

# The Cape Courier

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An Independent Not-for-Profit Newspaper  
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*In the Spirit of Community*

## Aurora Milton is a Grand Prize winner at Maine State Science Fair

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

This 3-pocket wallet was developed by Aurora Milton from material derived from SCOBY, usually associated with kombucha.

Cape Elizabeth High School student Aurora Milton was a Grand Prize winner at this year's Maine State Science Fair. She also won 1st place in Chemistry and Materials. Milton's grand prize award was for her work engineering fabric from mycelium and kombucha in the context of developing a sustainable fashion industry.

According to Science Teacher and Advi-

sor Amy de Vries, "[Milton] is now invited, with all expenses paid, to the International Science and Engineering Fair, or ISEF, in Los Angeles, California in May to share her work. Attending ISEF is a huge honor for high school students all over the world, and as far as I know, she would be the first Cape student to ever attend."

The International Science and Engineering Fair is a week-long event and the expenses de Vries mentioned are paid by the Jackson Laboratory. ISEF is the world's largest and most prestigious high school science competition and attracts 1,800 international students annually.

Milton said, "I have been passionate about the sustainable fashion industry for several years. After conducting deep research, I've learned how devastating fast fashion is to the environment and to garment workers in the Global South. Each year, 92 millions tons of textile waste is deposited in a landfill. That is equivalent to dumping a truckload of clothing every second of every day."

She said she wanted to prove that fashion can be used as a creative outlet and source of

-see FAIR page 7

## Town Manager Matthew Sturgis moving on after long service to Cape Elizabeth

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

Town Manager Matthew Sturgis will be stepping down as Town Manager as of May 8. After more than 24 years of service to Cape Elizabeth, Sturgis has accepted a position to become the next Town Manager for the town of Cumberland.

Matthew Sturgis has served the community of Cape Elizabeth for more than 24 years, and as Town Manager for the last seven years. He has accepted a position to become the next Town Manager for the town of Cumberland, and will be leaving his current position on May 8.

He began as the town's Tax Assessor, and held that position for the first 17 years. During the last two and a half years in that position, Sturgis was assessor for both Cape Elizabeth and Scarborough. He also staffed the Health Insurance Study Committee, Tax Cap Study group and the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

Sturgis explained how he came to Cape. "I was working as an appraiser for the city of Auburn's Assessing Department as one of three staff appraisers, and the prior [Cape Elizabeth] assessor, Robert Konczal became the new assessor for Freeport, which created a great opportunity for me to fill. I interviewed with the legendary Anne E. Swift Kayatta, Henry Berry and Carolyn Fritz, and was fortunate to be selected," he said.

He said that his grandfather was personally an important role model to him. Sturgis said, "He had a country store which was a hub of the community I grew up in. I learned from him that if you treat people with respect and kindness, that is the proper path."

-see STURGIS page 6

## Capetoon: Treeclipse in Cape

By Jeff Mandell



## News from March 19 Planning Board meeting

By Hanna Gilley

### February 20 Meeting Minutes Approval

The Planning Board asked for approval of the February 20, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was introduced and passed unanimously by the board.

### 1230 Shore Rd Garage Site Plan Amendment

L.P. Murray & Sons requested an amendment to a previously approved site plan to add a new 40 foot by 60 foot, (2,400 square feet) equipment repair garage located at 1230 Shore Road. Bob Metcalf of Mitchell Associates, representing the applicant, presented updates to the Planning Board on the applicant's site plan.

Metcalf explained that concerns and comments were addressed during the site walk and resulted in "minimal changes" to

the site plan. These changes include eliminating the end island at the front of the parking lot and the addition of large boulders around the westerly side and surrounding the catch basin to control access of vehicles pulling onto the lawn.

Planning Board members addressed a "shed" structure in the center of the property which is used for kerosene containment. It was decided that the structure can remain there for now, but with the added note that it may need to be removed in the future.

Other details amended in the site plan application included changing the exterior to vinyl siding for easier maintenance and the addition of spot elevations for the rain garden.

No public hearing occurred for this agenda item. Chair Sahrbeck introduced the motion to approve which was agreed unanimously by the board.



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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](mailto:editor@capecourier.com) or mail to P.O. Box 6242, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107. Please note: Letters will be acknowledged by email.

**NEXT ISSUE: April 24**  
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## Let's 'take care of one another, and especially our children'

Do children need a state-of-the-art building to get a great education? Probably not. But can we do better than buildings with leaks, poor ventilation, safety, and security issues (currently anyone can enter the elementary and middle school buildings) and an HVAC system that reaches the same noise level as a descending aircraft? I would think so.

When these schools were built people did not have to be concerned about the ease of people accessing a school; this is something that needs to be addressed. It truly is a missed opportunity the town did not proactively plan for upkeep and renovations and that current residents

are now being asked to jump in. It is not convenient or even fair, especially given the inflation, housing market and other undercurrents.

However, I think we can all agree that our children shouldn't have to pay the price in our place. I consider myself very fortunate to live on a street and in a community where neighbors step up and take care of each other, during power outages, storms and everyday life.

Let's make sure our town is one that continues to take care of one another, and especially our children.

**Anika Ruisch**

## 'Protect our Maine interests'

Imagine that in this year's presidential election, one candidate gets 90 per cent of the Maine vote but its Electoral College votes go to the other candidate. This is what the Maine House has already voted for with the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact bill. Maine will give its votes to the winner of the National popular vote.

With this in effect, Presidential candidates can offer New York and California the moon and the stars with no consideration for more rural states. Please contact our Representatives Carney and Millett to change their vote to protect our Maine interests and keep the checks and balances of our Constitutional Republic intact. I want my Maine child to have voice when he votes.

**Tom McAteer**

## THANK YOU!

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

*Thank you to these recent generous contributors:*

**Rich Dana**

## Monaghan's 'approachable demeanor is much needed'

I am pleased to support fellow Caper Kim Monaghan in the June 11 primary as she seeks to return to Augusta as our State Representative, District #123 in the Maine Legislature.

It isn't easy to imagine a better-qualified person to represent us:

She has more than 30 years of experience serving the people of Maine and in Washington D.C.

She has substantial professional experience in online media, tourism, global trade exhibitions and as an adjunct professor at the University of Southern Maine.

She served us with distinction in her four previous terms in the Maine Legislature where Kim was a member of the Judiciary, Veterans & Legal Affairs, and Workforce & Economic Future Committees.

Kim's work on the Workforce Com-

mittee established ground-breaking legislation promoting access to community colleges, an industry partnership program between universities and businesses, and a \$50 million bond investment in Maine's small business and innovation economy.

Kim's knowledge of Maine's education and business community, politics and history are valuable assets to help move Maine forward in these challenging times. Her calm and approachable demeanor is much needed, especially today, and has long been a source of admiration in the Cape Elizabeth community and Augusta.

Please join me in supporting Kim in the June 11 Democratic primary.

**Jonathan Chapman**

## Boyer 'represents best of present and future Cape'

As a registered "Unenrolled" (Independent) voter, I am excited to—for the first time in Maine history—participate in the primary process for state level elections. On June 11, I plan to ask for a Democratic ballot and proudly vote for Michelle Boyer to represent Cape Elizabeth in the State Legislature. This seat is currently held by the retiring Rebecca Millett, who has served us well and officially endorsed Michelle to replace her.

Michelle's name may be new to some neighbors, but for years she has put in the hard work to advance our community's interests. In 2021, she helped author state legislation (now enacted) expanding critical postpartum care. I have seen her first-hand

deal with hard issues head on, with empathy and dedication to the common good. The small business she founded came out of her recognizing a need and creatively solving it.

I'm not a Democrat; I simply want the best person to represent our amazing town in Augusta. That person is Michelle Boyer. She represents the best of present and future Cape. And that's why I would encourage others like me—"Unenrolled" in any political party, but following the Maine independent tradition—to request a Democratic ballot to vote for Michelle Boyer in the June 11 primary.

**Kevin Justh**

### POLITICAL ADVERTISING POLICY

The Cape Courier accepts advertisements in compliance with applicable laws and the publishing industry's best practices. Maine's campaign finance laws set the basic standards for advertisements for political candidates and ballot issues. In an effort to promote public dialogue, the Courier also accepts advertisements on issues of public policy and social concern, as long as they adhere to standards of fair play and do not target individuals. The Courier requires that opinion or advocacy advertisements display the name and town of at least one member of the sponsoring group. The Courier also requires that any advertisements claiming the support of people, companies or organizations provide certification for these endorsements.

The Courier reserves the right to insist on modifications to draft advertisements prior to publication. It is not the Courier's intention to reject advertisements, but like all publications it reserves the right to do so at its sole discretion.

In addition, here is a link to a section of Maine law dealing with campaign advertisements: <https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/21-A/title21-Asec1014.html>

*The Cape Courier Board of Directors*

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# Tax refund and Marketplace scams reported

By Debbie Butterworth

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 3-11 An officer responded to a residence in the Old Ocean House area for a well-being check.
- 3-11 A resident dropped off assorted credit cards and an insurance card he had found on a local walking trail. Owner was identified and property returned.
- 3-12 An officer met with a resident in the Ocean House Road area regarding a harassment complaint.
- 3-12 Two officers responded to a residence in the Fowler Road area for a well-being check.
- 3-18 An officer met with a resident in the Scott Dyer Road area regarding a trespass complaint.
- 3-20 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area regarding a domestic situation.
- 3-22 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area who reported that she thought she was conversing with a mutual friend on a LinkedIn account who claimed to have friends working for the IRS, and could get her a bigger tax refund. The victim provided personal and financial information before realizing it was a scam. The victim was advised to contact her financial institutions and the IRS, and the officer provided her with an identity theft recovery packet.
- 3-22 An officer met with a resident in the Scott Dyer Road area regarding a possible missing person.
- 3-22 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area regarding the theft of tools.
- 3-23 An officer met with a resident of the Oakhurst area who turned over a sleeping bag and phone he had found. Property being kept in police station for safekeeping.
- 3-23 An officer met with a subject who turned in a passport found on Casino Beach. The owner was contacted.
- 3-25 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area who found a boat on Facebook Marketplace that she was interested in purchasing. She contacted the owner who stated he would hold the boat for \$200 until she was able to view the boat. She sent the money via Venmo, and noticed the next day that the account had been closed and her conversation deleted. The "owner" has not responded to her.
- 3-25 An officer responded to a residence in the Spurwink Avenue area regarding a landlord/tenant dispute.

## SUMMONSES

- 3-12 Old Orchard Beach resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77, \$85
- 3-12 Quincy, Massachusetts resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Scott Dyer Road, \$85
- 3-12 Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Ocean House Road, \$148
- 3-16 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 3-16 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 3-16 Boston MA resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 3-16 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating after license suspension, Shore Road
- 3-16 Westbrook resident, speeding (49/30 zone), Mitchell Road, \$170
- 3-17 South Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Ocean House Road, \$148
- 3-18 New Gloucester resident, speeding (60/35 zone), Spurwink Avenue, \$278
- 3-19 Biddeford resident, unregistered vehicle, Route 77, \$85
- 3-22 South Portland resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 3-22 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85
- 3-22 Jacksonville, Florida resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85
- 3-22 Maryville, Tennessee resident, operating vehicle while using hand held device, Shore Road, \$85

## ARRESTS

- 3-15 Cape Elizabeth resident, Operating under the Influence of Alcohol, Mitchell Road
- 3-15 Cape Elizabeth resident, Operating under the Influence of Alcohol, Shore Road

## JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 3-21 Cape Elizabeth resident, uninspected vehicle, Shore Road, \$148

## ACCIDENTS

- 3-23 Linda Matthews, accident on Shore Road

## FIRE CALLS

- Fire calls: 66
- EMS calls: 33

# Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

## Celebrity Scams in the Age of AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the new shiny object that has captured the world's attention. It's also captured the attention of criminal scammers who are using it to make their fraudulent schemes more realistic than ever. One area where AI scams are particularly dangerous is celebrity impostor scams.

For many years criminals have been impersonating celebrities online to steal from fans. Fake celebrity profiles offer fans personal connection, VIP access, investment opportunities or the chance to support favorite charities. These criminals attempt to create a bond through messaging or even a phone call from their "rep."

With the power of AI, these scams can move from messaging to deepfake videos. Recent fake celebrity product endorsements impersonating Dolly Parton, Elon Musk and Tom Hanks demonstrate just how convincing these schemes can be. Posting on a celebrity's social media account might be exciting, but it could put you at risk of this impostor scam. In whatever way you choose to enjoy your favorite celebs, do so recognizing that an opportunity to personally connect with them is likely a scam.

## IRS Scams

Tax season isn't just about filing returns; it's also prime time for IRS impostor scams. According to the Federal Trade Commission, consumers reported theft of \$5.8 billion via these scams in 2023 alone. Here is

what you need to know about IRS impostors so you can stay one step ahead of these crooks.

IRS impostor scams often begin with a robocall, instructing you to press a number on your keypad to talk with a live agent or call back using the number provided. Victims often trust these contacts because the phone numbers seem legitimate. However scammers can manipulate caller ID to appear as through the call is coming from the IRS.

Once they have you on the phone, they may demand payment for back taxes under the threat of arrest. The payment of choice in these scams tends to be via wire transfer, gift cards, or cryptocurrency. If you get this type of request, it is 100% certainly a scam. Sometimes these impostors will claim the IRS owes you an unexpected refund in an attempt to steal sensitive information like your Social Security number or bank account details.

Even if a caller has personally identifiable information of yours to "prove" who they are, don't believe it. Disengage, and if you're concerned, contact the entity via a trusted number (a paper statement or by finding a number on that entity's website).

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) or call the AARP Fraud Watch Helpline at 1-877-908-3360.

Need a scam prevention speaker for your group? Go to [aarp.org/me](http://aarp.org/me) or call 1-866-554-5380.

## DILL FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 123

"No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people or of their representatives in the Legislature." *Constitution of the State of Maine, Article I, Section 22*



If your family pays its fair share of taxes like mine does, you want the legislature to work for people who work hard, pay their bills, and play by the rules. Taxes should not rise and fall on ideology or be used like candy to reward political friends.

The function of state government is to "establish justice, insure tranquility, provide for our mutual defense, promote our common welfare, and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of liberty," according to our constitution. Let's get back to basics.

Cape Elizabeth voters can choose to be represented by someone willing to rein in runaway spending and work to reduce the tax burden Augusta saddles on families and businesses.

"It's about freedom." Vote Cynthia Dill for State Representative, District 123 on June 11th.

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# Cape lobsterman's boat washed ashore on rocks of Richmond Island

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)

I was at Kettle Cove State Park with a friend when I was reminded - yet again - of the quality of the people who live in our community.

While in the park, my friend and I ran into friend and neighbor Tucker Jordan, son of Jordie M. Jordan and himself a 13th generation lobsterman and farmer. He was watching in shock as his lobster boat, torn from its mooring in the rough waves near Crescent Beach, crashed on the rocks and ledges of Richmond Island.

Powerless in the face of this disaster, Tucker was incredibly attentive to my friend who just learned of a family member's cancer diagnosis. I was touched by what I was witnessing. Even though his boat and livelihood was being washed into the Atlantic, the lobsterman was more interested in how he could help out his neighbor's family. Tucker gave our friend vegetables, cider and

a heartfelt offer to help in any way he could.

This experience was yet another reason I enjoy my time and stories of those who make their living on the ocean waters; fishermen, commercial guides, etc..

Living and working in my hometown on the ocean has changed the way I think. I find myself calmer and more mindful of others. The bright blue sky and the crashing waves bring me peace and the hardworking people who make up this community bring me stability, calm and optimism. I have met and written about many lobsterman in the Casco Bay area, and their work ethic and kindness always shines through.

When I meet lobstermen - and women - who work in dangerous and harsh conditions, I see more than rough laborers, I see "Maine the Way Life Should Be." Hardworking, resilient and mindful of the challenges of others.



Photo by Tucker Jordan

Tucker Jordan's lobster boat on the rocks of Richmond Island.

# Cape memories

By Steve Hill CEHS 1968

A relatively bare winter may lead to an early outdoor start for the CEHS baseball and softball teams along with other spring sports and activities. We know that the girl's softball teams will gather on Capano Field named after longtime Cape teacher, high school softball coach, and an early advocate for girl's sports, Ed Capano. Ed had a distinguished career in Maine education and taught for 17 years in Cape Elizabeth, retiring in 1977.

The boys' baseball teams will begin another season on Durwood Holman Field. A few old time Capers will remember Mr. Holman but for many he is only a name on a field since his retirement from Cape Elizabeth back in 1965 after almost 35 years teaching math and science and coaching at CEHS. It is hard to believe now but in 1935 when Durwood Holman was hired after graduating from Bates College and after a few years teaching at Bridgton Academy, Cape Elizabeth schools were part of what was known as School Union #13, which included Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Falmouth and North Yarmouth.

Holman's hiring began the career of a teacher/coach who was respected and admired by many. Durwood Holman was a dignified and serious man who most referred to respectfully simply as "Mr. Holman," with the exception of his wife, a well regarded librarian in her own right at the Thomas Memorial Library who called him "Dody."

Mr. Holman served many roles at CEHS. In the classroom he taught in the math and science departments, including physics and chemistry. In sports he served for a time as athletic director as well as coach of track, basketball and baseball. Of all those, it was his passion for baseball that defined him. He coached baseball at CEHS for 35 years. During that time he guided many successful teams and coached many outstanding players.

Keith Weatherbie, Cape native and highly regarded Cape athlete, retired teacher/coach and Athletic Director for whom the Keith Weatherbie Track is named recalled Mr. Holman as both an excellent teacher and coach. Keith remembered Mr. Holman was especially talented in working with hitters. He gave Keith pointers to improve his hitting to go along with his gifts as a pitcher.

Keith also recalled Mr. Holman was an excellent chemistry teacher. Steve Bates, a Cape native and current resident and Cape sports fan, also has many fond memories of Mr. Holman as a teacher and coach. Steve remembered a sign in Mr. Holman's classroom that applies to the classroom and life. The sign said LABORATORY and indicated to use more LABOR than ORATORY. Steve also marveled at Mr. Holman's encyclopedic knowledge of CE baseball.

When asked about exceptional per-

formances he had witnessed over the years Mr. Holman recalled a few from different decades. In 1957 Terry Burks pitched back to back no hitters for Cape and in the late 70s Bob Raftice struck out 19 of 21 batters in a 7 inning game. Mr. Holman also recalled the courage of Reynolds Moulton who played baseball for Cape with one arm after having the other amputated due to illness. A few years ago the middle school field was named the Reynolds Moulton Field.

Considering all of Mr. Holman's accomplishments mentioned, naming a baseball field in his honor would be most deserved but would leave out one of his greatest gifts. He could take care of a baseball field with the skill of a major league groundskeeper and PGA greenskeeper put together.

From the time of its creations in the mid 1960s into the 1980s when Mr. Holman was no longer able to care for it, the field that would bear his name was considered the best baseball field in the state of Maine.

Keith Weatherbie called his knowledge of caring for fields amazing. Steve Bates remembered that when other fields were unplayable due to bad weather a field lovingly cared for by Mr. Holman would be ready to play on. Mr. Holman was on the field well before a game, being sure it was ready for play. He was also on the field long after players, coaches and fans had left repairing any damage and getting the field in top shape for the next game or practice. After all, for many of those years the field was indeed HOLMAN FIELD and his labor would make it the best. For a time Mr. Holman also cared for the baseball field at Bridgton Academy and that field also bears his name.

In later years, many would recognize Mr. Holman at baseball games even if they were not aware of who he was. In all kinds of weather and for any level of baseball played at Holman Field he would be sitting beside the backstop in his folding chair next to the marker that bore his name, HOLMAN FIELD. He would offer observations on the game being played and recall players and teams gone by for anyone who cared to listen. If you listened to his observations for even a short time it would become clear that the name of the field was most appropriate. Mr. Holman and Cape Elizabeth baseball share a long and distinguished history together.

Thanks to Keith Weatherbie and Steve Bates for their memories of Mr. Holman and to the archives of the Portland Press Herald for background information.

## 2024 Publication schedule

Issue No	Ad/Copy Due	Issue Published
01	Jan 5	Jan 17
02	Jan 26	Feb 7
03	Feb 9	Feb 21
04	March 1	March 13
05	March 15	March 27
06	March 29	April 10
07	April 12	April 24
08	April 26	May 8
09	May 10	May 22
10	May 24	June 5
11	June 7	June 19
12	June 21	July 3
13	July 5	July 17
14	July 26	August 7
15	Aug 9	August 21
16	Aug 23	Sept 4
17	Sept 6	Sept 18
18	Sept 20	Oct 2
19	Oct 11	Oct 23
20	Nov 1	Nov 13
21	Nov 15	Nov 27
22	Dec 6	Dec 18

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# News from the superintendent

By Dr. Chris Record

I hope your homes escaped relatively unscathed due to the recent storms. My heart goes out to those of you who sustained significant damage. I want to express my gratitude to Public Works, Cape Fire & Police, and CMP for all the work they have done this winter to make the roads passable and to turn the power back on as quickly as possible.

I am saddened with the news that our Town Manager, Matt Sturgis, will be leaving Cape in early May to become the Town Manager of Cumberland. I have enjoyed working with Matt over the past three years and I certainly appreciate how wonderful it is as superintendent to have such a positive and productive working relationship with the town manager. In particular, Matt has been instrumental in his work with SBAC this past year and has always served as a great sounding board as we both aim to lead and tackle all the challenges that come before us. After 20+ years of commuting from Gray, I know he is ready to work closer to home. Matt will certainly be missed at Town Hall.

There is so much to celebrate in our schools. Just a few of the more recent highlights:

- ~ Cape Robotics, State Champions
- ~ At the Maine State Science Fair, CEHS student Aurora Milton won 1st place in Chemistry and Materials and 1st place GRAND PRIZE for her work engineering fabric from mycelium and kombucha. She is now invited (all expenses paid) to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Los Angeles, California in May to share her work.
- ~ Congratulations to CEHS student Emma Young who is a National STEM Champion. Emma submitted her project on RED-S (Relative Energy Deficiency Syndrome) in High School Cross Country Athletes to the National Stem Competition. She also created a slideshow and video to further promote her research and made it through 2 rounds of judging to become 1 of 200 students from around the country that will go to Washington D.C. to share their work. Emma is shining a light on a very important topic that should be discussed more amongst athletes.
- ~ Girls Swim Team, State Champions
- ~ Boys Swim Team, State Champions
- ~ Keegan Lathrop, Class B Alpine skiing state championship, slalom title
- ~ David Steinbrick, Varsity Maine, Boys Swimmer of the Year
- ~ Ben Raymond, Swim Coach of the Year

We were thrilled to host esteemed storyteller Len Cabral, who mesmerized students from pre-K to middle school with his captivating narratives. Len spent two days at Pond Cove, engaging with our students, while staff had the privilege of collaborating with him during our staff meeting after school.

Two classes of seventh grade students visited the Cape Elizabeth Town Hall as part of an interdisciplinary unit on coastal flooding and sea level rise in Cape Elizabeth. Students rotated through four different departments to learn about their general responsibilities and relation to coastal flooding, but also learned about the career paths of the presenters, including Matthew Sturgis, Town Manager, Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner, Marcia Weeks, Business Manager, Chris Record, Superintendent, and Michelle McClellan, Assistant Superintendent.

The School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC) has continued to engage in the challenging work of finding a solution to address our aging schools that makes significant educational improvements and will be supported by you. I want to share my deep appreciation for the literally hundreds of hours SBAC members (David Andrews, Larry Benoit, Corinne Bell, Patrick Cotter, Michael Hussey, Penny Jordan, Caitlin Sweet, Tim Thompson and Cindy Voltz) have given to this process over the last 13 months. I also want to extend a warm thank you to their families as there are often multiple meetings per week and many of them last well into the night. Additionally I want to express my deepest gratitude for the co-chair leadership of Cindy Voltz (School Board) and Penny Jordan (Town Councilor). Their voluntary efforts to guide us have been remarkable.

Please be on the lookout for an SBAC survey in your mailbox. There will also be an online version of the survey. A prompt response will be requested, as we aim to summarize the results of the survey by the end of the month. The aim is to gather representative feedback on the final three school design concepts. To learn more please review the last Cape Courier issue. It featured a detailed overview of our schools' infrastructural needs as identified by the SBAC. For those who haven't had the opportunity to read it, the article offers valuable insight into the pressing necessities we're working to address.

SBAC will be selecting one final option to move forward on May 9. It is crucial that

-see SUPERINTENDENT page 15

# Cape career coach

By Holly Smevog

*Hey Cape Courier readers! I'm Holly Smevog, Cape Elizabeth resident since 2000 and your friendly neighborhood Career Coach. I have a knack for helping people manage life's career journey thanks to years of coaching and my own diverse work history from sunny Silicon Valley to the lovely shores of Maine. Career Coach is here to tackle job puzzles, career crossroads and anything else in life's planning playbook. Ask about current work, future dreams or even how to handle the office coffee machine—we're covering it all. Shoot your questions to editor@capecourier.com. Cheers!*

**Q. Dear Career Coach,**

I am a lawyer and I've been working with the same firm for almost 20 years. I am ready to do something different, but I don't know what else is feasible. Can you help?

Sincerely,  
J.D.

**A. Dear J.D.,**

Absolutely! It's normal to feel unsure of your options. Pivoting after a long time in one field can feel daunting, but it's also an exciting opportunity.

Start by reflecting on what aspects of your current role you enjoy and what you might want to change. Consider your skills, strengths and interests outside of the legal profession. (Assessments can provide unbi-

ased data to consider). For example, if you have excellent communication and negotiation skills from your legal practice, you might excel in roles such as corporate consulting, mediation or even teaching law at a university. Alternatively, if you've always had a passion for writing, you might explore opportunities in legal journalism, content creation or publishing. One of my past clients became a private practice coach, helping lawyers deal with work life balance and overcome burnout.

You may find it just as important to think about your values. Maybe things have shifted in your life and now your needs and wants are different. You might want to have more flexibility or more autonomy, or you might be looking for a real challenge.

Networking is a very important strategy for exploring new careers. Identify people in industries that interest you and get some informational interviews on your calendar. Look for networking events, consider volunteering and stay active in professional groups. You can also leverage LinkedIn to find others who have successfully moved from law to other fields.

It's okay to take small steps and explore different options before committing to a new career path. With careful planning, self-reflection & assessment, and networking, you will find a fulfilling career beyond law. Good Luck!

# Lions Club spring BBQ Chicken Dinner

The Cape Elizabeth Lions Club will be hosting a its first spring event with a fundraising BBQ Chicken Dinner on Saturday, April 13t from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Bowery Beach School House, 1 Wheeler Road. The Lions Club supports over 20 non-profit organizations. The funds raised at these dinners support our financial commitment to these organizations.

The cost for the chicken dinner is \$18.00 and consists of ½ chicken, baked potato, coleslaw and dessert. The meal is offered as eat-in or take out. Beverages are provided

for those eating in the club house. Quantities are limited. Please see the Lions Club Facebook page for prepayment option to ensure meal availability: [www.facebook.com/capeelizabethlionsclub](http://www.facebook.com/capeelizabethlionsclub). Questions may be directed to Colette at 233-2279 or email: [lionsclubceme@gmail.com](mailto:lionsclubceme@gmail.com)

Please mark your calendar for a Lions open house on Saturday, April 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. We have invited all of the charities we support to share their mission and vision with the community and the Lions Club.



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## Sturgis

Continued from page 1

Professionally, his business partner was also his father, and he instilled a drive to complete the job and get it completed well, Sturgis said.

“Additionally, my first government boss, Joseph Downey, who was the Assessor for Auburn, was a great boss and mentor early in my career. Finally, I would say [previous Cape Elizabeth Town Manager] Mike McGovern was at the next level as a boss and mentor. Mike gave me and other department heads the opportunity to have new professional experiences, he would push you to be out of your comfort zone to grow, would support your efforts and provide guidance where needed. I have modeled much of my management approach from Mike’s example,” Sturgis said.

When asked about challenges he faced when he first took on the position of Town Manager, Sturgis said, “It was all daunting at first, kind of like the dog that caught the car. I think the first budget was a challenge, as I was hired in February and the council and I went straight into the season. It was a great experience and I do look forward to budget season as it always comes with the hopes of a fresh start and new undertakings for each fiscal year.”

If a young person wanted to someday get into municipal management, Sturgis suggested they follow much the same path he did, saying, “I would encourage a person to start with Assessing, as it prepares a person by gaining an understanding of the financial background of the town operations, but I would follow that with an internship for a year in the Clerk’s office, as that position requires emotional intelligence and an understanding of the community that they build on annually.”

As for advice for his successor as town manager for Cape Elizabeth, he said, “I would encourage that person to take their time to learn about the town, its residents, departments, department heads and its stakeholders. I would encourage the person that they do need to deliver, but much like a carpenter would measure twice and cut once, the carpenter still needs to build the house. Take the time and care needed to do the best you can for the most people. Oh, and have a sense

of humor, remember this job is fun.”

When asked what he’d like people from outside of Cape Elizabeth to know about this community, Sturgis said, “The message people need to know about Cape Elizabeth is that Cape cares. Two years ago, I had a medical issue that caught me by surprise, and the outpouring of support, well wishes and offers to help were overwhelming. This is a nice town with so many people that I will miss, and I think that is the overall ethic of the community. That may be misunderstood, as often it is not the stories of support and kindness that make the larger papers, but that is what I have experienced during my career here.”

Sturgis said he hopes that the town continues to be the special place that attracts and keeps new and long-term families and “continues their amazing soccer program, and that their next manager appreciates the town as much as I have over these many years.”

Sturgis added, “Keep an eye out for me at the Beach to Beacon, still the best fast-paced parade in the state.”

According to the town’s website, Cape Elizabeth Town Council Chair Timothy Reiniger reluctantly accepted the resignation, “On behalf of the Town Council, I want to thank Matt for his personal devotion to Cape Elizabeth these past eight years as Town Manager and, before that, sixteen years as Town Assessor. To the Town Council members past and present, fellow town employees, and the citizens of Cape Elizabeth of all walks of life, Matt has demonstrated the highest professionalism and personal integrity. He is a terrific public servant and, most especially, a great human being. We are very glad to know that his next career step will be in nearby Cumberland and wish him the best possible success there.”

## 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.

## Project Graduation 2024 holding online auction



Contributed photo

Cape Elizabeth resident and landscape artist Cooper Dragonette presents Cape Elizabeth High School senior Simon Shyka-Brown with an oil on canvas painting titled “Edge of the Bay,” to be auctioned in the Project Graduation 2024 Online Auction. The painting is valued at \$3,000.

Project Graduation 2024 is holding an online auction of local favorites to benefit the group’s safe post-graduation celebration for this year’s graduates of Cape Elizabeth High School. The online auction can be accessed now at [www.capeprojectgraduation.com](http://www.capeprojectgraduation.com) and will continue through April 30.

The auction curates a collection of dozens of items including local art, experiences, entertainment, fitness, home and pet packages from favorite businesses including:

- Locally renowned artists’ works from Jenn Feeney, Cooper Dragonette, Matt Russ and Robert Cochran;
- Local experiences such as a Lucky Catch lobster tour or a Memorial Day Getaway Weekend for 8 in Blue Hill;
- Sporting event tickets from the Portland Sea Dogs, Boston Red Sox and sporting memorabilia including Boston Bruins jerseys donated by TD Bank.
- Fitness packages from Greener Postures

Yoga, Jibe Cycling, Pure Barre and Snap Fitness;

- Home improvement gift certificate of \$1,000 from Atlantic Flooring and a pet gift certificate from The Vet and Rehab Center of Cape Elizabeth; and

- One-of-a-kind art, crafts and services from Cape Elizabeth students, families and teachers.

An auction item especially for senior parents and their extended families is the preferred parking and seating package for the CEHS 2024 graduation ceremony held at Fort Williams.

The online auction is being held to raise the final funds needed to let the entire senior class of 2024 experience a memorable, chemical-free and adult-chaperoned celebration.

Peter McCormick, Project Graduation Committee Volunteer and Auction Coordinator said, “The auction represents a great opportunity to get community favorites in art, experiences and services at a great price while supporting a great cause. There are so many choices and there are gifts that every mom would love for Mother’s Day.”

McCormick continued, “Since the late 80s, CEHS has offered this worthy tradition, and we are glad to be able to continue to raise funds through an online auction so that every senior student can attend. The sponsors and donors are going above and beyond with great items. Thank you all!”

### Bidding in the Online Auction

Anyone can go to [www.capeprojectgraduation.com](http://www.capeprojectgraduation.com), follow the link to the auction and bid. It is easy and convenient to bid on an item from your mobile phone or a desktop computer. Bidders can sign up for automated email outbid and watchlist alerts.

The auction is live now and novel items will be added on a continual basis. Final bidding will be on April 30, the same day as Project Graduation’s Broadway Bowl, Eat. Bowl.Bid family event which will include a basket raffle of themed items.

Follow our Facebook page @CEHSProjectGraduation or [www.capeprojectgraduation.com](http://www.capeprojectgraduation.com) for updates.

For more information: Dana Staples, [dana\\_b\\_staples@yahoo.com](mailto:dana_b_staples@yahoo.com) 256-651-6835



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# Three Cape robotics teams going to Worlds, program continues to be huge success

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

Team 56 members at the Maine State Championship are pictured above. They are, standing, rear L-R: Luke Fredericks, Wren Venter, Bella Wark, Gilian Lench, Liam Nudd, Elliott Venter, Jack Wark, Jonah Milton, Patrick Rolfe, Sam Hebda, Alex Markott, Max Tullman, Nina Perea, Elijah Doody, Bennett Kang, Elliot Hughes, Emmy Scott, Lorelei Rogers, Anika Wark, Hailey Fontaine, Brendan Oakley, Ayden Diamond, Erik Frey, Ezra Gabrielson, Aman Khare, Nick Snow.

Kneeling front L-R: Coach Anesko, Ben Foley, Charlie DeBruyn, Jonah Chang, Alex Kang, Noah Scott, Hudson Charlebois, Finnegan Zwintscher

The girls in front L-R: Anna Venter, Zeva Wark, Wilder Venter

Once again, the Cape Elizabeth Robotics program teams did the community proud. According to Cape Elizabeth High School teacher and Robotics Coach Alex Anesko, "Cape Robotics brought their A-game to the Maine State Championship on March 8 and March 9 at the Point in South Portland! In a field of 78 teams from across the state, our four high school and six middle school teams took eight separate awards, with three teams qualifying for the World Championship in Dallas this April."

Cape Robotics Team 56H Annihilation, made of students Wren Venter, Luke Fredericks and Logan Schwartz, combined with a team from Lincoln Academy to win the high school division.

In addition, Team 56H won the Excellence Award, the highest overall award presented in the VEX Robotics competition.

Team 56S, whose members are Noah Scott, Finnegan Zwintscher, Jonah Chang and Hudson Charlebois, made it all the way to the semi-finals, while Team 56R, with members Alex Kang, Ezra Gabrielson, Nick Snow and Aman Khare bravely debuted a new bot and finished well.

Anesko said that Team 56W members

Liam Nudd, Jack Wark, Bella Wark and Gillian Lench showcased what was surely the finest elevating bot at the competition, earning them the Create Award.

"In our middle school division, Team 56F Brendan Oakley, Ayden Diamond and Erik Frey teamed up with a team from Yarmouth to win the middle school Tournament Championship, earning them a trip to Worlds. Team 56F also won the Sportsmanship Award and took the top spot in Robot Skills," Anesko said.

Team 56K, made up of Alex Markott, Ben Foley, Bennett Kang and Patrick Rolfe won the Design Award, earning them a spot at Worlds as well.

The coach said that Team 56N members Max Tullman, Elliot Hughes, Hailey Fontaine, Elijah Doody and Finn Case went all the way to finals, while Team 56T consisting of Sam Hebda and Jonah Milton, Team 56D with members Emmy Scott, Nina Perea, Anika Wark, Lorelei Rogers and Charlie DeBruyn, and Team 56P members Elliott Venter, Alex Ferrey, Shaw Sandals, Ruby Edwards and Kellan Litton all per-

-see ROBOTICS page 13

# Fair

Continued from page 1

expression while still being sustainable and thoughtful.

"This year, I have been a part of the new Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) class at CEHS led by Ms. [Lauren] Tarantino, which means I have one period every other day to work on a project of choice. I started this fall with the intention of making fabrics out of natural materials. I eventually landed on SCOBY, a 'symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast,' that is primarily used to brew kombucha," Milton said. "When the SCOBY feeds on the 'starter,' or a combination of tea, sugar, and residual kombucha, a thin layer of material called a pellicle grows on the surface. This pellicle can be dried and manipulated into a usable leather. After facing many challenges with mold growth and accidental baking in the oven, I was able to produce a material I worked into a simple, three-pocket wallet. I presented my research and product at the Maine State Science Fair in March and was fortunate enough to be a grand award winner."

Milton said she is working to further evolve her product. "I have plans to test dyeing capabilities, varying levels of thickness, and experiment with more advanced designs. I see a great future for this material and I believe it will make a big impact on sustainability in the fashion industry," she said.

Several other students did well at the Maine State Science Fair as well according to de Vries, including: Kingsley Burch won 1st place in Environmental Sciences Water Quality for investigating how proximity to the ocean affects air quality. Hadley Johnson won 2nd place in Animal Sciences, Behavior for testing how stimuli such as music and petting affect canine recovery after anesthesia. Tess Straw won 2nd place in Biomedical & Health Sciences for measuring decibel levels at school dances and interpreting their

potential impact on hearing. Cameron Leonhirth won 2nd place in Computer Science for testing a person's ability to differentiate between human text and artificial intelligence text responses. Kierith Gentilini won 3rd place in Agricultural Plant Sciences for investigating the effects of sugar kelp, skinny kelp and rockweed on the growth of plants. Jessica Thayer won 3rd place in Biomedical & Health Sciences for analyzing COVID-19 vaccine effects on different human demographics. Atticus Richard won 3rd place in Plant Sciences for testing various natural treatments on their ability to suppress growth in Japanese Knotweed emerging from dormancy. Sebastian Francis won the Yale Science & Engineering Award for creating a prototype of a hydrogen reciprocating engine. Trevor Oakley and Luc Francis both won the U.S. Air Force Award. Trevor for testing the effects of mycelium micro-additives on the tensile strength of concrete. Luc for transcribing air traffic control communications using OpenAI Whisper. Mei Martinez won a scholarship to the University of New England for investigating how environment and genetics affect cavity creation.



Contributed photo

Aurora Milton was a grand prize winner at this year's Maine State Science Fair for her work engineering fabric from mycelium and kombucha in the context of developing a sustainable fashion industry.

## School Concept "E"

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The results of the upcoming school project survey are **highly likely to dictate the final school design selection.** It is **imperative** to let the Town know that taxpayers demand financial stability, smart long-term investments, and thoughtful municipal planning.

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- ✓ Accomplishes 100% of educational goals with the *least* learning disruption.

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### B IS NOT ENOUGH

- ✓ Addresses complications of shared cafeteria space.
- ✗ Focuses on delayed maintenance and repairs, not educational needs.
- ✗ Accomplishes ~33% of the goals with the most short-term outlook.

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### ...AND NEITHER IS C

- ✓ Provides separate ES/MS entrances.
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- ✗ Accomplishes only ~50% of the educational goals.

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FIND OUT MORE: [ADVANCINGCAPE.COM](http://ADVANCINGCAPE.COM)

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## Town of Cape Elizabeth Ad Hoc Privacy Advisory Committee Vacancy

The Town Council's Appointments Committee is accepting applications from residents for the newly formed

### Ad Hoc Privacy Advisory Committee

The committee shall consist of five (5) members selected by the Town Council. The terms shall be two (2) years.

Residents may apply at [www.capeelizabeth.com](http://www.capeelizabeth.com).

A copy of the committee charge is posted on the town's website.

Questions should be directed to Debra Lane, Assistant Town Manager at 799-7665 or [debra.lane@capeelizabeth.org](mailto:debra.lane@capeelizabeth.org).

Applications must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2024



## CELT program ends up on nature's "Big Night"

The timing could not have been better for a program sponsored by CELT and the Thomas Memorial Library on March 28. Lots of rain. Temperatures in the 40s. Ground thawed. While a large group of nature lovers of all ages were inside learning about "Big Night," it was happening right outside the doors.

Big Night has been happening in Maine and New England every year since the glaciers melted and the forests returned to our area, explained Greg LeClair, founder and lead organizer of Maine Big Night (MBN). MBN is a program that encourages citizens to collect data on migrating amphibians during the rainy spring season.

Big Night is when hundreds of thousands of amphibians like spring peepers, wood frogs and spotted salamanders make their way out of hibernation and into surrounding vernal pools (temporary stands of water) to find a mate and lay eggs. Local citizen scientists have reported frenzies of amphibians crossing roads to get to their mating grounds. Like salmon to a stream, these amphibians return each year to the same vernal pool they hatched from.

After the program, the most intrepid of those gathered ventured out into the rain to search for these creatures. They were

not disappointed, finding many spotted salamanders and frogs marching across parking lots and into wooded areas. The Big Night had indeed started.

Amphibians – and thus Big Night – play a major role in our ecosystems but sadly are among the most vulnerable of species as well. Urban development has been tough for amphibians and the Big Night. The development of roads often cuts through the paths of amphibious migration and has led to many of the animals getting killed. In recent years many groups like MBN have come together to help this vulnerable population by creating tunnels under roadways for safe passage and organizing citizens to keep watch through the night and help these critters get safely across the road.

It is often thought that Big Night happens only once each spring, but once conditions are ripe, it can happen in small spurts over multiple nights and a few weeks. So, there's still time to go looking.

Visit CELT's website [www.cape-landtrust.org](http://www.cape-landtrust.org) to learn more about these critters and to see when guided walks are offered. You can also visit the Maine Big Night project at <https://mainebignight.org> to see how you can help with the science projects.



Contributed photo

Big Night is when hundreds of thousands of amphibians like spring peepers and spotted salamanders make their way out of hibernation and into surrounding vernal pools to find a mate and lay eggs. Above, an attendee at the big night nature program sponsored by CELT and Thomas Memorial Library on March 28.

## Commander and sailors of USS John Basilone remember those killed in action

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)



Photo by Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)

United States Navy sailors lay a wreath at the Memorial U.S.S. Eagle PE-56 in Fort Williams Park.

While admiring the beauty atop the tower of Cape Elizabeth Lighthouse East Tower, I reflect on one of the battles of the Atlantic during World War II. A story many in Cape Elizabeth and the state of Maine have not heard of. A naval battle five miles off from High Head of Two Lights State Park, where 49 sailors were killed in action.

The East tower of the Cape Elizabeth Lighthouse still serves as a navigational aid and warning for mariners entering Casco Bay. The West tower was closed as a navigational aid in 1924.

During World War II the West tower was transformed into a fire control tower for the U.S. Army, 240th Coastal Artillery, Cape Elizabeth Military Reservation. The 360-degree view atop both these towers is the islands of Casco Bay, Gulf of Maine/Atlantic Ocean and the town of Cape Elizabeth.

A naval battle five miles off High Head of Two Lights State Park where 49 sailors were killed in action. The ship engaged in this battle was the USS Eagle PE-56, whose homeport was Portland. The Eagle PE-56 was sunk on April 23,

1945, five miles off the coast of High Head in the Casco Bay. The ship was assigned to Brunswick Naval Air Station and stationed in Portland. Out on a routine training mission in the Gulf of Maine, the USS Eagle 56 was the victim of a surprise torpedo attack and was sunk by the Nazi Germany Submarine U853.

Of the 62 sailors aboard, 49 sailors were killed in action, while 13 survivors were transported to the U.S. Navy Frontier Base Dispensary, Naval Station in Portland. The USS Eagle 56 and its deceased crew now lay on the frigid ocean floor five miles off the coast of Cape Elizabeth. This was the greatest loss of U.S. Navy Sailors in New England Waters during World War II.

The sunken naval ship is now a U.S. Naval gravesite where the sailors rest in peace. A memorial listing the entire crew of the USS Eagle PE-56 is located at Fort Williams Park near the Portland Head Lighthouse.

To learn more of the sinking of the USS Eagle 56, you can read the book, "The Sinking of the U.S.S. Eagle PE-56, Silent Victim of the U-853," by Paul Lawton, Esquire and naval historian.

U.S. Navy Commander Carne Livingston and the sailors of the USS John Basilone will hold a memorial service for the fallen sailors of the USS Eagle 56 on April 23, at 11 a.m. The commander and sailors will honor the fallen sailors of the USS Eagle 56 with an honor guard and wreath laying.

The public is welcome to Fort Williams for this memorial service. The ceremony will take place by the USS Eagle 56 Memorial at Fort Williams Park.

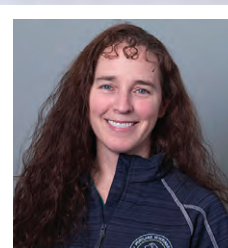
Commander Livingston and the sailors understand the importance of representing the USS John Basilone and the significance of its name sake. John Basilone was a United States Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant and who received both the Medal of Honor and Navy Cross for his extraordinary heroism during the ferocious fighting at both the battle of Guadalcanal and Iwo Jima. Basilone was the only enlisted U.S. Marine to receive both decorations.

The USS Basilone is currently at Bath Iron Works preparing for permanent assignment to the fleet.

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# Paint for Preservation returns to Cape Elizabeth



Painting by Lindsay Hancock

Lindsay Hancock's painting of Robinson Woods from the 2023 Paint for Preservation event.

Paint for Preservation, Cape Elizabeth Land Trust's only fundraiser, is back for its 17th year over the weekend of June 21-23. Once again a group of award-winning artists will be bringing their plein air talents to Cape Elizabeth where the public can watch them work throughout the weekend.

The weekend culminates on Sunday, June 23 when the new works will be auctioned at a benefit gala, held under tents at The Castle at Garrison Field. Touring the artist sites is free. Tickets for the auction will go on sale May 15.

For many years, this event has been recognized as one of the premier art sales in Maine. It is a "juried" event, in which one or more guest jurors, drawn from the local arts community, selects which of the artists who apply to be included. Said Patty Renaud, Chair of the event's planning committee, "We're confident that this year's stellar list of artists will create a lot of enthusiasm. We have a great mix of new artists and beloved veterans joining, and the caliber of the artists is a huge part of its repeated success for CELT."

Congratulations to the 31 selected artists. They are:

Olena Babak, Charles Fenner Ball, Todd Bonita, Molly Holmberg Brown, Daniel Corey, Ken DeWaard, Mike Dorsey, Cooper Dragonette, Erin McGee Ferrell, Margaret Gerding, Lindsay Hancock, Alison Hill, Jill Hoy, Anne Ireland, Eric Jacobsen, Dustan Knight, Christine Lashley, David Lussier, Nathaniel Meyer, Colin Page, Pamela Lang Redick, Edgar Reims, Kathleen Robbins, Bjorn Runquist, Matthew Russ, John Santoro, Lou Schellenberg, Caleb Stone, Janet Sutherland, Russel Whitten, Graham Wood.

Seventy-two artists applied for the coveted spots. Their work was juried by Chris

Caraviello, owner and director of the Van Ward Gallery in Ogunquit. He shared his experience in choosing the artists, thanking all who took the time to submit and help create a challenging process. "We are excited to have arrived at such a talented array of artists. We were looking to make the auction as diverse as possible, while being consistent with the idea of "plein air." We consciously looked for artists whose work appeared best for this event. Unfortunately, the large pool of applicants left a majority of artists unable to participate. Only 31 entries were selected, and it was painful to leave out so many deserving, talented artists. I thank all who participated and hope to run into your talents in the near future."

Once selected, the artists choose from a list of Cape Elizabeth's landscapes including CELT conserved lands. All paintings must be made entirely outdoors (en plein air) over the three-day weekend, with no studio work allowed. The public is welcome to tour

painting locations, meet the artists and watch them work. A list of locations will be made available in June on CELT's website, [www.capelandtrust.org/paint/](http://www.capelandtrust.org/paint/).

To support CELT's fundraiser, artists donate at least 50% of their art sales to benefit CELT's land conservation, trail and habitat stewardship, and community education programs. Tickets to the gala and auction will be on sale beginning May 15.

Alison Darling, CELT board member and member of the planning committee was quick to point to the generous support CELT receives from the business community. "We have more business sponsors this year than ever before, and we very much appreciate those businesses. Their early support helps more funds go to CELT's conservation programs."

Major sponsors include Décor Maine, ETHOS, Key Bank, RM Davis, Rarebreed

Veterinary Partners, Stacy Olsen REMAX Shoreline, and Jeff Holden. Conservation level sponsors include Inn By the Sea, Knickerbocker Group, The Downeast Group at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, Town & Shore Associates, Woodhull, Wright-Ryan Homes, and Yokogawa Fluid Imaging Technologies. Stewardship sponsors include Casco Bay Frames & Gallery, GoGo Refill, TAK Advisory LLC, Tammaro Landscaping & Property Services, Inc., and Veterinary and Rehabilitation Center of Cape Elizabeth.

More sponsorship opportunities are available; interested businesses should call the land trust at 207-767-6054.

We hope everyone comes out to see these incredible artists at work and participates in the auction on June 23 to show support for protecting the incredible natural areas around us.

## Earth Day cleanup effort April 20-28



Contributed photo

In honor of Earth Day, the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust (CELT) is working with the Department of Public Works (DPW) to coordinate a week-long cleanup effort on Cape's roads, trails and beaches from Saturday, April 20 to Sunday, April 28. To learn more and see how you can take part, visit [www.capelandtrust.org/events/](http://www.capelandtrust.org/events/). Above, Brenda Moulton getting trash out of Pond Cove Brook on Earth Day 2020.



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# The "KID" Courier



Drawn by Lorenzo Todaro

Pond Cove kindergartener Lorenzo Todaro was inspired to draw this rocket after taking the NASA course at the community center.

## CELT spring/summer programs

### Vernal Pools and Amphibians Program

Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Education Committee members Erika Rhile and Lisa Gent to learn about vernal pools and herpetology on a guided walk through Robinson Woods. This program will highlight amphibians in Maine as they begin to re-emerge in Cape Elizabeth after the long winter.

Participants will explore amphibian habitat, observe salamander eggs, and potentially hear peepers and wood frogs on this 2 hour excursion in Robinson Woods. Participants will also learn about the unique nature of vernal pools and some of the benefits these temporary wetlands provide. The walk will be held rain or shine so dress appropriately with footwear for wet walking. All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Meet at Robinson Woods Kiosk  
\$6 per person  
Max 10/Min 3

### Medicinal Herb Walk

Join Mischa Schuler herbalist and owner of Wild Carrot Herbs on a walk through Robinson Woods. As the plants reawaken to spring, we will visit with these extraordinary beings in their young stages of growth, learning to recognize their patterns across the refreshed landscape.

Our evening will be rich with herbal folklore and inspired by our curiosity and imagination. All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Thursday, May 16, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Meet at Robinson Woods Kiosk  
\$6 per person  
Max 10/Min 3

### CELT's National Trails Day Cross Town Walk

Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust staff and educators for the annual Spring Cross Town Walk. Beginning at Portland Head Light, located at Fort Williams, this walk will traverse 8.2 miles of trails highlighting Cape's great places including Spurwink Marsh, Robinson Woods and Great Pond. The walk takes approximately four hours and includes a BYO lunch stop.

Hikers will meet at the Portland Head

Light and will carpool (arranged prior to walk) back to Fort Williams. Snacks, drinks and lunch should be brought by each participant. Interested in joining but concerned about the length of the walk? Consider signing up for the "Second Half" option, which is listed as a separate event. All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Saturday, June 1, 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Meet at Portland Headlight near the lighthouse.

\$10 per person  
Max 15 / Min 5

### CELT's National Trails Day Cross Town Walk (Second Half Option)

Interested in the Cross Town Walk, but not ready to commit to all 8.2 miles? Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust for a half-distance (~4.5 miles) walk highlighting some of Cape's great places including Spurwink Marsh and Great Pond.

The walk takes approximately three hours and includes a BYO lunch stop. Hikers will meet at the CELT office in town center and will carpool (arranged prior to walk) back to Fort Williams after lunch. Snacks, drinks and lunch should be brought by each participant.

All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Saturday, June 1, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Meet at CELT Office

\$10 per person  
Max 15 / No Min

### Invasive Plants Nature Walk

Join Mike Hanks, a member of Cape Elizabeth Land Trust's Stewardship Committee, at Runaway Farm to learn about invasive plants found in Cape Elizabeth.

During this CELT sponsored event you can expect to learn how to identify specific invasive plant species, eradication strategies and why invasive species pose a threat to an ecosystem. Participants should meet at the upper parking lot at Gull Crest field off of Spurwink Avenue, and be prepared to go on a gentle hike, rain or shine.

All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Wed June 5th 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Runaway Farm: 498 Spurwink Avenue

\$6 per person  
Max 10/Min 3

### YOUTH SPRING PROGRAMS

#### CELT's Little Explorers (ages 3-5 with an adult)

Children and caregivers will spend an hour exploring the natural wonders of the Maine woods in spring during this Cape Elizabeth Land Trust event.

Join CELT volunteer Lisa Gent on a gentle hike through Robinson Woods where we will explore the habitat around us while we search for birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals and plant life. Lots of hands-on explorations and games included. Please dress in comfortable clothes and bring a water bottle.

All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Wednesday, May 15, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Meet at Robinson Woods parking lot,

Shore Road  
\$6/family  
Min 3/Max 5



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# Local birding report

By E. Brooks Bornhoff

Before lawns green up, and before fields and meadows come to life, many of the first signs of spring across Cape Elizabeth can be found in our tidal and inland salt marshes, wooded swamps, bogs, wet meadows and vernal pools. In 1990 the town adopted rigorous local wetland regulations that today serve as a model statewide for communities that value environment protection.

Of the total 30% of the town that is located in a Resource Protections District, 14% is located in RP-1 district and 15% of the town is in a RP-2 district which includes wetlands of less than one acre in size with poorly drained soil and regularly occurring wetland plants. Our future preservation efforts should consider enhanced measures to continue to protect our RP-2 wetlands from development as these natural places are birding treasures and function as feeders to RP-1 districts such as the Pond Cove Brook Corridor.

A few notes from the yard and field over the last two weeks include, on the morning of March 16 my first Fox Sparrow of the season arrived in the backyard to scratch about. Fox Sparrows that pass through Cape are a rich reddish chestnut color. This is one of the few of our sparrows that kicks and scratches with both feet at once. Ornithologist Edward Howe Forbush once wrote of the bird, "The Fox Sparrow is a bird of the lingering snow. It arrives in New England commonly in

March, while there is still much snow in the woods, and may be seen along the edges of woodlands, working often in the thickets where the ground is bare, and scratching away as if for dear life." These retiring sparrows are common to uncommon migrants that arrive every spring for a brief period across Cape, departing for the Canadian boreal forest or the far reaches of Northwest Maine by late April. Although still common, the North American Breeding Bird Survey estimates that Fox Sparrows population has declined by 51% between 1966 and 2015.

On March 18 I noted seventeen Cedar Waxings and four Wood Ducks along Shore Road. As the Wood Ducks passed over me one of the ducks gave a thin, high-pitched whistle call that caused the waxings to take wing from a tree below. Additionally, on March 23 along the Sawyer Road stretch of the Rachel Carson Wildlife Preservation I caught sight of a flock of tiny ducks feeding in the tidal marsh. With a wingspan of only twenty-three inches, the Green-winged Teal is the smallest dabbling duck in North America. The male ducks have a chestnut-colored head with a Metallic green streak behind the eye and a vertical white stripe on the side. Green-winged Teals have been recorded nesting in all Maine counties except Androscoggin.

On March 24 I spotted a lone American Tree Sparrow on the town green and

-see BIRDING REPORT page 15

# Easter coloring contest winner



Contributed photo

Congratulations to our Easter coloring contest winner Leo Ritchie, age 6, Pond Cove kindergarten student! We had another record amount of amazing submissions. Thank you to all who participated. Look out for more contests in future issues of The Cape Courier newspaper. Keep on coloring!

# April naturalist's corner

By Erika Carlson Rhile  
 CELT Education Committee Chair

April 8: Total Solar Eclipse. In Cape Elizabeth, the eclipse was "deep partial," so more than 96% of the sun was blocked by the moon. The next solar eclipse visible in the U.S. will not take place until 2045, and if you want to see a solar eclipse again in Maine, it won't be until 2079.

April 22: Earth Day. Head out on a plog! Plogging is a combination of jogging with picking up litter, merging the Swedish verbs plocka upp (pick up) and jogga (jog). Plogging started as an organized activity in Sweden around 2016, following increased concern about plastic pollution. It's a great way to get some exercise and clean up Cape's roadsides.

April 23, 7:49 p.m.: Full Pink Moon. April's full moon often corresponds with the early springtime blooms of Phlox subulata—commonly called creeping phlox or moss phlox,

which also went by the name "moss pink." Hence, the Pink Moon. The Abenaki called May's full moon kikias, "the planting moon."

As I write this, I'm sitting in the Philadelphia airport. It was so green and lush in Pennsylvania—hard to believe we're expecting several inches of snow this week! Mainers know spring takes its time. Red winged blackbirds and American woodcocks are singing songs to attract mates, wood frogs have started quacking, skunk cabbage flowers are poking through our wetlands and peepers will be peeping before we know it. Yellow spotted salamanders tend to be busiest in mid-April when they migrate to vernal pools (sometimes on what we call "Big Night"). Spotties will perform a mating dance and then the female will lay 2-3 tennis-ball size egg masses on underwater branches/vegetation. Each mass can contain up to 200 eggs.

# Nature scene around town



Photo by Martha Agan

A goldfinch out and about after the March 23 storm that brought snow, rain, ice and power outages.

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## Town of Cape Elizabeth

### NOTICE NEW PESTICIDE ORDINANCE

Please be aware that Cape Elizabeth citizens passed a referendum last November enacting a Residential Pesticide Ordinance. Prior to applying chemicals to your property, please read the ordinance here:

<https://www.capeelizabeth.com/Ordinances>

Or contact the Code Enforcement Department at  
**799-1619** to make sure it is allowed.



# Library offers Zimpritch Symposium reading, spring clothing swap

## IN THE STIER FAMILY GALLERY April 1 - 30

### The Art of Courage to Dream: Illustrations by Andrés Vera Martínez

Andrés Vera Martínez, a comics artist and illustrator, and Cape Elizabeth resident, will display original sketches and finished illustrations for the graphic novel, "Courage to Dream: Tales of Hope in the Holocaust," written by National Book Award winning author Neal Shusterman.

The book, published in October of 2023, is a Sydney Taylor Honor Award winner and National Jewish Book Award finalist. Andrés is also the co-author of the graphic memoir "Little White Duck: A Childhood in China," with his wife Na Liu, as well as the forthcoming middle grade graphic novel series "Monster Locker," with Jorge Aguirre; and a forthcoming graphic novel adaptation of the novel "Esperanza Rising," by Pam Muñoz Ryan.

Martínez's work has been recognized by The Society of Illustrators, American Illustration, 3x3, Junior Library Guild, Slate Cartoonist Studio, School Library Journal, Horn Book Magazine, NPR, and the New York Times. Martínez's books can be borrowed from the library; the display of his illustrations can be viewed in the Stier Family Gallery throughout the month of April.

### PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Please visit the library's website for information about all of our regular weekly and monthly programs.

### Character of the Month

We're welcoming spring with a celebration of Cicely Mary Barker's flower fairies! We'll have fun activities throughout the month like our popular scavenger hunt, and you can try your hand at drawing your own fairy and sharing it with the TML librarians, who will put it on display.

### Read To a Dog

Children in grades K - 6, especially struggling or less-than-confident readers, are invited to sign up for 15-minute time slots to read with a certified therapy dog.

Check out the sign-up sheet in the children's room for appointment availability and to "meet" our dogs, or call the children's room for more information.

### Weekly Programs

#### Messy Minis! Process Art for Curious Kids

Mondays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 2-5)  
Let your imagination run wild and join us for Messy Minis time in the Community Room. Let's paint, color, cut and paste together to make magic. Each week we'll have different supplies out for you to be creative with. Some supplies may be limited, so be ready with your flexible and creative muscles. We can't wait to see what you make. For budding artists ages 2-5 and their caregivers.

#### Dress Up and Dance

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 2-5)  
Join us for 30 minutes of moving and grooving to our favorite playlist, special dress-up costumes, and everybody's favorite bubble song. For dancing enthusiasts ages 2-5.

#### Tiny Tunes + Playtime

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 1-3)  
This short and sweet program is for young children who are not quite ready for a traditional story time, but love to have fun with friends. Join the circle for a gentle introduction to the routines, songs and props we use for storytimes, but without the books. Great for curious, wandering wigglers, ages 1-3, and their caregivers.

#### Traditional Story Time

Fridays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 3+)  
Join us in the Community Room for songs and stories, bubbles and Belinda the Bear. Geared toward ages 3-5 or anyone who enjoys listening to a solid two stories.

#### Saturday Family Story Time

Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. (Ages 3+)  
Join us for a special weekend edition of Story Time. It will feature all our favorites: songs and stories, bubbles and Belinda the

Bear. Geared toward ages 3-5 or anyone who enjoys listening to a solid two stories.

### FEATURED PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Please visit the library's website for information about all of our regular weekly and monthly programs.

#### Fireside Writing @ TML

Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in-person at the library  
Is writing more one of your goals for the new year? Looking for a comfortable and cozy spot to join other writers? Come to TML's brand new Fireside Writing program. Fireside Writing gives you the space and opportunity to work alongside fellow writers and reach your writing goals. Bring your laptop or your favorite notebook and join us by the fire for tea and quiet writing time. Meets weekly on Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

#### Willow Weaving Workshops, with Registered Horticultural Therapists Laura Simonds-Rumpf & Colleen E. Griffin

Thursday, April 11, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. in-person at the library  
Saturday, April 20, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in-person at the library  
We're celebrating the early days of spring as we welcome back local registered horticultural therapists Laura Simonds-Rumpf and Colleen E. Griffin, who will lead participants through hands-on therapeutic horticulture activities using materials from the natural landscape. April is the Celtic month of Willow (Salix) or Saille. Join us in welcoming spring as we utilize all of our senses and stimulate our creative juices by harnessing Willow's flexible nature to weave simple, yet beautiful Willow Wreaths and Willow Nesting Balls. All are welcome, but attendance is limited. Registration required.

#### Pond Cove Death Cafe, with Leona Oceania of Die Well Death Education

Tuesday, April 16, 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 coun-

seling session.)

### Cape Elizabeth Garden Club Presents: Every Little Sting is Gonna Bee Alright!

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in person at the library  
Spring is now officially in the air, and the CE Garden Club returns to the library for the latest presentation in their monthly speaker series.

This month, they'll be welcoming Jennifer Lund, Maine State Apiarist with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to the library, where she'll discuss the various types of wild bees found in Maine, including their biology, foraging preferences and nesting requirements. All are welcome.

### Trash Talk: My Journey to a Plastic Free Life, with Jodi Breau

Tuesday, April 23, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Cape Elizabeth Resident Jodi Breau has spent years recycling, reducing, refusing, reusing and rotting everything in her home before it becomes waste. In 2022, she challenged herself to produce no more than one 30-gallon trash bin for the entire year.

A retired school librarian and successful entrepreneur, she has taken her love of the Maine woods, lakes and rock-bound coast and made it her mission to cause no harm. She is striving toward a zero-waste lifestyle as well as operating her business, Dental Lace Inc. as a zero-waste company.

In this program, Jodi will share her zero-waste journey and offer tips on how you too can reduce plastic waste. All are welcome.

### Free Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar Screening, with Members of the Cape Elizabeth Fire & Rescue Dept.

Wednesday, April 24th, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in-person at the library  
Drop in to the library for a free blood pressure and/or blood sugar screening, conducted by members of the CE Fire & Rescue Department. Please register on the

-see LIBRARY page 13

## Tamarro Landscaping & Property Services

### Winter Services

With not much snow out there this year it allows us to continue with the following services:

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**Currently scheduling spring landscaping projects**

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## Library

Continued from page 12

library's website; drop-ins are also welcome.

### Zimpritch Symposium Reading, featuring poet Meg Weston and CEHS Poets

Thursday, April 25, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

As the culmination of this year's Gabriel A. Zimpritch Poetry Symposium, student poets will be joined by poet Meg Weston in a reading open to the public. A selected group of high school students will have spent the day working on their own poems with Weston, and will share their work in an evening reading on Thursday, April 25 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

### Spring Clothing Swap, with the Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee

Saturday, April 27, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

The library is partnering with the town's Recycling Committee to organize a springtime clothing swap.

The event will take place in the library's Community Room on Saturday, April 27 from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Donations of washed, gently used clothing, shoes, boots and other apparel items will be accepted from April 17 - 27.

When you drop off a bag of clothing, you will receive a ticket for entry into the event which is good for a whole family. If you would like to volunteer to help organize and sort donations, you will be able to "shop" early—please visit the library's website to sign up, and for more details about the event.

### ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

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

### Pod Complex: A TML Podcast Listening Club

First Thursday of the month, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom  
Next meeting: May 2

### Songwriting Workshop (with Jud Caswell)

First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in person  
Next meeting: May 7

### Big Little Lit: Children's Books for Grown-ups

Third Wednesday of the month, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
In person AND via Zoom  
Next meeting: April 17  
Next book: "The Courage to Dream," by Neal Shusterman & Andrés Vera Martínez

### Guerilla Poetry Whoop

Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. via Zoom  
Next meeting: April 11

### E-ldering Conversation Group

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

### Adult Book Group

Third Thursday of the month, 3:00-4:00 p.m.  
In person AND via Zoom  
Next meeting: April 18  
Next book: "Amnesty," by Aravind Adiga

## Robotics

Continued from page 7

formed well and "brought the enthusiasm and teamwork we've come to expect from these groups."

Anesko said, "Cape Robotics has continued this year to grow and to perform at the highest level. The program enjoys the support of our schools, families, CEEF, and local businesses, and thrives as a result. Students learn from each other, from older students -- some of whom are in their sixth or seventh year of robotics -- and from coaches and mentors. Cape teams support each other. They are the first to fist bump their opponents at competitions. In a world where the demand for STEM skills continues to outpace availability of skilled graduates, Cape Robotics offers an unparalleled hands-on engineering experience, equipping students to pursue a wide range of STEM disciplines after they graduate."

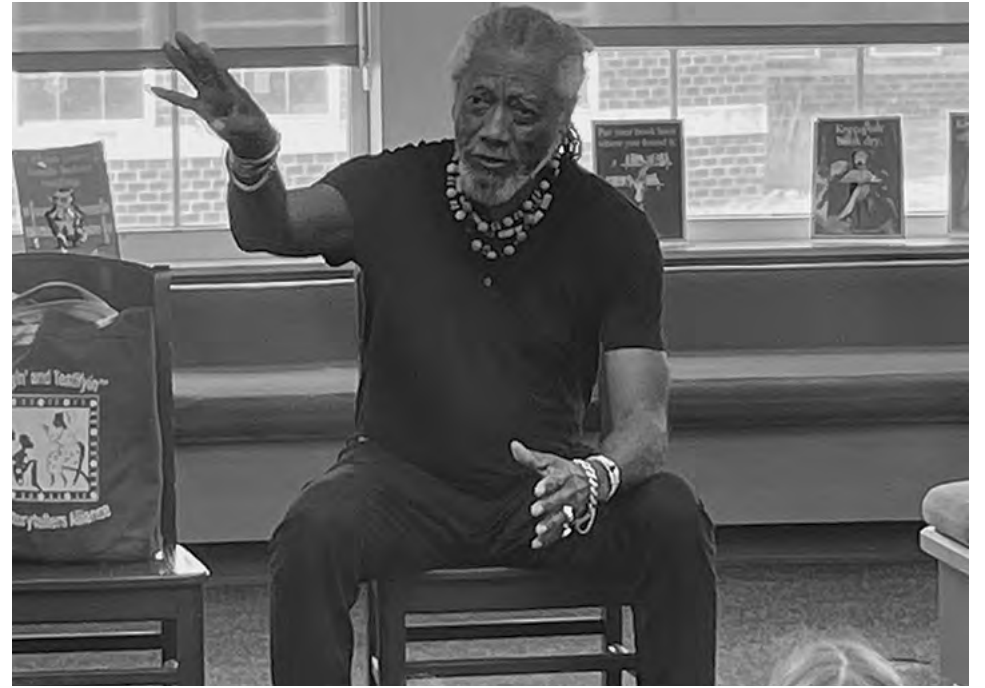
The three teams heading to the World Championships after their stellar performances at the Maine State Championship are: 56H Annihilation - Luke Fredericks, Wren Venter, Logan Schwartz in the high school division; 56F Armageddon - Brendan Oakley, Ayden Diamond, Erik Frey, and 56K Killer Sea Rats - Ben Foley, Alex Markott, Patrick Rolfe, Bennett Kang in the middle school division.

Students from those teams are excited about the opportunity. Markott of the 56K Killer Sea Rats said, "This season started off rough. We had a bad robot, poor programming and not a lot of confidence. Eventually, at our final competition, we finally performed exceptionally and made it to finals, PLUS we're going to worlds after a great interview and lots of teamwork."

Oakley of the 56F Armageddon team said, "[O]ur team performed really well due to the cooperation that went into the designing, building, and coding of the robot and we were the middle school tournament champions. All of this was made possible by our perseverance, engineering, and teamwork. This program is a great addition to the schools."

Schwartz, of the 56H Annihilation team said, "This season was the best one as I was a part of a real team. Despite not being able to go to competitions due to other conflicts, I was able to do a lot of work on the notebook. This was something I knew very little about going into this season so it was cool to see this part of Vex."

## Len Cabral visits students in Cape



Contributed photo

Len Cabral, a storyteller, visited pre-kindergarten through grade 6 students in Cape Elizabeth in March, thanks to the generosity of CEEF. Cabral brings his Cape Verdean ancestry in exuberant retellings of African, Cape Verdean and Caribbean folktales along with original stories and tales from around the world. The students and staff were excited to hear Len's stories. Additionally, Cabral provided teachers with professional development while at Pond Cove. The schools would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Rosemary Ginn, who was awarded the CEEF grant for this project.

## SUMMER VOICE LESSONS MID-MAY - MID-AUGUST 2024



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# CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

Please see the town website, [www.capeelizabeth.com](http://www.capeelizabeth.com) for meeting locations

Instructions for joining videoconference meetings listed below will be posted on the town website, [www.capeelizabeth.com](http://www.capeelizabeth.com).

## Wednesday, April 10

Community Services Committee, Community Center, 5:30 p.m.  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Thomas Memorial Library, 6 p.m.

## Thursday, April 11

SBAC Subcommittee - COMMUNICATIONS, 8:30 a.m.

## Tuesday, April 16

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

## Thursday, April 18

Fort Williams Park Committee, 6 p.m.  
Energy Committee, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

## Monday, April 22

Town Council Finance Committee School Budget Presentation, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

## Tuesday, April 23

Town Council Finance Committee School Budget Presentation, Town Hall, 6 p.m.  
Board of Zoning Appeals, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

## Ongoing each week

Al-Anon, 7 p.m. Fridays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland. Parking in rear.  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 2 p.m. Saturdays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland; 7 p.m. Wednesdays, St. Bartholomew Church; 7 p.m. Fridays, St. Alban's Church.  
Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m.-noon Mondays and Thursdays when "Open" sign displayed, Fort Williams, in the brick building closest to Shore Road (ring the doorbell).  
Cape Elizabeth Lions Club, 6:39 p.m., first and third Tuesdays at the Bowery Beach Schoolhouse (except July and August), Two Lights Road  
Cape Elizabeth Republican Town Committee, 6-8:30 p.m. first Wednesday of the month, Cape Elizabeth Community Center. Contact: [ccrcme.com](http://ccrcme.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](http://sp-ce-rotary.org).

## CABLE GUIDE

## CETV CHANNEL 1302

Subject to change. Please see [cetv.capeelizabeth.org](http://cetv.capeelizabeth.org) for latest program guide and video on demand.

No programming scheduled

# Dean's list announcements

Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania has named the following students to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester:

**Josie Caton**  
**Meredith Hetrick**

The following students were named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York:

**Tyler Rodenberger**  
**Dana Schwartz**

The following students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester at Bates College in Lewiston:

**Jack Hagan**, majoring in Theater  
**Cayden Royall**  
**Piper Strunk**, majoring in Economics and minoring in Education.

**Maeve McQueeney** was named to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester at Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania.

# SERVICES

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747-1113

[www.capenazarene.org](http://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](http://watch.capenazarene.org)

## Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church

280 Ocean House Road  
799-8396

[www.ceumc.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.hopesopo.com)

[www.facebook.com/hopesopo](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.fccscarborough.com)

Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School & Nursery Care



21 Wells Road, CE

## It's All About Maine

Potatoes, Carrots, Parsnips, Beets, Kale, Greens, Apples, Chicken, Farmers' Gate Meats, Eggs, Cheeses, Harris Farm Milk, and more!

## Soil Products - Hours

Monday - Saturday  
8:00 - 5:00

&

Sunday 9:00 - 4:00



## Farm Stand - Hours



Friday & Saturday  
10:00 - 5:30

"A farm is more than land and crops. It's a family's heritage and future" anonymous

[f Jordan's Farm](https://www.facebook.com/jordansfarm) [@jordans\\_farm](https://www.instagram.com/jordans_farm) [www.jordansfarm.com](http://www.jordansfarm.com)

## SOIL PRODUCTS & AGGREGATES - OPEN

Monday - Saturday 8:00 - 5:00 Sunday 9:00 - 4:00

FOR THE GARDEN & LAWN  
Compost ~ Screened Topsoil  
Straw ~ Wood Chips



FOR THE HARDSCAPE PROJECT  
Gravel ~ Screened Sand ~  
Crushed Stone ~ Stone Dust

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Dark Mix ~ Natural Cedar

Pick-up or Delivery  
807-1761

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[southernmaine.invisiblefence.com](http://southernmaine.invisiblefence.com)



**BUSINESSES/SERVICES**

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Call or text 207-329-0628

**EXTREMELY CLEAN** - Deep Cleaning Services. The Way Cleaning Should Be! References/Insured 25+years of experiences Luz Carpenter - 207-329-3757

**MUSIC LESSONS**

**Flute lessons:** For beginners and intermediates of all ages. Call Kris: 767-3712.

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

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

**IN SEARCH OF**

**Driver needed** for female adult with intellectual disabilities, to McDonald's in millcreek (one way). Both Monday and Friday or either day at 12pm. Can negotiate pay

call Michele 207-939-4693

**Superintendent**

Continued from page 5

the community voice their opinions on the three options before this date in order for the SBAC to weigh all opinions.

The School Board will then review and consider support of the SBAC recommendation in June/July before it potentially moves forward for Town Council consideration in August. If all goes well, the aim is for a November referendum.

As Superintendent, I am very proud of the 2024-2025 School Budget that was designed by the District Leadership Team beginning in October. I believe we created a budget that is fiscally responsible to our taxpayers given the cost challenges we are facing, aims at meeting the School Board budget goals and strategic plan, and it also moves our district forward to continue to offer excellent educational opportunities for our students. By the time you read this, the School Board will have voted on the budget. However, I will share many more details about this budget in the first May edition before the Town Council votes on it.

**School Board Budget Goals for 2024-2025**

Meets the academic, social-emotional and health needs of all students.

Supports recruitment and retention of high-quality personnel.

Supports appropriate and on-going building maintenance and repair.

Supports the advancement of instructional skills of our staff.

Reflects a careful consideration of the effectiveness and efficiency of each line item and position.

Strives for clear, transparent, and regular communication with the public throughout the budget process.

Let's all have a wonderful spring and continue to support each other through all the challenges we collectively face.

**Birding report**

Continued from page 11

on March 26 I finally caught up with the reported Brant geese foraging the choppy rising tide for eelgrass and aquatic vegetation in Kettle Cove. These handsome mid-sized geese are long distance migrants down from their breeding grounds in the central Canadian Arctic. At one point two flocks totalling twenty one geese came ashore, their pleasing 'ruk-ruck and crronk' calls carried across the cove.

Lastly, on the afternoon of March 31 along the tangles boarding Gull Crest and Runaway Farm, I came upon a male Ruffed Grouse. Of note, I had seen a Ruffed Grouse in this same general area two springs ago on March 26. Locally uncommon in Cape and known colloquially as "partridge," this upland bird is about the same size as a crow. One good reason that a Ruffed Grouse would be in this particular neck of the woods is that there are stands of young Aspen Trees (between 5 and 20 years old) nearby that provide dense cover for protection, good visibility for predator detection and food. Once an Aspen tree reaches a certain age, it begins to produce catkins (dormant male flowers) which the grouse depends on for food during the early spring.

**Dean's list announcements**

The following students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts:

- Hannah Johnson
- Tucker Livingston

The following students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island:

- Killian Lathrop
- Tiernan Lathrop
- Nathan Patterson
- Emily Supple

Abigail Agrodnia was named to the dean's list for the fall 2023 semester at Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts. Agrodnia is majoring in Biology/Biotechnology.

**HAVE AN OLD LAPTOP TO DONATE?**



**CONTACT US**

cehswce@gmail.com



**OCEAN HOUSE FARM**

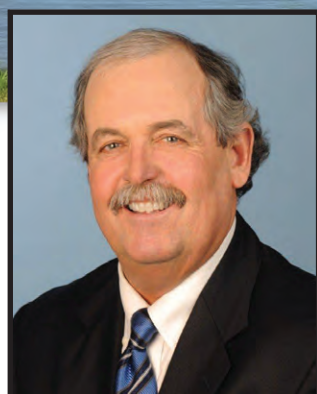
**OPENING MAY 1st**

- Plant & Seedling Nursery
- Cut Flower Garden (Mid-July)

359 Ocean House Rd., Cape Elizabeth

JORDAN FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED FOR OVER 100 YEARS!

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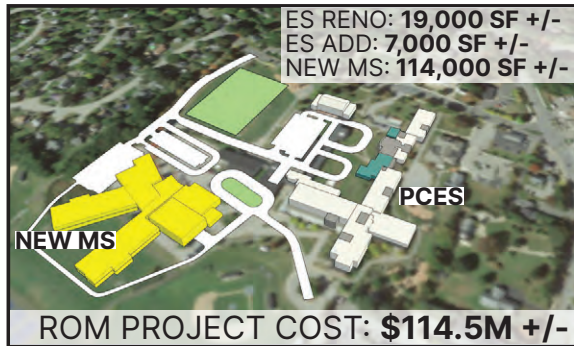
# ABOUT THE 3 SCHOOL DESIGN CONCEPTS

Visit the School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC) website to learn more about the schools' needs, the process for developing one concept for referendum, and how you can provide feedback at: [www.CapeElizabethSBAC.com](http://www.CapeElizabethSBAC.com)

**SITE PLAN LEGEND:**  EXISTING BUILDING  DEMOLITION  RENOVATION  MS ADDITION  ES ADDITION

## CONCEPT "E"

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL



### HIGH SCHOOL SCOPE:

- o \$16M+/- in essential repairs included
- o Locker Room Title IX improvements

### ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL SCOPE:

#### ADDRESSES:

- o \$10M+/- in essential ES repairs included
- o New ES secure entry vestibule with administrative offices and nurse area
- o New Middle School: Demolition of existing MS & construction of new MS on current soccer field (field relocated on site). New MS 'resets the clock' on 1 of 3 schools, provides comprehensive approach to safety & security, energy efficient building, and complies with existing energy codes. Includes secure entry vestibule, HS-sized gym 300 bleachers seats, cafeteria, stage fits 100 band members, library/STEM space, and (2) two-story classroom wings with right-sized/flexible educational spaces
- o Minor ES interior improvements for wayfinding/

*NOTE: If new MS and repairs at ES (\$10M+/-) & HS (\$16M+/-) are prioritized, ROM cost would be \$100M+/-*

collaboration hubs; and limited ES renovation to add missing program spaces

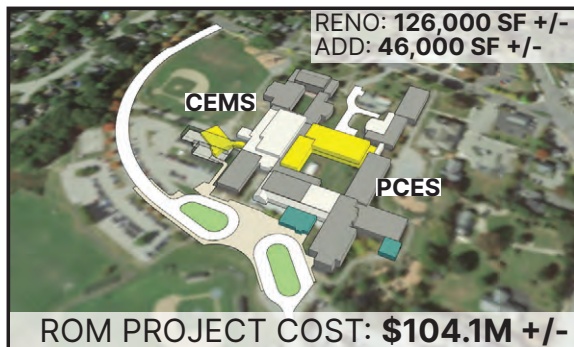
- o Addresses MS sprawl; decreases ES sprawl
- o New MS performing arts spaces meet required sizes; plan includes areas for potential future classroom & performing arts additions; existing cafetorium remains as ES cafeteria
- o STEM addition next to ES Library
- o Least impact to learning of 3 concepts (36-42 months of construction; when new MS is built, existing MS serves as ES; minimal to no cost to relocate 1/3 of students in existing school)

#### DOES NOT ADDRESS:

- o Does not include ES restroom renovations
- o Does not right-size Kindergarten classrooms; other ES classrooms will not be renovated
- o Full building cooling not included at this time

## CONCEPT "C"

ADDITION/RENOVATION



### HIGH SCHOOL SCOPE:

- o \$16M+/- in essential repairs included
- o Locker Room Title IX improvements

### ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL SCOPE:

#### ADDRESSES:

- o \$16M+/- in essential ES/MS repairs included
- o New secure entry vestibules with adjacent administrative offices & nurse area (ES near existing ES main entry; MS separated from ES entry and more integrated into MS population)
- o New 2-story addition with separate ES/MS cafeterias and a shared kitchen, with classrooms/offices on 2nd floor for currently missing program spaces, including special education
- o Most of existing ES/MS to be reconfigured to accommodate wayfinding/collaboration hubs, and missing or inadequate program spaces
- o Existing shared cafetorium converted to 370+/- seat multipurpose/performance space; heavy renovation/addition adjacent to performance space to house music programs that are cur-

rently undersized; demolishes old music wing

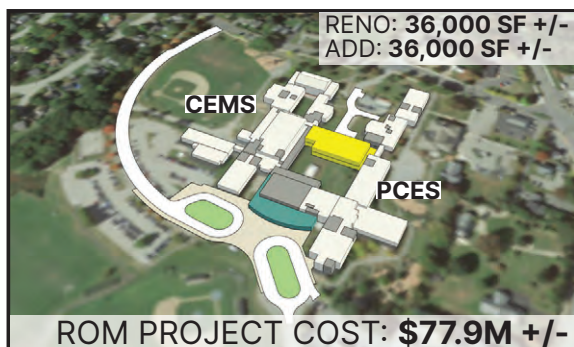
- o STEM renovation next to ES Library
- o Restroom renovations included
- o Right-sizes undersized Kindergarten classrooms with renovation & small addition; meets overall classroom & restroom count needs; current classrooms will be renovated

#### DOES NOT ADDRESS:

- o Does not address most of sprawling layout, but improves with central MS entry & cafeteria
- o Does not address underlying layout and classroom size issues
- o Full building cooling not included at this time
- o Impacts learning due to extent of renovations and additions; ROM Cost includes \$3.6M to relocate 2/3 of students during 36-48 months of construction

## CONCEPT "B"

ADDITION/RENOVATION



### HIGH SCHOOL SCOPE:

- o \$16M+/- in essential repairs included
- o Locker Room Title IX improvements

### ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL SCOPE:

#### ADDRESSES:

- o \$20M+/- in essential ES/MS repairs included
- o New secure entry vestibules with adjacent administrative offices & nurse area, in approximately same location as existing main entries
- o New 2-story addition with separate ES/MS cafeterias and a shared kitchen, with classrooms/offices on 2nd floor for currently missing program spaces, including special education
- o Minor interior improvements for wayfinding/collaboration hubs
- o Existing shared cafetorium converted to a 370+/- seat multipurpose/performance space
- o STEM renovation next to ES Library
- o Restroom renovations included

#### DOES NOT ADDRESS:

- o Does not address most of sprawling layout of schools, but is improved by central cafeteria
- o Does not address underlying layout and classroom size issues
- o Does not right-size Kindergarten classrooms that are currently 20% undersized; limited renovations to accommodate some missing program needs; current classrooms will not be renovated; deficit of classrooms, restrooms, and program spaces remains
- o Full building cooling not included at this time
- o Impacts learning due to extent of renovations and additions; ROM Cost includes \$3.6M to relocate 2/3 of students during 30-33 months of construction

## ESTIMATED PROPERTY TAX IMPACT

Median Home Valued at \$700,000 | FY '25 Property Tax: \$7,700

\*Projected Base Tax

\*\*% Increase Over "Base Tax (Projected)" (Blue Column)

	BASE TAX*	CONCEPT E: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL				CONCEPT C: ADDITION/RENOVATION				CONCEPT B: ADDITION/RENOVATION			
		TAX IMPACT (PER YR)	TAX IMPACT (PER MO)	TAX % CHANGE **	TOTAL TAX BILL	TAX IMPACT (PER YR)	TAX IMPACT (PER MO)	TAX % CHANGE **	TOTAL TAX BILL	TAX IMPACT (PER YR)	TAX IMPACT (PER MO)	TAX % CHANGE **	TOTAL TAX BILL
FY '25	\$7,700	0	\$0	0.00%	\$7,700	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$7,700	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$7,700
FY '26	\$8,008	\$587	\$49	7.33%	\$8,595	\$534	\$45	6.67%	\$8,542	\$399	\$33	4.99%	\$8,407
FY '27	\$8,328	\$1,220	\$102	14.65%	\$9,548	\$1,111	\$93	13.34%	\$9,439	\$830	\$69	9.97%	\$9,158
FY '28	\$8,662	\$1,220	\$102	14.09%	\$9,882	\$1,111	\$93	12.83%	\$9,773	\$830	\$69	9.59%	\$9,492
FY '29	\$9,008	\$1,220	\$102	13.54%	\$10,228	\$1,111	\$93	12.33%	\$10,119	\$830	\$69	9.22%	\$9,838
FY '30	\$9,368	\$1,220	\$102	13.02%	\$10,588	\$1,111	\$93	11.86%	\$10,479	\$830	\$69	8.86%	\$10,198

### TAX IMPACT NOTES (Tax Impact Provided By Town Of Cape Elizabeth):

- o Based on projected total taxable value of real estate and personal property.
- o Two tranches of bonds, one in FY '26, one in FY '27.
- o Includes lease payments for "swing space" in FY '26 and FY '27 for Concepts B&C (little-to-no cost for "swing space" in Concept E due to use of existing MS).
- o Assumes 4% annual increase in town budget.
- o Assumes retirement of existing town debts.
- o Assumes .5% (one half of one percent) annual increase in town's tax base.
- o Assumptions are based on 30-year bonds at 3.5% interest and level payments and interest.