

The Cape Courier

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School Board adopts budget

Board also adopts plan to add early-release days to Pond Cove calendar

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth School Board members will present a \$24,287,545 2017 budget – 3.2 percent higher than this year’s – to the Cape Elizabeth Town Council Finance Committee on April 26. The School Board adopted the budget on April 12.

The plan calls for a \$750,896 increase in spending and proposes a \$12.40 tax rate for education. Residents would pay an extra 46 cents, or an additional 3.7 percent, in school taxes.

Spending for salaries and benefits – \$19,817,388 – accounts for about 82 percent of the budget, which includes negotiated base-salary increases of 2.25 to 2.5 percent. Eleven percent of spending in the budget is earmarked for facilities, capital improvements, transportation, energy and debt service. Another 7 percent is allocated for school supplies, equipment, professional development and contracted services.

In 2017, Cape Elizabeth will receive 23 percent less in state education aid than the district got this year. The \$778,684 reduction is responsible for 82 percent of the tax increase in the budget, School Board member Michael Moore said at the meeting.

“Last year’s budget ... was characterized as a windfall. I think the best way to characterize this year’s budget is as a significant shortfall,” he said.

To offset the decrease in state school aid, the budget includes an “out-of-the-ordinary” supplement of \$300,000 from undesignated funds – a solution that is by no means ideal, School Board Finance Chair

‘... The best way to characterize this year’s budget is as a significant shortfall.’
– Michael Moore,
School Board member

Joanna Morrissey said.

“It is important to note that this reduces our undesignated fund balance to around \$419,000, leaving us with less than 2 percent of our budget in that account, [and 2 percent] is the amount auditors prefer to see. [This] could hamper our ability to protect our taxpayers from future reductions in state funding like we are currently experiencing this year.”

In light of the sharp decline in state funding, using money from the undesignated fund balance is a good solution, School Board member John Voltz said.

“... This is the largest drop, percentage wise, in state aid that we have had in 10 some odd years – larger than the drop we experienced when we had the biggest financial downturn we have had in our lifetimes – so I’m delighted we’re able to manage to keep the budget increase very modest by reducing undesignated funds to a low amount,” Voltz said.

If the state ends up increasing Cape Elizabeth’s subsidy for 2017, the board wants the money to go into the School Board’s undesignated fund balance instead of to tax relief, as it usually would. At the April 12 meeting, the board voted to ask the council to add that provision to the election warrant.

—see SCHOOL BOARD, page 14

Record-breaking chess player, Fishbein, thanks Cape: ‘We have the best community’

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth High School senior Matthew Fishbein, who has won 10 state scholastic chess titles, three Maine Closed Chess championships, 33 chess tournaments, and numerous national honors, has a lot of gratitude for Cape Elizabeth, where he started playing chess in a kindergarten “Mommy and Me” class.

“It has been nice to have so much support. That has really helped,” Fishbein, 18, said on April 12, two months before his graduation. “We have the best community here.”

Two days earlier, Fishbein won his third Maine Closed Chess Championship title at the Waterville Grand Hotel. He finished with a perfect score in the tournament for highly rated adult players in the state.

Fishbein began making a name for himself in the Maine chess



Matthew Fishbein, left, with Maine Closed Chess Championship Director Phil Lowell in Waterville, won the tournament April 10 with a perfect score.

—see FISHBEIN, page 12

Town mourns



Photo by Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth residents honored the life of 17-year-old Cole Amorello with a memorial on Old Ocean House Road on April 12, the day after the Cape Elizabeth High School junior passed away at Maine Medical Center. Beloved by students and celebrated for his award-winning acting, Amorello hit a tree while driving the morning of April 9. That weekend and the following week, social workers and teachers were available at CEHS for students, and a memorial celebration of Amorello’s life was held April 15 at the Ocean Gateway Terminal in Portland.

Council approves fee increases at park

By Elizabeth Brogan

The Town Council, at its April 11 meeting, approved modest increases for miscellaneous user fees at Fort Williams Park. The fee changes, some of which were reduced by the council, were recommended by the Fort Williams Advisory Commission.

The average fee increase is about 10 percent and includes \$5 and \$10 increases for nonbusiness or nonprofit picnic shelter use (\$25-\$50 increases for for-profit businesses); \$5 and \$10 increases for Ship Cove platform fees; \$100 increases for major park area full- and half-day usage fees; a \$250 per-day increase for motion photography for an out-of-state company; and a \$25 increase for weddings.

The council also approved an increase from \$1,500 to \$1,700 for trolleys visiting the park more than 30 times a season, and

from \$500 to \$550 for commercially operated tour vans visiting the park more than 30 times a season. But the council reduced the increase for tour/cruise ship buses to \$10, from \$40 to \$50 a visit, rather than the commission-recommended increase to \$55. Likewise, a suggested fee hike from \$35 to \$50 for “pre-approved billing and promotion of Portland Head Light” was reduced by \$5.

Commission chairman Mark Russell said that the Portland Head Light is a “significant revenue generator, and it can generate more.” He said that some members of the commission had been in favor of a steeper set of increases for the trolleys, buses and vans that generate their own revenue from the park and pointed out that there had been no increase in fees for four years.

—see TOWN COUNCIL, page 4

Superintendent search narrows to two

By Wendy Keeler

During the last week of April, Cape Elizabeth school employees, town councilors and a group of parents and community members will meet with the two Maine educators who are finalists in the Cape Elizabeth School Board’s search for a superintendent. Cape Elizabeth Superintendent Meredith Nadeau will leave her post on June 30 for a job as leader of the Newmarket School District in New Hampshire.

Steven Bailey is superintendent of Maine Alternative Organizational Structure 93, which is based in Damariscotta and serves seven rural communities in the midcoast area. He will spend Monday, April 25, in Cape Elizabeth.

Craig King currently leads Regional School Unit 10, which is based in Dixfield and serves 12 communities in the Western Foothills region. May 10 business. His visit to Cape Elizabeth is set for Wednesday, May 27.

Bailey previously served as assistant superintendent and curriculum director in South Portland. In addition to a job there as principal, he was a principal in Exeter, N.H., and Veazie, Maine, where he began his teaching career. Bailey holds a Master of Education degree and a Certificate of Advanced Studies from the University of Maine at Orono.

King previously served as principal of Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham and principal

—see SUPERINTENDENT, page 12


The Cape Courier

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'Development should be tabled' until more current comprehensive plan is in place

In a March 24 Portland Press Herald article on greater Portland housing shortages, the Cape Elizabeth Town Planner is quoted: "Any new development is incredibly wrenching for neighbors. It's slow. There's a lot of anxiety. There's a lot of resistance."

In the April 8 Cape Courier article on 12 Hill Way, the Town Council chair is quoted: "The [2007] comprehensive plan [which presumably enables this development] is way out of date. A lot of the things that have been stirred up result from the comprehensive plan being out of date."

Given these two observations, we wonder if this development should be tabled until a more current comprehensive plan is in place. This approach might be more responsive to repeated town sentiment expressed in surveys and letters to the editor toward maintaining open space and resistance to multi-units, even in the town center zone.

Further, this would reduce anxiety and resistance as would the Planning Board applying some common sense amendments to this development:

(1) Entry and exit to be off Route 77 and/or Scott Dyer Road rather than Hill Way.

(2) Orientation of the project toward Route 77 rather than Hill Way.

(3) Requirement of total visual buffer from abutting neighborhood – hiding artificial light, asphalt, traffic, and height of buildings.

We are further told in the Cape Courier article [quoting the council chair] that "Change is hard. It's disruptive. It's unknown." Hard is OK; disruptive and unknown are not. Disruption should be cost/benefit analyzed including what's in it for the neighbors, and unknown should be mostly known before proceeding.

Steve Bates and Debbie Andrews

Keep us 'small-scale and rural' says resident

A massive new multiplex plan for Hill Way and Route 77 is open to public input. If approved, we'd be greeted at that corner by a 10-unit apartment/office multi-building complex. After blasting the ledge rock and loosening the remaining tree roots, the "Welcome To Cape Elizabeth" sign would be sadly back-lit by a multiplex glaringly out of scale with that small neighborhood.

What a shame to forever alter the look, feel, and safety of that unique gateway into town, so very close to the schools, for a particular kind of large-scale housing that has never been desired.

From the 2005 survey: "...the preservation of the natural landscape of Cape Elizabeth (e.g. woods, ponds, etc.), the community's rural character... are seen as high priorities for the town, thus reinforcing the notion that residents of Cape Elizabeth

view the natural environment as a key factor in their perceived quality of life."

"When queried about the Town's direction for future housing needs, there is little stated support for encouraging multi-unit housing such as condominiums or apartments."

An overwhelming majority of us "strongly disagree" with having huge new buildings in town – there isn't a sole comprehensive survey contradicting this centuries-old sentiment. Ultimately, this will be decided by the council. Will our local government ignore the majority and cater to the few?

Please come to the meeting on April 25 and affirm our heart's desire, to keep us safe, small-scale, and rural – the way Cape should be not just for us, but for the next generations.

Paul Seidman

'Taken aback' by scale of proposed town center building, resident encourages revisions

Like many Cape Elizabeth residents, I was taken aback at the scale and size of Amber and Zev Myerwitz's proposed multiuse building for the property on Hill Way when I saw it on the front page of the April 8-April 21 edition of The Cape Courier.

If the super-sized, multiuse building situated behind Rudy's restaurant that the Myerwitzes currently occupy and cite as a successful addition to the community is an example, let's not make the same mistake twice and build an even larger, similar building smack dab in the center of town.

The building the Myerwitzes propose to build is roughly the same size as the Gulf of Maine Research Institute on Commercial Street in Portland. Is this really what we want for the center of our small, rural town? I don't think so and here is why: The

rural beauty of Cape Elizabeth is one of its largest assets and the center of town reflects that.

At the same time, the convenient proximity to urban areas such as Portland and South Portland makes living here that much more desirable. (What retail could this new building possibly offer that doesn't already exist nearby?)

Maintaining the center of town with appropriately sized buildings and a cohesive design is a priority for the Town Council. I would like to encourage the Myerwitzes to move forward with a revised proposal that takes into consideration the concerns and hopes for all of Cape Elizabeth and not solely their bottom line.

Cooper Dragonette

New feature writers added to Courier volunteer staff

We are pleased to have received such a favorable response to our advertisement for volunteer feature writers and to welcome Robin Loughman, already a valued Courier proofreader, and Marta Kowalczyk to our pages. Look for their stories in future editions! We are also excited to announce the return of Sarah MacColl and her FitsCape fitness column to The Cape Courier! See page 3.



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Thank you to these recent generous contributors:

Kathleen & Herbert
Janick

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FITSCAPE

Teamwork(outs): not just for kids

By Sarah MacColl, M.S.

They sounded like kids, water-running as fast as they could to get away from Shirley the tagger, who tagged Julie who tagged, well, you get the idea. The morning “waterworks” class at the pool is one of many “teams” of exercisers that get fit while having fun. They do think of themselves as a team – their words, not mine. It’s a full-body workout in the water, shallow end, deep end, whatever works for each aging athlete.

They call this water workout the “no pain, all gain workout,” the hour that “gets our hearts going,” that “fights aging and gets the arthritic joints moving,” that is “the best way to start the day,” and as much about the social as the physical.

Then there is the learning. Patty Medina, dancer/athlete/coach leads these mostly ladies through their salsa paces and throws in some swing and flamenco spice. It looks like body work, but it’s as much brain work. She’s taking her cues from the exploding neuroplasticity research that tells us older folk to learn new stuff.

Jim Newton, a member of our community center morning spin team, says the exercise is secondary. Learning about and hearing new music helps him feel younger. “I’m stuck in the ‘60s, and Susan Janosik (the positive energy instructor everyone needs at 6 a.m.) is broadening my horizons.” Three couples are regulars, Buddy and Liz Elliot, Steve Goldstein and Mary Pinto (three-year vets) and Dick and Nancy Lemieux even sit near each other. Now that’s love, sweat and tears.

These teamsters are unified in their celebration of the morning workout. Blaine Grimes says Susan pushes them past their personal resistance. Suzanne Pillsbury notes that there’s still time to get to work on time after a challenging, yet extremely positive, start to the day. Susan Ray and Stefani LaRose both emphasize the kick-start to their day. As Dick says, “At 6 a.m. there are no excuses.”

I asked about the tightness of the group: Would newcomers feel too new? Stefani says there’s always room for one more. Sneak in. You can hide in a peleton of 30! No cars, no bugs, no rain. You ride at your own pace and you are never dropped.

Another notable Cape Elizabeth team is ready to start their Beach to Beacon training. For the third year, seven runners of all abilities from The Veterinary and Rehabilitation Center are prepping for the race, looking forward to enjoying the celebration of health, fitness and our beautiful course. Ginger Browne Johnson, DVM, says they love seeing two- and four-legged friends along the route. They have some walking and running routes all laid out for their training, including “the tail wagger,” “the dachshund,” “the tortoise and the hare,” and “the cat’s meow.”

Team, rah!

Sarah MacColl, M.S. is a certified medical exercise specialist and IDEA elite personal trainer. She lives in Cape Elizabeth. This is the first in what will be a continuing series about fitness, geared to Cape Elizabeth residents.

Bottle shed committee distributes \$21,000 to benefit Cape youth

The Cape Elizabeth Bottle Shed Committee voted on March 21 to distribute \$21,000 realized from donated returnable bottles and cans to all 15 of the organizations that applied for a share in February and March. All of the groups benefit Cape Elizabeth youth.

The distribution is: Boy Scouts of America Troop 30 \$2,000; CE Lions Club \$2,000; CE Ultimate Frisbee \$800; CEHS Boy Baseball Boosters \$1,000; CEHS Boys Basketball \$1,000; Joseph Doane Cross Country Running Awards \$400; CEHS Robotics Team \$1,300; CEHS Lacrosse Boosters \$2,000; CEHS Soccer Boosters \$1,000; CE Volleyball Boosters \$500; CE Softball Boosters \$2,000; CEHS Sailing \$1,000; CEHS Theatre \$2,000; CEHS Speech and Debate Team \$2,000; CEHS Swim and Dive Team \$2,000.

This is the first distribution of funds since the town changed its system for handling returnables in 2014. Previously, volunteers from organizations manned the shed, taking



The bottle shed is located at the Recycling Center.

the proceeds for that month.

Returnables are now sorted and processed by Boots Bounty Redemption of Portland.

Applications for the next distribution are expected to be made available in the fall, with a deadline of Friday, Oct. 21 and an allocation decision by the committee on Oct. 28. Groups applying for funds will be asked to request an amount, and to provide information on other sources of funding, how many children benefit from the organization, how long the organization has been established and whether representatives had worked the bottle shed in the past.

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NATURAL HAPPENINGS

Transit of Mercury across Sun on May 9

By Erika Carlson Rhile, CELT Education Committee chair

May 9: Rare transit of Mercury across the sun. The planet Mercury will move directly between the Earth and the Sun. Viewers with telescopes and approved solar filters will be able to observe the dark disk of the planet Mercury moving across the face of the Sun. This is an extremely rare event that occurs only once every few years. There will be one other transit of Mercury in 2019 and then none until 2039. This transit will be visible throughout North America, and the best place to view this event in its entirety will be the eastern United States.

May 14: International Astronomy Day. The theme is "bringing astronomy to the people," and on this day astronomy and stargazing clubs around the world plan special events. I highly recommend the "Sidewalk Astronomy Skywatch" from 6 to 10 p.m. in Portsmouth, N.H. - local volunteers set up telescopes downtown and invite you to take a look.

May 21: Full moon, blue moon. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Flower Moon

because this was the time of year when spring flowers appeared in abundance. Since this is the third of four full moons in this season, it is known as a blue moon. This rare calendar event only happens once every few years, giving rise to the term, "once in a blue moon." The March 1946 issue of Sky & Telescope misinterpreted the traditional definition, which led to the modern misunderstanding that a blue moon is a second full moon in a single calendar month with no seasonal link. There are normally only three full moons in each season of the year. The extra full moon of the season is known as a blue moon. Blue moons occur on average once every 2.7 years.

- May Day is the midway point between the first day of spring and the first day of summer.
- Robins feed earthworms to their babies. They otherwise prefer fruit.
- For the 180-millionth time, black flies arrive. Their fossils have been found dating back to the Jurassic period, where they probably tormented T-Rex!
- Orange slices may attract Baltimore orioles to your feeders.



Photo by Martha Agan

A herring gull rides the wind at Trundy Point on April 8.

Town Council

Continued from page 1

But Jeanne Gross, director of the museum and gift shop at the head light called the increases "excessive" in an email to Town Manager Michael McGovern. Gross said that tour operators had been "disgruntled" since the parking fees were first initiated in 2012 and pointed out that tour bus passengers "contribute heavily to profits at the gift shop."

Councilors were sensitive to the concerns of Gross. "We'll be looking at user fees going forward, but good will is important," said Councilor Jessica Sullivan. All but one councilor voted to approve the slate of increases, as amended for two increase reductions.

Councilor Kathy Ray, voting against the amended increases, reminded the council of its 2016 goals to review opportunities to increase revenue from nontaxpayer sources and at the park in particular. "The fort costs us more than it's bringing in for revenue," she said. "These are taxpayer dollars. We should be looking to increase our revenues to what we can."

The largest group user fee, for the Beach

to Beacon race, will remain unaffected at \$25,000. "I think the Beach to Beacon is a gift," said Russell to the council, pointing out also that the race takes care of all attendant costs and that other towns do not charge at all when hosting road races.

The approved fee increases are anticipated to increase revenue by \$7,000 to \$10,000 over the \$43,000 raised so far in the current fiscal year, according to McGovern.

Gift accepted; forums planned

In other matters, the council was pleased to formally accept a gift in the amount of \$570,069.71 from the Thomas Memorial Library Foundation for library furnishings, technology, the garden and other amenities. Council members thanked all those who supported the library capital campaign.

The council also approved communication and outreach subcommittee plans for two community forums. The first is planned for sometime in May, styled as an "open dialogue," possibly at the library, and timed to answer questions ahead of the Recycling Center bond referendum in June. The second is planned for September, modeled on last year's successful citizens' roundtable, incorporating suggested improvements.

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Domestic disturbances, assaults and trespasses are common complaints

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

COMPLAINTS

- 3-22 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area where a truck had driven over and damaged his lawn.
- 3-23 Two officers responded to a location in the Ocean House Road area for a well-being check.
- 3-23 Two officers responded to a residence in the Shore Road area for a domestic disturbance.
- 3-25 Two officers responded to a residence in the Spurwink Avenue area for a domestic disturbance.
- 3-25 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for an assault complaint.
- 3-25 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for a loud noise complaint where they found an underage drinking party.
- 3-26 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area who turned in a marijuana pipe found on his lawn.
- 3-26 An officer met with a subject in the Scott Dyer Road area about an assault complaint.
- 3-26 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area who turned in a wallet. The owner was identified and the property returned.
- 3-28 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for a domestic disturbance.
- 3-28 Two officers responded to a residence in the Wells Road area for an unwanted subject in the residence.
- 3-29 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area about an assault complaint.
- 3-30 Two officers responded to a residence in the Sawyer Road area for a report of a trespasser refusing to leave.
- 3-31 Two officers responded to a residence in the Brentwood area for a domestic disturbance.
- 4-1 Two officers responded to a residence in the Scott Dyer Road area for a well-being check.
- 4-4 Two officers responded to a residence

in the Brentwood area for a domestic disturbance.

SUMMONSES

- 3-22 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating without a licence, Route 77
- 3-23 South Portland resident, operating after license suspension, Shore Road
- 3-24 Augusta resident, uninspected vehicle, Route 77, \$133
- 3-25 Cape Elizabeth resident, possession of alcohol by consumption, Emerald Way
- 3-25 Cape Elizabeth resident, possession of alcohol, Emerald Way
- 3-26 South Portland resident, possession of marijuana, Route 77
- 3-26 Portland resident, possession of alcohol, Emerald Way
- 3-27 Cumberland, RI resident, operating under the influence of alcohol, Ocean House Road
- 3-29 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Route 77, \$133
- 3-30 Cape Elizabeth resident, imprudent speed, Scott Dyer Road, \$119
- 3-30 Cape Elizabeth resident, unregistered vehicle, Mitchell Road, \$70
- 3-31 Portland resident, failure to produce insurance, seatbelt violation, Spurwink Avenue, \$481
- 3-31 Portland resident, speeding (39/25 zone), Sawyer Road, \$137
- 4-1 Old Orchard Beach resident, failure to produce insurance, Route 77, \$171
- 4-2 Winthrop resident, seatbelt violation, Shore Road, \$70
- 4-2 Winthrop resident, operating after license suspension, violation of conditions of release, possession of scheduled drugs, Shore Road
- 4-2 South Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Sawyer Road, \$133
- 4-3 Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Shore Road, \$133
- 4-3 Cape Elizabeth resident, criminal mischief, violation of conditions of release, domestic violence assault, Philip Road

JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 3-24 Portland resident, failure to stop for red

- light, Ocean Street
- 3-25 Cape Elizabeth resident, assault
- 3-25 Cape Elizabeth resident, furnishing a place for minors to consume alcohol
- 4-1 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Broad Cove Road

ACCIDENTS

- 3-26 Donald Mckinney, accident on Mitchell Road

ARRESTS

- 3-27 Cumberland, RI resident, operating after license suspension, Ocean House Road
- 4-2 Winthrop resident, violation of conditions of release, possession of scheduled drugs, Shore Road
- 4-3 Cape Elizabeth resident, assault,

violation of conditions of release, criminal mischief, Shore Road

FIRE CALLS

- 3-22 Scott Dyer Road, investigation
- 3-22 Old Fort Road, fuel leak
- 3-23 Farm Hill Road, carbon monoxide alarm
- 4-1 Cape Woods Drive, furnace problem
- 4-2 Farms Edge Road, smoke removal
- 4-3 Smuggler's Cove Road, investigation
- 4-3 Hannaford Cove Road, power line down
- 4-4 Campion Road, fire alarm

RESCUE CALLS

There were 22 runs to Maine Medical Center. There were 2 patients treated by rescue personnel but not transported. There was 1 run to Mercy Hospital.

Unused drugs will be collected on April 30

The Cape Elizabeth Police Department will hold a collection of unwanted medicine from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at the Public Safety Building, 325 Ocean House Road. Unused and unwanted medications, both over-the-counter and prescription, will be collected and disposed of in an environmentally safe way.

Police urge residents to take part in the

collection to avoid accidental overdose and to keep medications out of the waste stream.

The collection is part of National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, an initiative sponsored by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.

For more information please contact Cape Elizabeth Community liason Officer David Galvan, at 767-3323.

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CAPE ELIZABETH MARKET STATISTICS: 2016 1ST QUARTER

January 1—March 31	2015	2016	% Change
# Single Family Homes Sold:	25	23	- 8.7%
Average Sale Price:	\$455,379	\$501,543	+ 9.2%
Average Sale to List Price Ratio:	95.4%	96.0%	+ .6%
Average # Days on Market:	87	90	+ 3.3%
Median Sale Price:	\$331,522	\$288,000	- 15.1%
Median Sale to List Price Ratio:	97.4%	96.3%	+ 1.1%
Median # of days on market:	42	62	+ 32.3%
Highest/Lowest Sale Price:	\$1,850,000/\$175,000	\$1,600,000/\$208,000	N/A

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Animal poetry readings planned April 23 at Buzz

In honor of National Poetry Month, Maine poets will read animal poems from a recently released anthology from 4 to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at the Local Buzz café and wine bar.

Cape Elizabeth resident Marcia F. Brown and Portland resident Linda Aldrich will co-host the event, part of the Local Writers at the Local Buzz group's free monthly reading series.

All of the poets who will read contributed to "The Wildest Peal, Contemporary Animal Poetry II," published in 2015 by Moon Pie Press. The new collection in-

cludes works by more than 60 poets. Poets who will read at the event include Carolyn Frost, John McVeigh, Pam Burr Smith, David Stankiewicz, Kevin Sweeney, Doug Woodsum, former Maine State Poet Laureate Betsy Sholl, and anthology editor and publisher Alice Persons.

Books will be for sale at the event, and proceeds will go to the nonprofit Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals in Windham.

The Local Buzz is located at 327 Ocean House Road. Go to localbuzzcafe.com for more information.

May 4 Cape garden club meeting to include talk

Carolyn Snell of Snell Family Farm in Buxton will present a talk about container gardens on Wednesday, May 4, in the community room at Thomas Memorial Library.

The Cape Elizabeth Garden Club is orga-

nizing the talk, which will begin at 7 p.m. The public is invited.

Contact Tom Atwell at tomatwell@me.com for more information about the event or the club.

Cape Lions plan pancake breakfast on May 8

Cape Elizabeth Lions will be cooking pancakes, French toast and eggs for community members at a Cape Elizabeth Lions Club breakfast set for 7:30 to 11 a.m. on Sunday, May 8.

Lions also will serve sausage, coffee, tea and juice that morning at the clubhouse, the

old Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, located at the intersection of Two Lights and Wheeler roads. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger.

Contact John Ney at 767-2079 or jney@shslawfirm.com to join or for more information.

One-Mile Dash, 5K, 'Fun Run' on June 5

The Cape Challenge 5K, a fundraiser for all three Cape Elizabeth schools, is set for Sunday, June 5. The event will include a Fun Run for children 8 years old and younger starting at 8:30 a.m.; a 1-Mile Dash for children 12 and under starting at 9 a.m.; and the 5K beginning at 9:30 a.m. All three events will start and finish at Cape Elizabeth Middle School.

Registration for the 5K is \$15 in advance or \$20 on race day. Registration for the 1-Mile Dash is \$8 in advance and \$12

on race day. No registration is necessary for the Fun Run. Runners who register for the 5K by May 16 will be eligible to purchase a technical T-shirt for \$12. Go to "events/programs" at capecpa.org for information about registering.

The race sponsors are Cape Chiropractic and Acupuncture, and OA Centers for Orthopedics and OrthoAccess-OA's Orthopedic Walk-In Clinic. Contact Andie Mahoney at andiemahoney@maine.rr.com about volunteering.

CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

Monday, April 25

Planning Board, 7 p.m., town hall chamber

Tuesday, April 26

Town Council Finance Committee,

School Board budget presentation, 7 p.m., town hall lower level conference room

Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., town hall chamber

Wednesday, April 27

Town Council Budget Workshop, 7 p.m., town hall lower level conference room

Thursday, April 28

Family Fun Day Volunteers, 6:30 p.m., Cape Elizabeth Community Center

Fort Williams Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., public works

Monday, May 2

School Board Policy Committee, 7:30-9 a.m., William H. Jordan conference room, town hall

Tuesday, May 3

Planning Board Workshop, 7 p.m., William H. Jordan conference room, town hall

Wednesday, May 4

Spurwink School Committee, 7 p.m., at

the former Spurwink School, next to the Thomas Memorial Library

Thursday, May 5

Recycling Committee, 7 p.m., Public Works building

Ongoing each week

Al-Anon, Regular meeting 7:30 p.m., Thursdays at United Methodist Church, 280 Ocean House Road. Regular meeting 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Alban's Church

Alcoholics Anonymous, 2 p.m., Saturdays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland; 7 p.m., Wednesdays, St. Bartholomew Church; 7 p.m. Fridays, St. Alban's Church

Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m.-noon, Thursdays, public safety building

Cape Elizabeth Lions Club, 6:39 p.m., first and third Tuesdays at the Bowery Beach Schoolhouse (except July and August), Two Lights Road

Cape Farm Alliance, third Wednesday, 7 p.m., community center

South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. Purpodock Club, Spurwink Avenue, 767-7388

CABLE GUIDE

CHANNEL 3

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

April 23, 24, 30 & May 1, noon

Planning Board (live)

April 25, 7 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals (live)

April 26, 7 p.m.

Planning Board replay

April 27 & 28, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. April 30, 9 a.m.

Zoning Board replay

April 29 & 30, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

May 1, 9 a.m.

Mattress sale to be held May 1 in Pond Cove gym

Cape Elizabeth High School girls' lacrosse players will hold their sixth annual mattress sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 1, in the Pond Cove School gym.

More than 20 different mattress sets will be on display. Cash, checks, and credit and debit cards will be accepted. Proceeds will

help fund coaches' fees, equipment and player development opportunities.

Last year's mattress fundraiser sold 32 mattresses for a total \$3,500.

Go to bit.ly/beds4capelax or contact Ang Foley at 207mom@gmail.com for more information.



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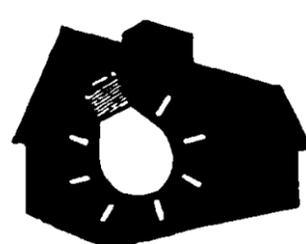
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Effect of physical activity on brain to be topic of free presentation planned on April 28

The effect of exercise on the brain will be the topic of a free presentation planned from 6 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, in the Cape Elizabeth Community Center meeting room.

Kyle Neagle of Cape Chiropractic and Acupuncture will present the talk, which will focus on why physical activity has a positive effect on the brain, and how it can

enhance learning and memory and help with the management of stress, anxiety and mood disorders.

Registration is required by going to capecommunityservices.org and clicking on the registration link.

The Community Center is located at 343 Ocean House Road. Call 799-2868 for information.

Annual Crescent Beach cleanup on April 29

The Inn by the Sea will host its annual beach cleanup at Crescent Beach at 11:15 a.m. on Friday, April 29. The inn will provide garbage bags and gloves.

Before the cleanup, Kurt Schoener, Crescent Beach State Park's new manager, will give a short talk about the park and "about the importance of leaving nothing behind and preserving and protecting the dunes for

wildlife," said Rauni Kew, the inn's public relations and green program manager. All will be welcome at the talk.

After the cleanup, the inn will serve cookies and lemonade on the lawn.

Contact Rauni Kew at 799-3134 or rkew@innbythesea.com, or go to innbythesea.com for more information. The inn is located at 40 Bowery Beach Road.

CELT plans walks through Robinson Woods: for adults on May 17, for children on May 19

Robinson Woods walks for both adults and young children are planned next month.

Cape Elizabeth Land Trust member Tony Owens will lead a walk for adults focused on the habitat, flora and fauna of the woods on Tuesday, May 17, from 9 to 11 a.m. The program will happen rain or shine, so walkers should wear clothing and footwear suitable for wet conditions. Registration is \$6 per person.

CELT board member Lisa Gent will lead a "Little Explorers" hike for 3-to-5-year-

olds from 9 to 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 19. During the walk, the group will search for birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals and plant life. The outing will include hands-on exploration and games.

Participants should wear comfortable clothes and bring a water bottle. The fee is \$10 per family.

Registrants in both programs will meet at the Robinson Woods kiosk on Shore Road. Register at capecommunityservices.org. Call 799-2868 for more information.

Mermaid and prince plan Cape appearances



Cape Elizabeth High School seniors Katie Oberholtzer and George Astor will play Ariel and Prince Eric in the CEHS production, "The Little Mermaid." The play will open at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 27. Performances will include three matinees and will run through Sunday, June 5. Tickets will be for sale at the door. "We are pleased to bring you the first official Maine high school production of this newly released Disney Broadway musical," CEHS Theater Director Richard Mullen said. Contact Mullen at rmullen@capeelizabethschools.org for more information about the show.

Photo by Anya Kohan

The May 6 issue's deadline is noon on Friday, April 22

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Pizza fundraiser at Rudy's planned April 25

A fundraiser for the Cape Elizabeth High School sailing team is set for Monday, April 25, at Rudy's. The team will get \$4 from the sale of every large pizza, and \$2 for each

small pizza sold between 5 and 8:30 p.m. The event also will include a raffle.

Call 799-0270 for more information. Rudy's is located at 517 Ocean House Road.

Soccer registration continues through May 4

Registration for the Cape Elizabeth Soccer Club's fall 2016 season will run through Wednesday, May 4. Players must be 7 years old by July 31, 2016, and in second grade in fall 2016 in order to be eligible for the travel program, which serves youth through

the age of 13. The program will run from late August through late October.

Register on the CESC website, capesoccer.net, under "quick links." Email Registrar Rian Branch at capesoccerclub@gmail.com for more information.

Award to go to exceptional Cape high graduate

The nonprofit Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation is accepting nominations for its 2016 Alumni Award, which salutes former Cape Elizabeth High School students who have achieved exceptional professional success and have made a positive impact in their communities. Past recipients include Olympic runner Joan Benoit Samuelson,

Luke's Lobster restaurant founder Luke Holden and musician Henry Kramer. CEEF will present the award during the CEHS graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 12.

Go to ceef.us for nomination forms, which should be emailed to info@ceef.us or mailed to CEEF, P.O. Box 6225, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107 by April 25.

'Spamalot' to open May 13 at Lyric Theater

Monty Python's "Spamalot," will run from Friday, May 13, through Saturday, May 28, at Lyric Music Theater in South Portland.

Based on the film comedy, "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," the musical recounts the legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table and features knights possessing varying degrees of bravery and intelligence, a bevy of show girls, a few cows and a killer rabbit.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$18.99-\$21.99. Call 799-1421 or go to lyricmusictheater.org to buy them.



Photo by Tommy Waltz

Lyric Music Theater's "Spamalot" features cast members, from left, Michael Donovan, Amy Torrey and David Heath.

The deadline for the May 6 Courier issue is Friday, April 22

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Landscapes of fort in foundation exhibit



South Portland artist Michael Caudle's landscapes of Fort Williams Park are now on exhibit at the Fort Williams Park Foundation office.

Mixed media landscapes of Fort Williams Park by artist and educator Michael Caudle are on exhibit through the end of June at the Fort Williams Park Foundation office, 299 Ocean House Road.

A South Portland resident with artwork on display in Boothbay, Damariscotta, Peaks Island and Kennebunk, Caudle's work in-

cludes landscapes from Montana to New England, photographs and marionettes.

He holds master's and bachelor's degrees in art education and has taught at the university and primary school levels. Show hours are 8 a.m.-noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays or by appointment. Call 767-3707 for more information.

Students to assist older residents with laptops, smart phones, reading devices on May 17

Cape Elizabeth High School students with technological know-how will work one on one with Cape Elizabeth residents 55 years and older at a Cape Elizabeth Community Services "Lunch and Learn" event set for 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, at the Cape Elizabeth Fire Station, 2 Jordan Way.

People are invited to bring laptops, iPads,

Kindles and smart phones to the event, where students will answer questions and provide tips and instruction. Lunch and dessert prepared by the Cape Elizabeth school district nutrition staff will follow.

The cost is \$7. Register at capecommunityservices.org. The fire station is located at 2 Jordan Way. Call 799-2868 information.

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Cape Elizabeth High School unified basketball team members are, from left, front Connor Thoreck, Peter Tarling, Brian Hunter, Thomas Bourdeaux; middle row, Matt O'Neill, Vince Tarpo, Andy Erskine, Roman Medina; back row, team coordinator Karen Johnson, Elliot Voltz, Abaseen Shir, Brandon Ledoux and coach Sarah Kaleko. Coach Peter Mullen and players Thatcher Kent, Noah Bates, Bryce Hewitt and Owen Thoreck are missing.



Photos by Nathan Tsukroff
Peter Tarling, right, hugs his unified team partner Connor Thoreck at Gray-New Gloucester High School on March 17.

Cape's unified team 'wins' its pilot season in basketball league

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth High School's unified basketball team, which includes athletes with developmental disabilities playing beside general-education student "partners," won one out of the two games the team played against other high schools this winter. But the team absolutely "won" in its pilot season in the Maine Principal Association's one-year-old Unified Sports basketball league, team coordinator Karen Johnson said.

"It was a great experience for all of the kids on the team," Johnson said about the program, in which three students with developmental disabilities were partnered with two general-education students. "The athletes had a ball, and the partners had a ball."

In the past, unified teams from Maine high schools, including CEHS, competed once a year at a one-day tournament organized by Special Olympics of Maine. Last year, the first since the MPA launched an interscholastic unified basketball league, 17 high school teams competed at games in February and March, ending the season with playoffs and a state championship game.

This year, in a pilot program, the CEHS team had regular practices, played games against Gray-New Gloucester and Bonny Eagle high schools, and played against a team of CEHS teachers in front of the entire student body.

In unified basketball, athletes are allowed to pass to partners, and partners can pass to athletes. Partners may score, but athletes have to score at least 75 percent of the team's total points, Johnson said.

The rules guarantee the athletes "a real, true athletic experience. They have a chance to learn how it is to be on a team, and they get to experience the things that kids in general education experience on teams," said Johnson, an educational technician in the high school's functional life skills classroom who also coaches the school district's Special Olympics team, the Cape Olympians.

Thatcher Kent

Athlete Thatcher Kent, a CEHS senior, may never forget the 2016 basketball season. In early March, when CEHS teachers competed against the team in the gym before the whole student body and faculty, Kent scored a memorable basket, Johnson said.

"The unified team had the ball at the very end of the game, and Thatcher scored at the buzzer, and the whole team rushed to him and hoisted him up on their shoulders. The students were up on their seats cheering," she said.

The buzzer-beater ending and the minutes afterward – "when everyone rushed out on the floor" – were so moving that CEHS senior Montana Braxton talked to the Cape Elizabeth School Board about the game at the April 12 business meeting.

"It was a really great moment, I want to say, for the school," said Braxton, who represents CEHS on the board.

It was a really great moment for Kent, too. Later that day, he told people, "This is the best day of my life," Johnson said.

'Awesome'

Senior Brandon Ledoux, a partner on the team, said the experience was "awesome."

"At first, it was awkward because we didn't know where we stood as players or helpers, but as we got into the program, we were able to establish relationships not only on the court but also in the halls of the school as well," he said.

Now team members "always wave to

—see UNIFIED, page 12



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Mapmaking workshop returns to library



A series of small maps from last fall's mapmaking workshops is displayed.

Portland-based cartographer Molly Holmberg Brown will return on May 5 for a creative mapmaking workshop. Brown offered two extremely popular workshops for adults last fall and offered a workshop for kids during April vacation week.

Brown combines cartographic design and landscape art to create unique visual expressions of geography. In the workshop, she shares examples of her work and then

leads participants through the process of making their own small maps of places that they love that are personally important to them.

The workshop will take place on Thursday, May 5 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the library's community room. The workshop is limited to 20 participants and requires advance registration. Call, stop by, or visit the library's website to register.

Danny Lion to perform at library April 23

On Saturday, April 23, at 10:30 a.m., Thomas Memorial Library favorite Danny Lion will return for a family concert for little ones.

Danny Lion, a.k.a. Dan Flannery, will travel here from his home in New York City

to present a family concert for his many Cape Elizabeth fans.

If you are unfamiliar with Danny Lion, check out the videos on the library's website — he is a truly special performer. As always, all of the library's programs are free.

Gabriel A. Zimpritch Poetry Symposium will be held April 26; poetry contest in May

The Zimpritch Poetry Symposium returns on Tuesday, April 26. Andrew Merton will be teaching selected students from Cape Elizabeth High School, and their works will be presented at 7 p.m. in the library's community room.

Merton is a journalist, essayist and poet whose works have appeared in publications such as Esquire, Ms. Magazine, The New York Times Magazine, Boston Magazine and The Boston Globe. He is a professor emeritus of English at the University of New Hampshire. All are welcome at this evening event.

New poetry contest announced

The Thomas Memorial Library is proud to announce the first Gabriel Zimpritch Memorial Poetry Contest, open to all Maine residents living here at least six months a year. The contest will award a prize to one adult and one teen (age 11-18). The adult contest prize will be awarded by Betsy Sholl, former Maine poet laureate, and the teen contest prize will be awarded by Gibson Fay-Leblanc, the poet laureate of Portland. All manuscripts must be digitally submitted by May 14. For complete details and submission guidelines please visit the library website.

Gulf of Maine climate is subject of talk by research scientist on April 28 at library

Jeff Runge, a research scientist at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and a faculty member in the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences, will go beyond the headlines to explain the changes occurring in the Gulf of Maine at a talk set for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 28 in the library.

Global climate change and El Nino may be causing weird weather patterns around the world, but how does that affect the Gulf of Maine? Runge will explain this along with what these changes mean for our local economy and the overall environmental impact.

Construction Crafters program arrives May 3

Beginning Tuesday, May 3, the library's Super Sleuths program will be replaced by Construction Crafters for second- and third-graders. Each week, participants will have

a chance to build their own creation out of a different type of material, such as wood, rocks, Styrofoam, cardboard, sticks and more! No registration required.

Socrates Café will meet on May 3 at library

The next meeting of the library's monthly philosophy discussion group, Socrates Café, will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, in the adult library reading area. All

are welcome at this lively discussion group. No advance reading or specialized knowledge is required. For more information, please visit the library's website.

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Services streamed live or on demand:
watch.capenazarene.org

Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church
280 Ocean House Road
799-8396
www.ceumc.org
Chapel Service: 8 a.m.
Sanctuary Service: 10 a.m.
Child care & Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Adult Sunday School: 9 a.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
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767-5000
Sacrament Meeting:
Sunday 9-10:10 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15-11 a.m.
Primary: 10:15 a.m.-noon
Relief Society, Priesthood: 11 a.m.-noon

The Church of the Second Chance
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Sunday: 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Greater Portland Christian School
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Congregation Bet Ha'am
81 Westbrook St., South Portland
879-0028
www.bethaam.org
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Saturday, 10 a.m.
Family Shabbat services:
Second Friday, 6:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church of South Portland
879 Sawyer St., South Portland
799-4565
www.spfbc.com
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Awana Clubs (Grades 3-8): Tuesday 6:20 p.m.

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
301 Cottage Road, South Portland
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Chapel Worship: 8:30 a.m.
Sanctuary Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
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Sundays: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
Celtic Service: Sunday, 5:30 p.m.
Children's/Youth Programs: 9:30 a.m.
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Sunday Mass: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Monday & Tuesday Masses: 8 a.m.

Superintendent

Continued from page 1

and assistant principal of a school in Mississippi, where he taught at the high school level. His experience also includes elementary-level teaching at an international school. King holds a doctorate in educational leadership and a Master of Education degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

During their visits, the finalists will tour the schools and meet with school administrators, staff members, town councilors, and a group of parents and residents. While touring the schools, they will have an opportunity to meet some students, School Board Chair Elizabeth Scifres said.

Fishbein

Continued from page 1

community in elementary school, winning his first scholastic state championship in 2006 when he was in second grade. In addition to bringing home five scholastic elementary and middle school state titles, he made Maine chess history as a sixth-grader when he won the high school state crown, his first of five.

During his school years, Fishbein has led Cape Elizabeth teams to seven state championships for a total 17 state titles. Since fourth grade, he has won 65 consecutive games at state championships.

At the adult level as well, Fishbein has broken state records. He won his first Maine Closed Chess Championship title at age 13 and remains youngest winner in the history of the 58-year tournament.

Over the years, Fishbein has played competitively in 16 states, competing in national elementary, junior high, and high school championships, at the Supernationals, the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions, and the Denker Tournament of High School State Champions, which he will compete in a seventh time this summer in Indianapolis.

In 2014, when he was 16, Fishbein

In an evening executive session planned after King's visit on April 25, the School Board will "discuss and deliberate on a final choice," Scifres said. "The School Board hopes to appoint a new superintendent at or before the May 10 business meeting."

After announcing the names of the finalists on April 11, Scifres thanked school staff members, the School Board and residents for participating in the "intensive, thoughtful and demanding work" that has gone into the search.

"Each representative brought careful consideration to the tasks at hand, being careful to honor all input from the various focus groups and surveys," she said. "Every voice was heard, honored and weighed as we moved forward."

achieved the United States Chess Federation status, "National Master," awarded only to higher-caliber players. He is currently one of two National Masters in Maine. Over the years, Fishbein consistently has been ranked in the top 40 players of his age nationally and ranked as high as 14th.

He plans to continue playing chess when he heads to Massachusetts this fall to attend Bentley University in Waltham. His chess experience will be very different after he graduates, Fishbein believes.

"There will be a lot more pressure on me. Being a Master in high school is great, but as an adult you're being compared to adults, and there's more pressure to go high up in the ratings," he said.

Fishbein intends to play in tournaments around Boston and possibly for Bentley.

"I don't think Bentley has a major chess team for now, but I might try to form one," he said.

Fishbein would like to pursue a major in finance. Whatever field he chooses, he should do well if strategic planning is involved, his mother Ilene Schuchman said.

"I think strategic thinking just comes naturally to Matthew," said Schuchman, who has heard her son verbalize 10 moves ahead while playing chess. "He's very good at visualizing, and I think that he will use that in whatever field he goes into."

Read issues
of The Cape Courier
at capecourier.com

Unified

Continued from page 10

each other in the halls and at lunch and stop to talk. We definitely established friendships through this program, and I'm so glad we did."

The experience had such an impact on Ledoux that he will spend at least a week of his final three at CEHS working closely with some of the athletes he got to know on the team.

At the end of their CEHS careers, all seniors do a three-week senior transition project outside school. Often seniors spend their days with companies, organizations or programs connected to fields that interest them. Ledoux plans to spend a week – and more, if he can arrange it, he said – working in the CEHS life skills classroom with students with disabilities.

The unified program offers students with disabilities and students without disabilities an opportunity to interact in a real way, Johnson said.

"What I love about it is that it's a natural way of grouping kids together. Sometimes we set up things for kids with disabilities, and it's not as natural as this was," she said.

In years to come, CEHS unified teams may compete in a full schedule of games each season.

"Our hope is to join the MPA league next year," said Johnson.

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Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Cape Elizabeth Office announces Mary Walker March 2016 Broker of the Month

Kathy Duca, Manager of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage real estate office located at 285 Ocean House Road in Cape Elizabeth is pleased to announce **Mary Walker** has been named **Broker of the Month for March 2016** for superior sales.

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Historical society seeks information about mystery photo

Scarborough history topic of May 7 meeting

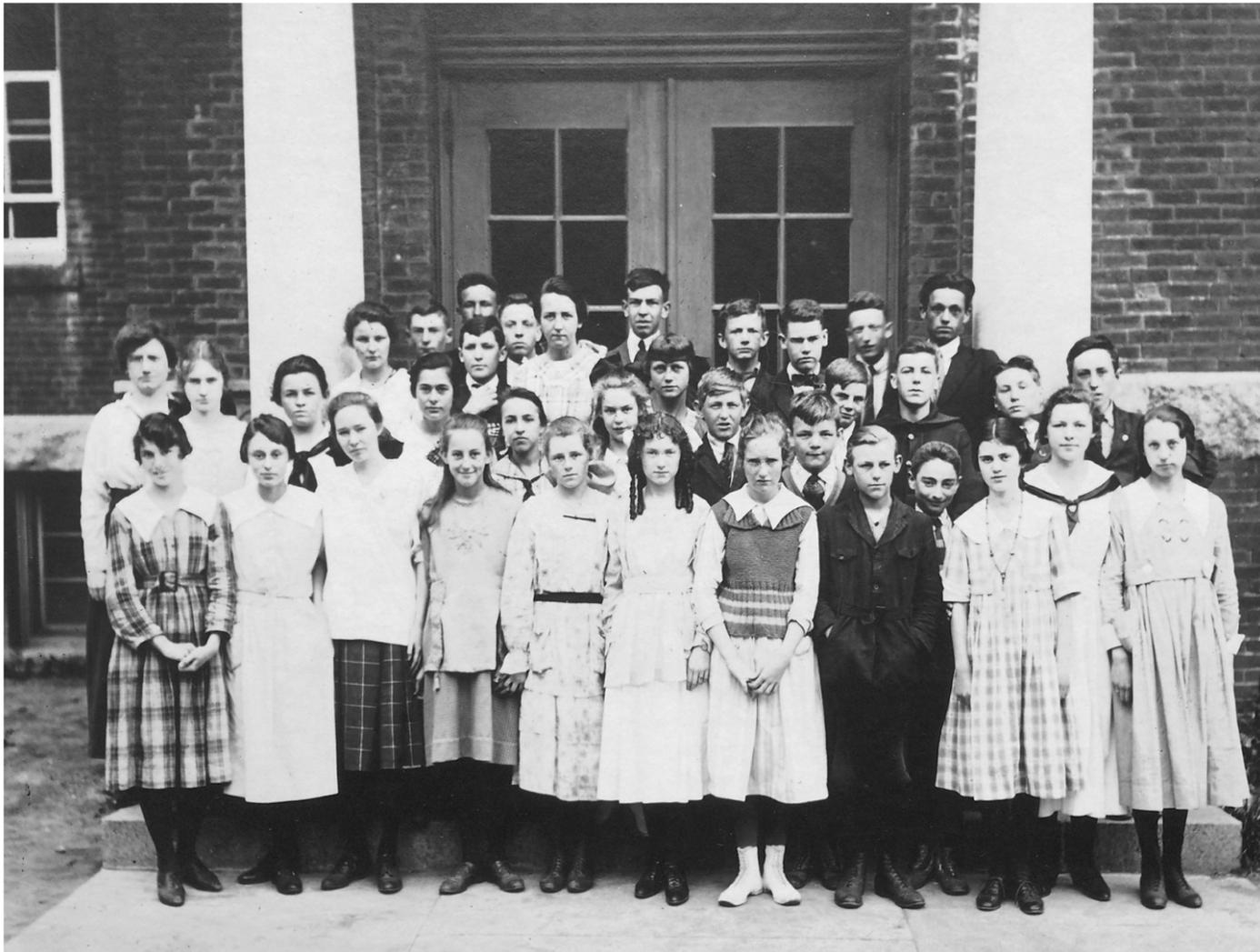


Photo courtesy of Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society

Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society members have questions about this photograph: who, what, when, where?

By Wendy Keeler

Some serious sleuthing is going on at the Cape Elizabeth Public Safety building – by members of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society.

CEHPS members, who have offices in the same building as Cape police, are on the hunt for information about a photograph donated to the society by ... well, they aren't sure.

"Someone dropped it off, but we don't know who," CEHPS member Ellen Van Fleet said about the picture, which includes more than 30 young people standing in front of a brick building.

Who are they?

"We can't figure that out, or where the picture was taken," society member Diane

Brakeley said.

"We don't think it's a Cape school, and it just doesn't look like any Cape buildings," Van Fleet said.

The back of the photo has no writing on it. At one point, the name of a Brunswick photographer was on the back of the frame, but the sticker has fallen off since then, Brakeley said. Nor has the society heard back from Brunswick Historical Society members, whom Van Fleet emailed about the photo.

Unfortunately, this photo isn't the first one people have dropped off without providing their names or information about a picture.

"People will leave something at the front desk of the Public Safety Building but they won't say who it's from, so we don't have a

chance to get background information," Van Fleet said.

Know anything?

Anyone who does can visit the CEHPS offices, 325 Ocean House Road, from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursdays, email cehps@capeelizabeth.org, or call 619-6793 during Thursday morning office hours.

Rodney Laughton of the Scarborough Historical Society will give an overview of Scarborough's settlement and development over the centuries at the Saturday, May 7, meeting of the Greater Portland Chapter of the Maine Genealogical Society.

The free presentation will begin at 1 p.m., and a social time with refreshments will start a half hour earlier.

Meetings are held the first Saturday of the month at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 29 Ocean House Road. Go to gpcmsg.brakeley.net for information.

Leaving 04107?

Taking a family vacation, business trip, or making a solo trek? Then please pack The Cape Courier, take a high-resolution shot of yourself or someone reading it, and email it to communityeditor@capecourier.com. Thank you!



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School board

Continued from page 1

Spending in the board's adopted budget is \$181,373 lower than Superintendent Meredith Nadeau proposed in early March in her recommended budget. Board members removed an 8-percent increase in spending for health insurance from the plan after finding out that health insurance premiums will be flat for 2017.

Some of the reductions in the 2017 budget are the result of anticipated declines in enrollment, Morrissey said. Next year, the high school will lose 33 students, Pond Cove will lose eight, and the middle school will gain 16 students, she said.

"Because of shifts in student need, this budget also represents some difficult choices ... including the reduction of four positions. These cuts are the results of attrition due to retirement, reduction in special-ed. staffing due to decrease in student need, as well as straight-out staff reduction," Morrissey said.

The School Board will present the budget to the council at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, in the conference room located on the bottom

floor of the town hall. The council is expected to hold a public hearing on the combined town, school and county budgets, but a date has not been set. Town councilors will adopt a school budget after the hearing, and Cape Elizabeth residents will vote on that budget on Tuesday, June 14.

Go to the Cape Elizabeth School Board page on the school website, cape.k12.me.us, for more information.

Pond Cove calendar

In an effort to strike a balance between staff planning time and classroom teaching time at Pond Cove School, board members voted 4-3 to adopt a plan adding five 1:30 p.m. early-dismissal days to the Pond Cove calendar. The plan does not include dates.

The 2016-2017 district calendar already includes three early-dismissal days and five staff-only days. Pond Cove staff members asked for additional early-release days, because they have less planning time than Cape Elizabeth Middle School and Cape Elizabeth High School teachers.

Last month, Pond Cove Principal Kelly Hasson proposed two plans – one for 1:30 p.m. dismissal times on seven days and an-

other for five days with noon releases.

School Board Chair Elizabeth Scifres and board members Morrissey, Heather Altenburg and Susana Measelle Hubbs voted for the compromise plan adopted by the board. Board members Moore, Voltz and Barbara Powers, who favored Hasson's proposal for seven 1:30 p.m. early-release days, voted against it.

Moore said seven 1:30 p.m. release days would reduce classroom time by 11 hours, a smaller impact than this year's five half-day early releases.

"It's an improvement over the plan we have this year, which reduces instructional time by 15 hours," he said.

Giving teachers adequate planning time is a necessity, Moore said.

"Ultimately I think it comes down to, we want teachers to do student-directed learning, we want them to learn about differentiated instruction," he said. "... There [are] a lot of goals in the strategic plan. They need time for professional development and to plan, so you've got to pay for it somewhere."

Board members who voted for the compromise plan agreed that teacher planning time is crucial, but said they worry about

the impact of early-release days on teaching time and student learning.

School weeks with early-dismissals are "interrupted weeks," Scifres said, "and it really does kind of put a hiccup in the momentum of learning."

Measelle Hubbs, a Pond Cove parent, said she worries that Pond Cove students don't take early-release days seriously.

"I've been asked multiple times by my own daughter [for permission to] have a sleep-over on the days that there's a half-day," she said.

Powers said she is pleased the adopted plan calls for 1:30 p.m., not half-day, early dismissals. Ending the school day "an hour and a half early ... seems a lot less disruptive to me," she said.

Finding the right balance between time for classroom instruction and time for teacher planning is not easy for any elementary school, said Powers, a former Fal-mouth superintendent.

"[Giving] teachers time to work on professional learning together ... is a very huge challenge in an elementary school," she said. "We will never exactly match ... what middle and high school teachers get."

In the future, more discussion on the topic is needed, board members agreed.

"I struggle with this (issue), and it's my hope, it's my goal, it's my plan that we will look at the calendar in a broader context" in early 2017, Scifres said.

School Board goals

At the April 12 meeting, the board also adopted a list of four School Board goals for the year: "hire a superintendent and create a transition plan/first-year goals; adopt a budget that supports strategic plan goals and is sensitive to our community; continue to review and update policies; and prioritize communication, especially regarding the budget and the superintendent search process."

Carter Harvey's Pi Day feat

On a lighter note, CEHS senior Montana Braxton, school representative to the board, shared a story about fellow senior Carter Harvey and her talent for recalling numbers.

On March 14 – called "Pi Day" at CEHS because of the numerical date – "one of my classmates recited pi up to 228 numbers, which is quite crazy," Braxton said.

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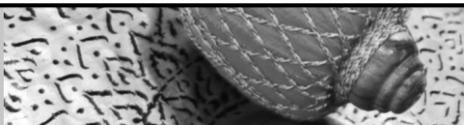
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Cape Elizabeth resident **Linda K. Riddell**, the principal of **Health Economy, LLC**, a website for employers that delivers health policy news, has joined the editorial board of the peer-reviewed journal, *Population Health Management*. Published by the Thomas Jefferson University School of Public Health of Philadelphia, Pa., the journal appears six times annually.

Adam Godfrey, a 2015 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School, was named to the fall-semester dean's list at the University of South Carolina at Columbia. Adam is studying middle level education. He is the son of **Mary and Paul Godfrey**.

Collection of pet food, toys, beds underway at real estate office

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Cape Elizabeth is holding its annual collection of supplies for the Animal Rescue League of Greater Portland.

The nonprofit organization rescues and places animals for adoption. Pet food, toys, beds, towels and blankets can be dropped off through Wednesday, May 4, at the real estate office located at 295 Ocean House Road. Call 799-5000 for more information.

Caitlin Euler recently joined the Inn by the Sea as catering sales manager. Her focus will be on weddings and social events at the inn.

Euler, who has years of experience in the hospitality field, previously worked as catering sales manager, meetings manager and banquet supervisor for the Crowne Plaza in Nashua, N.H. She graduated from St. Anselm College in Manchester, N.H., with a concentration in marketing and communications.



Caitlin Euler

South Portland resident **Mary Walker** was named "Broker of the Month" at **Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage** real estate office for superior sales in March. She has been a licensed broker since 1982 and previously worked for the Maine State Housing Authority and Management Resources, Inc.

Cape alums help Chilean children; seek wetsuits



Paul Wennberg, rear, far left, who works for the nonprofit Valpo Surf Project in Valparaiso, Chile, makes the peace sign with children involved in the program.

Growing up in coastal Maine and learning to surf had such an impact on two Cape Elizabeth High School alumni that they are using their passion to help children in need in a coastal community in Chile.

Emily Leighton, who graduated from CEHS in 2010 and from the University of Vermont in Burlington in 2014, and Paul Wennberg, who graduated from CEHS in 2011 and from Colby College in Waterville in May, are working for the nonprofit Valpo Surf Project.

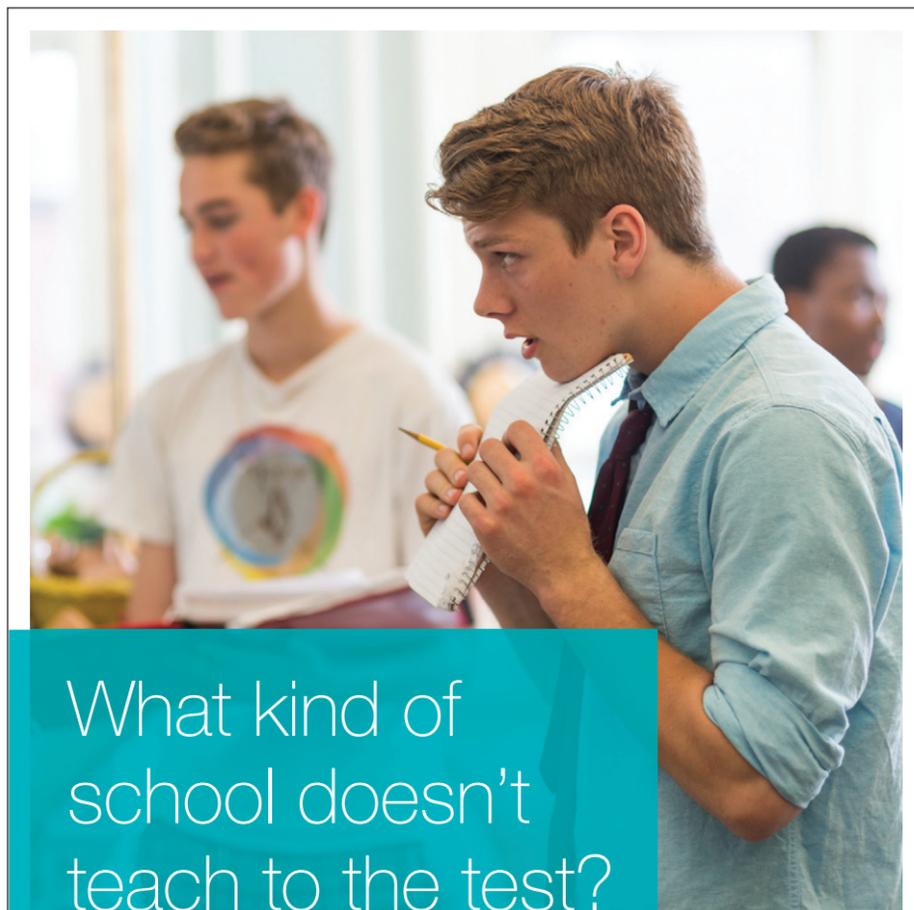
The organization seeks to help young people in impoverished coastal communities through surfing, academic tutoring and environmental stewardship. The program an-

nually serves 150 children aged 8-18 years, who receive 30 hours of mentoring each month.

"Being able to use [surfing] to mentor kids who come from very unstable backgrounds, watching their growth and instilling a sense of responsibility and confidence has been an incredible experience," Leighton said.

The organization is in need of gently used children's wetsuits. Drop off wetsuits at the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust office, 330 Ocean House Road, from May through July. Go to valposurfproject.org to make a monetary donation. Email Wennberg at pwennberg@valposurfproject.org for more information.

— Wendy Keeler



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