

The Cape Courier

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Public hearing on Verizon's cell tower proposal set for March 15; neighborhood concerns linger

By Wendy Derzawiec

The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on March 15 on a proposal from Verizon Wireless to use an abandoned water tower on Avon Road as a cellphone tower. The hearing will begin at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

Verizon's current application for a site plan follows a 2014 denial of an application for a building permit by Cape Elizabeth Code Enforcement Officer Ben McDougal, a failed appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals and a successful appeal to the U.S. District Court.

Judge John D. Levy ruled on Sept. 30, 2015, that the town erred, under its zoning ordinance, in denying the company a permit. McDougal has said that if the Planning Board approves a site plan he will issue a building permit.

"I don't dispute that it is business as usual for you. It is not business as usual for us." – Carol Anne Jordan, Planning Board member

The Planning Board on Feb. 22 voted narrowly to deem the Verizon application complete, and voted unanimously to set the public hearing and to schedule a site visit for Feb. 27.

The application calls for three antennas, covered by a shroud, to be installed at the top of the 70-year-old tower. A 10-by-16-foot concrete slab would support cabinets for equipment at the base, next to a diesel generator that would be used during power outages.

However, neighborhood concerns about noise and a new concern about lead contamination coming from paint on the tower were enough for two Planning Board members to vote against the application's completeness on Feb. 22. Planning Board rules prohibit discussion until the board rules the application

complete.

"Specifically on the issue of lead, I have two small children. This has been an ongoing issue as we try to figure out what is going on with lead at the water tank," said Pavel Darling, who lives at 9 Avon Road next to the tower, at the Feb. 22 meeting. "My comments are really just to make sure we have the information in front of us as we discuss what is going to happen at this site," he said.

Darling asked that a baseline soils study be conducted as part of the project, but Verizon has asked the board to waive the medium intensity soil survey required typically for projects involving septic systems or wetlands alteration.

Town Planner Maureen

—see VERIZON, page 14



Photo by Kim Case

A Planning Board site walk with Verizon attorney Scott Walker, center, was held at the Avon Road tower on Feb. 27.

Spurwink Rod and Gun Club to be assessed property tax for first time

By Elizabeth Brogan

The Spurwink Rod and Gun Club will be assessed a tax on its 21-acre property located at 1250 Sawyer Road, for the first time since its incorporation in 1956.

The decision was made by Cape Elizabeth Assessor Matt Sturgis, who notified gun club president Tammy Walter in a letter of Dec. 9, 2015. In his letter, Sturgis explained that the club's designation as a 501c7 tax-exempt organization under the Federal Tax Code may make the club exempt from federal and state income tax, but does not determine exemption from property tax.

The 501c7 designation is for social and recreation clubs, such as the Purpodock Club on Spurwink Avenue, which does pay property tax.

Sturgis' decision was appealed to the Cape Elizabeth Board of Assessment Review. The quasi-judicial board, comprised of Michael Connell, David Scheffler and John McAnuff, heard the club's appeal on Feb. 24.

After a brief hearing of less than an hour, at which Sturgis, Walter, former club presi-

dent Mark Mayone and club treasurer Peter Darling testified, the assessor's decision was unanimously sustained.

To be exempt from property tax in Maine, most organizations must be designated as a 501c3 organization, a tax status the Spurwink Rod and Gun Club said it once held. The Federal Tax Code has specific qualifications for exempt status as a 501c3, which includes "fostering national or international sports competition." According to the club, it did support shooting teams during its years as a 501c3, but those teams have since been "forced to shoot in Scarborough," and cannot return until the club's 50-yard range can reopen. (The club's 50- and 100-yard ranges have been closed since July 2015 when an independent firing range evaluator, hired by the town, found the range unsafe. Only the club's 25-yard range has reopened.) Darling said the club's junior shooting team had been voluntarily moved to Scarborough due to noise complaints from the surrounding

—see GUN CLUB, page 14



Photo by Elizabeth Brogan

The Spurwink Rod and Gun Club at 1250 Sawyer Road will be assessed property taxes.

Superintendent's recommended school budget would increase spending by 4 percent

By Wendy Keeler

Cape Elizabeth School Board members face a bigger challenge this March than they did a year ago when going line by line through Superintendent Meredith Nadeau's proposed budget for the next school year.

Nadeau's recommended \$24,468,918 budget for 2017, when the district faces a projected \$974,369.43 reduction in state education aid, would increase spending by \$932,269, or 4 percent. Town Manager Mike McGovern has recommended a 3.8 percent municipal increase in spending.

Nadeau's plan calls for a 5.7-percent rise in taxes for school services. Property taxes

for education would go up 68 cents for every thousand dollars of valuation.

Salaries and benefits represent 80 percent of expenditures in the school budget. Salaries are projected to increase by \$446,269 next year. Insurance premiums are expected to rise 8 percent.

In January, the state projected a reduction of nearly 29 percent in state education aid to Cape Elizabeth. The loss of funding, which would mean a more than 10 percent decline in revenues for the district, is a result of a statewide increase in the mil rate, and anticipated declines in both enrollment and in the number of students qualifying for spe-

cial education and free and reduced lunch in Cape Elizabeth.

"Given the overall financial picture, the administrative team has worked to make reductions to the budget which we believe will not adversely impact students and has brought forward an increase, which we feel will meet student needs and the goals of the strategic and capital plans," Nadeau states in the opening of her budget proposal, which she presented to the School Board on March 1.

Nadeau's budget plan reflects the priorities established in 2013 in the district's five-year strategic plan as well as anticipated changes in Cape Elizabeth's student popula-

tion next year, she said.

Overall enrollment is expected to decline by about 25 students – or 1.5 percent, the superintendent said. The budget proposes a reduction of the equivalent of 4.1 full-time staff positions. Under the plan, the high school, which is expected to have 33 fewer students next year, would lose the equivalent of three-fifths of a full-time position and two-fifths of a math position.

The number of students qualifying for special education and related services is expected to decrease by five. Nadeau's budget

—see SCHOOL BUDGET page 14

The Cape Courier
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 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.

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NEXT ISSUE: March 25
DEADLINE: Noon, March 11

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Back of Town Hall is prime space for green

The class of 1974 went to 6th grade in what is now the Cape Elizabeth Town Hall. (You know who you are because many of you still live in Cape!) Anyway, the back of Town Hall was our playground.

It seems that we should not have the silver bullets taking up that prime space.

In its place, we should consider having our village green. There is already parking space. A bit of landscaping, remove the silver bullets and voilà, it could be ready by this summer!

Martha Agan

Cape should not 'throw away' \$1.4 million



In June, voters will decide whether to approve a \$1.4 million bond to finance improvements at the Recycling Center. Above, the Recycling Center as seen on Saturday morning, Feb. 27.

This letter is in response to Theresa Maher's letter (The Cape Courier, Feb. 12-Feb. 25 edition) questioning the lack of public support for curbside trash pickup in Cape.

The Recycling Committee received about 400 responses to a survey sent out by the town. Of the responses, 75 percent (300 residents) were not in favor of curbside pickup. That means that 6 percent of Cape Elizabeth residences (300/5000 residences) decided that YOU can't have curbside trash pickup.

According to the Recycling Committee report, the cost for Cape Elizabeth residents to have curbside trash and recycling pickup, like every other town in the greater Portland area, would be a whopping \$80 per year (\$400,000/5000 residences). If you subtract the cost in gas used traveling to the transfer

station every week, your cost would be even less. Although this does not include the cost of keeping the transfer station open for yard waste and "large item" disposal, in the long term the costs for non-household trash disposal can be reduced and minimized.

In my opinion, the people of Cape Elizabeth were "trashed" by the Town Council when it voted to "throw away" \$1.3 million in upgrades to the transfer station rather than having the vision to move Cape Elizabeth to the 21st century of trash disposal.

In June, we'll be asked to approve spending \$1.4 million on upgrades to the transfer station. You will NOT be asked whether you favor curbside pickup. I know what my vote will be.

Scott Clark

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MCCARTHY EDWARD A JR	ARMSTRONG-TAYLOR LLC	0 LAWSON ROAD	\$399,500	WATERFRONT
HILTON JENNIFER V	WOOD PATRICIA A &	55 LONGFELLOW DRIVE	\$155,000	SINGLE FAMILY
TUMAS ALISON WHITMER	KARU CANDACE	412 PULPIT ROCK ROAD	\$2,125,000	WATERFRONT
CLOSSON STEVEN A	GEDDES JAMES J	16 WILDWOOD DRIVE	\$267,500	CONDOMINIUM
WRIGHT DONALD A	VALENTE PAULA R	49 RESOLUTION PLACE	\$240,000	CONDOMINIUM
GRIGOS RICHARD J	SCHKLAIR BARRY & BOAS DIANE	9 FOREST ROAD	\$705,000	SINGLE FAMILY
CALISE EMILY ANNE	BOGG NANCY &	5 JULIE ANN LANE	\$597,000	SINGLE FAMILY
DAY ADAM D	HOLLYDAY MICHAEL B	11 HAMLIN STREET	\$470,000	SINGLE FAMILY
SCHMID MARGUERITE	STEFAN CLAUDIA J	51 WOODLAND RD # 8	\$223,900	CONDOMINIUM
FEIGENBAUM WAYNE	FEIGENBAUM GLEN M &	34 CONCORD PLACE	\$49,000	CONDOMINIUM
FEIGENBAUM WAYNE	FEIGENBAUM GLEN M &	34 CONCORD PLACE	\$49,000	CONDOMINIUM
GREEN WILLIAM D	HUTCHINSON DALE W	25 WILDWOOD DRIVE	\$267,500	CONDOMINIUM
HIGGINS THOMAS S	EMERY ROSS M	4 WILDWOOD DRIVE	\$255,000	CONDOMINIUM
THE SKINNY LLC	SHORE ROAD TARA LLC	553 SHORE ROAD	\$498,000	COMMERCIAL
MCCARTHY SYBIL R	ARMSTRONG DAVID G	13 LAWSON ROAD	\$775,500	SINGLE FAMILY
NOYES BRADFORD L	GLYNN BONNIE A	20 GLEN AVENUE	\$643,500	SINGLE FAMILY
AHMADI PARVIN ALI	DAGGETT WILLIAM R	3 OAKWOOD ROAD	\$325,000	SINGLE FAMILY
MCEVOY TERRY J	BERLUCCHI ANTHONY G	11 BIRCH KNOLLS	\$1,375,000	WATERFRONT
OTTO STEFANIE L	GENTILINI PAUL D	13 LEDGEWOOD LANE	\$495,000	SINGLE FAMILY
COOKIE JAR PASTRY LLC	COOKIE JAR LLC	554 SHORE ROAD	\$342,000	COMMERCIAL
BURKE JOSEPH A	BORDUAS ERIC M	10 STONEGATE ROAD	\$620,000	SINGLE FAMILY
BOOBPHACHATI NITHAS	RAINBOW CONSTRUCTION INC	25 ASTER LANE	\$210,678	SINGLE FAMILY
HAPPY BUDS LLC	BRUCE BERNARD J	177 OCEAN HOUSE ROAD	\$250,000	SINGLE FAMILY
DAME ALISON J	ENMAN WILLIAM T &	58 SPURWINK AVENUE	\$0	SINGLE FAMILY

Boat storage permit applications due March 11

Applications from Cape Elizabeth residents are now being accepted for seasonal boat storage at Great Pond.

The Town Conservation Commission will be assigning boat storage slots using a lottery system. Any town resident who would like to store a boat at Great Pond should submit an application by March 11 to the assessing/codes/planning office in Town Hall. An application is available on the town website.

Those who received a permit for the 2015 season but did not store a boat will be eligible for a slot only if supply exceeds demand.

Only one application per household may be submitted.

Thirty-one applications will be drawn in

the assessing/codes/planning conference room at Town Hall at 9 a.m. Tuesday, March 15. Winners will be notified and will have until March 25 to pay \$20 for their 2016 boat storage permit. Any permits remaining after that date will be distributed in a second drawing from the original application pool.

Permit holders are expected to begin storing a boat by July 4.

At the end of this boat storage season, the Conservation Commission will conduct its annual review. This review will include monitoring of boat storage use at Great Pond.

For more information please contact Town Planner Maureen O'Meara at 799-0115.

Applications for bottle shed proceeds to benefit Cape youth due March 25

The town is accepting applications from Cape Elizabeth-based, not-for-profit organizations serving the town's youth for a share in proceeds from bottles and cans collected at the Recycling Center's bottle shed.

The first distribution of funds will be made in April, followed by annual allocations in the fall.

Organizations are asked to submit an application explaining the mission of the orga-

nization and how the funds will be used.

Funds will be awarded based on need and will not exceed \$2,000 per allocation. One application per group/organization may be submitted. Applications are available on the town website or from Officer David Galvan, at 207-767-3323 or david.galvan@capeelizabeth.org.

The deadline for application is 4 p.m. Friday, March 25.

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Lobster stew supper 'relaunch' is a sold-out crowd pleaser

The Cape Farm Alliance invited residents to the relaunch of "an old-fashioned Cape tradition made new again" – a lobster stew supper, modeled on suppers held years ago as fundraisers by the volunteer fire department. On Feb. 27, at the Town Center fire station, 144 lucky diners were served generous bowls (often refilled) of stew, along with biscuits donated by The Good Table, pickled vegetables and a selection of homemade pies.

Cape Farm Alliance Facebook postings attested to a last minute scramble for sold-out tickets and acclaim for the rich stew made from locally sourced ingredients.

Proceeds from the event will support Cape Farm Alliance programs.

Photos by Kelly Orzel



Andy Strout, in Strawberry Festival shirt, and Jodie Jordan in the fire station kitchen where lobster stew was ladled into bowls. Jordan shows off the lobster goodness in photo at left.



Impy Alznauer serves a full house at the fire station.



From left: Penny Jordan, Becky Appleton Malley, Jodie Jordan, Caitlin Jordan, Carol Anne Jordan, Francis Jordan, Clara Jordan Appleton, Kelly Strout and Rebecca Strout.

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Lack Of Homes For Sale In Cape Equals Sellers Market

The Impact of Monthly Housing Inventory on Home Prices

LESS THAN 6 MONTHS SELLERS MARKET Homes prices will appreciate	BETWEEN 6-7 MONTHS NEUTRAL MARKET Homes prices will only appreciate with inflation	GREATER THAN 7 MONTHS BUYERS MARKET Homes prices will depreciate
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Two cases of credit card fraud, one burglary, one hit-and-run reported

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

COMPLAINTS

- 2-11 An officer met with a resident of the Ivie Road area about an abandoned bike. The bike was described as a black MTX mountain bike and is being held at the police department for safekeeping.
- 2-12 An officer met with a resident of the Bowery Beach Road area about unauthorized charges on the victim's credit card.
- 2-13 An officer met with a resident of the Charles Road area about a criminal-trespass complaint.
- 2-14 An officer met with a resident of the Spurwink Avenue area about unauthorized use of the victim's credit card information.
- 2-15 Two officers responded to a residence in the Fowler Road area for a well-being check.
- 2-15 Two officers responded to a residence in the Eastman Road area for a well-being check.
- 2-15 Two officers responded to a residence in the Fowler Road area for a well-being check.
- 2-16 An officer met with a resident of the Woodland Road area about damage to her vehicle from a hit-and-run accident, in which someone drove into the front of the car during the night.
- 2-17 An officer met with a resident of the Broad Cove area who turned over a

2-18

found white Galaxy Note 3. The phone has a broken screen and will not turn on. An officer responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for report of an unwanted person banging on the door. The suspect left prior to the officer's arrival. The officer spoke with the elderly homeowner who reported that the suspect had done some work the day before at the house, was paid in full, and was now trying to collect more money. The officer then spoke with the suspect on the phone who claimed he was owed more money, and he was advised to stay off the property and to pursue his claim through small claims court. He was also advised that there appeared to be some violations of the home repair fraud law. Suspect stated he would not return to the residence.

2-19

An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area about a lost or stolen iPad.

2-20

An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area about a burglary complaint. Missing from the residence was money, a Playstation 4 and games.

SUMMONSES

- 2-9 Raymond resident, uninspected vehicle, Shore Road, \$133
- 2-12 Cape Elizabeth resident, parking in handicap spot, Cape Elizabeth Middle School, \$165
- 2-14 Cape Elizabeth resident, unregistered

2-14

vehicle, Scott Dyer Road, \$70
Cape Elizabeth resident, operating with inadequate headlights, Spurwink Avenue, \$137

2-17

Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Spurwink Avenue, \$133

2-17

South Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Route 77, \$70

2-18

Cape Elizabeth resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77, \$70

2-19

Cumberland resident, speeding (48/30 zone), Sawyer Road, \$185

2-20

Cape Elizabeth resident, violation of conditions of release, possession of marijuana, Route 77

2-20

Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Spurwink Avenue, \$133

2-22

Saco resident, operating after license suspension, violation of conditions of release, Sawyer Road

JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 2-9 South Portland resident, Spurwink Avenue, violation of interim license, \$370

ACCIDENTS

- 2-11 David Weisenbach, accident on Route 77
- 2-12 Holly Buoniauto, accident on Route 77
- 2-17 Harold Zeliger, Declan McCormick, accident on Route 77
- 2-18 Keyla Carr, accident on Pleasant Avenue

2-20

Eleanora Giovine, Nick Garcia, accident on Southwell Road

ARRESTS

- 2-12 Cape Elizabeth resident, outstanding warrant, Longfellow Drive
- 2-20 Cape Elizabeth resident, violation of conditions of release (2 counts), Route 77

FIRE CALLS

- 2-10 Cliff Avenue, fire alarm
- 2-11 South Portland Mutual Aid
- 2-12 Portland Mutual Aid
- 2-14 South Portland Mutual Aid
- 2-14 South Portland Mutual Aid
- 2-14 Ramble Road, carbon monoxide alarm
- 2-15 Becky's Cove, fire alarm
- 2-15 Scott Dyer Road, fire alarm
- 2-15 Glen Avenue, smoke removal
- 2-15 Woodland Road, carbon monoxide alarm
- 2-15 Scott Dyer Road, appliance fire
- 2-17 South Portland Mutual Aid
- 2-17 Portland Mutual Aid
- 2-17 Ocean House Road, car accident
- 2-18 Old Fort Road, water problem
- 2-22 Scott Dyer Road, elevator rescue

RESCUE CALLS

There were 18 runs to Maine Medical Center. There was 1 run to Mercy Hospital. There were 4 patients treated by rescue personnel but not transported.

**Attention senior citizens:
A fraud prevention forum
will be held from 2-3 p.m. on March 24
at the Cape Elizabeth Fire Station.
See full story on page 9.**



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Three writers to do readings on March 19

Three Maine writers will read from their own work from 4 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 19. The free event, co-hosted by Cape Elizabeth writer Marcia F. Brown and Portland poet Linda Aldrich, is part of the Local Writers at the Local Buzz group's monthly reading series at the Local Buzz, 327 Ocean House Road.

Aldrich, one of the featured writers at the event, has published two collections of poetry, "Foothold" in 2008 (Finishing Line Press), and "March and Mad Women" in 2012 (Cherry Grove Collections). She is currently a teaching artist at McMahon Elementary School in Lewiston, preparing students for the Lewiston/Auburn Arts/Maine Writes Poetry Slam competition. Her poems have appeared in journals and anthologies that include Indiana Review, Cimarron Review, Elixir, The Denver Quarterly, Ellipsis, The Florida Review, The Ilanot Review, Poet Lore, Third Coast, Puerto del Sol, and Snake Nation Review. Her poem "Woman-without-Arms" won the Emily Dickinson Award from Universities West Press. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire, she holds a Master of Arts degree in theater arts from Florida State University in Tallahassee and a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier. She lives in Portland with her husband.

Derek Volk is the author of the best-seller, "Chasing the Rabbit: A Dad's Life Raising a

Son on the Spectrum." An autism awareness supporter, volunteer and philanthropist, he received the 2015 Humanitarian of the Year award from Spurwink, a nonprofit organization in Maine that provides behavioral, health and education services for children, adults and families. He is the president and co-owner of Volk Packaging Corporation, a third-generation, family owned, box manufacturer in Biddeford. He hosts a Saturday morning radio talk show on WLOB, 1310 AM, in Portland. He and his wife, Maine Sen. Amy Volk, have four children.

Morgan Callan Rogers' debut novel, "Red Ruby Heart in a Cold Blue Sea," published in the United States, Germany, Spain, Italy and Australia, won a Reader's Choice Award in Germany. Her new novel, "Written on My Heart," follows the continuing adventures and misadventures of Red Ruby Heart's coastal Maine characters. Rogers grew up in Bath and spent her summers in a small cottage with her parents and three siblings, writing stories at a rickety table set on a screen porch. Before publishing her novel, Morgan worked as a librarian, journalist, actress, editor and teacher. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast program.

Go to localbuzzcafe.com for more information.

Committee seeks 'new ideas' for Family Fun Day

The organizers of Cape Elizabeth's annual Family Fun Day, a day of games, activities, music and food at Fort Williams Park, will plan this year's event, set for Saturday, June 18, at a meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cape Elizabeth Community Center, 345 Ocean House Road. The committee seeks new members.

"When people join the Family Fun Day Committee, they bring new ideas and energy and connections that make the day more ex-

citing and fun," committee member Karen Pride said. "And remember, Family Fun Day benefits local groups we love: our school sports teams, clubs, churches and more."

Last year's Family Fun Day ended with a concert and fireworks, and "the challenge for this year is how to make it even better," Pride said. "You can help a little, or you can help a lot - it all helps."

Contact Frank Butterworth at fbutterw@gmail.com for more information.

CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

Sunday, March 13

School Board with high school accreditation panel, 3:10-3:40 p.m., High School Room 216

Monday, March 14

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

Tuesday, March 15

School Board Budget Workshop, 6:30 p.m., High School Library and Learning Commons

Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber

Wednesday, March 16

Oakhurst, Shore Road Paper Street Neighborhood Meeting - Town Council, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber.

Thursday, March 17

Thomas Memorial Library Board of Trustees, 6:30 p.m., Thomas Memorial Library

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

Fort Williams Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., Public Works

Monday, March 21

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

Tuesday, March 22

School Board Workshop, 6:30 p.m., High

School Library and Learning Commons

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

Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber

School Board Finance Committee, 8 p.m., High School Library and Learning Commons

Ongoing each week

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

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

Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m.-noon Thursdays, Public Safety Building

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

Cape Farm Alliance, third Wednesday, 7 p.m., Community Center

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

CABLE GUIDE

CHANNEL 3

School Board replay
March 11 & 12 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
March 13 - 9 a.m.

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene
March 12, 13, 19 & 20 - 11:30 a.m.

Town Council (live)
March 14 - 7 p.m.

Planning Board (live)
March 15 - 7 p.m.

Town Council replay
March 16 & 17 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
March 19 - 9 a.m.

Planning Board replay
March 18 & 19 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
March 20 - 9 a.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals (live)
March 22 - 7 p.m.

Zoning Board replay
March 23 & 24 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
March 26 - 9 a.m.

More Events & Organizations on page 8

The Cape Courier

★ NEEDS YOUR INPUT! ★

Our 2016 reader survey is getting a great response, but we want to make sure every voice is heard! Please fill out yours by 3/18/16.

Find the survey online at:
www.SurveyMonkey.com/r/Capecourier

Thank You Cape!

We really appreciate your feedback!

- The Courier Staff

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‘Secret Garden’ at Lyric Theater March 11-26



Photo by Brandon Pullen

Cape Elizabeth resident Isaac Dinnerstein and South Portland resident Annika Schmitt star in the Lyric Music Theater’s “The Secret Garden.”

Cape Elizabeth Middle School seventh-grader Isaac Dinnerstein plays Colin, in a lead part in “The Secret Garden,” opening Friday, March 11 at the Lyric Music Theater, 176 Sawyer St., South Portland.

The musical, which will run through Saturday, March 26, is based on the 1911 novel of the same name by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Set in Yorkshire in the early 20th century, the

story centers on a young girl, Mary, sent to live with her embittered, reclusive uncle Archibald and his invalid son Colin. Mary and a young gardener bring life to a neglected garden and change the lives of her family.

Shows are at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$21.99 for adults and \$17.99 for seniors. Call 799-1421 or go to lyricmusictheater.org for tickets.

Multi-band Jazz Cabaret planned on March 18

Cape Elizabeth High School’s award-winning jazz program will present the annual Jazz Cabaret on Friday, March 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the CEHS cafeteria.

Three CEHS big bands, five CEHS combos, the Cape Elizabeth Middle School jazz band and soloist Mike Sakash, a professional musician, saxophonist and music teacher, will perform in the cafeteria, which will be transformed into a jazz club that night. The event will also include performances by the Bridgeway All-Stars and the Don Doane Tribute Band.

The cabaret will celebrate the life of Doane, a Maine trombonist who played with Duke Ellington and Count Basie and was a music teacher in Scarborough and Westbrook schools for years. Doane, who passed away this winter, is the father of Cape Elizabeth resident and CEMS teacher Joe Doane.

Tickets – \$8 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and students and \$20 for families – will be sold at the door. Light dinner and desserts will also be for sale. Email Mary Steidl at msteidl1@gmail.com for information.

Cape Lions’ spaghetti dinner set for March 19

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club plans an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at the clubhouse, located at the intersection of Two Lights and Wheeler roads.

The dinner will include spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert and soft drinks. Diners

may bring their own alcoholic drinks. The cost will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children younger than 12. The event will benefit maintenance of the clubhouse and Cape Elizabeth Lions Club charities.

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

Benefits for robotics team planned on March 20 at Gorgeous Gelato and April 5 at Easy Day

Cape Elizabeth High School’s VEX robotics team 56A plans three benefits to help fund the team’s trip to Louisville, Ky., in April to compete in the 2016 VEX World Championship.

Gorgeous Gelato, located 434 Fore St. in Portland, will donate 20 percent of its sales on Sunday, March 20, to the team.

Easy Day, a restaurant and bowling alley

located at 725 Broadway in South Portland, will donate 15 percent of its restaurant sales to the team from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, when 56A will bowl for dollars. Team members will be collecting pledges in the weeks leading up to the event.

People can donate online at gofundme.com by entering “caperobotics2016.” Email capersrobotics@gmail.com for information.

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Arthur Miller's play, 'The Crucible,' to run from March 25 to April 10 at Portland Players

"The Crucible," playwright Arthur Miller's story about the Puritan purge of witchcraft in Salem, Mass. will open Friday, March 25, and run through Sunday, April 10, at the Portland Players.

The story focuses on a young farmer, his wife and a young servant girl who maliciously causes the wife's arrest for witchcraft. The farmer brings the girl to court to admit the lie, and there the monstrous course of bigotry and deceit is depicted. Instead of saving his wife, the farmer finds himself also

accused of witchcraft and ultimately condemned with a host of others.

Shows are at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and at 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens and \$15 for students and children.

Go to portlandplayers.org or call 799-7337 to reserve tickets. Call the theater's office or email info@portlandplayers.org for more information.

The theater is located at 420 Cottage Road in South Portland.

Community members can test their knowledge at April 3 International Affairs Challenge

Community members now can register for the Cape Elizabeth High School World Affairs Council's ninth annual International Affairs Challenge on Sunday, April 3. In the trivia-style competition, set for 5:30 p.m. in the CEHS cafeteria, participants at tables of four to eight will have their knowledge about the world and current events put to the test.

Prizes will go to the three top performing teams. Light refreshments will be provided.

The event will benefit WAC, a school group that seeks to promote awareness of global issues among CEHS students, Cape

Elizabeth residents and organizations with which WAC partners.

Tables of four to eight can be purchased for \$100, and individual seats are available for \$15. The deadline for registering is Friday, March 18.

Checks should be made out to "CEHS WAC" and sent to Melissa Oliver, CEHS, 345 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107. Email Madolyn Connolly at madolyn.connolly@capeelizabetschools.org for more information or to get a registration form.

'Suessical Junior' at middle school March 11-13



Photo by Joanne Lee

A large cast of Cape Elizabeth Middle School students will perform in the upcoming "Seussical Junior" musical, set for March 11-13 in the school cafeteria.

More than 50 Cape Elizabeth Middle School students will perform the musical, "Seussical Junior," the weekend of March 11-13.

The play features Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat, and other beloved characters from children's book author Dr. Seuss.

Performances are planned at 7 p.m. on Friday March 11; 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturday

March 12; and 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 13, in the Cape Elizabeth Middle School cafeteria.

Tickets, \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, will be available at the door.

Contact Anna Strout at annagstrout@gmail.com or Lisa Boucher Hartman at lboucherhartman@capeelizabetschools.org for more information.



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Wish is granted to 83-year-old: a day of downhill skiing with her daughter



Photo by Lauren Tardif

Joanna Hills, above center, skis at Sunday River in Newry with staff from Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation. When asked to name her wish for a one-day outing, Hills, 83, a resident of Kindred Assisted Living-Village Crossings in Cape Elizabeth, said she wanted to hit the slopes. Hills got her wish through the Maine Health Care Association's Live Your Dreams program and Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation, which provided her with equipment, staff to help her, and two ski passes, so she could ski with her daughter, Cape Elizabeth resident Jennifer MacDonald.



The next Courier deadline is Friday, March 11

March 24 Triad forum to focus on prevention of marketing fraud and identity theft scams

Fraud prevention will be the topic of an upcoming forum for Cape Elizabeth senior citizens. The program is set for 2-3 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, at the Cape Elizabeth Fire Station.

Cape Elizabeth Police Officer David Galvan and Cape Elizabeth Police Detective Mark Dorval will offer tips on how to prevent marketing fraud and identity theft scams, to which thousands of people in the United States fall victim each year.

"Congress estimates that consumers lose billions annually to telemarketing fraud

alone," Galvan stated in a press release about the event.

Light refreshments will be available at the forum, which is sponsored by Triad, an organization made up of Cape Elizabeth and South Portland senior citizens, police and community members, who work together to address problems faced by older citizens.

Parking will be at the rear of the Cape Elizabeth Fire Department at 2 Jordan Way. Contact Galvan at 767-3323, extension 208, for more information.

'Thanks for the Memories' concert on March 22

Cape Elizabeth High School's concert jazz ensemble will perform music from the Golden Age of Jazz at a senior citizens event on Tuesday, March 22, in the Cape Elizabeth High School auditorium.

The annual "Thanks for the Memories –

a Senior-to-Senior Musical Celebration" is planned from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

Dancing will be welcomed, and CEHS seniors will serve light snacks, coffee, tea and punch. The event is free but registration is required by calling 799-2868.

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Cape resident named to magazine's list of 'top 20 under 40'



Cape Elizabeth resident Rob Simopoulos, president of Advance Technology in Scarborough, was named to Security Systems News' "Top 20 Under 40" list. With him at the 2016 Techsec Solutions conference in Delray Beach, Fla., is Cape Elizabeth resident Martha Entwistle, editor of Yarmouth-based Security Systems News. Advance Technology provides technology solutions for commercial clients.

Cape Elizabeth High School graduate Alexandra Coggeshall was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass. The daughter of Scott Hastings and Lisa Hastings, she is a freshman majoring in nursing.

Timothy Hartel, a 2014 Cape Elizabeth High School graduate, was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y. He is the son of Jennifer and Mark Hartel.

Tim soon will participate in the Hamilton choir's annual spring-break tour. The 51-member group will perform from March 12 to 18 at churches and cathedrals in Rochester, N.Y., Chicago, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Detroit.

Two Cape Elizabeth residents recently received promotions at the Portland office of Baker Newman Noyes, an accounting and consulting firm.

Dan Gayer was promoted to manager in the tax practice. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., and a Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Maine School of Law in Portland.

Stephanie Richio was promoted to manager in the healthcare consulting practice. She has a bachelor's degree in marketing from Clemson University in Clemson, S.C.

The Holmeses and Courier have 'fabulous time'



Cape Elizabeth residents Betty and Wilbur Holmes show off their hometown news this winter in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, during a cruise that took them around Cape Horn and from Santiago, Chile, to the Falkland Islands, where they saw penguins in their natural habitat. On the trip, which ended in Buenos Aires before they flew back to Miami, the couple had a "fabulous time" and "saw many spectacular sights," Betty wrote in an email to The Cape Courier.

Lucas Dvorozniak, a 2014 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School, was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. The son of Kathy Barber and Mark Dvorozniak, he is majoring in mechanical engineering.

Cape Elizabeth resident Robert Harrison was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass. A member of the class of 2019, he graduated in 2015 from Cape Elizabeth High School.



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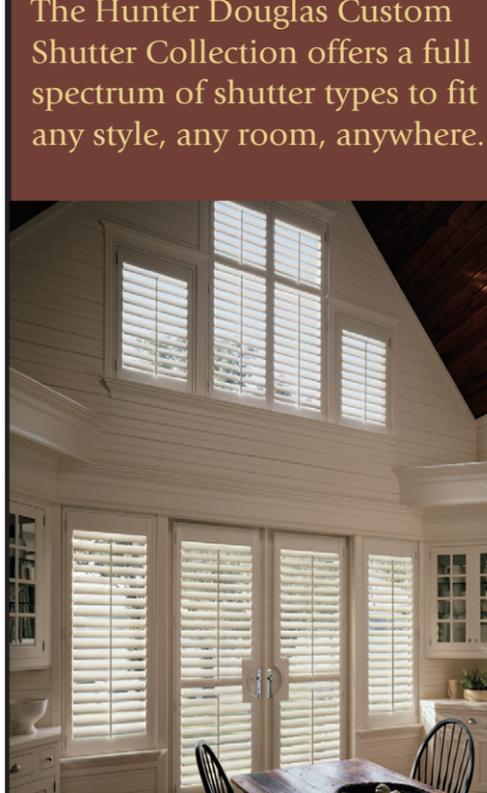
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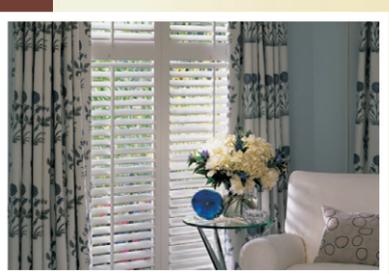
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Easter Brunch *by the sea*

Sunday, March 27th ~ 10:30am-3pm

Easter Brunch Grand Buffet

Chilled Shrimp & Jonah Crab
Tortellini Antipasto Salad
Marinated Greenlip Mussels
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Knitting groups meet regularly at library

The library has two knitting groups that meet regularly. The Daytime Knitting Group meets Mondays at 1 p.m. The Evening Knitting Group meets twice a month,

on the second and fourth Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring your own projects and enjoy some relaxed social time while you knit!

Children's program schedule is ongoing

Popular children's programming has resumed at the library with the following new schedule:

Art Adventures

For ages 3 to 5.
Fun art experiences for preschoolers.
Mondays, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Story Explorers

For ages 3 to 5.
Story-based activities for preschoolers.
Tuesdays, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Super Sleuths

For grades 2 and 3.
Hear a mystery story and practice being a detective with fun sleuthing activities like secret codes, fingerprinting and collecting evidence.
Tuesdays, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Story Garden

For ages 3 to 5.
Stories, songs and movement for preschoolers.
Wednesdays, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

Tales for Tots

For ages 18 months to 3 years.
Stories, songs and movement for toddlers.
Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Baby Burritos

For babies up to 1 year.
Rhymes, songs and lap games for infants.
Wednesdays, 11 to 11:20 a.m.
Fridays, 9:30 to 9:50 a.m.

The Young and the Restless

For babies on the move (crawlers, wobblers and walkers).
Rhymes, rhythm, songs and games for babies and active toddlers.
Wednesdays, 11:30 to 11:50 a.m.

Fridays, 10 to 10:20 a.m.

Mother Goose Time

For babies up to 18 months.
Rhymes, songs and finger plays for babies.
Saturdays, 9:30 to 10 a.m.

Baby-Doll Story Time

For 2- and 3-year-olds.
Bring a baby doll, or borrow one of ours, for stories, fun songs and games with our babies.
Thursdays, 9:30 to 10 a.m.

Musical Story Hour with Jud Caswell

For all ages.
Songs, musical games and stories with original musical accompaniment.
First Thursday of the month, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Illustration Club

For grades 4 through 7.
Join Kiah for a hands-on exploration of different illustration styles and techniques.
Thursdays, 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.

Fiction Fridays

For elementary and middle school students.
Relax and listen to Rachel read-aloud chapter books by authors such as Roald Dahl, Kate DiCamillo, Rick Riordan and other great authors.
Fridays, 3:15 to 4 p.m.

Read to a Dog

For kindergarten through grade 8
Tuesdays with Maddie, 3:30 to 5:15 p.m.
Wednesdays with Winston, 3:15 to 5 p.m.
(Registration required; 15-minute time slots.)

Read to a Dog continues in new space

Seven-year-old Miles Vettese reads to Maddie, one of the library's therapy dogs, and Maddie's handler, Sarah Sullivan, in the children's room window-seat area. See schedule at left for details about the program.



Photo by Rachel Davis

St. Patrick's Day celebrated with music March 19

The library is pleased to present the Irish duo Belfast Brogue for a concert as part of a St. Patrick's Day celebration at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 19 in the library's community room. Belfast Brogue is known for their pub-style Irish music and features library fa-

vorite Jud Caswell on guitar, vocals, banjo, cittern, mandolin and whistles and Alfred Lund on ashiko, cajon and anything he can shake, rattle or thump. The celebration will include refreshments and some simple craft activities and is free for all ages.

Train to be a 'citizen scientist' on March 24

The library and Cape Elizabeth Land Trust are teaming up to provide an opportunity for lay people to become "citizen scientists" as part of the "Signs of the Seasons" New England Phenology Project. Phenology is the study of the seasonal timing of cyclical life events, which include bird, fish, and mammal migrations; insect emergence; plant leafing, blooming, fruiting, and changing of leaf colors in autumn; egg laying; and emergence from hibernation. With environments changing through human activities, including global climate change, we can track the seasonal changes, or phenology, of plants and animals to learn more about our natural world and how we can adapt to these changing environments.

The library and CELT are offering a workshop for volunteers who are interested in learning how to record and submit observations in their own community. No previous experience is necessary and it doesn't take a lot of time. The workshop will train participants in how to observe and record seasonal changes in certain plants and/or animals. Volunteers will learn how to record observations in a simple online database. Materials, equipment and online resources for "Signs of the Seasons" will be made available to volunteers.

The training will take place on Thursday, March 24, from 6 to 8 p.m., in the library's community room. Adults, as well as families with children, are welcome to participate. For complete details, please visit the library's website.

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✓ Recessed
✓ Under-Cabinet
✓ Outside Spots
✓ Post Lights
✓ Fixture Changes
✓ Bath Fan/Lights
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Middle school Basketball Bonanza on March 17

The Middle School Parents Association will host the annual Basketball Bonanza from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, in the middle school gym.

At the event, members of the eighth-grade girls' and boys' basketball teams will take on the CEMS faculty in separate games. The evening also will include a foul-shot contest

and the drawing of the MSPA's annual raffle.

Pizza, drinks, popcorn and sweet treats will be available at the concession stand. Children younger than 10 years old need to be accompanied by an adult.

Contact Aimee Zanollo at aimee.zanollo@gmail.com about volunteering or for information.

Team wins league championship



Cape Elizabeth's fifth-grade boys' basketball team won the fifth-grade division of the 2016 South Portland Boys' Basketball League Championship on Feb. 10. Team members, are, from left, Antonio Dell'Aquila, Will Bryant, Roan Young; middle, Curtis Sullivan, Sam Bischoff, Jack Quinn Will Fibich, James Rickman, Josh Lench; and back row, coaches Dan Sullivan, Don Fibich, Dave Bischoff and Stefano Dell'Aquila. Eben Harrison is not pictured. The team went undefeated in the tournament and beat the South Portland Warriors in the championship game.

Cape Elizabeth football registration on April 6

At Cape Elizabeth football registration, planned from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in the Cape Elizabeth High School cafeteria, organizers will collect registration forms and payment.

Youth tackle football for students in grades four through six costs \$135, and \$185 for registrations received after July 1. The fee for middle school football for

students in grades four through six is \$155, and \$205 after July 1. Scholarships are available. Go to eteamz.com/capefootball to download a registration form.

The fee for high school football players is \$160, and \$210 after June 1. Go to football.capeelizabethschools.org to download a registration form. Contact Jen Mello jmellow@maine.rr.com for more information.



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Five Indian students and their dean stay in town, attend school for five weeks



Five 11th-grade students from the Taktse International School in Sikkim, India, stayed with host families in town and participated in Cape Elizabeth High School classes and school activities in January and February. Pictured are, from left, Taktse and Cape students and faculty, front row, Pema Dolkar, JoJo Zeitlin; back row, Malisha Chhetri, Alina Perez, Ari Zeitlin, Natalie Gale, Pemma Lhazin, Sherap Palmu, Liv Palma, Avery Palma, Dawa Penjor and Kyle Long. Chhetri, the dean of Taktse school, shadowed Pond Cove School counselor Bri Gallagher during her stay. Perez, Cape Elizabeth's district psychologist, coordinated the exchange after completing a fellowship at Taktse funded by the nonprofit Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation.

Pond Cove students celebrate 100th school day by dressing up, reading 100 books, making chains



Photo by Debbie Butterworth

Pond Cove School second-graders Nydouth Deng, Maya Serrano, Jazzy Grubb and Zach van Huystee proudly display the structure they created from 100 cups in the Pond Cove Math Lab on Feb. 25 during Pond Cove's recent celebration of the 100th day of school. "Our students were immersed with all things that represented the number 100, from dressing like a 100-year-old person, building structures with 100 items, reading 100 books as a class and more," Pond Cove Principal Kelly Hasson said.

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Free showing of film about Portland resident who survived Holocaust at church on March 23

The Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church will host a showing of the film, "Max: Surviving the Holocaust," on Wednesday, March 23. A short reception is set for 6:15 p.m., to be followed by the film at 6:45 p.m.

Produced by Daniel Lambert of the University of New England in Biddeford, the film features the story of Portland resident and Holocaust survivor Max Slabotzky, in

Slabotzky's own words. The movie is about his experiences as a boy hiding during the Nazi occupation of his native Belgium, his capture by the SS, and how he survived the concentration camp at Auschwitz.

Slabotzky will be available for questions before and after the film. The event is free and open to the public. The church is located at 280 Ocean House Road. Go to ceumc.org for more information.

St. Alban's to hold four Easter Sunday services

St. Alban's Episcopal Church will offer worship, reflection and fellowship each day of the week leading up to Easter, starting on Palm Sunday, March 20.

That morning, starting at 9:30 a.m., the church plans an outdoor palm procession, with banners, music, and the retelling of the story of the entry into Jerusalem. A Celtic Eventide service is set for 5:30 p.m.

Short contemplative services are scheduled at 9 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning, and "Labyrinth in Candlelight" from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday.

Bread baking by children and a 6:30 p.m. formative service, including foot washing

and hymns, are planned Maundy Thursday.

On Good Friday, St. Alban's will offer readings and reflections from noon to 1 p.m.; musical meditation with Margaret Yauger, Malcolm Smith and Kimberly Lehman from 1 to 2 p.m.; and prayer and hymns from 2 to 3 p.m.

A "new fire" will be lighted to start the Easter vigil at 7 p.m. Saturday night. At the service, families will be able "to experience the mystery of turning from the darkness of loss to the light of Easter," the Rev. Timothy Boggs said.

On Easter the church will offer three services with choirs and celebration. A Celtic Eventide service is set for 5:30 p.m.

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Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene
499 Ocean House Road (Route 77)
799-3692

www.capenazarene.org
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:45 a.m.
Services streamed live or on demand:
watch.capenazarene.org

Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church
280 Ocean House Road
799-8396

www.ceumc.org
Chapel Service: 8 a.m.
Sanctuary Service: 10 a.m.
Child care & Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Adult Sunday School: 9 a.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
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

The Church of the Second Chance
641-3253

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Greater Portland Christian School
1338 Broadway, South Portland

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 Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Preschool childcare: 10 a.m.

Promised Land World Reach Center
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

Saint Alban's Episcopal Church
885 Shore Road
799-4014

www.stalbansmaine.org
Wednesdays: 9 a.m. Holy Communion
Sundays: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.
Celtic Service: Sunday, 5:30 p.m.
Children's/Youth Programs: 9:30 a.m.
Nursery: Sundays at 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.
Monday & Tuesday Masses: 8 a.m.

Easter services planned at church, Fort Williams

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in South Portland plans three Easter services, a Maundy Thursday service, and a soup supper and service on Good Friday.

An 8:30 a.m. chapel service and a 10 a.m. sanctuary service are planned for Palm Sunday, March 20.

A Maundy Thursday sanctuary service is set for 7:30 p.m. On Good Friday, March 25, a

6 p.m. soup supper is planned in Guptill Hall. A 7:30 p.m. worship service will follow in the sanctuary. An Easter vigil will begin right after the service and continue until 6 a.m. on Easter, March 27. The church plans a sunrise Easter service at 6 a.m. at Fort Williams Park and a 9 a.m. sanctuary service with American Sign Language interpretation. The Meeting House Choir will provide music at the 9 and 11 a.m. sanctuary services.

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Verizon

Cont. from page 1

O'Meara said lead is something that the DEP, not the Planning Board, gets involved with. Darling provided the Planning Board with a Nov. 19, 2014 letter from Northeast Test Consultants to the water district that included what O'Meara described as a "fairly detailed" soil analysis. She said the test data was better than what a medium density soil survey would provide.

Lead contamination from paint on the de-commissioned water tower was found in the top two inches of soil next to the tower and no farther than nine feet from the base of the tank, the report says. "This finding is fairly typical as lead runoff from painted surfaces tends to bind up very quickly with topsoils and surface vegetation and rarely is found to penetrate deep into soils or impact groundwater quality," the report says.

Darling also provided a letter from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Portland Water District with comments on the water district's plan for removing contaminated soil. The letter recommends retesting if the tower is repainted after the soil cleanup.

Scott Anderson, attorney representing Verizon, acknowledged that the Maine DEP is overseeing a cleanup of soils, but he did not know what measures the Portland Water District, owner of the property that is leasing tower space to Verizon, has taken for remediation, what its plans were, or the expected outcome. "I haven't talked to the Portland Water District on this since this process began, but we will get a sense from them on timing and scope and make sure we have those documents and that you (the Planning Board) have all their documents so that you know what's going on on the site," Anderson said.

Anderson's assurances however were not enough to convince board member Jonathan

Sahrbeck to vote the application complete. "I understand this is more probably on the Portland Water District's radar than yours," he told Anderson, "but before I can say this is complete, and I am OK with waiving this (soils study) requirement, I really want to know what the status is of what's going on with the Portland Water District and the DEP," Sahrbeck said.

As part of its lease Verizon has agreed to pay for cleaning and painting the former water tank before installing antennas. Chip Fredette, also representing Verizon, assured board members that contractors will follow protocols for working with lead paint or contaminated soils. "Every contractor out there knows if it's an old tank it's going to have lead on it," he said. "For us this is business as usual."

Board member Carol Anne Jordan said, "I don't dispute that it is business as usual for you. It is not business as usual for us." She said she believed the application was complete, but that it was also important for the

Planning Board to know how the treatment of lead paint and soil contamination will be handled as the project moves forward.

Henry Steinberg, the other board member voting against completeness of the application, said he wanted more information about placing potentially noisy equipment inside the empty water tank, rather than on a concrete slab behind it. Anderson said the environment in the steel structure would be bad for the equipment, but said he would verify with Verizon engineers and come back with a more complete explanation.

Anderson said he would also come back next month with more information about noise impacts, a visual representation of how the shrouded antennas might look from Trundy Road, and how they might look after they have weathered over time.

While abutters in Shore Acres have concerns about Verizon and other carriers their neighborhood tower may attract, the Town Council has a goal for this year to consider a plan for 100-percent cell coverage in town.

Gun club

Cont. from page 1

neighborhood, and that the club still provided gun safety education and training and supported the community with charitable contributions.

According to Mayone, the club's designation went from 501c3 to 501c7 sometime before 2006 because the historically tax exempt club "hadn't needed" the "harder to get, more expensive," 501c3 status. "We can get it back," he said.

Sturgis said that 510c3 status would need to be determined by the IRS.

Sturgis confirmed that the club had historically not been taxed, but that the reasoning for the exemption was unclear, with no applications for exemption on file with the town.

"It is fairly clear that as a 501c7 organization it is a taxable entity," said Scheffler, who urged the club to regain its 501c3 status "by whatever direction or change of direction you need to do."

The club also filed an application for an abatement of property taxes due to hardship, but the board declined to review that

application, which Sturgis said would be a matter for the Town Council to decide after issuance of a tax bill. The club's \$251,800 property will be considered taxable as of April 1. Sturgis estimated the tax bill going forward to be about \$4,200, with payment due in October 2016 for fiscal year 2017. No back taxes will be owed.

The club has 60 days in which to file an appeal to Superior Court. Walter, in a press release posted on the club's Facebook page on Feb. 27, said the club was "assessing its options." Walter thanked Sturgis and the appeal board for their professionalism. "Although the board's decision did not go in our favor, we feel the process was fair ... Our club has overcome many obstacles in the past, and we will overcome this one as well. Our drive to survive in this great community is undiminished. We are not going anywhere."

Legislature hears from gun club

Walter's testimony before the Assessment Board of Review took the form of an emotional reading of her earlier testimony before the Maine Legislature's Judiciary Committee on Feb. 23 in support of LD 1500, "an act to protect and promote access to sport

shooting ranges." In her four-minute testimony, Walter described "very aggressive" efforts, "nothing short of outright harassment and bullying," to shut down the club on the part of residents of the abutting Cross Hill neighborhood and an ally on the Town Council, whom she did not name. According to Walter, noise complaints progressed to safety complaints leading to enactment of a shooting range ordinance in 2014, expenditures of over \$110,000, closures of all but one range, doubled membership dues and indebtedness. Walter testified about attempted interference with a safety upgrade grant from Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, successful interference with insurance coverage, resulting in a canceled policy and a 25-percent increase in premiums, and letters to Sturgis about the club's tax status.

Town records obtained by The Cape Courier include multiple emails to Sturgis and Town Manager Mike McGovern over several years, from both neighbors and councilors, questioning the gun club's tax-exempt status.

A Sept. 15, 2015 email, from then-candidate for Town Council Sara Lennon, asked McGovern about the club's tax status. "Seems unfair that the most disruptive

organization in town contributes nothing to our tax base," she wrote. A follow-up email to McGovern and Sturgis said it was "worth determining if they actually owe us 60 years of back taxes." Sturgis responded that he was reviewing the applicable tax laws and planned to ask the club to submit an application for exemption. He said that charging back taxes would not be legally permissible.

Lennon, since elected to the Town Council, sits on the council's firing range committee. "As a councilor, I look forward to working with the both the club and residents to ensure that solutions are fair and safe for all," Lennon said in a Feb. 29 email to The Cape Courier.

Sturgis says he requested an application for tax exemption from the club not because of political influence or pressure, but the need to find a legal reason for the current tax status. "The burden of proving their exempt status is not on the assessor but on the organization, and proper documentation of the reasons for exemption are needed ... It was purely to make sure that my duties to administer property tax in Cape Elizabeth fairly and equitably and in accordance with state law were performed."

School budget

Cont. from page 1

proposes the reduction of the equivalent of one special education teacher, one educational technician, a half-time speech-language pathologist, and a half-time occupational therapist.

In keeping with the strategic plan's goal for the district to provide a "high-quality and comprehensive instructional program," Nadeau states in her budget message, a half-time teacher for grade five would be added. The high school would add the equivalent of

a quarter-time educational technician in order to add a second class to "Freshman Academy," an executive-skills program piloted this school year through funding from the nonprofit Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation.

The budget for this strategic plan goal "is largely a maintenance budget ... and seeks to maintain critical staffing for maintaining class size and additional supports for intervention," Nadeau said.

The budget that Nadeau proposes to fulfill the district's strategic plan goal to "expand learning opportunities for all students by cultivating an inclusive and supportive district culture," is also "largely a maintenance budget," she said.

The plan proposes adding support for after-school robotics and the equivalent of full-time and quarter-time world language staff positions at Pond Cove to "meet student

needs and provide instruction in a manner that is consistent with national Foreign Language in Elementary School recommendations."

To fulfill the third strategic plan goal, which centers on "student engagement in learning and teacher engagement in instruction," Nadeau proposes an increase in staffing of educational technicians who are technology specialists at the middle school and high school. The district also would fund \$80,000 in professional development and increase reimbursements to teachers taking university-level courses by \$30,000.

For the fourth strategic plan goal – to "align the budget with strategic plan goals and target resources accordingly" – the proposed budget would continue support for capital improvements, and funding would be offset through reductions in debt service, the superintendent said.

Nadeau's proposed budget also includes a plan to add human resources services to the central office staff, with the town transferring \$23,662 to the school department.

Changes to the facilities and transportation budget include a projected \$80,000 in savings for fuel and electricity.

The School Board is reviewing the superintendent's recommended budget in meetings this month. Workshops are planned in the Cape Elizabeth High School library at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, with a storm date at the same time on Thursday, March 17; at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 22; and, if another workshop is needed, at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 24. Meetings are open to public participation.

Budget information is posted on the school website, cape.k12.me.us, by going to the School Board link and then to "budget information."



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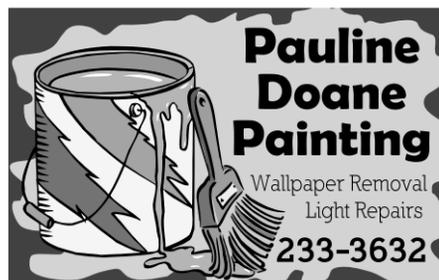
FREE EVENT

Come to a free lecture titled "Here Lyes the Body" - Burial and Customs of the Pilgrims" by Stephen C. O'Neill, Associate Director and Curator of Collections at The Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth, Mass. at 1:30 p.m. Sat., March 26 at Wishcamper Center, Room 102, USM, Portland. Co-sponsored by Spirits Alive at Eastern Cemetery, www.spiritsalive.org, and the Dept. of History and Political Science at USM.

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Courier visits Latin America!

Costa Rica with the Lanes



Cape Elizabeth residents Isabel and Brian Lane read *The Courier* last month at Playa Potrero in the Province of Guanacaste in Costa Rica, where they traveled with their mother, Cris Lane.

Nicaragua with the Walsh sisters



Sisters, from left, Lily, Ilsa and Liv Walsh display their hometown newspaper in mid-February in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, where they spent school break with their parents Emily Cooke and Philip Walsh. It's "one of our favorite destinations," Cooke wrote in an email to *The Cape Courier*.

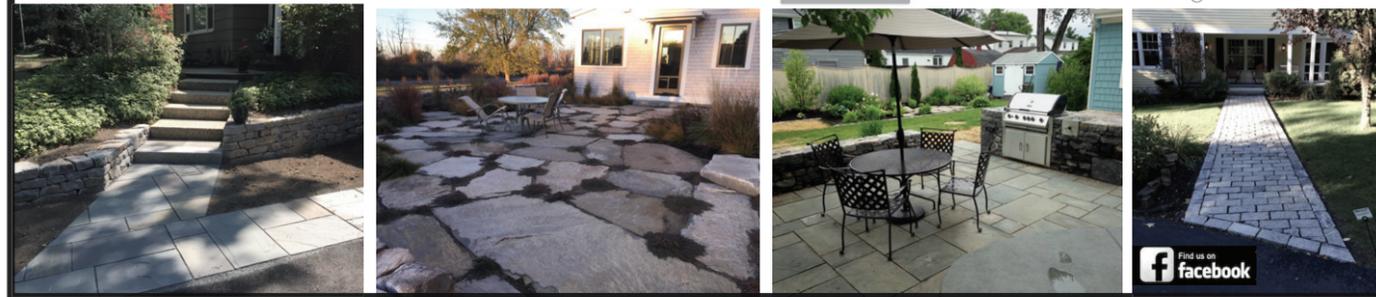


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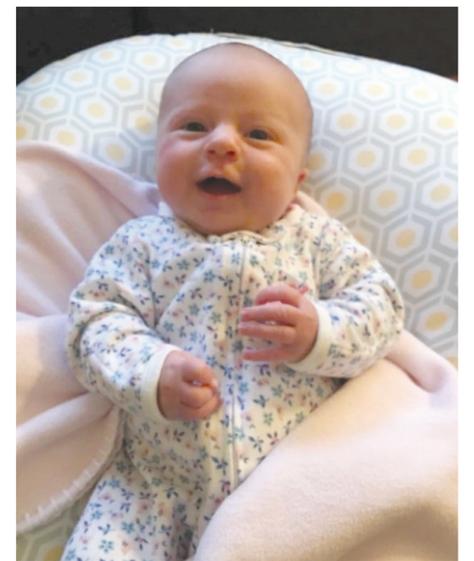
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Baby Molly



Molly Merrill Hanson

Molly Merrill Hanson, the daughter of Sarah and Matt Hanson of Belmont, Mass., was born on Jan. 10. At birth, she weighed six pounds, one ounce.

Molly is the granddaughter of Cape Elizabeth residents Christine and Joe Groff, and John and Ann Hanson of Bridport, Vt.

Molly's mother Sarah graduated from Cape Elizabeth High School in 2004.

More Neighbors on page 10




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