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SCHEDULE

HARVEST DINNER
on the Stage
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22



GRAND TASTING
on the Harbor
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23



BEER EXPERIENCE
Down East Insider Series
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24



MAINE LOBSTER CHEF
of the Year Competition
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24



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Brews. Booze. Blues.
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WINE EXPERIENCE
Down East Insider Series
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24



THE BIG EAT – ONE
Samplings at the Marketplace
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25



THE BIG EAT – TWO
Samplings at the Marketplace
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25



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All attendees must be 21 and older.



Gotcha!

The charter yacht *Carolina*, above, comes to Portland regularly. She gets a look-see here from tourists aboard Portland Schooner Company's *Bagheera* (left) and *Wendameen* as they pass Cushing Island.



Clockwise from above left: *Lady Sandals*, 135 feet, passes Peaks Island. The Bristol (UK) *Post* on the web reports she's owned by "Gordon 'Butch' Stewart, the owner of Sandals Resorts International [and] reportedly [once] owned by the actor Nicolas Cage." The 153-foot *Argyll* charters starting at \$150,000 per week. She holds 117,600 gallons of fuel; at about \$4.50 per gallon of diesel, that's a pricey fill-up! Her owner is John E. Bahen, former CEO of the Canadian construction firm Kiewit, now a major benefactor of the University of Toronto. The 110-foot *Spring Time* zips past Ram Island Light.

She catches superyachts: Not many slip past Jill Blackwood without being snapped.

STORY & PHOTOS BY JILL BLACKWOOD

Met Jill Blackwood of South Portland. The retired former principal of the Portland's Riverton Elementary School photographs and catalogs visiting watercraft passing her house on their way north into Portland. She's a hobby photographer with a hawk eye and a healthy streak of curiosity—think Jimmy Stewart, keeping an eye on things with his camera in Rear Window...

I live in the Loveitts Field neighborhood. It's on the ship channel, about halfway between Spring Point Light and Portland Head Light. I take pictures from our patio. You can see the entrance to Whitehead Passage between Peaks and Cushing islands.

I use my husband's Canon EOS 5D MarkII with a Canon L lens, 100-400mm zoom. I don't use a tripod, but I have to lean against the door jamb to steady my arm. We leave the camera on the dining room table at the ready. Not just for yachts, but for anything interesting that passes by here—the Google barge, the tankers, a dog on a stand-up paddle board, a baby on a lobster boat, the cruise ships...and the ever-changing sky over the bay. I grew up in the middle of New Jersey, and I am still awestruck



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PASSIONS

Casting a lookout: Jill Blackwood hoists a mighty telephoto lens on her patio steps in South Portland, where she has a ringside seat to shipping traffic heading into Portland. "My husband's parents built this house on the site of the former Cloyester Hotel, which catered to Canadian dowagers, wealthy widows. By 1969 it had become derelict and was torn down." Inset, below: Its aura lost, the Google barge skulks out of town in August.



every day by Maine's beauty.

Once I retired and was around the house more often to see the ships that pass, I asked myself, *Who are all these people, who can afford these enormous yachts?* And then I got hooked on looking the yachts up on the web. It takes about 30 seconds to find all the info you'd ever want on the ship itself (deck plans, stats, tours of the interior, ports of call), but it's a cyber-sleuthing game to find the owner.

"Who are all these people who can afford these enormous yachts?"

I photographed the 129-foot *Patti Lou* flying a Cayman Islands flag passing Cushing Island. Checking online, I learned the boat spent two months in Baltimore before coming to New England.

Then an article in the *Baltimore Sun* surfaced on my screen. It was a hoot—they described trying to find the name of the owner of *Patti Lou* and made the discovery that the Eastern Caribbean island of St. Vincent makes a revenue source out of revealing yacht owners' names for the price of \$100, which the *Sun* paid!

The owner is listed as Michael A. Guerrieri, 71, trustee of a revocable trust and husband of Patricia "Patti Lou" Guerrieri. And who is he? He's a former chicken magnate from the Eastern Shore. For decades,

TOP: MEAGHAN MAURICE; JILL BLACKWOOD (3)



the Guerrieris owned Showell Farms, at one time the country's tenth-largest poultry operation, processing nearly three million chickens a week. Its roasters sold under the Cookin' Good brand name. In 1995, Perdue Farms bought out its smaller rival. The price was never disclosed, but that sale likely helped turn a chicken farmer into a mega-yachtsman.

There are some huge yachts out there on Casco Bay that I see on the live online map of ship traffic. I missed the biggest one this summer, the *Archimedes*, which was at Di-Millo's, because it entered and left the harbor by a northern route. I have photos from other years. The largest thus far has been David Geffen's 453-foot *Rising Sun*. ■



Patty Lou comes to town.



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