Happy New Year

School Board elects Joanna Morrissey as chair

By Wendy Keeler
School Board member Joanna Morrissey, who was re-elected for a second term in November, is the board’s new chair. The board elected her on Dec. 9, confirming her nomination along with others made at a Dec. 3 caucus.

Most recently chair of the Policy Committee, Morrissey takes the helm from board member John Christie, who now chairs the Policy Committee, as he did in 2012. Christie also serves on the Innovation Team and the Drop-Out Prevention Committee.

Kate Williams-Hewitt was elected vice-chair. She is also a member of the Wellness Committee and Transportation Appeals committees, and serves on the Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Committee.

For the fourth year in a row, Michael Moore heads the Finance Committee, on which the whole School Board sits. Moore is also a member of the Building and Grounds and Technology Steering committees.

In addition to Christie, the Policy Committee includes David Hillman, who also serves on the Community Services Advisory Board, and Barbara Powers, who was elected to the board for a first term in November. Powers is the board’s new representative to the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation and also serves as the board’s legislative liaison, board delegate to the Maine School Management Association, and as a member of the Wellness Committee.

Susanna Measelle Hubbs represents Cape Elizabeth on the Portland Arts and Technology High School board in addition to being a member of the Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Committee and the Innovation Team.

In other action on Dec. 9, the board posted a vote to finalize a calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. The board had prepared to adopt a calendar but decided to hold off until Superintendent Meredith Nadeau drafts a new proposal that includes additional student early-release days.

Pond Cove School staff members, “who have the least amount of planning time,” especially benefit from student early releases and full-staff days, which enable “us to really roll up our sleeves and get some work done,” Pond Cove Principal Kelly Hasson told the board.

Pond Cove teachers have been feeling challenged by new state mandates and initiatives tied to Cape Elizabeth’s strategic plan, said Nadeau, who suggested the board consider a draft calendar next month.

New committee will consider Recycling Center options in 2015

By Elizabeth Brogan
Town Council Chair Kathy Ray will appoint three citizens, a town councilor and a member of the Recycling Committee to a five-member committee to consider long-term improvements to the town’s handling of solid waste and recycling. The committee will also be charged with collecting citizen input, reviewing recommendations from the engineering firm of Woodard and Curran, and submitting a report to the council by June 30, 2015. The Town Council approved the establishment of the committee at an emergency meeting Dec. 8, which included

Council OKs $1.75 million in financing for school capital improvements

By Bob Dodd
A School Board request for a $1.75 million bond to finance five capital improvement projects was approved by the Town Council. The funds will finance school building repair and replacement projects for the town’s three schools. The council voted unanimously at its Dec. 8 meeting to authorize the town manager to acquire the bond.

The five projects proposed by the School Board include:

- $800,000 for the repair and replacement of roofs at the high school;
- $175,000 for repair and replacement of roofs at the middle school;
- $175,000 for repair and replacement of roofs at the elementary school;
- $275,000 for upgrading electrical systems at the high school; and
- $325,000 for repair and replacement of heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment at the middle school.

A public hearing on the bond was held prior to the vote. Only one citizen spoke at the hearing.

Resident Bill Gross questioned the need to finance the projects with a bond issue rather than simply including the projects in the annual school budget. He stressed he was not opposed to the projects, only the manner by which the School Board sought to fund them.

Gross also questioned why the projects were treated separately. He felt the combined total of $1.75 million for the projects should have triggered a public referendum mandated for projects exceeding $1 million.

The council addressed each of these comments.

To see FINANCING, page 14

Diane Brakeley, with paper since its start, to be publisher as Patricia McCarthy departs

By Patricia McCarthy
It’s been my privilege and pleasure to serve as publisher of The Cape Courier for the past five and a half years, and as editor for three of those years. I’ve been stretched a bit too thin with other work, so it’s the right time to move on. I have loved this experience, this paper, and especially getting to know the many people responsible for keeping it chugging along. I feel comfortable leaving now, largely because of who will succeed me.

Diane Brakeley, who has been a part of The Courier since its inception, will step in as publisher next month. Diane happened to move into Cape in 1987 across the street from Ellen Van Flett, who was just getting the paper started. Diane was its first advertising manager, and most recently has been copy manager (electronically now), plugging in corrections to pages after proofing sessions.

Diane brings all the necessary skills, is well liked, and clearly is devoted to this paper. Plus, newspaper work is in her blood — her father was a printer at two papers and certainly would be happy with his daughter’s new endeavor.

I’m very proud of this community paper. Yes, it does deliver mostly happy news, which occasionally is criticized. However, in today’s world, in my opinion, that’s needed and wonderful thing. The Courier beautifully lives up to its mission to foster a sense of community.

Before coming to The Courier in 2009, I spent 26 years in various roles at daily newspapers, so I thought I understood how all of the parts of a newspaper fit together, to proofreading, to preparing photos, to printing off mailing labels needed for the paper to be properly distributed. She was advertising manager for a while, and most recently has been copy manager (electronically now), plugging in corrections to pages after proofing sessions. Diane brings all the necessary skills, is well liked, and clearly is devoted to this paper. Plus, newspaper work is in her blood — her father was a printer at two papers and certainly would be happy with his daughter’s new endeavor.

I’ve learned a lot and now realize just how many newspapers rely on advertisers. The Courier’s loyal advertisers are almost entirely responsible for keeping this paper coming free to your mailbox 22 times a year. Especially in leaner times, it’s not at all easy to keep paying for ads.

Voluntary subscriptions, which we started gently promoting in 2010, also have helped to keep The Cape Courier afloat. I’ll miss opening the mail and seeing little notes like, “Thanks, Courier, for all you do for this community,” often accompanied by a check. It’s felt a little like Christmas every time that’s happened.

The people involved with producing The Courier go about it pretty quietly and anonymously. I’m thankful for each person I’ve encountered here over the years, especially those currently involved:

To see PUBLISHER, page 2

 prison paper industry.

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Before coming to The Courier in 2009, I spent 26 years in various roles at daily newspapers, so I thought I understood how all of the parts of a newspaper fit together. But as publisher, responsible for duties ranging from keeping our office stocked with candy and printer toner to helping create our annual budget and calendar, I’ve been able to see a fascinating little microcosm of the much bigger struggling newspaper world — and not just how much newspapers rely on advertisers. The Courier’s loyal advertisers are almost entirely responsible for keeping this paper coming free to your mailbox 22 times a year. Especially in leaner times, it’s not at all easy to keep paying for ads.

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To see PUBLISHER, page 2
A new sign for 250 years!

Time for town to offer curbside trash pickup?

I was so saddened to learn of the recent tragedy at the town’s recycling center. Clearly, it is time that our town offers curbside trash pickup. The current method of dropping off trash poses a risk to residents. When my family moved here a year and a half ago, my husband and I had been surprised that a town like Cape Elizabeth doesn’t offer curbside trash pickup, while all the neighboring towns offer this service.

It’s time for our town to join the modern age and ensure its residents’ safety.

Hollie Kenniff

Unsafe driving seen at Recycling Center

One would have hoped that in light of the recent tragedy there would be a greater consideration for safe driving practices at the Recycling Center.

Wendy Keeler

Publisher

Cont. from page 1

Elizabeth Brogan — editor for nine years, board member for three, editor again since April — clearly is dedicated to this paper. I respect her and trust her good judgment, and the community is lucky to have her keeping on top of news in town. The same goes for our networking Community Editor Wendy Keeler. Wendy is the paper, and the paper is Wendy. She’s been remarkably in-twitwitted with this publication for 11 years. I’ve had the pleasure of working with some of the most sly-humored chair persons; encouraging them to key points around town for a story. Their behind-the-scenes work is so appreciated. I’ve so appreciated being able to rely on dependable Dorothy Stack, The Courier’s meticulously dedicated bookkeeper and former member of the board of directors.

Wendy Derzawiec, another person in the paper. She’s quickly developed great relationships with advertisers, started a Facebook page, and is a cool-headed problem solver. Incidentally, she’s Diane Brakeley’s daughter.

Shelby Zimmerman, Anita Samu-elsen and Suzanne Higgins — they’re the longtime, smart, careful, lovely, wonder-ful, good-humored, volunteer proofreaders and arbiters of what’s appropriate and OK to publish — and just class acts all the way around. Their behind-the-scenes work is so important, and their collective knowledge of the town and its citizens is invaluable.

I’ve so appreciated being able to rely on dependable Dorothy Stack, The Courier’s meticulous bookkeeper and former member of the board of directors.

Wendy Derzawiec, another person involved since Day 1 in a variety of roles here, is always pleasant and willing to help. She continues to voluntarily supply the paper with news reports, provides town meeting and calendar-guides calendars for each issue, posts The Courier in PDF form on the Web, and generally maintains our website.

Thank you, too, to Jeff Hewett, who works for our printer, Alliance Press in Brunswick, and transports bundles of the printed paper to Cape each issue. He delivered them to key points around town for a decade. Then Tracy Northrup cheerfully took that task on a couple of years ago, and we appreciate their efforts, too. Photographer Ann Kaplan submitted top-quality photos to The Courier for years and last year started getting the paper’s images in proper shape for printing each issue. We appreciate her skills, agreeable nature and flexibility.

We’re fortunate to also have many other great photographers in this town, whose contributions greatly enhance the paper, including Ann, Martha Agan, Sarah Beard Buckley, Jenny Campbell, Ann Kaplan, Wendy Keeler, Sam & Pat McCarthy, Katherine Urbaneck, Jack Kennealy, and Claudia Dilley.

And last but not least, I’m grateful for the kindness and support of The Cape Courier board of directors: appropriately scrutinizing, sly-humored chair Bill Springer, always thoughtful and wise Bob Dodd (who served as editor for years); the quietly encouraging Beth Webster; the Could-There-Be-A-Nicer-Person-On-Earth Debbie But-terworth; the earnest, make-things-happen, keep-things-rolling Trish Brigham (who serves as ad manager between two board stints); level-headed, consummate news- man Jerry Hackasy; and Martha Kelley, who just started on the board last month.

I’ll miss my involvement with all of these good people. But, fortunately, this is a small town, and I’m apt to run into each of them sometime soon — or maybe even read about them in some capacity in this paper. Thank you, happy holidays, and best wishes for 2015.

Garth Altenburg
Planning Board work continues on land use ordinance amendments

By Maureen O’Shea, Town Planner

The current Cape Elizabeth Planning Board has a long history of careful management of land development to preserve community character. Maine towns that wish to regulate land use must have a comprehensive plan that identifies overall goals and objectives. Land use regulations, such as zoning and subdivision ordinances, must be consistent with the comprehensive plan.

The Cape Elizabeth Comprehensive Plan, a two-plus year effort certified by the state of Maine, includes 91 recommendations. Thirty-eight of those recommendations are prioritized as short term. To facilitate implementation of the recommendations, ordinance amendment recommendations were grouped into five ordinance packages. The Shoreland Zoning Update, BA District Overhaul, Agricultural Amendments, and Subdivision Ordinance overhauls have been completed. The Town Council has received the Planning Board’s last ordinance package, called the Land Use Amendments, and combined them with recommendations from the Future Open Space Preservation (FOSP) committee.

Most of the Land Use Amendments originate from the Land Use chapter in the comprehensive plan. By state law, any development that occurs in the past and estimate the amount of new development that can be expected in the future. The town must then identify the areas where development can be accommodated and recreation in a way that preserves community character.

The new development is very important to accommodate new development. It means that development to accommodate new development; it means that development can occur in the past and estimate the amount of new development that can be expected in the future. The town must then identify the areas where development can be accommodated in a way that preserves community character.

As the Planning Board work progresses, more specific recommendations and information will follow, with a public hearing to be scheduled for the beginning of 2015.

New appointments for 2015-2017

The Town Council has appointed 17 citizens to various boards and commissions. All, except for one unexpired term, are for three-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2015.

The appointments, (italics indicating new appointments) are: Michael R. Con

The Planning Board work progresses, more specific recommendations and infor

Land Trust community meeting on new policies set for Jan. 20 and 22

The Cape Elizabeth Land Trust (CEL) will be hosting two facilitated community working sessions from 7 to 9 p.m. at Cape Elizabeth Community Services on Tuesday and Thursday, Jan. 20 and 22.

Over the past few months, Cape Elizabeth Land Trust has received many comments about the new policies at Robinson Woods, including the new lease requirement.

The purpose of the working sessions is to provide community members with more details regarding recent policy changes in Robinson Woods, to encourage community input, and to collaborate to address challenges related to the balanced management of Robinson Woods. More information and resources are available on CELT’s website, capeandtrust.org.

Real estate transfers for July and August 2014

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Food pantry feeds many in Cape

By Nancy Miles

Thanks to the efforts of many Cape residents and groups, Judy’s Pantry was able to offer all its pantry participants colorful bags of fall produce along with ample Thanksgivng baskets complete with a frozen turkey and all the fixings.

Amy Lombardo and Jen Tinsman masterfully organized the turkey basket collection assembled by countless generous Cape families, with 36 baskets reserved for Judy’s Pantry. Girl Scout troops 1530 and 1467, led by Lisa Stevens, artfully decorated the bags with a fall cornucopia. The bags were filled with produce from Jordan’s Farm and Alewive’s Brook Farm – potatoes, squash, carrots, rutabaga, onions and apples. The pantry volunteers baked miniloaves of delicious bread in many flavors to offer to the pantry families.

The pantry depends on the efforts and contributions of many Cape individuals and groups. Special thanks go to the Cape farmers and gardeners who were extremely generous with their weekly donations of produce this past summer and fall. Thanks go to Jordan’s Farm, Green Spark Farm, Alewive’s Brook Farm, Maxwell’s Farm, and Imelda’s Garden for their donations of over 5,400 pounds of fresh produce. Cape’s two community gardens donated almost 850 pounds, and several Cape families donated another 500 pounds for a total of 6,764 pounds offered at the pantry.

One grateful participant wrote: “To the Cape farms and individual gardeners who so very generously donate an amazing quantity and seemingly limitless selection of fresh produce, please know that you make a critical difference in the lives of so many in our community who are food insecure due to limited fixed incomes and other financial hardships. You have not only provided a wonderful bounty of food, but also made it possible for families to have more nutritious and diverse meals which include locally grown food.”

—see PANTRY, page 14


NATURE/GIVING

Watch in January for the Quadrantid meteor shower

By Erika Carlson Rhile, Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Education Committee chair

Jan. 3-4: Quadrantid Meteor Shower with up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak. It is thought to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet discovered in 2003. The shower runs annually from Jan. 1 to Jan. 5, but peaks on the night of Jan. 3 and the morning of Jan. 4. Unfortunately, the nearly full moon will block out all but the brightest meteors this year. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight.

Jan. 5: Full Wolf Moon

Dec. 21: Winter solstice at 6:03 p.m. The sun will set at 4:07 p.m. This is the first day of winter in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of summer (summer solstice) in the Southern Hemisphere.

Jan. 18 - Jan. 28: A thaw usually occurs around this time; watch for honeybee flights!

“Snow fleas” are actually insects called springtails. They are not parasites; they feed on decaying organic matter in the soil (such as leaf litter) and therefore play an important part in natural decomposition. Snow fleas are able to withstand the bitter temperatures of winter, thanks to a glycine-rich antifreeze protein. Researchers suggest possible applications of this protein in preserving organs for human transplantation.

NATURAL HAPPENINGS

Bowdler Electric

General Wiring

- Circuit Breaker Panels
- Doubling Wiring
- Service Calls
- Consulting
- Generators & Switches
- Ground Faulted Outlets
- Outdoor Receptacles
- New Switches & Outlets
- Outdoor House Wiring
- Flare Screen TV Install
- Humidifier Smoke/CO Detectors
- Microwave Installation
- Surge Protection

Construction

- New Home
- Room Additions
- Remodels

Lighting

- Recessed
- Under Cabinet
- Outside Spots
- Post Lights
- Fixtures Changes
- Bath Fan/Lights
- Landscape
- Paddle Fans

Add Circuits

- Computers
- Appliances
- Air Conditioners
- Hot Tubs
- Etc...

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Sylvain Sevigny

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Two motor-vehicle burglaries reported with purse and iPhone missing

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE

COMPLAINTS

11-17 An officer met with a resident about harassing phone calls.

11-19 Two officers responded to a residence on the Shore Road area for a well-being check.

11-25 An officer met with a resident of the Wells Road area about a possible fish and game violation. The case was turned over to the Maine Warden Service.

11-26 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area about the theft of jewelry.

11-28 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area about damage to a stone pillar. It appeared to have been damaged by a private plow. The company was identified and contacted.

11-29 An officer met with a resident of Old Orchard Beach about a motor vehicle burglary at the entrance of Crescent Beach State Park. A purse was missing from the vehicle.

11-29 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area about a civil custody dispute.

11-30 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area about damage to phone lines.

12-1 An officer met with a resident of the Two Lights Road area about a possible missing person.

12-2 An officer met with a resident on Eastman Road about a trespass complaint.

12-3 An officer met with a local contractor at a job site on Fowler Road about the theft of tools.

12-4 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area about unauthorized charges on a credit card.

12-6 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area about a motor vehicle burglary. An iPhone was missing from the car.

ARRESTS

11-26 Cape Elizabeth resident, violation of conditions of release, Ocean House Road

11-28 Portland resident, speeding (60/45 zone), Route 77, $185

11-29 Mass. resident, speeding (65/45 zone), Bowery Beach Road, $185

11-29 Woolwich resident, failure to produce insurance, Sawyer Road, $171

11-26 Lewiston resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77, $70

11-26 Hosmeyer, N.H. resident, failure to stop for stop sign, Spurwink Avenue, $131

11-28 South Portland resident, speeding (40/30 zone), Sawyer Road, $185

SUMMONSES

11-26 Cape Elizabeth resident, violation of conditions of release, Ocean House Road

11-28 Portland resident, speeding (60/45 zone), Route 77, $185

12-2 Woolwich resident, failure to produce insurance, Sawyer Road, $171

11-26 Lewiston resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77, $70

11-26 Hosmeyer, N.H. resident, failure to stop for stop sign, Spurwink Avenue, $131

11-28 South Portland resident, speeding (40/30 zone), Sawyer Road, $185

12-8 ACCIDENTS

11-25 Evangeline Miele, accident on Route 77

11-25 William Kriger, accident on Trundy Road

11-26 Gary Cummings, accident on Route 77.

12-3 Everett Cookson, Aaron Bailey, accident on Stonybrook Road

FIRE CALLS

11-25 Old Ocean House Road, car accident

11-26 Fowler Road, power lines down

11-26 Beach Bluff Terrace, power lines down

11-26 Halletts Cove Road, tree on lines

11-26 Ocean View Road, tree down

11-26 Cooper Drive, fire alarm

11-26 Arrowhead Road, line down

11-26 Two Lights Road, lines down

11-27 Starboard Drive, carbon monoxide alarm

11-27 Bowery Beach Road, fire alarm

11-27 Starboard Drive, carbon monoxide alarm

11-27 Crescent View Road, carbon monoxide alarm

11-27 Cooper Drive, fire alarm

11-27 Scarborough, mutual aid

11-27 Spurwink Road, carbon monoxide alarm

11-28 Kettle Cove Road, power line down

11-28 South Portland, mutual aid

12-3 Muscoffet Terrace, investigation

12-3 Wilton Lane, gas leak

12-6 Grover Road, fuel leak

12-8 Forest Road, fire alarm

RESCUE CALLS

There were 19 runs to Maine Medical Center.

There were 4 patients treated by rescue personnel but not transported.

Letter from Robinson Woods Dog Walkers

We were shocked and saddened by the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust’s announcement that as of December 1, dogs must be leashed at all times on both Robinson Woods I and II after 9 a.m. A small group of dog owners met with executive director Chris Franklin and two board members to ask CELT to consider a compromise. We were eager to share ideas for solving problems together. They declined to take our request to the full board for discussion. Many of us have supported CELT financially, and we feel ignored. We again respectfully request that the board and staff of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust consider a compromise with the dog walkers.

For many of us, walking with our dogs under voice control on these beloved properties has defined what it means to live in Cape Elizabeth. We are losing access we have cherished for years, a decade, decades. The overwhelming majority of dog owners who use this property are not just responsible but good stewards, picking up other people’s trash and providing safety with their physical presence. Robinson Woods has been a place where people, most of them biking or walking dogs, connected, and a sense of community flourished. Walking the dog before 9 a.m. is difficult to impossible for many people. CELT says that dog owners can continue to access the property, they must simply leash their dogs after 9, but historically and today the majority of Robinson Woods visitors are there specifically because they can exercise and enjoy this beautiful area with their dogs under voice control. If they have to leash their dogs, many if not most of these people will go elsewhere. If the number of people visiting the Robinson Woods properties plummets, as we believe it will, this area may experience far more underage drinking and drug usage. Litter will accumulate. Many senior citizens have walked their dogs offleash here during the day. The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee noted that preventing isolation and providing social opportunities should be important town goals.

The Town of Cape Elizabeth was the largest donor to the $11.1 million campaign to purchase Robinson Woods II two years ago. $150,000 came from funds set aside for land conservation and $200,000 came from a 20-year bond. In addition, the town spent nearly an extra $100,000 to construct the Shore Road Pathway so that it did not enter Robinson Woods I. Now CELT refuses to consider a compromise with the taxpayers who actually use this land the most. CELT can legally manage this property as it sees fit. But do their actions honor the spirit of the town gift? Is choosing not to work with citizens to find solutions together the right thing to do? We don’t think so. Would Cape Elizabeth citizens have supported the $350,000 donation if they knew how restricted use would become in just two years? We think the answer is no.

We share CELT’s passion for this property. We want to work with CELT to ensure that all citizens can share this remarkable property and preserve it for the future. We believe that the vernal pools, wildlife, and wildflowers of Robinson Woods are essential, and that opportunities to connect with fellow citizens and foster a sense of community are just as essential. We look forward to a dialogue.

Kathy Barber
Steve Bernick
Bix & Chip Brewer
Cameron & Leslie Brown
Melissa Burke
Kimberly Carr
Janine B. Cary
Carrie, Kurt, Chloé & Karli Chapin
Anne & Don Clark
Kathryn Clark
Donald Clark

Ann Colbourn & Diane Blahusch
Tim & Jen Concannon
Lisa Connolly
Heather & Rob Corey
Jeanneen Forget
Mandy Carmey
Brian Guthrie
Susan Miller Haversat
Marisa Hayward
Gayle & Bob Hickok
Candace Pilk Karu

Peter & Brenna Kelley Family
Allison Landes
Mary Libby
Robert McCarley, M.D.
Liz & TJ McEvoy
Laura McGrath
Anna & Joe McCarthy
Gene & Ann Marie Miliard
Kenny & Irene Moon
Aaron & Stacy Mosher

Christianie Newton
Jim Noyes & Sharon Siegel
Terri & Tyler Patterson
Gretchen Stine
Doug, Anna, Ella & Helen Strout
Linda & Rory Strunk
Jessie Tiberlakes
Jack & Mary Tokarz
David & Mary Velin
Sheila Willehan

For more information, join our Facebook group Robinson Woods Dog Walkers or e-mail us at robinsonwoodsdogwalkers@gmail.com.
Wednesday, December 24
Christmas Holiday. Town Hall, Thomas Memorial Library, Public Works closing at noon, Recycling Center closing at 3 p.m.

Thursday, December 25
Christmas Holiday. Town Hall, Thomas Memorial Library, Recycling Center closed.

Thursday, January 1
New Year’s Holiday. Town offices, Thomas Memorial Library, Recycling Center closed.

Monday, January 5
School Board Policy Committee, 7-30-8:30 a.m. William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall
Town Council Workshop, 7 p.m., William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

Wednesday, January 7
Recycling Committee, 7 p.m., Public Works

Monday, January 12
Cape Elizabeth 250th Anniversary Committee, 7 p.m., Assessing/Codes/Planning Conference Room, second floor Town Hall
Town Council, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber

Tuesday, January 13
School Board Executive Session, 6 p.m., William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall
School Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber

Friday, January 16
School Board Retreat, 8-11 a.m., place TBD

Town Council, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber

Monday, January 19
Martin Luther King Holiday. Town Hall, Thomas Memorial Library, Cape Elizabeth Schools closed. Recycling Center open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club plans five pancake breakfasts through May and three spaghetti dinners through March at the clubhouse, the old Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, located at the intersection of Two Lights and Wheeler roads.

Pancake breakfasts are scheduled from 7:30 to 11 a.m. on Sundays, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8, April 12 and May 10. Breakfast fare includes pancakes, French toast, eggs, sausage, coffee, tea and juice. Adults pay $7, and children 12 and younger pay $5.

The club’s all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinners, which will run from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Jan. 24, Feb. 21 and March 21, include spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert and soft drinks. Diners can bring their own alcoholic drinks. The cost is $10 for adults, and $5 for children younger than 12.

Proceeds raised through the meals will benefit maintenance of the clubhouse and Cape Elizabeth Lions Club charities.

The Cape Lions always welcome new members.

Call Paul Gentilini at 470-7353 for information about the club membership.

The Cape Elizabeth Lion Paul Gentilini shares a laugh with his son Jack at a Lions’ pancake breakfast earlier this year as his daughter Kiereth has some fun writing on the blackboard at the Lions’ clubhouse.

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club plans five pancake breakfasts through May and three spaghetti dinners through March at the clubhouse, the old Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, located at the intersection of Two Lights and Wheeler roads.

Pancake breakfasts are scheduled from 7:30 to 11 a.m. on Sundays, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 8, April 12 and May 10. Breakfast fare includes pancakes, French toast, eggs, sausage, coffee, tea and juice. Adults pay $7, and children 12 and younger pay $5.

The club’s all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinners, which will run from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Jan. 24, Feb. 21 and March 21, include spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert and soft drinks. Diners can bring their own alcoholic drinks. The cost is $10 for adults, and $5 for children younger than 12.

Proceeds raised through the meals will benefit maintenance of the clubhouse and Cape Elizabeth Lions Club charities.

The Cape Lions always welcome new members.

Call Paul Gentilini at 470-7353 for information about the club membership.

Rotarians collect gift cards for homeless vets

The South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, in conjunction with the Veterans Affairs, Maine Homeless Program in Togus, is seeking donations of gift cards, household items and cash for homeless veterans in the state.

Rotarians are collecting transportation passes, gasoline gift cards, Hannaford gift cards, bedding sets, prepaid TracFone mobile phones and household items.

Contact Rotarian Dan Davidson at 767-4682, or South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club President Kathy Cotter at kcotter1@yahoo.com to donate.

Cable Guide

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Town of Cape Elizabeth 2015 Dog Licenses Now Available

Dogs 6 months of age are required by state law to be registered. Registration Deadline is December 31, 2014.

Dogs registered after January 31, 2015 will be charged $25 per dog late fee in addition to the license fee.

- Current Maine rabies certificate and spaying/neutering certificate are required.
- Licenses are available in the Tax Office at Town Hall.
- Both renewal and new licenses may be obtained at www.capeelizabeth.com

Photo by Lee Taylor

Cape Elizabeth Lion Paul Gentilini shares a laugh with his son Jack at a Lions’ pancake breakfast earlier this year as his daughter Kiereth has some fun writing on the blackboard at the Lions’ clubhouse.

Lions to serve up pancakes on five Sundays, all-you-can-eat spaghetti on three Saturdays

More Events & Organizations on page 8

Front Row (L-R): Brenda Cerino-Galli, Edie Boothby, Bob Knecht, Gail Landry.
Mid Row (L-R): Susan Lamb, Mark Fortier, Chris Jackson, Sandy Johnson, Dianne Maskewitz, Sue Lessard.
Back Row (L-R): Cindy Landrigan, Steve Parkhurst, Rowan Morse, Bill Davison, Jeff Davis, Tish Whipple.

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EVENTS & ORGANIZATIONS


Wednesday Calendar

By Wendy Derzawiec

Lions to serve up pancakes on five Sundays, all-you-can-eat spaghetti on three Saturdays
**EVENTS & ORGANIZATIONS**

Cape Elizabeth Land Trust plans two outdoor programs in January.

Cape Elizabeth resident Rafael Adams will lead a winter bird walk from 10 to 11:15 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17. The group will visit three locations, scanning the water for ducks and other winter bird species. Group members will start out at the Kettle Cove parking lot, carpool to Two Lights State Park, and then go to the Lobster Shack. Participants should dress for cold weather and wear footwear suitable for walking in wet conditions.

Cape Elizabeth resident Brian Guthrie and CELT Executive Director Chris Franklin will lead a snowshoe outing through the trail network of Robinson Woods from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24. During the program, designed for winter outdoor enthusiasts, the group will explore the woods on and off the trails. Group members, who will meet at the Robinson Woods kiosk on Shore Road, should bring their own equipment. The outing is dependent on weather conditions.

Both programs have a $6 fee. Register at Cape Elizabeth Community Services’ office at the Community Center, 343 Ocean House Road; by phone at 799-2868; or online at www.capecommunityservices.org. Call 767-6054 or go to www.capelandtrust.org for information about CELT.

**Award-winning documentary, ‘Promises,’ to be screened on Jan. 14 at high school**

Cape Elizabeth High School’s World Affairs Council will screen the award-winning 2001 documentary, “Promises,” at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14, in the CHS auditorium. The event will be open to all in the community.

The film examines the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from the points of view of seven children, ages nine to 13, living in Palestinian communities in the West Bank and in Israeli neighborhoods in Jerusalem. Nominated for an Academy Award, the documentary won two Emmys and numerous film festival awards.

No admission will be charged for the event, but donations will be accepted to help the CEHS organization in its mission to promote awareness of global issues among CEHS students and Cape Elizabeth community members and organizations with which WAC partners.

Contact Luke Gilman at luke.gilman@capeelizabethschools.org for more information.

**CELT plans two outdoor programs next month**

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**Cape artist to teach drawing, painting classes**

Cape Elizabeth artist Chris Reed will teach two classes this winter through Cape Elizabeth Community Services.

A professional landscape painter who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in visual arts from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Reed and painter Marty Clark will teach an intermediate-level class in watercolor and acrylic painting on Wednesdays, Feb. 4 through April 8, from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m., in the Cape Elizabeth Community Center’s Community Room. The fee for the class is $85. Class will not be held on Feb. 18.

Reed also will lead an introductory drawing class on Thursdays, Feb. 5 - March 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Cape Elizabeth Community Center’s Living Room. In the class, students will explore basic techniques of drawing using a variety of different materials. The class fee is $66. There will be no class on Feb. 19.

Go to Cape Elizabeth Community Services’ Web page, www.capecommunityservices.org, or call 799-2868 to register. Contact Reed at chris@christopherdreed.com for more information or for supply lists.

**Time to register kindergartners for next school year**

Parents of children who will turn five before Oct. 15, 2015, should contact Pond Cove School as soon as possible to register their children in kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year.

Parents of children now attending kindergarten at other schools also should notify the school if they plan to enroll their children in first grade at Pond Cove next year.

A birth certificate, immunization records and proof of residency, such as a utility bill, are required at registration. Call Pond Cove at 799-7339 for more information.

**Seniors help seniors**

Cape Elizabeth resident Jessie Timberlake, third from left, got some leaf-raking help last month from Cape Elizabeth High School seniors, from left, Lindsay Stewart, Monica Dell’Aquila, Ashley Troman, Hannah Sawyer, Emma Landes and Kirsten Rudberg. The students and fellow CEHS seniors in the school’s Senior to Senior organization perform free services for older Cape Elizabeth residents.

**Photo by Becky Fernald**

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**Photo by Becky Fernald**
Annual ‘WET Dip’ set for New Year’s Day

Brave Cape Elizabeth residents prepare to take the New Year’s Day plunge last year at Kettle Cove during the Cape Elizabeth Water Extrication Team’s annual WET Dip fundraiser. The event raised $645 for Cape Elizabeth High School’s Project Graduation and other causes.

Cape Elizabeth residents who want to brave the frigid Atlantic the first day of 2014 can take the plunge at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 1, at Kettle Cove, during the Cape Water Extrication Team’s annual “WET Dip.” The fundraiser, held every New Year’s Day, benefits Project Graduation, a night of safe activities planned for newly graduated Cape Elizabeth High School seniors the night of their commencement, and other causes. Suggested donations of $10 or more will be welcomed. For more information, contact WETeam Capt. John Norton at 831-5714 or at jnorton3@maine.rr.com.

Ice hockey players to pick up trees on Jan. 4

Cape Elizabeth High School ice hockey players, from left, Jeb Boeschenstein, Max Woods, Tom Gleason and Matt Riggle, show their team pride in January 2014 while picking up Christmas trees on Sunday, Jan. 4. The annual fundraiser helps the team defray overall costs for the season, including expenses for ice time and equipment. Call 799-5264 or email cehockey@earthlink.net to request a pickup.


Cape Boys Varsity Basketball upcoming games:

Tue 12/23 6:30pm @ Kennebunk HS
Sat 01/03 7:00pm vs Falmouth at Cape
Tue 01/06 7:00pm @ Wells HS
Thu 01/08 7:00pm vs OAK at Cape
Sat 01/10 7:00pm vs York at Cape
Fri 01/16 7:00pm vs Kennebunk at Cape

Enjoy a homemade meal at all of our HOME GAMES!

Pond Cove School

Getting involved:
• Volunteers are needed to mat and hang student art work. Training will be provided. Email mjjohnston@capeelizabethschools.org.

Tangible resources needed:
• Boys and girls underwear in sizes 5-10, but no boxers, for the health office clothes closet. Email etaylor@capeelizabethschools.org.
• Tennis balls. Email gschmader@capeelizabethschools.org.

Middle School

Tangible resources needed:
• Scrabble and Boggle games. Email sbouffard@capeelizabethschools.org.
• Tennis balls. Email gschmader@capeelizabethschools.org.
• Fire-retardant rugs and chairs for a reading center. Contact Tabitha Eastman at teastman@capeelizabethschools.org.
• CD player; board games at the kindergarten-grade 2 level; and toy musical instruments. Contact mbam@capeelizabethschools.org.
• Magnets, especially ones with attached clips. Email afilleo@capeelizabethschools.org.

CAPE CONNECTION

The next Cape Courier deadline is Friday, Jan. 9.

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TEDxYouth@CEHS uplifts, again

At left, a crowd of 450 Cape Elizabeth High School students, faculty members, Cape Elizabeth residents, and students from area high schools rise to dance to music by the Maine Marimba Ensemble on Dec. 5 during the school’s second TEDxYouth@CEHS in the CEHS auditorium. Ten speakers shared stories and ideas during the daylong program for juniors and seniors. The privately funded event also included musical, theatrical, cinematic, dance and literary presentations.

The 30-year-old nonprofit organization, TED, has captured a large global audience through its website, which features “TED-talks,” in which “big thinkers share ideas worth spreading” in presentations of no longer than 12 minutes. The TEDxYouth@CEHS talks and presentations will be available online sometime in January.

At left, CEHS senior Hunter Kent, who got a standing ovation after her presentation, talks about her experience with depression and the steps she has taken to overcome it. At center, Deering High School student activist Mohamed Nur, the son of Somali refugees, discusses the work he has been motivated to do as a result of the challenges he has faced feeling fully accepted by fellow citizens of the United States, where he was born, and by members of Portland’s Somali community. At right, Emmy-award-winning photographer and filmmaker Thom Pollard of Eyes Open Productions talks about the inspiration he received while working on a film about a U.S. Marine amputee who climbs mountains and runs marathons to raise money for veterans. Other presenters included a psychiatrist who founded a radio show that offers people a forum to talk about difficult subjects; a lawyer who chronicled the five-month trip he made with his wife and two young children to hike the Appalachian Trail from Springer Mountain, Ga., to Mount Katahdin in Maine; and an environmentalist who cofounded a nonprofit organization that works to make concert tours more environmentally sustainable while also conducting grassroots outreach and education.

SCHOOLS

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SCHOOLS

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Library will be closed from Jan. 5 to 12 due to renovation construction

By Rachel Davis

If all goes as planned, in early January the two library buildings that currently make up the Thomas Memorial Library—the Pond Cove Annex (currently the adult wing) and the Spurwink School (currently the children’s wing) will be separated. During the yearlong renovation process to the Pond Cove Annex, which will become the new library, the Spurwink School will become the library’s temporary point of operations. Children’s and young adult services, children’s programs, and interlibrary-loan processing will be located on the upper level, and adult services will be located on the lower level, in what has been the Community Room. Circulation will take place on both levels for the materials housed on each floor.

The library expects to be closed to the public during the week of Jan. 4 to 12 while the buildings are separated and some of the library’s materials are moved into storage and others are relocated to their temporary quarters. The new, temporary, library is expected to be open to the public on Tuesday, Jan. 13. As some delays are possible, please check the town and library’s websites for the most current information.

Most library programs will be on hiatus until February, 2015

Due to the ongoing construction and move into temporary quarters, most of the library’s programs have been suspended through the month of January.

The Read to a Dog program will continue once the library reopens to the public in mid-January, and current plans call for the library’s adult evening book group to meet on Jan. 15 (subject to change if the move to temporary quarters is not complete by then).

Socrates Café, story times, the adult morning book group, the knitting groups, and Musical Story Hour will not take place in January. Please check the library’s website for the most current information on library programs and services.

The library staff apologizes for the necessary inconvenience and looks forward to offering the public a full range of services in February.
Stepping into the Sesquicentennial

A Cape Courier series by Cape Elizabeth resident Ellen Van Fleet follows the Civil War through the eyes of people who lived in Cape Elizabeth 150 years ago, when the Civil War was in its third year. Using Portland author Paul Ledman’s book, “A Maine Town Responds,” as the main guide, the series includes both short entries from the Portland Transcript, a newspaper, and letters from a local soldier who served on the western front. Items from the Portland Transcript and from soldiers’ letters are reported verbatim.

Dec. 24, 1864 – Capture of Savannah!
This is so splendid a Christmas gift that the whole loyal people can participate with the President in its enjoyment. [Portland Transcript]

When Gen. Sherman arrived in front of Savannah he had 1200 head of cattle, though he started with only 200. He gath-
ered 7000 able bodied negroes, and so many horses, mules and wagons as to embarrass him. His whole loss in men, from sickness and capture, was only about 1000. The av-
erage daily march was 12 miles. Savannah was unprepared for a siege and cannot long hold out. [Portland Transcript]

The Chicago Tribune says Con-
gress is subject to two disorders – grab and gab. [Portland Transcript]

Large quantities of evergreen are brought into the city in preparation for Christmas. It has now become a general custom to adorn our apartments, as well as churches and public halls, with fit bouquets and wreaths of the feather pine, for the custom to adorn our apartments, as well as the public schools. [Portland Transcript]

One of the latest inventions is a spoon, with a cover, for the special use of those who wear the moustache. [Portland Transcript]

Mr. Joseph A. Langley of the 17th Regulars, who has recently returned to this city from the prison pens of Georgia, bears upon his person painful evidences of the inhume treatment received by our pris-

ers at the hands of the rebels. He was for seven months in the pens at Andersonville and without a change of clothes during the whole time, living on a pint of meal and from two to three ounces of bacon per day, and such water as could be got from the creek that ran through the enclosure. His hair has fallen off, his flesh is covered with scurvy, his legs are swollen to twice their natural size, and his gums have fallen away so that his teeth rattle in his mouth. [Portland Transcript]

A handsome new steam fire en-

gine made for the city by the Portland Com-
pany, was exhibited in front of the store on Mon-
day. The city has now five steam fire engines. [Portland Transcript]

Everything goes on well at Sa-

vannah. The citizens are protected by Gen.

Sherman, and many of them have taken the oath of allegiance. At a public meeting of in-
fuential citizens, called by the Mayor, it was resolved that they would “seek to have peace by laying down their arms and submitting to the national authority under the Constitu-
tion.” [Portland Transcript]

The President had a hard day’s work on New Year’s Day – he had to shake hands with 7,000 visitors. [Portland Transcript]

The loyal men of Philadelphia, are going to give Mrs. Gen. Grant a $50,000 house as a New Year’s present. [Portland Transcript]

Congress – The Senate has passed a bill to free the wives and children of slaves enlisted in the army. The House is discussing the amendment to the Constitu-
tion to abolish slavery. It is not probable that the requisite two thirds vote will be obtained. [Portland Transcript]

Editor’s note: From 1847 to 1853, Cape 

Elizabeth resident Scott D. Jordan was a 

mariner, plying trade routes in New Eng-

land, England, the West Indies, the Carib-

bean, and the southern coast of the United 

States. In 1863, he left his wife Judith and 

their three children to serve as a naval ensign in the Civil War. After the war, he farmed and served for a while as the superintendent of Cape Elizabeth Poor Farm. Jordan wrote to his wife in early in the winter of 1864:

U.S. Steamer Carondelet 

Fort Donaldson, Tenn. 

Dec. 29, 1864

Dear Judith,

Everything is quiet in this vicinity and the Transports are running up and down, unmo-
tested though they are always conveyed by Gun boats. Our Ship being large and heavy, we do little of that kind of business but leave it to the Tin Clads. I wrote to you that we had a new Commander by the name of Clark from Portland. My opinion of him is that he is a perfect gentleman, And one of the most agreeable men I have seen since I entered the service. He is acquainted with James Jordan & his wife. And many more of the citizens of Portland that I am acquainted with. And I assure you it seems like meeting one of my own family. The Capt. Wishes me to accompany him tomorrow on a tour over the Battlefields, and fortification of Fort

—see SESQUICENTENNIAL, page 12

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Jennifer DeSena
REAL ESTATE GROUP
Sesquicentennial
Cont. from page 11

Donelson and vicinity. I have a great desire to see the blood-bought field of Donelson, where so many of our brave and patriotic brothers, who lost their lives in defense of their country’s rights, are now sleeping...

Dec. 30, 4:30 p.m. — We have just returned from our ride over the Battlefield. We visited all the Forts and Rifle pits which were constructed by the Rebels. The Rifle pits, or breast works are twenty miles in extent but very firm. The way they are constructed is this. First four large white oak logs are placed one upon the other the entire length of the breastworks, which makes a fence about eight feet high. Then the earth is thrown against it until it is as high as the top. So you see at once that any army so well protected cannot be driven from their position except their opponents charge right over the works which in this case was done by our Army which was in command of Gen. Grant at the time. And though every obstacle was devised, he was successful. There were thousands of acres of White oak timber fallen in all directions over & through which our Army had to pass before they could charge the enemy’s works. Yet they did so, but not without great loss of life as I could plainly see while riding over the ground today and seeing many graves along over the hills and in the vallies.

U.S. Steamer Carondelet
At Johnsonville, Tenn.
Jan. 12, 1865
Dear Wife,
This place, by the appearance of it, [had] but very little pains taken in it, for the material, of which there seems to be so sufficient quantity to build a large city, appears to have been thrown from aloft, and left in the same position, for there is rails, roads, forts, houses, heaps of lumber, timber, soldier camps, furniture, fences and many other things mixed up together in such a conglomerate mass that it would be useless for me to attempt a description. The cause of all this confusion is Hood’s Army, which was here, about a month and a half ago, when so many Gun boats were destroyed by Hood. Also several Transports, the wrecks of which are within thirty yards of us. There are no inhabitants in this place, except three young Ladies who occupy a house about two hundred yards from our anchorage. And who made us a call yesterday, requesting of Capt. to sell them some provisions. Capt. C. sent them some necessary articles, so now they are in comfortable circumstances. We are now underway steaming up river, with four Tin clad Gun boats in company. We have twenty Transports under convoy, on board one of them is Gen. Thomas & staff. We are bound to a place called Eastport 156 miles from Johnsonville. The Admiral is at Eastport.
Sunday, Jan. 15.—At Eastport. We arrived here this morning. Gen. Thomas’ army is here, and about fifty Stearmen. This place is minus houses and people with the exception of Uncle Sam’s boys. All the hills in this vicinity are white with camp tents. And the appearances indicate a movement of the Army in some direction very soon.

Boys’ basketball booster Donna Liimatainen-Peterson, center, designed the high school’s snack bar floor, installed this summer. The “Green Play” floor, which is manufactured by Comor Sports Flooring, uses recycled polymers and maple flooring harvested from sustainable forests.

By Wendy Keeler
Students on Cape Elizabeth High School teams aren’t the only team players making CEHS fans happy this winter. A new gym floor is another addition: a state-of-the-art, “green” gym floor, installed this summer. The “Green Play” floor, which is manufactured by Comor Sports Flooring, uses recycled polymers and maple flooring harvested from sustainable forests.

Another team — an adult team — is also earning applause among fans: the team of boys’ and girls’ basketball and volleyball boosters and Cape Elizabeth Facilities Department employees who worked together to renovate the snack bar located in the lobby near the gym.

The renovation, funded by the three booster groups, includes new cherry cabinets, new countertops, a new refrigerator, a new sink, a new ceiling, and an upgraded electrical system, which added up to a total $4,500.

Cape Elizabeth Facilities Department staff members installed the cabinets and the new ceiling with new lighting, and built the countertops and the sink base.

“This was a total team effort,” said boys’ basketball booster and architect, Donna Liimatainen-Peterson, who headed up the project and volunteered their services to design the renovation.

Liimatainen-Peterson had planned to use off-the-shelf stock cabinets from a home improvement retail store, but a chance trip changed that plan, saving the groups about $1,200.

“On a whim I popped into the Habitat for Humanity ReStore over on Warren Avenue, which on previous visits only had a mish-mash of odds and ends. Lo and behold, on this trip I found that only 30 minutes earlier they had just finished putting out an entire cherry kitchen.”

Then more volunteers stepped up to help. “(Boys’ Basketball) Coach Jim Ray came to our rescue by transporting the cabinets, using his truck and trailer, and Mark and Alix Sawyer of Cape girls’ basketball graciously offered a barn to store them,” Peterson said.

New gym floor
Fans at home basketball games also may notice another addition: a state-of-the-art, “green” gym floor, installed this summer. The “Green Play” floor, which is manufactured by Comor Sports Flooring, uses recycled polymers and maple flooring harvested from sustainable forests.

“The Cape Elizabeth School Department is always looking at ways to be better stewards of the environment, and our new Green Play flooring helps us achieve just that,” said Cape Elizabeth Facilities and Transportation Director Greg Marles.
Cape Methodist plans two Christmas Eve services, Jan. 3 public supper, Jan. 4 showing of ‘Frozen’

Cape United Methodist Church will hold two services on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24: a 6 p.m. family service with a Christmas pageant and singing by candlelight, and an 11 p.m. candlelight service with lessons, carols and communion.

Public supper
The church will host a public supper on Saturday, Jan. 3, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., featuring casseroles, beans, salads, breads and pie. Prices will be $8 for adults, $5 for children, and $20 for families (two adults and children). Takeout will be available.

‘Frozen’
Cape Methodist will show the award-winning animated Disney film, “Frozen” at noon on Sunday, Jan. 4, on the church’s new wide-screen television in fellowship hall. The showing will be free and open to the public.

Go to www.ceumc.org for more information. The church is located at 280 Ocean House Road.

Congregational Church plans three services, ‘birthday party for Jesus’ on Christmas Eve

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ will hold a 5 p.m. family service on Christmas Eve with carols and a simple telling of the Christmas story, along with a surprise for each child. A “birthday party for Jesus” will follow for children.

The 7 p.m. candlelit service will include a scripture lesson and carols with the Meeting House Choir.

The church is located at 301 Cottage Road in South Portland.

Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church parishioner Carlos Lamoglia introduced his son Charlie to his first Jolly Snowman Fair, held at the church on Dec. 6. Charlie will be Baby Jesus in the church’s Christmas Eve pageant.

Photo by Ted Haider

The next Courier deadline is Friday, Jan. 9.
Financing

Cont. from page 1

cerns during the discussion of the proposed bond request.

Town manager Mike McGovern explained that legal counsel had been sought as to whether the five projects triggered the mandate for a referendum. He said that since the projects are separate and distinct, that they did not qualify as a “single project” of $1 million or more. Putting the bond issue decision to a referendump, he added, would probably be in violation of the town’s charter.

Councilor Jim Walsh said he initially shared the concern that the projects needed to be treated as one.

He said the vetting process on the issue had been very transparent and complete, and he agreed with the advice of the town that the projects should be treated as distinct.

Michael Moore, chair of the School Board finance committee, and McGovern both addressed the reasoning behind the decision to finance the projects through a bond issue. Current low interest rates and recently retired 20-year bonds were key parts of the financial discussion.

The bond request is the first step in the implementation of a 10-year, $14 million capital improvement plan for the schools and for Community Services facilities, including the Don Richards pool. A total of $3.7 million in bonds is projected over the next decade to help fund the plan.

Many of the future capital improvement costs will also be addressed in the annual school budgets.

“Citizens should expect larger capital improvement expenditures in the school budget in the next few years versus the prior 10 years,” said Moore.

Councilors Jessica Sullivan and Walsh praised the cooperation between Town Council, School Board and town staff in creating an improved process for anticipating and funding responsible school building maintenance.

Council accepts list of 2014 gifts

As it does each year, the council formally accepted gifts made to the town throughout 2014. Seen in total, the gifts paint a picture of generosity and philanthropy that helps set the tone for the holiday season.

Among the long list of gifts are many under $100 dropped in the Portland Head Light donation box to several gifts of over $1,000 made to support local fuel assistance.

Gifts to the Thomas Memorial Library dominated the list. These ranged from several under $20 to a bequest to the library of nearly $46,000.

The Dec. 8 meeting was chaired by Coun-
cilor Katharine Ray, who was elected chair for the upcoming year at the start of the meeting. Incoming councilor Ray and new-comer Patricia Grennon also were sworn in to begin new terms on the council.

New bottle shed system

Jan. 1

The Town Council also approved a new bottle shed system at the Recycling Center to go into effect Jan. 1. Residents will be able to leave redeemable bottles and cans at the shed to be sorted by Madden Beverage, the same firm which currently collects the redeemables now sorted by various organizations that benefit from the donations. Going forward, those organizations will not need to man the bottle shed, but will still be eligible for a share of the donations.

A three-member oversight committee, yet to be appointed, will determine the allocation of money from the shed. Organizations benefitting from the Lions Club and scouting groups as well as school groups, may apply for an allocation.

Jamie Garvin, chair of the Recycling Committee, said leaving redeemables at the shed will be easy, with no sorting required and less mess, as Madden Beverage has agreed to have more frequent pickups.

McGovern said the contract with Madden is for one year, during which time the town will be realizing more money per bottle and can.

Recycling Center

Cont. from page 1

a tribute to Herbert Dennison, the former public works director killed Nov. 24 at the Recycling Center when he was struck by a vehicle and thrown into the hopper/compactor. Dennison’s son, Mark Dennison, also spoke at the meeting, at times tearfully, ask-
ing the council to “do some thinking” about how to improve the Recycling Center, which he said is still “not safe.”

A study of the Recycling Center is under-
taken by Woodard and Curran, with a report recommending short-term improvements expected Dec. 22, according to Town Manager Michael McGovern. A long-range study of the town’s 36-year-old Recycling Center had been planned for July 2015, but is now an immediate priority.

McGovern said that decision-making will require “some intense citizen involvement,” and reiterated the importance of the issue at the Dec. 8 meeting. “We need to look longer term: Where are we going with this? What major in-
vestments might we need to make to look out into the next couple of decades?”

Pantry

Cont. from page 4

grown produce. When money is tight, sadly, these are some of the first foods to be cut from the budget.”

Judy’s Pantry wishes to thank others for their recent donations of both food and funds. In November, Pond Cove families collected 37 boxes of nonperishables that will be

the pantry is now over 100, including about 30 Cape families who attend the pantry each week and the approximately 45

families who come on a fairly regular basis. The number of family members helped by the pantry is now over 100, including about 50 children. The households include those who have lost jobs, some with very high medical expenses, families with young chil-
dren, single parents, and seniors and the dis-
abled living on fixed incomes. Others have low-wage jobs that don’t allow them to ade-
quate feed their families. Checks to Judy’s Pantry can be mailed to Nancy Miles, 243 Bowery Beach Rd., Cape Elizabeth, 04107. The participants are most appreciative and grateful for this help. “Cape Elizabeth is the very best place on earth, as far as I’m con-
cerned, said a participant. “My family and I have experienced hardship over the past cou-
ple of years, and after putting aside my pride and accepting your help, I thankfully remain a grateful member of your community. You have given us a way to remain here, with your graciousness and generosity. I suspect all of us that receive your help anticipate a time [when] we can give back. That is my goal, at least.”

Judy’s Pantry will be open Dec. 30 and thereafter will begin its winter/spring sched-
ule from 3 to 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from January through June, always at the United Meth-
odist Church, 280 Ocean House Road. For more information, contact Nancy Miles at mmiles@mainemr.com or 767-1031.

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Karyn Barrett, a 2011 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School, has been named a President’s Fellow at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Every academic department at Trinity annually nominates a senior who demonstrates outstanding achievement in a major along with evidence of wide-ranging intellectual interests, and Karyn was chosen by the Department of Economics.

Rebecca Boulos, who graduated in 2000 from Cape Elizabeth High School and is now a public health professor at the University of New England in Biddeford, is a faculty advisor for a collaborative effort of UNE and the Cumberland County Jail. Students in physical and occupational therapy, social work and nursing volunteer in the jail to support inmates in eating well, staying physically active and managing stress. Boulos is also involved in ANEW Approach, a drug treatment program currently being piloted at the Cumberland County Jail. Since late October, addiction counselors along with UNE students, faculty and alumni have been volunteering time to provide inmates with intensive drug treatment. To keep the program going, the group hopes to raise $60,000 by Jan. 4 through indiegogo at http://igg.me/at/ANEW-Approach/x/9049729.

Two Cape Elizabeth residents recently returned from sailing aboard 134-foot sailing school ships on “Sea Semester” programs offered through the Sea Education Association in Woods Hole Mass. 

Alexis Johnson, a 2012 Cape Elizabeth High School graduate who attends Stonehill College in North Easton, Mass., left Auckland, New Zealand, to examine modern environmental issues faced by New Zealand communities long tied to the sea.

Megan Lubetkin, a graduate of Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Conn., who now attends Bates College in Lewiston, set sail from Grand Canary, Spain, for the Virgin Islands to study conservation and colonization in the Caribbean.

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Sherwin Pierce Parkhurst II, the son of Cape Elizabeth residents Ann and Stephen Parkhurst, was married on Sept. 6 to Kristen Lang, the daughter of James and Elaine Lang of Kennebunk, at the Kennebunk Conservation Trust. Skyler P. Parkhurst was best man, and the groomsmen were Carson Brown, Ryan Carter, Abubakar Dumbuya and Kenji Tabery. The maid of honor was Kaitlyn Lang, and the bridesmaids were Samantha Buttera, Mary-Kate Carey and Raven Duflo.

Sherwin is a 2003 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School and a 2007 graduate of Babson College in Wellesley, Mass. Kristen is a 2006 graduate of Kennebunk High School and a 2010 graduate of Babson College.

Cape grad designated ‘midshipman’

Cape Elizabeth resident Jennifer DeSena was named Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage real estate’s November “Broker of the Month” for superior sales that month. She and her husband Danforth have three grown daughters and live in the Oakhurst neighborhood.

To show their appreciation to the Cape Elizabeth community, the owners of and staff at Cape Chiropractic and Acupuncture made homemade granola and gave out free passes for yoga at their office with instructor Joni Hewitt. The owners – chiropractor Zev Myerowitz and acupuncturist Amber Smalley – and office manager Catie Fairbanks-Cliffe and other staff delivered 300 of the gifts to Cape Elizabeth school town and Community Services employees, and to members of the fire and police departments. This is the third year they have delivered gifts.