Welcoming the stranger

By Marta Girouard

Cape Elizabeth resident Jill Epstein had just left a job and was trying to figure out her next steps when she met a friend for coffee. Her friend was involved in helping a family who had recently arrived from the Democratic Republic of Congo resettle in the area. As a result, Epstein’s friend and a few other people became interested in getting the Jewish community more involved in helping refugees and asylum seekers.

“They wanted to create a mentoring program and I offered to help Welcoming the Stranger get started,” said Epstein. Unlike refugees, who arrive with access to basic resettlement services, there is no formal system in place to help asylum seekers. Welcoming the Stranger is an initiative that aims to create formal friendships through one-on-one mentoring relationships between local individuals or families and asylum seekers.

Last November, Epstein spent some time getting to know the people and organizations involved with the immigrant community. Welcoming the Stranger was launched in May with an orientation to recruit and organize mentors. Around June, the first matches were made, and the project blossomed quickly.

“The idea was to find people who wanted to help others navigate their new lives in this country,” Epstein said. “This might mean helping a mentee with their English or any daily activity such as figuring out the public transportation system. There are currently about 40 mentors and 39 active matches. The mentees include individuals and families.

Epstein is the project coordinator at Welcoming the Stranger, and spends around 20 hours a week working on the project. Much of that time is spent communicating with mentors, referral sources, and people who are interested in learning more about the project.

She runs the orientations, meets with others who are working locally in the immigrant community, and sorts and distributes donated clothing and gently used children’s items. She also assists some of the families with transportation when needed. “Most of these asylum seekers arrive with little more than the clothes they are wearing, having left family – often spouses and children – behind,” said Epstein.

Claudette Ndayiminahaze, Cultural Broker for Opportunity Alliance in Portland, dedicates much of her free time to the project as a referral source. Ndayiminahaze ar

Matthew Sturgis selected as next Town Manager of Cape Elizabeth

By Kevin St. Jare

The Cape Elizabeth Town Council has selected Matthew Sturgis as its next Town Manager. Sturgis currently serves as Tax Assessor for Cape Elizabeth and Scarborough, and was selected from a field of 38 applicants from all over the country following a search process that began last September.

The Town Council and Sturgis have reached a tentative agreement to enter into a three-year contract with a starting annual salary of $110,000. A special meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6 p.m. to vote on the selection of Cape’s next Town Manager and approval of a contract.

“We are very excited with the selection of Matt Sturgis as our next Town Manager,” said Council Chair Jamie Garvin. “We undertook a thorough search process which yielded an impressive group of highly qualified candidates. In the final analysis, Matt stood out for his combination of experience with the town, his enthusiasm for the community, and his vision for its leadership.”

“I’m really looking forward to the next chapter,” Sturgis said. “I’ve been working for the town for 16 years, I love the community, and I’m really excited about the opportunity.”

Sturgis is scheduled to begin his duties as Town Manager on Jan. 30, 2017.

Town enacts 90-day moratorium on retail marijuana businesses

Cape Elizabeth has enacted a 90-day moratorium on non-medical marijuana businesses in town, joining surrounding communities that are looking to take the sale of recreational pot following a state-wide referendum legalizing the practice.

The legislation, approved by a slim margin statewide, authorizes municipalities to regulate retail marijuana businesses within their jurisdictions, or to prohibit them. Town Councilor Patty Grennon said the moratorium would give the town time to understand the law and to consider potential impacts of marijuana businesses in Cape Elizabeth.

“What we’d like to do is just kind of hit the pause button,” said Grennon, chair of the council’s ordinance subcommittee, on Dec. 12, 2016. The 90-day window will allow the committee to “really look at the larger issue and impact on citizens of Cape Elizabeth,” Grennon said.

Cape Elizabeth voters in the Nov. 8 referendum narrowly favored the marijuana legislation, 3,327 votes to 3,166.

The moratorium was enacted as an emergency ordinance by the Town Council on Dec. 12, taking effect immediately. Grennon said all of Cape Elizabeth’s surrounding communities have enacted similar stays, Portland being the largest. “Because of this, there could be significant impact to Cape Elizabeth if we become the area destination for what is permitted with the marijuana and retail marijuana businesses,” Grennon said.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

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Projects approved for Ft. Williams Park.....................................Page 11
As residents of our beautiful town, we are sure you are familiar with the Cape Courier, your local paper that shows up in your mailbox. We, the board of directors, felt it was time to talk about the paper, its history, how it is put together, and the role we hope it plays in our community.

Let’s start at the beginning: The paper was founded by the indefatigable Ellen Van Fleet on her kitchen table in 1988. She and a few of her neighbors felt that Cape Elizabeth needed a paper that, unlike the larger newspapers in the region, focused only on our community. After some early efforts, Allen realized she had many difficult decisions to make to ensure the viability of the paper. She established a seven-person board of directors, that, in some important ways, continues to oversee the paper to this day.

For more stories about the paper’s early years, please take a look at the 25th anniversary issue, available at capecourier.com online.

The paper has changed in some ways over the years, but in important ways it has not. It still has the mission to capture our town in print, to talk about the interesting people of Cape, to cover the monthly give and take of the town council, and ensure all townpeople are aware of the changes and controversies that progress can bring.

We started with 100% volunteer staff, but now provide part-time employment for four Cape Elizabeth residents. (But please remember, we are always looking for volunteers to write stories and proofread the paper—we are not sure if you are interested. We hope you love the Courier as much as we do, and take time to read it through it each time it appears in your mailbox. We hope that as you read it, you learn something about your neighbors, your schools, and the institutions that make our town special. And we hope you remember, once again, why Cape Elizabeth is such a wonderful place to live.

Best wishes for the New Year. Feel free to contact us at BOD@capecourier.com.

Trish Bright
Debbie Butterworth
Bob Dodd
Jerry Harkavy
Martha Kelley
Bill Springer
Elizabeth Webster

The Cape Courier
P.O. Box 6242
Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107
207-838-2180
www.capecourier.com

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

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The Cape Courier is printed by Alliance Press in Brunswick and mailed free to Cape Elizabeth residents 22 times a year. We do not withhold any advertising pages. Writers may be limited to one letter per month. Petition-style letters or those that are not fact-based will not reflect the opinions of the owner, not the Cape Courier. Email letters to editor@capecourier.com or mail to P.O. Box 6242, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107. Please note: Letters will be acknowledged by email.

Thank you to these recent generous contributors:
Ellen & Jeffery Van Fleet
Pat & Dan Chase
Richard L. Sullivan MD

As a neurologist and former football fan, I had a vague awareness of the effects of cumulative head blows to the brain. A recent lecture by Dr. Robert Stern from Boston University, a leading researcher in this field, has awakened my concern about football’s effect on the brains of our young players.

I was aware that some football players later in life develop a progressive neurologic condition with memory loss and erratic and violent behavior, leading to death. I did not know that they have a specific neurologic disease, chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), with specific neuropathology and clinical features, and that this relentless disease is caused by the long-term cumulative effect of many blows to the head. We have known the risks to boxes for a long time, but to football players only in the past few years.

Research has shown that football hits to the head cause an acceleration/deceleration blow to the brain of up to 20 times the force of gravity, and players receive this injury many times during a practice and game. Football linemen may have 1000-1500 sub-concussive impacts in a season. The cumulative number of hits and the age when kids begin to play tackle football are the best predictors of risk for developing CTE. Players who bang heads on nearly every play, youngsters who start playing before full brain maturation, and those who continue to play in college and the pros are most at risk. Some players are more susceptible to develop the disease, but at present we have no way to determine which youngsters are most at risk. Autopsy studies have shown the beginnings of the irreversible progressive disease as early as age 20.

Concussion is a separate issue, and focusing on concussion alone does nothing to reduce the risk of CTE from repetitive sub-concussive head blows.

Players and parents should take these steps account in deciding if football is an appropriate sport for them to play. Football fans should be aware that they are supporting a sport that results in a tragic downhill course leading to death in a number of players.

Thank you to these recent generous contributors:
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Pat & Dan Chase
Catherine Hoilihan & John Norris
Kathleen Janickencum & Herbert Janick III

Checks made out to The Cape Courier may be mailed to P.O. Box 6242, Cape Elizabeth, Maine, 04107. Future contributions will be acknowledged in an alphabetical format. Please include a message on your correspondence if you prefer to remain anonymous.

Next Issue: Feb 8
Deadline: Noon, Jan 27

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$15 student (9 months)
$12 half year
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Thank you for your voluntary subscriptions and other contributions that help keep this community newspaper coming to your mailbox.

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The Cape Courier needs YOU!

Seeking: Proofoading Volunteers
The Cape Courier is seeking new volunteers to join our proofreading team. If you have editing experience we’d love to hear from you! We meet for two hours twice a month. No computer experience needed, just bring your favorite red pen. Can’t beat the perks: good company and tasty pastries!

Email us at info@capecourier.com

Cape neurologist voices concerns about football’s effect on brains of young players
Active community member and advertising professional hired as Courier Ad Manager

Tara Simopoulos has joined The Cape Courier as the new advertising manager. She moved to Cape Elizabeth over 6 years ago and has quickly immersed herself in the community. She is on numerous boards and committees including the Community Services Board and the MSMA Grants Chair.

Tara comes from an advertising background and has many years experience working in an advertising agency in Toronto, Canada. She has two children, ages 13 and 12, and loves living in Cape Elizabeth. Please feel free to contact Tara in regard to any questions you might have about advertising at advertising@capecourier.com.

New community reporter a communications expert, seeks community communication

Marta Girouard started at The Cape Courier as a volunteer in April 2016, and in December 2016 joined the staff as a community reporter. She holds a bachelor’s degree in French and master’s degree in Communications, both from Clark University in Worcester, Mass.

She has close to ten years experience in marketing and communications across the health care, hi tech, and higher education industries. Marta moved to Cape Elizabeth in 2014 and is enjoying exploring the beautiful state of Maine with her husband, two young sons, and beagle. She is looking forward to meeting people in the community and writing about town happenings.

If you have an idea for a story, contact Marta at community@capecourier.com.

Town Hall chamber dedicated to retired town manager Michael McGovern

Michael McGovern, town manager since 1985, left many legacies when he closed his Town Hall office door for the last time Dec. 30. Not the least of which is in the chamber one floor below.

The Town Council on Dec. 12, 2016 voted to dedicate the chamber - site of more than a thousand meetings of Cape Elizabeth’s governing body - to the manager who started here as a college intern in 1977.

“This room is dedicated to Michael K. McGovern in honor of his dedicated service to the citizens of Cape Elizabeth as town manager from May 1985 to December 2016,” will be inscribed on a plaque to be installed in the council chamber.

McGovern gave his resignation notice effective Dec. 31, in August. At the Dec. 12 Town Council meeting, his last as town manager, McGovern was greeted with a standing ovation and a legislative sentiment presented by Rep. Kim Monaghan and Sen. Rebecca Millett.

“Under Mike’s guidance and leadership for the last 31 years, Cape Elizabeth has grown steadily as a vibrant community with services, facilities and schools while maintaining its historical roots and character,” Jessica Sullivan, longest sitting councilor, said. “He has been an outstanding manager and gifted leader who has consistently inspired us all - employees, volunteers and elected officials - to serve the people of Cape Elizabeth to the very best of our abilities,” she said.

Approximately 200 people attended a farewell reception for McGovern at the Purdysock Club on Dec. 6. Many were former town councilors, including Henry Adams, chairman in 1978, who phoned McGovern at the University of Maine at Orono after his internship to ask if he would assist the interim town manager while the town looked for a permanent one.

David Sherman, another former councilor, recounted McGovern’s ability to respond knowledgeably, quickly and courteously to elected officials and to citizens alike.

“Because of his constant promotion of, and adherence to, transparency and integrity in municipal process, Mike has created a culture of faith in local government for Cape Elizabeth citizens during his 31 years,” Sherman said, sharing a reflection from current councilor Sullivan. “These will be known as the ‘McGovern Years’ and will be the standard of excellence for Cape Elizabeth’s future.”

After his remarks Sherman announced a gift of $3,725, collected from 25 current and former members of the Town Council, given on behalf of the town to the Rotary Foundation’s PolioPlus Fund in McGovern’s honor.

“Not only has Michael been a tremendous asset for our town, but he has also managed to devote countless hours to the Rotary, all in an effort to improve the lives of others,” said Sherman in a letter to the Rotary Foundation.

Since the renovated library opened almost a year ago, the proximity to the schools, the improved space and the presence of a game room, have made it a popular destination for kids after school.

The library is also a desirable place for adults and students to work, study, and relax, but during those after school hours the noise and activity level has made more focused pursuits difficult for many library users. The open space in the lobby and granite floors also present issues with sound traveling throughout the building, compounding the difficulties with maintaining a quieter space in the adult areas of the library.

In an effort to address the conflicting needs of after-school kids, adults and studying students, the library is about to launch a new program called, “TML After School Hangout.” During the after school hours on weekdays, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., the library’s Community Room will be set up for after-school users who need a place to unwind and hang out with friends.

The game systems will be relocated to this room during the program, freeing up the game room as an additional quiet study space. Kids will be able to have snacks in the Community Room, as well as utilize laptops and iPads for recreational use, freeing up computers in the adult area for adult users or students needing to do homework.

The goal is to maintain the upstairs floor of the library as a quiet space, directing more noisy, social activities downstairs.

A library staff member will supervise the room, but the library is also seeking high school interns who would like to act as Teen Leaders, helping to monitor the room use and organize gaming activities. Teens aged 16 and up who would like to apply for an internship are encouraged to fill out an application form on the library’s website or contact Rachel Davis at rdavis@thomas.lib.me.us.

The TML After School Hangout will begin on Monday, Jan. 23. Adults who have stayed away from the library during after school hours are encouraged to return to what the library hopes will be a more comfortable upstairs space.

If you have an idea for a story, contact Marta at community@capecourier.com.
Agreements move greenbelt forward two giant steps

The town took two giant steps toward Greenbelt completion in separate agreements approved by the Town Council on Dec. 12, 2016.

The first, an easement connecting Lovett Woods and newly acquired property behind Rock Wall Road in Oakhurst, is a step toward improving neighborhood access to the 18-acre Lovett Woods and adjoining Robinson Woods tracts.

The second is a first-ever license agreement for the town to manage trails on property owned by the Canterbury at the Cape Condominium Association.

“This is the first time the town of Cape Elizabeth will have entered into a license agreement with a private property owner,” said Jim Tasse, chairman of the Conservation Committee, who said his group is excited about both agreements.

“A license agreement can be understood as basically the formalization of a handshake agreement,” Tasse said. “It is the most flexible and revocable of all sorts of agreements of this nature, and it essentially gives the property owner a lot of latitude in saying, ‘this isn’t working out and we’re pulling out.” A license is low-risk for both parties, but it will allow the town to do some trail maintenance and management. Tasse said, “If things work out over time we hope that this will actually eventually evolve into a more permanent easement situation,” he said.

He described the area, bounded by Hobstone, Mitchell, Ocean House and Columbus roads, as “run-through with trails, a beautiful, natural area.”

“It gets a lot of use already and putting this area under town management ensures that public access will be preserved and that the property can be managed in the best possible fashion,” Tasse said.

The easement connecting Oakhurst to Lovett Woods was donated by property owner Dale Bryant and complements the council’s purchase of 0.89 acres behind Rock Wall Lane in May 2016.

Michael McGovern, town manager, echoed Tasse’s excitement for the donation.

“This is really tremendous news. The council did a leap of faith a few months ago when it purchased the other property,” McGovern said. At that time, connectors were lacking on either side of the 0.89-acre purchase to complete legal public access to Lovett Woods, but the Bryant donation provides one of them.

Town Planner Maureen O’Meara credited both the Bryants and the Canterbury at the Cape Condominium Association for their generosity and cooperation.

Cape Elizabeth School Board selects chair

By Pam Torre

The Cape Elizabeth school board held its monthly meeting on Dec. 13. Elizabeth Scifres was nominated and approved as the chair of the school board for the 2016-2017 school year.

Susana Measelle Hubbs was nominated as vice chair, Joanna Morrissey was nominated as finance chair and Barbara Powers was nominated as policy committe.

Student representatives discussed the tension and stress resulting from Seniors waiting to hear about their college admissions. Also, that while stress this time of year is high, morale also seems to be high.

Jeff Shedd discussed details of the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) report. The committee praised many areas of the high school including TEDx and the Achievement Center and Freshman Academy to name a few. Areas of focus going forward will include school wide rubrics.

Joanna Morrissey discussed the budget review process and the development of a budget from January through March with a goal for the School Board to adopt the budget in early April. The plan is to review the budget from a needs base. Voter validation is scheduled for June 13.

Effort for better boat access to Crescent Beach

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COMPLAINTS
12-3 An officer responded to McAuley Road for a complaint of orange cones in the roadway. The owner of the cones was advised not to place cones in the roadway.
12-4 An officer met with a resident in the Shore Road area regarding damage that had been done to his outside Christmas lights.
12-5 An officer responded to a residence in the Sprawlik Avenue area for a well-being check.
12-6 Two officers responded to a residence in the Sprawlik Avenue area for a well-being check.
12-7 An officer met with a local business representative who showed him where an outer door had been removed with no damage to an inner door or signs of attempts to gain entry.
12-8 Two officers responded to a residence in the Sprawlik Avenue area for a well-being check.
12-8 Two officers responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for a well-being check.
12-9 An officer met with a resident of the Stonybrook Road area who advised that someone had apparently opened a Paypal account using the victim's personal information.
12-9 Two officers responded to a residence in the Wells Road area for a possible missing juvenile, who was later accounted for.
12-10 An officer met with a subject regarding an assault complaint.
12-11 Two officers responded to a residence in the Scott Dyer Road area for an assault check.
12-12 Two officers responded to a residence in the Shore Road area for a domestic disturbance.
12-13 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area in regard to a subject believed to be intoxicated starting to operate a vehicle.
12-14 Two officers responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for a reported unattended death.
12-15 An officer met with a representative of the Middle School regarding an abandoned gray mountain bike.
12-16 An officer responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for a well-being check.
12-16 An officer met with a building caretaker in the Shore Road area regarding a possible burglary. An outside screen had been cut and a window pushed open. Nothing appeared to be missing.
12-18 An officer received a referral from the Department of Human Services regarding an alleged sexual assault involving a juvenile. Interviews were conducted.
12-21 An officer met with a resident of the Waterhouse Road area regarding unauthorized charges on a credit card.
12-22 An officer met with a resident of the Two Lights Road area regarding criminal mischief to outside lighting.
12-23 An officer met with a resident who brought an unwanted firearms to the police station.
12-24 An officer met with a resident of the Sawyer Road area who had found some clothing along a walking trail near his residence. The items included a green jacket, pajama pants and a knit hat.
12-24 An officer met with a resident of the Sprawlik Avenue area for chickens killed by a dog. The owner of the dog was identified and will make restitution for the chickens.
12-24 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area regarding harassing phone calls.
12-27 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area regarding a dog bite complaint.
12-27 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area for a dog bite complaint.

ACCIDENTS
12-1 Samuel Chipman, Owen Thoreck, accident on Driftwood Lane
12-1 Emyloe Goodine, accident on Sawyer Road
12-4 Timothy Baehr, Joan Kotz, accident on Meadowview Road
12-5 Deborah Allen, accident on Ocean House Road
12-7 Donald Lafumme, Chad Hutchins, accident on Ocean House Road
12-15 Carl Hedenberg, accident on Fox Hill Road
12-15 Michael Herrick, Mariano Scandizzo, accident on Ocean House Road
12-22 Shon Meyers, accident on Sawyer Road.
12-29 Oliver Moon, accident on Charles E Jordan Road
12-29 Weiland Shang, Katherine Hall, accident on Cross Hill Road

SUMMONSES
12-8 Woolwich resident, uninspected vehicle, Route 77, $133
12-8 Scarborough resident, speeding (52/35 zone), Sprawlik Avenue, $185
12-9 Portland resident, speeding (46/30 zone), Shore Road, $185
12-10 Cape Elizabeth resident, failure to produce insurance, Mitchell Road, $171
12-13 Cape Elizabeth resident, parking in Handicapped zone, Middle School, $165
12-13 Cape Elizabeth resident, parking in Handicapped zone, Middle School, $165
12-17 Cape Elizabeth resident, domestic assault, Wilton Lane
12-21 Portland resident, speeding (46/30 zone), Shore Road, $185
12-21 Portland resident, possession of marijuana, Woodland Road
12-21 Cape Elizabeth resident, speeding (63/50 zone), Route 77, $132
12-23 Portland resident, impoundment sped, Route 77
1-1 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Wells Road, $133

JUVENILE SUMMONS
11-29 South Portland resident, speed (39/30 zone), Shore Road, $119
12-1 Cape Elizabeth resident, violation of interim license, Mitchell Road, $370

ARRESTS
12-17 Cape Elizabeth resident, domestic assault, Wilton Lane

FIRE CALLS
12-1 Oakwood Road, electrical problem
12-2 Hunt’s Point Road, carbon monoxide alarm
12-3 Cross Hill Road, chimney fire
12-11 Scott Dyer Road, cooking fire
12-11 Ocean House Road, investigation
12-13 Belfield Road, investigation
12-16 Robinhood Road, chimney fire
12-16 Buchcas Place, fire alarm
12-17 Becky’s Cove, fire alarm
12-18 Fieldways Lane, animal rescue
12-19 Thunry Road, carbon monoxide alarm
12-19 Oakwood Road, power lines down
12-19 Ledgewood Lane, fire alarm
12-19 Lockley Road, fire alarm
12-20 Rockcrest Drive, investigation
12-21 Zeb Cove Road, fire alarm
12-21 Lockley Road, fire alarm
12-22 Hunter Place, investigation
12-22 Broad Cove Road, power lines down
12-27 Thunry Road, carbon monoxide alarm
12-28 Salt Spray Lane, investigation
12-29 South Portland Mutual Aid
12-30 Old Fort Road, power lines down
12-30 Stonybrook Road, power line down
12-30 Hillcrest Drive, fire alarm
12-30 Ocean House Road, power line down
1-2 Portland Mutual Aid

RESCUE CALLS
There were 53 runs to Maine Medical Center. There were 16 patients treated by rescue personnel but not transported.

Donate old cell phone, help global health, maybe win a prize
Anyone who has an old cell phone collecting dust is invited to bring it to Cape Elizabeth High School and recycle it with Mobile for Global Health. The drop box is located directly across from the main office.
The effort will not only help to bring health care to the most remote corners of the planet, but donors could also win a gift card to Gorgeous Gelato or Scratch Bakery.
Participants receive an entry for each phone recycled. To participate in the raffle, one must include his or her name and phone number or email on the index cards provided, and attach it to the phone with the elastics supplied.
Winners will be announced March 1. To learn more about how these phones are recycled and the benefits they provide, visit the website at mobileforgllobal.org or contact Christie Gillies or Julia Lennon at CHHS.

Buckle up, don’t text, drive safely!

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE

The Cape Courier • Page 5

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE

Pajama pants found near Sawyer Road, dog kills chickens, multiple power lines down

Reported by Debbie Butterworth
Cape residents to sing in Women in Harmony Concert

Music may be the food of love, as Shakes-peare said, but what about music about food? Could it be even better? Cape residents Jacqueline Clark, Lisa Derman, Sarah MacColl, and Cathy Register are excited to sing in Women in Harmony's next concert, Common as Bread -- A Choral Concert About Food, on Jan. 20 and 21. The concert will feature songs about food, including Chocolate, Chili Con Carne, and Java Jive, as well as pieces about gardening and sus-tainable practices.

Women in Harmony, a 60-voice women's chorus, is partnering with the University of Maine's Cooperative Extension Service for this concert to provide information about sustainable practices and sources of locally grown food. In keeping with the theme of food and hunger, members of Women in Harmony have been making weekly deliveries to local food pantries.

Performances will be at Woodford's Congregational Church in Portland on Friday, Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 21, at 4 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door for $15 or in advance at Starbird Music, Longfellow Books, Nonesuch Books, or online at wihmaine.org for $12. Concertgoers are asked to bring a nonperishable food item to be donated to a local food pantry.

In the spirit of sustainability, Cape Elizabeth Community Service will provide a bus to the concert on Saturday, leaving the Community Services lot at 3:15. Call Kathy Raftice at CECS for more information: 799-2868.

Ordinance rewrite regulates signs by location rather than content

By Bob Dodd

The Council’s Ordinance Committee wrote in a Jan. 18, 2017 memo that if a code enforcement officer has to read a sign to determine how it is regulated, the regulation is probably not in compliance (with the court decision).

The court decision, however does allow “content neutral” regulations “relating to sign size, location, lighting, fixed or moving message, placement on public or private property and location on com-mercial or residential land” according to the memo.

The ordinance rewrite eliminated con-tent-based regulations and focused on re-strictions relating to such factors as loca-tion, size and lighting.

The rewrite also sought to make the ordi-nance more user-friendly, more up-to-date to new technologies and clearer for enforcement decisions by town officials. Accommodating existing signage as much as possible was also a consideration of the rewrite.

“Complete Streets” policy adopted-as a guide

The “Complete Streets” policy adopted by the council lays out an established set of guidelines for the development of safe and efficient streets.

In the short-term, it’s adoption also strengthens the town’s proposal for a $300,000-$500,000 grant for sidewalk construction in the town center.

The proposal is being made to the Port-land Area Comprehensive Transportation System (PACTS) in partnership with Port-land and South Portland. Both of these communities have adopted similar Com-plete Streets policies.

Councilors expressed concern that adopting the policy would tie the town’s hands when considering such things as traffic lights. Town Planner Maureen O’Meara assured them that the policies were guides only and not a binding set of requirements.

CECS is accepting registrations for both boys and girls Youth Travel Lacrosse Teams

Cape Youth Lacrosse is looking for play-ers of all experience levels in grades 3-6 for both the Boys and Girls programs. This programs will welcome 2nd graders who have completed one year of Saturday Youth Lacrosse program. Both Boys and Girls teams of equally balanced skill levels are offered at the following levels, Grades 3-4, and Grade 5-6. Early sign-up is advised as this program fills quickly. Registration deadline and a tryout containing is March 7th. Please contact Cape Elizabeth Community Service for additional details and to register.

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Local writers return to Local Buzz

On Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 from 4 to 5 p.m., Local Writers at The Local Buzz continues its monthly reading series featuring Maine writers reading original fiction, non-fiction and poetry. The Local Buzz cafe and wine bar will host two local writers: novelist Richard Cass of Cape Elizabeth, and poet Jeri Theriault of South Portland.

Located at 327 Ocean House Road in Cape Elizabeth, The Local Buzz events are co-hosted by poets Marcia F. Brown and Linda Aldrich.

Richard Cass (Fiction) holds an M.A. in Writing from the University of New Hamp-shire, where he studied with Thomas Wil-liams, Jr. He has taught creative writing in Gray's Sporting Journal, Potomac Review, and "BestShort Stories of the American West" and won prizes for his fiction from Redbook, Playboy and the Pacific Northwest Writers Conference.


Jeri Theriault’s first full-length poetry collection, "Radium, My Red," was published by Moon Pie Press in July 2016. Her chapbook, "In the Museum of Surrender," won the 2013 Encore Publications chapbook contest. She has two previous chapbooks and has published in journals such as the Paterson Literary Review, Beloit Poetry Journal, Rattle, and The Atlanta Review. Her work also appears in several antholo-gies including "French Connections: An Anthology of Poetry by Franco-Americans," the Return of Kral Majales, Prague’s Inter-national Literary Renaissance 1990-2010" and most recently "Hellenic France: Heri-tage Women Create." A Fulbright recipient and Pushcart Prize nominee, Jeri holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Her teaching career included six years as the English department chair at the International School of Prague. She lives in South Portland and is married to the composer, Philip Carlsen.

The event is free and open to the pub-lic. Audience members may enjoy The Local Buzz menu of teas and coffee, wine or cocktails and locally sourced food during the readings. More information at: www.localbuzzcafe.com.

The Town Council on Dec. 12 referred to committee a proposal to require retail-ers to charge a fee for single-use carry-out bags, and a separate proposal to ban the sale and use of polystyrene foam food containers.

The proposals are based on ordinances in effect in Portland and South Portland, where retailers are required to charge 5 cents for paper or plastic single-use bags.

A goal of the Town Council is to con-sider banning all single-use plastic bags in retail establishments. The referred pro-posals, developed and recommended by the Recycling Committee, stop short of an outright ban but do include a fee for single-use bags.

Councilors on Dec. 12 voted unani-mously to refer the proposals to the ordi-nance subcommittee, but differed on how they would consider a ban of single-use plastic bags.

Councilor Sara Lennon, who had sug-gested the council consider a ban, said she was excited that the town is starting to talk about the issue.

“It’s been incredibly effective (in other communities) - you shop at Hannaford now and you notice 90 percent of the people walk in with their reusable bags in stead of walking out with 15 plastic bags, that just seems like such a win-win to me,” Lennon said.

However, Jessica Sullivan, another councilor, said she saw the requirements as “heavy-handed” for a town the size of Cape Elizabeth.

“While we have just a handful of retail estabishments, I’m not enthusiastic even though I appreciate the environmental impact,” Sullivan said.

Councilors Caitlin Jordan and Penny Jordan, who are also leaders of the Cape Farm Alliance, did not vote because the ordinance would affect farm stands. The five other councilors voted to support their proposal.

The fee would apply to retail stores where at least 2 percent of revenue comes from food sales. The polystyrene foam con-tainer ordinance would apply to all vendors including the town and the School Department.

The draft ordinances are on the agenda for the ordinance committee’s meeting on Jan. 17.
Vote completes funding of preschool playground improvements

The preschool playground on the Cape Elizabeth High School campus will get an upgrade following a Dec. 12 vote by the Town Council.

Councillors voted unanimously to appropriate $25,000 from undesignated funds to complete funding for anticipated playground upgrades. In July, the council agreed to carry $50,000 forward from the 2015-16 budget to fund new equipment for the preschool playground.

At the time the scope of needed work was unclear, said Town Manager Michael McGovern. “The playground there has been falling apart, day by day, year by year, month by month,” McGovern said of the 25-year-old facility, constructed to serve kindergartners when classes were moved to the High School campus in 1992. Kindergarten moved back to Pond Cove School in 2005, but the playground has continued to serve Community Services preschoolers, as well as children younger than 5 from all over town.

Patty Grennon, a member of the council, said she supported the expenditure, especially since bids for a Community Services senior minibus came in $8,000 under budget. “So it’s really just the total of $17,000, and it is for funding for the use of the community at large, and so I’m for that,” Grennon said.

Plans have not been developed to accomplish the work, which is hoped to bid out over the winter, McGovern said. The total estimated cost of $75,000 includes planning and design. In a related matter, the council also voted to absorb the Community Services special fund deficit of $32,485 into the general fund. Prior to Community Services senior minibus came in $8,000 under budget. “So it’s really just the total of $17,000, and it is for funding for the use of the community at large, and so I’m for that,” Grennon said.

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Draft 2017-18 school calendar includes early-release days for all students for staff development

School officials are considering shortening the school day twice a month next year for all students to allow teachers to meet for professional development.

The draft 2017-18 school calendar, presented to the School Board for a first reading on Jan. 10, 2017, includes 17 days when students in all schools would be dismissed approximately one hour early. The days are scheduled for the first and third Wednesdays of each month, except for February and April, months that include the traditional Presidents Day and Patriots Day weekend vacations.

Teachers would meet for two hours after students leave school on the early release days.

The calendar was drafted over three months by a committee made up of School Board members, parents, teachers and administrators, said Interim Superintendent Howard Colter. The draft schedule meets requirements for schools sending students to Portland Arts and Technology High School, the regional vocational school. Election Day, Nov. 7, is slated as a teacher day in line with recent efforts to alleviate parking at the poll at the high school. It is also earmarked for parent-teacher conferences, which have traditionally been scheduled for the last week in October.

Some decisions are yet to be made. During their first reading Jan. 10, School Board members suggested eliminating one of the Wednesday early release days in November, a month rife with days off for Thanksgiving, Veterans Day and Election Day. A one-hour early release has also been scheduled Nov. 6 for conferences.

Spring conferences at Pond Cove and the Middle School are not part of the calendar, but may be held on one of February or March’s early release days.

One board member, Barbara Powers, asked administrators to report next month how school will be structured on early-release days at individual schools. Mike Tracy, principal at the Middle School, said all periods for grade 5-8 will likely meet for a shorter time on those days; High School Principal Jeff Shedd said his staff was still discussing options.

Board members generally favored the draft as a reasonable balance between teachers’ time with the students and time for preparation and professional development.

“These don’t sound like huge changes, but they’re big changes to build traditions of giving teachers time to do the work that they need to do - that they are told from the state and the government that they have to do - as well as the work they want to do to improve their practice,” said board Chair Elizabeth Scifres.

Board member John Voltz said he thinks the staff development time will ultimately help improve and unify instruction. “It’s not happening currently to the level it needs to,” he said.


Sen. Millett named Honorary Chair of the Maine Senior Games

Sen. Rebecca Millett, D-Cape Elizabeth, has been named a co-chair of the Maine Senior Games for the third year.

“It is an honor to serve again as an Honorary Chair of the Maine Senior Games,” said Sen. Millett. “These events are always fun and I’m continually awed by the work the staff and volunteers do to keep our seniors healthy and active.”

The Maine Senior Games provides athletic events and wellness opportunities to improve the health and fitness of people 45 and over. This is the 31st year the Southern Maine Agency on Aging has hosted the Maine Senior Games. Anyone interested in competing or volunteering should visit http://www.smaaa.org/msg.html for more information.
Cape painter and sculptor wishes for less hype around art

By Kevin St. Jarre

Edward Materson is a Cape Elizabeth sculptor and painter who is currently focusing on terracotta sculptures.

He describes his style as contemporary realism, and says the art world has changed over the years through expanded subject matter, and quality and dedication to classical art.

Of the influence of the business of art on his creative work, Materson said, “Art as a business is always a negative influence for me. Although I have made my living with it all my life.”

He identifies Daniel Chester French, John Singer Sargent and Rockwell Kent as influences on his art.

His favorite place to see the art of other artists in his field is “in someone’s home.”

Materson finds inspiration for his work “on my bicycle rides to Prouts Neck and Higgins Beach. Have been inspired by people on the beach and surfers.”

If he could wave a magic wand, he said he would want, “Less art hype.”

When asked about the first time he ever earned money through his art, he said, “I painted a mural in a luncheonette.”

He said that there is “too much interest in trying to be different. You either are or you are not.”

Given a chance, he would choose to work in Barcelona. More of Materson’s work can be seen at http://edwardmaterson.com

Kohan recipient of Sundance/Roger Ebert fellowship for film criticism

By Kevin St. Jarre

Sasha Kohan, selected for a film criticism fellowship, has also launched a magazine as a platform for the voices of her generation.

Sasha Kohan, Cape Elizabeth High School alumna and the daughter of residents Tom and Aimee Kohan, has been selected as one of three recipients of a competitive fellowship.

Chazz Ebert, the widow of acclaimed film critic Roger Ebert, recently announced, “I am pleased to announce the recipients of the fourth annual Sundance/Roger Ebert Fellowship for Film Criticism, a workshop that brings together aspiring film writers and critics for mentorship jointly by the Sundance Film Festival and RogerEbert.com.”

“The Ebert Fellows will be tasked with not only writing about films in general, but observing and writing about how films foster empathy, kindness or compassion. And this year I am adding a fourth value, ‘forgiveness.’ Like last year’s class, this one is accomplished in writing, observation and a particular astuteness about how they can make a difference in the world through their art. Movies serve many purposes, but one of the civilizing aspects of film is that of empathizing with, rather than otherizing, different cultures, races, religions, genders, persons of differing physical abilities, and socio-economic classes.”

Sasha K. Kohan earned her Bachelor of Arts at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, graduating magna cum laude in English and Screen Studies this past May.

She won the Virginia Vaughn Prize for Most Outstanding Honors Thesis for her piece, “Betty, Sally, and Existential Womhoo!4d Men,” which she presented at Mad Men: The Conference at MTSU in May.

Kohan currently serves as a writing internship/contributing editor at The Worcester Journal.

“I am an explorer of intellect and art, but nothing I’ve discovered yet compares to the simultaneously intimate and otherworldly task of sitting down to watch a movie, and then sitting down to write about it,” wrote Kohan in her application. “Writing about movies reminds me that I love what I love with an inexhaustible affection, an infinite admiration for the stories and characters who linger in my mind and bring me closer to knowing myself by virtue of trying, through writing, to know them.”

When Sundance Institute president and founder, Robert Redford, announced the formation of this fellowship three months after Roger’s passing in 2013, he said: “Roger Ebert’s blessing on the Sundance experiment in its earliest days made all the difference in the world. His eloquence at cutting to the heart of what we were trying to do helped to interpret for others what I often could not find the words to say. I will always be grateful to him for that and for so much more.”

“Now Piper-Burket, King and Kohan will be among those tasked with interpreting for us the latest discoveries and cinematic
Surfers and paddleboarders braved the cold to get out in some impressive surf last week. A local surfer, who asked for help with the cuff of his suit before running off to the waves, admitted he could only stand the temperatures for perhaps 45 minutes but was in such a hurry to get out there, he neglected to share his name. Below: Clams were surfing long before humans, came ashore, and don’t require a dry suit.

Seaweed, perhaps bladderwrack, provides a bit of green on a cold winter day on the rocks. Gels made from seaweed such as this have been recently studied for their beneficial properties in helping skin retain its elasticity and collagen.

Do you have photos of you, family and friends out enjoying nature? Send them in with the names of the people, the location and the date. We’ll consider them for our Nature page.
Glimpses of Iran, mental health, bird migration, groundhogs, and a project to honor the fallen featured this month at Thomas Memorial Library

Parivash Rohani to speak on “Glimpses of Iran”

Humanitarian Parivash Rohani will share her story of growing up in Iran until she was sent to India by her family at 18 to escape the systematic persecution of the religious minority Baha’i faith. Rohani will discuss how the Iran of today differs from the Iran of her childhood including broad human rights issues, along with the ongoing persecution of the Baha’i faith. Parivash Rohani lives in Auburn, Maine, with her husband, fellow Iranian native Nassar Rohani, and their four children. She is heavily involved in the world-wide campaign “Education is not a Crime.” The talk will take place on Thursday, Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the library’s Community Room.

Learn about “Birds: Earth’s Greatest Migrants”

Perhaps the greatest of earth’s migrants aren’t humans, but birds. Moving with the seasons, millions of birds take flight seeking the ideal habitat and climate to raise their young, feed, or spend the winter. Noah Perlat, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of New England, will speak about these amazing journeys and his academic work studying them. The talk will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the library’s Community Room. This program is another library event sponsored by the Camden Conference, in cooperation with the World Affairs Council.

Library to host “The Honor Case” as part of the Summit Project honoring fallen soldiers

The Summit Project is a living memorial that has changed the way Maine pays tribute to our post 9/11 fallen heroes. The mission of The Summit Project is to honor the state’s newest war casualties and the faithful spirit of all Mainers. The surviving families of Maine’s fallen heroes have unearthed and donated a special stone that represents their loved one. The stones have been engraved with the names of those fallen soldiers. Since Memorial Day 2013, volunteers have hiked up and down mountains in Maine and across the world carrying these tribute stones in their packs, making the Summit Project a living memorial. A selection of the stones travel the state in a special display known as “The Honor Case,” which the library will host from mid-January through mid-March. In addition, the library has organized several events in conjunction with the project. Dave Cote, founder of the Summit Project, will speak at the library about this living memorial and how it came to be, on Saturday, January 28 at 2:30 p.m. The library is organizing a hike with stones in the case on the following Saturday, Feb. 4 at 3 p.m. Volunteers who would like to carry a stone, or simply accompany the group on the hike, will begin at the library and walk on the Shore Road path to Fort Williams, and back. If you are interested in participating in the hike, please sign up on the library’s website, or sign up at the talk by Dave Cote on Jan. 28. Complete details and more information about the Summit Project can be found on the library’s website. The Honor Case can be viewed on the upper floor of the library near the fireplace.

Groundhog Day! Expert to speak about groundhogs

The February date for the library’s popular monthly Maine Wildlife Lecture Series happens to fall on Groundhog Day, so what could be more fitting than a talk titled “Still a Family” on Groundhogs? Christine Maher, professor of biology at USM, began working with groundhogs (aka woodchucks) in 1998. Woodchucks are animals whose relatives, other types of marmots, are much more social than they are, and they present opportunities for the evolution of social behavior in mammals, which has been the focus of Maher’s research. She will discuss woodchucks, their behavior, and role in Maine’s ecosystem, on Thursday, Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the library’s Community Room.

Library to Host Book Launch Party, and Donation Drive for Homeless Shelters

Award-winning Maine author Brenda Reeves Sturgis will be celebrating the publication of her new picture book, “Still a Family,” in an event at the library on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 10:30 a.m. Reeves will share her book, about a homeless family who, despite the fact that they live in two separate shelters, are still a family. In conjunction with the event, the library is collecting donations of goods for the City of Portland Family Shelter, and the Preble Street organizations, including Florence House, the Teen Center and Preble Street Resource Center.

This special story time event will feature crafts, and gingerbread family cookies donated by The Cookie Jar. Representatives from the shelters will be on hand to provide more information about the work they do and ways people can help make a difference. Information about the event, and the kinds of donations being sought, can be found on the library’s website.

More information on the author can be found at her website at: http://www.brendareevesturgis.com, including more other titles such as “The Lake Where Loon Lives,” “10 Turkeys in the Road” and “Touch Down!”

Still a Family

BRENDA REEVES STURGIS
pictures by JO-SHIN LEE

At Cape Chiropractic and Acupuncture, we understand that your health and well-being is your top priority. That’s why we offer a range of services to help you achieve your health goals, including chiropractic care, acupuncture, massage therapy, and more. Our experienced and knowledgeable doctors of chiropractic will work with you to create a treatment plan that best suits your needs. Whether you’re looking to relieve pain, improve mobility, or simply enhance your overall health, Cape Chiropractic and Acupuncture is here to help.

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Visit your library!
Cape Elizabeth Lions Club announces fundraising campaign to repair historic building

In honor of their 2017 application to have their clubhouse listed in the National Registry of Historic Places, and as their Centennial Community Legacy Project during Lions International’s Centennial Celebration, the Cape Elizabeth Lions Club announces the Cape Elizabeth Lions Club Building Repair and Maintenance Capital Campaign for the Bowery Beach School Building Maintenance Trust 501(c)3.

The clubhouse is believed to have been built in 1849 as a two-story house and is the only existing schoolhouse in Cape Elizabeth still in its original location.

Fundraising goal - $25,000 over 18 Months

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club was chartered in 1949. As one of over 46,000 local clubs and more than 1.4 million members in over 200 countries around the world, the club members work all year long to raise funds for the community and other local charity organizations.

Among the support the club has provided over the years are three defibrillators for the schools, $5,000 for the WET team boat, Judy’s Produce Pantry, the Salvation Army, Bruce Roberts Santa Claus Fund, Project Graduation, Ronald McDonald House, Center for Grieving Children, Lori’s Kids, annual scholarships to CEHS seniors - two $500 scholarships each year for the last 30 to 35 years, and many others.

The clubhouse represents the center of several Legacy Projects as visible gifts to their community that commemorate their Centennial and create a lasting legacy of their service contributions. They believe the clubhouse and all it stands for meets the standard.

The Lions are hoping that the citizens of Cape Elizabeth will show their continued support for this campaign. The town has generated a lot of enthusiasm for the campaign and many major fundraising campaigns in the recent past, including the Thomas Memorial Library capital campaign, which raised $640,000 from residents and private donors, the new turf athletic field which met their goal of collecting $650,000 in pledges for the first phase of construction, $304,000 in donations raised by the local group Safe Access for Everyone for the pedestrian pathway along Shore Road, the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust, etc.

For listing on the plaque to be permanently and prominently displayed in the Lions clubhouse, the club has set these individual donation targets:

- Community Leadership Level - $2,500
- Gold Level Benefactor - $1,000
- Silver Level Benefactor - $500
- Bronze Level Benefactor - $250
- Honorary Cape Elizabeth Lions Club Member - $100

Sewer-user fees will be used to wrap up the final stages of a plan to contain sewer overflow from the Ottawa Road pump station.

The Town Council on Dec. 12, 2016 authorized $320,000 to be used from the sewer fund to connect sump pumps and other drainage from individual homes to a new drainage system installed in northern Cape neighborhoods off of Cottage and Shore roads during the past two summers.

The connections will complete the final phase of a five-year plan to reduce overflow from the pump station to the Atlantic Ocean during heavy rains. Rain water finding its way into the sewer system has overflowed the station and caused raw sewage to overflow into Danforth Cove.

The mitigation plan - developed by the Portland Water District, the city of South Portland and the town of Cape Elizabeth - seeks to keep rain and ground water separate from the sewer system. At homes with sump pumps, roof drains and other drains illegally connected to the sewer, stubs have been installed by the town to enable connection to the new drainage system.

That, said Public Works Director Robert Malley, was the easy part. “The tough part now is getting those connections made at the street line or at the property line from homes, getting the sump pumps piped into this network of pipes that we’ve put in,” Malley told town councilors on Dec. 12.

Cost for individual connections run from $1,000 to $17,000-$20,000 Malley said.

Some communities require homeowners to fully or partially fund such connections, but in this case the town plans to subsidize them with sewer-user fees. “We thought, ‘what’s the best way to do this to meet our obligations with the plan?’”, Malley told councilors. “We felt that the sewer fund balance was healthy and that the funds from the sewer fund would pay for these connections.”

The sewer fund balance was $1,654,969.

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**Short-term safety, maintenance projects approved for Fort Williams Park**

With the amphitheater project at Fort Williams Park on hold, the Town Council on Dec. 12, 2016 approved four other projects in the park, recommended to improve safety and maintain the park.

Councilors approved total expenditures of $84,500 from the park’s capital fund to replace guardrails along the park entrance road; replace fencing around the park perimeter; and to install new guardrails and remove a crumbling sidewalk near the parking area between the parade ground ballfield and the Children’s Garden.

“The with the opening of Children’s Garden, we are now encouraging Garden visitors to park in the overflow area, which has increased the amount of vehicles now transiting the roadway,” said Mark Russell, chair of the Fort Williams Park Committee, in a memo to the council.

The wooden guardrails, similar to those proposed for replacement along the park entrance, will provide a barrier between cars and the “significant dropoff” on the right side of the road heading up to the parking area. An old sidewalk next to the parking area is slated to be replaced with grass to improve pedestrian safety.

The capital fund has $355,982 as of June 30 and is expected to reach $500,000 by the end of next June, Russell’s memo says.

Work is expected to begin on the approved projects this spring.

Next month, the committee will take a longer-range look at capital projects, including the future of the former bleacher area surrounding the parade ground ballfield, where the amphitheater had been proposed, said Public Works Director Robert Malley.

Here is a summary of approved projects as outlined in Russell’s memo:

**Powers Road Guardrail Replacement – $21,000**

The wooden guardrail along the entrance road is starting to succumb to the elements. Several of the posts and rails are showing signs of rot. A majority of the guardrail was installed in 1998, followed by a 100’ extension 2011 on the westerly (or main entrance end). It is proposed to replace it with a similar type of material.

**Wheatley Road Guardrail - $8,500**

There is a significant drop-off for about 230’ on the northerly side of Wheatley Road, or the road that leads up to the overflow parking area by the former fire station. With the opening of Children’s Garden, we are now encouraging Garden visitors to park in the overflow area, which has increased the amount of vehicles now transiting the roadway. A wooden guardrail (similar to that along the entrance road) is proposed to be installed to provide a safety barrier.

**Replacement of Perimeter Fencing - $35,000**

Much of the wire fabric perimeter fencing along Shore Road has been replaced with a fabricated aluminum fence. It is more aesthetically pleasing and has enhanced the Park’s appearance, especially at the main entrance. It is proposed to continue the replacement from the current terminus just north of the main entrance to the rear of the Surf Road properties. The funds proposed would also include replacing the two gates at the Chapel Road entrance.

**Overfl ow Parking Area (Near former Fire Station) Sidewalk Removal - $20,000**

There is an existing sidewalk along the southwest edge of the Overflow Parking Area. It borders the location of the former fire station and extends past the Children’s Garden. The walk was originally made of concrete but was paved over several years ago. The pavement is in poor condition and there are several trip hazards along the surface. It was also recently identified as being a safety issue by a Loss Control Consultant from the MMA Risk Pool. At this time, it is proposed to remove the walk and restore the disturbed area with loam and seed. The Committee would then undertake a comprehensive study of pedestrian needs and walkways in the park.

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CAPE CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 18
School Board Superintendent Search Advisory Screening Committee, 6:45 p.m., William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall
Community Services Committee, 6:30-8 p.m., Cape Elizabeth Community Center

Thursday, January 19
Thomas Memorial Library Committee, 6:30 p.m., Thomas Memorial Library
Fort Williams Park Committee, 7 p.m., Public Works

Tuesday, February 6
School Board Finance Committee and Budget Workshop, 6:30 p.m., High School Library and Learning Commons
Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m., Town Hall chamber

Monday, February 6
Town Council Workshop, 7 p.m., William H. Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

Tuesday, February 7
School Board Policy Committee, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Town Hall Lower Level Conference Room

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

Ongoing each week
Al-Anon, Regular meeting 7 p.m. Thursdays, at United Methodist Church, 280 Ocean House Road, Regular meeting 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Alban’s Church.
Alcoholics Anonymous, 2 p.m. Saturdays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland, 7 p.m. Wednesdays, St. Bartholomew Church, 7 p.m. Fridays, St. Alban’s Church.

Jane Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m.—noon Thursdays, Public Safety Building
Jane Elizabeth Lions Club, 6:29 p.m., first and third Tuesdays at the Bowery Beach Schoolhouse (except July and August), Two Light Road

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

South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m., Purpoodock Country Club, Spurwink Avenue. 576-7388.

CABLE GUIDE

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene
Jan. 21, 22, 28, 29, Feb. 4 & 5 - 9 a.m.
Planning Board replay Jan. 18 & 19 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Jan. 21 - 10:30 a.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals (live) Jan. 25 & 26 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Zoning Board replay Jan. 25 & 26 - 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Jan. 28 - 10:30 a.m.

CELT offers snowshoeing, animal tracking

Snow Shoe Outing in Robinson Woods
Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Executive Director, Cindy Krum and long-time CELT supporter, Tony Owens for a two-hour snowshoe adventure through the snow laden trail network of Robinson Woods. This program is designed for winter outdoor enthusiasts, and will explore the fields, woods and wetlands to gain a unique winter perspective of this wonderful property. Please bring own equipment and dress accordingly for weather. Outing is subject to acceptable weather conditions.

Jan. 21 to 4 p.m.
Program # 73-161
Meet at the Robinson Woods kiosk on Shore Rd.
$6 per person

Animal Tracking for Families
Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Education Coordinator Linden Rayton at the Great Pond Fenway Rd. trailhead to learn common winter animal tracks and practice tracking.

Participants will receive a hand-held track guide that they will then use to identify and follow various tracks along the trail. Warm, dry clothing and footwear are a must. Children attending should be at least 6 years old, and accompanied by an adult. Outing is subject to acceptable weather conditions.

Feb. 4, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Program # 73-352
Meet at the end of Fenway Rd.
$6/parent & 1 child. Each additional child $3.

Good Night, Cape Elizabeth: Winter
Children ages 2-6 (with an adult) are invited to the CELT office to enjoy a bedtime story about winter animals in Maine, our “cold-weather friends”. Join Children’s Librarian, Rachel Davis, and CELT volunteer, Jill Darling for stories, a craft, and a brief visit outdoors to see what animal signs we might find in winter. Come in your pajamas, and bring a snack. Parents/Guardians must be present.
Thurs., Feb. 9, 6 to 7:00pm
Program # 73-353
CELT office: 330 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth
$6/parent & 1 child. Each additional child $3.

February Full Moon Viewing
Dress in your warmest winter clothes and join CELT on Trundy Point beach to check out the February full moon. We will have a telescope and the guidance of astronomer and educator Kerry Kertes to help us explore the moon and the night sky. Warm up and socialize next to our beach bonfire (weather permitting). Because this is cloud-dependent, we may choose to use the back-up date instead.

Friday, February 10 with Saturday, February 11 as back-up
7 to 8:30pm
Program # 73-162
Meet at Trundy Point Beach, parking on-street
$6/per person

Please register for the above programs through Cape Elizabeth Community Services. http://www.capecommunityservices.org/

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Join us for CAPE HOCKEY NIGHT!
January 21st
William B. Troubh Ice Arena (TIA)
5:50 M.S. Maroon vs Gold Scrimmage
6:30 H.S. Varsity vs Camden Hills
8:40 J.V. vs Camden Hills

Photos by Martha Again

Hard at work, covering the strawberry field with straw near the Inn by the Sea.
Cape Elizabeth Robotics Teams raising funds to travel to compete

By Samantha Labrie

The Cape Elizabeth Robotics Teams continues to win awards and tournaments in Maine. High School Team 56C and Middle School Team 56E have already qualified for the Create US Open Robotics Championship in Iowa. As a Club, they are beginning to fundraise to send these seven students to Iowa or, if the teams qualify, to the VEX Worlds Tournament in Kentucky.

Both events are a fantastic opportunity for students to compete in a more competitive field of robots and to promote Cape Elizabeth schools. The first fundraising event is at Buffalo Wild Wings on Jan. 23 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Bring the ticket (at right) and a percentage of the food purchase amount (eat-in restaurant or take-out) will be donated to Cape Robotics. A GoFundMe account at www.gofundme.com/caperobotics2017 has also been set up as an easy way to support the Robotics Team.

The public is also invited to visit the new student run website at: http://capersrobotics.wixsite.com/caperobotics where those interested can stay up to date with the teams and see video of the robots on YouTube.

The “Donations” page provides additional copies of the tickets and information about the ongoing fundraising efforts.

The Cape Elizabeth Robotics Team is grateful for the continued support from the community.
of media that will not continue the damage
done by what we’ve seen on TV and online
in the last year; to practice writing that is
not exclusive or condescending, not destructive
or aggressive, but plain and simple expres-
sion of thoughts that help you make sense of
this and may help others.”
Those interested in taking a look at the
website can go to germinalmag.org, and
those wishing to learn more about its found-
er and editor, Kohan, may go to her website

Board
Continued from page 4
Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation (CEEF) grants approved this fall included
one for $1969 for the creation of a musi-
cal production studio for the high school
and the second grant was for the middle
school for $3000 for the Festival of Curi-
osity which is a hands on engineering and
science event.
The Festival of Curiosity occurred in
the evening in the past and will now occur
during the day on Friday, June 2.

Fees
Continued from page 11
on June 30. In a memo to the council, Town
Manager Michael McGovern said using
the sewer fees was the most eff ective and
eff icient manner to accomplish the needed
projects.
Thirty-eight homes have been identi-
fied for the project. “Alternately, the sewer
 ordinance does provide the town the right
to require the work to be done, and any resi-
dent who does not cooperate will be subject
to having the work done at their personal
expense rather than as part of the town's
overall project,” McGovern’s memo says.
Wright-Pierce engineers will administer
and coordinate the project.

Cape resident
ominated by LePage
to District Court
Bench
Gov. Paul LePage nominated longtime
Portland lawyer Michael Duddy of Cape
Elizabeth to the District Court bench.
Duddy is a lawyer with Kelly, Remmel
& Zimmerman. He has represented health
care organizations in dealings with compli-
ance and risk management issues, the re-
duction said.
Duddy, who has been in private practice
in Maine since 1993, also is familiar with
immigration, employment and labor law and
business and corporate law.
He is also Cape Elizabeth’s tree war-
der. As such, Duddy is responsible for the
care and maintenance of trees on town and
school property, including Fort Williams
Park.
In 2014, Mike Duddy was named the out-
standing citizen of the year in Cape Eliz-
abeth, receiving the Ralph Gould Award for
Outstanding Citizenship.
Duddy was instrumental in helping to
draft the 2001 Greenbelt Plan, which aimed
to expand and improve the network of walk-
ing trails throughout the town.
During Duddy’s time on the conserva-
tion commission, he also helped draft man-
agement plans for Gulf Crest and Winnick
Woods, designed and built boat racks and
boardwalks at Great Pond and worked with
the Sprague family to clarify public ease-
ment access to the pond.
He also led dozens of volunteers over
the years to build trail systems in Winnick
Woods and in the Cross Hill neighborhood
as well as bridges and boardwalks on the
Highland Trail and the wooden pedestrian
bridge that now links the Stonegate Trail
 system to Fort Williams.
In addition, Duddy served as an officer in
the U.S. Navy.

New postcrossing
display up at
Thomas Memorial
Library
By Lila Gaudrault
The new postcrossing display at
Thomas Memorial Library is giving
Cape Elizabeth residents the chance to connect
with others around the world.
But what exactly is Postcrossing? Ra-
chel Davis, assistant director and child-
ren’s librarian said, “Postcrossing is a free
website and non-profit organization that makes
it possible for people to receive real, hand-
written postcards from other people all
around the world.”
However postcrossing isn’t a pen pal
service. “Instead,” Davis says, “When you
receive a postcard, you register it on your
postcrossing account, and your address is
sent to another member on the site who
wants to send a postcard.”
The program was set up at the library
so that residents could “connect with one an-
other, and create a sense of global communi-
ty. There is something very different about
receiving a handwritten, physical postcard
from sending an email or participating in
social media. There is a real, tangible con-
nection to people through postcrossing that
helps to counteract some of the negativity
and divisive events that seems so common-
place in our society of late,” said Davis.
For those who want to get involved, Da-
vis recommends creating a free postcross-
ing account by visiting www.postcrossing.
com.
One can also check out the postcrossing
display at Thomas Memorial Library, or
participate in the library’s monthly post-
crossing club, where members can share and
compare received postcards, as well as
learn more about the countries they are
from.
With any further questions, email Rachel
Davis at rdavis@thomas.lib.me.us.

Cape Elizabeth
residents brave ocean
for annual New Year’s
Day Dip
By Lila Gaudrault
Capers braved cold ocean waters for this
year’s annual New Year’s Day Dip at Kettle
Cove beach. With the temperature climbing
up to 38 degrees, and the water at 46 degrees,
the weather was quite warm for the early
January day, especially considering the sub-
freezing temperatures that Cape Elizabeth
has been experiencing almost daily this sea-
son. Nonetheless, taking on the ocean water
was no easy task. This didn’t deter a brave
field of residents from showing up to ring
in the new year. The event benefits Project
Graduation for high school seniors in Cape
Elizabeth.
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January is “Get Organized Month!”
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The Cape Courier arrives in Cuba

Brothers Ilo and Dudley, and their father John Holdridge, read the Courier as they wait for the driver of a classic taxi in Havana, Cuba.

-Contributed photo

Brett, Tierney make dean’s list

Bucknell University has released the dean’s list for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2016-17 academic year. A student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive dean’s list recognition.

Cape Elizabeth High School alumni Thomas Brett, Bucknell class of 2020, and Jack Tierney, Bucknell class of 2018, earned this distinction.

Local livestock raised for pleasure too

Alpacas and goats off Old Ocean House Road at the Rockwell’s farm across from Shore Acres entrance. Alpacas are often raised for pleasure as well as profit. Some are just as much pets as livestock. Alpaca fleece, comparable to cashmere, is known for its fineness, light weight and luster. Alpaca textile products are sold worldwide. The raising of goats goes back to antiquity, for milk and meat usually, but many people are just as fond of these animals and they, too, are often considered to be pets in some cases as well.

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Happy New Year

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