

The Cape Courier

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In the Spirit of Community

Four candidates running for two seats on School Board

By Kevin St. Jarre



Charity Hews



Arienne Hurder



Jennifer McVeigh



Cynthia Voltz

There are four candidates running for two seats on the Cape Elizabeth School Board. The candidates are Charity Hews, Arienne Hurder, Jennifer McVeigh and Cynthia Voltz. All of the candidates were provided with identical questions, the same word limit, and given the same amount of time to respond with answers and a photo. Their responses are printed below, as The Cape Courier received them, up to the word limit.

Cape Elizabeth's polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. at the Cape Elizabeth High School gymnasium on November 7.

The Cape Courier: The administration, faculty and staff in the Cape Elizabeth School Department have many years of experience and success. What will you do to support and even improve the Cape Elizabeth School Department?

Hews: I would focus on emphasizing what has been working, getting the thoughts and opinions of students, parents and the community to collaboratively and strategically present any ideas that may help improve areas in the school. It's important to ensure that all faculty, staff, students, parents, and the community can express their concerns, ideas and be heard by all, for informed decision making.

Hurder: Beyond their years of experience and track records of success, Cape's teachers and staff are caring and supportive. What I've come to realize over the years is that by talking to teachers one-on-one, you find out that like everyone else, not all teachers hold the same opinions. Most of our community is aware of the Cape school buildings issue, but what are some of the other issues that haven't been in the spotlight? What are the concerns over Cape's early reading curriculum? What is being done day-to-day to address bullying in our schools and on our school buses? Does the CESD actively investigate why children have been pulled from our schools- and to what extent voluntary withdrawals have had on enrollment declines? Do ALL staff feel heard, or do some feel their voices aren't welcomed and aren't being represented? A lot of political capital and good will was spent pushing a referendum that 62% of Cape vot-

ers could not afford. My goal is to help regain the trust of the community by supporting a project that Cape residents can afford and will support.

McVeigh: I ran for public office knowing it would be an uphill battle during the COVID-19 pandemic. I hoped my experience as an educator could offer insight and guidance in making decisions that promoted staff retention while supporting student success. Since being elected, we have successfully navigated our schools through the worst of the pandemic, including adding nursing staff to support the medical aspect, school counselor and social work positions to support the mental health aspect and interventionists to target math deficits. I have a record of supporting two new positions to increase extended learning opportunities (ELO) that further the district's goal of promoting multiple opportunities for success. I plan to continue moving this district in a direction that supports 21st century learning, global competency and environmental stewardship.

Voltz: Our district leadership team is the strongest it has been in many years, and the faculty and staff are extremely talented and dedicated. In my time on the board, I served on the search committees for Superintendent, CEHS Principal and Director of Educational Technology, and I'm proud of the role I played in building the team we have in place today.

The board's responsibility is not to manage the schools, but to ensure they are effectively managed. As a member of the School Board, I will provide oversight to ensure the schools continue to be well-managed. I will

listen, ask questions, and most importantly give space for our education professionals to continue the work that is already underway to improve our schools and expand opportunities for all learners.

The Cape Courier: In your opinion, what is the primary role of an elementary school like Pond Cove Elementary School?

Hews: I believe that an elementary school's primary role should be to provide a safe, fun, nurturing environment to foster all learning abilities and emotional stages. An elementary school should provide a stable learning environment and help to create a good base for decision-making that will help them in future years.

Hurder: The primary role of an elementary school like Pond Cove is to provide a foundation of learning to be built on as students move forward through their academic careers. Beyond learning itself though, it is the school's responsibility to foster an environment where children learn to love learning. A love for learning sets the table for future success, academically and beyond.

McVeigh: An elementary school's primary role is to meet a student's academic and functional needs in a safe and accepting environment. Academically, the goal is to provide differentiated instruction using evidence-based practices and curriculums utilizing data-based decision-making. Functional skills include social-emotional learning, play, executive functioning and daily living. Instruction should be provided through

a multi-faceted approach and in the least restrictive setting using a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS). For example, students with reading deficits may receive classroom-based and small-group interventions to make progress. We must meet students where they are at.

Voltz: The primary role of an elementary school is to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children to learn and grow. In addition to teaching fundamental subjects, elementary schools help students develop social and emotional skills. They learn how to interact with peers, resolve conflicts, and develop a sense of empathy and responsibility.

The Cape Courier: In your opinion, at the high school level, how important is it for students to get high grades? How does that goal tie in to learning?

Hews: "High grades" to me, seems to be a focus that will help some, but discourage others. It would be ideal to have a grading system that would fit every single student, to show what they are capable of and that has taken into consideration each student's learning style. Not all learning styles are the same. There are multiple learning style tests that can be done to help understand a student's learning style. Nevertheless, Cape Elizabeth is a town that takes pride in academic excellence. One of the reasons we moved here was because of the excellent academic reputation that the school has. I do believe that there

-see CANDIDATES page 8



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www.capecourier.com

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

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Publisher: Tara Simopoulos
info@capecourier.com

Editor: Marta Girouard
editor@capecourier.com

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

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

Bookkeeper:
billing@capecourier.com

Proofreaders:
Chuck Rzeszutko

Photo finishing: Ann Kaplan

Distribution: William Alexander

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

For Advertising:
advertising@capecourier.com

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

Photographers: Martha Agan, Joanne Lee

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

NEXT ISSUE: Oct 25

DEADLINE: Noon, Oct 13

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Performance 'blew us away'

My wife and I are long time theater goers. The last time either of us saw a high school production was, well, when we were in high school.

The Press Herald article about "Afterthought" intrigued us. A musical not just performed by, but also written by students? With a little trepidation, we got tickets. The performance pretty much blew us away. Everyone involved is to be congratulated.

Whatever these folks do with the rest of their lives, we're pretty sure they will be able to look back to their work on this play as a high point.

Howard Feller and Jodi Lerman

Residents encouraged to attend forum on LD 2003

LD 2003 seeks to remove certain zoning barriers to promote diverse housing options throughout Maine. Our town, like all towns across Maine, must amend its existing land-use rules to comply with the law. Cape Elizabeth can't just copy what other towns are doing. Towns differ; thus their response to LD 2003 will vary from ours based on their land-use rules.

The Town Council's Ordinance Committee has been working with the town attorney for months to ensure that the town's ordinances comply with the law. The committee has drafted a proposal, and the Town Council is expected to vote on it later this year before the law goes into effect.

The Ordinance Committee seeks to create a clear understanding of the proposed ordinance amendments to comply with this new state law and what it means to Cape Elizabeth. That's why the Town Council will hold a public forum on October 16, at 7 p.m., at Town Hall.

The focus of this event is to address questions regarding the proposed ordinance amendments. The forum will be focused on addressing questions from the public. This forum is not intended to provide information on the status of individual lots.

The meeting will be broadcast on the public access television channel. Residents can participate in person or via Zoom. The agenda and Zoom link will be posted on the town's website. I hope residents who have questions about LD 2003 and the changes required to implement this law will plan to attend.

Penny Jordan

See more LETTERS TO THE EDITOR on page 16

Let us hear from you!
We love feedback!
editor@capecourier.com

'Informed voters lead to better government'

I was gobsmacked to read a letter in this paper criticizing town council and school board candidates for advertising in the Courier. These candidates were accused of being people with "the most money and the least sense." Ever since the Courier began, it has been the single best way to communicate with fellow citizens. For at least three decades, it has been the medium of choice for council and school board candidates. To criticize a candidate for advertising in the Cape Courier is to not understand and know this town.

Someone said recently there are three ways to campaign for municipal office: unopposed, work hard or be half hearted. I will vote for people who are working hard meeting as many of us as possible, communicat-

ing and earning our votes. This includes the time consuming effort of writing ads in the Courier to share who they are and why they should earn our vote. I worry about those not willing to put in the time and effort to win the election. Serving on the School Board and Council is a lot of unpaid work. Show me during the campaign that you are up to the effort.

Criticizing candidates for working hard and communicating with the community is astounding. I thank the candidates and the letter writers who are working hard to share their views and personal experience with the voters. I thank the Courier and staff for providing an open forum. Informed voters lead to better government.

Mary Ann Lynch

Grymek is a 'great listener and brings a collaborative perspective'

We are writing this letter in support of Matt Grymek's candidacy for the Cape Elizabeth Town Council. We urge all Cape voters to join us in voting for him on November 7. He's just what this town needs right now.

With a hardworking and thoughtful approach toward progress, he's a great listener and brings a collaborative perspective at a time when it's needed most. Matt is a forward thinker, driven by the long-term sustainability of the town. As a parent to two school age children (with wife Jenn), he sees the importance of thoughtful and proactive planning. He recognizes that while families are the backbone of our community, they're often under-represented on the Town Council.

At a time when we all seem to have our minds made up, he's a breath of fresh air in his openness to direct and honest conversations. He's willing to do the hard work to find consensus while ensuring that we maintain the exceptional character of our town.

Matt embodies the quote 'Be the change you wish to see in the world' (Mahatma Gandhi). We're very grateful for his commitment to this wonderful community and we hope you join us in supporting him. Vote Matt Grymek for Cape Elizabeth Town Council; he is absolutely the right candidate for the job.

Terri and Tyler Patterson

Voltz possesses 'vital institutional knowledge of the educational program'

Cynthia Voltz is running for reelection to the School Board and I enthusiastically support her reelection. I first met Cindy when, as part of the outreach effort around the school building project, she visited our neighborhood and spoke to some of the residents. She has demonstrated a strong knowledge of the history of previous school building improvement efforts, dating back to the 1990's renovation of Pond Cove/Cape Elizabeth Middle School, as well as a deep understanding of the educational needs of the kids. Most recently, in addition to her service on the School Board, Cindy has been co-chairing the School Building Advisory Committee, (SBAC), along with Town Council member Penny Jordan.

Our town is engaged in a process of what could be one of the largest building projects

that our town will ever see, that being the renovation, rebuilding, or some combination of both, of our school buildings. We need to see Cindy's steady leadership continue on the School Board and the SBAC. Both she and counselor Jordan complement one another in such a supportive, collaborative way, and conduct their meetings with respect and appreciation for all SBAC members.

Cindy is sensitive to the needs of the kids, staff and the residents as a whole. Above all, she possesses the vital institutional knowledge of the educational program and the buildings, together with a sensitivity to the fiscal realities in our town.

Please join me in voting for Cynthia Voltz on Tuesday, November 7.

Andy Patten

'Strong concerns' about chemicals

I am writing to encourage a "yes" vote on the Cape Elizabeth Residential Pesticide Use Ordinance. The ordinance as currently written would prohibit the residential use of pesticides. There will be a process to allow emergency use. That process will have public hearings to further define how that waiver will be granted.

During my nearly 50 years as a Cape resident I have been both a bee keeper and organic gardener. The indiscriminate and routine use of pesticides, often containing herbicides, fungicides as well as insecticides threatens both our environment and our health.

Honey bees often range well beyond the confines of our yard to forage for nectar and pollen and in the process insure adequate pollination of important food plants. It takes on average one million flights to make one

pound of honey. They are already under threat from invasive insect pests and environmental degradation and the unnecessary use of insecticides further threatens their survival.

The only addition to the soil of my garden over the last 50 years has been an annual spreading of sea weed. This has supplied ample organic material and nutrients to sustain a robust harvest every year.

Our yards can be managed equally well utilizing proven organic techniques without further stressing our ecosystem and our personal health.

Finally, as a practicing physician I have strong concerns about the safety of these chemicals especially when applied by unlicensed homeowners.

Tony Owens



Stephanie Anderson for Town Council

I have a proven track record of working collaboratively to take on major problems. Public service has been the call of my life. I have lived in Cape Elizabeth for 23 years, love it here, and I want to see us come together to address the challenging issues we face. It would be a privilege to serve you as a member of the Town Council.

A Career in Public Service

- Graduated Marshwood High School, University of Maine, Orono, U. Maine School of Law
- 1990 First elected Cumberland County District Attorney: Re-elected 6 times

Established many "firsts" - Maine's first Juvenile, Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking prosecution teams, Maine's first Drug Court and several other programs that diverted thousands of offenders from traditional criminal processing to treatment, rehabilitation, and restitution.

- Director, National District Attorneys Association, 25 years
- President, Maine Prosecutor's Association, 22 years

Volunteer Activities

- Member, Maine State Parole Board
- Board of Bar Overseers Grievance Commission
- Portland Recovery Community Center – fundraising committee
- Cape Elizabeth Housing Diversity Study Committee

What Cape Residents Are Saying

Suzanne McGinn • "I've been impressed with Stephanie's professionalism, patience, and extensive knowledge in her role on the Housing Diversity Study Committee. She listens intently, asks relevant questions, considers all point of view before making factual decisions that are fair to all, and without a personal agenda. I will vote for Stephanie this November and hope you will too."

Jim Rowe • "Throughout her 28 year tenure as District Attorney, Stephanie's reputation remained unsullied—testament to the high esteem in which she was held by supporters and adversaries alike. She is prepared, intelligent and principled. She loves her constituency and embraces the challenge of doing what is best for Cape Elizabeth. That Stephanie is offering her unique experience, skill set and work ethic to our town council presents a unique opportunity for our community. Please join me in voting for Stephanie Anderson on November 7."

Curtis Kelly • "I did not know Stephanie before serving with her on the Housing Diversity Study Committee, and now I have a unique perspective on how she works. She is objective, resourceful, and open minded. Our town council is facing numerous issues that have divided our community. Looking for common areas of agreement and compromise are key to moving forward and Stephanie is good at that. There is no one more qualified than Stephanie to serve on our town council. We are lucky to have her and I'm going to vote for her. She is the right person for the job."

Elizabeth Goodspeed • "Stephanie is unerringly ethical and cares deeply about our town. She has the time needed to devote to the job of councilor. Her experience, knowledge and approach will be of great value as we maneuver through the challenges we face as a community. I will be casting my vote for Stephanie in November and hope you will do the same."

Cape's Latest Ordinance Change Proposal: Still Not Honoring Their Word

Over the past year, Cape's Town Planner and Ordinance Committee have been promoting another controversial set of ordinance changes. Each change, they've claimed, is required. Led by the planner, all three committee members have repeatedly asserted that their proposal is simply to comply with state law requirements – and nothing more.

Throughout the process, Cape residents (and some councilors) have consistently raised areas of concern, identifying several optional changes that violate their promise, and exposing a brand new threat to Cape's neighborhoods:

- **Cape's existing Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) size allowance of 600 sf already complies with the new state law.** Why then does the committee's proposal include a voluntary increase to allow 1,100 sf ADU's? This is the size of many small homes in Cape, and is especially concerning given the state law's restriction against off-street parking requirements for ADU's. Where will tenants park their vehicles? Why has this concern been so hastily dismissed? And given the new law's truly mandated changes that encourage ADU construction, is it reasonable to anticipate that more ADU's will be built in Cape going forward? Or should we rely only on historical ADU data (from prior to the state law's implementation) to declare that there's nothing to worry about? All fair questions – **none of which change the fact that this proposed amendment is clearly not required.**
- **Cape's current regulation limiting multifamily development in residential zones to the "multiplex" type also already complies with the new state law.** Why then is the Ordinance Committee proposing to voluntarily replace Cape's specific choice of "multiplex" with the much broader "multifamily" term? Contrary to misinformation that declares the terms to be synonymous, both Cape's Comprehensive Plan and the Camoin Housing Study (after which the Housing Diversity Study Committee is named) note that they are in fact different – despite their similar definitions. But again, it doesn't matter. **This change too is not a required one.**
- **Cape's existing ordinances do NOT address the issue of single-family homes being torn down and replaced with 4-unit structures.** Unlike the prior two examples, this is a brand new issue that will result from the new state law. Like Cumberland, **Cape can easily add language to protect our neighborhoods.** Cape's town attorney has in fact explained that it would be a simple fix, but the Ordinance Committee and Town Planner have resisted. This issue is not a small one. So far nearly 100 residential zone properties have been identified, each of which would permit the construction of a 4-unit apartment building. Notably, **the owners of those properties – and the owners of abutting properties – have not been notified of this policy decision** that could significantly impact their property values.

What's next? We encourage you to take a few moments to search online for "Cape Elizabeth CETV" and view the **September 19th Ordinance Committee meeting.** In that meeting, the committee talks strategy with two taxpayer funded advisors; one a rep from GPCOG (Greater Portland Council of Governments), the other a seasoned facilitator who will run the forum advertised in these pages. Although not from Cape, they have been enlisted to provide last minute policy advocacy help to the committee. You'll see the committee explain the sticky situation in which they find themselves - having repeatedly made a fundamental promise that they anticipate will continue to be questioned.

As a response, the facilitator shared his advice. Did he suggest that the committee consider honoring their oft-repeated promises to only include mandatory changes in their proposal? No! Instead, he shockingly recommended that they simply point to places where the law is "vague" and describe why they've made the changes they have. Really? **Is our community expected to forget what the committee and Town Planner have committed to all year?**

To be clear, there is nothing "vague" about the definitions of "required" and "allowed". There is nothing vague about the difference between "required" and "consistent with". But to be very clear, each member of the Ordinance Committee is thus far holding firm, continuing to conflate this most basic terminology.

This issue is not to be ignored. **It will impact the values of most of our biggest assets - our homes.** We strongly encourage the Town Council to pass an alternate set of amendments that (1) complies with the law and (2) honors the Ordinance Committee and Town Planner's repeated promises to our community. All optional changes should be stripped out of the proposal and sent to the Housing Diversity Study Committee for review.

What is the Cape Neighbors Alliance?

We are a group of Cape citizens who believe that good governance happens when our community is heard, our government's processes are transparent, and personal agendas are set aside. We intend to stand with our neighbors and our community to ensure this vision becomes reality.

News from September 19 Planning Board meeting

By Hanna Gilley

August 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes Approval

The Planning Board asked for approval of the August 15, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was introduced and passed unanimously without discussion from the board.

The meeting began with a note from the Chair on Zoom participation. Any individual who wishes to attend and participate in an official meeting of the town needs to provide a name in order to be allowed into the Zoom meeting. Anyone trying to attend via Zoom and without a name, such as "iPhone," the example given by Maureen O'Meara, will not be permitted.

Carr Woods

Shore Road Development Partners LLC requested final subdivision review and a Resource Protection Permit for Carr Woods, a 16 unit condominium and 1 single family home lot located on Deep Brook Drive. Kristin Collins, the applicant's attorney, requested that the board table their decision until next month's meeting. This is based on public comments being received up until the meeting date and the absence of Ron Goddard, co-applicant to the project. Collins said, "We'd like the opportunity to hold off [this decision] and more time to respond to the volume of comments." Collins also stated the applicant wanted to revise their construction management plan to "give the board further confidence" on the issue of technical capacity.

Numerous members of the public attended the public hearing portion of the meeting. Mr. Brandon Maiser, an attorney representing one the proposed subdivion's abutters, spoke on the applicant's "adequate financial and technical capacity."

Mr. John Featherson, resident of Ashlynn, Massachusetts, and owner of one of the properties at The Cottages at Pine Meadow in Saco spoke on his experience with purchas-

ing the property that was completed by co-applicant Ron Goddard. He gave examples of his home not being constructed and completed in a satisfactory manner including a kitchen fire resulting from the stove not being converted to propane fuel, air conditioning units leaking water from not being properly installed, stacking washer and dryer unit falling and causing damage from not being installed properly, and interior door frames missing screws. Featherstone told the board that it was in his opinion that they were being lied to by the applicant regarding their technical capacity.

Leonard White of 13 Rocky Hill Road shared his concerns of the project. He noted that the stormwater system at Casino Beach is broken and washes out during routine rain events causing a safety hazard at the beach, but that the applicant's stormwater report "appears to assume it's in good working order." He also noted that this is not a simple project and that technical capacity is paramount, citing the wetlands, ledge, steep grades, tight abutter margins, trees and vegetation as concerns.

Karen Glennon, a resident at the Cottages at Pine Meadows in Saco shared her experience of "hardship and stress." She stated her home was not completed on time citing "bad communication" as one factor. She said that she flew from Florida to Maine four times to close on the property and each time it was canceled last minute. She shared that items on her purchase and sale contract were not present after her closing on her property, such as the hook-ups for a washer and dryer. And that she also lost water in her home from which she later found out from a construction crew member was due from a broken water line from a crushed pipe underground. She also experienced exterior siding falling off her home, doors falling apart, and missing caulking around the shower and tub causing the walls to "bubble" and fall apart.

Eric Johanson of 2 Rocky Hill Road said, "I can't believe we're considering tabling this

another time. It's a waste of time, money, and town resources" and that the board should "vote on this tonight."

The board decided not to enter into an executive session with Town Attorney Mary Costigan but to ask her questions on the Chamber floor. The board asked her to define technical capacity, financial capacity, and if an application has been denied based on prior completed projects to which she replied, "no, not in my experience."

Costigan told the board that "you're judging this application and the team they've put together and if you think this team can pull off the project." She reiterated that although a project may not be completed "to everyone's satisfaction" that it could still be deemed "technically completed" and therefore technically capable of completing a project. On the other hand, financial capacity was deemed to be a "demonstration by means of a letter from a bank, lender, or some evidence that there's money there and ready to go."

Several board members shared concerns of wanting to be fair to the applicant and to give them fair and adequate time to respond to incoming public comment but also not wanting to keep tabling the decision to approve or deny the project.

The board asked the applicant "what information can you provide that would warrant a request of continuance?" The applicant's attorney replied that they would address the comments specifically on liens, the updated construction management plan and individual unit issues.

The applicant also introduced Greg Chinburg to the board as a new addition to the applicant's team. Chinburg said he was asked approximately three weeks ago to join and

that he agreed and signed a contract with the applicant two weeks ago. He said his role would be "to work with the town, Jay Reynolds, Steve Harding, obtain a letter of credit, oversee hiring of contractors and make sure plans are done correctly." He agreed with members of the board and the public that this is a complex project and said that he's "completed complex projects" and that he has the "technical capacity to do the project."

After further deliberation from the board, a motion was presented to table the applicant's request for continuance and to table the issue until the October 17 meeting. That motion passed with a 4-2 vote with Jim Huebener and Chair Sahrbeck opposing.


Film on the American Chestnut on Oct. 25

A screening of "CLEAR DAY THUNDER: Rescuing the American Chestnut" will be held at Sprague Hall on Wednesday, October 25 at 6 p.m.




For the past 40 years, The American Chestnut Foundation has been working tirelessly to restore this tree to its former glory. Join us for a screening of their documentary, followed by a Q&A session with UNE Professor Tom Klak to learn more about the ongoing work to bring the American Chestnut back to prominence in the eastern United States.

Attendance is free, but please email us at tsc@blackpointcorporation.com so we can get an accurate headcount. Donations to TACF will be encouraged but not required.

Screening hosted by the P.W. Sprague Memorial Foundation.



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Spooktacular times ahead

By Cape Elizabeth Community Services

Get those costumes ready, and join us for a night of fun! Cape Elizabeth is hosting its Annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 27 (Rain date Friday, November 3). Our Halloween-themed event will kick off at 5:30 p.m. with trick or treating in the parking lot behind the Community Center. Meet the members of your community from police, fire and rescue, community services, public works, transportation and the library who have dressed up and decorated for you and your children to make the rounds. If you start at the Community Services table, you can decorate a treat bag if you don't bring your own.

At 6:30 p.m., the parade line will form from the rear exit of the parking lot, participants will march up around the bus circle

and cross the path to the first base entrance of Holman Field. The Police Department will have set up the projector screen from the scoreboard area facing the outfield. Moviegoers may pitch their spot with blankets and chairs before the 6:45 p.m. showing of "Hotel Transylvania 3" (PG Rated). The police will be giving out free popcorn and drinks from the dugout. If it is too cold outside, the parade line will march up to Pond Cove to watch the movie indoors. Please call Community Services at 799-2868 to reserve your movie seat. Due to public safety regulations, the maximum capacity of the cafetorium is 150 people. Parents and guardians, please accompany your children throughout the evening. Remember, if it rains, we will try again the following Friday, November 3.



Contributed photo

Cape Elizabeth Community Services is hosting its annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 27 at 5:30 p.m. Rain date is Friday, November 3.

Tim Thompson running for Cape Elizabeth Town Council



Contributed photo

Tim Thompson has announced his candidacy for Town Council.

(Press Release) - Tim Thompson has entered the race for an upcoming Town Council position. The election will be on November 7.

Tim moved to Cape Elizabeth in 1986 and all 5 of his children attended our excellent school system. He and his wife, Nancy, have supported the schools in many ways, feeling very fortunate for the education their children received.

Tim has served on several committees in Cape Elizabeth over the past 10 years. He served on the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Committee, serving as a member and chair. He also served on the School Building Committee for 5 years. He currently serves on the Housing & Diversity Committee as a member and vice-chair.

Tim is a small business owner in Cape town center. He believes a complete review of the town's ordinances and processes of

working with new and existing business owners is needed. The town needs to work to create a supportive environment to encourage their success. The negative press the town has received with regarding the Lumberly needs to stop.

He also feels strongly the challenges facing Cape for improvements on our current school buildings is an issue he can help to solve.

Another challenge Tim is interested in continuing to work on is the housing and diversity problem. There is not enough housing for young families, older citizens wanting to downsize and our town workforce. Finding a solution requires an open mind and compromise to get something accomplished.

Tim would like to hear from the citizens of Cape Elizabeth on any issues or concerns or with any feedback you would like to provide. He can be reached at tthomps1@maine.rr.com.

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News from the superintendent

By Dr. Chris Record

Happy Fall to all of you! This month I would like to highlight some wonderful things that have occurred in our schools recently and also update you on the important work of the School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC).

I hope you had the chance to attend the musical "Afterthought" at CEHS in late September. This poignant coming of age musical was incredibly written and composed by CEHS student Hadley Johnson with help from Eliza Green about two childhood friends forging their individual paths into adulthood considering the driving influences of family, friendship, career and love.

Hadley is currently enrolled in her third semester of CEHS's Extended Learning Opportunities Program (ELO), where students earn academic credit through work on projects related to personal ambitions and skills and connect to the community. This amazing project was 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.

At CEMS, a 7th grade team is implementing an interdisciplinary unit related to the aquaculture/seafood industry and its relation to the Gulf of Maine's ecosystem and our local economy. Using businesses as a lens to consider relevant, local issues, students are exposed to a variety of science and social studies/humanities topics such as geography, ecosystem dynamics, sustainability, climate change and human/environmental interactions. Students develop businesses and tie in research related to these topics.

At Pond Cove Elementary School, in addition to academics, kindergarten has been focusing on fostering a growth mindset among

the students. Growth mindset is indeed a valuable concept in education, as it empowers students to develop a positive attitude towards learning and challenges. Meanwhile, our school counselor has been teaching classes in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades focused on feelings identification and emotional regulation.

District-wide, the review of our content curricula and instructional programs is underway. Last year our Math Review team conducted a comprehensive review of our curriculum, programs and practices with input from stakeholders. The resulting Implementation Plan is guiding our work this year and includes piloting a new Math program in Algebra I, II and Geometry at CEMS and CEHS.

This year our focus turns to English Language Arts and will use the same review framework to examine curriculum, programs and practices through the lens of multiple data sets and nationally-recognized best practices in reading and writing.

The important work of the School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC) continues. I want to publicly thank the Co-Chairs, Cindy Voltz from the School Board and Penny Jordan from the Town Council. They have worked countless hours and have been instrumental in guiding the work of the committee and will be so important leading the work that lies ahead. Additionally, I want to publicly thank and appreciate the expertise and efforts of Caitlin Sweet (SB), Gretchen Noonan (TC), and the five amazing community members that have contributed so much to the process (David Andrews, Corrine Bell, Larry Benoit, Patrick Cotter and Michael Hussey). I am in awe of the hours of time they

-see SUPERINTENDENT page 15

Complaints of vehicles passing school buses

Reported by Marta Girouard

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 9-15 An officer met with a subject who reported the theft of a credit card.
- 9-16 Two officers responded to a residence in the Scott Dyer Road area for a well-being check.
- 9-18 Two officers responded to a residence in the Two Lights Road area for strange animal noises outside the residence.
- 9-18 An officer spoke with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area regarding a well-being concern.
- 9-18 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area regarding a fraud complaint.
- 9-18 An officer met with Cape Elizabeth school bus driver who reported a vehicle had passed his bus while the red lights were on and was able to provide a license plate number for case follow up.
- 9-19 An officer received a complaint of a vehicle passing a school bus while discharging students. Bus driver was able to provide a license plate for follow up.
- 9-21 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area who reported someone had opened an account using his personal information and transferred money from a valid account into that account.
- 9-22 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area regarding unauthorized charges on his credit card account.
- 9-22 An officer received information that parents were overdue in picking up their child from a daycare program. I was eventually able to make contact with the parents and get the child home.
- 9-25 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area regarding a harassment complaint.

SUMMONSES

- 9-15 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected motor vehicle, Cottage Road, \$148
- 9-16 Scarborough resident, operating vehicle

- while using hand held device, Trundy, \$85
- 9-20 South Portland resident, operating after suspension, \$325
- 9-21 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85
- 9-21 Kennebunkport resident, speed (69/45 zone), Route 77, \$230
- 9-21 South Portland resident, speed (39/30 zone), Sawyer Road, \$114
- 9-22 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected motor vehicle, Shore Road, \$148
- 9-23 Cape Elizabeth resident, unregistered motor vehicle, Shore Road, \$85

JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 9-20 Cape Elizabeth resident, speed (79/50 zone), Ocean House Road, \$278

FIRE/RESCUE CALLS

Fire calls: 25; EMS calls: 35

Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

Fight Fraud – Shred It!

Join us (and say hello to me – I'll be volunteering at check-in) for a free document shred event. It's in Portland on Saturday, October 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, 36 County Way, Portland.

Your documents will be shredded on-site, free of charge. Volunteers will assist you so no need to even get out of your vehicle. You can bring up to four large boxes/bags per person. No need to remove staples or paperclips. No plastic or electronics please. This event also includes safe disposal of your unwanted or expired medications through the CC Sheriff's Office. Registration is required. Call 1-877-926-8300 or visit events.aarp.org/MESHredPortland102123.

Arienne Hurder for School Board

Dear Cape Friends and Neighbors, I am running for a seat on Cape's School Board this fall and would appreciate your vote. My family and I have lived in Cape Elizabeth for 10 years and I have two children in the Cape schools.



My goals and priorities as a member of the school board include:

- Ensuring that every Cape student is afforded the high quality education Cape's schools are known for.
- Participating in budget discussions for the school building renovation/rebuild project. Ensuring all Cape citizens feel represented in that conversation.
- Making parent/teacher communication a priority. Encouraging transparency and collaboration in support of students' needs.
- Making students and parents aware of all post high school paths. Discussing options beyond 4 year colleges, such as trade schools and military.
- Bringing more awareness to the issue of bullying. Ensuring that every student in the district feels safe when they come to school.
- Encouraging an ongoing dialogue around curriculum and teaching methods to ensure Cape's students benefit from the highest quality education possible.

Candidates

Continued from page 1

should be a certain level of expectation, especially when it comes to preparing our children for the real world. If my child is trying their best in class, working hard at their instrument every day, being a team leader in their sports programs and active in community service, I do not believe that they should be discouraged for not getting “high grades.” I do believe we should maintain the same grading system and help those individually to achieve their very best.

Hurder: As with anything in life, effort is the most important variable. Frankly, I don't find myself in the camp that advocates getting rid of grades in academia. Grades are one of several important tools that are used to evaluate progress and identify areas of strength and weakness. “High grades” is a relative term and shouldn't be applied in a one-size-fits-all manner. It is important to see each student as an individual and ensure that they are both supported and challenged to reach his or her full potential. It is always helpful to hold a standard, as long as that is

not the only measure of success.

McVeigh: Student success should not be judged by high grades. Rather, we should strive to unlock the student's potential. High grades are only one indicator of success. Students should lead the discussion regarding their post-secondary aspirations and work with their school counselors, teachers and parents to develop a plan to meet those goals. More importantly, the COVID-19 isolation continues impacting our students' mental health. Now more than ever, we must decrease our students' anxiety and allow for more opportunities for them to be teens. Students put enough pressure on themselves, let alone parents, teachers and peers. It's about striking the right balance.

Voltz: Grades are just one method for assessing student progress. In my opinion, grades do have a role in providing feedback to students, but the primary focus should be cultivating a culture of curiosity, a joy of learning and active engagement. Too much emphasis on grades alone may inhibit true learning and can lead to unnecessary stress.

The Cape Courier: Independent from new school construction, what are your thoughts and goals when it comes to the Cape Elizabeth School Department budget?

Hews: The budget should be one that can be afforded by the community and has the widespread support that has been the norm for many years here in Cape. It should provide the resources necessary to maintain the academic excellence of our schools, including keeping our commitment to maintaining a low student/teacher ratio. That said, approximately 70-80% of Cape's town expenditures are spent on the school budget and nearly half of the voters said the budget was too high this year. Since few in the community pay close attention until the last minute, we need to ensure more awareness so that our budgets- and the resulting tax increase - so as not to take the voters by surprise.

Hurder: Unfortunately, we cannot think of the school budget in a vacuum. Three-fourths of Cape's town budget goes to our schools, and 98% of Cape's revenues comes from individual homeowner's property taxes. Given that reality, we have a responsibility to consider our community's financial capacity to support ongoing budget increases

combined with steady enrollment declines. Cape's taxpayers face unprecedented property tax increases due to recent revaluation and yes, a future bond to pay for a project to address CESD's building needs. The last budget vote showed that half of Cape's voters think that the school budget is too high. As a school board member, I will carefully take this feedback into consideration. I will advocate for a fiscal balance that both respects the overall community's financial resources and supports the necessary elements to maintain academic excellence in our schools.

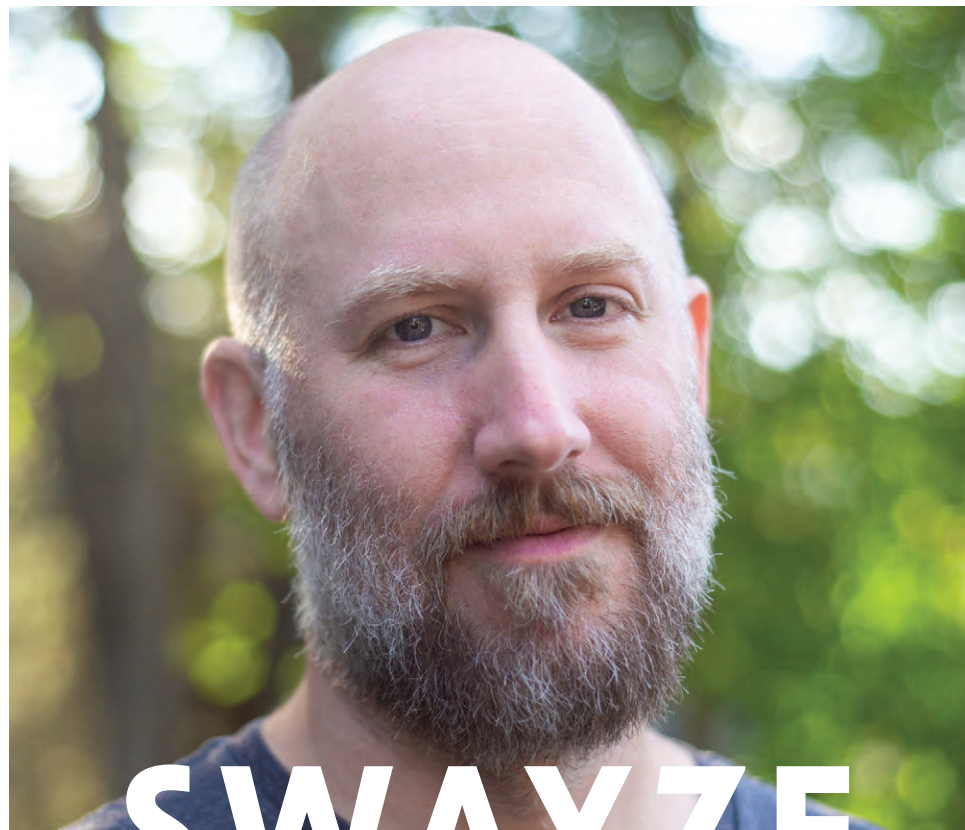
McVeigh: As the finance chair, I wholeheartedly support the budget goals approved by the school board. The budget process is lengthy, and it considers the students' needs and the impact on taxpayers. Approximately 83% of the budget is personnel, based on employee contracts negotiated on a three-year cycle. State funding, health insurance costs and other unknown factors impact the final budget. Unfortunately, inflation and the rising costs of materials, labor and oil, as well as the increase in unpredicted school maintenance, have had a negative impact on the budget. Despite this, we have consistently created a thoughtful and responsible budget that meets the needs of our students and continues to promote the high-quality education Cape Elizabeth expects.

Voltz: I support the budget goals established by the School Board during my tenure. The goals deliver on a strategic vision that prioritizes student needs, invests in staff and maintains our facilities. The school budget is complex. I work hard to ensure I understand the details of the budget so I can make informed decisions that balance short-term spending realities with investments that will improve student outcomes over the long-term. Our recent budgets have included creation and expansion of the Extended Learning Opportunities program, increased social-emotional support for students, review and assessment of the Math and Language Arts curricula and professional development for staff. These programs and similar budget items set our schools up for long-term success. I am proud that we are able to develop a fiscally responsible budget that continues to focus on student outcomes, yet still manages increasing maintenance, repair and utility costs.

The Cape Courier: Should a community wait for the student population to increase before adding additional classroom space in new schools, or would a new school attract new families with young children and cause the student population to increase?

Hews: No. While the student population is on the decline, the plans to make the physical classroom sizes larger and expand the building with new additions seems to be putting the cart before the horse. These plans, which have been made available to the public, have cost the taxpayers approximately \$1 million, and were opposed by nearly 2/3 of voters. I do believe making appropriate changes in technological, educational advancements and air circulation are important. The community needs more involvement in creating these decisions.

Hurder: I don't think there's widespread support in the community to pay for larger schools than we need, with hopes that those new schools will one day draw new families to Cape. In fact, if that narrative were to



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Profiles

Continued from page 8

be pushed, it would likely erode community support and trust for a new building project. Per data provided monthly by CESD's superintendent, Cape's K-12 enrollment has fallen below 1,500 students. We will be graduating 150 seniors this year, and based on the last several years, we should see a kindergarten enrollment next year of around 100 or so. Given this, and in an environment where so many in our town are cost-burdened and people are already struggling, it's somewhat insensitive to even consider building new schools that go beyond what we need. I do not believe that we should spend time and money on "what ifs" and empty classrooms.

McVeigh: The question should not be whether we add additional class space based on population. Rather, the question is how to add additional space and a design to support the needs of our existing students while considering future enrollment. Our current buildings do not have the infrastructure to support our students without flexible thinking and use of space not designed for instruction. The shared cafetorium presents challenges with scheduling and does not allow the space to be used as an auditorium during the day since it is required for lunch. While the district meets the needs of our students, it's not without impact. With an aging population, affordable housing initiatives and data showing a trend in increasing enrollment, we should consider increasing enrollment in the discussions. The School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC) was created to provide guidance and recommendations to the school district, school board and town and includes key stakeholders, including school board members, town council members and residents, with many

opportunities for public input. I look forward to their recommendations and being part of the process.

Voltz: As a community, we need to provide adequate facilities for all students and staff. If a community waits until the population increases to prepare for growth, it's too late. By using enrollment forecasts and studying town and regional demographic data we can prepare for our future needs.

It doesn't matter if we have 1,200 students or 2,000 students, we need to provide a safe, modern facility with appropriate spaces for future-focused learning. School buildings should be sized appropriately, with enough flexibility to accommodate enrollment shifts over the life of the building.

The Cape Courier: Across the country, and even here in Maine, we have seen books banned from school libraries. What is your opinion about banning books in schools?

Hews: Schools, including school boards, have the authority to allow or disallow certain books in school libraries and classrooms. This is not a novel concept. If a book has been disallowed in a school, then I must assume the decision was made with careful deliberation and good reason. Should the situation present itself here in Cape Elizabeth, I would take the same approach as previously discussed with the school bond and school budget. Whether or not a book should be included or not should absolutely involve input from parents and the community. As someone elected by the community, I'm of the belief this type of approach should be the default.

Hurder: My understanding is that schools today already choose what books go into our libraries. It's not a new develop-

ment that not all books have been allowed into school libraries – for obvious reasons. I believe we will find that the underlying issue is a breakdown of communication between schools, students and families. Should the controversial books in question be introduced into CESD libraries? Might Cape parents be okay with exposing children to images depicting explicit acts, as long as those explicit images are in the context of promoting tolerance? Parents belong in this conversation in the first place. I believe most parents – and most teachers – would welcome such a conversation.

McVeigh: Unfortunately, I have seen and heard the good work of school districts derailed by book-banning initiatives and reading excerpts from texts taken out of context and used to fuel an alternative agenda. Per-

sonally, I believe parents have a right to exercise control over what their child reads. Parents do not have the right to restrict what my children or other children read. Schools have processes and procedures for selecting materials and for residents to challenge materials. Cape Elizabeth School Board Policy IJJ, "Selection of Education Materials" details the processes and procedures for selection and challenging materials. I encourage residents to review the policy and use the appropriate channels to challenge materials.

Voltz: I vehemently oppose book banning. I have confidence in our school librarians and educators, who are very capable of curating an inclusive and diverse age-appropriate selection of books for our students. Banning books fosters ignorance not education.

CHARITY HEWS FOR SCHOOL BOARD



Dear Cape Residents,

My name is Charity Hews. I am running for school board and would appreciate your support in the upcoming election!

As member of the board, I pledge to:

- Be responsible with your tax dollars, while committing to maintain academic excellence
- Listen to ALL community members, and value your feedback
- Advocate for ALL students and their families
- Promote ALL pathways beyond high school equally
- Foster greater collaboration with the community

I would appreciate your vote on November 7th!

Paid for and Authorized by Charity Hews for School Board

Los Galactacos to perform at Harvestfest

Andy Happel, concert violinist and fiddler, and his string band Los Galactacos, will be performing at the Pond Cove Parents Association Harvest Festival fundraiser on Saturday, October 21. The band's music is a tour de force of authentic, inspired musicianship, featuring the blazing fiddle work of violinist Andy Happel, dobro guitar and twin fiddle by Jonathan Cooper and bassist Drew Wyman.

The program, entitled "A Tour of the Americas," includes songs from Canada to Cuba, Appalachia to Argentina, Tennessee to Texas and many more exploring the many genres and origins of American Fiddling.

A concert violinist and fiddler, Happel was recently nominated for a NATAS Boston/New England Emmy Award. Happel has shared the stage with symphony orchestras, pop stars and country music artists. As bandleader for the 1990's rock group "Thanks to Gravity," Andy was signed to Capitol Records and toured extensively with several well-known groups including Guster, Train, Matchbox 20 and The Dave Matthews Band. A successful run with country singer Don Campbell followed, where he opened

for such country legends as Willie Nelson, Randy Travis, George Jones and Charlie Daniels.

In addition to performing, Andy has served as Director of Strings at the Waynflete School in Portland and has worked and performed with regional and international musical entities including the Moravian Philharmonic in the Czech Republic, the Metropolitan Children's Chorus in NYC, the New England String Quartet, and the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra, and as Lead Producer with the classical music label PARMA Recordings.

All local families are welcome to join the Harvestfest Celebration. All residents aged 15 and older are encouraged to volunteer by handing out mini golf clubs, serving warm cider, helping children decorate pumpkins, playing chess, or helping with any of the additional activities for one 90-minute shift. Come volunteer and you too can enjoy this incredible opportunity to see the Galactacos band perform. Please email Aglae Shaw at aglaev@gmail.com to help volunteer.

Town Council to host public forum

The Cape Elizabeth Town Council is set to hold a public forum on October 16, at 7 p.m., at Town Hall. The forum aims to provide an overview of housing ordinance revisions currently under review, and to address questions regarding proposed ordinance amendments aimed at aligning the town with the new state law, LD 2003.

The proposed amendments introduce new zoning regulations that would grant Cape

residents greater flexibility in creating accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Additionally, it updates rules concerning small multifamily buildings (2-4 units) and provides provisions for affordable housing density bonuses. All Maine municipalities are required to amend their current regulations to comply with LD 2003. The forum will answer questions from

-see FORUM page 16

Harvest Festival needs your help

Community members aged 15 to 115 are encouraged to come volunteer for just 90 minutes (or more) and have a wonderful time yourselves! If you are unable to help on the event day, there are many other ways to join us. Can you bake or purchase a cake for our "cake or no cake game" or make autumn goodies for our Harvest Table? Donate costumes for ages 5 to 10? Have a truck to help move things to and from storage? Do light woodworking or help make signs? Please email Aglae Shaw at aglaev@gmail.com to volunteer.

If you've got children in Pond Cove, Cape Elizabeth Middle School or children too young to attend school yet, mark your calendar for October 21 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. The Harvest Festival will be held in the outdoor entry area at Pond Cove Elementary School. In case of rain the event will move indoors.

Here's a sneak peek highlight of some of the fun things we've got planned.

- 1:00 p.m.: Who has the moves? Enjoy a dance off between Portland Sea Dogs mascot "Slugger" and Pond Cove/Middle School Principals
- 2:30 p.m.: Bragging Rights Alert: Scarecrow Awards Ceremony! And a Suprize Performance by John Voltz
- 4:00 p.m.: A Tour of the Americas by The Los Galactacos string band
- Mama Baldacci's Italian and AllGrill Food Trucks from 3 to 6 p.m. (staying late to keep helpers fed!)

Enjoy from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

- Harvest Table and Warm Apple Cider
- Mini Golf

- Face Painting/ Temporary Tattoos
- Pumpkin Decorating
- Pie Face, try to smear the football team!
- Wheel of Fortune and Plinko
- Cake or No Cake, try to win an entire cake!
- Chess match
- Bass Fishing Game by Cape Elizabeth Police Department
- Cash Cube, how much cash can you grab?
- Learn How to Drum Circle with the Maine Drum Circle Facilitators Guild
- Wee Witches and Wizards Preschool games by Maiden Cove
- Baby Chicks by Cape Ledge Farm
- Make your own jump rope with antique rope twister
- Shop Halloween Costumes at the Costume Exchange
- Fast Pitch
- Obstacle Course
- Hockey Slapshot by Hockey Players Zack Sahlin and Friends
- Cotton Candy, Hot Dogs, Fresh Popcorn
- Run the Bases, How Fast Can You Go?
- Spooky Haunted Hallway by the Middle School Parents Association
- Donut bites eating contest
- Raffle to win Bayside Bowl, Chipotle or Otto's Pizza certificates

Harvest Festival 2023 T-Shirts Are Now Available For Sale!

These shirts feature the beloved banner designed by Susan Hancock, parent of Pond Cove's 4th grade teacher Julie Merriman. Please use the link below or scan the QR code in this article to purchase:

<https://givebutter.com/HarvestFestShirt>

Harvest Festival is organized by the Pond Cove Parents Association (PCPA). The PCPA is a volunteer-led 501(c)(3) organization composed of parents and guardians of all students enrolled in Pond Cove School, in Cape Elizabeth. Our mission is to enrich, support and enhance the social and learning environment of Pond Cove students. Proceeds from the Harvest Festival fund teacher grants, visiting author/artist programs, field days and other student enriching activities.



Scan this QR code to purchase t-shirts.



Contributed photo

Support the Harvest Festival by buying a t-shirt featuring a banner designed by Susan Hancock, parent of Pond Cove's 4th grade teacher Julie Merriman.

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Local birding report

By E. Brooks Bornhafft

When trying to identify birds high up in trees or deep within thickets it is important to get a good hold on several of the characteristic traits (movements and call notes) of the more common birds such as Tufted Titmice, Black-capped Chickadees, House Finches and Goldfinches that are often times intermingling with warblers and other songbirds. With practice and patience in the field, a keener sense of awareness will develop as will a better birding experience overall.

In Holly Merker and Richard Crossley's book "Ornithotherapy for your Mind, Body and Soul," the authors reinforce the importance of what it means to "look." By simply asking oneself, "what do I see? the observer can get back to the basics by slowing down and getting lost in nature. There is no right or wrong. You see, it's all about the question, not the answer – It's that journey of discovery that is the fun." Every day provides a new opportunity to learn more about birds. One of the things that I appreciate about these creatures is their ability to link themselves to my memory of places and seasons - so that the sudden appearance of a bird, a song, or flicker of a tail feather sets in motion a string of delightful reminiscences in my mind.

The fall of 2023 is shaping up to look like that of 2017 and 2019 where there were widespread reports of bird feeder and backyard activity drop off. In addition to climate change, habitat loss, outdoor cats and window strikes, there are a "perfect storm" of reasons for a visible lack of both local and migrating birds in our backyards this fall. The bluebirds that have been a constant on our property for over five years have disappeared and my feeders (including the mealworm lodge) are taking three times as long to reach empty. A few explanations for this phenomenon include mild weather, abundance of natural food sources and the flexible nature of later in the season migrants like sparrows and blackbirds. Adding to the combination of scenarios, this is peak raptor migration time of the year and predators like Coopers and Sharp-shinned Hawks who primarily dine on songbirds are passing through or, unbeknownst to us, may be setting up camp in close proximity to our feeders.

Specific to mild fall weather, when its warmer birds have to consume less food to generate energy and keep warm. As for natural food abundance, this has been a very productive year for several common tree species that produce acorns or cones including Oak, White Pine and White and Red Spruce. White-throated Sparrows, Dark Eyed Juncos along with the last big waves of blackbirds have yet to arrive in Cape. These birds adjust their arrivals and departures based on access to or abundance of food. By the second day of October last year it seemed like White-throated Sparrows were everywhere.

A few mentionable observations over the last two weeks include, on September 27 Pine Warblers were singing high up within the conifer canopy of Robinson Woods I. Of note, this was the same general location that I typically first hear Pine Warblers singing every spring. Additionally, on the afternoon

of September 28 while travelling through the depths of Gull Crest I came across a small party of foraging moss-green birds with bluish heads and bright white "spectacles." Two of the three Blue-headed Vireos paid no attention to me as they deliberately worked their way along the forest edges no more than a couple feet overhead. For a moment the only sounds were the wind blowing through the trees and the vireo's whispered trill like chatter. Also, on the late afternoon of September 29 my two-year-old son was pleasantly surprised to hear the daytime call of our local resident Barred Owl from somewhere within Robinson Woods I.

And on the morning of October 1 deep within the upper canopies of Runaway Farm's old pine forest were good numbers of Blackpoll and Bay-breasted Warblers darting here and there in search of fall inchworms. Blackpoll and Bay-breasted Warbler identification in the autumn is particularly challenging because both species' plumages look similar. Blackpolls in general have a more lemony-yellow tint to their breasts versus the buffy-yellow color tint of a Bay-breasted. Additionally, if any yellow can be seen on the legs or feet of the bird in question, it is a Blackpoll. Interestingly, compared to the Bay-breasted and most other warblers, the Blackpoll has visibly longer wings which are needed on the long nonstop flight over the ocean from Maine to Northern South America.

On this same outing I also heard the tin trumpet calls from more than a few Red-breasted Nuthatches interwoven with the nearly constant, fine, nasal twitterings of their distant, White-breasted cousins. I recently learned that a key difference between these two species is genetic makeup. The fact that these two birds do not interbreed strongly suggests that they are not related at all. More precisely, this means that they are not simply different populations of the same species, but rather two separate species.

Fortunately, there seems to be no shortage of Golden Crowned and Ruby Crowned Kinglets in our forests this fall. These tiny dainty birdlets float and flutter among the coniferous trees hunting for small insects such as tree lice - their sweet, threadlike tsee call notes giving way to musical warblers that trickle down and tickle my senses. Amazingly, this is one of the first bird songs that people stop being able to hear as they grow older.

CELT's fall gathering is Oct. 22

Members and friends of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust will be gathering at Turkey Hill Farm on Sunday, October 22 (12:30-2:30 p.m.) for an afternoon of activities celebrating the great open spaces of Cape Elizabeth. The event is free and everyone is invited to join in.

Parents and grandparents of Cape middle schoolers will not want to miss taking a guided walk with the 7th graders who have prepared their "Meet A Tree" projects during their place-based learning programs held at CELT's Turkey Hill Farm this fall. The students have worked really hard to get ready for this day and are excited to share what they've learned with all comers.

Environmentalists will learn about the role of Maine's salt marshes in the fight against climate change from special guest presenter Beverly Johnson, Professor of Earth and Climate Sciences at Bates College, who was recently profiled in a Portland Press Herald article ("Maine's salt marshes play key role in fight against climate change, new report says," 8/13/23). Bev will be speaking to The Climate Benefits of Healthy Salt Marshes. Her research indi-

cates that healthy salt marshes are one of the most effective carbon sinks on the planet. When salt marshes are impacted by infrastructure they can become degraded and release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, which reduces the effectiveness of the carbon sink. Salt marsh restoration provides a host of benefits including, in some cases, enhanced carbon sequestration." Learn more about Beverly and her work at www.capelandtrust.org/gathering.

CELT's new Executive Director David Briman will introduce himself and share exciting news about what's been happening at the land trust and what we can look forward to in the coming months. There are lots of ways that people can get engaged with the land trust - come and learn how!

The land trust appreciates the support of area businesses in bringing environmental programs to the community. This year's Annual Meeting is sponsored by Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution.

All activities are free and open to all. Registration is required; please go to www.capelandtrust.org/gathering, or call 207-767-6054 to register.



RECYCLING CENTER FALL EXTENDED HOURS AND WAIVER OF FEES

The Recycling Center will be open on the following Sundays for the disposal of leaf/yard waste, wood waste, and brush only. Fees will be assessed for all items on Sunday, November 12th. As a reminder, no household refuse and/or recyclables will be accepted on the Sundays listed below.

Sunday, October 29th 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

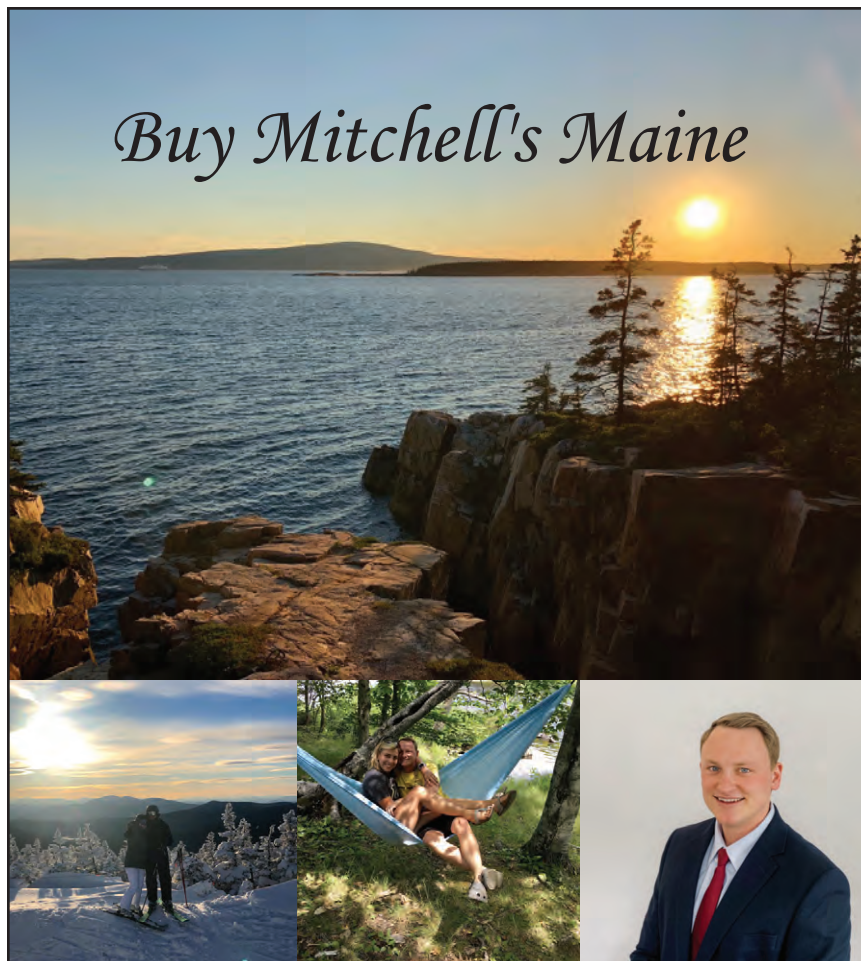
Sunday, November 5th 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Sunday, November 12th 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Additionally, disposal Fees at the Recycling Center will be waived for residents transporting their own material and/or items from **Saturday, October 21st through November 4th.**

Commercial haulers will still be assessed fees in accordance with current regulations.

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Library offers Halloween-themed events for youth and adults, programs on native plants, ocean sunfish, sharks

Read a Human Book on October 14

What is a Human Book? Human Books are volunteers—people from Cape Elizabeth or surrounding communities—who are often misunderstood by others due to an aspect of their identity, occupation, illness, race, age, disability or background.

How Do I Read a Human Book? Stop by the library on Saturday, October 14 any time between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., select a Human Book title, and sit down for a 30 minute one-on-one conversation with the Book of your choice. On this day, there are no taboos—you don't need to worry about the questions you ask, the words you use, or the way you ask a question as long as your intent is to gain new understanding.

This event is a result of a partnership with the town of Cape Elizabeth's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to bring the Human Library (www.humanlibrary.org) to Southern Maine.

The Human Library is based on the idea that we all carry prejudices and that we all judge. The Human Library Organization, a nonprofit founded in 2000 in Copenhagen, Denmark, provides a safe framework for personal conversations that can help to challenge prejudice, reduce discrimination, prevent conflicts and contribute to greater human cohesion across social, religious and ethnic divisions. The library's event is financially supported by the Thomas Memorial Library Foundation. No registration is necessary. Please visit the library's website for more information.

Thomas Memorial Library Foundation Presents: Celebrating

George and Ira Gershwin, with The Modernistics, a special after-hours event

Saturday, October 28

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

In the library's Community Room

The Thomas Memorial Library Foundation welcomes The Modernistics for a special after hours event to thank the community for their ongoing support of TMLF and the library.

The Modernistics are the acclaimed singing and tap-dancing team of Ted and Pamela Powers, with virtuoso jazz musicians Peter H. Bloom on flute, Mark Leighton on guitar, and Dave Zox on double-bass. They will celebrate George and Ira Gershwin with songs, tap-dance numbers, and jazz instrumentals like "Slap That Bass," "Nice Work If You Can Get It," "Oh Lady Be Good," "I've Got a Crush on You," "A Foggy Day," "I Got Rhythm," and other treasures by the Gershwin brothers.

Please join us for this rollicking good time! Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited: advance reservations are required. Please visit the library's website to reserve your spot.

Do you dare to enter Thomas Memorial Library's Two Sentence Horror Story Contest?

It was a dark and stormy night at TML when staff challenged Capers to a two sentence horror story contest . . . Are you a writer? Do you dream of ghosts, demons, monsters, and mysteries? Make us bristle and shudder with your best two-sentence horror stories!

Whether you explore the unnatural, the

supernatural, or the psychological, there are countless ways to give us goosebumps. Submit your two most sinister sentences on our website or at any TML circulation desk by midnight, October 31.

All ages welcome, winners will be chosen from each category as follows: ages 11 and under, high school and adult. Stop by the library or check our website for more details.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Character of the Month

Stop by the children's room to celebrate Ms. Martha's farewell character of the month: Belinda the Story Time Bear! (Belinda is staying put, while Ms. Martha is sadly leaving us).

We'll have fun activities throughout the month of October, like our popular scavenger hunt and you can write a goodbye note to Ms. Martha.

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.

Special Programs

Free Halloween Costume Swap for Children throughout October!

Children and their families are invited to

visit the children's room during the library's regular operating hours in October to select a "new-to-you" Halloween costume and accessories.

Children can take a costume without swapping or can bring in gently used children's Halloween costumes and accessories to exchange. The Children's Halloween Costume swap is free and open to all children who visit the library. Please donate only items in clean, gently used condition that will fit sizes infant through tween.

Creepyterrium

Friday, October 20, 2:30 pm

Library Conference Room

For ages 11-18. Spiders and pumpkins and bats, oh my! Come create the creepy plant-scape of your dreams (or nightmares).

In this workshop, you will learn how to layer a terrarium and haunt it up with mini classic Halloween decorations. Registration required, sign up on our website.

Giants of the Sea, and the Importance of Blubber!

Saturday, October 21, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

For children pre-K and up and their families

Danielle Marston from the New England Coastal Wildlife Alliance (NECWA) will bring some hands-on activities to help us learn about the giant creatures living under the sea right here in Maine.

Use a measuring tape to visualize just how large these creatures are, and wrap

-see LIBRARY page 13



Cape Elizabeth Council to Host Forum on Oct. 16 to Discuss Compliance with State Law LD 2003

A public forum at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16, at Town Hall will focus on new opportunities for Cape Elizabeth residents to create accessory dwelling units (ADUs). The changes are part of proposed ordinance updates that would allow the town to comply with the new state law LD 2003.

This law seeks to remove certain zoning barriers to promote diverse housing options throughout Maine.

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS!

The bulk of the forum will be set aside for questions from the public. (Note that this forum is not an opportunity to determine the status of individual lots.)

The meeting will be broadcast on the public access television channel. Residents can participate in person or via Zoom. The agenda and Zoom link will be posted on the town's website.

The proposed ordinance amendments introduce new zoning regulations that would grant Cape Elizabeth residents greater flexibility in creating accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Additionally, it would update rules concerning small multifamily buildings (2-4 units) and provide provisions for affordable housing density bonuses. The Town, like all Maine municipalities, is required to amend its current regulations to comply with LD 2003.

LD 2003, passed by the Maine Legislature last year, will be implemented statewide on January 1, 2024.

Library

Continued from page 12

your hand in “blubber” and dunk it in ice water to learn about how marine mammals use blubber to keep warm.

Danielle will give us a new appreciation for the amazing creatures that share our ocean with us. No registration is necessary.

Paint a Pumpkin Party Palooza

Tuesday, October 24, 11:30 a.m.

Library lawn

For ages 3+. Sign up to paint a boo-tiful little pumpkin to take home. You bring your creativity, we'll provide pumpkins and paint. Dress for a mess! Registration required, sign up on our website.

Sewing Adventure: Stuff & Doll Accessories (ages 8-14)

Friday, October 27, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Library Conference Room

For ages 8-14. Accessorize your favorite stuffy or doll with a backpack or a beret + more.

In this workshop sewists will bring a favorite stuffy or doll to the workshop, and use fabrics, embroidery, applique, and simple patterning skills to make accessories for our favorite stuffies and dolls. Choose to make a backpack or beret or design your own accessory. Beginning sewists welcome!

No prior experience necessary but complete beginners must be accompanied by their adult to work one on one in learning basic skills of threading a needle and tying a knot for their first few meetings. All materials provided. Registration required, sign up on our website.

Stuffy Fashion Show

Friday, October 27, 11:30 a.m.

Library Community Room

Dress up your stuffy and show off their unique fashion (kids can dress up fancy, too). You can walk them on the runway yourself or have a librarian help. Registration required, sign up on our website.

Not-So-Scary Family Story Time

Friday, October 27, 10:30 a.m.

For ages 3-5. Just us for some not-so-terrible tales, boo bubbles, dancing and a costume parade. Dress up and practice trick

or treating at either library desk afterward. Great practice for littles!

Not-So-Scary Dress Up and Dance

Tuesday, October 31, 10:30 a.m.

Wear your Halloween costume and join us for 30 minutes of moving and grooving to our favorite haunted playlist and more boo bubbles. For dancing enthusiasts ages 2-5.

Weekly and Monthly Recurring Programs

Please visit the library's website for the complete schedule of our recurring programs and events for kids, teens and 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/>.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Cape Elizabeth Garden Club Presents: Gardening For Habitat, with the Wild Seed Project

Thursday, October 12, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

In person at the library

Native plants offer countless benefits beyond their four-season beauty—purifying air, shading and cooling cities, storing atmospheric carbon, minimizing flooding and stormwater runoff and helping to sustain vital pollinators, birds and other wildlife.

Learn how to transform where you live by planting diverse species and adopting thoughtful landscape practices. From planting native trees to shrinking your lawn to leaving your leaves, discover the actions you can take to make your yard more biodiverse and climate resilient. All are welcome.

Pond Cove Death Café, with Leona Oceania of Die Well Death Education

Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

In-person at the library

A group-directed conversation about death with no agenda, objectives or themes - with cake! (It is not a grief support or counseling session).

Registration is not necessary, but if you register, you can receive reminders and updates about recommended resources or weather cancellations.

Mystery and Murder and Mocktails, Oh My!

Thursday, October 19, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

In-person at the library

Once upon an evening dreary, writers inked a story eerie... Bring your favorite notebook and your most chilling ideas to our night of delightfully scary stories and deliciously creepy mocktails. Learn about the origins of horror writing then try your hand at your own frightening microfiction, perfect for submitting to our 2 Sentence Horror Story Contest.

Whether your thrill is monsters, murderers, or the macabre and morbid, come for the scares and stay for the spirits! Register on our website to save a seat.

Not a Baby Whale: The Life of the Ocean Sunfish

Saturday, October 21, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

In person at the library

The ocean sunfish (Mola mola) looks like the invention of a mad scientist. Huge and flat, this silvery-gray fish has a tiny mouth and big eyes that vanish into an even bigger body with a truncated tail. Topping out around 5,000 pounds (2,268 kg), the mola is the world's heaviest bony fish and they can be found right here in Maine.

Join Danielle Marston from the New England Coastal Wildlife Alliance (NECWA) to learn all about these fascinating creatures.

Innovations in Shark Research in Maine

Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

In person at the library

For adults and students interested in studying sharks and marine biology

Professor John Mohan and some of his students at UNE recently deployed Maine's first real-time shark detection buoy between Ferry Beach and Old Orchard Beach.

Learn about how these students are working to increase safety and awareness by expanding the monitoring of white shark populations along the coast of Maine. We'll also learn about the innovative technology the students are developing to reduce shark capture in recreational and commercial fisheries.

Sculptural Lantern Workshops

Thursday, October 26, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. I

In person at the library

Saturday, October 28, 10:30 - 12:30 p.m.

In person at the library

Local artist Marie Ahearn will help participants craft lanterns from wire, reeds, paper and other materials. All materials will be provided. No experience necessary, just a desire to have fun!

This workshop is offered as part of our grant-funded Community Art Box project. We are planning to have a Lantern Festival on Thursday, November 9 to celebrate the installation of our mini-galleries around the town center.

Participants in this workshop are invited to bring their lantern to the festival, share it with others or just keep it at home. This workshop is primarily for adults, but older focused and motivated children and teens are welcome to attend as well. Please register on our website.

NOTE: These are two separate complete workshops. Participants need only attend one session.



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CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

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

Wednesday, October 11

School Board RETREAT, Other – See website, 4 p.m.
 Community Services Committee, Community Center, 5:30 p.m.
 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Thomas Memorial Library, 6 p.m.
 Town Council, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 12

SBAC Public Forum - CANCELED, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, October 16

Town Council Ordinance Committee - PUBLIC FORUM, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, October 19

Fort Williams Park Committee, 6 p.m.
 School Building Advisory Committee, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.
 Energy Committee, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 24

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

Riverside Cemetery Committee, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 10 a.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, 6-8:30 p.m. first Wednesday of the month, Cape Elizabeth Community Center. Contact: cercme.com for Cape information.
 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.

CABLE GUIDE

CETV CHANNEL 1302

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

Nothing scheduled for October 11 - 24

Lions Club to host a fall Lobster Dinner

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club will be hosting their 2nd seasonal fundraising Lobster Dinner for their ongoing support for local charities and our local lobster fishing industry.

The October Lobster Dinner will be held Saturday, October 14 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Lions Club, Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, 1 Wheeler Road. The cost is \$22.00 for a single lobster meal or \$30.00 for a double lobster meal. Eat-in or take-out meals also include baked potato, corn and dessert. Non-alcohol-

ic Beverages are provided for those eating in the Club House.

Reserved meals are strongly recommended as quantities are limited. To reserve, please call Mark at (207) 321-9393 or email lionsclubceme@gmail.com or order from Lions Facebook page www.facebook.com/capeelizabethlionsclub no later than noon, Friday, October 13. Walk-ins are welcome pending availability. Cash, checks, credit cards accepted.

SERVICES

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

499 Ocean House Road (Route 77)
 747-1113

www.capenazarene.org

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

Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church

280 Ocean House Road
 799-8396

www.ceumc.org

Sanctuary Service: 10 a.m.
 In-person Sunday services 10 a.m. 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

Service videos available on our website

Promised Land World Reach Center

536 Cottage Road, South Portland
 799-3152

Sunday Prayer & Intercession: 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
 Family Bible Studies: Wednesday, 7 p.m.
 Sermon recordings available to download

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 Bartholomew Catholic Church of Saint John Paul II Parish

8 Two Lights Road, 207-883-0334

Website: www.JP2me.org

Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.
 Daily Mass: Mon. and Wed. 8 a.m.
 Sacrament of Confession: Mon. 8:30-9 a.m.
 Additional Mass times in Scarborough & South Portland listed on website

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

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MUSIC LESSONS

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

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Superintendent

Continued from page 7

have volunteered for this effort.

I hope you attended, tuned in, or later watched the Public Forum presentation of the Voter Survey Results shared by Bruce Lockwood of Portland Research Group. I am certain you each had your own take-aways; here are a few of mine:

- We as a school district need to do a better job of explaining why addressing our building needs is so important for the education of our students and the important work of our staff
- The community wants us to consider a variety of options that include both new construction and renovation
- The total cost and eventual tax implications really matter (uncertainty of tax revaluation is a big factor)

By the time this edition is published, I am hopeful our new architectural design team from Harriman will be supported by the School Board and Town Council. There will be a public forum held in the near future to meet the architects and learn more about the design process.

In closing, I just want to express my gratitude and deep appreciation for your continuing support of our students and staff. We strive to provide the very best education for our students. We all will rely on them to have the skills and knowledge in order to be ready to collaborate to successfully tackle challenges we cannot even imagine. Have a wonderful autumn and I hope to see you at one of our many games and events.

Town wide revaluation postponed

The new assessed values, as seen on your VALUATION CHANGE letters, will not be implemented until next year. After analysis of the updated values, it was determined that further review of the updated assessments was needed. This delay will allow the assessing team to further review the assessed values, make necessary adjustments and proof read the information.

The attached property tax bill will be in effect for the October 23, 2023 and April 16, 2024 tax assessment.

New valuation change letters will be delivered in January of 2024. Providing notice in January will allow more time for a review process of several months before taxes are committed in August of 2024. The new values, when finalized, will be in effect for the

October 2024 and April 2025 tax bill.

If you have any questions regarding the postponing of the revaluation, please contact Tax Assessor Clinton Swett at 207-799-1619 or send him an email at clinton.swett@capeelizabeth.org.

Judy's Pantry- a community feeding itself

Judy's Pantry operates at the Cape Elizabeth Methodist Church on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 3 – 4:30 p.m. Prior registration is necessary. Please contact Beth Owens: bethowens1@gmail.com.



**Town of Cape Elizabeth
Boards and Committees
Annual Appointments Process**

The Town Council Appointments Committee is accepting applications from residents to fill anticipated vacancies on the following town boards and committees.

- Community Services Committee** – 1 opening
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee** – 2 openings
- Energy Committee** – 1 opening
- Fort Williams Park Committee** – 2 openings
- Personnel Appeals Board** – 1 opening
- Recycling Committee** – 1 opening
- Thomas Memorial Library Committee** – 2 openings
- Riverside Cemetery Committee** - 1 opening

Residents may apply at www.capeelizabeth.com.

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

Applications must be submitted to Debra Lane no later than **4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.**

New terms begin January 1, 2024. Terms are 3 years, unless otherwise noted.



**TOWN OF CAPE ELIZABETH
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
RECYCLING CENTER ATTENDANT**

The Town of Cape Elizabeth has an opening for a Recycling Center Attendant

The Town of Cape Elizabeth has a full-time opening for the position of Recycling Center Attendant. Duties include assisting in the daily operations of the Recycling Center. This includes, but is not limited to: inspecting incoming materials, operating compactors, explaining and enforcing facility regulations, scheduling container transport, and performing manual tasks, as required. A commitment to customer service, the ability to communicate well orally, and the ability to work independently is required. Experience in solid waste, recycling and/or materials handling are desired. Applicants shall apply in writing on, or before, **October 27, 2023** to:

**Attn: Public Works Director
Cape Elizabeth Public Works Department
10 Cooper Drive, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107**

The Town of Cape Elizabeth offers a competitive salary and benefits package.

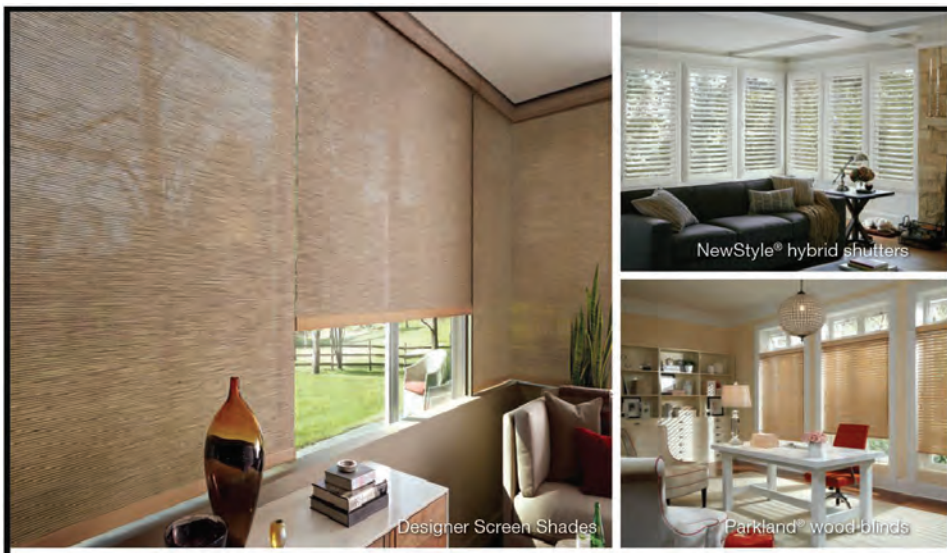
The Town of Cape Elizabeth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Cape Carpenter

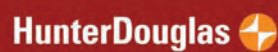
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Anderson ‘makes decisions based on the facts’

I am happy to write in support of Stephanie Anderson who is running for Town Council. I grew up in Cape Elizabeth, I am a nurse and have a child at Pond Cove. I care deeply about the future of our town. I have found Stephanie to be an authentic problem solver with a passion for solving difficult issues. As Cumberland County District Attorney, she had to work collaboratively with others, victims, law enforcement, the courts, and the mental health and recovery community to address many difficult issues. I have come to learn that she cares deeply about making sure that Cape Elizabeth residents can continue to afford to live here, that our open spaces and Fort Williams are maintained and flourish, and that our schools continue to provide an excellent education.

I am particularly impressed that she volunteered to serve on the housing committee. Moderately priced, work force housing is the key to making sure we can attract young families, have housing for town and school employees, and other people who work in town, and housing for our long time elderly residents.

Stephanie is the real deal: she cares, she works hard and she makes decisions based on the facts. She has never been a political partisan, which is why she was re-elected DA six times. We are so fortunate that she is running for Town Council.

This election matters, for ourselves and our children, and that is why I am voting for Stephanie Anderson.

Alexa Ward

Trust science and respect neighbors

I have been following the minutes of the Ordinance Committee as they develop the proposed pesticide ban. I am heartened that they acknowledge the indispensable role of herbicides to control invasive species infestations but am concerned about how a ban would be implemented.

Neighbors are supposed to turn-in neighbors. Is this really how we are going to interact? One neighbor uses a treatment approved for safety and effectiveness by our Environmental Protection Agency on his or her property, and the other calls a town official to fine and reeducate the ‘offender’... imagine the animosity this creates.

The ban will prohibit poison ivy control; you’ll have to pull it by hand. Fruit trees will have to be removed due to easily treatable fungal diseases; copper does not work. Everyone will have to spend countless hours

on their knees pulling weeds from pavement cracks...or your neighbor might out-you. They have included an Emergency Use permit for public safety, but the town will determine your risk of disease from mosquitos and ticks.

It is good that people use precisely, minimize and not allow chemicals to drift onto neighbors’ property, but the town is completely unqualified to make or enforce their decisions. Every chemical on the hardware store shelf undergoes ongoing EPA environmental and human safety reviews.

I understand that people are afraid in this anti-science/distrust the government atmosphere the hard-right and hard-left has put us in but, please, let’s remain rational and trust science while being respectful of our neighbors’ sensitivities... Vote no.

Ilya Fleishman

Swayze has an ‘open-minded and pragmatic approach’

The upcoming elections for Town Council and School Board will be critical, with multiple issues of significant policy and fiscal consequence confronting both bodies.

One common thread connecting all the key issues on the table at the moment is the need for objective, facts-based analysis to guide the important decisions that will be made for the community.

I recently sat down with Andrew Swayze and came away incredibly impressed with his motivation to do the necessary and hard work that lies ahead, along with his open-minded

and pragmatic approach. He has a genuine interest in crafting realistic and thoughtful plans to address some of our town’s biggest challenges, and importantly is not someone running with a prescriptive solution or predetermined ideology.

Having previously served on the council for two terms, I know I would have appreciated working with someone like Andrew, and I hope you will join me in voting for him in this election.

Jamie Garvin

Forum

Continued from page 10

the public, but not provide information on individual lots.

Councilor Penny Jordan, who chairs the Ordinance Committee, said “This ordinance change is really complex.” “The complexity means there can be a lot of misunderstanding and misconceptions. We’re trying to provide clarity. To do that, we need to hear people’s questions and respond to them at the forum.”

LD 2003 will be implemented statewide on January 1, 2024. Failure to adopt a new housing ordinance could result in legal action against the town. The Town Council is expected to conduct a second public hearing in November, after which a vote may be taken.

The proposed ordinance includes the following provisions:

- One ADU per home will be allowed.
- ADUs cannot be used for short-term rentals (less than 30 days).
- Setback requirements for ADUs will be consistent with those for single-family homes.
- State law prohibits the town from requiring parking for an ADU.

• While LD 2003 does not provide a maximum size for an ADU unit, the proposed town ordinance sets a maximum size of 1,100 square feet. The town’s current maximum ADU size is 600 square feet.

• The owner of a single-family home could tear down the house and build a small multi-family structure. However, few single-family homes would meet the town’s minimum lot size requirements.

• In designated growth areas, up to four units could be built, subject to setbacks and existing zoning rules.

• In other parts of town, two to three units may be permitted on a lot, provided the lots meet minimum size requirements. Less than 12 percent of lots have enough land for additional units.

• The terms “multiplex” and “multifamily” in the town’s zoning ordinance are synonymous.

The meeting will be broadcast on the public access television channel. Residents can participate in person or via Zoom. The agenda and Zoom link will be posted on the town’s website.

Tim Thompson for Town Council

I believe many problems seem insurmountable, but when calmer heads prevail we all benefit and our problems can be solved. We will find that much more unites than divides us if we work toward solutions that are affordable and widely supported by Cape residents.

Goals

- Bring our community together to solve problems and find solutions through a process of cooperation, consensus building and compromise.
- Ensure a strong education system, the foundation of our community and source of great pride.
- Strengthen small businesses with both ordinances and attitudes that encourage their success.
- Assist our lobstermen and fishermen by completing the commercial boat launch in Kettle Cove.

Volunteer

- Chair, 2019 Comprehensive Plan, 2 years
- Vice-Chair, Housing & Diversity Committee, current
- Member of the School Building Committee, 5 years
- Past President & Board Member, Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation, 6 years
- Past Parish Council Chair & Member, St. Bartholomew’s Church, 5 years
- Past President & Member, Morrison Center, 34 years

Awards

- Created the Thompson Award for an educator who goes above and beyond in the life of a child.

Don’t lose your opportunity to be represented: Make sure you vote on November 7th!!

