple with compassion, which meant the world to them during a very difficult time.

But that's not the whole story. Incredibly, Diane helped this couple, and others as well, while waging her own battle against cancer. It was an honor to present Diane with a Congressional Record Statement recently to highlight her selfless work, and that of housing counselors across the country who've been indispensable in helping homeowners during the housing crisis.

Fiber Arts Camp

I never found a great laundry detergent recipe, but I do have a friend who uses only 1/2 cup of white vinegar per load and no traditional detergent. I'm sure there are also two local companies that make natural, hypoallergenic detergent. O-Natural and Human Nature. Box is a great bleach alternative.

Laundry detergent

Spray full strength white vinegar (stained) on theUnderam of shirts before washing. I have heard this works for pet odor on furniture and pets. You can also soak in a mixture of 1 cup lemon juice and 2 gallons of water.

Moisturizer

I try using a small amount of olive oil or coconut oil. For moisturizer, mix with a few drops of warm water in the palm of your hand and pat gently on your body with your fingers.

If you're interested in being more educated about products you use in your home, I highly recommend checking out the EWG's website (<www.ewg.org>). Their databases rank sunscreen, cosmetics, chemicals and household cleaners, allowing you to look up your products and find alternatives. The SunsetGuide (<thesunsetguide.com>) is a local publication with great ideas and resources for conscious consumers.

 heraus: Students and parents examine handmade books of artwork and poetry created by students in a special eight-week course by island artist Laura Grendemeyer (left), co-founder of the Fiber Arts Camp. Photo by the author.
Saturday, Nov 3  
PUBLIC MEETING in the Casco Bay Lines conference room at 9:30 a.m. to get public input on the renovation of the ferry terminal, being designed by Scott Simon Architects.

SAVE YOUR BREATH WALK at 10:00 a.m. Baker School, 21 Armory Street, Augusta, to raise money for lung cancer research, education, and community support. This event will include a walk, cremation services, silent auction, refreshments and awards for the person who raises the most money. Online registration $10 at www.lungcancermaine.org. Clases on Oct 20. Event day registration $22. Sponsored by the Lung Cancer Free Alliance.

Monday, Nov 5  
FIRST MONDAY FUN for PRE-SCHOOLERS/ADULTS 11:00 am to 2:00 noon Bring your little ones to the community room to have some Fall fun—crafts, music and dancing! Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

GARDEN SERIES: GREEN MANURE 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the PC community room. Join Master Gardener Justin Palmer as he shares tips and enthusiasm with us. Topic of discussion in Fall cover crops and Green Manure. Bring your own ideas and suggestions. Pre-registration required. Co-sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970) and PC Community Garden.

Wednesday, Nov 7  
PUBLIC MEETING with Island Institute representatives Heather Doer, vice president of strategic development, and president-elect Rob Snyder to discuss the Institute's next three-year strategic vision in order to ensure that it reflects your priorities, at 7:00 p.m. at the MacVane Center. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Brooks Winter brooks@islandinstitute.org.

Thursday, Nov 8  
KNIT, CHAT and BYO LUNCH Stop by the PC community room between 10:45 am and 12:45 pm to knit (or crochet) hats and scarves for charity. Our numbers are growing every week. Be part of the fun! Materials available; donations always welcome. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Monday, Nov 12  
SENIOR POT LUCK LUNCHEON at Noon at the Bay Garnet House. Please bring a dish to share and join us. All seniors are welcome. If you don't consider yourself a senior, come anyway!

Thursday, Nov 15  
KNIT, CHAT and BYO LUNCH Stop by the PC community room between 10:45 am and 12:45 pm to knit (or crochet) hats and scarves for charity. Have fun as we help others. Materials available; yarn donations always welcome. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

THANKSGIVING BINGO is open to be thankful for! Have fun and win lots of prizes as we play BINGO from 1:00 - 2:00 pm (PC com. rm). Drop in anytime. Please bring donations for the Food Pantry.

Friday, Nov 16  
TEEN PROGRAM for grades 6-8 starts today, so be prepared. We've got some ideas to get your input. Root Beer Floats the first night. Parents, be looking for a letter from us concerning the program. We'll also have a traditional release form that we'll keep on file for your children's safety. We hope to get them all back soon. Any parents who want to do a special presentation for either group please contact Jeanne Ashmore, 766-2982. Thank you.

Friday, Nov 23  
SHOPPINGTRIP to SALEM, MAINE Spend some time looking for bargains at the Dollar Tree Store, Christmas Tree Shop and Macys. Pre-registration required. Sign up sheet on bulletin board on Denise's door in the PC community building (door you face when you enter the building). Deadline Friday, Nov. 23. Sengkap to 14 seats available. Van fee from CRL to Salem is $4.00 per person. Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

Saturday, Nov 24  
LORETTA VOYER FUND CRAFT FAIR with hundreds of handmade gifts and fabulous prizes in our annual raffle. From 9am - 2pm at the Inn on Peaks Island. Join Peaks Island artists and craftsmen in supporting the Loretta Voyer Fund which provides transportation needs for Peaks Islanders who are undergoing aggressive therapy for cancer or other life-limiting conditions.

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING at the living tree downtown on Peaks Island from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Decorate the tree, sing carols, and join in the countdown to the lighting of the tree. If Santa is not too busy that day, get a candy cane and visit with him. Otherwise, one of his elves or Ms. Claus will be there. Walk to Peaks Cafe afterwards for refreshments. Please bring donations for the Food Pantry (food and/or monetary donations accepted).

6th ANNUAL SAINT LUCIA PAGEANT 3:30 p.m. at the Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church. Rehearsals will take place at the church on Sundays Nov 4, 11, 18, 25 at 3:00 pm. As always, we welcome new attendances between ages 6 and 9 who would like to take part in the Lucia pageant, as well as those between the ages of 4 and 6 who would like to be gentlemen gent or tomatoes/gnomes. Please call Gunnel Larssen at 775-2076 or email Glesdenriet@yahoo.com.

Monday, Dec 3  
FIRST MONDAY FUN for PRE-SCHOOLERS/ADULTS 11:00 am to 2:00 noon. Bring your little ones to the PC community room to have some holiday fun making crafts. We can listen to music and dance too! Sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970).

GARDEN SERIES: FORCING BULBS 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the PC community room. Join Master Gardener Justin Palmer as he shares his knowledge and enthusiasm with us, and we learn from each other. Program will cover the topic of forcing bulbs. Pre-registration not required. Co-sponsored by Portland Recreation (dave@portlandmaine.gov or 766-2970) and PC Community Garden.

Saturday, Dec 8  
JINGLE BELL FAIR from 10 am to 2 pm at the Brickett Church with crafts, baked goods, gift items, and a great silent auction. Donations for the silent auction gratefully accepted. Please call either Tokie (285-9352) or Beth (766-3433) to donate. Thank you.

Saturday, Dec 1  
LORETTA VOYER FUND CRAFT FAIR with hundreds of handmade gifts and fabulous prizes in our annual raffle. From 9am - 2pm at the Inn on Peaks Island. Join Peaks Island artists and craftsmen in supporting the Loretta Voyer Fund which provides transportation needs for Peaks Islanders who are undergoing aggressive therapy for cancer or other life-limiting conditions.

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING at the living tree downtown on Peaks Island from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Decorate the tree, sing carols, and join in the countdown to the lighting of the tree. If Santa is not too busy that day, get a candy cane and visit with him. Otherwise, one of his elves or Ms. Claus will be there. Walk to Peaks Cafe afterwards for refreshments. Please bring donations for the Food Pantry (food and/or monetary donations accepted).

MONTHLY CAPTION CONTEST! Each month we offer a new Brio image having no caption so that you can create one up. Below is the month's cartoon. Send your ideas to cartoon@islandtimes.org and we'll publish the best. See page 10 for last month's winner.

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