

**Island**  **Ad-Vantages** **THE WEEKLY**  
**PACKET**

**THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE**

**By: Bobbi Billings, Administrative Director**

February 28, 2024

**Hope Springs Eternal**

The recent storms left our beautiful island with a few black eyes. Some businesses, homes, docks and shorelines took a real beating! To me, this storm and its damage was much worse than many others. As someone who has lived and worked in this community for all of my (nearly) 59 years, I have never seen anything like this.

Realizing we were all at the mercy of the storm surge was terrifying. For the very first time, I felt very isolated, vulnerable, and frankly scared to be here. Navigating the roads around downed trees and waiting for the sea water to swallow up more of our beautiful community was difficult.

For the past 6 weeks, our community has stood proudly together, helped our neighbors & fellow fishermen, prayed for our friends, persevered and is slowly starting to rebuild and clean up. The signs are all around us. The weather has shifted just a bit. Lots of gear is being transported to the shop or shore. Folks are out tidying up their lawns from the recent debris, or simply taking a brisk walk with a friend. The Co-op had a recent delivery of giant concrete forms to start rebuilding their retaining wall and dock infrastructure. There is more friendly banter among customers and workers in the stores and streets.



Our local restaurants are getting more action. Fin and Fern is now open Friday and Saturday nights. I'm hearing rumors that Harbor Café might possibly reopen under new ownership with a new name, and Stonecutters is holding lots of fun themed events and weekly cribbage tournaments on Thursdays. These all give us hope. But probably for me, none more inspiring or hopeful than

watching the tenacity and fortitude of the new owners of 27 Fathoms Waterfront Grille's Erik, Laura and Mike, as they totally rebuild their new restaurant with the encouragement, love and support of our community.

I'm proud that our community always leans in and helps wherever we can. It's what sets this island apart from other places, and why people continue to flock here. We may be knocked down but we'll heal, rise again and rebuild the landscape of our community together. Hope springs eternal.

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to [info@coastalfisheries.org](mailto:info@coastalfisheries.org) or call 207.367.2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us at [www.coastalfisheries.org](http://www.coastalfisheries.org).

**FISHERIES LOG**

**Prices to Harvesters**

Lobsters (select): \$10.75/lb.

Lobster (hard): \$9.75/lb.

Bait (herring): \$90/box

Fuel (diesel): \$3.82/gal

**Oceanographic Buoy I-01**

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W – Frenchboro

Top Temperature (1 meter): 38.46°F 3.59°C

Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 38.57 °F 3.65°C

Source: [www.neracoos.org](http://www.neracoos.org)