

The Cape Courier

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In the Spirit of Community

CCAG opens ice rink at Gull Crest Mr. Woodsum, un-retired 25 years ago, turning 90 years old

By Marta Girouard



Photo by Ang Foley

Skaters of all ages enjoying the new ice rink at Gull Crest, which opened on January 6.

Skaters took to the ice on January 6 in Cape Elizabeth for the first public open skate on the new ice rink at Gull Crest. The temporary rink is part of a multi-phase plan started by the Cape Community Arena Group (CCAG), a 501c3 all volunteer charitable organization.

CCAG was formed in the winter of 2020-2021 by a group of Cape Elizabeth residents who approached Town Manager Matt Sturgis about installing a community-scale unrefrigerated ice rink. In partnership with the town, Town Hall was selected as the rink location and the group raised money, installed and maintained the rink with the support of the Cape Elizabeth Fire Department and Public Works.

For the 2021-22 winter season, CCAG focused on improving the backyard-style rink. They also received approval from the Planning Board in August 2022 and the Town Council in September 2022 to build a temporary ice rink at Gull Crest for a two-year pilot period. The group's ultimate goal is to plan, build and donate a permanent four-season, open air, multi-purpose covered arena for year-round activities.

"The temporary rink provides a space for Cape residents to gather outdoors as a community. We estimate that our opening skate was attended by 300 people and our learn to skate program has 50+ participants. Part of living in Maine is embracing the best

parts of winter and the rink enables this. A more permanent structure and covering will provide additional consistency in the winter as well as year-round benefits to the community for a range of other activities," said Julie Furt, CCAG Board Chair.

In addition to open skates, the rink offers ice time for Cape Elizabeth Community Services lessons as well as other local skating/hockey programs for youth and adults. According to Furt, as an all-volunteer organization of community members, CCAG is constantly learning and incorporating insight gained into their plans. They are grateful for the project donors as well as countless volunteers with a wide range of expertise who have donated their time to the project. For those who are interested in getting involved, visit <https://capearena.org/get-involved/> for more information.

Those interested in utilizing the ice rink should note the rink is only open on the posted schedule as a rink supervisor needs to be present for operations. For the most up to date schedule, visit <https://capearena.org/>, where you can also subscribe to text alerts for real time updates.

Follow Cape Community Arena on Facebook: @CapeCommunityArena, on Instagram: @capecommunityarena, on Twitter: @ArenaCape and on LinkedIn: @CapeCommunityArena.

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo by Kevin St. Jarre

Cape Elizabeth resident Don Woodsum has been working at Shoppers True Value Hardware store for 25 years, which, in and of itself, is an impressive milestone. However, it's all the more impressive when you learn that Woodsum is turning 90 years old, and only began working at the store after retiring.

At Shoppers True Value Hardware store in Mill Creek you can find Cape Elizabeth resident Donald Woodsum. He has been working at the store for 25 years, which, in and of itself, is an impressive milestone. However, it's all the more impressive when you learn that Woodsum is turning 90 years old, and only began working at the store after retiring.

Jessica Simpson, co-owner of the store with her father Tom, said that Woodsum "is not only our sweetest employee, he is incredibly hard-working and knowledgeable."

Woodsum had worked for Holmes Distributors, a wholesaler, and then he retired. He tells an amusing story about how he ended up going back to work.

"I retired. I took one year off. And one day, I was in the kitchen, and my wife was standing there, mixing dough on a dough board.

And I said, 'Aren't you supposed to put flour down there? So that the dough won't stick?' And she says, 'That's it. You're going to find a part-time job,'" Woodsum said.

He went on with the story, saying, "So, I went down to the hardware, to True Value, and see if they're hiring. They had a sign on the door, 'We are hiring.' We went in and [my wife said], 'I'm going to shop, you see if you can get the job.' Well, Tom Simpson, took my application. I believe that was on a Saturday. Later, he called and said, 'Come on in, Tuesday. We'll sign you up for Tuesday and Wednesday.'"

Woodsum said he enjoys working at True Value, and he's added a third day now, so customers can find him in the store on Sun-

-see BIRTHDAY page 3

2023

Happy
New
Year!



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

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 Debbie Butterworth, Jerry Harkavy,
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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 Bornhofft, Jeff Shedd, Hanna Gilley

Photographers: Martha Agan, Ann Kaplan, Joanne Lee

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Lions Club to host spaghetti dinners

Happy New Year to Cape Elizabeth residents. One of the popular events during the winter is the Cape Elizabeth Lions Club spaghetti dinners.

The first of these events is on Saturday, January 21, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at the Bowery Beach School House, 1 Wheeler Road, Cape Elizabeth.

The Lions Club has committed funding to more than 16 local nonprofit organizations and scholarships during their 2022-2023 club year. These contributions represent a 100% increase in charitable giving from 2021-2022.

Proceeds from their spaghetti dinners are used to fund these charities and the January 21 dinner is being earmarked to support Judy's Pantry in Cape Elizabeth. It has been a priority for the Lions both locally and internationally to support food pantries. The Cape Elizabeth Lions maintains a food drop in the lobby of the IGA. The food donated is collected weekly, sorted and then transported to Judy's Pantry. In addition, the pantry is a recipient of an annual Cape Elizabeth Lions cash donation.

The cost for the Spaghetti dinner is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 12 and preschoolers are free. The dinner consists of all you can eat at the clubhouse or take-to-go and consists of spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and desert. If you dine in, soft drinks are provided and BYOB is permitted. Two types of sauces are offered: meat and vegetable. Gluten free pasta is available on request.

In the past attendees have used this event as a night out with the kids, relatives and friends. It is a great venue to celebrate a birthday or other special occasion with candlelight on the tables and Italian background music.

Questions may be directed to Mark at 321-9393 or email: lionsclubceme@gmail.com.

Because of its popularity, there will be spaghetti dinner events on Saturday, February 18 and Saturday, March 18. Please mark your calendars.



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Let us hear from you!



We love feedback!

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Do you have something to share with the Cape Community? Email your Letter to the Editor to: editor@capecourier.com.

Elders taking action

In his recent local birding report, E. Brooks Bornhofft wrote about a European study that related human well-being to species diversity. In her acclaimed book, "The Sixth Extinction," Elizabeth Kolbert makes the case that we are in a new era of mass extinction called the Anthropocene. A significant factor is climate change. People over 60, who possess 70% of the wealth in the U.S., have been the beneficiaries of the fossil fuel era. Now a group of these elders is speaking out and taking action to save the biosphere.

Third Act Maine is working with elders and youth across the U.S. to raise awareness of the connection between the financing of new oil exploration and the climate crisis. Go to thirdact.org to see how elders can join together to protect our planet for future generations.

Tom and Kathy Mikulka

CEHPS launches campaign for History Center and Fort Williams Museum



Contributed photo

The former Bachelor Officers' at Fort Williams, now the new home of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society.

With this issue of The Cape Courier, the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society is launching a capital fundraising campaign to support its two new legacy projects: the Cape Elizabeth History Center and the Fort Williams Museum.

Within this issue readers will find an insert describing the two projects and the financial needs of each.

The recent move by CEHPS to the former Bachelor Officers' Quarters at Fort Williams makes it possible for the non-profit organization, founded in 1979, to finally expand its work to digitize, catalogue and safely preserve and store its large and ever-growing archives of official town records, historical photos, artifacts and other notable items.

Equally important, it provides the opportunity to begin exhibiting this collection with museum-quality displays for residents and visitors of all ages. The shipping, farming, coastal life-saving, military harbor defense and recreational offerings of this small seaside community have occupied notable places in Maine history for centuries. So have the tales passed along by generations of the town's marvelous characters and storytellers.

CEHPS hopes to have both projects fully open to the public beginning this summer. Further information on the projects and how people can support them through donations of volunteer work or funds is available at the CEHPS website at www.cehistory.org or by emailing cehps@capeelizabeth.org.



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Then and Now: Horses and mules and dogs, oh my!

By Jim Rowe



Photo courtesy of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society

This Fort Williams mule's name is either "Dempsey" or "Firpo" (the two worked as a team, and it is unclear which one is pictured). They were members of Company M, 5th U.S. Infantry, employed here to haul a mounted machine gun and ammunition case around the base (1937).

It's no secret that I enjoy uncovering Fort Williams history. One under-reported element of that history is the role that animals played.

It was teams of oxen that hauled the massive coast artillery guns to Fort Williams from Fort Preble, the docks of Portland or rail sidings ca. 1900.

Throughout the 1920s, 1930s and even into the 1940s, Fort Williams horses and mules tugged wagons laden with supplies, garbage and mobile artillery pieces around the property (and beyond, when the units left the grounds on training maneuvers). There were stables and a corral at the Fort (situated slightly to the east of today's three public works buildings). There was also a veterinarian routinely stationed on base.

Some of the units had canine mascots, and families stationed at Fort Williams often owned pet dogs which, absent leash laws, had the free run of the campus.

One memorable "animal story" came

from the CEHPS's "Fort Williams: First Person" oral history project (2016). A former soldier who was stationed at Fort Williams before WWII, between WWII and Korea, and post-Korea recalled that one day, there was an Army private who was leading a mule-drawn wagon around, collecting garbage.

As they are sometimes wont to do, this particular mule decided half way through the trip that he'd had enough and simply stopped in his tracks. The mule ignored the pleas, bribes and threats of the soldier, and refused to move. Apparently a boorish, self-important sergeant witnessed this whole performance. Disgusted by his soldier's inability to spur the mule into action, he shoved his man aside, grabbed the reins, drew back his fist, and smacked the mule's rump. The mule remained steadfast. And the sergeant now had a broken hand.

There's a lesson there.



Photo courtesy of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society

A small dog (encircled) takes a quick break while helping the band lead new recruits in marching drills around Fort Williams (likely pre-WWI).



Photo courtesy of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society

A team of oxen delivers one of the massive coast artillery cannons to Fort Williams (ca. 1900).

Birthday

Continued from page 1

days as well. He said, "It's nice to see the people of South Portland. I was born in South Portland, so I know a lot of people."

It's never dull or boring, Woodsum said. "There's always something. I like to help people. Try and solve their problems," he said. Woodsum explained that sometimes customers don't even have the words for what they need, so he patiently works with them to help customers find solutions.

When asked if he would recommend other retirees look into working a part-time job, Woodsum answered immediately. "Definitely. I do plenty of walking, exercising." He said it keeps him interacting with others, and he gets to help the customers.

Woodsum said his "Four children turned into 10 grandchildren, and then 10 grandchildren turned into 10 great-grandchildren." When he's not at work, he lives alone now, and he keeps busy around his home. "There's always something when you own a house that has to be done," he said.



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Planning Board approves Highland Meadows subdivision amendment

By Hanna Gilley

October 18, 2022, Meeting Minutes Approval

The Planning Board asked for approval of October 18 meeting minutes. Motion introduced by Johnathan Sahrbeck and passed unanimously and without discussion by Chair James Huebner.

Highland Meadows Phase V Subdivision Amendment

Charlene Maietta requested a waiver from municipal joint review of her proposal to merge a lot in Cape Elizabeth (R04-61) with an abutting lot (lot 45) which is part of Highland Meadows Phase V Subdivision and located at 199 Elderberry Drive, South Portland per town regulation's chapter 16 of Subdivision Review.

Vincent (Vinny) Maietta, husband of Charlene Maietta, presented the proposal on his wife's behalf. Maietta shared that he and his wife intend to age in place at their current residence and wish to construct a primary bedroom suite addition on the first floor of their home. The current setbacks from town lines are currently 20 feet. But with an addition constructed, it would give the Maietta's only 12 feet of setback.

Maietta asked that "rather than go to the appeals board for a variance for lot line setback, [we're asking to] eliminate the property line in lot 45, which is the same location as the town line," so that there's no setback violations. Maietta also made clear that there will be no new construction in Cape Elizabeth and that he

will still need to visit the South Portland Planning Board for approval on his proposal to waive joint review.

There were some comments and questions from the planning board including from Johnathan Sahrbeck: "We discussed this quite thoroughly during the workshops with regards to scenarios and the uniqueness of situations. [There are] protections already in place with setbacks and the conditions of easements, and the designation of the backlot that's located in Cape Elizabeth cannot be for a residential building now or in the future, correct?" Maietta confirmed that to be true and it's "restricted and recorded at the registry."

Al Palmer suggested that the Maiettas clarify the town lines before going to the South Portland planning board which Chair Huebner also suggested by saying the Maiettas should "amend the drawings so that line types and weights accurately reflect the town line and the subdivision limits."

Al Palmer further shared that all the board is "approving is waiving the requirement for a joint meeting, so it's really the South Portland Planning Board that needs to dot the i's and cross the t's [regarding map lines]."

Sahrbeck began the motion to approve the proposal presented by Vincent Maietta:

"Based on the information submitted and facts presented, the Planning Board waives joint municipal review of the merger of lot R04-61 located in Cape Elizabeth owned by Charlene Maietta with a lot located at 199 Elderberry Drive in South Portland which is part of Highlands Meadows Phase V Subdivision."

The motion was seconded by Derek Lavelle and passed unanimously with no further discussions.

Before the motion passed to adjourn, Sahrbeck added "I want to thank Chair Huebner for his leadership over the last two years as Chair since this is his last one as the designated chair. Thank you, Jim."

News from the January 9 Town Council meeting

By Hanna Gilley

Town Council Reports and Correspondence

Councilor Penny Jordan shared that she visited the new skating rink over the weekend saying, "what a statement about the community. It was so beautiful."

Finance Committee Report

Councilor Boucher shared that "nothing [in the budget] is majorly different from our November reporting...one thing to note is the Public Works Maintenance Vehicles and salt [costs]."

Town Manager Sturgis echoed Councilor Boucher adding that "it helps our budget every day it's warm, but at this point we're in good shape." He also added that they're anticipating building permits to increase as we get closer to spring.

Citizen Comments

Peter Dickson of 29 Westminster Terrace had comments regarding the agricultural easement of the Maxwell Woods development. This project was approved five years ago with the easement of two acres needed to be used for agricultural activities only. Dickson said, "I have not seen any agricultural activity, but I've seen a house being built on the property." He had reached out to town officials including Town Clerk O'Meara who said it was not "the responsibility of Planning Board." Dickson asked the Council, "Why is there a house? Who's responsible for monitoring the easement?" Chair Gabrielson said that the town manager will need to do research before reporting back to Dickson, and will determine if there's anything the Town Council needs to do.

John Voltz 33 Philip Road shared his thanks for Town Manager Sturgis providing the town manager report before scheduled meetings so that the public can bring appropriate questions forth. This was requested by Voltz in the December Town Council meeting.

Town Manager Monthly Report

Town Manager Matthew Sturgis started his monthly report with "two sad notes" to share with the chamber and community. The first was that former Town Clerk and former Assistant Clerk Jackie Coy passed away in December. He

shared that she was "a beloved employee of the town and her loss is a sad one for us all" and "that she will be missed. Please have a good thought for the family."

The second was that philanthropist Jerry Newbury, father of former Councilor Kathy Rays and longtime attorney in the Portland area, passed away in December. Newbury was responsible for taking on Fort Williams as a Cape Elizabeth town asset along with other preservation projects in the town.

Sturgis shared that the council had approved for the Town Manager to sign a contract with Encore Renewables, as discussed in prior Town Council meetings. The project was presented to the Planning Board on January 3, 2023. Review of the project will begin on February 21 during the scheduled Planning Board meeting.

On the Thursday before Christmas, "the Museum of Portland Headlight and Keeper's Quarters sustained damages from wind driven waves, heavy winds and rain," Sturgis said. And that the "strength of the storm forced us to close the park." Included in damages was a door, windows, interior carpeting, damages to the bell structure and to hard-scaping on the grounds.

Also during the Christmas weekend, "The Community Services building sustained significant water damage from a ruptured heating element." Demolition has started and plans are underway for repairs with that section of the building being out of service for an estimated "60 days or more." The section of the building that houses offices and the Cape Care Preschool were not affected and are still in operation.

Both incidents have been assessed by the town's insurance adjuster and claims are in process to repair and replace everything damaged. Additionally, Cape is working with other surrounding towns to have the storm declared as a disaster in order to receive FEMA funding.

Item #27-2023 School Build-

-see TOWN COUNCIL page 13



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Computer Works, Amazon, Spectrum scams reported to CEPD

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

PUBLIC INFORMATION

12-6 An officer responded to a residence in the Shore Road area for a well-being check.

12-6 An officer met with a resident of the Fowler Road area regarding unauthorized charges on her credit card.

12-7 An officer responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for a well-being check.

12-7 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area stating she had received a call from someone claiming to work for Computer Works and that she needed to pay to continue the program service. She said she didn't want the service and was conned into allowing him access to her computer. She was also conned into logging into her bank account which allowed the suspect access to her account. The suspect then made it look like they had refunded her money. The suspect then made it look like they had overpaid her, and asked her to return the overage by buying gift cards. She purchased \$2,000 in gift cards and provided the card numbers to the suspect over the phone. She has since contacted her bank and frozen all accounts, and police provided her with information for securing personal information and checking her credit history for any unauthorized accounts.

12-7 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area when she reported she had received a message supposedly from Amazon notifying her that her account had been hacked and instructed her to call the number in the message. She called the number, spoke with a representative named Steve, who instructed her to call another number that was a direct line to him. He further stated that hackers were using a variety of payment methods to make unauthorized purchases. At his direction, she installed an app on her phone called AnyDesk that would allow him to see what she was doing on her phone while she "pinged" those transactions to confirm they were made from her phone. She was then told to send money via the various payment methods (Venmo, Cash app, PayPal) to him and that would allow him to see how much money to refund to her. At one point, she reached her account withdrawal limit, and was then told to purchase Apple gift cards to continue the process of finding the hackers. She drove to South Portland, bought gift cards, and when sent the information to the rep, they were immediately redeemed. He then told her there was nothing more he could do to trace the hackers and for her not to talk to anyone else about this. Later that evening, he called back and instructed her to open a credit card through Venmo, and immediately transfer that information to a separate account. She sent the information to a friend and instructed her friend to send money to that account. He called again the next day and said there had been a problem processing the refunds. She became suspicious when she tried calling him and the

number was disconnected. Police gave her advice about contacting credit bureaus and having her phone wiped to remove all malware.

12-8 An officer met with a resident in the Spurwink area where he turned over a found purse. Police contacted the owner who said she thought she had misplaced it but it turns out that it was stolen from her car in the night.

12-8 An officer met with a resident in the Sherwood Forest area regarding a motor vehicle burglary. Loose change was taken.

12-8 An officer spoke with a resident of the Shore Road area regarding a motor vehicle burglary. Loose change was taken.

12-11 Two officers responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for a domestic disturbance.

12-13 An officer met with a resident of the Brentwood area who reported that he was contacted by someone supposedly from Spectrum, saying he was the recipient of a \$100 anniversary gift card and needed the victim's debit account number. The rep then had the victim install CashApp on his phone. At the same time, the victim was monitoring his bank account online and noticed two withdrawals taking place. He immediately hung up and contacted his bank and canceled the card, and notified Cash App.

12-16 Two officers responded to a residence in the Broad Cove area for a well-being check.

12-17 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for a possible missing person. The person was later accounted for.

12-23 Two officers responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for a domestic disturbance.

12-23 Two officers responded to a residence in the Spurwink Avenue area for a well-being check.

12-24 Two officers responded to a residence in the Old Ocean House Road area for a well-being check.

12-27 An officer spoke with a resident of the Broad Cove area regarding a missing person. Person was later accounted for.

1-2 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for a well-being check.

SUMMONSES

12-7 Cape Elizabeth resident, Operating under the Influence of Alcohol, Mitchell Road

12-16 Portland resident, operating vehicle while possessing open container of alcohol, Ocean House Road, \$180

ARRESTS

12-16 Portland resident, Operating under the Influence of Alcohol, Ocean House Road

ACCIDENTS

12-14 Ellen Miller, accident on Ocean House Road

12-16 Ellie Mainville, Charles Song, accident on Ocean House Road

12-16 Emily Novak, Kristen Homicz, accident on Ocean House Road

12-16 Mariah Gaudet, accident on Eastman Road

12-17 Edward Simpson, Jordan Greer, accident on Dean Way

12-17 Polina Heckel, accident on Bowery Beach Road

12-19 Jordan Gilano, Charles Garvin, accident on Ocean House Road

FIRE CALLS

Fire calls: 38
EMS calls: 53

Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

When a favor is really a scam

We all want to be helpful, especially when the request comes from our boss, a friend or a community leader. This instinct is something criminals take advantage of. That's why you should be suspicious of any urgent message that asks you to "do me a favor."

These scams can impersonate a boss needing last-minute gift cards for an employee appreciation event, or a local faith leader who needs a quick favor of you to buy gift cards to support a family in need. These quick gift card requests promise reimbursement, which never comes.

Be aware of short, urgent text messages, emails or social media messages asking for your help purchasing gift cards. Criminals can hack into the profiles of friends, family and community members to send messages in their name. In the professional space, the message often looks like it's from your employer, but the criminal may have added a letter or number to the sender information.

Like so many scams, this one relies on getting the target into a heightened emotional state – of course you want to respond to your boss quickly or help your faith community support those in need. If you ever get a message asking for your help buying gift cards, contact the sender in a way you know to be legitimate and verify. Chances are the request was from a criminal scammer.

Credit Repair Scams

If you're like a lot of Americans, you spent a lot this holiday season and you might be in the mood to tackle your debt in the New Year. Getting yourself out of



debt is hard work and it is time intensive. Be wary of offers of guaranteed quick fixes.

Criminal scammers prey on financial fears by offering simple solutions. These offers usually involve up-front fees (which are illegal), bad advice like stopping communication with your creditors and vague details on what services they provide. If you need help getting out of debt, turn to an organization like the nonprofit National Foundation for Credit Counseling.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork.

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all good things
in the year to come

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Ongoing effort against lead in water in Cape schools

By Kevin St. Jarre

CEHS	Lead ppb	PCES	Lead ppb	CEMS	Lead ppb
Staff Lounge	83.1	1st grade boys' restroom	71.7	g123	19.4
		1st grade girls' restroom	56.2	e104	5.3
		c103	23.9	e107	26.8
		c105	14.6		
		c202	20.7		
		c204	4.4		
		c218	22.2		
		b101	6.4		
		b117	8.5		

Contributed photo

List of problem sinks remaining in CESD. The Maine state acceptable level is of lead in water 4ppb, and Federal acceptable level is 15ppb.

With the passage of Maine Public Law 2019 Ch. 158, An Act to Strengthen Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water, the Maine Legislature has mandated that all K-12 schools in Maine test their drinking water for the presence of lead.

The Drinking Water Program coordinated the sampling effort and used a federal grant

to pay for the water sample analysis. Sampling took place during the 2021-2022 school year and was extended into the fall of 2022.

According to David Bagdasarian, Cape Elizabeth Director of Facilities & Maintenance, the testing was completed in Cape Elizabeth's school buildings, and results showed elevated lead levels in all of the

schools, "as did every school in Maine for the most part."

Bagdasarian explained that since most of Maine's schools did the sampling at the same time, and near the end of the school year, the test results came back extremely slowly. "What was normally a 30-day turnaround time turned into 60 to 90 days," he said.

He said that the initial list of sinks showing heightened levels of lead significantly shrank, after immediate efforts, to about 20 across the district. Bagdasarian said, "In May, we found out we had 43 sinks with elevated levels of lead. In late June, once the teachers and students were gone, we flushed the system and tested again, and our number of sinks with issues dropped to around 20. Our plumber deduced that the lead is most likely in the actual facets and we quickly ordered a replacement for our worst sink, the Cape Elizabeth High School staff lounge. After swapping out that sink, it dropped from 383ppb to 89ppb, but the state's threshold is 4ppb, and the federal government's threshold is 15ppb. More work was needed."

Bagdasarian said he had a plan in place in early September 2022 to correct those specific sinks but the plumber was not immediately available to work on the issues.

He said 20 new sinks were ordered, which took a while to arrive, and then a mass installation occurred the Monday of Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend. He went on to say that, unfortunately even after the corrections, the process takes time. The school department makes corrections, samples the water, waits a minimum 30 days for results, perhaps make additional corrections, samples again and waits at least another 30 days, and so on.

Bagdasarian said, "We also discovered some sinks that we missed, like in the library, and had to send those samples out to be tested as well. It is a painful process in that it's a bit of a guessing game, with long waits in between, due to many schools dealing with the same thing."

While this process was underway, Bagdasarian ordered water coolers for break rooms and for areas that don't have filtered water.

In the initial testing, Bagdasarian was more thorough than he really needed to be. He said, "In reality, had I followed the instructions, which were essentially test sinks that are sources of consumed water...they were really targeting just kitchen sinks and water fountains. I went back for clarification and asked about classroom sinks, and [the state] said you can do that if you want. Since it was free, I had all the sinks tested and that is the reason why the initial reports were so high. They have a state website where you can see all the school results, and you can see some schools...they tested all of their classroom sinks and had high numbers, and some schools only tested the minimum number of sinks and their numbers are significantly less."

Bagdasarian explained the likely source of the lead was the plumbing, since, as he put it, the water from Portland Water District "is incredible, so we knew the issue was coming from the building somehow."

He continued, saying, "The faucets back in the day had lead in them. It's not in the water supply, it's from our buildings, so I am not surprised with the results and I feel that we are in no better or worse position than other schools. It has definitely been overlooked for a long time, though."

By Thanksgiving, the number of sinks still showing elevated levels of lead was down to 14. Bagdasarian said that they continued to take various measures to mitigate the situation, such as flushing the system, and changing additional pipes. Of course, after each fix, they had to send out water samples to be tested.

After more work over Thanksgiving break, and another round of testing, the plan was to add a filter system to any of the remaining elevated sinks.

Additionally, Bagdasarian said that many of the Pond Cove Elementary School classrooms had water fountains attached to their sinks that had not been used since the closure of schools because of COVID-19. He planned to remove those and to add a filtered water fountain/bottle filler station in every wing of PCMS. Poland Spring water coolers were placed throughout the school to give students access to clean water in the meantime.

With those remaining, stubborn sinks, Bagdasarian was looking for answers. He said, "After seeking input from other districts, and talking to a few plumbers, it was decided that we needed to do a much longer flush of the system. What we learned over the summer, though, was that the Pond Cove/



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-see LEAD page 7

Troop 120 partners with The Lumbery to make bat houses



Contributed photo

Members of Troop 120 working with Michael Friedland at The Lumbery to earn their Woodworking badge by building bat houses.

The Cadettes and Brownie of Troop 120 recently worked with Michael Friedland at The Lumbery to earn their Woodworking badge by building bat houses.

Bats play an important role in our ecosystem as they pollinate plants, disperse seed and offer free pest control. Unfortunately, several bat species are on the endangered list because of disease and habitat decline. Troop 120 decided to help the local population by building bat houses as shelter.

During the session, the Troop felt empowered. They learned how to work with

simple hand tools, sawed wood, used a power drill and learned about workshop safety. Their confidence grew as they helped each other assemble the pieces.

Troop 120 was thrilled to partner with Mike to fulfill their badge requirements. They enjoyed being in the fresh, pine-smell shop which has lots of great items for sale, including the mesh netting we used in the bat houses. A big Troop 120 thank you to Mike for donating his time, materials and knowledge to our badge earning session.

Lead

Continued from page 6

Middle School sinks had horrible water pressure. From talking to long-time teachers like Joe Doane, it has been like that for as long as he remembered. This was all sort of new to me as it wasn't anything anyone was complaining about, they were just living with it."

Bagdasarian said not only was there horrible water pressure, but also many of the sinks had partially clogged drains. After 10 mins of the sink running, they were overflowing onto the floor."

The plan to fix the lead issue was to do one last big purge of the system over Thanksgiving break, Bagdasarian said, before exploring costly fixes like adding a massive filter system.

However, before the next big flushing of the system, a plumber had an idea, and checked into it. Bagdasarian said, "[The plumber] discovers that there is a water restrictor in every sink in Pond Cove/CEMS which no one on my team had any knowledge of. By just simply removing the restrictor, there was a night and day difference in the sinks. The water restrictor was causing sediment build-up in the faucet, which wasn't getting blown out via flushing the system. So, every time you used the sink, [the water] had to go through that sludge, and we believe was the root cause of the elevated lead levels." He said the restrictors were removed.

According to Bagdasarian, the worst remaining sink is still in the CEHS staff lounge. "Our plan for that sink is to replace all of the piping that goes from the main water line to the sink with PEX pipe which is polyethylene...The pipe that connects to the particular sink takes a funny path and has a lot of areas where it was soldered - Likely with lead, so removing that we hope will correct the issue," he said.

Some takeaways, according to Bagdasarian, going forward:

- We should flush the schools before school starts
- Test regularly
- Add filtered bottle filler/water fountain stations in each grade in PCES and add more in CEMS and CEHS.

For anyone interested, there is more information on the mandatory testing for lead in water in schools, including school sampling results at the website: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/dwp/pws/testingLeadSchoolWater.shtml>.

Troop 30 Bottle & Food Drive - Giving back to the community



Contributed photo

Troop 30 would like to recognize and thank our generous community for their terrific help in making Troop 30's recent Food & Bottle Drive our best ever. The boys shared half of the bottle proceeds and all of the nonperishable foods they collected with Judy's Pantry's to support their great work in Cape Elizabeth. The remaining funds will be used for outdoor scouting activities and camping equipment. Boys ages 12-18 interested in Scouting can contact Asst. Scoutmaster A. J. DiNinno at 207-272-9092.



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Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation grant purchases Lumbery-built benches, gets CEHS students off floor

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo by Kevin St. Jarre

CEEFF grant money was used to purchase benches for CEHS students. They were built and delivered by The Lumbery.



Photo by Kevin St. Jarre

The new benches were envisioned to hold perhaps three students, but these five seniors decided to give this one a real test. From left to right are Jake Liess, Keegan Lathrop, Joe McDonald, Bobby Offit and Tom Hennessey.

Students at Cape Elizabeth High School have new benches to share, where they can collaborate on work, or simply have a place to sit that isn't the floor.

In November 2022, a grant application was submitted to the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation for the purchase of seven wooden benches.

The grant application read, in part, "Noble High School's hallways are lined with wooden benches, with a light wood-grain finish, where students can be seen studying together, and sometimes eating lunch. The students were never disruptive. Here at CEHS, we often see students sitting on cold, tile floors to work together. The Achievement Center has a max occupancy of 26, and it's very far from art, language, science and other classes. The library closes now and then for use by classes. So, students sit in the hallway on the floor. Students who are a bit overwhelmed by a packed cafeteria sometimes take their trays into the hallways, and sit on the floor along the walls."

The application goes on to propose ordering seven wooden benches, approximately six feet long, and place them around CEHS so students can collaborate and study together...Those concerned about traffic flow should know that at Noble High School, benches actually help, because instead of standing and talking in the center of the hallway, students sit.

A presentation was made to the CEEF Grant Committee in early December, where one of the committee members

suggested the The Lumbery in Cape Elizabeth might be able to construct custom benches of high quality, rather than ordering benches and taking a chance.

Once the grant was approved by CEEF, Michael Friedland at The Lumbery was contacted about the idea. From the start, the team at The Lumbery were excited about the project, and quickly built a mock-up sample, and once approved, they built and delivered seven six-foot benches to CEHS by early January.

CEEFF was founded in 2002 by dedicated parents who wanted to expand opportunities for Cape teachers and students. Since its founding, CEEFF has awarded over \$1.4 million in grants to faculty, staff and students across all three Cape schools for projects that foster innovations and fresh perspectives.

CEEFF is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of community members committed to fostering excellence in Cape schools by:

- * Funding initiatives that fall outside the school budget
 - * Partnering with the school district to help achieve its vision
 - * Building community-wide support for the benefit of our schools
- More information about CEEFF can be found at: <https://ceef.us>.
For more information about The Lumbery, go to: <https://lumbery-me.com>.

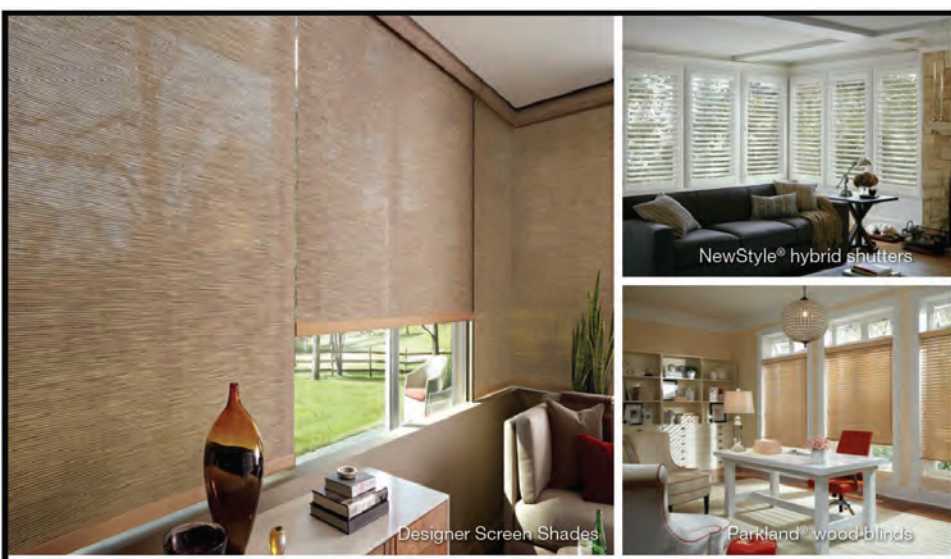
St. Alban's seeking volunteers to provide support for immigrant families

St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Cape Elizabeth will be partnering with Greater Portland Family Promise and volunteers from Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church to provide temporary emergency shelter onsite for three immigrant families from January 25-February 8.

Dozens of volunteers from both parishes will be needed to provide hospitality and support. A training for volunteers is scheduled at St. Alban's immediately

following the 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday January 22 in the parish hall.

If you are interested in participating as a volunteer in this work, please contact The Rev. Joshua A. Hill, Rector of St. Alban's Church at jhill@stalbanmaine.org or Deacon George Cooper at gcooper@stalbanmaine.org.



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With all my best wishes,

Mr. Brown

Cape resident conducts audit, reduces waste stream

By Kevin St. Jarre

Cape Elizabeth resident Jodi Breau conducted a “trash audit,” as she calls it, on the amount of household trash her home was producing, and was able to drastically cut the amount.

Breau said she sees the effects of climate change every day. “Like today for example, in January, I look out my windows and see very little snow, the temperatures are abnormally warm. I miss snowshoeing and x-country skiing the Cape trails. I miss snowstorms. This is not normal for me. It makes me sad,” she said.

She said she believes climate scientists and “I believe humans are the cause. I believe businesses must stop producing harmful products. This is why my company Dental Lace Inc produces zero waste products and we’re working toward being a zero-waste company.”

When asked how one conducts a trash audit, Breau said, “You simply record the trash that is going into the brown compactors at the Transfer Station. Because my company has a blog, I recorded our monthly trash by dumping it on our deck, recorded the results and then added it to our 30-gallon trash can in our garage.”

Breau said she started the audit in January 2022, and dumped their year’s waste into the brown compactor December 30th. “Each month I realized there were items in there that needn’t be, if I’d only thought before I purchased. For example: dog food bags, meat trays with plastic wrap, cheese packaging etc. In the end I was surprised, proud and happy,” she said.

Happy and proud with good reason, because within one year, Breau said they

reduced their trash to one 30-gallon can. In 2023, we’ll do it again but this time, we already know how we can improve. I would say that my husband and I have made lifestyle changes that we can maintain for life.”

For example, in 2023 she plans to find alternative packaging for dog food bags, meat, cheese, coffee bean bags and so on. Breau said, “I continue to call EcoMaine for answers and suggestions. They have been so helpful.”

When asked what advice she would have for Cape residents who would like to try this, she said, “Any Cape residents who would like to try this should learn the zero-waste motto: Refuse, Reuse, Recycle, Reduce and Rot. Before bringing things into your home, think does this item qualify. At first make small changes. It’s a lifestyle change. There are times when it’s inconvenient but I promise you in the end the feeling of accomplishment and pride is so worth it.”

Breau added, “Fortunately, we live in a community that makes it easy. Use the Bottle Barn, follow the rules for recycling, and above all throw less in the brown compactors. If you need help, contact our Recycling Committee or EcoMaine or email me at contact@dentallace.com.”

Those who would like to see the blogs mentioned in this story, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=612811333780924>

<https://www.facebook.com/DentalLace/videos/466830821739074>



GoNetspeed fiber internet build in town complete

From Town Hall website

GoNetspeed, a high-speed 100 percent fiber to the premises internet provider, recently announced that the fiber internet build is officially complete in Cape Elizabeth with service installation now available in service areas throughout the community.

Through GoNetspeed’s \$1.7 million investment in Cape Elizabeth, many residents and businesses now have the ability to experience the best internet and voice service available directly from their doorstep. GoNetspeed’s infrastructure allows residents and businesses to access a highly reliable 100 percent fiber service that customers can trust, compared to legacy internet service providers that provide partial fiber networks.

More than 1,800 homes and businesses throughout Cape Elizabeth now have the opportunity to experience GoNetspeed’s fast, reliable 100 percent fiber internet service. Residents and businesses interested may visit gonetspeed.com to confirm service availability for their location and to sign up for priority installation.

CEHS’s Speech & Debate Team host ‘Winter Blast’ statewide tournament



Contributed photo

Nineteen schools and 129 students, along with 59 judges, team coaches, parent volunteers and support staff were on hand for the competition. Cape Elizabeth High School’s Speech team finished 1st in sweepstakes, 2nd in Debate, and 2nd in Congress. The tournament also served as a fundraiser for team travel to a national tournament, and the team is grateful for support from The Holy Donut, Coffee By Design, Domino’s, Otto’s, Flatbread, DiPietro’s, South Portland House of Pizza, Fiddlehead’s Flower Shop, Amato’s, Shaw’s, Hannaford and IGA. Next will be the State Championship on January 21 at Bangor High School.

Basketball season begins



Photo by Ang Foley

Cape Elizabeth senior Juliet Moore takes on several players from Biddeford during a preseason scrimmage in Falmouth.

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Capetoon: It's 2023

By Jeff Mandell



The music corner

By Candice Bellinger

As I gaze upon his face, I wonder what melody is playing through his head, waiting to be captured. What instrument shall it be for? Tempo? His gaze travels beyond our world, into the unknown. What he hears, what he composes is brought to us on the wings of angels, no doubt. The deep connection between composer and written note transcends the deepest of bonds; a love that cannot be explained, only felt, sometimes with rushed pen so as to not lose the important message needing to be shared.

As I peer into the future; 2023, there is promise, hope and a feeling of accomplishment. Let us sit here awhile and enjoy the beauty surrounding us, for it is everywhere. Let me introduce to you "The Lark Ascending" by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Let this music engulf your fears, your pain, your anguish and wish it away upon the breath of a fresh new day, a fresh new year. Let music be your in-

spiration this year to learn, grow and enjoy life. We are here to love, to live and embrace the gifts upon which life gives.

The poem, "The Lark Ascending" by George Meredith was the inspiration for this composition originally written in 1914 for solo violin and piano. Vaughan Williams reworked the piece for orchestra and solo violin after the First World War and it premiered in 1921.

"He rises and begins to round, he drops the silver chain of sound, of many links without a break, in chirrup, whistle, slur and shake. For singing till his heaven fills, 'tis love of earth that he instills, and ever winging up and up, our valley is his golden cup, and he the wine which overflows to lift us with him as he goes." (2 of 12 verses)

On the wings of the lark shall we place our troubles and let them fly away. I recommend playing this piece several times throughout your week, first thing with morning coffee or at the end of your day to cool down.

Remember to slow down and enjoy the music. If you are "tech challenged" and would like my assistance with finding our weekly listening, please email me at musicwam@yahoo.com. You can also find me on Facebook @Candice Bellinger.



Photo credit: NPR

Ralph Vaughan Williams

January naturalist's corner

By Erika Carlson Rhile
CELT Education Committee Chair

Do you still have a Christmas tree hanging around? Prop it up by your feeder to give birds shelter and protection from wind and predators.

The sounds of winter: cold, quiet nights are a great time to listen for Great Horned Owls setting up nesting territory or coyotes duet howling. The peak of coyote breeding season is in late January and February. Signs to look and listen for include two sets of tracks (headed in the same direction) that periodically separate and then rejoin one another, scent marking and duet howling.

What are those birds doing on the side of the road? Many songbirds, including bluebirds and goldfinches, search for gravel to store in their gizzards. Since birds don't have teeth, their winter foods (like seeds) need to be ground up during digestion.

The Full Snow Moon is on Sunday, February 5, 1:30 pm. Will our snow totals increase by then? Maine's snowiest month is generally January, but so far this winter Portland's snow totals are below average.

Local birding report

By E. Brooks Bornhoff

In the first few weeks of January, I am thankful for many things, including the fine sweet trill of Red-breasted Nuthatches, the way a Brown Creeper's song calls to mind pine boughs sighing in the wind or the low sweet melodies sung by Dark-eyed Juncos and the hurried winter song from ever the curious Carolina Wren couple. I also appreciate the daily visits to our backyard by North Flickers and a male Pileated Woodpecker along with bluebirds and house finches that spread cheery chatter.

More shy but twice as big as their cousin the Downy, Hairy Woodpeckers are residents across our woodlands. During the winter months male and female woodpeckers typically carve out their own territories. When one female enters the territory of another female the two woodpeckers will jerk back and forth, waiving their thornlike bills at each other. The slow courtship of Hairy Woodpeckers begins in deep winter, and it is the male who typically comes to the female's territory to court, pair up and nest.

Speaking of winter romances, many duck species along our shorelines and inland ponds court and form pair bonds over the course of the next several months. On January 9 within a small pond in Scarborough I spotted two Hooded Mergansers. The male

was attempting to impress the female by dashing back and forth while raising and lowering his oversized black and white hood. Apparently in parts of the South these mergansers are called "frog-ducks" because during courtship the male has a bellowing call that is reminiscent of a pickerel frog.

Additionally, January 8 off Trundy Point I spotted two hardy Common Goldeneyes in the act. The male launched into a move called the "Bowsprit." This special position entails neck angles at about 45 degrees from the body with the head extended out. The name comes from a type of sailboat mast extending forward of the bow. Goldeneyes use this Bowsprit pose as part of both a courting dance and also as part of a greeting process. Other poses such as the "Masthead" (males beak straight up and neck vertical) were noted along with the female's "jiving" courtship response.

On January 7 along Fort Williams' Cliff Walk I spotted a Peregrine Falcon, a Northern Mockingbird and a male Long-tailed Duck yodeling just off Portland Headlight. Around dusk on January 3 my son and I were exploring the forest section Turkey Hill Farm. We had just spotted the silhouette of the old fire lookout station when the low-pitched hoot from a Great-horned owl caught my ear, somewhere in the distance.

CELT February programs

Please register for these programs through Cape Elizabeth Community Services <http://www.capecommunityservices.org>. Call the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust at 207- 767-6054 if you have any questions. All participants must register at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification regarding changes or cancellation.

CELT's Crosstown Winter Walk

Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust (CELT) Education Committee member and Maine Master Naturalist Amy Witt, and CELT Stewardship Committee member Hans Hackett for our winter Crosstown Walk. Beginning at Kettle Cove State Park, this walk will traverse over seven miles of both town of Cape Elizabeth and CELT trails highlighting Cape's great places. The walk takes approximately four hours and includes a BYO lunch stop with hot beverages at the CELT Office. Hikers will meet at Fort Williams Park and carpool to Kettle Cove.

Participants should be 12 years or older; please call about younger ages. This trail can be icy this time of year; be prepared with ice traction.

Saturday, February 4
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Fort Williams Park (the plowed parking lot closest to the lighthouse)

Animal Tracking for Families

Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Education Coordinator at the Great Pond Fenway Road trailhead to learn common winter animal tracks and practice tracking. Participants will receive a hand-held track guide that they will then use to identify and follow various tracks along the trail. Warm, dry clothing and footwear are a must. Children attending should be at least six years old, and accompanied by an adult. Outing is subject to acceptable weather conditions.

Wednesday, February 22 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Meet at the end of Fenway Road

Nature scene around town



Photo by Amy Witt

Caper Amy Witt spotted this red-breasted merganser, *Mergus serrator*, in Fort Williams Park on January 9.



Photo by Andrea Southworth

Snow on native winterberry holly, *Ilex verticillata*, in Fort Williams Park.



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Thanks to funding from the TML Foundation, the library is now able to offer digital subscriptions to nineteen magazines appealing to a variety of interests. Titles include popular titles such as Consumer Reports, Fast Company, Discover, and The New Yorker as well as more specialized titles including Interweave Knits, Antique Trader and Writer's Digest. Users have access not only to current magazine issues, but also all the back issues as well. Articles can be saved, downloaded and printed.

Anyone can access these resources within the library, but library cardholders can access the titles from home using their TML card. The complete list of titles and information on how to access them can be found on the library's website.

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 the ever popular Llama Llama character, and discover fun activities throughout the month of January.

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
Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
Join us for songs and stories, bubbles, and Belinda the Bear!

School-Age Programs

T(w)een Crafternoon Club

Thursdays 3:15-4:15 p.m.
Drop-in for social time for tweens and a creative activity, for ages 11 - 13
January 19: Elastic bookmarks
January 26: Felt succulents

#LibrarySquad

First Friday of each Month, 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Next meeting: Feb 3
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 Friday of each month from 2:45 - 3:45 p.m. at the library.

Lego Club

First Tuesday of each Month, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
In-person at the library, for ages 5-12
Next meeting: Feb 7
Come create with Legos at TML's Lego Club. The library will provide the Legos; you provide the imagination.

Come free build or pick up a challenge card to try something new. Masterpieces will be put on display until the next Lego Club meet. There is no registration for this program, children 10 and under must have an adult present.

Middle School Book Club

Last Friday of each month, 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Next meeting: Feb 24
You can officially 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 to stay updated on our latest selection.

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/>.

War Pigeons: They Got Their Messages Through, with Elizabeth Macalaster

Thursday, January 19, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in person AND via Zoom
Elizabeth Macalaster, author of the book "War Pigeons: Winged Couriers in the U.S. Military, 1878-1957," will join us for a presentation tracing the remarkable service of homing pigeons in the U.S. Military.

For 75 years, through four wars on four continents, these one-pound birds were the military's most reliable means of communication, carrying messages in and out of gas, smoke, exploding bombs and gunfire. They flew through jungles, across deserts, mountains and large expanses of ocean. Sometimes they arrived at their lofts nearly dead from wounds or exhaustion, but they got their messages through.

Join us and learn about homing pigeons' superpowers and their invaluable communications role in every branch of the military. Register for this program on the library's website. All are welcome.

Tiny but Powerful Wildlife, with Center for Wildlife

Tuesday, January 24, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Join us for our monthly Maine Wildlife Series, where we welcome educators from the Center for Wildlife in Cape Neddick and their fascinating and lovable animal ambassadors who will help us explore the vast variety of wildlife in our state.

This month we'll be joined by Maeve the merlin, Lucy the eastern screech owl, and Percy the spotted turtle. Don't let their size fool you, these tiny but powerful creatures are master hunters and are not to be underestimated. Register for this program on the library's website.

Fishers are King, with Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Thursday, January 26, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in person at the library and streamed simultaneously via Zoom
Are you as curious as we are about fishers, those most elusive of Maine's woodland creatures? Join us as we dive headfirst into what makes everyone's favorite/least favorite Mustelid tick.

Personal stories, photos and videos will make this a Thursday night full of education and appreciation as we explore the lives of fishers in mid-coast Maine. Tracking tips and advice will be shared, and reviews (often uncensored) of "helpful" tools will be

shared as well. Register for this program on the library's website.

Mating Rituals of the Animal Kingdom, with Dr. Sarah McAnulty

Tuesday, February 7, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
Join squid biologist and science communicator Dr. Sarah McAnulty for a breathtaking spin through the myriad mechanisms species use to swap their genes and the spectacular, complex, and sometimes goofy approaches they take to get there. We'll cover the rituals that lead up to mating and how animals choose partners, the wild ways different species actually mate, and how animals care for their young in their first days of life. Register for this program on the library's website.

Pod Complex: A TML Podcast Listening Club

First Thursday of the month, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Next meeting: February 2 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, TML's brand new Podcast Listening Club.

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 PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Daily Fika (Coffee Break)
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. via Zoom

Guerilla Poetry Whoop
Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Next meeting: February 9 via Zoom

E-ldering Conversation Group
Wednesdays, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
in person AND via Zoom

Songwriting Workshop (with Jud Caswell)
First Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

-see LIBRARY page 14

Got a story to share? Email us!



editor@capecourier.com



Kathleen O. Pierce

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Town Council

Continued from page 4

ing Advisory Committee Draft Charge

On January 3, the School Board and the Town Council met in a workshop to discuss an ad hoc committee titled the "School Building Advisory Committee" which will help to manage and facilitate community decisions on the school renovation projects voted on by citizen initiative last year.

Citizen MaryAnn Lynch of 2 Old Colony Lane shared her appreciation for the work being done saying, we're "generally going in the right direction with the new committee and projects." She suggested that since it's time for a fresh start its also time to include a "new design team."

Citizen Tom Dunham of 11 Becky's Cove Lane, shared that he was "very involved in the vote against the referendum and I think it would be prudent to whom-ever ends up being on the committee to reach out to every part of the community, so that they're familiar with the development and construction process."

He added, "This is a huge project and I'd hope we gain a consensus in the community... It's a cost issue with me. We all pay our taxes, we're all in this community together, but you've got families in town that have got to be really struggling and you've got to be extremely sensitive [to them]." He suggested that since it's unfair to certain families who may be struggling financially, that it may be best to break the project down into smaller phases and longer timelines.

Debate started with Councilors Reiniger and Caitlin Jordan over Reiniger's proposed amendments to the language of the draft charge. Councilor Jordan stated that the language change is "contradictory" and would limit the future choices of the community in regards to the details and design of the elementary, middle and high school renovation projects. Councilors Noonan, Gillis and Chair Gabrielson agreed after much discussion that changing the language would "box the town in" before it even had a chance to be provided choices and decisions.

Reiniger's proposed amendment fails and the Council reverts to the original motion presented to the Chamber. This was opposed by Reiniger, motion passes.

Item #28-2023 Appointment of Town Council Members to the

School Building Advisory Committee

Nominations for the appointment of two Town Council Members to the new ad hoc School Building Advisory Committee began with Councilor Boucher nominating Councilor Penny Jordan. This was moved by Boucher and seconded by Noonan, passing unanimously.

Councilor Penny Jordan nominated Councilor Noonan as the second appointment. Noonan accepts and the motion is approved unanimously. Chair Gabrielson thanked both councilors for their "willingness to serve on this committee in addition to other obligations of being on council."

Item #29-2023 Property Tax Assistance Program Report

Cape Elizabeth's Tax Assessor Clint Swett discussed the Senior Tax Relief program, the Senior Tax Freeze program and the Reevaluation plans.

He shared that the Senior Tax Relief program is in its fifth year and "more popular than ever." Last year there were 186 applications and this year there were 198 applications. The budget was \$95,000 and \$87,750 was consumed, and the remaining balance will be rolled over to next year's budget. Swett shared that 20 applications were denied for reasons including income being too high or not meeting the ten-year requirement. He also shared with residents all resources made available by the state so that residents can find the assistance they need.

Swett shared that 11,000 households in the state have submitted applications for the Tax Freeze program. These households will have their tax bills frozen to their current mil rate with the state reimbursing the town for any difference when the mil rate increases. The town Tax Assessor still maintains assessed values on "frozen" properties to account for the mil rate differences and reimbursement amounts from the state. Swett added that each household must apply for this program annually and if the yearly submission is missed, the household will be kicked out of the program and their mil rate will automatically adjust to the going mil rate.

The Revaluation plan is on track and is estimated to be completed by spring 2023. Our field appraisers from KRT Appraisal have "nothing but praise for residents of Cape" and that "so far, we're the

friendliest town they've worked in."

The Council acknowledged receipt of the Tax Assessor's report and was moved by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Penny Jordan. Voting was unanimous.

Item #30-2023 Request for Zoning Amendment

Stefan Rurak of 11 Spruce Lane, proposed to include a new definition of the current "cottage industry manufacturing" in RA districts. He's proposing an ordinance allowing an "artist's studio" in all residential districts.

Action in the Council was to send the proposal to the Ordinances Committee for review. The proposal was welcomed by Councilors Boucher and Penny Jordan saying, "it should be acceptable in all districts." Councilor Boucher shared that "hopefully the community will come in during discussions and raise their hands and discuss what's happening in their neighborhood [regarding the need for new work-from-home ordinance terminology]." Boucher added, "It's kinda like the food trucks—by not mentioning them, they were excluded from being allowed."

Motion passed unanimously to send to Ordinance Committee.

Item #31-2023 Remote Participation Policy

Council is interested in allowing remote participation for members of the public, and other town committee members expressed interest in "having as expansive a remote participation policy as we could," including all remote or all zoom meetings as an option.

The current primary limitation is the requirement to have a physical space where the public can attend and to participate and also the lack of appropriate technology equipment. The motion was approved unanimously to refer to a public hearing on Monday, February 13.

Item #32-2023 Continue the Annual Evaluation of the Town Manager and Employment Contract

The council agreed unanimously to continue the Annual Evaluation of the Town Manager and Employment Contract. Motioned by Councilor Gillis and seconded by Councilor Reiniger.

Public Comment and Adjournment

There was no additional public comment and the Council voted to move into executive session.

High/low tide chart


Date	High Tide				Low Tide				
	AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	
18	Wed	7:09	9.7	7:57	8.3	12:49	1.0	1:43	0.0
19	Thu	8:09	10.2	8:56	8.7	1:50	0.7	2:42	-0.5
20	Fri	9:06	10.8	9:52	9.1	2:48	0.3	3:38	-1.1
21	Sat	10:02	11.2	10:47	9.6	3:44	-0.1	4:32	-1.5
22	Sun	10:57	11.5	11:40	9.9	4:39	-0.5	5:24	-1.8
23	Mon	11:51	11.5			5:34	-0.7	6:15	-1.8
24	Tue	12:31	10.1	12:44	11.3	6:28	-0.8	7:06	-1.6
25	Wed	1:22	10.2	1:38	10.9	7:23	-0.7	7:56	-1.3
26	Thu	2:15	10.1	2:34	10.2	8:20	-0.5	8:49	-0.7
27	Fri	3:09	10.0	3:33	9.5	9:19	-0.2	9:43	-0.1
28	Sat	4:04	9.7	4:35	8.8	10:21	0.2	10:39	0.6
29	Sun	5:01	9.4	5:39	8.3	11:25	0.4	11:38	1.1
30	Mon	6:00	9.2	6:44	8.0			12:31	0.6
31	Tue	7:00	9.1	7:47	7.9	12:40	1.5	1:35	0.6
1	Wed	7:58	9.1	8:42	7.9	1:41	1.6	2:32	0.5
2	Thu	8:49	9.2	9:31	8.1	2:35	1.5	3:21	0.4
3	Fri	9:36	9.3	10:14	8.2	3:22	1.4	4:04	0.2
4	Sat	10:18	9.5	10:54	8.4	4:04	1.2	4:44	0.1
5	Sun	10:56	9.6	11:30	8.5	4:43	1.0	5:19	0.0
6	Mon	11:32	9.6			5:19	0.9	5:51	0.0
7	Tue	12:03	8.7	12:06	9.6	5:54	0.8	6:22	0.0
8	Wed	12:35	8.8	12:40	9.4	6:28	0.7	6:53	0.1

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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.

Wednesday, January 18

Town Council & School Board Joint Workshop, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Monday, January 23

Housing Diversity Study Committee Workshop, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

School Board Special Meeting and Budget Workshop, 6:30 p.m., High School library
 Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Wednesday, January 25

School Board Budget Workshop, 5 p.m., High School library

Thursday, January 26

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

Monday, February 6

Housing Diversity Study Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
 Town Council Workshop, 7 p.m., Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

Tuesday, February 7

School Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall
 Planning Board Workshop, 7 p.m., Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall

Ongoing each week

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

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

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

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.

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: 10:00 a.m. in person and

streamed on Facebook & YouTube

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



CABLE GUIDE

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

Town Council & School Board Joint Workshop
 Jan. 18 - 6 p.m.

CETV CHANNEL 1302

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

Jan. 21, Jan. 22 - 9 a.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Jan. 24 - 7 p.m.

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

Jan. 28, Jan. 29, Feb. 4, Feb. 5 - 9 a.m.

In person at the library and streamed simultaneously via Zoom

Big Little Lit Book Group

Third Wednesday of the month, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Next meeting: February 15

In person at the library and streamed simultaneously via Zoom

Library

Continued from page 12

Next meeting: February 7

In person at the library

Adult Book Group

Third Thursday of the month, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Next meeting: February 19

January book: "Breakfast with Buddha,"

by Roland Merullo



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FMI Go To www.jordansfarm.com

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Suzuki violin lessons and group classes available. Ages 5+. Please contact Laura Warren at Suzuki Stringers 207-245-5863 or email ljwarren88@yahoo.com

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

Piano, Voice, Guitar, Ukulele lessons for all ages. Beginner through intermediate. Carey Rasco: 232-7015

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.

ENGAGEMENT



Miss Olivia Lee Gerrior Babine of Cape Elizabeth, Maine and Mr. Nicholas Jon Petromelis of Peabody, Massachusetts got engaged in August 2021 in Stoupa, Greece surrounded by family. They are set to be married in a Catholic ceremony, with the blessing of a Greek-Orthodox priest, at the Saint Anselm Abbey in Manchester, New Hampshire. A black-tie reception is to follow at Tupper Manor in Beverly, Massachusetts in July 2023.

The bride is a 2011 graduate of Cape Elizabeth High School and the groom is a 2012 graduate of St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers, Massachusetts. Both are undergraduate alumni of Saint Anselm College and she is currently attending the Naval War College to complete her masters degree. She is a lobbyist for a veteran-service organization and he is a manager for a digital political communications agency.

Miss Babine is the daughter of Stephen Martin Haines and Jennifer Gerrior Haines of Cape Elizabeth, Maine. Mr. Petromelis is the son of Jonathan Byron Petromelis and Sophia Petromelis of Peabody, Massachusetts.

The couple currently resides together in Washington, D.C.

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editor@capecourier.com

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Or contact Tara Simopoulos at: advertising@capecourier.com

November and December 2022 Cape Elizabeth real estate transfers

NEW OWNER	LOCATION	SALE PRICE	USE
TACKETT ZACHARY R	12 BLUEBERRY ROAD	\$815,000	SINGLE FAMILY
WOOD DIANN LOUISE	17 COLUMBUS ROAD	\$514,000	SINGLE FAMILY
ROBINSON III CLAUD ANDREW	4 HERMIT THRUSH ROAD	\$655,000	SINGLE FAMILY
BRASS ELIZABETH	21 LAWSON ROAD	\$1,425,000	SINGLE FAMILY
DICKSON GRAHAM	10 POND VIEW ROAD	\$399,000	SINGLE FAMILY
RODGERS SCOTT T	1015 SHORE ROAD	\$2,125,000	SINGLE FAMILY
TRUSTY ALEXANDRA	8 WINSLOW PLACE	\$349,900	CONDOMINIUM
ZAJKOWSKI MARK D	11 BELFIELD ROAD	\$1,495,000	SINGLE FAMILY
DAVIS BRANDON STAFFORD	13 BRENTWOOD ROAD	\$699,900	SINGLE FAMILY
CHANDLER SUSAN E	5 CAPE WOODS DRIVE	\$575,000	CONDOMINIUM
MARK & MEG ALBERTS REVOC TRST	12/17 48 CROSS HILL ROAD	\$1,600,000	SINGLE FAMILY
HILLEARY DEBORAH M	7 HUNTS POINT ROAD	\$2,400,000	SINGLE FAMILY
MORANG FRANK C	17 KETTLE COVE ROAD	\$760,000	SINGLE FAMILY
MENNITT LEO	26 MERRIMAC PLACE	\$475,000	CONDOMINIUM
LEE KATHREEN P	1 QUARTZ KNOB ROAD	\$1,575,000	SINGLE FAMILY
PETERS PAMELA COLLEEN	29 REEF ROAD	\$1,325,000	SINGLE FAMILY
SLAYNE LEIGH E	8 STONYBROOK ROAD	\$1,300,000	SINGLE FAMILY
MOODY CURTIS	27 SURF ROAD	\$1,045,000	SINGLE FAMILY
READY HOLLY	94 TWO LIGHTS ROAD	\$400,000	SINGLE FAMILY
MCFARLANE JR JAMES R	7 WABUN ROAD	\$400,000	SINGLE FAMILY

School Building Advisory Committee

The Cape Elizabeth Town Council and School Board are accepting applications from residents to serve on the newly-formed ad-hoc **School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC)**.

The SBAC shall be a joint ad hoc advisory committee of the School Board and Town Council assisting them in their respective responsibilities for development of a school building project and funding proposal to submit to the Town voters.

The committee will consist of nine members; two members of the Town Council, two members of the School Board and five public members. The public members shall be recommended by a joint appointments committee consisting of three members of the Town Council Appointments Committee and three members of the School Board. Both boards will affirm the recommendations.

Residents with an interest in the project, experience with construction projects, finance, and communications are encouraged to apply. Committee members should anticipate a busy meeting schedule of one or more meetings per month for the next 12-18 months.

Residents may apply at www.capeelizabeth.com.

Questions should be directed to Debra Lane, Town Clerk at 799-7665 or debra.lane@capeelizabeth.org.

Applications must be submitted to Debra Lane no later than 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

**Town of Cape Elizabeth
2023 Dog Licenses
Now Due!**

Dogs 6 months of age are required by state law to be registered

Registration deadline is December 31, 2022.
Dogs registered after January 31, 2023 will be charged a \$25/per dog late fee in addition to the license fee.

Current rabies and spaying/neutering certificates are required.
Dogs may be registered at the Tax Office at Town Hall or online at www.capeelizabeth.com.
(Dogs registered after 1/31/2023 must be registered at the Tax Office.)

CEUMC to host Trevor Maxwell



Trevor Maxwell

Contributed photo

Cape Elizabeth's Trevor Maxwell will conduct a talk and make available the sale of his new book, "Open Heart, Warrior Spirit: A Man's Guide to Living With Cancer" on Sunday, January 29 at 2 p.m. at the Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church. The event is open to the public.

Maxwell, 45, has been living with stage IV colon cancer since March of 2018. He has undergone five major surgeries, chemotherapy, immunotherapy and a clinical trial. He lives in Cape Elizabeth with his wife and two teenage daughters.

In his recently released book, Maxwell explains why men go into their man caves when facing a cancer diagnosis, provides a roadmap for surviving and thriving through treatment, and tells the story of one patient's

quest to create a "wolfpack" for guys with cancer.

Maxwell founded Man Up to Cancer in January of 2020 as a purpose-driven company and support community for men impacted by cancer. He has a background in journalism, communications and public relations.

As a journalist, Maxwell has been the recipient of more than 20 state, regional and national writing awards. As a patient leader, he has received the Annette Cook Cancer Warrior Award presented by the Wunder-Glo Foundation, and the Amanda Dempsey Award presented by the Dempsey Center.

The Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church is located at 280 Ocean House Road (Route 77) in Cape Elizabeth.

View of Cape from the sky



Photo by Malcolm Toon

While flying over Cape Elizabeth on December 30, Malcolm Toon took this photo with a 360 camera he put on the wing of his airplane.

Practices start at new ice rink



Photo by Ang Foley

The Cape Elizabeth Girls High School Hockey program, which consists of a team with students from Cape Elizabeth, Waynflete and South Portland, practice at the new ice rink at Gull Crest. Check out page 1 for more coverage of the ice rink.

You're awesome!

Congratulations to our Coloring Contest winners!



Runners-Up Winners



Emilio Magnoli, age 6



Grace Boyer, age 6



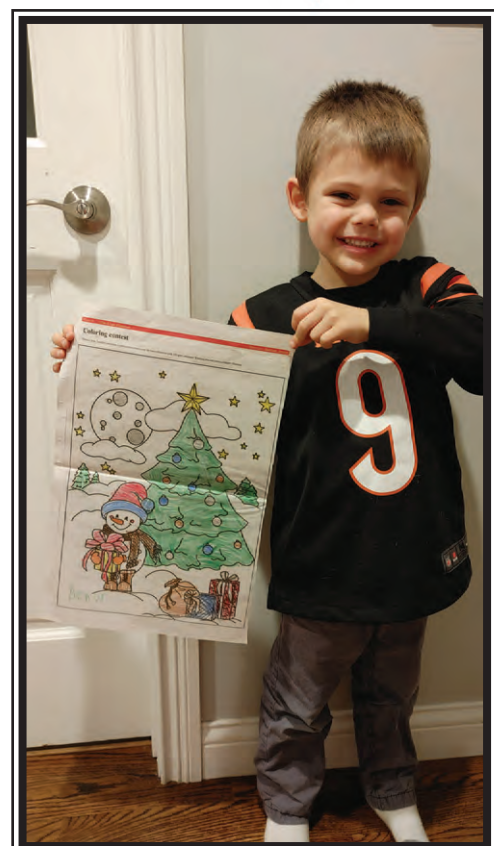
Hudson Roy, age 6



June Pidhajecky, age 8



Will (7) & Bode (5) Sanders



Contest Winner

Ben Van Fleet who was 5 years old at the time of this contest!