8-1979

Nor' by East, Aug 1979

Casco Bay Island Development Association

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PORTLAND'S PROBLEM

PREGNANCY!

The City of Portland has been pregnant for more than seven years with a Waterfront Child trying to be born. The parental responsibility is questionable. The child - a new Ferry Terminal - has been threatened with extinction by multi-abortionists; it has been still-born at least five times; but its heart beats on with intensive cardio-pulmonary resuscitation by the residents of the Casco Bay Islands. Perhaps Portland needs a new specialist in obstetrics to find a way to deliver this child - a new Ferry Terminal - has been threatened with extinction by multi-abortionists; to be born. The parental responsibility is questionable. When three days old. The child - a new Ferry Terminal - has been threatened with extinction by multi-abortionists; it has been still-born at least five times; but its heart beats on with intensive cardio-pulmonary resuscitation by the residents of the Casco Bay Islands. Perhaps Portland needs a new specialist in obstetrics to find a way to deliver this child. (Terminal) without further birth injury!! Please hurry.

CONTRA DANCE ON GREAT DIAMOND

Friday, August 24 at 6:30 Contra Dancing comes to Ellwell Hall on Great Diamond Island. Dudley Laufman, well known dance master from Canterbury, New Hampshire, will be leading traditional New England Dances at the Hall. This is dancing for all ages and partners are not required. The Great Diamond Island Association welcomes neighbors from all the islands for a lively evening. Admission will be two Dollars. There will be ferry service to Portland at 11 o'clock that evening. Come and enjoy an evening of dancing, as your forefathers did.

THE SMELL?

WE'VE GOT ITS NUMBER!

In June, Nor-by-East asked, "When is a Smell," For the frustrated and distressed who would like to offer testimony rejecting Hobson's Wharf and numerous other comments were Stuart Laughlin, President of CBIDA; John Flynn, retired fire chief; Sawyer of Little Diamond speaking for the Sisters of Mercy; Eunice Curran of Peaks who presented a petition from Peaks and a multi-signed letter from Cliff Island; Adm. Robert Hickok of Long and Peter Mclaughlin. In an effort to dispose of the matter at the Planning Board level, Harry Cummings moved in favor of Hobson's Wharf, but there was no second. Chairman John Conroy moved for Custom House Wharf, there was no second, leaving the chairman holding the bag. Unhappily, after expressing his displeasure, he moved to request a workshop session with the entire City Council and all agreed. Adjourned!

A NEW LITTLE DIAMOND

Nor-By-East wishes to welcome Little Diamond Island's newest citizen, John Calvin Stevens III, who started his residency when three days old. Proud parents are Paul and Dodo Stevens, and infant John Calvin has an admirable heritage in a line of distinguished architects.

STILL UP IN THE AIR!

In yet another abortive attempt to settle the location of a new Casco Bay Terminal, the Portland Planning Board failed to act on a choice of Hobson's Wharf (at the foot of High St.) or the combined Custom House - Portland Pier site.

Unanimous rejection of Hobson's Wharf was voiced by island residents, supplemented by petitions signed by many who could not attend the August 7 public hearing.

Custom House was favored more as the lesser of two evils, than an ideal solution in itself.

Underlying the testimony was a repeated suggestion that the City look again at the Easterly side of Long Wharf which might be negotiated with owner Tony DeMillo - who, it is understood, might be willing to move his Marina to the westerly side in a more protected area. Several island speakers indicated an effort to help break a possible deadlock between the two parties (DeMillo and the City) and get on with what is best for the majority of people.

Veteran Planning Board member Harry Cummings frankly admitted that the Planning Board had failed to act long ago and had therefore brought upon itself this dilemma. Those present could hardly agree more.

Offering testimony rejecting Hobson's Wharf and numerous other comments were Stuart Laughlin, President of CBIDA; John Flynn, retired fire chief; Sawyer of Little Diamond speaking for the Sisters of Mercy; Eunice Curran of Peaks who presented a petition from Peaks and a multi-signed letter from Cliff Island; Adm. Robert Hickok of Long and Peter Mclaughlin. In an effort to dispose of the matter at the Planning Board level, Harry Cummings moved in favor of Hobson's Wharf, but there was no second. Chairman John Conroy moved for Custom House Wharf, there was no second, leaving the chairman holding the bag. Unhappily, after expressing his displeasure, he moved to request a workshop session with the entire City Council and all agreed. Adjourned!

PS. FINAL DECISION?

CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY-Aug.20-7 P.M.

ON PEAKS ISLAND

NAUTICAL FAIR
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HOLY TRINITY CHAPEL
of PEAKS ISLAND

Saturday Aug.25 10-3
Bemis's front lawn
CBIDA'S MAN UP FRONT

Through all the meetings of City Council, Planning Board, Ferry Terminal Building Committee Advisory Committee, CBIDA has been well represented by Tyler Stevens, chairman of its Transportation Committee.

Born in Portland and a summer resident of Great Diamond Island ever since, with the exception of 2 years, Tyler spent 40 years as Engineering Sales Manager for the New York Division of American Machine Foundry Co. He graduated from Portland High, New York Military Academy and University of Michigan. A highlight of his years away from Maine was a meeting with Frank Lloyd Wright in Chicago.

Their present Cape Elizabeth home makes it possible for the Stevens family to spend more time on the island as well as place at the disposal of the bay's transportation problems the wisdom of his 78 years.

The wisdom shows. The years don't.

LONG ISLAND TRAGEDY
POINTS UP NEED

Speedier waterborne (or airborne?) ambulance service to the mainland—these sentiments could be heard once again from one end of the island to the other following the untimely death of the Rev. Ernest Callanreto at the height of our 4th of July festivities. As always, the services of the City's fireboat and crews are greatly appreciated, for they have helped save many lives over the years. But way out here we are all very much aware that at least an hour or more elapses before the rescue and rush to the hospital can be completed. We feel that many injuries and illnesses in addition to heart attacks require and deserve much faster attention. Especially since no established health or medical services are available on the island.

If all of us in the bay would voice a common appeal to City Hall during the upcoming yearly preparation of the city's operating budget, perhaps it would help drive the point home and result in favorable action. Seems worth a try.

Meantime, at the request of the family, a fund is being established in the name of our deceased friend and neighbor to improve or implement the rescue equipment or medical service for the island. Our civic association is acting as depository for any and all contributions.

BETTER THAN CITY HALL

The annual "inspection of the islands" by City Councilmen and Department heads was more productive than usual this summer. This was due to a series of individual meetings set up and coordinated in advance with the City Manager's staff. Several board members of our civic association were assigned to discuss pending or new problems with appropriate officials informally following their mid-day lobster-bake, always the highlight of the day's outing.

In gorgeous weather and surrounded by lovely scenery, we all concluded that such pleasant and relaxed discussions can be just as productive, if not even more so, sometimes as if taken up City Hall's Council chambers. Within a matter of hours, prompt attention. It was a good day in every respect.

MUSICIANS ON PEAKS

Miss Margaret Shakespeare formerly of New York City, an accomplished violinist with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, has chosen Peaks Island for year round living. She has been generous in sharing her talents with the island this summer, playing in two concerts arranged by the Peaks Island Music Association, as well as at the Brackett Memorial Church and Treleaven Vesper Services.

Also in music news is the enjoyment of Miss Amy Gardner of Ottumwa, Iowa, a lovely vocalist who will enter music college this fall. Her folks, Pat and Patty, are building a house on the South Gate of the Back Shore and plan eventually to settle here.

A less happy music note is the impending departure of Mrs. Lee Belban, popular church organist for both parishes, who is leaving to make her home with her son in Chicago. A masterful musician and choir director, Mrs. Belban will be almost impossible to replace. She has been with us for eight years in this capacity, and a summer resident of Peaks since 1959.

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Peaks Island

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Peaks Island opposes Hobson's Wharf

The oil storage tank farm in our midst has been a source of concern for years. Thanks to a series of questions we raised with officials of the Department of Environmental Protection in Augusta last summer, the condition of this World War II fuel depot has been getting a thorough inspection and going-over. Last June we packed our VFW Hall for a question-and-answer meeting with several DEP officials whom we had invited to give us a complete update on their various efforts to locate and deal with possible trouble spots. Our main concern, in view of suspected leaks in the system, was the potential threat to our drinking water, since all of us here depend on our individual wells exclusively. A related concern was the danger of fire that might, in view of the company's and our own limited fire-fighting capability, sweep out of control.

As a result of our various complaints and the DEP's follow-up action, the entire facility was shut down this spring, with fuel removed from all of the storage tanks, for inspection and analysis. A number of suspected problems were confirmed, the DEP officials told us, and the company has been busy replacing a major fuel line and installing several additional anti-pollution devices to catch any oil from spilling into the bay or the pond. Some "weeping" of heating oil was detected coming from some of the tanks and engines were called in to develop and take appropriate action.

The extent to which all these efforts may have succeeded and been reassuring will, hopefully, be learned at the public hearing scheduled by the DEP to be held on Long Island later this month (August). The DEP set such a hearing as a pre-condition to allowing the company to resume operations as a heating oil storage facility.

CITY REPORT ON ISLANDS

(Ed. Note: Nor'East will attempt to provide City Hall coverage by Departments, as space permits in each issue.)

George Flaherty, Director of the Department of Public Works, has provided the following figures for services to the islands under his jurisdiction:

Peaks Island:
Seal Coating $70,000; street maintenance, $40,000; Snow and Ice $30,000. Refuse $14,000; Community Building construction $60,000 (mostly federal funds).

Long Island: $38,000 street maintenance; seal coating $50,000; Snow and Ice $22,000; refuse, $5,000.

Cliff Island: Street maintenance $26,800; Snow and Ice $10,000.

Diamond Island: Street Maintenance $10,800; Snow and Ice $1,500.

Cushing: Donation, $1,500; Street Lighting for all islands, $36,000.
Diamond Cove is the distinctive natural feature of Great Diamond Island. It forms a small harbor protected from the Hussey Sound surges and is not immediately perceptible from boats using the channel between the Diamonds and Peaks Island. The Indians, knowing well the passage between Great Diamond and Cow Island, used it as a staging area for attacks on white settlers on the Peninsula or on Peaks Island. During the American Revolution, British ships put in there when the militia aboard paraded before the four households on Peaks Island.

The United States Government started fortification on what was then Great Hog Island in 1873. Following President McKinley's assassination the fort was named for him in 1902 and set up to accommodate a thousand men. Five batteries equipped with disappearing guns were set up to guard the Hussey Sound entrance to Casco Bay.

The notable event of World War I was the ice forming so solid in the winter of 1917-18 that trucks were used to provision the fort rather than the boats normally in service to provide communication with the headquarters at Fort Preble.

During World War II, when Casco Bay was the home port of the North Atlantic Fleet, Fort McKinley shared its facilities with the navy as the fort became the nerve center of the immediate protection of the fleet.

At the close of World War II all the military and naval reservations on Casco Bay became federal surplus property. In 1949 Fort McKinley was on civilian caretaker status. Shortly thereafter it was sold to a developer named Montabano who sought a tax break by inviting Westbrook Seminary to provision the fort rather than the boats normally in service to provide communication with the headquarters at Fort Preble.

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Gretchen Hall
Peaks Island

Little
Diamond
Island
opposes
Hobson's Wharf

We Hear
Island resident honored

By BRUCE ROBERTS

Miss Margaret Randall of Peaks Island, who dashes around the island in her VW bug on all kinds of activities and sets a lively pace for those much younger, was honored recently for outstanding and dedicated community service.

Miss Randall, a native of Peaks Island, is a retired teacher who served during World War II as a recruiting officer for the WAC. In addition to her work in restoration of the Fifth Maine Regiment national historic landmark building, she is active in the Brackett Memorial Church and was instrumental in the building of a new parish house. She is also secretary of the Pine Grove Cemetery Association, and a member of the Randall-McVane Post American Legion named for a brother killed in World War II.

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On June 22, a skeleton was unearthed at an archeological dig on Great Diamond Island by Dr. David Yesner and his students from University of Southern Maine. The group is studying shellmounds in Casco Bay this summer and has chosen Great Diamond for a digging site.

Dr. Yesner presented a slide talk at Elwell Hall on Great Diamond on June 23. There was good attendance from the Diamond Island residents. He explained the USM project on Great Diamond this summer and gave some background concerning Indian habitation on the islands of Casco Bay. Although it is known that the islands were summer campgrounds, it is now believed that Great Diamond was a permanent settlement at one time.

Mrs. Helen Arey of Great Diamond has been digging for relics as a hobby for many years and maintains a museum in her home. Her interest and the work she has done on her own sparked the interest of the archeologists in the Great Diamond Island Shellmounds.

It is really not surprising that Indians of long ago came to the Diamond Islands in the summer. The Islands' beauty endures.

Lisbeth H. Johnson
Great Diamond Island

photo by paul whitney

Long Island Answers OPEC on 4th of July.

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On Long Island

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Volunteer Fire Dept.
Enjoying Maine
Monday, August 13, 1979

Casco Bay draws raves

By BILL CALDWELL
Gay Garnett Publishing Co.

The girl from Athens, Greece, said, "I've been touring the United States for three weeks. But here in Portland, this boat trip among the Casco Bay Islands has been so beautiful that we have decided to extend our stay here for another week before going home to Greece."

"Why do you Americans dream about cruising the Greek Islands, when you have islands like these on your doorstep?"

Murasino Konstantos was among the 106 passengers on the Casco Bay Lines sightseeing cruise from Portland to Bailey Island and back—a four-hour voyage which cost $5.90 for an adult, $2.90 for a child, with youngsters under 4 free.

"I took the 2 p.m. boat (an earlier boat leaves at 10 a.m.) with the idea of finding out how tourists are enjoying Portland and Maine this August.

"I'm a freelance plumber, just north of San Francisco," he said. "And my name is Norman Provost. This lady is an expert dancer. Antique dealers in our part of California swamped her with re-calling work."

But it turns out that Provost was born right here, grew up on Peaks Island, and is bringing ever with nostalgia at every island and every beach we pass."

"I come back every few years and part of the ritual of homecoming is the ride on this sightseeing boat. I head straight out to Bailey Island and revel in every mile of the trip."

Out of the two dozen passengers I spoke to, half have close ties to Maine or are residents here. They enjoy the tourist trip as much or more than those from away.

Several people who live in the greater Portland area introduced house guests and relatives from away. Sparkly, the bartender at Dimillo's, a waterfront restaurant, and Myer Goldberg of the Model Market grocery, work within a few blocks of the Casco Bay Lines pier.

"But they take a busman's holiday several times each summer, on those sightseeing boats," says Peter T. McLaughlin, who in 1958 moved from Boston where he ran the Wilson Lines to become an owner-operator of Casco Bay Lines here.

"Last month," he says, "we surveyed the passengers on our Casco Island run and were amazed to find that more than half the 'tourists' aboard were Mainers who lived within 50 miles of Portland." McLaughlin says 32,000 people rode the two dozen passengers I spoke to, half have close ties to Maine or are residents here. They enjoy the tourist trip as much or more than those from away.

During the past few years the CBIDA has been searching for other alternatives. It also has been seeking public and volunteer help in the control of vandalism which continuously plagues this property. During the past year sanctions enforceable by police have been posted, and local public safety officers have tried to rid the place of night parties, unauthorized camping, cars, fires and defacement.

It is almost impossible to make the abusers understand they are trespassing on private, taxed property for the often misuse of this scenic place.

Weary of paying nearly $500 a year while enduring such frustrations, the CBIDA is seeking alternative uses which would be compatible with the island life-style.

Officials of the organization feel that there must be a non-commercial non-profit organization somewhere capable of designing a protective and constructive educational or research program for this entire 150 acres and the massive vine-covered mound which is Battery Steele as it marches yearly into the history of World War Two.

There have been many suggestions all the way from "leave it as it is", to a disaster shelter, an energy center, a food storage facility, a military museum, and so on.

VEGETABLES AND VIEW

On a point of land overlooking the ferry wharf at Great Diamond Island is a white frame house with a long porch facing the water. It can be seen easily from Portland and from many angles in the bay and is one of the oldest landmarks on Great Diamond. It is known as the Farmhouse, because the property surrounding the old house was, until the 1950's, used for farming.

The Farmhouse has been purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Allen of Newton, New Hampshire. We welcome the Allens to the Islands and know they are going to enjoy their vegetables and their view.

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Who will pay the taxes, carry liability insurance, or constantly worry about vandalism? Moving it to the City is often suggested, but the abutting 100 acres which CBIDA made for the City to acquire have never been sold. It seems unlikely the City would welcome responsibility, and there is fear the City might lose the tons of gravel and eventually have more of an unpleasant site than at present. The same reasons, and because CBIDA is a responsible organization, there has been no move simply to let the area become tax exempt and fall into future irresponsible ownership.

So the Battery Steele Sub-committee is to search and to invite visitors with the hope that a desirable solution to the Steele dilemma will evolve.

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PARKS OFFICIAL IMPRESSED WITH EURO-RAIL

Ellen Klain, Outdoor Education Specialist for the City Parks Department, and a resident of Peaks Island, spent eight weeks this summer touring Europe with her younger sister, an Exchange student now staying in Sweden.

“We have a lot to learn from Europeans”, Ellen remarked describing the Euro-Rail system and the community developments centered around rail stations.

She was most impressed with the experience of living with families in Sweden and Brittany. One was an 82 year old grandmother who runs her own farm and speaks only Britton. For her stay there, three languages were being spoken at once, including French and English.

They did a lot of hiking in the Swiss Alps and learned about the Alpine Club.

Countries visited included Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Husband, Dick, also with the Park Department stayed home on a summer leave and prepared for the couple’s busy fall.

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Good things to eat all year long!
Clambakes proposed as Fort Gorges use

Portland, Maine, Evening Express, Saturday, July 21, 1979

It may be safer

One of the most distinctive characteristics of Casco Bay is Fort Gorges, that peculiar granite reminder of the technology of warfare of more than one hundred years ago.

The six-sided fort, which almost appears to be an island unto itself at high tide, is a great place to visit, but it can be dangerous. Those hazards to the casual visitor may be reduced, however, if the City of Portland goes through with a business deal proposed by two clambake entrepreneurs.

It may come as a surprise to some of have ventured out there, but Fort Gorges is actually supposed to be maintained as a public monument by the city, per an agreement with its former owner — Uncle Sam. Though the Parks Department does send a crew out twice each year to mow the grass and clean up litter, it would undoubtedly be difficult for the city to find the money to patch up the holes in the floors and crumbling walls and dark, precipitous passages. The fort itself is structurally sound but people have been injured there by falls.

The entrepreneurs’ idea sounds like a good one. In return for the city’s permission to hold commercial clambakes at the fort, the two Falmouth men, David G. Sleeper and Richard L. Yates, would pay a $500 fee to the city every six months or three percent of the gross profit they make, whichever is greater.

Perhaps more importantly, they would be required to make some improvements at the fort that will enhance the public’s safety. And those improvements will be permanent. Those occasional clambakes will not reduce access to the fort by the general public, either.

If the minor details can be worked out and an agreement is struck, Fort Gorges’ value to the public will be greatly increased at little or no cost to the public sector. That sounds like a good deal.

The recent proposal to use the Fort for clambakes and picnics is important as it will draw it seems to me there is a provision in the City Deed to Gorges that it can revert to the Federal Government if it is not maintained and used. Certainly no one is maintaining Fort Gorges. A few years ago someone allowed the burning of harbor debris near the stone work resulting in the fire cracking of the granite. It was a Piranesi in color with flaming torches and elaborate costumes. After it was well under way, appropriately bedecked islanders rowed over to crash the party. It all came to an end when an ineptsite tripped into a cistern or some similar damp spot and the party was over, and the lavish ball was never repeated. It seems that most members felt that the Federal Government should reassume responsibility, initiate a very modest restoration and maintenance and use as a historic site. Other than the comments were few, perhaps because our islands are so saturated with assorted military refuse that Gorges has no singular significance. Residents on Little Diamond look at Fort Gorges every day and are subject to the comments of the Casco Bay Line boats relative to the Fort. Having heard at least 1,000 times that Fort Gorges was constructed using the same plan as Fort Sumpter at Charleston, S.C., this correspondent made a trip to Sumpter and obtained copies of the plans and the resemblance is not even superficial. Since Gorges is an irregular hexagon, Sumpter is an irregular Pentagon with truncated angles. But what struck this family is that there is so little left of Sumpter and what remains is so modified that it is a far less appealing building to visit than our own unaltered but thoroughly neglected Fort Gorges.

Little Diamond Islanders have one thing to remember about Fort Gorges. That was the Chamber of Commerce Pirates Ball on the parade ground. It was a Piranesi in color with flaming torches and elaborate costumes. After it was well under way, appropriately bedecked islanders rowed over to crash the party. It all came to an end when an ineptsite tripped into a cistern or some similar damp spot and the party was over, and the lavish ball was never repeated.

The recent proposal to use the Fort for clambakes and picnics is important as it will draw attention to this important and handsome building.

There are probably as many opinions at Little Diamond Island as there are residents. This is especially evident in the heat of the summer. However, some years ago the Citizens Who Care were asked to comment on their idea of what should be done with this magnificent example of the so-called third (and final) system of Federal Forts. It seems that most members felt that the Federal Government did Portland no real service in deeding Fort Gorges to the City of Portland in 1960 for maintenance and use as a historic site. Other than the comments were few, perhaps because our islands are so saturated with assorted military refuse that Gorges has no singular significance.
CITY BUILDING

PROGRESSES ON PEAKS

The Keeley Construction Company of Portland, Maine is modernizing and expanding the Public Safety Building on Island Avenue. The work is currently 15% complete. The $400,000 project was authorized by the Portland City Council and is funded by federal and local sources.

The expanded facility will feature a new elevator, an expanded branch library and a multipurpose room to accommodate public use. The building will include public restrooms, a new parking lot and will be fully equipped.

The project will be completed in the spring of 1980. The library facility will be managed through the office of Edward Chenevert, Director of the Portland Public Library. The meeting room will be operated under the direction of the Department of Parks and Recreation. This unit is headed by Richard Anderson. The emergency operations will be under the direction of the City's Public Safety Department.

The building construction is being guided by a committee composed of Island residents and members of the Portland City Council.

On Cliff Island

Residents petition against liquor sales

By STEVE MCGRATH

Cliff Island residents will try to gain City Council support in their fight to prohibit the sale of liquor on the island.

Assistant City Manager Paul A. Rollins said he doubts if the council can do much to prevent liquor sales. "I can't imagine how we could regulate commerce that way," he said.

He added that the sale of liquor is controlled by the state and "all we do is bless it (liquor sale requests) along the way."

By "blessing," he meant the council sends it along with recommendations to the Maine State Liquor Commission. He said he didn't know how the council would react to this particular request.

"At this point, we are just expressing our concern," said island resident Johanna von Tilling. She, along with Dorothea R. MacVane, is heading the drive.

Cliff Island, once a large Seventh Day Adventist community, has never permitted the sale of alcoholic beverages. Mrs. von Tilling said one of the island's two store owners had a liquor license but never used it.

Now the store has changed and the new owner has already obtained a liquor license. It is this store that the residents are concerned about.

Several reasons they list on their petition for prohibiting sale include inadequate police protection from alcohol-related problems, community attitude, and that it is no hardship not to have liquor readily available.}

ANNUAL MEETING - CBIDA

Members of Casco Bay Island Development Association will gather at Great Diamond Island for their Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 29. Joe Casale, councilman for Portland District 1, which includes the city islands, will be a guest. The meeting will feature a buffet lunch at 1, followed by a brief business meeting to elect officers and Steering Committee members, a program of music and tours of island attractions including Fort McKinley, presently owned by a Texas land development company will round out the afternoon.

Members will be able to use the regular boat schedule.

CLIFF ISLAND

Opposes

Hobson's Wharf

Residents petition against liquor sales

PEAKS ISLAND MINISHER

ORDAINED

The Reverend Linda Mae Littlefield, the pastor at Brackett Memorial Church on Peaks Island, was ordained an elder in her church in a moving ceremony on June fourteenth, the last day of the annual Methodist State Conference held at the University of Maine at Orono. By being ordained an elder Rev. Littlefield completes a probationary period in United Methodist ministry.

Linda, as she is affectionately called, attended New England College and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Maine. She received her advanced degree from the Boston University School of Theology in 1977 and was ordained a deacon of the church. She spent a year in Denver in hospital chaplaincy ministering to the terminally ill. In September of 1978 Rev. Linda began her ministry on Peaks Island. Since that time she has become a bright and familiar face to us all.

Island residents attending the ordination were Ruth Woodbury, Leon and Lillian Clough, Donald and Blanche Wilder, Betty Lamplough, Don Beane, Eleanor Goodwin, and Dick Klein.

A reception with fifty people attending was held on Sunday June 17 in the Brackett Church Hall honoring Reverend Littlefield. She was presented a money tree by Mrs. Mary Dennison and Mrs. Eleanor Goodwin from members of the church community.

ALWAYS A FAIR SATURDAY

ON PEAKS

Practically every Saturday throughout the summer there's a fair somewhere on Peaks. The rotation, with usual respect for each other's Saturday, starts on July 4th weekend with the Senior Citizen Center, followed (usually) by the Randall-MacVane American Legion, the Fifth Maine Regiment Association, the Brackett Memorial Church, the St. Christopher's Parish, the Trefethen-Evergreen Association, the Lion's Two Night Variety Show, and the Episcopalians. This year the rotation slightly varied due to a wedding at the church, the Civil War Reunion at the Fifth Maine, etc. but hopefully things will fall in place next season.

Meantime a proliferation of Yard sales has sprung up the past few years, so there's always a browsing field on Peaks.
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PROJECT OCEANSIDE

New Members Welcome Box 66 — Peaks Island

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Publication Committee: Robert Laughlin, Stuart Laughlin, Peaks Island; Robert Hickok, Long Island.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
$3.00 single
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PROJECT OCEANSIDE

Youth Programs: The recently formed Chebeague Island Hall Community Center with the aid of a C.E.T.A. grant has been able to offer an expanded recreation program under the direction of Marion Sanders and her assistant Kendra Riddle. Games at the school playground and wildlife classes at the Community Center are among the offerings to the children and young people of the island.

Wednesday Night Chebeague has continued as a popular way to raise money for the continued improvements in the present hall. The first Annual Meeting of C.I.H.C.C. will be held on August 25.

A Special Island...
A Special Inn...

"A special inn for a special island," Chebeague Inn by the Sea began its first season with a pre-opening Open House for Chebeague residents in May. As innkeepers Hal and Marye Fuller put it, "We wanted to meet the islanders and wanted them to meet us." From all accounts it was mutual love at first sight.

Warm, friendly, with the low-key charm that belongs in Maine, the Fullers bought the former Hillcrest-by-the-Sea in September and spent the icy, windy days of last winter putting the place in order. They were assisted by Joe and Alice Hoke who have since had to leave the business for reasons of health.

Overlooking the golf course and the inner bay, the 14-bedroom inn is not too far from the 6-10 guest hotel, "hanging over the rocks" that the Fullers were looking for. Inside, the main lounge - windows on 3 sides and the huge stone fireplace - as well as the lobby with its familiar dark wood providing the cool, shaded effect of the twenties, seems much the same as before. In the dining room, deep-sea-blue tablecloths and a beachstone-type salad bar lightens the dark walls which are also brightened with C.M. Brown seascapes, available for sale. Another year, Marye Fuller says they hope to have all the paintings the work of Chebeague artists. As it is, the chef and most of the helpers are Chebeague residents. Since everyone is at home guests can only feel at home, too.

Sitting on the wide porch of the Inn, Hal Fuller - with many asides of "Don't bother to write this down, it's boring" - described the odyssey that brought him to this spot that he "loves more each day." A native of Winchester, Mass., his job with American International took him on yearly tours of the Far East for ten years. He next spent three years in Japan for his company, consolidating it with a Japanese company because, "They know their ways and we don't." Wanting to break out of the comfortable cocoon of a corporate existence, he returned to the U.S. and entered real estate. His interest in the hotel-motel business grew from his fascination with conversations between his motel-buying clients and the owners of the motels for sale. A plan to have some little grass shacks plus dining room in the remote area of Hawaii where Charles Lindbergh is buried near the black lava rock and the crashing sea fell through. So Marye Fuller began searching the coast of Maine for a reasonable facsimile. Back at the ranch, Hal had some difficulty getting hold of a lady with whom he was doing business only to find that she had been visiting her summer home and guess where? And guess what was for sale? A couple of phone calls later, Marye came, Hal came. They saw and Chebeague conquered.

Now Chebeague Inn is here - available for hamburgers in the Pub, wedding receptions, dinner dances, a Craft Show on the porch with luncheon served inside, a Kite Day on the lawn as well as business parties from the mainland. The latter call forth such reactions as the man from Atlanta, Ga., who telephoned his wife from the lobby to come for the week-end - and a guest who said, "Why go to Europe when this is right here!"

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