

The Cape Courier

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A league of their own

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)



Photo by Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)

Sitting left to right in the Sea Dogs dugout: Charysse Berkowski, Sea Dogs Assistant Athletic Trainer; Emma Tiedemann, Sea Dogs Director of Broadcasting; Katie Krall, Sea Dogs Development Coach.

The 1992 comedy-drama "A League of Their Own" tells the story of women recruited to play professional baseball in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League during World War II. Much has changed for women in sports since then, and I had the privilege of interviewing three outstanding women at Hadlock Field, home of the Portland Sea Dogs, Double-A Affiliate of the Boston Red Sox. Cape Elizabeth resident and Portland Sea Dogs owner Bill Burke and the Boston Red Sox hired these women. Portland Sea Dogs Development Coach Katie Krall, Portland Sea Dogs Director of Broadcasting Emma Tiedemann and Portland Sea Dogs Assistant Athletic Trainer Charysse Berkowski stand on their own merits and have the right stuff in the profession of baseball. Tiedemann was hired by the Sea Dogs, while both Krall and Berkowski were hired by the Red Sox to work with Red Sox Double A affiliate Portland Sea Dogs. Each of these professionals hold important jobs in baseball today, inspiring the next generation of women and girls.

Katie Krall, Development Coach of Portland Sea Dogs, grew up in suburban Chicago, earned her undergraduate degree in History from Northwestern University and her MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. During college, she worked for the Cape Cod League in Hyannis, Massachusetts. As Assistant General Manager, she wrote scouting reports on players and monitored statistics on baseball pitchers' exit

velocity, spin rates and ultimate zone rate. I wonder what Babe Ruth would have to say about all that?

After college, Krall worked for eighteen months for Major League Baseball (MLB) in Midtown Manhattan. MLB is the custodian of professional baseball and has the responsibility of shepherding the game to the next generation. As Coordinator, League Economics and Operations, Krall's responsibilities included collecting data on players' contracts and salaries, rule changes and salary arbitration. Krall described her job at MLB as a "really cool experience," giving her a macro-level perspective to the game.

While working for MLB was a great experience, Krall wanted to be closer to the ballfield and compete for a World Series ring. In January 2020, Krall went to work for the Cincinnati Reds as a Baseball Operations Analyst, using data to assist management, coaches, and players in making decisions on and off the field.

Looking to further advance her career, Krall accepted the role of Go to Market Strategy Program Manager with Google's Global Strategy Team. She took the job to build her skills working with large and complex datasets, with every intention of returning to baseball.

Things moved quickly and late in 2021 she was hired as the Development Coach for the Portland Sea Dogs - a great professional opportunity and a chance to be a woman in uniform in MLB.

When asked what number she wanted on her jersey, Krall said it was an easy decision. Her beloved godfather, Rick Stelmaszek, long-time bullpen coach for the Minnesota Twins, had worn 43.

Krall describes her experience as Sea Dogs' Development Coach as both exciting and satisfying. She enjoys working with "the whole player," being part of their personal, professional and athletic development.

During our interview, I asked Krall if her job was similar to that of Peter Brand in the movie Moneyball. (Brand played a Yale economics graduate who evaluated players using sabermetrics). Krall smiled at my comparison and said that while the way data is collected, analyzed and shared has changed, success in

-see SPORTS page 7

Affordable housing series

Part 5: There are decisions to make; be informed

By Jeffrey Shedd

Due to its length, this article will be divided over several issues.

[Author's note: This is the last of the series of articles about affordable housing in Cape Elizabeth. Affordable housing is a packed topic at the moment in our town. In approaching this article, I fell back on a Q and A format. I hope the approach adds clarity to an otherwise complicated subject].

Q. What are the affordable housing topics faced by Cape Elizabeth now?

A. In the coming weeks and months, Cape Elizabeth citizens have decisions to make about housing diversity and affordability.

Over the past several months, Camoin Associates, a consultant group hired by the town, has released a three-part housing diversity report. The report will inform discussions of an Ad Hoc Committee on Housing Diversity that the Town Council recently appointed to consider responses to the problem of a lack of diverse and affordable housing in town. That committee will report its final findings and recommendations to the Council by September 2023, with interim reports along the way.

Cape citizens will vote in November to affirm or reject the town center zoning ordinance amendments adopted by the Town Council in October 2021. Although the

Dunham Court development proposal that prompted the amendments has been withdrawn, the amendments apply to the entire, though physically smallest Cape zoning district. Hence, the referendum raises a still pertinent question.

Finally, the town's ordinance committee is considering revisions to town zoning ordinances needed to conform to a new state law, known as LD 2003. That law is designed to foster more diverse and affordable housing across the state. Under the new law, homeowners are permitted to build additional residence units on their lots beyond what local ordinances permit, and density increases for affordable housing developments in growth areas of town are required. Local approaches to implementation will influence the law's ultimate impact.

Q. What would be the benefit of more diverse and affordable housing in Cape Elizabeth?

A. That Cape Elizabeth would benefit from more diversified housing meeting the needs of young families, the elderly on fixed incomes, Cape's workforce, and those families living at or below regional median incomes is relatively uncontroversial, even among those on both sides of the Dunham Court contro-

-see HOUSING page 8

New sign for the Lions Field

By Roger Bishop



Photo by James Neuger

Pictured: (standing) Carl Stephenson and artist Lynn Cross. Seated left to right: Rich Daniels, Club President Colette Howe and Bill Stressinger.

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club began in 1949. During these 73 years the Cape Elizabeth community has supported the Lions' efforts in their mission to "To Empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs."

Many years ago, a donation of property was made to the Cape Lions Club. The Lions recognized the need for a playing field for children's baseball. The Lions gifted the property to the town of Cape Elizabeth for that purpose. That property became known as Lions Field and a sign was placed at the entrance of the road that makes its way to the

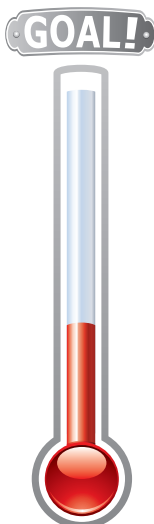
two playing fields. Over the years the sign began to show wear and tear. The club recognized the need for a new sign and approached Cape Elizabeth resident Lynn Cross. Cross and her family graciously agreed to create a new sign and offered to donate it to the Lions Club.

Lions' members Bill Stressinger and Mark Fleming took down the old sign. The new sign was recently installed thanks to the efforts of club President Colette Howe and club members Rich Daniels and Carl Stephenson. Recently approval was granted to add lights to the upper field. The legacy of the Lions club continues to evolve.

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Publisher: Tara Simopoulos
info@capecourier.com

Editor: Marta Girouard
editor@capecourier.com

Community Reporter: Kevin St. Jarre
community@capecourier.com

Advertising Manager: Tara Simopoulos
 (Display and classified ads)
advertising@capecourier.com/207-939-9766

Bookkeeper:
billing@capecourier.com

Proofreaders:
 Chuck Rzeszutko

Photo finishing: Ann Kaplan

Distribution: William Alexander

For general information:
info@capecourier.com/207-939-9766
 For Advertising:
advertising@capecourier.com

Writers: Debbie Butterworth, Wendy Derzawiec, Erika Carlson Rhile, Kevin St. Jarre, Marta Girouard, Jim Rowe, Tina Fischer, E. Brooks Bornhoff, Abbey Greslick, Jeff Shedd

Photographers: Martha Agan, Ann Kaplan, Joanne Lee

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 Letters should not exceed 250 words. We reserve the right to refuse letters and to edit for length, accuracy, clarity and civility. We do not withhold names and writers may be limited to one letter per month. Petition-style letters will be declined. Letters reflect the opinion of the author, not The Cape Courier. Email letters to: editor@capecourier.com or mail to P.O. Box 6242, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107. Please note: Letters will be acknowledged by email.

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DEADLINE: Noon, Sept 23

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'Residents should vote yes'

Town residents should vote YES to rebuild Pond Cove/CE Middle School and renovate CEHS. This issue has been extensively discussed over the course of 80 meetings. We have renovated many times (including 1994's project, which I spent in a portable at PCES.) We are perpetually chasing our tail with costly repairs and soaring energy bills. The current schools' sprawling floor plan creates barriers to learning, hinders equitable access to services and inhibits productive collaboration.

These facilities have reached the end of their functional lifespan and fail to meet the needs of 21st century learners and educators. Nevertheless, our students and teachers have remained flexible — through it all. They have continuously done what we have asked of them, despite the ongoing safety, maintenance and functionality issues.

Renovate or rebuild, our taxes will go up. We will all need to plan for this. I do not discount anyone's concerns about such increases. But I would rather make a plan than kick the can. Let's make this investment last 50+ years instead of buying 15 years of delay, deteriorating conditions and rising costs. At that point, CEHS may well also be ready for a rebuild of its own. Rebuilding PCES/CEMS and renovating CEHS will be less disruptive, will create more functional spaces for learners and educators, and will make strides towards equitably meeting the needs of our students in an ever changing world.

Eliza Matheson

'No' on school bond referendum

There are amazing people on both sides of the major issues facing our town these days, but as long as elected officials rudely ignore constituent concerns, trust in local government process will continue to erode. A few recent examples come to mind.

First, in early 2021 fifty Cape medical professionals had reached out to offer complete support in getting their children back in school. Their generous and sincere offer was dismissed quickly and without explanation.

Next, the previous town council chairman shockingly compared voters to arsonists for the crime of disagreeing with his favored

ordinance changes that would allow large apartment buildings to be built throughout town center.

And now, we face a huge school bond for \$116 million. The process is yet again, flawed. Did you know we have spent just short of a million dollars to get to this point? This seems to be a huge gamble on a project that the voters have yet to approve. In addition, the firm involved has been imbedded into every subcommittee, including the "public outreach" committee - that uses our tax dollars to market their plan to us. Those are some pretty expensive new school campus pictures!

We need to get a thorough and independent look at renovation, and not depend on the firm who stands to benefit greatly by telling us that renovation is not an option. We need integrity in government process. Join me in voting NO on the school bond referendum.

RuthAnne Haley

Millett 'is the leader we need right now'

As co-founder of employee-owned Revision Energy, I've spent the last 20 years focused on building a cleaner economy. Through this work I know it is critically important that we have effective leaders who are committed to prioritizing our environment and creating a better future for our children.

Rep. Rebecca Millett is one of those leaders as she has proven time and again with her votes in Augusta.

As a former state senator and current state representative she has the experience and expertise to meet two of our greatest challenges—climate damage and our kids' future. This past legislative session, she helped pass a law to reduce contamination from PFAS chemicals that do not naturally degrade and negatively affect the health of humans and wildlife. And farmers will now have the resources to test their land, crops and livestock. Maine is one of the first states to make this a priority.

Rebecca also worked to ensure that our students have healthy schools in which to learn, including increased lead testing of drinking water and improved air quality and ventilation systems.

Finally, in bringing these two priorities together, she helped enact Maine's first ever Climate Corps which is a service program for young adults to work across the state to protect our environment, ensuring that the next generation of leaders are prepared to take on the climate crisis.

I hope you will join me in voting for Rebecca Millett for state representative on November 8. She is the leader we need right now.

Phil Coupe

-see more LETTERS TO THE EDITOR on page 6

THANK YOU!

Your donations and other contributions help keep this community newspaper coming to your mailbox.

Thank you to these recent generous contributors who donated above the voluntary subscription level:

Tim and Kim Case

Correction:

Debra Kendall & David Osterman

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Let us hear from you!



We love feedback!

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"Overall, the physical conditions of all the buildings, . . . is functionally satisfactory... the middle school is in good condition and does not require significant structural repairs or improvements -- Facility Needs Assessment"

HERE IS WHAT CAPERS HAVE TOLD THE TOWN COUNCIL



"Property taxes increase on average 5% a year. This is on top of the school tax increase. In 5 years we will have a 50% tax increase."

"I am 25 years old. I just purchased my first home. I am a baker by night and a mechanic by day. . . . I have a 2 year old son and a daughter coming in October. I worked hard to get my first home. I am really worried about the tax increase."

"What happened to reduce, reuse and recycle?"

"Tearing down acres of serviceable existing buildings and replacing them is irresponsible from fiscal, environmental, and ethical perspectives."

"I am a young resident. I live with my mom. I hope to one day, on my teacher's salary, to raise a family and buy a home here. As an educator, I know what students need to succeed, but it is not this. . . . Moving forward with this project does not make diversifying the community possible- in fact, it pushes out a significant number of our (BIPOC) community and sends a clear message about diversity, equity and inclusion."

"I am a former school board member and chair. . . . No budget was set. You need to set a budget that is fair to the taxpayers and work from that."

"I think this design is excessive. . . . I have been in the business. . . . They see Cape Elizabeth and they see endless money. We have to start over and look at a budget."

"I moved here for the schools. I have a degree in architecture. . . . You have to produce a budget first and work backward from there."

"This will make Cape Elizabeth even less affordable than it is now."

"The added burden of . . . the construction bonds mean that . . . future budgets will be squeezed as real needs like teacher salaries and programming and sports and extra-curriculars are cut to pay for our shiny new buildings with the grand lobbies and glass walled administration suites."

"I am a parent of students who have been in cape schools for the past 15 years and will be for four more years. I am a cape resident of 20 years. I am totally opposed to the demolition and rebuilding of Pond Cove and the Middle School. The environmental impact and the tax impact are unacceptable."

"Where will the town be when it's time for employee raises, other infrastructure needs, and the drop in state revenue sharing and state school funding that will inevitably happen after the current splurge of covid related funding dries up?"

"To me this is reminiscent of the new library construction it was "urgent" that we spend \$8 million dollars on a completely new structure. . . we wound up voting down the \$8mm proposal and finally building a beautiful library for half the price. I feel the same way now, we can do better with less cost."

"This increase does not even include "normal" expense increases for the rest of the Town. It is detached from the reality of what people can afford."

"The [housing] study found that 22% of CE households are currently "housing cost- burdened".... A serious discussion of increasing "affordable" housing is incongruent with raising property taxes significantly beyond amounts that are already problematic."

"I am shocked that you would even allow this to be considered I am on Social security and that is our only income."

"Cape Colonial Village has 17 units. Our incomes are not keeping up with inflation. Come up with a plan that we can all get behind."

"This is too big. I am a retired special education teacher. I am sure I am not the only senior citizen worried about the tax increase."

"Inflation is higher than it has been in 40 years, there is a revaluation going on, interest rates are going up. This project is above what is reasonable and rational for this town."



Then and Now: A very abridged history of history (in two parts)

By Jim Rowe



Photo courtesy of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society
Dr. Constance Murray



Photo from Mr. Jordan's obituary

William B. Jordan, Jr.

Part One

A favorite volume in my eclectic home library is the story of our (your and my) home town. It is the acclaimed "A History of Cape Elizabeth, Maine," by William B. Jordan, Jr. (1927-2015). The book (1965, House of Falmouth, Inc.; paperback reprint, 1987, Heritage Books) is a bible (small "b") of the growth and evolution of our fair town. The author was a 1945 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School and was awarded Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Maine. He taught at the college level, and en-

joyed a sterling reputation as an antiquarian, historian and bibliophile.

With over seven pages of bibliography, "A History," in the time it was written, provided a scholarly overview of "The Cape Elizabeth Story." People, places, dates, events and accompanying anecdotes abound. The book tells of farmers, fishermen, mariners, shipwrecks, lighthouses, burgeoning neighborhoods, schools, houses of worship and much more. Readers are kept on their toes as the author often looks at history by topic, rather than in strict chronological order. This is part of the book's charm, in my opinion, as we assemble the jigsaw puzzle of our collective heritage.

But alas, 1965 is now a long time ago. Not only has much happened in the last half century-plus, but once-accepted views on pre- and post-European arrival, in particular, have been significantly revised. In short, "A History" is past due for an update.

Part Two

Thanks to Dr. Constance "Connie" Murray, Ph.D (1915-2007), a concerted effort

began to collect and preserve documents, photographs, artifacts and stories from Cape Elizabeth's past. Murray, a 1932 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School, received her Bachelor's degree from Bates College and advanced degrees (masters and doctorate) from Boston University. She had a long and storied career as a high school history teacher, mostly in Lexington, Massachusetts. Upon retirement, she returned home to her beloved Cape Elizabeth in the mid-1970s. Led by Connie, a small and committed cadre of local history enthusiasts began meeting upstairs in Town Hall. Gradually, a well-articulated raison d'être emerged. In 1979, The Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society was incorporated. As our town matured and more space was required at Town Hall for municipal and school department offices, the CEHPS moved to the basement of the Thomas Memorial Library. To accommodate the library's major facelift in 2015-2016, the CEHPS again relocated- this time to the town center Public Safety Building. 2022 is an exciting time for the Historical Society. It is vacating its overcrowded digs at the Public Safety Building and is occupying the former Bachelor Officers' Quarters at Fort Williams Park. For the first time, the new location will provide enough room to create proper museum space, and will allow many of its items to see the light of day for the first time in eons. Stay tuned!

Today, the CEHPS enjoys independent non-profit 501(c)3 status. The Society has a Records Management Agreement with the town, wherein CEHPS provides archiving of, and public access to older municipal records in exchange for "living quarters." The Society has many thousands of items from all facets of our town's past, and is currently engaged in a 1-o-o-o-n-g and daunting process of digitizing its holdings.

Let's talk recycling

By Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee

This is a new monthly feature about recycling and other environmental topics, brought to you by the Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee. We'll be answering some of the most common questions we hear and offering ideas for how to live more sustainably. If you have a question you'd like answered, email it to the Committee's staff liaison, Jay Reynolds, at jay.reynolds@capeelizabeth.org or submit it via our Facebook page "Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee." You can also check out EcoMaine's Recyclopeda at ecomaine.org.

Q. What is Cape Elizabeth's recycling rate and how does it compare with neighboring towns?

A. For the year ending June 30, 2022, Cape's single stream recycling rate stood at 28.7%, which means that recyclables were 28.7%, by weight, of the total waste stream (recyclables plus garbage, not including food waste compost).

Over the past 10 years, our rate has varied from 28% to 35%. By comparison, during the same period, South Portland had a recycling rate of 27.5% and Falmouth had a rate of 37.3%. Both South Portland and Falmouth have curbside pickup, but Falmouth charges a pay-to-throw fee for garbage – which is a big incentive for people to recycle.

Increasing our recycling rate would save the town money because we pay \$79 a ton to haul away our trash but only \$35 a ton to take away the recyclables.

Want more news about recycling? Follow "Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee" on Facebook.

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News from the school board

By Kimberly Carr

The beginning of a new school year is a time full of hope and promise, the anticipation of new beginnings and fresh starts. It is a time full of excitement, uncertainty and the one thing we can count on - change. Living here in New England, we have the paring of the weather to punctuate the transition. The days are getting shorter and starting to cool down, the long hot summer days are over (or at least we hope in our buildings without ac). The start of school often comes at the perfect time, when the promise of an unstructured summer has gone from a welcome break to untamed chaos. Though perhaps loathe to admit it, most of our students are ready to return to the comfort that comes with the structured predictability of the school year.

The students walking into our schools are the future. They are the next scientists, electricians, politicians, plumbers, lawyers and the next teachers. What our staff, teachers and administrators do for these students helps shape them and who they will become. As we usher in new kindergarten students and see our 2022 graduates prepare for futures outside of the comfort and familiarity of the Cape Elizabeth schools, I am struck by how our students are positively impacted by the many connections, relationships and experiences they have in our schools over the years. So many of our students' passions and strengths develop through experiences they have in Cape Elizabeth schools. Thank you to everyone in the Cape Elizabeth School Department for all you do for our students and our community. You make a difference to the children with whom you connect everyday. You make a difference to them now and you make a difference to their future!

BUILDING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

The School Board is excited that the citizens of Cape Elizabeth will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed Building Project this coming November. We will be working hard to provide ample opportunity to learn about the project and what the vote means for the town, the students and teachers and the homeowners. To stay informed, please regularly check www.ce-buildingproject.com.

Why now?

In 1993, the School Board recommended new buildings for \$20M. Ultimately, a renovation for \$11M was done and it was said to last 20 years. Here we are almost 30 years later and in desperate need of new buildings.

Why not renovate?

The foundation is sprawling and poor. The type of walls used in the current

buildings are not flexible and cannot be moved. To renovate with a poor foundation and inflexible walls is poor use of money.

Portables and infrastructures, costing millions, would be needed for a renovation and the cost of portables and its infrastructure would not be part of the bond, but part of the yearly budget. Portables are also very disruptive for students and learning.

Do buildings matter?

We have excellent teachers and amazing students in Cape Elizabeth. They are limited by our buildings. In the middle school chorus room, students wear coats in class in the wintertime. The middle school band program does not have enough space for this exceptionally successful program that serves so many students. Due to the shared cafeteria students start eating lunch at 10:15 a.m.; many one on one meetings with students take place in closets. These are just a few of the challenges of our existing facilities. The lighting is terrible and design is outdated. Our students and teachers spend six hours a day in this environment. It is uncomfortable and far from ideal. Buildings do matter.

\$116M is a big ask, is it too much?

This is the cost for two new schools and improvements to CEHS as well as the demolition of the existing buildings and rebuilding of sporting fields. There has been comparison to the first vote of the new library. The original library plan had a cafe and other wants included, more extravagant than the schools being proposed. To cut back the proposal for this school, Cape Elizabeth would end up with similar challenges that it faces now. It would be a hybrid situation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- DEI district committee – September 22, 3:30-4:30 p.m. fire station
- Pond Cove Grade 1 Open House - September 22, 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Pond Cove Grade 2 Open House - September 22, 6:30-7:00 p.m.
- School Board Workshop - September 27, 6:30 p.m. CEHS Library
- CE High School open house - September 28 6:15-8:30 p.m.
- DEI district committee – September 29, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- Building Oversight Committee - September 29, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (Zoom)
- Public Building Tours - October 1, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. PC/CEMS Cafetorium
- Design Workshop and Tour - October 3, 4:30-6:30 p.m. PC/CEMS Cafetorium
- School Board Business Meeting - October 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Town Hall

June 2022 Cape Elizabeth real estate transfers

NEW OWNER	LOCATION	SALE PRICE	USE
BRENDA L DELAHANTY	15 MAXWELL WOODS DRIVE	\$875,000	CONDOMINIUM
BROOKS MICHAEL R	60 BRENTWOOD ROAD	\$530,000	SINGLE FAMILY
EZRA HUG	34 CRANBROOK DRIVE	\$920,000	SINGLE FAMILY
LAWRENCE S & DENISE SINGER	207 MITCHELL ROAD	\$485,000	SINGLE FAMILY
STEVE ADLER & SHERYL FREEDMAN	10 CROSS HILL ROAD	\$1,460,000	SINGLE FAMILY
BARBARA & DOUGLAS BABKIRK	25 WESTMINSTER TERRACE	\$785,000	CONDOMINIUM
CLARA & DANIEL WHITE	20 LEDGEWOOD LANE	\$1,115,000	SINGLE FAMILY
LEAH A BARTSCH-MALLORY	12 WOODS KNOLL DRIVE	\$1,935,000	SINGLE FAMILY
LARRY & PETRONELLA RAPAPORT	21 CAPE WOODS DRIVE	\$700,000	SINGLE FAMILY
NOELLE DELUCA & M BIRLEM	67 SPURWINK AVENUE	\$650,000	CONDOMINIUM
TIMOTHY & BARBARA CASE	387 MITCHELL ROAD	\$520,500	SINGLE FAMILY
RACHEL MEHLSAK & SCOTT BENDER	16 ASTER LANE	\$700,000	SINGLE FAMILY
PETER C & RACHEL B ROCKER	8 RAMBLE ROAD	\$830,000	SINGLE FAMILY
KEN S ROERDEN	10 JEWETT ROAD	\$585,000	SINGLE FAMILY
MARIS SIEGEL & JOSEPH BOSMAN	7 QUARTZ KNOB ROAD	\$1,400,000	SINGLE FAMILY
ELIZABETH ANDREWS	30 CLIFF AVENUE	\$1,060,000	SINGLE FAMILY
JENNY & BLAKE MOLONEY	9 HIGH VIEW ROAD	\$764,000	SINGLE FAMILY
FRANK LAURINO & DENISE DIXON	37 WILDWOOD DRIVE	\$520,000	CONDOMINIUM
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- ◆ Strengthened Maine's nondiscrimination laws to ensure equality for all
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Carney ‘works in a bipartisan fashion’ ‘Frustrated’ with disinformation

I am writing in support of Anne Carney’s re-election to the Maine Senate. Anne has served us with distinction initially in the House of Representatives and now is running for her second term in the Maine Senate.

As a physician in Emergency Medicine I can already see the results of Anne’s advocacy for increased access to health care for Maine’s indigent children and vast improvements in access to postpartum care. Additionally, Anne authored legislation to provide safe disposal of medications keeping them out of our waste stream and away from potential abuse.

Environmental advocacy is part of my

DNA and Anne’s leadership is evident there as well. She authored and saw passage of legislation to keep toxic oil tank emissions out of South Portland and finally ended Maine’s sad legacy of being a waste disposal site for out of state waste.

These accomplishments would suggest a partisan, hard driving personality, but Anne is a patient listener and works in a bipartisan fashion to get things done for Maine. We will be well served by her continued calm and competent leadership in the Maine Senate. Please join me in voting for Anne on November 8.

Tony Owens

I have been frustrated with the disinformation campaign in town on the new schools. The same voices keep ringing the alarm on how taxes will go up, but they seem to be missing the forest through the trees.

First, while the cost of new schools seem known, the renovation estimates seem like much more of a guesstimate. Knowing the schools are decades old, it seems almost guaranteed that large issues will come up so we have no idea what plan B actually costs. And apparently only buys us another 15 years!

We’re faced with spending either \$116 million today for a new building that will last decades with standard upkeep or spending \$70+ million dollars today AND \$70++ million dollars in 15-20 years to keep the old

building afloat. Not to mention the old buildings are way more expensive to maintain and won’t even be useable for years.

Paying \$150 million over the next 50 years instead of \$116 million today is not fiscally responsible. And students, fresh off COVID and already struggling to meet milestones will be in portable classrooms for 4 years to get maybe only 11 more functional years out of these buildings? It just seems crazy to me, the disinformation is muddying the common sense solution.

It’s a hard pill to swallow, but Cape is stuck between a rock and a hard place. If I have to have my taxes go up, I want get the bang for my buck. I will be voting yes on schools.

Caitlin Sweet

Thankful for town planner

There certainly are many thankless jobs in this world but lately I’ve been thinking about one in particular- being a town planner. Not only is it incredibly complicated but most people that need to interact with a town planner from the public don’t understand the process, usually not through any fault of their own but simply because it can be complicated!

Cape Elizabeth is beyond fortunate to have one of the most knowledgeable, professional and respected planners in Maine. Projects that require interaction with the planning board are projects that need guidance to make sure they work within the framework we’ve developed as a town. Here’s a tip, when you purchase an old gas station in the center of town and want to change its use and drasti-

cally modify the site (which is a good thing), plan on going in front of the planning board and hire a professional to help. The planning board is helpful and easy to work with and guided by a planner that wants to help this town. If your plan works within the town’s ordinances, they want you to be successful! It’s not a popularity contest so don’t take it personally if you get sent back to the drawing board.

So thanks to the planner who has dedicated her career to creating a greenbelt that connects our town, who created a workable plan for our downtown and who is always available to help you work through the processes that exist to protect this beautiful town.

Maggie Birlem

In search of gently used items

My 9 year old son has been helping us distribute items to the homeless for almost a year now. We have given away countless blankets, pillows and many toiletries. If you are looking for a place to donate gently used items, we would be happy to pick up! We are always in need of blankets, pillows, small suitcases with wheels and backpacks.

If you have sample size toiletries, and extra band aids those are always in high demand. Thank you for considering. I can be reached at 207-423-5306. We distribute generally on Thursdays in Deering Oaks, Oxford street and the surrounding areas.

Theresa Simpson

‘Say no and send it back’

Regarding the referendum for \$116 million for new schools, one glaring fact remains; there has been no credible, thorough or independent analysis of renovation costing \$70 million dollars or more.

In response to town councilor Susan Gillis’s question about renovation costs at the August 22, 2022 public hearing on the school bond, councilor Nicole Boucher, who serves on the school project committee, emphatically responded that the 2019 Needs Assessment is an over 300 page document which shows the needs and costs of renovation. What does that 2019 Needs Assessment actually say? “Overall, the physical conditions of all the buildings, . . . is functionally satisfactory.” (CE Schools Needs Assessment, Oct. 2019 p. 5) “Overall the structural system of

the middle school is in good condition and does not require significant structural repairs or improvements.” (Needs Assessment p. 7) Furthermore, a careful study of that 337 page document reveals a long “punch list:” a photo of lockers partially blocking a doorway is a full page; a shower drain needing repair is a full page; a picture of torn wallpaper a full page, and so on. Many of these items have already been repaired.

The total of the other items for Pond Cove and the Middle school come in at around \$10 million which includes all the recommended repairs plus a brand new cafetorium. Then add a few million more for a new entryway. We could do this for about \$20 million. Say No and send it back.

Pietrina Owen

Suggestion for grad coverage

I would like to say how much I appreciate the effort of the newspaper staff for our informative and excellent biweekly Cape Courier.

Might I make a suggestion? For years this newspaper has highlighted students going on to colleges after graduation. There are pictures and individual write-ups on these students but there is little or no mention of students that go on to trade schools or apprenticeships. I feel as though there should also be acknowledgement of these students. Some of these Cape students have become extremely successful as developers, owners of large fab-

rication companies, and construction companies. There are others who have done extremely well working in the various trades of welding, plumbing, electrical, carpentry and so on. Parents, counselors and teachers need to show their support when a student shows more interest in trade-related subjects rather than a college degree.

This is just my humble opinion and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to express and share it.

David Andrews



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Sports

Continued from page 1

baseball is all about using performance data from your own team and that of your competitors to find opportunities to excel.

As the Sea Dogs' first female coach, Krall quickly brought value to the game and built rapport and trust by helping players with their individual and professional growth and development, sometimes in a ninety-hour work week.

Her biggest surprise as a coach in minor league baseball? The thoughtful balance of player development and success on the field.

Her greatest day? Catching the first pitch of the game, from her mother, on Mother's Day while her sister watched from the stands.

Her thoughts on Portland? The people are great, and the food scene is great!

Her advice to other women? Believe in yourself. You can accomplish extraordinary things. Little girls with dreams can become women who can change the world.

Her long-range goal? Krall said she'd love to be a General Manager of a MLB team – maybe even the Commissioner of the League.

Emma Tiedemann, Portland Sea Dogs Director of Broadcasting, grew up in suburban Dallas, Texas, which she said with a smile, is a little different from Portland. Texas has more horses and cows.

Tiedemann's early ambition was to be a veterinarian, but she struggled with the depth of math and science requirements. A bachelor's degree in secondary education with a minor in history University of Missouri did nothing to distract her from her real passion: broadcasting.

Bill Mercer, Tiedemann's grandfather, was a legendary broadcaster for the Texas Rangers and Dallas Cowboys. At age fifteen he invited her to broadcast a basketball game at the University of Texas - Dallas with him. She donned the headset and together, they called the game, play-by-play. She followed her passion through high school, broadcasting as a volunteer for the University of Texas basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball and baseball games.

Tiedeman's first professional broadcasting job was with the Mat-Su Miners, of the amateur Alaska Baseball League. The next year she was hired by the Medford Rogues, an amateur baseball team in Oregon. In 2017, she accepted the role of number-two broadcaster for the St. Paul Saints, an independent baseball team in the American Association. Then she got her break - the Lexington Legends baseball team in Kentucky hired her as Director of Broadcasting and Media Relations. The Legends are the minor league affiliate of the Kansas City Royals.

While with the Legends, Tiedemann called two league championship series and was named South Atlantic League Media Relations Director of the Year. During the off-season she was the voice of Morehead State University Women's Basketball on ESPN.

This is Tiedemann's first season as the "Voice of the Portland Sea Dogs" on the Sea Dogs Radio Network 95.5/95.9 WPEI. In addition to broadcasting the game, Tiedemann conducts pre-game and post-game interviews with players and coaches getting their feedback and analysis of the game.

In addition to interviews and play-by-play announcing, Tiedemann is responsible for compiling game notes and roster moves for both teams. Broadcasters in minor league baseball do a little bit of everything, and she said it's the variety that makes minor league baseball so fun.

The key to her success? Research and preparedness. Knowing teams' and players' history and statistics, like who has the most strikeouts, when the last no-hitter took place,

make her broadcasts interesting and enjoyable for the casual listener and the avid fan. Depending on the team's schedule, she may work from 60-100 hours in a week!

Her advice to Maine girls interested in broadcasting? If you want it, go for it. Don't be afraid or nervous to go after your dreams.

Her thoughts on women in The Box? Tiedemann says the players have been great. Plus, she believes that the increasing number of women representing numerous franchises, including the Red Sox, will create even more opportunities for women.

Her thoughts on Sea Dogs fans? She's taken aback by the dedication and devotion of Red Sox Nation fans to the Sea Dogs (and Red Sox). Fans' knowledge of the Sea Dogs franchise is unusual in the Double-A level. Go team!

Her thoughts on Portland? Tiedemann has lived in many places, and she says Portland is her favorite, hands-down. The food and drink, the people and easy access to the mountains and the ocean make it a great place to do a great many things.

Her long-range goal? To be the voice of a Major League Baseball Team. Given her personal style and her depth of understanding of the game, the sky's the limit. (No offense,

Joe Castiglione.)

Charysse Berkowski, Portland Sea Dogs Assistant Athletic Trainer, grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, playing softball and golf in high school. After earning her bachelor's in Athletic Training from Western Illinois University and her Master's in Kinesiology and Exercise Science from Auburn University, Berkowski worked as an Athletic Trainer for the South Bend Cubs, Chicago Cubs' minor league affiliate team, in South Bend, Illinois. From there, she was hired by the Boston Red Sox to work as the Assistant Athletic Trainer for their Double-A Team, Portland Sea Dogs.

As the Sea Dogs' Assistant Athletic Trainer, Berkowski's role includes sports medicine, injury prevention and rehabilitation of the ball players. She travels with the team, working 10-12 hours a day, six days a week (and loves getting paid to watch baseball).

Her advice to other women interested in Sports Medicine? Study human anatomy and pay attention to how people move. Intern or volunteer in high school or college with an Athletic Trainer. Network with current Athletic Trainers. She said many of the things she learned were not taught in the classroom or a book, but on the job. Never be afraid to

ask questions when you don't know the answer to.

Her thoughts on Portland? She loves the restaurant scene and when time permits she hopes to explore Maine's lakes and coastal islands.

Her thoughts on the Red Sox? I asked Berkowski if she is a Red Sox fan. She smiled, "I grew up rooting for the Chicago Cubs, but I am a Red Sox fan now."

Her long-range goal? To work with a Major League Baseball team in some capacity or another.

All three of these professional women are well-educated, hard-working, confident and personable. They have worked hard, made sacrifices, built their networks, volunteered and mentored others. Perhaps most important, regardless of the demands of their studies and their jobs, they have actively engaged in their communities as youth, while in college and as working professionals. They all, in one way or another, credit their success to others. All of us benefit from the support, encouragement and counsel of friends, family, coworkers and mentors.

All three have the right stuff! What does the future hold for them? Stay tuned.

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Housing

Continued from page 1

versy.

Jamie Garvin, three-time Town Council chair asks, “Where is the opportunity for young families now?,” noting that his family would not be able to afford the home they live in if they had to buy it today. “Every year, during budget season,” he said, “I would receive calls from senior residents who wished to downsize, but could not afford a condo in Wildwood.”

Mary Ann Lynch, attorney and former town councilor and Council chair, as well as a member of the Planning Board that initially considered the town center zoning ordinance amendments, said that she worries that the town has become, in effect, “a gated community with a \$650,000 price of admission.” When she moved to Cape in 1984, she said, her family lived in Elizabeth Park, alongside teachers, social workers and police officers. Now that middle can no longer afford Cape housing, and more and more out-of-state seasonal residents are moving in.

Kevin Justh, a real estate finance professional who has been involved in financing many affordable housing projects, said Cape Elizabeth’s housing includes “a stunning lack of rental options.” With a median price home costing \$625,000, he quickly does the math—that buyer would need a \$125,000 down payment and an income of at least \$160,000 to support the mortgage.

Cynthia Dill, civil rights attorney and former Town Councilor and state legislator and the principal organizer of the petition effort, allowed under town charter, to put the zoning amendments to a public vote, said “We have a fabulous place to live but it is difficult to live here.” She favors solutions that prioritize kids, and she would love to see housing in Cape for immigrants and refugees.

Newly elected Councilor Tim Reiniger, who jumped into the political ring largely because of his opposition to the Dunham Court

proposal, worries that we are at risk of becoming a community of the “super rich” and the working and elderly cost-burdened. “Cape Elizabeth is largely out of reach for young families,” he said.

The concerns of these Cape residents echo calls for housing diversification and affordability going back 45 years—found first in the 1980 comprehensive plan and in every such plan thereafter—in 1993, 2007 and 2019—and also in the 1989 affordable housing committee report.

The source of disagreement, now and in the past, is not over whether Cape would benefit from a more diverse housing and demographic mix. The disagreement is over how to get us there.

And always the question is: is the problem a high enough priority to spur action? Lynch believes a key to make progress on this issue is having a champion on the Town Council.

Q. What’s the three-part report about? Is it a response to the Dunham Court controversy?

A.No, it’s not a response to that controversy, though its timing might have accelerated a bit due to it.

The Town Council commissioned Camoin Associates of Saratoga Springs, New York to study issues related to housing diversity in response to a recommendation in the town’s 2019 comprehensive plan. The intent of the report is to inform discussions and recommendations of the recently formed Ad Hoc Housing Diversity Committee, about which more is included later in this article.

All three parts of the report are now on the town’s website (<https://www.capeelizabeth.com/news/post/4263/>). The Town Council, which has already heard presentations from the consultant about the first two parts, heard a presentation about the third part on Wednesday, September 7 (which has already happened by the time this article appears). Recordings of all these meetings are available at links on the same web page.

According to Town Planner Maureen

O’Meara, the Town Council has been impressed by the quality and clarity of the reports. Dill, Reiniger, Garvin, Lynch and Justh agree with that assessment. “It’s a meaty report” Justh said.

Q. What are some of the takeaways from the report?

A.The three parts of the report together total almost 120 information-dense slides, and it would behoove readers to look at the report themselves and determine your own takeaways.The first report is largely a description of the town’s housing stock and demographics, and an analysis of the town’s zoning code. The second report explains the importance of setting a diversity and affordable housing goal; it offers and illustrates a continuum of possible goals. The third report describes a variety of housing types that might be part of a diversification and affordability solution; explains how the town’s current zoning rules impact the feasibility of those solutions; and reflects on a key challenge: the scarcity of remaining buildable lots in town. In the words of the report, “there is an extremely limited supply of potentially developable land for housing...time is short to create attainable housing before the town is effectively built out.”

Other takeaways: “Current town zoning regulations have restrictive density requirements that are generally prohibitive for... workforce or affordable housing.”

There is a “missing middle” in Cape Elizabeth’s population distribution. Our age 25-44 age group is significantly smaller as a proportion of our population than in the county, state, and nation, likely due to high home prices.

The median age in Cape Elizabeth is five years older than Cumberland County and ten years older than the nation.

About 30% of Cape residents are housing cost-burdened, meaning they pay more than 30% of their income for housing costs. On the positive side, however, low interest rates and the likelihood that some Cape residents have managed to pay off their mortgages in recent years means that the share of cost-burdened families among households earning less than \$50,000 has actually declined since 2010.

While Cape Elizabeth has long articulated a desire for greater housing diversity and affordability, the town has never set a specific goal for such development. Setting a goal is a critical catalyst to action in communities facing similar diversification and affordability problems.

The gap between median income and median home price has increased more in Cape

Elizabeth since 2010 than in every other community in Cumberland County.

Because Cape Elizabeth is mostly a “built-out community,” making a meaningful impact on housing diversity and affordability may require considering permitting greater density development than Cape is used to and/or rezoning some land nearest to infrastructure, such as sewers and roads, to increase the number of potential developable lots.

“Overall, it is expected that the Town will need to make additional changes to land use regulation beyond those mandated by [newly passed state law] L.D. 2003,” which will be discussed below, “to meet a meaningful affordable housing creation goal.”

Q. What is the task of the Ad Hoc Committee on Housing Diversity?

A.The committee is also a response to a comprehensive plan recommendation. The committee is charged with looking at the diversity study, gathering community input, and talking to experts before making recommendations to the Town Council for policy changes to encourage more diverse and affordable housing. In order to ensure the committee is looking at the issue with fresh eyes, the Council hired a consultant group, K&J Strategic Solutions of Arlington, Virginia, to work with the committee, rather than the Town Planner or other municipal staff who would typically staff such an effort.

The Council has approved six of the seven committee members: Stephanie Anderson, Kevin Justh, Amit Oza, Katie Reeves, Tim Thompson and Victoria Volent. By the time this article appears, Town Manager Matt Sturgis expects that the seventh member of the committee will be on board as well. The committee will begin meeting in September and is charged to make recommendations to the Council by September 2023. Among other things, according to Town Planner Maureen O’Meara, the council will look closely at any recommendation that may come from the committee about a specific goal to be set and policy changes and other strategies to attain that goal.

Q. Why didn’t the Town do policy review and goal-setting regarding these issues before tackling the Dunham Court proposal?

Jamie Garvin, the Town Council chair at the time the Dunham Court proposal was being considered, wished at the time and still in retrospect that that had been the sequence of events. It is always preferable to have planning pieces in place before dealing with big issues, he says.

Town Councils do not, however, control when development proposals are submitted.

While perhaps not the ideal sequence of events, both Garvin and Mary Ann Lynch are proud of the quality and depth of attention and study given to the Dunham Court proposal. Both the Planning Board and Town Council held months of meetings, including hearing from experts and the public.

According to Garvin, based on all that input, the Town Council adopted “narrowly tailored” ordinance changes affecting the TC (Town Center) district, the smallest zoning district in town (1.2% of the town by area), yet because of its centrality, perhaps the most important in terms of representing the town’s character.

In the normal sequence of events, the Planning Board would have typically held additional months of hearings and meetings, including gathering additional community input, after the ordinance amendments passed, based on the submission of the developer’s completed formal application. That did not happen in this case, because the developer chose not to go forward with a formal application after the successful referendum petition drive effectively put the ordinance amendments on hold.



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CEHS football season preview

By Kevin St. Jarre

Coach Sean Green has been at the helm of the Cape Elizabeth High School football program for four years, and last year he, his staff, and the players went 10-1 and rolled over Winslow 53-8 to capture the Class C Maine high school football championship.

Coach Green said his returning seniors and their likely positions are Nick Laughlin WR/FS, Luke Mello TE/OLB, James Rickman RB/DE, Owen Tighe TE, OLB, Aidan Quinn OT/DT and Ian Giacobazzi WR/CB. A new senior has joined the team, and that's Gio Zanovello OT, NT.

A few CEHS home games fans might find especially exciting to watch are Sept. 16 against Falmouth at 7 p.m., Oct. 1 vs Westbrook at 1 p.m., Oct. 14 against York 7 p.m. and Oct. 21 vs Cheverus, kicking off at 7 p.m..

Generally Green had this to say about the coming season and his team, "We are a talented team with good experience. Our expectations are high. We are excited to see the 2022 team form their own identity and come together as a family. Our four captains are Nick Laughlin, Luke Mello, James Rickman and Owen Tighe. They have been great leaders that have done a good job of maintaining a standard and expectation of excel-

lence in our program. Our offensive line is led by returning juniors Jake Liess and Brendan Guthrie, two very football-smart and physical players. Our backfield is led by James Rickman and junior Ceroi Mello- both have variety experience and bring unique skills to the table. At wide receiver and tight end we have an explosive and versatile group led by Nick Laughlin, Luke Mello and Owen Tighe. We expect first year receiver Tom Hennessey to make some big plays as well. At quarterback we have junior Mike Foley. Mike is a dual-threat player with a big arm and the ability to run with violence. Defensively, we return a good group of players. Our defensive line will be anchored by returning seniors James Rickman and Aidan Quinn, and Junior Brendan Guthrie who will also see time at inside linebacker. Our inside and outside linebacker unit is experienced with returning players Luke Mello, Jake Liess and Mike Foley. In the secondary, we return All-State Safety Nick Laughlin. Ceroi Mello will be making the transition from linebacker to strong safety this season. At the cornerback position we will have a talented rotation with Tom Hennessey, Logan McVeigh, Ian Giacobazzi and Brady Inman."

CEHS cross country outlook

By Kevin St. Jarre

According to Coach Andrew Lupien, this year's cross country teams are state meet hopefuls.

For the boys, the top returning runners are Sebastian Hesser (11th grade), Finn Morris (11th grade), Thijs Gilda (12th grade), Ben Colello (12th grade) and Simon Shykbrown (11th grade) and they have added some speedy freshmen in Liam Nudd and Aidan Morris.

"The boys lost four of their top five boys to graduation, but they still have a strong core. Sebastian Hesser will lead a strong group of 11th and 12th graders who have grown a lot over the last 18 months. Freshmen Liam Nudd and Aidan Morris should add depth to this strong core. The boys' team will look to get back to the state meet, and hope to make some noise by the end of the season," Lupien said.

For the girls, the returning runners are

Hadley Mahoney (11th grade), Emma Young (11th grade), Charlotte DeGeorge (12th grade), Lydia Branson (12th grade), Ainsley Fremont (12th grade) and Maddie McEvoy (11th grade). Newcomers to the roster include Ellie Mainville (11th grade), Jane Curtis (10th grade), Avery Palmore (9th grade) and Addison Young (9th grade). The Youngs are sisters.

"The girls return a bulk of their top from last season, including state champion Hadley Mahoney. Hadley and Emma Young had strong spring track seasons and look to carry that over to this fall. Charlotte DeGeorge, Lydia Branson, Ainsley Fremont and Maddie McEvoy bring talent, experience and leadership. Newcomers Ellie Mainville and Jane Curtis and 9th graders Avery Palmore and Addison Young should add depth to this team. If things break right, this team should be one of the better teams in Class B," Lupien said.



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Capetoon: Snark at the beach

By Jeff Mandell



CEHS student James Baldwin goes on CIEE exchange to Denmark

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

Through a CIEE program, James Baldwin traveled to Copenhagen for three weeks, learned about climate change and activism, and made new friends as well. He is seated in the center of the photo, at the back of the table, for dinner at the study center.

The Council on International Educational Exchange is a non-profit organization promoting international education and exchange. A student at Cape Elizabeth High School, James Baldwin, participated in an exchange trip to Copenhagen, Denmark this summer.

Baldwin said he learned of the program after doing research last winter, and wishes more people knew about CIEE. When he began his application, he said it was relatively easy and it didn't feel competitive.

The application consists of several forms that must be filled out, he said, and most of the forms are what one would expect such as emergency contact info, vaccination status and proof, a student contact form and a payment form. "Some of the forms centered around telling CIEE who you are, your interests, why you chose the program and your goals and expectations for it. The final form was an optional scholarship form, this was a form for those who may need financial assistance since the program was expensive," Baldwin said.

The instructor for the program was a prominent Danish climate activist, Esther Michelsen Kjeldahl. "I really liked that the person teaching us about climate change policy and advocacy was a climate activist," Baldwin said, "[I]t was really great. It was my first time traveling to Europe, so I didn't know what to expect, but I was blown away. The people running the program really made it smooth and easy... The people on the program were also

great, and I made several good friends over the program who live across the country. I was also blown away by the city of Copenhagen, not only was it full of interesting things to do, but it also had a lot of pedestrians and bike-friendly infrastructure which I liked. It was really an all-around amazing experience. But that's all really just the start of things."

There were approximately 40 people in his cohort, and they were there for three weeks, plus the two travel days. During those weeks, Baldwin said they learned about "...climate change policy and advocacy. During the program, our session was split in half. On a usual day, one half would have a class in the morning, about 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and the other half would have an afternoon class, about 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. We learned about several different things: we learned about climate change policy and its history in Denmark and how advocacy played a role, and we learned about different forms of activism. We also learned about different solutions. We really learned about most sides and aspects of policy and advocacy, with a moderate focus on Danish climate policy and advocacy."

Since only half of each day was spent in class, the other portion of the day could be spent taking in the surroundings. Baldwin said, "We also typically would do an outing where we would go to someplace that was related to what we were studying, or that was significant

-see EXCHANGE STUDENT page 14

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TIME TO WEAR SOME PINK!!

Cape Elizabeth Girls Soccer needs your help supporting Maine Cancer Foundation.



Cheer on the Capers Friday Oct 7 as they take on Greely JV @ 5pm and Varsity @ 7 Hannaford Field, CEHS

Enjoy a warm home cooked meal from the concession stand and delicious baked goods for dessert.

In addition to our 50/50 raffle, CEGS is donating 50% of concession sales to Maine Cancer Foundation

Local birding report

By E. Brooks Bornhafft

Every two to four years the tin horn-like notes of a particular little songbird fill our forests. Less common of the two nuthatches that breed in Cape, the exceedingly active, Red-breasted Nuthatch is a scrappy little bird that gleans its way up and down tree trunks and branches searching for arachnids and insects.

Red-breasted Nuthatches have a black cap that fades to a bluish gloss, a white stripe above the eye, a black stripe through the eye and an underbelly that is a brilliant rusty-cinnamon. Of note, there is little difference in appearance between male and female nuthatches.

One key thing to commit to memory is the variation in pitches between the White and Red-breasted Nuthatch's songs. The Red-breasted has a higher pitched, more nasally call than the White-breasted. Interestingly, unlike other birds of the nuthatch clan, the Red-breasted uses its soft musical song to woo females during courtship. While both bird's flight is undulating, the Red-breasted's overall appearance is smaller and despite a short tail, seems to turn readily while pursuing insects in the air.

Such was the case on the afternoon of September 11 when I spied two Red-breasted Nuthatches hawking insects over the Pond Cove Brook Corridor. Earlier that same day I watched a Red-breasted wedge a sunflower seed into a bark crevice then hack the seed into smaller pieces with its sturdy little bill. This distinctive habit is called "hatching" and gives the birds in this family the name "nuthatch."

Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers have been steadily increasing since late July across Southern Maine. Departing from their northern cone-bearing forests where they primarily breed, this "irruption" as it is called, is likely due in part to the hot dry summer experienced in the boreal forests and subsequent poor seed crop. Fortunately, this bird's population has increased throughout most of its northern range between 1966 and 2019 according to the North American Breeding Bird survey.

Other mentionables from the field include on September 6 Spurwink Marsh along Sawyer Road - while watching a Northern Harrier weave back and forth across the salt marshes I heard the shrill scream of a Red-shouldered Hawk calling aways off in a stand off old pines beyond the Pannes.

The call from this forest raptor is two notes, with a second note descending in pitch while a Red-tailed Hawk's call is only one note and is most often given while the bird is soaring, and rarely while perched. Just before dark I caught a glimpse of a Common Nighthawk roam-

ing the skies over the treetops above our house and seconds later, I heard what sounded at first like a muffled foghorn, but which I shortly determined to be a Great-horned Owl at significant distance.

Additionally, on September 10 I recorded seeing a single Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Swamp Sparrow and American Redstart along the Great Pond Boardwalk and on the same day three Black-and-White Warblers, a single American Woodcock and singing Common Yellowthroat along Gull Crest.

Lastly, on September 11 in Robinson Woods III, I noted a total of twelve Red-breasted Nuthatches, six Cedar Waxwings, a Belted Kingfisher fishing and four young Wood Ducks, their bright red eyes and red and white bills illuminated by last rays of the setting sun.

Friends' news and notes



Photo by Amy Witt

Starting on September 28, the Friends' birding group will reconvene on Wednesday mornings at 7:00 a.m in front of the Portland Head Light. Check the Friends' website (www.fortwilliams.org) or Facebook page (@FriendsofFortWilliamsPark) for more information. Pictured above, a cedar waxwing preening its feathers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD WINNING AGENTS FOR THEIR HONORABLE DISTINCTIONS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2022

Vicki Kennedy



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Dr. Marta Agrodnia, DVM, DACVS

Library offers programs on bird migration, climate policy

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN:

For more information and to register for all library events, visit our online events calendar at the following link: <https://www.thomasmemoriallibrary.org/events>.

Character of the Month

Stop by the children's room to celebrate Zoey & Sassafras and complete fun activities and a scavenger hunt throughout September. And get ready for some mischievous fun in October when Bad Kitty takes over!

Read To a Dog

Children in grades K – 6, especially struggling or less-than-confident readers, are invited to sign up for 15-minute time slots to read with a certified therapy dog. Check out the sign-up sheet in the children's room for appointment availability and to "meet" our dogs, or call the children's room for more information.

Weekly Programs

Art Adventures

Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

Join Kiah for an art activity to kick off your week. For ages 2-5.

Dress Up and Dance

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Join us for 30 minutes of moving and grooving to our favorite playlist, special dress-up costumes, and everybody's favorite bubble song. For ages 2-5.

Family Story Time

Fun for ages 2 - 5

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Join us in the children's garden for songs and stories, bubbles and Belinda the Bear!

Special Programs

Book Swap and Little Free Library Celebration

Tuesday, September 27, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Bring your gently used books to swap with friends, and fill up our brand new Little Free Libraries, made possible by the TML Foundation. We have two on the library campus and invite you to celebrate their grand opening with us. Bring some books to swap, browse for your next read and enjoy some treats.

Middle School Book Club

Last Friday of each month, 2:45-3:45 p.m. September 30

Reserve a copy of "Amari and the Night Brothers," by B.B. Alston and register to join TML's Middle School Book Club, The Last Pineapples on Earth, by emailing Family Engagement Librarian Megan Smith at msmith@thomas.lib.me.us

#LibrarySquad

First Friday of each Month, 2:45-3:45 p.m. October 7

Library Squad is a community of library-loving middle schoolers that meets monthly, and whose opinions, ideas, and help form the foundation of our programming. Library Squad meets after school on the first Monday of each month from 2:45 - 3:45 p.m. at the library.

The purpose of Library Squad is to talk about and share ideas. Librarians come to every meeting with a list of things to ask members about. Members answer questions about what's going on in the schools and about current trends. They share what they and their peers are reading. They recommend reading program prizes and what snacks to offer and help vet activities for upcoming programs. Members offer their ideas and opinions, help us make things happen at the library and most of all have fun. To be an active member of the Library Squad, we ask that you commit to attending at least three monthly meetings. When you do, you will earn a LIMITED EDITION Library Squad t-shirt!

Crafternoon Club

Thursdays 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Drop-in for social time and a creative activity, for ages 10 - 13.

September: 22 Yarn Painting

29 Kawaii Banana Charm

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

For more information and to register for all library events, visit our online events calendar at the following link: <https://www.thomasmemoriallibrary.org/events/>.

Cape Elizabeth Garden Club Presents:

Another Day, Another Dahlia

Thursday, October 13, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in person at the library

Join Cape Elizabeth Garden Club as they present this month's speakers, Suzanne Bushnell of the Harpswell Garden Club and Judy

Stallworth of the Bath Garden Club. As experienced dahlia growers, Suzanne and Judy will discuss storing and dividing your dahlias and will bring potted dahlias as well. If you're tired of being a day late and a dahlia short, be sure to join us for this informative presentation. All are welcome.

Breaking Bread: Essays on New England Food, Hunger, and Family

A Reading with authors Lily King, Kevin St. Jarre, Reza Jalali, Phuc Tran, Elizabeth Peavey, & Susan Conley and editor Deborah Joy Corey

Thursday, September 22

6:30 - 8:00 p.m., in person at the library and streamed simultaneously via Zoom

"Breaking Bread: Essays on New England Food, Hunger, and Family" is a new anthology featuring Nearly 70 renowned New England writers writing about food and how it sustains us—mind, body and soul. A collection of essays by top literary talents and food writers, Breaking Bread celebrates local foods, family and community while exploring how what's on our plates engages with what's off: grief, pleasure, love, ethics, race, and class. For this special event, we'll be joined by six of the authors, as well as the anthology's editor, as they read and discuss their work. All are welcome.

Should I Stay or Should I Go Now: Maine Migrations, with the Center for Wildlife

Tuesday, September 27, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Ever wonder where all those birds are headed in the fall? Many travel thousands of miles over the course of the year. Right here in Maine, we have a wide variety of species that only join us for portions of the year. Join Center for Wildlife educators and ambassador animals to learn more about our regional migratory species and the amazing journeys they make. Register for this program on the library's website.

Burnt Into Memory: An Evening of Maine Storytelling with Jo Radner

Thursday, September 29

6:30 - 8:00 p.m., in person at the library

Some Mainers still remember – in fact, cannot forget – October of 1947, when, after a season of terrible drought, wildfires burned all over the state. Brownfield was one of the worst-hit areas: 80% of the town, including all churches, schools, post offices, and other public buildings, was completely destroyed in the space of a few hours. Lovell storyteller Jo Radner spent a year interviewing people who experienced the Brownfield Fire – residents who did and did not lose their homes,

as well as others who aided in the rescue and rebuilding effort. From those interviews and from letters and historical photographs and newspaper reports, Radner has created a powerful story of terror, courage, neighborly responsibility, recovery, and – yes – even humor. All are welcome.

Climate Interventions Workshop, with EN-ROADS Climate Ambassador Peter Dugas

Tuesday, October 4

6:30 - 8:00 p.m., in person at the library and streamed simultaneously via Zoom

Join us for an engaging and interactive Climate Policy Workshop and explore effective and equitable solutions to the climate crisis. Peter Dugas, EN-ROADS Climate Ambassador and Citizens' Climate Lobby Maine State Coordinator and Liaison to Senator Angus King, will facilitate using MIT's EN-ROADS Climate Simulator to explore policy options, discuss regional, national and international efforts and lead a discussion on what each of us can do to ensure a safe and livable future for all. All are welcome.

Pod Complex: A TML Podcast Listening Club

First Thursday of the month, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting: October 6 via Zoom

Love the idea of a book club, but don't have the time for all that reading? Addicted to podcasts, but wish you had someone to discuss your favorite episodes with? Join us for Pod Complex. Each month we'll feature a different podcast to listen to and dissect together. We'll explore a wide variety of podcasts on all different topics, in all different styles and then turn a critical eye on them as we discuss each month's fresh selection. Listen on your own time at home, or join us for the first hour as we listen together, with a lively discussion to follow in the second hour. Register for this program on the library's website.

ONGOING VIRTUAL PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Daily Fika (Coffee Break)

Wednesdays-Saturdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Guerilla Poetry Whoop

Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Next meeting: October 13

E-ldering Conversation Group

Wednesdays, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

-see LIBRARY page 15

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License plate stolen, bank fraud reported

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 8-21 An officer met with a resident from New Jersey who wanted to report damage done to his car while parked at Fort Williams.
- 8-22 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area regarding the theft of furniture. A relative later accounted for the property.
- 8-24 Two officers responded to a residence in the Spurwink Road area for a domestic disturbance.
- 8-25 Two officers responded to a residence in the Wells Road area for a domestic disturbance.
- 8-25 An officer spoke with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area regarding the theft of a license plate.
- 8-26 An officer spoke with a resident of the Shore Road area who was purchasing a house and was told to wire money to the bank handling the loan, but resident received an apparently hacked email from the title company instructing the resident to wire the money instead to what later turned out to be a fraudulent account.
- 8-29 An officer responded to a residence in the Scott Dyer Road area for an assault complaint.
- 8-29 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area regarding a trespass complaint.
- 8-31 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area regarding a domestic situation.
- 9-1 Two officers responded to a residence in the Wells Road area for a domestic disturbance.

SUMMONSES

- 8-23 South Portland resident, operating with

- expired license, Shore Road
- 8-26 Portland resident, seatbelt violation, Route 77, \$85
- 8-27 Yarmouth resident, speeding (50/30 zone), Shore Road, \$230
- 9-2 Florida resident, operating without a license, Ocean House Road
- 9-2 Portland resident, violation of learner's permit, Route 77

JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 8-25 Cape Elizabeth resident, assault

ACCIDENTS

- 8-24 Alfred Larrabee, Wanda McLaughlin, accident at Cape Elizabeth Middle School
- 8-26 Tim Riley, accident with falling tree, McAuley Road

FIRE CALLS

Fire calls: 19; EMS calls: 35

Judy's Pantry- a community feeding itself

Please note that our hours of operation have changed.

We are now operating a curbside distribution at the Cape Elizabeth Methodist Church on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 3-5 p.m.

Prior registration is necessary. Please contact Beth Owens: bethowens1@gmail.com.

Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

Employment Scams

When it comes to the labor market, the supply of jobs is outpacing demand but that doesn't mean that employment scams have gone away. With many workers looking for a side hustle to help make ends meet, there are still enough potential victims to fuel these schemes.

Here's what you need to know to avoid employment scams. Beware of any job postings that offer a large income with little to no training or experience. Business offers that are guaranteed to "pay off quickly" or "double your investment" are also highly suspicious. Lastly, avoid any job offer which requires you to pay in advance for certification, training or materials.

Many of these employment scams are advertised as "work from home," which is particularly dangerous with so many people looking for this option. Before accepting any work from home position, research the company to ensure it is legitimate.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all. Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call our dedicated helpline to speak

to a fraud specialist at 1-877-908-3360.

Weight Loss Scams

No matter the season, plenty of us are looking to slim down, and scammers hope to pack their pocketbooks while we all try to unpack the pounds. In 2021, according to the Federal Trade Commission, bogus diet products and programs accounted for nearly 30% of all complaints in the category of health care scams.

Here's how they work. A web search on weight loss pulls up legitimate-looking websites often with supposed celebrity endorsements. The websites often encourage you to sign up for a free trial — which, if you read the tiny print, opts you in to getting charged for regular orders or additional products. In truth, the products themselves, often marketed as "natural" or "organic," may actually be unsafe for your body.

Be wary of offers that promise "fast results" or "miracle" products. If you find a product of interest that claims to help you slim down, seek advice from your trustworthy sources, such as your doctor or a dietitian. It is unwise to rely solely on the claims made in a product's advertisements.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

FCC hosting fraud prevention program

The First Congregational Church UCC in South Portland is hosting a free fraud prevention program via Zoom with the AARP on Sunday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m.

The presentation will cover all the common current scams - gifts cards, phishing emails, relative in trouble and more. AARP has many resources to help

people recognize scams, but they also have programs available for those already victimized.

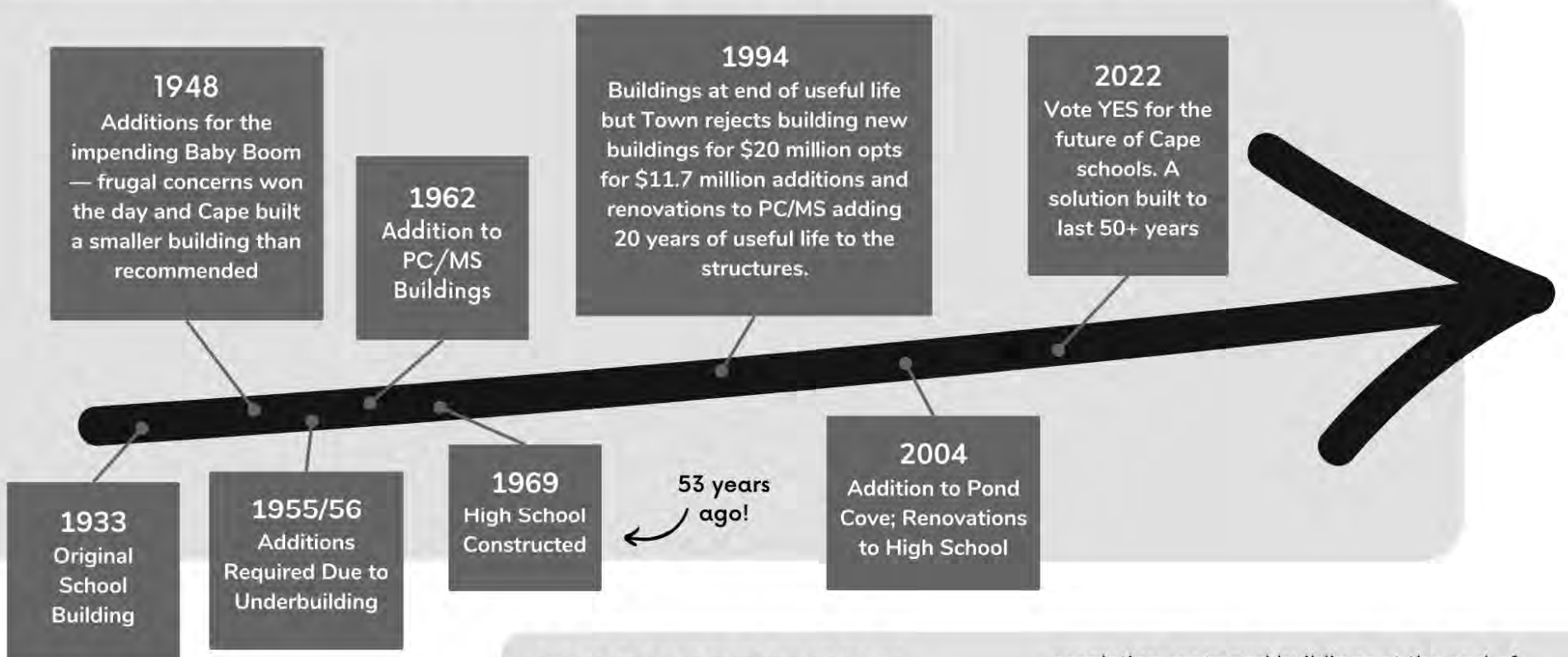
Registration is required. Register by September 23 to receive a zoom link for the program. There will be a question and answer session after the program. Call FCCUCC for more information if needed at 207-799-3361.



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*Renovation and valuation numbers are from 2020.

CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

Please see the town website, www.capeelizabeth.com for meeting locations

Instructions for joining videoconference meetings listed below will be posted on the town website, www.capeelizabeth.com.

Thursday, September 22

Thomas Memorial Library Committee, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 27

School Board Workshop, Cape Elizabeth High School Library, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 29

School Board Bldg Oversight Committee, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4

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

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.

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

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 Tuesday, 7 p.m., Community Center

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

Codependents Anonymous (CODA) group at Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church. Regular meeting weekly on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. Call 799-4599 FMI.

CABLE GUIDE

Subject to change. Please see cetv.capeelizabeth.org for latest program guide and video on demand.

Board of Zoning Appeals -
Sept. 27 - 7 p.m.

CETV CHANNEL 1302

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

Oct. 1, Oct. 2, Sept. 24, Sept. 25 - 9 a.m.

Exchange student

Continued from page 10

to climate change; sometimes we would go to monuments that were historically significant but not really related to climate change. We also got free time, where we, and a buddy, could go and do what we wanted within reason. You couldn't go buy a beer or something, and you couldn't take the metro during free time...a few times, we went on extended field trips, usually to specific places in or around the city, and we did go on an overnight trip to a small Danish island, Samsø."

Baldwin said he came away with an increased understanding of the topic of climate change and its potential solutions. He said, "I also came away with a new understanding of different policy solutions, and ways to both advocate for them, and for general increased awareness of the climate crisis. And more broadly, I feel I came away from the program with not only more knowledge, but also

a fuller person, I got the chance to not only experience a new culture but get used to one. Something else I unexpectedly came away with was increased confidence, I'm not sure if it was traveling to Europe for the first time, or having to make new friends from scratch, but I am definitely a bit more confident since that trip."

There was also a bit of a surprise for Baldwin. "Something I was not expecting to come away from the program with was a new love for the way Europe designs its cities around pedestrians, bikes, and public transit, not the car. I was already forming views that public transit and walking and biking were better forms of travel, but experiencing those when they are well designed, well-funded and well thought out is something else. During those three weeks, I didn't so much as touch a car, and during that time I felt much less stressed and generally happier. I was happier partly due to walking and taking the metro everywhere," he said.

SERVICES

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

499 Ocean House Road (Route 77)
747-1113

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

Sanctuary Service: 10 a.m.

In-person Sunday services 10 a.m. with masks. For Zoom services, call 799-8396

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

29 Ocean House Road
799-4321

Sacrament Meeting:

Sunday, 10 - 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School/Primary: 11:10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Church of the Second Chance

Greater Portland Christian School
1338 Broadway, South Portland
641-3253

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Church of the Holy Spirit

1047 Congress Street, Portland
874-9779

www.HolySpiritPortland.org

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Adult Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School for children: 10:00 a.m.

Services streamed live on Facebook

Potluck dinner every third Sunday

Congregation Bet Ha'am

81 Westbrook St., South Portland
879-0028

www.bethaam.org

Worship: Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.

Family Shabbat Services:

Second Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Hope Community Church

879 Sawyer Street South Portland
799-4565

www.hopesopo.com

www.facebook.com/hopesopo

Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.
Kid's Church for ages 4 through grade 5
Service videos available on our website

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

Sunday Services:

Rite 1 with Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.

Rite 2 with Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.

Live Streaming on YouTube (stalban-schannel)

Children's Programs 9:30 a.m.

Celtic Eventide 5:30 p.m.

Room for all

St John Paul II Parish

St Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church

8 Two Lights Road

207-883-0443

JP2me@portlanddiocese.org

Website: www.JP2me.org

Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.

Monday Mass: 8 a.m.

First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

301 Cottage Road, South Portland

799-3361

www.fccucc.org

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Child Care: 10:00 a.m.

Game Room

First Congregational Church of Scarborough

167 Black Point Road, Scarborough

883-2342

www.fccscarborough.com

Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Nursery Care



FCC to host public dinner Sept. 21

The First Congregational Church of Scarborough will offer its 6th annual public dinner catered by Moe's Original Bar-B-Q on Wednesday, Sept. 21 starting at 5:00 p.m. at 167 Black Point Road in Scarborough.

This year's event will be held, rain or shine, on an all take-out basis; there will be no inside dining. Vehicles will be directed inside the church parking lot. Payment will be made in cash only and cost will be \$14 for all meals.

Meals will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until food runs out. The meal will include pulled pork and BBQ sauce, baked beans, potato salad, cucumber/tomato salad and cornbread.

The meals will all be the same and will be boxed by church members who will adhere to all food handling and sanitary precautions.

The dinner is a fundraiser sponsored by the church's Men's Fellowship.

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Piano lessons for all ages. Beginners through advanced. Sandi Palmquist: 329-8345.

FOR SALE

Enjoy Cape Elizabeth photo note cards by naturalist Martha Agan magan@maine.rr.com. Card assortments available at Ocean House Gallery near the library parking area.

Library

Continued from page 12

Songwriting Workshop (with Jud Caswell)

First Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Next meeting: October 4

Adult Book Group

Third Thursday of the month, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Next meeting: October 20
September book: "Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion," by Gregory Boyle

Big Little Lit Book Group

Third Wednesday of the month, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Next meeting: September 21
September books: "Wolf Hollow" and "Those Who Favor Fire," both by Lauren Wolk

Got a story to share? Email us!



editor@capecourier.com

you know what they say about apples...

hot apple pie with cinnamon ice cream, macintosh apple martinis, apple pie salad, butternut squash and apple galette, caramel apple belgium waffle...



the good table restaurant

Route 77, Cape Elizabeth 799-4663

www.thegoodtablerestaurant.com

CELT's October programs

Please register for the following programs through Cape Elizabeth Community Services <http://www.capecommunityservices.org/>. For any questions contact CELT 767-6054.

CELT's Cross Town Walk

Participants registering in advance of the program will ensure they will receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Join CELT staff and volunteers for the annual Fall Cross Town Walk. Beginning at Portland Head Light, located at Fort Williams, this CELT sponsored walk will traverse over seven miles of both town of Cape Elizabeth and CELT trails highlighting Cape's great places. The walk takes approximately three and one half hours. Hikers will meet at the Portland Head Light and will carpool (arranged prior to walk) back to Fort Williams after a picnic at Kettle Cove that each participant brings for her/himself. Snacks, drinks and lunch should be brought by each participant. Participants should be 12 years or older; please call about younger ages.

Date: Saturday, October 1, 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: Meet at Portland Headlight in the dirt parking lot closest to the lighthouse.

Cost: \$10 per person

In the Thick of It; CELT New England Cottontails program

Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust educators for a 1.5 hour CELT sponsored walk at Runaway Farm on Sunday October 13 from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Participants of this Cape Elizabeth Land Trust sponsored event will enjoy learning about the state-endangered New England Cottontail, the conservation effort taking place to recover the species here in southern Maine, and what you can do to help!

Cape Elizabeth is home to the largest known population of New England cottontails in Maine. The cottontails' range has declined by 86% over the past 50 years due to loss of large thicket and young forest habitats. Come learn about where they live, what other animals also need these thickets and what we are doing to help cottontails rebound in

Maine. All proceeds go to CELT.

Date: Sunday, October 2, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Runaway Farm. Meet at the parking lot by the soccer fields at Gull Crest (1 Gull Crest Drive).

Cost: \$6 per person

CELT's LITTLE EXPLORERS (ages 3-5 yrs with an Adult)

Join CELT educators as we explore Robinson Woods. Children and caregivers will spend an hour exploring the natural wonders of Maine with CELT Board Member Lisa Gent. During this CELT sponsored event we'll take a gentle hike through Robinson Woods where we will explore the habitat around us and search for signs of the changing season. Please dress in comfortable clothes and bring a water bottle.

Date: Friday, October 7, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Robinson Woods Kiosk off Shore Road

Cost: \$6 per parent and child, each additional child \$3



New Schools for Cape
A Community Investment

New School Design Workshops - Share Your Thoughts!

October 3
4:30 - 6:30 pm

November 3
6:00 - 7:30 pm

CEMS/Pond Cove Cafetorium



Bring your questions and ideas:

- Join staff-led tours of Pond Cove Elementary and Cape Elizabeth Middle School
- Learn about the school building project
- Speak with the engineers and architects

Find out more at cebuildingproject.com



Feels like coming home

My family and I have been residents of Cape Elizabeth since 1980 and we have enjoyed everything that Cape Elizabeth has to offer:

Excellent schools, Fort Williams Park (home to the most photographed lighthouse in the country), Crescent Beach State Park, Kettle Cove, large agricultural farms, fresh lobsters sold year round and so much more!

My career spans over 38+ years and to be at RE/MAX Oceanside is truly like coming home.

Cindy Landrigan
Broker

RE/MAX Oceanside
1237 Shore Road
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107
(C) 207-831-9084
(O) 207-799-7600

cynthialandrigan@remax.net



RE/MAX OCEANSIDE



Learn More About the Next Generation of Cape Schools

Why do our schools require a significant investment?

After nearly 90 years of expansion, renovation, maintenance, and use, the PCES and CEMS buildings are in need of replacement, and CEHS is in need of renovations to extend its useful life for approximately 15 more years. During the last significant renovation of PCES and CEMS in 1993, rebuilding was recommended (at roughly \$20 million), but the School Board ultimately decided to save money and renovate at \$11.7 million instead. That renovation was intended to extend the life of the buildings for another 20 years. It has been 28 years since that project, and it's time to invest in the next generation of Cape Elizabeth schools.

What is the School Board recommending?

The School Board began studying this challenge in 2017, conducted a Needs Assessment in 2019, and on December 15, 2020, the School Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation of the Building Committee to replace the PC/CEMS buildings and renovate the high school. After an initial schematic design returned a project of \$126 million, the School Board convened to evaluate opportunities for savings, leading to the current proposal of \$116 million.

Why is the School Board proposing rebuilding over renovation?

The PC/CEMS buildings have already been renovated at least six times during their 90-year lifespan. Estimates provided in 2020 showed the cost of another renovation would be approximately 75% of the cost of new construction, would only extend the life of the buildings by 20 years, and could not solve many of the underlying issues with the current buildings, including:

- **Layout:** Due to the extent of renovation required, the building would be brought down to its foundation (which is cracked in places) and built back up. This means the existing layout would stay the same, along with its sprawling energy-inefficient design and long travel distances for students (it's estimated the new building would allow students 2.5 more days of instructional time simply by reducing the time required to travel around the building).
- **Classroom Size:** The inability to change the layout of the building would mean preserving its already too-small classrooms (avg. 729 sq. ft., below the state recommendations of 800 sq. ft.) as well as its lack of storage and meeting spaces for teacher collaboration or parent meetings. Similarly, there would still not be enough square footage to replace services currently being delivered in borrowed supply closets, split classrooms, and hallways.
- **Energy Efficiency:** The building footprint and slab could not be changed, and the slab does not meet current efficiency standards, resulting in greater energy costs than a new build.

Renovations would also require our students and staff to be in a temporary campus of portable buildings for several years. Space for those buildings would require repurposing athletic fields and open outdoor play areas. Temporary infrastructure costs are not eligible for bond financing and would have to be paid through annual operating budgets, and the years-long disruption would impact students who have already been displaced academically by the pandemic.

Is state funding available for this project?

Maine does provide assistance for major capital school construction projects, but the state has not accepted new applicants for funding since 2017-18. There are 74 applicants on the list that were considered high-priority and five projects have been approved for funding. Cape has received assistance with health and safety upgrades to our current facilities through the Maine School Revolving Renovation Fund, and those upgrades, including HVAC improvements and a new phone system, can be transferred to the new buildings.

Where can I learn more about this project?

To learn more about this project, please attend a public tour or design workshop. Printed copies of the Needs Assessment, Concept Design and Renovation vs. Rebuilding Report are available at the Thomas Memorial Library or the School Department Office at Town Hall. You can also visit the project website at cebuildingproject.com or call the School Department Office at 207-799-2217 with questions.

Upcoming Tours and Events

Public Tours
Saturday, October 1
9a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Pond Cove/CEMS Cafetorium

Design Workshop and Tour
Monday, October 3
4:30 - 6:30 pm
Pond Cove/CEMS Cafetorium

Design Workshop and Tour
Thursday, November 3
6:00 - 7:30 pm
Pond Cove/CEMS Cafetorium