

The Cape Courier

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An Independent Not-for-Profit Newspaper
Serving Cape Elizabeth Since 1988

capecourier.com

Happy Birthday to us! *Courier* starts Volume 25

Creating an accurate, compelling issue of any newspaper is a big production, even with today's technology and resources. It still takes a lot of planning, gathering of information, communication, writing, editing, proofreading, technical setup, and more.

I've often wondered, over the course of 2½ years with *The Cape Courier*, how an all-volunteer staff managed to pull it all together for each issue back in the early days, when there were far fewer convenient tools to help construct a newspaper.

The production process has been revolutionized so much since I first started working for a daily newspaper 30 years ago that I can't even fully recall how it used to work. I know this much, though – it sure took a lot more time and was far more tedious back then.

There were no digital images, so every photo in every newspaper was developed from film, printed and then scanned. And all content was entered by typists. No email, thus way slower communication. No cell phones. No Internet or search engines. Everything was done in person, by phone and via snail mail.

There was no such thing as the instantaneous transfer of information that we take for granted today. News releases arrived by mail, had to be delivered to or picked up by the proper person, then typed.

So many steps ... and then once the information was in hand and in the proper form, there were many more steps to lay out material on a page. Today, for instance, drawing a box around a story or photograph is simple: Select the right tool, and drag your mouse to create a rectangle. For many years at *The Courier*, drawing such a box required cutting four strips of "border tape" with an X-acto blade and manually positioning them into the shape of a box (then trimming) on a paste-up board.

There were no instant answers to every conceivable question – and yes, I did just have to Google to figure out what to call that black-rule tape!

Simple recollections like these make me very grateful for the people who took on – with no compensation – the much more complicated task of producing this paper 22 times a year in those early days. I'm equally grateful to all who have kept the paper going through this quarter of a century, being brave and resourceful enough to learn new technology and methods, which can be seriously difficult.

The start of our 25th year here at *The Cape Courier* created a great opportunity to learn more about the paper's beginnings



Photo by Patricia McCarthy

Two people most instrumental in getting *The Courier* off the ground 25 years ago: founder Ellen Van Fleet, left, and first editor Wendy Derzawiec, with the March 5, 1988, first issue.

and to have many of my own questions answered. I asked founder and longtime publisher Ellen Van Fleet if she'd be willing to help with some sort of retrospective to mark the milestone, and being who she is, of course she obliged.

She asked if I could send a few questions to jog her memory. That was simple – I effortlessly dashed off 20 questions and could have asked many more. We agreed to decide what to do with what she remembered later – I figured I'd use her answers to help construct a story. But what came back was so interesting that I decided to just run with it (with some trimming).

Other people involved with the paper through the years were kind enough to oblige as well, and their recollections are included in this issue. We welcome yours, too.

Drop us a line if you'd like to tell fellow residents something noteworthy about the paper. Thank you, readers, for your support of *The Cape Courier*. Without it, we wouldn't still be publishing.

Enjoy this look back.

– Patricia McCarthy,
publisher and editor

Ellen Van Fleet, founder; publisher, 1988-2004

What inspired you to start a newspaper!?

Jeff and I moved to Cape Elizabeth in August 1985 from New Gloucester, where we had been involved in the town's *weekly* all-volunteer newspaper. The lack of a newspaper for this community became especially apparent when the fall election rolled around and I kept looking for information on the candidates in the Portland newspaper. They never did cover Cape's upcoming election. It was the first time that I did not vote, simply because I did not have enough information to vote. I talked to everyone about the lack of a newspaper here – I think they finally got tired of it and someone said, "Why don't you start one?"

What made you want to?

I was a stay-at-home mom, and I thought this would be a stimulating project that I could fit around my mom duties. In fact, we planned it so that tasks were divided into many small parts so they could be done by busy moms. We also tailored some jobs for older ladies who weren't able to get out much. With the exception of the advisory commit-

tee and board, *The Courier* was started by, and almost totally produced by women. Bob Dodd, editor, Tom Summers, paste-up and proofreading, and several other men did become devoted members of the team later.

How did you learn how to do this?

I did have about three years of experience on *The New Gloucester News*. That paper used some pretty primitive technology, but putting a newspaper together is basically the same whether you're using today's technology or not.

At *The Courier*, I especially remember when we got Pagemaker. Our first editor, Wendy Derzawiec learned it right off, but I struggled. I remember sitting one night at home near tears trying to figure out how to get at some layer on the page that was hidden. Now it seems so easy. I remember that I introduced (Production Manager) Sheila Zimmerman and (then-Advertising Manager) Diane Brakeley to Pagemaker – me, the teacher, that is a laugh when I had struggled with it so! Diane and Wendy both went far beyond me in computer skills.

Who did you go to for guidance?

I went back to New Gloucester and talked with Verna Hobson, my fellow editor and mentor. We talked a lot about the business side of things.

When I first decided to see if starting a newspaper was a viable idea, I talked with everyone I could think of who might have insight into the town, its needs and its possible reaction to such a project, including, obviously, Town Manager Mike McGovern, who was a bit nervous about what this endeavor would be. I am sure Town Hall thought that we might take strong editorial positions and create waves in town.

The director of Community Services suggested I contact Jan Soland, whom I had never met. Jan is such a strong, positive, let's-get-it-done kind of person. I was lucky she said she would work with me.

From my prior experience, I knew that it was vital to have a board of directors. But first, I simply needed an advisory committee. I knew Dan Davidson, a neighbor, was a public relations expert. His help was invaluable and he became a loyal friend and supporter, and our first board president.

We knew we needed legal advice, and somehow we found Paul Thelin, who served as clerk for the newspaper from that time until last year. Bill Wadman, who passed away recently, knew the town well and could help us find people and story ideas. Later, Bob Flynn joined the board to give advice on computer issues. The advisory committee worked for a

—see FOUNDER, page 18

This was the paper's original and longstanding Page 1 banner. *Courier* founder Ellen Van Fleet explains that a resident got in touch with Maine artist Paul M. Breeden, who had done a stint as a White House calligrapher, and convinced him to create the banner in calligraphy – for free. "I have always thought it was special and gave *The Courier* a classy look," Van Fleet said.





The Cape Courier

P.O. Box 6242
Cape Elizabeth Maine 04107
207-838-2180
capecourier.com

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of *The Cape Courier* is to foster a sense of community by presenting news specific and unique to Cape Elizabeth and its residents, and, whenever possible, to promote volunteerism within our community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elizabeth Brogan, Debbie Butterworth,
Bob Dodd, Sheila Mayberry,
Bill Springer, Beth Webster

Publisher: Patricia McCarthy
info@capecourier.com

Editor: Patricia McCarthy
(Letters, general news)
editor@capecourier.com

School/Community Editor: Wendy Keeler
(Business, Neighbors, schools, religion, sports)
communityeditor@capecourier.com

Advertising Manager: Trish Brigham
(Display ads): advertising@capecourier.com

Bookkeeper: Dorothy Stack
billing@capecourier.com

Production Manager: Sheila Zimmerman

Webmaster: Wendy Derzawiec

Photo finishing: Megan McConagha

Distribution Manager: Jeff Hewett

Technology Services: Katie Held

For general information & classified ads:
info@capecourier.com/207-838-2180

Writers: Debbie Butterworth, Wendy Derzawiec, Bob Dodd, Wendy Keeler, Patricia McCarthy, Ellen Van Fleet

Photographers: Sarah Beard Buckley, Jenny Campbell, Kate Hamden, Ann Kaplan, Wendy Keeler, Jack Kennealy, Patricia McCarthy, Colleen Taintor, Noah Whittenburg

Proofreaders: Suzanne Higgins, Phyllis Locke, Anita Samuelsen, Sheila Zimmerman

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LETTER & SUBMISSION POLICY

We welcome letters to the editor. Maximum length: 250 words. We reserve the right to refuse letters and do not withhold names. Letters reflect the opinion of the author, not *The Cape Courier*. Email letters to: editor@capecourier.com or mail to P.O. Box 6242, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107. **Please note:** Because of possible errors in transmission, letters sent via email will be acknowledged to confirm receipt. Contact us if your emailed letter is not acknowledged. We reserve the right to edit accepted submissions.

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DEADLINE: Noon, Feb. 24

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Future Open Space Committee asks for public input

By Patricia McCarthy

The town's Future Open Space Committee will hold a public forum next month to review a proposed range of tools for saving open space and draft criteria for open-space-preservation priorities. The forum will be at 7 p.m. on March 7 at Town Hall.

The committee has been working on methods to help promote and plan for future open space in town since last year. The Town Council has asked for the committee's recommendations by the end of this year.

The committee is holding the forum, which is intended to be informal, for feedback on its work so far.

The panel is recommending that the town continue a range of programs that are used to encourage the preservation of open space, such as regulations that promote clustered development, instead of developments that encourage sprawl and the loss of open space. The committee is also recommending that impact fees, transfers of development rights, conservation easements and purchases of open space by the town, the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust and other organizations be continued.

However, the committee has opted against recommending more restrictive zoning as a tool for preserving open space, determining instead that the town's current zoning is already effective.

The committee is also looking for input on its draft of open-space priorities, in which it tried to avoid being too inclusive. The committee noted that some towns have criteria that are so general that almost any land could be eligible for preservation as open space.

The committee instead is recommending that agricultural land; land for greenbelt trails and recreation areas; wildlife habitats; and particularly scenic, cultural or unique properties be established as priorities for open space preservation.

CEMS teacher: Consider donating new or used prom dresses

When I was 12, my father remarried and moved my brother and me to Cape Elizabeth. I did not attend Cape schools, but I was immediately welcomed into a community that clearly understood the meaning of the word "neighbor."

This fall I returned to Cape Elizabeth as a teacher at the middle school, and was happy to see that the special sense of community I felt 15 years ago is still alive and well.

Once again I was invited into this community as if I were a native Caper. As an "insider" from the outside, I've seen how this town reaches out to the needy and binds together for the benefit of our children. Before the holidays, I watched student after student walk into school with arms full of canned goods for our Stuff the Bus campaign to feed the hungry. Events like this make Cape Elizabeth a community and not simply a place to live.

Last spring I was privileged to take part in an event in a community hit particularly hard by the declining economy. The Sanford Prom Project asks Mainers to donate new or used prom dresses to girls who may not have the financial means to buy their own.

Prom is a seminal moment in our American culture, and I believe it is every girl's right to build lifelong memories with friends.

If you wish to donate a prom or bridesmaid dress, it will reach a girl who truly needs one. Please email me at dney@cap-elizabethschools.org. Thank you.

Dylan Ney



Nat Jordan, left, won the Cumberland County Spelling Bee on Feb. 8 at Falmouth Middle School. At right is runner-up Jack Clavette, an eighth grader from Scarborough. Next up for Nat: the state bee.

Photo by Glenn Jordan

Cape seventh-grader Nat Jordan carries on family spelling tradition

By Glenn Jordan

After two years of watching his older sister spell her way to a national stage, Cape Elizabeth Middle School seventh-grader Nat Jordan made the most of his turn behind the microphone last week.

Jordan spelled 21 words without a mistake to win the Cumberland County Spelling Bee at Falmouth Middle School and advance to the Maine State Spelling Bee.

He becomes the fourth straight county champion from CEMS. Ninth grader Lily Jordan, a two-time state champion who tied for 10th in the Scripps National Spelling Bee last June in her last year of eligibility, won the previous three county titles.

Two students from each of eight area middle schools competed in the county bee after finishing first or second in their school bees in early January. Fifth-grader Sam Dresser joined Nat in representing CEMS

in Falmouth.

The first six rounds cut the field of 16 to five. By the start of Round 10, only three spellers remained: Brunswick sixth-grader Adam Benoit, Scarborough eighth-grader Jack Clavette and Jordan.

They went through five perfect rounds before Benoit left the stage, then four more before a misspelling in Round 20 gave Jordan an opportunity to win, which he did by spelling "Crusoe" and "cosmos."

Among the other tricky words he negotiated were accrued, feign, mezzanine, pow-wow, dearth, threshold, hibachi, diorama and hosta.

The Maine State Bee is scheduled for March 17 at 2 p.m. at the University of Southern Maine's Hannaford Hall in Portland. The winner goes on to the Scripps National Bee in early June outside of Washington, D.C.

Resident: Don't do anything to discourage voting

Earlier this month, the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee voted to table a bill that would require voters to present a photo ID when voting.

Voting is a privilege and we should encourage it as much as possible. It is fundamental to our democracy to be able to cast our votes, especially in a presidential election year.

In Maine, as in most states, older voters are some of the most active voters of any age group. Thousands of Mainers, especially seniors, do not have ready access to

a photo ID. Turning them away at the polls for no good reason would have been a terrible mistake.

I am truly glad to see that the proposed law has been, at least, tabled. Any such bill would only make it more difficult for thousands of qualified Maine citizens to vote, which would be unacceptable.

Everyone deserves to cast their ballot and have their voice heard on election day.

**Marta Pillsbury, president
AARP Greater Portland Chapter**

Coordinator thanks all who made Saturday basketball season great

On behalf of the Cape Elizabeth Community Services staff, I would like to extend a big "Thank You" to all who helped make Saturday morning basketball a huge success for the 2012 season.

We would like to begin by thanking our Cape Elizabeth varsity basketball coaches, Jim Ray and Chris Casterella, for leading the very successful third- to sixth-grade program.

Secondly, their supporting staff and our Cape varsity players and coach Gregg Frame, for leading the boys' basketball grades 1 and 2 program supported by parents and the basketball first team.

Lastly, Coach Travis Nadeau, who led the girls' basketball grades 1 and 2, kindergarten and preschool programs.

Again, thank you everyone for a great basketball season, Cape Elizabeth Community Services could not have done it with out you!

**Leslie Young, Community Services
Youth Program Coordinator**

THANK YOU!

... to all who have answered *The Cape Courier's* ongoing request for help. We greatly appreciate your voluntary subscriptions and other contributions. Checks made out to *The Cape Courier* may be mailed to P.O. Box 6242, Cape Elizabeth, Maine, 04107. Thank you to the following most recent newspaper supporters:

Sara & Dan Boxer

Vivian Findlay

Virginia & Grant Hanson

(in honor of Wendy Keeler's birthday!)

Nancy Whiting Sears

Contributions will be acknowledged in this alphabetical format. Please specify how you would like the name(s) to appear in print. Please include a message on your correspondence if you prefer to have your voluntary subscription/contribution remain anonymous. Checks also may be dropped off at *The Cape Courier* office at Town Hall.

Cape stands to lose at least \$279,000 in state education aid in 2012-2013

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth school officials, who received bad news about state education funding for the 2012-2013 school year early this month from the Maine Department of Education early, cross their fingers that the news won't get worse in weeks to come.

The DOE's preliminary estimate of general purpose education aid to Cape Elizabeth for 2013 is \$2.03 million, down \$279,000 from this year's subsidy. The reduction could get bigger, Cape Elizabeth Superintendent Meredith Nadeau told School Board members at the board's Feb. 14 business meeting.

"That [\$279,000] is not the final number. We don't know when we'll get the final

numbers. I think that's often a moving target with the Legislature, but we don't expect that we will get more than that," she said. "I think, if anything, our concern could be that we will receive less. We hope that it would not be dramatic but certainly we are planning these numbers into the budgeting process."

This fall, Cape school officials were told that the district could lose an estimated \$244,000 in state funding for 2012-2013, the result of a school-funding bill that Gov. Paul LePage signed into law in the summer.

The law, which changes the formula that allocates state education aid, removes a provision tying state reimbursement for school personnel benefits to the labor mar-

ket index and adds a provision allowing for a 10-percent increase in the staffing ratio for districts with fewer than 1,200 students. Under the law, districts with high numbers of students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, but whose families pay high property taxes, will receive more money.

Even before the new law went into effect, the district was facing a reduction in revenues in 2013 because of the loss of federal stimulus funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Cape's 2012 school budget included \$452,534 in funds aimed at mitigating the impact of the end of ARRA funding.

Nadeau and the board will continue discussion about school funding for the next

'If anything, our concern could be that we will receive less [money]. We hope that it would not be dramatic.'
— Superintendent Meredith Nadeau

school year on Tuesday, Feb. 28, when the superintendent is set to present her 2012-2013 budget recommendation at a 7 p.m. workshop in the high school library.

No March vacation – at least not next year

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth students will continue having school vacations in February and April next year rather than switching to a longer March break.

Last month, after school officials asked community members to give them feedback about a draft 2012-2013 calendar that included both options, the school department heard back from 216 people. One-hundred eighty-two people preferred one option over the other, and the two sides were split right down the middle, with 91 people in favor of the longer March break and the other 91 favoring the traditional schedule.

Ultimately, the deciding factor in Cape Elizabeth Superintendent Meredith Nadeau's recommendation that Cape Elizabeth continue with the current vacation model is the district's membership in the 22-school Portland Area Technical High School region.

By law, a school district has to have a calendar similar to that of its regional vocational center, she said.

But Nadeau, who was surprised by the 50-50 split in people's preferences, believes the topic should not be put to bed.

"Based on the level of feedback, my feeling is that the March break proposal warrants further investigation."

Other board members agree.

"In particular, I'm interested in why we have two breaks," said School Board Chair Mary Townsend, who grew up in North Carolina where schools traditionally have only a March vacation, she said. "How

many states have two breaks currently? What are the educational benefits of having that continuous time? What might we do with that time were we to have it?"

School Board Vice Chair John Christie, who also believes the issue deserves more discussion, stressed that student learning should be the determining factor.

"I heard a lot of responses that had to do with people's preference for their vacation time, and I know that obviously that's very important when everybody's planning their annual calendar, but what I would be most concerned with is how this is impacting student learning," he said. "If we had a way of making an improvement in student learning by adjusting the calendar and keeping kids in school more continuous days in a row with fewer distractions and interruptions, and we felt this would improve student learning, then that's the kind of change I would support."

Nadeau plans to tell fellow educators in the PATHS region about Cape citizens' feedback about doing away with shorter vacations in February and April and switching to a longer break in March.

"When I have this conversation with superintendents in other districts ... I can share with them, 'We're exploring this, and here is what our feedback has been,' which I think may be helpful to other people. It's a perennial conversation, I would say, but it hasn't necessarily moved forward in other districts and there may be a possibility that other districts will be willing to explore this as well."

ecomaine bin design contest under way again

Cape Elizabeth artists have a chance to start a winning streak for the town in ecomaine's recycling-bin-design contest.

A group of Cape Elizabeth Middle School students won the design contest last year and the annual "Recycling is a Work of Art" competition is again under way.

The team that comes up with a winning design will get up to \$500 for supplies and the chance to display their recycling message in communities across southern Maine

on a silver-bullet recycling bin.

The bin is circulated throughout the 43 communities that are part of ecomaine, the region's waste-management cooperative. Occasionally, the middle school's colorfully designed bin ends up back in Cape Elizabeth.

The deadline for the contest is March 30. Complete rules and entry information can be found at www.ecomaine.org/recycling/index.shtm.

Town selling 'Earth Machine' compost bins

The town Recycling Committee is offering 80-gallon compost bins for sale.

The bins are being sold in conjunction with the Maine Resource Recovery Association to encourage residents to reduce the amount of food and yard waste that is disposed of through the town Recycling Center.

"The Earth Machine" composter is made from recycled plastic and is 33 by 35 inches. It converts grass, leaves and table scraps into rich soil.

The composter costs \$35 and a kitchen scrap pail is available for \$5. Both can be ordered through the town's Public Works Department. An order form and details can be found at: www.capeelizabeth.com/government/rules_regs/forms/Compost_Bins_Offered_For_Sale_Notice.pdf.

Bins can be ordered through April 27 and will be available for pickup after May 14.

Call Al Ward at Public Works at 799-4151 for more information.

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Staff members and volunteers reflect on 25 years of *The Cape Courier*

Wendy Derzawiec, editor, 1988-1997; writer since the start; webmaster since 1997

Early in January 1988, my husband saw on the CETV bulletin board that someone was starting a newspaper in Cape Elizabeth. I had a journalism degree and some experience on community (weekly) newspapers, but I also had small children and didn't want to work full time. I had written some Cape Elizabeth features for the *American Journal* in Westbrook.

I called the number that was on TV. It was the start of nine years for me as editor of *The Cape Courier*, which is celebrating Volume 25 with this issue.

When I came on board, Ellen Van Fleet and Jan Soland had already done a lot of work getting *The Courier* together. There was a plan to have volunteer contacts in neighborhoods to gather news. There also was a plan to have three volunteers rotate as editor, but we found it hard to keep continuity. We met weekly or so to figure out what other sources we would use for news and how everything would be coordinated.

I remember they weren't very happy with us at Town Hall because so many different people from *The Courier* were calling for the same information. Town Hall is, of course, the most important news source. At first, I attended town meetings but soon came to rely on broadcasts from CETV. And that's something reporters from out-of-town newspapers can't take advantage of.

If I could add a catch-line to *The Courier*, I would choose, "We live here." I think that guides the content. News articles are objective, fair and balanced, but there's also a certain love because this is our home.

That made reporting pretty difficult sometimes; for instance when there was a big roof problem at the middle school in 1990 and the subsequent resignation of the superintendent.

Sometimes it's hard to write about your neighbors. But it's rewarding too. When Hurricane Bob left so many without power or water, folks came through a trying time with grace and dignity.

Early on, an editorial decision was made not to have editorials. Our first issue had two obituaries, but we never ran them again – we just couldn't keep up with them.

Something that evolved while I was editor was the way we presented information on candidates for local office. At first, I called all candidates and asked them questions about themselves and their views. But some complained that they were unprepared for the call, so then I tried mailing a list of questions that I'd be asking in the call. Many candidates still thought they were unfairly represented, so after that, I mailed the questions and asked for responses in writing, with word limits. This seemed to work.

I think an early story that stands out most to me was a Town Council decision to refuse a beer license for a pizza place. One councilor did not think an establishment so close to the schools should be serving beer. Now there's a pizza house that serves beer, and another place in town that has a full liquor license. Times have changed!

Sewers were a hot item in the 1980s, but most of that was resolved by the time *The Courier* made the scene. Subdivision development was hot in the '80s – I think the Highlands at Broad Cove was one of the first that I wrote about.

In 1996, Ellen and I accepted, on behalf of *The Courier*, the Gould Award for Citizenship from the town. That was quite an honor. But I think the greatest pride I ever felt about *The Courier* was a year or so after we started. The message marquee in front of

12-4	A burglary occurred at a home on Hemlock Hill Rd. Nothing was reported missing.
12-5	A mailbox was damaged on Bowery Beach Rd.
12-6	A Cape resident was defrauded by a contractor. The police assisted in restitution.
12-7	The Little League storage building at Fort Williams was burglarized.
12-7	A weathervane from a home on Fowler Rd. was reported missing.
12-7	A Brentwood Rd. resident reported missing credit cards after being notified her ATM card had been successfully used by the thief.

Debbie Butterworth spent so much time at the Cape Elizabeth police station with son Jonathan (now 25) in tow as she copied the police log for The Courier that officers gave Jonathan a jacket with police patches, a whistle and a hat, all of which he is wearing in this 1991 photo. At left, a December 1990 police log entry printed on a dot-matrix printer. The entries are quite similar to those seen now.



the police station announced spring cleanup week, and for the first time added: "For details, see *The Cape Courier*." It was then I felt we were making a difference.

The most fun thing about having been involved for so long is the countless number of people I've met and worked with. My kids say that I seem to know everybody. It does seem that way, and more often than not, I can trace the acquaintance back to the paper.

Technology has changed *The Courier*. Fewer people are needed to produce it, although I am truly impressed with the caliber and professionalism of those who are doing the paper now.

I am so happy to see *The Courier* has survived the technological changes as well as competition from out-of-town weeklies. My favorite new feature is "Where in the World is *The Cape Courier*?" I'm pleased that folks think enough of the paper to take it with them on their travels. It's like being part of their family.

Debbie Butterworth, police log reporter/feature writer since Issue No. 1, 10-plus-year board member

I've always loved newspapers, and reading one has been a daily routine since I was about 12. So when Ellen Van Fleet and Jan Soland explained the new town newspaper to me, I was interested in being part of it, and have been doing it since the first issue.

I was a stay-at-home mom with four little boys, one a newborn, and figured this was one activity I could be involved with and work around the busy family schedule.

They asked me to do the police log, and to be a feature reporter.

Generating the police log for *The Courier* was a labor-intensive task back in 1988 – no electronic communication at all. With my newborn in tow, I went to the police station twice a month, and now-retired head dispatcher Mike Walsh would hand me a large black log book, into which every complaint, summons, arrest, accident, fire and rescue call was painstakingly handwritten.

"We didn't realize what we'd been missing until we started getting the paper. It was amazing how much one didn't know! *The Cape Courier* provides such a sense of community, and that hadn't existed before."

Anita Samuelsen, Courier proofreader since 1996, and 40-year Cape resident

I'd copy the information down on a pad of paper, bring it home and type it into my computer, print it out with my cutting-edge dot-matrix printer, and hand deliver the document to Ellen's house. She would edit it, and give it to a typist, who then retyped it onto a floppy disc. The whole process took hours, if not days.

Technology has advanced. Today I receive all the police entries via email, type and cut/paste into a police log template, and email it to Patty McCarthy. Now, the whole process takes perhaps an hour.

In the old days, while at the station, I'd chat with the chief, the late David Pickering. He'd always have interesting topics he wanted for public knowledge, so we created another column, called "From the Chief's Desk."

As I look back at old police log files, I see that not much has changed in our town, with similar entries both then and now. Vandalized mailboxes, dogs running loose, stolen bicycles, burglaries, lost and found property, a few missing persons (usually found), car accidents, speeding violations, and barking dogs.

As the police reporter, I had the opportunity to participate in some interesting police details, such as riding along with an officer for his night patrol (during which he arrested a drunk driver and investigated a home burglary) and observing several sobriety roadblocks set up to catch drivers operating under the influence. For me, this was like seeing "CSI" come to life, right in my little town!

As a feature writer, I met so many interesting people, all with fascinating stories to tell. I loved the opportunity to learn more about our neighbors, and to share their stories. Memorable interviews include Kenyan runners (after being able to ride the Beach to Beacon press truck), resident Henry Adams when he was cast as a "typical Mainer" for a nationally televised Super Bowl ad, a resident who collected lighthouses, the director of Nickelodeon Broadcasting when they came to town to film an animated cartoon in Diane Brakeley's kitchen, and the crew of *Good Morning America* when they visited Portland Head Light!

Then there were the routine stories that make our town so special, really the stories of an ordinary day in the life of a small town – Cub Scout Pinewood Derbies, bike rodeos, neighborhood holiday parties and hayrides, plays and music performances put on by students, Little League games, stories behind beautiful gardens, Girl Scout Father-Daughter dances, playground fundraising activities, kids who have participated in chess tournaments, spelling bees, sporting events ... all contributions to what makes this town a place we are all proud to call home.

And then we have the annual April Fool's article that I've been writing for at least 10 or 15 years. The most difficult part is coming up with a topic. The self-imposed criteria is always the same. It has to be something that

will impact and inconvenience a majority of town residents, while not making people really angry. I also stay away from sensitive topics, such as budgets, schools (I'm a teacher at Pond Cove) and politics. And the editor makes sure we steer clear of libelous topics.

My husband Frank and I start tossing around topics right about this time of the year. When we hit on a topic, we talk about it as though it is real, and by the time I start writing, I have convinced myself it is real and the story sort of writes itself. Some parts are easy ... I don't have to get actual quotes from respondents, so I can make them up to fit the story! I enjoy feedback from readers, especially when they tell me that they fell for it. Some of my favorites include having a carnival rides and beer tent at Family Fun Day, building a 90-bed prison at the new police station, building a tacky diner for truckers next to Town Hall, making Shore Road one way and building a wind farm on Spurwink Road.

The Cape Courier is a treasure for our wonderful town. Designed to be a conduit for information about what was happening in Cape Elizabeth, it has become the single most important common bond that keeps us connected to each other in this town that we all love.

Wendy Keeler, community editor and school editor since 2004

A friend once told me that to her, reading *The Courier* is like going to an old-time coffee shop where people trade news about fellow residents and goings-on around town. When you walk out the door, you have a stronger sense of community than when you sat down at the table.

Call me corny, but I love sharing news about Cape Elizabeth people with other Capers. When I learn about someone getting engaged or someone's kid making the dean's list, about a couple celebrating 40 years of marriage, about a Cape person of any age working hard at something and finding success, or about people volunteering time to help people in need, conserve land and preserve landmarks, or make the schools and community stronger, I feel excited to have a place to share it.

Day after day, I'm in awe of the tireless, incredibly generous efforts of people like Ellen Van Fleet, Wendy Derzawiec, Bob Dodd, Sheila Zimmerman, Anita Samuelsen, Jeff Hewett, Suzanne Higgins, Debbie Butterworth, Diane Brakeley, Elizabeth Brogan, and more. All of them make this possible.

Diane Brakeley, paste-up volunteer from Day 1, proofreader, writer, longtime ad manager, photo toner

When I moved here 25 years ago, I had the incredibly great fortune to move in directly across the street from Ellen Van Fleet.

—see MILESTONE, page 6

Council hears concerns on short-term rentals; planners review rules next

By Patricia McCarthy

The Town Council hadn't planned on holding a public hearing on short-term rental rules at its Feb. 13 meeting, but councilors got an earful anyway.

The council first took up the issue last fall, asking its ordinance committee to consider new rules on short-term property rentals after some residents complained that homeowners were renting houses for a few weeks or even days to large groups in residential neighborhoods. Residents said some of the tenants held loud – and late – parties and their cars clogged neighborhood roads.

The proposed new zoning rules focus on houses on lots that are 30,000 square feet – about ¾ of an acre – or less. The regulations include a maximum of 12 tenants – or two per bedroom – for houses rented for a month or less and also stricter parking requirements.

The proposed changes were supposed to simply be forwarded by the council to the Planning Board on Feb. 13, but Council Chair Sara Lennon noted that the town's rules allow for 15 minutes of public comment even if an item doesn't require a hearing. And, she noted, residents had lined up to speak.

Most residents said they don't think the committee's proposal goes far enough.

Lawson Road resident Peter Clifford said the problem in his neighborhood was a homeowner – who recently passed away – who “just didn't care” if renting his property for weeks, days or even nights at a time bothered neighbors.

Short-term rentals “in a single-family neighborhood just isn't fair,” Clifford told the councilors, and said the town needs to have some tools to regulate the practice.

Peter Volin, also of Lawson Road, noted that a major objection to regulating short-term rentals is that it infringes on a property owner's right to make money off his or her house. But he said that fails to address neighbors' rights.

“This ordinance supports financial ben-

efits for a few while largely ignoring the negative impacts on the many,” he said.

But Jim Huebener, who said he rents out a house adjacent to his home on Kettle Cove Road in the summer, said the council would be going too far if it sought to regulate all short-term rentals when the complaints seem to be concentrated in one neighborhood.

“All this, as I understand it, is centered around one house,” he said. “I guess, right or wrong, we're going to impose this burden on all of the short-term rentals in the whole town because of one house.”

Town officials have said that problems have occurred in other neighborhoods, especially those on the water.

The council voted to send the proposal to the Planning Board, where at least one more public hearing is expected before the issue returns to the council.

Sewer rates to rise 20 percent

In other action, the council voted to raise sewer rates by about 20 percent over the next four years, beginning March 1, to pay for a rehab of the Spurwink Road treatment plant and to fix a spot near the town line with South Portland where the sewers can overflow in heavy rains.

Town Manager Michael McGovern said the work will cost the town about \$4 million.

Fort master plan goes to planners

The council also sent an update of the master plan for Fort Williams to the Planning Board for comment.

The plan calls for reorienting roads and parking lots, creating a group reception area, and possibly adding another picnic shelter.

Bill Nickerson, chair of the Fort Williams Advisory Commission, said the plan is a mix of addressing maintenance issues and planning new projects to generate money to offset the cost of park upkeep.

The council's action doesn't commit the town to fund the upgrades in the plan, which would cost more than \$700,000 if all the work were approved.

Romney tops for Cape Republicans at caucus

Mitt Romney carried Cape Elizabeth's Republican caucus earlier this month, winning by a wider margin than he did statewide.

The former Massachusetts governor received 80 votes in the nonbinding poll at the town caucus. Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, and former Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., tied for second with 17 votes each, and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich came in fourth with eight votes.

Two others received votes, according to the state Republican Party tally.

Statewide, Romney edged out Paul, 39.2 percent to 35.7 percent. Santorum was third with 17.7 percent and Gingrich took 6.2 percent of the vote.

Delegates to the GOP national convention will be picked at the state convention in May and the poll results do not necessarily dictate how those delegates will be allocated to candidates.

In other action ...

The council also refinanced a 2002 bond to pay for the renovation of the Community Center, saving about \$115,000 due to lower interest rates. The councilors also approved a slight cut in fees for tour buses going to Fort Williams if bus companies agree to be invoiced for visits and passed

a resolution asking the Thomas Memorial Library trustees to complete a plan for a proposed new library/cultural center.

The last item calls for town planning to start for an expected proposal from the library trustees for a bond referendum to help pay for a major renovation and expansion of the library.

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Future subscribers congratulate The Courier

Students from Appletree School, clearly engrossed in recent issues of The Cape Courier, send congratulations on 25 years of publishing.

Photo by Sara Spidle

“My friend says we should be sleeping on organic mattresses, but I'm not sure why.”

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Or shop anytime online at www.thecleanbedroom.com

Milestone

Cont. from page 6

We had a lot in common, including sons who were computer geeks.

When we were hanging out one day, Ellen casually mentioned she was planning to start a town newspaper. She felt it would contribute to the feeling of community in Cape Elizabeth.

I remember saying, "That's a great idea," while quietly thinking, "Are you nuts?" My father had worked for newspapers (including the French newspaper "Le Messenger" in Lewiston), and it was hard work! There was so much to it. How could one person start a newspaper?

Never underestimate Ellen Van Fleet! I was soon pasting up copy in a spare room on the second floor of Jan Soland's house. Ellen had lots of friends, good ideas, and a way of making do with what she had. I have worked on and off as paste-up person, proofreader, School Board reporter, ad manager and photo toner. The newspaper's home moved from Jan's house to the "Girl Scout building" at Fort Williams and is now in the basement of Town Hall. It has gone from hand paste-up to completely digital.

And with all those changes over 25 years, it remains exactly what Ellen set out to create – a wonderful place to find community news and information.

Happy Anniversary to *The Cape Courier*.

Elizabeth Brogan, writer, 2002; community editor, 2003; editor, 2004-11; board member since fall 2011

Not quite "the olden days," but looking back over a mere 10 years, so much has changed at *The Cape Courier*.

When I first joined *The Courier* as a volunteer reporter, it was 2002. I had responded to a small ad in the newspaper seeking a writer. No experience needed. Good thing,

"I was the children's librarian at the time Ellen started the paper, and remember thinking, 'Oh yeah, that's cute.' And then – it became this wonderful way to connect with and stay in touch with the community. It was always easy to access the paper. I just really like *The Courier* and appreciate it. It has a real sense of Cape Elizabeth."

Louise Sullivan, resident since 1975, and now a sheep farmer

too, as my writing experience over the previous 15 years was pretty much limited to research memos and legal briefs.

Everyone at *The Cape Courier* learned as they went along, and the low-tech process of putting the paper together was extremely volunteer-friendly.

When I became community editor in 2003, and then editor in 2004, my duties included delivery of an enormous laptop computer to a designated drop-off point, sometimes the police station, sometimes the tax desk at Town Hall, so that a volunteer typist could input handwritten or typed submissions.

E-mail was used to move the newspaper-in-progress back and forth between the editor and community editor.

Advertisements and copy were pasted onto double-sized sheets of paper by volun-

teers during a process known as "paste-up." Those sheets were then gently packed in a large, flat box, which at lunchtime of "production day" was collected by longtime distribution volunteer Jeff Hewett to be delivered to *The Times Record* in Brunswick, where he works and the paper is printed.

Over the years, we moved from an early version of Pagemaker, to a newer version, and finally to InDesign. The typists were no longer needed, as submissions were increasingly emailed. A server system replaced the emailing of the pages back and forth between editors (and with it the up-to-20-minute wait for the newspaper to arrive in a waiting editor's in-box).

Gone was the paste-up process (and with it the occasional loss of small ads that had "fallen off" the sheet en route to *The Times Record*).

Of course, some things have not changed at all. Volunteers – writers, photographers, proofreaders and subscribers – are still the cornerstone of *The Cape Courier*.

A small orange road construction-style sign still hangs in a basement window at Town Hall, where *The Cape Courier* rents office space. "Women at Work," the sign reads, with the handwritten note added, "and Bob," a tribute to Bob Dodd, former editor and current board member and Town Council reporter.

I had often imagined, before answering that ad for a volunteer writer, that work at a small town newspaper would be a dream job, one filled with community spirit, camaraderie and principled reporting. It was. It is.

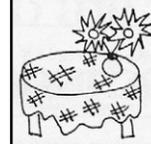
Sheila Zimmerman, production manager since 1989

One day 23 years ago I started at *The Courier* and clearly remember cutting out and pasting little parts of ads and articles onto larger grid sheets. The volunteer coordinator at the time was a good friend and convinced me, because I was new to Cape Elizabeth, that I should give the newspaper a try. I'm still here.

While most people enjoy *The Courier* for the articles, the pictures and the ads, I have had the pleasure all this time of focusing on two things – grammar and content mistakes. I look at the paper in terms of commas (take out, leave in, add one), capitalization (the bane of my *Courier* existence), spelling (despite spell check, many trips to the dictionary), and sentence structure (Can't we tweak it just a little?).

I have very fond memories of the old days at *The Courier* in the basement of what was the Girl Scout building at Fort Williams. I remember Tom Summers, always informative and always the patient proofer in the midst of all the women at the paper. I remember the many times Ellen Van Fleet and I left the office in the dark and had to

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The Good Table has advertised in The Courier for 25 years, including a quarter-page ad in the first issue in March 1988 (see reduced version above). Many advertisers from the inaugural issue have long since gone out of business, including a video store where it actually was possible to rent VCR machines!

open and close the creaky gates at the entrance to the Fort. A special memory was Wendy Derzawiec handing off her finished copy to me (ready to be proofed) on Sunday mornings at St. Bart's.

I have seen countless changes in my years at *The Courier*. Everything is done on a computer, including electronic transmission, so no more leaky waxers, confusing round wheels for picture-sizing, or the oversized flat box used to send the finished copy of the paper to the printer.

All that has changed, but one thing hasn't; there are still many people who work very hard and care very much about putting out a great small-town newspaper – and none more so than the current and faithful proofreaders Suzanne Higgins, Anita Samuelsen and Phyllis Locke, who still have a good time discussing those commas.

"I'll glance at the other papers, but I read *The Courier*, front to back, and I certainly enjoy it."

Kathy Walsh, resident and fifth-grade teacher in Cape



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25 Years Ago In The Cape Elizabeth Real Estate Market

In celebration of the Cape Courier's 25th anniversary edition, here's a comparison of sales prices of single family homes and condos in 1987 and 2011.

Statistics for 1987:

◆98 homes sold at an average sale price of \$175,360

◆11 condos sold at an average sale price of \$122,790

Statistics for 2011:

◆115 homes sold at an average sale price of \$449,771

◆14 condos sold at an average sale price of \$324,478

WOW! Selling prices are now more than 2.5 times what they were in 1987, when the Cape Courier began publishing! Don't you wish you had bought two?

For more information on these statistics, or for any other real estate information, please call or email me.

Thank you for your business and support in 2011. I look forward to serving your real estate needs in 2012.



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Police contend with stolen snowblower, trespassing, identity theft

**Reported for 25 years
by Debbie Butterworth**

COMPLAINTS

- 1-21 An officer met with a resident regarding a possible threatening message on the plaintiff's voicemail. The officer made contact with the caller who was warned to have no further contact with the plaintiff.
- 1-25 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area about a trespass complaint. A suspect was identified and contacted by the officer.
- 1-27 An officer met with a resident of the Spurwink Avenue area about a well-being check.
- 1-27 Two officers responded to a residence in the Shore Road area about a custody dispute.
- 1-31 An officer met with a resident of the Sawyer Road area about the theft of a snowblower.
- 2-2 An officer met with a Cape Elizabeth school bus driver about a vehicle that passed the bus when lights were activated.
- 2-3 An officer met with a resident about an identity-theft complaint.

SUMMONSES

- 1-24 Portland resident, failure to produce insurance, Spurwink Avenue, \$171
- 1-24 Cape Elizabeth resident, failure to produce insurance, Route 77, \$171
- 1-25 Cape Elizabeth resident, failure to produce insurance, Bowery Beach Road, \$171
- 1-26 Naples resident, failure to produce insurance, Mitchell Road, \$171
- 1-27 Westbrook resident, failure to produce insurance, possession of drug paraphernalia, Ocean House Road, \$171
- 1-30 South Portland resident, failure to produce insurance, Shore Road, \$171
- 1-30 Cape Elizabeth resident, speeding (44/30 zone), Mitchell Road, \$137
- 2-1 Saco resident, speeding (55/35 zone), Spurwink Avenue, \$215
- 2-6 Scarborough resident, failure to produce insurance, Ocean House Road, \$171

ACCIDENTS

- 1-24 David Reed, Jane Coffrin, accident on Scott Dyer Road
- 1-26 Douglas Sewall, accident on Bowery Beach Road
- 1-27 Daniel Matusko, accident on Wheeler Road

- 1-28 Samuel Ratner, accident on Fowler Road
- 1-29 Starboard Drive, water problem
- 1-31 Meghan Clifford, accident on Lawson Road
- 2-1 Joan Anifant, accident on Spurwink Road

FIRE CALLS

- 1-24 Scott Dyer Road, fire alarm
- 1-25 Scott Dyer Road, fire alarm
- 1-25 Spurwink Avenue, fuel leak
- 1-27 Wheeler Road, motor vehicle accident

- 1-31 Spurwink Avenue, wire down
- 2-1 Salt Spray Lane, fire alarm
- 2-1 Spurwink Avenue, smoke investigation
- 2-4 Broad Cove Road, appliance fire
- 2-5 Chimney Rock Road, fire alarm
- 2-6 Farms Edge Road, fire alarm

RESCUE CALLS

There were 21 runs to Maine Medical Center. There was 1 run to Mercy Hospital. There were 2 patients treated by Rescue personnel but not transported.

WOW!

We did a little math at the start of our 25th year at *The Cape Courier* and realized that **more than 2.2 million** copies of the paper have been delivered, free of charge, to Cape residents since March 1988. What does this paper mean to you? Send your comments or recollections by Feb. 24 to: info@capecourier.com.

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Cape Elizabeth - Recent \$100,000 Price Reduction - Best Valued Waterfront - Priced well below recent town assessment - Charming single level home. Updated kitchen and a great layout all on a private near acre with beautiful gardens and stunning breathtaking views from every room. Don't miss your chance to own a piece of Maine's rugged rocky coastline! \$1,195,000 MLS 1013613
Anne Bosworth | 207.770.2206 abosworth@legacysir.com

Cape Elizabeth - Gracious and spacious Stonegate home with fabulous in-ground pool on a private lot. Built by Russ Doucette, this 5 bedroom colonial boasts custom woodwork and built-ins, two staircases and a fantastic layout - perfect for entertaining!
\$829,000 MLS 1039805
Andrea Pappas Pellechia | 207.831.0447 apellechia@legacysir.com

Falmouth - SOLD - This antique bungalow is one-of-a-kind! With its original oak built-ins and beams, new kitchen and amazing carriage house this home is a true gem. Estate-like setting of +/- 9 acres, abuts conservation, subdividable lot. Listed for \$650,000.
Andrea Pappas Pellechia | 207.831.0447 apellechia@legacysir.com

Cape Elizabeth - Beautiful Elizabeth Farms home. With 3,600 square feet of living space, 4+ bedrooms, a large cherry and granite kitchen, and a family room with cathedral ceilings and cozy wood stove this home is an amazing value. A 3-car garage, private lot and pastoral views round out this wonderful property. \$629,900 MLS 1029291
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South Portland - Anchorage Place - Bright and sunny upscale 2,500 square foot end unit with 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and 2 car attached garage. Located in gated community overlooking a marina with easy walks to restaurants shops and walking trails. \$619,000 MLS 1038564
Mallory Garrison | 207.776.3250 mgarrison@legacysir.com

South Portland - Oceanfront Condo - Spectacular views of Portland Harbor and the city from this 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath end unit condominium perched on a beach featuring private entry, open floor plan with two balconies and garage parking. Excellent Ferry Village location and close to parks and walking trails. \$420,000 MLS 1010688
Mary Jo Cross | 207.770.2210 mcross@legacysir.com

South Portland - New to the Market - Casco Bay views from this magnificent cottage style home. Completely renovated and turn key with granite, cherry flooring and a master bedroom suite with fireplace and stunning views of the harbor. Walk to beaches and marinas. A must see! \$399,000 MLS 1040204
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Stepping into the Sesquicentennial



Edward I. Woodbury

A 2011-2012 Cape Courier series by Ellen Van Fleet follows the development of the Civil War through the eyes of people who lived in Cape Elizabeth 150 years ago. Cape Elizabeth author Paul J. Ledman's book, "A Maine Town Responds," is the main guide. Small entries in the Courier capture the news and concerns as events unfolding outside of Cape Elizabeth thrust their way into the local consciousness. News items from the Portland Transcript are printed verbatim.

Feb. 22 – Great Victory at Roanoke Island by by Gen. Burnside. ... Another Glorious Victory! Capture of Fort Donelson! The Union forces under Gen. Grant, assisted by the fleet of gunboats under Com. Foote, have captured Fort Donelson after one of the most desperate conflicts of the war. [Portland Transcript]

☞ The House, last week, refused to pass the soldiers' bounty bill by a vote of 78 to 48. [Portland Transcript]

☞ In New Orleans 2500 black troops are regularly mustered. [Portland Transcript]

☞ Burnside's expedition has captured Edenton and Harford, N.C. The citizens raised the white flag. [Portland Transcript]

☞ Probable capture of Savannah: Gen Sherman's forces have not only succeeded in cutting off all communication between Fort Pulaski and Savannah, but have destroyed the water pipes which supply the city with water. At last accounts our troops had arrived within eight miles of Savannah. [Portland Transcript]

☞ The roads leading into the city

are filled with teams bringing shooks and hoop poles to market. There is a great demand for them for exportation, and they bring good prices. [Portland Transcript]

March 1, 1862 – The House, on Tuesday, by a vote of 83 to 42, passed a bill prohibiting any person connected with the army and navy from returning fugitive slaves. [Portland Transcript]

☞ **Returned Prisoners:** The Union prisoners are all coming home from Dixie. On Monday 390 arrived at Baltimore from Richmond, where there are now no Union prisoners. It is to be hoped the turn of the poor fellows sent to New Orleans will come next. [Portland Transcript]

☞ Some of our Maine boys will see service in the West. Ten from each company of the Maine 11th have been detailed as sailors on board the gunboats at Cairo and quite a number of the men in the Second Maine have volunteered for the same service. [Portland Transcript]

☞ **Death at the White House:** The President's son William, a bright lad just entering his teens, died at the White house last week of pneumonia. [Portland Transcript]

Hogshead barrels such as the one at right were made from "shooks," upright wooden pieces, and "hoop poles," long, straight rods cut from ash, hickory, hazel, and white oak saplings or from bushes that had been specially pruned for the purpose, the website, www.naturegeezzer.com states. Shooks and hoop poles were in great demand for export, and in 1862 "the roads leading into [Portland were] filled with teams bringing shooks and hoop poles to market," the Feb. 22, 1862, edition of the Portland Transcript stated.



Photo from randomthoughtsonhistory.blogspot.com

☞ **Glorious News: Occupation of Nashville** – Nashville was occupied on the 24th by 20,000 Union troops under Gen. Buell [Portland Transcript]

☞ **Execution** – Capt. Nathaniel Gordon, the slaver, was executed in New York, on Friday last. He attempted suicide, the night before the execution, by smoking cigars saturated with strychnine. [Portland Transcript]

☞ Among the notable demonstrations on the evening of the 22nd, was a parade of workmen from the Kerosene Works [Cape Elizabeth], bearing lighted torches and a brilliant cross from one arm of which Jeff Davis hung in effigy. [Portland Transcript]

☞ The Steamship *Bohemian* which arrived here on the 20th brought 6000 En-

field Rifles imported for Government use. [Portland Transcript]

☞ Two vessels arrived at this port last week with heavy rifled cannon for the defence of our harbor. Fifteen of the cannon are of five tons' weight, making in the aggregate 75 tons. [Portland Transcript]

☞ During the year 1861, the quantity of salt imported into this District was 275,752 bushels. The number of vessels engaged in the cod fishery was 71; men employed, 361; number of quintals of fish taken, 17,824. [Portland Transcript]

☞ The kerosene attachment, invented by C.W. Cahoon, of this city and advertised in our columns this week, is a great convenience in the management of the kerosene lamp. [Portland Transcript]

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Irish roots of director John Ford to be topic of March 3 meeting



John Ford

The Irish roots of six-time Oscar-Award-winning director John Ford, a Cape Elizabeth native who grew up in Portland, will be the topic of a Saturday, March 3, meeting of the Greater Portland Chapter of the Maine Genealogical Society at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The talk, to be presented by St. Joseph's College history and political science professor, Mike Connolly, will begin at 1 p.m., preceded by a 12:30 p.m. coffee hour.

Connolly will discuss Ford's genealogical roots in Ireland and his places of residence in Cape Elizabeth and Portland. Ford, who was born in 1894 and died in 1973, directed films such as "The Grapes of Wrath," "The Quiet Man" and "Stagecoach."

Connolly has been a professor at Saint Joseph's in Standish since 1983. He is the author of "Seated by the Sea: The Maritime History of Portland, Maine, and its Irish Longshoremen," published in 2010. He edited "They Change Their Sky: the Irish in Maine," published in 2004, and coedited "John Ford in Focus: Essays on the Filmmaker's Life and Work," published in 2008.

GPCMGS meetings are free and open to all. The church is located at 29 Ocean House Road. Contact Carol McCoy at cmccoy3333@aol.com or 373-0318 for more information, or go to www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~megpcmgsl/.

Courier horses around in Florida



Photo by Meredith Beauregard

Cape Elizabeth resident Sheila Alexander, second from right, displays her Cape Courier on Feb. 9 at the "Horses in the Sun" horse show in Ocala, Fla., with fellow Cape Elizabeth residents, from left, Brenda Miley and Cindy Wegener and former Cape resident Kathy Fiske and her dog, Gabby. The women, along with Meredith Beauregard, who took the photo, have been riding together for years in Cape Elizabeth. They were spectators, not competitors, at the horse show.

Engaged!

Jack and Deborah Valley of McAuley Road are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Doria Young Valley** of Boston, to Cameron Michael Habib, also from Boston. Doria is a 2002 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School and graduated from Wheaton College in Norton, Mass., in 2006. She received a master's degree in elementary education from Wheelock College in Boston. She is currently teaching in Watertown, Mass. A September wedding is planned at Ram Island Farm in Cape Elizabeth.



Cameron Habib and Doria Valley

Katherine Kayatta, the daughter of **William Kayatta, Jr.** and **Anne Swift-Kayatta**, is engaged to be married to Ian Gilbert, the son of Michael and Rita Gilbert of Colebrook, N.H. An August wedding is planned.

Kayatta, a graduate of Boston College and the University of Maine School of Law, is a litigation associate with the law firm Robinson & Cole LLP in Boston, Mass.

Gilbert, a graduate of the University of New Hampshire, the University of Maine School of Law, and the Boston University School of Law Graduate Tax Program, is employed with Deloitte Tax LLP as a multi-state tax consultant in Boston.

Courier wings it

Between sorties in MC-12 aircraft, Lt. Lukas Huebener, a U.S. Air Force pilot who graduated from Cape Elizabeth High School in 2004, catches up on his hometown news in *The Cape Courier* recently at the Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. Huebener holds a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of New Hampshire where his minor was in aerospace studies.



Ten Cape Elizabeth students were named to the fall-semester dean's list the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

Anna Darling, Kelley Murphy and Wesley Richards earned honors. **Emily Croft, Matthew Dickinson, Holly Register and Sierra Rintel** earned high honors. **Elizabeth Hobbs, Jillian Smith and Sawyer Theriault** earned highest honors.

Mary Walker was named "Broker of the Month" at **Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage** for superior sales in January.

A licensed broker since 1982, Walker was previously employed by the Maine State Housing Authority. She and her husband have two sons and live in South Portland, where she is a member of the community's Scholarship Committee.

Cape Elizabeth resident **Samuel Eisenberg** was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass., where he is a sophomore majoring in biomedical engineering.

Cape Elizabeth resident **Gerald Von Stoddard** was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H., where he is majoring in creative writing and English.

More Neighbors on page 20



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CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec
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'Dirty Rotten Scoundrels' opens Feb. 24 at Lyric



Photo by Mary Meserve

Cast members in "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" include, left to right, John Blanchette, David Surkin, and Sean St. Louis-Farrelly.

"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," a musical comedy based on the 1988 film of the same name, will open Friday, Feb. 24, and run through Saturday, March 10, at Lyric Music Theater in South Portland.

In the play, which Cape Elizabeth residents Vince and Denise Knue direct, con man Lawrence takes the less sophisticated

grifter Freddy under his wing, but not necessarily out of the goodness of his heart.

Shows are scheduled at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. The theater is located at 176 Sawyer St.

Call 799-1421 or visit www.lyricmusictheater.org for more information or to reserve tickets.

Informal knitting group meets every Monday

An informal knitting group that meets from 1 to 3 p.m. on Mondays at The Local Buzz is open to knitters of all levels.

"Just bring your yarns and your needles and your own project and sit and have coffee

and knit together and be friendly," said Cape resident Nancy Strout, who started the group.

The Local Buzz is located in Pond Cove Shopping Plaza. Contact Strout at 409-8949 for more information.

Wednesday, February 22

'A Passion for Birds' children's interactive show, 1 p.m., Thomas Memorial Library.

Monday, February 27

Planning Board Special Workshop, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, February 28

School Board Workshop and Finance Committee, 6:30 p.m., High school library

Wednesday, February 29

Future Open Space Preservation Committee, 7 p.m., William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

Thursday, March 1

Recycling Committee, 7 p.m., Public Works

CELT Talk: Winter Seals of Maine, 7 p.m., Cape Elizabeth Land Trust office, 330 Ocean House Road

Monday, March 5

Town Council Workshop, 7 p.m., William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

Tuesday, March 6

Planning Board Workshop, 7 p.m., Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

School Board Budget Workshop, 7 p.m., High school library

Ongoing each week

Al-Anon, Newcomers' meeting, 6:15 p.m., regular meeting 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, at United Methodist Church, 280 Ocean House Road (Route 77). Regular meeting 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 885 Shore Road.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 2 p.m. Saturdays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland; 7 p.m. Wednesdays, St. Bartholomew Church, 8 Two Lights Road; 7 p.m. Fridays, St. Alban's Church, 885 Shore Road.

Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m.-noon Thursdays, except holidays, storm days, Thomas Memorial Library, 6 Scott Dyer Road. Public welcome.

Cape Elizabeth Lions Club, 6:39 p.m., first and third Tuesdays (except July and August) at the Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, head of Two Lights Road. Contact Mark Fleming, 899-3654, or Bruce Balfour, 831-0166.

Fire-Police meetings, 7 p.m. third Thursday of each month except July and August at the Cape Elizabeth Police Station, 325 Ocean House Road.

The South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. at Purpoodock Country Club on Spurwink Avenue. Contact Marge Barker, club president, 838-8129.

CABLE GUIDE

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March 3 & 4 - 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.

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The next *Cape Courier* deadline
is noon on Feb. 24.

Lions plan pancake breakfast, spaghetti dinner

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club will host a pancake breakfast and a spaghetti dinner in March at the Lions' clubhouse, the Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, located on Wheeler Road near the intersection with Route 77.

The breakfast is planned from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Sunday, March 11, and will include a choice of pancakes, French toast or scrambled eggs and toast, plus a serving of sausage, coffee and juice. The cost is \$5 for adults, and \$4 for children 12 and younger. Proceeds will go to Lions' charities.

The dinner – all-you-can-eat spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and dessert – is planned from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24.

Soft drinks will be served, and diners may bring their own wine or beer. The cost is \$10

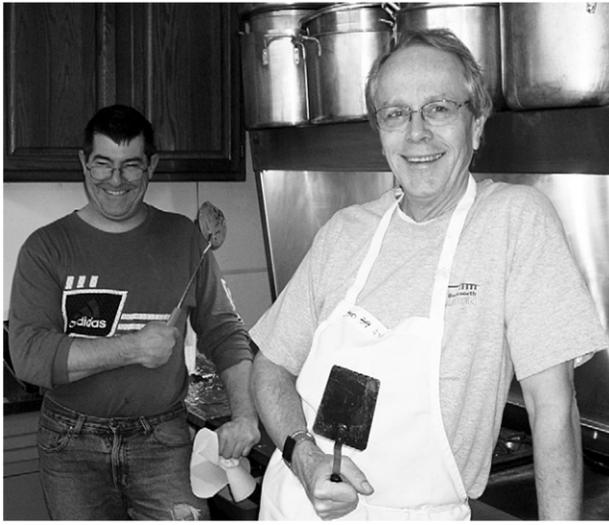


Photo by Lee Taylor

Cape Lions, left, Bob Bothel and Alec Boardman take a break from flipping pancakes at a recent pancake breakfast.

and \$5 for children 12 and younger. Proceeds will benefit maintenance of the clubhouse.

Contact Lions' President Mark Fleming at 899-3654 for more information.

Winter seals to be topic of March 1 presentation

Marine biologist Erika Rihle will talk about seals found in Maine during the winter at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1, at the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust's office, 330 Ocean House Road.

Rihle, a Cape Elizabeth resident, will present species identifications and discuss the natural history of harp, hooded and grey seals that frequent the beaches and rocky coast of Maine at this time of year. She also will discuss the Marine Mammal Protection Act and give an interactive presentation about the rescue of stranded seals. Her

talk will include photographs of seals seen locally.

Rihle has been conducting intertidal research on Swan's Island, Maine, for 13 years for the University of Pennsylvania. She chairs the science department at Cheverus High School in Portland, where she is also the faculty advisor.

A contribution of \$5 is suggested and will be donated to the nonprofit organization, Marine Mammals of Maine.

Call 767-6054 or go to www.cape-landtrust.org for more information.

'A Few Good Men' to run March 16-April 1

"A Few Good Men" will open at the Portland Players on Friday, March 16, and run through Sunday, April 1. Performances are planned at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2:30 p.m. on Sundays.

A military drama, the story follows young Navy lawyers who uncover a high level conspiracy during the murder trial of several

Marines who claim to have been acting under orders. The play is written by Aaron Sorokin, who also wrote "The Social Network" and "The West Wing."

Call 799-7337 or email info@portland-players.org for ticket information or requests. The theater is located at 420 Cottage Road in South Portland.

Land Trust accepting submissions from artists for Paint for Preservation wet paint auction

The Cape Elizabeth Land Trust is accepting submissions from artists for the fifth annual Paint for Preservation, a juried wet paint auction set for Sunday, July 22.

That day, selected artists will paint at designated public and private locations. That night, the newly painted artwork will be auctioned off at Breakwater Farm. Auction proceeds, which will be shared with participating artists, will benefit CELT's "Saving Cape's Great Places" initiative to

preserve local conservation lands.

Interested artists are invited to submit two images of original paintings in any medium for juried consideration. The submission deadline is March 23. Go to www.cape-landtrust.org/paintforpreservation/2012/ or call 767-6054 for more information.

Founded in 1985, CELT has permanently protected nearly 600 acres and is currently raising money to acquire 63.6 acres of lands along Shore Road.

Cape firefighters to play boys' ice hockey team on March 31

The Cape Elizabeth Fire Department will face off against the Cape Elizabeth High School boys' ice hockey team in their fifth annual fundraiser on Saturday, March 31, at 6:15 p.m. at the Portland Ice Arena. The event will include a raffle. Proceeds will benefit Engine 2 Company.

Tickets, \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, can be bought at the door the night of the game, in advance at the Town Center Fire Station, or through Sean Donegan, 272-2369 or sdonegan2@yahoo.com.

Cape Democratic caucus set for Feb. 26

The Cape Elizabeth Democratic Committee caucus is set for 3:30 -5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, in the Cape Elizabeth High School cafeteria. Employees from the Town Clerk's office will be in the cafeteria from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. to register and enroll voters.

Proof of residency and identity are required for registration. Voters may enroll in the party that day, but people switching from another party must have enrolled by Feb. 10, because changes do not take effect for 15 days.

Contact Jamie Wagner at jamiewagner-law@gmail.com or 400-6038 for more information.

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Not too late to get involved with Socrates Café at the library; next meeting is March 6

Twenty people attended the February meeting of Socrates Café, the library's popular philosophy discussion group.

The topic chosen for the discussion was "What is a right?"

As always, the topic grew more complex as the discussion continued. Participants discussed whether human beings have innate, inborn rights, or whether rights are something bestowed upon people by a government, or if rights only exist in the context of other human beings from whom one needs to defend those rights.

The goal of the discussion is not to reach consensus, but to explore the complexities of the question at hand.

The topics to be discussed are proposed and voted on by the group members at the start of the program.

The next meeting of Socrates Café is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, in the adult reading area. All are welcome to attend. Registration is not necessary.

Please visit the library's website at www.ThomasMemorialLibrary.org for more information.



An oil painting titled, "Looking Towards Littlejohn Island," is among the works of Freeport artist Diana Johnson on display in March at the Thomas Memorial Library.

LIBRARY SCHEDULE	799-1720 (for more info) rdavis@thomas.lib.me.us ThomasMemorialLibrary.org
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<p>Mother Goose Story Time Rhymes, songs and finger plays for babies up to 18 months. Wednesdays, 11-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Tales for Tots Songs, stories and movement for toddlers 18 to 36 months. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Story Garden Songs, stories & movement for preschoolers 3 to 5 years. Tuesdays and Fridays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Family Story Time Songs, stories & movement for toddlers & preschoolers. Saturdays, 10:30-11 a.m.</p>	<p>Library Hours Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday Closed.</p> <p>Story Time Themes NO STORY TIME: Feb. 19-25 (School vacation week)</p> <p>Week of Feb. 26-March 3 <i>Splish Splash</i> Books about bath time.</p> <p>Week of March 4-10 <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Stories about birthdays and parties.</p>
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On view during March at the library: Landscapes by Freeport artist Diana Johnson

"Surroundings II," an exhibit of landscape paintings by Diana Johnson, is on view during March at Thomas Memorial Library.

A resident of Freeport, Johnson says she is inspired by her surroundings.

She "looks for places that elicit both a

sense of rest and rejuvenation while paying attention to the fluid effects of radiant energy on land, water, and air."

Johnson says she tries to suggest, with pigment, the essential vitality and liveliness that is inherent in tranquil, peaceful places.

Mystery writers forum inspires writing group

Seventeen people attended the library's panel discussion featuring three Cape mystery authors on Feb. 11, and several attendees expressed interest in a writer's group.

The library is in the planning stages of putting together a monthly writer's work-

shop, which would meet either on a Tuesday or Thursday evening, or possibly a Saturday afternoon each month.

Details should be available by the next issue of *The Cape Courier*. If you are interested in the library's writer's group, you may contact Joyce Lourie at the library.

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(Seated Left to Right): Mark Fortier, Cindy Landrigan, Sandy Johnson, Edie Boothby

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Culinary tour of Boston's North End planned

Community Services will offer adults the opportunity to take a culinary adventure through the North End of Boston, one of the oldest Italian communities in the nation, on Thursday, April 26.

Tripgoers will ride by custom coach to Boston for a tour led by Michele Topor, a North End chef whose walking tours through Boston's Little Italy have been featured on CNN and the Food Network. In addition to sampling flavors at five specialty food shops, the group will get tips on Mediterranean-style cooking, learn about traditions of Ital-

ian cuisine, and find out how to identify top ingredients, as well as where to buy them.

After the tour, group members will have time to have lunch on their own at a location of their choice before heading back to Maine.

The cost, \$74, includes custom coach transportation and the tour. Space is limited, and payment is due when making reservations.

The group will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the parking lot behind the Community Center. Call 799-2868 for more information.

Community Services to offer SAT prep class

Community Services will offer an eight-session SAT preparatory class for high school students from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays from March 6-May 1 at Cape Elizabeth High School.

The class, led by teachers from Brunswick-based Maine Prep, is designed to teach students strategies to use in the math, writ-

ing and reading sections of the SAT. On May 5, all Maine juniors will be required to take the SAT, which many colleges require for admission.

Contact Community Services at 799-2868 to register. Contact Maine Prep at 798-5690 or maineprep@gmail.com, or go to www.maineprep.com for more information.

Bridge players, partners have two weekly options

Community Services offers bridge players the chance to play at two different times each week. The drop-in games, to which each player should bring a partner, are geared to players who prefer a less competitive, more relaxed environment.

Games are scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Commu-

nity Center's activity room, and on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Community Center's living room.

The cost per game is \$5, payable at the door. Players should bring lunch for a brief break midway through the game.

Call the Community Services office at 799-2868 for more information.

Buttered Biscuit lunch, Bingo set for March 8

Cape Elizabeth seniors are invited to play Bingo and have lunch at the Cape Elizabeth Community Center on Thursday, March 8.

Lunch, which will begin at 11:30 a.m., will be catered by the South Portland prepared-food takeout, the Buttered Biscuit, and will feature soup, a sandwich, dessert

and a beverage. Bingo will begin after lunch and will include prizes.

The cost for lunch is \$9 per person. People who plan to play Bingo pay \$1.50 at the door. Call 799-2868 by March 1 to make reservations, which are required.

Senior nutrition, fitness to be topics on April 12

Health instructor Patty Medina, who teaches Community Services' Fit to Live program, will talk about nutrition and fitness for senior citizens on Thursday, April 12, in the community room at the Cape Elizabeth Town Center Fire Station. The program is sponsored by TRIAD, a group of senior citizens, police, and community members who work together to find solutions to problems that senior citizens face.

Lunch will be prepared by Cape Elizabeth Schools' food services department and will include lasagna, salad, bread, dessert and a beverage. The cost for lunch is \$6, payable at the door. Call 799-2868 to make reservations, which are required.

'Aging in place' subject of March 6 discussion

A panel of elder care professionals will present a program, "What is 'Aging in Place' All About?" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6, at the Community Center.

Panel members will include an elder care attorney, a registered nurse from the Comfort Keepers an elder care company, and representatives from the Southern Maine Agency on Aging, a visiting nurse company, hospice, and a nonmedical care company.

The discussion will focus on services that can help people support loved ones at home, legal resources, and options available when home care is no longer an option.

There is no fee for the event, but registration is required. Call Community Services at 799-2868 for more information.

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Class of 2015 spring bulb fundraiser under way

Community members who buy spring bulbs through an online company, Flower Power Fundraising, can raise money for Cape Elizabeth High School's freshman class. Half of every purchase will go to the Class of 2015, which will use proceeds for graduation activities.

Go to www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/campaign?campaign_id=9302 through March 6 to buy bulbs online. People who do not want to purchase bulbs online should contact Joan Moriarty at jmoriarty@capeelizabethschools.org or 799-3309, extension 400, about making an order.

Police officer to discuss social networking sites

Cape Elizabeth Police officer Mark Dorval will lead a seminar on social networking for Cape Elizabeth Middle School students and their parents on Wednesday, Feb. 29, at the Cape Community Center. In the class, which will run from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Dorval will discuss ways to stay safe while

navigating websites.

The fee for the class is \$10. To register, go to www.cape.k12.me.us/commerv.htm and click on the "Register Now" box, or go the Community Services' office at 343 Ocean House Road. Call 799-2868 for more information.

Parents should register now for kindergarten

Parents of children who will turn five before Oct. 15, 2012, should contact Pond Cove School immediately about kindergar-

ten registration for the next school year.

Parents of children who attend kindergarten at other schools should notify school officials if their children will attend first grade in Cape Elizabeth next year.

Birth certificates and immunization records are required at registration. Call Pond Cove School at 799-7339 for more information.

Student engineers rake up robotics awards

By Wendy Keeler

Young engineers on Cape Robotics VEX teams added trophies to their cache of hardware on Feb. 11 at the Maine VEX Championship held in Bangor.

Three teams earned awards. In VEX competitions, students use erector-set-style VEX parts to build robots, which compete against each other.

Team 56A, comprised of Cape Elizabeth High School sophomores Luke Dvorzaniak and Anthony Castro, received the "Build Award" for craftsmanship and construction, and the "Excellence Award," the highest award presented at the meet.

Another high school team, 56C, which includes Matthew Reale-Hatem, Leah Parrish and Jasper Hansel, won the meet's "Design Award" for engineering process and documentation.

Cape Elizabeth Middle School students Mac Brucker, Will Corsello, Mac Huffard, Kyle Long, and Sam Price and their team, 56D, won the Energy Award for team spirit and enthusiasm.

Although Team 56A lost in the tournament's final round, event officials were floored.

"They labeled it the most exciting final round they had seen in the history of the Maine event," said CEHS math teacher Evan Thayer, who started Cape's robotics program in 2005.

"The crowd was going wild and the applause was near deafening at the buzzer."

Cape Robotics auction, dinner

The Cape Robotics Boosters will host their annual Home-Style Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser from 5:30 to 7:30

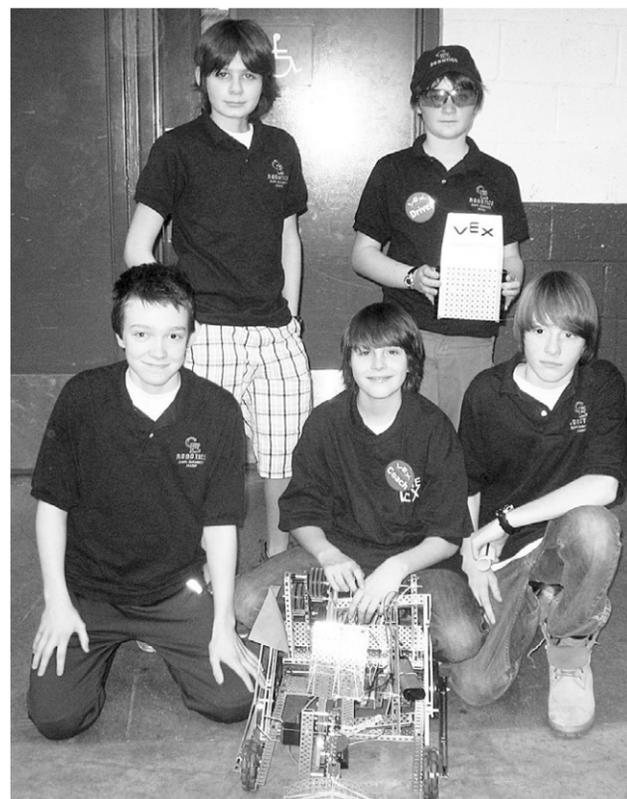


Photo by Evan Thayer

Members of Cape Robotics' middle school team 56D, from left, kneeling, Kyle Long, Sam Price and Mac Huffard; standing Will Corsello and Mac Brucker display their robot and the "Energy Award" the team won at a state robotics meet on Feb. 11 in Bangor.

p.m. on Wednesday, March 28, in the Cape Elizabeth High School cafeteria.

The event will include robotics demonstrations by CEMS and CEHS students. All are invited.

All proceeds from the auction and dinner will help fund Cape robotics team members' trips to the VEX Robotics U.S. National Robotics Championship in Omaha, Neb., in March and the 2012 VEX Robotics High School World Championship in Anaheim, Calif., in April.

Tickets for the event, available at the door, are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids and \$25 for families.

Contact Kathy Barber at 767-1007 or kbarber@maine.rr.com or Audrey Castro at 799-3948 or castro614@yahoo.com for more information about the dinner and auction or about Cape Robotics.

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After completing ECP therapy, I'm now able to go to work, exercise, and still have the energy to garden afterwards. I've never felt better!
— Westbrook patient

Student immigrants to share their stories on March 12

Cape Elizabeth students who are immigrants will share their personal stories from 7 to 8 p.m. on Monday, March 12, at the Cape Elizabeth Community Center.

All in the community are welcome to attend the "Hear Our Stories Café and Lecture" sponsored by the Cape Elizabeth Middle School World Language Department.

"All of the panelists will be Cape Elizabeth residents who are middle or high school students or young adults," said CEMS Spanish teacher Susan Dana, who helped organize the first Hear our Stories series three years ago.

"We thought it would be a good change from our usual adult panelists to learn about the immigrant experience from student perspectives."

After the program, audience members will be able to meet and chat with panelists and try out international foods.

Contact Dana at sdana@capeelizabethschools.org for more information.

Award-winning club helps students sort it out



Photo by Sasha Lennon

Cape Elizabeth High School freshman Brette Lennon prepares to drop a juice bottle into a bin in a four-category sorter that CEHS technology teacher Jim Ray built for the cafeteria.

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth High School students are able to sort it out these days, thanks to members of the school's Environmental Club, whose longtime efforts to develop a trusty waste-sorting system in the cafeteria came to fruition this fall.

Since then, CEHS students and staff members have ended their lunch by sorting waste into four categories – trash, recyclables, returnables and compost – in a sorter built by CEHS technology teacher Jim Ray. Grants of \$1,000 from the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation and the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust grant, along with more than \$2,000 from the club's treasury, made the project possible.

The new system has made a big difference, said CEHS science teacher Susan Rose, who serves as the club's adviser.

'Idiot-proof'

"This system is helping minimize the school's waste while making sustainable-waste sorting a reflex, not a chore," she said.

"The previous bins for recycling and trash were confusing and ineffective. With the new system, students and faculty can easily tell the difference between the categories since actual examples of each type are shown in a plexiglass box. It's idiot-proof."

CEHS composting

Last year, after three years of trying to install composters at CEHS, the club succeeded. Now three off-the-ground-insulated composters are on the campus.

But composting wouldn't work without constant efforts by club members. Three students – Andrew Hollyday, Caroline Kelly and Matthew Reale-Hatem – share responsibility with Rose for transporting compost from the cafeteria outside to the composters every day.

Award

Club members last year won the 2010 "eco-Excellence Award" for their contributions to preserving local ecology – and specifically, for composting high school food waste – from ecomaine, the municipally owned nonprofit that operates the single-sort recycling facility in which Cape Elizabeth has a share.

Pleased about the progress of environmental awareness at the high school, club members would like to see the movement spread.

"Students are continually becoming more knowledgeable about the importance of sustainability at CEHS," said sophomore Andrew Hollyday, the club's co-president. "We hope the system can be matched at the middle school as well as at Pond Cove."

Registration now open for CEHS sailing team

Registration for the Cape Elizabeth High School sailing team's spring season is now open to students in grades 8-12.

Go to www.sailmaine.org and click on "2012 high school spring season" to register, or contact Lisa Gent at lisa@lisagent.com or 799-9739.



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Statues of Liberty!



Photo by Diane Nicholson

Ledgemere Country Day School students show off the "Statue of Liberty" costumes they made last month when they studied the United States as their "country of the month."

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Listening up in Español



Photo by Susan Dana

Craig Handley of Listen Up Español talks to Cape Elizabeth Middle School Spanish teacher Susan Dana's eighth-grade students on Feb. 7 about his Portland-based agency, which has a call center in Mexico that serves businesses in the United States. Handley and his partner Tony Ricciardi discussed their business, practical uses of Spanish, and business marketing to the U.S. Latino population, the largest minority in the U. S. Dana's students have an assignment to create a TV commercial in Spanish for a Maine food product, and the ad must target a U.S. Latino population. "It was interesting to learn about how your business started and what you do," student Tori Diaz later wrote in a thank-you note. "It has inspired us for our project!"

What's news in your sport?

Student athletes, coaches, parents, boosters, and fans, send us your sports news! No time to write an article about your favorite team? Just send us a photo with caption information.

Send your news to The Cape Courier at P.O. Box 6242, e-mail us at communityeditor@capecourier.com, or use the drop box across from the tax office at Town Hall.

Cape Little League registration under way

Registration for the 2012 Cape Elizabeth Little League season is open at www.cape-ll.com through Thursday, March 1. CELL offers T-ball, softball and baseball opportunities to Cape Elizabeth children, ages 4-14.

Assessments are planned for the middle of March, and leaguwide clinics and team practices during the month of April. Opening ceremonies are planned April 28. The season runs through June.

Visit www.cape-ll.com, or contact CELL President Jeremy Lombardo at president@cape-ll.com or CELL Information Officer David Leopold at info-officer@cape-ll.com for more information.

Superintendent's 'coffee chat' set for March 17

Cape Elizabeth Superintendent Meredith Nadeau will hold an informal "coffee chat" to discuss educational topics with parents, students, residents and staff members on Saturday, March 17. The gathering will have no planned agenda.

The chat will be held at the Cape Elizabeth Community Center from 9 to 10 a.m.

A similar gathering is planned at the same time on Saturday, May 19, at the Community Center. Call the school department at 799-2217 for more information.

March 31 dance, auction to benefit Cape baseball, softball

All in the community are invited to attend the Cape Elizabeth Baseball and Softball Boosters' Spring Dance and Silent Auction at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 31.

The event, which will feature deejay Aaron Filieo, the Cape Elizabeth Middle School teacher who is also coach of the high school varsity football team, will be held at Camp Ketcha, 336 Black Point Road in Scarborough. The evening will include food and a cash bar.

Proceeds raised by the dance will help cover such expenses as coach stipends and equipment.

Tickets can be bought in advance for \$30 per couple or \$15 for a single ticket, or at the door for \$35 a couple.

Contact Ken or Kathleen Pierce at kpierce@monaghanleahy.com; Diane or BJ Nicholson at ledgemereschool@yahoo.com; Sue or Steve Dobieski at sdobiesk@maine.rr.com; Donna Peterson at dpeter@petersondesigngroup.us or 767-3535; or any booster club member for more information.

Basketball Bonanza scheduled March 21

The Cape Elizabeth Middle School Parents Association will hold its annual Basketball Bonanza from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, in the school gym.

At the event, eighth-grade girls' and boys' basketball team players will take on coed CEMS faculty teams. A free-throw and foul-shot contest, open to all middle school students, is set for halftime.

The evening will also include the drawing of the MSPA's annual raffle fundraiser. Raffle items include the chance to win Dr. Dre Beats headphones, an "Awesome Adventurous Pool Slide Party" from Cape Elizabeth Community Services, a GoPro Video Camera, and more.

Raffle tickets will be available in advance as well as the night of event. Refreshments also will be for sale. Children younger than 10 years old should be accompanied by an adult. Starting March 5, raffle tickets will be available for downloading at www.capemspa.org, as well as at the MSPA front office.

Proceeds raised at the event will go toward teacher grants.

Contact Sue Guerette at jgueret1@maine.rr.com for more information.

Soccer referee class to be held March 20-27

Soccer Maine will hold a 16-hour, three-session, referee-certification class at the end of March.

The first class is set for 5-9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, at the Community Center. A class that will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, will be held in the Cape Elizabeth High School cafeteria. The final class, planned from 5 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, will be held at the Community Center.

The cost for participants, who must be 14 years old by the completion of the class

and attend all 16 hours, is \$115, and the fee does not cover a uniform.

Payment is required for registration. Checks should be made out to "Southern Maine Soccer" and sent to Anne Bosworth, 3 Olde Fort Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107.

A referee recertification class is planned from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, at Cape Elizabeth High School. The \$70 fee can be paid right before the class.

Contact Anne Bosworth at abosworth@maine.rr.com or 233-3175 for information.

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499 Ocean House Road (Route 77)
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www.capenazarene.org

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:45 a.m.
Evening Prayer: Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Sermon recordings available to download.

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: 10 a.m. service
Audio tapes of services available.

Cape Shore Assembly of God

536 Cottage Road, South Portland
799-3152

Sunday Prayer & Intercession: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Family Bible Studies:
Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Sermon recordings available to download.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

29 Ocean House Road
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

Congregation Bet Ha'am

81 Westbrook St., South Portland
879-0028

www.bethaam.org

Worship: Friday: 7:30 p.m.
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

Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Awana Clubs (Grades 3-8) Tuesday
6:20 p.m.

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ

301 Cottage Road, South Portland
799-3361

www.fccucc.org

Chapel worship: 8:30 a.m.
Sanctuary Service: 10 a.m.
Preschool Childcare: 10 a.m.

Saint Alban's Episcopal Church

885 Shore Road
799-4014

www.stalbansmaine.org

Rite I: Wednesday: 9 a.m.
Rite I: Sunday: 8 a.m.
Rite II: Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
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4-11 years old: 9:30 a.m.
Nursery available: 9:30 a.m.

Saint Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church

8 Two Lights Road
799-5528

www.saintbarts.com

Sunday Mass: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Weekday Masses:
Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 a.m.
Eucharistic Service:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 a.m.

Forty years!



Photo by Ted Haider

The Rev. Ruth Morrison of Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church, far right, receives artwork created by Sunday school students on Jan. 21, from Sunday School Superintendent Carol Hubbard in recognition of Morrison's 40 years as a United Methodist and Baptist minister. Morrison's anniversary celebration included a cake and the reading of a poem about Morrison written by parishioner Mark Braun. Morrison, who has served at Cape Method for eight years, started out as an associate minister at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Portland.

Cape Methodist to hold March 3 public supper

The Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church will host a public supper from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 3.

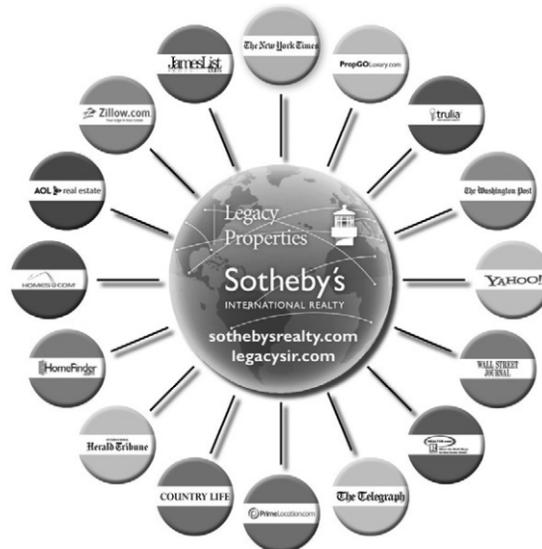
The price for the supper, which will feature casseroles, beans, salads, breads and desserts, will be \$7.50 for adults, \$4 for chil-

dren and \$20 for families (two adults and children). Takeout will be available.

The church is located at 280 Ocean House Road.

Visit www.ceumc.org for more information, or call 799-8396.

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Founder

Cont. from page 1

year or more to plan for the paper. Dan tells me that he joined because he, too, had noticed the Portland newspapers' lack of coverage of Greater Portland communities.

The advisory committee was tasked with talking to potential advertisers, looking into the cost of printing and mailing the newspaper, and whether we could meet those costs. We ultimately chose the *Times Record* in Brunswick. We established a relationship with Direct Mail of Maine to handle the bulk mailing. I lobbied for a twice-monthly paper – and found that quite challenging enough. The board was concerned about liability issues and made sure we got libel insurance.

We were determined that the paper would break even, and thus we made it a not-for-profit corporation – and we did make sure that *The Cape Courier* stayed in the black. Of course, this meant that everyone was a volunteer. It was an entire year before we could give Wendy a very token bit of compensation. It was at least two years before we attempted some kind of monthly salary for her – minimal as it was. It was four years before the publisher received any remuneration.

The decision was made at the advisory stage that we wanted the paper to be free and mailed to all 3,500 households. Dan remembers the committee believing that we needed a free, distributed newspaper “to establish a sense of identity of the town – community identity was one of the major driving factors” in that decision. Another was that it was important to advertisers.

I remember meeting at my house the night everyone came armed with potential names for the paper. We all rather liked the alliteration with the two C's, but what clinched it was when Jeff Van Fleet (a silent, vital partner on this project) thought of using the imagery of the Joanie Benoit statue, which had recently been installed in front of the library, as the ‘I’ in the word “Courier.” We all loved the image of a courier carrying the news to town.

How did you structure the paper?

It was all about trying to pull the community together. There are enough differing, if not opposing, voices in a community – but I, and the advisory committee, felt that a community newspaper could help make a two-way conversation.

Wendy Derzawiec really structured the paper. *The Cape Courier* never would have made it without Wendy. She was a trained and experienced journalist. Wendy created a mock-up of the paper – Schools, Clubs, Town News, Churches – and best of all, Neighbors. She designed the pages, the fonts, and the overall layout. She wrote half the paper, she made it all fit – and she was always calm and pleasant even during the times she was overworked (always) and underpaid (always).

Wendy remembers thinking that *The CC* had arrived when she saw on the sign at the police station – “Check *The Cape Courier*.” I had a similar experience at a Town Council meeting I covered (a rare event, as Wendy will tell you – I avoided reporter jobs, which must have infuriated her). At that meeting, there were two references – one to seeing something in *The Courier* and the other a councilor requested that certain information be submitted to *The Courier*. It made my day.

How did you get the word out?

The advisory board and Jan had many contacts and pulled in early volunteers. I wrote up a flier asking for volunteers and listing various jobs available and posted it on bulletin boards around town. Someone put it on the town's new cable channel. That's how Wendy found out about it – her husband saw it on Channel 3.

What do you recall from the earliest days?

We started out in Jan Soland's upstairs

“I had been editor of my high school paper so I knew what was involved. I really wondered how they'd pull it off, and we were all a little nervous at Town Hall.”

Town Manager Mike McGovern

bedroom. That's why we gave our incorporating name as “Upstairs, Inc.” It is a tribute to those very early days and always makes me smile! Jan owned a Brother computer, which we used for the first issues. It was basically a glorified word processor. Typists came to Jan's house a couple days a week to take the information that had come in by mail and get it in electronic form. One day, I was at the “office” without Jan and wanted to use the computer – I couldn't find the blankety-blank “On” switch! Jan finally arrived and showed me that it was on the back of the machine. I remember thinking, how am I ever going to get out a newspaper if I can't even turn on the computer!

The machine used floppy disks. We'd get the disk to Wendy, who would edit the contents. She would then think of headlines – and Wendy wrote the most wonderful droll headlines. She knew how to calculate what size the font should be to cover the correct number of columns. She put that all together on one of those disks, along with the headlines, and one of us would drive this to G&G Typesetters on outer Congress Street. They could print out our work on regular sheets of paper. We returned a day later to pick them up. Wendy made a handmade “dummy” on regular paper for each page of the newspaper. I can't imagine how she put all that together. I think the paste-up process took us a good part of one day and then we also had a night session. First, we put in the banner, the volume number and date (sometimes we would forget – some issues show those errors.) Then we laid in the ads.

We took the printed sheets from G&G and cut the columns out with scissors, waxed the backs with a hand-waxer, and lay them on a grid sheet. You had to use a triangular ruler to get them square – and to make sure lines of text ran evenly across the page. Computers do all that now. We then added the headlines.

We always saved the grid sheets from prior issues. We stripped the ads, banner and reusable filler material and set the grid sheets on a shelf under the paste-up table. When the proofreaders found errors, they marked them, and we tried to figure out how to make the correction. For a fairly common word, or a combination of letters, we would go through the old grid sheets and find what we needed. We cut out tiny pieces with the letters and very meticulously laid them over the errors. When we got the laser printer, we could reprint the whole half page. But we did it this way for quite a few years.

Then there were the pictures. Volunteers had to get the film to us, and we'd take it to 60 Minute Photo on Ocean Street by the old bridge in South Portland. I think we had to go back the next day to get the photos. When we did the page layout, we'd cut red plastic to size and placed on the grid sheet to hold a spot for the photo.

After layout was done, Vic Antos transported the “boards” to Brunswick. I know for years my garage was a critical transfer point for this and typing, etc. I left the box in my garage and he picked it up and delivered it on his way to work. *The Times Record* delivered the bulk of the papers to Direct Mail, Vic picked up the remainder of the papers and put them in my garage. I saved some papers for the office, for subscriptions, etc., then got a group of volunteers who delivered the rest to local

businesses all over town, plus the library, Town Hall, etc., where they could be picked up to be read. Later on, we lost Vic, and the printer delivered the papers to Maine Hardware (thanks to Sheila's husband Pete, who owned it). I got to know the salesmen there, as they were always helpful carrying the stacks to the car.

Who knew anything about ads?

I had a bit of experience making ads in New Gloucester, but it was pretty rudimentary and the ads were quite basic. Sacha McGraw had a daughter the age of my daughter and I found out that she had experience selling ads. Before the first issue, she solicited many ads and I went with her some so I could learn how to approach advertisers. I should tell you that in high school I struggled with writing and I always thought salespeople were aggressive and I would never have anything to do with sales. It blows my mind that I got involved in a project that forced me to do two of the things I thought I was least capable of doing.

Carolyn Young was a longtime ad manager. She had a wonderful way on the phone, everyone enjoyed her sense of humor. She laid out the ads and made an ad list. Tobey Scott, an invaluable computer guy, set up a program to manage the advertising. We had a separate person manage classified ads for a while – listing them on a ledger sheet, tallying the total incoming fees, counting the money and then separating the ads into categories. I remember typing in the classifieds.

It all took TIME! We decided to charge a fee for building ads. Camera-ready ads were a blessing.

We also had to keep track of the business end of things. Doug Stewart, a neighbor, was our first treasurer. I had an adding machine with a tape to run the totals. They all had to be made out by hand at first and then mailed – yes, and we stamped each envelope. There was always the problem of delinquent accounts – keeping track of that, sending multiple bills and finally some made me mad enough that I'd go and stand in front of them trying to get paid. After a few issues a woman named Linda Curran volunteered to help with billing.

Later, a delightful elderly woman named Dot Ricker became bookkeeper. That woman was an angel. She was fighting lymphoma the entire time I knew her. She was so cheerful and did such an exacting job of keeping our books. She became a surrogate mother to me. I miss her still. When Dot died, I took over bookkeeping again – now we were computerized so generating invoices was easier – but Linda Wakefield would meet me monthly at night at our office to create the business reports and help me sort out whatever mess I had managed to make in the past month.

Did you ever feel you'd taken on too much?

When Jan announced she was running for School Board, I felt pretty low. I was scared stiff to have the major responsibility alone. When Jan left, we lost our bedroom office.

For perhaps three months, we were based out of my family room. Dan Davidson allowed typists to come to his basement office and type – I remember Simonne Jordan, a loyal typist for years, walking gingerly up an icy Ocean View Road to Dan's in the black of winter. Judy Berg was another intrepid typist – worked all day and stopped by on her way home. At some point we added a volunteer coordinator whose job was to line up the two to three typists for the week, the paste-up crew and the proofreaders.

We found space in the basement of the Girl Scout headquarters at Fort Williams, downstairs where they stored Girl Scout uniforms. It was kind of like being in a big closet. We set up our slanted paste-up table that my husband had made and the Girl Scouts let us use a table and some green Girl Scout typing chairs. I had a key to the park gate. I remember in the dark and cold of winter

“I enjoyed the paper when it started, and I've enjoyed it ever since. It's great seeing news about friends and people you don't know, too. To me, it's home.”

*Longtime Cape resident
Dexter Hunneman, 89*

opening the gate so volunteers could enter or leave the park, sometimes as late as 11 p.m. I loved the view on my way to work though!

What was the most fun part in those days?

I always loved paste-up day. Such a wonderful group with lots of laughs – and we always had the most fun discussing all the news that wasn't fit to print. Sheila Zimmerman brought such charm and humor to that day. Tom Summers was an older Cape resident who became very devoted and a huge help. He always reminded us that much of the town didn't have kids in the schools and we needed to cover more than schools. Tom also built one of the paste-up tables and a lasting contribution, his idea, was to take all the issues and have them copied onto regular-sized paper and bound into annual volumes. It made it so much easier to go back to old articles to see what had been written.

Hardest part?

As the years went by, some of the luster wore off. It could feel like a grind at times. I knew I was running out of energy to tackle yet another challenge and it was time to go. How Wendy and Bob Dodd did it, I don't know. They really carried the burden of filling the paper; my tasks were more varied, with the logistics, the people problems, money problems.

What surprised you?

An ongoing surprise was that people kept coming out of the woodwork to help. I would panic when some critical person quit – Richard Strout, our first computer guy, moved away – but then I got Tobey Scott, a new neighbor, who spent many an hour with me in the Town Hall basement installing software he had written to help manage ads and our financial data. I can't begin to mention everyone, but I so appreciated each and every one.

Losing Wendy sent me into a tizzy, but Bob Dodd had been on the board and stepped forward. I would have left *The Courier* much earlier if he had not been there. He was a delight – wrote, edited, did layout into the wee hours of the morning because the man did have a real day job! And he never complained, always cheerful and positive. The real wealth of this town is the public-spirited people who come forward to make things happen.

Do you look back now with great pride?

Yes. It is like my children, grown up and doing fine on its own.

What are you proudest of?

I am proudest of the approach of *The Cape Courier* – that all succeeding publishers and editors have kept our plan for a community newspaper that builds community.

How satisfied do you feel that after 25 years, the paper is still in business?

I am so pleased that other people have come along who keep *The Courier* going. I know how much work it is and I am so pleased there are enough crazy newspaper types out there who enjoy the challenge.

Ellen Van Fleet, president of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, says she will add an unabridged version of this Q&A to the society's records.

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**The Cape Courier
2012 Calendar**

Upcoming issue dates are:

Deadline	Issue Date
Feb. 24, 2012	March 7, 2012
March 9, 2012	March 21, 2012

For the complete 2012 calendar,
please visit www.capecourier.com



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The Cape Courier starts its 25th year with this issue!

‘Miss Teen Wheelchair Maine’!

Cape Elizabeth resident Kingsley Floyd, right, 17, a Waynflete School senior, was named 2012 “Miss Teen Wheelchair Maine” last month by Monica Quimby, left. Floyd, whose physical disability is the result of muscular dystrophy, got in touch with Quimby, who lost use of her legs after a ski accident, because Floyd was inspired by Quimby’s example. Quimby invited her to join The Ms. Wheelchair Maine Leadership and Advocacy Organization, which is affiliated with Ms. Wheelchair America, a competition based on advocacy, achievement, communication skills and an ability to bring positive awareness to disabilities. In addition to doing advocacy work, Floyd writes poetry and does choreography for Waynflete’s dance program. She has been accepted at four colleges and is waiting to hear back from two more.



Muskie meet-up



Cape Elizabeth resident Kim Monaghan-Derrig, second from left, a graduate of the Muskie School of Public Service in Portland, recently celebrated her election to District 121 of the Maine House of Representatives, with Muskie policy associates Michael Brennan, second from right, who is now mayor of the Portland, and Kate Arno, recently elected to Freeport’s Town Council. Cape Elizabeth Town Manager Mike McGovern, far left, who is also a Muskie alumnus, and Muskie Dean Joseph McDonnell, center, also attended the reception.

Aubrey Landsfeld, the daughter of **Heather Landsfeld**, was named to the fall-semester dean’s list at Ithaca College’s School of Music in Ithaca, N.Y., where she is a freshman majoring in music education.

Cape Elizabeth resident **Jennifer S. Hewes** was named to the fall-semester dean’s list at Emmanuel College in Boston.

Samuel Casey was named to the fall-semester dean’s list at the University of New England in Biddeford where he is majoring in political science. He is a 2008 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School.

Two Cape Elizabeth residents were named to the fall-semester dean’s list at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt. **Alexander Caron** is majoring in computer and digital forensics. **Jeremy Allmendinger** is majoring in professional writing.

More Neighbors on page 9

The Cape Carpenter

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Cape Elizabeth resident **John Voltz** was recently named executive director of Blackstone Accelerates Growth, a statewide initiative launched in October that aims to encourage Maine entrepreneurs and spur innovation across the state. The program, which also involves the Maine Technology Institute, the Maine Center for Entrepreneurial Development and the University of Maine, has a goal of helping Maine companies add 10,000 skilled jobs.

Voltz previously worked at Jane Capital Partners, a San Francisco-based corporate advisory and merchant-banking firm, where as a principal, he spent 10 years advising entrepreneurs launching and expanding their businesses and multinational corporations seeking investment and partnership opportunities. Before his job at Jane Capital Partners, he worked in corporate finance and analysis. He also has served as a speaker, thought leader, and a panelist at venture capital and clean technology events.



John Voltz

Cape Elizabeth resident **David C. Weiss** soon will spend 14 weeks teaching English to Tibetan Buddhist student monks in grades 8-10 at Sera Jey Monastic University, located near the city of Mysore in Southern India. At Sera Jay, where there are 3,500 monks, Weiss also will offer poetry workshops for older monks.

Weiss’ son, Matt, known among the monks as “Losang Tharchin,” is in his fifth year of study at Sera Jay, where he is one of the few non-Tibetan monks.

Weiss is excited about the opportunity to spend time with his son, “as well as affirming Matt’s spiritual path as a Buddhist monk,” he said.

In May, 2011, Weiss closed his practice as a licensed marriage and family therapist in South Portland. He holds a doctorate degree in pastoral psychology and a master’s degree in theology from Boston University, fields that have been the source of his interfaith interest, especially in Buddhism, he said.



David Weiss

Rachel LaPlante was named to the fall-semester dean’s list at Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I., where she is a freshman.

Cyrus Wolfinger was named to the fall-term dean’s list at Hobart College in Geneva, N.Y., where he was the only freshman who earned a starting position on the college’s club rugby team, the Lake Trout.

Yarmouth resident **Briane Johnston**, a residential care assistant at **Cape Memory Care**, has been nominated for an “Assisted Living Federation of America Hero Award” by fellow employees at the assisted living center for people with Alzheimer’s and other memory problems. The award recognizes individuals who are ideal representatives of the hundreds of thousands of people serving in senior living communities.

“Bri treats our residents as if they were her own parents and she encourages them to do their best every day. She also inspires her co-workers to be better caregivers,” said Matthew Walters, the chief operating officer at Woodlands Senior Living, which owns Cape Memory Care.

Cape Elizabeth High School sophomore **Gavin Cottrell** recently watched members of the Cape Elizabeth Water Extrication Team train for ice-related rescues during the cold winter months in Maine.



Gavin Cottrell and Cape Elizabeth Water Extrication Team volunteer Andy Strout



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