

The Cape Courier

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July 26 - Aug 15, 2023

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In the Spirit of Community

News from July 17 TC meeting

By Hanna Gilley

Town Council Reports and Correspondence

Councilor Penny Jordan shared updates of the School Board Advisory committee that it has contracted with an owner's rep and created a milestone plan to be reviewed during the July 20 meeting. The committee also has set out RFPs in search of an architect to begin work during the late fall for design options. The committee is also working on forming several subcommittees for communication, finances, and design review.

Additional comments made by Councilors Jordan and Reiniger include updating the town's Comprehensive Plan to include updated data from the 2020 census. Chair Gabrielson recommended that the topic be added to the September meeting agenda.

Council Reiniger shared with the Council the new law that Governor Mills recently signed, LD1706, that extends the implementation deadline to January 1, 2024 for the LD2003 ordinance. He said this "takes some of the pressure off."

Citizen Comment for Items Not on Agenda

John Voltz of 33 Philip Rd, shared his concerns that the town is "under resourced." He made clear his comments weren't addressing the quality of town staff but that we need more people and resources for the town to face current challenges around "land use, infrastructure and finance."

Daniel Harriman of 21 Kettle Cove, was met with applause from fellow citizens in attendance after he emphatically shared his concern for lack of permanent places for commercial fisherman to land their catch in the town. He recalled the Comprehensive Plan which guaranteed a permanent place that has yet to be created. He said, "Please allow me a place to land my catch and feed you," adding that the "environment is changing, your food isn't going to come from Chile." Chair Gabrielson reminded the Chamber to "refrain from applause or booing so that everyone feels comfortable speaking."

Presentation - Town Engineer Stephen Harding

The Town Engineer Stephen Harding from Sebago Technics presented the report regarding a site feasibility study for affordable housing development purposes at the town-owned Gull Crest property as authorized by the Town Council April 10, 2023. He explained to the chamber in detail four potential housing development plans for the Gull Crest site.

Important notes include that there were no vernal pools found but there are three existing RP2 wetlands, and that the development site has the potential for public water and sewer. A citizen comment addressed the town engineer's last comment that "a

-see TOWN COUNCIL page 7

Donated bikes get new homes



Contributed photo

Tom Mikulka would like to thank the Capers who donated close to 30 bikes recently, most of them in great shape. Mikulka had been collecting them for immigrants in need and he is pictured above with some of the recipients.

Town Council votes to work toward settlement of lawsuit against The Lumbery

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

The town of Cape Elizabeth filed a complaint in District Court, bringing a lawsuit against a local business, The Lumbery, owned by Michael Friedland, alleging that The Lumbery violated an ordinance "...by storing several pallets of firewood, picnic tables, stacks of lumber, and other items in front of the Defendants' store." Friedland said that he has appeared before the Planning Board 25 times, and has spent \$160,000 in the effort to be in compliance with local ordinances.

The Town Council met for 4.5 hours last week. During the meeting, near the end, they entered executive session to discuss, with the town's attorney, the lawsuit filed in District Court against a local business, "Willard Square Home Repair, LLC, doing business as The Lumbery, owned by Michael Friedland," on behalf of the town of Cape Elizabeth.

After they came out of executive session, at approximately 11:30 p.m., Council Chair Jeremy Gabrielson read the following: "The Council moves to direct the town attorney to pursue a consent decree to settle the enforcement action with The Lumbery to bring the property into compliance. In the event the site plan amendments will require ordinance amendments we direct the town attorney to provide draft ordinance amendments for our consideration. If we are able to reach an agreement with The Lumbery, we will not seek any fines or fees. We ask that the town attorney report back on progress in 30 days." The motion was made by Councilor Gabrielson, seconded by Councilor Gretchen Noonan. The motion passed unanimously.

In short, this means the Town Council will make an effort to settle the lawsuit out of court, and to work with the local,

popular business, on site plan amendments, without additional fees. Also, that if Cape Elizabeth land use ordinances need to be changed to make the newly amended site plan work, the town attorney has been asked to draft a proposal for the changes, and to bring all this back before the Town Council meets in August. The town won't seek any fines related to the issue, which could have been substantial.

The path to this latest outcome was a long one.

In October 2022, Code Enforcement Officer Benjamin McDougal filed a complaint in District Court, bringing the lawsuit against The Lumbery.

According to Town Manager Matthew Sturgis, McDougal has the authority to do so without a specific vote by the Town Council, and such a vote never occurred. "Ben does have that authority, but he did get the go-ahead from me as it is an enforcement issue, and this is the last available step to pursue enforcement of the town's ordinances," Sturgis said.

The lawsuit, as filed, states that there were two counts of violating local ordi-

-see LUMBERY page 3



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P.O. Box 2248
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www.capecourier.com

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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, Joanne Lee

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NEXT ISSUE: Aug 16
DEADLINE: Noon, Aug 4

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'Nothing has changed'

I'm writing this letter to urge the Town Council to drop the lawsuit over code violations with The Lumbery. I won't even try to understand your motivation to sue a company that has revitalized real estate and makes donations to schools and non-profits to support the town. Most importantly a business that brings in tax dollars to the town.

This business is seasonal in nature, offering wood which is stored in the back. In the spring and summer months when folks begin to garden, they need a space to display and advertise items that won't fit within the footprint of the building (ex. Cedar planters). These displays don't infringe upon space for customer parking. How is this any different from Jordan's Farm displaying compost, topsoil etc. outside their

shed. I support both businesses and have purchased from both.

At a time when the percentage of property tax revenue will be fixed for the next two years and we are funding a study related to affordable housing I would think we would want to use the taxpayers' money more judiciously. Please discontinue this lawsuit and allow this business to thrive versus forcing profits to be spent on a frivolous lawsuit. I remember back in the 80s at a Chamber of Commerce meeting that she wasn't sure why Cape was in the Chamber because they didn't want businesses in Cape. Apparently, nothing has changed.

Nancy Castle

Support for The Lumbery

It's hard for me to understand why our town council has been so adversarial and critical of Mike Friedland and his business, The Lumbery. They should be ashamed of themselves for how difficult a time they've given the man and his partners while he's simply tried to run his business, (which benefits all of us who own a home and work on it). It is a mystery as to why they've targeted him and to what end.

Do they pine for the old Cumberland Farms? Do they wish it were a fancy boutique or a swanky restaurant with exotic

cuisine? Would they have courted some big-name chain with a national following? It's anyone's guess as to what they actually wanted there, but I can say for sure it wasn't The Lumbery.

I for one have found it a great resource and can name a dozen other people who would say the same. Since the council appears on the cusp of driving this incredible resource from our town, I felt compelled to write my first and only letter that I've ever sent to the Courier to try and do my part to shift the course.

David Connor

'You can't get there from here'

Thank you for the informative and well written article regarding plans for changes to the Sawyer Road Marsh. The article raised both personal and societal issues for me.

On a personal level, I love that stretch of road. In fact, I often drive or ride my bike out of my way to travel that stretch of road while enjoying the wildlife and awesome marsh views. I would miss that if the road were removed.

On a societal level it raises the issues of continuing to build against nature's inevitable changes or to thoughtfully restore what we have done to the ecosystem. Traveling for business across America from the plains to the coast I see the relentless drive to widen and improve roads, build much needed housing or upgrade infrastructure. Much of this is clearly needed, but the Sawyer Road decision provides an opportunity to thoughtfully address both an environmental and infrastructure issue at the local level.

I am looking forward to opinions regarding the decision but my top of mind reaction is to favor restoring this beautiful area. While we may have to spend a few more minutes for travel, the decision to remove the road embraces the Maine way of travel...you can't get there from here.

Asher Kramer

Policy 'creates new risk'

Cape Elizabeth High School hosts many after-school events and activities that are open to the public. The new mixed-gender bathroom policy now welcomes and invites any adult man to follow any teenage girl into the second-floor bathrooms.

Rather than rally our town around the issue - which supposedly has existed for a decade - to create single-entry, single-occupancy bathrooms that would be truly gender-neutral and safe for all, school administrators have chosen to put students at risk in a most vulnerable situation. Surely, civic-minded citizens would have donated time, talent and treasure to help solve this problem if only the school board and administration had thought to engage with parents and our community. But no one asked.

Don't confuse good intentions with good policy. Mixed-gender is not the same as gender-neutral and this policy creates a new risk for one set of students to appease another.

Robert Chatfield

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-see more LETTERS TO THE EDITOR on page 4

2023 Publication Schedule

Issue No.	Ads/Copy Due	Issue Published	Issue No.	Ads/Copy Due	Issue Published
01	Jan 6	Jan 18	12	June 23	July 5
02	Jan 27	Feb 8	13	July 14	July 26
03	Feb 10	Feb 22	14	Aug 4	August 16
04	March 3	March 15	15	Aug 18	Aug 30
05	March 17	March 29	16	Sept 1	Sept 13
06	March 31	April 12	17	Sept 15	Sept 27
07	April 14	April 26	18	Sept 29	Oct 11
08	April 28	May 10	19	Oct 13	Oct 25
09	May 12	May 24	20	Oct 27	Nov 8
10	May 26	June 7	21	Nov 10	Nov 22
11	June 9	June 21	22	Dec 1	Dec 13

Lumbery

Continued from page 1

nances. The second count, violation of "Section 21-3-1 of the Sign Ordinance states, in part, that 'prior to installing any sign that requires a permit, a completed application to install the sign shall be submitted to the Code Enforcement Officer.'"

The filing alleged that The Lumbery violated the ordinance "...by placing a sign in the front of the Defendants' store without submitting the information necessary for a complete sign permit application."

However, according to Sturgis, even before the latest motion by the Town Council, "The sign is no longer an issue, as The Lumbery took down the banner that was in violation. That point is closed."

Count 1 in the town's lawsuit against The Lumbery states that Section 19-9-6 of the Zoning Ordinance was violated by the business "...by storing several pallets of firewood, picnic tables, stacks of lumber, and other items in front of the Defendants' store." The complaint also reads, "The Defendants' approved site plan allows for minimal outside storage of materials in areas defined in the site plan approved by the Planning Board, but the Defendants have failed to preserve appropriate accessibility into the store and have allowed the encroachment of materials to extend far beyond what the approved site plan contemplates."

Also included in the complaint, filed with the court is this: "After several failed attempts to accommodate the Defendants' business, a formal Notice of Violation was sent to the Defendants on May 27, 2022."

The lawsuit includes the potential penalty for the violation in Count 1 as: "\$100 to \$5,000 per day" and says that the town is seeking the following relief from the Court: that The Lumbery pay the penalty "for each day of the violation," requires the "removal of materials outside approved site plan space..." and payment of "attorneys [sic] fees and costs." On the issue of penalties, Friedland said, "The town says the max fine is \$25,000. But they are wrong. There is no max. According to the lawsuit I could owe over \$4.5 million. Plus, the lawsuit is filed, not only against the store, but against myself personally."

These are the fines that the Town Council voted not to seek, if this can be

settled out of court, and a consent decree is reached.

Friedland said before the Town Council got involved and passed the latest motion to work with the business to reach a settlement, that the town's primary argument, as filed in the lawsuit, is that The Lumbery has been in violation, and will not comply and therefore legal action needed to be taken.

Friedland said before the Town Council's latest action, "What is missing, and what most people are scratching their heads about is, 'What is the actual violation in regards to? The town, in the lawsuit, alludes to the placement of outdoor displays. But there are no regulations or ordinances about the placement of outdoor displays. Feel free to verify this. I assure you it is true.'"

Friedland points to the count alleged in the complaint, the one about displaying items outside, and said, "The town lawsuit states that I am in Violation of Code 19-9-6 which states, 'Any alteration to a site which is inconsistent with the approved site plan shall require an amendment to the site plan, Planning Board approval must be obtained prior to the alteration.' OK. What was the alteration to my site plan that I did?"

He points out different items that were added after the plan, including the outdoor displays, and said, "All of these involve day to day operations of my retail store and are not under the jurisdiction of the Planning Board [and are] beyond town regulations and restrictions. The intent of the planning board is to make sure that applications meet approval standards. It is not, I repeat, to dictate the day to day operations of a retail store."

Friedland added, "It is completely illogical to think that I would need to apply for a site plan amendment to move outdoor displays from one part of my property to another, as long as I still complied with town regulations in regards to setbacks and customer/vehicle circulation."

He said that The Lumbery has 16 parking spaces and is only required to have eight. He said that if he uses one of the parking spaces to display a garden bed, the town claims he's in violation.

"The Planning Board, independently of any guidelines, regulations, Ordinances, Town Center Master Plan, Comprehensive Plan decided that they wanted to dictate the day to day operations of my store. And if I, at any time, want to change the placement of my displays then I would need to apply for a site plan amendment which takes, on average, 6 months and costs \$25,000. Absolutely insane," Friedland said.

In the town's complaint, it states that changes are allowed, that the section in the ordinance permits "De minimis Changes" and that, "The intent of this section is to process minor deviations from the approved plan that typically arises [sic] as a project moves from conception to completion of construction."

Friedland points out that means that the "small changes" The Lumbery has made do not fall under the De minimis Change category because, as the section states, these sorts of changes only fall between conception to when construction was complete. "Also, I have stood before the Planning Board 25 times and spent \$160,000 in efforts to comply," he said. These are the fees to which the Town Council's more recent motion refers, and the council has made clear that no further fees will be charged, if a settlement can be reached.

Town Manager Sturgis said, before the Town Council's latest decision, "The town's position is that approved plans must be followed in accordance with the ordinances of the town for all properties. Businesses across the Town have worked within the structures of the ordinances."

Prior to the Town Council's decision to pursue a settlement, a petition circulated online, started by Kate Stewart, asking for the town to drop the lawsuit and also work with Lumbery to "enact sensible change to help them thrive." At last count, it had approximately 1,000 signatures.

Sturgis said he has received the listing of the people who signed it and where they are from. "I do not really have a comment regarding the online petition. The town has tried, and will continue to try to find a solution to this issue, taking the enforcement action to court is our last resort for compliance with what is currently approved. We do not enter into such situations carelessly and we do not have a history of taking such actions as when properties are out of compliance with their approved plans, the situations are generally corrected quickly or in other cases site plan amendments are pursued and approved by the Planning Board."

Prior to the Town Council's decision to pursue a settlement of the lawsuit, The Cape Courier reached out to every member of the council for comment, since there was no vote to give a sense of their individual positions on the issue before the lawsuit was filed by Code Enforcement Officer McDougal, as approved by Sturgis.

Town Council Chair Jeremy Gabrielson said, "Without commenting on pending litigation, I have personally been

pleased to see the level of community support for a local business and engagement for folks who care about the future of the business and our town. I am hopeful that we can come to a resolution that remedies the violations and keeps a well-loved local business in town. I'd also note that folks who have written to the council have proposed a number of changes to our ordinance to better support an economically vibrant town center moving forward. Making changes to our land use ordinance takes time. But many of the ideas that people have raised are in line with our Comprehensive Plan and the council's goals, and I personally look forward to have a conversation around what we can do to encourage more business investment in town."

Town Councilor Nicole Boucher echoed the chair's comment, and said, "I appreciate when a community comes forward to raise awareness to issues that may require change, such as food trucks which we worked on last year and are now allowed under our ordinances."

Town Councilor Penny Jordan, herself a well-known local business owner said, "I think the support that the citizens have shown through this petition demonstrates how much we value our businesses."

Town Councilor Timothy Reiniger said, "I have read each and every constituent email in this matter as well as the posted town materials. In reviewing state statutes and local rules, I believe that the Town Council, as the highest elected official body, is authorized to make the ultimate determination as to whether to proceed with this lawsuit. While I am not permitted to comment on the particulars of this pending matter, I want to express my gratitude for the renewed town-wide commitment shown to fostering a vibrant business sector in the town center."

Town Manager Sturgis said that the Town Council has added a discussion about amending the ordinances to its August 2023 agenda.

To be clear, the lawsuit still exists, but the Town Council has voted, unanimously, that they would like to see an agreement worked out over the coming weeks between the town of Cape Elizabeth and The Lumbery so that the entire affair can be settled out of court, and they have asked the town's attorney to facilitate that effort.

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- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR continued from page 2
Prioritizing public infrastructure

I am having a hard time understanding the priorities of the town and state governments. While closing the Sawyer Road marsh causeway and restoring the wetlands may or may not be a good project, it is certainly NOT a priority for protecting Cape's roads in the face of sea level rise.

The hundred-year-old retaining wall and assorted rubble pile keeping Kettle Cove Road from falling into the ocean almost failed during this past winter's storm. The side of the road base was stripped bare of protection and, amazingly, was not undercut by the high surf. Cape crews patched it with more rubble, but it is doomed to fail.

Yet it seems that this major issue, potentially shutting off neighbors and beach users, is not of much interest to

the town or state as I have heard nothing about it. For some reason, closing a road and removing a culvert seems to be of far greater interest than actually preparing our important road infrastructure for the challenges of sea level rise.

I have repeatedly heard about hundreds of billions of federal funding for projects that improve infrastructure for sea level rise. I would think that a project that proactively protects the public's access to the nationally significant public assets of a state park and Atlantic Coast beach as well as commercial fisherman and neighbors' homes access would be of a higher priority than disassembling a pretty drive through a marsh... but, apparently, that's just me.

Ilya Fleishman

Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

Time Share Exit Scams

It's the summer holiday season and many of us are out looking for vacation homes, but not everyone is in a buying mood. Across the country thousands of people are looking to get rid of a time share property, a process that can be difficult. Enter criminal scammers who set up slick looking but fraudulent businesses that promise to help desperate families for a fee.

Time share scams target victims by responding to for sale ads or searching property records. They will either offer a guarantee to get someone out of their time share for a fee or claim to have a buyer available and ask for real estate sales fees. Last year the Federal Trade Commission and the State of Wisconsin filed suit against a group of companies who collected \$90 million for services they never provided.

Getting out of a time-share can be difficult but looking for short cuts could cost you much more in the end. Never trust anyone who contacts you unsolicited and offers to make your problems go away for a fee. More information: <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2023/timeshare-exit.html>.

Door to Door Sales Scams

Summer is officially here which means door-to-door sales crews are too. But "buyer beware" because what they're selling isn't always legit. Be cautious anytime a stranger comes knocking, especially if the visitor is trying to sell you goods or services. Be wary of contractors who say they stopped by because they just happened to be in the neighborhood. They might even offer you a free roof inspection.

One thing to remember is that good contractors are usually too busy to roam around in search of work. And any deal that you can only get if you sign up immediately or pay for in advance -it not a deal at all. Your best bet is to proactively seek out the services you need and tell the next person who shows up at your door that you don't do business that way.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360. Need a scam prevention speaker for your group? Go to aarp.org/me or call 1-866-554-5380.

Loud party complaint, report of male subject yelling for help

By Debbie Butterworth

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 6-21 An officer responded to a location in the Shore Road area for a well-being check.
- 6-22 An officer responded to a residence in the Sawyer Road area for a well-being check.
- 6-22 An officer met with a subject in the Sawyer Road area regarding an animal complaint.
- 6-23 An officer met with a resident in the Two Lights Road area regarding a trespass complaint.
- 6-24 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area regarding suspicious phone calls.
- 6-25 An officer met with a ranger at Fort Williams who turned in a found purse. The owner was contacted and purse returned.
- 6-26 Two officers responded to a residence in the Shore Acres area for a well-being check.
- 6-27 An officer met with a resident regarding a domestic disturbance.
- 6-30 An officer met with a subject in the Scott Dyer Road area regarding a suspicious posting on social media.
- 6-30 An officer responded to Reef Road and retrieved an abandoned bicycle. It is blue and silver, and was brought to the police station for safe keeping.
- 6-30 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area who reported that he had received emails from Instacart that three items had been ordered, delivered and charged to his credit card. He did not place the orders and the items were not delivered to his address. He has notified Instacart and his credit card company.
- 7-2 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area. It was reported that the homeowners were away and the front door was wide open.
- 7-2 An officer responded to a residence in the Shore Road area for report of a subject outside the house in violation of a protection order.
- 7-3 Two officers responded to the area of Shore Road and Cragmoor for a report of a male subject yelling for help. A thorough search of the area failed to turn up anyone in distress.
- 7-3 Two officers responded to a residence in the Shore Road area for a loud party complaint.
- 7-3 An officer spoke with a resident of the Broad Cove area regarding a possible harassment complaint.
- 7-3 An officer spoke with a resident on the Ocean House Road area regarding harassing phone calls.
- 7-7 An officer spoke with a resident in the Bowery Beach Road area regarding missing medication.
- 7-9 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area regarding an issue with a contractor.
- 7-11 An officer met with a resident in the Scott Dyer Road area regarding a domestic disturbance.

- while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 6-24 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating a vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 6-25 Scarborough resident, criminal speed, Ocean House Road
- 6-28 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Route 77, \$148
- 7-3 Portland resident, operating a vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 7-5 North Yarmouth resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77, \$85
- 7-5 Cape Elizabeth resident, speeding (53/35 zone) Spurwink Avenue, \$170
- 7-5 South Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Spurwink Avenue, \$148
- 7-5 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Route 77, \$148
- 7-6 South Carolina resident, operating after license suspension, Route 77
- 7-6 Poland resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Route 77, \$85
- 7-6 Portland resident, seatbelt violation, Route 77, \$85
- 7-6 South Portland resident, seatbelt violation, Shore Road, \$85
- 7-6 Cape Elizabeth resident, seatbelt violation, Route 77, \$85
- 7-10 Portland resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77
- 7-10 Cape Elizabeth resident, imprudent speed, Route 77, \$134

ACCIDENTS

- 6-25 Elizabeth Emmons, Cameron Remington, accident on Shore Road
- 7-1 Connor McCrillis, Aaron Young, accident on High Bluff Road
- 7-4 Carmita McCoy, David Stine, accident on Ocean House Road

JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 6-24 South Portland resident, unregistered vehicle, Sawyer Road, \$85
- 6-27 Cape Elizabeth resident, excessive acceleration noise, Cape Elizabeth Middle School, \$152

FIRE CALLS

Fire calls: 33
 EMS calls: 54

Judy's Pantry- a community feeding itself


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We operate 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.

SUMMONSES

- 6-23 Gorham resident, operating a vehicle




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Reduce stress on registration day

By Cape Elizabeth Community Services

It's Sunday night and registration opens in minutes. Where is the brochure? What's my login? What's the name of the program? Why can't I find it? We get it. It's stressful.

To simplify your online registration experience, we have added the Wishlist feature to our ActiveNet software allowing you to bookmark activities before registration opens.

When registration opens, log in to your account, move the activities you want from your Wishlist to your cart and check out.

Add Items to Your Wishlist

Activities will be available to view two weeks before registration opens. When you find a program you may be interested in signing up for, bookmark it by clicking on the heart icon, and it will be added to your Wishlist.

Registration Day

Log in to your account, click on your Wishlist and the activities you bookmarked in advance will appear on your list. When registration opens, move items to your cart by clicking **Enroll Now**. Next, select the participant, answer any custom questions and add to your cart. If you want to enroll other household members for the same activity click "Register Another Participant" link located under the "Add to Cart" button.

Once you have enrolled in an activity, return to your Wishlist to continue adding to your cart. When you are finished adding all your items, check any

required waivers, click "Check Out" and "Pay."

Another tip...having saved your credit card on file will make it faster and easier. This is something you can also do in advance from your Account Page. If you have a card on file, be sure to double-check that it is the card you want to use is up-to-date.

There is a two-part Wishlist Feature Tutorial available to view which shows you how to add items to your Wishlist and how to add them to your cart on registration day. The tutorials are on our website www.capecommunityservices.org located under the tab "How Do I?"

The Wishlist feature does not ensure enrollment in popular programs. However, if used, it will ease the pressure by eliminating the need to search for each activity on registration day.

Beginning at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 13 you will be able to search for upcoming activities and add them to your Wishlist. Resident registration for Community Services programs opens online Sunday, August 27 at 8:00 p.m. and in person/over the phone on Monday, August 28 at 8:00 a.m. Non-resident registration opens on Friday, September 1 at 8:00 a.m.

And finally, if you have one of those kids with a birthday near a cut-off date, please call us to override it before registration night and please do not set up another profile for your child.

If you need any assistance accessing your ActiveNet account in advance of registration, contact us at 207-799-2868. Our summer hours are Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Let's talk recycling: Garden hoses and container lids

By Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee

A monthly feature on recycling brought to you by the Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee. Email your questions to jay.reynolds@capeelizabeth.org.

Q. My garden hose is trashed – can I recycle it?

A. Unusable garden hoses should go in the trash. This is because most hoses are made of rubber, which is not recyclable, and they also tend to tangle up the sorting machines at ecomaine. Other "tangles" that cause problems in sorting are items like ropes, dog leashes, and plastic ties. Please put all those items in the trash.

Q. I never know whether to leave the cap on my laundry detergent bottle or remove it before recycling, since the bottle and lid are different kinds of plastic. And what about water bottle tops?

A. Plastic lids should remain on plastic bottles. The lids alone are generally too small to pass through ecomaine's sorting equipment. All recycled plastic gets shredded and then sorted through a flotation process that separates the different types of plastic. You can also leave metal lids on glass containers, but metal lids on plastic containers should be removed before recycling.

Want more news about recycling? Follow "Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee" on Facebook or @CapeERecycles on Instagram. You can also check out ecomaine's Recyclopedia at ecomaine.org/101.

CEHS senior to stage premiere of musical 'Afterthought'

Hadley Johnson is a rising senior at Cape Elizabeth High School (CEHS). She is singer/songwriter and the playwright, composer, lyricist and arranger of a full-length musical called "Afterthought." With the help of assistant director Eliza Green, Johnson cast the musical and began directing rehearsals in January.

"Afterthought" is a poignant coming of age story about two childhood friends forging their individual paths into adulthood considering the driving influences of family, friendship, career and love. The book, lyrics and music team with youthful insight into the human condition.

A high school cast and crew of 11 principals, 10 ensemble members and 19 stagehands and a 9-piece pit orchestra (composed of high schoolers and professional musicians) will present four performances at CEHS on September 28 through October 1.

Johnson and Green will perform the lead roles of Sam and Rachel on September 28 and 30 and Sophie Leen and Zoe Dinnerstein will portray the same roles on September 29 and October 1. The project is made possible through the generous support of donors to the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation as well as the Cape Elizabeth Theatre Department and the Cape Elizabeth Theatre Boosters.

"Hadley came to me with the idea of doing the show on stage at the high school more than a year ago and has been working non-stop to make it a reality ever since", said CEHS Theatre Director Christine Marshall. "Her ability to go from calling out directions,

to acting on stage and then accompanying the actors on piano - with lyrics and a musical score that she has written - has been amazing to watch."

"My favorite parts of the musical writing process has been to make each character come alive through the music and creating a balance between the dialogue and songs", said Johnson, who will turn 17 in August. "Recently, I have been immersed in arranging the music for the 9-piece pit orchestra that will begin rehearsing in August", she said, "I can't wait to hear all the parts come together."

"I am really thankful for the way the Cape Elizabeth community has supported the show. From the student actors and technical crew, to the boosters, school administrators, custodians and the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation, everyone has contributed to make this possible."

Tickets currently on sale at: www.showtix4u.com/event-details/75418

Performances:

Thursday, September 28 at 7 p.m.

Friday, September 29 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 30 at 8 p.m.

Sunday, October 1 at 2 p.m.

Venue: Cape Elizabeth High School Theater, 345 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

Contact: Ginger Browne Johnson, CEHS Theatre Boosters

E-mail: gigruluj@gmail.com

Phone: 508-207-3375

Eco Team at CEUMC hosting showing of 'The Letter'

The Eco Team of the Cape Elizabeth United Church is hosting the showing of the documentary film, "The Letter," on Sunday, August 13 at 7 p.m. at the church. The event is free and open to the public.

The film puts a human face on the escalating issues of climate change with scenes from around the world. It tells the story of the "Laudato Si" letter written by Pope Francis in 2015, urging all people of the world to take "swift and unified global action" on the grow-

ing issues of environmental degradation and global warming. The theme of the pope's letter is to "take care of our common home."

The film also will be available on Zoom. For a Zoom link, call the church at 799-8396 and leave your name, phone number and e-mail address.

Popcorn will be available and an open discussion will follow the film.

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





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Capetoon: Weather reduces crop

By Jeff Mandell



2019 Comprehensive Plan based on faulty data? 2020 U.S. Census numbers suggest it is

By Kevin St. Jarre

The Cape Elizabeth 2019 Comprehensive Plan, like all municipal comprehensive plans, is intended to guide the town's growth, ordinance changes and future spending.

Cape's 2019 Comprehensive Plan represents a great deal of work by many intelligent, hardworking and civic-minded people using the best data they had at the time.

After months of meetings, forums and public input the Comprehensive Plan Committee completed a draft comprehensive plan. After further discussion, the Town Council held three workshops on the draft comprehensive plan. One each on May 8, May 15 and May 22, 2019. There were subsequent public hearings, and an implementation plan was created.

Again, all this work was to develop a Comprehensive Plan for future decision-making, based upon predictions, and those predictions were based upon the best data

available. However, those working to develop the plan knew that more data, and likely better data, would come in the future.

On page 24 of Cape Elizabeth's 2019 Comprehensive Plan, it states:

"The town is confident that the data in this chapter accurately represents population trends, but also recognizes that the degree of shifting trends may be less accurate. Consequently, once the 2020 U.S. Census data is available, the town will compare that information with the data included in this comprehensive plan, and may make adjustments where there is significant divergence in predicted trends.

Population Goal

Goal 1: The town shall review the 2020 U.S. Census data, with a focus on data for the town of Cape Elizabeth, as it becomes available.

Recommendation:

1. Identify trends in the 2020 U.S. Census municipal data that substantially diverge from data and projections included in the 2019 Cape Elizabeth Comprehensive Plan."

This passage in the plan highlights two things. The Comprehensive Plan 2019 Committee and the Cape Elizabeth Town Council were aware that the coming U.S. Census 2020 data may prove that the plan's predictions on trends, based on other data available before the census, were incorrect, and that the town "may make adjustments" where the predictions and the actual data diverged.

According to Kevin Justh, "[T]he town has to do [a comprehensive plan] every 10 years, but there is no reason it can't be updated. The town of Cumberland, I believe, updated theirs mid-stream to address affordable housing."

Justh is correct. The town of Cumberland went back to its 2009 Comprehensive Plan, and, instead of waiting until 2019 as planned, the town conducted a 2014 update. The cover of the town of Cumberland's comprehensive plan reads, "Adopted by the Cumberland Town Council November 9, 2009. Plan amended and adopted by Cumberland Town Council on March 24, 2014."

Examples of incorrect data that were used as the basis for Cape's 2019 Comprehensive Plan include the assertion that the school-age population was collapsing, while Cape Elizabeth's population was growing significantly older.

This incorrect demographic data was used as a reason to limit spending money on new schools, and instead to change zoning, and to spend more money to add housing for the elderly. In reality, the 2020 Census data established that the over-80 population has dropped, while the under-5 population has grown since 2010.

The new data, which the planners anticipated may necessitate "adjustments" to the 2019 Comprehensive Plan, show a need for more elementary school space, and that housing for families with children, rather than more housing for the elderly, would be in demand. For example, population estimates claiming the under-5 population had collapsed to 239 were used while constructing the 2019 Comprehensive Plan, when in reality that under-5 demographic grew to 418.

Town Council

Continued from page 1

similar site with less restraints would be more economical.” A formal item was put on the August agenda to discuss the report with the Conservation and Housing committees.

Item #97-2023 Recommendation from the Fort Williams Park Committee Regarding Fort Williams Park

The Fort Williams Park Committee is looking to preserve Fort Williams Park in perpetuity and wanted to clarify areas not covered by funding and what additional protections may be available. Chair Gabrielson noted that additional funding measures won't be necessary and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing - Proposed Amendments to Chapter 19 Zoning Ordinance to Comply with LD 2003

A public hearing was held for public comments on zoning ordinances for LD2003. The goal of the council was not to vote, but to hear citizen comment and to determine if the motion should be referred back to the planning board and/or ordinance committee with a vote in August.

Citizen comments were plenty and took place over the course of two hours. Many of the same themes were discussed among citizens on both sides of the issue including additional parking for ADUs, concern for vacant lots and tear downs of single family homes to erect multi-unit apartments, state overreach on ordinances, the housing affordability and stock crisis, the square footage footprint of ADUs, short-term rental ordinances in relation to ADUs, and maintaining the community culture of being “friendly and close-knit.”

Public comments included from John Voltz who said, “we've created a community where our kids can't afford to live” and that he wants Cape to “stay a vibrant community.” Tony Iris shared that he can't build an ADU for his daughter who was displaced from her apartment due to rising rent costs because their property lot is too small. He called the situation an “unprecedented housing shortage which is now an epidemic.”

Jessica Linzer added that “we have worker shortage due to a housing shortage” and that she supports attempts to address the housing crisis. Jenny Smith Brock urged the Council to adopt LD2003 and referenced the parking concerns by saying she's “thrilled Maine will allow property owners to decide if they want to add parking spots with an ADU” rather than a requirement within the ordinance.

Nat Jordan, a renter in Cape Elizabeth and 2017 graduate from Cape Elizabeth high school shared that he's “afraid [he] won't be able to move back” due to high property and rental costs in Cape. He also urged the council to “pass zoning changes quickly because the housing crisis isn't waiting around.”

Tony Owens, a 50-year Cape resident, addressed the council and said “your charge is to lead us in a thoughtful, respectful and most importantly, a collaborative path” adding that COVID-19 and rising housing costs have exacerbated the problem.

Sandy Dunham, suggested the council “take their time” in deciding on the ordinance. She shared that she's “not against affordable housing or ADUs, but we should look carefully at how we go forward with our ordinances and making affordable housing available.” Her main concern, like many others present, was the suggested footprint of ADUs allowed to be 1,100 square feet or

greater when the state requirement is only 196 square feet.

After the public hearing ended, the council decided to refer the ordinance back to the ordinance committee based on comments heard from the public. This motion passed unanimously.

Item #100-2023 Refer to Public Hearing Proposed Amendments to Chapter 7 Dogs

Animal Control Officer Maxwell and Chief Fenton created a number of recommendations to make the dog ordinance more enforceable. The council approved a motion to hold a public hearing regarding these recommendations during the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, August 14.

Item #103-2023 Enter into Executive Session - Update on Pending Litigation Relating to Code Violations at The Lumbery, 287 Ocean House Road

Mike Friedland, one of the owners of The Lumbery along with Ryan Holland and Jennifer Stora, described to the council and the public in attendance that the town's Code Enforcement Officer placed The Lumbery in violation of code 19-96. This ordinance is generic in nature and requires that “any alteration that's inconsistent with the site plan needs to receive planning board permission.”

Friedland said that it's his guess many Cape residents are in violation of this ordinance providing an example of putting in a walkway without Planning Board permission. He also said that in his experience, a site plan amendment took over six months and \$20,000 to achieve.

Friedland concluded that many of the town center's lots are held by private landowners. This is important because the Town Center Master Plan states that the “committee acknowledges many properties in the town center are privately owned and that the committee must sometimes react to the decisions of private landowners and cannot dictate the disposition of private property that otherwise complies with town regulations.” He humbly requested that the lawsuit be dropped and amendments to the ordinance be made so that his company can “continue to provide quality goods and services to Cape and to improve the climate for current and future small businesses in Cape Elizabeth.”

Courier gets a slice of Pisa



Contributed photo

Isabelle Reeves and Isabelle Pollick pictured with *The Cape Courier* in Pisa, Italy on the EF Tours trip with CEHS.

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Capers compete in 2023 North American Irish Dance Championship



Contributed photo



Contributed photo

Addie Miller (left, rising 9th grader) and Lydia Mavodones (right, rising 6th grader) competed in the 2023 North American Irish Dance Championship held in Nashville, Tennessee on July 7 and 8. The national competition is the largest national event of qualified dancers from all over the world. Addie finished 23rd among U14 Champion dancers. Lydia finished 24th in the traditional set for U11 dancers. Addie and Lydia are students of the Stillson School of Irish Dance located in Gorham.

Please Join The Housing Diversity Study Committee at Their Upcoming Meetings.

All Meetings will be:
Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Location: Town Council Chambers, Town Hall & Hybrid

- Monday, August 7th
- Monday August 28th
- Monday, September 18th
- Monday, September 25th

Last Chance to Participate in Loomio Discussion on Housing. There are many different topics of conversation around density, importance of diverse housing, design options, and hurdles. The Housing Diversity Study Committee would love to hear from you.

To participate Scan the QR Code with your Phone Camera



or visit: <https://www.loomio.com/g/jvrlGJ28>

BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR WRITTEN, ELECTRONIC SURVEY COMING OUT LATER THIS SUMMER.

Any questions or comments please email: HDSC@capeelizabeth.org
View all previous materials and upcoming information:
<https://www.capeelizabeth.com/HousingDiversityStudyCommittee>



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CEHPS new home of Major General Seth Williams' desk



Contributed photo

The Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society is now home to a desk that once belonged to Union Civil War Major General Seth Williams, the namesake of Fort Williams/Fort Williams Park. A painted portrait and Major Williams' artilleryman's sword were also donated to CEHPS.

The Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society is excited and pleased to announce the arrival of a beautiful desk that once belonged to Union Civil War Major General Seth Williams- the namesake of our beloved Fort Williams/Fort Williams Park.

Present-day Seth Williams (descendant of the General) and his family have selected the CEHPS as home for not only the desk, but a painted portrait of Gen. Williams by 19th century artist E.W. Parkurst, and also his artilleryman's sword.

These treasured artifacts are now on display at the new Fort Williams Museum in the former Bachelor Officer Quarters at Fort Williams Park.

The desk was in rough shape when it

came to us. Pieces were broken, veneer was chipped and inlays were missing. But thanks to the loving care and expertise of woodworkers Randy Blake and Gary Kokx, it has been restored to immaculate condition.

Thank you so much, Randy, Gary and Seth!

PCES and CEMS lights converted to LEDs, bringing up to standard

By Kevin St. Jarre

Cape Elizabeth Facilities Director David Bagdasarian recently announced that the lighting in Pond Cove Elementary School and Cape Elizabeth Middle School have been upgraded to LEDs. When the project went out to bid, the price tag was set roughly at \$420,000. According to Bagdasarian, that was more than was anticipated, and was looking "to be one of the more expensive single improvements into that building in quite some time."

However, Bagdasarian said he was pleased to share on behalf of the Cape Elizabeth School Board, the Superintendent and himself that they will proceed with the project.

"Thanks to some efficient, tax-exempt lease-to-purchase financing, it becomes more like a \$200,000 upfront investment, with the remaining payments broken out over four years, plus or minus equal to the amount saved in energy costs," he said.

This is the most impactful improvement that can be made at PCES and CEMS, Bagdasarian said, as the lighting

in those buildings is below the standard it should be. He said, "Everyone in both schools will benefit from this all year, and the benefits of proper lighting in school are well documented. The town and CESD benefit from the reduced energy costs..."

Bagdasarian also points out the "change was coming no matter what" because Maine has adopted a law against the use of fluorescent bulbs. Like Vermont and California, Maine is prohibiting the sale of the fluorescent bulbs by 2026.

He said, "[W]e are benefiting from some Maine Efficiency grants, that likely won't be there in the future, it will just be the mandate."

"This investment also shows the commitment to schools. While we are still exploring the future of the buildings, we remain committed to improving what we have for the students and staff," Bagdasarian said.



Town of Cape Elizabeth Town Clerk's Office Deputy Town Clerk

The Town of Cape Elizabeth is seeking qualified applicants for the full-time (4-day workweek) position of **Deputy Town Clerk**.

Hours: Monday 7:20-5:05, Tuesday – Thursday 7:20-4:35. Flexible schedule required during election cycles.

This is a professional role responsible for assisting the Town Clerk with the general oversight of services relating to the Town Clerk's office. Prior municipal/election experience preferred however willing to train the right candidate. Organizational and time management skills required. Attention to detail a must. Succession planning in the Town Clerk's Office will give the successful candidate a unique opportunity to train with the Deputy Clerk who will move into the position of Town Clerk.

Performs administrative, clerical and financial work including the issuance of vital records, elections, licenses and collection of various fees for the Town. Work involves significant public contact, records management, collection of money, and interpretation of ordinances, statutes and policies.

The Town of Cape Elizabeth offers a comprehensive and generous benefits package including 4-day workweek, health insurance, a 401A defined contribution retirement plan, paid holidays, sick leave and vacations.

Job description and employment application available at www.capeelizabeth.com/JobPostings.

Please submit letter of interest, resume and employment application by August 18, 2023. Applications will be accepted by mail, or drop off at the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall.

Debra M. Lane, Town Clerk
320 Ocean House Road
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

For more information, please contact Town Clerk Debra Lane at (207) 799-7665 or debra.lane@capeelizabeth.org.

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Sell-out crowd at wet paint auction raises funds for CELT



Photo by Kevin Keiser

Attendees admire a piece of artwork at CELT's 16th annual wet paint auction, which was held on June 25.

On a rare sunny Sunday, June 25, nearly 450 friends and supporters of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust gathered to celebrate art and the beautiful land and seascapes around us. Paint for Preservation, CELT's 16th annual wet paint auction, featured the stunning artwork of 31 plein air artists, sold at auction or as smaller Mystery Boxes during an outdoor reception overlooking Richmond Island.

Many hands are needed to accomplish this event each year, and Paint for Preservation is truly a community celebration. More than 60 volunteers gave their time in myriad ways: as bar tenders, photographers, bid spotters and recorders, registration and sales to name just a few. The South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club assisted by directing parking and helping to ensure a smooth and enjoyable event for all.

This is the one fundraising event held by the land trust each year, providing nearly one quarter of the funds it needs to conserve and care for the beautiful places in Cape. Financial support came from 50% of the art sales donated by the artists, by ticket sales, a 64-person Host Committee and business sponsors and contributors, including ETHOS, Décor Maine, Keybank, R.M. Davis, Bath Savings, Casco Bay Frames & Gallery, Cousins Maine Lobster, Eyecare Medi-

cal Group, Foulmouthed Brewery, Hufard House, Inn By the Sea, Kettle Cove Creamery, Knickerbocker Group, Maine Limousine Service, Oak Hill Beverages, RE/MAX Oceanside, Richard Moody & Sons Construction, TAK Advisory LLC, Tammaro Landscaping & Property Services, Veterinary and Rehabilitation Center of Cape Elizabeth, Wright-Ryan Homes, and Yokogawa Fluid Imaging Technologies.

"Thankfully, the artists ended up with fine Maine weather to paint en plein air (outdoors) on Friday," noted planning committee member Claudia Dricot. "That was most important to ensure that the artwork being auctioned on Sunday was of the highest interest and quality." The accomplished artists are juried to participate and donate 50% of sales to benefit the land trust. Mary Harding, independent art consultant and long-time curator for the George Marshall Store Gallery in York donated her time as the juror. Elizabeth Ross was this year's auctioneer.

CELT extends its gratitude to our event host and everyone who contributed to make this a resounding success for the community. Photos of the event can be found at www.capelandtrust.org or CELT's Facebook and Instagram pages.

Cape Elizabeth SBAC invites community to participate in survey

The Cape Elizabeth School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC) is set to launch a comprehensive survey to gather community opinions on the future of Cape Elizabeth school buildings. All residents are encouraged to participate and help guide the direction of the proposal to address the infrastructure needs of our school buildings.

Households across Cape Elizabeth will soon receive a mailer that includes the survey. The Committee kindly asks residents to anticipate this mailer and promptly respond to the survey upon receipt.

This outreach initiative seeks the views of every community member, aged 18 and above, regardless of whether they currently have children enrolled in Cape Elizabeth schools or how they voted in the past referendum. By incorporating a wide array of opinions, the committee aims to ensure the resulting proposal will optimally serve the diverse needs of our community.

To maintain strict confidentiality, the SBAC has engaged Portland Research Group, an independent consultant, to manage the survey. They will administer the survey, gather data, and analyze results. Individual responses will remain confidential to Portland Research Group, and will only be reported in total. No

member of the Cape Elizabeth town government, Cape Elizabeth School Board, or the SBAC will have access to any individual responses to the survey.

The mailer will provide instructions for completing the survey online, which is the preferred method for residents to take the survey. The online option not only minimizes town expenses but also speeds up data processing, ensuring a swift and efficient analysis of the results. However, for residents who may not have access to the internet, a paper version of the survey will be included in the mailer. Those wishing to use this method may return their completed surveys in the provided postage-paid envelope.

Upon completion of the survey and data analysis, the SBAC plans to share the results with the community. A public forum will be held in September 2023 where these results will be presented by Portland Research Group and open for discussion. Further details about this forum will be communicated closer to the date.

The SBAC extends its sincere thanks to the Cape Elizabeth community in advance for their participation and is looking forward to shaping a proposal for the Cape Elizabeth school buildings that best meets the community's needs.

Cape Elizabeth June 2023 real estate transfers

NEW OWNER	LOCATION	SALE PRICE	USE
FOMEZ DEVELOPMENT LLC	80 SPURWINK AVENUE	\$250,000	SINGLE FAMILY
AMY & RICHARD BARRETT	19 CAPE WOODS DRIVE	\$585,000	CONDOMINIUM
RICHARD PERRY & S. SCHULZ	8 PHOEBES WAY	\$830,000	CONDOMINIUM
FERRY & JENNIFER HEILEMANN	2 SUMMIT ROAD	\$2,250,000	SINGLE FAMILY
ANNA VAN HUYSTEE	7 ASTER LANE	\$780,000	SINGLE FAMILY
EDMUND & LORETTA MELHADO	449 MITCHELL ROAD	\$509,000	SINGLE FAMILY
KLEIMAN EILENE & JEFFREY	21 WESTMINSTER TERRACE	\$845,000	CONDOMINIUM



Richmond Island closed to public visitors July 31-August 11

Richmond Island will be closed to public visitors in 2023 from July 31st-August 11th for island maintenance. Thank you for respecting the closure by not visiting during this time.

Caretakers will be working on the island throughout the closure time, and you will be asked to leave should you decide to come ashore. Please plan accordingly and check our website for current updates and regulations at blackpoint-corporation.com. Thank you for respecting this beautiful island.

Any additional questions please call 207-799-0011.





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Local birding report

By E. Brooks Bornhoff

By mid-July breeding season for woodland birds is winding down and consequently they have less reason to sing. The reduced frequency of singing makes finding birds even more challenging. Alas, there is always something of interest to see or hear and it is just a matter of being out in the field to chance upon it.

Along our coastline and marshes long-distance southbound waterbirds are already passing back through Cape en-route to wintering grounds in South America.

On July 9 within the Rachael Carson National Wildlife Refuge along Sawyer Road I observed six Least Sandpipers, three Greater Yellowlegs and a Willet noisily driving an Eastern Kingbird from its perch atop a metal pole. From the surrounding marsh grasses several secretive Nelson's Sparrows were singing - their short, unmusical psssstk calls sounding like miniature bursts of steam escaping tiny pipes. On this same outing I picked up a Wilson's Snipe call while using the Cornell Labs Sound ID. Unfortunately, I did not see or hear this bird myself.

Additionally, upon playback I couldn't decipher the bird's call on the Sound ID spectrogram so I was not comfortable confirming the species in eBird. Additionally I was able to view four different types of Swallows - Barn, Tree, Northern-rough Winged and Bank. As for identification of the latter three, Tree Swallows are a good default for comparison with other swallows. Both adult and juvenile Tree Swallows have clean white throats, while the Northern-rough Winged's throat and breast are visibly dingy brown. I had forgotten how adult female Tree Swallows are often brownish above with limited hints of blue and first year birds are especially brown (not blue). Bank and Northern Rough Winged Swallows are similar in size and can be tricky to differentiate between however the Bank Swallow's slightly forked tail is often visible as is a brown band along its chest.

Unfortunately, Bank Swallows populations in southern Maine have declined more than any other aerial insectivore and are currently estimated to be at less than 1% of its 1966 population.

On this same day five Short-billed Dowitchers crossed overhead along Sawyer Road and the following day July 11th while travelling along the Eastern Trail across the Scarborough Marsh another small flock of these birds alerted me to their presence with shrill quivering whistles as they took flight out of the

tidal wetlands. Short-billed Dowitchers are handsome golden and orange-colored shorebirds that have a bill over twice the size of its head. These birds are one of the first to migrate south every summer and they leave in stages, first moving to intermediate areas to complete molting. Once their new sets of feathers come in they then move on to their ultimate wintering areas. This strategy is called "molt migration."

Closer to home, on the evening of July 13th I caught not one but two Wood Thrushes calling from the depths of Robinson Woods III. This was the first time in Cape that I had heard more than one Wood Thrush singing in proximity. The pure, sweet liquid refrains from one of the singing thrushes suddenly gave way to a distinctive machine-gun like pit-pit-pit call which typically accompanies either nest or territory defense.

Also around sunset on July 14th I biked the length of Charles Jordan Road. Of note, I was pleasantly surprised by four separate Eastern Towhee's singing along the fringes of the forests and fields. I was also treated to the songs of Veery's, Hermit Thrushes, Great-crested Flycatchers, Cedar Waxwings and a single and Wood Thrush and Least Flycatcher.

Lastly, on the stormy day of July 16 off of Two Lights State Park I scanned the rough ocean and noticed two small, robin-sized seabirds that had a distinctive flutter and glide to their movements as they seemed to sail just above the tops of the waves, hopping from the surface of one wave to the next, Oceanites oceanicus also called Wilson's Storm Petrels!

These tiny charcoal brown seabirds have short bills, long legs and a noticeable white rump patch. Additionally, these little birds that weigh just over one ounce spend their entire lives on the open ocean are long-distance transequatorial migrants traveling 18,000 miles per year over an enormous variety of marine habitats. The first time I laid eyes on a Wilson's Storm Petrel was in 2005 while crossing the Bay of Fundi in a sailboat race. I recall the sea being becalmed about twenty miles off of Halifax Nova Scotia when several hundred Wilson's Storm Petrels appeared like a swarm of fluttering butterflies around our boat, their soft peeping and twittering notes casting a spell on all of us aboard.



Nature scene around town



Photo by Martha Agan

Above, a Great Egret



Photo by Martha Agan

Below, a Least Tern

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 Friday, September 29 at 7pm
 Saturday, September 30 at 8pm
 Sunday, October 1 at 2pm

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 New York Striploin | BBQ Chicken | Steamed Corn
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*Price per person excludes market price lobster.

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Thomas Memorial Library receives blue whale project grant, offers programs on modern pop art experience, botanical printing

Library Receives Blue Whale Project Grant

The Thomas Memorial Library was one of twenty libraries in the country to receive a grant from the Space Science Institute to support educational programs that explore local wildlife species and spark an interest in wildlife biology.

The grant is offered in conjunction with HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, producer of the new IMAX film “Blue Whales: Return of the Giants,” and the STAR Library Network, in partnership with the California Science Center and SK Films. The IMAX film can be viewed in full at the Simons Theater at the New England Aquarium in Boston; a shorter version of the film will be made available to the library as well.

Why blue whales? Few species in the animal kingdom inspire awe and wonder like the blue whale—the largest species to ever roam the planet. Its incredible size, specialized behaviors and elusiveness make it a curiosity for scientists and schoolchildren alike. Marine biologists have spent decades trying to understand its lifestyle, and conservationists have committed their lives to bringing it back from the brink of extinction.

The work these experts do is exceptional in its own right, shedding new light on this magnificent species, the oceans, and the way biology works. But their efforts are also a window into the life of every field scientist, and an opportunity to help non-scientists—and children in particular—become explorers and protectors of the natural world wherever they live. The same techniques used by whale scientists at sea can be replicated

in our own backyards, sparking interest in science, appreciation of nature and the thrill of discovery.

The library is working on developing programs around these themes, which will be offered for a variety of ages in the coming months. As part of the grant, the library received a life-sized blue whale tail entry mat, which now leads the way up the library’s main desk on the upper level. To find out more about blue whales, special resources—including an augmented reality app that allows you to experience a blue whale up close right in front of your eyes!—and upcoming programs funded by the grant, please visit the library’s website.

The library will be closed all day on Thursday, August 17 for the town’s annual Staff Development & Appreciation Day.

Adult Summer Reading Program Runs Through July and August

Our annual Adult Summer Reading program returns to Thomas Memorial Library and will run throughout July and August. Challenges, prizes and a whole summer’s worth of reading fun are just a library visit away. Stop by the library beginning July 1 for more details about how you can take part and win fabulous weekly prizes. And don’t forget to pick up your free Summer Reading giveaways, just for signing up, while supplies last.

And for all the little ones looking for something to OCTOPI themselves with: summer reading for babies, kids and tweens is already underway. Stop by the

children’s room downstairs to register.

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 a very special Big Red Dog: Clifford. We’ll have fun activities throughout the month of July, like our popular scavenger hunt. And look out in August, we’ll have The Bad Seed and their friends visiting the children’s room.

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 Programming

Messy Minis! Process Art for Curious Kids

Mondays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 2-5)

Let your imagination run wild and join us for Messy Minis time in the Community Room. Let’s paint, color, cut and paste together to make magic. Each week we’ll have different supplies out for you to be creative with. Some supplies may

be limited, so be ready with your flexible and creative muscles. We can’t wait to see what you make. For budding artists ages 2-5 and their caregivers.

Dress Up and Dance

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 2-5)

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

Play Date at the Library

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (All ages)

Drop-in playtime session for children and their caregivers. This informal program is a fun and engaging way to explore literacy practices along with social and imaginative play. Through play, young children learn about their world. With this knowledge, they can understand books and stories once they begin to read. The Community Room is open for exploration during this time, with special toys and stations while you visit with friends.

Ready for Reading Club

Wednesday, 1:30-2:00 p.m. (Ages 4+)

A special storytime program for children ages 4 and up. Join Miss Martha to enjoy longer stories, fun with music, and a variety of simple early learning games and activities.

-see LIBRARY page 13

Cape Elizabeth's Lawsuit Against the Lumbery Highlights Concerns

Last August, the Lumbery’s owner (Michael Friedland) wrote to the Cape Courier. He began his letter by expressing concern that Cape’s Town Planner is for some reason “above reproach.” He concluded by suggesting that the Planner be replaced.

In September, the Chair of Cape's Planning Board – the body that judges the Lumbery’s compliance with town ordinances – said that Friedland’s assertions were “inaccurate, mean spirited, and reveal more about Michael Friedland than anything else.” The Chair and other members (including the current Chair) then defended and enthusiastically praised the Town Planner.

Three weeks later, Micheal Friedland was served a lawsuit from the Town of Cape Elizabeth, threatening his home and business.

The timeline of these events sure looks more than coincidental. Per the lawsuit, the Lumbery was in violation of its site plan for outdoor displays – and had been for nearly two years. Our town was correct to address the issue. But was the harm done so significant that it necessitated a lawsuit that would likely bankrupt and drive the Lumbery out of town?

In contrast, it’s been less than two years since Cape officials spent an untold amount of town funds on planning staff and legal resources to accommodate a large commercial developer’s proposal to build a large apartment complex in Town Center. That planning process led to the controversial set of zoning amendments that were ultimately rejected by Cape’s voters. In the same time period, many of Cape's small businesses (including the Lumbery and even the beloved Cookie Jar) have faced ongoing struggles with the town. Could this represent a double standard? How arbitrary is the process, and how much does personal bias come into play?

You may recall that a former town official once publicly compared critics of the Town Center ordinance changes to arsonists. That same official opined that if new storefronts were built on the first floor of a Town Center development, they would likely sit vacant. Why? If true, does Cape’s stance toward small businesses play a role? Shouldn’t we be better at attracting small businesses to Town Center and helping those businesses thrive?

We believe each of these questions to be reasonable and fair. The issue is not a cut and dry one and we’re certain there is more to come. But good planning requires supporting small business owners and embracing Cape’s goal to promote small-scale commercial development in Town Center. That, combined with treating everyone fairly, is good governance.

Library

Continued from page 12

Tiny Tunes

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 1-3)

This inclusive program is for children who are not quite ready for a traditional story time, but love to have fun with friends. Join us for a movement-based program that's a gentle introduction to the routines, songs and props we use for storytimes, but without the books. Great for curious, wandering wigglers, ages 1-3, and their caregivers.

Bébés en Plein Air

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. (Ages 0-1)

Outside in the Children's Garden, weather permitting

Bring your baby and a blanket to join us in the children's garden (aka "Bébés en Plein Air"), weather permitting. The sunshade provides a nice cover and it's a perfect time to enjoy a snack, play and let the littles interact while caregivers connect. Librarians will drop in from time to time to teach a fun rhyme or song. Stay for a just a few minutes or for the hour. This event is intended for babies 0-1 and their families.

School-Age Programs

Lego Club (Ages 5-12)

First Tuesday of each month, 3:30-4:30 p.m. (Community Room)

August 1

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 meets. There is no registration for this program, children 10 and under must have an adult present.

Summer Scoops: Middle School Book Club

Wednesdays, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Bring your own book. We discuss whatever we are currently reading and enjoy popsicles with friends. Outdoors as weather permits in the children's garden. No registration required.

Open Chess Play for Kids

Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Conference Room

Learn to play chess or find a friend and play a game during this drop-in time designed for elementary-age children. Boards are provided but we also encourage you to bring your own. Join us for some heated—but very friendly—competition in the very cool Conference Room downstairs in the library this summer.

Young Writers at TML

The first Thursday of the month at 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

August 3

Are you a young writer looking for a way to practice your craft? Join us at TML for our own budding writers group. Designed for students between the ages of 10-12, this group will focus on exploring the imagination through fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction.

With monthly meetings on the first Thursday afternoons starting on June 1st, this program will be full of fun journal prompts and creative group exercises. Email Sasha at skohan@thomas.lib.me.us to sign up.

TML Teen Writing

Saturdays at 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Are you a teen who loves writing? Join us at TML for our very own teen writing group. With weekly drop-in sessions and monthly genre workshops, we'll go over basics like voice, plot, style and form, with a multitude of writing prompts and the opportunity to give and receive feedback.

Come to the downstairs conference room on Saturdays at 2 p.m. starting June 3 for a rad, rollicking, good writing time. Email Sasha at skohan@thomas.lib.me.us to sign up.

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/>.

The Modern Pop Art Experience: A Workshop with Michael Albert

Saturday, July 29, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in-person at the library

Explore Pop Art with cereal boxes! New York-based artist Michael Albert will discuss his work, and guide participants as they create their own collages using the same materials he uses to create his own works of art. The workshop will conclude with a free poster giveaway and signing as a special gift to participants. All materials will be provided. Please visit the library's website for more details and to register.

Botanical Printing: Art from Your Own Backyard, with Marie Ahearn and Rachel Davis

Saturday, August 26, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in-person at the library

Learn how to make beautiful prints from real plants and flowers, and color

-see EVENTS page 15

Plan

Continued from page 6

A member of the Town Council at the time the plan was being developed, Christopher Straw, explained another way the older data caused error in the predictions, and therefore in the planning within the Comprehensive Plan.

Straw said, "One argument for allowing Short Term Rentals is so that older people can extract value from their houses rather than selling. This is more defensible as a policy choice if the natural housing turnover cycle of 'buy young, have kids, kids leave nest, downsize by selling to a new young family' has broken down, which is what the Plan suggested. But the Census data shows it hasn't."

Straw added, "As one more example—think about the attempt to develop the lot in the downtown next to Town Hall. The Comprehensive Plan implied we should have been building 1-bedroom units because our population was aging and needed low-maintenance housing to move into. The actual Census data indicates the opposite—there are fewer 80+ year-olds than in the past."

While the new 2020 Census data certainly warrant examination and analysis, this is something that need not wait for the development of a new 2029 Comprehensive Plan, according to Justh. "For Cape, not only new census data, but also what appears to be desirable changes to help small businesses, create more friendly land use planning generally, all good reasons to re-open those pieces of the plan. The plan is also missing a lot of useful info about long-term capital management and planning," Justh said.

Taking a new look at the Comprehensive Plan "...also gets us out of the cycle of doing a plan in a time when we know demographic information is out of date. This finalizing the year before a census is pretty nonsensical," Justh said.

His point being, just as the last Comprehensive Plan was developed in 2019, the year before the U.S. Census in 2020, so too would the next Comprehensive Plan

be created in 2029, just before the U.S. Census of 2030 would be conducted. Cape Elizabeth would be missing, perpetually, the latest data by a year or two. By state of Maine statute, all municipalities are required to develop a comprehensive plan and update it at least every 10 years, but nothing prevents a town from updating sooner.

The need to potentially update the plan when newer data were available, and especially the 2020 U.S. Census data, was anticipated. At the workshop on May 8, 2019, Town Councilor Jeremy Gabrielson said, "...maybe what we want to do is include a strategy, or an action, under population demographics that asks us to look back. Not to reinvent it, but, you know, when we have better data from the 2020 Census, if there are any changes that that would inform, specifically things that are related to school population and things that would change."

In response to Gabrielson, Town Councilor Penny Jordan supported his suggestion, and said, "I loved your idea of having a goal in here to look back. I thought that was an awesome idea, because that will allow us to recognize the dynamics that happen around population. I thought that was great."

In the third workshop, held on May 22, 2019, there were at least three instances where members of the Town Council supported the idea of reexamining the 2019 Comprehensive Plan once the 2020 U.S. Census demographic data were available.

The current municipal custom followed in the formation of a new committee, that would reexamine and potentially update a Comprehensive Plan, with 2020 U.S. Census data in hand, is that it would naturally reflect a cross-section of the community. This would mean every demographic represented, with regard to socio-economic class, race, ethnicity, faith, identity, age and familial situation including those with elderly relatives to care for, those living on their own, and those with young children at home attending Cape Elizabeth's public schools.



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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.

Tuesday, August 1

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

Thursday, August 3

School Building Advisory Committee, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
 Recycling Committee, Public Works Department, 7 p.m.

Monday, August 7

Housing Diversity Study Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 8

Conservation Committee, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 9

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Thomas Memorial Library, 6 p.m.

Monday, August 14

Town Council, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, August 15

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Ongoing each week

Al-Anon, 7 p.m. Fridays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland. Parking in rear.
 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 Mondays and Thursdays when "Open" sign displayed, Fort Williams, in the brick building closest to Shore Road (ring the doorbell).
 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 Elizabeth Republican Town Committee, 7-9 p.m. first Wednesday of the month, Cape Community Center.
 South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays at 107 Preble Hall, Southern Maine Community College, 2 Fort Road, South Portland. sp-ce-rotary.org.
 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

Service videos available on our website

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. 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 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

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

Redeemer Lutheran Church - LCMS
 410 Main Street, Gorham
839-7100
www.RedeemerMaine.org
 1st Saturday of the month 10:00 a.m. with masks
 Sunday Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Service: 10:15 a.m.
 Wednesday Vespers: 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday and Wednesday services are in person and streamed on Facebook

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 (stalbanschannel)
 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 cstv.capeelizabeth.org for latest program guide and video on demand.

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene
 Aug. 12, Aug. 13, Aug. 5, Aug. 6,

CETV CHANNEL 1302

July 29 & July 30 - 9 a.m.
Housing Diversity Study Committee
 Aug. 7 - 6:30 p.m.

Graduation announcements

Avery Palma of Cape Elizabeth received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Psychological Science during the 2023 Commencement Ceremonies of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York. Palma, the child of David F. Palma, III and Paula E. Palma graduated summa cum laude and studied abroad in Rome, Italy while at HWS.

Jack Glanville of Cape Elizabeth graduated from Plymouth State University in Plymouth, New Hampshire during its 152nd Anniversary Commencement Ceremony on May 12, 2023. Glanville graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management.



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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

Events

Continued from page 13

them with watercolor paints. No experience necessary. All materials will be provided, but participants are encouraged to gather leaves and flowers from home to use for prints. We'll also have an opportunity to go outside to gather plants from the library grounds. Please visit the library's website for more details and to register.

ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Daily Fika (Coffee Break)

ON HIATUS: JULY 29 – SEPTEMBER 6
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. via Zoom

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Pod Complex: A TML Podcast Listening Club

ON HIATUS IN AUGUST
First Thursday of the month, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Songwriting Workshop (with Jud Caswell)

First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Next meeting: August 1
In person at the library

Guerilla Poetry Whoop

ON HIATUS IN AUGUST
Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

E-ldering Conversation Group

Wednesdays
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
In person AND via Zoom

Adult Book Group

Third Thursday of the month, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
Next meeting: August 10
August book: "Down The Road A Piece," by John McDonald
In person at the library and streamed simultaneously via Zoom



Dean's list announcements

Stewart Kelley, son of Brenna and Peter Kelley, was named to the dean's list at University of North Carolina-Wilmington for the 2023 spring semester. Stewart is a rising sophomore majoring in business.

Theo Brucker, computer science major at the University of Maine, Orono, was named to the dean's list for the spring 2023 semester.

Enrico Perruzzi has been named to the dean's list for the 2023 spring semester at Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts. Perruzzi has a primary major of Education.

The following students have been named to the spring 2023 dean's list at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island:

- Karli Chapin**
- John Clarke**
- Nate Mullen**
- Jessica Robicheau**

Gannon Stewart has been named to the President's list at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, New Hampshire. Stewart is majoring in Finance.

Cooper Sherman has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2023 semester at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts. Sherman is majoring in Sports Communication and is a member of Emerson College's Class of 2024.

Julia Olsen has earned dean's list honors at The University of Tampa in Tampa, Florida for the Spring 2023 semester. Olsen is a freshman majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice BS.

Greta Frankwicz was named to the spring 2023 dean's list at the College of Our Lady of the Elms in Chicopee, Massachusetts.

Dana Schwartz has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2023 semester at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York.



Contributed photo

The Thomas Memorial Library received a national grant to support wildlife education programs; grant recipients also received a life-sized blue whale tail entry mat.

Dean's list/graduation announcements

The following local students recently earned bachelor's degrees from the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont:

Caleigh Campbell graduated with a bachelor's in Environmental Studies.

Zachary Wellins graduated with a bachelor's in Biology.

The following students were named to the spring 2023 dean's list at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts:

- Ella Bromage**, Class of 2026
- Sean O'Sullivan**, Class of 2023

Emily Supple has been named to the President's list for the spring 2023 semester at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island.

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The Benefits of Downsizing for Homeowners

Downsizing is a popular choice for homeowners when they retire or when their needs change, but with inflation still high, it's also a way to reduce costs.

If you're thinking of downsizing, ask yourself:

Do I really want all the space I have right now?

Have my needs changed since I bought my current home?

Do I want to move so I can try to save on housing expenses?

Whatever the reason you're looking to downsize, consider these perks that come with making your move.

CEHS student organizes Cape's First Annual Pride event



Photo taken by The Tilly Project

Cape Elizabeth's First Annual Pride event was held on June 23 at Cape Elizabeth High School. The event was organized by Cape Elizabeth High School student Saga Hart, YOQC (Youth-Oriented-Queer-Collective). Guest speakers included Hart (YOQC Maine, Maine Youth Power, OUT Maine, CEHS), Maggie Hirshland (OUT Maine) and Chris O'Connor (Equality Community Center).

Then and Now: The gang that couldn't shoot straight (Maine style)

By Jim Rowe

The June 13, 1909 edition of the Evening Star newspaper (Washington, D.C.) describes this incident far better than I ever could. So I'll let it...

"WILD SHOT HITS STEAMER"

Fort Williams Gun Practice Nearly Causes Disaster.

"Portland, Me., June 12.- A wild shot from one of the guns at Fort Williams struck the United States quartermaster's steamer Alfred W. Drew yesterday during a sub caliber practice at the fort, and, smashing through the wooden sides and bulkheads of the

steamer, penetrated one of the boiler plates, according to a report made public today. Fortunately none of the tubes was broken or else there would have been a disastrous explosion, that would have wrecked the vessel and killed several people."

"Besides the regular officers and crew there were aboard at the time artillery men and observers from the fort watching the results of the practice."

(article contributed to the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society by Phillip Nendel, Oskaloosa, Iowa)

Cottage Farms Road cheering squad



Contributed photo

During this year's Tri for a Cure event, which was held on July 16, Cottage Farms Road residents Justin Burkhardt (above left) and David Morris (above right), gathered nearly 50 neighbors and friends from Cape Elizabeth and neighboring towns at the intersection of Cottage Farms and Shore Road to cheer on the female bikers participating in the Maine Cancer Foundation's all-women triathlon.

Burkhardt and Morris' lives were impacted by cancer five years ago, and they started gathering individuals at the intersection to encourage race participants. They supply the cheering squad with pink pom poms, cowbells, noisemakers, red velvet Cookie Jar munchkins, OJ, coffee, and homemade raspberry scones, and encourage others to join them next year.



Contributed photo



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AND TO OUR...

HOMEOWNERS: A very special thank you to all the generous homeowners that opened their properties for a day of exploring.

VOLUNTEERS: Thank you to our amazing, tireless and dedicated volunteers. Without you, this event would not have been possible!