

HARPSWELL ANCHOR™

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INDEPENDENCE

Harpswell Lobster Boat Races 2019

BY KELLI PARK

Fishing communities are defined by the individuals who create traditions built upon their surroundings while enhancing the character of the local culture. Although waterfront traditions are becoming few and far between in a quickly changing world, there is one Harpswell tradition that has recently come back full force and won't be going anywhere anytime soon. In their second year after a four-year hiatus, the Harpswell Lobster Boat Races show what it means to give new life to an old tradition.



Vroom Dana McIntyre, captain of the 42-foot Bruno, Island Lady cheers on competitors at the Harpswell Boat Races at Pott's Harbor. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)

The Harpswell Lobster Boat Races were started by local fishermen, including Andy Johnson and Roy Knight, in 1987 in response to the races in Jonesport. "The first year, I think we had 30 boats in the Lobster Boat Free for All. There were 500 people on the wharf. That was our biggest year. We probably had 3000 people there. . . In 27 years, we never had to cancel. We always held a race. . . It's a day that a lot of folks from other areas come around. You see each

other on the water and get to know each other," explains Johnson.

The Harpswell Lobster Boat Races took a four-year hiatus due to a volunteer shortage after 27 years of being part of the race circuit, which spans from Portland to Jonesport-Beals. In 2017, Harpswell resident Scott Ring initiated the campaign to revitalize the Harpswell races for the following year. Larry Ward eventually became the driving force be-

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On Your Mark Boats race for the finish line. (KELLI PARK PHOTO)

Harpswell Center Hosts Reading of Declaration

BY JANICE THOMPSON

On the night of July 4, 1776, John Dunlap, a twenty nine year old man who had sailed to the colonies from Ireland as a young boy, was hard at work in his Philadelphia print shop. His task would probably not be finished for hours. We can't be certain whether any of America's founding fathers were watching over his shoulder, anxiously awaiting the broadsides to be completed. But it was a breathtaking moment in history: the first printed versions of "A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress Assembled" were about to be born.

The original version of the Declaration of Independence was written in Thomas Jefferson's hand, but Dunlap printed about two hundred copies, known as "Dunlap Broad-sides," to be distributed among all of the thirteen colonies. According to Richard R. Wescott in A History of Harpswell, Maine, "A copy of the Declaration of Inde-



Kaboom Reenactor Jim Nelson fires off his musket in salute to Independence Day. (NELSON FAMILY PHOTO)

pendence reached Boston within a week, and on July 17th the Massachusetts Council ordered that printed copies of it be sent to every minister in the state. They were instructed to read the Declaration to their congregations at the conclusion of the first religious meeting conducted after they received it. After this oral publication of the Declaration, the ministers were instructed

See FOURTH p. 16

Bailey Island Fishing Tourney Scheduled

BY SUSAN OLCOTT

Of all the fishing tournaments in the entire United States, we have the third oldest right here on Bailey Island. In the winter of 1938, a handful of the island's founding fathers and fellow anglers got together over the kitchen table and hatched an idea to promote sportfishing and tourism. They'd host a week-long fishing tournament open to anyone in the community to celebrate the coast's resources and its traditions.

Together, Reverend John Her-rick, John Gould, and the Johnson brothers Elroy and Jess, formed the Bailey Island Tuna Club, the sole purpose of which was to sponsor the tournament. You might have heard of Elroy as he has since been immortalized as the iconic Maine lobsterman sculpture, copies of which stand at Land's End as well as in



Hooked Participants of all ages are welcome at the Bailey Island Fishing Tournament. (BIFT PHOTO)

Portland and in Washington, DC. Per the club's namesake, the first tournament was focused on catching tuna. It was held in August of 1938 at Mackerel Cove and was attended by more than 5000 people.

See TOURNAMENT p. 14



Letters to the Editor

School Budget

On June 11th, Harpswell voted 191 -126 to approve spending \$8,812,346 on 385 Harpswell students in MSAD 75. Harpswell's contribution to MSAD 75 rose 13.85%. Since 2013, when Harpswell paid \$6,762,429 a year, Harpswell pays 30.3% more six years later.

According to the Social Security Administration COLA table, retirees have seen checks rise by 8.56% over the last six years. So while Harpswell's school costs rose 4.51% per year, people relying on fixed incomes enjoyed annual Social Security hikes of 1.38%. Harpswell is one of Maine's oldest towns.

With the new MSAD 75 budget, Harpswell pays \$22,889 per student. According to MSAD 75's website, Topsham taxpayers pay around \$9,000 per student. However, the maximum tuition a school district can charge students from another town, one not in their school district, is \$9,583 per student for grades 6 through 8 and \$11,093 for high school.

If Harpswell left MSAD 75 and paid tuition to the Brunswick or Bath schools (or both), student-specific costs drop considerably, closer to the \$11,093 figure for a total of \$4.3 million, about half of our current costs. Certainly there are other costs in moving, but there's about \$4 million of cushion to make adjustments. Savings to

homeowner property taxes could be as much as 30%.

Leaving MSAD 75 requires 22 steps, but the process is clear on the Dept. of Education pages at the Maine.gov website. Over forty Maine towns have left school districts since 2013.

Eric Lusk

New Life

On June 27th, 2018, I suffered a perforated ulcer and collapsed behind my truck. My beautiful two year old black lab sat in the middle of our private dirt road until a young man came to her on an ATV. She brought him to me and he contacted 911. The EMTs brought me back to life.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the EMTs of Harpswell for their consistent professionalism and caring for me throughout the years.

I also want to send a huge message of gratitude and thanks to Harpswell Aging at Home for all their support and hard work in supporting me in my healing and for getting me back home after almost six months in the hospital.

Thank you to the Cumberland County Sheriff Department for all your protection and belief I would make it to my one year anniversary of new life.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Maria Serra ☺

Q&A with Harpswell Historical Society

In a continuing effort to keep the public informed, the Anchor asked the following questions to Harpswell Historical Society President Dave Hackett. We thank Mr. Hackett for answering the following questions:

What is the Harpswell Historical Society?

The Society is comprised of five historic buildings and the Fishermen's Memorial Statue. The oldest building is the Old Town Meeting House, a National Historic Landmark. It is owned by the Town and operated by the Historical Society. It was built before the American Revolution. The District # 2 School was built in 1829, and is still used by students today. The East Harpswell Baptist Church is a National Historic Site. Centennial Hall was built on the occasion of our nation's 100th year. The collection of buildings also includes the museum with a fire proof and climate controlled archive.

When was it formed?

It was formed by the Civic Committee of The Harpswell Garden Club in 1979.

What is your mission statement?

The Harpswell Historical Society is dedicated to the discovery, identification, collection, preservation, interpretation and dissemination of

materials relating to the history of Harpswell and its people.

What is there to see at the Museum?

The display rooms are filled with art and artifacts relating to all aspects of life in our town. The archives room is a place to find information relating genealogy of Harpswell families. The archives contains the oldest town records and the Society's most irreplaceable objects.

What events do you have?

The Museum opens on Memorial Day and we have a veterans exhibit in Centennial Hall. Every year on the 4th of July there is a reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Meeting House. Our annual meeting is in September. Harpswell Day is a fun and educational event we do with the Harpswell Heritage Land Trust every October. We have several other events throughout the year as well.

What educational programs do you provide?

Part of the second floor of the Museum has become a subsistence workshop, a place to make traditional, useful items. This year we hosted five electives with the Harpswell Coastal Academy. The students made three legged log stools, hand stitched leather moccasins

and made canvas knapsacks. We also participate in a mini course at the Harpswell Community School and are planning more courses for the future.

What hours is the Museum open?

The Museum opens on Memorial Day and is open Sundays from 2-4 P.M. For other times call 833-6322, or find us online at www.harpswell-historical.org.

How do you become a member?

We ask for donations in an amount that you feel appropriate, which includes our newsletter. Donations may be made to Harpswell Historical Society 929 Harpswell Neck Road Harpswell, Maine 04079, or contact us via email at harphistory@gmail.com. ☺

Free Summer Lunch

The Elijah Kellogg Church is going to be a host site for the Summer Lunch Program offered through the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program.

Children up to age 18 will receive a FREE lunch on site.

July 1-Aug 2 AND Aug 12-16. Noon-1pm.



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To receive a copy of a back issue send a check for \$1.50.

Before the Pilgrims Set Out to Sea

BY KARA DOUGLAS

As we finally turn the corner on summer weather, the moorings are filling up, the skies are brightening and the allure of the water is powerful. Wind and tide, temperature and weather can conspire in unique and unpredictable ways along the shore. On or in the water, knowing how to keep yourself, your vessel and others safe makes the experience.

Cathy Piffath and Jeff Cooper, co-founders of H2Outfitters, a sea kayaking adventure company on Orr's Island, guide kayaking trips around the world. They agree that "The Harpswell islands region offers some of the best paddling we have encountered anywhere."

For them, simply taking people out in boats isn't the objective. With an ethic that encourages skills acquisition and respect for the unexpected, Piffath and Cooper began offering kayak safety and rescue courses last summer.

Over their 35 years of experience, the two "have come to the realization that as the sport has grown those who want to participate become less and less interested in developing skills and just want to get out there and paddle," Piffath says. "What motivated us to offer safety and rescue seminars was this trend that went from serious students who wanted to learn skills to daily walk-ins who ask when is the next kayak 'ride' going to start."

While they've been offering similar courses since their inception in 1982, Cooper and Piffath have designed this program to



Rescue Cathy Piffath of H2Outfitters performs a rescue demonstration. Boating safety courses are encouraged when you live on or near a body of water. (H2OUTFITTERS PHOTO)

be affordable and easily accessible for beginners and experienced paddlers alike. "We can essentially work with individual skill levels throughout the program eventually bringing the entire group to relative 'skill equality' as each participant works at their own pace," Cooper explains.

Kayakers aren't the only boaters to benefit from skills and safety training. Regardless of vessel, situations and conditions can change quickly and boaters have to be ready.

"The single best thing you can do to ensure the safety of yourself and your passengers is wear your life jacket," says Alan Dennison, Multimedia Supervisor at the Boat U.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water, a national non-profit.

The statistics bear him out. Ac-

cording to the United States Coast Guard 2017 Recreational Boating Statistics Report, "where cause of death was known, 76 percent of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 84.5 percent were not wearing a life jacket."

When accidents happen on the water, there often isn't time to get a life vest on.

Dennison also advises a strong sense of situational awareness. "Pay attention to your surroundings and never operate a boat while distracted," he says. "Stay updated and aware of weather conditions."

Cooper and Piffath concur. "Once you are off terra-firma, situational occurrences create complications and with our water temperatures and quickly changing conditions these complications can

become dangerous," they say.

Like H2Outfitters, Boat U.S. offers several courses in boating safety. Their free on-line course is developed with the safety protocol for each state in mind. Additionally, they offer On-Water Training courses exclusively targeted to power boaters, which are hosted at different locations throughout the U.S. The next Intro to Boating course in Maine will be held at Freedom Boat Club in Yarmouth, July 27 – 28.

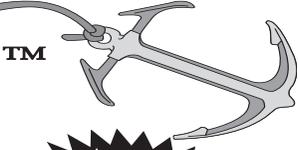
"Our courses are geared for recreational boaters. However, almost anyone that uses our nation's waterways for recreation or commercially, could take away some valuable piece of information from one of our courses, online or hands-on," Dennison suggests.

Along a working waterfront, it's especially important for recreational boaters, including kayakers, to be aware of working boats.

"How many recreational boaters are out there without life jackets and how many of them wander into the path of working lobstermen, not realizing or comprehending these guys are working and may not notice a small boat coming their way unexpectedly," Piffath questions. "Without a doubt there needs to be some level of education and preparation before the pilgrims set out to sea."

She and Cooper strive to provide "a level of overall respect for those we share the water with." They reference the rule of tonnage.

"Despite being small and having the legal right of way in most situations," Dennison suggests. See SAFETY p. 17

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Harpswell Historical Society

The Harpswell Historical Society is dedicated to the discovery, identification, collection, preservation, interpretation and dissemination of materials relating to the history of Harpswell and its people.

Early Commissioners of Fisheries and Game Assess Shellfish Stocks

BY DAVE HACKETT

The following is from *Commissioners of Fisheries and Game, State of Maine 1889-1890*.

Lobsters

If we wish to prevent our lobsters from being depleted, good and wholesome laws must be enacted and enforced. Section 6t, Laws of 1889 provided "that dealers may preserve in pickle or vinegar, such surplus stock as for good reasons cannot be disposed of otherwise".

This provision has been taken advantage of by many fishermen along the coast and islands, they have pickled their entire catch without regard to size, and some have pickled what they call weak lobsters, (and it might be said to save their lives), or in other words the lobsters were about dead when boiled.

This kind of lobster has been sold at a low price to the detriment of honest dealers and some amendment should be made to this section to prevent this kind of pickling being done. As nearly as can be ascertained the

whole catch of lobsters on the coast of Maine for 1890 is about 20,000,000. Some twenty percent less than in 1888 when the catch was estimated at 25,000,000.

Lobsters seem to be getting less and less and should be better protected. No lobster less than nine (9) inches in length should be used, as lobsters of this size seldom have any eggs. The U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries at Woods Hall June 3rd, 1890, counted the eggs on a lobster eleven inches in length that had 34,360 attached to it and one that was fourteen inches long had 36,530. Therefore it will be readily seen that the female lobsters should be readily protected if we wish to propagate the lobster.

It may be necessary to do this as they are now doing this in Newfoundland as will be seen by the following article taken from the Halifax Herald:

Lobster and Cod culture

A new departure in the propagation of shellfish

It is very probable that unless we resort artificial culture to replenish our lobster fisheries



Fishers This wood engraving depicts a bountiful harvest from the sea. (PHOTO COURTESY HHS)

there will be a marked decline in Nova Scotia's output during the next few years. Already Newfoundland is ahead of us in this branch of fish culture, for under the management of Adolf Nielson, a Norwegian expert, "the ancient colony" has taken a new departure in the propagation of cod and lobsters. In a recent article Rev. Moses Harvey that the fish hatchery on the shore of Trinity bay is the largest in the world for the propagation of codfish and lobsters, and capable of hatching 300,000,000 of cod and 200,000,000 of lobsters in a single season.

A single mother lobster can stow away no less than 20,000 eggs, and she carries these about with her until they are ripened or hatched. The lobster trapper takes these mother fish and carries them to the factory, where they are thrown into boiling water, and of course the eggs are destroyed. The quality of lobster ova that perish in this way is beyond all calculation, and is one great cause of depleted fisheries. Mr. Harvey thus describes Mr. Nielson's ingenious methods: He gets the female lobsters at the factories before they are boiled, and with a sort of spoon constructed for the purpose he strips the eggs from the fibrous and returns the lobster uninjured. He takes the eggs, which are not nearly so delicate as those of the cod, and places them in the incubators, where the water is kept in constant motion.

After a time longer or shorter according to the degree of ripeness they have reached before being removed from the mother, these ova are hatched. With some of them only two days are required: In the case of others less advanced a month or even two months may be needed to hatch them. Unlike the cod the young lobster must be fed, for it has no yolk sac to feed on when it breaks from the shell. Mussels chopped fine, with occasionally a few yolks of eggs, furnish the food on which they grow rapidly, and in five or six days they have gone through their first shelling and are fit to be set free in the water to pick up their own living. &

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1 July 2019 Community Calendar

July 1, 7-9PM

"CONNECTED", a nondenominational gathering, invites all widowers, widows, divorced and singles 55 and over, St. Charles Borromeo Church Hall, 132 McKeen Street, Brunswick. Light refreshments will be available. Come socialize, mingle and meet new friends! FMI call 725-1266 or 725-8386.

July 2, 4:30-6:30PM

Join HHLT to discover the tide pools at Pott's Point Preserve, Harpswell Neck Rd. FMI call 837-9613, email outreach@hhltmaine.org, or visit www.hhltmaine.org.

July 3, 10AM

"Pirates on Parade". In conjunction with Maine State Music Theatre's production of Treasure Island a Pirate Costume Parade will be held on the library lawn. Games, prizes and treats! Orr's Island Library, 1699 Harpswell Islands Road (Route 24), Orr's Island. FMI call John Webster at 607-2818 or email jwebster85@comcast.net.

July 4, 2-4PM

Enjoy an old-fashioned Ice Cream Social at Bailey Island Library Hall with entertainment and a

Lobster Raffle! Choose your ice cream with homemade chocolate sauce, fresh strawberries, brownies, and assorted toppings. Fun for the whole family, sponsored by the MINGO Club. FMI call Pam LeGrow at 833-3238

July 4, 6PM

Harpswell Bandstand by the Sea presents Spiros Exaras, a repeat guest performer at the bandstand back by popular demand. Harpswell Bandstand, Mitchell Field on 123, Harpswell. FMI call Bob Modr at 833-2815 or email modr@myfairpoint.net. Rain location: Harpswell Coastal Academy Gym, 9 Ash Point Rd, Harpswell.

July 6, 8-10AM

Pancake Breakfast and silent auction to benefit the Abbott Fletcher Sailing School. \$8.50 adults, \$6.00 children 12 and under. Orr's-Bailey Yacht Club, 26 Osbourne Row, Orr's Island. FMI call Sue Baker at 833-7745.

July 7, 2-4PM

Harpswell Historical Society Museum is open and offers free tours every Sunday until Columbus Day. 929 Harpswell Neck Rd, Harpswell. FMI call 833-6322.

Please note this event repeats every Sunday.

July 9, 5:30-7PM

Learn about plant medicine with Lucretia Woodruff. Harpswell Heritage Land Trust, 153 Harpswell Neck Rd. FMI call 837-9613, email outreach@hhltmaine.org, or visit www.hhltmaine.org.

July 10, 10AM

Chewonki Foundation presents "The Owls of Maine". Learn habits and adaptations, and identify characteristics and calls. Three live owls will be on hand for inspection! Orr's Island Library, 1699 Harpswell Islands Road (Route 24), Orr's Island. FMI call John Webster at 607-2818 or email jwebster85@comcast.net.

July 10, 2-3:30PM

Harpswell Invasive Plant Partnership (HIPP) monthly meeting held at Harpswell Heritage Land Trust, 153 Harpswell Neck Rd. Volunteer your ideas and help restore our town's native habitats. FMI go to <https://hhltmaine.org/hipp/> or email hipp.maine@gmail.com.

July 11, 6PM

Harpswell Bandstand by the Sea

presents Blue Hill Brass. Familiar with both classical and popular music, their professional presentation is a great experience for out of town guests as well as local friends and family. Harpswell Bandstand, Mitchell Field on 123, Harpswell. FMI call Bob Modr at 833-2815 or email modr@myfairpoint.net. Rain location: Harpswell Coastal Academy Gym, 9 Ash Point Rd, Harpswell.

July 12, 10AM-4PM

Ocean Waves Quilters present their 25th annual exhibit of new work by local quilters demonstrating a variety of quilt styles and techniques. Also, a special exhibit of their Anniversary Challenge. Some full size quilts and smaller household items for sale, proceeds benefiting local charities. All weekend at the Orr's Island Schoolhouse, 1579 Harpswell Island Rd., Orr's Island. FMI call Lisa Burke at 833-6008. Please note this event repeats July 13 (10AM-4PM) and July 14 (10AM-3PM).

July 13, 9AM-2PM

Craft Fair to benefit our veterans. American Legion Post 202, 79 Foreside Rd., Topsham. Tables

for rent \$15 or 2 for \$25. FMI call Barbara at 729-9023 or Jane at 295-5762 to reserve a table.

July 16, 5:30PM

Join Harpswell Heritage Land Trust for its Annual Meeting, featuring a talk on Revisioning the Earth with Philosopher Dana Sawyer. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Free program starts at 6:30 p.m. Orr's Island Schoolhouse, 1579 Harpswell Islands Rd. FMI call 837-9613, email outreach@hhltmaine.org, or visit www.hhltmaine.org.

July 17, 10AM

Chewonki Foundation presents "The Bugmobile". Models, costumes and live arthropods! Learn adaptations for survival such as mimicry, camouflage, armor and the use of venom. Orr's Island Library, 1699 Harpswell Islands Road (Route 24), Orr's Island. FMI call John Webster at 607-2818 or email jwebster85@comcast.net.

July 18, 6PM

Harpswell by the Sea Bandstand presents the Harpswell Coastal Band. The band consists of a talented mix of about 50 area pro-

continued next page

Bring Us Your Treasures!

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Come help us put on this great community event! Free T-shirt, food and fun for the crew! Please call or email for info.



Get Ready For Our 26th Annual Yard Sale & Auction

Saturday & Sunday, August 10 & 11

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continued from previous page
 fessional and amateur instrumentalists under the leadership of Bob Modr. Harpswell Bandstand, Mitchell Field on 123, Harpswell. FMI call Bob Modr at 833-2815 or email modr@myfairpoint.net. Rain location: Harpswell Coastal Academy Gym, 9 Ash Point Rd, Harpswell.

July 19, 1-5PM

73rd annual Harpswell art show and sale. Centennial Hall, Route 123, Harpswell. Open to all area artists. FMI call Betty at 749-4239. This event repeats on July 20 and 21, 2-5PM.

July 20, 10AM-NOON

Learn about lichens with Jeff Pengel. Advance registration is requested. FMI call 837-9613, email outreach@hhlmaine.org, or visit www.hhlmaine.org.

July 20, 1:45PM

Orr's Island Library hosts students from the Bowdoin International Music Festival for a very special summer afternoon of music making. Bailey Island Community Church, 2141 Harpswell Islands Rd., Bailey Island. FMI call John Webster at 607-2818 or email jwebster85@comcast.net.

July 20, 4:30-6:30PM

Soup and chowder supper, hosted by Willing Helpers. Soup or chowder, rolls, drink, and dessert all included, only \$10.00 per person. Eat in or take out. The Bailey Island Union Church (downstairs), 2141 Harpswell Islands Rd, Bailey Island. FMI call Nikie Chance at 504-6069.

July 21, 11AM-1PM

Local gift shop Seaside Creations hosts author and part time Harpswell resident Douglas Coffin, who will be signing copies of his book "One Maine Christmas Eve". Presentation 11-11:30, book signing immediately following. Seaside Creations, 47 Washington Ave Bailey Island. FMI call the shop at 833-6645.

July 24, 10AM

Chewonki Foundation presents "Fur, Feathers and Feet", an introduction to birds and mammals. Costumes and specimens show special adaptations. Chewonki's mallard duck and a surprise mammal will delight young and old! Orr's Island Library, 1699 Harpswell Islands Road (Route 24), Orr's Island. FMI call John Webster at 607-2818 or email jwebster85@comcast.net.

July 25, 6PM

Harpswell by the Sea Bandstand

presents local women's group Pretty Girls Sing Soprano. Harpswell Bandstand, Mitchell Field on 123, Harpswell. FMI call Bob Modr at 833-2815 or email modr@myfairpoint.net. Rain location: Harpswell Coastal Academy Gym, 9 Ash Point Rd, Harpswell.

July 26-27

Enjoy an island overnight by kayak with HHLT on Birch Island. Advance registration is requested. FMI call 837-9613, email outreach@hhlmaine.org, or visit www.hhlmaine.org.

July 27, 2-5PM

Art in Bloom. Centennial Hall, Route 123, Harpswell. FMI call Betty at 749-4239. Open to the public. This event repeats on July 28.

July 28, 6AM-8:30AM

Fisherman breakfast. West Harpswell Baptist Church, 1492 Harpswell Neck Rd. Donations to benefit Loretta Ward fund.

July 30, 6:30-8PM

Discover Wabanaki place names with Joseph Hall and Karyn Marden. Free. Harpswell Heritage Land Trust, 153 Harpswell Neck Rd. FMI call 837-9613, email outreach@hhlmaine.org, or visit www.hhlmaine.org. ☺

Merriconeag Grange Listed on National Register of Historic Places

The Merriconeag Grange #425 in Harpswell, Cumberland County, Maine has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places according to Kirk F. Mohney, Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. This designation indicates that the property has been documented, evaluated, and considered worthy of preservation and protection as part of the nation's cultural heritage.

Merriconeag Grange is a vernacular building that has been, and continues to serve, as an important social and community center in Harpswell. It was built in 1918 by members of the Merriconeag Grange #425, established 1903, on the foundation of their former hall which burned in 1912. With a first-floor community room and kitchen and a large hall and stage on the second floor, this vernacular wood frame building provided a functional interior plan that supported Grange activities and other public events from town meetings to school graduations. The Grange corporation still owns the hall and continues to operate as a Grange and accommodate broader public events.

The Grange, or Patrons' of Husbandry, was an important social organization across the country throughout the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth century. It places particular emphasis on agricultural education and progressive community and social activities. Influence of the Grange was widespread nationally and in Maine, with 588 individual Granges established between 1873 and 1985. While the Grange has a hierarchical social organization, the focus of the local Grange is community support and development. Merriconeag Grange #425 is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, at the local level of significance, for its current and past role in the social and entertainment history in Harpswell. The areas of significance are Social History, and Entertainment and Recreation. The period of significance starts when the building was constructed in 1918 and, in recognition of its continued importance, ends fifty years before the present in 1969. ☺

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 Visit WWW.HARPSWELLANCHOR.COM Calendar
 You'll find a variety of events from around the region

OBIFD Gearing Up for 26th Annual Yard Sale and Auction

The Orr's and Bailey Islands Fire Department is looking for donations for its 26th annual Auction and Yard Sale to be held August 10 and 11 at the Orr's Island Fire Station.

Items may be dropped off at the station at 1600 Harpswell Islands Road, Route 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays during June and July. Donors can also call 833-5405 to arrange for pickup of larger items.

The department asks that no donations be left unattended at the station under any circumstances.

Over the years, the department has found that many items are difficult to sell or even give away and asks people not to donate particle board furniture, tube TVs, microwave ovens, vacuums, dehumidifiers, electric stovetops, computer equipment, ski gear, golf clubs, couches or other stuffed furniture, mattresses and box springs, exercise equipment, aquariums, used building materials, used bath fixtures, plug-in appliances,



Sold! Auctioneer Malcolm McFarland keeps track of the bidding during last year's Orr's and Bailey Islands Fire Department's fundraising event. (PHOTO BY PAM BERRY)

Gathering (below) Crowds turn out each August for the Orr's and Bailey Islands Fire Department Yard Sale and Auction. (PHOTO BY PAM BERRY)



view starting at 9 a.m. Among the items up for bid will be a copy of a Captain Marvel comic book autographed by author Margaret Stohl, an African safari and Red Sox-related items. A wide variety of antique furniture, historical artifacts, artwork and many other items will also be available to the highest bidder.

A silent auction of a variety of goods, services and experiences donated by area businesses will be open on both days. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be offered for sale and the Taco the Town food truck will be on the scene on Sunday.

All proceeds from the event help fund the nonprofit volunteer department, which provides fire and rescue services for Orr's and Bailey Islands and portions of Great Island east of the Mountain Road bridge and south of Stevens Corner Road on Route 24.

For more information, please visit www.obifd.org or call 833-5405. ‡

es, lighting fixtures, metal bed frames or baby equipment.

Accepted items will be up for sale at either the yard sale held throughout the weekend or during the live auction on Sunday, August 11.

The yard sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 10, and again Sunday morning on the grounds of the fire station and inside the adjacent Orr's Island Schoolhouse.

The live auction of some of the fun and finer items will begin at 10 a.m. Sunday, with pre-

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Revisioning the Earth the Topic of Harpswell Heritage Land Trust's Annual Meeting

The public is invited to hear Philosopher Dana Sawyer speak on "Revisioning the Earth" at the annual meeting of the Harpswell Heritage Land Trust on July 16.

This annual celebration will include refreshments and conversation from 5:30-6:30 p.m., a report on Harpswell Heritage Land Trust's activities over the past year and Dana Sawyer's inspiring and engaging presentation. It is free and open to all.

Dana Sawyer will talk on Revisioning the Earth. What are the primary challenges we face today to insure the future health of this planet and its many species? The answer, enigmatically, may be both obvious and surprising. Sharing insights from the past thirty years of environ-

mental studies, Sawyer offers a lively and up-to-date assessment of where we stand and how best to solve our environmental challenges. Get ready for some surprising answers!

Dana Sawyer is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Religion at the Maine College of Art (MECA), and author of two critically acclaimed biographies of philosophers he admires, Aldous Huxley and Huston Smith. For nearly thirty years, he taught classes on environmental ethics and sustainability at MECA.

The event takes place at the Orr's Island Schoolhouse, 1579 Harpswell Islands Road, Orr's Island. For more information, visit www.hhlmaine.org or contact Julia McLeod at 207-837-9613 or outreach@hhlmaine.org. ☞



High Climber Dana Sawyer atop Mt. Katahdin. (HHLT PHOTO)

Mingo Club Awards Education Grant

For the second consecutive year the historic Mingo Club of Bailey Island has presented a \$1,000 grant to a Harpswell graduate planning to further their education.

The 2019 recipient, Laney Phillips of Orr's Island, was selected from a group of seven who applied.

Laney "challenged herself with difficult college and Advanced Placement courses", and succeeded in earning a 3.5+ GPA. She also participated in an introductory FBI program at George Mason University in 2016.

With her goal of earning her master's degree in five years, Laney has been accepted at the University of New Haven's Dr. Henry C Lee College of Forensic Science. Thereafter, it is her desire to work with the FBI or CIA as a field agent in the terrorism unit, and later move to behavioral analysis unit.

Throughout high school Laney has been active in school and community volunteer efforts. She has volunteered with PALS, Big Brother Big Sister, OBI Fire and Rescue summer events, Harpswell swim instructor, Veterans No Boundaries, and Maine Adaptive skiing, just to name a few.

Her biggest love and volunteer effort is Noah's Ark, where underprivileged and abandoned children



Merit Laney Phillips receives a grant from Mingo Club Grant Committee Chair Courtenay Snellings and VP Helen Kitchel.

in Uganda are provided for and educated. Laney is a member of the board of directors of Safe Landing. Her role there is an ambassador for the US connection to Noah's Ark programming. She has volunteered three times since age 15 to travel to Uganda to help with rescues, teaching children in schools, and organizing the donation of educational materials and medical supplies.

This year (her third trip), Laney organized a group of high school students to go with her so that the volunteer work will continue beyond her graduation.

Laney says, "I do this work for the kids to help them have a better chance at life. As the mission state-

ment of Noah's Ark says "from nobody to somebody".

Congratulations to Laney, as well as the 2018 recipient Shelby Moore. May they have continued success in the career paths they have chosen. ☞

Smart Kid

Samuel Allen of Harpswell graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Southern Maine with a B.A. in Musical Theater as well as minors in Theater and Computer Science.

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Harpswell Business Association Looks to the Future

Harpswell Business Association is a member-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting year-round economic development in all parts of Harpswell. The organization, which promotes Harpswell-based and Harpswell-owned businesses and organizations, eagerly welcomes new members and volunteers each year. Harpswell Business Association seeks opportunities to partner with individuals, businesses, and community organizations to collaborate and further cultural and economic development in Harpswell.

“There’s a strong entrepreneurial spirit among business owners in Harpswell. They’re loyal and creative and they work hard year-round...The Harpswell Business Association brings together creativity and creates a forum for discussion on how we can better our community and grow economically,” explains Stephanie Petkers, Chair of the Marketing Committee and local business owner.

Harpswell Business Association is composed of local business



owners living and doing business in and around Harpswell. The organization is run by members who volunteer their time and resources to develop strategies for business planning, support, promotion and development, while strengthening the community economically, socially, and culturally. The association is unique in that it represents the interests of Harpswell in its entirety and is not specific to any geographic area

within the town. Creating a sense of community by promoting local business and services is crucial to the longevity and growth of the economy.

Although the majority of economic activity occurs in Harpswell during the tourist season, Harpswell Business Association focuses on the importance of creating a sustainable, year-round economy for the entire population. The association represents the interests of more than one hundred local businesses and non-profit organizations and strives to boost the local economy with advertising and market-

ing efforts, the costs of which are offset by membership dues and a contribution from the Town of Harpswell. The Harpswell Business Association Community Directory and the Harpswell Map and Guide, which include information on businesses and year-round events, are available at a number of locations, including the Town Office, the Brunswick Train Station Info Center, and seven highway visitors centers. The organization also maintains a web presence, including social media and a website, and advertises in local and regional publications, including Maine Invites

You and the Chamber of Commerce Guest Guide. The association is exploring additional avenues for advertising in the future and hopes to increase awareness of Harpswell.

According to reports from Maine Tourism Association and local business owners, 2018 saw an increase in visitors. Several Harpswell business owners who are involved with vacation rentals and experience-based tourism, including charter trips and cruises, were pleased with the increased level of economic activity this past summer. One of the association’s goals for the future is to partner with tourism organizations and neighboring towns to encourage visitors to experience all that Harpswell has to offer. The organization hopes to encourage participation from new business owners and existing members with new ideas; they also look forward to working with more local and regional organizations in the future to develop strategies for boosting the local economy while increasing opportunities to buy local.

For more information on how to participate, please visit the Harpswell Business Association website at www.harpswellmaine.org. New members are welcome at anytime throughout the year and are encouraged to participate, whether it’s on an individual, organization, or business level. HBA looks forward to continued participation in and support of all local initiatives that directly benefit the Harpswell community. ☺

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GET OUTDOORS IN HARPSWELL



Cliff Trail

Town of Harpswell

This rugged 2.3-mile trail includes a shore walk along tidal Strawberry Creek, spectacular views from 150-foot cliffs overlooking Long Reach and fairy house zones for play and creativity.

Directions: The trailhead is at the corner of the back parking lot at the Harpswell Town Office, 263 Mountain Rd. From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 for 6.3 miles. Turn left onto Mountain Rd and follow for 1.3 miles to the Town Office on the left.

Curtis Farm Preserve

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

This preserve includes nearly 2,000 feet of shoreline on both Curtis Cove and Basin Cove, gravel beaches, a freshwater pond, a field, forest, freshwater wetlands and 15 acres



CURT CHIPMAN

of intertidal mud flats for shellfish and wildlife nursery areas. The 1.25-mile trail system takes visitors to field, forest and shore, with scenic views along the way. An accessible picnic area provides a place for relaxation on Basin Cove.

Directions: There are two access points to the preserve. For the upland

access, from the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 11.4 miles. The parking lot is in a field on the right. For the shore access, follow Rt 123 south another .2 miles and then turn right on Ash Point Rd. Take your first right on Basin Point Rd and drive .5 miles to a parking lot on the right.

Devil's Back Trails

Town of Harpswell

The Devil's Back Trails provide two lovely walks on the east and west side of the road through woods and along rocky shoreline. Be on the lookout for osprey in large "stick nests" and seals sunning on rocks.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 9.4 miles. Soon after crossing onto Orr's Island, look for a parking area on the left.

Giant's Stairs & McIntosh Lot Preserve

Town of Harpswell

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

For dramatic coastal scenery in Harpswell, nothing beats the Giant's Stairs. Named for its interesting geologic history, the Giant's Stairs Trail follows the rocky coastline with gorgeous views of eastern Casco Bay and crashing waves glinting in the sunlight.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 14.5 miles, crossing the Cribstone Bridge. Turn left on Washington Ave. Park at the Episcopal Chapel (except during services) or in the designated parking spots along Washington Ave.

Hackett and Minot Trails

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust



PISCILLA SEIMER

The Hackett and Minot Trails take visitors through a verdant, mossy forest and to a vernal pool. Visible to the west of Harpswell Neck Rd, this property complements Harpswell's historic center, which includes the 1757 Old Meeting House, the 1842 Elijah Kellogg Church, the 1876 Centennial Hall and the 1783 Tarr-Eaton House, which is protected with a historic preservation easement.

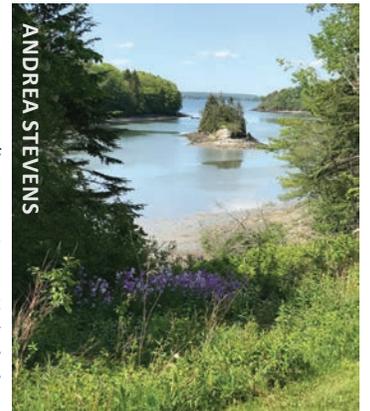
Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 8.4 miles. Please park at the Harpswell Historical Society on the left. Cross the road and walk down Littlefield Road (private) until you see signs for the trail.

Houghton Graves Park

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

Located in the middle of Orr's Island village, Houghton Graves Park provides visitors with mown grassy paths, picnic tables, views of beautiful Beal's Cove on Harpswell Sound and access to the muddy shoreline. This three-acre "pocket park" is a great place to spend a few minutes, or a few hours.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 11.9 miles. Just past the post office, the park is on the right, opposite Lowell's Cove Rd. Please park by the side of the road. Follow the trail between the rail fence and the marsh.



ANDREA STEVENS

Johnson Field Preserve & Mackerel Cove Lot

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

Town of Harpswell

The open field at the head of Mackerel Cove has been a Bailey Island landmark for generations. Overlooking one of Maine's most scenic working harbors, Johnson Field offers a great place to explore the beach or have a picnic. The Town-owned Mackerel Cove Lot is located next to Johnson Field.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 14.2 miles. The field comes into view at the intersection with Abner Point Rd. Turn right on Abner Point Rd and left into a parking lot.

Little Ponds Preserve

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

This 22-acre preserve in Cundy's Harbor features parts of two freshwater ponds, a tidal cove and surrounding forests. A 1/4-mile loop trail offers an easy walk through a peaceful forest, with views of a cattail marsh.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 4.1 miles. Turn left onto Cundy's Harbor Rd. In 3 miles, turn right onto Bethel Point Rd. Drive one mile to a parking lot on the right.

Long Reach Preserve

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust



ED ROBINSON

This preserve is part of more than 500 acres of uninterrupted conserved land, which provides habitat for wildlife and public access to the woods and waters of Harpswell. A 1.5-mile loop trail winds through different forest types, passes a peat bog nestled between two prominent bedrock ridges and finally descends to the shores of Long Reach.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 6.8 mi. The preserve shares a parking lot with the Trufant-Summerton Ball Field. The trailhead is to the right as you enter the parking lot.

Mitchell Field

Town of Harpswell

Harpowell

This Town-owned property offers a variety of recreational offerings with several miles of paved and gravel paths, a

beach, a bandstand that hosts outdoor concerts and the Harpswell Community Garden. It's a great place for walking, bicycling, swimming, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, picnicking and much more.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 11 miles. Look for a sign on the right.

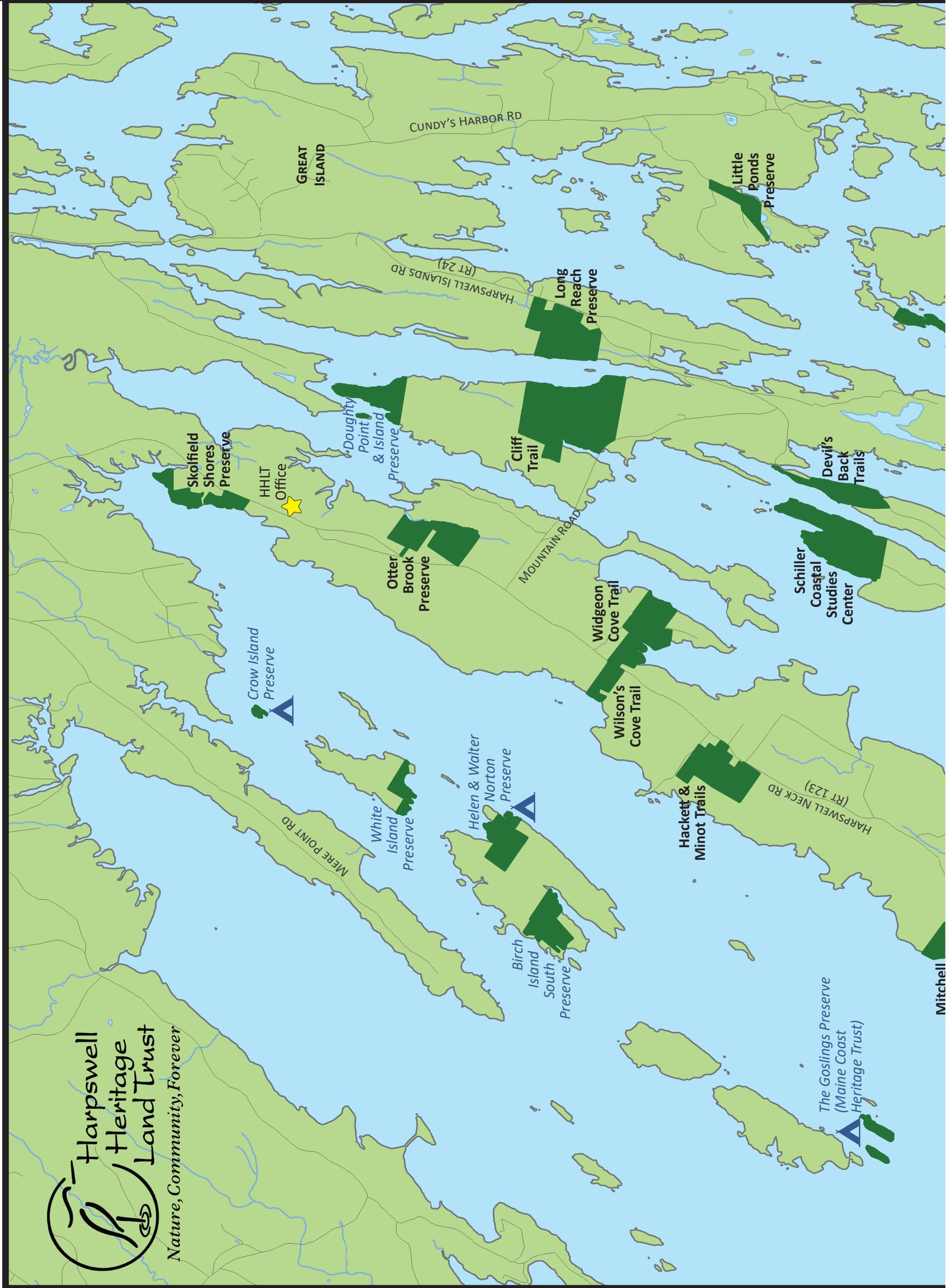
Otter Brook Preserve

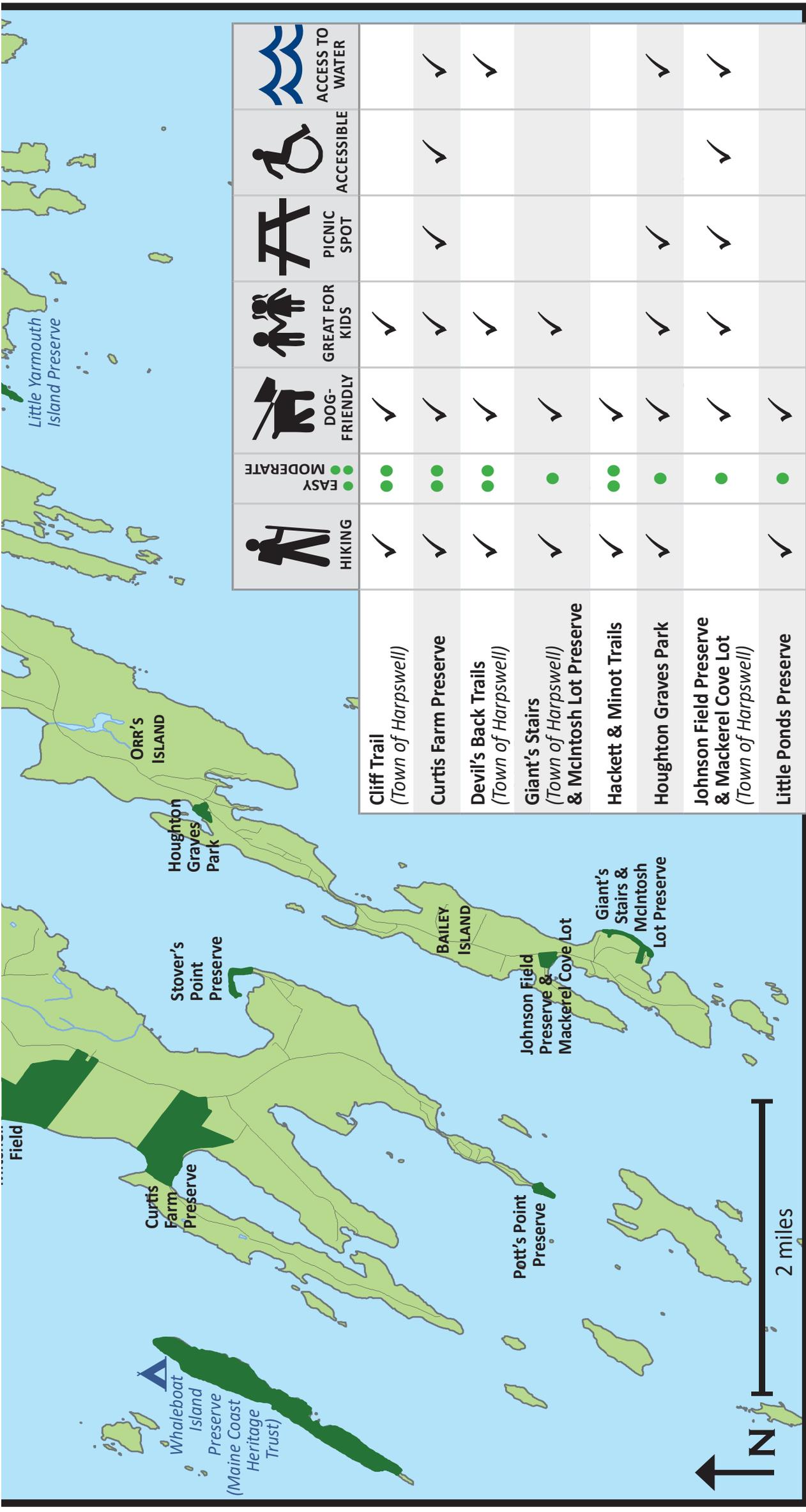
Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

The 1.5-mile Otter Brook trail system takes visitors along a freshwater stream and through mixed forest. It's a great destination for all-season exploration.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south 6.1 miles to a parking lot on the left.

EXPLORE HARPSWELL





	HIKING	EASY MODERATE	DOG-FRIENDLY	GREAT FOR KIDS	PICNIC SPOT	ACCESSIBLE	ACCESS TO WATER
Cliff Trail (Town of Harpswell)	✓	●●	✓	✓			
Curtis Farm Preserve	✓	●●	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Devil's Back Trails (Town of Harpswell)	✓	●●	✓	✓			✓
Giant's Stairs (Town of Harpswell) & McIntosh Lot Preserve	✓	●	✓	✓			
Hackett & Minot Trails	✓	●●	✓				
Houghton Graves Park	✓	●	✓	✓	✓		✓
Johnson Field Preserve & Mackerel Cove Lot (Town of Harpswell)	✓	●	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Little Ponds Preserve	✓	●	✓				
Long Reach Preserve	✓	●●	✓				
Mitchell Field (Town of Harpswell)	✓	●●	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Otter Brook Preserve	✓	●●	✓				
Pott's Point Preserve	✓	●	✓	✓			✓
Schiller Coastal Studies Center (Bowdoin College)	✓	●●	✓	✓			✓
Skolfield Shores Preserve	✓	●					✓
Stover's Point Preserve	✓	●	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Widgeon Cove Trail	✓	●	✓				
Wilson's Cove Trail	✓	●	✓				

For more information about trails, events, joining as a member and more, visit www.hhltmaine.org



Island preserves and Doughty Point are only accessible by water.

Campsites

Campsites on Crow Island, the Helen and Walter Norton Preserve, and the Goslings are on the Maine Island Trail (www.mita.org)

When visiting preserves and trails, please respect neighbors, other visitors and posted guidelines.

Pott's Point Preserve

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

If you love exploring the ocean shoreline, this tiny preserve has just about everything you could want. There are extensive tide pools teeming with life, a gravel beach and dramatic views of Casco Bay islands.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south 13.9 miles to its end. Park by the side of the road. Walk along private Pott's Point Rd to the preserve.



Schiller Coastal Studies Center

Bowdoin College

Bowdoin College's Schiller Coastal Studies Center provides lovely coastal walking trails. A fine old farm with 2.5 miles of coastline, 3.6 miles of trails and a variety of habitats, it offers great views of Long Cove and Harpswell Sound and opportunities to go for a walk, view wildlife and explore the rocky shore.

Directions: From Cook's Corner in Brunswick, follow Rt 24 south for 10.7 miles. Turn right onto Bayview Rd and drive for 1 mile to a kiosk on the right.

Skolfield Shores Preserve

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

Two trail loops, for a total of one mile, wind through varied forest habitat and provide views of the cove, the saltwater marsh separating Brunswick and Harpswell and the fields of historic Merrucoonegan Farm. A spur trail leads to a historic boathouse at the shore.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 4.6 miles. Turn right into Skolfield Place and then take an immediate left into the parking lot for the preserve.



Stover's Point Preserve

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

If you are looking for a beach day, Stover's Point is the place to go. Bring the kids or launch your kayak. The beach and neighboring salt marsh provide crabs to catch and views across Harpswell Sound to the unique Cribstone Bridge connecting Orr's and Bailey islands. A tidal creek makes for great swimming. Bring water shoes to protect your feet from barnacles and rocks.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 12.2 miles. Turn left on Stover's Cove Rd. Take your first right on Stover's Point Rd. Veer left. Stay straight and follow the road as it curves to the right. Take a left on a gravel road. Being very careful of the undercarriage of your car, drive onto the beach. Please park on gravel surfaces only.

Widgeon Cove Trail

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

This half-mile loop trail is the perfect way to take in beautiful Widgeon Cove on Harpswell Sound. The path winds through woodlands, along ravines and to wonderful views of the cove.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 7.4 miles. Immediately after the Wilson's Cove Trail parking lot on the right, look for the Widgeon Cove Trail parking lot on the left.

Wilson's Cove Trail

Harpowell Heritage Land Trust

This short out-and-back trail brings hikers to a cliff overlooking Wilson's Cove with impressive views up and down Middle Bay and across to Birch Island. The end of the trail provides a quiet place to take in the water, land and sky.

Directions: From the intersection of Rt 123 and Bath Rd at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, follow Rt 123 south for 7.4 miles. Look for a small parking lot and sign on the right.

When visiting preserves and trails, please respect neighbors, other users and posted guidelines.

About Harpswell Heritage Land Trust

Thanks to the support of local donors, Harpswell Heritage Land Trust conserves land; protects clean water and wildlife habitat; provides trails and access to the shore for all; and engages young and old with innovative, fun and hands-on educational programming.

We invite you to get involved! Join as a member, attend an event, volunteer, sign up to receive our emails and follow us on facebook and instagram. Learn more on our website: www.hhltmaine.org

Check out the Forest Playground!

Take a step into our Forest Playground and you will quickly discover that it is not a typical playground. This is a place where all of your senses are invited to play. The Forest Playground is designed to be open-ended, nature-based and engaging for young people of many interests and all ages. It includes a tire swing, scavenger hunts, a story walk, a hammock, a create with nature zone, musical instruments, a forest kitchen, a ninja obstacle course and more!



The Forest Playground is free, open to the public from dawn to dusk seven days a week, and found this summer at Curtis Farm Preserve, 1554 Harpswell Neck Road. Designed as a portable pop-up, it will rotate to different sites throughout its lifespan.

For more information, visit our website: www.hhltmaine.org.

Upcoming Events and Programs

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

Tide Pool Exploration

Tues., July 2 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Pott's Point Preserve

Plant Medicine for Beginners

Tues., July 9 from 5:30-7 p.m. at Harpswell Heritage Land Trust. Advance registration requested.

Annual Meeting: Revisioning the Earth with Philosopher Dana Sawyer

Tues., July 16, doors open at 5:30 p.m. for refreshments and conversation, program runs from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Orr's Island Schoolhouse

Lichens with Jeff Pengel

Sat., July 20 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Advance registration requested.

Island Overnight by Kayak

Fri., July 26 to Saturday, July 27. Advance registration requested.

Wabanaki Place Names

Tues., July 30 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Harpswell Heritage Land Trust.

Paddle and Picnic

Fri., August 2 from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Advance registration requested.

Sunset Cruise

Mon., August 12 from 6-8 p.m. Buy your tickets in advance.

Check our website for more! We are adding new programs all the time.

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Featured Program:

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For those struggling with weight loss, diets by themselves do not result in long-lasting change. **Healthy Weight for a Lifetime** helps participants create a foundation to ensure sustained success and maintain a healthy weight and lifestyle. This 12-week program is set apart due to the multidisciplinary approach that includes nutrition counseling, behavioral health, and exercise coaching.

Take a look at our calendar of upcoming events and see how we can partner together for better health.

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329 MAINE STREET-SOUTH ENTRANCE, BRUNSWICK

July Calendar of Events

MINDFULNESS BASED STRESS REDUCTION FOR TEENS

Learn skills and strategies that encourage positive self-care. Join us for this **FREE 7-week course** of 1½-hour weekly group sessions. To experience the full benefit of the program, we strongly encourage students to attend all sessions.

July 8 from **6-7:30 p.m.**

Information night for parents & youth is July 1 at 6 p.m.

YOGA FOR CANCER

A **FREE** weekly program designed to limit stress, reduce fatigue, and promote healing for cancer patients and their caregivers, pre, post, or during treatment. Walk-ins welcome.

Thursdays from **5-5:45 p.m.** *No class July 4.*

Maine Pines Racquet & Fitness, 120 Harpswell Road, Brunswick

PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALTH

A **FREE** one-hour introductory program to get you started on improving your health.

Thursdays from **Noon-1 p.m.** *No class July 4.*

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

FREE NAMI-Maine training is designed to teach you how to help a teen who is experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge, or who is in crisis. *Registration required.*

July 15 from **8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

Bath Parks & Recreation, 4 Sheridan Road, Bath

MINDFUL MORNING MINI RETREAT

Mindfulness-based exercises, meditation, movement, and discussions provide an opportunity to pause and reflect on a healthier approach to life. *Fee and registration required.*

July 27 from **9 a.m.-Noon**

HEALTHY WEIGHT FOR A LIFETIME OPEN HOUSE

Learn about our 12-week mindful living program, starting in September, that provides a long-term solution for weight loss by addressing emotional, physical, and nutritional issues.

July 29 from **5-6 p.m.**

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Help keep blood supplies stocked at adequate levels. Walk-ins are always welcome.

July 31 from **4:30-7:30 p.m.**

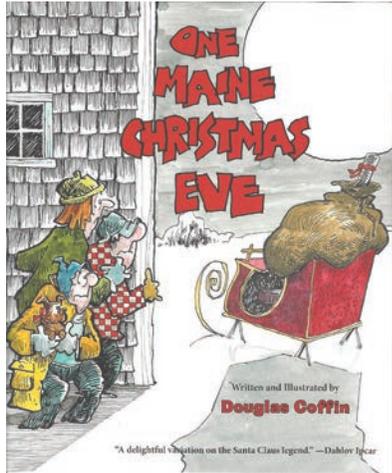
Mid Coast Hospital, Café Conference Rooms

For a full listing of classes, screenings, and support groups, including cost and registration details, call **(207) 373-6585** or visit **www.midcoasthealth.com/wellness**.

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are held at the

Mid Coast Center for Community Health & Wellness
329 Maine Street-SOUTH ENTRANCE, Brunswick

Seaside Creations Hosts Book Signing



Seaside Creations, a Maine Made Gift Shop on Bailey Island, is hosting a book signing by Douglas Coffin on Sunday, July 21st, from 11:00 to 1:00. Douglas Coffin has written and illustrated a book called One Maine Christmas Eve. Douglas published a nationally syndicated cartoon strip "Fletcher's Landing" in the early 1980s and before that, created One Maine Christmas Eve in the Maine Times in 1978. The book is based on that publication. Douglas will be doing a reading of the book and talks about

the back story that went into its creation. He will also be bringing some original artwork. He will discuss the process he went through to publish his book. The talk starts at 11:00am and after that, Douglas will be signing books until 1:00pm. The books are for sale at Seaside Creations. Please join us on Sunday, the 21st, at 47 Washington Avenue, Bailey Island, ME and welcome Seaside Creation's newest Maine Artist, Douglas Coffin! Refreshments will be served. ☺

Ocean Wave Quilters Host 25th Show

In the summer of 1994, when many bought tickets to "Forrest Gump" and were glued to the OJ Simpson trial, Orr's Islander Sue Cary inspired another kind of entertainment: The Ocean Waves Quilters' first quilt show. This show, put together by Sue, Pauline Houghton, Ruth Alexander, Jean Shaw, Nancy Garland, Lois Lawry, Cindy Bessmer, Gail Ingersol, Alice Chin and others was a great success, immediately becoming an annual summer event. When the group hangs their quilts this year, they'll be celebrating a 25th Anniversary.



Sewing Bee Members of the Ocean Waves Quilters.

To commemorate their quarter-century year, the quilters will display a group of pieces that were made in response to a special challenge: illustrate an Iris, the flower that traditionally symbolizes this landmark time. Responses to this project demonstrate the wide variety of member talent and an almost encyclopedic array of tech-

niques ranging from traditional block piecing, paper-piecing, applique, embroidery and even the use of fabric printed with personal garden photos. The show will be presented at the Orr's Island School House (Route 24) on Friday, Saturday

and Sunday, July 12-14, 10 AM to 4 PM (closing at 3PM Sunday). In addition to the Iris display, members will hang about 50 select quilts made since last summer. Weather permitting, others will be draped on the fence across the road. A boutique gives visitors a chance to purchase bed quilts, throws and smaller items such as place mats and table runners. Last year, the boutique income resulted in \$3,300 going to local organizations that help neighbors with housing, food, heating fuel and clothing.

The Ocean Waves Quilters became a chapter of the Pine Tree Guild in 1992, although local women had been coming together to sew and support each other in their island life for generations. While participation has increased from a few to 29 and their quilt show raises significant money, a focus on personal enjoyment and sharing remains unchanged. They get together once a week and invite others who wish to share the love of quilting to join them at The Bailey Island Church on Wednesday mornings. ☺

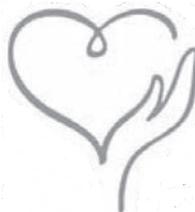
Town of Harpswell Non-Resident Taxpayer Meeting

Wednesday, July 10, 6pm

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Finding Serenity and Safety Paddling Harpswell's Shores

BY TOM ALLEN

While paddling across the channel between Basin Point and Whaleboat Island I encountered a pair of harbor porpoise. It was early June and the lobstermen hadn't yet set their traps, so I had the bay to myself. It was one of those windless mornings where the water is a shimmering mirror. The sun was still low and the bay was silent.

Harbor porpoise are among the smallest of marine mammals, less than half the length of my kayak, and weighing less than most adult humans. When they breached in the distance they revealed only a foot or two of their dark, shining backs, which were crested with a tiny triangular dorsal fin.

It's against the law to pursue or harass marine mammals. As I paddled for Birch Island Ledges, however, the halfway point across the channel, their circuitous path and my straight path intersected. They arose less than a boat length behind me. I didn't see them, but

I heard them exhale, like a sigh, the satisfied sigh released after drinking deep or after holding one's breath in anticipation of a gift.

I would gladly paddle all summer long in order to experience such a moment just once. Yet, almost every time I'm on the water I encounter something—a bird feeding, a slant of shimmering light reflected onto a ledge, a view of an island—that tends toward the sublime.

Some people paddle kayaks for the exercise, some for the companionship—I do it in order to commune with the natural world. To reassure myself that the eider ducks aren't checking their Facebook feeds, that the schools of pogies don't rant at the politicians on the nightly news, that the harbor porpoises are happy to ignore us and to be ignored by us.

Whatever our reasons for kayaking, now is a good time to remind ourselves of the basic safety measures we all should take while enjoying our favorite pastime.



Red Right Return A common tern perches atop the nun buoy between Whaleboat and Little Whaleboat Islands. (TOM ALLEN PHOTO)

or less before hypothermia set in. So no matter the air temperature, dress for whatever the water temperature is. A wetsuit is a good inexpensive alternative for much of the early and late season.

Here's my pet peeve: stay out of the middle of boat channels. When I was crossing from Basin Point to Whaleboat, my course was perpendicular to the channel. My time in the channel was kept to a minimum. Most of the time, we don't need to be out where powerboats play. Stay close to the shore. Plan your trip so that you follow the mainland or hop from island to island. Don't be the entitled jerk traveling diagonally across Harpswell Sound.

Check the weather before you go. It may be beautiful now, but what about when you're two miles from the mainland? Pay special attention to wind. For beginners, anything over ten mph is challenging.

As a registered Maine kayak guide, my job is to foresee dangers before they occur. You might wonder if this takes some of the fun out of kayaking. It doesn't. Knowing that I'm prepared as I can be is quite relaxing. And once I'm on the water the beauty of this place we call home is more than enough to soothe a worried soul. ☺

Safety begins on shore. Tell someone where you're going and when you expect to be back. My wife, Susan, knew I would contact her if my plan changed. If I didn't arrive at the time arranged, she would contact me. Failing that she'd get someone to start looking for me.

Do I need to say it? Always where a personal floatation device. Always. No excuses.

Learn and practice methods

for rescuing yourself and others when overturned.

Bring a mode of communication. Your cellphone in a watertight bag is ok. I had that plus a waterproof VHF radio.

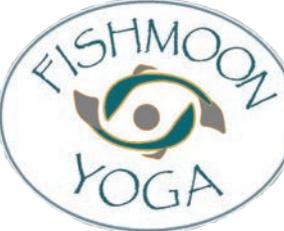
Dress for immersion: during my trip in early June, the water temperature was 50 degrees. I wore a drysuit with layers for warmth underneath. If I had overturned without proper attire I would have had fifteen minutes



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Tournament

From page 14

The Casco Bay Tuna Club's event was so successful that a few years later it was designated as the State of Maine Tuna Tournament. The prize-winning catch from that year, 1941, was landed by Mrs. Maurice Meyers of Brielle, New Jersey. She set a world record for the largest tuna caught by a woman, her fish weighing in at 818 pounds! And that was

just the beginning. The tournament continued to grow over the years, attracting more participants and spectators. The biggest change was the addition of the Junior category, which happened in the late 1970s.

While kids had always gone along with their families to tuna fish in the past, they hadn't been the focus of the tournament. With the introduction of smaller fish categories like mackerel, bluefish and striped, there are now ample opportunities for kids to be part of the fun.

"I'm absolutely shameless when

it comes to supporting children," says Peter Curtis, the Club's current President.

His family has been on the island since the 1880s and this tournament has been a part of his summer since he was a kid. He remembers the first time he was in the tournament when he was 17 years old.

"I caught the biggest tuna I'd ever caught – it weighed 619 pounds. That was a Casco Bay sleigh ride, baby. When that fish ran, I held on tight. If they had that ride at Disney, people would be waiting all the way to Georgia."

About 15 years ago, not long after Peter came on as President, he thought, "Some day I know we can get 100 kids". Now he says, "We just blew right through that mark. We have between 130 and 150 kids each year."

They don't just want kids to come for the tournament, though. They want to set them up to keep fishing. To that end, they've been able to give a six-foot rod and reel combo for every kid who enters.

"We lose about forty bucks on every kid, but it's absolutely worth it," says Peter. "We have refused to increase the entry fee because we want parents to be able to sign up. And, we've had great donors and sponsors who make it possible."

New Meadows Marine has worked with Yamaha to supply a new motor to raffle off to one lucky Junior ticket-holder and to give away free hats to every Junior participant.

"It's really fun to see even the really young kids get into it," says Peter. There's no minimum age limit. "If a child can hold onto a fishing line for more than sixty seconds without throwing it overboard, then they're old enough."

And everything they catch gets weighed in and issued a receipt with the weight, date, and species that is signed by the weigh master and the

person who caught it – a bona fide souvenir for everything caught.

There are also prizes now for just about anything you can catch – striped bass, bluefish, mackerel, haddock, pollock, and shark. And there are prizes for the largest daily catch as well as the biggest catch of the week. There's even a prize for the smallest fish, which is the first prize awarded at the end of the week. And then there's the Brian Sullivan Memorial smallest tuna award, which is a snack sized Cheetos bag attached to a trophy accompanied by a \$1 bill. Brian was a beloved member of the community, but was notorious for his frugal ways. The miscellaneous category is comical as well. The weigh masters get together and decide what to award – it could be the piece of seaweed that was the only thing a kid caught all week, or it could be an unusual species that isn't in one of the categories.

There are certainly plenty of chances to win and plenty of incentives to keep fishing all week. The tournament is designed that way. It is all part of the Club's mission to get people of all ages fishing and having fun out on the water.

It's not just about the kids, though, it's really about the whole community. Peter notes that parents are out every day fishing with their kids.

"They're taking that week and spending it with their kids – I've met so many wonderful families who have become close friends over the years. Even the hard core tuna guys – they take days off to scout out spots for their kids to fish."

That's why it has lasted. It's a real community event.

"We have an awards ceremony at the end of the week with a 90-pound roast pig and it takes thirty volunteers to serve everyone. But, dinner is by donation only, because we want all Club members and their families to come."

They've been able to do that because of the commitment of volunteers as well as the generous donations from people in the community and from across the country who visit Bailey Island in the summer.

"We've outlasted all these tournaments – many have come and gone. We have a tradition now that's 81 years long, and we have a responsibility to the people who came before us to keep it going."

"We also have a commitment to the resource," says Peter.

They help make participants aware of the rules and regulations and how to obtain the proper licenses for fishing.

"We're really lucky to have the fish here that we do," he adds. "It's a real thrill to catch one right here in Casco Bay," says Peter. "But, you do have to make sure you have the proper permit for anything you catch. We put that all in the information for the tournament."

The 81st annual Casco Bay Tuna Club's Tournament will take place this year at Cooks Lobster and Ale House, where it has been held since 1989. It begins on July 21st with a Captain's Meeting at 6pm and the tournament kicks off the following day. Six days of fishing and community camaraderie follow. And, it all ends with the celebratory potluck, pig roast, and awards ceremony at Mackerel Cove.

If you're interested in signing up, look for applications at one of the many local sponsors including the Bailey Island General Store, New Meadows Marine, and Midcoast Marine Supply.

Or, Peter added that, "If you show up to the tournament and want to fish, we will make it happen. We have worked hard not to leave anyone out and we want to keep it that way." ♣

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Tuesdays in July

July 2, 9, 16, 23 3pm-5pm

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Homeowners Unite Against Invasive Plants

Last month, Liz Bouve organized her fellow homeowners on Narrows Lane and Captain's Way to find out just how many invasive plants are on their properties. They called on the HIPP-help team at the Harpswell Invasive Plant Partnership (HIPP) to assist them.

Three HIPP volunteers joined six of the homeowners in walking through all the properties in the road association. The team identified Asiatic Bittersweet, Shrub Honeysuckle, Burning Bush or Winged Euonymus, Japanese Knotweed, Japanese Barberry, Norway Maple, Canada Thistle, and Coltsfoot. The invasive plants were tagged, and the homeowners learned the best ways to remove or control them. Fortunately, most of the invasive plants were found in an early stage, when they can be dealt with more easily and before they've completely overrun an area and caused considerable damage.

The homeowners are now able to share ideas and to go after the plants in an organized way, then



Exterminators Narrows Lane Homeowners Road Association members join with HIPP-help volunteers to identify invasive plants.

be watching out lest any continue to spread across property boundaries.

HIPP-help is a service that HIPP offers to all residents of Harpswell. Working together with a road association is a valuable way of combining efforts. The service is free, although HIPP does accept donations. HIPP is a consortium of the Harpswell Heritage Land

Trust, the Harpswell Conservation Commission, the Mitchell Field Committee, the Town Lands Committee, and the Harpswell Garden Club. It is a volunteer organization that was organized to monitor and control invasive plants in Harpswell. For more information, go to hhltmaine.org/hipp/ or email hippmaine@gmail.com.

Smart Kids

Amanda Sancomb of Orr's Island has been named to the Dean's List for the 2019 spring semester at the University of New England. Dean's List students have attained a grade point average of 3.3 or bet-

ter out of a possible 4.0 at the end of the semester.

Cullen Ronan of Harpswell graduated from Quinnipiac University with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism.

Celebration of Life for Clarence "Philip" Pinkham

Join us on July 28 for a small service at the shore at noon, picnic at Glenda's at 1 p.m.

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Find out more at www.hhltmaine.org/HIPP

HIPP HARPSWELL INVASIVE PLANT PARTNERSHIP

Fourth

From page 1

to turn this document over to the town clerk to be entered into the official town records..."

At the time, Harpswell's town clerk was Andrew Dunning, who transcribed the document in what Wescott calls "a flowing hand."

Imagine this first reading of the Declaration, called out by Reverend Samuel Eaton on that July afternoon to his parishioners gathered at the meeting house in Harpswell Center. Those early settlers must have listened with an overwhelming sense of excitement, pride...fear?

Imagine how special it is that

the same Declaration of Independence is read every year on July 4th, in the very same place where it was first read so many years ago!

For about twenty years now the people of Harpswell have gathered every Independence Day to remember and reenact that crucial moment in American history. This year, as in the past, the Declaration will be read by Dave Hackett, the President of the Harpswell Historical Society, along with Jim Nelson and Sam Alexander.

"I've always been interested in American Revolution history," says Jim Nelson, local author and member of the Harpswell militia (a reenactment group). "When Dave Hackett asked me to help him recreate the reading about ten years ago, I immediately said yes."

Dave Hackett reads the preamble of the document, which outlines the reason for the documents and lists the colonists' natural rights. This is followed by the declaration's grievances against King George III, which is read by Jim Nelson. Finally, Sam Alexander proclaims the conclusion: that the united Colonies declare independence from Great Britain. All three men read in full colonial garb, bringing to the event an element of true history in the making. Those gathered listen in hushed silence, with only the occasional bird call interrupting the solemn moment. The graves behind the meeting house are etched with the names of the townspeople who attended that first reading in 1776. It is truly a stunning moment.

When the reading is completed, the three reenactors shoot their muskets and fire the Harpswell cannon, to a burst of applause from the audience.

"It is a unique event," Dave Hackett recalls. "I don't think there are any other Maine towns where the Declaration is read in exactly the same spot where it was originally proclaimed."

Nineteen years before the first reading of the Declaration, Sam Alexander's ancestor William W.

Alexander was one of a group of local residents who drafted a petition to then-Governor William Shirley, asking that the Neck be established as its own town, separate from North Yarmouth. "This eventually led to the building of the meeting house," Sam Alexander says, "so I'm glad to be part of this annual reading in front of the building he helped establish."

Jim Nelson has lived in Harpswell for over twenty years, and is the author of more than twenty works of maritime fiction and history. His books feature pirate adventures to Viking sagas to the naval action of the American Revolution and the Civil War. His 2016 novel, Full Fathom Five, introduces readers to Caleb Hayes, a lobsterman living and working in the Maine town of Hopefleet. The story is about two international corporations battling over the prospect of a new liquid gas terminal being built on Hopefleet's shores. When asked if he was inspired by true local events, the author declines to give a direct answer, and his smile is both engaging and enigmatic. Changing the subject, he says "I really enjoy reading the Declaration with Dave and Sam on the 4th. My family and I have been reenacting all dif-

ferent eras in American history for a long time now. It's something we can all do together, and it's educational for the kids."

"When we read the Declaration, it's our present but it's also our past," Dave Hackett says. "It's what we all share. It's important to remember our roots, where we come from. This is what we're celebrating on Independence Day."

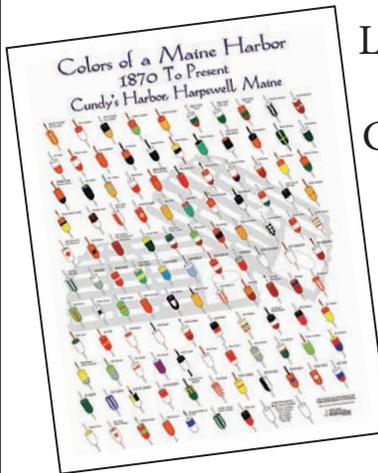
This year's reading will take place at 11 am on Thursday, July 4th in front of the meeting house in Harpswell Center, across from the Elijah Kellogg church. ☺



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Safety

From page 3

ations, it is always best to be aware and defer to those who are larger than you, are underway moving faster, and have a need to be where they are and doing what they do," Piffath explains.

Boat U.S. operates under the slogan, "Slow is Pro." Says Dennison, "Many people are extremely apprehensive around docks and other fixed objects. When in these scenarios, exercise minimum maneuvering speed and take your time. You're much more likely to make an expensive or dangerous mistake if you rush or panic."

Dennison also notes that the effects of alcohol are increased when on the water, sometimes surprisingly so. "Save the alcohol for once you're

back at the dock and the boat is tied up for the night," he advises.

"People came to the realization that they could not provide or conduct an efficient kayak-to-kayak rescue unless they possessed some basic paddling and maneuvering skills. No matter their experience as sailors, fisherman, canoeists, they just didn't have kayak skills. There is no way around it - a kayak is unique," Piffath says.

While they like to target June as their primary safety and rescue training month, H2Outfitters has decided to offer the course throughout this summer. It includes pool practice, on-water skills, and two levels of in-water rescue scenarios.

The course "is designed to produce a result," Piffath says. "Participants will come away with some level of foundational skills and have the opportunity to gain a sense of what it is like to rescue or be rescued

in a recreational kayak, a 14'-15' sea kayak or a full size 17'-18' expedition kayak. No one will be pushed to do anything that is outside of their comfort level but will come away with some basic paddling skills and techniques and gain a sense of the mechanics and challenges of rescue in Maine's waters."

While a schedule of upcoming classes is still being developed, those interested can contact H2Outfitters at 207-833-5257.

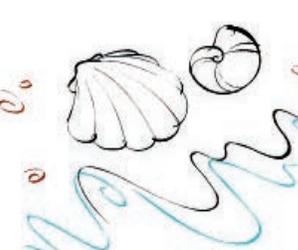
Says Piffath, "I have been on the water for over 35 years teaching sea kayaking and leading trips, and as prepared as I have been I have experienced changes in weather that happen within minutes, quickly changing sea conditions, and creating huge challenges for any boater who may be out on the water at the time. If I have learned anything, it is never to let your guard down and always be prepared for the unexpected." †

Non-Resident Taxpayer Meeting Scheduled

The Town of Harpswell will be holding its annual non-resident taxpayer meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 6pm, at the Old Orr's Island Schoolhouse on Harpswell Islands Road. Please note that the location has been changed to the Schoolhouse due to scheduled repairs at the Harpswell Community School. Parking is available on the side and rear of the building; however, please be careful not to impede access to the Orr's Island Fire Station.

This session is an opportunity for Harpswell's non-resident prop-

erty owners to meet with Town officials and bring forward items of interest or concern for discussion with the Board of Selectmen. It is a meeting that is typically held around the 4th of July when it is expected that many non-resident taxpayers will be enjoying time at their Harpswell properties. For those unable to attend, the meeting will be videotaped and re-broadcast on Harpswell Community Television or available for viewing on the Town's website at www.harpswell.maine.gov under the online services tab. †



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Races

From page 1

Behind the Harpswell Lobster Boat Race Committee, which currently consists of five members: Kristina York, Mary Coombs, Amanda Peacock, Ashley Lentz, and Jennifer Charboneau.

"Larry said he had nothing but time [to devote to the races], so he took it and ran with it. . . He was really good at knocking on people's doors. I don't think anyone really wanted to say no to him. When he saw any of us, he would say 'Hello, Angels!' That's how he

greeted everybody," explains Mary Coombs. Under Ward's leadership, the Harpswell Lobster Boat Races raised and donated nearly \$10,000 to the Harpswell Santa Fund, which provides assistance to local families. This year's races are dedicated to Ward, who passed away on April 17, 2019.

"There can be so much tension with fishing. It helps break it down. Everybody comes together to have a good time and push everything else aside," explains Tom Butler, who owns Erica's Seafood and hosts the races at his wharf. "It's fun to see the lobstermen relax and let their hair down. That's my favorite part. You see them

in shorts when they never wear shorts. It's nice to see them relax," states Coombs.

The Lobster Boat Race Committee invests extensive time and effort to maintain the tradition as a way of unifying and supporting the fishing community. The Committee works with the Coast Guard, the Town of Harpswell Harbormaster and Fire Administrator, the Maine Lobster Boat Racing Association, Erica's Seafood, and local fishermen to ensure the success of the event. A safety plan is implemented for the races, which requires the course to be checked the day before the races, the day of the races, and the day after the races. The Committee also connects with local and regional businesses, which provide sponsorships primarily for prizes ranging from cash to gift certificates to lobster traps to barrels of bait. Merchandise profits are donated to the Harpswell Santa

Fund as a way of supporting the local community.

"It's a family tradition, more than anything. Growing up in Harpswell, we always went to the races. It's very similar to Cook's having fireworks every year on the 4th of July or The Tuna Tournament. It was something that we did every single year. It would be nice to get that back so that it moves forward and continues on," explains Kristina York.

The 2019 Harpswell Lobster Boat Races will be held on Sunday, July 28 at Pott's Harbor at 10:00 am (rain date August 4). There will be 31 race classes, including non-working boats to Novi Boats to the fastest lobster boats. Registration opens at 8:00 am at Erica's Seafood, where merchandise will be available for purchase. Prior to the race, there will be a free public breakfast at the West Harpswell Baptist Church from 6:00 - 8:30 am. Breakfast will include pancakes, eggs, potatoes, sausage,

coffee, and a variety of homemade pastries. The breakfast is offered at no cost; however, donations will be accepted in support of the family of Louie and Larry Ward, two iconic members of the fishing community who supported the Harpswell Lobster Boat Races.

The tradition of the Harpswell Lobster Boat Races has found its way back into the community as a way to support and celebrate life on the working waterfront. The Harpswell races bring together individuals who have chosen to build their lives upon the shores of Casco Bay, while contributing to the collective identity along the coast of Maine. "We are planning to do it in the future. We might be adding things farther down the road. The momentum is there and will continue to grow," explains York.

For more information on how to participate, please visit harpswellboatraces.com or Harpswell Lobster Boat Races on Facebook. ☺

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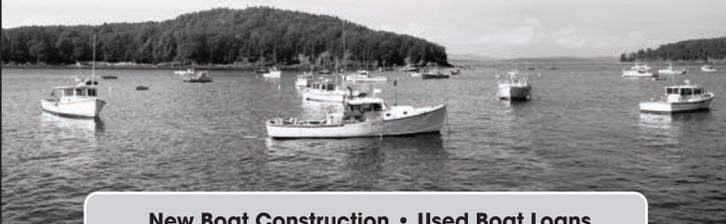
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The Witch of Harpswell is a faithful reproduction of a story concerning colonial Harpswell. It tells the story of Hannah Stover, reviled by some members of the community as a witch, and the attempts of the womenfolk of the town to give her a Christian burial at the Old Town Meeting House.

\$700
includes tax

It is believed to have been written in the early 1900's. Few original copies remain.

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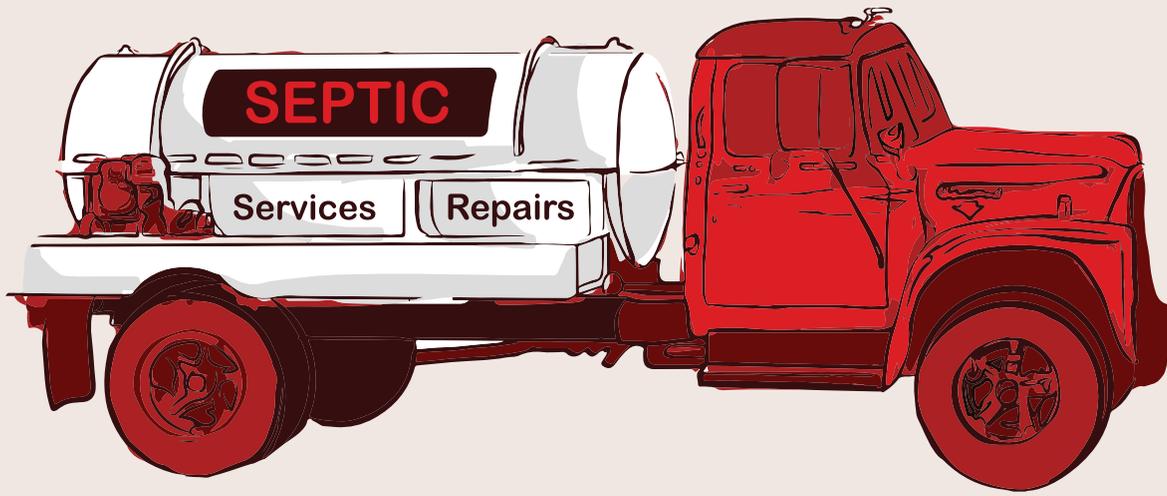
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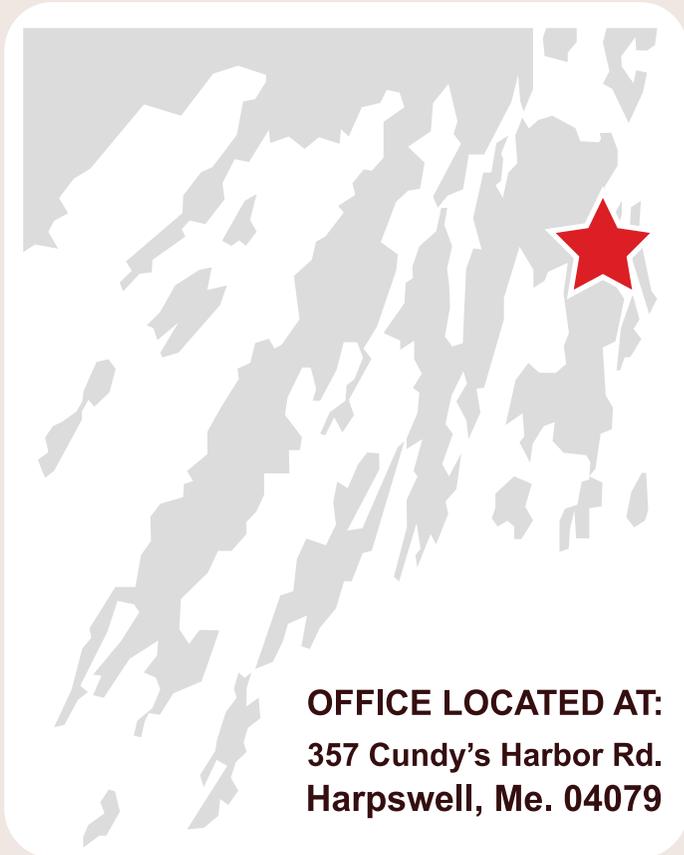
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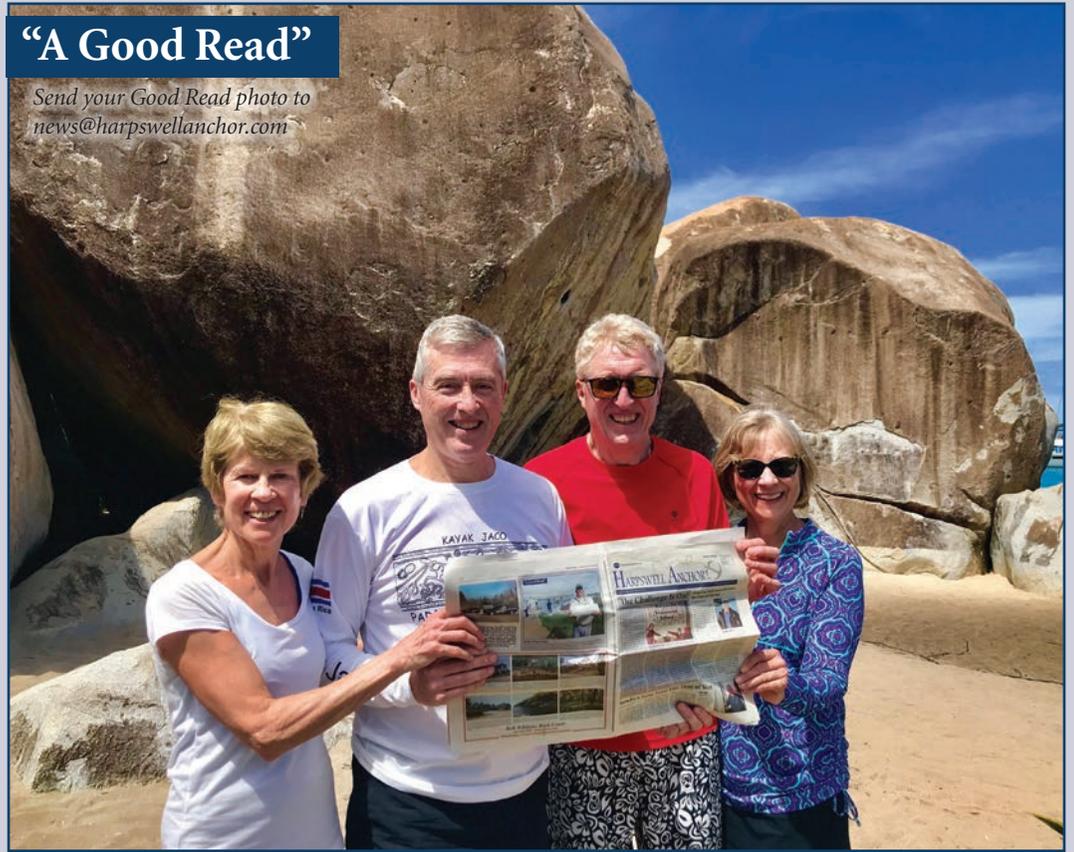


Race Crew

Volunteers of the Harpswell Lobster Boat Race Committee Mary Coombs, Erica Butler (holding Kieran Park), Tom Butler, Andrea Butler, Lillian York, Kristina York at Butler's wharf. The race is scheduled to start at 10:00 a.m., July 28 in Pott's Harbor. Registration opens at 8:00 a.m. A free breakfast for race enthusiasts will be served at West Harpswell Baptist Church starting at 6:00 a.m.

"A Good Read"

Send your Good Read photo to news@harpswellanchor.com



An "Islands" Good Read

Mary and Ed Robinson along with Lew and Krista Hinman enjoy a Good Read by The Baths boulders in Virgin Gorda. Their British Virgin Islands villa stay was successfully bid upon at the Harpswell Aging at Home golf tournament auction. (J. SPARROW PHOTO)



ORR'S ISLAND WATERFRONT ~ Just bring your suitcase. This Contemporary Cape on 2.7 acres on Orr's Island comes fully furnished and is totally turn key. Home was built in 2010 and has been very lightly used since then. Enjoy over 240 ft of water frontage on Reed Cove. Features include whole house automatic generator, central air, wood floors, master with walk-in closet and full bath, daylight walk-out basement, 2-car attached garage, fireplace and much more. Very efficient Buderus Hydro Air furnace and Buderus on demand hot water heater. Metal roof for easy maintenance. Elevated water views make this the perfect place to watch the spectacular sunsets over Harpswell Sound. \$849,000



BAILEY ISLAND ~ On the southern end of Bailey Island you will find this character island home in quiet neighborhood on a dead-end street. Easterly views of Casco Bay and westerly views of Mackerel Cove. Features include hard wood floors, wood stove, 2-1/2 baths which have all been updated, 1st floor master with bath including a claw foot tub. The kitchen was tastefully updated with granite counters, new appliances, farmers sink, and period wood cabinets. Walk to Land's End, Mackerel Cove or the Post Office. \$394,500



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