TIME has run on so that we are saying Merry 1968 and a Happy Spring all in one sentence.

There's much to report in this short space so we will capsule everything and give more in the Spring edition in the usual printed style.

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CITY COUNCIL GRANTS FUND

Most newsworthy is that the Portland City Council has granted the CBIDA $5,000 to match the $5,000 given by the 103rd Legislature earmarked for planning the Project Oceanside area. The Association will now seek a federal matching fund for the $10,000 with the assistance of State officials, to enable us engage a top-flight planning firm. Before we can organize the fund-raising drive to construct the proposed Inter-national Vacation and Conference Center, we must have a concrete plan with visual projections and cost estimates. The City's interest will be served in that the planning firm will be invited to include the City Open Space area so that the parkland and International Center will be coordinated.

Advice on such items as landscaping and recreational facilities for the private sector would be available on request.

Lot drawings are expected to be held in early summer on the South Gate section.

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SPRING ART SHOWING OF MISS TREFETHEN'S PAINTINGS

An honor which seldom comes to a "retired" artist is the event scheduled for this Spring. Thirty water colors by Miss Jessie B. Trefethen, venerable Peaks Island artist, will be exhibited at the New Art Center, Louisville, Kentucky. Most of the work was done on Peaks Island in the past three years, but there are a few that date back to the time when she was an Art Professor at Oberlin College and was painting the quarries and ledges of Ohio.

Professor Charles James Wright, (Peaks resident) artist in residence at the University of Louisville, made the selection in September, and reports that the watercolors are being matted on fine French paper and framed in blond wood.

Miss Trefethen works on the oceanside of Peaks Island in all kinds of summer weather, June through September, doing rocks and sea, adhering closely to structure. She says she would be afraid if it ever became easy, that any sort of falsification or cleverness "sticks out like a sore thumb to condemn you". So in the most difficult of all art media, watercolor, her work has substance, whether it is built around limpid tide pools or the edge of a southern gale. She has exhibited widely and is listed in "Who's Who in American Art", and in other publications. She exhibits regularly in traveling shows circulated in schools and colleges throughout the State by the Art Department of the University of Maine.

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BOUQUETS are in order to the following: State of Maine for acquiring the Long Island former Naval Fuel Base to be used by Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute which took possession of the facility on January 2. Director Arthur Smith has outlined an interesting future for its use .... To the new CHEBEAGUE ISLAND Water Taxi due to be put in service in the spring -- the Polly Lin II, built on Beals Island. Jasper Smith, owner, says the 44-foot boat will be used for excursions as well as taxi service ......... To LONG WHARF INC., which will become the new site for Boone's Restaurant and a Marina for 300 boats (April 1969) ..... To the CHEBEAGUE ISLAND LIBRARY for its ingenuity in exhibiting 200 etchings from Bowdoin College Traveling Print Collection ..... To Johanna von Tilling for taking on the teaching position at CLIFF ISLAND ..... and to former teacher Mrs. Norman Anderson whose resignation was for the happy arrival of Todd Patrick on February 3, ..... To MR. AND MRS. HARRI T T. BRUNS of Long Island and Portland who, with sons Harland and Richard, celebrated the senior Mr. Bruns retirement and the couples 45th wedding anniversary. Bruns was treasurer of the Pochohontas Fuel Company for 24 years and has been active as an officer of the Coast Guard ..... To veteran Island Hopping Telephone man DICK HOOPER, recently featured in the Portland Express, and who plans to retire on Peaks because of the "lure of the island".

NOR BY EAST regrets to announce the passing of the following island friends:

Mrs. Edna B. Woodward
Mrs. Martha Ross
Mrs. Frances Farwell (Woodbury)
Frank Dudley
Mrs. Herbert Johnson (Eva)
Miss Florence W. Watt
Mr. Frank Finnerty, a veteran Peaks Island lobsterman.
NEW YEAR AROUND RESIDENTS

Another happy note for our islands is the decision of two former summer residents to adopt Chebeague Island as their full time residence. In addition, teachers Jeanne Mowery and Peggy Muraca have accepted an invitation from faithful scribe Ray Hayward to represent Chebeague Island on the editorial board of Nor by East. We expect their first story for the spring issue.

Say the girls, who have found teaching positions in the mainland, "Our first few months on Chebeague have certainly been packed full of experiences that will be remembered a lifetime. It has been vigorous, mildly challenging and never dull . . . . The fall was so beautiful, and nothing against our previous home (Ohio) but, so clean and refreshing." . . . More later.

INFORMATION AND SERVICE CENTER CONTINUES

With the leadership of CBIDA members Mrs. Emmy Foye and Mrs. Dorothy Crossman, and with the managership of Frank Sheldon, the Information and Service Center on Peaks has remained operative one day a week throughout the winter. It is hoped that an expanded spring and summer program will follow. Mrs. Foye and Mrs. Crossman have led classes in crafts including knitting instruction, pillow creations, and the latest venture creating placemats out of the Art Calendars which CBIDA sponsored last summer.

The sessions have been well attended by women. Craft classes for men are hopefully in the offing.

The Center expects to become a part of an area-wide service program with state assistance and will offer a variety of services to all adults.

LITTLE DIAMOND PROFESSOR HAS FULL SCHEDULE

News from Professor Hal Hackett, who has asked for leave of absence from CBIDA Steering Committee, has an interesting explanation. First, he and wife Linda, also of Little Diamond, welcomed their second son, Jeffrey Atherton, on October 5. They moved to a new-to-them home near Bates College in post haste shortly in advance of Jeffrey; and the coming months are like this: In April they leave for North Carolina and Duke University (Hal's alma mater); in May they will be in Florida where Hal will present a course at the University of Miami; then its off for two months to the University of Puerto Rico where Hal will give a course for ten Bates students on Tropical Environment; then lectures in Marine Biology at Bowdoin during July; then in August the family will be off to Spain where Hal's PHD dissertation will be given to the International Members of Algal Society on the subject of his International Indian Ocean Expedition. He'll be back in September and hopefully present at the CBIDA monthly Steering Committee meetings!

BAY TO HAVE PEARY MEMORIAL

Eagle Island of lower Casco Bay, off South Harpswell, with its one residence, the "Aerie", formerly the summer home of Admiral Robert E. Peary, is to become a memorial to the discoverer of the North Pole. It was to the Admiral's family here in 1909 that the first message came of his reaching the Pole.

Plans announced by Lawrence Stuart, Maine Park Director, include general repairs to home and retaining walls, rebuilding of library (where Peary laid plans for his successful dash), construction of a dock, sanitary facilities, and an island nature trail.

The property qualified for Federal funds under the Land and Water Conservation Act. Last month the Interior Department approved a grant of $60,475, to be matched by the State, to develop the 17-acre historic site. The State legislature approved $16,000 for the project. Since the property was donated by a deed last fall of Peary's daughter, Mrs. Marie Stafford Kuhne, to the State, its appraised value will be a substantial part of the State's share in the project.

PEAKS SUMMER RESIDENT ADVISOR ON VIET NAM SCHOOLS

Another world traveler whose "roots" are on an island he loves - Peaks - is Dr. Russell G. Davis, Associate Director of the Center for Studies in Education and Development at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Dr. Davis was a member of the Task Force headed by H.E.W. Secretary (former) John Gardner that travelled to Viet Nam in 1966, on the original survey mission dispatched by President Johnson following the Manila Conference with Premier Ky.

Dr. Davis who is Lecturer on Education is one of nineteen experts chosen to serve as an advisory panel to the State Department on Viet Nam and other critical Far East issues. He is the son of Mrs. Hazel Davis who summers on Prince Avenue.

ONE WORLD SOCIAL SERVICE is represented by the happiest event of recent times on Peaks Island. Three sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, have taken up year around residence at St. Josephs by the Sea, and are serving the whole island with kindness and friendship. They visit all shut-ins and their youth and warmth has added a new dimension to island living.

TENTH BIRTHDAY FOR CBIDA

This coming summer our association will reach its tenth birthday. It has produced the longest continuity of inter-island service in history. Ideas for having a real bang-up birthday party are welcome.