CITY COUNCIL/NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

All chairs were filled and many Islanders stood at the well-attended annual City Council-sponsored meeting at the Community Center on Thursday evening, November 15. Various City officials and councillors came to Peaks to bring us up-to-date and to listen to our needs and our requests for H.C.D. (Housing and Community Development - a federal program) funds before entering the '91-'92 budget process.

Mark Green, Ass't City Manager, started out by showing slides of the Portland area to illustrate how our tax dollars and federal aid have been spent. Specifically, on Peaks, we have seen, besides the usual City services: a reconstructed army pier, a new playground at the school, a new rescue van, support to both the Day Care and Health Centers, the current sewer and storm drain project ($2.4 million), junk car removal, plans to begin chipping the stump dump and grinding up the debris at the dump in preparation for building a new transfer station. Also, plans are set to resurface Seashore Ave. from Maple to Alderbrook in the spring.

Mention was made of property revaluation which is now being completed. Notices will be out in the spring, perhaps as late as June 1, 1991. Reminder: if you were a homeowner or renter in Maine in all 1989 with household income no more than $60,000 and your property tax is more than 4.5% of your income, or your rent is more than 30% of your income, you may qualify for a refund. Brochures and information are available at the P.I. Library.

Among the issues and requests brought up by Islanders in the general discussion period were:

* Need for a storm drain (promised by the City) at the corner of Elizabeth St. and Island Ave.
* Requests for sidewalks on the inner side of Island Ave. so that children may walk safely to school.
* A request that the City do whatever necessary to repair the storm drain outfall which goes to the beach from Island Ave. between the Post Office and Feeney's. It currently stops above the high tide line and washes out the property. Both Mark Green and DEP are working on a solution.
* A request that the heat in the Community Building be repaired; it seems to work only when the library is open. Larry Mead will see to it.
* Alderbrook to the dump and much of Brackett need regrading. Brackett will be reconstructed, as part of the sewer project, from Island Ave. to the water tower.
* Although Islanders have raised $18,000 is support of the Health Center, there is currently a need for Medicare reimbursement as well as HCD funding for equipment.

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A request that kids continue to be encouraged to vote on election day, but that a separate area be provided for them to avoid the crowding and confusion recently experienced. This will be done.

A plea that consideration be given to making our parking lot for resident commuters only; long-term parking should be forbidden.

A request by P.I.N.A. for HCD funds so that a copy of the STAR may be mailed to residents.

Thanks to the City for their important services and contributions to our community.

During a lengthy discussion on junk cars and the parking lot, the following issues were raised:

At the Dec. 3 and Dec. 10 City Council Meetings, an amendment of the Portland City Code regarding Junked Vehicles will be read; if passed, it will facilitate assigning financial responsibility for the removal of such cars to the owners or to the owners of the property on which the vehicle is stored.

It is the intent of City Council that HCD funds not be spent for junk car removal.

All Island cars must be registered. Do it. It will be enforced.

A large water-filled hole in the parking lot is in urgent need of being filled with gravel.

Joe Taylor from the Water District was present to answer questions regarding the treatment plant which is currently "on hold" due to a building permit denial by the Zoning Board of Appeals. A court case seeking to overturn that denial will be delayed for six months while a City-hired independent consultant comes up with a comparative review of three options: 1. pumping waste to Portland's East End plant, 2. a plant at the Welch St. site, and 3. a plant on Brackett Ave., opposite the current stump dump. Option 3 would require a pumping station at the Welch St. site, laying pipe to the treatment plant and then piping the outfall water either to the backshore or back down front.

State and federal funding will remain available for the project as long as progress is made toward a solution.

(Reported by P.I.N.A.)

NEWS FROM THE PEAKS ISLAND LIBRARY - 45 Island Avenue - 766-5540

Special Holiday Program
On Tuesday, December 18, at 7 pm, Pat Crowley-Rickwell and Jenny Yesi will be with us for a special program of songs, stories and a craft for Hannukah and Christmas. Parents and school-age children are welcome.

Library Hours
Tuesday, 2 pm - 8 pm
Wednesday, 10 am - 4 pm
Friday, 10 am - 2 pm
Saturday, 9 am - 1 pm
Afterschool Movies are on Tuesdays at 3:15 pm
Story time for preschoolers continues on Wednesdays at 10:15 am

New Books*
Fiction
ASIMOV, Nightfall
BARNES, Coyote
ELLISON, Picture Makers
GARCIA MARQUEZ, General in His Labyrinth
GERZONE, Shepherd
HOLAND, Long Search
HOWATCH, Scandalous Risks
PLAIDY, Lilith
RICE, Witching Hour
TRUMAN, Murder at the National Cathedral

Nonfiction
OSTROVSKY, By Way of Deception
ROOT, No More Ashing Back
ROSSO, Silver Palate Cookbook
Having celebrated Thanksgiving at school on November 16th via a Feast prepared by all classes, we are reminded of how much we have for which to give thanks.

- Thanks to this community which shares with and encourages its school staff and students, throughout the entire year.
- Thanks to all who supported our Mathathon! These funds will allow us to choose enrichment classes, new materials and/or equipment.
- Thanks for the honor our students have brought us by achieving the highest percentage of any student body in Portland that participated in the Portland Public Library's Summer Reading Program. We have been awarded a limited edition Horn Book poster, signed by the artist Arnold Lobel.
- Thanks to parents and staff who spent quality time together during parent conferences. Working together, we do make the difference!

Now we look to the Holiday Season. We invite you to attend our Holiday Program on December 17th at 7:00 p.m. Although it seems early to say so now, we do wish you a wonderful Holiday Season and a Healthy, Contented New Year.

Janice Cambridge
Teaching Asst. Principal

Kindergarteners will be continuing with family heritage activities - all the wonderful traditions of the holiday seasons. We'll be using lots of stories and songs as we move into the winter season.

As fall winds down, first graders turn their thoughts from Indians, Pilgrims and Thanksgiving to winter, Hanukkah and the Christmas season. Again, we will be studying the Legends of this season through storytelling, story writing, and activities. We are looking forward to our Winter Program . . . practicing for the performance and preparing treats for our guests.

Second graders are starting the second quarter of our school year with enthusiasm. We celebrated National Book Week by bringing our favorite books to school and sharing them with the class. We wish to extend this literature sharing experience. We invite parents, friends, and community members to our room to read a favorite children's book to us. Contact a second grader for more details!

After studying about one of America's first communities, Plymouth Plantation, third graders are now studying about communities in today's world. They are discovering similarities and differences in urban, rural, and island living, on a national and global level. They will also be working on holiday projects to be shared with their families and the community.

During National Education Week, our guest teachers in grades 4-5 were Mr. Mike McCarthy, principal of King Middle School, John Morris, the island's mailman and Jim Ryszek, instrumental person for schools. They shared Indian legends/stories, humorous tales of famous composers and insights about the middle school. We are presently doing projects on various states and books. Special thanks to all who supported Peaks Island School's Mathathon. Happy Holidays!
News From Brackett Memorial United Methodist Church

Sunday Morning Worship 10a.m. Child Care Available
Sunday School 9:30a.m.
Bible Study Wed. Morning at 9a.m. -Sr. Citizens Center
United Methodist Women Tues. Dec. 11 at 12 noon- home of Mary Dennison
Sunday Dec. 9th Peaks Island Music Association Holiday Concert, 2:15p.m.
Sunday Dec. 16th Service of Christmas Music, 10a.m.
Sunday Dec. 23rd Christmas Stories 10a.m.
Christmas Eve Candle Light Service at 11p.m.
Everyone is invited to a Christmas Potluck at Brackett Mem. Hall
Dec. 14th at 6:30 p.m.
Bring a main dish or salad, beverages and desert will be provided. A time of celebration for all ages.

St. Christopher's Catholic Church

Weekday Masses
Wed. 7:30 am at St. Joseph's
Thurs. 7:30 am at Rectory Chapel
Sat. 7:30 am at St. Joseph's

Weekend Masses - Upper Room, Parish Hall
Sat. 4:00 pm
Sun. 9:00 am

Activities
Wed. 9 - 10 am Senior Citizens Center
Wed. 7:30 pm Beano in Parish Hall
Thurs. 9:45 am Prayer Group, Erice home
Sun. Dec 9th Free Blood Pressure Readings

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Dec. 16 Christmas Notes & Needles
Parish Hall, 1:30 - 4:00 pm
Gifts, toys, knitted articles, raffles.
A nice door prize will be awarded to the lucky ticket holder. Free refreshments for all!

Dec. 16 Hansel & Gretel presented by Star of the Sea Theater, Doreen McCann, Director
Donations at the door - $3 adults, $1.50 children

Dec. 22 Confessions 3-4 pm, Mass - 4 pm
Dec. 23 Confessions 8:30 am, Mass - 9 am
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Mass 8 pm in the Church
Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass 9 am in the Church
Dec. 31 New Years Eve Liturgy 4 pm in the Church
Jan 1 New Years Day Liturgy 9 am in the Church
Jan 5 Saturday Mass 4 pm in the Church
Jan 6 Sunday Mass 9 am in the Church
At our recent meeting there was deep discussion on the Christmas party to be held at the Community Center at noon on December 12th. Response to donations for the turkey dinner was great. The Day Care children will visit with us and enjoy their gifts on that day. Each person attending is asked to bring a gift for a child, marked for boy or girl or either, and a present for an adult marked for man or woman.

It was announced that Aaron Disco would be at the Health Center on Mondays from 1 to 5 PM and Cindy Putney will be at the Center from 1 to 5 PM on Wednesdays.

We also discussed the possibility of having the Center open daily with the help of volunteers -- a motion was made and seconded to put this on hold and bring up again in early spring. Please feel free to call Phylis if you should come up with any suggestions you might have in helping to keep the Center active and available to you the people who might want to use it.

Bible Study is held Wednesday mornings from 9 to 10 AM at the Senior Center.

There will be no meeting in December (just the Christmas party), the next meeting will be January 13th, at noon, at the Senior Center. Please watch the window at the Center or you may call Phylis, if weather should leave any doubt in your mind on that day.

Happy holidays to you and your family, from everyone at your Senior Center.

A Fourth Annual HOLIDAY CONCERT sponsored by PIMA (Peaks Island Music Assn.) will be held on December 9th (a Sunday) at 2:15 P.M. in the Brackett Church. The Gala Program this year will feature the New Peaks Island Orchestra, The Peaks Island Chorale, special soloist Nancy Notar, and all the other Holiday favorites you enjoyed before.

It's a Family Event that draws a spill-over crowd. Come early to get a seat.

DONATIONS
Adults still $2.50  Children $1.00  Families $10.00

See You There!

FRIENDS OF THE PEAKS ISLAND LIBRARY
The majority of the board of the Friends, having served several years, would like to retire at the end of the year (1990). While these positions do not take a lot of time and are not difficult, they should be filled by people with a little time and, of course, interest in the library. Anyone who would be interested or who has names to suggest should speak to outgoing President Laurie Cox, 766-5588 or to Priscilla Webster at the library.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL. DECEMBER WILL BE A BUSY MONTH FOR US, WITH TWO SHOWS COMING UP. WED. DEC. 12th AT 7:00pm WILL BE OUR FIRST SHOW AT THE RIVERTON COMMUNITY CENTER, OVER 50 STUDENTS WILL PERFORM FROM OUR STAR OF HOPE DANCE STUDIO. PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE MAINE CANCER RESOURCE CENTER FOR CHILDREN.

OUR PEAKS ISLAND SHOW WILL BE ON SUNDAY DEC. 16th. FOR ST. CHRISTOPHER'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR NOTES AND NEEDLES; "HANSEL AND GRETEL" WILL BE THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION, A DRAMA WITH A MUSICAL TWIST, WITH SOME BEAUTIFUL COSTUMES AND THE FANTASTIC SCENERY BY SHELFIELD FITZGERALD.

MANY NEW ITEMS ARE IN OUR BOUTIQUE FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. THE WEEKEND CAKE SALE NOW HAS GINGERBREAD COOKIES, FANCY GOODIES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON FROM MARY JO'S KITCHEN, ALONG WITH "YOURS TRULY" APPLE PIES ETC. NEW HOURS FOR THE BOUTIQUE ARE: MONDAY AND THURSDAY FROM 11:00am. - 1:00pm. AND FROM 4:30pm. - 7:00pm. TUES. AND WED. CLOSED TILL DEC. 12th. SAT. AND SUNDAY, 11:30 - 5:00pm. WE DO HOPE THE ISLAND COMMUNITY WILL HELP SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS, ALL PROFITS TO BENEFIT OUR ISLAND SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS.

NEW DANCE CLASSES WILL RESUME IN JANUARY. STAR OF THE SEA PLAYERS WILL BE WORKING ON A NEW PLAY. THERE WILL ALSO BE A JR. PLAYERS PRODUCTION. AUDITIONS WILL BE POSTED.

THE AEROBIC EXERCISE CLASSES WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE WINTER, MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 10:00am. AND 6:15pm. ALL LEVELS, COME, JOIN US, ITS GOOD FOR YOU AND GREAT FUN.

WISHING EVERY ONE A HAPPY & HOLY SEASON

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The Island Health Center Hours for medical care are:

Karen Disco, Physician Assistant

Mondays 12:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Cynde Putney Mitchell, Family Nurse Practitioner

Wednesdays 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Please call 766-2929, for an appointment. Evening appointments are available if notified in advance. The answering machine continues to be checked daily.
For a Thanksgiving treat, our October Jack O'Lantern was the main ingredient in a November cooking project. Everyone worked together to make a pumpkin pie. It was cleaned, cut into pieces, seeds removed, and the pumpkin was cooked adding spices. When the project was through, we had not one but eight delicious pumpkin pies! (We started with a very LARGE pumpkin)

Our resident snake is also doing quite well in his terrarium tank in our science area, slithering around quite alot.

We are looking forward to our annual visit to the Senior Citizen's Christmas Party on December 12. We will soon be working on some gifts to share with them.

It is hard to believe December is here, we had so many lovely days in November. It won't be long before we have our sleds out, and snowpeople are standing on our lawn.

-----------------BOTTLE DRIVE-----------------------------
This is an ongoing bottle drive...when you return your bottles to Feeheny's, bring your receipt to the register and ask to have it credited to the Child Development Center account. We thank you for your donations, which are used to help support the island's childcare center.

OPENINGS
We have a few current openings for families qualifyinbf for childcare subsidized by our state and federal funds. To qualify a family must meet the following guidelines:
FAMILY OF 2  $324
FAMILY OF 3  406
FAMILY OF 3  488
FAMILY OF 4  488
FAMILY OF 5  570
FAMILY OF 6  652

MAXIMUM GROSS WEEKLY INCOMES TO QUALIFY

If eligible, your childcare fee is based on a sliding fee scale, according to your family size and income. Please call for more information if you are in need of affordable childcare and meet the above guidelines. We are currently serving children aged three through nine years of age.

----------------- Playgroup continues each Wednesday morning, 10:15-11 AM. This is a time for parents/caregivers/friends and their infants/toddlers to come and enjoy our playspace. Playgroup is free and open to the entire community.

***We hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season, and wish you peace and joy throughout the New Year!*****