



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

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

By: Michael Cichoracki

April 11, 2024

On Dasher and Dancer on Prancer and Vixen

Well spring is in the air and yet the potential for snow still hovers as old man winter ponders breathing his last breaths for a while. Santa's sleigh, MLK day, the hearts parade, green lucky clovers and rabbits laying eggs will now await another orbit of the sun. The solar eclipse is on the way and the moon blocking 97% for us whiles more away.



On my porch I met a young vixen stealing black oil sunflower seeds I set out for the red squirrel. Estrus has likely passed recently and mommas with growing kits inside are preparing dens. As I imagine what is heading our way, after cold nights, stormy weeks, mud to my ankles and all the other trials and tribulations of Maine winters, I am hopeful for what happens when the Discovery Wharf opens. What changes might be in store, what new visitors will meet us, how many regular visitors will stop in for some fun and learning and of course Capt. Leroy stories?

So the vixen is poking around the yard, and the blades of the spring crocus have emerged, cardinals and robins, and chickadee mating calls. Love is in the air, everywhere I look around. Love is in the air, in every sight and every sound. I know I have heard that melody before! See John Paul Young 1977 disco.

Like every winter, by April it has gotten long in the tooth, and we are itching for some springtime changes and regrouping with MCCF staff, visitors of all ages, sea creatures in the touch tank, walking barefoot in the grass. Ok, that last bit has me resembling a hippie, so be it.

Hippie, or not I cannot deny I am looking forward to giving the Discovery Wharf another try, Hey it's been a long winter, so give me a break on my loopy rhymes here. The time to make a hole in the wall that has been holding us inside is now. So we can meet this May, June, July... and talk about ticks, browntail moths, the heat and humidity and ask questions like; "Is the air conditioner on in here?" So be there or be square. I think I am out of 70s references so I'll end this now and say "Keep on Truckin." Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to info@coastalfisheries.org or call 207.367.2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us at www.coastalfisheries.org.

FISHERIES LOG

Prices to Harvesters (in Stonington on 4/8/2024)

Lobsters (select): \$10.50/lb.

Lobster (hard): \$9.50/lb.

Bait (herring): \$90/box

Fuel (diesel): \$3.82/gal

Oceanographic Buoy I-01

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W - Frenchboro

Sea Surface Temperature (1 meter): 4.65°C 40.37°F

Bottom Temperature (50 meters):

4.46°C 40.03°F (avg. for this date:

3.68°C 38.62°F)

Source: www.neracoos.org (April 5, 2024)

